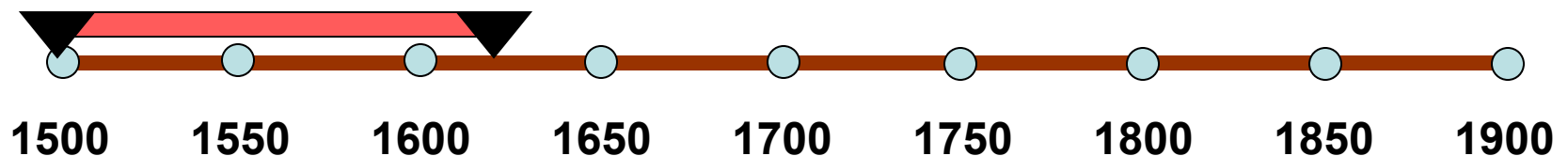


Early settlements in America

Columbus, sailing under the flag of Spain, was the first of the Europeans during the Age of Exploration to reach the Western Hemisphere. When he landed in the Caribbean he thought he had reached islands near India. This is the root of the words 'Indian' and 'West Indies'. Columbus died believing he had reached Asia.

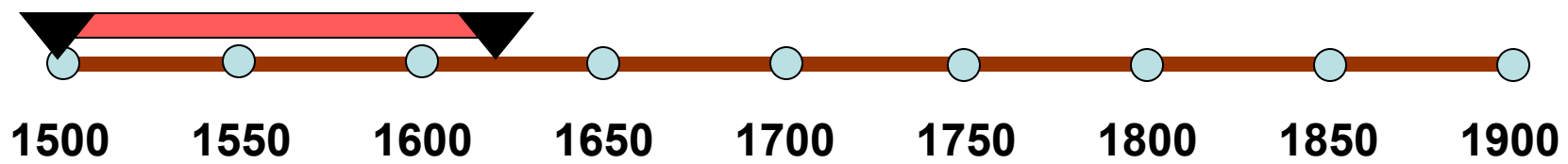


Early settlements in America

Very soon after Columbus' original discovery Spain began building an enormous trading and colonial movement in what is now Central and South America.

The Spanish were able, with very small forces to conquer vastly superior forces in what is now Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, and Panama.

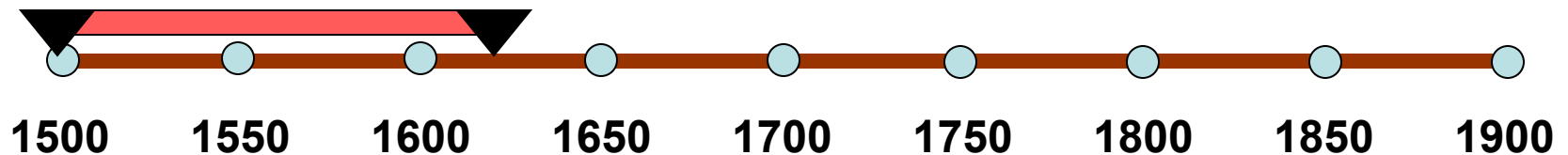
They were often ruthless and brutal. These were the *Conquistadors* - or those who conquer.



Early settlements in America

Spanish colonial settlements rapidly spread north as well.

By the mid 1500s there were Spanish settlements in what is now New Mexico, California, and Texas.

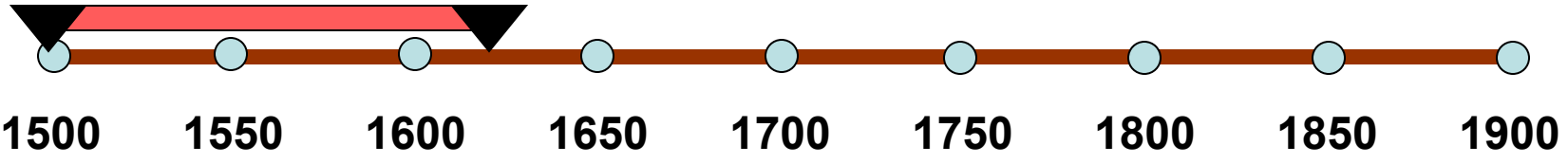
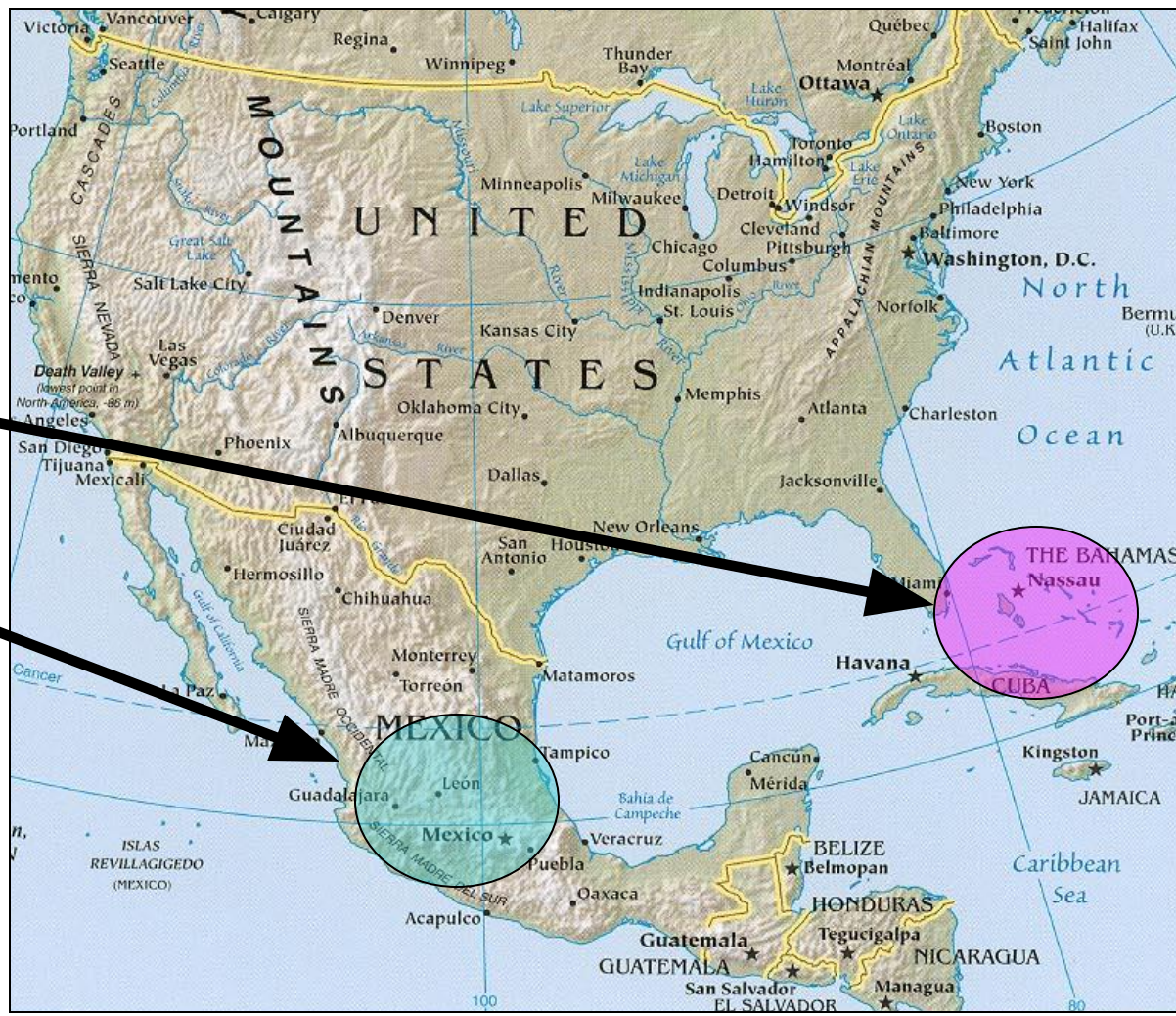


Early settlements in America

This map illustrates some of the early colonial movements of Spanish explorers.

Columbus' first voyages - 1490s

Cortez conquests - 1520s

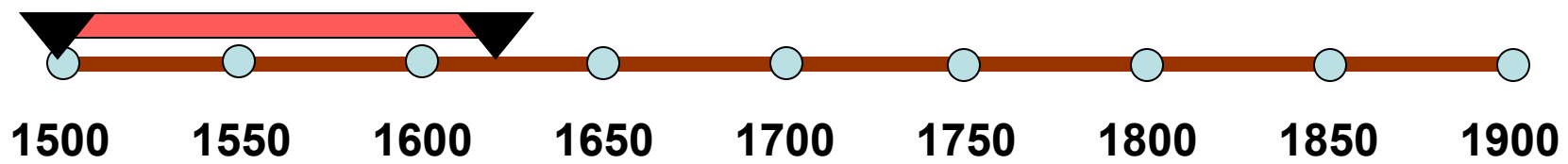


Early settlements in America

Early Spanish explorers Cortez and Pizarro found large amounts of gold among the Aztec and Inca people.

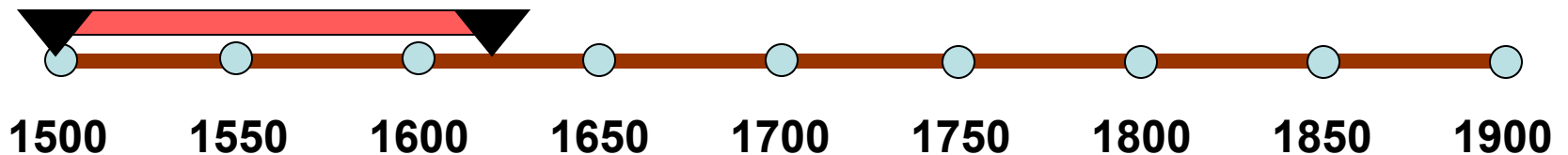
Much of the gold was seized and sent to Spain.

These early findings of gold drove many other explorers to come to the Americas in search of gold.



Early settlements in America

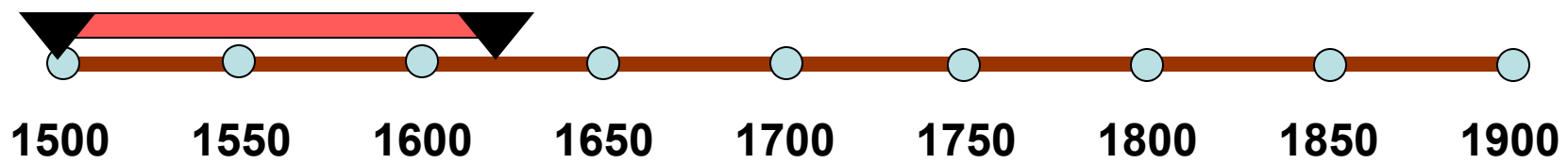
Aside from the desire for gold was the continuing desire for a sea route to Asia. The rich trading opportunities for Europeans who could avoid the difficult passage around Africa and through the waters controlled by the Portuguese were immense.



Early settlements in America

The desire to circumnavigate – or sail around the world drove explorers to find routes around – or across – America.

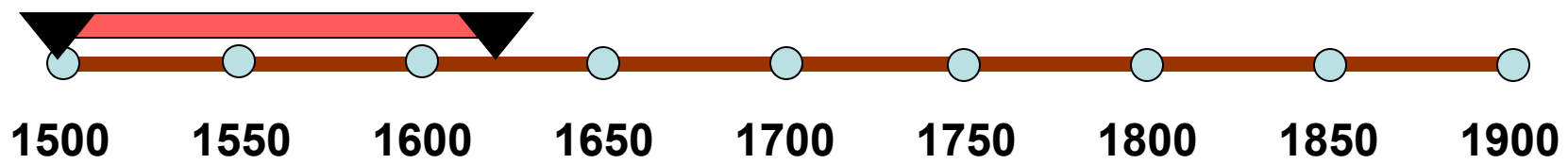
Notable among them were Balboa – the first European to see the Pacific from the west coast of America – and Magellan – the first to sail around the world.



Early settlements in America

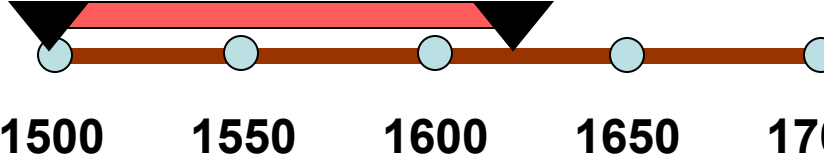
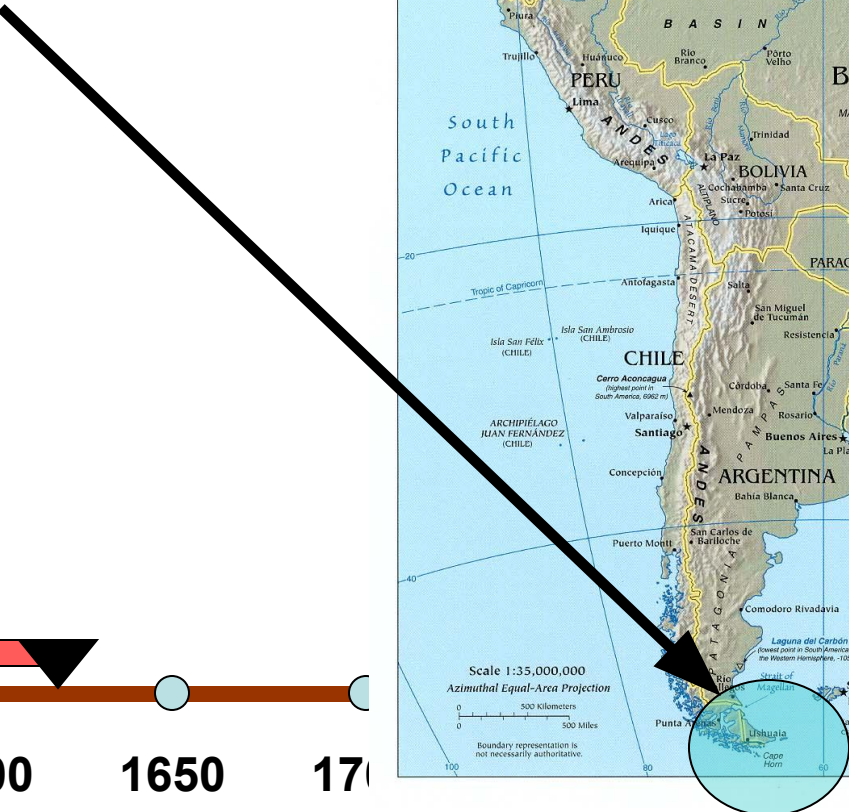
Magellan's voyage is probably the most notable because, even though he died on the expedition, he had identified the passage south of the southern tip of South America as navigable – although barely.

The passage between the southern tip of South America and Antarctica is still known as the Straits of Magellan and is one of the most dangerous sea routes in the world.



Early settlements in America

Straits of Magellan

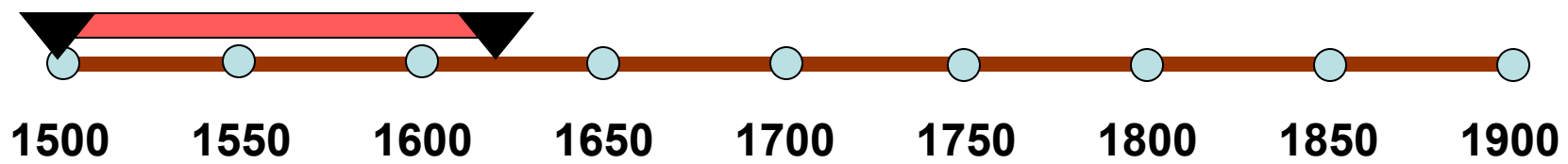


Early settlements in America

This period of trade between the hemispheres from about the voyage of Columbus to 1600 is known as the Columbian Exchange.

Of course many ideas and products were exchanged besides gold.

Turkeys, squirrels, muskrats, tomatoes, and potatoes were also taken to Europe from the Americas.



The Columbian Exchange

Some Exchanges from the New World to the Old World

Animals: Turkey, Alpaca, Guinea Pig, Llama

Plants: Tomato, Pumpkin, Almond, Potato, Tobacco, Sweet Potato, Cashew

Diseases: Pinta

Some Exchanges from the Old World to the New World

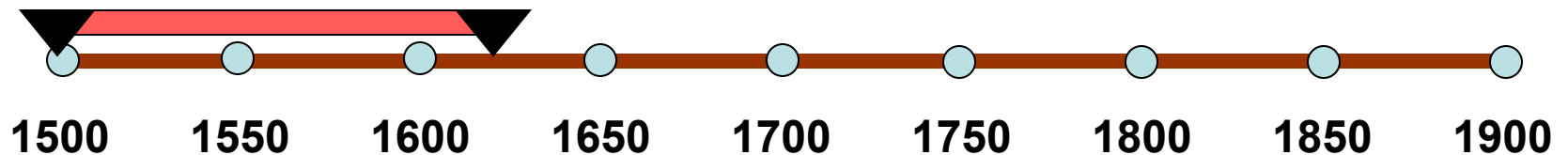
Animals: Horse, Pig, Chicken, Domesticated Goats and Cats, Donkey

Plants: Coffee, Citrus Fruits, Mango, Asparagus, Apricot, Apple, Lettuce, Peach, Pear

Diseases: Plague, Smallpox, Measles, Typhus, Typhoid

Early settlements in America

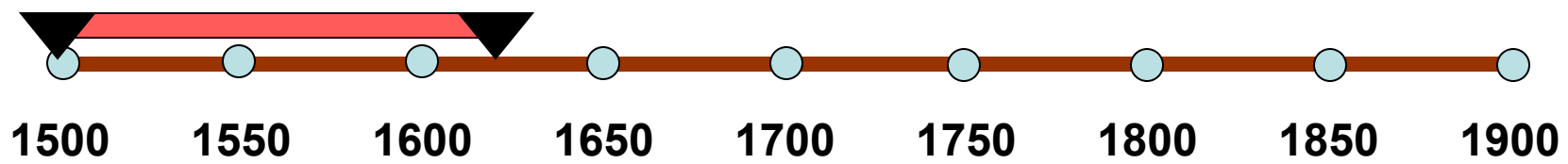
The Europeans sent settlers, reading, writing, manufacturing, and horrible diseases to America.



Early settlements in America

Several factors lead other countries to explore as well. We've discussed them in class. They were driven by a desire for land, to expand their nation, and for trade or access to resources.

Of course all the stories about the Spanish gold didn't hurt things either.

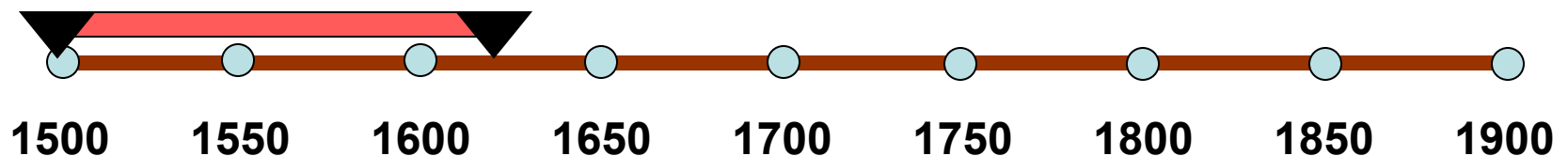


Early settlements in America

By the end of the 1500s the rock solid hold of Spain on the New World was beginning to crumble.

At the same time many countries in Europe were breaking from the Catholic Church.

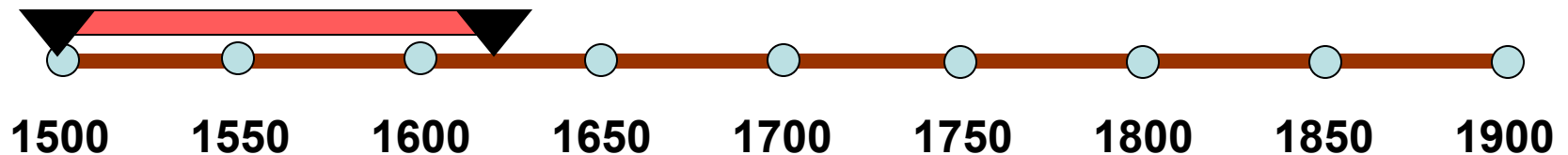
These breaks also freed those countries from the control the Church had granted Spain and Portugal over newly discovered lands.



Early settlements in America

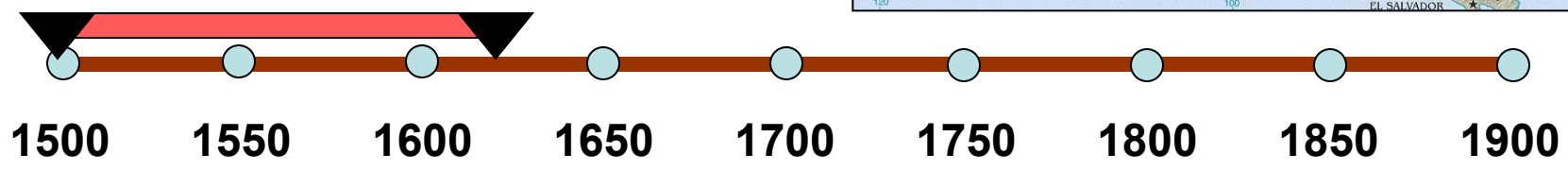
This led to strong movements by other European countries to seize lands in the New World.

For the purposes of our class, the chief discussion will focus on England.



Early settlements in America

Many early English settlers were driven by religious freedom. Others were driven by the same forces that had pushed the Spanish.



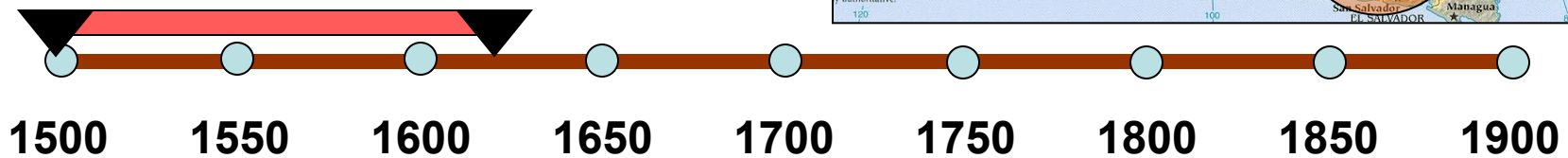
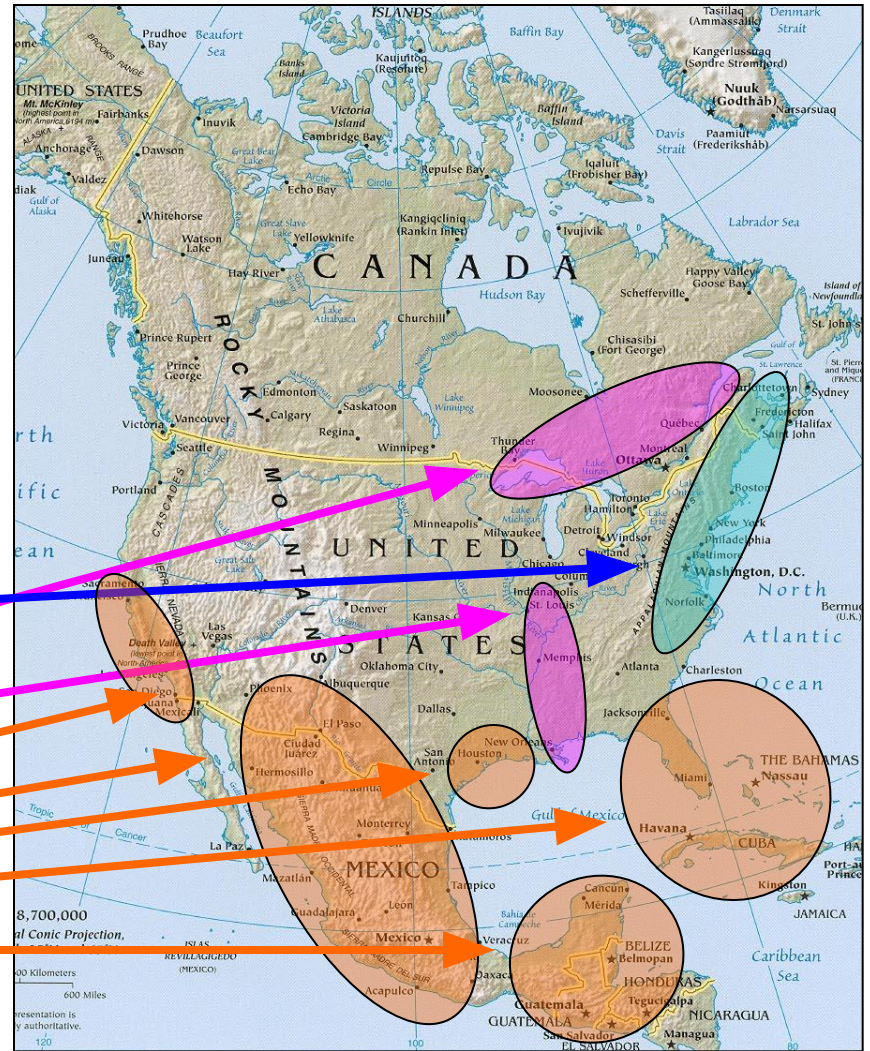
Early settlements in America

This map shows general areas of settlement by various European nations by the mid 1650s.

England

France

Spain



Early settlements in America

Note that the French were pursuing inland controls along the Great Lakes and the Mississippi.

England

France

Spain

