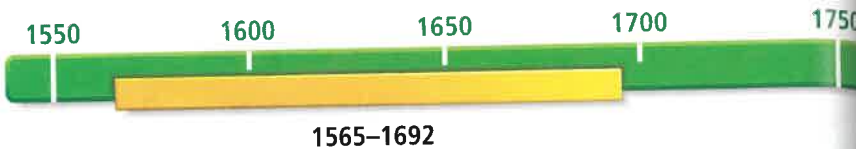


Core Lesson 5

New Spain



VOCABULARY

- colony
- mission
- convert
- hacienda
- revolt

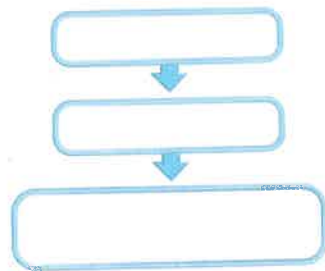
Vocabulary Strategy

convert

The verb **convert** comes from a word meaning "to turn around." Someone who converts turns around, or changes, to a new religion.

READING SKILL

Draw Conclusions Note details that will help you draw a conclusion about life in New Spain for American Indians.



STANDARDS

- SSA.4.2.1.5.1 Exploration of Americas
- SSA.4.2.1.5.2 Impact of Exploration

Build on What You Know You may know someone who lives in a place with a Spanish name, such as San Francisco. From the 1500s to the 1700s, explorers and priests gave Spanish names to settlements throughout the Southwest and Florida.

New Spain Grows

Main Idea The Spanish increased the size of New Spain and spread their rule in North America.

By 1535, the Spanish government controlled the former Aztec empire in Mexico. They made it a colony called New Spain. A **colony** is an area of land ruled by another country. In New Spain, Spanish settlers started towns and farmed the land. They built mines wherever they found valuable minerals, such as gold or silver. The colony of New Spain grew larger as government officials, settlers, soldiers, and priests arrived.

Spain's rulers sent priests with the explorers to spread Christianity. Over the next 200 years, Spanish explorers and priests traveled farther north and started settlements called missions. A **mission** was a religious community where priests taught Christianity.

Juana Inés de la Cruz
She was a well-known poet in Mexico City, the capital of New Spain.



New Spain The colony of New Spain in the mid-1700s included parts of what is now the American Southwest. Junípero Serra (right) explored much of present-day California.

New Settlements

Spain was not the only nation trying to claim North American lands. The English, French, Dutch, and later the Russians, were also exploring North America. The Spanish hoped to prevent other countries from claiming land. They built forts called presidios to protect Spanish claims and guard themselves against attack.

In 1565, **Pedro Menéndez de Avilés** (ah vee LEHS) started the settlement of St. Augustine in Florida. St. Augustine is the oldest city in the United States built by Europeans. The conquistador went north up the Gulf coast and started settlements all the way into present-day Georgia. Spanish settlers in Georgia tried to convert the Guale (WAH li) Indians to Roman Catholicism. The settlers forced them to work building roads and growing crops.

The Spanish also built settlements in what is now the southwestern United States. In 1598, the conquistador **Juan de Oñate** (ohn YAH teh) led settlers, soldiers, and priests to present-day New Mexico. In 1610, the city of Santa Fe became the capital of that part of New Spain.

Later, Spanish soldiers and priests also settled and explored present-day Texas and California. In 1769, a priest named **Junípero Serra** (hoo NEE peh roh SEH ra) led an expedition up the coast of California. After helping to build the settlement of San Diego, Serra continued north, building more missions along the way.

REVIEW Why did the Spanish build presidios in New Spain?