

# Colony of a Colony



Sugarcane Plantation like those that dominated the Barbadian landscape in the 18th century. © Courtesy of the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan

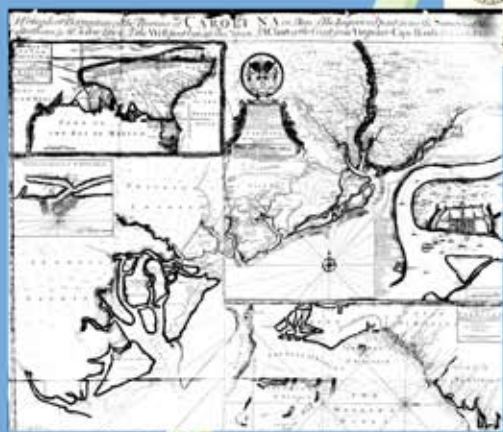
Founded in 1627, Barbados became the most extensively developed and populated territory in English America. It also became the wealthiest after planters found a profitable cash crop, sugarcane.

By 1670, the population of Barbados was estimated at 60,000 inhabitants living on an island about 1/5 the size of modern day Charleston County, SC. With limited and ever more expensive land, many Barbadians looked for more likely places to make their fortunes.

Founded in 1670, South Carolina offered generous land grants to those willing to settle and cultivate the land. Between 1670 and 1673, well over half of the white settlers and enslaved Africans arriving in South Carolina came from Barbados. The Barbadians brought with them a successful colonial model that shaped the social and economic future of South Carolina for centuries. South Carolina truly was a colony of a colony.



Map of Barbados, c. 1674. © Courtesy of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society



Map of South Carolina Colony, ca. 1711. © Courtesy of the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina



Britain



Barbados



South Carolina



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