

The Virginia Colony



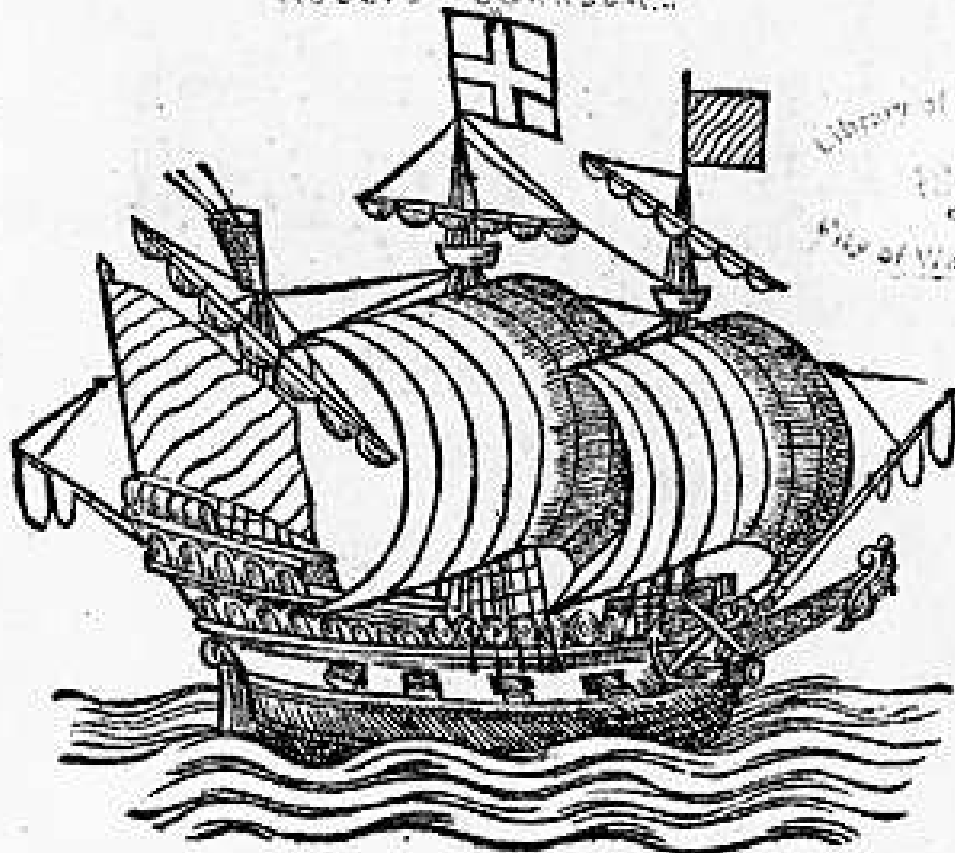
NOVA BRITANNIA: *J. Bar*

OFFERING MOST

Excellent fruites by Planting in
VIRGINIA.

Exciting all such as be well affected
to further the same.

Robert Johnson?

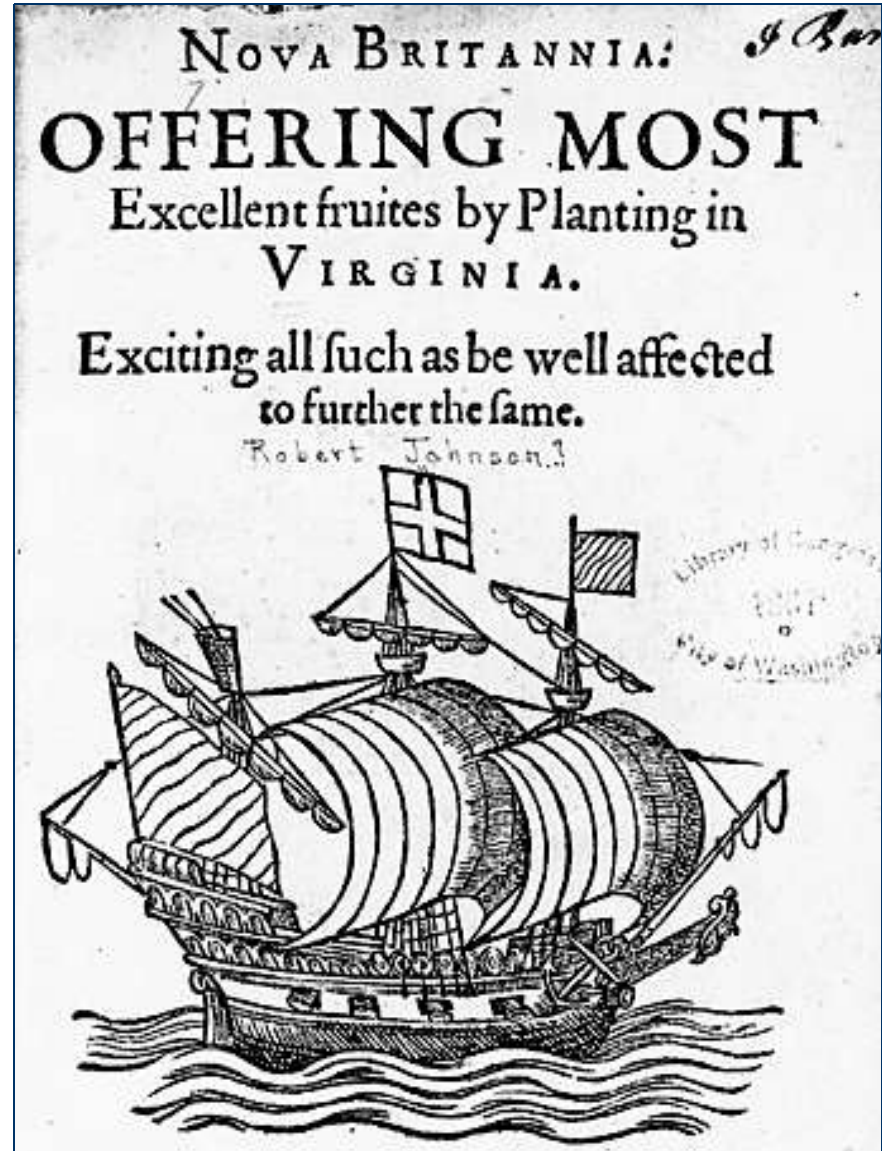


What does this advertisement reveal about the Jamestown colony?

Unlike the Spanish & French, the British colonies were not funded or strictly controlled by the king:

Joint-stock companies were formed by entrepreneurs in Britain who hoped to profit by establishing a colony

Once a charter was gained from the king, the company could maintain a colony in the New World

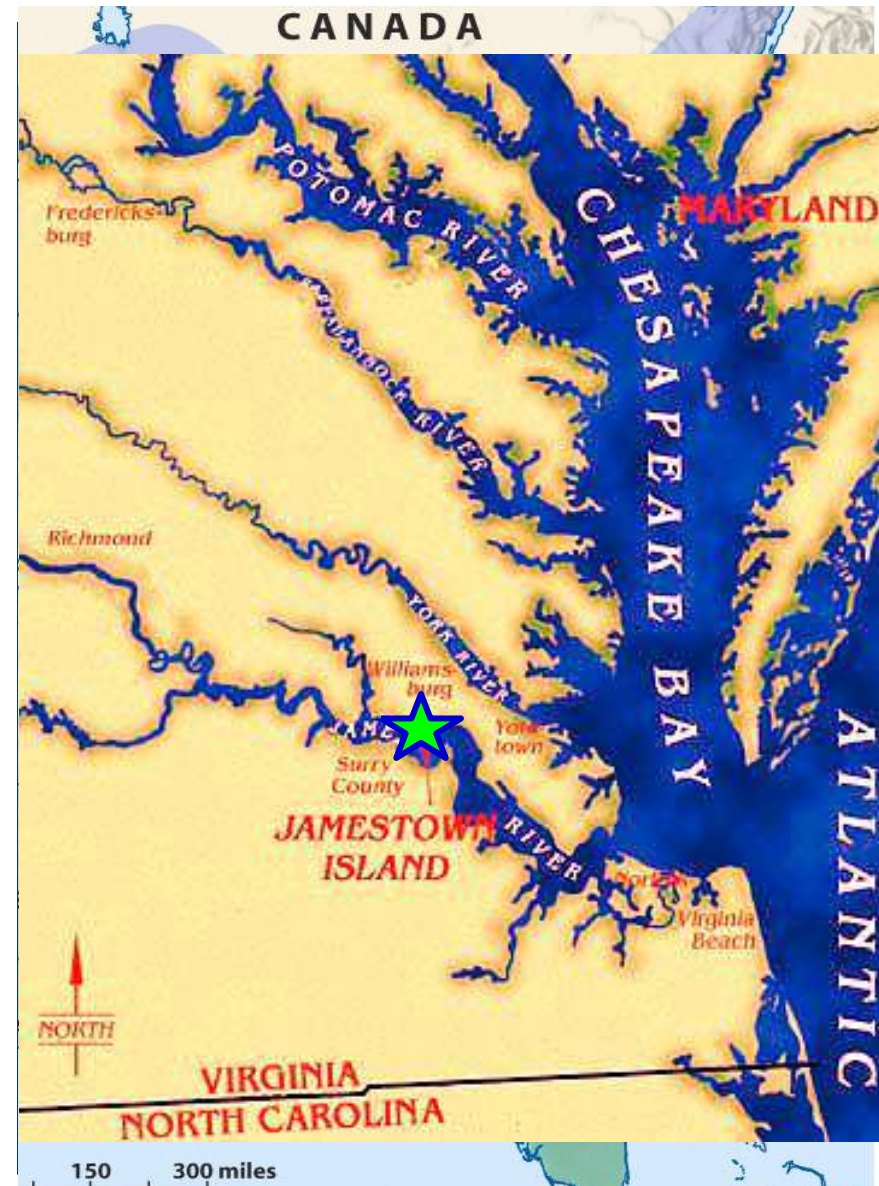


Jamestown, Virginia

In 1606, the Virginia Company was formed by investors hoping to find gold in the New World

In 1607, settlers founded Jamestown, which became the first permanent British colony in America

Jamestown was founded along the Chesapeake Bay in present-day Virginia



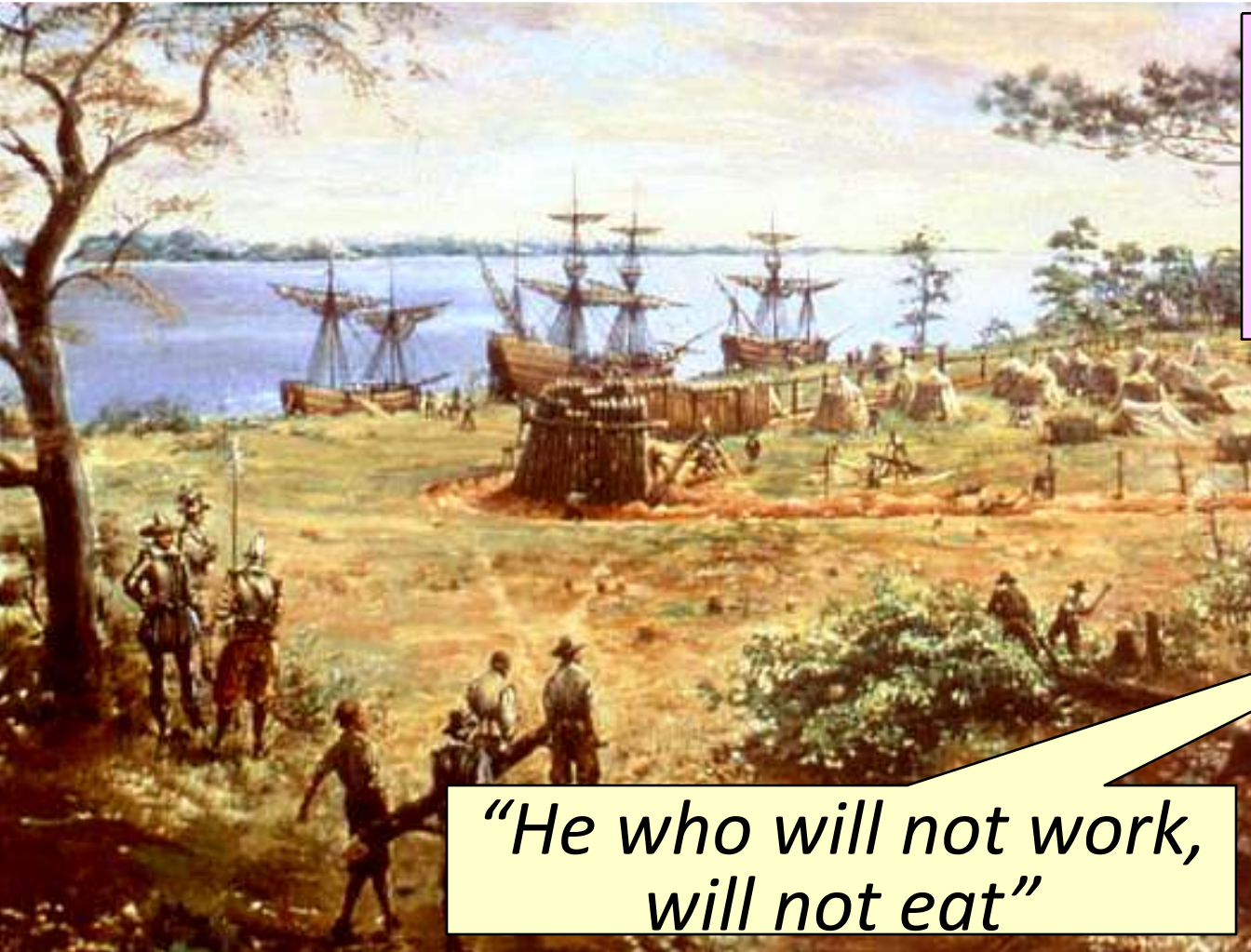
What were some possible advantages of this location? Disadvantages?



Settlers built a fort, but struggled to survive in their first years in America

Settlers arrived looking for gold so they did not prepare to stay long in America; They did not plant crops & faced starvation

John Smith took control & forced settlers to farm



"He who will not work, will not eat"



Jamestown was located on a swamp & led to outbreaks of disease among colonists

Jamestown was located in territory controlled by the Powhatan Indians who attacked the settlement

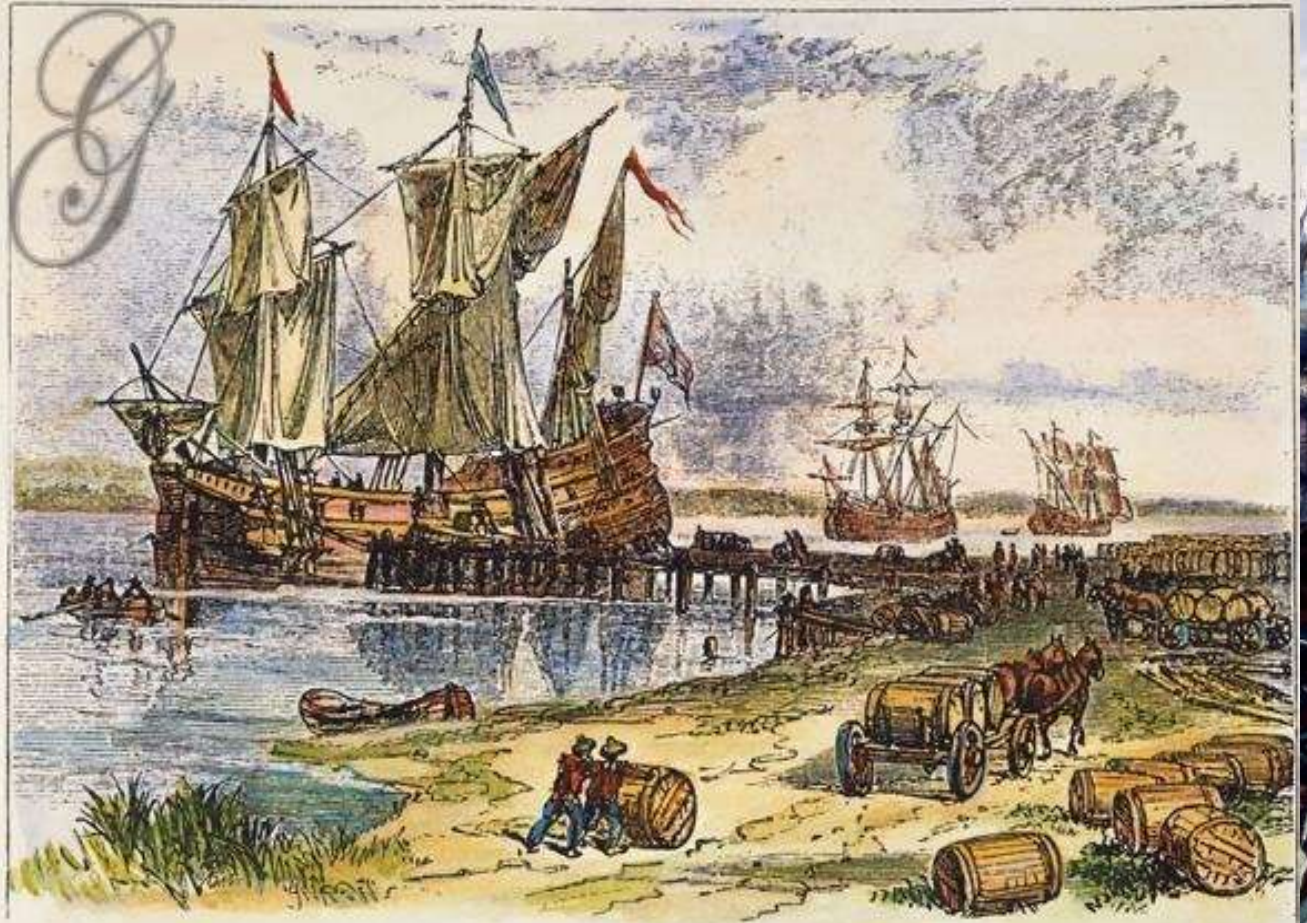


What does this image reveal about Jamestown?



After the Jamestown colonists failed to find gold, the joint-stock investors demanded that colonists find a way to make money

In 1612, John Rolfe introduced tobacco in Jamestown which was popular in Europe & made investors money



Tobacco Ships in the James.



Tobacco became so profitable that colonists planted more, built large plantations, & expanded to find new land for farming

Due to the success of tobacco, the Jamestown settlement expanded into the Virginia colony

The London Company

wants settlers to go to
Virginia

Free Land!
Free ship fare!

sign up now to work
for a Virginia Planter

Work for 7 years to pay
back the planter for your
fare to Virginia. After
7 years you will receive
Land, clothing, some live-
stock and tools.

Come! Be an indentured
servant. Then start a
life of your own!

Tobacco created a need
for field laborers to plant
& pick the tobacco

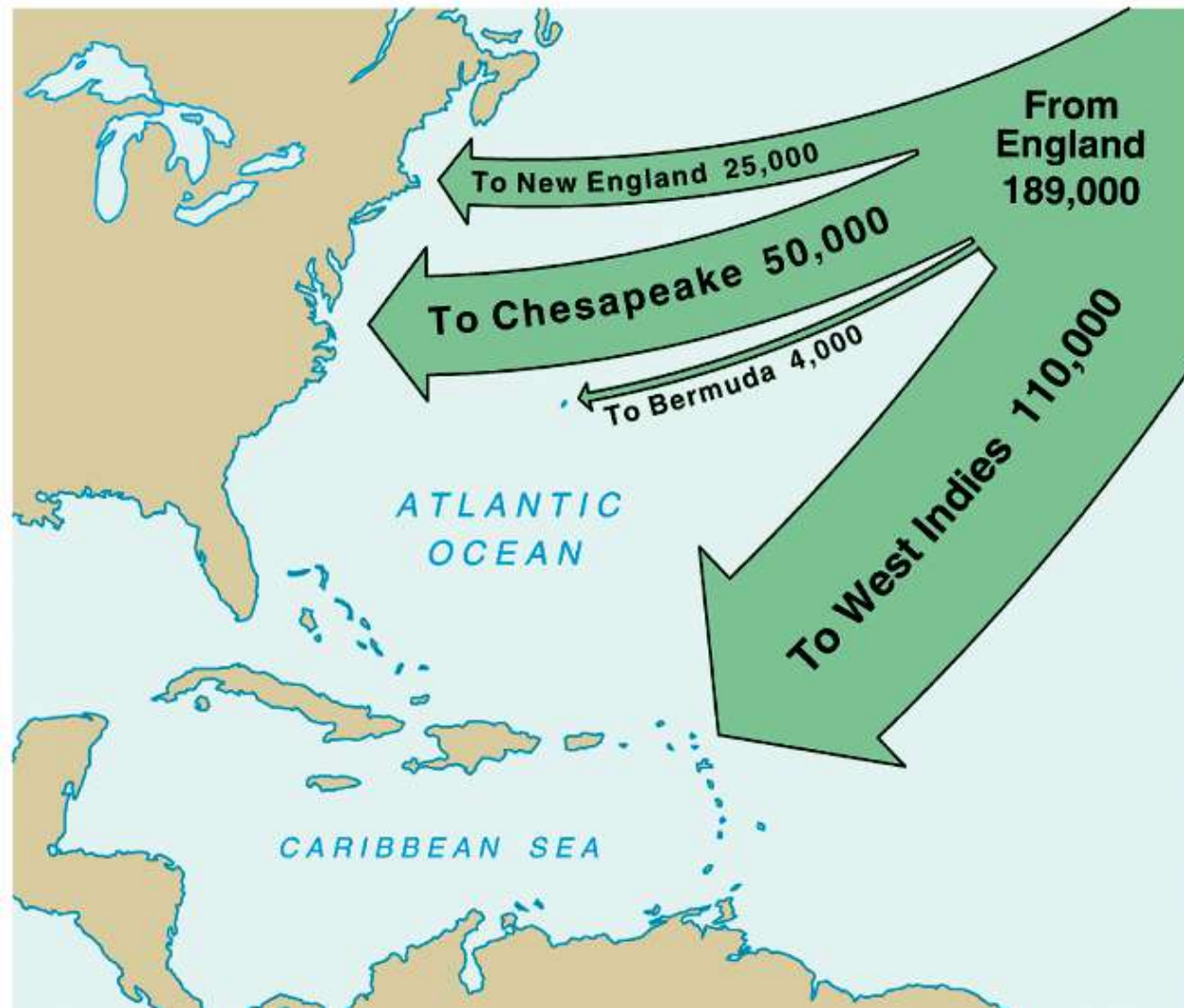
To meet the demand for
workers, landowners in
Virginia used indentured
servants from England

Indentured servants were
typically poor men or
women who agreed to
work for a land owner for
4 to 7 years in exchange
for their travel to America

In 1618, Virginia introduced the headright system which gave 50 acres to anyone who brought an indentured servant to America

The large population of poor people in Britain led thousands of people to immigrating as indentured servants by 1700

Indentured servants were worked hard, treated badly, & many died before their contracts ended



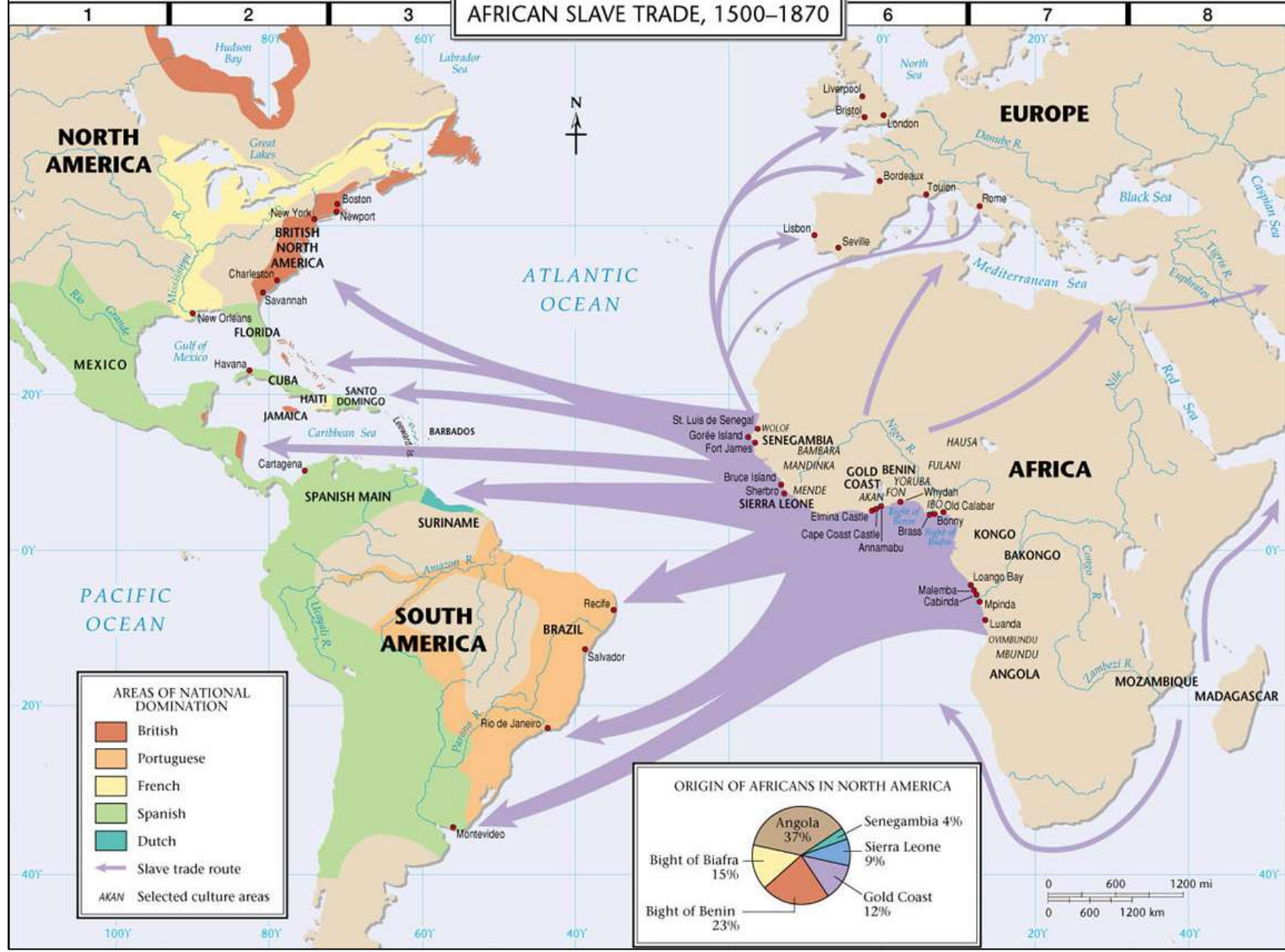


0066970 JAMESTOWN: SLAVERY, 1619.

In addition to indentured servants, Virginia landowners also used African slaves who were first brought to Jamestown in 1619

In the mid-1600s, fewer indentured servants came to America as the British economy improved; As a result, African slavery replaced indentured servitude as the dominant labor system in Virginia

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE, 1500-1870



African slaves were transported from Africa to America on slave ships across the “Middle Passage”

Slave auction upon arrival in America



Social Hierarchy in the Chesapeake

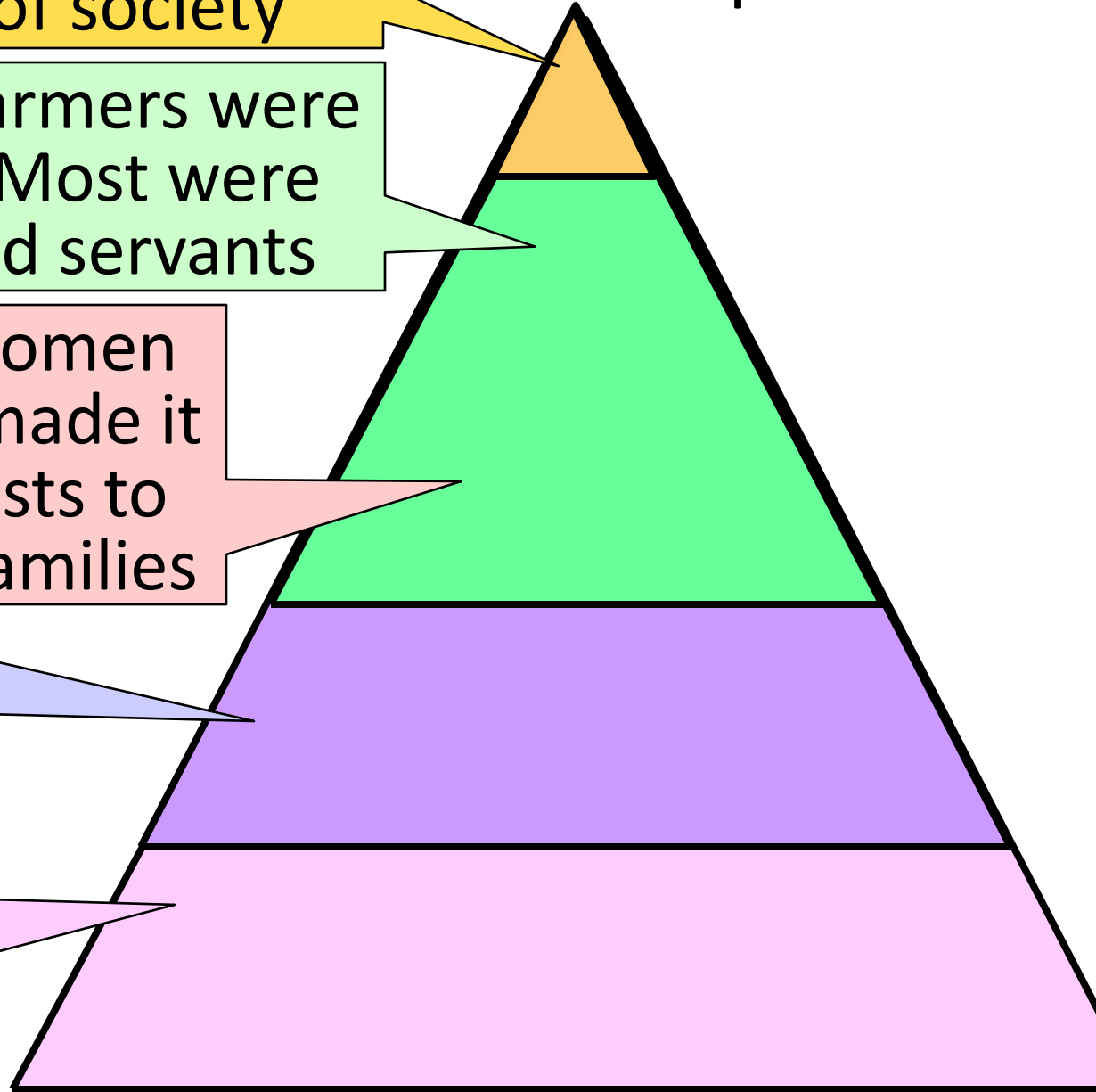
Owners of tobacco plantations were at the top of society

Poor, small-scale farmers were the largest class; Most were former indentured servants

There were few women in Virginia, which made it difficult for colonists to marry or to have families

Indentured servants were often mistreated

African slaves were at the bottom of society



Why are these men gathered here?



Meeting of the Assembly in the Settlement of Virginia.

Virginia colonists needed laws to maintain order but the British government was thousands of miles across the Atlantic Ocean

In 1619, Virginians formed the House of Burgesses which was the first legislative assembly in America

Virginia was a royal colony so it had a governor chosen by the king, but the House of Burgesses made the important decisions regarding taxes & laws



Meeting of the Assembly in the Settlement of Virginia.

Even though the leaders of the House of Burgesses were elected, they were rich planters who did not always represent the poor farmers of the colony

Former indentured servants in western Virginia suffered from low tobacco prices & frequent Indian attacks

Poor farmers, led by Nathaniel Bacon, blamed Virginia's governor for not protecting them & started a rebellion



Bacon's Rebellion proved to rich Virginians that slaves were better than indentured servants because slaves would never ask for land

The New England Colonies



In what ways was colonial New England different from colonial Virginia?



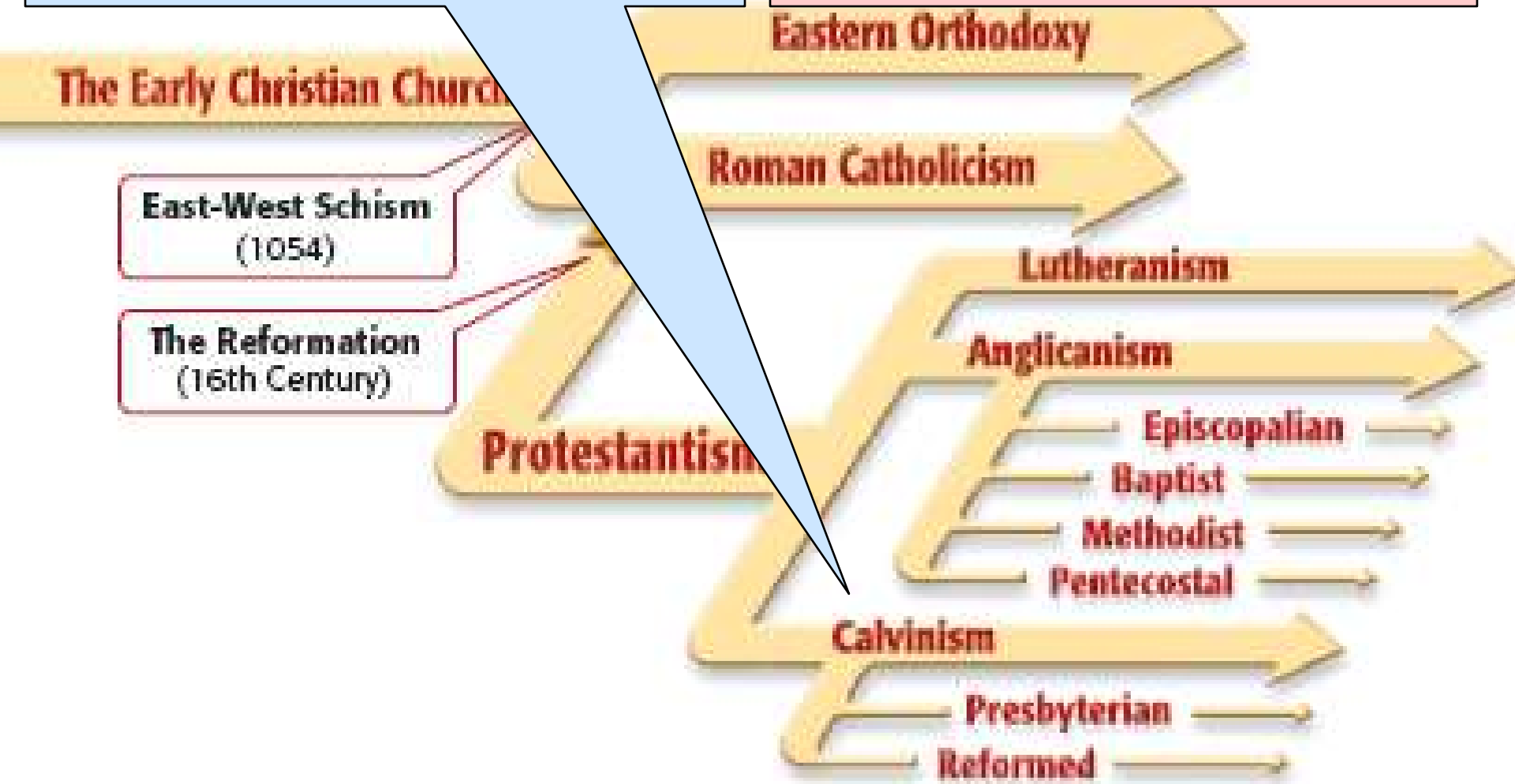
The colonists who first settled in New England came for religious reasons

Religious disagreements in Britain led to divisions in the Anglican Church



Puritans believed in the Calvinist idea of predestination & tried to live strictly “Christian” lives without sin

Puritans believed that the Anglican Church compromise too far by allowing some Catholic rituals



Some radical Puritans were known as Separatists because they unwilling to wait for church reforms

The Separatists became “Pilgrims” when they formed a joint-stock company, gained a charter, & created the Plymouth colony in America



Before landing in America, the Pilgrims created the Mayflower Compact agreeing to work together as a “civil body politick” ...

...The Mayflower Compact was the first example of self-government in America



When the Pilgrims founded Plymouth in 1620, they faced disease & hunger

The Pilgrims received help from local natives like Squanto & Massasoit...

...and celebrated the first Thanksgiving to honor the local Indians



When the Separatist Pilgrims came to America, the Puritans remained within the Church of England

But when the Catholic King Charles I came to power, Puritans felt the time was right to leave Britain

In 1630, the Puritans arrived in Boston & created the New England colony of Massachusetts



From 1630 to 1640, Puritan leader John Winthrop led 16,000 Puritans to the Massachusetts Bay colony as part of the “Great Migration”



John Winthrop wanted to build Boston as a “city on a hill” to be a model to other Christians

What makes New England society unique?



Massachusetts was a different colony from Virginia:

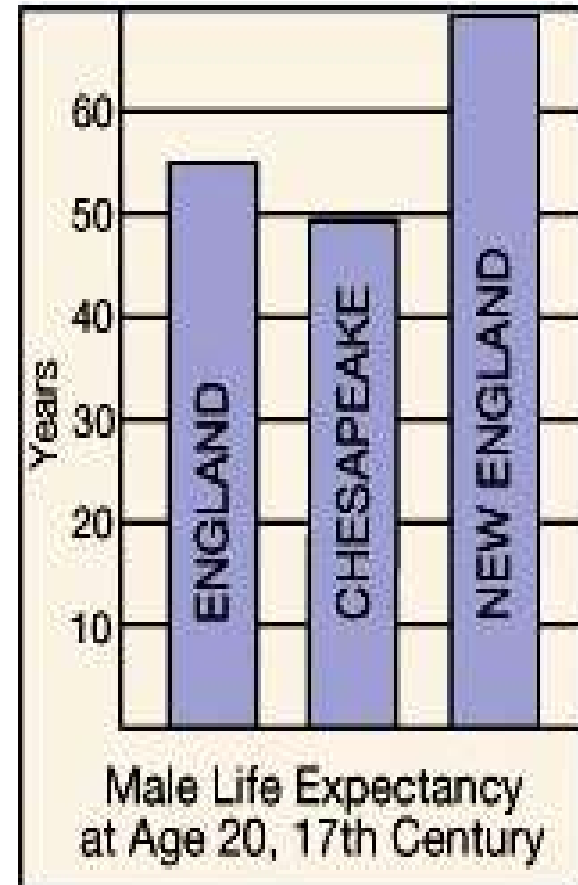
Puritans came to America for religious freedom

Puritan settlers usually came as families

Settlers sacrificed for the common good, built schools, & focused on subsistence farming



New England was a more healthy place to live than Virginia so colonists lived longer

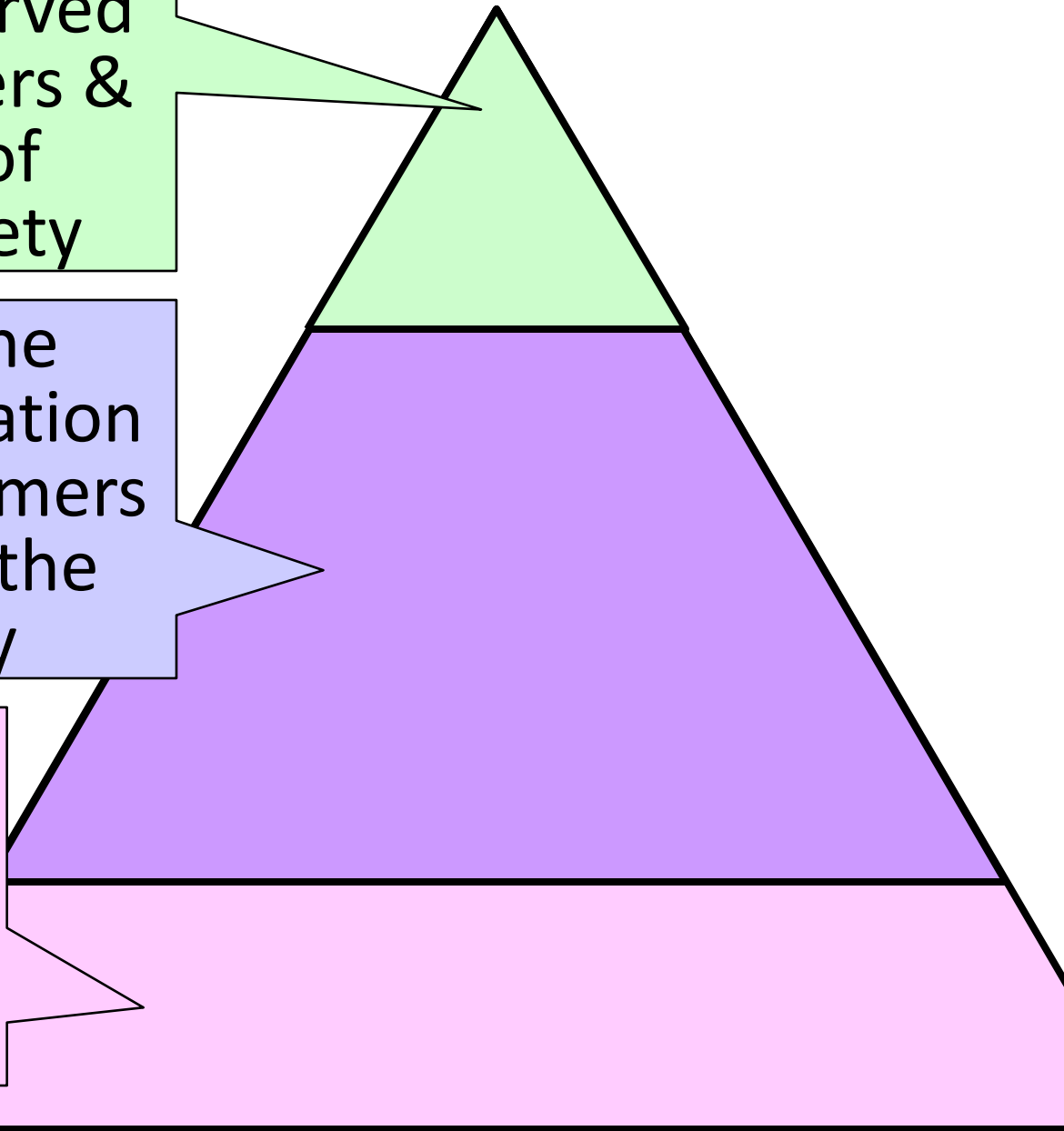


Social Hierarchy in New England

Religious leaders served as government leaders & were at the top of New England society

The majority of the New England population were small-scale farmers who were loyal to the local community

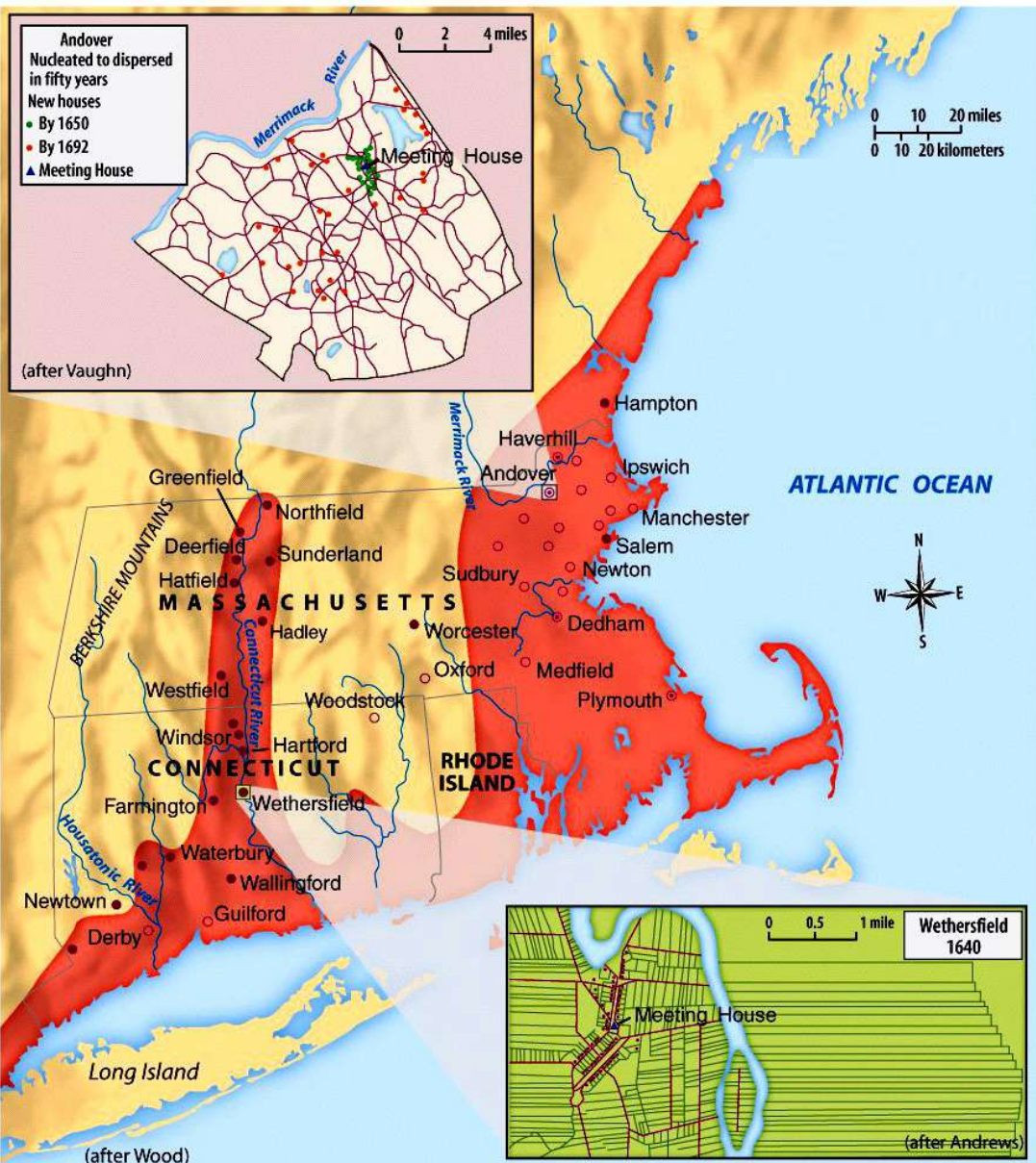
At the bottom of society was the small population of poor landless laborers & servants





What functions could this building have served in New England?

Government in the New England colonies centered on the church through town meetings

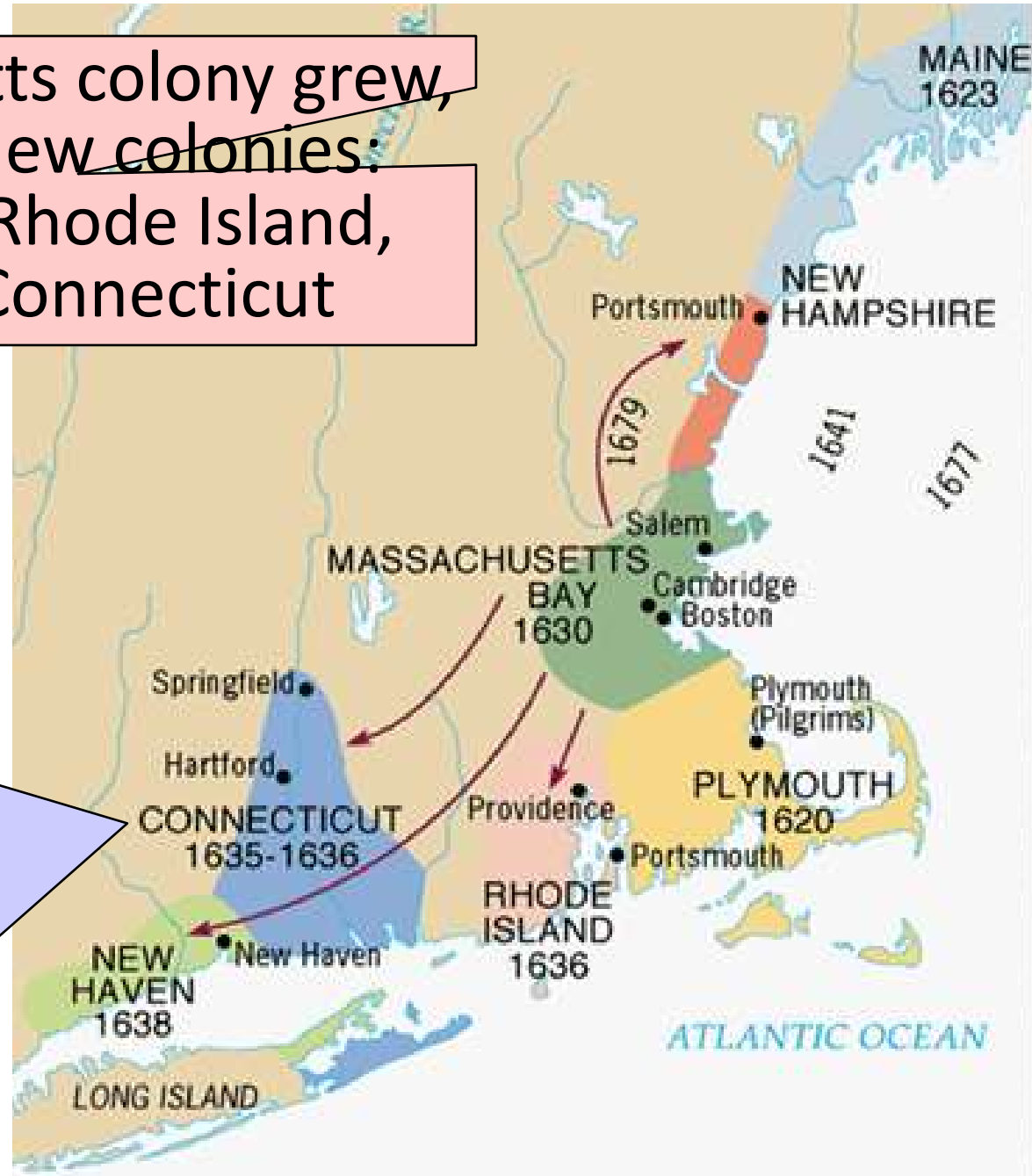


Each New England town was independently governed by local church members

All adult male church members were allowed to vote for local laws & taxes

As the Massachusetts colony grew,
it spawned four new colonies:
New Hampshire, Rhode Island,
New Haven, & Connecticut

Connecticut
was important
for creating the
first written
constitution in
U.S. history called
*The Fundamental
Orders of
Connecticut*



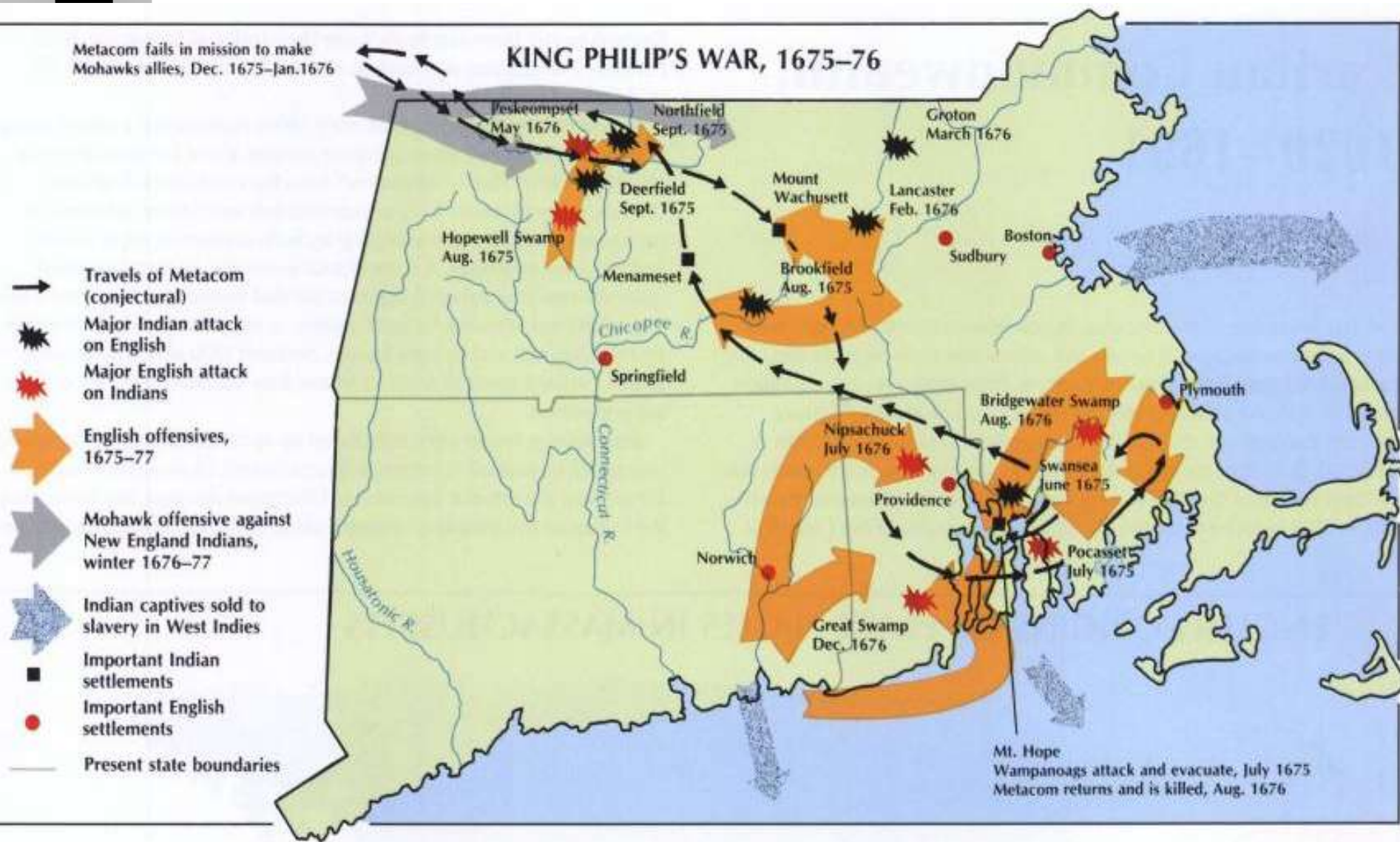
New England Puritans did not like ideas that differed from their own beliefs



Roger Williams was banished from Massachusetts for demanding that Indians be paid for their land; He formed Rhode Island in 1636

Anne Hutchinson was banished for challenging Puritan authority

What is going on in this image?

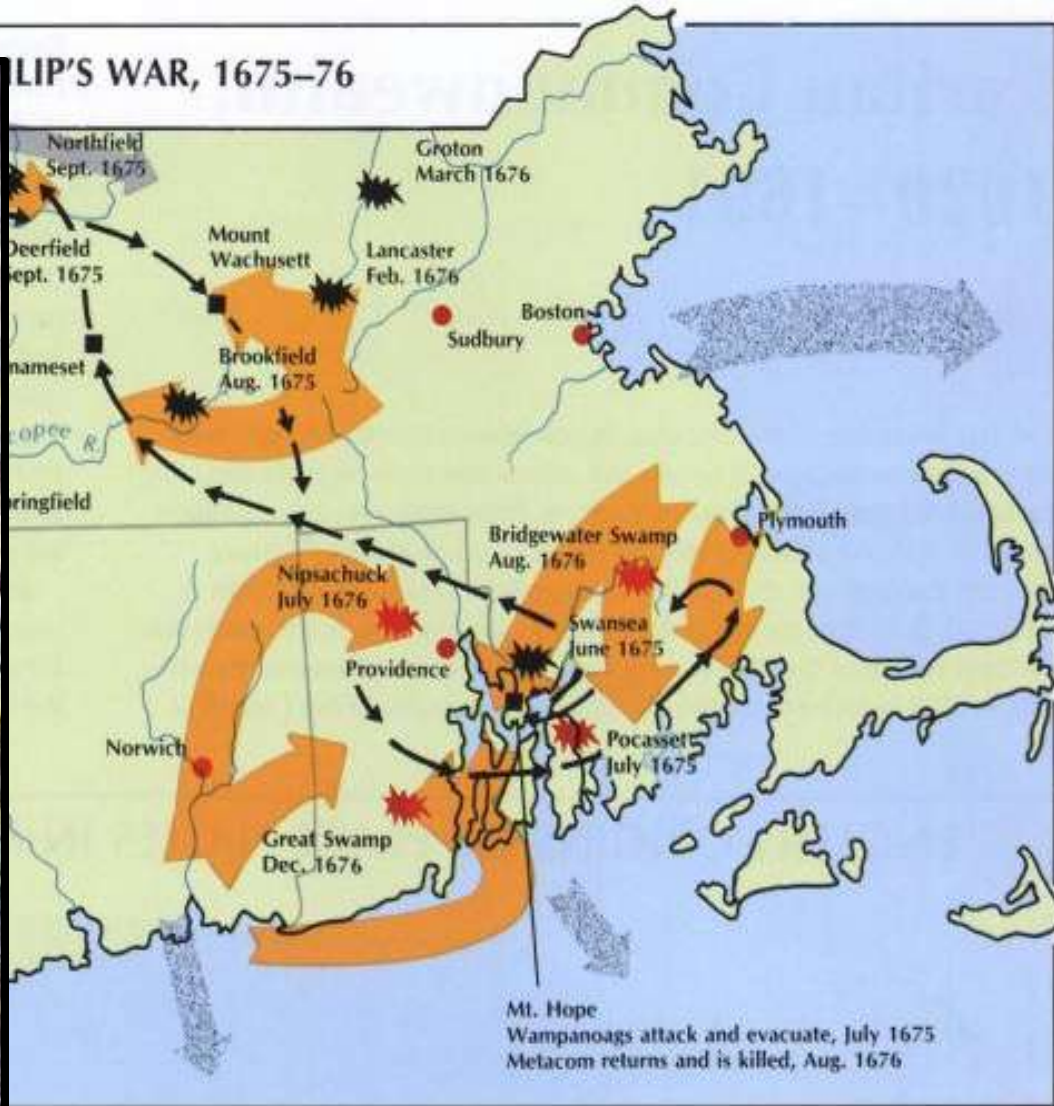


As the New England colonies expanded into new lands, conflicts with Indians arose



The Pequot War in 1637 was the 1st major British-led attack on Indians & led to the death of 600 Indians

King Philip's War broke out in 1675 when the Wampanoag Indians raided towns, killing 10% of the colonial New England men



What might have caused the hysteria shown in this image?



By the 1660s, many New England towns experienced a drop-off in church membership

Churches responded with the Halfway Covenant which gave full church membership to people who had not had a “conversion experience”



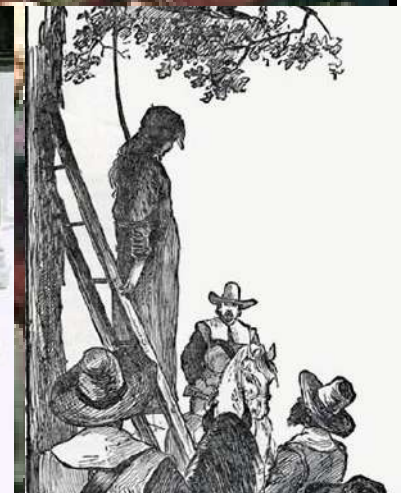
This compromise brought people back to the church, but showed the declining importance of religion in New England

Religion played a role in the Salem witchcraft trials in 1692 when several young girls accused people of being witches



The hysteria was caused by tensions over land ownership, Indian attacks, & religious disagreements

As a result of the trials, 19 people were killed & 150 citizens were jailed





The Mid-Atlantic & Lower South Colonies

In what ways might the middle colonies be different from the Virginia & NE colonies?



The 1st “middle” colony was New Netherland created by the Dutch West India Company



Dutch governor Peter Stuyvesant resisted Britain's takeover of New Netherlands but could not get the colonists to assist him

To attract settlers, the Dutch recruited Swedes, Germans, & Africans; New Netherland became very diverse

Britain did not like the Dutch a colony between their Chesapeake & New England colonies

In 1664, Britain seized the Dutch colony from Governor Stuyvesant & renamed it New York

In what ways might Pennsylvania be different from other British colonies?



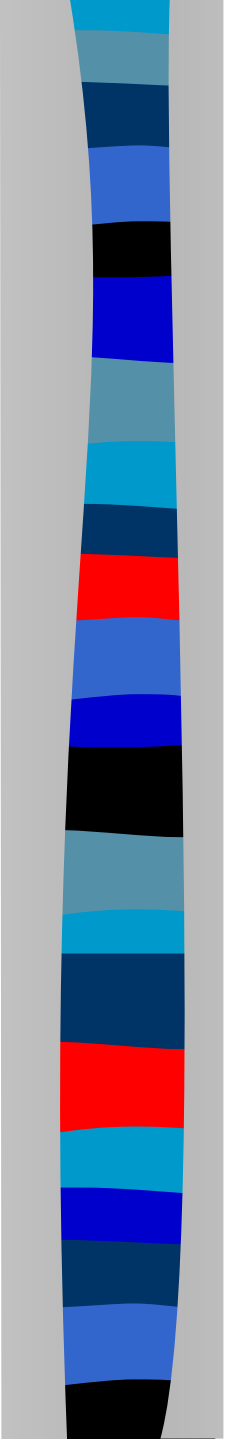
Quakers

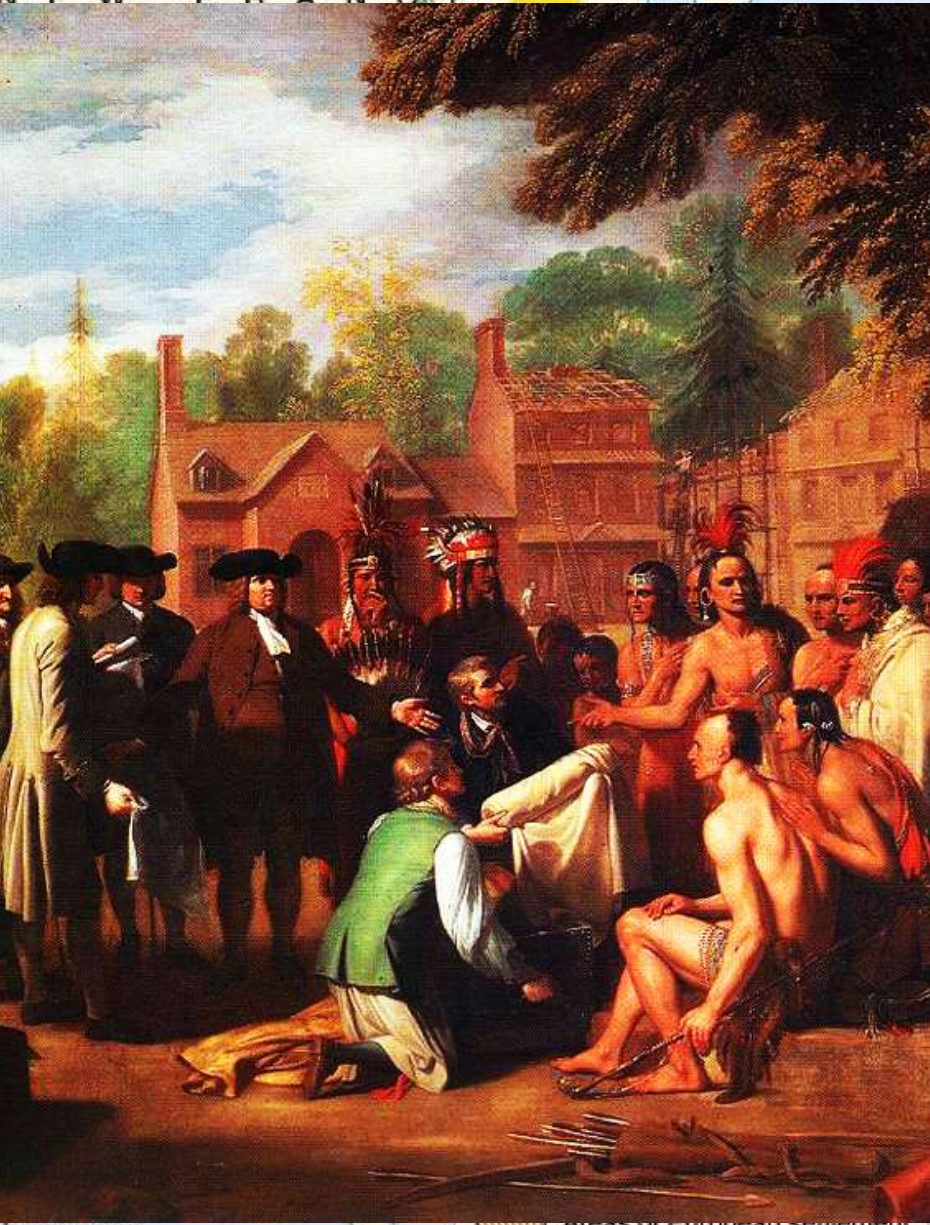
- Quaker movements are all generally united in a belief in the ability of each human being to experientially access "that of God in every person", and therefore they profess the priesthood of all believers
- Quakerism gained a considerable following and the numbers increased to a peak of 60,000 in England and Wales by 1680
- The persecution of Quakers in North America began in 1656 when English Quaker missionaries Mary Fisher and Ann Austin began preaching in Boston.
- The three colonies that tolerated Quakers at this time were West Jersey, Rhode Island, and Pennsylvania, where Quakers established themselves politically.



One of the most important middle colonies was Pennsylvania which was founded by William Penn in 1681



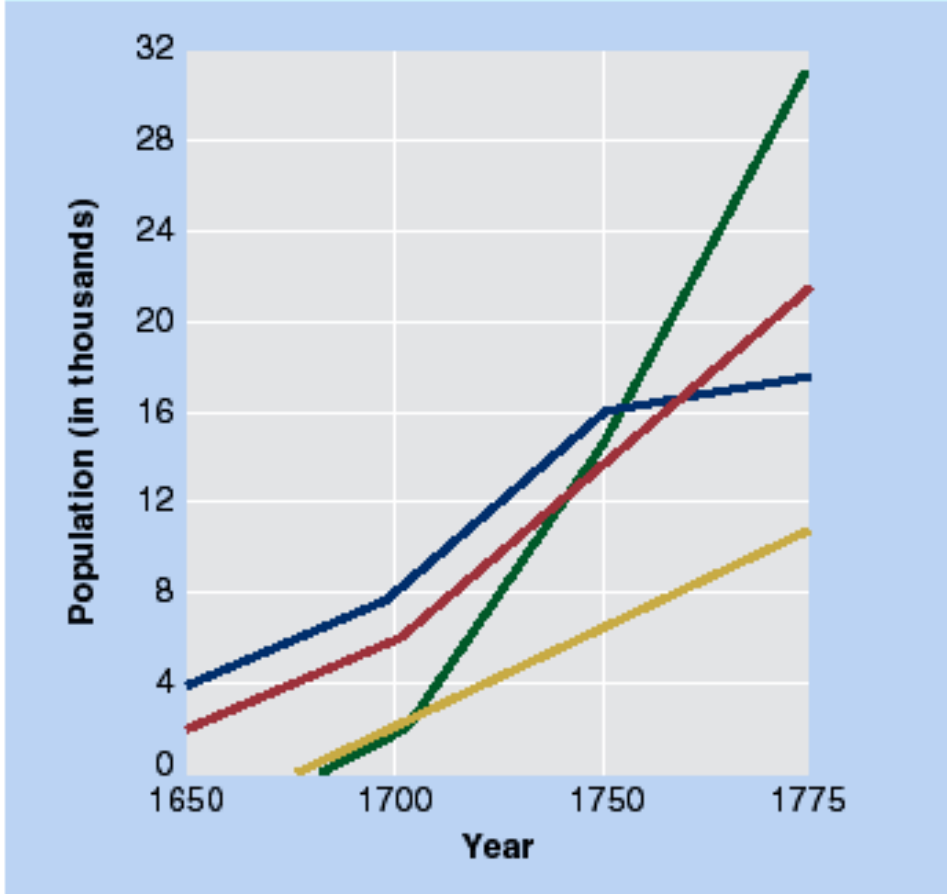




Penn was a member of a religious sect called Quakers who believed in the “Inner Light,” all people are equal, & that people can communicate directly with God

Penn founded his colony as a “holy experiment” to promote religious toleration; He bought land from the Indians, banned slavery, & allowed a diverse population to move there

The middle colonies had two of the best ports for trade in America: Philadelphia & New York



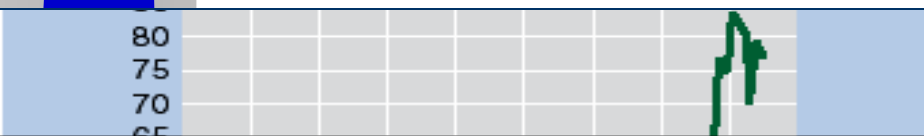
— Boston — New York — Philadelphia — Charleston

The image below is from the
“Lower South” colony of South Carolina?
Which other colony might it be similar to?

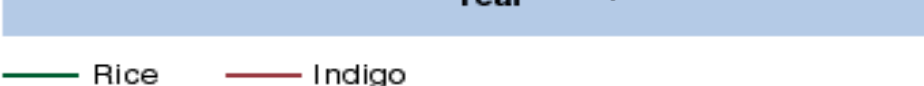


The Lower South colonies were the last British colonies to be formed

The Carolinas & Georgia developed like Virginia with a cash crop economy, slavery, & gaps between rich & poor colonists



Georgia was created by James Oglethorpe as a buffer colony between Carolina & Spanish Florida & was populated by British debtors & prisoners



In addition to the 13 colonies in North America, Britain also had colonies in the Caribbean

Colonies like Barbados & Jamaica were profitable, especially producing sugar for Britain

