

Birth of the Monroe Doctrine

The Monroe Doctrine

The Monroe Doctrine

1823

President James Monroe served two terms as president of the United States. He served from 1817–1825. President Monroe did not want European nations to control countries in this hemisphere. The president said (in part), “We should consider any attempt on [Europe’s] part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety.” Monroe especially did not want Central American countries to be controlled by Europe.

Many other presidents have followed the Monroe Doctrine, including Theodore Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy.



James Monroe

R E S O U R C E S

History of US: The New Nation,
pgs. 90–92

Pages of History, vol. 2,
pgs. 184, 185

Streams of Civ., Vol. 2,
pgs. 292, 293

US History, pgs. 188, 189





On the Erie Canal

Edward Lamson Henry

Traveling the Erie Canal

Traveling the Erie Canal c. 1825

Up until 1800, roads were made by the wear and tear of travel by people using horses and horse-drawn carts, wagons, and coaches. Businessmen and merchants had to pay a lot of money to transport wares.

Traveling and transporting wares by water was faster and cheaper. Clipper ships carried cargo quickly across the oceans.

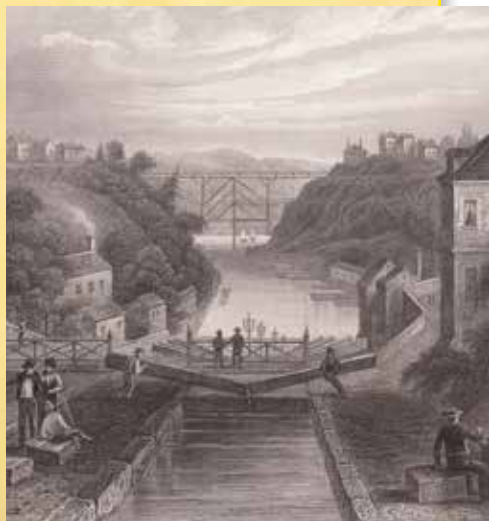
In 1817, New York decided to build the Erie Canal from the Hudson River to Lake Erie. It took almost eight years to build. The canal went across the entire state of New York. The canal made it easier and cheaper for businesses to send goods across the state and country. Many songs and stories have been made about the Erie Canal.

R E S O U R C E S

Amazing Impossible Erie Canal
History of US: The New Nation,
pgs. 110–115

Pages of History, vol. 2,
pgs. 169–186

US History, pgs. 216–220





Andrew Jackson

Alonzo Chappel

Jacksonian Democracy

Jacksonian Democracy

1829–1837

Andrew Jackson, nicknamed “Old Hickory,” was a self-taught man who emerged as a hero of the War of 1812. He was the first president who resided in a state not of the original thirteen and was considered a “man of the people.”

Voting rights had already changed from propertied adult male citizens to all adult male citizens. Political leaders were expected to govern by the people’s wishes, rather than their own judgment.

Jackson encouraged his supporters by giving them federal jobs after he was elected, a practice followed to this day. He used the presidential veto more than any other previous president to control legislation he opposed.

In spite of his sympathies with the West and South, Jackson believed in a strong union and was willing to take military action, if threatened. Jackson also believed strongly in free enterprise, and removed private control of federal money.

Henry Clay, the “Great Compromiser,” John Calhoun, and Daniel Webster were important statesmen during this time.

At the end of Jackson’s second term in 1836, Americans fought against Santa Anna at the Alamo, and Congress recognized the Republic of Texas as an independent country after denying them statehood.



R E S O U R C E S

History of US: The New Nation,
pgs. 99–102

Pages of History, vol. 2, pgs. 187–198
US History, pgs. 192–210





Slaves Using a Cotton Gin

The Cotton Gin Establishes the South

The Cotton Gin Establishes the South c. 1830

The cotton gin, invented in 1793 by Eli Whitney, revolutionized the South. Every cotton ball has seeds at the center. Prior to 1790, seeds were removed by hand. The average rate a man could remove the seeds was one pound of cotton per day. With the first cotton gin, Whitney did the work of several men.

Great demand for cotton existed because textile mills had increased their productivity. The South now produced more cotton and found an eager market in the northern United States industrial centers. The high demand for cotton required more laborers for the fields. This need for laborers caused an illegal slave trade to develop because slave trade was outlawed in the U.S. in 1808.

Whitney's cotton gin contributed to the First Industrial Revolution. Beginning in England, the Industrial Revolution was marked by the use of steam power, which was often used in textile mills. Eli Whitney never received royalties for his invention, but he later opened a factory which produced guns and was the first to use the principle of interchangeable parts.

R E S O U R C E S

- Child's Story of America*, pgs. 114, 115
- History of US: The New Nation*, pgs. 103–109
- Kingfisher Hist. Encyc.*, pgs. 296, 297, 340
- Pages of History*, vol. 2, pgs. 198, 199
- US History*, pgs. 214–217

