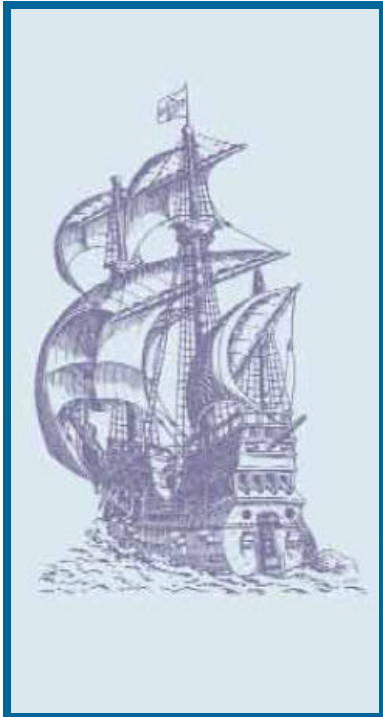


# *Jamestown and Bermuda: Virginia Company Colonies*

As you explore Jamestown Settlement's galleries and outdoor areas, discover how historians use nature, artifacts, images and words to learn more about the people and places of 17th-century Virginia & Bermuda!



Four hundred years ago, English merchants and politicians created the Virginia Company of London to organize and fund an English colony in America. In 1607 Jamestown was established in the new colony of Virginia in North America. When the *Sea Venture*, a supply ship which had been dispatched to Virginia in 1609, wrecked off the coast of Bermuda, its passengers came safely ashore. The Virginia Company eagerly created a second permanent American colony in Bermuda. How were these colonies similar? How were they different? As you walk through the special exhibit, use the artifacts, pictures and objects to find your answers.

Learn more about Jamestown and the Virginia colony as you tour the main indoor galleries and the outdoor areas.

## **When you see these symbols:**



Search for these answers in "Jamestown and Bermuda," a special exhibition.



Search for these answers in the Jamestown Settlement Galleries.



Search for these answers in the outdoor living-history areas.



# Jamestown and Bermuda: Virginia Company Colonies



**Look for the bottle with a man's face on it!** What other objects were found aboard the wreck of the *Sea Venture*?



Recommended Reading:  
*Miracle: The True Story of the Wreck of the Sea Venture*  
by Gail Langer Karwoski

**Find the portrait of the man wearing a ruffled collar.**

What was his name? What did he do to help the survivors of the *Sea Venture* shipwreck get to Virginia? (In the main galleries downstairs, look for portraits of two women who are wearing collars that look a lot like his! Find out why these women were important to Virginia.)



**Find a map of Bermuda with forts around the border.**

Who drew this map? In the galleries downstairs, find another map this famous man drew.... of Virginia!



**Look at the roof in the picture of the Bermuda State House**

What is its shape? Did you know the houses in Bermuda do not have wells to supply their water? They have white pitched roofs to catch rainwater, which then runs into large storage containers called cisterns!



**Look for the Forster Chair.**

Chairs can be very important symbols of government. How was this chair used in Bermuda? Can you find a chair that was used in Virginia?

**Study the case labeled "From Tobacco to Tourists-Atlantic Economies."**

Find out when the first Africans arrived in Bermuda. Why were they sent there? Visit the timeline near the statue of Queen Njinga in the main galleries downstairs to learn more about the first Africans to arrive in Virginia in 1619. How was their history similar? How was it different?

**Cedar was an important native tree in Bermuda.**

What other resources did the English find? What exotic plants did they import to Bermuda?



**Find the painting of a Banyan Tree.**

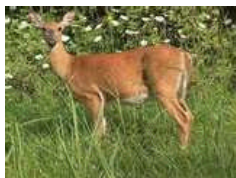
What famous artist painted this tree while she was visiting Bermuda? (In her youth, this artist lived in a house that once stood on the corner of N. Henry Street & Scotland Street in Williamsburg, Virginia!)

Fun Fact: Sometimes Americans are called "Yanks" by people in other countries. Native Bermudians are called "Onions"!

**Find a coin with a hog on it!**

Why did they choose this design for coins in Bermuda? Do they still use it today?

# Jamestown Settlement Galleries



**Find a white-tailed deer.** Now find five other foods the Powhatan Indians got by farming, fishing, hunting or gathering. How are these similar to the crops in Bermuda? How are they different? *When you go outdoors to the Powhatan Indian village, look for other ways the Powhatan Indians used natural resources.*

**Find a Spanish treasure chest.**

Where did the Spanish find the silver to make the coins?

*Outdoors at the three ships, find out what the English were looking for when they came to Virginia. What were they looking for in Bermuda?*



**Find an African man peeling bark from a baobab tree.**

The pods of this tree provide food, and the bark fibers can be woven into fabric. How is this tree different from the cedar trees in Bermuda? What was made from the cedar trees in Bermuda? *Outdoors at the three ships ask a costumed interpreter what wood was used to make them!*



**Find a pipe** with three bowls that was made by the Dutch and found by archaeologists at a site very near Jamestown. How do you think the pipe got here?

*Outdoors in re-created James Fort, look for tobacco hanging in the storehouse.*

There was no TV to watch in the 1600s, but the English enjoyed plays and stories. **Find the talking stick at the beginning of the English street scene. You will hear part of a famous play by William Shakespeare called "The Tempest." Some scholars believe this play is based on the wreck of the Sea Venture.**



**Find, touch and compare tools the Powhatans, English and Africans used to plant crops.** Watch the short video. How are the tools and methods the same, and how are they different? *Try out a Powhatan digging stick when you get to the Powhatan Indian village.*

**Find the high chair that a child could use (near a very fancy bed).**

Does any of the furniture in this display remind you of artifacts in the special exhibit "Jamestown and Bermuda"?



**Find a bucket by a fence and try to lift it.** It's heavy! Before there were sprinklers, gardens were watered by hand, often by children. Water was taken from a well in wooden buckets, and plants were watered one by one from a cup or gourd. Could you do this? *In the riverfront and fort gardens, find out which crops the English grew.*



# Outdoor Living-History Area

As you venture outdoors, visit the Powhatan Indian village, ships, riverfront discovery area, and fort to discover how words, images and artifacts have been used to re-create the daily lives of the Powhatan Indians, English colonists, and west central Africans who came together in Virginia.

The Powhatan Indians used natural resources to build their homes and make their tools and clothing. Does this village look like those you have seen in books and on television? How is it different? Talk to a costumed interpreter to find out why the Powhatans built their homes this way, and why they are different from the homes of other tribes.



Visit the church in re-created James Fort. Find out what important event happened in 1619. Who do you think used the chair with the green velvet seat?



Historians used paintings of 17th-century ships, court documents and underwater archaeology to build replicas of the three ships that sailed from England to Virginia in 1607. Explore the *Susan Constant* and ask a costumed interpreter about passenger life aboard ship. The *Sea Venture*, a ship that wrecked in a hurricane off Bermuda in 1609, was similar to this ship. I imagine what it was like to be on board a ship this size during that storm!

Rivers were important to the Powhatan Indians and Africans. Both groups used canoes for travel, trade and fishing. After you leave the ships and walk toward the fort, find a canoe. How do you think it was made? What tools do you think the Powhatans would use to make a canoe? What tools do you think the Africans would use?



400 years ago, wells that dried up were used as trash pits! Find a well inside the fort, and lift the lid to see what's inside. What do you think these items were used for when they were new?

If archaeologists looked at your trash 400 years from now, what could they learn about the way we live today?

