

Settlement of the Thirteenth Colony

Chapter Preview

Character education word:

Cooperation

Terms: middleman, monarch, colony, mercantilism, indentured servant, slave, garrison, trustee, charter, regulations, artisan, militia

People: Hernando de Soto, Sir Robert Montgomery, James Edward Oglethorpe, Robert Castell, Dr. Thomas Bray, King George II, Chief Tomochichi, Dr. Samuel Nunis, John Martin Bolzius, John and Charles Wesley, William Stephens

Places: St. Augustine, Guale, Jamestown, Fort King George, Yamacraw Bluff, Savannah, Ebenezer, New Ebenezer, Frederica

Section 1 An Age of Exploration

Section 2 English Settlement of the New World

Section 3 The Colonization of Georgia

Section 4 Building a New Home



Historical accounts tell us that, from the beginning of time, both man and animal have traveled from place to place. Sometimes the travel was a search for better or more food or a search for warmth during an ice age. In some cases, bigger or stronger predators or neighbors forced others to travel. Later, people traveled in search of something better—better spices, gold, riches, land, freedom from fear, or just because it was possible to do it. During the rest of the book, we will examine these urges to search for something, understanding that each and every search has a different reason and often a price far more than just money.

Below: James Edward Oglethorpe built Fort Frederica, whose wall you see here, in 1736 to defend the new colony of Georgia from the Spanish in Florida.



Signs of the Times

1733-1752

Population: From 114-120 people in 1733 to approximately 5,000 colonists in 1752

Children: Life was relatively difficult. Once children reached 6 or 7, they were expected to work either at home or in the fields. "Lolling around" was considered a sign of sin or weakness. They were expected to dress in the same fashion as their parents. During free times, they played "scotch hoppers" (hop-scotch), cat's cradle, or kite flying. Children not in the upper class played with cornhusk dolls or used corn cobs to build houses and forts.

Life Expectancy: Males, around 30-40; Females, much earlier

Food: Rice; waterfowl; meat from hunted deer, turkeys, and wild boars; fish and shrimp; corn; homegrown fruits and vegetables like sweet potatoes and beans; beef from South Carolina; grits

Annual Rent: About 20 shillings sterling for every hundred acres of land

Literature: Each colonist received a Bible and a prayer book after landing. Other popular authors included Samuel Pepys, New England writer Anne Bradstreet, Samuel Hardy, John Bunyan, Jonathan Edwards, Cotton Mather, and Benjamin Franklin.

Art/Architecture: Many homes on the "squares" were two-story brick homes with wrought iron grilling and porches on both floors. Brick roads led to the commercial center of town along the river. Art in the homes might be pastoral scenes or portraits of family members painted by traveling artists.

Music: "Forester's Reel," "Soldiers Joy," "Gaspe Reel," and similar dance tunes. Hymns were also popular including John Wesley's "Charleston Hymnal."

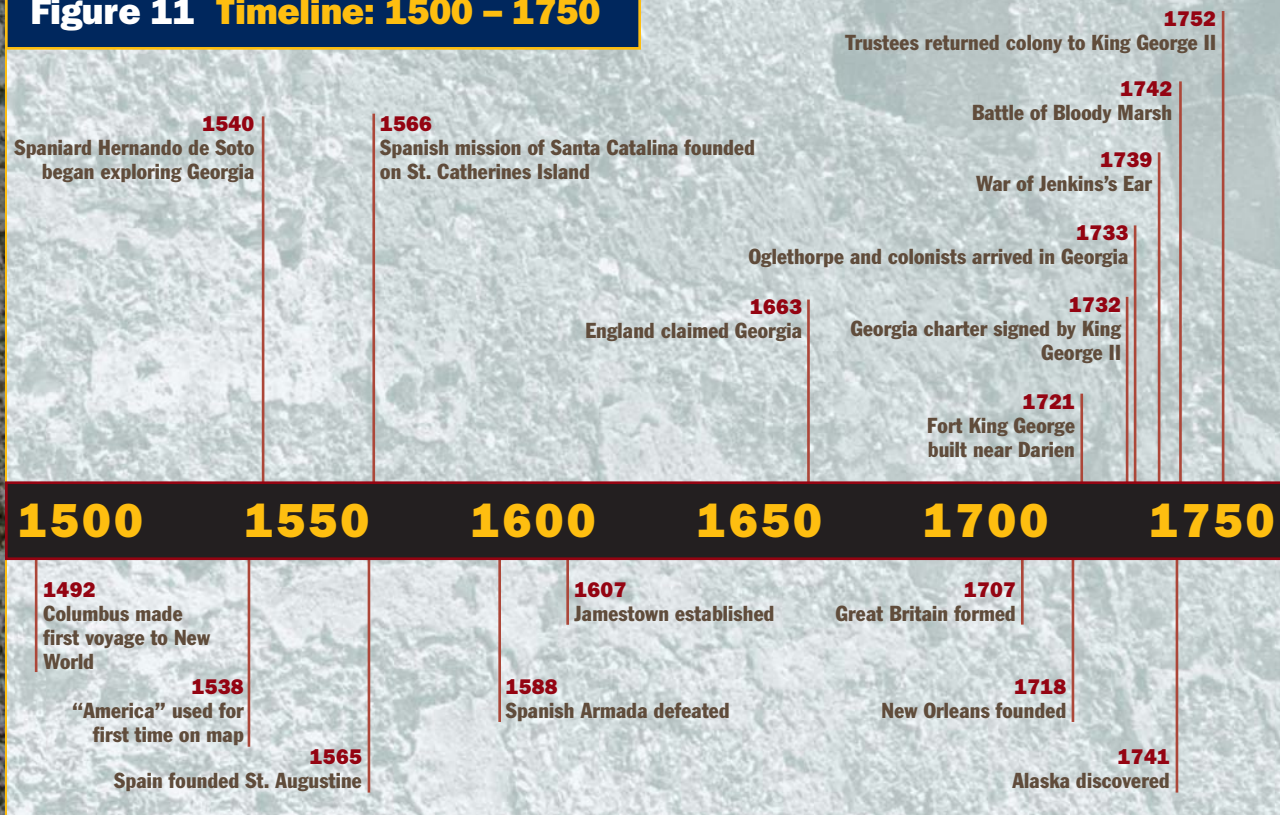
Fashion: There were work clothes and social clothes, the latter being of fine cloth. Women's dresses were long and made from good cloth or silks with hats or umbrellas to protect their skin from the bright Georgia sun. Clothes were dyed bright colors.

Fads: Dancing, especially "reels" popular in the colonies and the minuet, a slow intricate dance from Europe.

Education: Georgia had the first agricultural experimental education in the country. Three Italians came with the colonists to teach them how to grow silkworms; the colonists also experimented with grapes, oranges, and corn. For children, there was a schoolmaster or apprenticeships. Boys were trained in the classics (Latin and Greek) or French and liberal arts; girls learned homemaking skills, writing, and reading. Later, some boys of wealthy landowners were sent back to England to be educated.



Figure 11 Timeline: 1500 – 1750



Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- the reasons for the explorations of the 1400s and 1500s,
- the early Spanish settlements, and
- **vocabulary term:** middleman, monarch, and colony.

An Age of Exploration

For centuries, Europeans had traded with Asia through such Mediterranean ports as Venice and Constantinople and along a land route known as the Silk Road. Many middlemen took part in the Far Eastern trade. A **middleman** is a trader who buys goods from producers and sells them to other traders and consumers. The middlemen drove up the prices of such luxury items as dyes, silk, perfumes, drugs, gold, jewels, and spices such as pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg, and cloves.

In 1477, the publication of Marco Polo's *Travels* led many Europeans to believe that China's fabulous riches could be reached by ship. The riches of the East Indies, Polo said, were "something wonderful, whether in gold or precious stones, or in all manner of spicery." First, however, Europeans had to find a shorter trade route to the Orient before they could make these items more available to the people.

The Search for New Trade Routes

Among those looking for a trade route to the Far East was Prince Henry the Navigator of Portugal. During the early to mid-1400s, Prince Henry sent ships along the southern coast of Africa in search of an eastern passage to the Indian Ocean. But it was not until 1488, long after Prince Henry's death, that Bartholomew Diaz rounded the southern tip of Africa at the Cape of Good Hope.

Another European sea captain, Christopher Columbus, believed that the route to the Far East lay to

the west. Like other experienced navigators of his day, Columbus believed that Earth was round. Columbus thought that the distance from Portugal to Japan was less than 3,000 miles. (It was really 12,000 miles.) He also believed that no land mass barred his way to the Orient. For years, Columbus tried to get support for his plan from the **monarchs** (kings and queens) of France,

History by the Numbers

A Million Dollar Bell

In the summer of 1994, a diver found what is purported to be the bronze bell from Columbus's 1492 journey on the *Santa Maria*. The 31-pound, 10-inch tall, 10-inch diameter bell was found in 25 feet of water only 150 yards from the beach. It had spent 450 years under water.

The bronze bell was scheduled to be auctioned in Madrid, Spain, in 2003. Bids were to start at \$1 million. However, Portuguese authorities stopped the auction to verify its authenticity.

A similar bell found in storage in Puerto Rico in 1555 was worth 32 pesos, or three times the annual salary of a sixteenth-century sailor. At that time, the peso contained 24 grams of fine silver. In present-day U.S. dollars, 1 gram would be worth about \$4. So the peso would have been worth about \$96 in U.S. currency. How much would the bell be worth in today's U.S. dollars?





Portugal, and England. Finally, Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain agreed to finance his voyage.

On August 3, 1492, Columbus, a 41-year-old Italian, set sail from Palos, Spain, hoping to reach China and the East Indies. His ships were named the *Pinta*, the *Niña*, and the *Santa Maria*. On one of the best-known dates in American history—October 12, 1492—Columbus landed on a Caribbean island he named San Salvador (now one of the Bahama Islands).

Columbus believed that the islands he had found lay off the coast of India. As you learned in a previous chapter, he even called the friendly and gentle natives he met “Indians.” He believed that they could easily be converted to Christianity and hoped to make them faithful subjects of the Spanish monarchs.

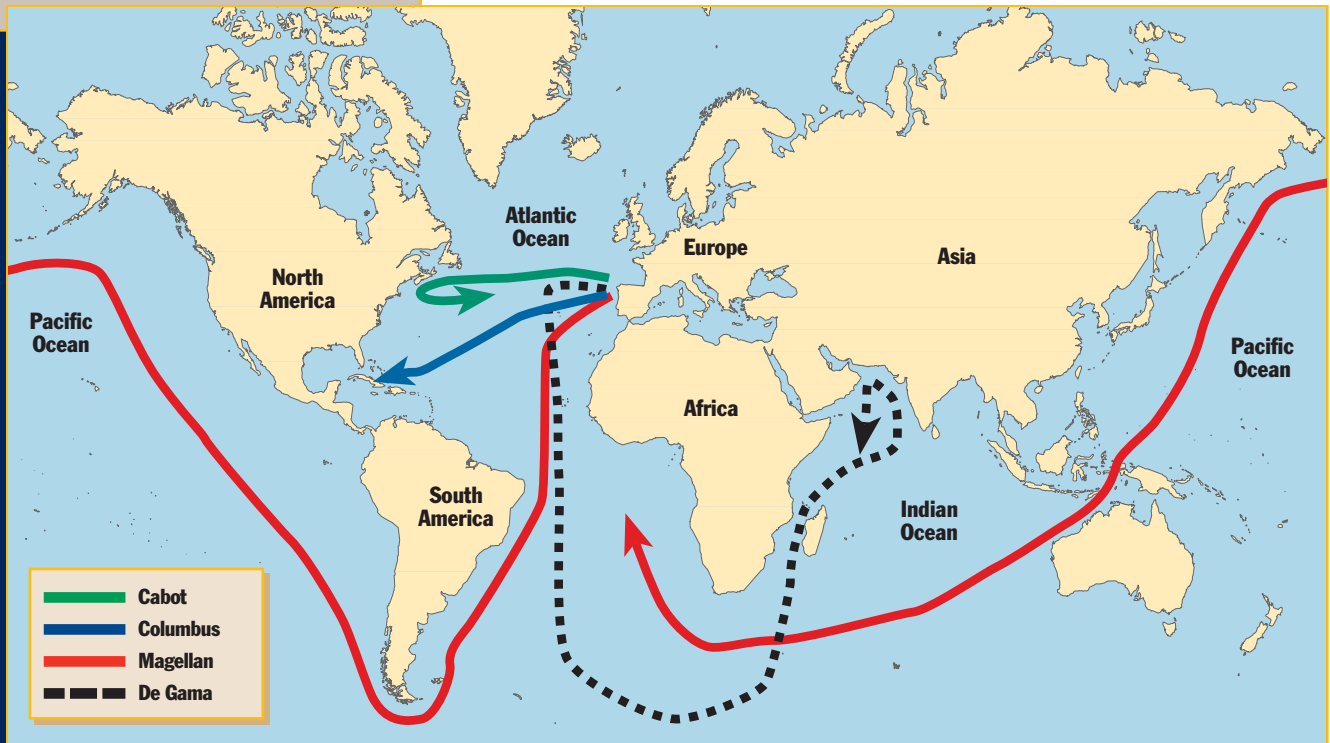
In all, Columbus made four voyages to the western hemisphere (1492, 1493, 1498, and 1502). In his later voyages, he explored along the coasts of Central and South America and was the first European to visit Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and the Virgin Islands. In his reports, he described the extraordinary beauty of the “New World” he found. (Europe was the “Old World.”) When he died in 1506, Columbus still believed that he had discovered a westward route to the Far East’s riches. Vast stores of gold and spices, he insisted, lay close at hand.

John Cabot, who like Columbus was from Genoa, Italy, also sailed west. In 1497, sailing under an English flag, he discovered Newfoundland in



Top: This mural in the U.S. Capitol commemorates Christopher Columbus’s first voyage to the New World.

Above: America was named for the explorer Amerigo Vesputti.



Map 19 Early Explorers and Their Routes

Map Skill: How many voyages are shown on this map?



Above: In 1498 Vasco da Gama reached India by sailing to the east, around Africa.

present-day Canada. Actually, however, he rediscovered it. Norsemen led by Leif Ericsson had landed in Labrador in the year 1001. They established a settlement in a region they called *Vinland*. After trying several times to colonize the area, the Norsemen fled back to Greenland. Unfriendly natives helped hasten their departure.

In 1498, Vasco da Gama sailed around Africa and reached India. An ocean trade route to the Orient had finally been found.

Amerigo Vespucci, an Italian navigator, had the honor of giving his name to the New World. In 1499, Vespucci sailed along the coast of South America. His writings caught the attention of a mapmaker who, in 1507, named the new land *America*.

In 1522, Ferdinand Magellan succeeded in reaching Asia by sailing west. However, his route around the southern tip of South America was long and hard. Europeans wanted an easier route to China and India. They were looking for the so-called *Northwest Passage*, an all-water route to Asia through the North American continent.

In the fifty years after Columbus's first voyage, European explorers continued to search for a shorter and easier route to the East Indies. King Francis I of France backed Giovanni Verrazano, who sighted land in March 1524 near

Did You Know?

Spanish explorer **Christopher Columbus** kept two sets of **logbooks** on his voyage to the New World. One logbook was **public**, the other was **private**. Columbus believed that the crew would **panic** if they knew how far they were **actually sailing**.



what is now Cape Fear, North Carolina. He followed the coastline south for about 150 miles before turning to the north again. Verrazano did not continue farther south because he was afraid he would run into the Spanish.

Spanish Exploration of the New World

Spanish explorers searched the Caribbean for wealth. In 1513, Juan Ponce de León discovered Florida, and Vasco Nuñez de Balboa crossed the Isthmus of Panama to reach the Pacific Ocean. (An *isthmus* is a narrow strip of land, with water on both sides, that connects two larger pieces of land.)

Another Spanish explorer, Hernando Cortés, was the first to live up to Spanish dreams of tremendous wealth. In 1519, he landed in what is now Mexico. Within two years, Cortés had conquered the native Aztec Indians, killed their ruler Montezuma, and won a treasure in gold and silver. Hearing of the wealth of the Incas in Peru, Francisco Pizarro set out for the western coast of South America. In 1535, in the Andes, Pizarro defeated the Incas. In doing so, he captured the richest silver mines in the world.

Spanish Exploration of Georgia

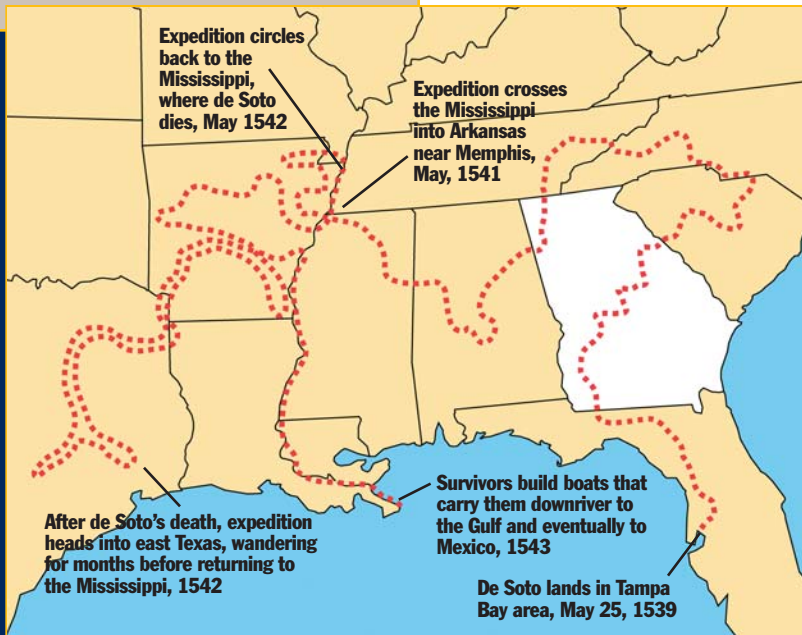
In 1539, the Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto left Havana, Cuba, with a huge group: over six hundred men, two hundred horses, and other animals such as mules and dogs. They landed in Florida and marched north. In 1540, they entered the southwestern part of Georgia, close to present-day Albany.

De Soto and his army wanted one thing as they moved across the state: to find gold. When de Soto arrived in Georgia, the native tribes saw white men and horses for the first time. De Soto had only a small number of men to face thousands of American Indians, but his weapons were better. His army



Top: Before the coming of the Spanish conquistadores, the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan was a thriving city of 100,000 people. Smallpox so weakened the inhabitants that they surrendered the city to Cortez.

Above: In 1513 Vasco Nunez de Balboa crossed the Isthmus of Panama and discovered the Pacific Ocean.



Map 20 Route of de Soto's Expedition

Map Skill: Why do you think de Soto's route was so tortuous?



Above: A skilled swordsman, horseman, and explorer, Hernando de Soto had little trouble enlisting young Spaniards to travel with him to Florida in search of gold.

had guns and crossbows, and his soldiers rode horses. The Spanish also wore plated armor, which arrows could not pierce.

During de Soto's search for gold in Georgia, his soldiers killed thousands of American Indians. Many more Indians died from diseases brought to the New World by the Spanish and other explorers. Some historians believe almost half the Native American population died from measles, smallpox, influenza, and whooping cough.

De Soto's expedition into North America was a failure. He found no gold or treasure. Most of his army was lost to starvation and disease. De Soto himself died somewhere along the Mississippi River. However, his march through Georgia

changed the lives and culture of the American Indians forever.

De Soto was followed by many other European explorers, most of them from Spain, France, and England. These nations established settlements in Georgia and competed with each other and with the Native American tribes for control of the land.

Early Spanish Missions

In 1565, Spain sent Captain General Pedro Menéndez to begin a colony in St. Augustine, Florida. A **colony** is a group of people who settle in a new land but who keep their ties to their homeland. In 1566, the Spaniards moved up the coast to St. Catherines and Cumberland islands. That year the Spanish founded a mission—Santa Catalina—on St. Catherines Island. The Spanish named the region Guale (pronounced "Wallie") for the Indians living in the area. About thirty men were left to establish the first Spanish post on Georgia soil. The Spanish later established missions on St. Simons Island and at Sapelo at the mouth of the Altamaha River.

For most of the 1500s, Spain's hold over the missions and colonies it established made it an important player in the race for control of the New World. As a result of the gold it took from the New World, Spain became rich and powerful. But this wealth also brought with it the re-

Did You Know?

Hernando de Soto brought pigs with him to the New World as he moved north from Florida. Although his men were often hungry because they were not good at foraging (hunting and fishing) for food, de Soto would not allow them to slaughter the pigs. In less than a year, there were three hundred pigs who protected the men from poisonous reptiles.



Above: After winding their way through much of the Southeast, the de Soto expedition discovered the Mississippi River, as depicted in this mural in the U.S. Capitol.

sentiment of other European nations. During the coming years, as Spain fought to hold onto its gains, the English and the French fought to gain a share of the treasures.

At sea, the conflict between Spain and England had already turned into an undeclared war by the end of the 1500s. English sea captains, men such as John Hawkins, Francis Drake, and Richard Greenville, captured Spanish treasure ships filled with gold, silver, and other valuable goods. They also attacked and burned Spanish settlements in the New World.

To counter these attacks, Spanish King Phillip II plotted to invade England, using a huge fleet of ships that the Spanish called the “Invincible Armada.” The plot failed as the English, who had superior seamen and faster ships, destroyed or ran off much of the Armada. The Armada was damaged further by fierce storms.

It's Your Turn

1. On what date did Columbus land at San Salvador?
2. What explorer tried to establish a settlement in Labrador in 1001?
3. For whom was the New World named?
4. What was de Soto searching for in Georgia?
5. Where was the region called Guale located?

Section 2

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- the reasons why Great Britain established colonies in the New World,
- the first British garrison in what would become Georgia,
- the beneficial exchanges between Old and New World, and
- **vocabulary terms:** mercantilism, indentured servant, slave, and garrison.

English Settlement of the New World

After England defeated the Spanish Armada in 1588, it gained undisputed control of the seas and was ready to pursue its interest in the New World. Like most Europeans, the English believed there were large amounts of gold, silver, and exotic foods in the New World. They thought the country that claimed this new land would become even more powerful.

In the 1600s, the English began permanent settlements along the coast of the New World. They founded a colony first in Virginia, then Massachusetts. By the close of the 1600s, England had established twelve colonies along the Atlantic coastline.

Some of the colonies were begun by refugees from religious persecution; others were primarily settled for economic gain. Among the colonists, the

Spotlight on the Economy

Mercantilism

Great Britain began establishing colonies in America during a period of world history known for exploration and colonization. All of the European countries wanted colonies so they could be more powerful.

During the 1500s to 1700s, Great Britain—and the other nations of Europe—followed policies that came to be known as *mercantilism*. An important goal was to make Great Britain largely self-sufficient. To do that, the monarchy needed to create a “favorable balance of trade” by exporting more goods than it imported. A favorable balance of trade would bring gold and silver into Great Britain and make it militarily and economically strong. Laws were enacted to regulate trade. They made it difficult for foreign merchants to import goods into Great Britain. British merchants were told to export goods only in British ships.

Colonies were to help Great Britain gain that favorable balance of trade. They were sources of such raw materials and foods as sugar, timber, rice, tobacco, and cotton, thus ending any need to import these goods from other countries. Colonies were also markets for goods manufactured in Great Britain.

Captain John Smith, a founder of the Virginia colony, clearly understood the purpose of mercantilism. He viewed the colony as “a nurse for soldiers, a practice for mariners, [and] a trade for merchants.”



Above: Cultivation of tobacco was very important to the success of Great Britain’s southern colonies.



reasons for moving to the New World were as different as the people. Some came so they could have religious freedom. A few felt a spiritual “calling” to bring Christianity to the Native Americans. Others wanted adventure and the chance to make a new start. Almost everyone thought that, with hard work, they could have a better life. Most of the settlers did, indeed, face a variety of hardships before they succeeded.

For its part, England hoped to establish a system of **mercantilism**, a part of which was a trade policy that England should export more than it imported. Among the things it had to buy from other countries were cotton, forest products, tobacco, and some foods. Under a system of mercantilism, its colonies would produce raw materials and ship them to England. There, English citizens could use the raw materials to make finished goods, such as furniture, clothing, tools, and sugar. England could then sell those items to other nations and strengthen its own economy.

Permanent Settlements

Permanent colonization of the New World began in 1607 with the English settlement of Jamestown, in what we now call Virginia. From the beginning, Jamestown, which was named after King James I, had its troubles. The 104 settlers who survived the transatlantic crossing arrived too late to plant crops. Because Jamestown was located beside a swamp, malaria swept through the village during the colonists’ first year. By the end of that



Top and above: James Fort is a recreation of the original Jamestown settlement. Costumed interpreters like these demonstrate to visitors what life in the fort was like.

Matoaka

Every now and then historical events are told and re-told in such a way that the facts become convoluted or tangled. Thus is the case of one Matoaka, who was the daughter of the Powhatan chief of the powerful Algonquian tribe. You probably know her better as Pocahontas, which was a nickname meaning “the naughty one” or “spoiled child.” According to most historians and the Powhatan nation, the story of the 12-year-old throwing herself over the body of British explorer John Smith to save him from certain execution is untrue. We do know that the two met and initially were friends.

So, what was the true story? Accounts differ about the relationship of the Powhatan tribe and Jamestown settlers from 1607 to 1613 and about the life of Matoaka. In 1612, the bright and friendly 17-year-old young woman was captured by the Jamestown settlers. She was held captive for a year after the friendly relations between the tribe and settlers soured. During that time, 28-year-old John Rolfe, a tobacco planter, became enamored of the attractive prisoner and asked her to marry him. She agreed, was released from prison, and assumed the name of Rebecca Rolfe after being baptized in the Christian faith. Two years later, she traveled to Great Britain with her husband and her son Thomas. There she was wined and dined and put on display to support the Virginia colony. Her brightness and beauty captured the hearts of the English. On two occasions she met John Smith but refused to speak to him in the first incident and called him a liar in the second. In March 1617, the family was returning to their home in Jamestown when Pocahontas was taken ill and put ashore in Gravesend, England, where she died at age 21.



Above: This is the only known portrait of Matoaka (Pocahontas). It was painted in England in 1616.

year, only 38 settlers remained alive. The colony survived, however, and flourished, especially after the settlers discovered that tobacco grew well in the land. Soon other settlers were attracted to Jamestown.

The cultivation of tobacco created a need for labor, a need that was met by Dutch traders. In 1619, these traders introduced Africans into Virginia, most of whom were indentured servants. **Indentured servants** agreed to work for someone for a set period of time (usually 4 to 7 years) in return for passage to the New World. At the end of that time, indentured servants were free to do anything they wished. As the seventeenth century wore on, however, Africans more and more were treated as slaves. **Slaves** had few rights and spent their entire lives in service to others.

English explorers also established settlements in New England and the Carolinas. Since the Spanish were already in Guale, conflicts arose between the English and Spanish settlers. But by 1686, the Spanish had retreated south to St. Augustine. England realized that it needed a “buffer” between its colonies and the Spanish settlements in Florida. Georgia was to become that buffer.

Fort King George

Although Spain had moved out of Guale, more than one country claimed the land. France was establishing colonies along the Gulf Coast and in northern Alabama. Both the French and the Spanish posed a threat to the British colonies.

Colonel John “Tuscarora Jack” Barnwell, a wealthy South Carolina planter, traveled to London to ask that a fort be built at the mouth of the Altamaha River. The Crown approved the construction of the fort. In 1721, the **garrison** (a fort where troops are housed) was finished. Fort King George became the British “warning point” for invaders. Although abandoned in 1727 due to Indian raids, swampy conditions, and sickness, Fort King George established the English presence in Georgia. Today, you can see what the fort was like by visiting Darien.



New World-Old World Exchanges

Both the New World and the Old World benefitted from the exploration of the New World. Besides the riches they gained, the European nations were able to spread their Christian beliefs to the new continent. Foods, plants, and animals were exchanged between the Old and the New Worlds. Corn,

the white potato (misknown as the Irish potato), sweet potatoes or yams, peanuts, turkeys, and pumpkins were some of the foods transported from the New World to Europe. Rye, radishes, beets, sugar cane, rice, peaches, and wheat were among the plants that came from Europe to the New World. The Europeans also brought horses, chickens, pigs, oxen, sheep, goats, and cattle to the New World. Many of these animals destroyed the native ground cover and led to the extinction of some native animals. However, the animals thrived here.

Did You Know?

Many of the soldiers at **Fort King George** suffered from **trench mouth**, a painful condition. It was caused by the soldiers eating out of a "**trencher**," a piece of wood with the middle scooped out as a bowl. Because the bowls were **rarely washed**, the men got **ulcers** on the mouth and tongue.



Top and above:
Fort King George was reconstructed and is now a state historic site.

It's Your Turn

1. Why did England want to establish colonies in North America?
2. What crop led to the use of indentured servants and slaves in the New World?

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- the struggles of the settlers to build the new colony,
- the first settlements in Georgia,
- conflict with the Spanish,
- why the trustees returned the colony to the king, and
- **vocabulary terms:** artisan and militia.

Building a New Home

The colonists put up four large tents for shelter. Then they began getting the land ready for planting and preparing timber to build permanent homes. Most of the settlers had lived in the city and were **artisans** (craftsmen). They were not used to hard physical labor. Within two weeks, however, they began building the first permanent homes.

Oglethorpe had no title and only limited power, but he was accepted as the leader of the colony. During the early months, he got grants of land and made treaties with the Native Americans. He had a small fort built on the bank of the river and trained a **militia**, or citizen army, to defend the settle-

ment. Oglethorpe gave advice to local leaders and encouraged the new colonists. He also worked with Colonel William Bull and surveyor Noble Jones to design the future city of Savannah. The basic pattern of this first planned city in the colonies was after a design by Robert Castell, Oglethorpe's friend who had died in a British debtors' prison.

The plan was for Savannah to have four squares. On the north and south sides of each square were twenty lots sixty by ninety feet. On the east and west sides, four larger lots were set aside for such buildings as churches or stores. The center of each square was for social, political, and religious gatherings. The squares were divided into blocks, which were called *tythings*, and wards. There were ten houses in each block and four blocks in each ward.

An examination of a present-day map of Savannah shows the influence of Jones, Bull, Castell, and Oglethorpe. Modern Savannah, with a population of over 146,000, is built much the same as the city that was planned over 255 years ago. Today, twenty-one of Oglethorpe's original twenty-four squares remain. What a monument to his planning!

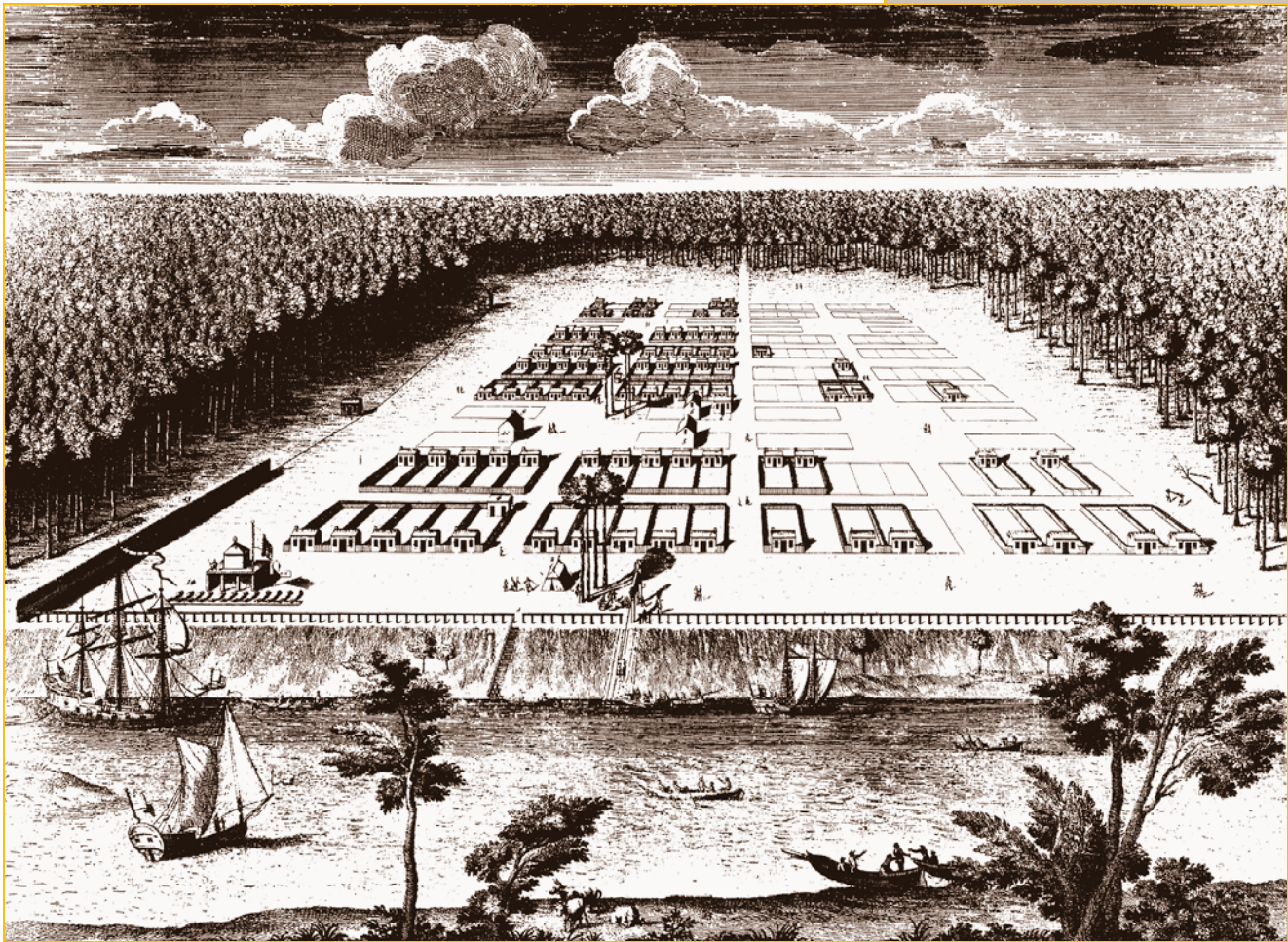
Each settler was expected to care for his house in Savannah, his five-acre garden plot on the edge of town, and his forty-five farm acres in the country. During the first months, the colonists cultivated mulberry trees to



Above: At Fort King George State Historic Site, visitors can see this re-creation of an early settler's camp.

Did You Know?

During early colonial days, many settlers only bathed two or three times a year. More than that was thought to be dangerous.



feed silkworms. They also built a sundial for telling time, a gristmill for grinding corn into meal, a courthouse, a water well, and a bakery.

Work was done in spite of growing medical problems. Oglethorpe thought the use of rum caused the people to be sick. However, the scurvy, dysentery, and fever were more likely caused by a lack of fresh vegetables, changes in the climate, poor sanitation, and hard physical labor. Forty settlers died in the first year. That number might have been greater if new colonists had not arrived.

The Arrival of New Colonists

In July 1733, when the sickness was worst, a ship carrying forty-two Jews landed in Savannah's harbor. The passengers asked to join the settlement. Because Catholics were the only religious group not allowed by the charter, Oglethorpe agreed. He needed to replace the colony's only doctor, who had died earlier. He also needed more able-bodied men in the militia. Because of the services of Dr. Samuel Nunis, the newly arrived doctor, Georgia's first medical crisis passed.

In March 1734, Oglethorpe was planning to leave for Great Britain to report to the colony's trustees when more new settlers arrived. A group of German Protestants had been forced to leave Salzburg, which was then controlled by Catholics. They were led by John Martin Bolzius, and they asked to

Above: Peter Gordon, an upholsterer by trade, kept a journal describing the crossing of the Atlantic on the *Ann* and providing us with the earliest view of the layout of Savannah.



Above: On June 28, 1734, Oglethorpe and his party of nine Indian guests, including Chief Tomochichi, reached London. They were entertained with many parties and dinners during their stay. The meeting of the Indians and the Trustees of Georgia was painted by Willem Verelst.

live in Georgia. Oglethorpe carried the Salzburgers to a place twenty-five miles from Savannah. There they began a town called Ebenezer, which means “the Rock of Help.” They spoke a different language from the other settlers, so they stayed mostly to themselves. However, they worked hard and were busy colonists. Because the land was marshy with poor soil for crops, the Salzburgers asked Oglethorpe for a better site. In 1736, they moved to Red Bluff on the Savannah River. There they built another town, which they called New Ebenezer.

When the Salzburgers were settled, Oglethorpe left for Great Britain. He took with him Chief Tomochichi, the chief’s wife, his grandnephew, and five other members of the tribe. The British liked the Yamacraw and held parties



and receptions in their honor. The Indians were presented to King George II and the Archbishop of Canterbury. His countrymen thought Oglethorpe was a hero, and excitement about the newest British colony grew. The visit strengthened Indian-British relationships, and Oglethorpe went back to Georgia with the full support of the trustees.

Oglethorpe reached Savannah in early February 1736, and he brought three hundred new colonists with him. Included were another group of Salzburgers, some Moravians (Protestants who banded together in Saxony, Germany, in 1722), and two religious leaders, John and Charles Wesley.

During his visit to Great Britain, the trustees gave Oglethorpe a large amount of money to make the frontier borders stronger. They also agreed

Fort Frederica: Today the Fort Frederica National Monument on St. Simons Island is an archaeological site. Visitors can see artifacts such as this wine bottle (top, left), the remains of the fort's barracks (top, right), and the foundations of one of the houses (above).

with three new regulations Oglethorpe wanted to introduce. Upon his return, Oglethorpe first helped the Salzburgers move to Frederica on St. Simons Island. Then he began to present the three new regulations to Georgia's settlers: Buying rum was to be against the law, and alcohol could not be used in trading with the Native Americans. Slavery was not allowed because

Oglethorpe thought it caused landowners to be idle while, at the same time, made them want more land. Trade with the Native Americans was to be watched carefully.

Discontent among the Settlers

Oglethorpe's new regulations were not popular. The regulations, plus the earlier one about passing on land only to male heirs, began to divide the colonists. They were already facing economic hardships. Their mulberry trees were the wrong kind for producing large amounts of silk. The colonists were not able to grow hemp, flax, indigo (a plant used to make blue dyes), or grapes for wine. To make the discontent worse, their South Carolina neighbors, who had large amounts of land, slaves, and rum, were doing well. They were growing rice, cotton, and tobacco, and their success was due, in part, to the use of slave labor.

The Salzburgers and the Highland Scots, who had settled in Darien in 1735, opposed slavery. However, growing numbers of British settlers wanted slaves. There was less and less support for the trustees' regulations. Many Georgia settlers moved to places where they could live more nearly as they wished. When Oglethorpe returned to Georgia after one of his trips to Great Britain, he found upset people all over the colony.

Oglethorpe, however, had little time to listen to the colonists. In the fall of 1739, a war broke out between Great Britain and Spain. Great Britain controlled Georgia's borders, and Spain controlled Florida's. There seemed to be no way to keep the two groups from fighting.

The Spanish Invasion

The war was called the "War of Jenkins's Ear." Several years earlier, Spanish sailors were said to have cut off the ear of Robert Jenkins, an British seaman, to serve as a warning to British ship captains smuggling goods off the Florida coast. Oglethorpe welcomed the war. It gave him a good reason to invade neighboring Florida. A force of about two thousand men, mostly Native Americans and settlers from Georgia and South Carolina, was quickly organized. They tried to take major Spanish forts in Florida, particularly St. Augustine. However, a well-organized Spanish militia met Oglethorpe and his soldiers with a surprise attack on June 15, 1740. The Spanish won, and



Above: This map, drawn in about 1735, shows the young colony of Georgia. Notice the roads and settlements that had grown outside the planned community of Savannah.



Left: The English victory in the Battle of Bloody Marsh on July 7, 1742, helped secure the frontier boundaries against future Spanish invasions. The battle was fought between the St. Simons lighthouse and Fort Frederica. **Below:** This monument on St. Simons Island marks the site where Oglethorpe's forces surprised the Spanish troops during the Battle of Bloody Marsh.

Oglethorpe's forces had to retreat to St. Simons Island.

During the next two years, there were numerous attacks and counterattacks between the Spanish and British settlers, with neither side gaining much ground. In July 1742, Oglethorpe got the opportunity he needed. His forces, assisted by the Highland Scots, waited in the dense woods along the marshes on St. Simons Island. Spanish troops who came that way were caught completely by surprise and forced back across the Florida border. Even though the action was known as the Battle of Bloody Marsh, it was neither big nor very bloody. It did, however, mark the beginning of a safe southern frontier for the British.

After that battle, Oglethorpe had another plan. One of his soldiers had deserted and gone to the Spanish. Oglethorpe had a released Spanish prisoner carry a note to the deserter. The note, which was taken away from the prisoner by Spanish troops, said that British warships were on their way to begin a great battle against the Spanish settlers. The "warships" were really trading vessels, which quickly moved to safe waters the first time they met the Spanish Navy. The Spanish troops,



Of Special Interest

A Past and a Mission

We Georgians owe a great deal to James Oglethorpe. He had the interest and compassion to help people and the ability to work untiringly to fulfill a dream. Before he knew he would be reimbursed, Oglethorpe spent well over 100,000 pounds of his own money (which today would be \$165,000 in American money) to make his dream

come true and protect his charges. In 1910, a statue of James Oglethorpe was unveiled in Savannah's Chippewa Square. David Bottoms, Georgia's poet laureate wrote a poem about Oglethorpe that was printed in the book *Oglethorpe's Dream*. The following excerpts are from the section of the poem entitled "A Past and a Mission."

Do you revere the dead?
Do you revere the ways the dead have revered you?

A man stood on the bluff of a river
and imagined a city.

*The river here forms a Half-moon,
around the southside of which the banks are about forty feet high,
and on the top a flat, which they call a bluff . . .*
Seven weeks and not a calm crossing. Two infants lost to sickness,
though otherwise no calamity.

but not a calm crossing.
Seven weeks of winter on the frigate *Ann*,
and a hundred or so colonists with their thick Protestant Bibles,
their axes, muskets, plows,
10 tons of Alderman Parson's best beer . . .

The Savannah River formed a half-moon,
the banks were high.

*Upon the riverside in the center of the plain,
I have laid out the town, opposite
to which is an island of very rich pasturage.*
. . .

A dream owned him.
It was a new idea, fragile, perhaps old-fashioned. He thought it good.
His dream was rich soil and sunlight. Rain and hard labor,
the free farmer on his own land.
His dream was opportunity.
He lived it by his labor. Hard work,
the free man and the free woman

working their own farmland.
**Slavery, he wrote, is against the Gospel,
as well as the fundamental law of England. We refused as trustees
to make a law permitting such a horrid crime.**

He made enemies.





Did You Know?

Although **silk production** was limited in the colony, some of the **first spun silk** was sent to the **Queen of England** for a **royal dress**.

Augustine. Oglethorpe was cleared of the charges, but he did not return to Georgia. Instead, he remained in Great Britain, married a young heiress, and settled down to life as a patron of the arts.

William Stephens, the trustees' secretary, was named president of a colony filled with disagreement. Efforts to keep rum from being sold had been stopped in 1742. The people still wanted to own more land and to have slaves. By 1750, this was allowed. The regulation against slavery was repealed, along with the one that allowed a colonist to own only five hundred acres of land. When President Stephens retired in 1751, he was replaced by his assistant, Henry Parker. President Parker died a year later. Over the next three years (1752-1754), Georgia was led by President Patrick Graham. During his tenure, many settlers who had left under the rule of the trustees returned to the colony. At about this same time, the British Parliament decided not to set aside enough money to take care of the colony's needs. In 1752, one year

however, did not know this. Because they thought they were outnumbered, the Spanish chose to leave the area for good.

The End of the Dream

In 1743, Oglethorpe was called to Great Britain to answer charges that he had not acted correctly when he failed to capture Spanish-held St. Augustine.



Top: The ruins of Horton House on Jekyll Island, built by Major William Horton in 1740. It is one of only two pre-Revolutionary tabby structures still standing in Georgia. **Above:** This is a close-up of tabby, a mixture of shells, lime, sand, and water. Tabby was a popular building material along the Georgia and Florida coasts.

before the charter's end, the trustees returned Georgia to the authority of King George II. A new era was about to begin.

A Last Look at the Charter Colony

The idealistic vision of society that had been shared by the trustees of the colony was never fulfilled. Few debtors reached Georgia's shores, and the colony was an economic failure. Many unhappy settlers moved elsewhere, and the dissension in the colony continued. Rum was freely imported, and slavery was introduced. By the time the Georgia charter ended, nearly one-third of the population of three thousand were slaves. Finally, the colony suffered from a lack of continuity in leadership. But with all its failures, the colony had made progress.

During the twenty years of the original charter, 5,500 people had settled in Georgia. They had built new homes and started new lives. Although some left the colony to go elsewhere, they still made an imprint on the society and culture.

A large number of settlers were European Protestants who came to the colony to escape religious persecution. In Georgia, they were able to practice their beliefs without fear of punishment.

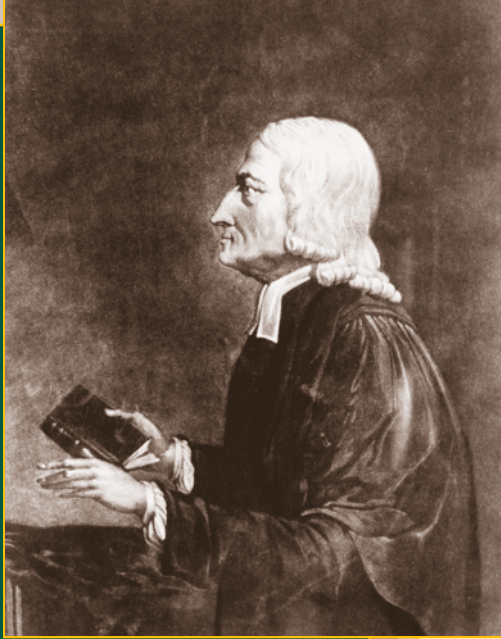
Treaties with the American Indians and the elimination of the threat of Spanish invasion ended the need for British military protection. Georgia was a safe haven on the southern frontier.

There were also noteworthy religious, social, and political accomplishments in the colony's short history. Evangelist George Whitfield established the Bethesda Orphans Home in Ebenezer. The

home served as a refuge for children without parents. Later, the home was expanded into a school and renamed Bethesda House. The school provided a basic education for many of Georgia's future leaders. In Savannah, John and Charles Wesley established the first Sunday school in America. They also founded the Methodist Church.

The court system, established during the early days of the settlement, was still functioning. By 1750, when the colonists gained outright ownership of the land, women were able to inherit property.

Perhaps the trustees' greatest accomplishment was their ability to enable the Georgia colony to survive the many hardships encountered during the first twenty years. The survival set the stage for Georgia to become a successful and profitable royal colony.



Above: Chief Tomochichi asked Oglethorpe to bring a minister to the colonies to serve his tribe. John Wesley, a young Church of England minister, volunteered. During his brief one-year stay, Wesley preached to the Indians and colonists. He conducted Bible study classes for the children every Sunday. Those classes are believed to be the first "Sunday School" held in the colonies.

It's Your Turn

1. How was Robert Castell important to the settlement of Savannah?
2. Why was Dr. Samuel Nunis important to Georgia's history?
3. What were the three regulations Oglethorpe introduced after his first trip to England?
4. Where was the Battle of Bloody Marsh fought?
5. When did the trustees return Georgia to King George II?

A Final Note

As we look back on the Georgia colony, it is important to remember the state motto, *Non Sibi Sed Allis*, which is Latin for “Not for themselves but for others.” From that standpoint, we have only to look around us and know they were very successful.

Chapter Summary

- European explorers searched for all-water routes to reach the riches of the East Indies and expand trade.
- Many countries explored the New World including Spain, France, and England.
- In 1540, Hernando de Soto, a Spanish explorer, traveled through present-day Georgia searching for gold.
- Europeans brought to the New World a variety of new plants, animals, foods, and diseases. In return, they carried new plants, foods, and animals from the New World back to the Old World (Europe).
- In 1732, King George II granted twenty-one trustees, including James Oglethorpe, the right to settle a colony in what is now Georgia.
- Great Britain hoped that the new colony would defend its other colonies from the attacks of the French, Spanish, and Native Americans. Great Britain also planned for the colony to produce and ship raw materials it would otherwise have to buy from other countries.
- Led by James Oglethorpe, a group of settlers landed on a site near the mouth of the Savannah River. Some of the settlers were looking for religious freedom, while others wanted adventure and the opportunity to make a fresh start in life.
- The charter contained many limits on the freedom of the colonists, who were expected to defend the new colony and obey all regulations.
- Land was given to the colonists. However, they could not sell it, borrow money on it, or pass it on to anyone other than a male heir.
- Later regulations, including a ban on slavery, caused discontentment among the settlers, who needed additional help to work their properties.
- Although the original ideals for the colony were never fulfilled, the colony made progress and survived.



Above: After serving Georgia for ten years, Oglethorpe left in 1743 to return to England. Until his death in 1785, at the age of 88, Oglethorpe continued to work in many charities while living the life of a country gentleman.

Chapter Review

Reviewing People, Places, and Terms



On a separate sheet of paper, write the words that best complete each of the following sentences.

1. An artisan is (a) a recording star, (b) a craftsman, (c) a small farmer.
2. Georgia's charter (a) was granted in 1732, (b) was issued by Prince Phillip, (c) established the Margravate of Azilia.
3. An indentured servant (a) was responsible for tending the mulberry trees, (b) offered to work for someone in exchange for passage to America, (c) is someone who handles the affairs of a group.
4. Mercantilism (a) involves establishing rules or laws, (b) grants certain rights to those who want to establish a colony, (c) is an economic and trade policy.
5. A monarch is (a) one who sponsors an expedition, (b) a type of ship, (c) a king or queen.
6. James Edward Oglethorpe (a) favored the use of slaves in the new colony, (b) wanted to help debtors, (c) was the captain of the *Ann*.
7. Slaves (a) were initially forbidden in Georgia, (b) were paid for their services, (c) both A and B.
8. Tomochichi (a) was the father of Matoaka, (b) was the chief of the Cherokee, (c) made a trip to Great Britain with Oglethorpe.

Understanding the Facts



1. Why did England expand the colonies it established in the New World?
2. Which foods and animals were exchanged between the New World and the Old World?
3. When did England first claim Georgia?
4. Why did King George II want to establish the thirteenth colony?
5. How many trustees were responsible for establishing and managing the colony of Georgia? For how many years were the trustees supposed to manage the colony?
6. What was the purpose for planting mulberry trees?
7. Why did many Georgia settlers want to introduce slavery into the colony?
8. In what year were the people in the colony allowed to own more land and have slaves?

Developing Critical Thinking



1. If you had been a citizen of London when Oglethorpe was looking for colonists for Georgia, would you have been willing to travel to a new land? Why or why not? What parts of the trip would have been the most exciting for you? What parts of the settlement process would have been the most frightening for you?
2. Suppose the initial regulations governing the colony had been upheld. Would life in the colony have been different? Explain.

Checking It Out



1. Use your research skills to find out more about the voyage of the *Ann* to the new colony. Who were the passengers on the *Ann*? What types of skills did they have? What could they contribute to the success of a new colony?
2. Use your research skills to find out more about the diseases that Europeans introduced into the New World and for which the Native Americans had no immunity. Which diseases were the most deadly and why? How long was it before these key diseases were controlled in the New World?

Writing Across the Curriculum



1. Imagine that you are a 14-year-old who made the voyage across the Atlantic on the *Ann*. Write a letter to a friend back in Great Britain describing life on board the ship and the excitement of landing in the new colony. Write a second letter, one year later, describing the pleasures and difficulties of living in the new colony.

Exploring Technology



1. The European nations that controlled settlements in the New World were all male-dominated societies. However, in the Native American and African societies, women played much more important roles. Use your favorite search engine to find out about the role of women in these three cultures. How did the activities and roles of colonial women differ from the activities and roles of Native American women in their matrilineal society, which you studied in the last chapter?

2. Use your favorite search engine to examine the exchange of plants and animals between Europe and the New World. (Use the key words “Columbian Exchange.”) Did you know, for example, that the so-called Irish potato came from the New World? Did you know that the famed bluegrass of Kentucky came from Europe? Learn which of our common plants were native to the New World and which came from Europe.



Applying Your Skills

1. Using a United States map, outline the original land area granted to Oglethorpe and the other trustees.
2. Using a current map of Savannah, examine the layout of the early colony and compare it to modern Savannah. How are the maps similar and different? How do current street names indicate a sense of the history of the early settlement?
3. On a blank Georgia county map, locate Savannah, Ebenezer, Darien, and St. Simons Island.
4. Draw what you think would be a good layout for Savannah. How does your design differ from that used by Oglethorpe?

Just for Fun



Riddles were very popular during the colonial period. Try your hand at a few. You will need to keep a colonial “frame of mind.”

1. What flies up but is always down?
2. When is a boy most like a bear?
3. What has a tongue but cannot talk?