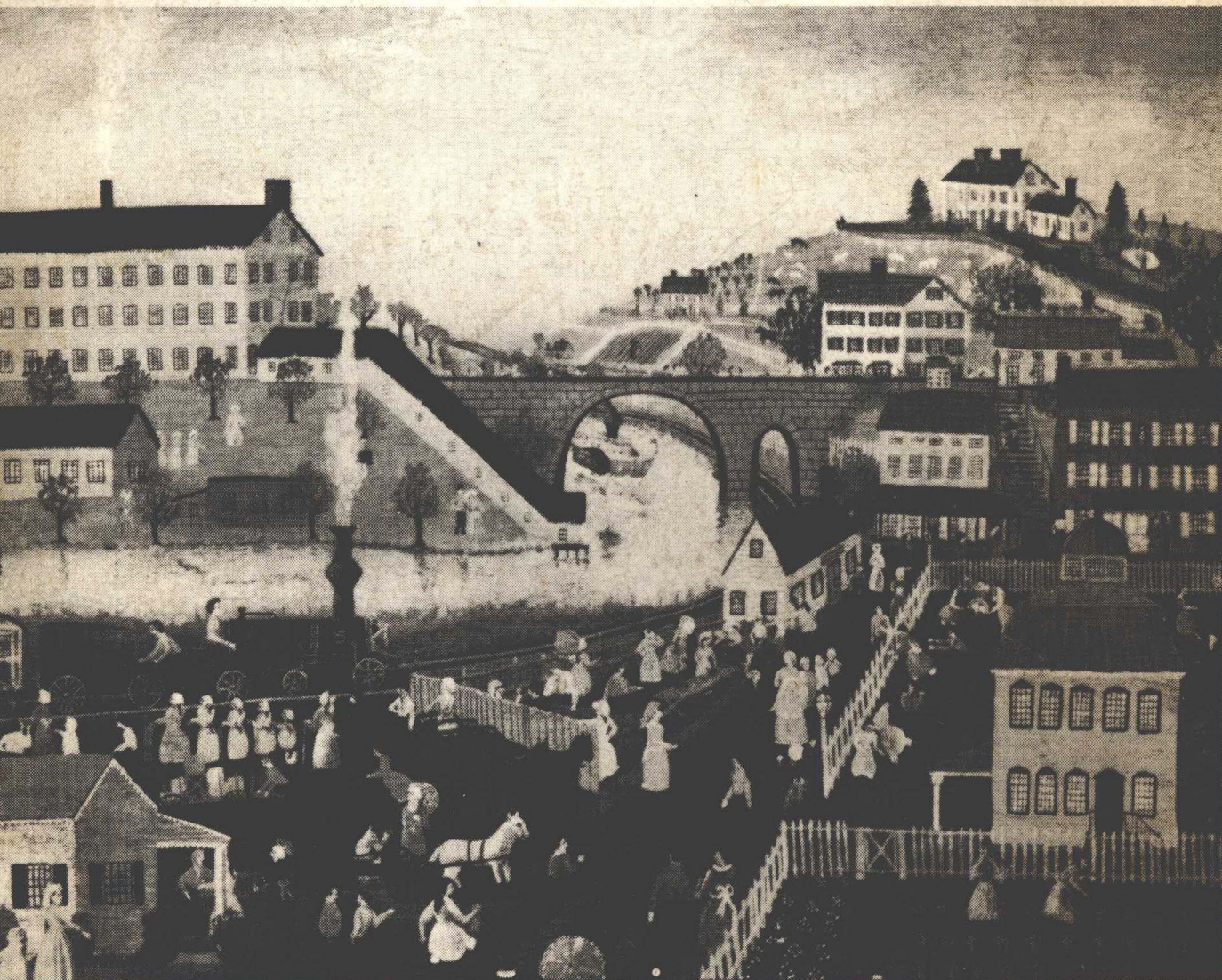


# Working with The Study of American History



Volume I



# **Working with The Study of American History**

## **Volume I**

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## HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Fortunately, a new day is dawning when history students are meant to think and feel as well as to memorize. The Study of American History was carefully constructed to develop analytical skills as well as knowledge. Working with The Study of American History has been designed to help you get the most out of the Text as well as the Encyclopedia and the Reader.

Each unit begins with an OVERVIEW summarizing what the unit covers.

INTERPRETATIONS has been designed to help you get a firm hold of the conflict of opinion in that section. You will find spaces to write your own brief precis of each Interpretation, followed by questions designed to help you analyze the Interpretations.

BACKGROUND has been designed to give you command over the basic knowledge of the unit. Here again questions provide an opportunity to check your mastery of the basic facts of American history.

The questions in EVIDENCE will prompt you to consider how the Evidence does or does not support the Interpretations.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES provides an opportunity to evaluate problems of the present and to use your newly developed skills in testing out analogies with the past.

FOR FURTHER STUDY provides a handy list of Related Units in the Text, relevant Encyclopedia Entries, a reference to the Bibliography in the Text, and suggested Articles in the Reader.

Each unit concludes with SELECTED ANSWERS to the questions you will have already answered. These printed answers will permit you to check your knowledge and comprehension of the unit.

John Terry Chase  
Publisher

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## UNIT 1 THE AMERICAS BECOME EUROPE'S FRONTIER

### I. OVERVIEW

From 1400 to 1650 Europeans dramatically and decisively changed the geographic horizons and character of the world. The causes for this renewal of European aggressive energy and the effect of conquest and colonization on the Amerindians remain widely disputed.

Unit 1 examines patterns of behavior inherent in European expansion and the role of European expansion in shaping American civilization. The unit asks three fundamental questions: What encouraged Western Europe to expand beyond its boundaries at the end of the Middle Ages? Why were various Indian civilizations in the Americas generally overwhelmed and in some cases destroyed by the European invaders? How did the growth of European imperialism--conquest and colonization--affect civilization in the Americas?

### II. INTERPRETATIONS

Bernal Diaz del Castillo

Carlo M. Cipolla

The Aztec View

Lewis Hanke



1. According to the Interpretations, what motivated European overseas expansion?
2. What impact did European conquest and colonization have on Amerindian civilization?
3. Was the expansion of Western Europe at the end of the Middle Ages inevitable? What factors encouraged this expansion?
4. How decisive were the religious and material motives underlying sustained European conquest and colonization in the Americas?
5. What benefits of European expansion offset its disastrous effects on Amerindian civilization?

6. Can the European explorers and conquerors be blamed for all the disastrous effects of their invasion into the New World? What consequences of conquest and colonization were beyond their control?

\*7. For each of the following statements, identify the speaker and the comment being made.

a. ". . . we purged the land of its wickedness and evil customs, as for instance that of human sacrifice."

b. "Broken spears lie in the roads; we have torn out our hair with grief."

8. What aspects of the inquiry about factors motivating European expansion in the Americas and its consequences remain disputed among students of the period?

### III. BACKGROUND

#### Antecedents of European Expansion

- \*1. The expansion of Western Europe at the close of the Middle Ages is best described as a cosmopolitan and international movement. Cite an example supporting this view.

#### The Seafaring Portuguese

- \*2. Although Portuguese navigation was extremely successful, three aspects of Portuguese society that seriously hindered expansion were
- a.
  - b.
  - c.
- \*3. Transplanting the sugar industry from Madeira to the Americas, the Portuguese established an extensive system of \_\_\_\_\_ plantations first worked by \_\_\_\_\_ and then by \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Spain, Columbus, and the Americas

- \*4. How did the conquest of Moorish Granada in 1492 affect Spanish overseas expansion?

### Indian America

- \*5. Describe the civilization(s) European explorers discovered in the New World.

### New Spain

- \*6. What facts about the Spanish presence and colonial policy in the Americas contributed to an immense decline in numbers of the native Indian population?
- \*7. What European goods fostered the Indians' "demoralizing dependency" upon European technology?
- \*8. What was an encomienda?
- \*9. Why could Indians not be enslaved in the encomienda system?

### The Dutch

\*10. In what two significant ways did the Truce of 1609 between Spain and the Dutch Republic contribute to the successful involvement of the Dutch in the process of European expansion and settlement?

a.

b.

\*11. The Dutch Republic chartered the Dutch East India Company in 1602 both to \_\_\_\_\_.

### New France

\*12. What prevented France from establishing settlements in America before 1600?

\*13. Like the settlements of New Amsterdam and Fort Orange in New Netherland, New France began as a \_\_\_\_\_ at Quebec.

\*14. Unlike the formal Indian policy outlined by the Spanish Crown, there were several differing opinions in New France as to what "effective conversion" of the Indians required. Outline these positions.

a.

b.

c.

#### The English

\*15. What three goals characterize English involvement in overseas colonization after 1560?

a.

b.

c.

\*16. How instrumental was James I in changing English involvement in the Americas?

#### IV. EVIDENCE

1. "Religion supplied the pretext and gold the motive. The technological progress accomplished by Atlantic Europe during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries provided the means. . . ."

Comment on the validity of this statement as an appraisal of why European overseas expansion occurred and persisted from 1400 to 1650.

2. How extensive a role did European myth and imagination as well as Indian legend play in promoting extensive exploration of the American continent during the period 1400-1650?

3. "The sun shines for me as for others. I should like to see the clause in Adam's will which excludes me from a share of the world."

How well does this statement describe the motivation of the European explorers during the discovery and early period of settlement of the Americas?



## V. CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

1. How valuable do you feel the space program and other contemporary explorations have been? How do the social costs of explorations today differ from those pursued by European nations in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries?

2. Choose a situation or a decision from your own experience where you felt you were "expanding your horizons." Briefly outline it in terms of motives and immediate and long-range impact or consequences.

## VI. FOR FURTHER STUDY

### A. Related Units

- 2 Patterns of Colonial Settlement
- 3 War, Politics, and Empire
- 11 A Nation Among Nations
- 17 The Growth of the American Imagination
- 18 Continental Empire
- 31 American Imperialism

## B. Encyclopedia Entries

Anglo-Dutch wars

Champlain, Samuel de

colonial agriculture

Columbus, Christopher

Cortes, Hernan

Delaware

de Soto, Hernan

encomienda

exploration and discovery

French colonies

historical archaeology

Hudson, Henry

Indians, North American

Indians, South American

Iroquois Confederacy

Jamestown settlement

La Salle, Sieur de

Marquette, Father Jacques

Minuit, Peter

New York

Pilgrims

Pizarro, Francisco

Smith, John

Spanish colonies

Stuyvesant, Peter

Vikings

Virginia

## C. Bibliography

See page 564 in the Text.