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Jamestown

Jamestown was the first permanent English colony in America. The first colonists, approximately 100 men and boys, departed from England in December 1606. Three ships were commissioned by the Virginia Company to London, which was looking for new investment outlets. The colonists expected to find gold and other treasures in the wilderness. They landed at Chesapeake Bay on April 26, 1607 and disembarked on May 14.

The Jamestown colony had a precarious start. The colonists were attacked by natives, their food supply began to spoil, and they had little access to fresh water. They drank the murky river water and developed illnesses, and they were infected with malaria from swamp mosquitoes. In addition, internal disputes divided the