

Ch. 2, p. 28-35

England Plants the Jamestown Seedling

1606 - Virginia Company formed

- purpose - gold / NW passage
- would disband in a few years = pressure to make a profit
- VC Charter guaranteed them the rights of Englishmen → all future colonists, too
- landed near mouth of James R. where they were attacked by NA
- built fort called Jamestown on May 24, 1607
- 100-ish male settlers
- Early years of Jamestown
 - settlers died in large #s from disease, malnutrition
 - rich gentlemen wouldn't work
 - Cpt. John Smith takes over
 - "he who won't work, won't eat"
 - had met Powhatan, Pocahontas, who became a go-btw. for Ind. & settlers
 - still had to eat rats & mice → food was scarce, during "starving time" 1609-1610
 - 1610 - Lord DeLa Warr arrives in relief
 - imposes strict military rule, deals w/ NA
 - still, VA remains a harsh place for those who remain in the colony

Cultural Clashes in the Chesapeake

- In early days, Powhatan dominated the area
 - Eng. char. all Ind., wrongly, as Powhatan
 - at 1st, he may have considered them allies, but conflict cont'd, they stole food

- Relations grew worse under De La Warr
 - VC declares war against Ind.
 - raid villages, burn houses & fields, take food
 - First Anglo-Powhatan War ends with marriage of Pocca & John Rolfe in 1614
 - lasts 8 yrs, but Ind., pushed by settlers, attack in 1622, killing 347, incl. Rolfe
 - Colonists declare a perpetual state of war
- The second Anglo-Powhatan war, 1644
 - last effort to dislodge colonists
 - defeated in 1646 and forced to stay in a designated area of settlement
 - by 1685 - essentially extinct, falling victim to 3Ds:

1. Diseases - like smallpox, to which they had no immunity
2. Disorg. - not united to fight colonists
3. Disposability - provided no effective economic support for colony - just took up space - & land

The Indians' New World

- Though NA's lives had always been shaped by adaption/change, not like this
 - Horses - allow for nomadic lifestyle, transport
 - Diseases not only killed people but disrupted clan networks and forced migration