

The Thirteen Colonies

I. New England Colonies

- A. Healthy environment
- B. Most people lived in well-organized towns
- C. Weather & Geography
 - 1. Long winters and short summers
 - 2. Thin rocky soil – resulted in subsistence farming
 - 3. Hilly and heavily forested
- D. Economy
 - 1. small business/manufacturing
 - 2. shipbuilding
 - 3. fishing & whaling
 - 4. trade

II. Middle Colonies

- A. *Climate and Geography*
 - 1. Rich soil
 - 2. Long growing season
 - 3. Large rivers
- B. Economy
 - 1. Farming
 - a. Wheat
 - b. Barley
 - c. Rye
 - d. Other grains
 - e. Livestock
 - 2. Trade
 - 3. Manufacturing
 - 4. New York & Philadelphia are the largest seaports
- C. Cultural diversity not present in the N.E. Colonies
 - 1. Germans
 - 2. Dutch
 - 3. Swedish
 - 4. Other groups
- D. Cultural diversity resulted in increased religious and cultural tolerances
- E. African-Americans
 - 1. Fewer slaves than in the South
 - 2. Movement to free slaves began in 1688 when the Pennsylvania Quakers began the earliest American protests against slavery

III. Southern Colonies

- A. Geography and Climate

1. Warm weather
2. Long growing season
3. Rich Soil

B. Economics

1. Cash crops such as tobacco, rice, corn, and wheat
2. Very little commerce or industry
3. Large plantations depended on indentured servants and slave labor

C. Tidewater and Backcountry

1. Most large Southern plantations were located in the Tidewater
 - a. Plantations were self contained communities; larger plantations even had their own schools & churches
 - b. Large plantation owners had most of the money and controlled the economic and political life of the region.
2. The Backcountry was largely settled by newcomers to the colonies
 - a. Most settlers grew corn or tobacco on small farms.

D. slavery

1. Most enslaved African-Americans lived on plantations
2. By the early 1700s most Southern colonies had slave codes governing the behavior and punishment of slaves
3. Slaves developed their own culture based on the languages, customs, and religions of their homelands

IV. Vocabulary

1. Great Migration
2. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
3. Triangular Trade
4. Middle Passage
5. Subsistence farming
6. Cash crop
7. Diversity
8. Cash crop
9. Tidewater
10. Backcountry
11. Slave Codes
12. Plantation
13. Indentured Servants