



TO ALL BRAVE, HEALTHY, ABLE BODIED, AND WELL  
 DISPOSED YOUNG MEN,  
 IN THIS NEIGHBOURHOOD, WHO HAVE ANY INCLINATION TO JOIN THE TROOPS,  
 NOW RAISING UNDER  
**GENERAL WASHINGTON,**  
 FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE  
**LIBERTIES AND INDEPENDENCE**  
 OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Against the hostile designs of foreign enemies,*

# TAKE NOTICE,

THAT  
*Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Hoboken in  
 the morning and evening, with his major and recruiting party of the Continental Army, company in New Jersey.*

▲ A recruitment poster encourages men to join Washington's army to fight for independence.

### Who fought, and why?

Many soldiers joined the army because they were promised free land after the war. At first, most states did not allow African Americans in the army, but by 1778, nearly 5,000 were fighting for America's independence. Many slaves were promised freedom in exchange for fighting. Women helped soldiers by making uniforms and blankets, cooking, and caring for the wounded.

◀ This medicine chest, filled with medicine bottles and jars, weighing scales, and surgical instruments, was used by the Continental Army.

At Morristown, the army made their winter camp on a farm. They built 1,000 log huts, each with sleeping shelves for 12 men. George Washington and his wife stayed in a nearby mansion.





1778 to 1781

## THE ROAD TO VICTORY

Once the war began, it was difficult to control. British and American soldiers marched and fought through most of the colonies, leaving death and destruction behind. Both sides believed they were fighting for an honorable cause.

▼ The battle at Yorktown lasted 14 days. About 600 British soldiers and 100 American soldiers died fighting. The Americans had heavy guns and more cannons than the British. America won the battle.

For most of the war, the Continental Army was no match for the British. Great Britain's army and navy were among the best in the world. But Americans were defending their freedom and homes. This spirit helped them win the war.

### Main battles of the war

**Apr. 19, 1775** war begins at Lexington and Concord, MA

**June 17, 1775** British win at Bunker Hill, MA

**Dec. 26, 1776** America wins at Trenton, NJ

**Jan. 3, 1777** Americans win at Princeton, NJ

**Aug. 16, 1777** British win at Bennington, VT

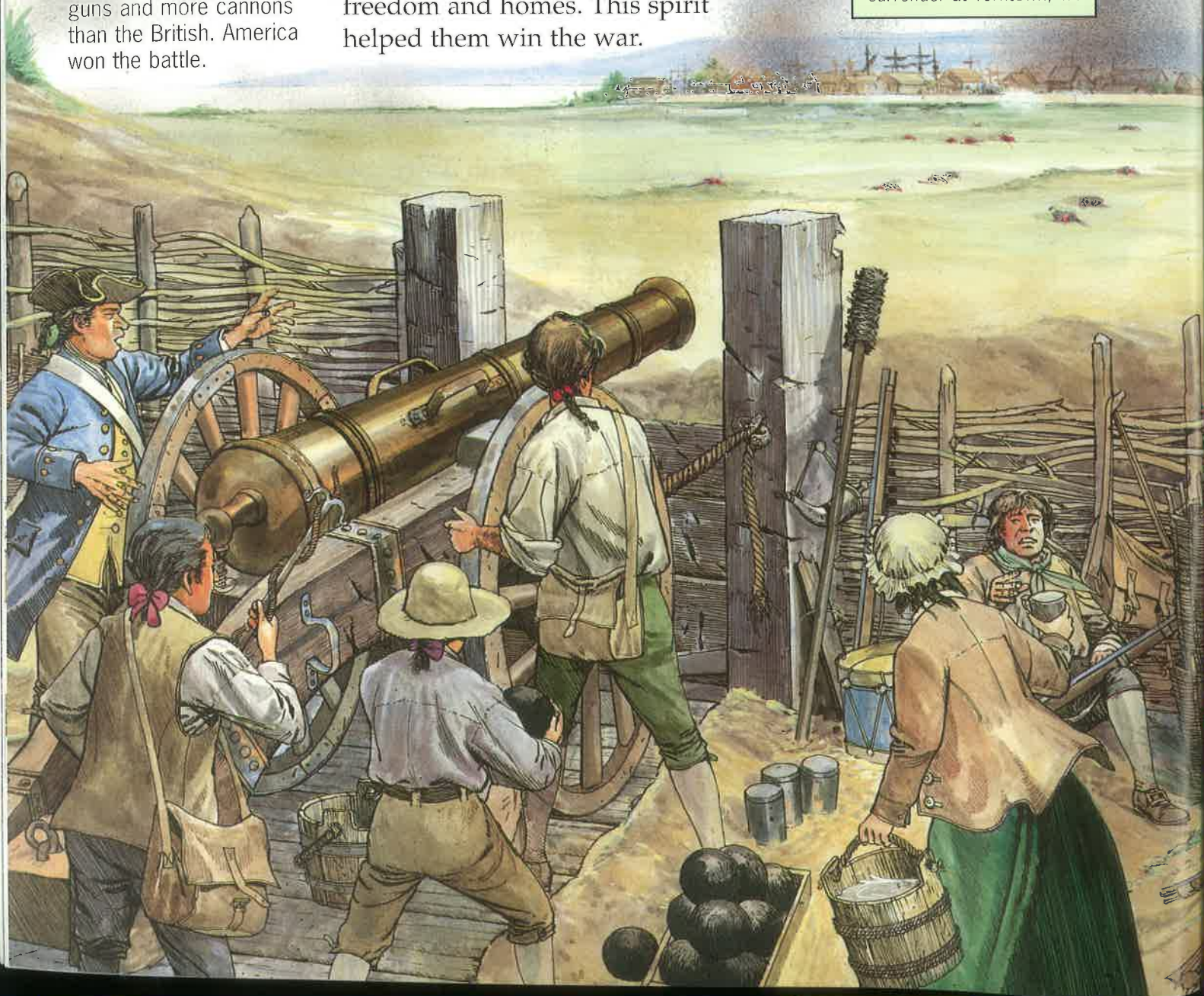
**Oct. 17, 1777** America wins at Saratoga, NY

**June 28, 1778** no winner at Monmouth, NJ

**Aug. 16, 1780** British win at Camden, SC

**Jan. 17, 1781** Americans win at Cowpens, SC

**Oct. 6-19, 1781** British surrender at Yorktown, VA





### Native Americans help both sides

As the Revolutionary War flared in the East, many Americans continued to move their homes westward, pushing out the Native Americans. Some Native Americans helped the British, hoping that would save their own land. Other Native Americans helped the Continental Army.

► French warships blocked the York River, preventing British ships from bringing more troops to Yorktown.



◀ At the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey, on June 28, 1778, Mary Hays loaded a cannon in place of her wounded husband. She also rushed pitchers of water to the soldiers, getting her the nickname Molly Pitcher.

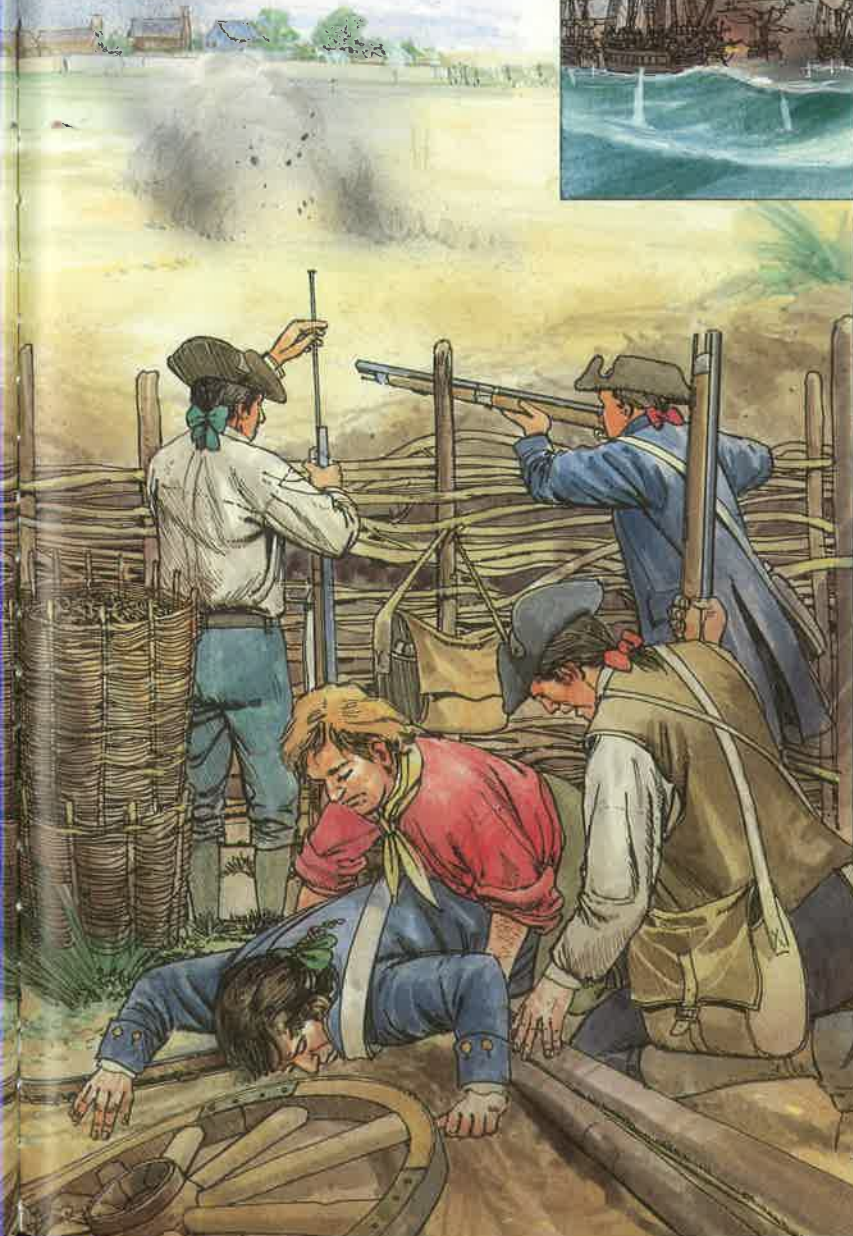


### The final battle

General Washington's plan was to keep his army moving, hopefully tiring out the British forces. Still, he lost several battles in New York and New Jersey. In October 1777, the Americans won a major battle at Saratoga, New York. Their luck was changing.

The end of the war came with the Battle of Yorktown, Virginia, in 1781. American soldiers, helped by French soldiers, surrounded the British troops there. Guns fired and cannons roared for days. Finally, they stopped. An English drummer boy climbed on top of a hill. He beat his drum. An officer stood beside him waving a white handkerchief. The British were **surrendering**. America had finally won its independence.

► In the Revolutionary War, more than 12 major battles were fought in the colonies. Over 25,000 American and 10,000 British soldiers were either killed or died of wounds, disease, or exposure.





1781 to 1787

## CREATING A NEW GOVERNMENT

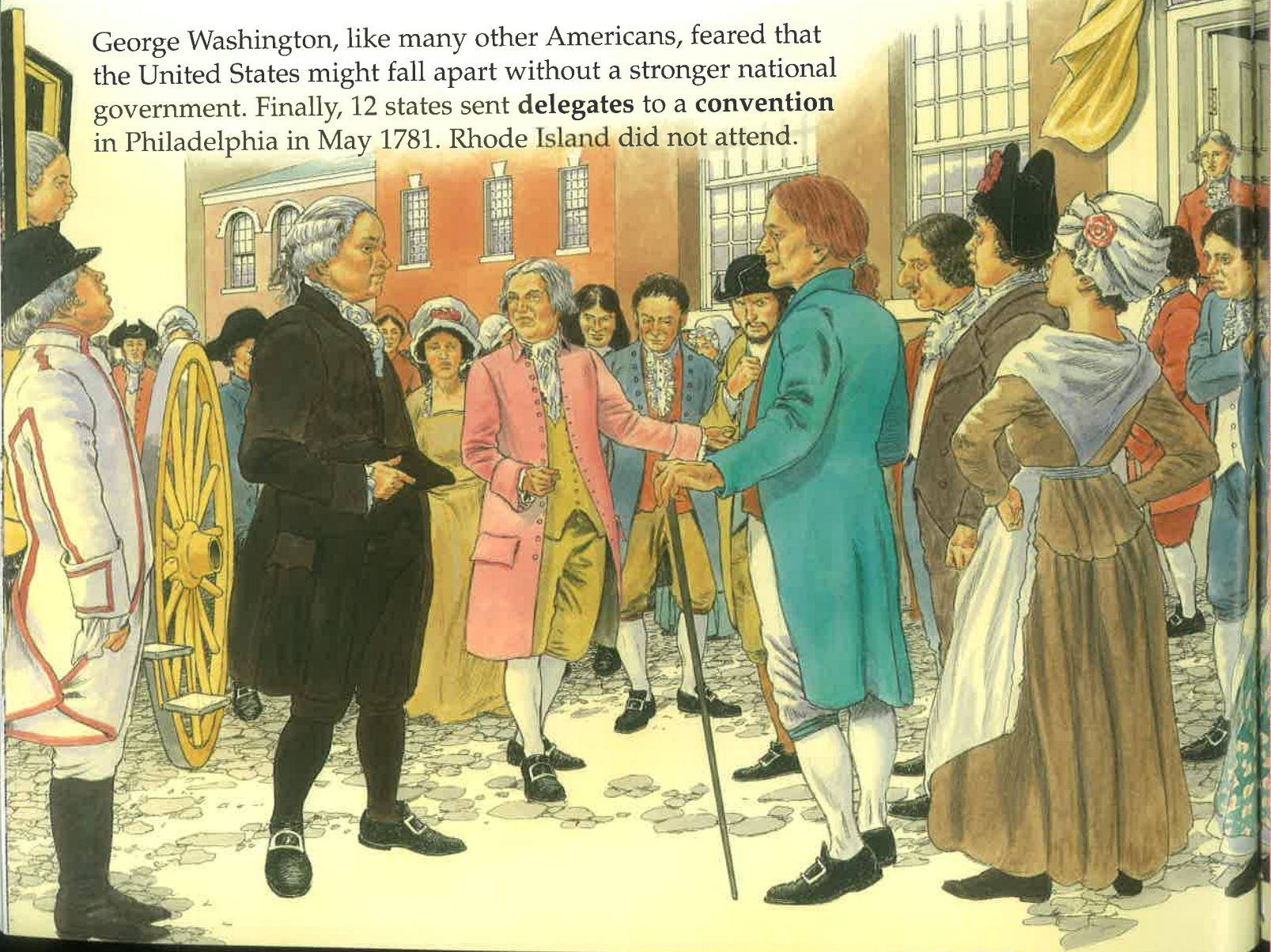
When the war ended, George Washington decided to return to his home at Mount Vernon, Virginia. He was 51 years old and ready to spend time improving his plantation and searching for new land to buy. He continued to keep up with the news of the country. Before long, he was quite worried about its future.

The 13 colonies had become 13 states. The first constitution, the Articles of **Confederation**, loosely joined the states together, but each state really acted like a separate country. Each had its own laws, **taxes**, and money. It was difficult for someone in one state to purchase something in another. It was difficult to resolve problems between states.

George Washington, like many other Americans, feared that the United States might fall apart without a stronger national government. Finally, 12 states sent **delegates** to a **convention** in Philadelphia in May 1781. Rhode Island did not attend.

### Washington leads the Convention

At first, George Washington did not even want to attend the Constitutional Convention. He had not been feeling well and his **plantation** needed his attention. His friends persuaded him to be one of Virginia's delegates. At the meeting, the delegates knew they needed a president of the convention to guide them through many difficult decisions. All votes went to George Washington.



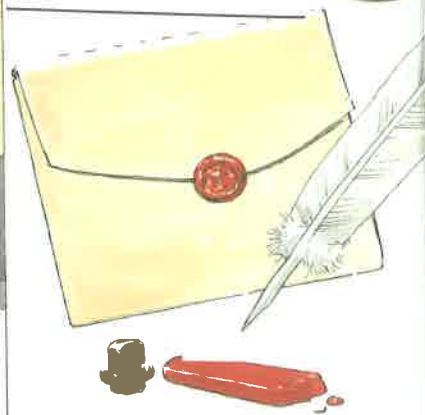




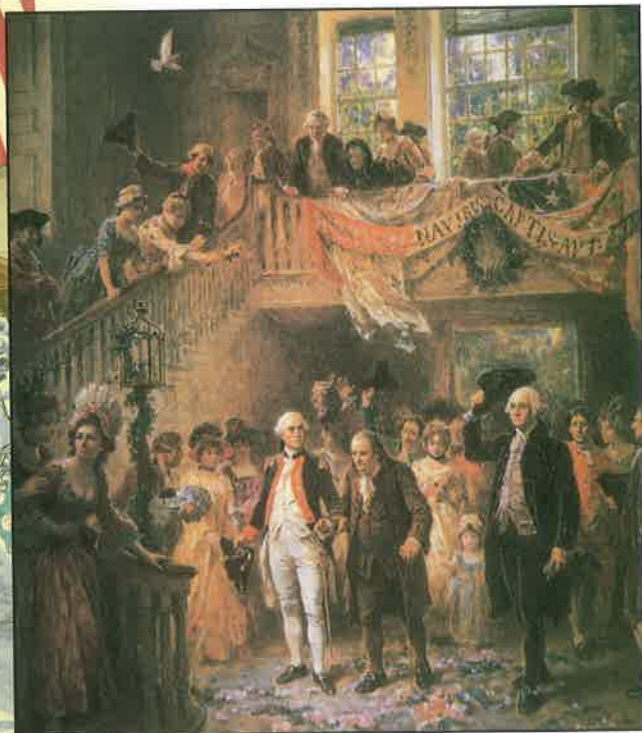
▲ The sign of an inn. Inns were set up along major routes as stopping off points for travelers. Here they could get food, drink, and a bed for the night.



▲ Mail was carried from town to town by post riders. There were no postage stamps. The receiver of the letter paid the rider for it in cash.



▲ Until envelopes were made in 1849, letters were folded so that the blank portion could be used for the address. Edges were sealed with sealing wax.



◀ On May 25, 1787, 55 delegates arrived at Independence Hall in Philadelphia for the Constitutional Convention. Many people were unsure about the Constitution. Did the president have too much power? Did the states have enough power?

◀ George Washington—seen here on the right, raising his hat—enters the Constitutional Convention alongside Benjamin Franklin and John Paul Jones. This painting is by J.G. Ferris. Meetings inside the hall were kept secret.

### The Constitutional Convention

At the convention, the delegates expected to revise the Articles of Confederation. Instead they decided to write a new constitution for the United States. This divided the national government into three branches. The executive branch was the president and vice-president, who were elected. The judicial branch was the courts and judges. The legislative branch was called **Congress**. It made laws.

There were two parts to Congress: the Senate and the House of Representatives. Citizens elected **representatives** to Congress. No one branch had all the power. The states still controlled their local governments. This system of national government is still used today.





1789 to 1796

# THE NATION'S FIRST PRESIDENT

In 1789, George Washington went home to Virginia. But he did not get the quiet life he wanted. Instead he was elected President of the United States. He wrote in his diary, "I bade farewell to Mount Vernon, to private life and with a mind oppressed with more anxious and painful sensations set out for New York."

People connected George Washington's name to the new **Constitution**. They knew him as a strong leader and loyal American.

In the **nation's first election**, George Washington received the most votes, making him the nation's first president. John Adams received the next highest vote, so he became the vice-president. In April, 1789, both men headed for New York City, the nation's first **capital**.

As Washington's coach traveled from Virginia to New York, crowds waved and cheered in every town along the way. He, his wife, and his grandchildren, moved into the Presidential Mansion. New York did not remain the nation's capital for long. In 1790, the capital was moved to Philadelphia.

### People's rights

In 1791, Congress passed the Bill of Rights. They were **amendments** to the Constitution that protected the rights of the people. Some of these rights included:

- freedom of speech
- freedom of religion
- freedom of the press
- the right to jury trial
- the right to bear arms to protect the government
- in peacetime, the government cannot make people house and feed soldiers
- people or their homes cannot be searched without good reason.

▼ A portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart in about 1795. George and Martha Washington had many fancy parties in their presidential mansions in New York and Philadelphia. Every Tuesday afternoon all properly dressed visitors were welcome into their home.

### Washington and government

<b>1783</b> Treaty of Paris ends the Revolutionary War	<b>1790</b> Nation's capital moves from New York to Philadelphia
<b>1787</b> Constitutional Convention	<b>1791</b> Bill of Rights is adopted by Congress
<b>1788</b> 11 states approve the Constitution	<b>1793</b> Washington's second inauguration
<b>1789</b> Washington's inauguration	<b>1796</b> Washington's Farewell Address.





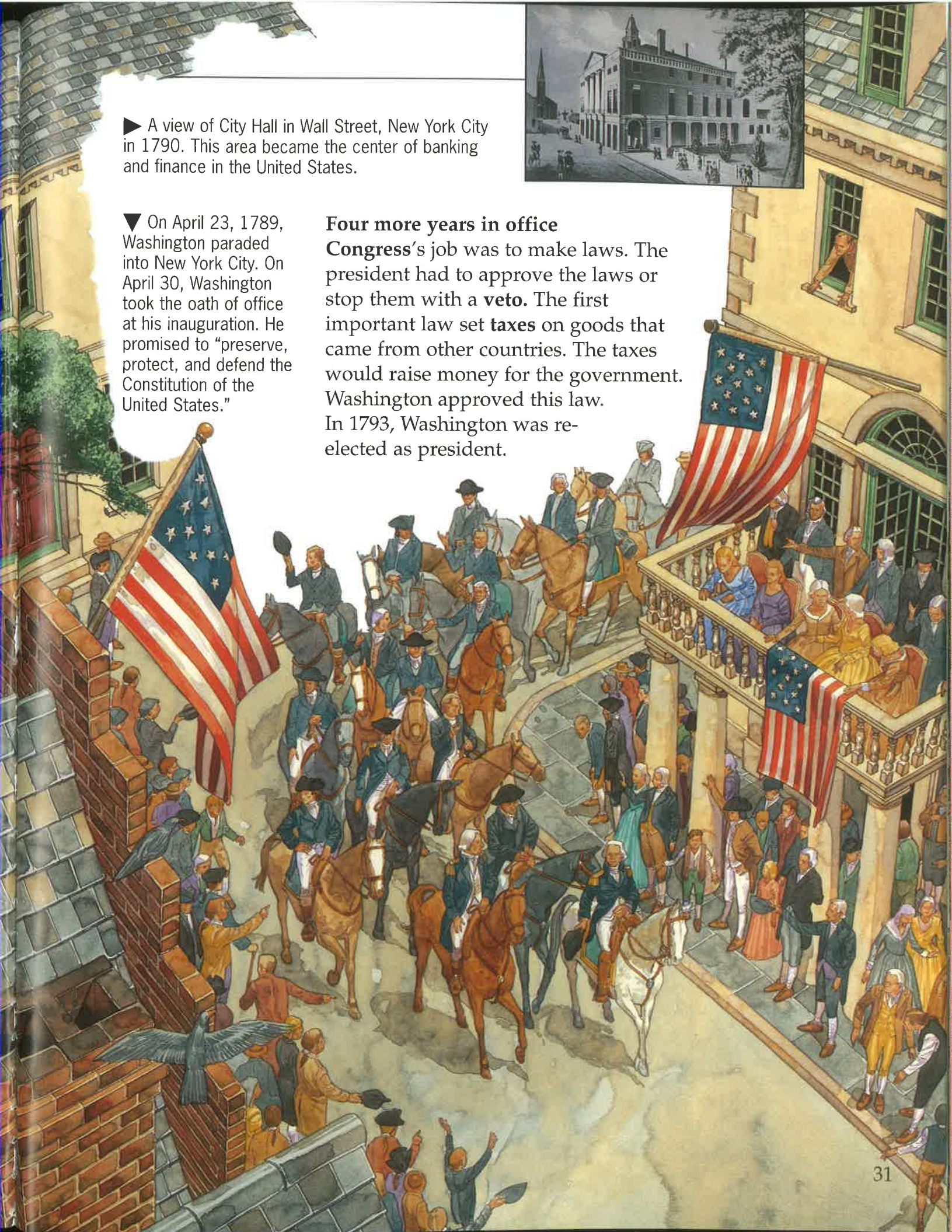
► A view of City Hall in Wall Street, New York City in 1790. This area became the center of banking and finance in the United States.



▼ On April 23, 1789, Washington paraded into New York City. On April 30, Washington took the oath of office at his inauguration. He promised to “preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

### Four more years in office

Congress’s job was to make laws. The president had to approve the laws or stop them with a **veto**. The first important law set **taxes** on goods that came from other countries. The taxes would raise money for the government. Washington approved this law. In 1793, Washington was re-elected as president.







1796 to 1799

## WORKING IN THE NORTH

After the war, Americans once again focused on their homes and their work. Many people in the southern states raised crops on large farms, called plantations. There were farmers in the northern states, too, but many northerners earned their livings working in shipyards, grain and lumber mills, and iron furnaces.

A mill is a building that manufactures things. There were saw mills that sawed logs into boards, and grain mills that ground corn and wheat into flour. Mills were usually located by fast-moving rivers and streams because the water provided power for the waterwheel. As water rushed over the wheel, the wheel turned the saw or grinding stone.

Many people ran iron furnaces. They took iron ore from the ground and heated it in big furnaces. Much of the iron was sold to other countries. Some of it was sold to local blacksmiths who made farm tools, nails, and parts for guns.

► George Washington died on December 14, 1799. His wife and grandchildren were by his bedside at the time.

### Capital of the states

In 1791, George Washington picked the site of the nation's permanent capital. The site was on the Potomac River in Virginia and Maryland. The new city was first called Federal City. Later it was named Washington, D.C. (District of Columbia).



► This town looks much like Brandywine Village, Delaware, in the late 1700s. The Brandywine River provided power for the mills. Boats brought corn and wheat from other states. After the grains were ground, the flour was put into barrels. The barrels were loaded onto boats. The boats sailed from the Delaware River into the Atlantic Ocean, from where they went all around the world.







◀ The jobs in or near the mills included:

- unloading corn and wheat off the boats from Maryland, Virginia, and New York
- grinding wheat into flour at the mills
- building ships to transport the flour barrels.



▲ Every village had a blacksmith who made useful things, such as tools and horseshoes.

▼ Shipbuilders in Philadelphia in 1798 build a warship for the **navy**. Congress had set up the U.S. Navy in 1794 to protect American ships from raids by pirates and the French. France wanted to stop American trade with Britain. This was because America had not helped France in its battles against Britain in Europe.



### Job skills and pay

Busy mills meant more business for the village coopers. A cooper made wooden barrels for storing and shipping flour. Coopering required great skill to shape the barrels and make them watertight. A person learned and practiced that skill by working with an experienced cooper.

In the mid-1790s, a cooper earned about \$1 a day. That pay was high compared to a mill worker, who earned about \$7 a month. Mill workers, however, usually received free housing and clothing.





1796 to 1799

## WORKING IN THE SOUTH

“Led by an old driver carrying a whip, forty of the largest and strongest women I ever saw together each having a hoe over the shoulder, and walking with a free, powerful swing.” Frederick Law Olmsted traveled through the south in the 1800s. In 1854, he wrote that description of slaves on a plantation.

In the South, there were many **plantations**, or large farms. Many plantation owners grew cotton, which they sold to England to make cloth. A plantation owner could get very rich as long as he had cotton—and **slaves**.

Growing lots of cotton required many workers with strong backs to plow, hoe, and pick the cotton. Plantation owners used African slaves to do this work. Most slaves worked hard all day long. Many were whipped and treated cruelly. Slaves lived in small shacks around the owner’s large house. They usually slept on straw or rags on the floor.

### Speeding up the work

Many people knew that slavery was wrong. Especially in the North, people spoke out against it. In the South, however, plantation owners thought that slavery was necessary. It would take years before this awful practice ended.

In 1793, a schoolteacher named Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin, a machine that removed cotton seeds from the cotton plant. Now planters could produce cotton even faster and cheaper—all the more reason to own many slaves.



▼ Slaves on a plantation entertain themselves—from a painting by an unknown artist in about 1798.

▲ Plantation owners and their families lived with many comforts, including a large house with many bedrooms.



### An end to slavery?

When Americans won their independence from Britain, African Americans hoped that slavery would end, too. In 1799, a group of African Americans sent a **petition** to President John Adams and **Congress**. It asked for an end to the slave trade and for the protection of free African Americans. Congress rejected the petition in a vote of 85 to 1.

► A large plantation was like a village. Owners grew enough food for their families. Some slaves became skilled workers for the plantation, such as blacksmiths, cooks, and brickmakers.

1. owner's house
2. owner's yard
3. owner's kitchen
4. ice house
5. kitchen garden
6. slaves' houses
7. barn.

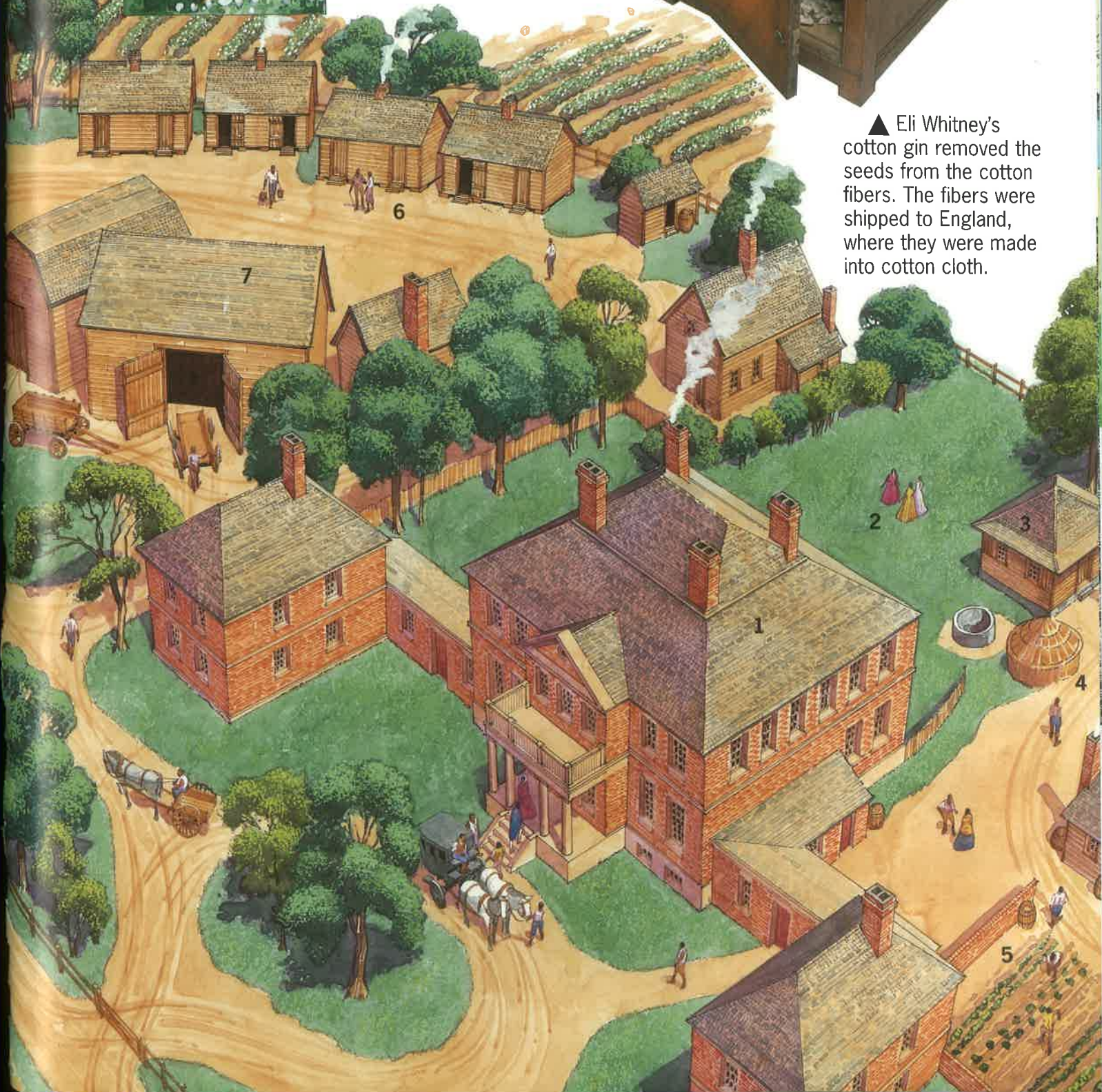




◀ A bell rang a half-hour before sunrise. In a few minutes, slaves were expected to be dressed, grab a quick breakfast, and run to the field. They worked until dark. Then they did their chores, such as tending their gardens.



▲ Eli Whitney's cotton gin removed the seeds from the cotton fibers. The fibers were shipped to England, where they were made into cotton cloth.







1769 to 1799

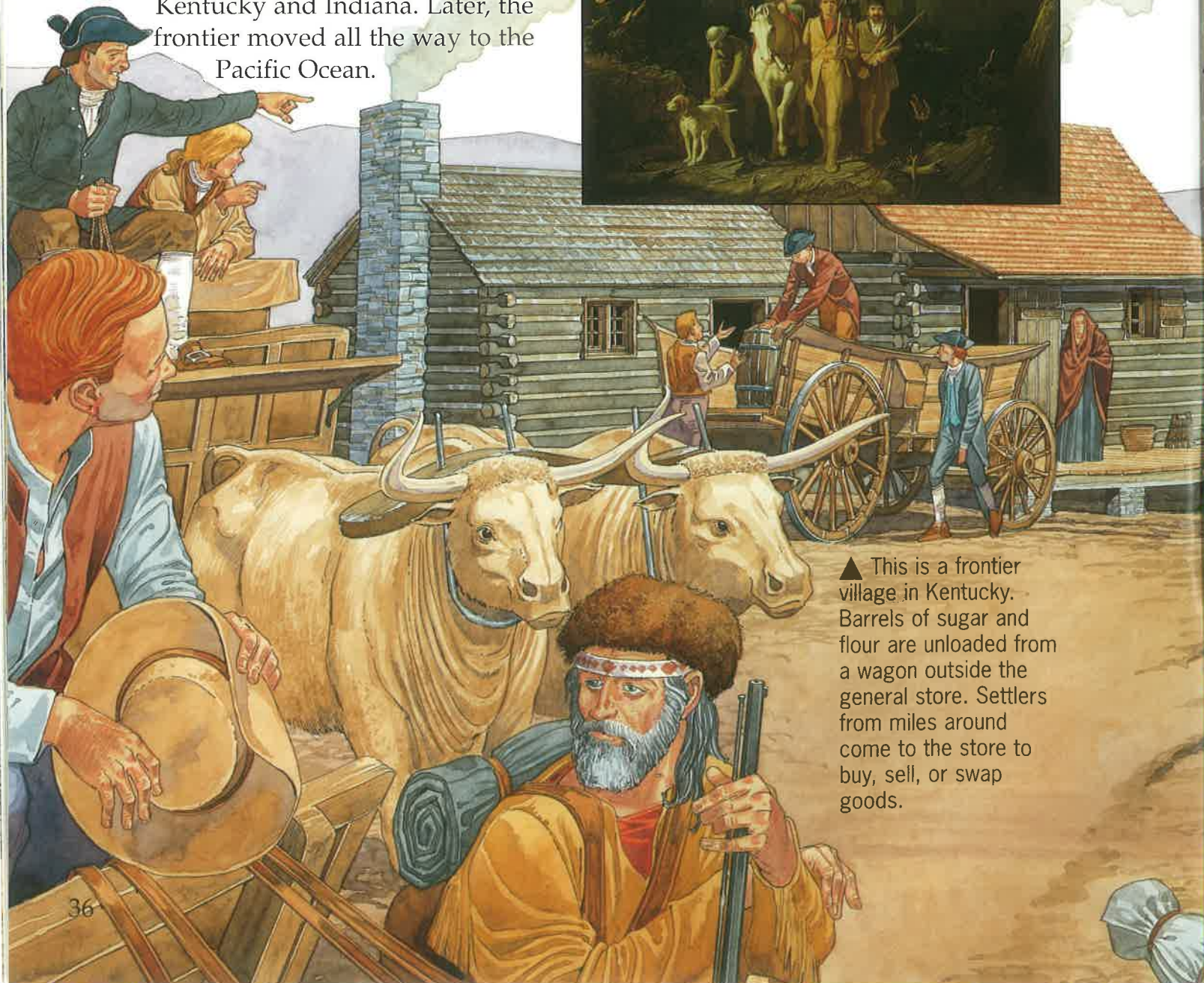
## PIONEERS MOVING WESTWARD

The new nation was growing. Towns in the East were getting crowded. Americans wanted more land. They left everything familiar and headed west. These people were called pioneers because they were the first settlers in an unfamiliar land.

▼ Daniel Boone led pioneers through the Cumberland Gap, a narrow valley in the Appalachian Mountains. This painting of 1852 is by George Caleb Bingham.

A frontier is the land between a settled area and wilderness. At first America's frontier was the eastern part of Virginia and the other colonies. As these places became settled, it moved west to

Kentucky and Indiana. Later, the frontier moved all the way to the Pacific Ocean.



▲ This is a frontier village in Kentucky. Barrels of sugar and flour are unloaded from a wagon outside the general store. Settlers from miles around come to the store to buy, sell, or swap goods.



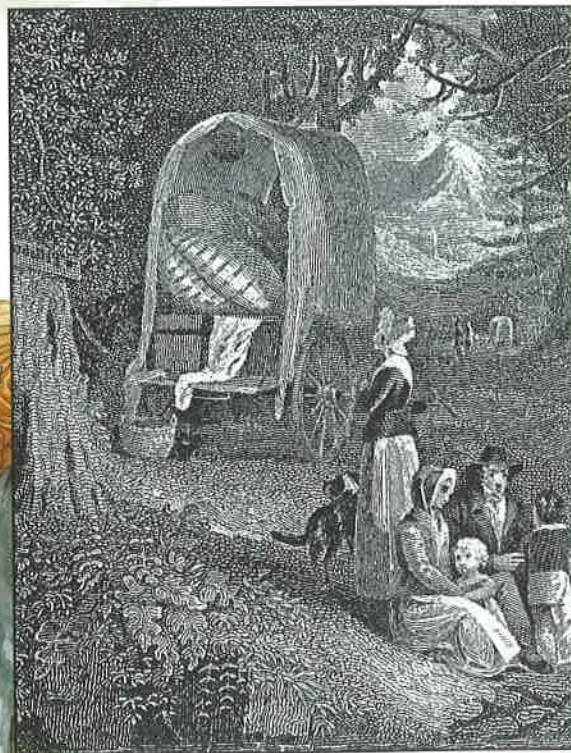
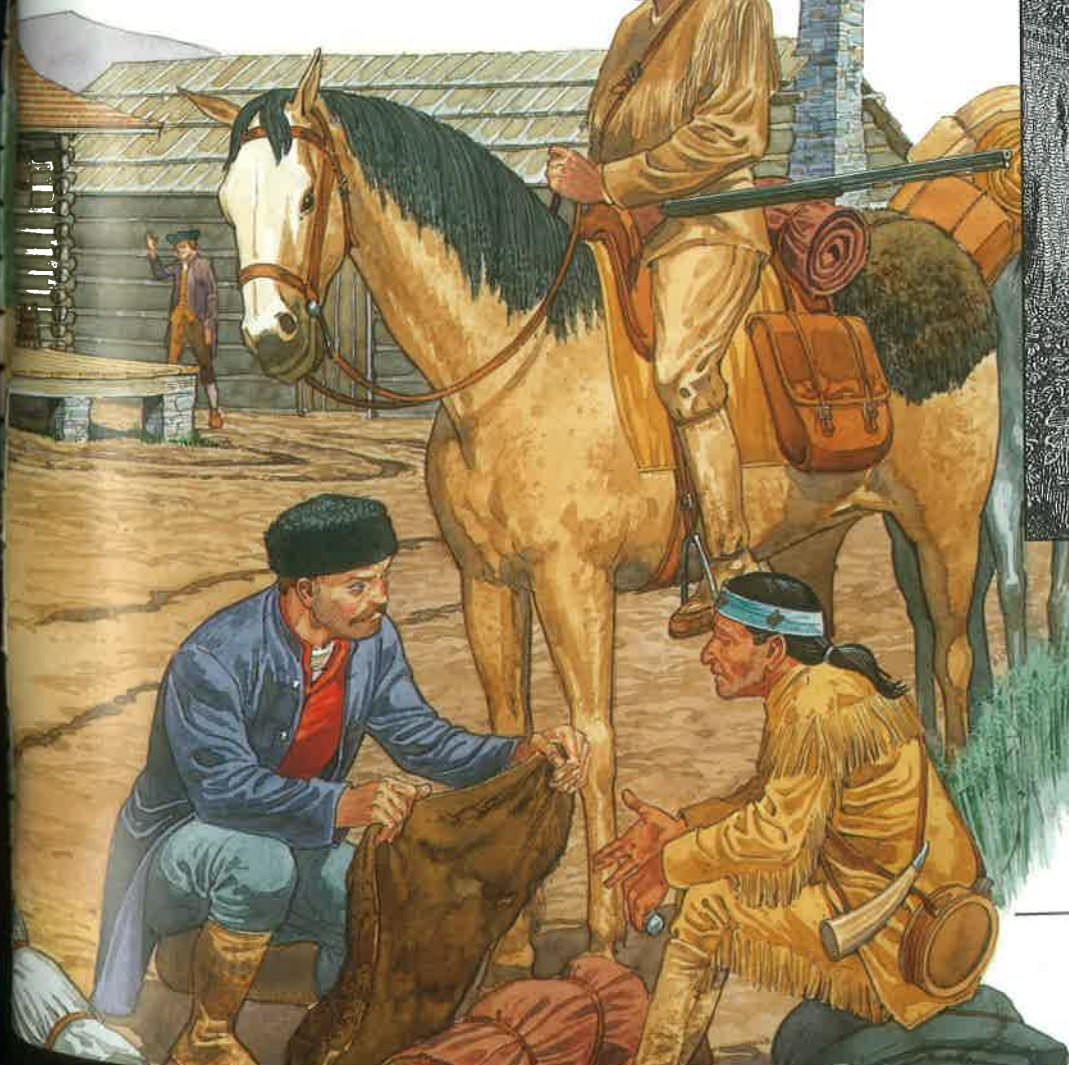


▲ In 1779, an African-American named Jean Baptiste Point du Sable and his Native American wife, Catherine, were pioneers in Illinois region. They built a trading post on the southwestern edge of the Great Lakes, near a river that the local Potawatomi tribe called Checagou. This was the beginning of Chicago.

## Pushing back the Native Americans

The pioneer spirit was great for the settlers. It was awful for most Native Americans. Many died in battles over land. Others died from disease. Some joined the pioneer communities. The majority were forced to flee farther west.

Tecumseh, a Shawnee leader, tried to encourage Native Americans to fight for their land. He spoke these words in 1810 to the Osage in the Ohio River Valley: "Brothers—the white people came among us feeble; and now we have made them strong, they wish to kill us, or drive us back, as they would wolves and panthers. At first, they asked for land sufficient for a wigwam. Now, nothing will satisfy them but the whole of our hunting grounds, from the rising to the setting sun."



▲ A frontier family rest beside a stream on the road to Pittsburgh. They are traveling in a Conestoga wagon. In the 1790s, Pittsburgh became the major starting point for pioneers heading west.





1787 to 1799

# THE SPANISH IN AMERICA

In 1796, the United States did not fill even half of North America. The nation's western border was the Mississippi River. Most of the land west of the river belonged to Spain. Florida, too, belonged to Spain. Many of these Spanish-speaking people had never heard of the Revolutionary War.

One small piece of the East Coast did not belong to the United States. That was Florida and it was under Spanish rule. Native American groups, such as the Timucua and Seminole, lived in Florida. Slaves who escaped slavery in Georgia ran to Florida and hid with the Seminoles. This made Georgia slave-owners very angry. They wanted the United States to take over Florida and permit slaves to be captured there. This did not happen until 1821.

▼ The **mission** of San Carlos de Borromeo was located in present-day California. At this time, California, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona were all part of Mexico (owned by Spain).

► The Spanish often built presidios, or forts, to guard the Spanish missions. These Spanish soldiers are watching over Mision San Francisco de Asis, which later grew into the city of San Francisco, California. The guard on horseback is following Native American workers from the fields back to the mission. The Native Americans could not leave the presidio without permission.

### When they became states

1787 Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

1788 Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, South Carolina, Virginia

1789 North Carolina

1790 Rhode Island

1791 Vermont

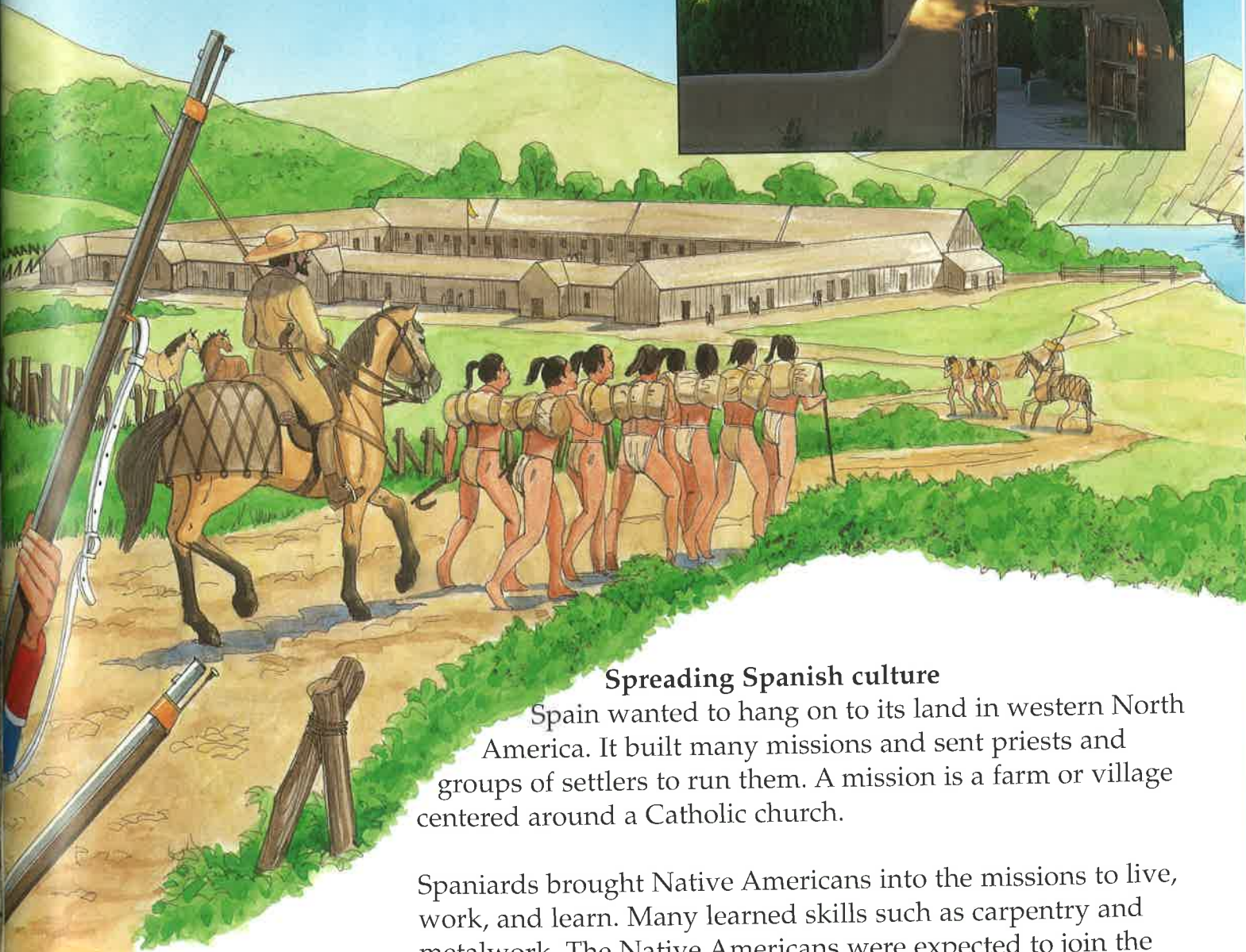
1792 Kentucky

1796 Tennessee





► This is Santuario de Chimayo as it is today. In the late 1700s, it was a presidio chapel. Chimayo is near Santa Fe, the capital of present-day New Mexico. This area did not gain independence from Spain until 1821.



### Spreading Spanish culture

Spain wanted to hang on to its land in western North America. It built many missions and sent priests and groups of settlers to run them. A mission is a farm or village centered around a Catholic church.

Spaniards brought Native Americans into the missions to live, work, and learn. Many learned skills such as carpentry and metalwork. The Native Americans were expected to join the Catholic religion and become loyal Spanish citizens. This “education” tried to destroy the Native American culture. When Native Americans could not speak their language and tell their stories to their children, their traditions were lost forever.

▲ In the missions, Native Americans learned to talk and act like Spanish citizens. They were not treated as badly as if they were slaves, but they had to follow many rules and regulations.

Many of today’s cities began as Spanish settlements. Mision San Antonio de Valero became San Antonio, Texas. The presidio San Diego de Alcalá became San Diego, California.



1789 to 1803

# AMERICAN CITIZENS

On March 4, 1801, Thomas Jefferson walked along Washington, D.C.'s muddy streets on his way to his inauguration. There were no fancy parades. Jefferson kept the event simple. He wanted Americans to know that he represented ordinary citizens.



Since the Revolutionary War, Americans behaved differently from Europeans. Visitors from Europe were often surprised by this behavior. In America, equality was fashionable, to a certain extent. People stopped using the word "servants," and instead used "help" or "hired hands." Except in the southern states, people stopped using the words "master" and "mistress." Strangers spoke to each other without waiting for an introduction. Strangers even asked each other personal questions. A wealthy man might actually share a meal in an inn with his coach driver.

▲ Thomas Jefferson was the nation's third president and the first one to be **inaugurated** in the new **capital** of Washington, D.C. He was well known for writing the **Declaration of Independence** and the Statute of Religious Freedom, and for his great wisdom.

◀ In the late 1700s, many **elections** were held in open fields. A citizen's vote was not always private the way it is today.

▶ In Philadelphia in 1803, some men hand their voting papers through the windows of Independence Hall (on the right) while others argue in the street.



### Who could vote?

**1789** white men over age 21 who owned property

**1800-1850s** all white men over age 21

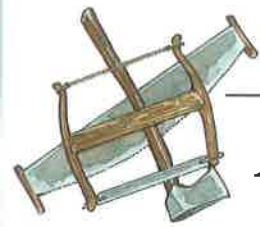
**1870** all men regardless of race or color

**1920** all men and women over age 21

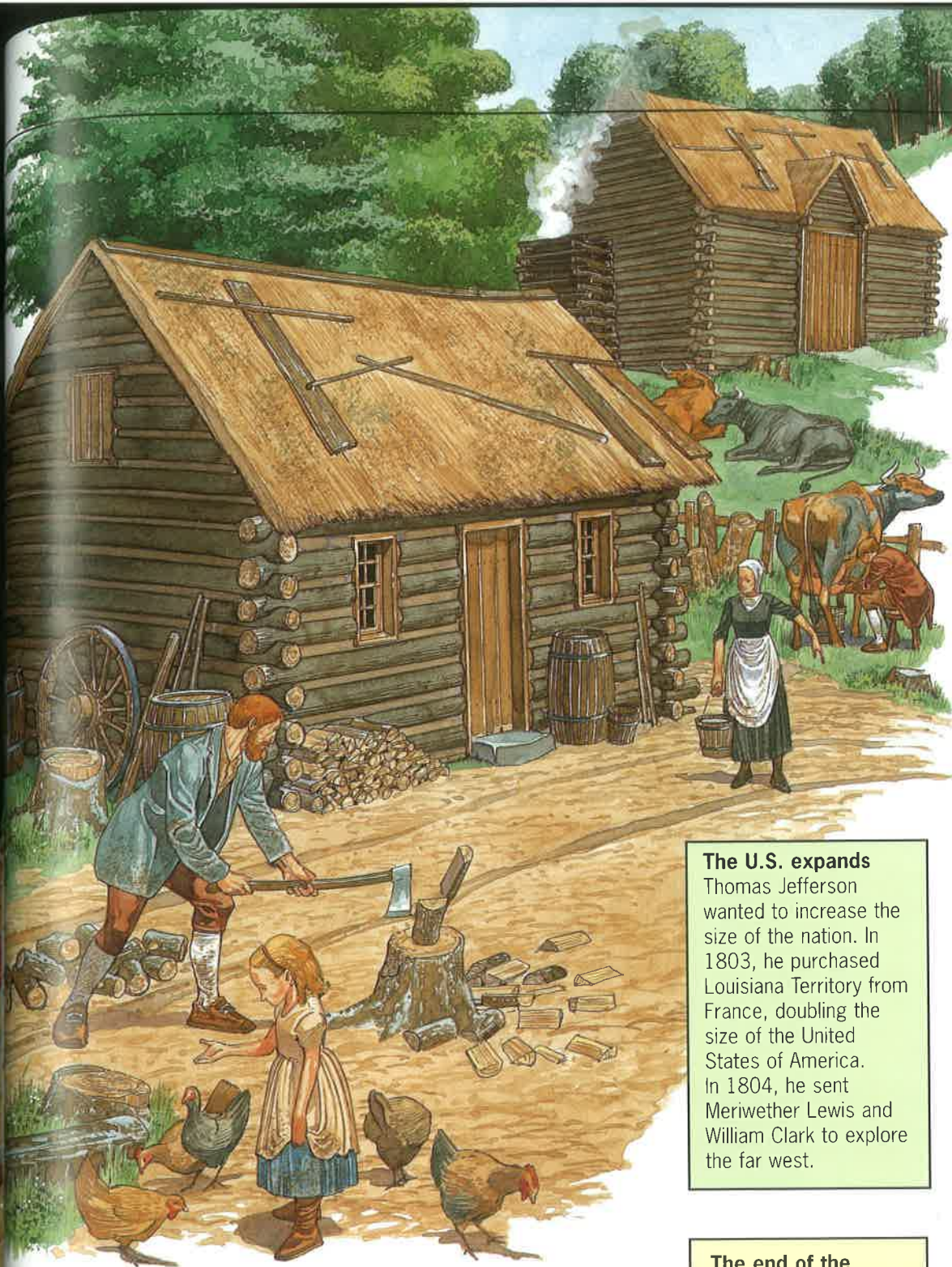
**1971** all men and women over age 18.

### Educated citizens

Thomas Jefferson believed that schools were needed if Americans were to govern themselves. People must know how to read and write. They needed to know how their government worked and what was happening in their world. Whenever the government divided up new land for pioneers, land was set aside for a school.







◀ Almost anyone could buy a piece of land in America. You might have to chop down trees, build your own cabin, and protect yourself from angry Native Americans. That did not stop many people. Thousands of people moved to Kentucky, Tennessee, and beyond. They came from America's eastern towns. They came from other countries, such as Germany, Scotland, and Ireland. America had more than enough land for everyone!

**The U.S. expands**  
 Thomas Jefferson wanted to increase the size of the nation. In 1803, he purchased Louisiana Territory from France, doubling the size of the United States of America. In 1804, he sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore the far west.

**The end of the Washington era**  
 Martha Washington died at Mount Vernon on May 22, 1802. She had shared the birth of America with her husband. She traveled long distances to join him near the battlefields of the Revolutionary War. She was America's first First Lady.



▲ This needlework panel, showing the alphabet and numbers, was made in about 1800 by a young girl at school.

**Counting heads**  
 In 1790, the United States took its first census. That means it counted all its people. There were almost four million people in 1790. Almost 700,000 of those people were slaves. Native Americans were not counted in the census. By 1890, there were 63 million Americans. Today there are about 270 million.



1747 to 1803

# Historical Map of America



## On the map

This map shows North America in 1800. The United States covered less than half of the continent. Spain owned much of the rest. Maine was part of Massachusetts (until 1820). The **nation's capital** had just been moved from Philadelphia to the new city of Washington, D.C. Daniel Boone was exploring the **frontier** along the Cumberland Gap. There were cities on the East Coast and **plantations** in the South. West of the Appalachian Mountains there were pioneer cabins and trading posts. On the West Coast, there were Spanish settlements. Native Americans were being pushed westward.



PACIFIC OCEAN

- River
- English Settlers
- French Settlers
- Spanish Fort or Mission
- Russian Fort

0 250 500 miles  
0 400 800 kilometers







Hudson Bay

**BRITISH NORTH AMERICA**

St. Lawrence

Quebec

Montreal

Lake Superior

Lake Michigan

Lake Huron

Lake Erie

Lake Ontario

VERMONT

NEW HAMPSHIRE

MASSACHUSETTS

Saratoga

Concord

Lexington

Boston

NEW YORK

Delaware

RHODE ISLAND

CONNECTICUT

PENNSYLVANIA

Tranton

Philadelphia

NEW JERSEY

Brandywine

DELAWARE

Valley Forge

MARYLAND

Washington DC

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Chicago

INDIANA TERRITORY

OHIO TERRITORY

**UNITED STATES**

OHIO

KENTUCKY

TENNESSEE

VIRGINIA

NORTH CAROLINA

SOUTH CAROLINA

GEORGIA

MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY

St. Augustine

New Orleans

**SPANISH FLORIDA**

Mission San Carlos



**LOUISIANA (SPAIN)**

TEXAS

**Claimed by U.S. and SPAIN**

San Antonio

Arkansas

Mississippi

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS

WILDERNESS TRAIL

Cumberland Gap

James

Camden

GULF OF MEXICO

CARIBBEAN SEA

Rio Grande



# FAMOUS PEOPLE OF THE TIME

**Abigail Adams,** 1744–1818, was the wife of John Adams, the second president, and mother of John Quincy Adams, the sixth president. She was one of the nation's first supporters of women's rights. She also opposed slavery.

**John Adams,** 1735–1826, served in the Continental Congress and signed the Declaration of Independence. He negotiated the Treaty of Paris with Britain to end the Revolutionary War. He was the nation's first vice-president and in 1797 he became the nation's second president.

**Samuel Adams,** 1722–1803, opposed Britain's rule over the

colonies. He signed the Declaration of Independence.

**Benedict Arnold,** 1741–1801, was an American general in the Revolutionary War. Feeling he was not honored for his accomplishments, he later fought on the British side.

**Crispus Attucks,** 1723?–1770, was an African American leader of the patriot crowd that was fired upon in the Boston Massacre. He was one of the first killed there.

**Daniel Boone,** 1734–1820, learned from the Native Americans how to survive in the wilderness. In 1769, he led

pioneers and settlers beyond the frontier into Kentucky and fought against Native Americans to protect his new settlement of Boonesboro.

**Edward Braddock,** 1695–1755, was a British general in the French and Indian War. He died in an early battle at Fort Duquesne.

**George Rogers Clark,** 1752–1818, was an American general in the Revolutionary War and helped win land north of the Ohio River.

**Benjamin Franklin,** 1706–1790, was sent to London to speak about the colonial resentment of

taxation. He received much credit when the Stamp Act was repealed. When the Revolutionary War started, he presented his Plan of Union. He helped draft the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Paris which ended the war, and attended the Constitutional Convention. He was also an inventor and publisher.

**Thomas Gage,** 1721–1787, was a British governor of Massachusetts in 1774–1775. His enforcement of the Intolerable Acts and other harsh treatment of colonists led to the battles of Lexington and Concord and the Revolutionary War, in which he was a general.

## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

### GEORGE WASHINGTON

1732 born in Westmoreland County, Virginia  
1749 becomes a surveyor  
1752 joins the British military in Virginia  
1754 begins participation in the French and Indian War  
1759 marries the widowed Martha Dandridge Custis  
1774 elected delegate to First Continental Congress  
1775 elected commander-in-chief of the Continental Army  
1781 wins American victory at Yorktown, ending the Revolutionary War  
1787 elected president of the Constitutional Convention  
1789 elected first president of the United States  
1793 reelected to second term as president  
1796 refuses third term as president, publishes *Farewell Address*  
1799 dies at Mount Vernon at age 67

### OTHER EVENTS IN NORTH AMERICA

1754 French and Indian War begins  
1759 British capture Quebec in Canada from the French  
1760 British capture Montreal in Canada from the French  
1762 France gives Louisiana Territory to Spain  
1763 Treaty of Paris ends the French and Indian War  
1763 Pontiac's War  
1765 Stamp Act is passed  
1769 Junípero Serra sets up the first Franciscan mission in California, in what is now San Diego  
1770 Boston Massacre  
1773 Boston Tea Party  
1774 Intolerable Acts passed  
1774 First Continental Congress meets  
1774 The Quebec Act gives French Canadians political and religious rights  
1775 fighting at Lexington and Concord; Second Continental Congress meets  
1776 Declaration of Independence; Battle of Trenton  
1777 Battles of Princeton and Saratoga; France joins American forces against the British  
1781 Articles of Confederation are accepted; American victory at Yorktown  
1783 Treaty of Paris ends Revolutionary War



**King George III,** 1738–1820, ruled Great Britain while the colonies in America won their independence.

**Patrick Henry,** 1736–1799, supported independence for the colonies. He served in the House of Burgesses and Continental Congress, and worked to add the Bill of Rights to the Constitution.

**Thomas Jefferson,** 1743–1826, drafted the Declaration of Independence. He was Virginia's governor during the end of the Revolutionary War. He became the nation's third president.

**James Madison,** 1751–1836, made written records of the discussions in the Constitutional Convention and mostly wrote the Constitution. He became the nation's fourth president.

**Thomas Paine,** 1737–1809, went to America from England and wrote the pamphlet, *Common Sense*, which encouraged colonists to seek independence.

**Molly Pitcher,** 1754?–1832, was a nickname for Mary Hays. In the Revolutionary War she helped by carrying water pitchers for the soldiers onto the battle grounds.

**Pontiac,** 1720?–1769, was a chief of the Ottawa tribe. He tried to unite Native Americans from the Great Lakes area to defend their land against colonists and pioneers.

**Paul Revere,** 1735–1818, was a silversmith and a messenger for the Sons of Liberty. He warned Massachusetts citizens that “the British are coming” before the battles of Lexington and Concord. He engraved an exaggerated, but famous, picture of the Boston Massacre. His silver tea pots and bronze bells are valuable items today. His house in Boston is now a historic museum.

**George Washington,** 1732–1799, led the Continental Army, presided over the Constitutional Convention, and became the first president of the United States.

**Phillis Wheatley,** 1753?–1784, was a slave for a Boston merchant who taught her to read and write. She became the first published African American writer in the United States.

**Eli Whitney,** 1765–1825, invented the cotton gin, which separated cotton seeds from the plants.

? means that historians are not sure of the exact date.

1784 the colony of New Brunswick is established in Canada  
1787 Constitutional Convention meets; Northwest Ordinance sets up government for territories that become Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin  
1787 Constitution is accepted  
1789 George Washington becomes first president of the United States  
1790 nation's capital moves to Philadelphia from New York City  
1791 Bill of Rights is passed. In Canada, the Constitutional Act splits Quebec into the colonies of Upper Canada and lower Canada.  
1793 George Washington begins second term, or period, as president  
1797 John Adams becomes second president of the United States  
1800 nation's capital moves to Federal City, later called Washington, D.C.. Spain returns Louisiana Territory to France.

#### CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

1762 Britain captures Grenada and St. Vincent from the French  
1763 Brazil makes Rio de Janeiro its capital  
1780–1783 Peruvian Native Americans lead an unsuccessful revolt against their Spanish rulers  
1791 Toussaint L'Ouverture leads slave revolt in Haiti against the French  
1797 Britain takes Trinidad from the Spanish  
1803 Britain acquires British Guiana, Tobago, and St. Lucia

#### THE REST OF THE WORLD

1756 Start of the Seven Years War in Europe; Britain and France at war in India; China starts to restrict European influence and trade in the Far East  
1762 Catherine the Great becomes ruler in Russia  
1768–1779 Captain James Cook, a British navigator, discovers Australia and New Zealand and explores Hawaii  
1782 James Watt of Scotland invents an improved steam engine that starts the Industrial Revolution; the planet Uranus is discovered  
1783 Montgolfier brothers make the first ascent in a hot-air balloon  
1784 Britain takes control of eastern India  
1789 start of the French Revolution  
1796 Napoleon Bonaparte rises to power in France and starts to control much of Europe  
1801 Act of Union unites Britain and Ireland



# GLOSSARY

**adopt** accept an idea

**amendments** changes in a document that become laws

**capital** city where the government of a state or country is located

**claimed** announced that something belongs to you or your country

**Confederation** group of states working together for each other

**Congress** formal meeting of delegates; the part of the U.S. government that makes laws

**constitution** set of laws that state the rights of the people and the power of the government

**convention** meeting

**declaration** announcement

**delegate** someone who represents other people

**election** process of choosing someone by voting

**engraving** artwork made by cutting into metal, wood, or glass surface

**exports** goods to be sold to another country

**frontier** land between a settled area and wilderness

**harbor** body of water where ships can come for shelter and to load and unload cargo; also called a port

**House of Burgesses** representative group of law-makers in colonial Virginia

**inauguration** ceremony to put someone in a position of leadership, such as the president of a country

**lithograph** print made from a flat stone or metal plate

**military** having to do with soldiers or war

**militia** ordinary people who volunteer to be part-time soldiers

**minutemen** colonial citizens who could be ready to fight "at a minute's notice"

**mission** settlement of religious teachers, which includes a farm, church, and other buildings

**nation** the community of people within a country, usually sharing the same territory and government

**navy** a country's military sea force, including ships and people

**ore** rock that contains metal, such as iron ore

**Parliament** law-making body of Great Britain

**petition** letter signed by many people asking those in power for change

**plantation** large farm where often cotton or tobacco are grown

**protest** strongly object to something

**redcoats** popular name for British soldiers because of their red uniform jackets

**repeal** officially cancel a law or act

**representative** someone who acts or speaks for people as laws are made

**slave** person who is owned by another

person and is usually made to work for that person

**smuggle** bring goods into a place illegally

**state** one of the parts of a nation; in the U.S., each state has its own government and laws

**surrender** give up or admit that you cannot win

**tax** money that must be paid to a government which is used to run a town, state, or country

**treaty** written agreement between two countries, usually to prevent or end a war

**union** joining together, as in states forming a nation

**veto** power of a president to stop something from becoming a law



## HISTORICAL FICTION TO READ

Collier, James. *My Brother Sam is Dead*. New York: Four Winds Press, 1984—Recounts, through the eyes of a young boy, the tragedy that strikes his family during the American Revolution.

Gregory, Kristiana. *Dear America—The Winter of Red Snow: The Revolutionary War Diary of Abigail Jane Stewart*. New York: Scholastic, 1996.—Eleven-year-old Abigail details the winter that George Washington and his soldiers brave at Valley Forge.

Hoobler, Dorothy and Thomas. *The Signpointer's Secret: The Story of a Revolutionary Girl*. Morristown, N.J.: Silver Burdett Press, 1991—A young girl delivers messages during the Revolutionary War, even to Washington at Valley Forge.

Speare, Elizabeth. *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1958—While in Connecticut visiting Puritan relatives, Kit Tyler from Barbados befriends a "witch" named Hannah. Kit is later accused of witchcraft and brought to trial.

## HISTORIC SITES TO VISIT

George Washington's Estate at Mt. Vernon  
P.O. Box 110, Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121  
Telephone: (703) 780-2000. This is George Washington's mansion, estate, and burial place.

Independence National Historic Park  
3rd and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106. Telephone: (215) 597-8974  
Independence Square and other buildings associated with the beginning of the nation.

Boston National Historic Park  
15 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
Telephone: (617) 242-5642.  
A 3-mile-long walk connecting 16 historic sites, including Boston Massacre site, Paul Revere's house, and the Old North Church.

Morristown National Historic Park  
Washington Place, Morristown, New Jersey 07960  
Telephone: (973) 539-2085. Washington's Headquarters and the Historical Museum and Library, Fort Mifflin, and Jockey Hollow encampment.

Hagley Museum and Eleutherian Mills  
P.O. Box 3630, Wilmington, Delaware 19807  
Telephone: (302) 658-2400. The site of the original Du Pont cotton mills, estates, and gardens on the Brandywine River.

Mission San Xavier del Bac  
1950 W. San Xavier Road, Tucson, Arizona 85746  
Telephone: (520) 294-2624. Built between 1783 and 1797 by Franciscan missionaries, the church and school still serve the Tohono O'odham Native Americans.

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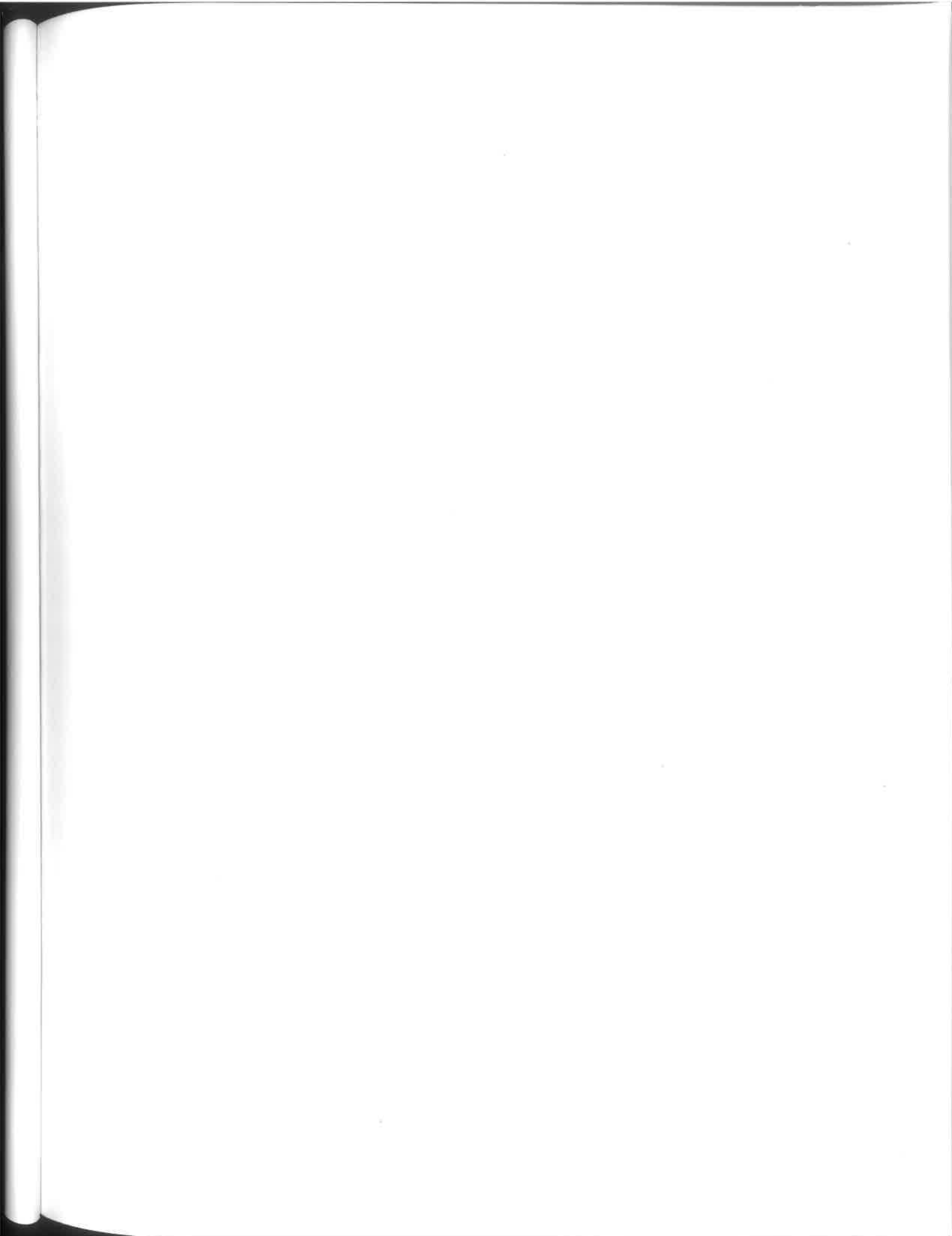
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