

Colonial Massachusetts, 1607-1750

Topics of Discussion

- I. Virginia Company of Plymouth Fails, 1607-09
- II. Puritans still interested in North America.
- III. Why were the Puritans interested in North America?
- IV. Pilgrims and the movement to Plymouth (1620)
- V. Massachusetts Bay Company (1629)
- VI. The Great Migration
- VII. Massachusetts Religious Vision
- VIII. Massachusetts Government
- IX. Puritanism Expands
- X. Economy and Indian Relations
- XI. Puritans in the Second Half of the Seventeenth Century



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Virginia Company of Plymouth Fails, 1607-09

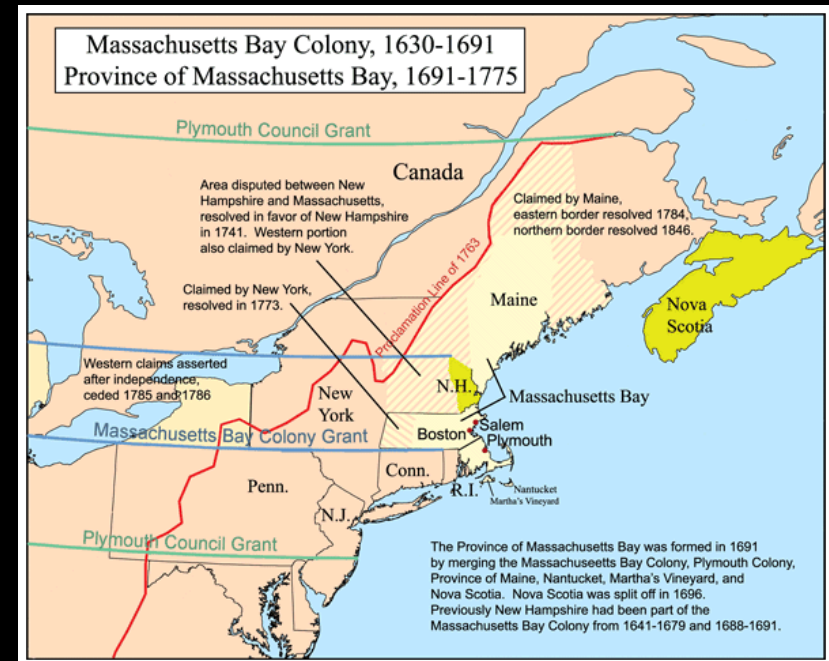
- A. Like the Virginia Company of London, the Virginia Company of Plymouth set out in 1607.
- B. Settlement in Maine: Fort St. George. 44 settlers were left to man the post in 1607-08.
- C. The attempt was a miserable failure
- D. In 1609, the Virginia Company of London invited the Plymouth members to join in with them.
- E. Virginia Company of Plymouth ceased to function.



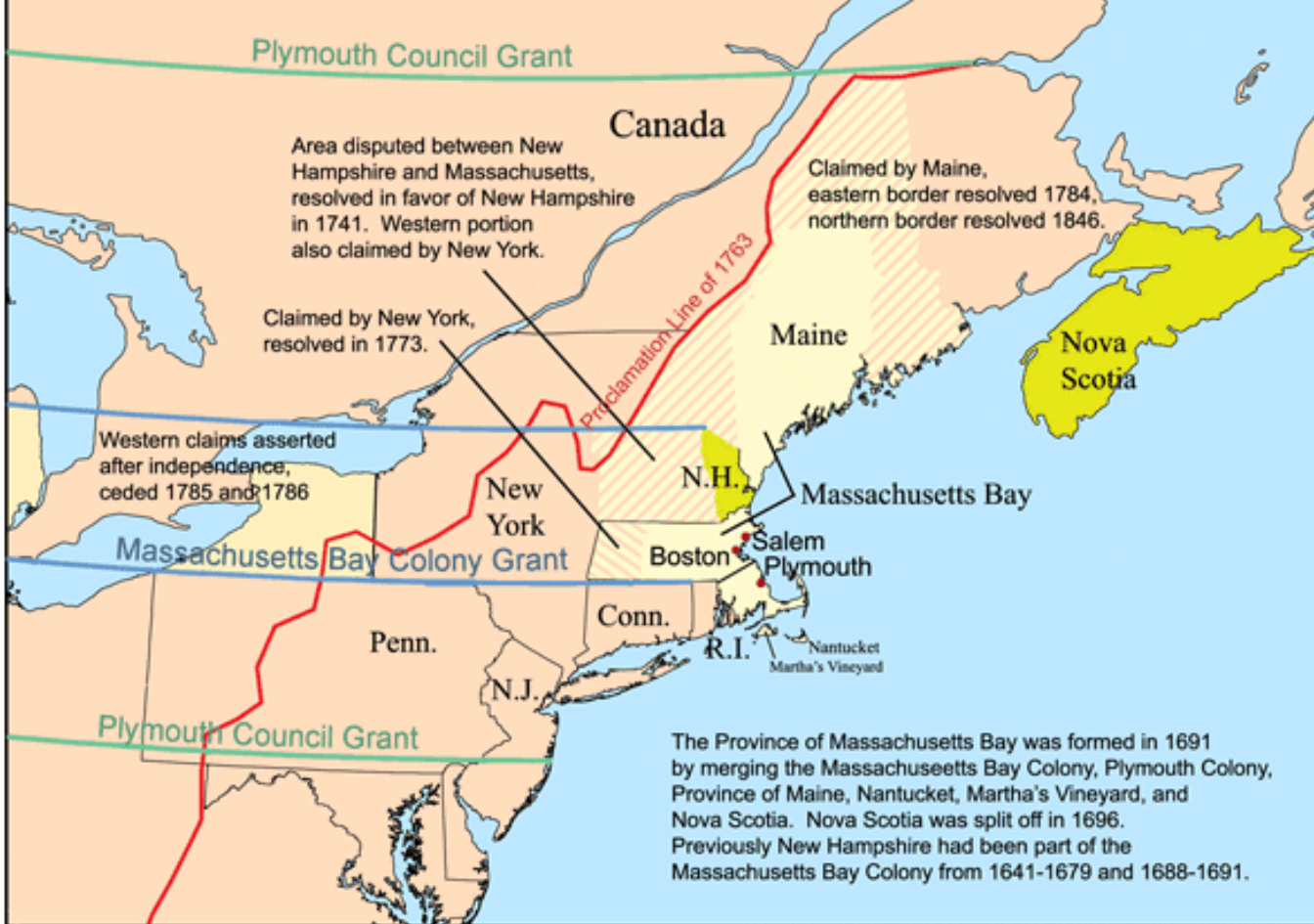
Colonial Massachusetts, 1607-1750

Puritans still Interested in North America

- A. Many investors - mostly Puritans - were still interested in settling in North America.
- B. Two movements
- C. Pilgrims moved to Plymouth in 1620.
- D. Puritans moved to Massachusetts in 1630.



Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1630-1691
Province of Massachusetts Bay, 1691-1775



Area disputed between New Hampshire and Massachusetts, resolved in favor of New Hampshire in 1741. Western portion also claimed by New York.

Claimed by New York, resolved in 1773.

Western claims asserted after independence, ceded 1785 and 1786

Claimed by Maine, eastern border resolved 1784, northern border resolved 1846.

The Province of Massachusetts Bay was formed in 1691 by merging the Massachusetts Bay Colony, Plymouth Colony, Province of Maine, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, and Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia was split off in 1696. Previously New Hampshire had been part of the Massachusetts Bay Colony from 1641-1679 and 1688-1691.

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Why were Puritans interested in North America?

- A. Puritans were Christian reformists, who followed the teachings of John Calvin (1509-64)
- B. Calvin lived in Geneva and published a classic work entitled, *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (1536)
- C. The *Institutes* proposed three principals:
 - 1. Absolute Sovereignty of God
 - 2. Total depravity of Man
 - 3. Justification though God's saving grace
- D. Emphasis on biblical teachings
- E. What is it that Calvinists want to do: Return to early Church before Catholicism and Anglicanism.
- F. Reject much of the Catholic and Anglican liturgy. 5 of the 7 sacraments. Believe in limited atonement.



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Why were Puritans interested in North America?

G. Because of their beliefs, Puritans were persecuted by Archbishop William Laud

H. In 1637, William Prynne and two other prominent Puritan critics were sentenced to mutilation (removal of ears and branding on both cheeks) for seditious libel.

I. Thus many of them were eager to flee England

J. In addition, Puritans hoped to set up a model Christian community in the New World.



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Pilgrims and the Movement to Plymouth

- A. Plymouth colony - established in 1620
- B. Founded by "Pilgrims" -- 40% of the adults and 56% of families were English religious separatists.
- C. Went to Leiden (Netherlands) before America.
- D. Mayflower voyage and Mayflower Compact
- E. William Bradford leader -- Governor
- F. First Thanksgiving - Massasoit, Squanto
- G. Plymouth self-governing until 1691



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Massachusetts Bay Company -- 1629

- A. Charter for company -- March 1629
- B. Charles I dissolved Parliament two weeks before the Bay Company got its charter, leaving him and William Laud, free to harass Puritans without restraint.
- C. Cambridge Agreement (1629)
- D. Fundamental difference with Virginia Company?



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The Great Migration - 1630-40

- A. John Winthrop was chosen as leader -- Governor
- B. In March 1630, eleven ships, 700 passengers
- C. On the Arbela, Winthrop's City Upon a Hill
- D. Settlers looked different from Jamestown settlers.
Families | Religious reasons | Few gentlemen
More than 50 % were artisans or had some craft
- E. Capital -- Boston.
- F. First winter -- Two hundred died
- G. By 1631, 2000 Puritans had arrived in Massachusetts
- H. During 11 Years of Tyranny -- 1629 to 1640 -- 80,000 people left England in what is known as the GREAT MIGRATION. 14,000 came to Massachusetts.



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Massachusetts Religious Vision

A. City Upon a Hill

B. Puritan Theology

1. Covenant of Works
2. Covenant of Redemption
3. Covenant of Grace
4. Antinomian Controversy

C. Puritanism in Practice

1. Church Covenant
2. Cambridge Platform (1648)
3. Church Membership



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Massachusetts Government

- A. Provincial Government
 - 1. Governor
 - 2. Board of Assistants
 - 3. General Court
- B. Town Government
- C. Church - State Relations
- D. Roger Williams and the Question of Democracy



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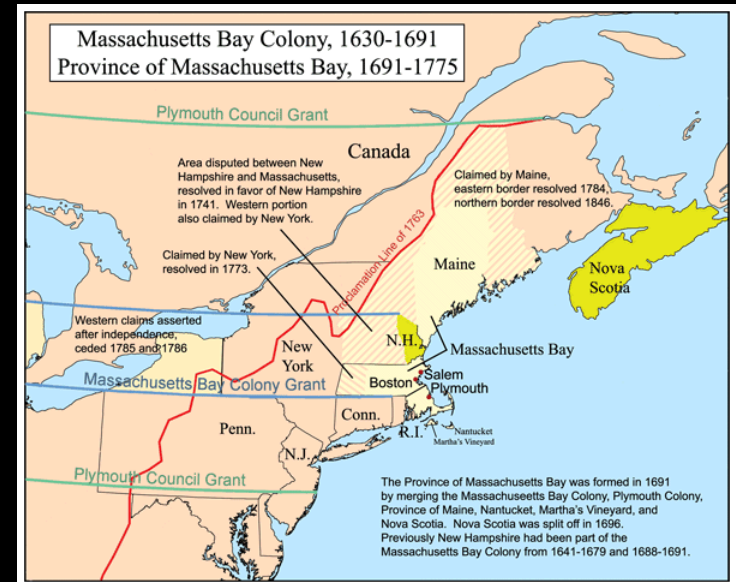
Puritanism Expands

A. Connecticut

1. Rev. Thomas Hooker moved into Hartford area 1635.
2. In 1639, settlers drafted Fundamental Orders
3. In 1662, the crown granted a charter to Connecticut

B. New Hampshire

1. Sprang from the fishing and trading activities
2. Absorbed in 1641 by Massachusetts Bay
3. Charles II separated New Hampshire from Massachusetts in 1679 and made it a royal colony.



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Economy and Indian Relations

Indian Relations

- A. Wampanoag chief Massasoit signed treaty with Pilgrims
- B. As more English settlers arrived confrontations with Indians began
- C. Pequot War (1637)
- D. King Philip's War (1675)
 - 1. Massasoit's son, Metacom, forged a PAN-INDIAN alliance
 - 2. War ended in 1676: fifty-two Puritan towns had been attacked
 - 3. Metacom's forces defeated; he was killed.
- E. King Philip's War saw lasting defeat of New England Indians.



Economy

fur trade | fishing | timber | shipbuilding | trade

Slavery

- A. 1000 blacks in New England in 1680
- B. In 1775, there were only 14,000 blacks (2% of overall population)

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Puritans in the Second Half of the 17th Century

- A. Halfway Covenant (1662)
- B. Declension and Jeremiad
- C. Witch Trials

