Causes of the American Revolution
Map of Colonies in 1763

TERRITORIAL GROWTH

COLONIAL PERIOD: 1775
- Original Thirteen Colonies
- Other British territories

UNITED STATES: 1790–1920
- States
- State claims
- Special status areas
- Territories
- Unorganized territories
- Claimed areas
- Foreign areas

1803 Dates of territorial acquisitions
1805 Dates of initial territorial organization
(1809) Dates of latest change within given time period
1812 Dates of admission to the Union

Map scale 1:34,000,000
Compiled by H. George Stoll, Hammond Incorporated, 1967; revised by U. S. Geological Survey
Rumblings

• Subdue NAm threat w/ 1000s of UK troops
• Gov. Bernard (MA) argued that colonists should get equal representation (fundamental right of English)
• **Pontiac’s Rebellion** (1763) – leads NAm in massacre of frontiersmen → Colonial embarrassment
• British try to settle Nova Scotia and Florida, NOT Appalachia (due to Indian threat)
Financial Catastrophe

- **George Grenville** (1st Lord of Treasury) realizes £8000 for customs salaries, £2000 in revenue

- **Molasses Act** (1733) – 6p duty from French West Indies (cheaper price) but not paying duty → British navy hunts smugglers

- Colonists use paper money, not silver/gold → change for depreciation/rate of exchange easily manipulated to pay debt at lower rate →

- **Currency Act of 1764** – all paper money illegal → no way to exchange goods → barter → economic depression
Sugar Act (1764) – would increase price of rum so that not competitive → bribery of customs agents to not pay duty on sugar, indigo, coffee, wine, textiles
  - Tried in admiralty courts w/no right to jury of peers, guilty until proven innocent
  - Supposed to defray costs of defense of colonies

Stamp Act (1765) – Not unusual; Mass. had own tax; British since King Wm III; legal docs, newspapers, playing cards, etc.

Quartering Act (1765) support English troops in Col.
Anger

- Only taxation by their local reps
- Right to be tried by jury of their peers
- French gone and now quarter soldiers? Motives?!
- Power to tax was power to take away property→ removes basic right of colonists!
- English had fought hard for parliamentary rights and now denying same rights to colonists!

Where Have You Gone, John Locke!?
Colonial Philosophies

- **James Harrington** – Republican
- **John Trenchard & Thomas Gordon** – PopSov
- **John Locke** – Ind. Freedoms (Life, Liberty, Property); right to overthrow government
Stamp Act Crisis

- **Patrick Henry** – only House of Burgesses has rt to tax VA!
- Other colonies deny Par. right to tax w/out representation!
- **Stamp Act Congress** (1765) – "all due subordination" to Par.; petition to King and Par. to repeal Sugar and Stamp Acts→
- NYC, Philly & Boston stop importing British goods→
- Colonists storm houses of stamp distributor→ all resigned→ organized by Sons Of Liberty
- **March 1766** – Par. repeals Stamp Act led by Rockingham
...And More Anger

- **Declaratory Act** – authority of Par. To "make laws and statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the colonies and people of America in all cases"

- Leaders opposing taxation: James Otis, Adams

- **Townshend Acts (1767)** – William Townshend new CoE; Duties on lead, paint, paper, glass, tea imported from England

- Discourages mercantilism

  1767 Townshend declares all acts of NY assembly void until Quartering Act obeyed
Boston Massacre

- **1770** – After two years of British troops stationed in Boston, fighting broke out and five unarmed colonists were killed (incl. Crispus Attucks)
  - Defended by J. Adams & all aquitted

- X. **All Townshend Act Taxes repealed** (1770) except tax on tea, because couldn't be grown in Col.
  - enacted by Lord North, new CoE
Boston Massacre Propaganda
Gaspee Affair

- **HMS Gaspee** (1772) – British naval vessel; seized small boats off Narragansett Bay → burned by people of Providence →
- Colonists upset due to trial bypassing RI courts →
- Development of the committee of correspondence
It’s TEA, Stupid!

- **Tea Act (1773)** – Direct trading rights of the East India Co. to America; cut out middleman in English trading houses

- Despite lower cost of tea for colonists, react w/ anger → shut out other importers → appeasement policy not accepted →

- **Boston Tea Party** – Gov. Hutchinson of Mass. ordered no ship leave without unloading cargo, so Sons of Liberty aided them ;)

GII and Hutch are in cahoots!
Boston Tea Party vs. Tea Party
Intolerable Acts (1774)

- **Boston Port Act** – closed Boston Harbor until *restitution paid for tea*
- Gov. Council now appointed by *King*
- Town meetings held *once a year*
- **Administration of Justice Act** – official indicted for murder could be *tried in England*
- **Quartering Act II** – lodging *within town*
- **Gen. Thomas Gage** – sent as governor of colony; comm-in-chief of English troops
- **Quebec Act** – N. of Ohio R
  Followed FRA civil law and had no representation
Intolerable Acts and...

...What Canada Used to Look Like
First Continental Congress (1774)

- Better participation than Stamp Act Congress (No GA)
- Colonists refused to trade w/ Britain, Ireland and West Indies; "The Association"
- Committees to search out violators ➔ published
- Col. thought Par. had no authority over colonies, except for regulation of trade ➔ Still, not ready to leave…

Is Peyton Randolph our First President?

Carpenter’s Hall, Philadelphia