Chapter Two

Colonization of North America
1590-1675

Why Colonies Were Established by European Nations

- Each European country had somewhat different reasons.
- Trade
- Exporting of internal problems
- Source of raw materials
- Accidental while looking for trade route
- New Sources of revenue needed for Crown

Columbus was just one of many explorers.

- There were scores of explorers and most of them had numerous expeditions to the continent

The Spanish in North America

- New Spain spread from Caribbean across Mexican range to California
- An economy based on large plantations
- Governed by aristocracy
- Some indigenous people held in slavery
- Africans imported when Indians proved to be poor slaves

The Defeat of the Spanish Armada

- The Spanish Armada was a fleet assembled and dispatched by King Phillip II of Spain in attempt to invade England in 1588. His attempt was unsuccessful.

Spanish Architecture

- Throughout American west there is evidence of the Spanish presence.

The Crown and the Cross

- The Spanish believed the indigenous people should be Christians
- All Christians of this era believed there was no salvation outside Christianity
- They had to save the Indians in their view
- The Catholic clergy made no forced conversions but the conquistadors did.

Spanish Missions become settlements

- San Francisco,
- San Diego
• Santa Fe
• Santa Barbara
• all named for missions.

First Interaction Between Spanish and Indigenous People
• Their primary motive was to find “cities of gold” which was an exaggeration.
• Gold was so plentiful among the native peoples that, though they valued it, they did not see it as the very valuable mineral as did the Spaniards and other Europeans.
• Most native peoples were initially friendly to the Spaniards

Orders for New Discoveries
• Issued in 1573 by King Phillip II
• Intended to curb the publicized abuses of the conquistadors in dealing with native peoples.
• The Indians were only being polite by providing food, but the Spanish believe they were indicating their willing submissiveness to the Spanish Crown.

Cultural Differences
• Countless times both the English and the Spanish mistook Native American hospitality as indications that they had surrendered to a “superior” power.
• Native American notions of sharing and collective ownership (or non ownership) was seen by Europeans as opportunities to seize land and other valuable assets.

Spanish Mission
• Spanish Missions were established throughout the West

The English Settle in Virginia
• The primary text’s use of the term “invade” is hyperbole (i.e. an exaggeration).
• The English employ the same form of “aggressive colonization” they had used in Ireland since the 12th Century.
• The English seize long-held land by claiming undocumented land holdings are not legitimate.
• Like the Irish, Native Americans held land in common, there were no deeds; only traditions.

Jamestown
• Founded along the James River which flows into the Chesapeake Bay.
• The Queen was told of the commercial potential of the region.
• It was intended to be a business enterprise.
• First effort at Roanoke Island in 1587 results in total annihilation of colony— not a trace of any colonists.
The English in New England

- The English King seeks to export religious dissidents but keep them as subjects.
- Religious dissidents seek to be free of the persecution by the Crown but remain English.
- Religious conflict had led to civil wars in England, countless executions & civil unrest.
- New England’s climate was much harsher than England though in a lower latitude.

The Myth of Religious Freedom

- The Puritans did not come to New England to practice religious freedom.
- They came to New England to practice their religion freely, free from the control of the Anglican Church and persecution by King.
- In the Massachusetts Bay Colony there was no religious freedom—You must be Puritan.
- If you dissented, you would be punished or imprisoned—most dissenters fled elsewhere.

Catholics Granted Maryland

- Though England broke with Rome under King Henry VIII, 20% of population was Catholic.
- Some successors to King Henry VIII secretly practiced Catholicism; some openly practiced.
- Charles Calvert, known as Lord Baltimore, was a friend of the King and a Catholic.
- Maryland was a colony created for Catholics.

Rhode Island Created As Refuge

- Colony created by religious dissidents from the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
- If you dissented in Massachusetts from the strict control of the colony by the Puritans you were persecuted; most dissenters fled.
- Founders sought to protect the new nation from this form of conflict cause by religious control of civil government.

How Did Slavery Come to North America?

- Until 1490's Spanish & Portuguese lived under the Moors
- Moors dominated Iberia, that is, Spain and Portugal, for 400 years.
- Moors had slaves; Islam permitted slavery.
- Under Ferdinand and Isabella, the monarchs who funded Columbus’ exploration, the Moors were driven from Iberia.

The Moors

- Moors were a mixed-race Islamic culture.
- Sub-Saharan Africans co-exited with Arabic peoples in one culture.
- The Arabic & African people intermarry
- Islam permitted slavery.
- The Moors allowed slavery, but not by race.
- Spanish & Portuguese lived for 400 years in a culture which allowed slavery
The Moors Practiced Islam

- They lived in Northern Africa and were a mixture of African and Arabic peoples.

The Dutch in the Hudson Valley

- New York City was first known as New Amsterdam– Harlem named for Dutch city.
- Plantations established in Hudson Valley.
- American notions of unregulated free trade as much a product of Dutch influence as English.
- Many Hudson Valley names are Dutch origin.
- Colonist’s notion of independence from England is bolstered by the presence of many non-English colonists– Dutch, Swede, German

Swedes Settle in Delaware

- One significant contribution of the Swedes of Delaware was the log cabin.
- Again, the presence on non-English peoples in the North American colonies contributes to a notion of a separate identity for colonists.
- Each European nation’s colonists had different relations with indigenous people.
- Germans & Swedes got along better with Indians than Scots-Irish and English.

The Scots-Irish

- They are not Irish from Ireland.
- They are Scottish lowlanders who immigrated to Ireland-- encouraged by English.
- They lived in Ireland for a few generations until they left after being besieged by Irish.
- They come to America distrustful of the English because of their Scottish heritage and the way England used them as pawns in Ireland– they were poor & settled the frontier.

French Establish New France

- Unaware that the same latitude as France would produce such colder weather.
- France sees potential in the trapping and trading of pelts.
- Not using colonies to ease social pressures.
- Spread west through Great Lakes
- French claim the Mississippi valley
- Establish missions throughout colony.

French Explore Great lakes

- French explorers travel up the Saint Lawrence River-- the river flows to the northeast.
- The region of Canada around the Great Lakes called Upper Canada because it’s up the river.
- This establishes France’s claim to what is now Canada; it will result in a French culture there.
- It will lead to claiming the Mississippi Valley.
- New Orleans will become a French city.
Samuel de Champlain
• French explorer traveled throughout what is now southern Canada and this region of New York State.

Champlain’s Voyages The French in Oswego
• Fort Ontario, on the east side of Oswego River, was originally a French fortress.
• Iroquois call location Osh-we-gah, meaning “mouth of the river."
• French call it Choueguen, which is probably a French approximation of the Iroquois term.
• Father Simon LeMoyne, S.J. returns after Champlain to set up missions in the region.

Long-Term Impact of French
• Quebec still thrives as French culture
• France’s bitterness over loss of New France would result in help to Revolutionaries.
• New Orleans French culture produces a non-English setting where Jazz could evolve.
• France’s Louisiana claim will be bought by President Thomas Jefferson.
• The Cajun culture of Louisiana– though transplanted from Acadia in Nova Scotia.

Spanish-English Differences
• The English colonies are founded by religious sects seeking to set up their own theocracies.
• Other English colony founded by commercial enterprises who would support monarch.
• Crown had little interest besides the emigration of religious dissidents from England
• No aristocracy transported to English colonies
• Spanish, French & Portuguese colonies founded by the king

Long-Term Impact
• How the English and Spanish colonies are established will determine their histories.
• English colonies were founded by men with families which isolated them from natives.
• Spanish colonies founded by men alone
• Protecting families was part of motivation for slaughter of Native Americans by English colonists– illness takes significant toll too.
• Spanish colonist marry indigenous women after initial slaughter– some merely impregnate.

Today
• How the colonies were established even impacts today
• In former Spanish, French and Portuguese colonies many indigenous people survived
• The descendants of former slaves do no face the same degree of discrimination as they do in former English colonies.
• The existence of an aristocracy continued in the former Spanish colonies even today.