

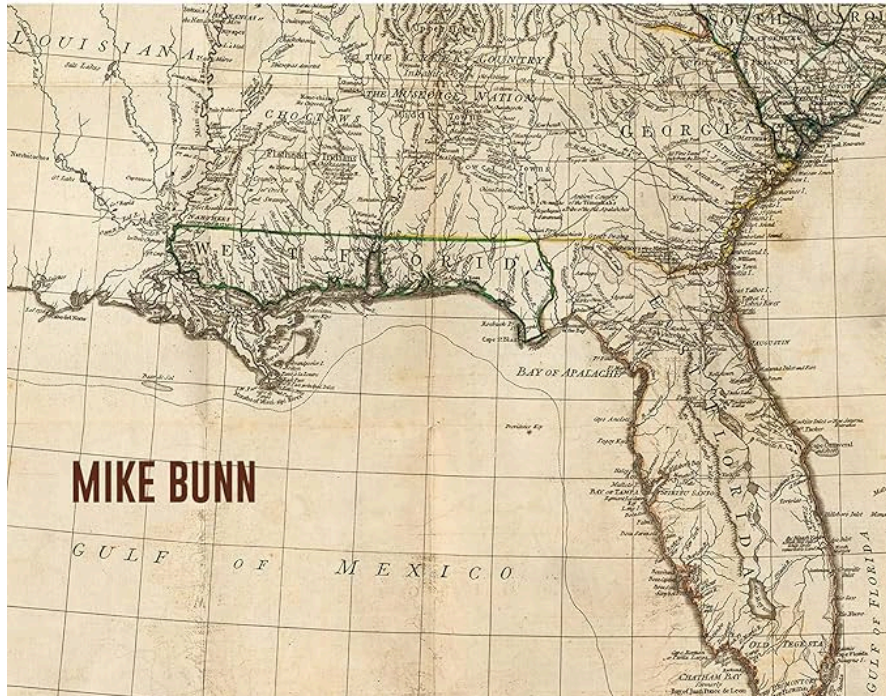


# Fourteenth COLONY



## FOURTEENTH COLONY

THE FORGOTTEN STORY  
*of the* GULF SOUTH  
DURING AMERICA'S  
REVOLUTIONARY ERA



# Fourteenth COLONY

High School Lesson Plans  
Length: 1–2 weeks (5–7 class periods)

- Essential Questions:
  - What role did the Gulf Coast play during the American Revolution?
  - Why was British West Florida left out of most Revolutionary War narratives?
  - How did Spain and Native American nations influence the war's outcome in the South?
- Objectives:
  - Students will be able to:
    - Describe the geopolitical structure of British West Florida (1763–1783)
    - Identify this region's locations within the Fourteenth Colony
    - Analyze Spain's military and political involvement during the American Revolution
    - Evaluate the impact of war on Native Americans, enslaved people, and settlers in the Gulf region
    - Interpret maps and primary documents to understand regional dynamics
    - Compare the Gulf South to the better-known thirteen colonies' revolutionary experience
- Themes:
  - Current states and their roles in British West Florida
  - Loyalism and the Southern Backwater
  - The Spanish Campaigns under Bernardo de Gálvez
  - Frontier Life, Trade, and Diplomacy
  - Memory and Historical Narrative: Why Was This Forgotten?
- Standards
  - Alabama
    - SS.24.10.1, SS.24.12.G.2, SS.24.AS.6, SS.24.AS.7
  - Mississippi
    - SS.22.MS.2, SS.22.MS.3, SS.22.MS.4, SS.22.PAD.1, SS.22.PAD.2
  - Florida
    - SS.912.W.4.11
  - Louisiana
    - SS.22.HS.USH.7
- Additional Resources
  - <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/spanish-influence-american-history>
  - [Queen Sofia Spanish Institute](#)
  - [Gilder Lehrman - Spain and the American Revolution: Contributions to the Patriot Cause](#)
  - [Podcast Series on The Fourteenth Colony](#)

# Introduction

## THE 14<sup>TH</sup> COLONY

- **Objective:**
  - Students will identify and locate British West Florida and understand Alabama's colonial identity during the American Revolution.
- **Materials:**
  - *The Fourteenth Colony* (Chapters 1-6)
  - Maps of 18th-century North America
  - Projector for timeline visualization
  - Gilder Lehrman Materials
- **Activities:**
  - **Bell Ringer**
    - "What do you know about the Gulf Coast during the American Revolution?"
  - **Mini-Lecture**
    - Overview of British West Florida (1763–1781) How did the British gain control of West Florida? Why did they want this area? Why was the border moved northward in 1764? Describe Mobile in 1711. How did Major Farmar's arrival in Mobile go? Explain. Native Americans at the time.
  - **Map Activity**
    - Compare modern vs. colonial maps; students label West Florida boundaries (create spots for map)
  - **Reading & Reflection**
    - Small groups read an excerpt and summarize key ideas
  - **Discussion:**
    - Why might Alabama's role be forgotten in history books?
      - History of Ft Conde – Fort Charlotte
      - John Dickinson quote? (p 17 Bunn)
      - Montberaut
      - Government of W. Florida (Ch 2 Bunn)
      - Native Americans (Ch 3 Bunn)
      - What was the government of West Florida under British rule? (Ch 2 Bunn)
      - George Johnstone (CH 3 Bunn)
- **Exit Ticket:**
  - Name two facts you learned about British West Florida and Alabama's colonial status.

# *The War Comes South* **THE WILLING RAID & EARLY CONFLICTS**

- **Objective:**
  - Students will examine the Patriot incursion into British West Florida and debate colonial loyalties.
  
- **Materials:**
  - Excerpt from Fourteenth Colony (Chapter 7 and 8)
  - Primary source: Journal of James Willing
  - Role cards for settlers, traders, Loyalists
  - Gilder Lehrman Materials
  
- **Activities:**
  - Warm-Up Map
    - Plot the route of James Willing's 1778 raid on the Mississippi
  - Close Reading
    - Annotate a short excerpt from Willing's account
  - Role-Play
    - Students are assigned roles (loyalist settler, enslaved worker, trader, etc.) and debate whether to support the British or rebels
  - Discussion
    - What were the consequences of the raid for Gulf South settlers?
  - Homework:
    - Short paragraph: "Would you have supported the rebellion if you lived in Mobile in 1778? Why or why not?"

# *Spain Enters the War* **THE CAMPAIGNS OF GALVEZ**

- **Objective:**
  - Students will evaluate Spain's military role in the Gulf region and its alliance with the American cause.
- **Materials:**
  - Biography sheet: Bernardo de Gálvez
  - Campaign maps (Baton Rouge, Mobile, Pensacola)
  - Timeline handout
  - Excerpts from *Fourteenth Colony* (Chapters 9-11)
  - Gilder Lehrman Materials
- **Activities:**
  - **Quick Intro Video**
    - "Gálvez and the Spanish Front" (5 min)
  - **Mini-Lecture:**
    - Spain declares war (1779) — motives, alliances, and strategy
  - **Map Analysis**
    - Students trace Gálvez's campaigns on blank Gulf map
  - **Gallery Walk**
    - Read and respond to 4 campaign documents (orders, letters, battle accounts)
  - **Group Discussion**
    - How did Spain's victories at Baton Rouge, Mobile, and Pensacola support the American cause?

# *Life in Wartime Gulf Region*

## **MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES**

- **Objective:**
  - Students will explore how war affected enslaved people, Native Americans, and colonial settlers.
- **Materials:**
  - Excerpt from Fourteenth Colony (Ch 7?)
  - Role descriptions: Creek and Choctaw tribes, enslaved laborers, traders
  - Chart template: "War Impacts on Daily Life"
  - Gilder Lehrman Materials
- **Activities:**
  - Jigsaw Research Activity
    - Student groups each research and present on one group's experience
  - Diary Entry
    - Each student writes from the perspective of their researched group
  - Group Share
    - Students read excerpts aloud; class reflects on different experiences of war
- **Exit Slip:**
  - How did the Revolutionary War affect people differently depending on their background?

# *The Siege of Pensacola* **TURNING POINT IN THE SOUTH**

- **Objective:**
  - Students will analyze the Siege of Pensacola and evaluate its impact on the Revolutionary War's outcome.
- **Materials:**
  - Battle map of Pensacola
  - Excerpts from Fourteenth Colony (Chapter 11)
  - Video clip (5–7 minutes)
  - Primary source: Gálvez's battle report or newspaper article
  - Gilder Lehrman Materials
- **Activities:**
  - Video & Map Briefing
    - Watch siege reenactment; annotate troop movements
  - Battle Analysis
    - Students work in pairs to answer battle-related questions
  - Debrief Discussion
    - Why did this Southern battle matter in the context of the war?
- **Assessment:**
  - Short-answer questions and map quiz on Gálvez's Gulf campaign.

# *Who Writes History?*

## **FORGOTTEN STORIES AND HISTORICAL MEMORY**

- **Objective:**
  - Students will critique how historical narratives are constructed and why some regions are excluded.
- **Materials:**
  - Sample excerpts from U.S. history textbooks
  - Reflection worksheet
  - Gilder Lehrman Materials
- **Activities:**
  - Compare & Contrast
    - What do textbooks say (or not say) about Alabama's role?
  - Class Discussion
    - What is "historical memory"? Who decides what's remembered?
  - Final Essay Prompt
    - "Why is British West Florida important to understanding the American Revolution?"
- **Optional Project Due:**
  - Students submit either:
  - Creative timeline or visual project
  - Podcast segment
  - Research mini-essay

# Assessments

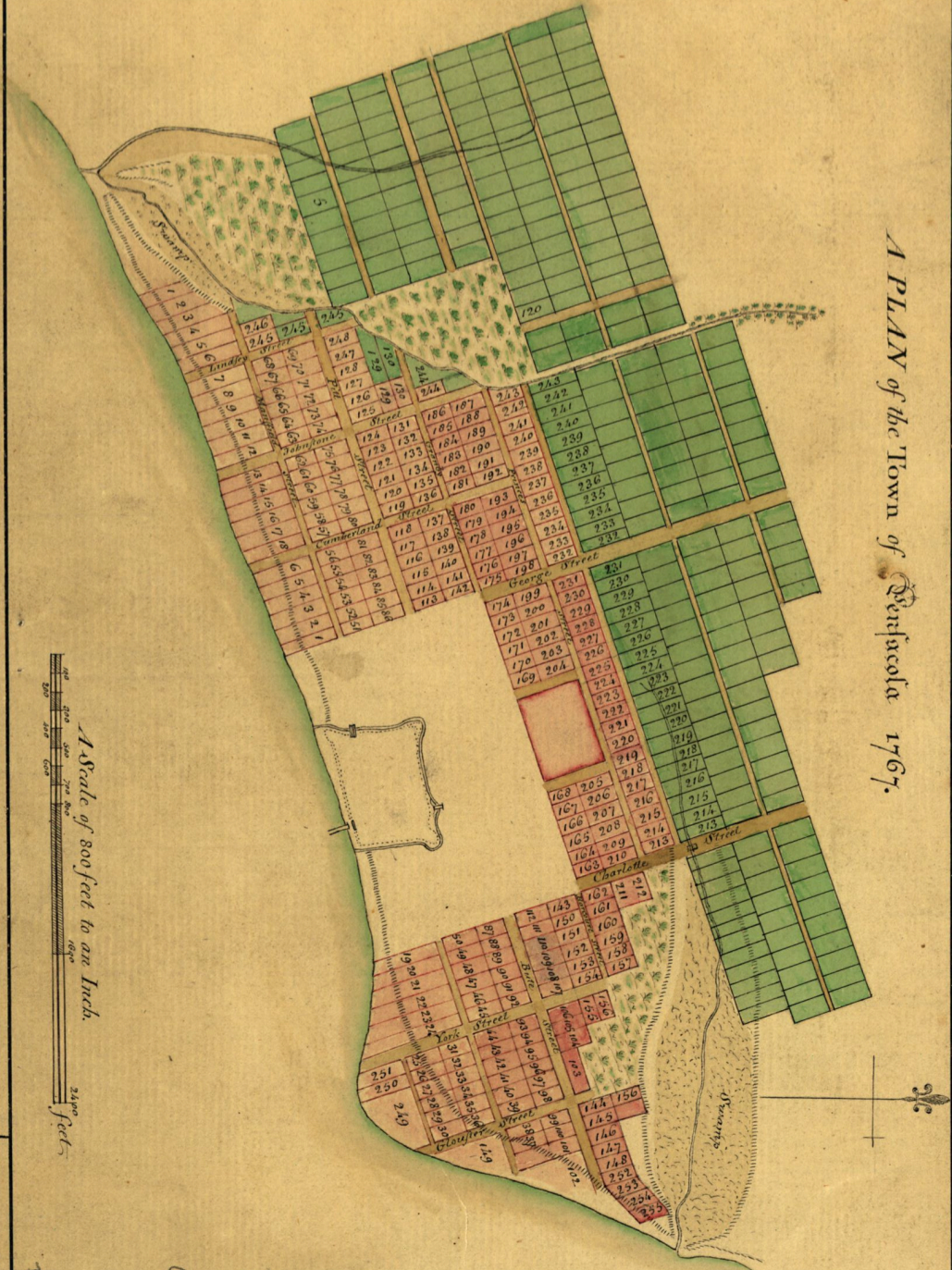
- Formative:
  - Journal entries
  - Class discussions
  - Map labeling
  - Exit slips
- Summative:
  - Project Option A
    - Creative multimedia project
      - e.g., timeline, podcast, mini-doc on Alabama's Revolutionary War and Fourteenth Colony
  - Project Option B
    - Analytical essay comparing Alabama's experience to a northern colony
  - Quiz/Test covering people, places, and events
  - Essay



**A GENERAL MAP OF THE SOUTHERN BRITISH COLONIES IN AMERICA,** comprehending NORTH and SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, EAST and WEST FLORIDA, with the NEIGHBORING INDIAN COUNTRIES. From the Modern Survey of Engineer of the Army, Capt. John Oglethorpe, and from the Large Hydrographic Charts of the Bay of Biscaya, 1776.

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A PLAN of the Town of Pensacola 1767.



A Scale of 800 feet to an Inch.

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