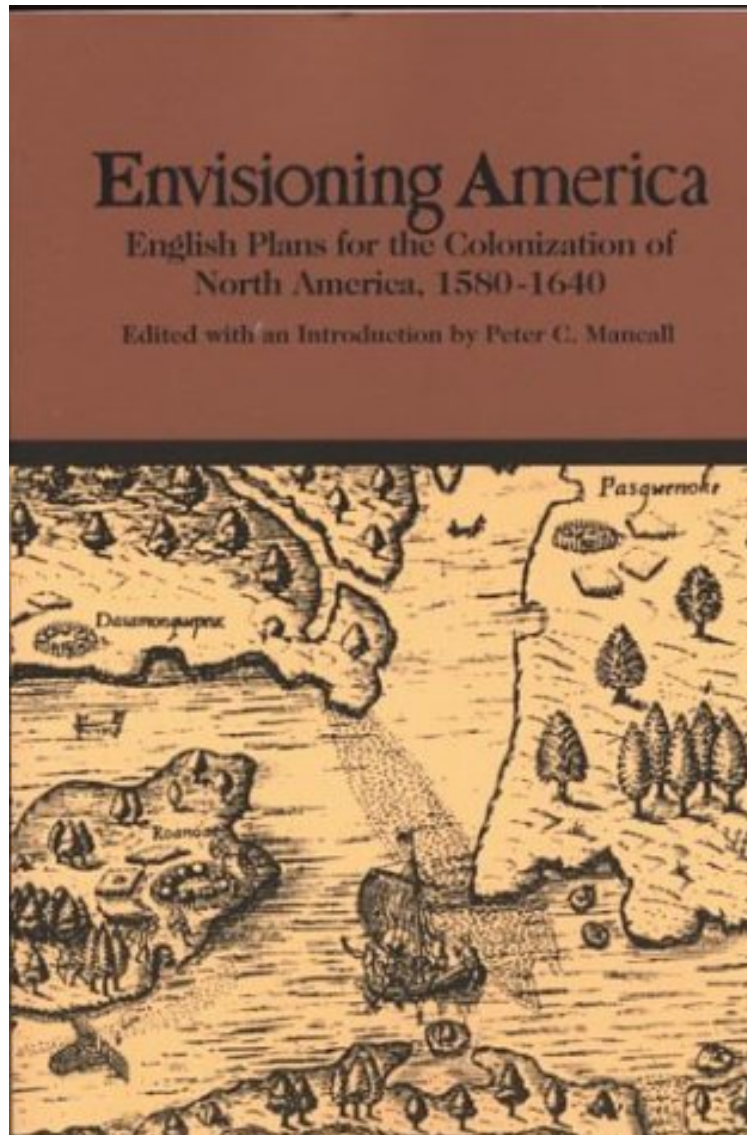


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Envisioning America: English Plans for the Colonization of North America, 1580-1640 (Bedford Series in History Culture)

Peter C. Mancall

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2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. EnlighteningBy Allison VeselkaWhen I receive my book, my intentions were to just read it for class as well as a supplement to working on my paper. However, the book is very insightful and entertaining, especially to those interest in the period of English colonization. The great thing about the book is the inclusion of several primary documents from that time.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerGreat book, great service.11 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Another book of the early Americas written by EuropeansBy A CustomerI read this for a class in early-modern British History. The study of tracing Americas colonial roots in England is not common and this book attempts to give a start. I found the book amazingly repetitive in ideas and concerns and felt better research on the primary documents could have been done to find a wider range of views. There is also a historical error in calculating the number of Native Americans before contact (the book states 1 million and modern estimates are more like 2 million). It is a short read but take a lot of time to wade through the antiquated language of the Puritans.

This collection of documents gives twenty-first century readers a glimpse of the time when the possibility of colonizing North America was anything but certain. Pamphlets, accounts, and engravings from the late sixteenth to the mid-seventeenth century capture the process of English colonization from its origins in promotional propoganda to its realization on the shores of North America.

"This excellent selection of texts fills an important niche. In a brief yet comprehensive manner, *Envisioning America* provides students with an understanding of the beginnings of colonization and why the various European nations became interested in founding colonies when they did."About the AuthorPeter C. Mancall is a professor of history and anthropology at the University ofSouthern California. Heis also Associate Vice Provost for Research Advancement at theuniversity, andthe director of theUSC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute. His scholarly work examines early American history with a particular focus on American Indians, the environment, and economic development. He has been a fellow at the Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History at Harvard University and a Mellon Resident Research Fellow at the American Philosophical Society Library. He is the author of *Valley of Opportunity: Economic Culture along the Upper Susquehanna, 1700-1800* (1991) and the forthcoming *Deadly Medicine: Indians and Alcohol in Early America*."