

1630–1640 — From town covenants to contested frontiers

Summary:

*The 1630s saw migration surge and settlement take firm root. John Winthrop's fleet founded the Massachusetts Bay towns and a civic-religious "covenant" model spread from Boston and Salem into a web of villages. On the Hudson, New Netherland consolidated trading posts from Manhattan to Fort Orange under the West India Company and patroon estates. Competition and alliances among Indigenous nations and newcomers sharpened—culminating in the Pequot War (1636–1637), which reshaped power along the southern New England coast. Across the Atlantic, the Thirty Years' War raged and England's political crisis peaked by 1640—forces that redirected people, credit, and ideas across the ocean.**

Quick links:

- Life & Context — 1630–1640
<https://billworstell.github.io/WorstellWitnessWaybackMachine/decades/1630-1640/1630-1640-life/>
- Massachusetts Bay (1630) — A covenantal town begins
<https://billworstell.github.io/WorstellWitnessWaybackMachine/decades/1630-1640/1630-MassachusettsBay/>
- Pequot War (1636–1637) — A short, devastating conflict
<https://billworstell.github.io/WorstellWitnessWaybackMachine/decades/1630-1640/1636-1637-PequotWar/>
- New Country (Americas) — Headcounts & timeline
<https://billworstell.github.io/WorstellWitnessWaybackMachine/decades/1630-1640/1630-1640-NewCountry/>
- Old Country (Europe) — Drivers & timeline
<https://billworstell.github.io/WorstellWitnessWaybackMachine/decades/1630-1640/1630-1640-OldCountry/>

Downloads: 1630–1640 Decade Module Overview (PDF) · (DOCX)
