

SOUTHERN COLONIES

1. Name 3 types of people that did not come to America on their own free will. (87)
2. Define indentured servant. (87)
3. Why was Maryland founded? (87)
4. What river divided Maryland from Virginia? (87)
5. What crop did Maryland rely on, and what law was passed to make sure they didn't rely on it too much? (87)
6. What line divided Maryland from Pennsylvania? (88)
7. What is the Act of Toleration? (88)
8. What did Bacon's Rebellion in Virginia show? (89)
9. How was Carolina started? (89)
10. Who was North Carolina mainly settled by? (89)
11. Why was South Carolina more prosperous? (89)
12. Most slaves worked on what type of plantations in South Carolina? (90)
13. Name 2 reasons why Georgia was founded? (91)

SECTION 4

Southern Colonies

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

The Southern Colonies relied on cash crops to survive, while the French and Spanish tried to establish their own settlements.

Key Terms

indentured servant, constitution, debtor, tenant farmer, mission

Reading Strategy

Classifying Information As you read the section, re-create the diagram below and identify the main crops of three of the Southern Colonies.

Colony	Main crop
Maryland	
North Carolina	
South Carolina	

Read to Learn

- how the Southern Colonies were established.
- how French and Spanish colonies differed from the English colonies.

Section Theme

Groups and Institutions Spanish and French settlements developed in different ways from English settlements.

Preview of Events

◆ 1600

c. 1610

Spanish establish Santa Fe

◆ 1650

1676

Bacon's Rebellion occurs

◆ 1700

1718

French establish city of New Orleans

◆ 1750

1733

First settlers arrive in Georgia



Slave drum, Virginia

AN American Story

How did it feel to be enslaved on the plantations of the South? In the 1930s, interviewers put this question to African Americans once under slavery. Many of them were approaching 100 years old, and some still carried deep scars on their backs from whippings. To be a slave meant to have no human rights. Elderly Roberta Mason remembered, "Once they whipped my father 'cause he looked at a slave they killed, and cried."

Coming to America

By 1660, while tobacco prices fell, large plantations continued to prosper because they were better able to maintain high profits than were small farms. Along with the growth of plantations, there was an increasing need for workers in the newly settled Southern Colonies.

Establishing colonies in North America involved a great deal of work. The settlers had to clear the land, construct homes and churches, plant crops, and tend the fields. As the colonies expanded, the demand for capable workers grew.

Not all people came to work in the colonies of their own free will. English criminals and Scottish and Irish prisoners of war were also shipped to the colonies. They could earn their release by working for a period of time—often seven years. Some colonists complained that their settlements were dumping grounds for “His Majesty’s seven-year passengers.” African rulers took prisoners during wars and raids. They enslaved the captives and sold them to European slave traders who took them to the colonies. Many people came to the colonies as indentured servants. To pay for their passage to America, they agreed to work without pay for a certain period of time.

Establishing Maryland

Maryland arose from the dream of Sir George Calvert, Lord Baltimore, a Catholic. Calvert wanted to establish a safe place for his fellow Catholics, who were being persecuted in England. He also hoped that a colony would bring him a fortune.

Calvert’s dream came true in 1632 when King Charles I gave him a proprietary colony north of Virginia. Calvert died before receiving the grant. His son Cecilius Calvert inherited the colony. It was named Maryland either after the English queen, Henrietta Maria, or after the Virgin Mary.

The younger Calvert—the new Lord Baltimore—never lived in Maryland. Instead, he sent two of his brothers to run the colony. They reached America in 1634 with two ships and more than 200 settlers. Entering the Chesapeake Bay, they sailed up the Potomac River through fertile countryside. A priest in the party described the Potomac as “the sweetest and greatest river I have ever seen.” The colonists chose a site for their settlement, which they called St. Marys.

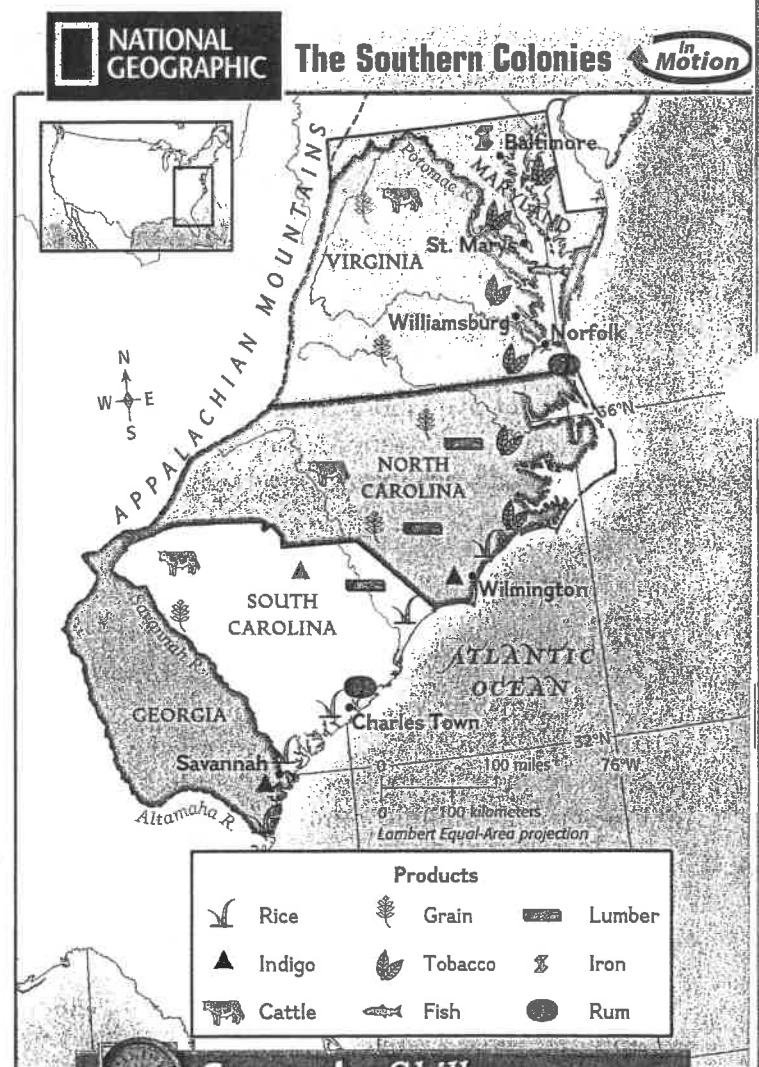
Knowing that tobacco had saved the Virginia colony, the Maryland colonists turned first to tobacco farming. To keep the colony from becoming too dependent on one crop, however, a Maryland law declared that “every person planting tobacco shall plant and tend two acres of corn.” In addition to corn, most Maryland tobacco farmers produced wheat, fruit, vegetables, and livestock to feed their families and

their workers. Baltimore, founded in 1729, was Maryland’s port. Before long Baltimore became the colony’s largest settlement.

Aristocrats and Farmers

Lord Baltimore gave large estates to his relatives and other English aristocrats. By doing so he created a wealthy and powerful class of landowners in Maryland.

The colony needed people to work in the plantation fields. To bring settlers to the colony, Lord Baltimore promised land—100 acres to each



Geography Skills

The climate in the Southern Colonies allowed colonists to grow rice and tobacco.

- Region** What were the five Southern Colonies?
- Analyzing Information** What rivers acted as colonial borders in the Southern Colonies?

People In History

Margaret Brent c.1601–1671



Born in England, Margaret Brent moved to Maryland in 1638. She quickly accumulated several thousand acres of land and became one of the largest landowners. According to colonial records, she was also the first woman to own land in her own name.

Brave and forceful, Brent helped to put down

a rebellion from neighboring Virginia, and she took charge of paying Maryland's troops. Refusing to follow the restricted life of most colonial women, she later served as attorney for Lord Baltimore, Maryland's proprietor.

In January 1648 Brent came into conflict with the colonial government when she appeared before

the assembly. She demanded two votes, one for herself as a landowner and one as Lord Baltimore's legal representative. After the government denied her claim, she moved to a large plantation in Virginia. There, America's first woman lawyer lived the rest of her life.

male settler, another 100 for his wife, 100 for each servant, and 50 for each of his children. As the number of plantations increased and additional workers were needed, the colony imported indentured servants and enslaved Africans.

The Mason-Dixon Line

For years the Calvert family and the Penn family argued over the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania. In the 1760s they hired two British astronomers, Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, to map the line dividing the colonies. It took the two scientists many years to lay out the boundary stones. Each stone had the crest of the Penn family on one side and the crest of the Calverts on the other.

Another conflict was even harder to resolve. The Calverts had welcomed Protestants as well as Catholics in Maryland. Protestant settlers outnumbered Catholics from the start.

Act of Toleration

To protect the Catholics from any attempt to make Maryland a Protestant colony, Baltimore passed a law called the Act of Toleration in 1649. The act granted Protestants and Catholics the right to worship freely but tensions contin-

ued between Protestants and Catholics. In 1692, with the support of the English government, the Protestant-controlled assembly made the Anglican Church the official church in Maryland, and imposed the same restrictions on Catholics that existed in England.

✓ Reading Check Explaining Why did George Calvert establish the colony of Maryland?

Virginia Expands

While other colonies were being founded, Virginia continued to grow. Wealthy tobacco planters held the best land near the coast, so new settlers pushed inland. As the settlers moved west, they found the lands inhabited by Native Americans. In the 1640s, to avoid conflicts, Virginia's governor William Berkeley worked out an arrangement with the Native Americans. In exchange for a large piece of land, he agreed to keep settlers from pushing farther into their lands.

Bacon's Rebellion

Nathaniel Bacon, a wealthy young planter, was a leader in the western part of Virginia. He and other westerners opposed the colonial

government because it was dominated by easterners. Many of the westerners resented Governor Berkeley's pledge to stay out of Native American territory. Some of them settled in the forbidden lands and then blamed the government in Jamestown for not protecting them from Native American raids.

In 1676 Bacon led the angry westerners in attacks on Native American villages. Governor Berkeley declared Bacon "the greatest rebel that ever was in Virginia." Bacon's army marched to Jamestown, set fire to the capital, and drove Berkeley into exile. Only Bacon's sudden illness and death kept him from taking charge of Virginia. England then recalled Berkeley and sent troops to restore order.

Bacon's Rebellion had shown that the settlers were not willing to be restricted to the coast. The colonial government created a militia force to control the Native Americans and opened up more land to settlement.

Reading Check Analyzing Why did Bacon oppose the colonial government?

Settling the Carolinas

In 1663 King Charles II created a large proprietary colony south of Virginia. The colony was called Carolina, which means "Charles's land" in Latin. The king gave the colony to a group of eight prominent members of his court who had helped him regain his throne.

The Carolina proprietors carved out large estates for themselves and hoped to make money by selling and renting land. The proprietors provided money to bring colonists over from England. Settlers began arriving in Carolina in 1670. By 1680 they had founded a city, which they called Charles Town after the



Nathaniel Bacon

king. The name later became **Charleston**.

John Locke, an English political philosopher, wrote a constitution for the Carolina colony. This **constitution**, or plan of government, covered such subjects as land distribution and social ranking. Locke was concerned with principles and rights. He argued that

“Every man has a property in his own person. This nobody has any right to but himself. The labour of his body, and the work of his hands, we may say, are properly his. . . .”

Carolina, however, did not develop according to plan. The people of northern and southern Carolina soon went their separate ways, creating two colonies.

Economics

Northern and Southern Carolina

The northern part of Carolina was settled mostly by farmers from Virginia's backcountry. They grew tobacco and sold forest products such as timber and tar. Because the northern Carolina coast did not have a good harbor, the farmers relied on Virginia's ports and merchants to conduct their trade.

The southern part of the Carolinas was more prosperous, thanks to fertile farmland and a good harbor at Charles Town. Settlements spread, and the trade in deerskin, lumber, and beef flourished. In the 1680s planters discovered that rice grew well in the wet coastal lowlands. Rice soon became the colony's leading crop.

In the 1740s a young Englishwoman named **Eliza Lucas** developed another important Carolina crop—indigo. Indigo, a blue flowering plant, was used to dye textiles. After experimenting with seeds from the West Indies, Lucas succeeded in growing and processing indigo, the "blue gold" of Carolina.

Slave Labor in the Carolinas

Most of the settlers in southern Carolina came from another English colony—the island of Barbados in the West Indies. In Barbados the colonists used enslaved Africans to produce sugar. The colonists brought these workers with them.

Many enslaved Africans who arrived in the Carolinas worked in the rice fields. Some of them knew a great deal about rice cultivation because they had come from the rice-growing areas of West Africa. Growing rice required much labor, so the demand for slaves increased. By 1708 more than half the people living in southern Carolina were enslaved Africans.

By the early 1700s, Carolina's settlers were angry at the proprietors. They wanted a greater role in the colony's government. In 1719 the settlers in southern Carolina seized control from its proprietors. In 1729 Carolina became two royal colonies—North and South Carolina.

✓ Reading Check Explaining Who was John Locke?
What did he do for Carolina?

Picturing History

A rice plantation included the owner's large house surrounded by the small dwellings of enslaved Africans.
Why did rice cultivation increase the demand for enslaved labor?

Georgia

Georgia, the last of the British colonies in America to be established, was founded in 1733. A group led by General **James Oglethorpe** received a charter to create a colony where English debtors and poor people could make a fresh start. In Great Britain, debtors—those who are unable to repay their debts—were generally thrown into prison.

The British government had another reason for creating Georgia. This colony could protect the other British colonies from Spanish attack. Great Britain and Spain had been at war in the early 1700s, and new conflicts over territory in North America were always breaking out. Located between Spanish Florida and South Carolina, Georgia could serve as a military barrier.

Oglethorpe's Town

Oglethorpe led the first group of “sober, industrial, and moral persons” to Georgia in 1733. They built a town called **Savannah**, as well as forts to defend themselves from the Spanish.

Oglethorpe wanted the people of Georgia to be hardworking, independent, and Protestant. He kept the size of farms small and banned slavery, Catholics, and rum.



Founding the Thirteen Colonies

Colony	1st Permanent Settlement	Reasons Founded	Founders or Leaders
New England Colonies			
Massachusetts Plymouth Mass. Bay Colony	1620 1630	Religious freedom Religious freedom	John Carver, William Bradford, John Winthrop
New Hampshire	c. 1620	Profit from trade and fishing	Ferdinando Gorges, John Mason
Rhode Island	1636	Religious freedom	Roger Williams
Connecticut	1635	Profit from fur trade, farming; religious and political freedom	Thomas Hooker
Middle Colonies			
New York	1624	Expand trade	Dutch settlers
Delaware	1638	Expand trade	Swedish settlers
New Jersey	1638	Profit from selling land	John Berkeley, George Carteret
Pennsylvania	1682	Profit from selling land; religious freedom	William Penn
Southern Colonies			
Virginia	1607	Expand trade	John Smith
Maryland	1634	To sell land; religious freedom	Cecil Calvert
North Carolina	c. 1660s	Profit from trade and selling land	Group of eight aristocrats
South Carolina	1670	Profit from trade and selling land	Group of eight aristocrats
Georgia	1733	Religious freedom; protection against Spanish Florida; safe home for debtors	James Oglethorpe



Although Georgia had been planned as a debtors' colony, it actually received few debtors. Hundreds of poor people came from Great Britain. Religious refugees from Germany and Switzerland and a small group of Jews also settled there. Georgia soon had a higher percentage of non-British settlers than any other British colony in the Americas.

The Colony Changes

Many settlers complained about the limits on the size of landholdings and the law banning slave labor. They also objected to the many rules Oglethorpe made regulating their lives. The colonists referred to Oglethorpe as "our perpetual dictator."

Chart Skills

The thirteen colonies were founded over a span of 125 years.

Sequencing What colony was the first to be settled? Which was the last?

Oglethorpe grew frustrated by the colonists' demands and the colony's slow growth. He agreed to let people have larger landholdings and lifted the bans against slavery and rum. In 1751 he gave up altogether and turned the colony back over to the king.

By that time British settlers had been in what is now the eastern United States for almost a century and a half. They had lined the Atlantic coast with colonies.

Reading Check Explaining How did Georgia serve as protection for the English colonies?