

NATION: England Settles East Coast

Freedom of Religion Draws People to America



Roanoke— The Lost Colony

Roanoke, Virginia, 1591

Three English colonies have been started on Roanoke Island. Two have failed. Now the third one, started in 1587, is lost.

Searchers have found no clues except the word "CROATOAN" carved in a tree. What happened to these colonists, including Virginia Dare—the first English child born in America? Did they:

- Die of hunger and disease?
- Move to Florida to live?
- Go to live with the Indians?

Sir Walter Raleigh started Roanoke. He wanted England to be as strong in America as Spain.

But new settlers in America face hard times. Indian attacks are always a danger. Growing enough food to last the winter is hard work. And people die from disease.

English Flee Harsh Laws, Lack of Jobs for Promise of Better Life in America

America, 1640

English colonists are hurrying to America looking for freedom and jobs. A **colony** is a group of people living together in a new land but keeping ties with the mother country.

Here is what the colonists are running from:

- No choice of religion—everyone must belong to the **Church of England**. Many people secretly belong to other churches. Puritans want simple services without fancy robes and churches. Roman Catholics believe the Pope should be the head of the church—not the King of England.
- No jobs. Farmers are being chased off their land. Then rich landowners can grow richer by raising sheep on the farmland.
- Strict laws made by the King. If people complain, the King takes away their homes, money, or throws them into prison.

Here is what America promises:

- Freedom of religion. Roger Williams has opened Rhode Island to all. It does not matter if the settlers believe in God or not. Other colonies welcome believers in God from all churches.
 - New jobs. Besides needing farmers, the colonies are asking for trappers, tree cutters, fishermen, blacksmiths, dressmakers, innkeepers, barrel makers, and other workers.
 - Free land. Some towns offer rent-free land. One colony sets aside 50 acres for every new colonist.
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NATION: The Thirteen Colonies

How the Colonies Are Settled

1750: The number of people in the colonies has grown from 50,000 in 1641 to more than 2 million today. Here's a step by step trip through the settling of America.

SOUTHERN COLONIES

- 1 Jamestown, Virginia, 1607, was the first successful English colony in the New World.
- 6 Maryland, 1634, founded by Lord Baltimore.
- 10 North Carolina, 1650.
- 11 South Carolina, 1670.
- 13 Georgia, 1733, was started by James Oglethorpe. He wanted to make the colony a place for English debtors to live.
■ A debtor is someone who owes money but cannot pay.

NEW ENGLAND COLONIES

- 2 Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colony were started by religious groups.
■ Plymouth, 1620, was settled by Pilgrims.
■ Massachusetts Bay, 1630, was settled by Puritans. The two settlements came together in 1631 to make the colony of Massachusetts.
- 3 New Hampshire, 1623.
- 7 Rhode Island, 1636, was founded by Roger Williams. He left Massachusetts for religious reasons and formed this colony.
- 8 Connecticut, 1636.

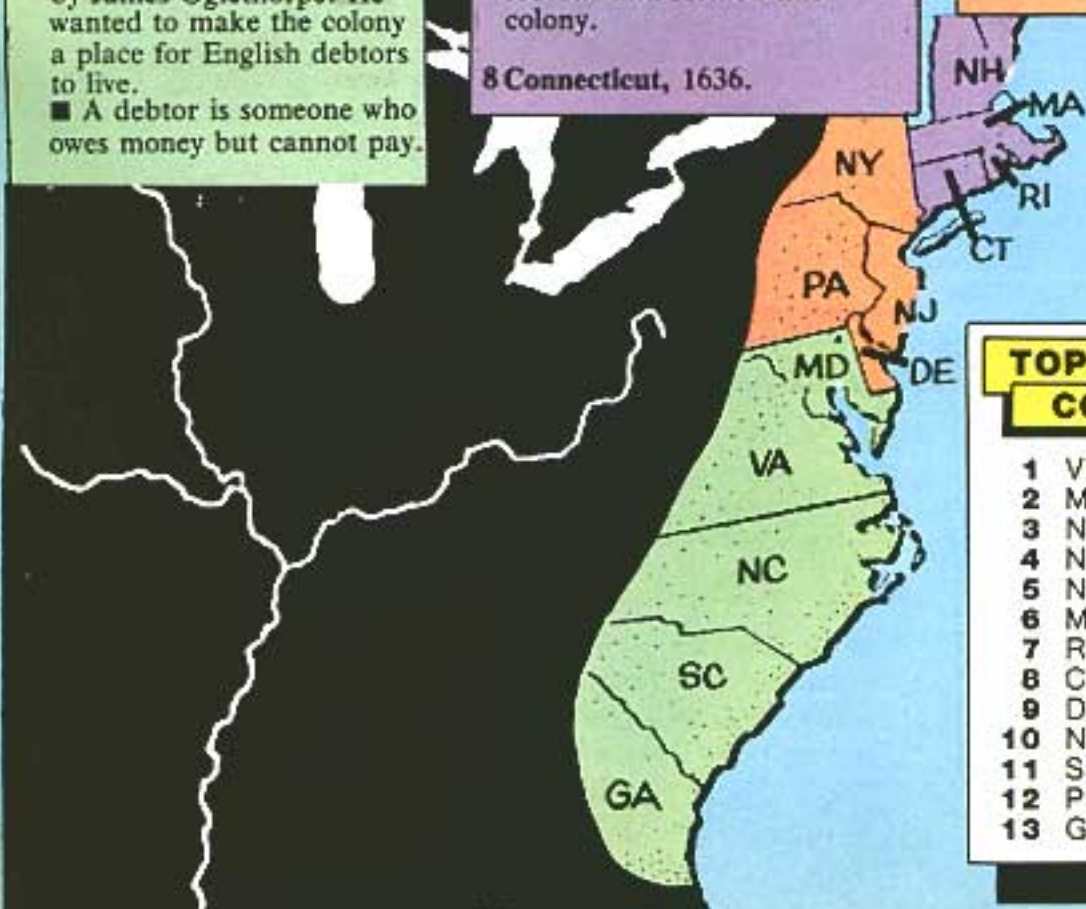
How to use this page:

Follow the path to see the growth of the Southern Colonies; the path to see the growth of the New England Colonies; and the path to see the growth of the Middle Colonies.

The date shows the year of the first settlement in the colony.

MIDDLE COLONIES

- 4 New Jersey, 1623.
- 5 New York, 1625. Used to be called New Amsterdam when it belonged to the Dutch. Later changed its name to New York.
- 9 Delaware, 1638.
- 12 Pennsylvania, 1682, was founded by William Penn. He opened the colony to Quakers.



TOP THIRTEEN COLONIES

- 1 Virginia
- 2 Massachusetts
- 3 New Hampshire
- 4 New Jersey
- 5 New York
- 6 Maryland
- 7 Rhode Island
- 8 Connecticut
- 9 Delaware
- 10 North Carolina
- 11 South Carolina
- 12 Pennsylvania
- 13 Georgia

PEOPLE: Leaders in the Colonies

Puritans and Pilgrims Settle in Massachusetts

Massachusetts, 1640

The **Pilgrims** and **Puritans**, two religious groups from England, have both settled in Massachusetts. The Pilgrims are struggling. But the Puritans are growing. Here's why:

Pilgrims:

- Came because they wanted to get away from the Church of England.

- Came first in 1620, with 102 settlers on one boat, the *Mayflower*. Started Plymouth Colony.

- Are mostly poor farmers.

- Rule themselves by the **Mayflower Compact**. This is a group agreement to make laws for the good of everyone.

- Live by hard work and friendship with Indians. The Indians have shown them how to grow corn, pumpkin, squash, beans.

- After 20 years, few new settlers have joined the Pilgrims.

Puritans:

- Came because they want to change the Church of England.

- Arrived 10 years later, in 1630, with 1,000 settlers in 17 boats. Started Massachusetts Bay Colony.

- Are all trades—blacksmiths, carpenters, doctors, lawyers, teachers, farmers.

- Rule themselves by the **Massachusetts Bay Company Charter**.

This is a grant from the King. It lets only men vote and own land, and allows only the Puritan religion.

- After 10 years, 20,000 Puritans live in Massachusetts Bay. They live by trade, making things, and farming.



Captain John Smith

Jamestown—First Successful Colony

Virginia, 1619

The 1000 men who live and work in Jamestown are now sure of the future. A ship bringing 60 women as wives has docked. But the road to success has been rocky.

The first winter, after Jamestown was settled in 1607, was the worst. Colonists died before **Captain John Smith** took charge. He made a "no work, no eat" rule. Then Smith knew everyone would work building homes and growing corn. Settlers really flooded in, though, when the colonists learned to grow tobacco. England buys all the tobacco Jamestown can send.

Roger Williams Flees Massachusetts

Rhode Island, 1636

Williams has been run out of Massachusetts for saying:

- Colonists should be free to have any religion they want.

- The church should not rule the colony.

- Colonists should pay the Indians for the land they have

settled.

Williams is building a new colony at Providence and offering religious freedom to all.

Anne Hutchinson, a friend, has also been sent away from Massachusetts. She is building a new settlement at Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

Quakers and Penn Found Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania, 1682

William Penn is bringing **Quakers** and others looking for religious freedom to Pennsyl-

vania. Not only does Penn allow freedom of religion, he also promises them 500 acres of land and peace with the Indians.

Georgia Home for Debtors

Georgia, 1733

James Oglethorpe has found a way to free English debtors from prison—send them across the ocean. The first group of men he has saved from prison have just landed in Savannah, Georgia.

In England, debtors [people

who cannot pay their bills] are thrown into prison. Oglethorpe is sorry for them. He started the new colony of Georgia to give debtors a new life. Each gets 50 acres of land on which to make a fresh start.

Ship Brings Slaves

Virginia, 1619

The first black slaves arrived in America today. They were brought by a Dutch trader. They were quickly sold to work in the tobacco fields.

Indentured Servants

The poor and jobless from England are flocking to America—as indentured servants. To pay for the trip, they promise to work without pay for up to seven years. After seven years, they are free.

NATION: Three Regions in the Colonies

Three Areas Make 13 Colonies Self-Supporting

The different resources and weather in the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies have all the things needed for America to become a self-supporting nation [able to run itself].



NEW ENGLAND COLONIES

- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- Connecticut
- Rhode Island



Nickname: Known as the "Colonial Workshop" because of the lumbering, shipping, and fishing done here.
Settlers: Mostly Pilgrims and Puritans from England and Scotland looking for religious freedom.
Farming: Small farms lie all around each village. Each farm is run by one family.
Crops: Grow what is needed for their own families and towns.
Slaves: Very few, since the small farms do not need many slaves to help with the work.
Schooling: Puritans feel it important to learn religion. More New Englanders can read and write than can people in the other parts of the colonies.



MIDDLE COLONIES

- New York
- Delaware
- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey



Nickname: Known as the "Bread Basket" because there is much wheat grown here.
Settlers: Mostly people from Holland and Sweden.
Farming: Fairly large farms around the countryside.
Crops: Grow extra food to sell, mostly wheat.
Slaves: Small number of slaves. Not as important here as in the south because farm sizes are smaller.
Schooling: Many schools. Often started by churches.



SOUTHERN COLONIES

- Virginia
- Maryland
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Georgia



Nickname: Known as the "Colonial Greenhouse" because of the large amount of crops grown here.
Settlers: Groups of people looking for religious freedom from the other colonies.
Farming: Large farms called plantations, and smaller farms like those of the New England and Middle Colonies.
Crops: Grow rice and tobacco to sell.
Slaves: Many slaves to help run the plantations. Also many indentured servants.
Schooling: Few schools. Wealthy people hire tutors. Also, apprenticeships taught skills [a beginner learns a job by working with a person already in that job].