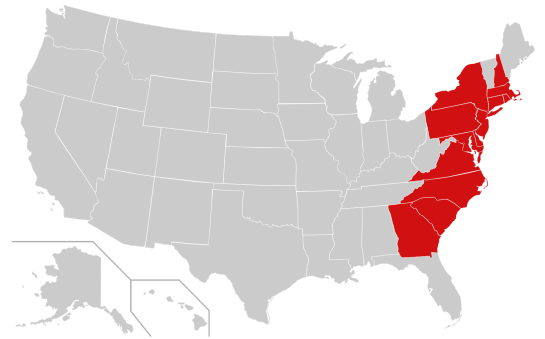


The 13 Colonies in the Revolutionary War

The 13 colonies were established in North America by Great Britain during the 17th century. The colonies were established to harvest raw materials, such as lumber, fur and fish, necessary for Britain's growing empire.

The 13 colonies during the Revolutionary War-era were:

Province of New Hampshire
Province of Massachusetts Bay
Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Connecticut Colony
Province of New York
Province of New Jersey
Province of Pennsylvania
Delaware Colony
Province of Maryland
Colony and Dominion of Virginia
Province of North Carolina
Province of South Carolina
Province of Georgia



The 13 Colonies Before the Revolutionary War:

There were three types of governments that existed in the colonies before the American Revolution. These were royal colonies, charter colonies, and proprietary colonies.

Royal colonies were governed directly by a royal governor appointed by the British Crown. The royal colonies were: New Hampshire, Georgia, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Charter colonies were granted to businesses. The business owner created the laws, but they were required to base their laws on English law at the time. The charter colonies were: Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Proprietary colonies had charters that granted ownership of a colony to an individual or a family. The proprietor was given full governing rights. The proprietary colonies were: Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

The original charter colonies of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island eventually had their charters revoked in the 17th century and were taken over by the British government, upon which they became royal colonies with royal governments, much to the colonist's dismay.

Yet, despite the fact that many of the colonies were royal colonies, for a period of time prior to the American Revolution, the thirteen colonies had been allowed to self-govern.

This was due to what is now known as the policy of salutary neglect, which was based on the premise that if the colonies were left alone, they would flourish, and Great Britain would reap the benefits of increased trade, tax revenue, and profits.

It was during this period of salutary neglect that the colonies learned to self-govern, which helped the colonists develop their sense of independence and self-sufficiency.

The policy of salutary neglect was in place for many decades, from the early to mid-1700s, until the end of the French and Indian War when the British government found itself in desperate need of funds to pay off the war debt and to cover the cost of the large number of troops it had sent to North America to protect the new land it had won.

What were the three types of Colonies?

What type of authority did Britain assert over the colonies for most of their history?

What caused the relationship to change, and what was Britain's motivation?
