

Audio 9: Territory Maps

Becoming Texas Audio Guides

Cecilia T.: Territory changed hands quickly in the 1600s to the 1800s. As tribes and colonists were displaced by disease, conflict, and the search for food, they wandered into other groups' territories. Sometimes they did this by force, trying to take over a territory. At first, Texas was completely controlled by Native Americans. But, the Europeans came, and they caused conflict over land and resources.

An example of shifting territories is in 1774 when the Spanish controlled $\frac{2}{3}$ of the present day United States while the British controlled the Atlantic Seaboard down to Florida. Just 14 years earlier, the Spanish had controlled only parts of what was to become the United States, including Texas and Mexico, while the French controlled most of the rest of the land mass except for the East Coast that the British controlled. This was a lot of change within a relatively short period of time.

There were significant territorial and population changes following the American Revolutionary War. People moved west because they thought it was their fate, and they wanted to find economic promise. Native American tribes were displaced as part of federally issued Indian Removal Acts. Territory maps continued to change rapidly until the late 1800s.

Turn around to the blank wall behind you that contains our concluding audio recording about the French, Spanish, and Native American legacies.