



# COLONIZATION

SS8H2 – The student will *analyze* the colonial period of Georgia's history.

Lesson Three (SS8H2a) – The student will *explain* the importance of James Oglethorpe, the Charter of 1732, reasons for settlement (charity, economics, and defense), Tomochichi, Mary Musgrove, and the city of Savannah.

The father of the colony of Georgia is Sir James

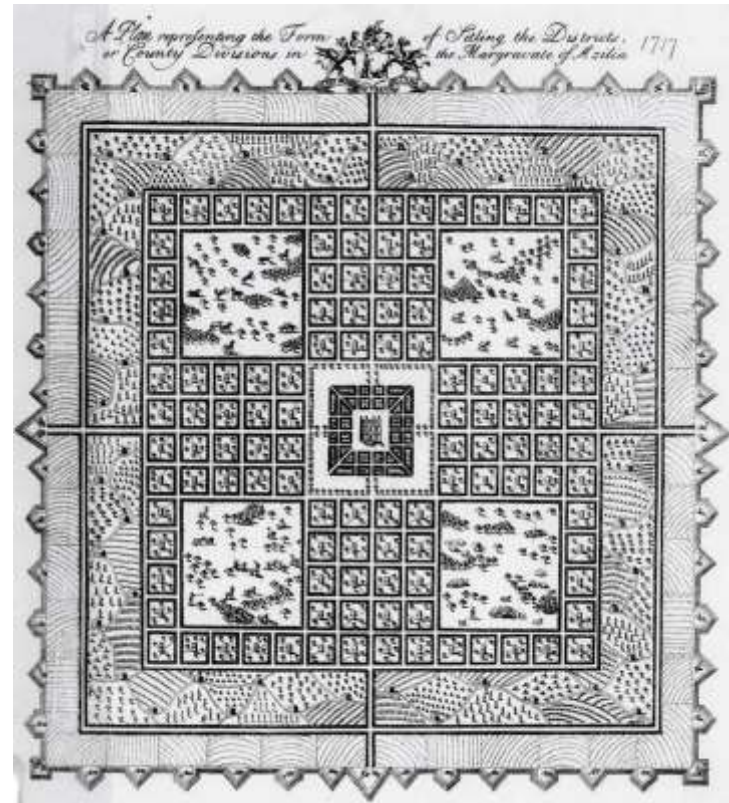


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Prior to Sir James Oglethorpe, England, desperate for a buffer to protect wealthy South Carolina from the Spanish in *La Florida*, attempted to establish a colony in Georgia.

• In 1717, Sir Robert Montgomery proposed a colony between the Savannah and Altamaha Rivers. The colony was to be called Azilia. Prior to Sir James Oglethorpe, England, desperate for a buffer to protect wealthy South



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**Carolina from the Spanish in *La Florida*, attempted to establish a colony in Georgia.**

**•In 1721, Fort King George was built at the mouth of Georgia's Altamaha River, to provide protection from Spanish attack. Sickness, climate, and insects caused the Fort to be abandoned in 1727.**




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Prior to Sir James Oglethorpe, England, desperate for a buffer to protect wealthy South Carolina from the Spanish in *La Florida*, attempted to establish a colony in Georgia.

- In 1724, Jean Pierre Purry of Switzerland proposed a new colony, to be called “Georgine.” The proposal was not accepted and the colony was never planted.

Sir James Oglethorpe, a member of the English government, was committed to the idea of prison reform.

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He believed that many good, but “poor unfortunates,” were imprisoned because of the corruption in society.




Oglethorpe believed that man was basically good, but that society was corrupt and capable of corrupting good men.

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He devised a plan to send the poor and unfortunate to North America where they could prosper in the service of England. In 1732, King George II granted Oglethorpe and 20 fellow trustees a charter giving them the right to establish the new colony, called “Georgia,” and govern it for 20 years.

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## The Charter of 1732

According to the charter, the colony of Georgia was to extend from the Savannah River in the north to the St. Mary's River in the South, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

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## The Charter of 1732

According to the charter, the colony of Georgia was to serve three particular purposes (C, E, D):

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1. **Charity** – Georgia would be a place for the poor and unfortunate to live and prosper.
2. **Economics** – Georgia would be a colony that would grow crops to be sent back to England for profit.
3. **Defense** – Georgia would be a buffer colony to protect South Carolina against the Spanish, hostile Natives, or pirates.

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Because the colony of Georgia was to be a place where people could escape the corruptions of society, those who applied to come had to follow certain prohibitions:

1. No rum.
2. No slaves.
3. No lawyers.
4. No land ownership.

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In November 1732, James Oglethorpe and the first 114 Georgia colonists sailed from England on the ship *Anne*.



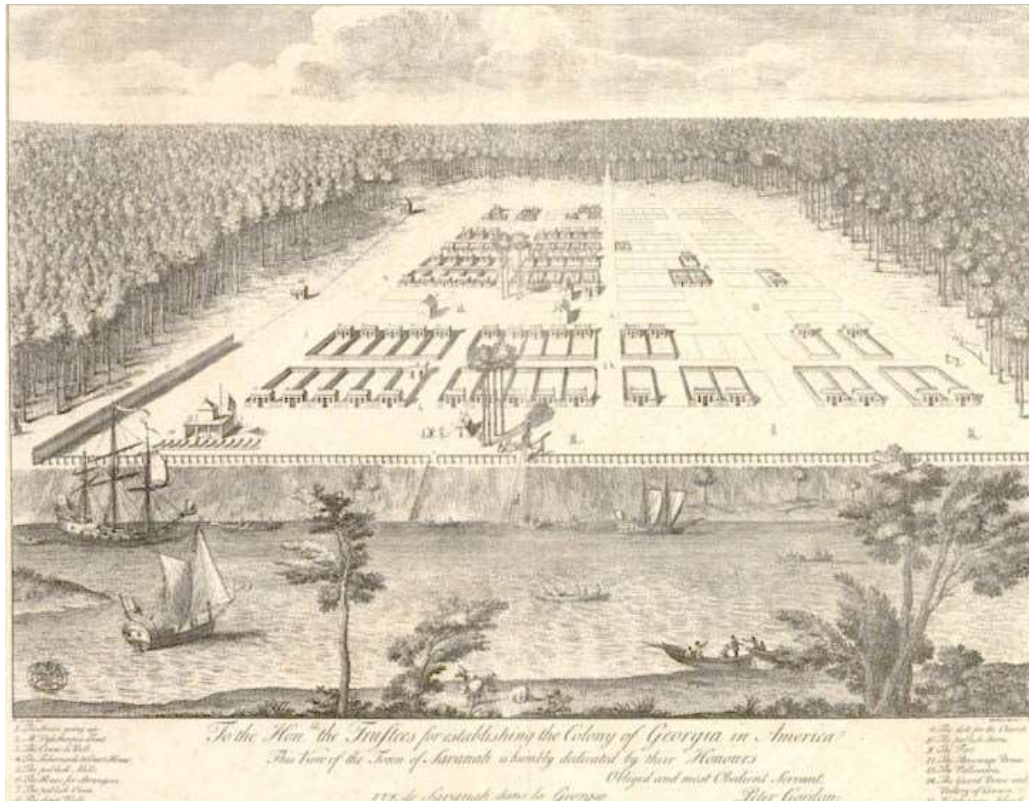
After months at sea, the *Anne* reached North America.

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Oglethorpe selected a high bluff overlooking the Savannah River as his potential settlement. The bluff was called *Yamacraw Bluff* after the local Creek Indian tribe the lived there.



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Fortunately, Oglethorpe met Mary Musgrove, a woman who was half-English and half-Yamacraw Indian. She agreed to serve as Oglethorpe's interpreter, and she remained with him until 1743.



Because of Musgrove, Oglethorpe was able to establish good relations with the Yamacraw and other tribes of the Creek nation.

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**The Creek would remain friends of the English until the Revolutionary War.**



**The Yamacraw Chief, Tomochichi, became a close, personal friend of Oglethorpe. He agreed to grant them Yamacraw bluff as the site of their new settlement, called Savannah.**

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Tomochichi traveled to England, led his people in converting to Christianity, and taught his people to speak and read English. English became the official language of the Creek Nation.



Tomochichi presents his nephew and adopted son, Toonahowi, to the Georgia Trustees. Toonahowi was later invited to read the Bible, in English, before the throne of King George II.

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**Tomochichi was buried in Savannah, at his request, among his English friends. He was given full military honors at his funeral.**

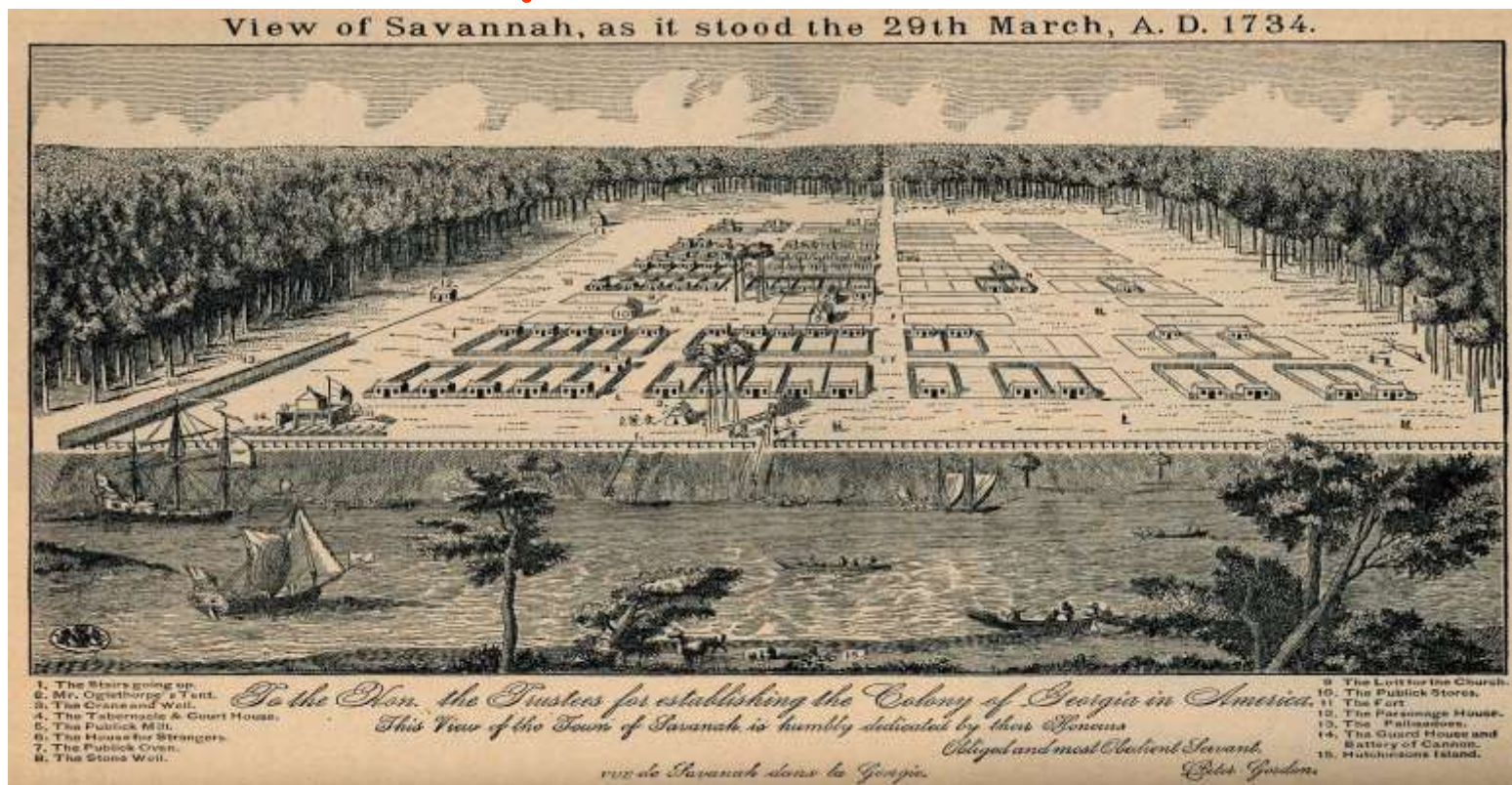


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On February 12, 1733 – “Georgia Day” – the Georgia colonists arrived at Yamacraw Bluff to begin building Savannah. Surveyed and designed by Noble Jones, Savannah became the first planned city in American history.



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Georgia’ s was supposed to be a “worker’ s paradise.”  
Unfortunately, things did not go as planned:

1. Though the colony was supposed to serve debtors and other unfortunates, all of Georgia’ s first 114 settlers were accomplished craftsmen, artisans, or businessmen.
2. The hot, humid climate proved unbearable for many of the first colonists.
3. Of the twenty-one trustees, *only* James Oglethorpe ever visited Georgia. The others remained in London, and were unable to understand the settlers’ needs.

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## What do you remember about... the settlement of Georgia???

1. The father of the colony of Georgia was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. King George II granted permission to establish the colony of Georgia in the year \_\_\_\_.
3. According to Georgia's charter, the three purposes of the colony were \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Georgia's first 114 colonists sailed from England on a ship called the \_\_\_\_.
5. The original name for the settlement of Savannah was \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The chief (or mico) of the local Yamacraw Indians was \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Oglethorpe's female assistant and interpreter was \_\_\_\_\_.

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Lesson Four (SS8H2b) – The student will ~~evaluate~~ the Trustee Period of Georgia's colonial history, emphasizing the role of the Salzburgers, Highland Scots, malcontents, and Spanish threat from Florida.



## The Trustee Period (1733-1752) was an extremely difficult time in Georgia's history:

1. Unlike prosperous South Carolina, Georgia was unable to grow large amounts of crops to benefit England. Aside from small crops of rice and silk, most farmers struggled in Georgia.
2. Georgia's settlers lived under the constant threat of attack from Spain.
3. Many settlers became unhappy with Georgia's policies, particular the rules against slavery and land ownership. They were so troublesome to the Trustees that they were called the malcontents (because they were discontent with life in Georgia).

One of the few groups to prosper in Georgia was group of

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Lutherans from the German town of Salzburg. Searching for religious freedom, the Salzburgers were invited to settle in Georgia.

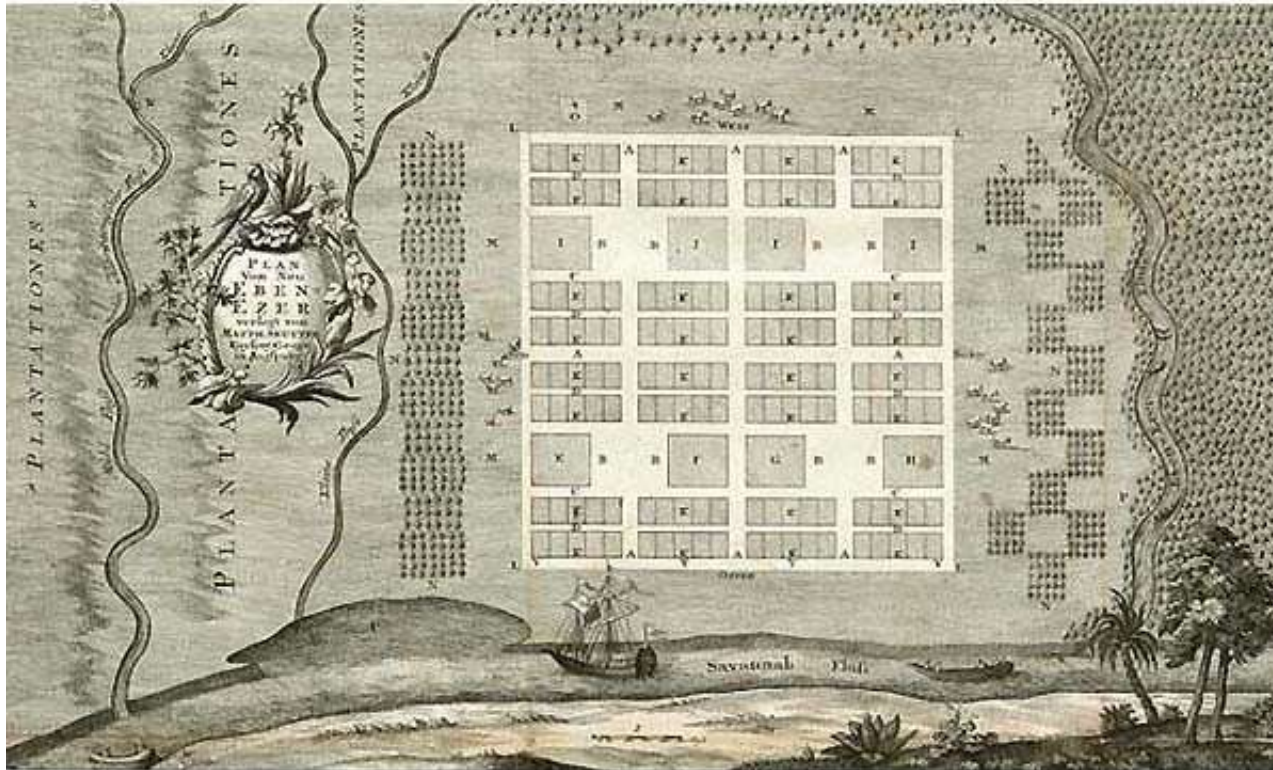


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The Salzburgers founded the town of Ebenezer, 25 miles north of Savannah. There, they focused on producing silk and raising cattle (or burger).



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**A deeply religious and hard-working community, the Salzburger enjoyed great success in Georgia. Many still live in New Ebenezer today.**



*Jerusalem Lutheran Church*



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Another ethnic group, the Highland Scots, were recruited to come to Georgia. Renowned for the fighting ability, they were recruited in order to help defend against the threats from hostile Indians and from Spain.



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**The Highland Scots settled in the town of Darien in January 1736. Well-known for bravery and determination in battle, they would make up the backbone of Georgia's defenses.**



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**Despite the positive contributions of the Salzburgers and the Highland Scots, the Trustee Period was still a troubled time.**



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## THE WAR OF JENKINS' EAR (1739-1742):

- In the 1730s, a British merchant ship was attacked by a Spanish war ship. The English were accused of piracy and the Captain, Robert Jenkins, had his ear cut off by the Spanish.
- This event, among several others, ignited a war between England and Spain.
- Because Georgia was on the border of Spanish *La Florida*, James Oglethorpe began to fortify Georgia in case of a Spanish invasion.

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## THE WAR OF JENKINS' EAR (1739-1742):

- Just as Oglethorpe expected, a Spanish force invaded St. Simons Island in July 1742.

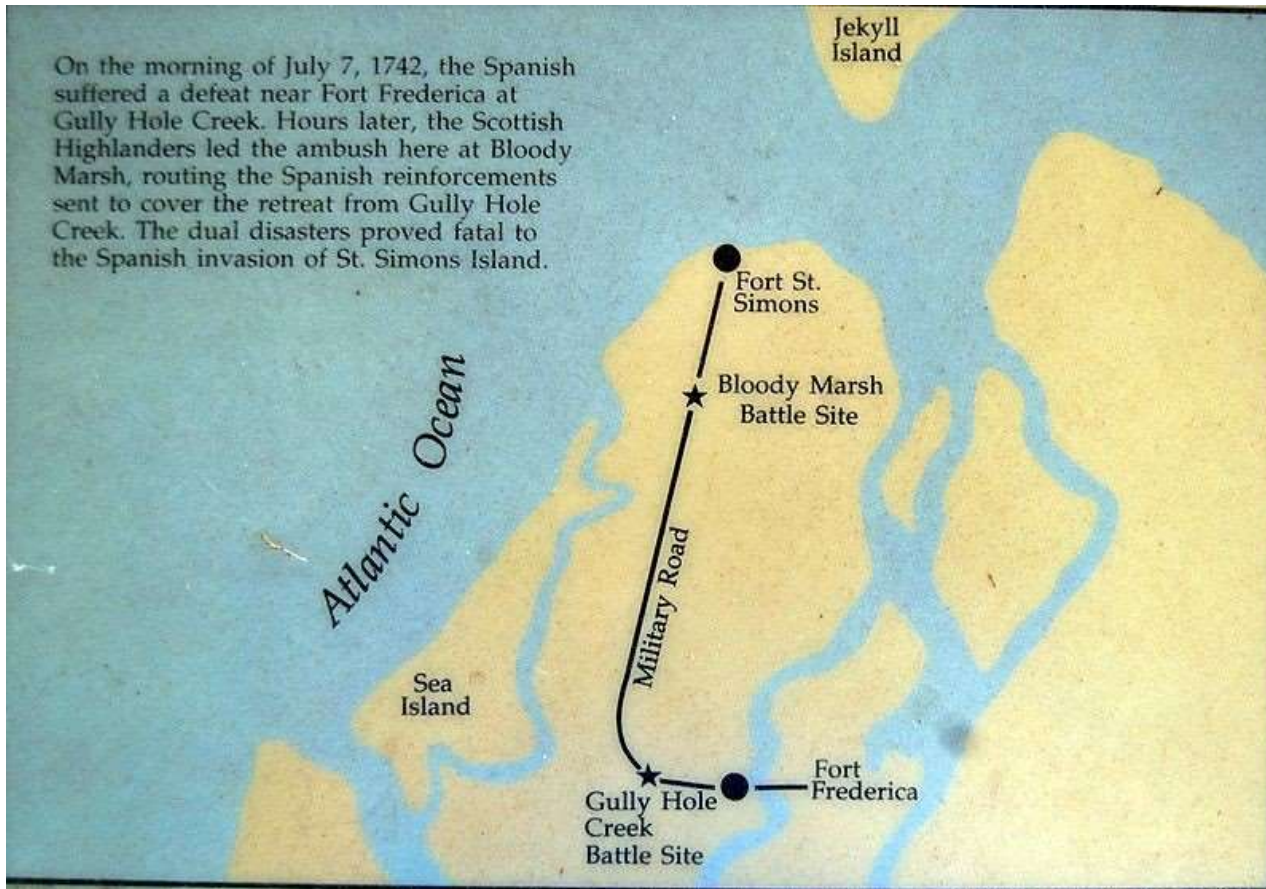


- With a much smaller army, Oglethorpe was able to defeat the Spanish attack at the *Battle of Bloody Marsh*.

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- Because of the English victory at the *Battle of Bloody Marsh*, Spain gave up all claims to Georgia.
- Though there were small border clashes over the next few years, any serious Spanish threat was permanently ended.



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## THE END OF THE TRUSTEE PERIOD

- After his victory over Spain, Oglethorpe returned to England. He was married in 1744, and he never returned to Georgia.
- Without Oglethorpe's leadership, the Georgia colony began to fail miserably. Giving in to the *malcontents*, the Trustees relaxed their rules on rum and slavery.
- Frustrated with their failed experiment at creating a “worker's paradise,” the Trustees gave the colony back to King George II in 1752, one year before the charter was supposed to expire.

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Lesson Five (SS8H2c) – The student will *explain* the development of Georgia as a royal colony with regard to land ownership, slavery, government, and the impact of the royal governors.



## What do you remember about... the Trustee Period???

1. The Salzbugers, a religious group from Germany, settled the town of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In order to help with Georgia's defense, Oglethorpe recruited the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Oglethorpe was extremely concerned about the military threat from \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The Highland Scots established the town of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The angry colonists who complained about Georgia's rules were the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Oglethorpe permanently ended the Spanish threat from Florida with his victory at the Battle of \_\_\_\_\_.

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