

New Haven, Connecticut

New Haven was founded in 1638 by a group of about 500 Puritans who left the Massachusetts Bay Colony in search of a more "perfect" place to worship. The town was originally named Quinnipiac, after the Indians who lived in the region, but was renamed New Haven in 1640. In 1664, New Haven became part of the Connecticut Colony, and was made co-capital in 1701 (it maintained this status until 1873). In 1716, Yale University moved from Old Saybrook to New Haven. Today, it is one of the nation's most prestigious universities.

On April 23, 1775, the Governor's foot guard, a division of the Connecticut militia under the command of future traitor Benedict Arnold, demanded the keys to the Powder House (a place where guns and ammunition were stored) to arm themselves before marching to Cambridge, Massachusetts. Word of the Battles of Lexington and Concord had just reached Connecticut, and the soldiers wanted to join the budding revolution. The event is still celebrated as Powder House Day in New Haven.

In 1792, Yale graduate Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in New Haven – which made cotton processing 50 times more productive but also increased the demand for slaves.

1. What happened last?

- A. The capital of Connecticut was moved from New Haven
- B. Yale University moved to New Haven
- C. The Cotton Gin was invented
- D. The Governor's Foot Guard demanded keys to the Powder House

2. What question is not answered in the first paragraph?

- A. Where was Yale University located before it was moved to New Haven?
- B. Why was Quinnipiac renamed?
- C. When was New Haven made co-capital?
- D. Why did settlers come to New Haven?

3. Why did the Puritans settle New Haven?

- A. Because the land was fertile
- B. To be close to Yale University
- C. To find a better place to worship
- D. The Massachusetts Bay Colony was dangerous for them

4. What would be a synonym for “prestigious” as used in the sentence below?

In 1716, Yale University moved from Old Saybrook to New Haven. Today, it one of the nation’s most prestigious universities.

- A. Honored
- B. Expensive
- C. Friendly
- D. Lovely

5. What was the effect of the invention of the Cotton Gin?

- A. People needed better ways to pick cotton
- B. Eli Whitney was a great inventor
- C. The demand for slaves increased
- D. It was invented in New Haven

6. What is missing from the passage?

- A. Information about New Haven’s early history
- B. Information about New Haven’s modern history
- C. Information about when the Cotton Gin was invented
- D. Information about the Governor’s Foot Guard

7. Which is NOT true about New Haven?

- A. New Haven was not the town’s original name
- B. Eli Whitney’s famous invention was made in New Haven
- C. Powder House Day used to be celebrated in New Haven
- D. New Haven became part of the Connecticut Colony in 1664