

Early American Spaces: Using Maps to Illustrate Colonial History

A presentation to the American History Teachers' Collaborative

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1. America had to be integrated into a European view of the world
Martin Waldseemüller, *Universalis Cosmographia* (1507)
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/51/Ct000725C-wh012_5-Universalis_cosmographia_secundum_Ptholomaei_traditionem_et_Americi_Vespucii_alioru-m-que_lustrationes..gif
2. Spanish America was the early center of the colonial Americas
Abraham Ortelius, in *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (1584)
“Orbis Terrarum,”
<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/OL/197/Map+++Page+1++TYPVS+ORBIS+TER/>
“Novis Orbis”
<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/OL/2308/Map+++Page+1/La+FLORIDA+++PERVVIAE+AVRIFERAE///>
“La Florida”
<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/OL/413/Map+++Page+1+++LA+FLORIDA+++GVASTEKAN+++PERVVIAE+AVRIFERAE///>
3. America was not an empty space
John White, Theodor de Bry, Thomas Hariott, *Americae pars, Nunc Virginia* (1590)
http://www.cummingmapsociety.org/1590_AmericaeParsNuncVirginia_White_deBry12.jpg

John Smith, *Virginia* (1624, orig. 1612)
<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/images/s19.2.jpg>
4. The colonial world was not a prelude to the United States
John Seller, *A Chart of the Caribe Islands* in “The Blathawayt Atlas” (1683)
http://alabamamaps.ua.edu/historicalmaps/middle_america/caribbean/caribbean_Before1750.html (Scroll down the page)

John Farrer *Ould Virginia* 1584 (c.1650)
<http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwedo/archweek/2006/selection.asp?PG=4&ID=7&IMG=30>

Samuel Holland, *A Sketch of the country between New Hampshire and Nova Scotia* (c1770)
http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/D?gmd:7:./temp/~ammem_xIaE::
5. Slave societies were central to early America
Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson, *A Map of the Most Inhabited Part of Virginia* (1775)
<http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-colonial/2038>

William De Brahm, *Map of South Carolina and a Part of Georgia* (1757)
http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/map_item.pl

6. British America was an array of distinctive regions.

Herman Moll, *A New and Exact Map of the Dominions of the King of Great Britain on the Continent of North America* (1715)

<http://www.usm.maine.edu/~maps/exhibit2/31.jpg>

Robert Morden and William Berry, *A New Map of the English Plantations in America, both Continent and Islands* in "The Blathwayt Atlas" (1683)

<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchdetail.cfm?trg=1&strucID=118199&imageID=53904&total=20&num=0&word=Morden%2C%20Robert&s=3¬word=&d=&c=&f=4&k=0&IWord=&IField=&sScope=&sLevel=&sLabel=&imgs=20&pos=14&e=w>

7. American spaces were constantly changing

Antonio de Arrendondo, *Descipcion Geographica (mapa) de la parte que los españole possen actualmente ed el continente de la Florida*(1742)

http://scholar.library.miami.edu/floridamaps/view_image.php?image_name=dlp00020000410001001&group=cartographer

Jacques Nicolas Bellin, *Carte Reduite Des Costes De La Louisiane et de la Floride*(1764)

http://scholar.library.miami.edu/floridamaps/view_image.php?image_name=dlp00020000610001001&group=cartographer

Thomas Jefferys, "East Florida, from Surveys made since the last Peace" in William Stork, *Account of East Florida* 3d edition (1796)

<http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/maps/pages/3500/f3588/f3588z.htm>

Thomas Wright, *A Map of Florida and Georgia* (1763)

<http://www.libs.uga.edu/darchive/hargrett/maps/1763w7.jpg>

8. Colonization was a process of occupation

William De Brahm, *Map of South Carolina and a Part of Georgia* (1757)

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/map_item.pl

9. America was a contested space

Thomas Jeffreys, *A New Map of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island* (1755)

<http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~29569~1141032:A-new-map-of-Nova-Scotia-and-Cape-B>

John Mitchell, *A Map of British and French Dominions in North America* (1755)

<http://www.usm.maine.edu/~maps/mitchell/full2.jpeg>