

Return @ End of CLASS!

New England Colonies - Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut

Climate/Geography – Colonists in the New England colonies endured bitterly cold winters and mild summers. Land was flat close to the coastline but became hilly and mountainous farther inland. Soil was generally rocky, making farming difficult. Cold winters reduced the spread of disease.

Religion – The New England colonies were dominated by the Puritans, reformers seeking to “purify” Christianity, who came over from England to practice religion without persecution. Puritans followed strict rules and were intolerant of other religions, eventually absorbing the separatist Pilgrims in Massachusetts by 1629. Life in New England was dominated by church, and there were severe consequences for those who failed to attend, or, those who spoke out against the Puritan ways. Singing and celebrating holidays were among things prohibited in Puritan New England.

Economy – New England’s economy was largely dependent on the ocean. Fishing (especially codfish) was most important to the New England economy, though whaling, trapping, shipbuilding, and logging were important also. Eventually, many New England shippers grew wealthy buying slaves from West Africa in return for rum, and selling the slaves to the West Indies in return for molasses. This process was called the “triangular trade.”

Important Founders and Information:

Massachusetts (Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts)

William Bradford was an English Separatist (Pilgrim) leader in Plymouth Colony. He was a signer of the Mayflower Compact and served as Plymouth Colony Governor five times covering about thirty years between 1621 and 1657.

Massachusetts (after Plymouth)

• **John Winthrop** was a wealthy attorney and he was a Puritan. Winthrop and others become stockholders in Massachusetts Bay Company (had received royal charter in 1629)

• March 1630 – 11 ships carrying 900 settlers set sail. They were looking for religious freedom in the new world.

• Winthrop delivers sermon – colony to be a “City on a Hill” - “The Lord will make our name a praise and glory, so that men shall say of succeeding plantations: ‘The Lord make it like that of New England.’ For we must consider that we shall be like a City on a Hill; the eyes of all people are on us.”

John Winthrop believed that the congregation should control its own church, but that the government should help the church. Laws were passed that everyone had to go to church, and collected taxes to support church. Settlers who went against the religious beliefs were called heretics and they were often banished from the colony. No gambling, adultery, drunkenness was allowed in colony – punished by flogging.

Roger Williams and Anne Hutchinson (Rhode Island)

Williams and Hutchinson were residents of Puritan Massachusetts Bay Colony. They began to preach ideals that the Puritans didn't agree with. Williams came first and was banished. He went south and founded Rhode Island. Hutchinson came later and when she was banished, she joined Williams in Rhode Island.

Roger Williams believed that the Massachusetts Colony needed to tolerate different religious beliefs and the church and government should be separate. Roger fled Massachusetts and found the settlement of Providence.

Later, it became the colony of Rhode Island it was the first European colony to allow people to different religious beliefs (Religious tolerance).

Anne Hutchinson was brought to trial in Massachusetts because she believed people should pray directly to God rather than depend upon church teachings. She was forced to leave Massachusetts so she traveled to Rhode Island and started the settlement of Portsmouth.

Thomas Hooker (Connecticut) was a prominent Puritan colonial leader, who founded the Colony of Connecticut after disagreeing with Puritan leaders in Massachusetts. He believed in government by the people, for the people. Connecticut ratified the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut which would be the first written constitution in America. It marked the beginnings of American democracy, and Thomas Hooker was a major influence on it. The government of the United States today is more similar to that of Connecticut than to that of any of the other thirteen colonies.

Middle Colonies - - New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware

Climate/Geography – The Middle colonies spanned the Mid-Atlantic region of America and were temperate in climate with warm summers and cold winters. Geography ranged from coastal plains along the coastline, piedmont (rolling hills) in the middle, and mountains farther inland. This area had good coastal harbors for shipping. Climate and land were ideal for agriculture. These colonies were known as the “breadbasket” because of the large amounts of barley, wheat, oats, and rye that were grown here.

Religion – Religion in the Middle Colonies was varied as no single religion seemed to dominate the entire region. Religious tolerance attracted immigrants from a wide-range of foreign countries who practiced many different religions. Quakers, Catholics, Jews, Lutherans and Presbyterians were among those religious groups that had significant numbers in the middle colonies.

Economy – The Middle Colonies enjoyed a successful and diverse economy. Largely agricultural, farms in this region grew numerous kinds of crops, most notably grains and oats. Logging, shipbuilding, textiles production, and paper-making were also important in the Middle Colonies. Big cities such as Philadelphia and New York were major shipping hubs, and craftsmen such as blacksmiths, silversmiths, cobblers, wheelwrights, wigmakers, milliners, and others contributed to the economies of such cities.

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Important Founders and Information:

William Penn (Pennsylvania) **William Penn** was born in London, England. He was educated in theology and the law. In his twenties he converted to the Quaker religion and was jailed several times for his resistance to the Church of England. King Charles owned Penn's father money and instead he granted William Penn a section of land in the colonies. In 1681, he received a royal charter to form a new colony in America, to be named Pennsylvania; he envisioned this territory as a peaceful refuge for members of all religious beliefs (religious tolerance). Penn saw this colony as a "Holy Experiment" (complete religious and political freedom)

Quakers

- – believed that everyone had their own "inner light"
- no need for churches or ministers
- Objected to political or religious authority
- Did not believe in paying taxes or serving in military
- Pacifists – opposed to violence or war to settle disputes

New York - King Charles II wanted the land between Maryland and Connecticut, but the Dutch already claimed it. The Dutch had established a small colony that allowed anyone to buy land (lots of diversity -many come from France, Germany, Poland, Spain, Italy, etc.)

In 1664 King Charles II decided to seize New Netherlands. He then gives all the land between Delaware Bay and Connecticut River to his brother **James (Duke of York)**. James named the area New York

New Jersey - James gives section of land to royal advisors – **Carteret and Berkeley**.

They then named the area New Jersey (Carteret was from the island of Jersey) The colony offered: religious freedom, large land grants, and an elected legislative assembly

Captain John Mason (New Hampshire) moved from Massachusetts. Massachusetts said they had claim to the land too, but in 1677 an English judge ruled against Massachusetts. In 1679 New Hampshire officially becomes a royal colony

Delaware – in 1682 Penn bought 3 counties from Duke of York. These counties become Delaware

Southern Colonies - Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia

Climate/Geography – The Southern Colonies enjoyed warm climate with hot summers and mild winters. Geography ranged from coastal plains in the east to piedmont farther inland. The westernmost regions were mountainous. The soil was perfect for farming and the growing season was longer than in any other region. Hot summers, however, propagated diseases such as malaria and yellow fever.

Southern Religion – Most people in the Southern Colonies were Anglican (Baptist or Presbyterian), though most of the original settlers from the Maryland colony were Catholic, as Lord Baltimore founded it as a refuge for English Catholics. Religion did not have the same impact on communities as in the New England colonies or the Mid-Atlantic colonies because people lived on plantations that were often distant and spread out from one another.

Southern Economy – The Southern economy was almost entirely based on farming. Rice, indigo, tobacco, sugarcane, and cotton were cash crops. Crops were grown on large plantations where slaves and indentured servants worked the land. In fact, Charleston, South Carolina became one of the centers of the American slave trade in the 1700's.

Important Founders and Information:

Maryland - Founded by **George Calvert (Lord Baltimore)**. Lord Baltimore was Member of Parliament until he became a Catholic – he did manage to remain friends with the King. Lord Baltimore wanted to create a colony for Catholics to seek refuge. In 1632 King Charles (son of James) grants charter. Maryland was the first Proprietary Colony – “owner” of colony could govern however he wished (appoint leaders, control money and taxes, create towns, establish courts etc.) Lord Baltimore dies before settlers arrive in colony. In 1634 – 20 gentleman (mostly catholic) and 200 servants and artisans (largely Protestant) arrive in Maryland. Friction between the two religious groups would become an issue

Maryland Toleration Act (1649) – granted religious toleration to all Christians in Maryland (protects Catholics from Protestant majority in the colony)

James Oglethorpe (Georgia) As visionary, social reformer, and military leader, James Oglethorpe established the colony of Georgia as a haven for debtors. His idea began when a friend was placed in prison for not being able to pay his debts which resulted in Oglethorpe's friend dying of smallpox that he contracted from another prisoner. As a result, Oglethorpe began a campaign for prison reform. Prison reform did not, however, solve the larger plight of the large number of poor people in England. Oglethorpe and several colleagues from the jails committee began exploring the possibility of creating a new colony in America. They believed that if given a chance, England's "worthy poor" could be transformed into farmers, merchants, and artisans. Georgia banned slaves, rum, and brandy. England glad to have a colony to separate other colonies from Spanish in Florida

North Carolina – Land was separated from Virginia by King Charles. The colony had a small scattered population that was made up mostly of farmers who drifted into region from Virginia North Carolina did not have a good harbor because of the Outer Banks (narrow islands off the coast) – made it hard for ships to reach North Carolina. Exports they were able to get out were tar, pitch and turpentine (used in naval industry)

South Carolina –Originally people thought the area would be used for growing sugar cane. The first settlers establish Charles Town (Charleston) in 1670. Sugar cane doesn't end up growing well in the region. Instead the major export ended up being Deer Skins (popular leather in England).

Colonies – Conclusion

- By 1775 England's colonies had about 2.5 million people
- Colonists used to self-government, which will become important as we grow closer to the American Revolution