

Rubbish Boys, Spanish Version

St. Augustine, Florida

In a move to block French ambitions and to protect the sea-lanes to the Caribbean, the Spanish erected a fortress at St. Augustine, Florida by Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, in 1565, thus founding the oldest continually inhabited European settlement in the future United States.

It's the first permanent Spanish settlement.
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Santa Fe, New Mexico

Led by Don Juan de Oñate, in the battle of Acoma in 1599, the Spanish cut off one foot of each survivor. They proclaimed the area to be the province of New Mexico in 1609 and founded its capital Santa Fe the following year.

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Conclusion

The arrival of Europeans in the New World in 1492 changed the Americas forever. Over the course of the next 350 years, Spain ruled a vast empire based on the labor and exploitation of the Indian population.

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Government



Economy



A major Spanish export of the Americas was silver. The Spanish controlled the silver trade, and the flow of silver from the Americas to Europe was a major factor in the rise of Spain as a world power.

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Early Spanish Conquistadors

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Texas

- As a further hedge against the ever-threatening French, who had sent an expedition under Robert de La Salle down the Mississippi River in the 1680s, the Spanish began around 1716 to establish settlement in Texas.
- Some refugees from the Pueblo uprising trickled into Texas, and a few missions were established there, including the one at San Antonio later known as the Alamo.

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Spanish Colonies

During the period from mid-16th century to the 18th century, the Spanish controlled large areas of the modern-day Southwest and West Coast of the United States. Also, the Spanish Colonies stretched from mid-North America down to the bottom of South America.

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Economy

A self-sufficient colony was not possible. The Spanish empire relied on the flow of gold and silver from the Americas to Europe. The colonies depended on Spain for goods and services. The Spanish economy was based on mercantilism, which meant that the colonies were not allowed to trade with other countries.

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Vasco Nunez Balboa

He was the first European who discovered the Pacific Ocean in 1513.

And he claimed for his king all the lands washed by that sea!



Juan Ponce de Leon



In 1513 and 1521, Juan Ponce de Leon explored Florida, which he at first thought was an island. He was famous for searching the Fountain of Youth and he founded the oldest settlement in Puerto Rico.

Early Spanish Conquistadors

Hernan Cortes

- In 1519, Cortes made his landfall in the Aztec empire. Cortes accepted all the wealth the Natives gave him, they went along well at first.
- But on the noche triste (sad night) of June 30, 1520, the Aztec attacked, driving the Spanish away.
- Eventually, the Spanish took down the Aztec empire and claimed it as "New Spain" what we know today as Mexico.



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Religion

- The Roman Catholic mission became the central institution in colonial New Mexico.
- It took nearly half a century for the Spanish fully to reclaim New Mexico from the insurrectionary Indians.
- Mixtures of Christianity and Native American heritage merged in these areas.



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Economy



During the Spanish colonial period, the economy was based on exploitation, both of land and of Indian labor. The first Spanish settlers organized the encomienda system by which Spaniards were given title to American land and ownership of the villages on that land. In return for promises to convert the Indians to Christianity, the Spanish were allowed to use the land and labor any way they saw fit. In all but name, it was slavery.

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