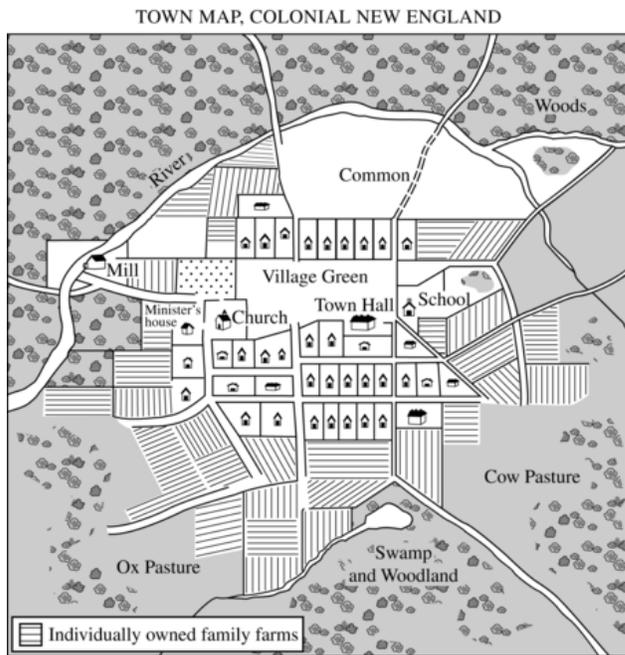


# Colonial New England



## Why did people want to leave England and settle in America?



### The Protestant Reformation

Martin Luther challenged the Roman Catholic Church

Said (among other things) that the Bible was the source of God's word (not the church or pope)

### The British Reformation

When British King Henry VIII couldn't get a divorce, he created his own Protestant church, and called it The Church of England



## Who were the Puritans?



British who wanted to separate from the Church of England and physically leave England (known as “ Separatists ”)

the ones that left England and came to America were called “ Pilgrims ”

their religion was Calvinism - they believed in:

predestination - whether or not someone was going to heaven was determined before they were born

being a good person could not save those going to hell;  
no one knew if they were saved or not

“ visible saints ” - people who said they’d had a “conversion experience” which made them part of the “elect”

## The Pilgrims



1620

102 English Pilgrims leave Holland for America aboard the Mayflower

half were “ saints ” - Puritans

half were “ sinners ” - non-Puritans

they were headed for land in Virginia,  
but landed in

Plymouth Bay (MA)

with no legal right to this land,  
they became “ squatters ”



# The Mayflower Compact

November 11, 1620

Written and signed before the Pilgrims disembarked from the ship.



was an agreement to form a basic government  
stated that all adult male settlers would  
make laws in town meetings

## The First Year in Plymouth...

Winter, 1620-1621

Only 44 out of the original 102 Pilgrims survived this winter.

When the Mayflower sailed back to Europe in 1621,  
all of the survivors stayed in the New World.



Fall, 1621

First “Thanksgiving.”

Plymouth Colony survived by  
trading fur [especially  
beaver], fish, and lumber.

Plymouth stayed small, with only  
7,000 people by 1691.

Eventually became part of the  
Massachusetts

Bay Colony

*Fun Fact: It wasn't until 1863 that Thanksgiving was proclaimed an official US holiday [by President Lincoln].*