

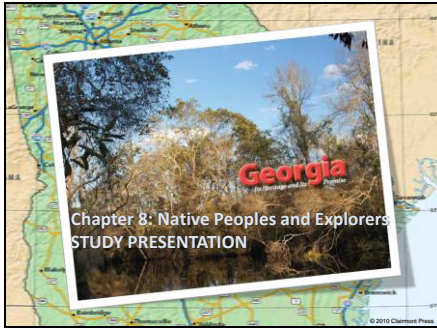
Georgia: Its Heritage and Its Promise

Chapter 8: Native Peoples and Explorers

QUICK NOTES

Name: _____

Slide 1




Slide 3

Section 1: Georgia's First People

➤ Essential Question:

- How did the environment affect the development of prehistoric indigenous American cultures?




Slide 4

Section 1: Georgia's First People

➤ What terms do I need to know?

- artifacts
- archaeology
- culture
- nomad
- horticulture
- palisades




Slide 5

Section 1: Georgia's First People

➤ Human beings have lived thousands of years in the place we now call Georgia.

➤ What is known about the lives of these early people primarily comes from studying:

- **artifacts** or the tools, pottery, remains of their structures and other items that are on or underneath Georgia's soil
- **archaeology** or the study of the artifacts
- **culture** or people's beliefs, traditions, and their ways of life





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QUICK NOTES

Name: _____

Slide 6

Paleo-Indian Culture

- Oldest group of humans in the Americas are called Paleo-Indians (*paleo* means "very old"):
 - time period dates around 11,000 to 8,000 B.C.
 - many areas of North America covered by glaciers
 - Indians were nomads in small groups of 20 – 50.
 - mastodons and mammoths – major food sources
 - stone used for making tools, hunting, etc.;
- New developments slowly came about due to changes in climate, plant, and animal life.




Top: Paleo-Indian spear point. Photo: Brian Stansberry. Bottom: Paleo-Indian hunters engage a woolly mammoth. Image: Clarendon Press

Slide 7

Archaic Culture

- Archaic Period followed the Paleo-Indian Native American culture:
 - time period – from 8,000 to about 1500 B.C.
 - Indians lived in small groups based around families.
 - cutting tools were smaller, finer than Paleo tools
 - settlements built near rivers (5000 – 3000 B.C.)
 - pottery-making invented, later resulting in oldest examples of pottery in North America

Note: One of the most important archaeological sites in Georgia is **Stallings Island** in the Savannah River above Augusta. It reflects the late Archaic culture.




The arrowhead (fluted and notched) was made during the Archaic period. Image: Public Domain

Slide 8

Woodland Culture

- Woodland Indians followed the Archaic culture:
 - time period – around 1000 B.C. to about 1000 A.D.
 - shelter more permanent, including circular houses
 - more control over food supply using **horticulture**
 - bow and arrow emerged in late Woodland Period
 - corn was planted (not yet main food)
 - Native groups built mounds and stone **effigies**.

Note: Largest earthen mounds in Georgia (**Kolomoki** site near Blakely); most famous rock mounds (**Rock Eagle** near Eatonton).



Top: Woodland Culture family. Image: Clarendon Press. Bottom: Rock Eagle effigy mound near Eatonton. Image: Public Domain

Slide 9

Mississippian Culture

- The next period of Native American development (following Woodland) is the **Mississippian culture**:
 - time period – about 800 to 1600 A.D.
 - societies more complex
 - horticulture more advanced
 - food supply included corn, squash, beans, fruits, nuts, berries; also deer and other animals
 - art and jewelry crafted by the Indians
 - villages built with centers (houses of vines and mud)
 - tools used similar to those of Woodland peoples

Link: [Etowah Indian Mounds](#)



Mississippian culture was known for its villages. The people had been to create games. Image: Clarendon Press

Georgia: Its Heritage and Its Promise

Chapter 8: Native Peoples and Explorers

QUICK NOTES

Name: _____

Slide

10

Mississippian Culture

- There were definite ranks in society:
 - some ranks had more power/respect
 - chiefdoms arose (chief had power over his village & several others;
 - paramount chiefdoms (e.g., the Coosa) were organizations of several chiefdom
- 1100 to 1350 A.D. – the culture began again to build mounds:
 - structures connected to chiefs and religion
 - examples: **Singer-Mound** (Stewart County), King (Floyd County), Ocmulgee (on Fall Line of Ocmulgee River – present day Macon)
- The late Mississippian Period after 1350 – known as Lamar Period:
 - The Spanish had arrived.
 - Over the 100 years of the 1500s, three worlds became part of the Americas (world of Native American Indians, world of Europeans, world of Africans) and brought lasting changes for religion, families, food, dress, and ways of looking at life and the world.

Link: [Ocmulgee Indian Mounds](#)

Slide

12

Section 2: Europe and the Colonization of America

➤ Essential Question:

- Why did European countries explore, claim, and settle the North American continent?

Slide

13

Section 2: Europe and the Colonization of America

➤ What terms do I need to know?

- slave
- middleman
- immunity
- expedition
- colony
- mission
- plantation
- backcountry

Slide

14

European Exploration and Conquest

➤ By 1400s, European nations began to explore and conquer other lands:

- more wealth, greater empire, and power were sought
- hope of spreading religious beliefs was desired

➤ Western Europeans searched for a water route to allow trade with the Middle East and the Far East.



Georgia: Its Heritage and Its Promise

Chapter 8: Native Peoples and Explorers

QUICK NOTES

Name: _____

Slide

16

A Search for New Trade Routes

- In mid-1400s Portuguese began to trade along African coast for slaves.
 - Slavery after discovery of Americas was different, harsher and more permanent than in West African society.
 - The slave trade had impact on African societies.
- In 1488, the first Portuguese expedition discovered the water route to Asia.
- Spanish, French, and English also wanted to trade with Asia.
- Countries with monarchs (kings and queens) formed armies and navies to protect their merchants.
- Sailing Atlantic Ocean required strong ships:
 - **Caravels** (strong-masted ships) were developed.
 - A compass helped to tell direction.
 - The astrolabe determined ship's position by taking altitude of the sun and the stars (made it possible to sail out of the sight of land).



Link: [16th Century Navigation](#)

Slide

17

The Meeting of Different Worlds

- In 1492 Christopher Columbus set sail for the west.
- Treaty of Tordesillas (1493-1494) basically divided all "newly discovered" lands between Spain & Portugal.
- A first effect of Spanish contact with people of the Americas was the exchange that began in biology:
 - Animals and plants crossed the ocean.
 - New varieties of foods were introduced.
 - Microscopic germs and viruses were transferred (90% or more of native people died – largest population loss in written history).
- Other effects of Spanish (and later other Europeans) contact with Native Americans centered around customs and property.




Slide

18

The Early Spanish Exploration of Georgia

- The earliest Spanish explorations in North America (searching for gold and silver) took place over 20 years after 1st voyage of Columbus.
- First major exploration of Georgia area (1540) was with Hernando de Soto:
 - No gold or silver was found in Georgia.
 - Almost 300 years passed before any gold was discovered in mountains of North Georgia.
- Pedro Menéndez de Avilés established 1st permanent Spanish settlement in America (St. Augustine) in 1565.




Slide

19

Spanish Missions in Georgia

- In 1560, the Spanish set up **missions**:
 - Each mission had a church and house for the Catholic priest.
 - The priests came to convert Indians to Christian religion (as practiced by Catholics) and teach them Spanish customs.
 - The mission era began to decline (middle & late 1600s) in part because of decrease in Indian population due to diseases brought by the explorers.

Note: Georgia under Spanish rule was known as Guale (pronounced *Wah-lee*).





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Chapter 8: Native Peoples and Explorers

QUICK NOTES


Name: _____

Slide

21

French Exploration and Colonization

- French sent explorers to acquire land and wealth in the Americas:
 - Canada and Great Lakes area claimed
 - 1st permanent French settlement (Quebec on St. Lawrence River – 1608), followed by Montreal (1642)
 - late 1600s, French had founded Biloxi (now in Mississippi) and Mobile (now in Alabama)
 - city of New Orleans established (1718)
 - profitable fur-trading business exchanged with Native Americans




21

Slide

22

English Exploration and Colonization

- England became more prosperous and stable with Elizabeth I as queen (1558):
 - A larger navy was built; permission to found colonies was given.
 - Sir Walter Raleigh (1580s) established two colonies.
- England established first permanent colony in America (**Jamestown, Virginia** – 1607).




22

Slide

23

Carolina

- In 1660s, English king gave supporters a large land grant:
 - The boundary extended from Virginia in the north to Florida in the south.
 - The colony was named "Carolina."
- 1670s – settlement founded where two rivers came together (named Charles Town):
 - Settlers moved to this portion of Carolina – now South Carolina.
 - Settlers established **plantations**, grew sugar, brought slaves for work.
 - Settlers allied with Indians to help raid Indian villages in Spanish Florida.
 - Traders moved into the **backcountry** of South Carolina; fur trade established between traders and Indians that lived in Carolina south of the Savannah River.
 - Traders integrated with Indians in family life; Native American culture began to change.
- Significant dates of further happenings:
 - Late 1680s – Westo (or Westabou) driven from the Carolina and Georgia area with help from the Savannah Indians.
 - 1692 – Carolinians established a trading post called Savannah Town.
 - 1700s – Savannah Indians moved from the area; Native Americans included mainly Creek and the Cherokee.
 - 1715 – Yamacsee Indians attacked settlements to the south of Charles Town but were defeated, and most of them killed.
 - 1720s – Native Americans familiar with English and their ways.



23

Additional Notes:

