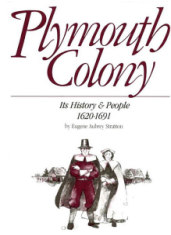
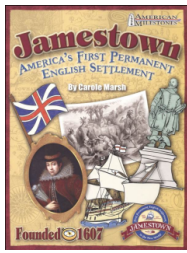


The First English Settlements



~ Objectives ~

- Explain why England wanted to establish colonies in North America.
- Describe the experience of the settlers who founded the first permanent English colony in Jamestown.
- Explain how the Pilgrims managed to survive their first years in the Plymouth Colony.

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First, England was a **monarchy**; then, the king and queen became limited by a lawmaking body called **Parliament**.



By the 1200s, the king:

- ~ could no longer punish someone without a trial and a jury
- ~ could not just tax people without going through Parliament first
- ~ still had much **more power** than Parliament



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England began establishing colonies in America in the 1500s.

First colony: 1585, Roanoke Island, off the coast of N.C. ~ abandoned one year later

Second colony: 1587, a mystery in American history ~ disappeared without a trace!



1607 - Jamestown:

- ~ About 100 wealthy men from England
- ~ Formed the Virginia Company of London
- ~ King James I backed the project
- ~ Barely survived its first year - located in swampy place, many caught malaria and died
- ~ Most were skilled in other trades... not farming
- ~ Most searched for gold
- ~ Only 38 men alive after first year



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**1608 ~ John Smith:**

~ firm leadership in **Jamestown**  
 ~ "he who works not, eats not"

~ led colonists into cutting timber, constructing buildings, and planting crops

~ Hundreds of new colonists arrived, including women

~ Raided Native American villages to get more food




Captain John Smith

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**1609 ~ John Smith Returns to England:**

~ Injured in an explosion  
 ~ Conditions in Jamestown instantly worsened  
 ~ Native Americans refused to provide food - sought to drive English out

~ Settlers quickly ran out of food  
 ~ Called the "starving time"  
 ~ By 1610, only 60 colonists still alive



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**The Virginia Company did not give up...**

~ Continued to send new colonists, offered free land to old colonists

~ Sent new leadership

~ Found tobacco: proved to be a money-maker, able to sustain colony

~ By 1620s, selling all the tobacco that they could grow!




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**The House of Burgesses ~ Lawmaking body**

~ Developed a **representative government** - people vote & elect leaders to make laws for them

~ House of Burgesses could set laws and set taxes





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**Africans Come to Virginia**

~ By the 1620s, captured Africans came to America, sold to V.A. colonists as slaves

~ Slavery was not permanent yet and slaves had a chance to earn their freedom

~ Permanent slavery was established in the late 1600s

W 96  
**FIRST AFRICANS IN VIRGINIA**  
 The first documented Africans in Virginia arrived in 1619 when a Dutch warship landed here at Point Comfort. The "twenty and odd" Africans, captured from the Spanish, were traded to the Virginia colonists in exchange for foodstuffs. Early Africans who lived here included Antonio and Isabella, and their son Willame. Likely the first black child in present-day Hampton. They served Point Comfort Captain William Tucker, and within the year, Africans were traded as indentured servants or slaves to elsewhere. The institution of slavery evolved during the 17th century as the term of service for Africans was extended for life. The U.S. abolished slavery in 1863.

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**The Plymouth Colony**

~ Wanted to separate from the Church of England and practice Christianity in their own way

~ Called "separatists" - persecuted because of religion

~ In 1620, one group of Separatists, or Pilgrims, attempted to sail to Jamestown

~ *Mayflower* was blown off course and they landed in Massachusetts



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**Why the Pilgrims wanted to leave the Church of England...**

**Henry VIII and the Church**

In 1534, Henry wanted to divorce his first wife Catherine of Aragon so that he could marry his new love, Anne Boleyn who he hoped would give him a son.

At the time, England was a Catholic country and the head of the Church, the Pope, would not allow divorce as the Catholic faith believed in marriage for life.

Henry VIII therefore set up the Church of England and made all Church officials swear that he was its leader so he could arrange his own divorce. This process was called the reformation and was confirmed by the Act of Supremacy (1534) which declared Henry to be the Supreme Head of the Church of England.

He declared any monks who spoke against him to be traitors and had them executed.



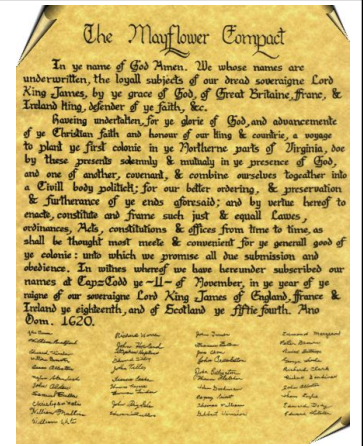
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**Landed outside of Jamestown, so...**

- Did not feel that they had to follow the rules of Jamestown

- 41 men signed the *Mayflower Compact* instead - "just and equal laws"

- First document in which the colonists claimed a right to govern themselves



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**The First Thanksgiving:**

- Very difficult first winter

- Arrived too late to plant crops; had little food

- Half the colonists died of starvation or disease in the first year

- In summer of 1621, Native Americans helped the colonists to plant crops

- Pilgrims set aside a day to give thanks for their good fortune in fall of 1621



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