

English Maritime and Colonial Expansion, c. 1550-1650

[Library of Congress: Thanksgiving](#)

Database contains primary sources depicting the Pilgrims arrival in America and the introduction of Thanksgiving. Sources range from 1620 to 1942. Documents are a collection of photographs and paintings.

[Library of Congress: Jamestown](#)

Database contains primary source material that deals with the colonisation of Jamestown. The collection includes pictures and photographs documenting the start of Jamestown.

[The Atlantic Slave and Slave Life in the Americas](#)

This is an online collection of 1,280 images which depict the way in which slaves lived in America. The images are arranged in eighteen categories which help students find images that are related to a specified theme.

[The National Archives: Native North American](#)

The National Archives has a small exhibition of Native American primary source material. The exhibition is primarily a teaching resource but it does contain a number of useful primary source documents that deal with the Native American's and the early English settlers.

[Smithsonian Source](#)

Smithsonian Source has a number of primary source documents that relate to the experiences of English settlers in America during the 1600's. The documents that are included highlight the interaction between the English settlers and Native American, particularly the Powhatans.

[University of Glasgow: Americana](#)

The University of Glasgow has an exhibition of books and manuscripts relating to the history of the Americas, drawn mainly from the Hunterian collection. A strong section of books on exploration and travel contains a wealth of Americana as well as important materials on the East Indies and on contemporary voyages to the South Seas.

[Virtual Jamestown](#)

The Virtual Jamestown Archive is a digital research, teaching and learning project that explores the legacies of the Jamestown settlement and "the Virginia experiment." As a work in progress, Virtual Jamestown aims to shape the national

dialogue on the occasion of the four hundred-year anniversary observance in 2007 of the founding of the Jamestown colony.

[The Gilder Lehrman Institution of American History](#)

The Gilder Lehrman Institution of American History has a number of primary source documents that deal with the English colonisation of America. The documents are dated from between 1585 and 1763.

[Pilgrim Hall Museum](#)

The Pilgrim Hall Museum has a number of collections and online exhibition that are related to the Puritan settler who landed in Plymouth in 1620.

[National Archives: The Caribbean and the Slave Trade](#)

The National Archives hold documents and transcripts on Britain's and other European nation's colonisation of the Caribbean. The database covers the creation of the colonies and the plantations and slave labour moved there.

[National Geographic: Jamestown and the Powhatan](#)

National Geographic has interactive feature that allows users to explore the historic Jamestown fort and the Powhatan village of Werowocomoco in 1607.

[Digital Library of the Caribbean](#)

The Digital Library of the Caribbean is a cooperative digital library for resources from and about the Caribbean. This provides access to digitized versions of Caribbean cultural, historical and research materials currently held in archives, libraries, and private collections

[The Trans-Atlantics Slave Trade Database](#)

The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database has information on more than 35,000 slave voyages that forcibly embarked over 12 million Africans for transport to the Americas between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries. The database allows student to view estimates of slave that were transported. In addition, user can search records to find individual slaves.

[America's Historical Newspapers](#)

Database contains Newspaper coverage of American and Caribbean history.

[University of Pittsburgh Library System: Colonial records of Virginia](#)

The University of Pittsburgh has digitalised a copy of Thomas Wynne Hicks book of colonial records from Virginia. The book was written in 1875 but contains records that span from the First Assembly of Virginia in 1619 to Parish lists in 1680.

[University of Georgia: Rare Maps Collection](#)

The University of Georgia has a collection of colonial maps of North, and South, America from between 1625 and 1774. These maps are from both British and Spanish colonists and are therefore in both Spanish and English.

[Fordham University: Exploration and Expansion](#)

The Fordham University has made available transcribed documents that deal with the early colonisation of America. Fordham has included document from Christopher Columbus's voyages and Sir Francis Drake's journal.

[Virginia Colonial Records Project](#)

Virginia Colonial Records Project has an index to nearly 15,000 reports that survey and describe documents relating to colonial Virginia history that are housed in repositories in Great Britain and other European countries. The survey report images are available online

[National Centre Blog](#)

The National centre for public policy research contains Historical documents ranging from 1215 to 2001. Database includes documents on Roanoke, Jamestown, the Mayflower and the Pilgrims.

[Salem Witch Trials](#)

Database contains primary documents and transcripts surrounding Salem Village in the 17th century. Database is divided into categories making it easy to use and searchable.

[African in America: Resource Bank Index](#)

Africans in America is an online exhibition by PBS that deals with the issue of slavery during the English colonial period. The site includes a wide range of documents which includes contemporary accounts of slave trade.

[The National Archives: Africa and the Caribbean](#)

The National archives have an online exhibition dealing with English colonisation in the Caribbean. The exhibition has included original maps of the Caribbean, document from the Royal African Company and broadsides which depict African Slaves.

[The National Archives: Caribbean Histories Revealed.](#)

The history of the British Caribbean is explored in this exhibition through government documents, photographs and maps dating from the 17th century to the 1920s and discovered during a cataloguing project at The National Archives of the United Kingdom.

[Virginia Indian Archives](#)

The Virginia Indian Archive is a collection of images, documents, and audiovisual resources representing the history and cultural experiences of Virginia Indians since colonial times. Items in the collections were gathered from a wide range of sources, both historical and contemporary.

[The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation: Digital Library](#)

The online manuscripts include transcripts and images of selected historical documents from seven of the Foundation's collections. The Blathwayt Papers, Francis Nicholson Papers and the Spotswood Papers are directly relevant to the English colony of Williamsburg in the 1600s.

[Royal Museums Greenwich: North – West Passage](#)

Royal Museums Greenwich has an online exhibition that explores the search for the North-West Passage by English explores, such as James Cook. The exhibition has 93 items that range from Inuit snow goggles, original maps and paintings. The exhibition brings together the NMM's extensive polar collection to reveal the historical importance of the North-West passage to 19th-century explorers.

[The Library of Congress: Rare Book and Special Collections Reading Room](#)

The Library of Congress has a catalogue of original documents from Hans P. Kraus biography of Sir Francis Drake. The catalogue includes: manuscripts, printed books, maps, medals and portraits. All document listed deal with Sir Francis Drake and his exploits in the Cadiz and the Caribbean.

[The British Library: Caribbean Views](#)

The British Library has made available over 1,200 images, maps and texts from the 18th and 19th centuries which reveal contrasting experiences of life in the former British Caribbean colonies. The documents provide a variety of personal observations on the subject of slavery from a British, colonial, perspective.

[Colonial Connecticut Records, 1636-1776](#)

Digitalised by the University of Connecticut, the database gives access to the public records of the colony of Connecticut from 1636 to 1776. The database links to primary documents, which show the daily realities of the colony