

Island of Mystery

The Roanoke Colony



Model United Nations at Illinois XXII

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Letter from the Director

Dear Delegates,

I would just like to start with welcoming you all to MUNI XXII! My name is Michael Lawlor, I am a sophomore here at UIUC, and I will be your crisis director for this committee. For all delegates that have chosen to be in this committee just know that you are in for, not only a very educational experience, but also one wild ride. I am very much a crisis delegate so by bringing what I have found to be the best elements from the college circuit I hope to keep you all on the edge of your seat through our short time together. Now before I get into what this committee is about I would just like to address the elephant in the room. Research and planning for this crisis began before American Horror Story announced that the newest season would be about the Roanoke Colony. Please do not base your research off a TV show as I do not watch it so I will not be purposefully including elements from it. Now with that out of the way onto the committee

When we all studied early colonialism in school we always learn about pilgrims landing at Plymouth rock and about the establishment of the Jamestown colony but what we don't hear about in great detail, if at all, is the mysterious disappearance of the Roanoke colony. The early colonial period under Elizabeth is not emphasized in history due to its failures but the struggles that these original colonists faced should not be forgotten. I am happy that you will all be

joining me on this journey to the New World to establish the first English colony and make sure that it is successful and prosperous. If you have any questions do not hesitate to email me at michaellawlor44@gmail.com and I will be sure to answer to the best of my ability.

Regards,

Michael Lawlor

Introduction

On July 22, 1587 at the Island of Roanoke off the coast of what is today North Carolina, 115 colonists lead by John White landed to create the first permanent settlement in the New World for the Kingdom of England. Despite political turmoil between the English and Spanish on the other side of the Atlantic these men, women, and children set out to stake their claims in this new and foreign land. No one is certain if they will be successful, but for England to ever be a dominate force in the world they need to be able to exert their control over the New World.



A Note on Research from the Director

During your time researching you may find it difficult to find information on the colony itself and on what exactly occurred there as well as limited information on the individual colonists. Due to this I highly recommend that you base your research on how colonies worked and specifics on some of the important aspects such as how farming was done during the time or how houses were built. Scarcity of resources and survival will take very prominent roles in this simulation along with political struggles in the world as a whole so make use that you are familiar with the political climate. This is not a committee where anyone can expect to succeed just by reading the Wikipedia article for the colony and I implore anyone taking part in the committee to make sure that they are well studied going in. In addition because of this lack of information there is no position paper due and all information that you should know about your specific characters in in the biography section of this background guide. Lastly the start date for committee is August 1st 1587, less than a month after people step foot upon the island.

Committee Structure

The colony is organized like a standard crisis committee with the governor John White acting as the supreme executive power, which means he can, with a good reason, veto any action of the body regardless of delegates' vote and carry out executive action without delegates' vote. However, it still remains a democracy, the colonies fate will be in the delegates' hands. The colonial government has the power to expand its borders of the island, but it cannot directly control any land outside of the meeting hall, the area that is designated for construction of forts, a small hastily made jetty for the offloading supply ships, and a moderately sized patch of farmland which is worked by Roanoke's poorer citizens. All land outside of these aforementioned structures is to be privately owned and its use will be determined by committee resolutions. If a property is improperly used, the committee needs to present a simple majority with the approval of the governor to take reasonable punitive action. The committee's main powers are commanding the main colonial garrison, distributing resources, managing trade, and approving construction projects. In the event of a crisis, however, the committee can cast a vote to give itself emergency power, which strips away all restrictions, granting the committee governor John White's executive power, but this can only happen with a full consensus including the consent of White.

Background History

There are countless records of explorations in New World by the West Norse sailors in the 10th-11th century. The first to colonize the region was an Icelandic explorer by the name of Leif Ericson who established a colony on the northern tip of the Newfoundland around the year 970. Nonetheless, extensive colonization did not really begin until the Spanish expedition led by Christopher Columbus leading to the establishment of a colony on Hispaniola, a region south of Roanoke, in 1492.

The Spanish were the first ones to start the exploitation of the natives and the resources of the New World and, as a result, gained massive riches and increases in imperial might. The motivation for the Spanish colonial expansion was trade and spreading of the Catholic faith through indigenous conversion. In 1515 the first permanent Spanish settlement called Cumaná was founded by Franciscan Friars. By 1521 Spanish conquest of the New World led to the destruction of the Aztec Empire. By 1532, they had destroyed the Inca Empire along with the Huancas, Chachapoyas, and Cañaris people. By 1551, they had started the conquest of Yucatan State. By 1585, Spain had destroyed much of the native populations and their civilization. Much



Map of the New World (1562)

of the colonization efforts by the Spanish were done around Hispaniola and regions South and West of Brazil.

The English exploration of the New World was led by John Cabot, the first Englishman to reach Newfoundland, and Sir Walter Raleigh, the privateer who led the efforts to settle in Roanoke. The English set foot on the New World, north of Roanoke, in 1497 under the guidance of explorer John Cabot. Even though England reached the land relatively early, its colonization efforts started fairly late. Nearly ninety years later, in 1585, England attempted its first colonization efforts with Roanoke, by the time other European countries had already established settlements. When Roanoke Colonists finally set sail, Spain had been dominating the region for almost a century with the Portuguese and France filling in for every other opportunities, leaving England with not much ability to make money.

In 1534, French explorer Jacques Cartier founded the first colonial region of France, New France, when he planted a cross on the shore of Gaspe Peninsula, located in the north of the New World. Cartier attempted the first French settlement in New France with 400 settlers but abandoned the mission a year later due to bad weather and natives attacks by natives. Much of their attempts to settle in the New World failed only after a year due to constant struggle with the Spanish and the natives. Much of their efforts were focused on exploration and trade rather than colonization; therefore, New France remained largely unpopulated. Their efforts were focused on regions mostly far north and north west of Roanoke.

Around the year 1500, Portuguese explorer Pedro Alvares Cabral found a territory south of Hispaniola, but it wasn't until 1533 that the Portuguese made their first effort to colonize a

territory south of Hispaniola named Terra de Santa Cruz, or Brazil. Colonists clashed with the natives as they pursued silver, gold, and slaves. Their efforts to colonize were concentrated south of Hispaniola.

The last power is one that is a rising lion in Europe and wants to stake its claim in the New World. The Republic of the Seven United Provinces has a foothold in the Far East but has not yet spread its influence to the West. Seeing as the Dutch are willing to do anything to harm the Spanish, they are a valuable ally for England and a possible partner in the New World.

Survival

Regardless of the mission of the colony, the largest issue that impacts colonist is survival. Survival is not a simple task, there are many dangers the European colonizers must face when they attempt to establish a colony in an unknown land far from home. Various needs by the community may contradict with either the direct orders from the superiors, such as the governor or individual colonists with personal agendas. Despite these difficulties, survival still takes precedent over all else.

Food

First and foremost, the most basic need is establishing a steady food supply. The plantation of certain European crops like wheat, barley, peas, and oats have not provided the best results; thus, the adaptation of



Drawing of the 3 Sisters showing how they are grown together

native farming practices may be a much more viable option.¹ The natives have developed a companion planting system built around a group of crops that they call the “three sisters”. These “sisters” consist of winter squash, maize (a hard grain which can be used for bread or animal feed), and climbing beans (a type of beans that keeps the soil rich and fertile while also providing a nutritious source of food).² The natives’ diet consists almost entirely of these foods because they are able to grow in the local weather much better than the crops brought over from England. Not only are these crops important, but the native system also differs greatly from systems practiced in Europe. Instead of rotating the crops every year, all of these crops are grown together in close proximity simultaneously. This system maximizes the space that is available and ensures the security of an entire harvest from blight. A variety of food is grown, resulting in a diverse field rather than a specialized one.³

The second food source is meat from domesticated animals that have been brought over the ocean, such as chickens and pigs, and the more readily available source from various animals that inhabit the region. Hunting and gathering have been the basis of communities in ancient times, if necessary it can be the basis for the colony to get through the initial tough times. There have been reports of a vast variety of wild mushrooms and onions growing in the area, but this could be very risky as the potential for consuming poisonous plants is quite high. Colonists must proceed with caution if they are ever to forage for food. The animals of the region, though, are

¹ Simon Newman, Farming in the Middle Ages (Newport Beach: The Finer Times) <http://www.thefinertimes.com/Middle-Ages/farming-in-the-middle-ages.html>

² Staller, John E., Robert H. Tykot, and Bruce F. Benz. Histories of maize in Mesoamerica: multidisciplinary approaches. (Walnut Creek, CA: Left Coast Press 2010)

³ McClure, Susan, and Sally Roth. Companion planting. (Emmaus, PA: Rodale Press, 1994)

plump and ready to be butchered. Numerous deer, beaver, bear, fox, turkey, and hare inhabit the areas around the island, this food source could easily feed a smaller colony, but only as a temporary food supply considering the vast amount of people to arrive in the future.⁴ Also, it should be mentioned that hunting in these areas, especially with arquebuses, could anger the local natives and potentially endanger the wildlife around the area.

Although establishing a permanent food source is of paramount importance, there are food shipments coming on a regular basis. Nevertheless, be warned that due to the secrecy of the colony and the threat from the Spanish fleets constantly sailing back and forth to Spain carrying gold and supplies, these shipments may become irregular; if war breaks out, they may stop completely. Even though crops, animals, and shipments should serve as a fine permanent food source in an emergency situation, the colony does have a stockpile of hardtack that could be eaten as a last resort. Hardtack has been around longer than anyone would believe. The earliest known records date it to the romans and Egyptians but the English know it best as “biskit of muslin”, which was carried by Richard the Lionheart during the crusades. All of the sailors that will be inhabiting the colony are also well equated with hardtack as they are given a daily allowance of one pound of biscuit and one gallon of beer during long journeys.⁵ The problem with resorting to this stockpile is that it is limited and although no one will die of starvation, it lacks many essentials of a varied diet. The hardtack is little more than just flour mixed with

⁴ "Learning." North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. <http://www.ncwildlife.org/Learning/Species#5528104-mammals>.

⁵ "Ships biscuits." Portsmouth. 2014. <http://www.nmrn-portsmouth.org.uk/sites/default/files/Ships%20biscuits.pdf>.

water, the unfortunate soul that must eat it would consume with a small, dense, and incredibly hard piece of “bread” that they then have to try and digest.

Protection

After a food supply is established, the next most important aspect of survival is protecting the colony from all possible threats, including physical assaults by enemies and nature itself. Weapons are in urgent need for self-protection. One of which that is always useful is the good old-fashioned pike. Even though it may seem primitive to use a sharpened stick, en masse in a tight formation, the wall of steel heads of the pike could stop anything that attempts to penetrate. The backbone of most armies in Europe is still comprised of the pike formation. Not only are they effective, but they are also easy to make and require minimal training to use.

Moreover, there is a newer innovation that has proved effective on the battlefield. The arquebus allows for a new and innovative support weapon to take the place of longbow, which has more than overstayed its welcome in warfare. Despite the sometimes dissatisfactory accuracy of this hand cannon, its loud noise can scare away many natives and it can create devastating injuries. Another weapon that the colony should seek to use for protection is cannons. By arming ships with large bore cannons, it is possible to make even the Spanish tremble.



Rough Sketch of a Model Fort

Another item that needs to be addressed under protection is the construction of forts, it provides the colonists the basic protection against attacks. However, the colony must figure out how the fort should be constructed because limited resources are also distributed to the construction of

shelters. In addition, maintaining the garrison and ensuring the soldiers are in good condition in preparation for emergencies and missions.

Lastly, housing guidelines and regulations for makeshift shelters should be established. Every colonist is allowed to set up his or her own tent or camp, but making permanent shelter must be an ongoing priority to provide protection in times of harsh weather conditions. This could potentially bring a number of problems due to demand for material and physical resources and concerns of quality guidelines for construction of the entire colony, should the colonists follow a strict guideline for limited quality housing to share or loose guidelines that strive to provide everyone with a low quality shelter? What should be the limits for independent shelter constructions sponsored by colonists with more monetary capabilities?

Intercolonial Power Struggle

Despite every colonist wishing to survive in the New World, they also struggle to push their own agendas, creating potential conflicts with the colony's mission. The most important struggle will most likely be a political one as separate interest groups, and even other countries, fight for control of the region through devious and cunning means. Not only will there be inward threats, but the struggle with the native tribes will also be an underhanded approach. A member of the Croatoan Tribe represented in the colonial council stated that direct attacks against their enemy tribes would not be taken near colonial territory, they may still get in the way of English advancement; therefore, be prepared to devise a backup plan to deal with even your friendly neighbors in case of emergency attacks. On the other hand, the Croatoan and other native tribes could prove to be valuable allies against the Spanish or other aggressors, for your own interest, it

is more desirable to establish amicable and trustworthy relations without overt prejudice, they should not be counted as merely useless savages. In addition to the locals, the Dutch and French both play a role in colonial politics as foreign emissaries will be present at every meeting to address their homelands concerns about English rule in the New World.

Social struggles involving the social hierarchy and competitions among farmers and leaders searching for both financial and political power on the island would further complicate the situation. People will attempt to grow their own power financially as gold and trade goods are found; some colonists only wish to live on the island temporarily to gain wealth, then move back to England. Social standing is also important, many who wish to establish themselves as nobles of the New World and possibly be granted titles for their work by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth by putting tireless effort into keeping their appearances and emerge as the most successful. Possession of great personal power and political influence could also be a concern, having many men answer to you and how well armed they are have always been the most basic of measures for power. With such, there would be the possibility for an uprising or treasonous things in that nature as well. All in all, despite personal goals in the long run, survival and success of the colony is the primary objective and should not be hindered.

Developing a reliable and trustworthy contact is beyond helpful in circumstances as minor as physical labor or as major as nefarious deeds. Contacts are a great source to achieve personal goals within the colony. Not only are they trusted advisors and aids, but it has also been decided that if the council members were to meet an unexpected end, these contacts would rise up and take the departed's seat. Contacts may sound like glorified servants, but they do think for

themselves and, if given a task that they see as too dangerous or counterproductive to the colony's mission, they may abandon their friend and report their actions to the governor. Hence, colonists should not push contacts' loyalties too far.

Competition

Having a head start in the colonization game, the Spanish gained the upper-hand initially in conquering land and extracting wealth from the Americas. Back at the home front, Anglo-Spanish relation is very hostile, a series of major conflicts have taken place in the past few decades. The hostility escalated when religious disturbances arose exponentially in Europe, challenging the absolute reign of the Catholic Church. Philip II of Spain, the holy defender of the faith, faced increasing threats from Protestants in the Low Countries. His measures to suppress the protestant rebels soon deteriorated into a full scale uprising in 1566. Meanwhile, their already shaky relations with England continued to take a down turn as Queen Elizabeth I restored her supremacy over the Church of England through Act of Supremacy in 1559.

Anglo-Spanish Relations

The religious tension is manifesting through both commercial and political aspects. England and



Tapestry of the Spanish Armada that hung in English Parliament

Spain constantly clash overseas in commercial routes and on land in minor and major battles. For example, leading English Protestants called for English support for the Dutch protestant rebels against Spain. England also lend support to Prior of Carto in his power struggle with Philip II of

Spain for the Portuguese throne. In turn to retaliate England's interference, Philip II gave support to the Catholic rebellion in Ireland against Elizabeth's religious reformation. This move not only furthered the tension, but also aroused disturbances among the Protestants in France as the nation is already deeply troubled by civil war. Political actions taken in the past five years put Spain and England in stalemate, checking both powers as they poke each other's weak spots over religious uprisings. Spain and France allied to aid the Catholic League of France and to suppress the rise of Protestantism in France while England joined force with the Dutch Protestants to help their war efforts. A series of devious deals and agreements finally reached climax as the English occupied the Cautionary Towns, a move Philip II saw as an open declaration of war on his rule in the Netherlands.⁶

Commercial disputes additionally complicate matters in the two nations' colonization strategy. The trading activities overseas in the English colonies gained tacit support of Queen Elizabeth I to break the Spanish monopoly on the Atlantic trade. Despite constant complaints from the Spanish government accusing the English of smuggling in the West Indies. Later those complaints actualized into violent interaction. An expedition led by Sir John Hawkins in 1568 was surprised and captured by the Spanish near Mexico. In retaliation, several Spanish treasure ships meant to supply the Spanish army in the Netherlands were detained by English ships in the following year. These incidents summarize the nature of Anglo-Spanish competition in colonization and global commerce. Many privateers from both nations also bear the mission to spy or hinder each other during their journey in the New World.

⁶ Harry Magdoff, Richard A. Webster, "Western, Colonialism," Encyclopedia Britannica, June 17, 2007. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/colonialism>

Two years ago the seizure of English merchant ships at Spanish harbors is the beginning of power struggle between two nations over the vast waters of the Atlantic. England was quick to take action commencing its first sustained activity in the Americas - the first Roanoke colony in 1585. Sir Drake sailed for West Indies and during his expedition he sacked Santo Domingo and captured Cartagena de Indias and St. Augustine in Florida. Anglo-Spanish relations are at a breaking point as of today. Philip II planned for an invasion of England for this year; however, his efforts suffered a major setback when Sir Drake burned down thirty-seven Spanish ships at Cadiz harbor. Therefore, keep in mind the dangerous political situation between Spain and England, as war could potentially breakout at any second due to the deep mistrust and hatred between two peoples of the nations.

Interaction between the Spanish and English in the Americas is constantly marked by hostility and suspicion. Spanish colonization follows a very different pattern compared with the English. Their approach with force conversion and oftentimes violent action towards the natives leave them at a vulnerable position susceptible of native attacks and rebellion. Nevertheless, the Spanish established bases here much earlier than the English; thus, one of the difficulties to challenge their position in the New World would be lack of familiarity and trust from the natives.

One of the many missions of the new colonies is to hinder the Spanish influence spread. Pertaining to the charter to establish a permanent English presence at Roanoke, the queen said to “discover, search, find out, and view such remote heathen and barbarous Lands, Countries, and territories ... to have, hold, occupy, and enjoy.” Nonetheless, the unspoken agenda behind the expedition is to prepare military bases, tell the Spaniards that England is ready for war. The basic strategy is to construct forts and well equipped bases and carry out raids on the north-most bases

of Spain. Open confrontation is strongly discouraged because Spanish colonies are well protected by trained Spanish soldiers and weapons, and direct conflict would compromise the economic agenda of the English exploration. Keep in mind the primary purpose of the expedition is trade and settlement. Several plans are worthy of consideration to pit the natives against the Spanish; for example, cause problems by raiding the native land under the guise of Spanish settlers. There are also Spanish galleons that can come in contact with English privateers. Seizure or interception of these ships should be considered with a careful observation, ensuring minimum damage to the colonists themselves.

The French has a fair amount of territory and trade posts in the New World as well, most of French colonies are centered in the north and sparsely populated, therefore, not as big of a threat at the moment. Their potential to expand and garner more power in the Americas deserves extra caution from the colonists. In contrast to the aggressive religious motivation behind the Spanish colonization, French colonists are generally less ardent in their converting efforts because they gave much more respect to the natives regarding their ancient religions, this allowed them to peacefully trade and establish settlements. Most unconventionally, due to the lack of female colonists, some French have even intermarried with natives, leading to the rise of a metis population.

Religion

The Age of Discovery unveiled at the very end of the fifteenth century. As Portugal and Spain embarked on their conquest for wealth and power, the spread of Christianity also marked their footsteps. Spain and Portugal received major support from the Catholic Church and the crown while Protestant nations in the exploration brought Protestantism around the globe. The

spread of Christianity mirrors the chaotic religious dynamic back in Europe. Catholics and Protestants oftentimes forbid or even persecute each other's religion, the competitive nature of Christianization in the colonies is a direct aftermath. Adding on to the rift between Catholicism and Protestantism, English Anglicanism is also experiencing chaos as reforming puritans surge into dominance.

However, the growth of Christianity in the New World is far from steady. During the first decade or so in the new colonies, religious practices are irregular due to sparse population, minimal communication among settlers, and their questionable background and morals.⁷ The common practices of astrology and witchcraft further complicate the religious atmosphere. Moreover, a consistent pattern of low female settler ratio causes the establishment of majorly unconventional households and shortage of clergymen and missionaries. Though the society is governed by Christian principles, the religious intent of the colony is always overshadowed by alternative motives, such as the search for gold, power, survival, etc.

The role of religion and the Church in North and South America played key roles in the development of colonial society. While both the English and the Spanish have similar mission in the Americas to "save" the savages to Christianity and civility, the Spanish serve a more violent cause. Riding high off the ideals of the Reconquista, the Spanish saw it as their duty to convert and save indigenous populations from eternal damnation. The conversion of indigenous peoples to Catholicism became the justification for the Spanish to claim the New World. The pope, in 1493, gave the monarchs of Castile dominion over any land discovered, on one condition in that

⁷ "Religion in Colonial America: Trends, Regulation, and Beliefs," Facing History and Ourselves, Accessed January 1, 2017
<https://www.facinghistory.org/nobigotry/religion-colonial-america-trends-regulations-and-beliefs>

they assume responsibility for protecting and evangelizing the indigenous inhabitants. By violence they managed to convert large sections of the indigenous populations and forced them to subject to the crown. The Spanish successfully organized colonial society under the pretext of inequality.⁸



First page of the English Book of the Common Prayer which is

Otherwise, in English colonies, colonists exercise religious tolerance to a fair degree, except for Catholicism. Although missionary work is not as fervent in English colonies compared to that of the French and Spanish, colonists oftentimes make efforts to spread religion to the native tribes in the area. Nevertheless, native conversion to Christianity is incredibly difficult due to many cultural clashes and, most importantly, language barrier.⁹ Native religions and ancestor worship are not easily abandoned by many locals. Many colonists angered the natives by slaughtering sacred animals and destroying holy sites because they lack

knowledge regarding the native traditions. However, there were a handful successful cases of conversion, mainly aided by trade relations the colonists established with the local tribes. One threatening concern that constantly haunt the colonists is the indigenous people's mistrust. Daily interactions between the first group of Roanoke colonists and the natives proved alarming and violent. Also, most frustratingly, the English fail to find large populations of indigenous peoples,

⁸ Patricia U. Bonomi, *Under the Cape of Heaven: Religion, Society, and Politics in Colonial America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986), 16.

⁹ Thomas S. Giles, "Christian History," *Christianity Today*, Issue 35: Columbus & Christianity in the Americas, 1992.

unlike the Spanish in South America. Because of all these reasons, they viewed indigenous conversion as a futile effort and an unnecessary risk.

The English, Spanish, and French are the three major forces in North America, their power struggle for more access to the New World plays out in various aspects that profoundly affect the New World's fate.¹⁰ France and Spain are governed by a monarchy whose sovereign power is absolute, their colonists in America are servants of the Crown. French settlers are mostly traders, merchants, and missionaries, lower-class farmers and Protestants are not allowed to immigrate to the Newfoundland. Spanish settlers, serving a more aggressive agenda, are mostly soldiers, conquistadores, and Catholic missionaries. On the other hand, the English colonists enjoy far more independence and are able to govern themselves as long as they follow the English law - staying loyal to the king. Settlers from England consist of a variety of background, middle-class farm owners, artisans, merchants, criminals, and indentured servants. Furthermore, unlike France and Spain, England encourages immigration from other nations, this trend boosts its colonial population. The geographic position of these three major powers are spread out with the French controlling regions in the north, English in the middle, and the Spanish in mostly the south and southwest.

Without a doubt the religious differences expanded to the New World in its political and social progression as well. Competition for power is quite complex. The English despises the Spanish and French for their Catholic agenda, underneath this layer of animosity, there also lies

¹⁰ "English, French, and Spanish Colonies: A Comparison," Accessed January 1, 2017.
http://www.granburyisd.org/cms/lib/tx01000552/centricity/domain/287/fact_sheet_u1_comparison_of_eng_fr_sp_col.pdf

deep mistrust between the Spanish and the English.¹¹ The Spanish entered the game almost eighty years ahead of England, and the difference in timing dictated the shape and growth of the new colonies in distinct ways. The Spanish enjoyed more freedom to acquire land and their radical agenda to spread Christendom under the unified Spanish Monarchy also marked them a more important player in the non-Christian world. Even though as late-comers the English had to settle for land not occupied by others, they were able to learn from and perfect the successful Spanish model in conquering the New World. English colonies are sponsored by private companies instead of the crown, they plant colonies with different societal structure but sharing similar representative assemblies as the basis of governing body.

Territorial Expansion

Prior to the establishment of Roanoke colony, investigation was conducted by an expedition to the east coast of the New World. In addition to useful information of potential territory for settlement, two natives from the Secotan and Croatoan tribe were brought back to England. The natives described the politics and geography of the New World, ever since then the Secotans and Croatans uphold a very friendly relationship



Map of the area surrounding Roanoke with the island circled in Red

¹¹ "Differences Between British and Spanish Colonization of North America: Analysis of J.H. Elliot's Empires of the Atlantic World," The American West: An Eclectic History, Accessed January 1, 2017 <http://theamericanwestanelectichistory.blogspot.com/2012/11/differences-between-british-and-spanish.html>

with the English. Shortly after, the first group of colonists embarked on the journey for Roanoke in April of 1585 and arrived in July after several mishaps.

The Roanoke colony is positioned at a sparsely populated geographic location inhabited by rather small native tribes compared to that of most Spanish settlements in South America. There are several important local tribes in the vicinity, totaling to around fifteen thousand people. The most influential tribe in Roanoke is the Croatoan tribe, one of the Algonquian peoples who are more amicable toward Europeans' arrival. Croatans rely mainly on agriculture as their primary source of sustenance and income. They engage in trading activities with settlers but at a small scale. Their methods of agriculture is extremely efficient, not only do they feed themselves, but they are also able to trade with and feed the colonists.

European colonization has brought internal conflict among the native tribes, some advocated for cooperation and potential friendly alliance to trade for advance European weapons and tools. Croatoan tribe is one of the few that maintained contact with colonists and gained access to weaponry to gather more power to themselves. Others, such as the more powerful and populous tribes like the Yamasee, Cherokee, and Chickasaw, resisted the Europeans, claiming their arrival as an invasion.

The first group of Englishmen at Roanoke had major setbacks on constructing a habitable living environment. Territorial expansion proved to be much harder because of the harsh weather, drastically different terrain, and some natives' eerie presence. The constant lack of food and slow progress on fort construction put survival in question. During the initial exploration of the mainland coast and the native settlements, the Europeans blamed the natives of the village of Aquascogoc for stealing a silver cup. As retaliation, the settlers sacked and burned the village.

Months passed by, without relief supply or living situation getting better, the natives retaliated and attacked the fort, fortunately without causing a bloodbath.

The unsuccessful attempt at establishing a permanent settlement for those early colonists presents some hardship in English territorial expansion in the New World. The unfamiliar geography, lack of resources and manpower left them quite trapped, struggling for sustenance. However, facing competition from Spain and France, as well as hostility from powerful native tribe, it can be easily observed that in order for expansion to happen, it is necessary to establish alliances with the natives to ensure stable development of the colony meanwhile undermining their actual power to eliminate potential threat as the natives gain weaponry and advanced material goods.



Sketch of a usual native settlement

European settlers have the ability to meddle with the native affairs, manipulating native conflicts for their own agenda. To illustrate, trade relations between Secotan and the English colonists led Secotans to gain access to better tools and some weapons. It helped them to get the upper hand in political struggles within native tribes. The

Secotans saw the English as a great opportunity to advance their own position, they tried to convince the English to join them in native conflicts. To the English, this situation provide them bargaining chips to determine the outcome of conflicts among the native tribes.

Territorial gains for the colony means loss for the natives. Thus, conflicts would be a possibility when they have to be pushed out for their land and resources. There are advantages

and disadvantages for the colonists. The advantages are that diseases brought over to the New World devastated the local people and the colonists are equipped with plenty of weapons and well-constructed forts. The disadvantages are that natives know the terrain better and diseases spread from natives to the colonists as well, though at a small degree.¹²

The Spanish were the first people to bring disaster upon the natives as they carried over diseases such as smallpox, influenza, and other viruses. Lacking immunity to Old World sicknesses, the indigenous people fell victim to terrible plagues. On the other hand, disease in colonial America that afflicted the early immigrant settlers was also a dangerous threat to life. Some of the diseases were new to the settlers and treatments were ineffective. Malaria was deadly to many newly arrived colonists, especially in the southern colonies. Of newly arrived able-bodied young men, over one-fourth of the Anglican missionaries died within five years of their arrival in the Carolinas. Mortality was high for infants and small children, especially for diphtheria, smallpox, yellow fever, and malaria. Making the matter worse, traditional methods of healing sickness, bloodletting, not only did not heal the sick but also further spread the plagues. Most of the sick naturally turn to local healers, who used folk remedies. Others also relied upon the minister-physicians, midwives, and ministers, very few trained physicians settled in the New World and even fewer turned to specially trained physicians

Money

Early travelers who had explored the New World gave the impression that the region is abundant with gold and claimed that the land is full of wild animals, plants, and other

¹² Roanoke Colony Deserted, (A&E Television Networks, LLC.), 1, <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/roanoke-colony-deserted>

resources.¹³ Driven by competition among European nations, land has more political and power implications than sustainability.¹⁴ It draws lines between powerful and complacent countries and causes wars over nothing more than the dirt underneath their feet.

Gold

On the island there are multiple ways to how money can be made in order to sustain a living. The three main ways to make profit are obtaining gold, cash crop farming, and trading with England. These are a vital part to sustain the colony and succeed for the global domination of England, as the wish of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth in her attempts to colonize of the New World.

The first way to make money is to obtain gold, there are multiple methods in which colonists can go about this: mining or sifting, trading with the natives, and privateering. Finding riches, especially gold and copper, is the essence of the financial motivation behind colonization and settlement in the New World.

The easiest and least dangerous method for obtaining gold is through sifting. Sifting typically occurs near a creek, stream, or a river. However, not all of them will yield these precious metals. Fortunately for the settlers, there are many reports stating that the areas along the coast are more likely to have gold in their running water making it a viable option for finding

¹³ Tim Saenger, Colonial Farming and Food: Famine to Prosperity, (North Carolina State University), <http://www.ncpedia.org/colonial-farming-and-food-famine>

¹⁴ Elizabeth Kim, Roanoke Island, (North Carolina History Projects), <http://carolinahistory.web.unc.edu/roanoke-island-3/>

the precious metal.¹⁵ The slight downside to this area though is that the region has much smaller gemstones like rubies, sapphires, garnets, and emeralds instead of precious metals like gold.¹⁶

Even though sifting is the safest option and the one that requires the least amount of technical equipment, it is not the highest yielding method. This might not work for the settlers due to the amount of time required and the fact that many of the colonists are looking to get rich quickly. The need for great amount of patience and a somewhat reliance on luck have always been a bad combination for those who are desperate for the shiny metal. Mining is a more efficient way for the colonists to obtain gold due to the high yield in case a good location was found.

The next possible method is through trade with the natives. Relations with the native are positive because of past expeditions. Trade activities should go smoothly in the beginning. It is believed to be a harsh winter, coupled with many supplies lost during the voyage to the New World, there could be a failure to further a trade relationship.¹⁷ Under these circumstances, obtaining even food can become difficult.¹⁸

Another method to make money during this time is privateering. Privateers use an armed ship owned by an individual holding a government commission, particularly common for

¹⁵ The New American Gold Rush, (American Mining Rights Association), <https://americanminingrights.com/how-to-pan-for-gold/>

¹⁶ North Carolina Gold Mines, Prospecting, Panning, Treasure Hunting and Rockhounding, (H&H Engineering), http://www.goldmaps.com/east/north_carolina_gold.htm

¹⁷ Fort Raleigh and the Lost Colony, (UNC School of Education), <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-twoworlds/1638>

¹⁸ Andrew Lawler, We Finally Have Clues to How the Lost Roanoke Colony Vanished, <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/08/150807-lost-colony-roanoke-hatteras-outer-banks-archaeology/>

capturing enemy merchant ships and goods.¹⁹ Privateers are willing to risk their lives in exchange for financial spoils and take on the task of expanding the global power of England through trade and colonization with the New World. This practice of government approved piracy plays an important role in the ascension and success of England when Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth ascended to the throne in 1558. She had to prepare to fight against the Spanish, the largest empire in the world. At the start of her reign Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth inherited approximately 21 ships but the fleet's size has grown much larger due to the great Sea Dogs Sir Drake helping her swell the numbers with captured ships.²⁰

Privateering has enabled England to restore its depleted treasury and develop a strong naval defense and will ultimately lead to a global expansion.²¹ Privateers are a vital method of sustaining a colony, in fact they provide supplies to settlements and save many colonists from demise.

Cash Farming

Land is power and the key to success during this time. Plow and till are important in ensuring a steady supply of money back and forth to England. More land would yield greater resources and farm products to trade and stimulate growth back in England. However, this plan to



Example of a Spanish tobacco Plantation

¹⁹ Thomas White, The Significant Role That Privateering Played, <https://perspectivesofthepast.com/history-of-pirates/the-significant-role-that-privateering-played-in-the-formation-of-the/>

²⁰ White, The Significant Role That Privateering Played.

²¹ Ibid.

create a self-reliant and producing farming system will fail if not planned out properly as expanding too much too quickly can land the colony in trouble.

By the time the colonists land, the season will be too late for extensive farming; therefore, preparation for the next season is of utmost importance.²² It seemed even God himself may be against the colony as reports warning an ongoing drought within the region. The timing and the conditions are all against the settlers in the effort to colonize but Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth's wishes to gain riches, even surpassing that of Spain, must be made true so the money can flow back to England as quickly as possible. Farming would be difficult with the conditions due to the drought and the season's limited crop growth but the colony cannot be allowed to fail under any circumstances. The colonists are advised to explore new farming methods and strike an alliance with the natives to find out their agricultural inventions.

It should be noted that there is a general difference in climate between England and the New World. England has a temperate maritime climate, its summers are cooler but the winters are milder. In the Roanoke colony, in contrast, the summers are humid and hot whilst the winters are much colder.²³ Settlers must take this factor into account for farming and it should also be considered when the next supply ship comes in order to prepare for the following winter. Settlers may find that the first year they may have to rely on the help of England to replenish their stores as they wait out harsh winters and conflicts with natives.

Farming in the colony should present a smooth progress during the summer. The region is known as an ideal place for agriculture with its fertile soil and plentiful rain most of the time.

²² Kim, Roanoke.

²³ The Southern Colonies, (The Independence Hall Association), <http://www.ushistory.org/us/5.asp>

The island is much farther south and it has a warm climate, moist with longer summers than in the North, resulting in longer growing time and more fresh water for the crops. All of these factors combined should spell out the perfect condition for growing cash crops and with some luck it will prove to be a fruitful endeavor.²⁴

Native crops such as hemp, cotton, and tobacco are big money makers, however, the new geography plus an unknown climate may result somewhat in minor setbacks to farm during the very beginning as settlers begin to familiarize themselves with the new terrain. Another factor that will play into farming is the fact that these cash crops, like tobacco and cotton, take an enormous amount of manpower and care.

Other than farming, domesticated animals would be another aspect of interest. There is a small amount of livestock, such as pigs, sheep, and chickens that have been brought over. Additionally, the Native Americans themselves do not have a culture of raising domesticated animals. There are smaller dogs and wild turkeys that can be captured and potentially domesticated. Most of the large animals in the Americas are not suitable for domestication, therefore, but more so for hunting. Not only that, natives have plenty of good crops available to them along with wild animals, meaning domesticated animals to aren't necessary to survive.²⁵

It was through interference of Columbus that the New World first encountered horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs. It is expected that these animals will quickly grow in popularity among the natives but no large herds have been established yet, so they will not have much

²⁴ The Southern Colonies, (The Independence Hall Association), <http://www.ushistory.org/us/5.asp>

²⁵ The Columbian Exchange, (UNC School of Education), <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-twoworlds/1866>

influence around the areas in which the island is located²⁶ Although there are no proper riding horses on the island there are a few worker horses to aid in the plowing of the land and using them correctly could make or breaking the future of farming on the island.

Trade

Trading with England will be an integral part of the New World economy. This was the main goal of Sea Dog Sir Walter Raleigh when he led the expedition to North America in order to establish a permanent colony there.²⁷ Since 1562 before this trip, English privateers have made countless trips to the New World to establish the slave-trade and to prey on Spanish ships traveling back to Europe with goods from their colonies on the Southern Continent. The English had the desire to earn riches and vast lands like Spain but it is not until the establishment Roanoke Colony that the colonization effort can truly begin. This expedition is meant to enable England to follow in the steps of Spain and start gaining profit from the New World.²⁸

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth hopes to bring wealth to England through the goods obtained from hunting, mining, and farming this new land. The colonist can sell commodities like animal hide, dried meat, and bones or teeth gained through hunting back to the people of England to turn a profit for themselves while also adding new goods to the English market. Through mining there can be precious stones and metals to fill the treasury while searching the coast can bring vast amounts of pearl to be sold to England for new and interesting pieces of jewelry. With the new environment, there are bound to be new exotic plants and animals that

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Fort Raleigh and the Lost Colony, (UNC School of Education), <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/editions/nchist-twoworlds/1638>

²⁸ Ibid

could be transported to England and manufactured goods could be made from farming things like cotton and tobacco.

It is not only trade to England that is important, trading with the natives must be a primary concern. A good relationship with the various tribes could lead to an alliance, when they need a steady stream of European manufactured goods and in exchange for their food and treasures to trade back to England. The main issue is finding out which goods would appeal to the natives. There have been reports of trades made between natives and colonists, however, not for profit. The settlers actively traded with the natives for food and supplies.²⁹ They would give the natives little trinkets, possessions, or tools as bartering items. But soon they started to get tired of these objects and rejected trade with the settlers.³⁰ Everything found in the area is already readily available to them, the trade of weapons and animals may be the only way. This then brings with it its own host of problems, the biggest threat is the potential of natives using European weapons against the colonists.

Not only can they trade but if the colonists are willing to risk their relationship with the natives, shipping slaves back to England or taking them as workers in the colony can help to turn a profit. The huge obstacle is that slave trading is bound to cause ethical, religious, and political issues.

Creating manufactured goods is also a great alternative to the more malicious means of obtaining goods and money. The growing of hemp could lead to vast amounts of naval grade rope, cotton can be made into fine clothing, and tobacco can be dried and processed into an

²⁹ *The Establishment of the Colony*, (Archer Cousins), <http://www.archercousins.com/ArcherAssn/lostcolony/>

³⁰ Ibid

easily smoke-able form. In addition, exotic furs can be obtained and made into fine articles such as hats. Fur is especially important since the Eurasian Beaver was hunted to extinction in the entirety of the British Isles, any beaver fur would go for exceptionally high prices in England.³¹ Other commodities such as salt, extra horses, and even cattle can still be obtained, but taking them by force from the Spanish West Indies is the only option.³²

Common animal pelts such as deerskin are not worth as much as fur, but they are still a valuable trade item. Other pelts such as beaver and fox fur are much more valuable. In addition exotic birds from Africa have been kept as pets in Europe for some time and by adding some varieties from the New World there is a chance to expand the market, but bird trade would only serve as a small cash boost as the market isn't anywhere near as large as the pelt trade.³³

Mission Statement

The Roanoke Colony has many purposes and duties expected by the Crown. The spread of English influence must be quick and far reaching; Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth eagerly anticipates her investment to pay off with much needed resources and treasures from the new world. The Sea Dog, Sir Walter Raleigh, also wants to see many Spanish Gold ships captured. The colony must establish a fort to contest Spanish influence in the area. For colonists who wish to achieve their own personal agenda no matter the cost, do so discreetly, and above all else, try

³¹ Martin, Horace T. *Castorologia, or, The history and traditions of the Canadian beaver*. (Montreal: W. Drysdale, 1892).

³² *The Establishment of the Colony*

³³ Exports and Imports, (Score), http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/score_lessons/market_to_market/pages/exportsimports.html

to stay alive in this foreign and untamed land. Take into account all the aforementioned factors at every turn and decision, consider carefully and consequences and benefits.

God Save the Queen and good luck colonists!

CHARACTER BIOGRAPHIES

Ananias Dare (Day Labourer) - Born in London in 1552 to a modest working-class family, Ananias Dare has lived a frugal life in his childhood. Because of his upbringing, he boasts his hands-on experience through years of hardship and training. He also takes pride in his common-man background, adding on to his reputation for his hard-working attitude and straight-forward personality, he is very well respected among his friends and family members. However, his determination to excel was challenged when he lost his shop to an accidental fire and his parents' death. Though life presented multiple obstacles, he restored his optimism when he married Eleanor Dare, the daughter of John White, hence, making him the son-in-law of the deputy governor.

Tiler and bricklayer by trade, Ananias serves as a day labourer on the colony to help build shelters and assists William Sole in the construction of the fort. He doesn't hold any actual power, but his enduring and wise character led many colonists to seek his counsel in times of difficulty. Among all the workers on Roanoke Island, he is also the most skilled and respected. His Island contact is another labourer in charge of lumber named John Hemmington. John Hemmington has a hobby of stealing and hunting.

Eleanor Dare (Governors Daughter) – Born in Westminster London in 1558, Eleanor Dare is only 19 when the boat lands. However, Eleanor Dare is no ordinary woman, as a daughter of an explorer, she is famous for challenging the social norms for women due to her daring, adventurous lifestyle. Her family background is very different from her husband, Ananias Dare's. She has never been lacking materialistically and is professionally trained in music and embroidery. She always wanted to go on a voyage with her father, due to many societal restrictions, her wish was never fulfilled until now when she came to Roanoke. Furthermore, Eleanor holds firm and strong religious belief that Christianity is the only Truth. Her interaction with the natives is minimal to none because she considers all of them sinful and savage. Though a religious separatist, she doesn't advocate for puritan separation from the Church of England. Eleanor is also quite influential socially due to her more superior social and material status as the only daughter of the governor. She founded an informal women's circle in which all female colonists are involved. Her contact on island is Jane Mannering, an unmarried 17 year-old young lady and the trusted confidant of many on the island. Jane Mannering knows all the gossip.

George Howe (Governor's Steward) – Born in Birmingham in 1544 to a family of scholars, George Howe lives under the shadow of his older brother because of his academic underachievement. Though a mediocre student, he has acquired a diploma from the University of Aberdeen. He is specialized in money and resource management. When he came out of university as the age of 24, he worked for his uncle's family business as the accountant and occasional debt collector. To his disappointment, his work never received appreciation because

his brother's more stunning contribution to the family business. After committing his loyalty to his family business for ten years, he neglected his emotional life, he remains unmarried at the age of 34. Finally, he decided that he's had enough and determined to sign up to join the Roanoke colony as the Governor's steward.

He is the head tax collector on the island. He has much experience in finance and management, in addition to his social influence and connection back in England. Politically, George holds the position as the governor's advisor but is known to be always ignored. His discontent toward the governor is very obvious, rumor has that there is also personal bad blood between him and the governor, and George wants to gain more personal power over the governor. His contact on the island is John Gibbes who is his chief tax collector who is known to be forceful but clumsy.

Anthony Gage (Corn Farmer) – Born in Cardiff in 1547, Anthony Gage came from a humble family of farmers. His parents are unambitious and hardworking, but unlike his parents, Anthony has plenty of street smarts and luck. He started out as an ordinary farmer, at the age of 24, he ran into an opportunity plus god-blessed good weather that year, he gained so much profit and established a name as the most prominent landowner in his rural town. When he received an invitation to join the Roanoke colony, he brought 12 men with him and wishes to become a benefactor of the colony helping the exploration with personal gain in return to fund his expansion in farm land.

Anthony Gage isn't the wealthiest farmer in Roanoke but he strives to do some good in the world. Despite his great skills, his 12 men were not doing so well after arriving in Roanoke as they had never been on a boat before so they may not be up to full strength until sometime later.

Competition among farmers to make progress in growing crops and construction makes him constantly anxious to explore new ways to survive. He despises tobacco use and especially those who grow it. His main contact is John Prat, a young 13 year-old farmhand skilled horseman.

Thomas Topan (Tobacco Farmer) – Also born in Cardiff in 1547, Thomas Topan comes from a prominent local family. Raised in an environment that encouraged arrogance in their social status and deviousness in business, Thomas is not well liked in Roanoke and back at home. His father came from poverty and because of his experience he has irrational hatred toward the poor. Much like his father, Thomas has a reputation for his untrustworthiness and his lack of empathy. He has been quoted saying “I would rather be rich than loved.”

Thomas Topan and Anthony Gage are archenemies. Thomas’s sister was in an unfruitful relationship with Anthony Gage’s sister. Though the family drama did not make them archenemies, Thomas Topan’s later success as a tobacco farmer alienated his ostensible friendship with Anthony Gage because Anthony Gage hates tobacco and those who grow it. They are constantly competing to be the most socially influential and the most productive farmer. The 12 men Thomas Topaz brought with him to Roanoke were told not to be friendly with Anthony Gage’s men. His contact is William Waters, an older man of 54 years but is also an excellent foreman with experience working enslaved people.

Robert Wilkinson (Blacksmith) – Born in 1543 no one is entirely sure where Robert was born exactly but judging by his peculiar accent it can be assumed somewhere other than England.

What is known of Wilkinson is that he is one of the greatest blacksmiths and gun makers that

anyone on the island had ever seen. He can quickly make a horseshoe from nothing but scrapes of raw iron or turn a metal tube into the masterpiece of military engineering that is the arquebus. He is one of the most important people on this island as a colony cannot survive without a steady supply of tools. As long as there is metal to be had Robert can turn it into whatever the colony may need. His contact on this island is a young man named Lewes Wotton who is his only assistant at the forge. Lewes also speaks with the same strange accent as Robert himself.

Richard Shaberdge (The Catholic) – Born in Ireland in 1540, Richard Shaberdge was abandoned by his parents by the door of a catholic church. He was raised in church and set his life goal to be a missionary spreading Catholicism. Richard has very unique physical abilities, he was always the biggest and the strongest kid in his youth. In his adulthood, he worked many manual labor jobs due to his incredible strength. In 1575, he was recruited to go on an exploration voyage to the Caribbean islands and the New World. He is also gifted in language. He learned to speak Algonquian fluently during his one-year long stay in the New World. Due to his language skills, he was hired by John White to join the Roanoke Colony.

Though he is the most important person for the colonists' communication with the native tribes, he is called an outsider by most because he and his family are the only Catholics in Roanoke. Nevertheless, no one dares to cross him because he is also the strongest fighter. He broke a colonist's leg because he publicly humiliated his wife Margery and his daughter Rose. His unpopularity has caused his daughter to disobey him and his wife excluded from Eleanor Dare's women's circle. His contact is his wife Margery. Although she is not allowed into too many

social events, Margery has considerable influence among the younger girls due to her clothes making skills and her beauty.

William Sole (Military Engineer) – Born in Northern England in 1533, William Sole is the son of businessman John Henry Sole II. At a young age, he developed an interest in architecture and history. Despite his father's wish for him to inherit the family business, William Sole decided to attend the University of Oxford for architecture without his father's financial support. An expert in construction of forts, he worked as a military engineering for the British government.

Upon receiving the invitation to join the Roanoke colony to be the director for construction, William, at age 44, finally has the chance to exercise full control on a major project for the first time. His expertise on construction and schemes for defense against the natives puts him on an important and respectable position in the Roanoke Colony, he also has the support of the colonial council. His contact is Richard Kemme, the foreman of the 25 construction workers.

Emme Merrimoth (A Spinster) – Born near the English-Welsh border in a small hamlet and appearing to be in her mid-60s no one truly knows how old Emme is and no one willing to ask an old unmarried woman such personal information. There is slight disdain amongst the colonist for Miss Merrimoth as most view her as a waste of resources due to her inability to bear children but she is still skilled in other means. Emme is a masterly skilled seamstress and weaver who is able to turn even the coarsest of yarn into an almost silk smooth fabric which she can then transform into any garment that can be imagined. It is unknown why she would ever think to take this journey to the New World, why she was allowed to, or even how she survived such a

turbulent trip across the ocean with her advanced age. What is known is that many stay away from her but also that the children flock to her to hear stories about the old days. Even if many don't agree with her presence everyone can agree that it is far too late to do anything about it and that her skills more than make up for the little food that she eats. She is on the island to survive just the same as everyone else.

Humfrey Newton (Head of the Town's Watch) – Born in Edinburgh in 1551, Humfrey Newton is the son of a former soldier in the Royal Militia. Humfrey's father believed that pain and violence make a man worthy and strong; therefore, Humfrey was raised in an environment that encouraged bullying and violence. Believing that force is the ultimate solution to everything, he treats everything with closed-mindedness and a hot temperament. In his teen years, he received professional training on combat and fencing.

He was a Yeoman of the Guard with extensive combat experience before immigrating to Roanoke. Now he is in full control of the retinue of 15 full time arquebusiers who are willing to lay down their life to protect the colony. Roanoke is home to Humfrey Newton, his purpose is to find a new life here in the New World and keep the colony safe from the native tribes. Even though he's famous for his hot temper, Humfrey is an honest man with strong moral convictions. His commitment and sense of justice make him perfect for maintaining the peace and keeping law and order. His contact is his sergeant Richard Taverner, who is skilled in weapon making.

The Rev. John Cotsmur (Anglican Priest) – Born in Canterbury in 1530, John Cotsmur was raised Catholic but later converted to Anglicanism and dedicated his whole life to the Church of

England. Many rumors circulated around the reason he converted to Anglicanism, the most prominent one is that he experienced a divine intervention. From that point on, he claims to occasionally have dreams with prophetic meanings. Although he is qualified to hold a much more important position in the Church of England, his career advancement was limited due to the political struggles within the church, and his Catholic background was also attacked by his opponents in the Church.

Rev. John Cotsmur is noted for his experience as a priest and his unique fiery preaching style, the biggest goal for him in Roanoke is to convert the heathens of the New World. He is eager to reach out to the local tribes but has very little interest in finding gold and trading with the natives. Within the community of colonists, he does not have a good relationship with Shaberdge the Catholic and Eleanor Dare because of his hatred toward those to refuse to follow his teachings; he has made constant efforts to preach and convert them to Anglicanism but every attempt ends in his disappointment. He has the right to collect from tithing. His contact is his alter boy Ambrose Viccars, who is also studying to be Cotsmur's successor.

Edward Powell (Captain of the Red Lion) – Born in Woolwich in 1549, Edward Powell grew up homeless. His childhood in poverty made him hardworking but also fostered in him a twisted desire for power and wealth. He worked at the Woolwich Dockyard his entire life until he joined the navy at the 22. He eventually climbed his way up the ladder and served under the Sea Dog Sir Francis Drake and garnered Sir Francis Drake's permission to privateer any Spanish galleon he pleases. He is chosen to be the captain of Red Lion, an English 100 foot brig with 22 guns and manned by a 25 person crew.

His main goal is to acquire gold in the New World made him the personal privateer of the Roanoke Colony. He is the leading advocate in exploring deeper into the native land and very indifferent about establishing amicable trade relations with the natives. His intimidating personality and devious manners make him very unpredictable and feared in Roanoke. Moreover, Edward Powell has a vendetta against the Spanish because his friends and entire family were ruthlessly slaughtered by the Spanish a few years prior during a raid on his home. His contact is Peter Little who is the first mate of the Red Lion and an excellent navigator.

Espen van Dijk (Envoy from the United Provinces) – Born in The Hague in 1548, Espen van Dijk has lived in both England and the United Provinces due to his family's trade business. After graduating from University, he became a diplomat for the Dutch government under the recommendation from his brother, an ambitious Dutch government official, to further his own political agenda. When he was selected to become the envoy to Roanoke, he was very reluctant, only accepting with the promise of a big promotion upon his return. He is loyal to the Dutch government but is under the orders to obey the commands of the Roanoke deputy governor John White.

He is here to further relations with the English colony in the New World and explore new trade opportunities with the natives. He has the power to request Dutch support when needed. Dijk is very doubtful of the diplomatic intentions of the French ambassador, not convinced that the French intend to play fairly in the New World. Moreover, Dijk has lived a life of comfort and luxury; thus, he has had a hard time adjusting to the life on the ship at first and became

dangerously ill but he has made a speedy recovery as the coast was spotted. His contact is his assistant Cornelis Buys, who is another Dutch emissary here to gain experience in foreign policy.

François Dubois (Envoy from France) – Born in Normandy in 1547, Francois Dubois is the son of a French diplomat so he was raised with a patriotic fervor. When his father passed away in 1564, Francois set his mind to become a French diplomat like his idol. His family background plus his excellence academic achievements enabled him to become a trusted ambassador at just the age 22. He has been to the New World once before and, unlike Dijk the Dutch ambassador, Francois is very enthusiastic about establishing a new colony at Roanoke. Nevertheless, Francois has a questionable reputation because he is extremely loyal to the French and distrust the Dutch presence, which leads many to doubt his true intention in Roanoke. He is also disliked by many colonists due to cultural and language differences. Though an outsider, he is still very politely received by all the colonists. Among the ladies, he has a much greater popularity though.

Francois is a very attractive man, his mother has always considered his good physical features a gift from God; however, he is still unmarried because he couldn't find anyone he would consider a good match. There are many speculations back home concerning his lack of passion for ladies and his soft personality. His contact is Francis de Lorraine, Francois's ward. Francis is very young but very friendly with all of the local children, he can overhear secrets that other may not hear due to his unassuming presence

Oota dabun (Representative of the Croatoan Tribe) – Born to Chief Achak of the Croatoan, Oota Dabun is Chief Achak's third child and his only daughter. She has a special interest in these

white men and their culture. Her father is not at all intrigued by the colonists and called Oota naïve for believing that they have friendly intentions. Hoping to know more about the colonists, Oota offered to visit Roanoke to establish a good relations. Her exact age is unknown although she appears to be in her early 20s. Oota is trained as a warrior and well-liked by her people. She is also set to be the next chief if her father were to die. An expert in medicine, she is able to heal many deadly wounds and illness for the colonists at the early stage of their settlement. Because of her useful skills and her friendly personality, she is treated with respect by many colonists. She made her point very clear that her tribe is willing to share the land and coexist with the colonists if they do not pose any threats for her people, but if the colonists broke their promise to keep out, she will fight fiercely for her tribe's independence. Her contact is her best friend Sheshebens who has previously worked with both French and Spanish traders who frequent the area. Sheshebens moves between Roanoke and the Croatoan settlement on a weekly basis.