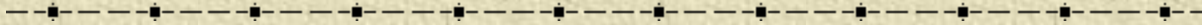




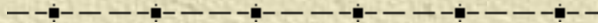
Chapter Five

The Cultures of Colonial North America, 1700–1780

Part One



Introduction



Chapter Focus Questions

- ✦ Who similarities and differences existed among eighteenth-century Spanish, English, and French colonies?
- ✦ How did increasing European immigration affect British colonial culture?
- ✦ How did contact with European customs and lifestyles change the cultures of Indian America?
- ✦ What were the patterns of work and class in eighteenth-century America?
- ✦ What tensions existed between Enlightenment thought and the Great Awakening's call for renewed religious devotion?



Part Two

From Deerfield to Kahnawake: Crossing Cultural Boundaries

Crossing Cultural Boundaries

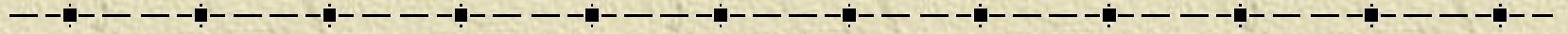
- ✦ In 1704, Indians attacked the town of Deerfield, Massachusetts.
- ✦ Dozens of captives were delivered to the French allies of the Indians, including Eunice Williams, the daughter of John and Eunice Williams.
- ✦ Eunice refused to return to her family and stayed at Kahnawake, a Catholic Indian community near Montreal, becoming part of that community.
- ✦ Only 36 years later did Eunice, under her Iroquois name A'ongonte, return to visit Deerfield with her Iroquois family.



Part Three

North American Regions

North American Region



✦ Map: Regions in Eighteenth-Century North America

Indian America

- ✦ Indians showed capacity to adapt and change by participating in the commercial economy, using metal tools, and building homes of logs as frontier settlers did.
- ✦ But, Indians also became dependent on European trade goods.
- ✦ Diplomatically, Indians played colonial powers off against each other.
- ✦ The major concern of Indians was the phenomenal growth of the colonial population in the British coastal communities.
- ✦ Simultaneously, Indian populations continued to decline.

The Introduction of the Horse



- ✦ Map: Growing Use of the Horse by Plains Indians
- ✦ The introduction of the horse stimulated the rise of nomadic Plains culture.

The Spanish Borderlands

- ✦ The viceroyalty of New Spain was the largest and most prosperous European colony in North America.
- ✦ The northern borderlands of New Spain were considered a buffer zone of protection from other European colonies.
- ✦ In Florida, the colonial presence was weak causing the Spanish to form alliances with Indians and runaway slaves to create a multiracial society.
- ✦ In New Mexico, the population expanded by developing ranches and farms along the Rio Grande River.

The Mission System

- ✦ In California, the mission system guided development in the 1770s.
- ✦ As shown by the mission system, the Catholic Church played a dominant role in community life.
- ✦ Indians were needed to raise the necessary subsistence.
 - ◆ Indians were not forced to join but once they joined they were not allowed to leave.
 - ◆ They were attracted by the food, clothing, and tools that promised a higher standard of living.

The French Crescent

✧ Map: The French Crescent

- ✧ The French empire was founded on a series of alliances and trade relations with Indian nations linking a large crescent of colonies and settlements from the St. Lawrence River to the Gulf of Mexico.
- ✧ The Catholic Church played a strong role in the French colonies.
- ✧ For defensive reasons, the French allied with Indian trading partners to set up a line of military posts and settlements.
- ✧ Throughout Quebec, the French established farming communities that shipped wheat to Louisiana plantations.
- ✧ French communities combined French and Indian elements in architecture, dress, and family patterns.

New England

- ✦ Puritan congregations governed local communities.
 - ◆ Mix of freedom and repression
- ✦ Attempts to introduce religious toleration failed as other denominations practiced their faith openly by 1700.
- ✦ New England towns grew rapidly and the expanding population pressed against available land.
- ✦ By the mid-eighteenth century New England was reaching the limit of its land supply.

The Middle Colonies

- ✦ New York had one of the most ethnically diverse populations in North America.
- ✦ New York City grew tremendously but immigration to rural areas was lower than surrounding areas.
- ✦ Pennsylvania Quakers accepted a more diverse population.
- ✦ Government institutions were pillars of community organization.
- ✦ Middle Colony communities were more individualistic than the tightly controlled New England communities.

The Backcountry

- ✦ Map: Spread of Settlement: Movement into the Backcountry, 1720–1760
- ✦ Backcountry was a distinctive region where rank was often of little concern.
 - ◆ Most pioneers owned little or no land.
 - ◆ “Big men” held large tracts and dominated local communities.
 - ◆ Men were warriors; women domestic workers
- ✦ Conflicts between settlers and Indians made the backcountry a violent region.

The South

- ✦ The South was a tri-racial society of Europeans, Africans, and Indians.
- ✦ Large plantation homes dominated the Upper and Lower South.
- ✦ Small tobacco farms were widely found in the Upper South.
- ✦ White males dominated southern society.
- ✦ The Anglican Church was present in the South but had little power.
- ✦ In the Upper South, well-developed neighborhoods created a sense of community and white solidarity.

Traditional Culture in the New World

- ✦ Table: Monthly Frequency of Successful Conceptions
- ✦ In the colonies, everyday life revolved around the family and kinship, the church, and the local community.
- ✦ Americans were attached to their regional cultures which were based on oral transmission.
- ✦ Community needs outweighed those of the individual.
- ✦ The majority of rural Americans were self-sufficient farmers who practiced diverse agriculture and engaged in crafts on the side.
- ✦ In cities, artisans were organized according to the European craft system.
- ✦ Women had few career opportunities.

The Frontier Heritage

- ✦ Land in America was abundant and cheap but did not lead to a democratic society.
- ✦ Forced labor was common and few indentured servants won freedom and prosperity.
- ✦ The demand for land caused wars with Indians.
 - ◆ Puritans argued that Indians were failing to use the land to the utmost capacity.
 - ◆ Violence and brutality were considered an essential part to colonial life.



Part Four

Diverging Social and Political Patterns

Population Growth and Immigration

- ✦ Table: Estimated Total Population of New Spain, New France, and the British North American Colonies, 1700–1780
- ✦ In 1700, 290,000 colonists lived north of Mexico.
- ✦ In 1750, the colonial population had grown to almost 1.3 million.
- ✦ High fertility and low mortality played important roles.
 - ✦ An abundance of food contributed to good health.

The Ancestry of the British Colonial Population

- ✦ Map: Ethnic Groups in Eighteenth-Century British North America
- ✦ Table: The Ancestry of the British Colonial Population
- ✦ Only the British colonies encouraged immigration.
 - ◆ The British also encouraged immigration from foreign nations.
 - ◆ Less than fifty percent of the population was English in 1790
- ✦ The Spanish feared depleting their population at home.
- ✦ The French blocked Protestant Huguenot immigration.

Social Class

- ✦ Colonial America was more egalitarian than Europe.
- ✦ In New Spain status was based on racial purity.
- ✦ In New France and New Spain hereditary ranks and styles from the Old World prevailed.
- ✦ In the British colonies, the elite was open and based on wealth.
 - ◆ Social mobility was present and common.
 - ◆ The large middle class was a new social phenomena.
 - ◆ There was also a large lower class.

Economic Growth and Increasing Inequality

- ✦ Table: Wealth held by richest 10 percent
- ✦ French and Spanish colonies were economically stagnant compared to the booming British colonies.
- ✦ Over time in the British colonies, the gap between rich and poor increased, especially in cities and commercial farming regions.
- ✦ In older regions, land shortage created a population of "strolling poor."

Contrasts in Colonial Politics

- ✦ Unlike the French and Spanish, the British used a decentralized form of government.
- ✦ Royal governors and locally elected assemblies governed.
- ✦ Most adult white males could vote.
- ✦ Colonial politics were characterized by deference rather than democracy.
- ✦ Leadership was entrusted to men of high rank and wealth.
- ✦ Most colonial assemblies had considerable power over local affairs because they controlled finances.



Part Five

The Cultural Transformation of British North America

The Enlightenment Challenge

- ✦ The British colonies were more open to intellectual and religious challenges than the French and Spanish.
- ✦ Enlightenment ideas emphasized rationality, harmony, and order.
 - ◆ The state existed to provide for happiness and security of individuals who were endowed with rights of life, liberty, and property.
- ✦ Widespread literacy helped spread Enlightenment ideas.
 - ◆ Traditional views also had strong popular appeal.
 - ◆ Colleges held to a mixture of traditional and enlightened views.

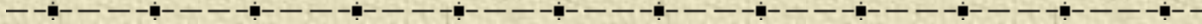
A Decline in Religious Devotion

- ✦ The spread of new ideas occurred during a period of religious decline.
- ✦ The Puritan Church experienced falling membership and attendance at services.
- ✦ The change from a congregational to an established church contributed to the Puritan decline.
- ✦ The belief in predestination was weakening as Arminianism became more popular.

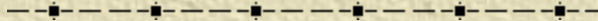
The Great Awakening

- ✦ In the 1630s, the Great Awakening began with Jonathan Edwards calling for a return to Puritan traditions that appealed to dissatisfied young people.
- ✦ The movement spread as thousands of people experienced emotional conversions.
- ✦ In 1738, George Whitefield toured America, further fueling the movement.
- ✦ Conflicts developed between Old and New Lights.
- ✦ In the South, the Great Awakening introduced Christianity to slaves.
- ✦ The Great Awakening greatly increased church membership, led to the growth of the Methodist and Baptist churches, and paved the way for future political change.

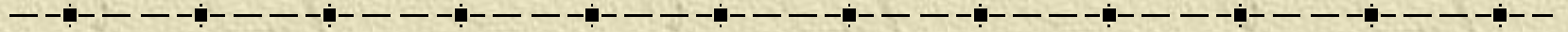
Part Six



Conclusion



The Culture of Colonial North America, 1700–1780



✦ Media: Chronology