

BRITISH COLONYS

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Vermont

New Hampshire Grants, New York's claim, and the Vermont Republic

The end of the war brought new settlers to Vermont. The first settler of the grants was Samuel Robinson, who began clearing land in Bennington in 1761.^[6]

In the 28 years from 1763 to 1791, the non-Indian population of Vermont rose from 300 to 85,000.^[7]

A fort at [Crown Point](#) had been built in 1759, and the [Crown Point Military Road](#) stretched across the Green Mountains from [Springfield](#) to Chimney Point, making traveling from the neighboring [British colonies](#) easier than ever before. Three colonies laid claim to the area. The [Province of Massachusetts Bay](#) claimed the land on the basis of the 1629 charter of the [Massachusetts Bay Colony](#). The [Province of New York](#) claimed Vermont based on land granted to the [Duke of York](#) (later [King James II](#)) in 1664. The [Province of New Hampshire](#), whose western limits had never been determined, also claimed Vermont, in part based upon a decree of [George II](#) in 1740. On March 5, 1740, George II ruled that Massachusetts's [northern boundary](#) in this area would be from a point near the [Merrimack River](#) due west (its present location). The boundary was surveyed by Richard Hasen in 1741, and [Fort Dummer](#) (Brattleboro), was found to be north of the line. Provisions and support for Fort Dummer were ordered by the Colonial Office from New Hampshire in the following years.^[8]



The flag of the Green Mountain Boys

New Hampshire's immensely popular governor, [Benning Wentworth](#), issued a series of 135 [land grants](#) between 1749 and 1764 called the [New Hampshire Grants](#). Many of these were in a large valley on the west (or New York side) of the Green Mountains and only about forty miles from Albany. The town was laid out in 1749 and was settled after the war in 1761. The town was named [Bennington](#) for Wentworth. The location of the town was well north of the Massachusetts limit set by decree in 1740, and east of the known eastern limit of New York, twenty miles east of the [Hudson River](#). Ultimately, by 1754, Wentworth had granted lands for 15 towns.^[9]

On July 20, 1764, [King George III](#) established the boundary between [New Hampshire](#) and New York along the west bank of the [Connecticut River](#), north of [Massachusetts](#), and south of [45 Degrees north latitude](#).

Under this decree, [Albany County, New York](#), as it then existed, implicitly gained the land presently known as Vermont. Although disputes occasionally broke out later, this line became the boundary between [New Hampshire](#) and [Vermont](#), and is the modern boundary. When New York refused to recognize land titles through the New Hampshire Grants (towns created earlier by [New Hampshire](#) in present Vermont), dissatisfied colonists organized in opposition, which led to the creation of independent Vermont on January 15, 1777.^{[10][11]}

New York took the declaration of 1764 to apply retroactively, and considered the New Hampshire grants invalid. It therefore required land holders to purchase new grants for the same land from New York. New York then created counties in the region, with courthouses, sheriffs, and jails, and began judicial proceedings against those who held land solely by New Hampshire grants.^[9]

In 1767, the [Privy Council](#) forbade New York from selling land in Vermont that was in conflict with grants from New Hampshire, reversing the 1764 decision.^[12]

In 1770, [Ethan Allen](#)—along with his brothers [Ira](#) and Levi, as well as [Seth Warner](#)—recruited an informal militia, the [Green Mountain Boys](#), to protect the interests of the original New Hampshire settlers against the new migrants from New York. A significant standoff occurred at the Breckinridge farm in Bennington, when a sheriff from Albany arrived with a posse of 750 men to dispossess Breckinridge. The residents raised a body of about 300 armed men to resist. The Albany sheriff demanded Breckinridge, and was informed, "If you attempt it, you are a dead man." The sheriff returned to Albany.^[13]

When a New York judge arrived in [Westminster](#) with New York settlers in March 1775, violence broke out as angry citizens took over the [courthouse](#) and called a sheriff's posse. This resulted in the deaths of Daniel Houghton and William French in the "[Westminster Massacre](#)".

In the summer of 1776, the first general convention of freemen of the New Hampshire Grants met in [Dorset, Vermont](#), resolving "to take suitable measures to declare the New Hampshire Grants a free and independent district."^[14] On January 15, 1777, representatives of the New Hampshire Grants convened in Westminster and declared their land an independent republic. For the first six months of the republic's existence, the state was called [New Connecticut](#).

On June 2, a second convention of 72 delegates met at Westminster, known as the "Westminster Convention". At this meeting, the delegates adopted the name "Vermont" on the suggestion of Dr. Thomas Young of [Philadelphia](#), a supporter of the delegates who wrote a letter advising them on how to achieve statehood. The delegates set the time for a meeting one month later. On July 4, the [Constitution of Vermont](#) was drafted during a violent thunderstorm at the [Windsor Tavern](#) owned by Elijah West. It was adopted by the delegates on July 8 after four days of debate. This was the first written constitution in North America to provide for the [abolition](#) of [slavery](#), [suffrage](#) for men who did not own land, and [public schools](#). The tavern has been preserved as the [Old Constitution House](#), administered as a [state historic site](#).

13 Colonies

Perhaps, but NY was west of CT River. In the map below, the area that is now VT is missing.



On 7.8.1777: Delegates from 28 towns met and declared independence from jurisdictions and land claims of British colonies in New Hampshire and New York. **On 3.4.1791,** Vermont was admitted to the United States as the 14th state. For fourteen years (1777-1791) Vermont was an independent Republic.

<http://totallyhistory.com/thirteen-original-colonies/>

What is now known as the United States of America began its formation between the 17th and the 18th century. Thirteen colonies were originally part of it, and they are also known as the original states of America. The very first Colony was Virginia (originally Jamestown), was founded in 1607 and the last of the 13 colonies to form was Georgia. *Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Georgia, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts Bay, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Maryland, New York, Rhode Island and Providence, and North Carolina* are the thirteen colonies which united in order to be free from foreign rule.

Timeline of Original 13 Colonies of the United States

Virginia was home to one of the first ever foreign settlers of America. Founded in 1607, it was originally named Jamestown, after King James I. It was home to the first representative government in all of America, when the House of Burgesses met for the first time in 1619.

New Hampshire was founded in 1622, and it was named after Hampshire in England. When the American Revolution first broke out, New Hampshire became a divided state. There were several wealthy men who lived luxurious lives and there were also those who had the capital to start businesses, known as the merchants. New Hampshire was home to poor people; it had its share of laborers, slaves, servants and mariners. The main trades of New Hampshire back then were agriculture and manufacturing. People of New Hampshire were fishermen, shoemakers, cobblers and farmers. Even the first settlements in New Hampshire were those of fishermen, and they lived near modern-day Portsmouth.

New York was founded in 1624. When the British claimed its territories in America, New York was part of the Province of York, along with Delaware, New Jersey and Vermont. The king reassigned these places after some time to become individual colonies, and New York was named after James, Duke of York.

Massachusetts was founded in 1630. Settlers from Shawmuth and Trimoutaine changed its name to Boston, which is still named after a city in England. In 1635, the first public school in America was founded and was named Boston Latin School. It is still standing and is now the oldest school in the whole of America. The first public park was built in Boston, as did the first American newspaper. Massachusetts was home to two major causes of the American Revolution, namely the Boston Massacre in 1770 and the Boston Tea Party in 1773.

Maryland was named after Queen Henrietta Maria and was founded in 1632. It became the first English colony to have dominant Catholic members, and it is home to one of the first religious laws in America.

Connecticut was founded in 1635. The first settlers of Connecticut were originally Dutchmen who lived near modern-day Hartford. Puritans from the Massachusetts Bay were the first English settlers in the colony, and they founded several colonies within it, making Connecticut one of the most important centers of business and government.

It was home to one of the bloodiest wars in America which is known as the Pequot War. Hundreds of people died in this war, and hundreds more were taken captive and sold into slavery. Seven hundred Pequot residents died in the Mystic [River] Massacre; seven survived the massacre and were made slaves; while seven others escaped both of these unfortunate incidents.

Rhode Island and Providence were the smallest colony of England in America, and was founded in 1636. It was the first colony of England that declared independence and separation from the English rule.

Delaware was founded in 1638, and Dutchmen were its first settlers. It is home to the Battle of Delaware Bay during the American Revolutionary War. It was in this war when the 13-star colonial flag made its first appearance in a battle, and this kind of flag had then been used from 1777 to 1795. Delaware is America's first state.

North Carolina was founded in 1653 but it was the first places to be inhabited in the New World in 1587. It is home to the first English child born into the New World, but after three years, the first colonists mysteriously disappeared with no known trace up to this day.

South Carolina was founded by the Lord Proprietors in 1663. Six years later, the Fundamental Constitution of Carolina was written by *John Locke*.

New Jersey was founded in 1664 by the British crown, though Dutch settlements were already there as early as in 1613. It was then called New Netherland, and the land area was known to include some parts of New York. New Jersey was given to *Lord Berkeley of Stratton* and *Sir George Carteret* by King Charles.

Pennsylvania was founded in 1681, but a Swedish man named Peter Minuit had rightly claimed it in 1638. *King Charles II* gave *William Penn* the land grant for what is now known as Pennsylvania. It was named as such after William Penn's father, Admiral Penn.

Georgia was founded in 1733, and was named after King George II. It became subject to frequent invasions. It experienced the worst in 1716 when it became totally devoid of people.

Cause and Effect of the American Revolution

The American Revolution was caused by events that affected both the patriots of America and the loyalists of Britain. Before the American Revolution led to the independence of the 13 colonies of America in the latter half of the 18th century, small upheavals in individual states were seen throughout the country.

Among these were the French and Indian War. This war spanned nine years, but it was known in England as the Seven Years War. It was a clear picture of how the Frenchmen and the Englishmen both wanted supreme power over the lands of America and wanted to become masters of the trade that each represented.

France lost the war, and England imposed the Stamp Act on all written documents in America to be able to pay debts incurred during the war. They put taxes on virtually everything, including paper, tea, glass and paint. These tax issues then led to the American Revolution ten years later.

After the *Declaration of Independence*, the 13 colonies were formed what is now known as the United States of America. The 13 colonies were divided into three: New England colonies, middle colonies and southern colonies. These states had ultimately determined that the British rule would never again gain their allegiance, thus severing any ties to the English crown.