

Mississippian Era

- Who: Native Americans living within the Georgia at the time of European contact.
- When: 800 to 1600 AD
- Why: Some of the most complex societies within North America until Europeans decimated them through violence and disease

*Named for the Mississippi River which was the first

major

river explored by Europeans *

Mississippians in Georgia



Hernando De Soto

- Who: Spanish explorer and conquistador, first European to set foot in Georgia
 - When/Where: 1540, moved from South Georgia into the interior of the state
 - Why: Looking for gold, seeking riches for Spain, looking to establish colonies
- *Died from mysterious illness, buried in Mississippi River

Hernando De Soto



As Hernando De Soto marched throughout the Southeast, thousands of Native Americans were tortured and killed by his men.



Spanish Reasons

- What: “3 Gs” Gold, God, Glory
- When/Where: All across the Southeastern United States specifically Georgia’s coast and Florida
- Why:
 - Gold: Make money off of the “new world” not just actual gold
 - God: Spread Catholic Religion
 - Glory: Create colonies to conquer the “new world” and show power/strength

Spanish Missions

- Who: Spanish Catholics, priests/nuns
- When/Where: 1568-1684, Set up churches and small towns along Georgia's barrier islands
- Why: To convert the Native Americans to Catholicism, to set a Spanish and Catholic presence in the "new world"

*Spoiler Alert Catholics will one day be banned from Georgia when it becomes a British colony



Spanish Missions and Forts Along Georgia & Florida's Coast



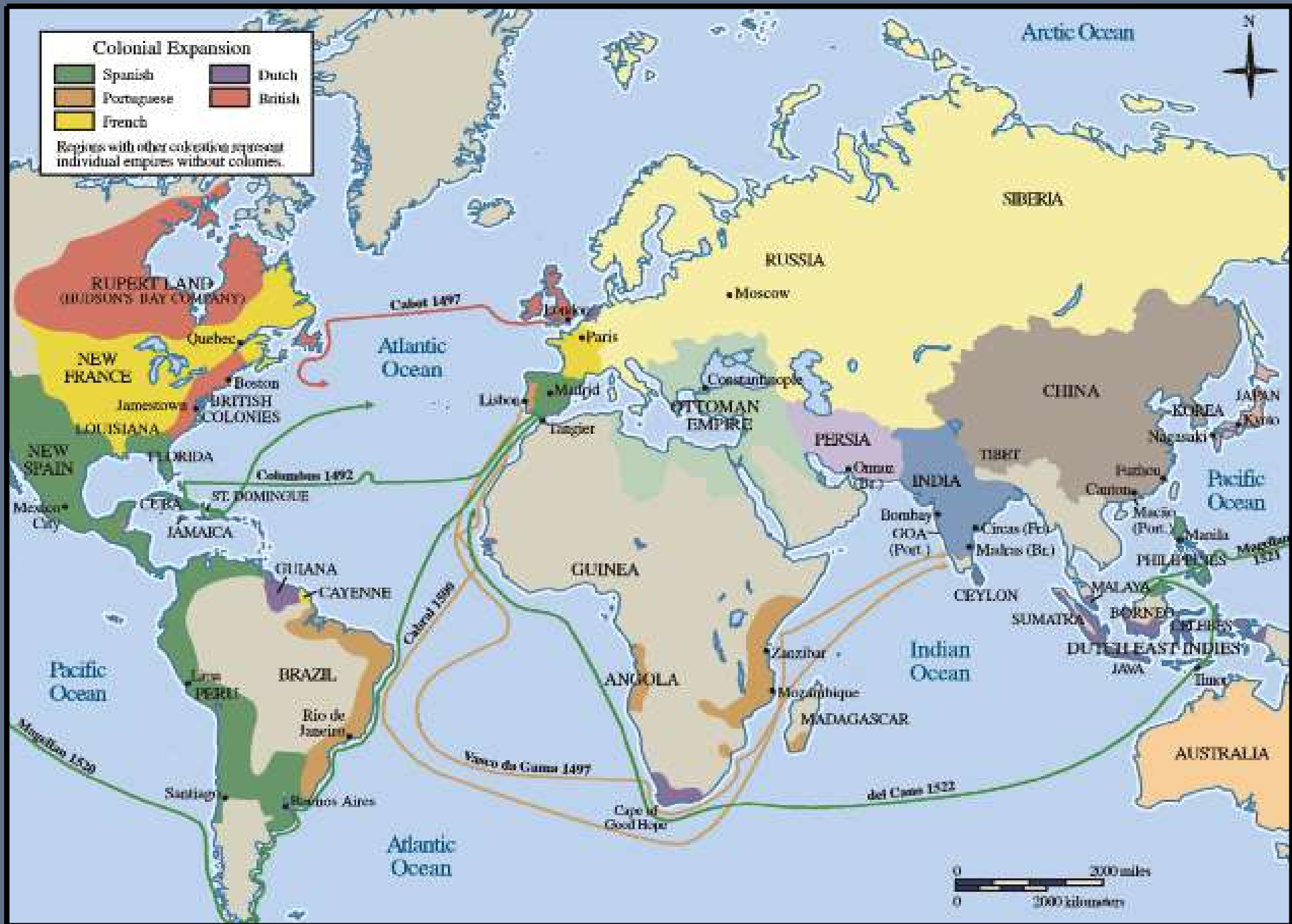
Spanish Missions were established along the barrier islands to convert natives to Christianity.

British Reasons

- What: 3 Gs plus Mercantilism
- When/Where: All over the United States specifically 13 original colonies (Georgia being the last)
- Why:
 - Gold: Riches provided by the “new world” including tobacco, rice, cotton, etc.
 - God: Mostly Protestants fleeing persecution from Catholics or Church of England
 - Glory: Colonies=POWER

Mercantilism

- What: Economic policy that says colonies exist only to provide economic benefits for the “mother country” including imports/exports and trade
- When/Where: 1600s-1700s, 13 original British Colonies eventually that will become USA
- Why: Provide wealth to the “mother country” specifically Great Britain (England)



Impacts

- European Explorers brought disease and violence to the Native Americans originally within the United States in some instances even forcing them into slavery
- Some colonies had better relationships with some tribes including treaties but more often were violent and oppressive to the people who were here first