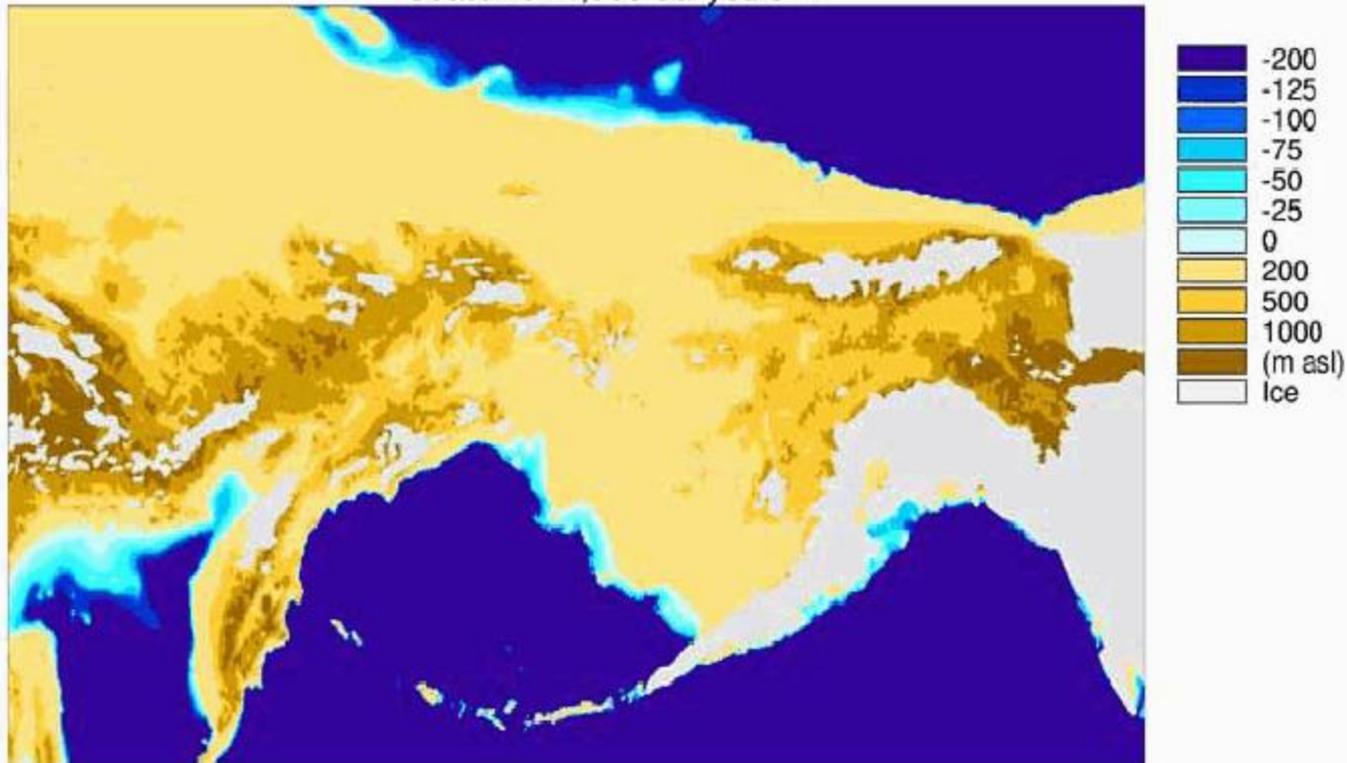# UNIT 1

Origins of a New Nation

First Americans

First people came to North America on land bridge

PALE Paleoenvironmental Atlas of Beringia
Coastline 21,000 Cal years BP

Explorers

- 4 main countries: <u>Portugal</u>, France, <u>Spain</u>, & England
- <u>The Columbian Exchange</u> - travels over the Atlantic Ocean where exchanged items such as foods, animals, and also terrible diseases – pg. 25
- The 3 G's:
- God – convert natives to Catholic (set up missions)
- Glory – seek fame and fortune
- Gold – money

Explorers Cont.

- <u>Spanish</u> settle in modern day Mexico, try to spread religion by setting up Missions in modern day Texas.

- <u>British Colonies</u> – early 1600s along the Atlantic coast – spread religion, seek business opportunities

- <u>French Colonies</u> – develop along Canadian Border (p 40) in area called New France – began a very successful fur trade. Made peace w/ Native Americans
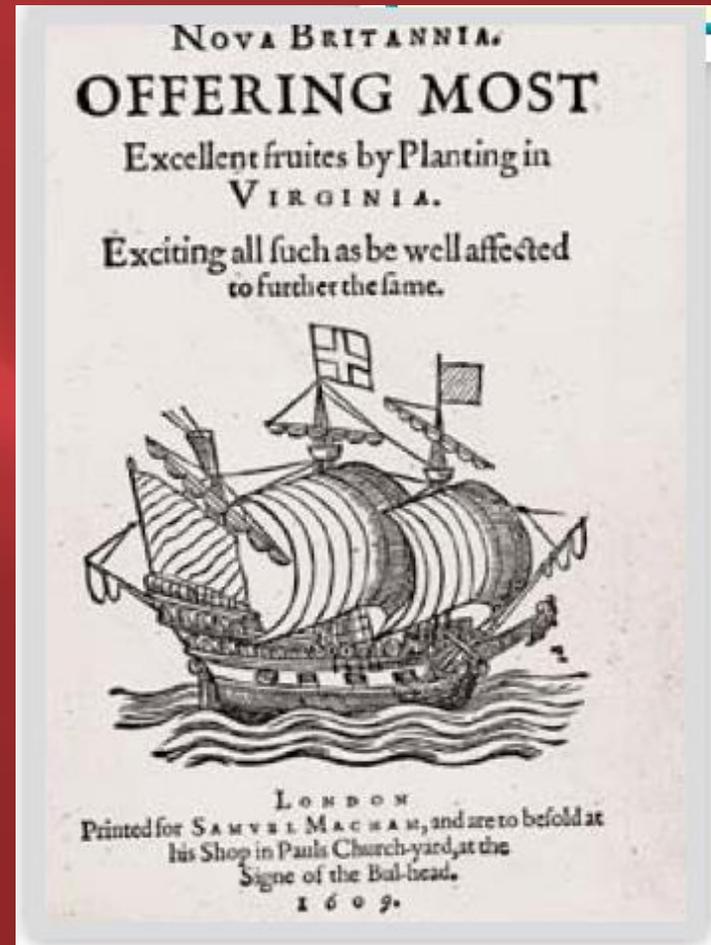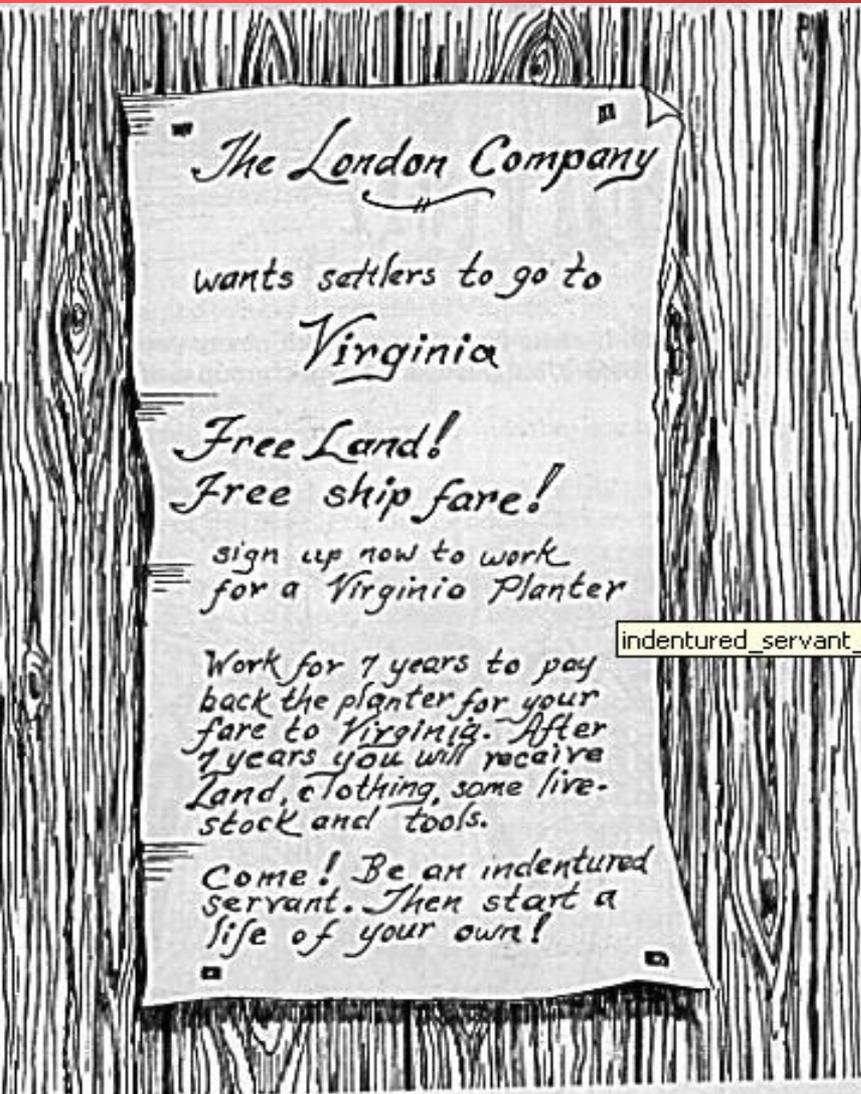
Jamestown

- Est by Virginia Company (a joint stock company) in 1607
- Colonists had to deal with the Native Americans
- United by rule of Powhatan
- Powhatan hoped to use colonists to his advantage
- He wanted to trade w/ them also
- Colonists wanted the Indian lands

- John Smith emerged as a strong leader
- Colony almost died out due to disease and hunger (only 20% of the 10,000 people transported would survive)
- War broke out between colonists and Indians
- Pocahontas captured (Powhatan's daughter)
- Powhatan dies

Role of Tobacco

- Tobacco required labor.
- Virginia Company implemented "headright system" (anyone who paid for their own or another's passage to Virginia got 50 acres of land)
- Immigration to the colony increased.
- Land grants were given to anyone who could transport large numbers of people to Virginia.
- Large groups of people settling land grant were called "plantations".
- By 1620, 1.5 million pounds each year went to England from the colonists.

NOVA BRITANNIA.

OFFERING MOST

Excellent fruites by Planting in VIRGINIA.

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

LONDON
Printed for SAMVEL MACHAM, and are to be sold at his Shop in Pauls Church-yard, at the Signe of the Bul-head.
1609.

Indentured Servants

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!

indentured_servant_

To work their plantations, many owners imported indentured servants. In exchange for passage to North America, and food and shelter upon arrival, an indentured servant agreed to a limited term of servitude—usually four to seven years. Indentured servants were usually from the lower classes of English society.
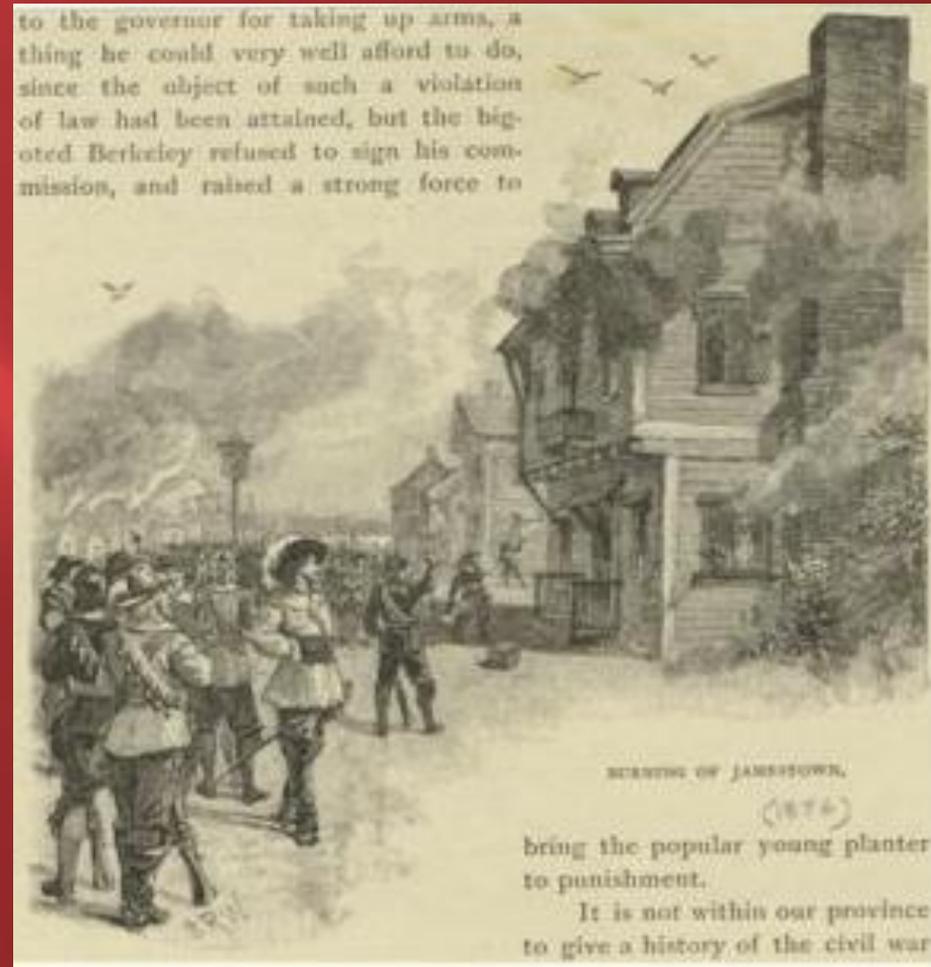
Political Beginnings

House of Burgesses

- Political, representative bodies allowed by VA Company in 1619
- Male landowners 17 yrs old voted for 2 burgesses to represent each settlement
- Had power to make laws and raise taxes
- In 1624 Crown takes over VA and it becomes a royal colony

Bacon's Rebellion

- Royal Gov of VA, William Berkeley levied taxes and used the money to reward wealthy members of the House of Burgesses
- Also expressed dislike of free press and public education
- War broke out in 1675 between settlers and Indians
- Settlers wanted to kill ALL of the Indians, but Berkeley disagreed
- Nathaniel Bacon led a rebellion against this idea and they slaughtered Indians (hostile and peaceful)
- Berkeley protested and Bacon marched his followers to Jamestown…(revolt called Bacon's Rebellion)
- FIRST CONFLICT BETWEEN POOR AND PEOPLE IN POWER

to the governor for taking up arms, a thing he could very well afford to do, since the object of such a violation of law had been attained, but the bigoted Berkeley refused to sign his commission, and raised a strong force to

BURNING OF JAMESTOWN.

(1876)

bring the popular young planter to punishment.

It is not within our province to give a history of the civil war

Puritans and Pilgrims

Puritans

- Very strict and high moral values
- Puritan work ethic (workhouse not a playhouse)
- Left England to rid church of Catholic rituals, which were part of the Church of England or Anglican Church
- Followed teaching of John Calvin (purity)

Pilgrims

- First Puritan emigrants
- Separatists
- Crossed Atlantic in a ship called the Mayflower
- Before leaving, made an agreement called the Mayflower Compact
- First written document in the New World
- Idea of self-gov't would become founding principle of the U.S.