

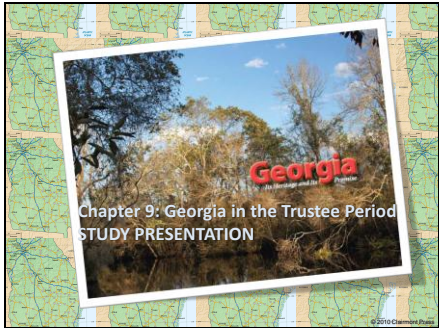
Georgia: Its Heritage and Its Promise

Chapter 9: Georgia in the Trustee Period

QUICK NOTES

Name: _____

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Section 1: Georgia's Founding

➤ Essential Question:

- How was the founding of Georgia different from the other British colonies in America?




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Section 1: Georgia's Founding

➤ What terms do I need to know?

- proprietor
- royal colony
- mercantilism
- charter
- trustee
- militia



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Section 1: Georgia's Founding

➤ By the early 1700s, Great Britain had twelve colonies in North America – all located along the East Coast:

- oldest colony, Virginia (over 120 years old)
- youngest colony, Pennsylvania (est. 1681)

➤ 1729: Carolina and Charles Town became royal colonies under control of the king.

➤ By the late 1720s, no one had settled the part of South Carolina south of the Savannah River, which was the dividing line between the Carolinians and the Indian nations.





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Reasons for Settling Georgia



- James Oglethorpe and his associates asked King George II for a land grant for founding the colony:
 - would be a charitable effort for poor and persecuted to have a new start
 - would be a good military defense
 - would be good for economics (expanding government's policy of **mercantilism** – favorable balance of trade)



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The Charter of 1732


- To establish the colony, Oglethorpe and his associates received the Charter of 1732:
 - The men were named "Trustees for the Establishing of the Colony of Georgia in America."
 - The document granted territory to the trustees; set up rules under which trust would work.
 - Sir John Percival was the first president of the trust.
 - The charter required an executive committee (the Common Council).



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The Charter of 1732

- The trustees were unable to get land or money for serving on the trust.
- The motto was "*Non Sibi Sed Aliis*," Latin for "not for self, but for others" (found also on the colonial seal of the State of Georgia).
- The name of colony was to be "Georgia" in honor of King George II.
- The trust would have colony for 21 years (until 1753).
- Trustees used mainly regulations and policies to govern the colony. Example: "charity" colonists could receive 50 acres of land; however, "adventurers" paying their own way could get up to 500 acres of land.




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Choosing the Colonists

- Regulations for trustees to establish colony:
 - The passage of some to the new colony were paid for.
 - A male charity colonist was to receive 50 acres of land, tools, food, other necessities from trust's store.
 - A male citizens could be put in the militia.
 - Women were not allowed to inherit the land; males serving as soldiers were needed on every 50 acres.
 - The colonists were required to plant some of their land in mulberry trees in hope of producing silkworms for silk.
- Trustees envisioned Georgia as a land of small farms rather than large plantations.





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Savannah, The First Settlement

- James Oglethorpe himself led the first settlers (the only trustee who came to the colony):
 - 1732 – ship *Ann* set sail from England with chosen settlers (voyage took 57 days)
 - settlers welcomed by Carolinians who donated food, provisions, slaves, etc., to help work
 - site chosen for first settlement – a high bluff known as Yamacraw (good defense against enemies)
- Tomochichi (leader of Yamacraw people) was a good friend to Oglethorpe – valuable in ensuring early success of the colony.




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Life in Early Georgia

- Conditions affecting life of first settlers:
 - heat and humidity of Georgia summers
 - fear of alligators and rattlesnakes
 - illnesses from mosquitoes and drinking water
- Tasks facing the building of the new colony:
 - clearing the land and cultivating crops
 - building small homes (less than 400 sq. feet)
 - planting, tending family gardens, milking cows, raising chickens, cooking, cleaning, etc.




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Life in Early Georgia

- Oglethorpe oversaw building of public structures:
 - a courthouse (first to be built in Savannah; also served as the church)
 - town court to decide disputes and handle criminals
 - a storehouse, a mill for grinding grain into flour, and a large public oven for baking bread
- Building defenses was a priority.
- Tybee Island (where Savannah River meets the Atlantic Ocean) got a fort and a lighthouse.




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Section 2: Change and Challenges

- Essential Question:
 - What were the most challenging problems for Georgia's first colonists?



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Section 2: Change and Challenges

- What terms do I need to know?
 - ally
 - slavery
 - indentured servant
 - pacifist
 - malcontent




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New Laws

- When Oglethorpe returned to Georgia (1736), he brought cannons and weapons for defense.
- He issued three laws approved by Britain:
 - made sale, use of rum, "spirits" illegal in Georgia
 - required a license for anyone trading with Indians
 - made **slavery** illegal in Georgia
- White **indentured servants** were allowed when extra workers were needed. Slavery was for a lifetime, whereas indentured servitude was for an agreed-upon time.




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New Settlers

- Forty-two Jews arrived a few months after the colony began:
 - group did not ask permission of the trustees
 - permission to stay granted by Oglethorpe
 - Dr. Samuel Nunez saved lives of some victims suffering from a fever that was killing many Georgians.
- Salzbergers (German-speaking Lutherans) came to Georgia (1734) to escape persecution:
 - group allowed to become colonists; granted land
 - The trustees were very pleased with these hardworking farmers and their dedication to producing silk.




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New Settlers

- Another group of German-speaking Protestants who came to Georgia were the Moravians:
 - worked hard to educate Indians; covert them to Christian religion
 - were **pacifists** (believed fighting or violence to be wrong)
 - had difficulty being accepted by other colonists
 - left Georgia by 1740 (most went to Pennsylvania)
- Highland Scots were recruited by Oglethorpe (had reputation for being good soldiers and fighters).



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The Malcontents

- Some Georgia colonists became unhappy with the trustees' policies and laws:
 - Rum Act often ignored / not enforced
 - dissatisfaction arose regarding rule of not allowing women to inherit land
 - resentment over hard work for little benefit
 - need for more acreage to grow rice and make greater profits; pressured trust to allow slavery




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Defense of Georgia

- James Oglethorpe became very concerned about Georgia's defense:
 - convinced Parliament to pay for colony's protection
 - ordered forts to be built at north and south ends
 - named southern fort and town Frederica (in honor of Frederick Prince of Wales) and northern fort and town Augusta (in honor of the Prince's German bride, Augusta).
- Oglethorpe had colonists lay out roads connecting the settlements of the colony.
- Strategies to support Georgia against Spanish:
 - Parliament supplied a regiment of British troops.
 - 1738 – Several hundred soldiers were brought in to assist.
- Georgia defeated Spanish (**Battle of Bloody Marsh – July 7, 1742 at Fort Frederica**); remained a British colony.
- 1743: Oglethorpe left for England, never returned, lived long enough to see Georgia become a state in an independent United States.



Fort Frederica National Monument,
St. Simons Island, GA.
Photo: National Park Service


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Section 3: Life in Trustee Georgia

- Essential Question:
 - What were the goals of the Trustees who controlled the Georgia colony?




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Section 3: Life in Trustee Georgia

- What term(s) do I need to know?
 - artisan



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Government and the Economy

- Trustees governed Georgia from Great Britain; hired William Stephens as secretary to assist.
- In 1741, Georgia was divided into a northern province (overseen by Stephens) and a southern province (overseen by Oglethorpe).
- In 1743, Oglethorpe returned to England; Stephens appointed as president of entire colony:
 - rules from trustees lessened
 - land ownership restrictions ended
 - plantations began to appear
 - slavery began to be allowed




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Education and Religion

- Most Georgians were concerned about survival; education was not a major focus.
- There were two significant educational institutions in Trustee Georgia:
 - the new Ebenezer community (Salzburgers had teachers for their children)
 - the Bethesda (meaning "House of Mercy") orphanage and school founded by George Whitefield
- Some schoolmasters took students for a fee.
- Organized religion had a difficult time in Trustee Georgia.
- Early Church of England ministers sent to Georgia held worship in public buildings.
- The most successful colonists in organizing religious services were the Salzburgers. For colonists who lived away from the towns, organized worship was mostly unavailable.




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The End of the Trustee Period

- By late 1740s, the vision of the colony had failed; silk culture was a major disappointment, land policies changed, slavery increased, etc.
- In 1751, with no money from Parliament, Georgia was turned over to the British government and in 1752 became a royal colony.
- Accomplishments achieved by Georgia as a colony include:
 - successfully defending itself and South Carolina from Spain
 - developing Augusta as an important center of trade with the Indians
 - clearing fields for planting; building homes and public buildings;
 - learning to survive in a new environment
- Upon arrival of 1st royal governor appointed by the king, Georgia was on the path to growth and prosperity.



Additional Notes:

