

Ch 2 Section 2 An English Settlement at Jamestown

English Settlers Struggle in North America

The Business of Colonization

- Joint-stock companies—investors fund colony, objective - get profits
- In 1607, Virginia Company sends 150 people to found Jamestown, 1st American settlement

A Disastrous Start

- Colonists seek gold, suffer from disease and hunger
- 1st year problems were caused by the settlers' attitudes and impracticality
- John Smith forces colonists to farm; gets help from Powhatan people
- (1609) 600 colonists arrive; Powhatan destroy farms; “starving time”

Jamestown Begins to Flourish

- New arrivals revive and expand colony; grow tobacco

“Brown Gold” and Indentured Servants

- Tobacco becomes profitable; export 1.5 million pounds by late 1620s
- Headright system—purchaser of passage to Virginia gets 50 acres—lures settlers
- Plantation owners use indentured servants— work 4–7 years for passage to North America

The First African Laborers

- First Africans arrive (1619); treated as **indentured servants**
- Late 1600s, owners begin importing costly slaves because
 - indentured population decreases
 - colony becomes wealthy

The Settlers Clash with Native Americans

The English Pattern of Conquest

- English do not live or intermarry with Native Americans

The Settlers Battle Native Americans

- Continued hostilities between Powhatan and English after starving time
- 1614 marriage of Pocahontas and John Rolfe creates temporary peace
- Renewed fighting; king makes Virginia royal colony under his control

Economic Differences Split Virginia

Hostilities Develop

- Former indentured people settle frontier, cannot vote, pay high taxes
- Frontier settlers battle natives; tension between frontier, wealthy
- Governor refuses to give money to help frontier fight local natives

Bacon’s Rebellion

- Nathaniel Bacon raises army to fight natives on frontier (1676)
- Governor calls Bacon’s army illegal; Bacon sets fire to Jamestown