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What were the original 13 colonies that became the first US states?



In: United States History

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First Thirteen Colonies

Virginia (1607) - Established by the London Company

New Jersey (1618) - Originally settled by the Dutch, but seized by the English in 1664.

Massachusetts (1620) - Founded as two colonies: Plymouth Colony (1620), settled by the Pilgrims; and Massachusetts Bay Colony (1630), settled by the Puritans. They were united in 1691, and annexed Maine, which had been colonized by the New England Council in the 1620's.

New Hampshire (1622) - Originally part of Maine, then a colony from 1629 until annexed by Massachusetts, 1641-1643. Became a separate colony again in 1679.

Pennsylvania (1623) - Originally settled by Dutch and Swedes. Came under English control in the 1664 and was granted to William Penn by Charles II in 1681.

New York (1624) - Founded as New Netherland by the Dutch West India Company. Seized by the English in 1664 and renamed.

Maryland (1634) - Granted to Lord Baltimore.

Connecticut (1635) - Founded by settlers from Massachusetts and other colonies. New Haven Colony, founded by settlers from Massachusetts in 1638, annexed to Connecticut in 1662, when the older colony was granted a royal charter.

Rhode Island (1636) - Settled by two groups from Massachusetts and united in 1644. Chartered by King Charles II in 1663.

Delaware (1638) - Settled by Swedes; seized by the Dutch in 1655 and by the English in 1664. Granted to William Penn in 1682.

North Carolina (1733) - Settled by pioneers from other colonies; Carolina was separated from Virginia and granted to a private company in 1663; divided into two colonies in 1711. Made a royal providence in 1729.

South Carolina (1670) - Originally part of Carolina Colony. Was separated from North Carolina in 1711, and became a royal providence in 1729.

Georgia (1733) - Granted to a private company by George II in 1732 and settled a year later in Savannah.

Original 13 States

The original 13 states are (in alphabetical order):

- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Georgia
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Pennsylvania



- South Carolina
- Virginia

The 13 original colonies in chronological order in which they joined the United States Union.

1. Delaware
2. Pennsylvania
3. New Jersey
4. Georgia
5. Connecticut
6. Massachusetts

7. Maryland
8. South Carolina
9. New Hampshire
10. Virginia
11. New York
12. North Carolina
13. Rhode Island

Here are the colonies in geographical order, roughly from north to south. The division into three regions is a later construct of historians, though New England was always considered to be a distinct region.

New England:

Province of New Hampshire, later New Hampshire

Province of Massachusetts Bay, later Massachusetts and Maine

Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, later Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Connecticut Colony, later Connecticut

Middle Colonies:

Province of New York, later New York and Vermont

Province of New Jersey, later New Jersey

Province of Pennsylvania, later Pennsylvania

Delaware Colony later Delaware

Southern Colonies:

Province of Maryland, later Maryland

Colony and Dominion of Virginia, later Virginia, Kentucky and West Virginia

Province of North Carolina, later North Carolina and Tennessee

Province of South Carolina, later South Carolina

Province of Georgia, later Georgia

In early times cities were commonly known as provinces and after 1776 they became known to as states.

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