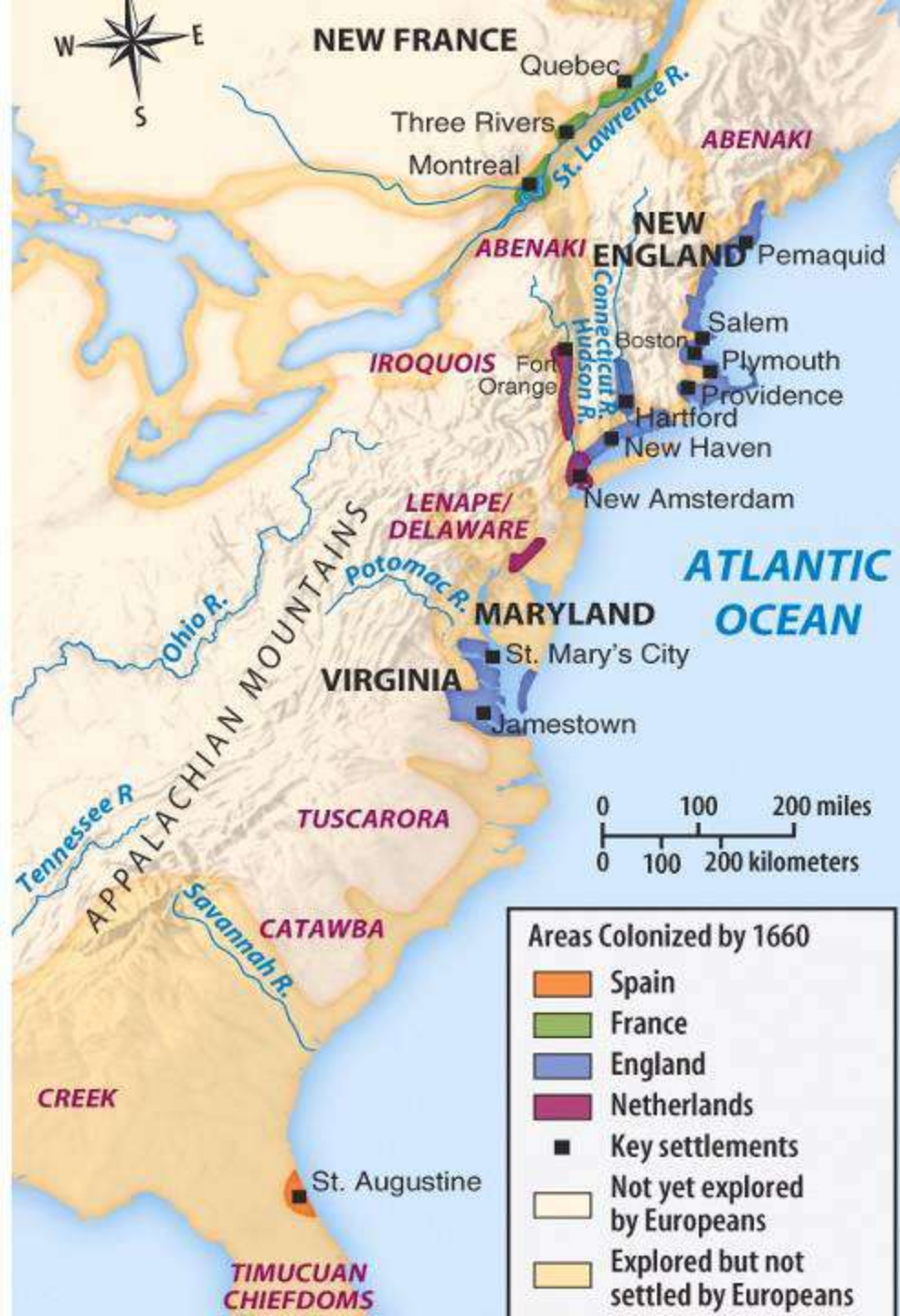


Experience of Empire: 18th Century America



American Colonial Culture:
1700-1780



What did America look like in the 17th Century?



What did America look like in the 18th Century?

North American Population, 1750

Native Americans	1.5 million
New England	400,000
Chesapeake	390,000
Pennsylvania	230,000
New York	100,000
Lower South	100,000
Backcountry	100,000
New France	70,000
Northern New Spain	20,000

Native Americans

- By the 18th Century, the Indians in contact with European colonists became dependent upon them:
 - For manufactured clothes, guns, & trade
 - The French had the best relationship with Indians
 - The Spanish horse altered the culture of the Plains Indians

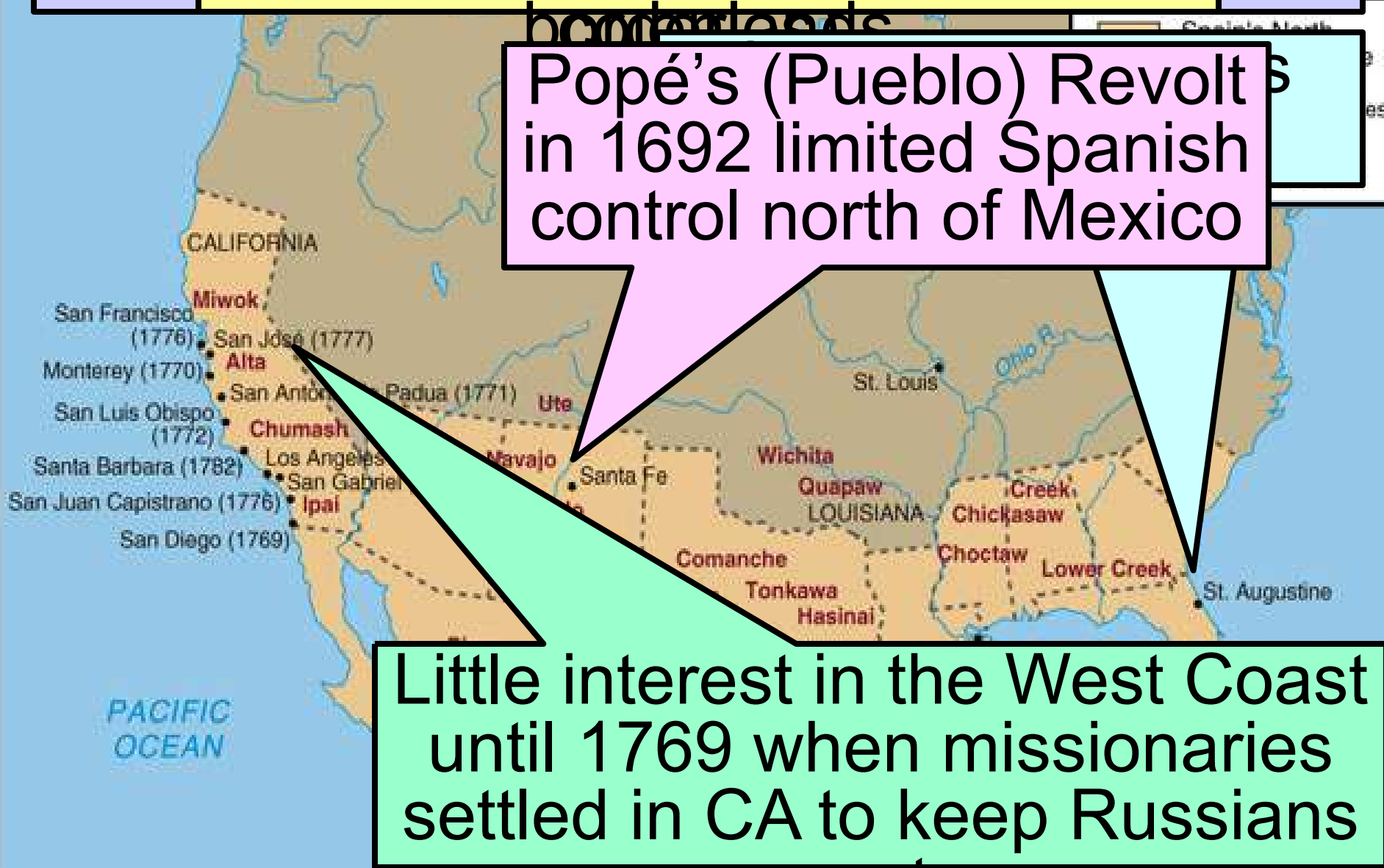
Use of Horses by the Plains Indians



Spain never had a secure political or military hold on the

Popé's (Pueblo) Revolt in 1692 limited Spanish control north of Mexico

Little interest in the West Coast until 1769 when missionaries settled in CA to keep Russians





Jesuit missionaries converted Native Americans

18th Century

New Orleans gave France control of the “interstate highway” of the Mississippi

(farmers)

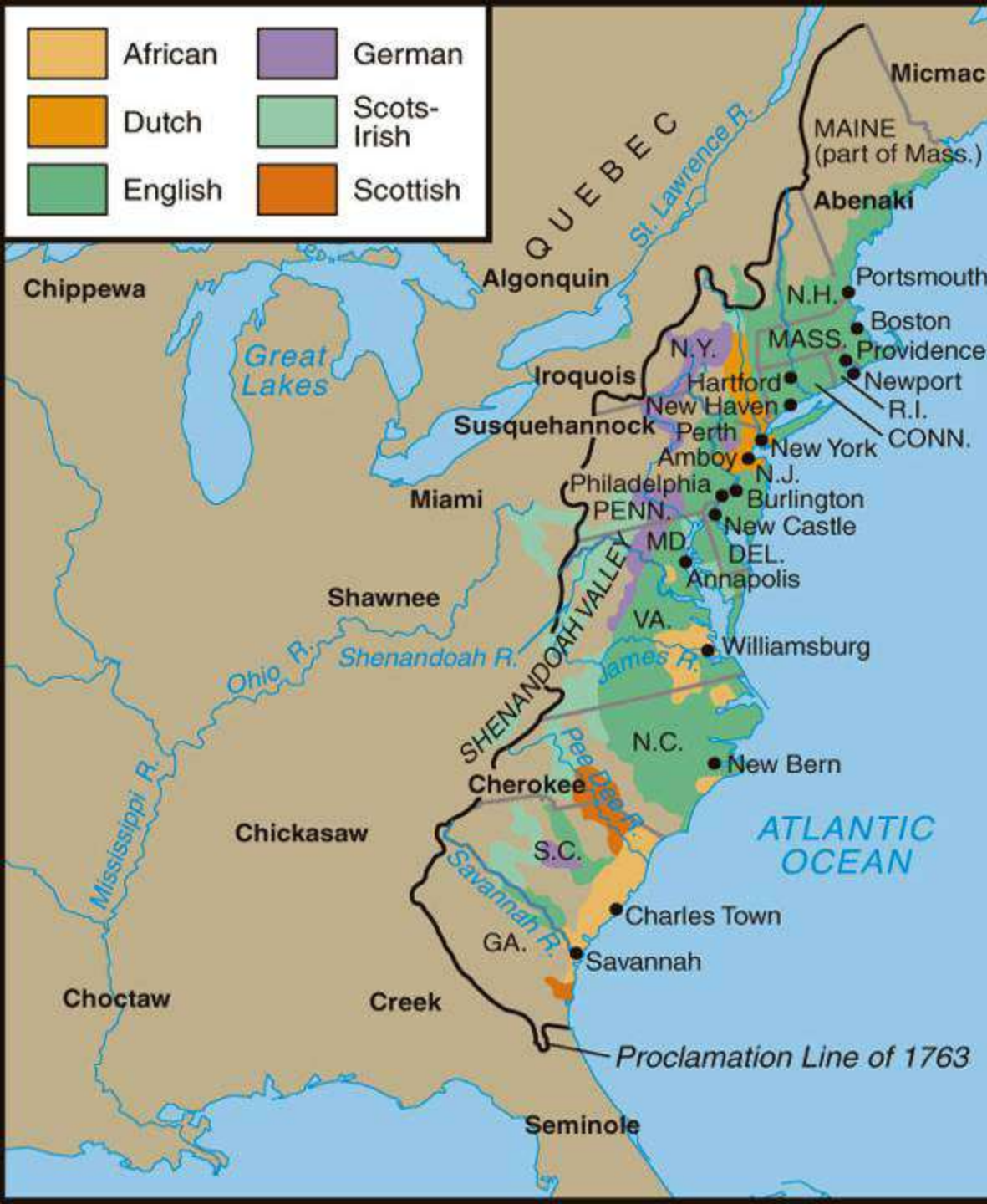
Population in the “French Crescent” grew 500% by 1750 due to natural reproduction

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Growth & Diversity in 18th Century America

Growth & Diversity in British America

- By 1770, the English colonies became increasingly different from New Spain & New France:
 - Population boomed 1,000% due to increased birth rates, falling death rates, & a huge wave of non-English immigration
 - Surging economic growth
 - New political & religious ideas



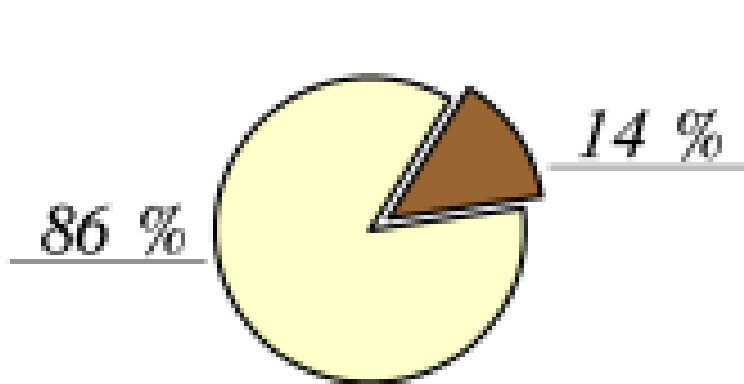
Distribution of
*European &
 African*
 Immigrants
 in British
 North America
 by 1770

18th Century Immigrants

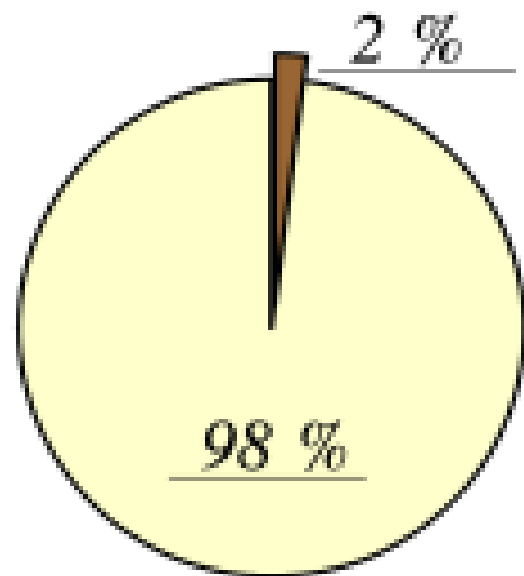
- 1790 census showed less than 50% of American colonists were English; 18th century immigration brought unprecedented diversity:
 - African slaves were the largest group to immigrate
 - The Transportation Act (1718) allowed English judges to send convicted felons to the colonies (50,000 were forced to emigrate)

White and Black Population of the Colonies in 1750

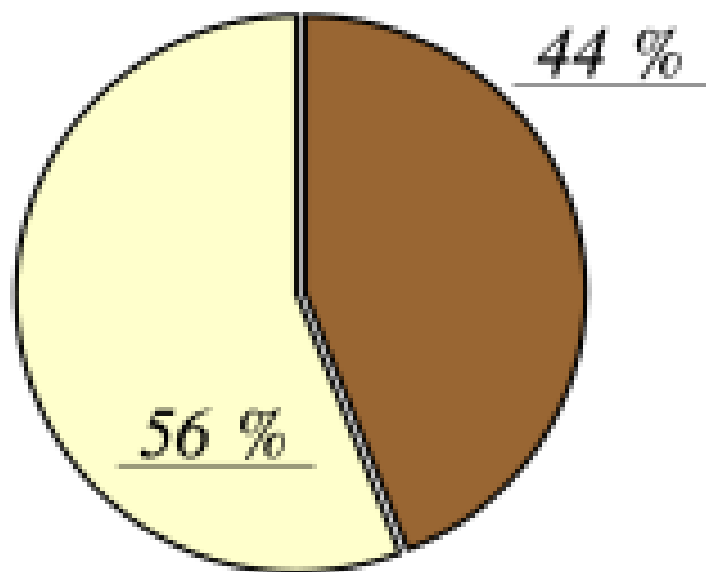
Color Key: White [] Black []



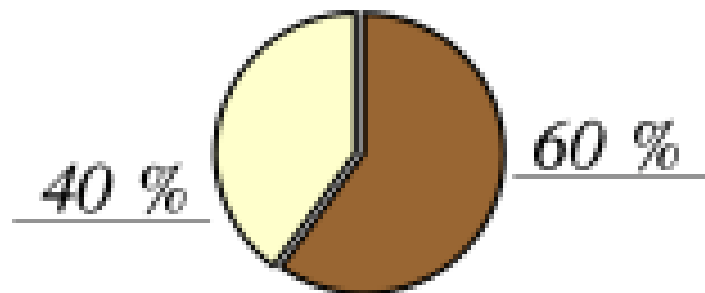
New York



Massachusetts



Virginia



South Carolina

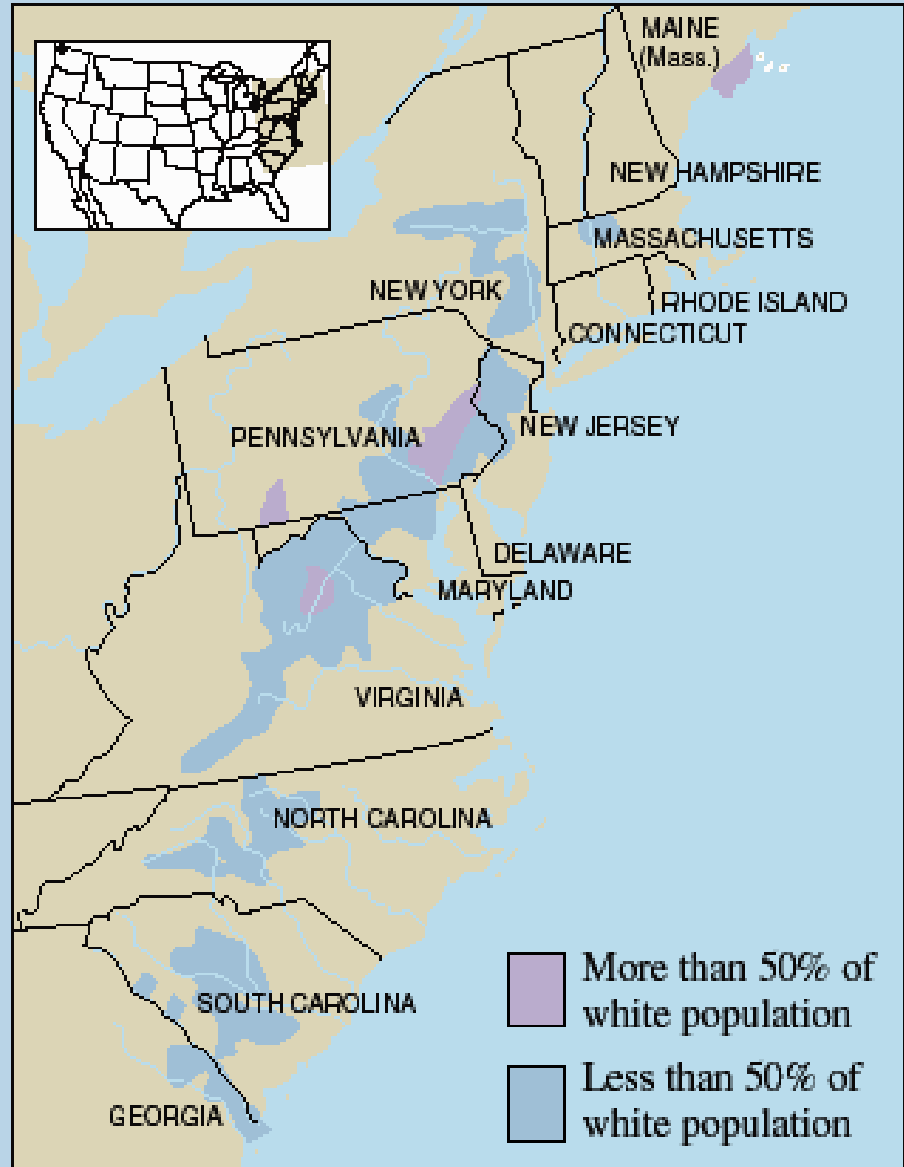
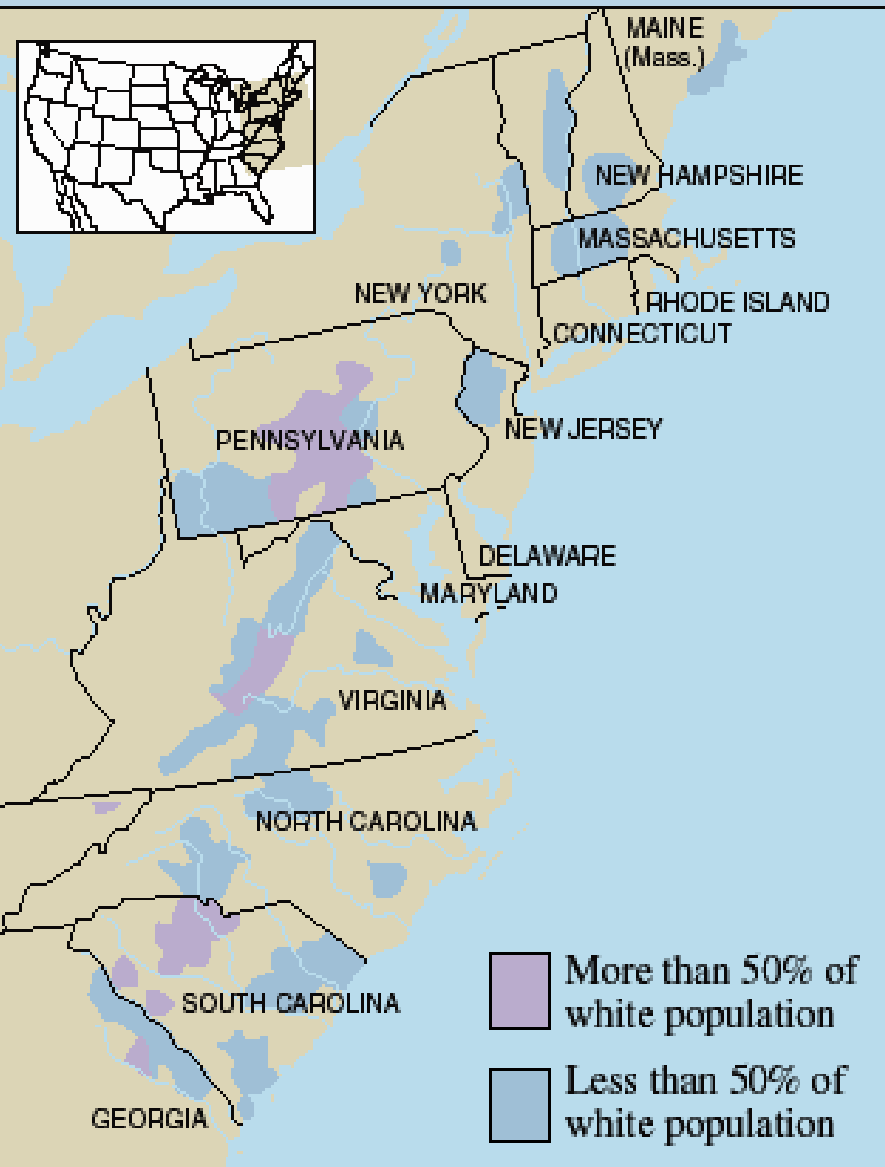
18th Century Immigrants

- The Scotch-Irish were the largest European group to immigrate:
 - Initially welcomed as a frontier barrier between Indians & PA
 - Challenged authority wherever they settled
- Germans were the 2nd largest European group to immigrate:
 - Seen as hard-working farmers
 - Clung to German traditions rather than “Anglicizing”

German Settlement Areas, 1775

Most German and Scots-Irish immigrants in the 1700s were farmers, and they quickly moved into the interior, where land was cheapest and most available.

Scots-Irish Settlement Areas, 1775



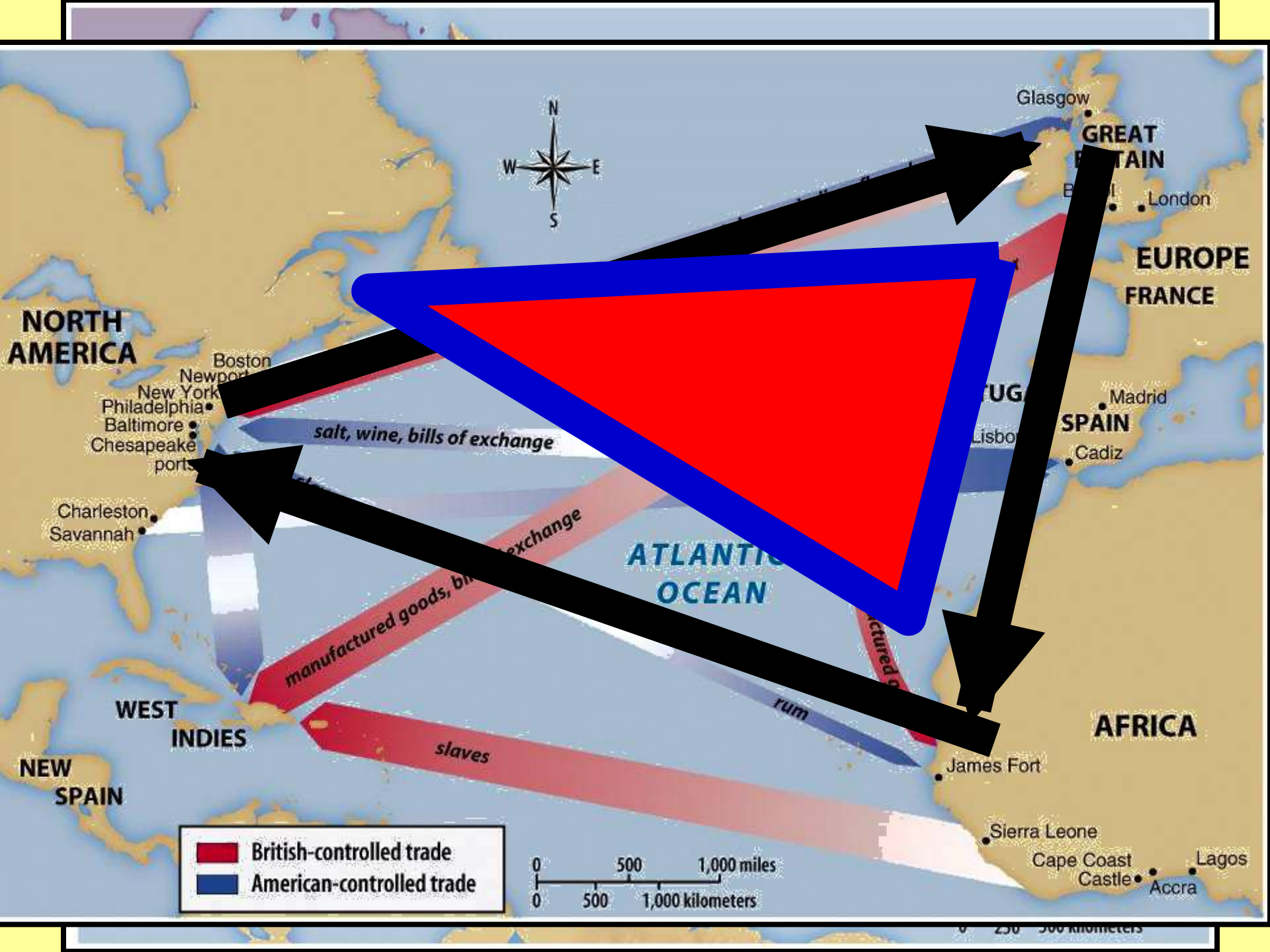


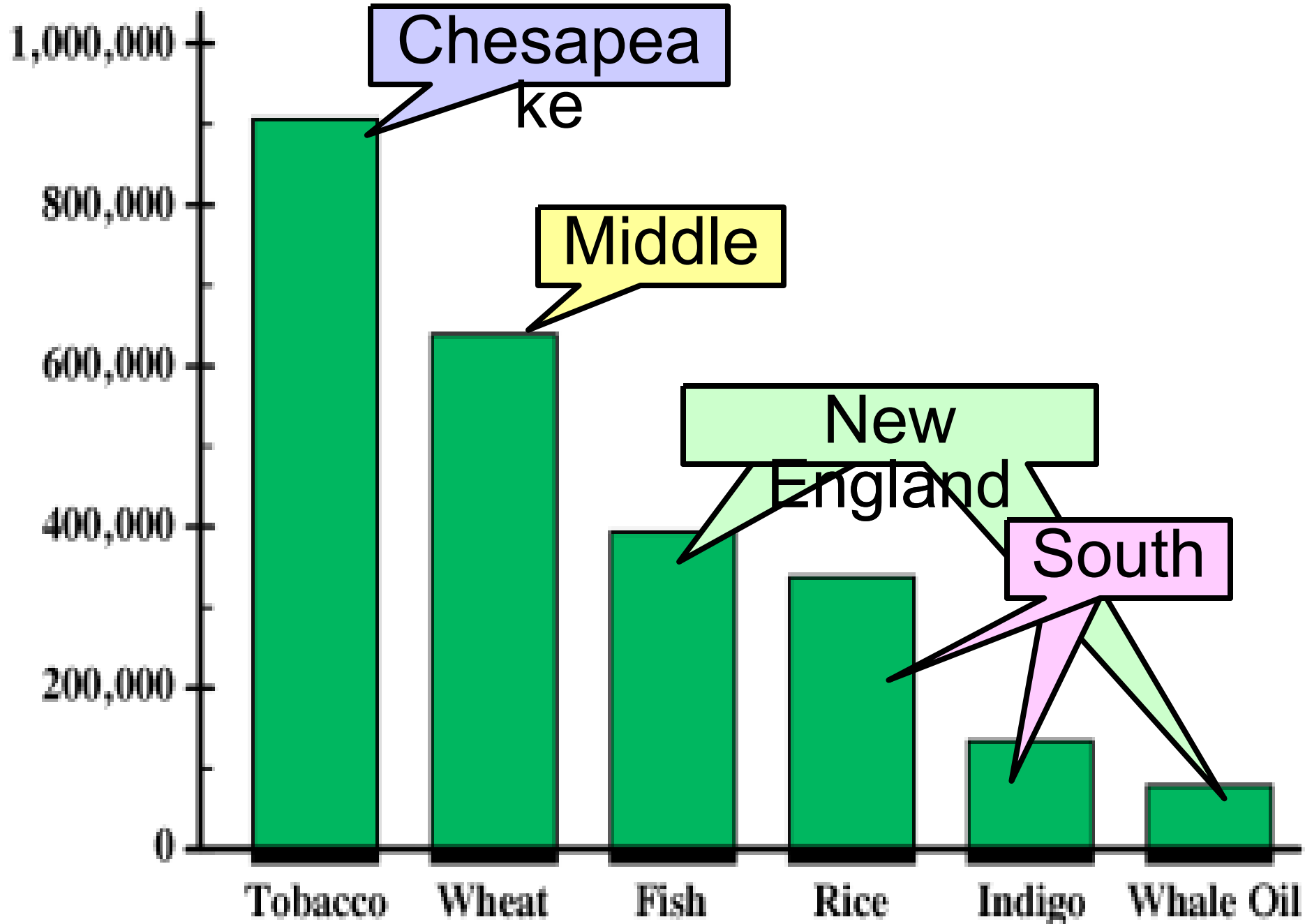
The American Backcountry



18th Century

American Commerce





Economic Transformation

- In the 1700s, Spanish & French colonial economies stagnated but English colonial economies grew:
 - Led to an increased standard of living & affluence for Americans
 - The colonial economy kept pace with its expanding population
 - English mercantilism increased a desire for American products (esp. tobacco & sugar)

Birth of a Consumer Society

- The availability of cheap English mass-produced goods led to a rise in colonial consumption
 - Colonists grew an insatiable desire for goods from “home”
 - The increase in inter-colonial & Caribbean trade gave colonists the money they needed to buy British manufactured goods
 - But, many colonists fell heavily in debt to English merchants

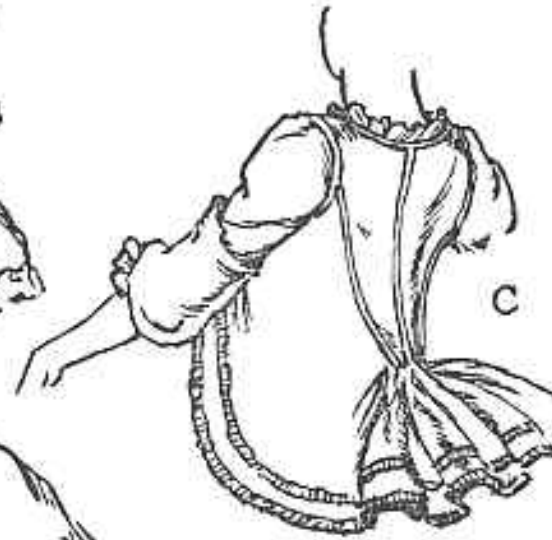
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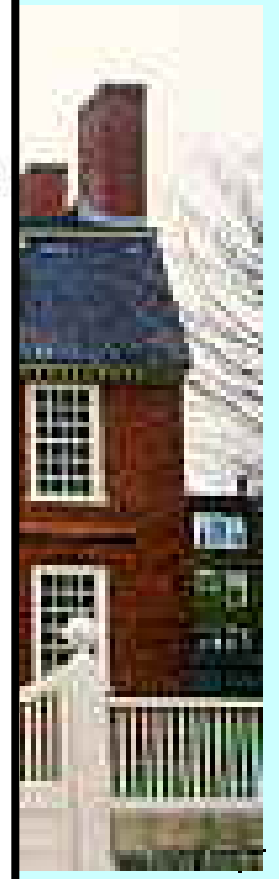


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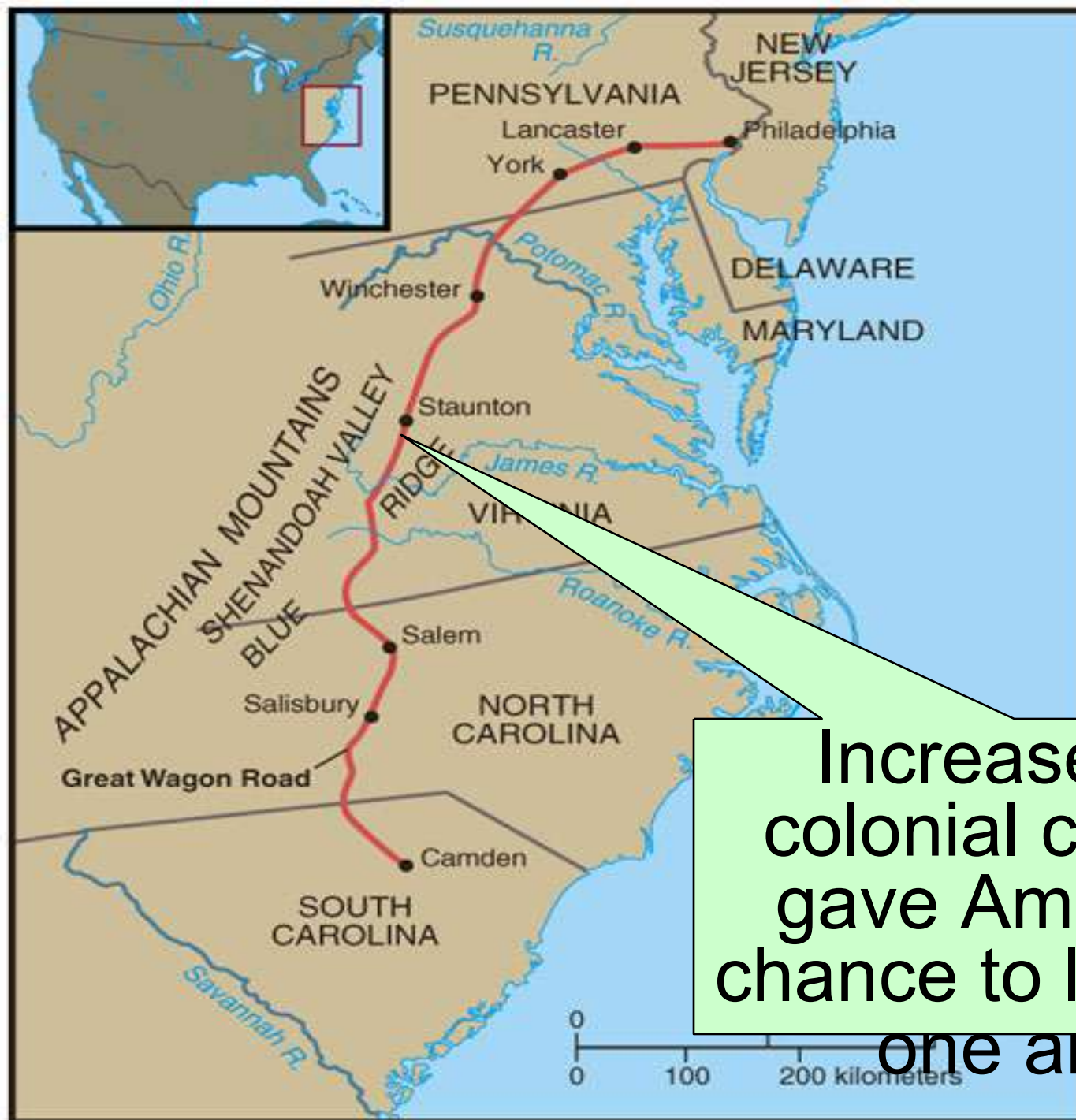
E

CLASSIC
CLAPBOW
DOUBLE
PEDIMENT
& TRAIL
CORNET
SILL BO



The Great Wagon Road

Increased inter-colonial commerce gave Americans a chance to learn about one another



American Urban Life

- Few colonists lived in cities:
 - Boston, Newport, New York, Philadelphia, & Charles Town contained only 5% of total colonial population
 - Cities were geared toward intermediary trade but...
 - Cities began to attract colonists seeking opportunities



18th Century American Politics

Contrasting Colonial Politics

- Unlike state-controlled Spanish & French colonies, the English colonies were decentralized:

- All colonies (except CT & RI) had royal government

- But all colonies had assemblies that controlled the purse strings

- Colonies were not democratic; Power was centralized with the wealthy, landed elite

The legacy of
"Salutary
Neglect"

Governors

Governors resembled monarchs, but were often

■ Colonial

in various systems.

Governors' councils resembled the English

most were

House of Commons

Colonial assemblies resembled the English House of Commons

95% of Massachusetts men & 85% of Virginia

Commons. Royal governors men could vote

represented the colonial gentry

—Colonial assemblies—were largely autonomous & very representative of colonists

Colonial Assemblies

- Elected members of colonial assemblies felt it was their right to protect colonial liberties:
 - They were more interested in pleasing their constituents than in obeying the governor
 - They held more popular support than the royal governors
 - Assemblies controlled all means of raising revenue

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The Great Awakening

Decline in Religious Devotion

- The 1700s saw a decline in religious devotion
 - Outsiders were not allowed to join churches
 - NE suffered a decline in church attendance (1:5 were members)
 - Church sermons were seen by many as “cold” & impersonal
 - Led to a rise in Arminianism (free will, not predestination)
- The Half-Way Covenant (1662) was a way for NE churches to increase membership to the “unconverted” children

The Great Awakening

■ The Great Awakening was not really “American” either as similar phenomena occurred in

Protestants in Europe

The Great Awakening hit New England in the 1730s & in Virginia in 1750s & 1760s

- It was not a unified movement; Great Awakenings occurred in many denominations in different places at different times

The Great Awakening

- The 1st stirrings of the Great Awakening began with Jonathan Edwards in Northhampton, MA:
 - Used “fire & passion” to reach the discontent youth of NE
 - Encouraged people to examine their eternal destiny

A reading from “*Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*” (1741)

The Great Awakening

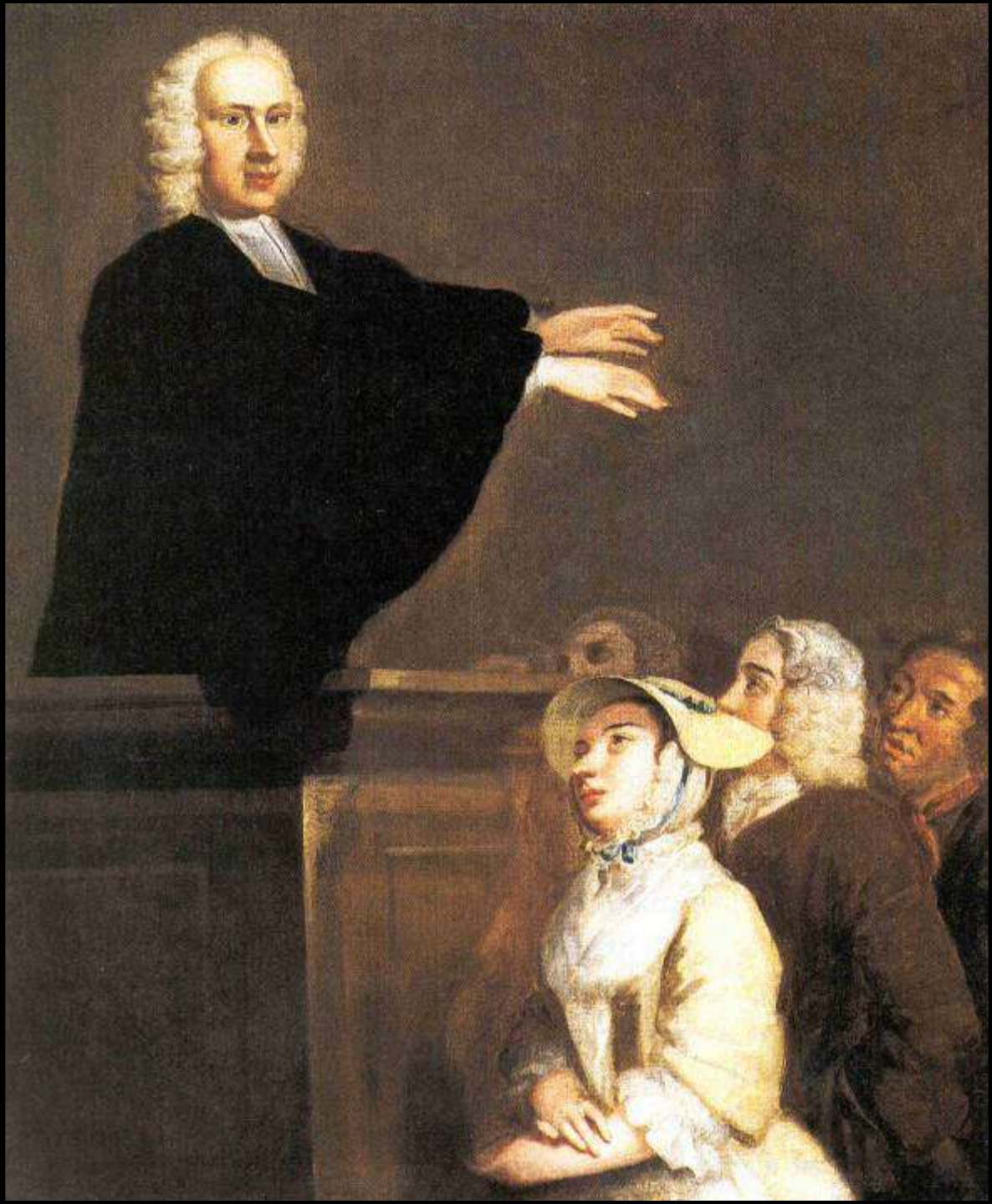
- George Whitefield became the most popular of the evangelists of the Great Awakening

He preached outdoor sermons to 1,000s in nearly every colony

- As a result, itinerants disrupted their established churches claiming ministers were not taught to see the “New Light”



2



3

The Great Awakening

- The impact of the Great Awakening
 - New universities such as Princeton, Dartmouth, Brown, & Rutgers were formed to educate “New Light” preachers:
 - 1st “national” event: Encouraged contact between colonists & Americans from all regions
 - Empowered non-elites to challenge their social superiors

Closure Question

- Did any of these colonies live up to the expectations of their founders:

Virginia?

– Carolina?

– Pennsylvania?

– Massachusetts Bay?