

The Middle Colonies

New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania

All had fertile soil and broad expanse of land.

All except for Delaware exported lots of grain.

The Susquehanna River tapped the fur trade of the interior, and the rivers were gentle, with little cascading waterfalls.

The middle colonies were the middle way between New England and the southern plantation states.

Landholdings were generally intermediate in size.

The middle colonies were more ethnically mixed than other colonies.

A considerable amount of economic and social democracy prevailed.

Benjamin Franklin, born in Boston, entered Philadelphia as a seventeen-year-old in 1720 with a loaf of bread under each arm and immediately found a congenial home in the urbane, open atmosphere of the city.