

# BATTLE FOR THE CONTINENT

CHAPTER 4

AP US HISTORY

# INTRODUCTION:

- **What characteristics are we noting at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century?**
  - A massive struggle was beginning in the North American continent.
  - Three Old World nations: England, France, and Spain
  - The Native American peoples would be involved.
- **Four bitter wars tore Europe apart from 1688-1763:**
  - 1689-1697: War of the League of Augsburg (King William's War)
  - 1701-1713: War of Spanish Succession (Queen Anne's War)
  - 1740-1748: War of Austrian Succession (King George's War)
  - 1756-1763: Seven Years' War (French and Indian War)
- **All four of the European conflicts were WORLD WARS!**
- **Nine WORLD WARS have been waged from 1688 to present, and the American colonists/USA is involved in EVERY ONE OF THEM!**

# FRANCE FINDS A FOOTHOLD IN CANADA

# FRENCH AMERICA

- ***How did French settlements compare to other world powers?***
  - French settlements closely resembled those of Spain and Portugal.
  - The French were committed to missionary works.
  - France emphasized the extraction of natural resources – particularly furs.
  - French expansion was thus driven by fur trading.
- ***How did this trade drive interactions with the Amerindian peoples?***
  - Depletion of beaver and deer populations caused Amerindian populations to become more dependent on European goods.
  - Fur trading provided Amerindian populaces with firearms.
  - Violence conflicts over hunting grounds increased!

- ***How did religion impact this region?***
  - Catholic missionaries, including the Jesuits, attempted to convert the Amerindian peoples.
  - Their work quickly shifts to the settlements of the French populations.
- ***French Settlements in North America.***
  - Settlements were small and slow-growing.
  - Amerindians in French North America were able to maintain greater independence.
- ***French expansion and war with England***
  - French expansion occurred aggressively to the west and south.
  - A second fur-trading colony was founded in Louisiana in 1699.
  - War with England in 1759 would force the French to yield Canada to the English and cede Louisiana to Spain.



# WHAT TOOK FRANCE SO LONG?

- **Like England and Holland, France was ravaged by war in the 1500s!**
  - Foreign and domestic troubles caused dissention.
  - The Wars of Religion divided the people: Roman Catholic v. Protestant.
- **By 1598: the Edict of Nantes granted limited toleration of religion.**
  - Religious wars ceased.
  - France gains power in Europe.
  - King Louis XIV reigned from 1643-1715 – building a MASSIVE empire.
- **French explorers arrived in the new world!**
  - Samuel de Champlain: “Father of New France” who befriended the Huron – and warred with the Iroquois.
  - New France would be directly ruled by the King!
  - New France grows much more slowly than New England!



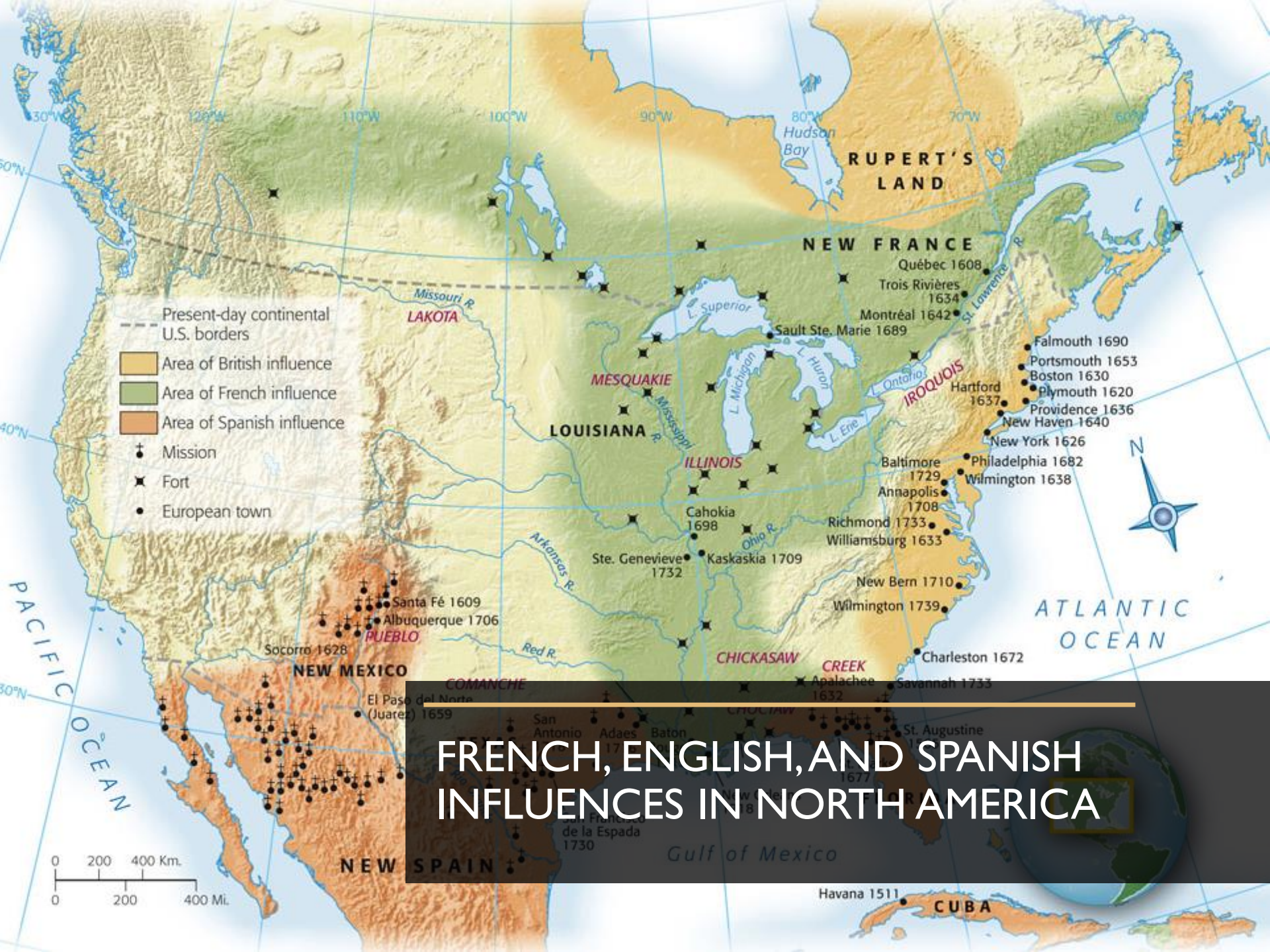




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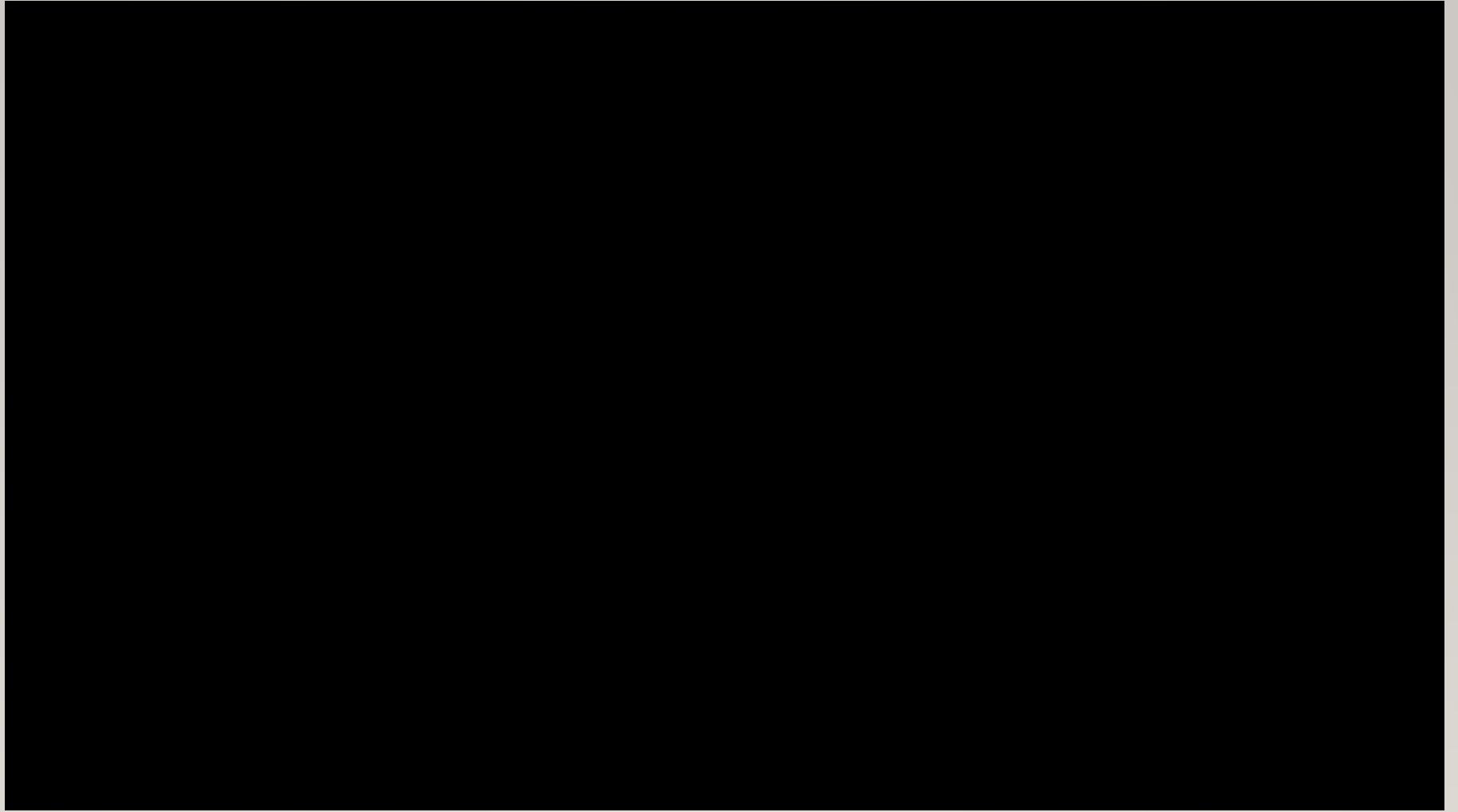
**KING LOUIS XIV**





# FRENCH, ENGLISH, AND SPANISH INFLUENCES IN NORTH AMERICA





A framed white sign with black text on a dark grey wall above a wooden floor. The sign is rectangular with a black border and a white background. The text is centered and reads: TRIUMPH AND TENSIONS: THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

**TRIUMPH AND  
TENSIONS: THE  
BRITISH EMPIRE**

# KING GEORGE'S WAR IMPACTS AMERICA

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- Ended in 1748
- Britain and France were still in opposition
- **Diplomatic Revolution:**
  - Austria allied with France
  - Britain allied with Prussia
- **Seven Years' War erupts!**
  - British and French forces are again fighting
  - Fighting takes place in all known continents (except Australia)
- **Results of the Seven Years' War will have a lasting impact!**





# A FRAGILE PEACE: 1750-1754

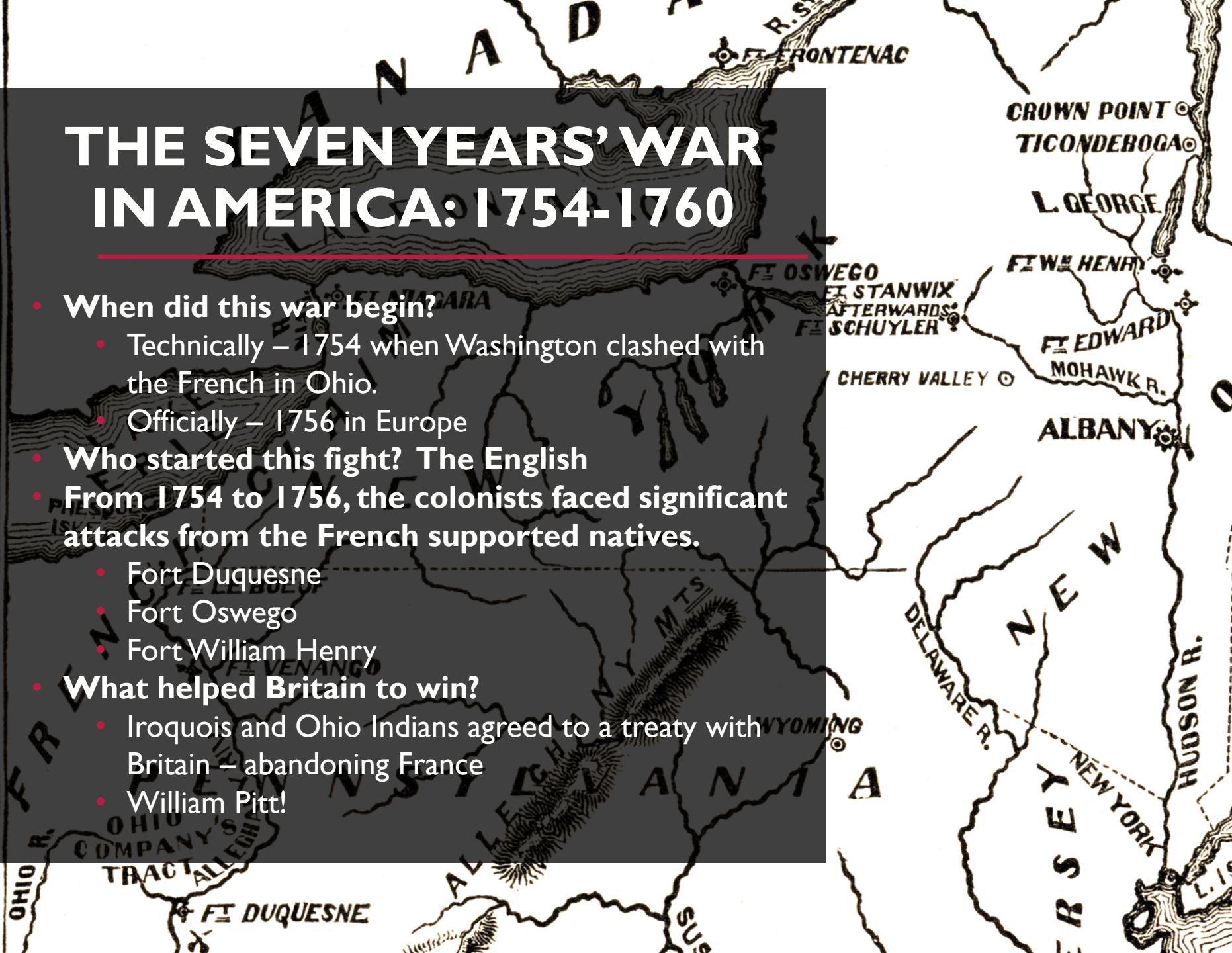
- **Where did fighting occur in the Americas?**
  - The Ohio Valley
- **Who claimed this land?**
  - Virginia, Pennsylvania, France, Six Nations Iroquois, & the local native tribes
- **How was each active during the peace era?**
  - Virginia and Pennsylvania worked to help the British among the natives
  - The French constructed forts in the region beginning in 1753
  - Virginia tried to persuade the French to leave through a young surveyor and speculator (George Washington)
  - Natives did NOT trust Washington
- **While Washington was fighting in Ohio, the Albany Plan was initiated**



<http://www.history.org/history/teaching/eneletter/volume5/november06/pri.msourc.cfm>

# THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR IN AMERICA: 1754-1760

- **When did this war begin?**
  - Technically – 1754 when Washington clashed with the French in Ohio.
  - Officially – 1756 in Europe
- **Who started this fight? The English**
- **From 1754 to 1756, the colonists faced significant attacks from the French supported natives.**
  - Fort Duquesne
  - Fort Oswego
  - Fort William Henry
- **What helped Britain to win?**
  - Iroquois and Ohio Indians agreed to a treaty with Britain – abandoning France
  - William Pitt!



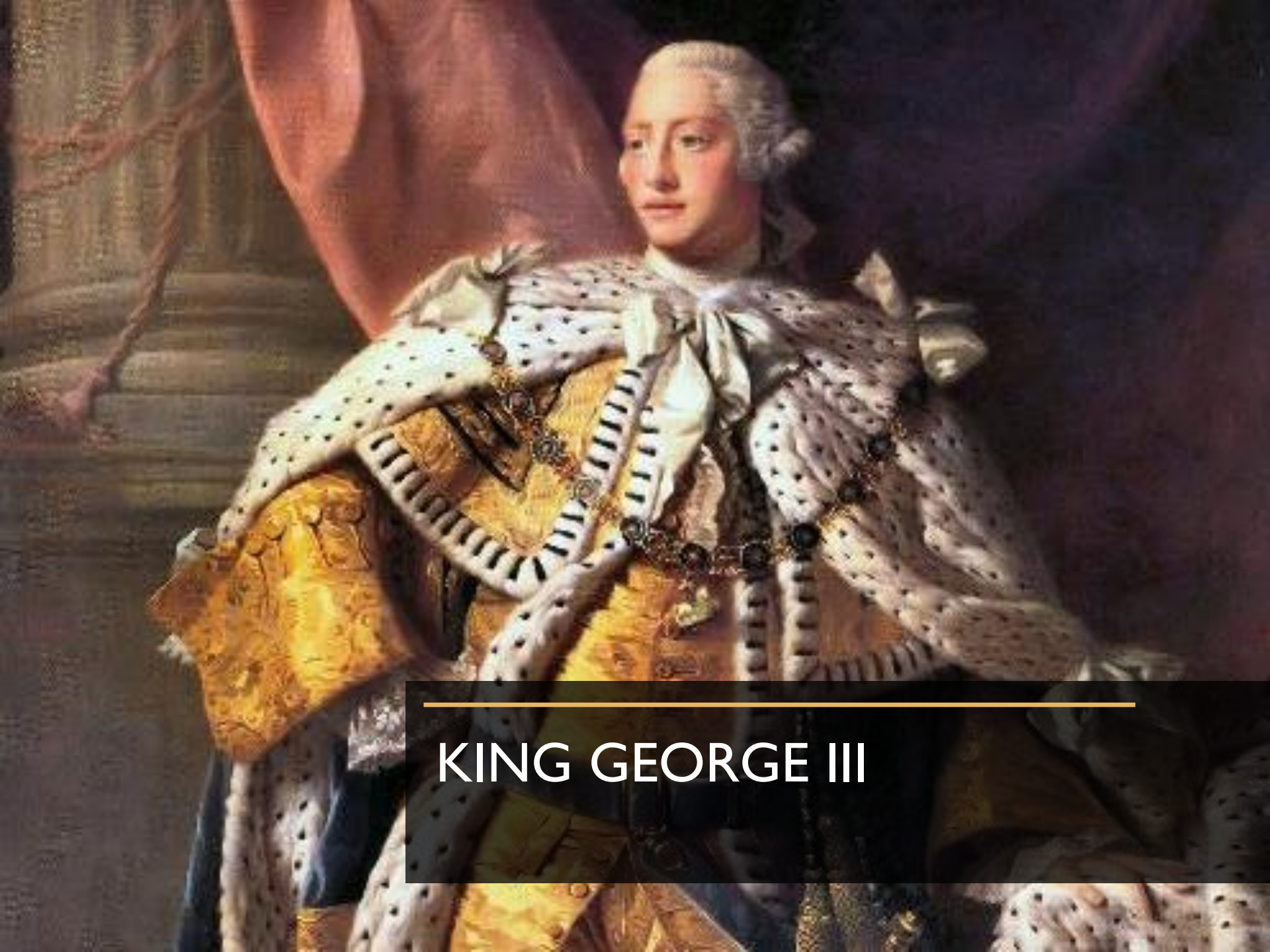
## THE END OF FRENCH NORTH AMERICA: 1760-1763

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- **France began negotiating peace in 1762**
- **Treaty of Ildefonso (1762)**
  - France ceded Louisiana territory to Spain
- **Treaty of Paris (1763)**
  - France gives up ALL lands and claims east of the Mississippi (except New Orleans)
  - Britain returned Cuba to Spain in exchange for FLORIDA
  - France retained several islands in the West Indies (these will rebel against Napoleon)
  - Eastern Americas belong to Britain
  - The Western Americas belong to Spain
- **Mixed Review: Two wars with differing effects**







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**KING GEORGE III**

# ANGLO-AMERICAN FRICTION

- **After the Seven Years' War, Britain tried to tighten control over its expanded colonial empire**
  - They imposed new taxes on Englishmen at home and overseas to finance the administration of the colonies
  - This aroused opposition on both economic and constitutional grounds
- **George III**
  - Wanted to govern more actively
  - His policies and frequent ministerial changes further upset British-American relations
  - British supremacy in eastern North America opened the door to conflict between the mother country and the colonists
  - The Seven Years' War left the British people with a huge debt and heavy taxes
- **The British wondered why the colonists should be repaid while they were left to suffer under heavy financial burdens?**





# FRONTIER TENSIONS

- **What increased tensions?**
  - The British had to spend more money and military effort to put down Indian uprisings caused by the western surge of colonists beyond the Appalachians.
- **Proclamation of 1763**
  - Issued by Britain to pacify Chief Pontiac
  - Forbids colonial settlement beyond the Appalachian crest until Britain had negotiated treaties with the Indians.  
<http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/related/proc63.htm>
- **What caused further issues?**
  - The colonists were angered by 'British interference' with their western land claims.
  - Britain struggled with continuing to protect the frontier and consolidate control over the newly acquired territories.
  - British officials saw no reason the colonials should not be taxed to help defray the expense of maintaining their territory.

