

# Historical Inquiry Station

## Were Georgia's worthy poor actually worthy?

**Introduction:** The Georgia Trustees' motto was *Non Sibi, Sed Allis* "Not for Self, but for Others." The motto reflects the charitable nature of Georgia's founding. One of the main goals in creating the first colony was to give England's worthy poor a fresh start in the new world. Oglethorpe and the other Trustees imagined Georgia as a utopia where the industrious colonists would thrive in a Mediterranean climate with abundant and rich land. The whole scheme would provide military protection for Carolina from the Spanish threat, luxury goods at a discount price for Britain, and a new start for the poor subjects sent over on charity.

The colony's economy got off to a rough start under Trustee rule. In fact, many of the original colonists died or left Georgia for South Carolina. Although some colonists found success, many struggled to feed themselves.

What was the problem? Were the worthy poor who came over on charity simply not worthy or industrious? Was the Trustees vision faulty from the beginning?

**Directions:** Examine the four primary sources at this station to answer the question "were Georgia's worthy poor actually worthy?" Use the guided worksheet to help you form your opinion.

## Historical Inquiry Guided Worksheet

Use the space provided below to take notes on each of the four primary sources. Here are some questions to help you get started:

- How does this source characterize the colonists in Georgia?
- How does the source explain the problems in the colony?
- What solutions does this source offer for Georgia's problems?

Title:  Notes:	Title:  Notes:
Title:  Notes:	Title:  Notes:

## Historical Inquiry Guided Worksheet

Conclusion: Were Georgia's worthy poor actually worthy?

Give your opinion by writing a few sentences. Make sure to reference evidence from the four primary sources.

I think....