

CONFEDERATION



Confederation

Articles of Confederation

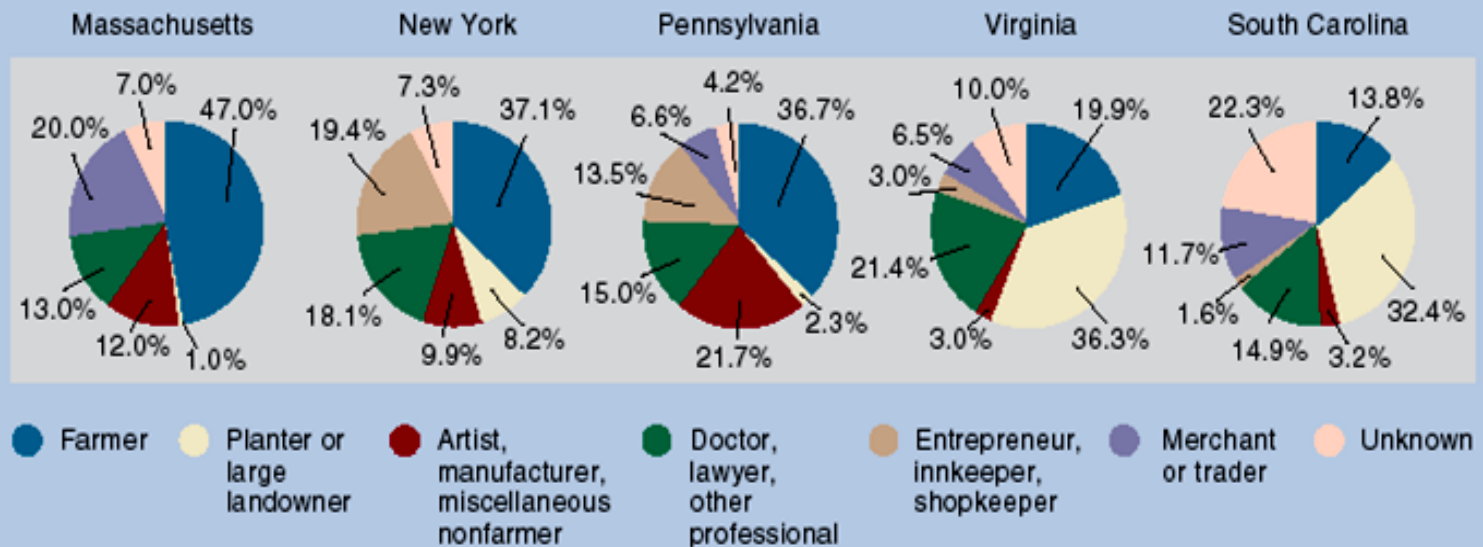
- ◆ Structure of Government
- ◆ Amendment
- ◆ Commerce
- ◆ Taxation & Funding
- ◆ Reflection of Revolutionary Ideology & Goals



The United States in 1787

Occupational Composition of Several State Assemblies in the 1780s


Membership in the revolutionary assemblies reflected differences in the economies and societies of the various states. Those differences often generated political conflict throughout the Revolutionary era. What are the major differences between northern and southern state assemblies, and how do you explain them?



Financial Problems at War's End

- ◆ Debt
 - Pay of Debts (Foreign, State, Personal)
 - Buying foreign drains currency
 - Need to pay off debts or will not be respected
 - Buying foreign goods drains currency
 - States owe \$
 - Should we tax to raise revenue? (rebellion)
 - Shay's Rebellion
 - moratorium on debts
 - paper money
 - Foreign debt to France
- ◆ Trade
 - Impressments
 - Privateers
 - British flood market with surplus
 - Homespun
- ◆ Taxes
 - Uneven distribution of Wealth
 - Limited power to tax
 - Who will control taxation (FEAR)

Political Problems at War's End

- ◆ State Government
 - Too influenced by population?
 - Are all men equal?
 - Suffrage for Who?
 - Most have weak Executive, Bicameral Legislature, Power of the Purse
 - ◆ Treaty of Paris 1783
 - Recognition
 - Western Border
 - Fishing Rights
 - Pay Debts/Protect Loyalists
 - ◆ Western Land
 - Who gets what?
 - Native Americans?
 - Who is still around as a threat?
- 

Society at War's End

- ◆ Women's Rights
 - Republican Mothers
 - Maintain Economy during war
 - Abigail Adams (Remember the Ladies!)
 - Wollstonecraft & Murray (Writers for Women's Rights)
 - Unlimited power in the hands of men
- ◆ Tories
 - Protected? FLEE to England & Canada
 - Lost land – opportunity for others to advance
- ◆ Religion
 - Anglicans lose support, change to Episcopalian
 - Quakers – lose control of PA due to pacifism
 - Catholics advance due to relations with France during war
- ◆ Slavery
 - Freedom? Manumission
 - Back to Africa
 - Racial superiority argument
- ◆ Native Americans
 - Where is the frontier?
 - Noble Savages – Paternalism
 - Cherokee in the South – Treaty
 - Government control and protection

Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation



A unicameral Congress
[9 of 13 votes to pass a law].



13 out of 13 to amend.



Representatives were
frequently absent.



Could not tax or raise armies.



No executive or judicial
branches.

Disputed Territorial Claims Between Spain & the U. S.: 1783-1796



Indian Land Cessions: 1768-1799



Confederation

1. Economic Disputes

- Taxation
- Trade
- Depression
- Shay's Rebellion



Advance of settlement to 1790

Confederation

2. Foreign Affairs

- ◆ Revolution, treaty
- ◆ British forts
- ◆ Spain

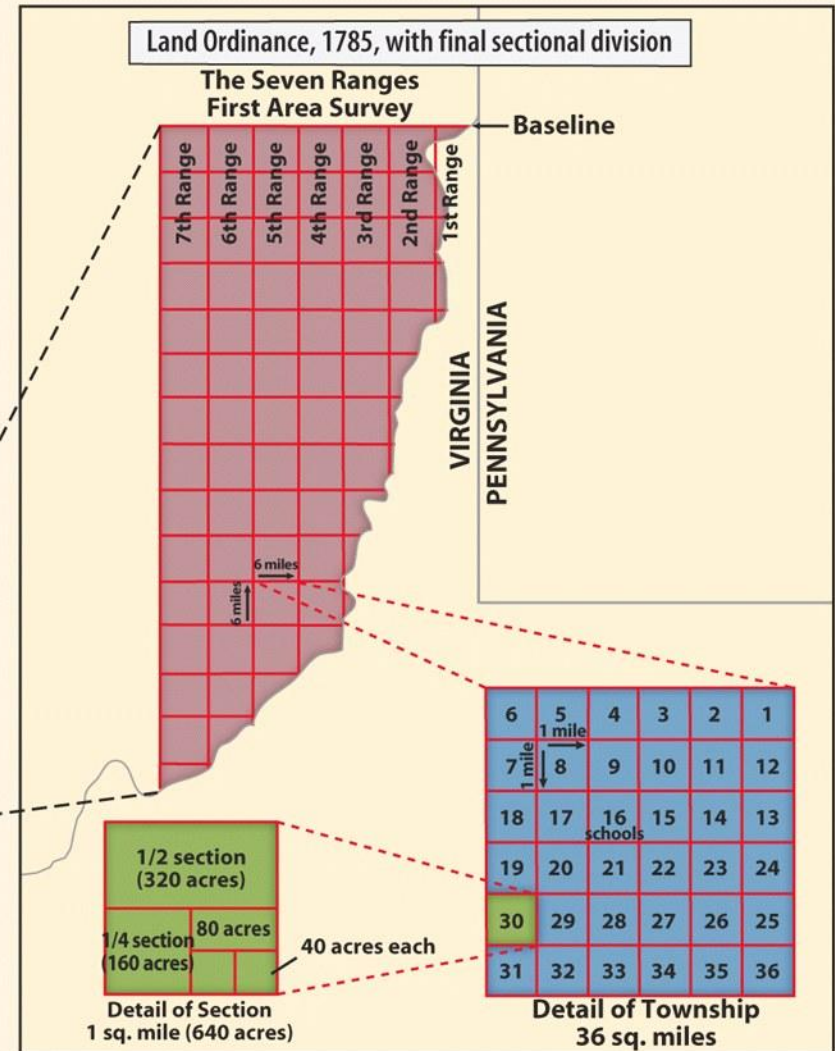
3. Western Lands

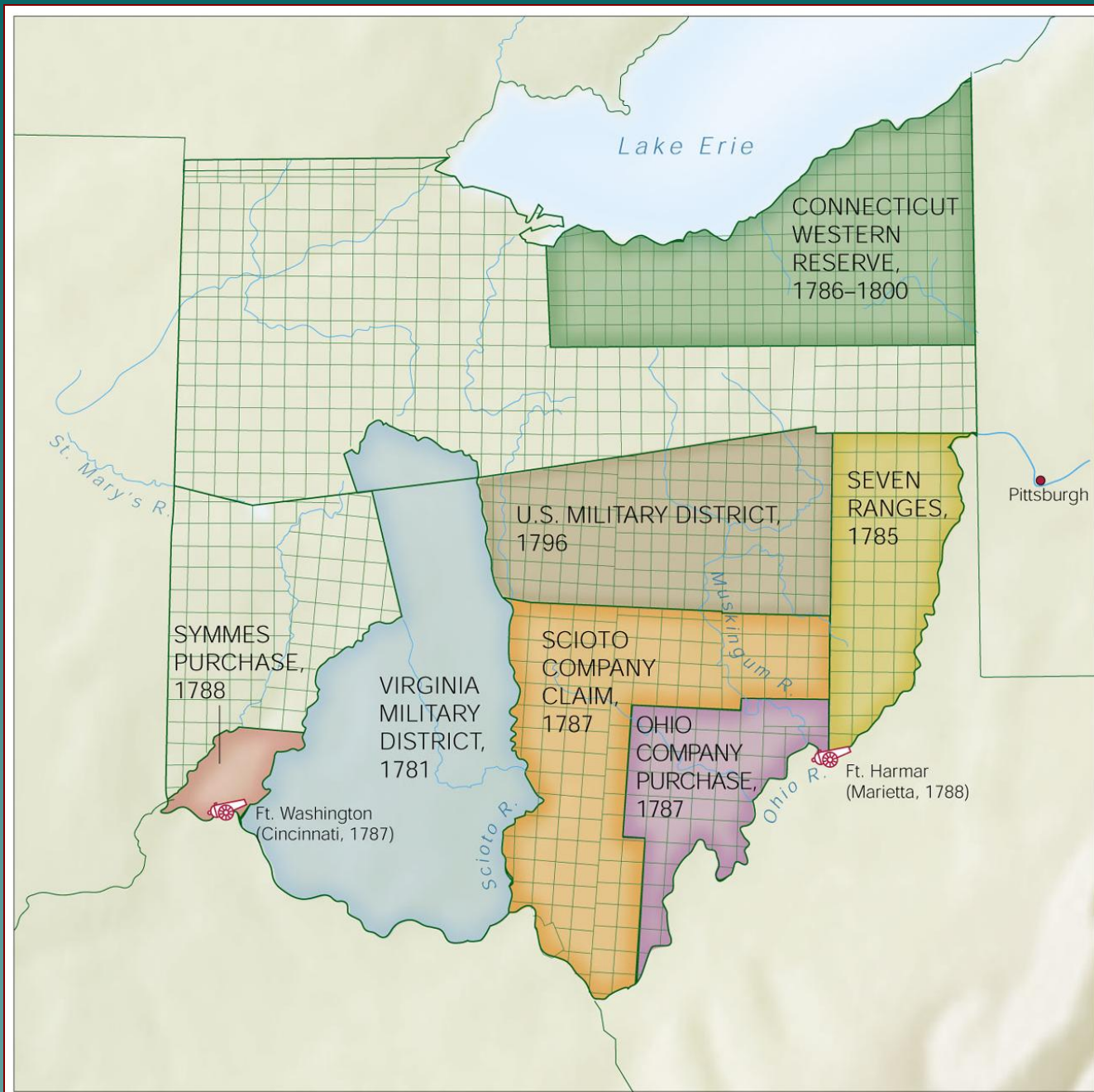
- State claims
- Land Ordinance of 1785
- Northwest Ordinance (1787)



Western Land Claims

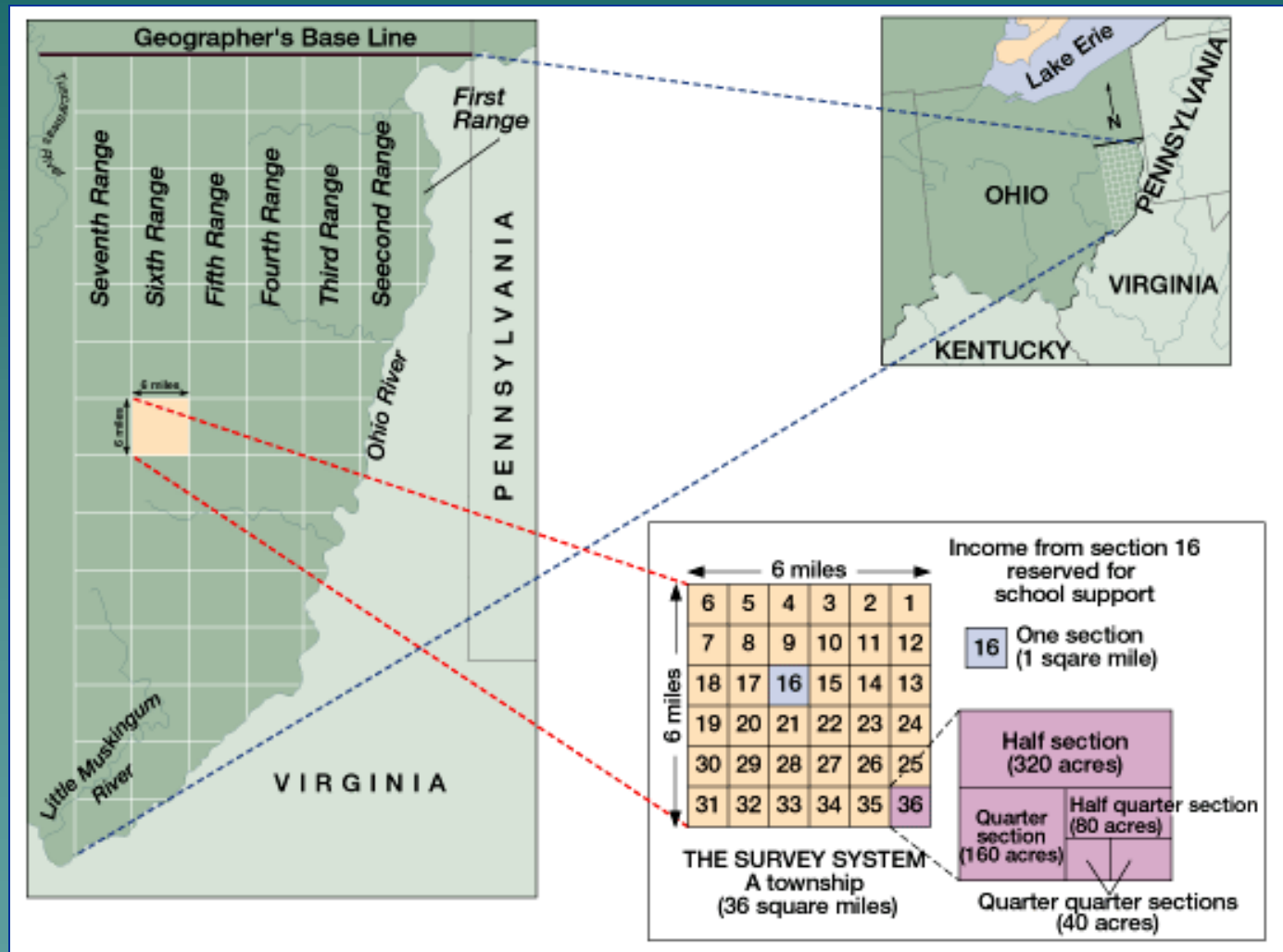
Land Division in the Northwest Territory





Settlers' Ohio, After 1785

Land Ordinance of 1785



Northwest Ordinance of 1787



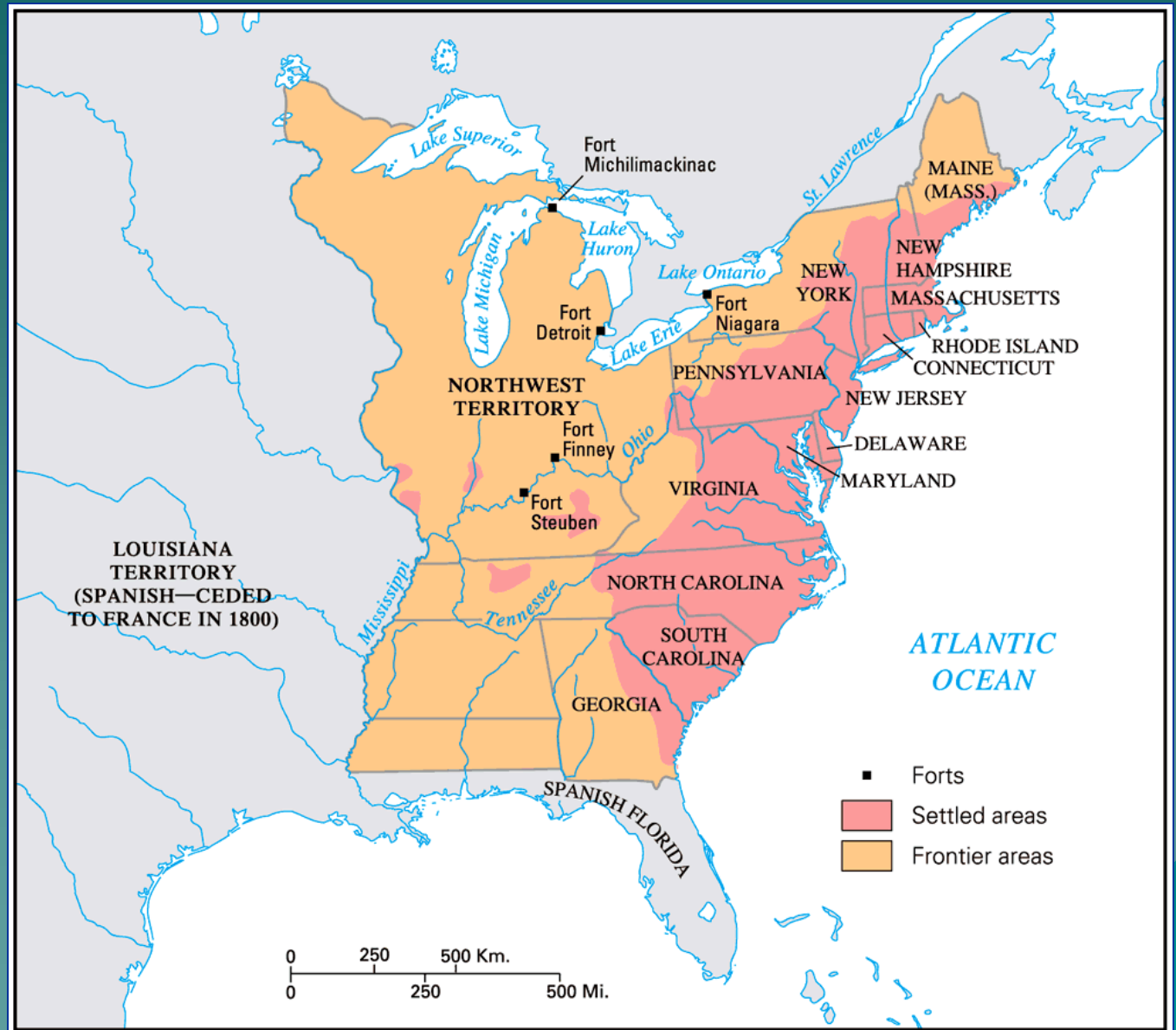
One of the major accomplishments of the Confederation Congress!



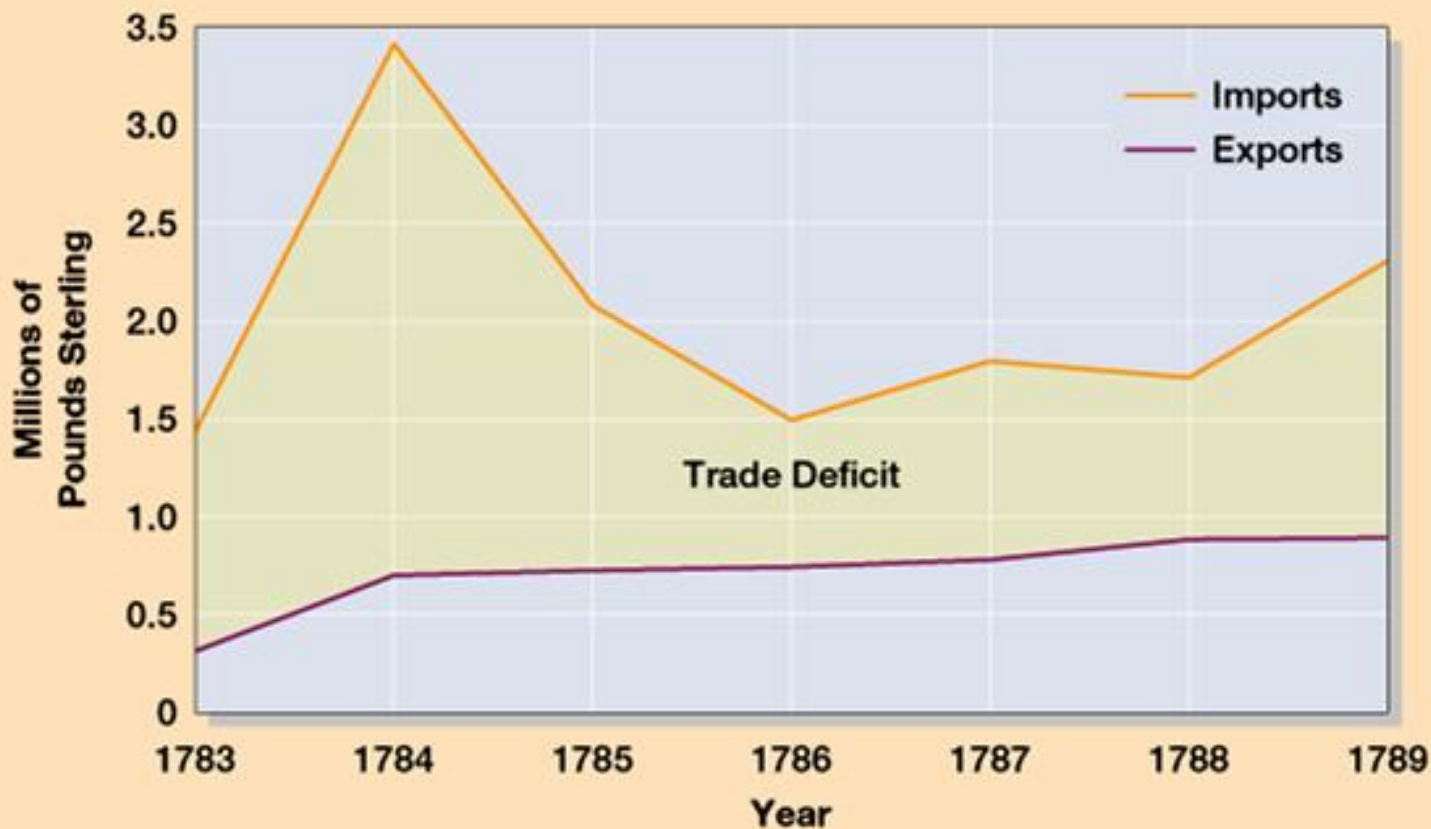
Statehood achieved in three stages:

1. Congress appointed 3 judges & a governor to govern the territory.
2. When population reached 5,000 adult male landowners → elect territorial legislature.
3. When population reached 60,000 → elect delegates to a state constitutional convention.

The United States in 1787



American Exports, To & From Britain: 1783-1789



Annapolis Convention (1786)



12 representatives from 5 states
[NY, NJ, PA, DE, VA]



GOAL → address barriers that
limited trade and commerce between
the states.



Not enough states were represented
to make any real progress.



Sent a report to the Congress to call
a meeting of all the states to meet
in Philadelphia to examine areas
broader than just trade and
commerce.

Shays' Rebellion: 1786-7



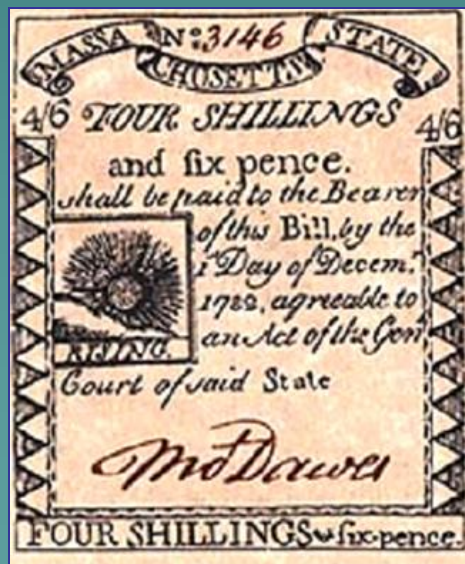
Daniel Shays



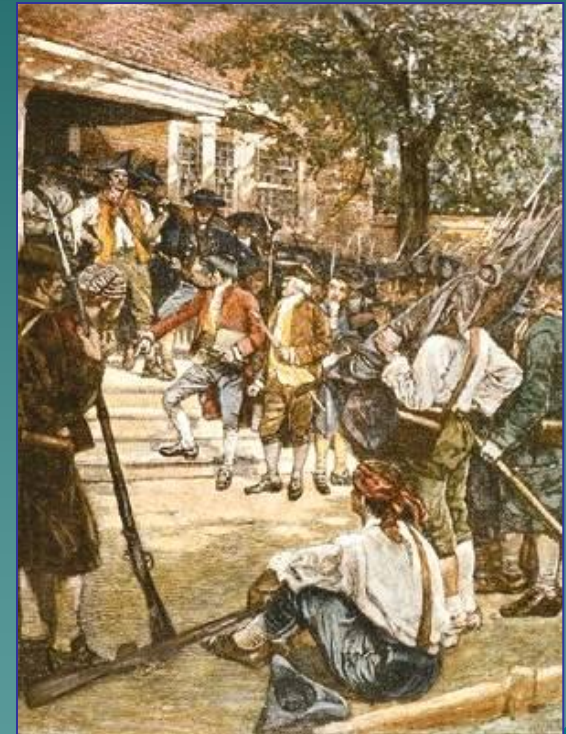
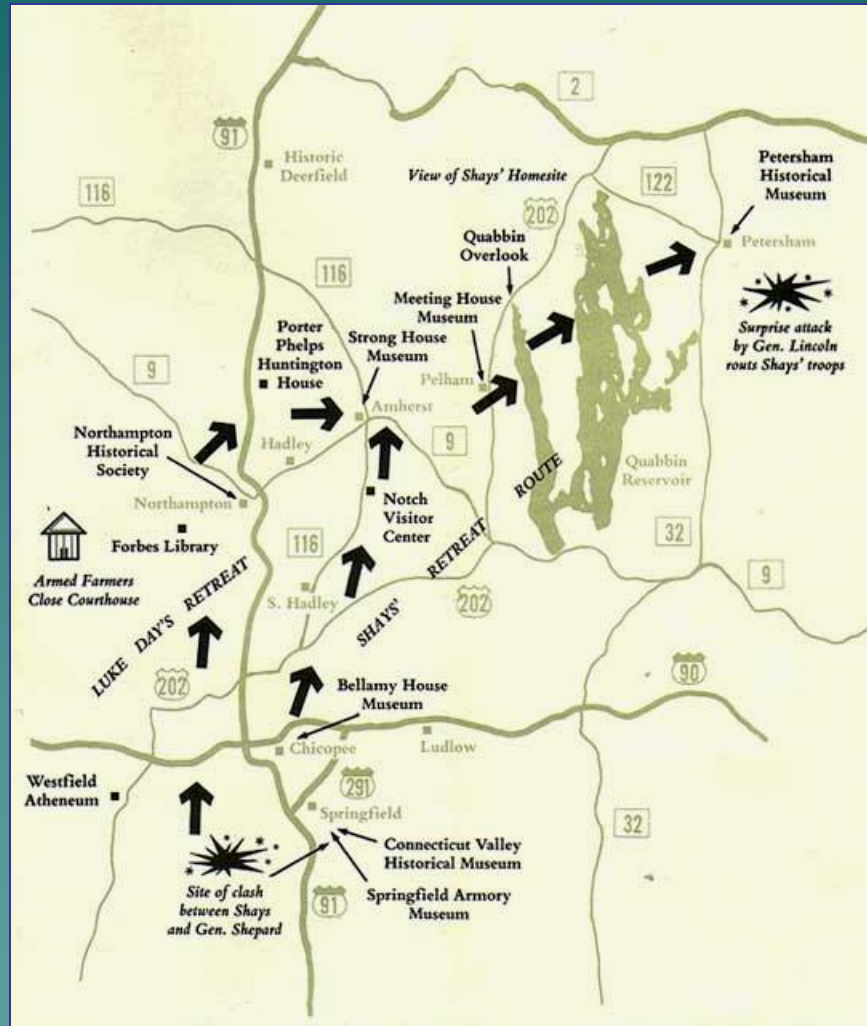
Western MA



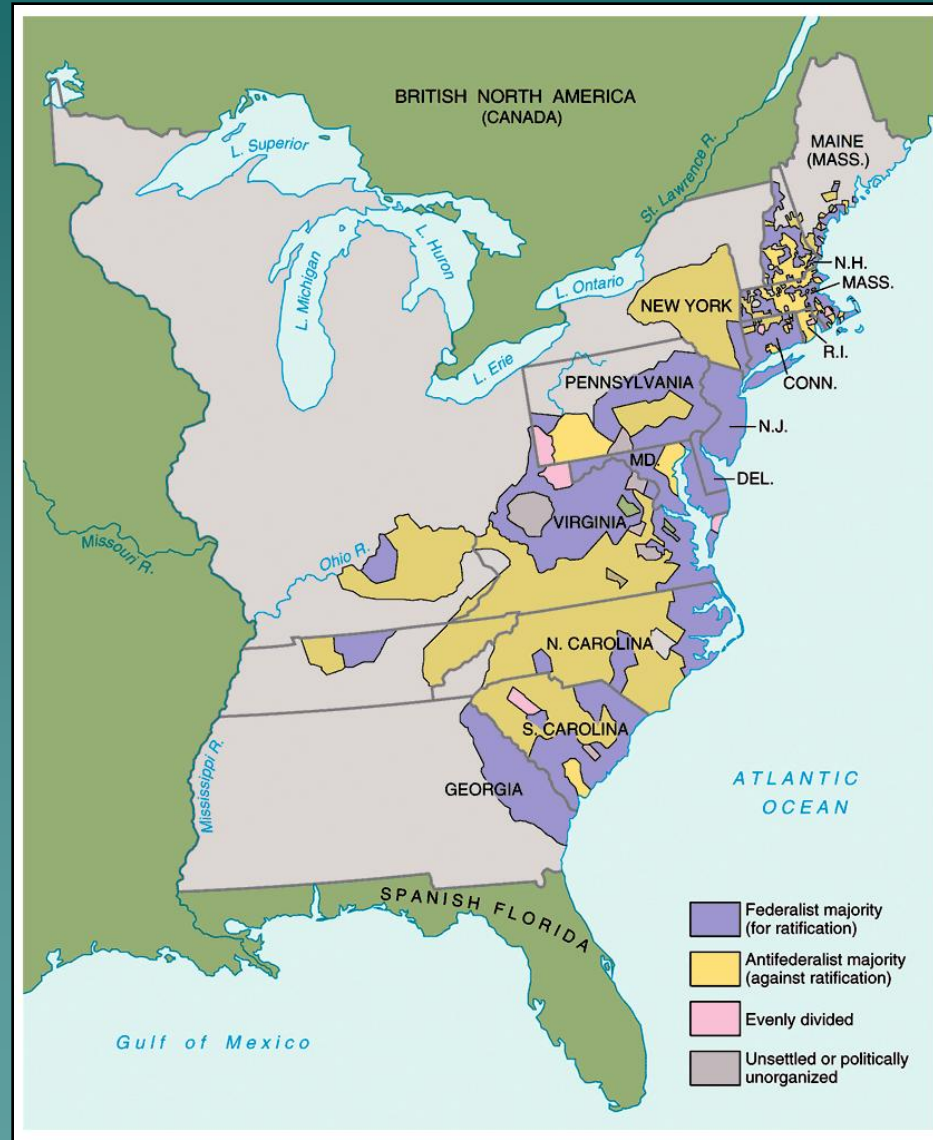
Small farmers angered by crushing debts and taxes.



Shays' Rebellion: 1786-7



Federalist vs. Anti-Federalist Strongholds at the End of the War



Shays' Rebellion: 1786-7

There could be no stronger evidence of the want of energy in our governments than these disorders.

-- George Washington

A stylized, dark teal silhouette of a mountain range is positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide, partially overlapping the text area.