

Home and family. The Puritans saw children as a blessing of God. The average family had seven or eight children. The good climate allowed New Englanders to live long lives. Many reached the age of 70. As a result, children often grew up knowing both their parents and their grandparents. This did much to make New England towns closely knit communities.

During the 1700s, the Puritan tradition declined. Fewer families left England for religious reasons. Ministers had less influence on the way colonies were governed. Even so, the Puritans stamped New England with their distinctive customs and their dream of a religious society.

SECTION 1 REVIEW

- 1. Locate:** (a) New England Colonies, (b) Massachusetts, (c) Connecticut, (d) Rhode Island, (e) New Hampshire.
- 2. Identify:** (a) John Winthrop, (b) Puritans, (c) General Court, (d) Great Migration, (e) Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, (f) Roger Williams, (g) Anne Hutchinson, (h) Metacom.
- 3. Define:** toleration.
- How did the Puritans govern the Massachusetts Bay Colony?
- (a) Why did Thomas Hooker and Roger Williams leave the Massachusetts Bay Colony? (b) Where did each of them go?
- How did New Englanders use the resources of the region to make a living?
- 7. CRITICAL THINKING Linking Past and Present** (a) Why did the Puritan leaders see Anne Hutchinson as a threat to Massachusetts? (b) Do you think the government would see her as a threat today? Explain.

ACTIVITY Writing to Learn

Write a dialogue between a New England settler and a Wampanoag Indian in which they discuss tensions between their peoples in the mid-1600s.

2

The Middle Colonies

FIND OUT

- What was William Penn's "holy experiment"?
- Why were the Middle Colonies known as the Breadbasket Colonies?
- What peoples settled in the Middle Colonies?
- What was life like in the backcountry?

VOCABULARY *patroon, proprietary colony, cash crop, backcountry*

In the summer of 1744, a doctor from the colony of Maryland traveled north to Philadelphia. Doctor Hamilton was amazed at the variety of people he met in that city. Describing a meal he had there, he wrote:

“I dined at a tavern with a very mixed company of different nations and religions. There were Scots, English, Dutch, Germans, and Irish. There were Roman Catholics, Church [of England] men, Presbyterians, Quakers, . . . Moravians, . . . and one Jew.”

By the mid-1700s, England had four colonies in the region south of New England. Because of their location between New England and the Southern Colonies, they were known as the Middle Colonies. As Doctor Hamilton observed, the Middle Colonies had a much greater mix of peoples than either New England or the Southern Colonies.

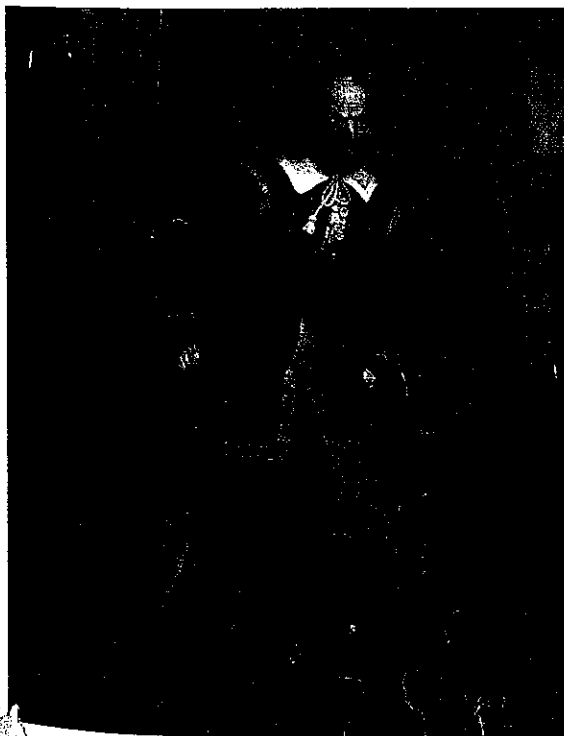
New Netherland Becomes New York

As you have read in Chapter 3, the Dutch set up the colony of New Netherland

along the Hudson River. In the colony's early years, settlers traded with Indians for furs and built the settlement of New Amsterdam into a thriving port.

Huge land grants. To encourage farming in New Netherland, Dutch officials granted large parcels of land to a few rich families. A single land grant could stretch for miles. Indeed, one grant was as big as Rhode Island! Owners of these huge estates, or manors, were called *patroons*. In return for the grant, each patroon promised to settle at least 50 European farm families on the land. However, patroons had great power and could charge whatever rents they pleased. Few farmers wanted to work for them.

BIOGRAPHY Peter Stuyvesant *As governor of New Netherland in the mid-1600s, Peter Stuyvesant held almost total power. He imposed heavy taxes and punished lawbreakers with public whippings. When colonists demanded a voice in government, he told them his authority came "from God." Stuyvesant had lost a leg fighting in the Caribbean.* **Citizenship** *What are some advantages and disadvantages of having a strong ruler like Stuyvesant?*



Most settlers lived in the trading center of New Amsterdam. They came from all over Europe. Many were attracted by the chance to practice their religion freely.

Freedom of religion. Most Dutch colonists were Protestants who belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church. They did, however, allow people of other religions—including Catholics, French Protestants, and Jews—to buy land. "People do not seem concerned what religion their neighbor is," wrote a shocked visitor from Virginia. "Indeed, they do not seem to care if he has any religion at all."

England takes over. In 1664, the rivalry between England and the Netherlands for trade and colonies led to war in Europe. English warships entered New Amsterdam's harbor and took over the city. King Charles II of England then gave New Netherland to his brother, the Duke of York. He renamed the colony New York in the duke's honor.

Founding New Jersey

At the time, New York stretched as far south as the Delaware River. The Duke of York realized that it was too big to govern easily. He gave some of the land to friends, Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. They set up a proprietary (proh PRĪ uh tuhr ee) colony, which they called New Jersey.

In setting up a *proprietary colony*, the king gave land to one or more people, called proprietors. Proprietors were free to divide the land and rent it to others. They made laws for the colony but had to respect the rights of colonists under English law.

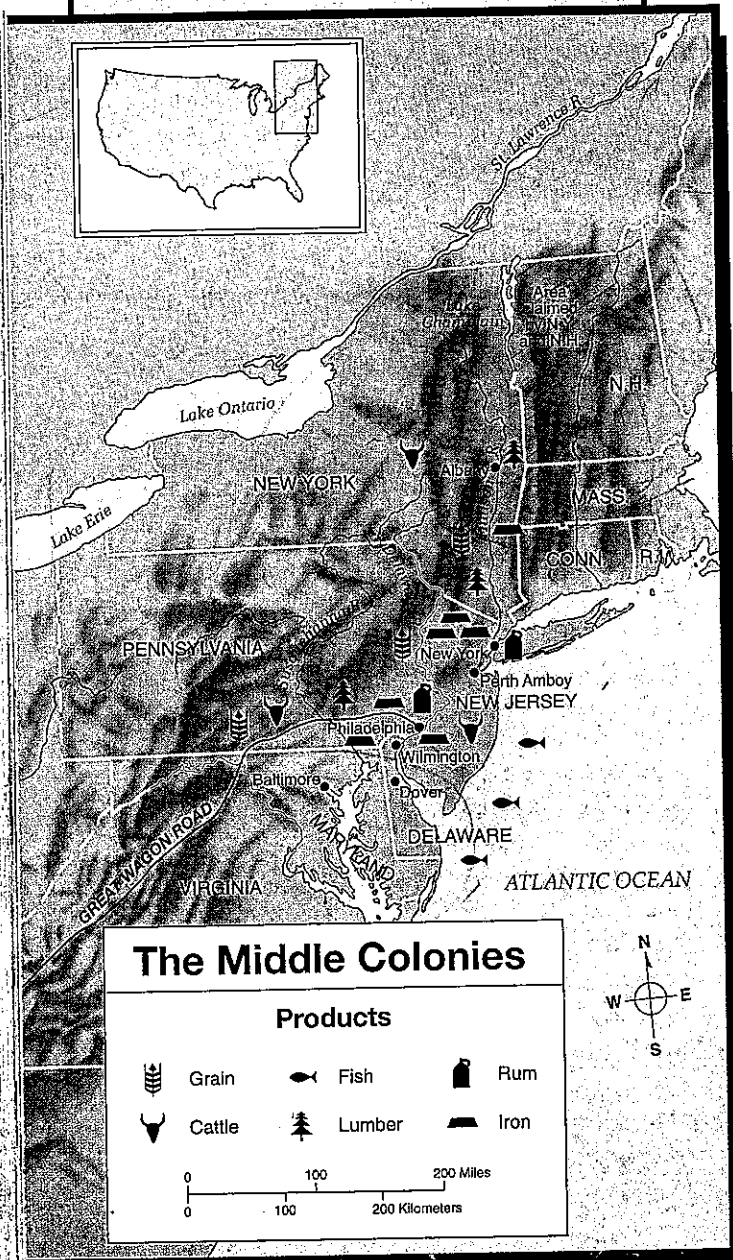
Like New York, New Jersey attracted people from many lands. English Puritans, French Protestants, Scots, Irish, Swedes, Dutch, and Finns mingled in the colony.

In 1702, New Jersey became a royal colony under control of the English crown. The colony's charter protected religious freedom and the rights of an assembly that voted on local matters.

MAP STUDY

The Middle Colonies were set up south and west of New England.

1. What were the four Middle Colonies?
2. Name three rivers that flowed through the Middle Colonies.
3. Analyzing Information Based on the map, why do you think Philadelphia would be a trading center?



Pennsylvania Is Founded

South of New Jersey, another Englishman, William Penn, founded the colony of Pennsylvania. Penn came from a wealthy family. King Charles II was a personal friend. At age 22, however, Penn shocked family and friends by joining the **Quakers**, one of the most despised religious groups in England.

Quaker beliefs. Like Pilgrims and Puritans, Quakers were Protestant reformers. Their beliefs went further than those of other reformers, however. Quakers believed that all people—men and women, nobles and commoners—were equal in God's sight. They refused to bow or remove their hats in the presence of lords and ladies. They spoke out against war and refused to serve in the army.

To most English people, Quaker beliefs seemed wicked. In both England and New England, Quakers were arrested, fined, and even hanged for their beliefs. Penn became convinced that the Quakers must leave England. He turned for help to King Charles.

The king made Penn the proprietor of a large tract of land in North America. The king named the new colony Pennsylvania, or Penn's woodlands.

Penn's "holy experiment." William Penn thought of his colony as a "holy experiment." He wanted it to be a model of religious freedom, peace, and Christian living. Protestants, Catholics, and Jews went to Pennsylvania to escape persecution. Later, English officials forced Penn to turn away Catholic and Jewish settlers.

Penn's Quaker beliefs led him to speak out for fair treatment of Native Americans. Penn believed that the land belonged to the Indians. He said that settlers should pay for the land. Native Americans respected Penn for this policy. As a result, colonists in Pennsylvania enjoyed many years of peace with their Indian neighbors. As one settler remarked:



A Fair and Tolerant Leader This painting shows William Penn greeting a Native American. Under Penn's leadership, Pennsylvania colonists enjoyed friendly relations with their Indian neighbors. Penn's tolerant policies also attracted settlers like the Pennsylvania Dutch. The pie plate, at right, came from a Pennsylvania Dutch home. **Culture** How did Penn's religious beliefs influence his treatment of people of diverse cultures?

“And as [Penn] treated the Indians with extraordinary humanity, they became very civil and loving to us. . . . As in other countries, the Indians were [angered] by hard treatment, which hath been the [cause] of much bloodshed, so the [opposite] treatment here hath produced love and affection.”

Penn sent pamphlets describing his colony all over Europe. Soon, settlers from

England, Scotland, Wales, the Netherlands, France, and Germany began to cross the Atlantic Ocean to Pennsylvania. Among the new arrivals were large numbers of German-speaking Protestants. They became known as **Pennsylvania Dutch** because people could not pronounce the word Deutsch (DOICH), which means German.

Most settlers landed at Philadelphia, the colony's capital along the Delaware River. Philadelphia grew quickly. By 1710, an English visitor wrote that it was “the most noble, large, and well-built city I have seen.”

Delaware. For a time, Pennsylvania included some lands along the lower Delaware River. The region was known as Pennsylvania's Lower Counties. Settlers in the Lower Counties did not want to send delegates to a far-away assembly in Philadelphia. In 1701, Penn allowed them to elect their own assembly. Later, the Lower Counties broke away to form the colony of Delaware.

Our Common Heritage

The Charter of Liberties that William Penn drew up for his colony specified that Native Americans charged with crimes should be tried by juries containing Native American members. This was a radical idea for the times.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

A Land of Plenty

Farmers found more favorable conditions in the Middle Colonies than in New England. Unlike New England's thin and rocky soil, the broad Hudson and Delaware river valleys were rich and fertile. Winters were milder than in New England, and the growing season lasted longer.

Food to spare. On such promising land, farmers in the Middle Colonies produced surpluses of wheat, barley, and rye. These were _____ or crops that are sold for money on the world market. In fact, the Middle Colonies exported so much grain that they became known as the *Breadbasket Colonies*.

Farmers of the Middle Colonies also raised herds of cattle and pigs. Every year, they sent tons of beef, pork, and butter to the ports of New York and Philadelphia. From there, the goods went by ship to New

England and the South or to the West Indies, England, and other parts of Europe.

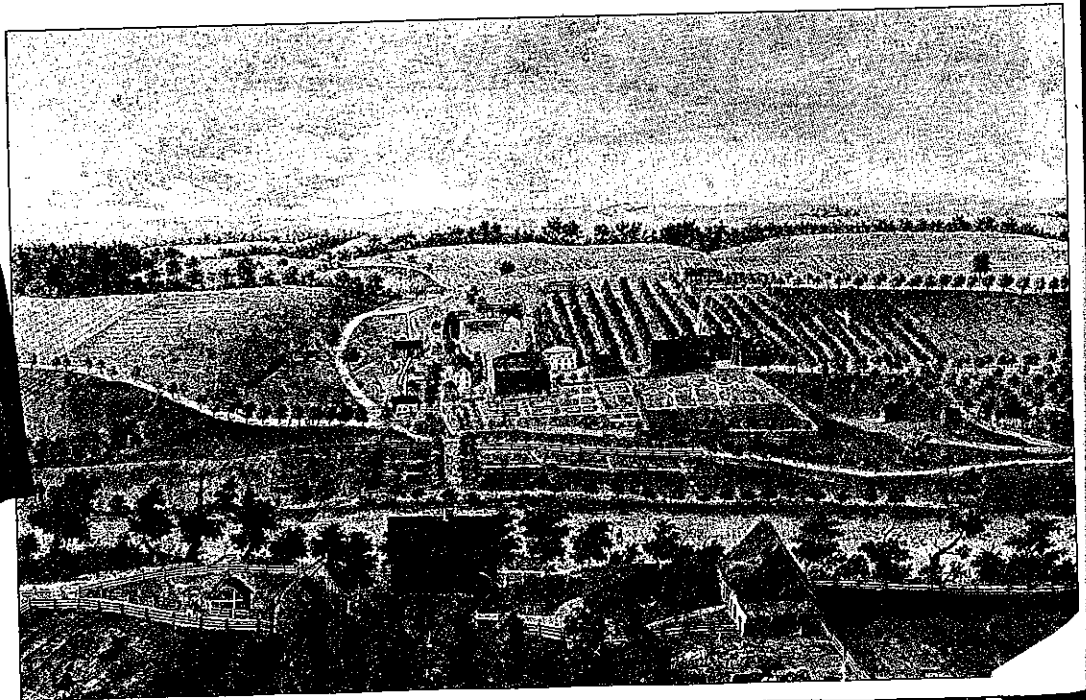
A center of manufacturing and crafts. Encouraged by William Penn, skilled German settlers set up shop in Pennsylvania. In time, the colony became a center of manufacturing and crafts. One visitor reported that workshops turned out "most kinds of hardware, clocks, watches, locks, guns, flints, glass, stoneware, nails, [and] paper."

To make household and farm tools, settlers in the Delaware River valley used rich deposits of iron ore. Heating the ore in furnaces, they purified it and then hammered it into nails, tools, and parts for guns. ■

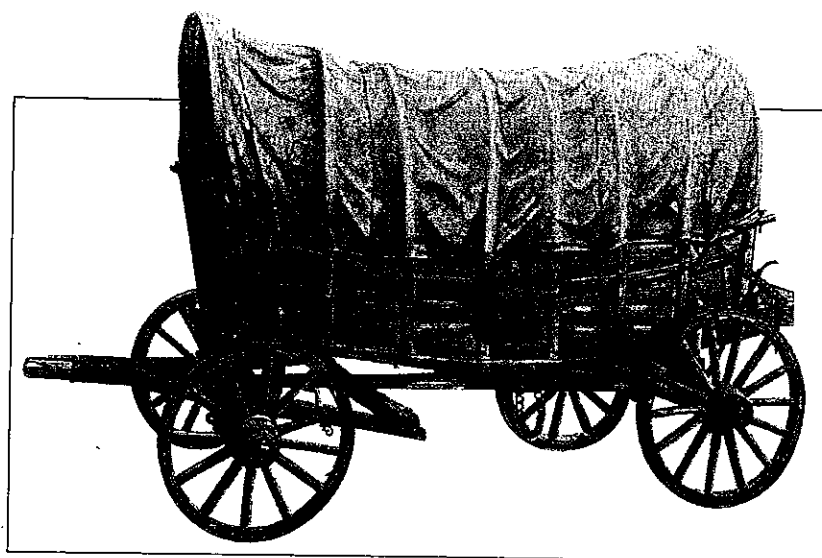
Town and Country

Farms in the Middle Colonies were usually larger than those in New England. Because houses tended to be fairly far apart in the Middle Colonies, towns were less important.

Settling the Middle Colonies *The Middle Colonies attracted a wide variety of European settlers. The painting below shows the farming community of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. It was founded by a group of Germans seeking religious freedom. The woman on the left is one of the many Irish Catholics who settled in New Jersey. Geography What attracted settlers to the Middle Colonies?*



The Conestoga Wagon The Conestoga wagon originated in the Conestoga Creek region of Pennsylvania. Because its wheels did not sink easily into mud, the Conestoga wagon was well suited to the poor roads of the backcountry. **Daily Life** Why do you think many new settlers moved westward into the backcountry?



Building homes. The different groups who settled the Middle Colonies had their own favorite ways of building. Swedish settlers introduced log cabins to the Americas. The Dutch used red bricks to build narrow, high-walled houses. German settlers developed a wood-burning stove that heated a home better than a fireplace, which let blasts of cold air leak down the chimney.

The backcountry. In the 1700s, thousands of German and Scotch-Irish settlers arrived in Philadelphia's booming port. From Philadelphia, they headed west into the backcountry, the area of land along the eastern slopes of the Appalachian Mountains. Settlers followed an old Iroquois trail that became known as the **Great Wagon Road**.

To farm the backcountry, settlers had to clear thick forests. From Indians, settlers learned how to use knots from pine trees as candles to light their homes. They made wooden dishes from logs, gathered honey from hollows in trees, and hunted wild animals for food. German gunsmiths developed a lightweight rifle for use in forests. Sharpshooters boasted that the "Pennsylvania rifle" could hit a rattlesnake between the eyes at 100 yards.

Many settlers arriving in the backcountry moved onto Indian lands. "The Indians . . .

are alarmed at the swarm of strangers," one Pennsylvania official reported. "We are afraid of a [fight] between them for the [colonists] are very rough to them." On more than one occasion, disputes between settlers and Indians resulted in violence.

SECTION 2 REVIEW

1. **Locate:** (a) Middle Colonies, (b) New York, (c) New Jersey, (d) Pennsylvania, (e) Philadelphia, (f) Delaware.
2. **Identify:** (a) William Penn, (b) Quakers, (c) Pennsylvania Dutch, (d) Breadbasket Colonies, (e) Great Wagon Road.
3. **Define:** (a) patroon, (b) proprietary colony, (c) cash crop, (d) backcountry.
4. How did the land and climate of the Middle Colonies help farmers to prosper?
5. What groups of people settled the Middle Colonies?
6. **CRITICAL THINKING Comparing** (a) How was Penn's "holy experiment" like the Puritan idea of a "City upon a Hill"? (b) How was it different?

ACTIVITY Writing to Learn

Imagine that you moved to the backcountry with your family in the 1700s. Write a letter to a friend back in Philadelphia about your new life.