



# Jekyll Island

## Pre-Class Activity



Introduction: You will shortly be visiting historic Jekyll Island during your time with Driftwood Education Center. On the island, you will discuss the geography, ecology, and cultural history of the island. Below is a short activity that can be used to introduce these topics while students practice map interpretation.

Directions: Use the images below to identify some key features of Jekyll Island and the surrounding area. If possible, supplement these images with use of Google Earth to zoom in on different features. Discuss some key sites using the prompts listed below. Additional questions may be added based on the learning goals for the class. Discussion can be focused primarily on geology, ecology, or history based on the discretion of the teacher.

Example discussion prompts:

What are some of the ecosystems you can identify based on the features of the map? Where are they located? (Possible answers include beach, dunes, maritime forest, salt marsh, river, ocean, etc.)

What are some features of the areas surrounding Jekyll Island? How do you think these might affect Jekyll Island? How would they affect the island itself? How would they affect the people who live(d) on the island?

North of Jekyll is an inlet that many large ships pass through. How might this affect the island?

What is a state park? Why do you think a state park might be created?

Do you recognize any of the names of the old property owners in the historic district? Who were these people?

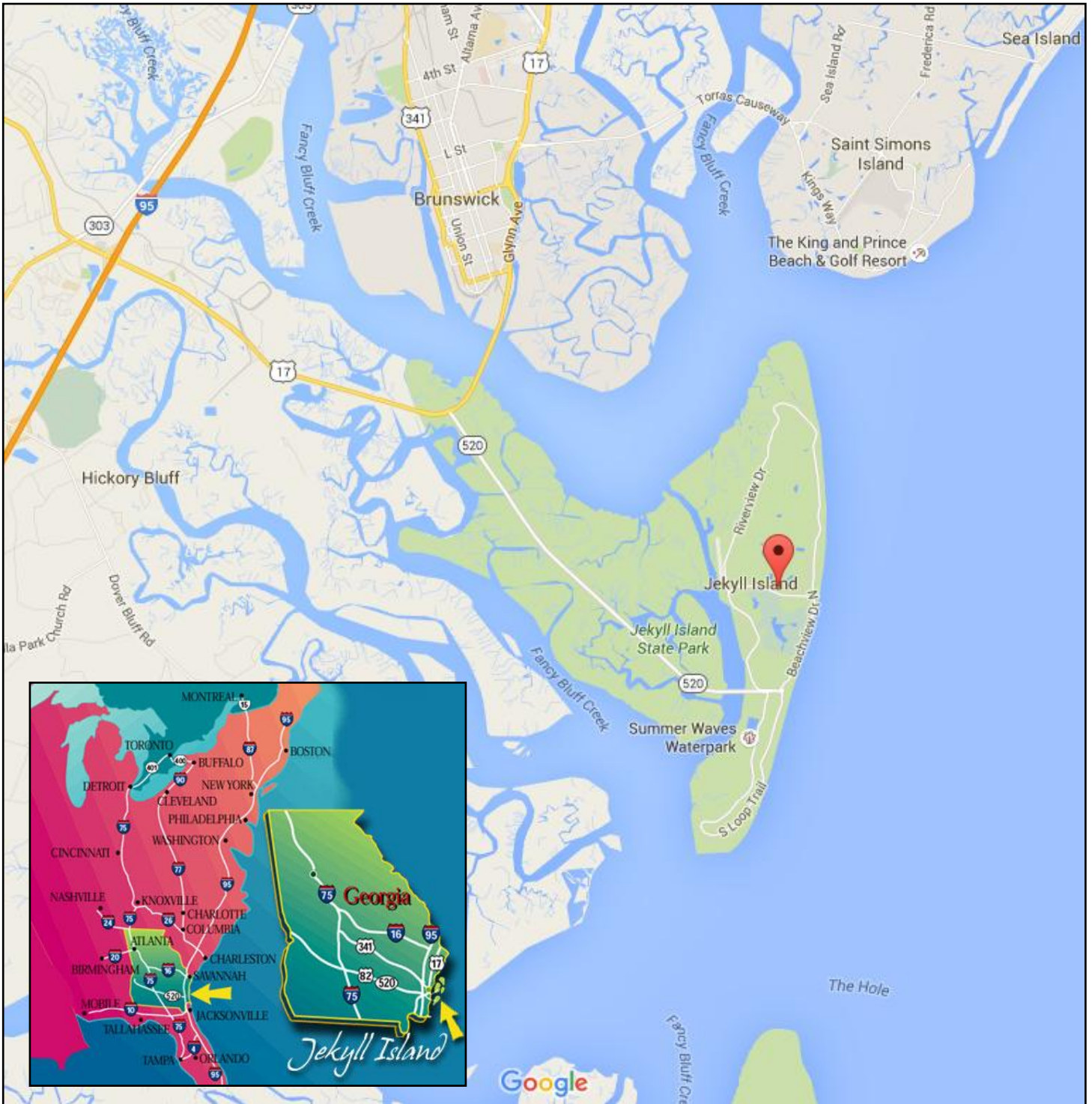
Most of the families who were members of the Jekyll Island Club (who had properties in the historic district) were wealthy people from the northeast. Why would rich families from the north have properties on an island in Georgia?

Additional history and historic images may be found at the following website:

<http://www.jekyllislandhistory.com/index.shtml>

Jekyll Island State Park. Image courtesy [www.google.com/maps](http://www.google.com/maps)

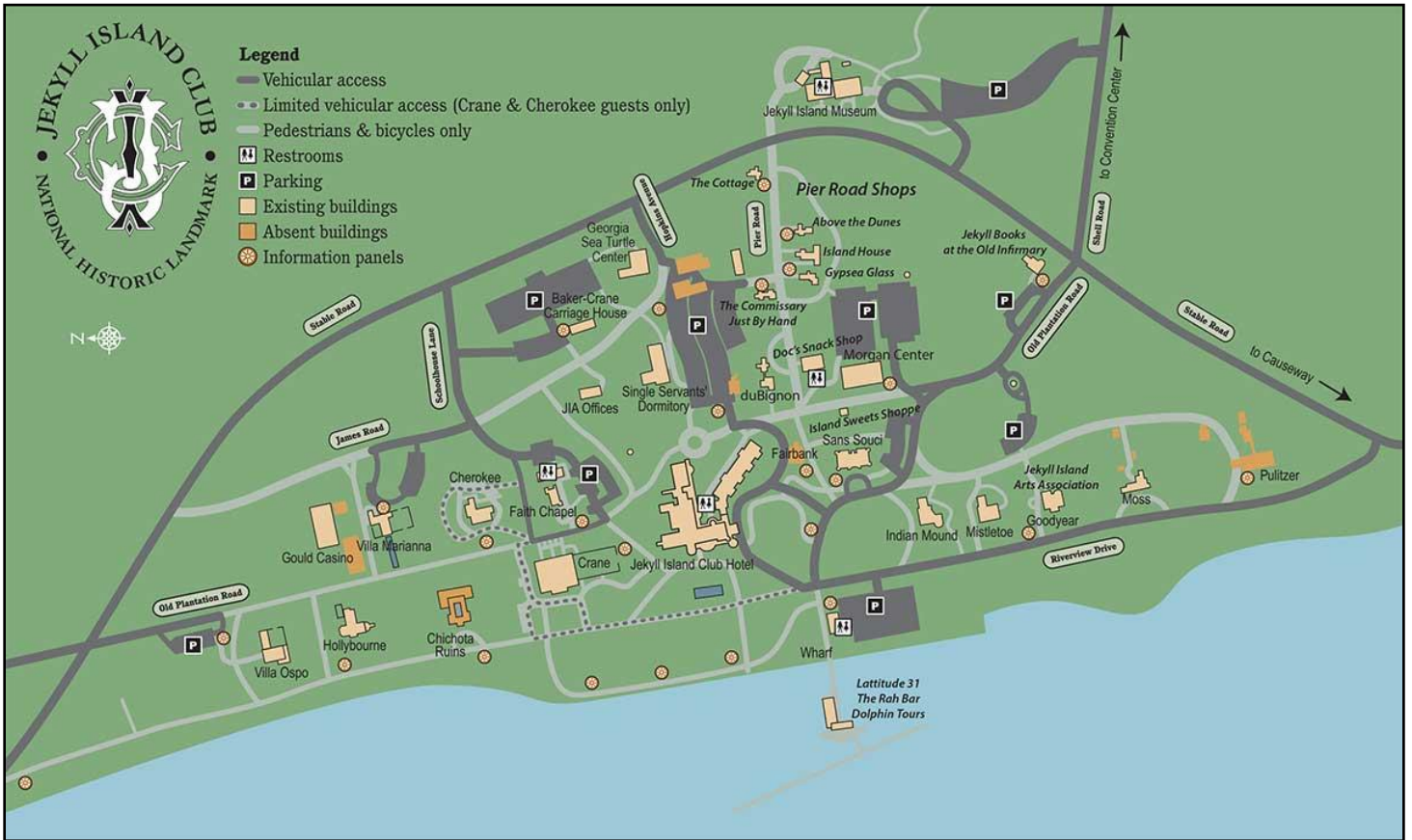
Inset: Jekyll Island Relative to Eastern Seaboard. Image courtesy [www.goldenisesoccer.com](http://www.goldenisesoccer.com)



Map of Jekyll Island Bike Trails. Image courtesy [www.explorejekyllisland.com/Jekyll\\_Island\\_Bicycling](http://www.explorejekyllisland.com/Jekyll_Island_Bicycling)



Jekyll Island Historic District. Image courtesy [www.jekyllisland.com](http://www.jekyllisland.com)



Jekyll Island Club Hotel. Image courtesy [www.historichotels.org](http://www.historichotels.org)





# Jekyll Island

## Post-Class Activity



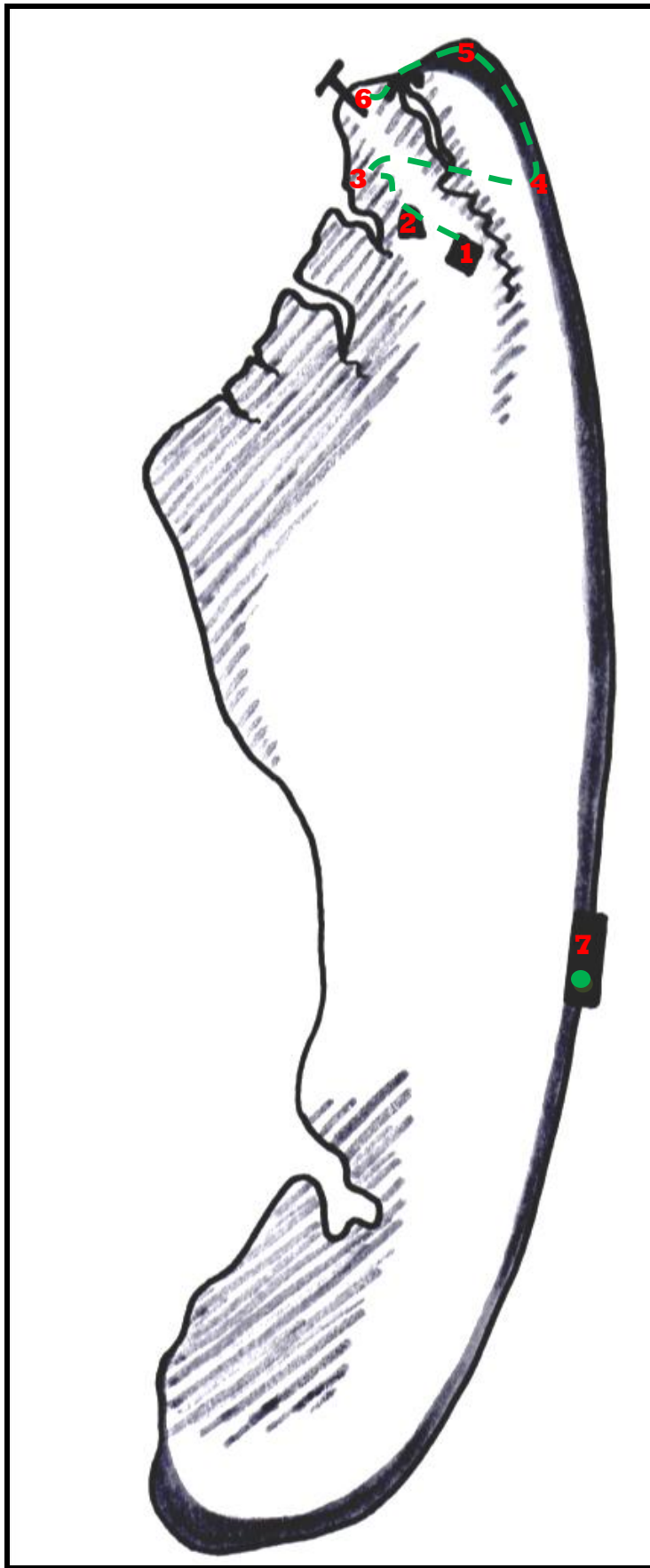
Introduction: You recently visited Jekyll Island State Park with Driftwood Education Center. State Parks are created to conserve and protect natural and historic locations and the wildlife within them for the enjoyment of current and future generations. In the following activity, you will identify and discuss some of the habitats and locations that are protected on Jekyll.

Directions: The map on the following page is labeled with numbers representing several of the sites your group visited on your Jekyll Island adventure. Use the accompanying word bank to identify the sites, then discuss what you remember about them. Describe the physical features, including examples of plants and animals found there. Discuss why each site has the features you discuss (i.e. discuss why there are rip-rap boulders at one end of Driftwood Beach). Also discuss any related cultural facts and historic events you remember for each site.



Optional Ecology Extension: In addition to its status as a State Park, Jekyll Island is also home of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. The Sea Turtle Center rescues and rehabilitates sea turtles from local waters and from all along the east coast of the United States. All five species of sea turtle that can be found in Georgia are endangered. Discuss what it means to be an endangered species. To begin a discussion of human impacts on sea turtles, students can imagine that they are sea turtle parents. Discuss which locations on the island would they use for nesting? Why would certain sites be chosen over others? Give examples of natural features and man-made reasons why sites might be good or bad for nests. Conclude the discussion with a brainstorm of possible ways we can work to help protect sea turtle eggs? How can we help baby sea turtles? How can we protect adult sea turtles?

# Jekyll Island State Park



## Site Bank:

DuBignon Cemetary

Tidal Salt Marsh

Great Dunes

Driftwood "Boneyard" Beach (North  
End)

Driftwood "Boneyard" Beach (South  
Entrance)

Horton House

Fishing Pier