

## SS8H3 – Historical Understandings

*Analyze the role of Georgia in the American Revolution.*

# Chapter 7

*SS8H3a: Explain the immediate and long-term causes of the American Revolution and their impact on Georgia; include the French and Indian War (i.e., Seven Years War), Proclamation of 1763, Stamp Act, Intolerable Acts, and the Declaration of Independence.*

## England battles France!

Georgia colonial life was soon to be interrupted by the American Revolution. Causes of this war were both long-term and immediate, stretching from the long and bitter rivalry between France and England to colonists' anger over "taxation without representation."

For centuries, England, France, and Spain had been battling for dominance in North America. By the 18th century, France had emerged as England's strongest rival. Fighting between the two countries in Europe spilled over to America in 1756 as the British and French declared war over disputed territory in the Ohio Valley. The Indians in the area sided with the French because of fears that British settlers would take over their land.



The English won the war, known as the **Seven Years' War** in Europe and the **French and Indian War** in America. In the peace treaty known as the Treaty of Paris of 1763, France gave up all of its North American colonies. This included French Canada and all the land between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River!

Another provision in the treaty gave Spanish Florida to England. Georgians were delighted—no more Spanish threat to the south of their colony!





Write T for True, and F for False.

*Copy ALL of this!*

1. \_\_\_\_ England did not care if France had colonies in North America.
2. \_\_\_\_ Spain was England's biggest rival for dominance in North America.
3. \_\_\_\_ The Indians sided with France in the French and Indian War.
4. \_\_\_\_ Florida became English territory through the Treaty of Paris of 1763.
5. \_\_\_\_ France won the French and Indian War.
6. \_\_\_\_ The French and Indian War was known as the Seven Years' War in Europe.
7. \_\_\_\_ France gave up just one colony in the Treaty of Paris of 1763.

## Proclamation of 1763

Late in 1763, King George III of England issued a proclamation prohibiting colonists from moving west beyond the Appalachian Mountains. Colonists who lived there had to move back east. They were not too happy about that! Much of the land was given to Indians to avoid warfare with settlers. Many lives and property had been lost in a recent Indian uprising in the Northwest Territory.



**Word Definition**  
**proclamation:**  
*a public statement*

The proclamation also gave land in the West to British veterans of the French and Indian War, and prevented any purchase of land from the Indians. In spite of the proclamation, many frontiersmen moved westward into areas that are now Tennessee and Kentucky.

Other provisions organized territory that had been gained by America in the Treaty of Paris. Georgians were pleased as the colony's southern boundary was moved to the St. Marys River. In 1764, the Mississippi River was named as its western boundary.

The proclamation had two main goals: to avoid expensive Indian conflicts, and to maintain and build colonial settlements east of the Appalachian Mountains where settlers would continue to trade with England.

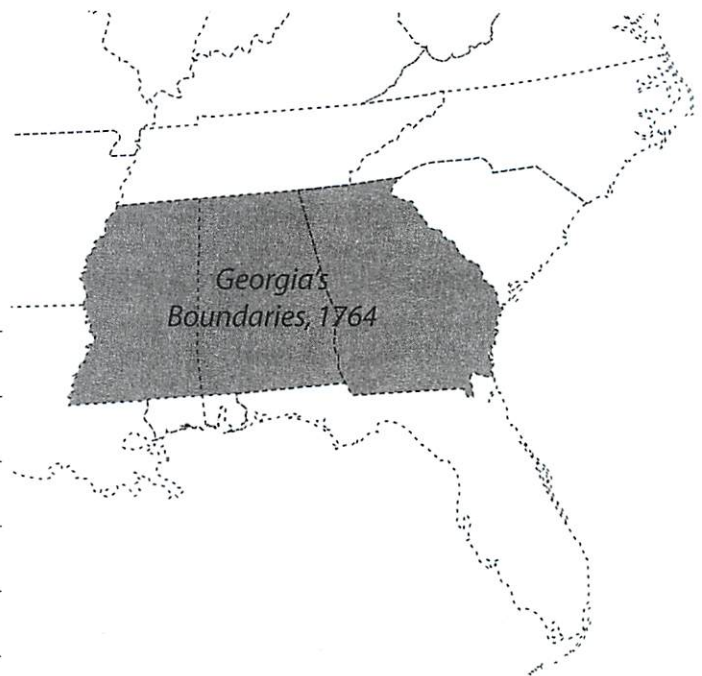






You are a colonist who has been living west of the Appalachian Mountains. England's Proclamation of 1763 says you have to move back east. How do you feel about this, and how does it make you feel about England?

WRITE!  
(your answer)  
Do not have  
to copy.



## Colonists Become Angry

Colonists in America became increasingly independent in the 18th century. After all, England was three thousand miles away! England had let the colonies manage their own affairs for many years, but began to assert more control in the 1760s and 1770s. The colonists did not like it!

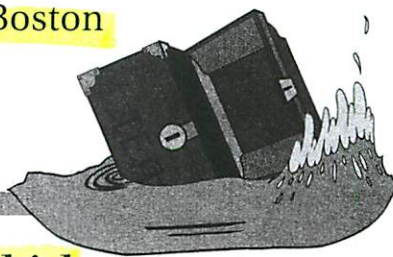


England began to impose taxes, such as the **Stamp Act** in 1765. Its purpose was to raise the money needed to pay for the French and Indian War. It had been a very expensive war for England. **The Stamp Act required colonists to buy a government stamp for almost every paper document.** Colonists rebelled, saying that Parliament should not tax them when they had no representation in the English governing body.

Early in the 1770s, two events in Boston showed that colonists were becoming rebellious. **In the 1770 Boston Massacre, British soldiers fired into an angry mob**



that had been taunting them, killing five men. In the 1773 Boston Tea Party, colonists dumped 342 chests of tea into Boston Harbor to protest a tax on tea. Things were heating up!



Put the following events in the order in which they occurred.

- \_\_\_ The Boston Massacre leaves five men dead.
- \_\_\_ The French and Indian War takes place in the colonies.
- \_\_\_ The Stamp Act is passed.
- \_\_\_ Colonists dump tea into Boston Harbor.

Refer back to previous sections.

## Intolerable Acts!

England was not pleased with the rebellious colonists. In 1774, Parliament passed a series of laws called Coercive Acts to punish the colony of Massachusetts and set an example for the other colonies. Americans called these laws the Intolerable Acts:

- *Boston Port Act* closed the port of Boston to trade.
- *Massachusetts Government Act* took away the colony's charter and prohibited town meetings.
- *Quartering Act* required that colonists provide housing for British soldiers.
- *Impartial Administration of Justice Act* says that trials for British officials can be moved out of Massachusetts to another colony or even England.

Other American colonies were outraged and joined in sympathy with Massachusetts. Virginia suggested that the colonies meet together to discuss their strategy. This idea led to the First Continental Congress in 1774.



Georgians were most concerned with the Quartering Act, which required the colony to house soldiers and pay for their expenses. At that time, Georgians were



hoping to bring in more British soldiers to protect them from Indian raids, but they didn't want to pay for them!



### Hard to Believe but True!

British soldiers, known as "Redcoats" wore those red coats for a reason. When a soldier was hit by a musket ball, the red coat made it hard for others to know he was bleeding. This stopped soldiers from getting scared and running away!



Read the Intolerable Acts. Then, circle the right denied by each act in the list below.

Don't have to copy, but, get them correct!

1. Boston Port Act
  - a. right to free trade
  - b. right to speak freely
  - c. right to vote
2. Massachusetts Government Act
  - a. right to vote
  - b. right to meet together
  - c. right to free trade
3. Quartering Act
  - a. right to speak freely
  - b. right to privacy in your own home
  - c. right to meet together
4. Impartial Administration of Justice Act
  - a. right to try criminals where they committed the crime
  - b. right to speak freely
  - c. right to a lawyer

## Mixed Feelings in Georgia

The desire for independence in Georgia was not as strong as in many other colonies. After all, the colony was only forty years old and had prospered under British rule. Many of the laws and taxes imposed on the colonies had little effect on Georgia. Plus, Georgians looked to the British for protection from neighboring Indians.



However, there were Georgians dissatisfied with England's policies. Although Georgia did not send a representative to a meeting opposing the Stamp Act called the Stamp Act Congress, there were Georgians unhappy with the tax. The publisher of the colony's only newspaper, the *Georgia Gazette*, stopped publication for a year in protest of the tax.



Groups opposing England called "Sons of Liberty" formed in the colonies. The local Georgia group set up a liberty pole at Tondee's Tavern in Savannah and spoke out against the Stamp Act. The few stamps that did arrive in Georgia were rarely used.



Fill in the blanks.

Copy all!

1. The colony of Georgia looked to the \_\_\_\_\_ for protection from \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The meeting opposing the Stamp Act was called the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The *Georgia* \_\_\_\_\_ was the colony's only newspaper.
4. The "Sons of Liberty" opposed the country of \_\_\_\_\_.

## Heading for Independence

The First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia in 1774 with delegates from every colony except Georgia. They wrote protests to England and decided to cut off trade with England until taxes and trade regulations were repealed.

Before a second Continental Congress could meet, fighting broke out between the British and Americans. King George III had said that the colonies would not become independent without a fight, and in 1775, the colonists gave the Redcoats just that. The first armed conflict of the American Revolution took place at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts on April 19.

After several battles, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia in May 1775. This time Georgia would be represented. Georgians favoring independence took over the colony government and sent delegates to the Congress.





The colonial delegates listed the reasons why the American colonies should be independent and asked a committee headed by Thomas Jefferson to compile them in a formal document. Written primarily by Jefferson, the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776. The three Georgia delegates who signed the declaration were Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, and George Walton.



Match the items on the left to their description on the right.

Copy all.

- |                                         |                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. ____ Battle of Lexington and Concord | A. Author of the Declaration of Independence                           |
| 2. ____ Button Gwinnett                 | B. British soldiers                                                    |
| 3. ____ Second Continental Congress     | C. Georgia delegate to the Second Continental Congress                 |
| 4. ____ Thomas Jefferson                | D. Statement of American independence from England                     |
| 5. ____ Redcoats                        | E. First armed conflict of the Revolutionary War                       |
| 6. ____ Declaration of Independence     | F. Meeting where colonies listed reasons for independence from England |

*SS8H3b: Analyze the significance of people and events in Georgia on the Revolutionary War; include Loyalists, Patriots, Elijah Clarke, Austin Dabney, Nancy Hart, Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, George Walton, Battle of Kettle Creek, and siege of Savannah.*

# Chapter 8

## Georgia and the Revolution

Loyalties of Georgians were split during the Revolutionary War. Many older people who had been born in England and supported by England during the colony's early years remained loyal to the mother country. Other settlers who had migrated from northern colonies supported independence from England. Even families were split by their beliefs on American independence.

