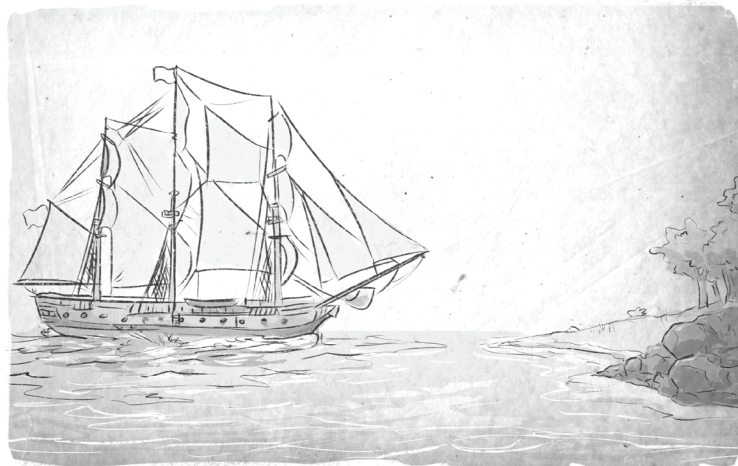


*Adventures on the American Frontier*

# The First American Colonists

Part Four

The Mayflower Brings  
the First Pilgrims to Plymouth



A Royal Fireworks Production

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Unionville, New York



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This book features QR codes that link to audio of the book being narrated so that readers can follow along.

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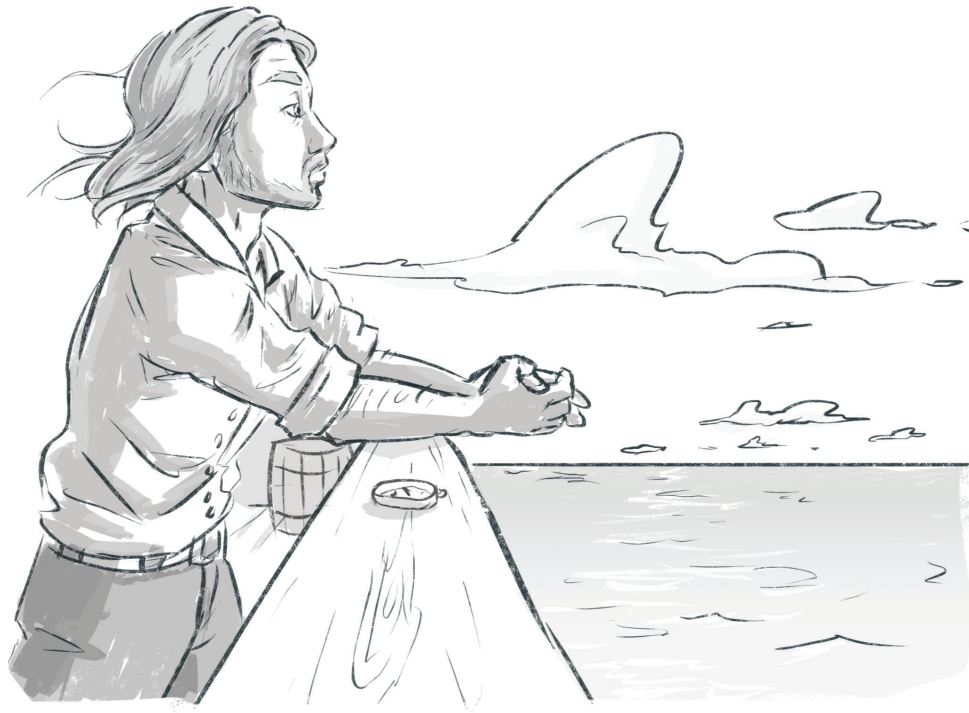


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In 1614, the Englishman John Smith sailed to America. He had left the colony of Jamestown, Virginia, which he had helped found, five years earlier, and now he was headed back. But this time he was going to the land north of Virginia, which was called New England.



Fishing was good off the coast of New England. While the crew filled the ship's hold with fish, John followed the shoreline. He made a map of the shape of the land and the rivers, as well as the places where there were Native American villages near the shore. When he sailed back to England, he had made a fine map for the people who would come later.

John showed his map to King James. The king's son, fifteen-year-old Prince Charles, was interested in it. "We'll name



the places in New England after places here in old England," he said. He wrote English names on the map where there were Native American villages. He named the big, hook-like arm of land that reaches out into the sea Cape James for his father, and he named some islands for Captain Smith. He named a river Charles River, after himself. Most of the names were changed later, but Charles River is on the map today. Cape James soon became Cape Cod, the fishermen's name for it.

On a November day in 1620, a wooden ship sailed toward Cape Cod. On board, besides the sailors, were 102 weary men, women, and children who had been on the ship too long. The ship had been delayed, and when at last they had left the English port of Plymouth, it was almost autumn.

There had been a bad storm in the ocean, and it had cracked the ship's center beam. It had taken all of the men's strength to patch it.

Land was a welcome sight to Captain



Christopher Jones, Jr. He would make no money on this trip. In fact, he would be lucky to get his ship and his sailors back to England without all of them starving to death or dying of disease.

His passengers called themselves Pilgrims—people traveling because of their religion. They had tried to separate from the Church of England, but that was against the law in those days. They hoped to be able to settle in northern Virginia and have a church of their own.