

**Chapter 1 : Adventures in Jamestown by Nancy LeSourd**

*Adventures in Jamestown by Nancy LeSourd is part of the "Liberty Letters" series where fictional letters between two girls reveal history as readers may not have known it before.*

Captain John Smith, based on an engraving done in John Smith Map of colorized by Preservation Virginia. Captain John Smith was an adventurer, soldier, explorer and author. Through the telling of his early life, we can trace the developments of a man who became a dominate force in the eventual success of Jamestown and the establishment of its legacy as the first permanent English settlement in North America. His parents were George and Alice Smith. George was a yeoman farmer who owned land in Lincolnshire and also rented land from Lord Willoughby, his landlord and relation by marriage. As a young boy, John attended local grammar schools learning reading, writing, arithmetic, and Latin. Not wanting to be a farmer, John ran away at age 13 to become a sailor, but his father stopped him, making John work as an apprentice [a person who works for another in order to learn that trade] to a nearby merchant. In , following the death of his father, John sailed for France and joined English soldiers fighting the Spanish there and in the Netherlands. A truce ended this fighting in , and John returned to England a trained soldier. Living in a shelter he built of tree branches, John learned how to live off the land, and he read books about the rules of war and politics. Lord Willoughby had an Italian nobleman, Signore Theodore Paleologue, visit Smith who helped him to improve his horsemanship and jousting skills. These lessons prepared Smith for his next adventure. On his way to Austria, Smith experienced several adventures, including serving on a pirate ship in the Mediterranean Sea. His pirate service earned him gold pieces enabling him to complete his trip through Italy, Croatia and Slovenia to Austria where he joined the HRE army. Smith fought against the Turks in battles waged in Slovenia, Hungary and Transylvania [Romania] earning several awards for his bravery in battle. One award was his promotion to captain, a title Smith remained proud of the rest of his life. Smith had become a very accomplished soldier and leader. But his good fortune ended in when he was wounded and captured in battle and sold into Turkish slavery. Smith was forced to march miles to Constantinople where a new adventure awaited the captain. Instead of instructing Smith, Tymore mistreated him by shaving his head, placing an iron ring around his neck, giving him little to eat and often beating him. Traveling for days, unsure of his route, Smith was befriended by a Russian and his wife, Callamatta, whom Smith called this "good lady". Their assistance helped Smith regain his strength and begin his travels across the remainder of Russia, Ukraine, Germany, France, Spain, and Morocco before finally returning to England in . The captain was finally home, but not for long. Gosnold, and other important men in London, organized the Virginia Company of London and were granted a charter by King James I on April 10, , to establish a colony in Virginia. In December , the company dispatched three ships carrying settlers, including Captain John Smith, to start this colony. Established on May 13, , the colony was named Jamestown, in honor of the king. Originally, the colony was governed by a council of seven men, and Captain Smith had been named by the Virginia Company to serve on this council. Ironically, he was arrested for mutiny on the voyage to Virginia, narrowly escaping being hanged, and arrived at Jamestown a prisoner. In the fall, Smith conducted expeditions to Powhatan villages securing food for the desperate colonists. On one such expedition in December he was captured by a large Powhatan hunting party and led on a long trek to various Powhatan villages, ultimately being brought before the paramount chief of the Powhatan people, Wahunsenacawh, better known as Chief Powhatan. By this time, only 38 of the settlers were still alive. More settlers arrived at Jamestown in January , and Chief Powhatan sent some food to the English, but misfortune struck in early January with the accidental burning down of most of the fort. The extreme cold that winter, coupled with the loss of shelter and food from the fire, led to the deaths of more than half of the new settlers. Smith tried to focus the colonists on their immediate needs and not spend valuable time searching for gold, but he wrote, "There was no talk, no hope, no work but dig gold, wash gold, refine gold, load gold such a bruit of GOLD that one mad fellow desired to be buried in the sands, lest they should by their art make gold of his bones! In the spring of , Captain Smith undertook one of the most important European explorations in North America: On two separate voyages, beginning in June and ending in September , Captain Smith and

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several of his fellow colonists, traveling in an open barge about 30 feet long and 8 feet wide, explored 2, miles of the Chesapeake Bay and many of its tributaries such as the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers. From these trips Smith created a very accurate map of the area replete with locations of various Indian villages and other vital information. Trading with the Powhatan Indians. In September , Smith was elected president of the colony and head of the council. He implemented common sense regulations for the colony such as, "€ he that will not work shall not eat€". Even during times of food shortages, Smith sent colonists to live with the Powhatan Indians confident no harm would befall them as he believed Chief Powhatan and his people feared him and English weapons. Indian Attack of Captain Smith did not witness the First Anglo Powhatan War [] or the Starving Time [winter of ] having suffered a severe injury from a gunpowder explosion in the fall of forcing him to return to England. Smith remained interested in Jamestown wanting to return, but Virginia Company officials refused his requests. Always the adventurer, Smith undertook a voyage in exploring the shores of northern Virginia, which he mapped and re-named New England. Barbour, once wrote, "Captain John Smith has lived on in legend far more thrillingly than even he could have foreseen. Much has been made-largely by ill-informed people-of trivial inconsequences in his narratives, and controversy has at times raged rather absurdly. Let it only be said that nothing John Smith wrote has yet been found to be a lie. Houghton Mifflin Company, Haile Editor , Edward Wright. The Adventures of John Smith. Morgan Reynolds Publishing, Park Ranger Bill Warder.

### Chapter 2 : [blog.quintoapp.com](http://blog.quintoapp.com): Adventures in Jamestown (Liberty Letters) (): Nancy LeSourd: Books

*Adventures in Jamestown has 94 ratings and 8 reviews. Meadow said: When Abigail and Elizabeth correspond from America (the new world) and England. They fi.*

### Chapter 3 : Adventures in Jamestown (Liberty Letters) by LeSourd, Nancy | eBay

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