U.S. FISTORY Pre-Columbian 1865 SPARK



PRE-COLUMBIAN ERA

- 1. Groups of hunters arrive from northwest Asia and cross the land bridge Beringia (now known as the Bering Strait) into North America, becoming the first Americans.
- 2. The Mayas, Toltecs, Aztecs, and Incas settle in Central and South America.
- 3. The Adena-Hopewell, Mississippian, and Pueblo-Hohokam civilizations emerge in North America.
- 4. Renaissance flourishes throughout Europe, leading to a revival of learning, the rise of new and powerful monarchies, and the growth of major cities.

| 1000 | Norse explorer Leif Eriksson discovers Newfoundland, which he calls Vinland |
|------|---|
| 1325 | The Aztecs build Tenochtitlán, now known as Mexico City |
| 1440 | Johann Gutenberg invents the moveable-type press |

DISCOVERY AND SETTLEMENT OF THE NEW WORLD

1492-1650

- 1. Britain, France, and Spain struggle to assert influence in America
- 2. Conflict between European and native peoples quickly turns to violence
- 3. Jamestown and Plymouth Plantation established as first permanent British settlements in North America.
- 4. Mayflower Compact adopted; considered first example of self-government in New World
- 5. Slave trade in the New World begins

| 1492 | Christopher Columbus arrives in Caribbean region |
|---------------|---|
| 1494 | Treaty of Tordesillas divides Spanish and Portuguese claims in Western Hemisphere; Spain and Portugal take lead roles in exploring New World |
| 1497 | John Cabot surveys Newfoundland in search of Northwest Passage, much- hoped-for water route to Asia; claims Nova Scotia and Newfoundland for England |
| 1503 | Spain implements encomienda, the enslavement of local people, in Haiti |
| 1520 | Smallpox epidemic reaches North America; death toll soars |
| 1521 | Hernán Cortés conquers Aztecs in present-day Mexico |
| 1522 | Ferdinand Magellan completes first circumnavigation of globe |
| 1530- 1536 | Francisco Pizarro conquers Incas in Peru |
| 1565 | Spain establishes first successful European settlement in North America at present-day St. Augustine , Florida |
| 1585 | Sir Walter Raleigh establishes short-lived English colony on Roanoke Island off the Carolina coast |
| 1588 | English fleet defeats the Spanish Armada , bolstering England's naval power and colonial efforts |
| 1607 | English colony of Jamestown established |
| 1608- 1615 | Samuel de Champlain founds Québec, establishes fur trade with Native Americans |
| 1612 | Strain of West Indies tobacco first harvested in Virginia, which quickly flourishes as a tobacco colony |
| 1619 | First African slaves brought to Jamestown on Dutch ship |
| | House of Burgesses established in Virginia as first representative government in New World |
| 1620 | Mayflower Compact drawn, establishing Plymouth Plantation colony as "civic body politic"; considered first example of self-government in New World |



| 1622- 1644 | Powhatan Confederacy leads massacre against Virginia colonists outside Jamestown |
|---------------|---|
| 1626 | Dutch found New Amsterdam (later New York) |
| 1630 | Massachusetts Bay colony founded |
| 1634 | Maryland founded as a refuge for Catholics |
| 1635- 1636 | Dissenter Roger Williams , expelled from Massachusetts Bay colony, founds Rhode Island and promotes religious freedom |
| 1636 | Connecticut founded |
| 1637 | Dissenter Anne Hutchinson convicted of heresy and expelled from the Massachusetts Bay colony |
| 1638 | New England slave trade begins in Boston |

AMERICA AND THE BRITISH EMPIRE 1651-1753

- 1. New England grows, begins to establish itself as economic capital of New World
- 2. New colonies established, including "Restoration colonies"—land granted by King Charles II for support during English Civil Wars
- 3. Mercantilism and regulated commerce influence development in colonies
- 4. Great Awakening spreads religious fervor through colonies from 1730s-1760s

| 1664 | English seize New Amsterdam from Dutch, rename it New York |
|---------------|---|
| 1670 | Charleston, South Carolina, established |
| 1676 | English win King Philip's War (1675–1676) over Wampanoag tribe in Massachusetts; thousands killed |
| 1676 | Nathaniel Bacon leads Bacon's Rebellion in Jamestown, demanding greater protection against Native American tribes |
| 1677 | First Quaker emigrants arrive in New Jersey |
| 1682 | William Penn, with charter from King Charles II, establishes Philadelphia as "holy experiment" of religious tolerance |
| 1689 | First public school established in Philadelphia |
| 1690 | French and Native American forces from Montréal attack and burn Schenectady, New York, during King William's War (1689–1697) |
| 1692 | Witchcraft trials in Salem, Massachusetts, lead to condemnation and death of 19 people |
| 1695 | Construction begins on College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia |
| 1704 | French and Native American forces attack and burn Deerfield, Massachusetts, killing 50 and taking 100 prisoners |
| 1705 | Massachusetts outlaws interracial marriage between blacks and whites |
| | Virginia's Black Code categorizes slaves as property |
| 1709 | First major wave of German and Swiss emigrants arrive in Carolinas |
| 1712 | Slave insurrection in New York City leaves 36 dead |
| 1728 | Jewish colonists build first synagogue in New York City |
| 1732 | First Roman Catholic church built in Philadelphia |
| 1734 | Great Awakening of evangelical and religious fervor begins in New England, led by revivalist minister Jonathan Edwards and Methodist preacher George Whitefield ; movement spreads throughout the colonies and lasts until 1760s |
| 1739 | Stono slave insurrection in South Carolina leaves 65 dead |
| 1740 | 50 slaves hanged in Charleston to preempt a slave insurrection |
| 1744- 1748 | War of Austrian Succession in Europe leads to King George's War , fought in America between British and French colonists, aided by local tribes throughout New England, New York, and Québec |
| 1748 | Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle brings War of Austrian Succession to indecisive close |
| 1749 | Conflict intensifies between French and British over land claims in the Ohio Valley |
| | |

CHARACTERISTICS OF COLONIAL SOCIETY IN THE MID-18TH CENTURY

- 1. By 1750, population of colonies reaches 2 million
- 2. Colonies provide an opportunity for social mobility not found in Britain
- 3. Colonists live in towns or small villages and farm their lands; cities diseaseridden but offer opportunity for new immigrants
- 4. New England, Middle colonies have few slaves relative to Southern colonies
- 5. Great Awakening sweeps colonies; thousands repent sins and join Protestant churches

THE ROAD TO REVOLUTION

1754-1774

- 1. England establishes military and political dominance over France in Europe and in North America, pursues policy of salutary neglect in governing colonies
- 2. Seven Years' War fought between the colonies and Britain and the French and Native Americans, mainly in Ohio and western Pennsylvania
- 3. War debts incurred by the British lead to increased taxation of colonies
- 4. Colonists band together to protest British Parliament's abuses of power