

Colonial America and the French and Indian War

Footsteps to revolution

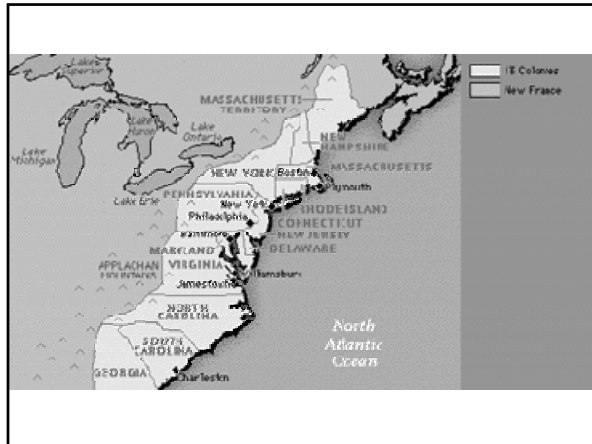
Key Question?

- How did colonial period war shape the Colonies?
- What was the relationship between the British and the Colonists?
- What was the relationship between the British regulars and the Colonial Militia?
- Identify key events of the French and Indian War.
- What impact did the French and Indian War have on the move to revolution?

How did the Colonies Look?



- Northern Colonies
 - New England
- Middle Colonies
 - NY, NJ, Penn, Del
- Southern Colonies
 - VA, MD, NC, SC, GA
- Only 4 large cities
 - Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Charleston
 - 10K population
- Most live close to the water






Society

- Freest nation in the world
 - Self governing, taxes pd locally
- Dominated by Landowning Men
 - Sought wealth, refinement, and respect
 - Never Equal to British (Gentlemen)
- Women were the dependent of Men
 - Could not own property, vote, hold office
- Work was long and hard for most
 - Anyone with desire could live well

George Washington

- Typical young colonial of the period
 - Seeks status
- Father dies at 11-Inherited an estate
 - spent much time with older brother
- Trained Surveyor (land speculator)
 - Spent a lot of time in Ohio Valley
- Ambitious- want to be a *BRITISH* Gentleman
 - Marriage to Martha Custis (a step up)
- Major in the Virginia Militia
 - Desires British Regular Commission



Colonial Wars- Pre 1750s

- Number of wars against Indians
 - Powhatan (1622-1632, 1644-1646)
 - Pequot (1636-1637)
 - King Philips War (1675-1676), bloodiest war
- Numerous conflicts with French (and Dutch)
 - King William’s War, Queen Anne’s War, King George’s War
- Wars mainly fought with Militias, minor support from British regulars



French and Indian War

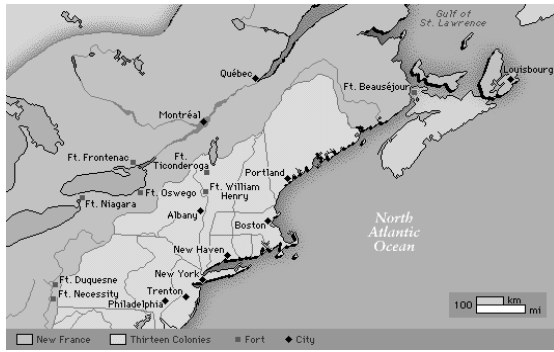
- Seven Years War, Great War for Empire
- 1st real “World War”
 - British, French, Spanish
 - Each had interest in strengthening selves in new world, removing others
- All or nothing war
 - This was the war for North America
 - **Access to Ohio Valley**
- British and French both wanted war but did not want to start it

European settlement and Indian Tribes 1750



European Settlements and Indian Tribes, 1750

The N. American Theater



The Beginning

- 1754- VA Governor- Militia to Ohio Valley
 - Challenge French Expansion
 - Led by Washington
- Yankee Doodle
- Ft Duquesne (Pittsburg)
- Fight breaks out, Militia wins
 - French Ambassador Captured
 - Brutally killed by *Half King*
- Washington-establish Ft Necessity (location)
 - Militia Defeated
 - Washington signs confession (the excuse needed)



Braddock Campaign

- July 1755- 1300 Regulars/ 450 Militia *Braddock*
 - Includes Washington
 - Return to Ft Duquesne
- Great Meadows- French/ Indians set trap
 - 50% casualties
- Gen Braddock goes down British panic
 - Washington keeps cool
 - Loses 3 horses, shakes 4 bullets from jacket



French Advantage

- 1756-57
- Control St Lawrence/ Great Lakes
- Fighting moves to Europe
- British slow to organize
 - Weak leadership (Lord Loudoun)
 - No strategy
 - Disconnect between British and Colonial Gov/armies



French Advantage

- French have Montcalm
- French victories-
 - Ft Oswego
 - Ft Wm Henry
 - Massacre
 - Indians kill 185
 - (300 Brits Captive)
 - Assault at Ticonderoga
 - 2000 British killed



European Involvement

- Prussia, Germany join British
- Spain, Austria, Russia enter on side of French
 - Extensive fighting in central Europe
- 1759- French Navy badly defeated at Lagos
- 1762- British Navy defeat Spanish
 - Capture Havana, Cuba and Manila Philippines



British Advantage

- William Pitt- comes to power
 - Deals with colonies
 - Makes North America the main front
 - Influx of British Regulars
 - Full force of British Navy
 - Decides to take Canada
- 1758- three part attack
 - Ft Louisbourg (control of St Lawrence Bay)
 - Ft Carillon- (Ticonderoga) Lake Champlain
 - Ft Frontenac- Lake Ontario



Face of War

- Difficult war to fight
 - Rugged terrain- no roads, logistical nightmare
 - A uniquely American style of war emerges
- Bad relations
 - Militia resents increased roll of British
 - Yankee Doodle (slander to Colonists)
 - Colonist will adopt it for next century
- Bauban style forts
 - Overlapping fields of fire
- Boon for Colonial economy



British Advantage

- Ft Duquesne (Gen Forbes)
 - Convinces Indians to change sides
 - Becomes Ft Pitt (Brits control upper Ohio)
- Quebec- key to Canada
 - Gen Wolfe vs Gen Montcalm
 - Two month British siege
 - Gov of Quebec fails to support
 - Plains of Abraham- Classic European battle
 - Both Generals killed
 - British control most of N. America



Last Battles

- Montreal and Detroit
- Indian battles
 - Ft Loudon, Tn
 - Cpt Demere garrison massacred while retreating
 - Ft Michilimackinac, Mi
 - Faked a lacrosse game, seized weapons, massacre
 - Battle of Bushy Run (May 63)
 - Col Bouquet defeats Pontiac trying to relieve Ft Pitt
 - Last hope for Indian tribes in western Pa



Treaty of Paris- Feb 1763

- France
 - Loses all influence in N. America, bankrupt
- Britain
 - Expands empire in west, secures India (real jewel)
 - Now the superpower, but almost bankrupt
- Colonies
 - Make big money off war
 - Now access to Canada and West

Effects on Colonist

- Arrogance of British to Colonists
- Behavior of British- immoral and corrupt
- Large British force remained
 - Resentment for standing army
- Colonists' self-image changed
 - Right to be treated as equals
 - British had no intention of that
- King George III comes to power
- Proclamation of 1763
 - Prologue to Revolution