

## VS.3 JAMESTOWN

### STANDARD VS.3A REASONS FOR COLONIZATION

*Some European countries, including England, were in competition to increase their wealth and power by expanding their empires to America.*

*The first permanent English settlement in America was Jamestown, founded in 1607 as an economic venture.*

#### Explain the reasons for English colonization

- England wanted to establish an American colony to **increase her wealth and power** - to **compete** with other European nations.
- England hoped to find **silver** and **gold** in America.
  - An American settlement would furnish **raw materials** while opening **new markets** for trade.



#### Jamestown

- Jamestown was primarily an **economic venture**.
- The **stockholders of the Virginia Company of London** financed the settlement of Jamestown.
- Jamestown, founded in **1607**, became the **first permanent English settlement** in British North America.

### STANDARD VS.3B REASON FOR JAMESTOWN LOCATION

*The location and physical characteristics of the Jamestown site influenced the decision to settle there.*

*The English believed the natural resources at Jamestown would benefit England.*

When the settlers arrived in **1607**, they founded Jamestown on a **narrow peninsula** bordered on three sides by the **James River**.

- Today, Jamestown is located on an **island** in the James River due to the **erosion** of the Jamestown peninsula.

#### Reasons for site choice

- **Instructions from England** told the settlers to go inland and find a suitable place for their colony.
- The location could be easily **defended** from **attack** by sea (Spanish).
- The **water** along the shore was **deep** enough for ships to dock.
- They believed they had a good supply of **fresh water**.

- **Natural resources** from Jamestown included **timber** and **iron**.

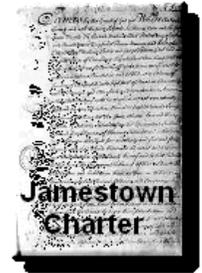
### STANDARD VS.3C VIRGINIA COMPANY CHARTERS

*The King of England had the power to grant charters allowing settlement in North America.*

#### Importance of Virginia charters

The **King of England** granted charters to the **Virginia Company of London** to:

- establish a **settlement** in North America
- define the physical **boundaries** of the colony
- extend **English rights** to the settlers



### STANDARD VS.3D 1619 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY

*As Jamestown grew, Virginia's system of government evolved.*

#### System of government

In 1619, the governor of Virginia called a meeting of the **General Assembly**.

- The **General Assembly** included two **citizen representatives**, called **burgesses**, from each of the divisions of Virginia along with the **governor's council**, and the **governor**.
- They met as **one legislative body**. At that time, only certain **free adult men** had a right to take part.

The **current Virginia General Assembly** dates back to 1619 with the establishment of the General Assembly and its burgesses in Jamestown.

- It was the **first elected legislative body in English North America** giving some settlers the opportunity to take part in **controlling** their own government.

#### House of Burgesses

By the **1640s**, the burgesses became a **separate legislative body**, called the **House of Burgesses**.

- They met **separately** from the Governor's Council as one of the **two legislative bodies** of the General Assembly.



### STANDARD Vs.3E AFRICANS & WOMEN ARRIVE

*Virginia became a more diverse colony by 1620.*

**Portuguese** sailors captured **African** men and women from what is present-day **Angola**.

- The legal status of these early African men and women as either **servants or slaves** in Virginia is unknown.
- **Africans** arrived in Virginia **against their will in 1619**.
- The arrival of Africans made it possible to **expand the tobacco economy**.



The arrival of **women in 1620** made it possible for the settlers to establish **families** and a more **permanent** colony in Virginia.



### STANDARD Vs.3F JAMESTOWN HARDSHIPS

*The English settlers found life in Virginia **harder** than they had expected.*

**Hardships faced by the settlers**

- The site they chose to live on was **marshy** and **lacked safe drinking water**.
- A **drought** at the time of settlement reduced the amount of **food** available to everyone in Virginia
- The settlers **lacked some skills** necessary to provide for themselves.
- Many settlers died of **starvation** and **disease**.

**Changes that resulted in survival**

- The arrival of **ships bringing supplies and new settlers**
- The **forced work program** and strong leadership of **Captain John Smith**, and
- The development of **new settlements** that spread away from the unhealthy environment of Jamestown.
- The emphasis on **agriculture**



### STANDARD Vs.3G ENGLISH & POWHATAN

*The native peoples and the English settlers in Virginia established **trading relationships** and for a while had **positive interactions**.*

**Captain John Smith** initiated **trading** relationships with the native peoples.

- The native peoples traded **food fur, and leather** with the English in exchange for **tools, pots, and copper** for jewelry.

The native people contributed to the **survival** of the **Jamestown settlers** in several ways.

- **Powhatan**, chief of many tribes, provided **leadership** to his people and taught the settlers **survival skills**.
- **Pocahontas**, daughter of Chief Powhatan, served as a **contact** between the native peoples and the English.
- The native peoples showed the settlers how to plant **corn** and harvest **tobacco**.



**Over time**, the native peoples realized the English **settlement** would continue to **grow**.

- The native peoples came to see the settlers as **invaders** who would **take over their land**