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Spanish Silver Website Project

To create my project on Spanish Silver in the time period of this class in Atlantic History, I made my creative choices based on typical frontend design principles and strategies. For example, with color scheming I chose visible color scheming, as well as components that create a visual storytelling effect. For example I chose cards and icons to add to the overall aesthetic of the project. For Scholarship, I read "The Red Mountain ", "From Silver to Cocaine ", as well as "The Spanish Treasure Fleets' " by Walton, Timothy R. The Red Mountain gave me a lot of material for how the Spanish operated the silver mines with specialisation of jobs, as well as overall background information. From Silver to Cocaine provided one or two graphs for describing the overall economic power of Spanish Silver, and provided a wealth of information on the subject.

Finally, "The Spanish Treasure Fleets' " provided information about the Casa de Contratación, as well as the overall Spanish mechanisms for colonial exploitation for goods. As for my hopes to show with this progress, I wanted to use more technical APIs than just the map. For example I wanted to show interactive graphs, however, finding clean data proved inefficient given the time I had and I was unable to find a verifiable source for the data so I just referred to the graphs in the books assigned. Furthermore, I wanted to write more about the Spanish Treasure fleet however, the design and deploying the website had unforeseen bugs given the stack I was using so I had to prioritise that so it could be accessed by anyone instead of running locally.

The technical strength of my approach is well, it's accessible from anywhere with the internet, it's extremely fast as I used REACT so the loading times are very insignificant (and better than my personal website written without REACT). Furthermore I think showing the interactive map allows for more information to be shared to the user in an interactive way as more information pops up when the user hovers over the Spanish Mints in the Americas including their start year and Silver output.

Furthermore, I used dynamic coding methods to keep my code clean and easy to follow / change in the future. As for weaknesses, I made a mistake of using an depreciated dependency so I had to spend more time than I anticipated debugging towards the end of the project.

If I could change one thing about my project, it would be to do my research before I started on the project and take more time planning which images I would use and where. That way I could focus on either coding or researching, rather than switching between the two constantly. Also I wish I had more time to think throught the design and what components I should use and maybe choose a better color scheme.

Works Cited

Mine Images

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