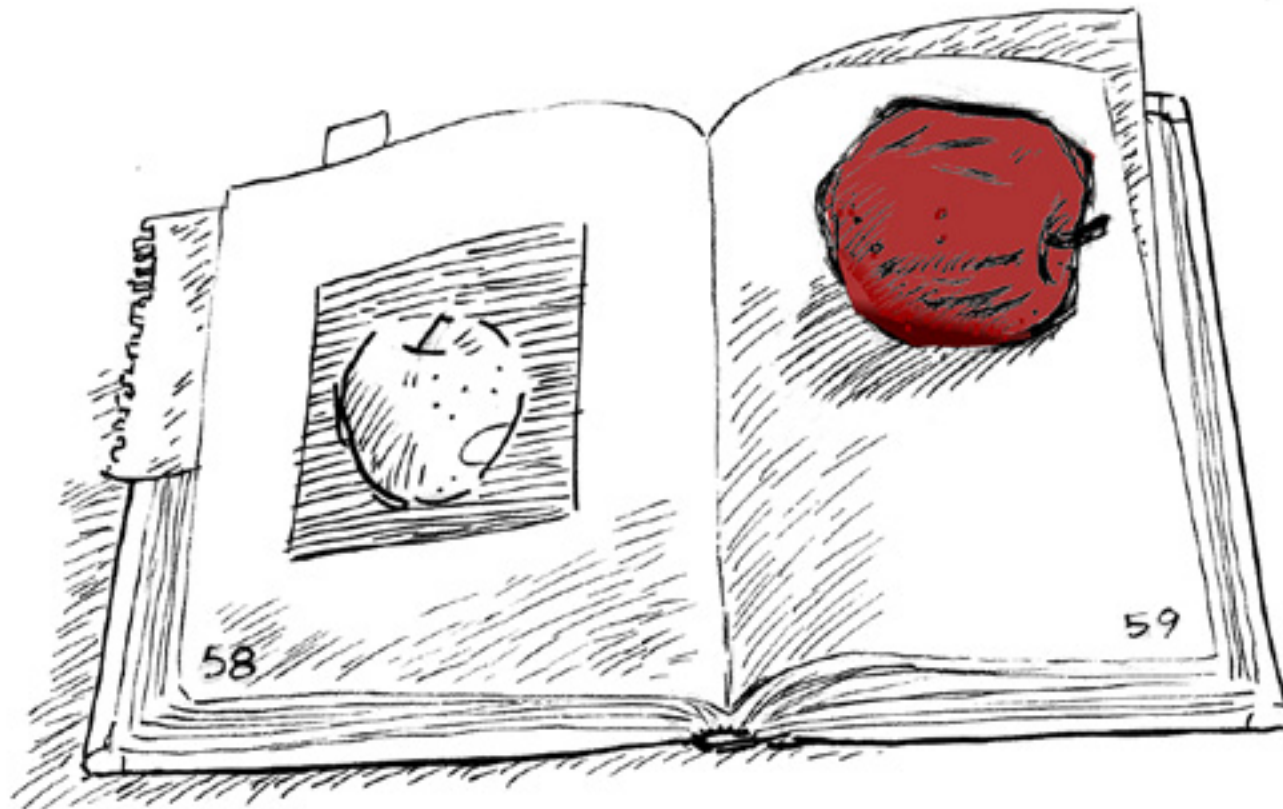


Our English Heritage



English Heritage

England managed, against the odds, to colonize North America

with a steady flow of citizens— due to its newly acquired naval powers over Spain— Western Europe for the most part could only obtain passage into North America through England.

In this manner North America maintained much of the English culture and ideals, trade and commerce, clothing and culinary tastes, language and literature.

Basic cultural literature common between England and America:

- folklore, myth, and superstition
- songs and ballads
- oral stories
- proverbs, sayings
- literary classics
- colonial schools became based on the English equivalent

English Heritage

Religions of most Americans are shaped by English sensibilities:

- Catholic
- Anglican
- Puritan
- Quaker
- Calvinism
- Scottish Presbyterianism

The Early Colonists did not believe in equality between social classes.

- On a global level, the concept of radical movement between the set class structures did not appear until *after* World War I.
- Colonists did believe, however, in opportunity, of providing an open path for movement within the classes. If you worked hard, you could obtain a better lifestyle and achieve a higher class status.

English Heritage

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- The second generation of colonists were people who developed an unique attitude of adventure and individualism not akin to European standards.
- The original English society itself was not transplanted fully to the New World— only a fraction of a populace journeyed over here; typically they were of the same working middle class structures. Furthermore, if you examine the full collection of developing colonies after the Puritan migration, these people were not all England-born. From the beginning, America was populated by numerous different cultures from all over Europe.

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- Finally, the New World itself presented an unique environment, an atmosphere unlike any European experience could duplicate.