

EARLY SETTLEMENTS

Where were the Early Settlements in America?

St. Augustine, Florida

In 1520, Spanish settlers came to what is now Florida. One was **Ponce de Leon** who searched for the Fountain of Youth. Soon Spanish settlers built a fort and drove out pirates and French settlers. In 1565, St. Augustine was the first permanent European settlement in North America. It still retains its Spanish culture today.

Quebec

In 1608, **Samuel de Champlain** built a permanent French settlement in Canada. Quebec still retains its French culture today.

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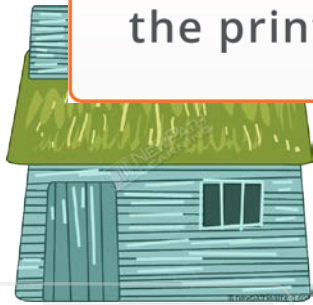


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Plymouth, Massachusetts

In 1620, Pilgrims arrived on the **Mayflower**. They made a plan of government called the **Mayflower Compact**, which said they would make their own laws. Governor William Bradford made peace with the Wampanoag tribe who helped the Pilgrims survive the first year. They shared the first **Thanksgiving** with the **Wampanoag** in **1621**.

Williamsburg, Virginia

In 1676, after Jamestown burned again, **The House of Burgesses** moved the general assembly to Middle Plantation. By 1699, they began building the capital of Colonial Virginia and named it after King William. It remained the capital until 1779. Today, Williamsburg is a fully restored Colonial Village, a living museum to visit.

Thirteen Colonies

By 1760, there were several settlements in the Thirteen Colonies. The original 13 colonies were Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. It began to seem crowded and some people started to move west.



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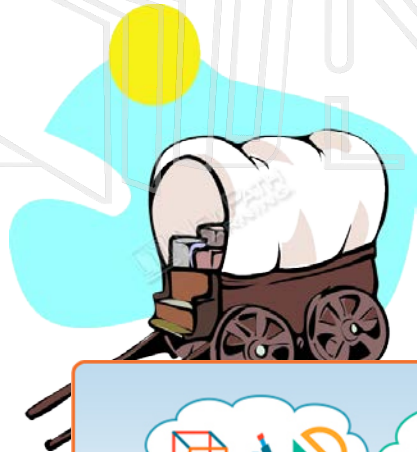
In 1769, **Daniel Boone** explored the land west of the Appalachian Mountains, blazing a trail for others to follow. He found the **Cumberland Gap** in the Allegheny Wall and built the **Wilderness Road** which brought pioneers to the frontier. In 1775, a treaty was signed with the Cherokee and by 1792 Kentucky became the 15th State. Abraham Lincoln was born in Kentucky in 1809.

Missouri

In 1764, St. Louis was still part of the Louisiana Territory owned by France. Missionaries and fur traders settled there. In 1798, Daniel Boone explored the territory and was one of the first to discover the Cumberland Gap through the **Allegheny Front**. By 1803, France sold the Louisiana Territory to the US and **St. Louis** became the **Gateway city** to the new western lands. By 1812, the Missouri Territory was settled by pioneers traveling to the west.

The Oregon Trail

This path west began as a settlers' road about 1840. It started in Independence, Missouri, and passed through prairies, deserts, and mountains before reaching Oregon. By 1843, the Great Migration of farmers and Protestant missionaries had begun to settle in Oregon.



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Try this!

Find out how and when your community was first settled.

