

Chapter 6

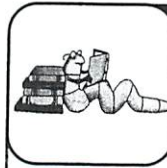
SS8H2c: Explain the development of Georgia as a royal colony with regard to land ownership, slavery, government, and the impact of the royal governors.

A Royal Colony

Georgia did not prosper as the trustees had hoped. In 1752 they surrendered control of the colony to the British government. Georgia became a royal colony.

Once restrictions on land ownership and slavery were taken away, Georgia began to thrive economically. Colonists began to develop plantations along the river deltas, where slaves planted rice in fertile marshlands. Other successful crops included indigo, corn, peas, wheat, and rye. Immigrants from Virginia came down to raise tobacco. Slave labor became the backbone of Georgia's economy.

Colonists cut down lumber from the forests and raised cattle, mules, horses, and hogs. They traded with the Indians for deer and beaver skins. They began to export products to other countries, including rice, indigo, and skins to Europe, and lumber, horses and wood products to the West Indies.



Word Definition

indigo: A blue dye made from the indigo plant. This dye was popular in England during the colonial period



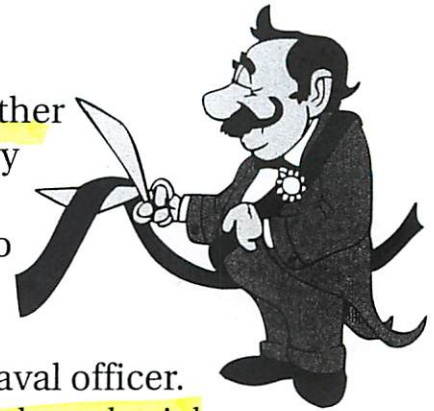
Copy this chart.

Fill in colonial Georgia's products in the chart below.

Crops	Animals	Exports

The Royal Governors

The new royal government called for a governor and other officials including an attorney general and head of military police (known as a "provost marshal"). There was also a legislature made up of a council, court of appeals, and two representatives from each county of the colony.



Georgia's first governor was John Reynolds, a former naval officer. He served from 1754 to 1756. He had many conflicts with the colonial legislature, so the king removed him from office.

Explorer Henry Ellis served as the next governor from 1757 to 1760. Ellis showed the colonists how to govern themselves, explaining the need for a budget, taxes, and military defense. He worked well with the legislature and with the Indians. Ellis left office due to poor health in 1760.

The final royal governor was James Wright, who served from 1760 to 1776. This popular governor negotiated important treaties with the Indians, opening up millions of acres for settlement. Under Wright's leadership, Georgia prospered and grew faster than any other English colony in America.



Match the governor to his description.

_____ James Wright

_____ John Reynolds

_____ Henry Ellis

A. Second governor who worked well with the legislature and Indians

B. First governor who had conflicts with the legislature

C. Third governor who led Georgia during prosperous period



Hard to Believe but True

Henry Ellis did not like the Georgia climate! He wrote that the people of Savannah breathed "a hotter air than any other people on the face of the earth."