LAST TIME

• Spanish Colonial Settlement patterns
TODAY

• Development and colonial Latin America
• Political Independence
• Neo-colonial (post independence) Extractive Economies (begin)
Overview — development and colonial Latin America

• The “wealth of the Indies” (i.e., colonial Latin America) was created by the labor of Amerindian and Africans
• This wealth was removed from Latin America
• Huge influx of wealth essentially bankrolled the beginnings of the rise of “modern” Europe
Concept of Development

• Geography and history of colonial Latin America => spatially uneven patterns of development
• Uneven patterns of development by race/class as well — these, too are frequently spatially distinct
Definitions of development I

- Improved conditions, but for whom, of what, measured how?
  - Economic growth to increase the "economic pie"
  - Modernization
Definitions of development II

- Improved conditions, but for whom, of what, measured how?
  - Increased social welfare and quality of life
  - Greater social and economic equity, self reliance, and opportunity
  - Sustainable development
Colonial Latin American development — Spain and Portugal as the “developing” powers

• Probably did increase total economic activity
• Did not improve social welfare or quality of life generally
• Did modernize after a fashion
• Did not improve relative equity
• Did not increase self reliance or self determination
• Development was not sustainable in many cases
Latin American Political Independence

• Political but not economic
• 1810s-1820s protracted struggle for independence
• 1820s-1850s “balkanization” into smaller states
Neo-colonial (post independence)
Extractive Economies

• Governed by local ruling elites
  ➢ Welcomed foreign capital
  ➢ Same economic patterns

• Huge expansion of economies in Europe and America in later half of 19th C ⇒ export options
  ➢ Great demand for food and industrial raw materials
  ➢ Increasing availability of capital (much from US)
Neo-colonial (post independence) Extractive Economies II

• Made possible by transport and other technology improvements
  ➢ Steamships, railroads, etc
  ➢ Problems with colonial infrastructure

• Other problems
  ➢ Small size of states
  ➢ Uneven development spatially
  ➢ Neo-colonial patterns of export/import
Overview of post (or) neo-colonial economies I

• Huge expansion of pop and industry in NA & Europe => demand for foods and industrial raw materials
• Capital available
• Improved transport made LA export possible/profitable
• Small states in LA hampered internal development
Overview of post (or) neo-colonial economies II

• Port-colonial spatial-economic patterns like colonial ones
Neo-colonial developments — some examples

• Temperate zone agriculture
  ➢ Argentine pampas

• Tropical agriculture
  ➢ Bananas in C America
  ➢ Coffee in Brazil & C America

• Industrial minerals (as opposed to colonial focus on precious metals)
Temperate Zone Agriculture in Argentina

- **Argentina** neglected in colonial times except for Potosí supply routes
- By mid-19th C it was realized that the Pampas could supply Europe with hides, meat, wool, and grain
Argentine Pampa development predicated on several factors:

- Political stability
- Expanding market in Europe
- Indian threat neutralized
- Available English capital
- Nearly perfect agroecological conditions
- Improving technologies
Argentine Pampa development predicated on several factors II

• Immigration of Italian and Spanish labor by the millions
• Innovations in land tenure in Argentina
Results of this transformation

- Physical transformation of pampas
- Vast expansion of economically useful land area
- Re-orientation of spatial economy of Argentina
- Development of an extensive railroad network
- By 1900 Buenos Aires and Argentina in "top 10" world economies
- Was this "development"?
Bananas in Central America

- **Eastern** (& northern in Honduras) coastal plains best area for climate/soils
- Huge plantations developed by USA companies
- USA corporations more-or-less controlled small countries
- An expansion of spatial economy of central American countries
- Little real development
- **Declined** 1920s-30s due to disease and great depression new crops on old banana plantations
Bananas in Central America II

• Bananas move to locations on western littoral to avoid contaminated soils in E
• New disease resistant varieties - but big problems lurk for bananas
• New crops now in old banana lands (e.g., pineapples & oil palm)
Coffee in Brazil

- Large Brazilian landowners
- Coffee needs several years & labor
- Ending of slavery => immigration
- Tenant farming by immigrants
- Coffee boom initially centered on São Paulo
- Exploitative of soils
- Impact on Brazilian population
Coffee in Columbia & C. America

- High class shaded coffee mostly different beans than in Brazil
- **Columbia**
  - Mountain locations & mostly small holders in late 1800s
  - More balanced development than plantations
- **Central America**
  - Western and eastern slopes of Sierra Madres at moderate elevations
  - Some small holders — especially recently, but bulk is in the hands of wealthy local landowners
Sugar in Cuba

- Ideal local agroecological conditions
- Near huge USA market
- Sugar present but not well developed under Spanish
- USA acquired Cuba in 1898 as result of Spanish American war
- USA corporations (agribusiness) set up huge sugar plantations, mills, railroads
Sugar in Cuba

• Results
• Vast increase in output
  ➢ 50% of all land in sugar by 1930
  ➢ Labor demand => increase in immigration
  ➢ Investment in early yellow fever and malaria eradication
  ➢ USA control of Cuban economy set stage for Castro in 1959
Industrial Minerals

- **Chilean** nitrates & phosphates
- **Bolivian** Tin
- **Copper, lead, zinc** in **Peru**
- **Oil** in **Mexico** and **Venezuela**
THE END
Pampas Development
Central American
19th Century Agricultural Development

- Banana Ports
- 19th C banana development
- Later banana development
- Coffee development