

American Social & Cultural History
1607-1865

Outline of Course

- The Characteristics and Contributions of the Four Cultures that Settled America
 - The England They Left Behind
- How These 4 Cultures Became the United States
- From the Revolution to the Civil War
 - Major Trends & Developments that transformed both the nation as a whole and its four constituent cultures

First Class

- Discuss the England Each Culture Left Behind
- Discuss 3 of the Founding Cultures

Second Class

- Discuss the Frontier Culture
- Discuss the American Revolution and its Preceding Events

Third Class

- Discuss How Four Cultures Became Two Sections
 - Cotton & Slavery
 - Industrialization & Diverging Economies
 - Westward Movement

Fourth Class

- Discuss the Transportation & Communication Revolutions and their socio-cultural-economic implications
- Discuss some of the changes in everyday life and culture between 1800 and 1860

Key Ideas – First Class

- English Settlement of the New World Led to the Creation of 4 Distinct Founding Cultures
- These 4 Cultures reflected differences in:
 - The different religions that dominated
 - The different reasons for emigration to the New World
 - The demographic characteristics of the early settlers
 - The distinct geographic and cultural regions from which they came
 - The different geography and climate of the regions in which they settle

Four Founding Cultures

- The Virginians/Tidewater South
- The Puritans
- The Middle Colonies
 - The Quakers & German Pietists
 - The Dutch
- The Frontier

The England They Left

- The English Class Structure
 - Monarch
 - Major Nobility
 - Minor Nobility – Knights, Esquires & Gentlemen
 - Learned Professions – Lawyers, Clergy & Academics
 - Prominent Citizens – alderman, burgesses & wealthy merchants
 - Yeomanry – landowning farmers & skilled artisans
 - Laborers & Cottagers – tenant farmers & day laborers
 - Beggars

The England They Left

– The Political-Religious Situation

- The English Reformation left a spectrum of religious groupings which differed on their theology, their concepts of church polity, and the role of the church ministry
- The Religious Factions
 - Anglicans
 - Presbyterians
 - Congregationalists
 - Separatists
 - Anabaptists
 - Quakers

The Anglicans

- The Anglicans favored
 - an inclusive national church,
 - a hierarchy of bishops and priests,
 - compulsory church taxes,
 - a union of church and crown,
 - a creed defined by the Book of Common Prayer, and
 - a liturgy and ritual that retained much of Catholic practice
- The Anglicans were strongest in the south and west of England

The Presbyterians

- The Presbyterians favored
 - A broad national church, but one ruled by synods of ministers and elders rather than bishops and priests
 - Calvinist theology
 - Worship centered on preaching
- The Presbyterians were dominant in Scotland and numerous in North Britain and Ulster

Calvinism

- Five Calvinist doctrines had a vital impact on the culture of Puritan New England and later on revivalist and fundamentalist Protestantism
 - Depravity – man is corrupted by original sin
 - Covenant – the Christian had a contractual covenant relationship with God
 - Election – Christ died only for the elect
 - Grace – God’s gift to the elect and the instrument of their salvation.
 - Love – Puritans were bound to love one another in a godly way

The Congregationalists

- The Congregationalists favored
 - A church government in the form of a confederacy of independent congregations
 - Accepted the Five Points of Calvinism
 - Wanted to capture the Anglican Church in order to complete its Reformation
- Strong in East Anglia and the eastern counties of England
- Became the Puritans of New England

The Separatists

- The Separatists favored
 - A church of fully autonomous congregations
 - Accepted the Five Points of Calvinism
 - Separation from the Church of England on the grounds that it was incapable of reform
- Became the Pilgrims of Plymouth

The Anabaptists

- The Anabaptists favored
 - The Five Points of Calvinism
 - Restriction of baptism to regenerate adult Christians
 - Separation of Church and State
- Became the founders of Rhode Island and the Baptists

The Quakers

- The Quakers
 - Rejected the legitimacy of established churches, ordained clergy, and formal liturgy
 - Believed that a holy spirit called the Inner Light dwelled within all people (more about later)
- Centered on the English Midlands

Political Implications

- Crown used the Anglican Church to promote political and religious conformity
 - Religious dissent equated with treason as well as heresy
 - Gave political significance to every religious issue
 - Led religious dissidents to express their social and political grievances in religious rhetoric

New England Geography

- Land generally poor due to stony, glaciated soil with many hills and dense forests
- Much of the coast consisted of rocky shoals or marshes
- Rivers not navigable more than a few miles inland (except for the Connecticut River) but fast flowing
- Near excellent ocean fishing areas

New England Climate

- Wet, variable, and stormy climate
- Cold in winter with a short growing season
- Healthy environment for English settlers
 - Insect-borne diseases relatively rare and mild
 - Summer diseases like enteritis relatively mild
 - Fast-flowing rivers and abundant water supplies discouraged malaria & dysentery
- Relatively unhealthy for Blacks
 - Highly susceptible to pulmonary diseases

The Puritans

- The England They Left
 - Most from East Anglia and to some extent London
 - Area of villages and hamlets with isolated farms being rare
 - Center of the English textile industry, which during the 1620s was in a depressed state
 - Region with a high rate of literacy
 - Stronghold of English Puritanism

The Puritans

- Puritanism was a movement united by a desire to complete the Reformation and purge the Church of its Catholic remnants while preserving the link between church and state
 - Most Puritans wanted to capture and reform the church
 - More radical Puritans became “Separatists,” withdrawing from the Anglican Church to establish their own congregational churches.
- Puritans wanted a reformed church that focused on Bible-reading, prayer groups, and sermons delivered by learned and zealous ministers and which consisted of autonomous congregations

The Puritans

- Puritanism appealed to many pious and propertied people who were weary of the economic upheaval, crime, and poverty of an England undergoing a rural 'enclosure' movement that was driving many English peasants off the land
 - The socio-economic upheavals in England were especially upsetting to an emerging middle class of small property owners, farmers, shopkeepers, skilled artisans, and the self-employed, who feared becoming 'sturdy beggars.' These people were especially attracted to Puritanism
- Puritanism, however, alienated most Englishmen who preferred Anglicanism, ceremonial religious services, traditional culture, and deference to the monarch

The Puritans

- Puritanism alarmed the 17th Century English Kings who:
 - Wanted a united realm whose citizens were loyal to both the king and the Anglican Church
 - Believed that the Puritan insistence on the spiritual equality of all godly men (those predestined to grace and Heaven) and the superiority of the godly to all ungodly individuals (those sinners predestined to damnation) was subversive
- In 1628, Charles I and Bishop Laud began purging Puritan ministers from the Anglican Church for refusing to conduct the high church liturgy.
- In 1629, Charles I dissolved Parliament and proceeded to rule arbitrarily. This led to the Great Migration

The Puritans

- In 1630, under the leadership of John Winthrop, a syndicate of wealthy Puritans obtained a royal charter as the Massachusetts Bay Company
- The leaders of the company relocated to Massachusetts with their capital, charter, and records
 - This converted a commercial charter into a self-governing colony
 - In Massachusetts, the company leaders established a republic, with an elected governor, deputy governor, and a legislature (known as the General Court)

The Puritans

- About 14,000 Puritans participated in the Great Migration.
- Some key facts:
 - Most Puritans stayed in England
 - Only 30% of emigrants in the 1630s went to New England
 - Post-1640 emigration to New England was minimal
 - Most paid their own way and emigrated in family groups

The Puritans

- Nearly 75% paid their own passage
- Only 25% were indentured servants (compared with 75% in Virginia)
- $2/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the adult male emigrants were able to sign their name while only $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of adult males in England could do so.
- Between 50%-60% had been engaged in some skilled craft or trade before leaving England.
- Less than $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ had been employed primarily in agriculture

The Puritans

- In Massachusetts, there were 150 males for every 100 females
 - This meant that normal family life was the rule rather than the exception
- This compared with a sex ratio of:
 - Virginia – 4 men for every 1 woman
 - New Spain – 10 men for every 1 woman

The Puritans

- Unlike the Chesapeake and the West Indies, the healthier and more sex-balanced New England population had a rapid growth through natural increase
- During the 17th century, New England received 21,000 immigrants. Yet by 1700, the population had grown to 91,000

The Puritans

- Settlement Patterns
 - Village Townships with houses along a single street
 - Village green in the center on which was the meeting house, a school, and the town hall plus a commons where the militia would train and the cows would graze
 - Each settler family owned both a village lot plus farmland outside of town
 - Village lot held a house, a small orchard, a garden & pasture for the family cow
 - Farm lot – where crops were grown

The Puritans

- Village settlement pattern reflected the following:
 - Common settlement patterns in East Anglia
 - The Puritan concept that the congregation should that should constitute a godly community that supervised and instructed its members
 - The need for protection against often hostile Indians
- New England township was not only a village, but also the local governmental unit

The Puritans

- Economy
 - Family Farms
 - Pioneer/Subsistence
 - Largely Subsistence
 - Fishing
 - Export of salted fish, furs, timber, and timber products (planks, ships' masts, barrel staves, barrels & charcoal)

The Puritans

- Family Farms
 - Raised a medley of small crops – wheat, rye, corn, potatoes, beans & garden vegetables
 - Small herd of livestock – oxen, cattle, sheep & pigs
 - Surplus crops, cheese & meat locally traded for the goods and services of local artisans
 - Some sold to seaport merchants to obtain West Indian sugar, Chesapeake tobacco & English manufactured goods

The Puritans

- Fish
 - Coastal towns fished the cod, mackerel, and other fish of the nearby Georges Bank and the more distant Grand Banks
 - Most of the fish exported to Spain, Portugal, and the West Indies

The Puritans

- Trade
 - Seaport merchants exported agricultural surpluses, lumber & fish to the West Indies
 - This also included salt beef, grain, and tobacco from the Chesapeake
 - Received bills of exchange, silver coin, sugar, rum, and molasses in exchange
 - Re-exported the sugar and rum plus the bills of exchange and silver coin to England for either English manufactured goods for the colonies or guns, powder, knives, trinkets, and glass trinkets for export to West Africa in exchange for slaves, gold, ivory, and tropical animal hides

The Puritans

- Fishing and the carrying trade demanded ships
- Demand for ships and abundant & cheap timber led to New England becoming a major shipbuilding center
- Shipyards stimulated a host of related enterprises
 - Sawmills
 - Iron foundries
 - Barrel makers
 - Sail makers

The Puritans

- While fishing, shipbuilding, and the carrying trade were important, largely subsistence agriculture was the mainstay of the New England economy
 - 80% of Massachusetts towns were farming towns
 - 80%-90% of adult males engaged in agriculture
- The Lack of a plantation staple meant that New England avoided the development of a plantation economy

The Puritans

- Without a profitable plantation export crop, there was no demand for, or ability to finance, the importation of indentured servants or slaves
 - By 1700, indentured servants were only 5% of the population
 - By 1700, slaves were only 2% of the population

The Puritans

- Government
 - Colonial Government – Governor, Lt Gov & an elected assembly – the General Court
 - Township –
 - Governed by the annual town meeting which set the tax rates and enacted town laws and policies
 - A board of selectmen together with other elected officials (constable, militia officers, fence viewers, highway overseers) carried out town policies and ran the town on a day-to-day basis.

The Puritans

– Town Meetings

- Members consisted of all male heads of a household in the town
- Usually characterized by a low level of turnout – normally 10% to 30% of the adult males unless there was a controversial question in which case participation surged
- Object was not rule by a majority, but the achievement of an overwhelming consensus
- Vote counts were very rarely recorded, but merely noted as the ‘will of the town’

The Puritans

- Lifestyles
 - In contrast to Virginia, rural New England had an overwhelmingly middle-class lifestyle
 - Houses tended to be Cape Cod box style, but later the salt-box house became common as the colony prospered
 - Both of these house styles were common in East Anglia
 - Simple clothing that reflected the customary folk costumes of 17th century East Anglia
 - To discourage excessive display, strict sumptuary laws existed

The Puritans

- Lifestyles – Diet
 - Baked beans, brown bread (mixed whole wheat & corn meal), vegetables, and field peas were a dietary mainstay along with meat and fish
 - Boiled dinners with vegetable and meat or fish submerged in water and boiled without seasoning
 - The common beverages was beer in the 17th century and fermented apple cider in the 18th

The Puritans

- Lifestyles – Diet – 2
 - The East Anglia tradition of baking became an important part of the New England culinary tradition.
 - The Thanksgiving dinner was largely baked – turkey, beans, bread, squash, and pies
 - The Pie in its various forms – pumpkin, apple, cherry, plum, custard, mince – became a vital part of the New England and later the American culinary tradition

The Puritans

- Key Cultural Ideas
 - Accepted the Five Points of Calvinism
 - Depravity – man is corrupted by original sin
 - Covenant – the Christian had a contractual covenant relationship with God
 - Election – Christ died only for the elect
 - Grace – God’s gift to the elect and the instrument of their salvation.
 - Love – Puritans were bound to love one another in a godly way

The Puritans

- Key Cultural Ideas – 2
 - God was continually intervening in the world through various happenings and phenomena which Puritans saw as ‘God’s remarkable providences in the world’
 - A instance of good luck or good fortune was seen as a sign of God’s favor
 - No such thing as a random or chance event

The Puritans

- Key Cultural Ideas – 3
 - Fear of witchcraft
 - At least 344 individuals were formally accused of witchcraft in New England
 - Of the 344, 35 were executed
 - More than 95% of the formal accusations and more than 90% of the executions in British America occurred in New England

The Puritans

- Key Cultural Ideas – 4
 - Rigorous observation of the Sabbath
 - Work, play, & unnecessary travel forbidden
 - The idea that the state should criminalize and punish sin, lest the colony provoke the wrath of God
 - Led to the idea that if it was immoral, it should be illegal
 - Every person should be able to read the Bible
 - Led to public grammar schools and near universal literacy

The Puritans

- The Puritans and Sex
 - Saw sex between a husband and wife as an important and necessary part of marriage
 - Sexual love and sensual bonds were strongly encouraged
 - Strongly condemned sex outside of marriage
 - Adultery was theoretically a capital crime
 - Homosexuality, Bestiality, and Masturbation condemned
 - Strong taboo against contraception
 - Fornication was also condemned.
 - Couples guilty of premarital sex could not have their children baptized unless they made a full public confession before the congregation.
 - Very low rates of illegitimacy and prenuptial pregnancy

The Puritans

- Childrearing
 - Due to depravity, children had a propensity to evil
 - Result – a need for strict discipline and rigorous supervision
 - Disciplinary focus on precept, parental example, reward, and exhortation
 - Dislike of corporal punishment
 - Routine placing out of children into other homes

The Puritans

- Puritans rejected the traditional liturgical calendar retained by the Anglican Church
- Puritans had four major holidays
 - Election Day
 - Commencement Day
 - Thanksgiving
 - Training Day

The Puritans

- Crime
 - Homicide rates in 17th century New England were less than half those of the Chesapeake colonies. Likewise with assaults
 - Most crimes were crimes against order
 - Small Sabbath violations
 - Minor cases of disturbing the peace
 - Domestic disturbances
 - Drunkenness

The Puritans

- Concepts of Liberty and Freedom
 - The right of a community to conduct its own affairs and impose its own restraints upon the individuals within its jurisdiction
 - Regarding individuals, the right to specific exemptions from a condition of prior restraint. E.g. the right to fish in a specific river or the right of a gentlemen not to be punished by whipping

The Puritans

- Sources of Cultural Strain & Subsequent Change
 - Initially, the Puritans restricted full formal church membership to “visible saints”
 - Declining religious fervor led to the “Halfway Covenant” in 1662
 - In the 18th century, the issue of church membership led to formal schism between the rationalist Old Lights and the revivalist New Lights

The Chesapeake

- Geography & Climate
 - Chesapeake Bay
 - Major Rivers
 - Rich Alluvial Soil
 - Hot, Humid Summers
 - High Mortality
 - Only continued in-migration sustained population growth until the 1660s

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- The England They Left
 - South & West of England
 - Land of Large Manors
 - Small Landholding Class
 - Anglican & Royalist
 - Grain & Wool Economy
 - Pervasive Inequalities

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Settlers
 - Indentured Servants (at least 75%)
 - Royalist Gentry
 - Slaves
- Unbalanced Sex Ratios
- Anglican

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Settlement Patterns
 - Dispersed Settlement
 - Riverine plantations
 - Dispersed farms
 - Only one Town in Virginia in 17th century
 - Where 2 or 3 roads met, there was often a tavern or pub

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Economy
 - Family Farms
 - Pioneer/Subsistence
 - Largely Subsistence
 - Plantations
 - Cash Crop for Export

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Social Structure
 - Colonial Elite of Plantation Owners – about 10%
 - Yeoman Farmers – about 20%-30%
 - Tenant Farmers
 - Indentured Servants & Free Laborers
 - Dependent Paupers
 - Slaves

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Lifestyles
 - Colonial Elite
 - Great Houses
 - Double Standard
 - Opulent Clothing
 - Gentleman Ideal
 - Gambling
 - Conspicuous Consumption
 - Debt

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Lifestyles
 - Mid-Level
 - Hall with Two Large Rooms
 - Simple Cloth & Leather Clothes
 - Fried, Roasted & Fricasseed Food

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Lifestyles
 - The Poor
 - One-room shacks
 - Canvas, Coarse Cloth & Leather Clothes
 - One-dish meals of salt meat, greens, hominy, & corn porridge

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Family Life
 - Hierarchical family with the father as patriarch
 - Marriage regarded as an indissoluble union
 - Strong double standard
 - Women held to strict standards of sexual virtue
 - Men permitted to be sexual predators of women
 - Only the female suffered punishment for fornication
 - Rape was lightly punished and often condoned
 - Children encouraged to develop strong and autonomous wills, but also be submissive to hierarchical authority

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Government
 - Colony Level: Governor/Lord Proprietor & Colonial Assembly shared power
 - County & Parish Vestry for local government
 - Dominated by local oligarchies of country gentlemen
 - Only landowners could vote
 - Judges, sheriff, county surveyor & county clerk appointed by governor

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Local Governmental Functions
 - Held trials and executed sentences
 - Supervised the local militia
 - Licensed taverns & ferries
 - Maintained roads
 - Conducted elections to the colonial assembly
- Vestry
 - Administered the Poor Laws
 - Hired the minister

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Slavery
 - As time went on, slavery became harsher
 - 1691: Freeing of slaves forbidden unless freed slaves were exiled from the colony
 - 1705: Prohibition of interracial marriage & criminalization of interracial sex by white women
 - As skin color became the mark of slave identity, race began to obscure social class divisions

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Key Cultural Ideas
 - Education for Elites but not for the Common People
 - Gentlemanly contempt for manual labor
 - Strong sense of “honor”
 - Honor as virtue and good conduct
 - Honor as valor, bravery & willingness to defend his manliness and good reputation

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Concepts of Liberty and Freedom
 - Freedom as ‘hegemonic liberty’
 - Power to rule and not be overruled by others.
 - The opposite of freedom was slavery
 - Freedom was the special birthright of free-born Englishmen
 - This birthright gave Englishmen the right to rule less fortunate people
 - Freedom did not imply equality
 - One’s status in Virginia was defined by the liberties one possessed. The elite had more liberties than those of lesser rank. Indentured servants possessed few liberties. Slaves had none

The Virginians/Tidewater South

- Concepts of Liberty and Freedom – 2
 - One corollary of ‘hegemonic liberty’ was the idea of self-government and minimal government
 - This led to the following:
 - “No taxation without representation”
 - Concept of freedom as a condition of social independence
 - Concept of dominion over one’s self

The Delaware Valley

- Geography
 - Largely rolling fertile countryside that was moderate in climate with several major navigable rivers
 - This fostered the development of family-owned farms capable of surplus agricultural exports
 - Both banks of the Delaware River were laced with small rivers and creeks, with the fall line only a few miles inland
 - This permitted many fine mill sites within easy reach of the sea

The Delaware Valley

- Geography - 2
 - Close to Philadelphia were large deposits of building stone, coal, copper, iron ore, and dense forests of oak & chestnut.
 - Soil was rich and fertile
- Climate
 - Temperate climate favorable to European settlement
 - Healthier than Virginia and not much inferior to New England
 - Growing season of 180 days

The Delaware Valley

- Corollaries
 - Good grain and cattle producing area
 - Well-suited for commercial and industrial development

The Middle Colonies: New Netherlands

- Founded as a fur-trading colony by the Dutch West India Company
 - In 1614, Dutch established a 50-person colony near present day Albany to trade with the Indians
 - New Amsterdam established in 1625 on Manhattan Island to guard the entrance to the Hudson and to produce grain and cattle for the fur traders and the Dutch West Indies.

The Middle Colonies: New Netherlands

- New Netherlands adopted the Dutch policy of religious toleration
 - This attracted a mix of Dutch Reformed, English Puritans, English and Welsh Quakers, German Protestants, Scandinavian Lutherans, French Huguenots, and Jews
 - Immigrants mostly family groups of modest means and mostly farmers or artisans
 - Dutch were a minority in their own colony with non-Dutch whites nearly half the colonists
 - 10% of the colonists were enslaved Africans

The Middle Colonies: New Netherlands

- Despite its appealing location and policy of religious toleration, the colony attracted relatively few colonists
 - In 1660, the colony had only 5,000 people compared with 25,000 in the Chesapeake and 33,000 in New England.
- Colony faltered because the prosperous Dutch had less reason to leave home than did the English with their masses of roaming poor and their alienated religious dissidents

The Middle Colonies: New Netherlands

- In 1664, the English conquered New Netherlands
- The polyglot population of now New York resisted assimilation to English culture and rallied around a Dutch identity that included membership in the Dutch Reformed Church and the speaking of Dutch rather than English
- Not until the mid-18th century did most of the Dutch colonists begin to adopt the English language and English customs

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Notes re Founding
 - In 1681, the Duke of York granted Pennsylvania to William Penn
 - Penn saw the new colony as a “holy experiment” and an “example to the nations”
 - Unlike Massachusetts, there would be no privileged church, no tax-supported religious establishment, and equal rights for all, including non-Quakers and non-British
 - Later, Penn purchased Delaware from the Duke of York and governed it as a separate colony

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Notes re Founding – 2
 - In 1682, 23 ships with 2,000 colonists arrived in the Delaware River Valley.
 - In 1683, 20 ships with 2,000 colonists arrived
 - By 1686,

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Quaker Beliefs
 - All people were equal before God
 - One approached God through a conversion experience – which was available to all - and the “inner light”
 - The “inner light” served as a guide to understanding the Bible
 - The key parts of the Bible were the New Testament teachings of Jesus

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Quaker Worship
 - Took place at a meeting house with seating normally by order of arrival and not by rank
 - A period of silence during which attendees were expected to turn their minds to the light
 - People then spoke either in the form of preaching or in the form of prayer as the spirit moved them
 - Sometimes no words were ever spoken, yet the meeting was still deemed to be a success

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Quaker Organization
 - Organized as a series of meeting – weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual
 - No formal or ordained clergy – leadership and teaching by elders and overseers
 - Authority came from the decision of the meeting as a whole
 - Although there was no formal ministry, certain articulate men (and women) served as “public friends” – itinerant preachers authorized by the annual meeting and supported by voluntary contributions

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Implications of Quaker Beliefs
 - Use of plain, familiar language with all people, even when addressing aristocrats or the king
 - Refusal to take oaths of either allegiance to the king and state or when giving testimony
 - A life of worldly asceticism
 - Pacifism – a refusal to bear arms
 - Acceptance of ethnic pluralism

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- The England They Left
 - North Midlands
 - An area of high ridges and deep valleys that later was to incubate the Industrial Revolution
 - An area colonized by the Vikings but divided between the Viking origin farmers and shepherds that was alienated from the institutions of church and state that were dominated by the Norman-descended elite
 - An area of hamlets consisting of small clusters of houses that were distinct from both the nucleated villages of East Anglia and the manors of the south and west of England

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Settlers
 - Like the New England Puritans, most came in freedom as families of middling means. Only a third were indentured servants
 - Nearly 10% were Irish.
 - There were also significant numbers of Welsh, Dutch, and Germans – most of whom came from the Rhineland and spoke a mixed German-Dutch Rhenish dialect.
 - The vast bulk of the English Quakers came from the North Midlands.

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Settlement Patterns
 - Small hamlets where there was a church, tavern, or inn, a general store, and craftsmen's shops while the farmers resided on farms outside the hamlet
 - Servicing the hamlets were market towns which could support mills to grind grain and saw lumber plus merchants to market the farmers' produce
 - Ideal settlement pattern was one of separate family farms with houses built in small clusters. This reflected the settlement pattern of the Midlands
 - Most settled as farmers in the rural townships but some artisans and craftsmen stayed in Philadelphia

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Penn's Land Policy
 - Penn acknowledged the Indians as the legitimate owners of the land and treated their culture with respect
 - Penn permitted settlement only where he had first purchased the land from the Indians
 - Penn desired to create a rural society of independent farming families without extremes of wealth and poverty. Thus land distribution was very egalitarian

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Local Government
 - Centered on the county
 - Every county had 3 commissioners, one of whom was elected each fall along with the sheriff and coroner
 - Taxes were low since the Quakers were committed to minimal taxes and minimal government
 - The role of the government was to produce social “order” as the Quakers defined it

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Political Notes
 - Quakers controlled the government of Pennsylvania from its founding in 1682 to 1755
 - To the Quakers, politics was “a part of religion itself, a thing sacred in its institutions and its end”
 - Thus the principles of religion had to be carried into public affairs
 - There were disputes, however, over the application of Quaker beliefs to public affairs

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Issues in Dispute
 - The older non-Quaker Swedish, Finnish, Dutch, and English settlers in Delaware vs the mostly Quaker newcomers in Pennsylvania.
 - The relative powers of the proprietor and the assembly
 - The relative importance of property rights and personal liberties
 - Control of the Judiciary
- Ethnic Disputes
 - English vs Welsh Quakers
 - Quakers & German Pietists vs Scotch-Irish

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Consequences
 - Quaker principles, disputes over the application of those principles, and ethnic pluralism had the following consequences:
 - Political Pluralism and Institutionalized Dissent
 - Organized political parties
 - Ethnic politics

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Lifestyles
 - Housing – reflected both Quaker-Pietist values and North Midlands traditions
 - Quaker Plan House – 3 rooms on the first, a corner stair, and a chimney stack with several fireplaces grouped together on one exterior wall. Fieldstone walls, slate roofs & wood trim were common
 - Four-over-Four House – symmetrical house with four spacious rooms and a central hall on both floors. This resembled the larger homes in northern England

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Lifestyles
 - Family Life: As in other Anglo-American cultures, the nuclear family was the normal unit of residence and the extended family the conventional unit of thought. I.e. grandparents, cousins, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, and in-laws were all thought of as members of the family

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Lifestyles: Family Life
 - Quaker family was more child-centered and less hierarchical than either Puritan or Virginia families
 - Quaker Views of the family:
 - A union of individuals who were created equal in the sight of God and whose bonds should be love rather than fear
 - A sanctuary of love and goodness in a world of sin and hatred.
 - The primary role of the family was to raise children and promote the spiritual health of its members

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Lifestyles: Family Life
 - Quakers rejected the idea that children were born evil and many denied the doctrine of original sin
 - By the 18th century, Quakers had come to believe that children were ‘harmless, righteous, and innocent creatures’ and incapable of sin until old enough to understand the consequences of their acts
 - Travelers of other faiths often commented on the permissiveness of Quaker parents and also on the extent to which Quaker households were child-centered
 - Quaker parents made use of rewards instead of punishments

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Lifestyles: Clothing
 - Quakers saw clothing in all its forms as an emblem of Adam's Fall
 - Clothing should be functional – cover one's shame and fence out the cold
 - Quakers saw a primary purpose of fashion as arousing the sexual passions
 - Quakers saw costly clothes as creating envy in the world and dividing one Friend from another

The Middle Colonies: Pennsylvania

- Lifestyles: Diet
 - The Quakers saw food and drink as something to be consumed only for subsistence and not for pleasure
 - Common foods were best and best consumed in moderation
 - Just as baking was characteristic of New England and frying of Virginia, so boiling was characteristic of the Delaware Valley. Boiled dumplings and puddings were important parts of Quaker cuisine as was scrapple – a boiled pot pudding of pork and buckwheat adopted from the Germans.

The Middle Colonies: New Jersey

- Notes re Founding
 - 1674 – the Duke of York granted New Jersey to two friends who divided it into East and West Jersey. West Jersey then sold to a consortium of Quakers who then distributed it to 1,400 Quaker colonists who arrived from 1677 to 1681.
 - 1682 – East Jersey bought at auction by a group of Quakers that included William Penn
 - 1702 – British authorities took over both East and West Jersey, combined them into a single royal colony called New Jersey

The Middle Colonies: New Jersey

- West Jersey was predominantly Quaker
- East Jersey was a mixture of Quakers, Puritans, and Dutch settlers from New Amsterdam

The Middle Colonies: Paradoxes

- The English conquest of Delaware and New Netherlands created a geographically contiguous empire stretching from Carolina to Canada, but that conquest absorbed a medley of non-English peoples
- This diversity contrasted markedly with both the Chesapeake and New England where almost all of the white colonists came from England

The Middle Colonies: Paradoxes

- The creation of the new colonies of New Jersey and Pennsylvania compounded the region's ethnic, linguistic, and religious diversity by attracting more non-English immigrants.
- The middle colonies defined a distinctive culture and social order that precociously anticipated the American future