

Project: *First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare*  
Originator: Shakespeare Folio team  
Working Title: Shakespeare Folio  
Section: "North Carolina Connections" timeline label text  
Stage: document with initial space edits following initial design  
Version: 6,  
Date: Jan 19-~~26~~, 2016

TOTAL Word Count, this version: ~1100-1200 (including dates and art suggestions)  
TOTAL Word Count, as revised: ~900 (including dates and art suggestions)

[ . . . current proposed title ??? ]

~~This was not Shakespeare's England—we were not even Carolana, yet!~~

~~The "goodliest soyle under the cope of heaven": The really Old North State~~

"Where America, the Indies?": A New World in the Bard's Time

~~—Comedy of Errors, 3.1, Antipholus of Syracuse~~

The Indies: A New World in the Bard's Time

**Commented [ES1]:** DARRYL: let's go with this title for now . . .

### A.D. 700–ca. 1550

North American Indians of the Mississippian culture have slowly established large, regional, relatively permanent towns, some in the area that will become North Carolina.

[Photos/Graphics](#): 1) photo of Town Creek Indian Mound/QR Code leading to video—we have permission from Town Creek to use <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcCjP01QBc&feature=youtu.be> // 2)graphic/map of early tribes in NC

### A.D. 1492

After 36 days of sailing, Italian explorer Christopher Columbus sets foot on an island in the present-day Bahamas that he believes is part of the Indies, the lands of south and southeast Asia. In describing his landing, he refers to the native inhabitants he finds as “Indians.”

### 1502

Following several trips across the Atlantic Ocean, mariner Amerigo Vespucci concludes that the land Christopher Columbus claims to have found was, ~~indeed~~, not part of the eastern coast of Asia but a “new world.”

### 1507

A new map of the world is published, and it shows a landmass named “America” for the first time.

### 1526

Spanish explorer Lucas Vásquez de Ayllón is thought to have sailed ~~six ships—with 500 men, women, and children—~~into the Cape Fear River. ~~With his expedition of six ships are 500 men, women, and children—and the first Africans to see what will become North Carolina. When some of the Africans are forced to help build a fort, they escape into “Indian” communities.~~

### 1540

An expedition led by Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto spends several weeks ~~among different groups of native inhabitants~~ in western parts of what will become North Carolina.

[Photos/Graphics](#): map of NC with routes of Hernando de Soto and Pardo

1564

William Shakespeare is baptized in Stratford-upon-Avon, England.

### 1566–1568

Spanish explorer Juan Pardo leads two land expeditions through the mountain wilderness of what we now know as western North Carolina. ~~Along the way, he communicates with native Indian communities that include the Catawba, Wateree, and Saxapahaw.~~

[Photos/Graphics](#): map of NC with routes of Hernando de Soto and Pardo

**Commented [ES2]:** DARRYL: these are the Shakespeare-related dates that I mentioned could be shaded or reduced in size, to set them off from the NC-related dates . . .

1582

William Shakespeare marries at the age of 18.

### 1584

Sir Walter Raleigh, an English adventurer and writer (who will never see the New World himself), and some close associates sponsor an expedition in search of sites for potential settlement in the New World. ~~After landing their ships at Roanoke Island, the explorers meet Secotan chief Wingina and his people. Two area natives, Manteo and Wanchese, return to England with the explorers and are used to promote future expeditions to North America.~~ [Photos/Graphics: Portrait of Manteo, portrait of Sir Walter Raleigh](#)

**Commented [ES3]:** "This landing marked the first time the English flag waved in the New World."

### 1585

Sir Walter Raleigh organizes a second voyage ~~to Roanoke Island~~. Artist John White joins this expedition ~~after he is commissioned~~ to draw the inhabitants of the New World and their surroundings. ~~Over a 13-month period, White will produce a series of more than 70 watercolors that feature indigenous people, plants, and animals. Also struck by the land's beauty, Ralph Lane describes the coast as the "goodliest soyle under the cope of heaven" in a letter back to England.~~ [Photos/Graphics: 1\) Detail of John White drawing—corn fields](#)

### 1586

~~During a march into the mainland, Ralph Lane makes an alliance with the Chowanoke, who hope to use the English against their enemies, the Tuscarora. Meanwhile, Chief Wingina warns inland tribes about the English and develops a plot to get rid of them. As problems rise between the two cultures, Sir Francis Drake arrives at Roanoke Island.~~

### 1587

A new expedition, also funded by Sir Walter Raleigh, results in a group—with women and children—that is expected to build a permanent self-sustaining settlement. Raleigh names his friend and artist John White to lead the group, which decides to settle at Roanoke Island. [Late in the year](#), White sails back to England to acquire supplies, leaving behind his ~~own~~-new granddaughter, the first English child born in the New World: Virginia Dare.

### 1588–1590

Despite his best efforts, a number of factors prevent John White from returning to the New World settlement. [Photos/Graphics: John White image of village.](#)

### 1590

John White is finally able to return to Roanoke Island on his granddaughter's third birthday,

but he finds the colony deserted, with little evidence of what has happened to the 90 men, 17 women, and 11 children he'd left behind. This attempt at settlement becomes known as "the Lost Colony."

[Photos/Graphics: John White map of NC coast](#)

#### **1592–1599**

Shakespeare—a London playwright—~~with, possibly, several plays produced~~—has started earning a living as an actor. By the end of this decade, he and some business partners will open the Globe Theatre.

#### **1599**

~~Shakespeare and some business partners build their own theatre on the south bank of the Thames. It will be known as the Globe.~~

[Photos/Graphics: a portion of the 1616 Visscher map of London showing "The Globe" in the lower right...the south bank of the Thames...](#)

#### **1606**

King James I empowers the Virginia Company ~~of London~~ to ~~explore~~ chart and settle the colony of Virginia—an area unexplored region that will eventually make up ~~the future coasts of~~ Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, as well as parts of New Jersey and South Carolina—~~and establish a settlement.~~

#### **1607–1608**

Efforts of the Virginia Company ~~of London~~ lead to ~~voyages that result in~~ the establishment of James Fort in the Colony of Virginia. Settlement around James Fort will evolve into "James Cittie," the first permanent English settlement in the New World, and later into variations of Jamestowne and then Jamestown.

#### **1609**

Shakespeare's sonnets are first published as a quarto.

#### **1609**

The *Sea Venture*, flagship of the Virginia Company ~~of London~~, sets sail with supplies for the settlement at James Fort. When the ship is caught in a violent storm, its captain beaches the sinking ship on a reef near Bermuda. Accounts of the 150 crew members and passengers—~~who build two new ships over the next year from salvaged timber and sail on to James Fort~~—are said to have inspired William Shakespeare in ~~the writing of his final play,~~ *The Tempest*.

DARRYL: you can find some possible images of the Sea Venture in this Google image search, if you want:

[https://www.google.com/search?q=sea+venture+ship&newwindow=1&noj=1&biw=1280&bih=841&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwib0tvA78fKAhVBR5YKHfAsBnMQ\\_AUICSgC](https://www.google.com/search?q=sea+venture+ship&newwindow=1&noj=1&biw=1280&bih=841&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwib0tvA78fKAhVBR5YKHfAsBnMQ_AUICSgC)

#### **1616**

Shakespeare dies. Though many scholars do not believe he died on his birthday, April 23, church records do show he was interred at Trinity Church on April 25.

### 1619

More than 20 Africans arrive in the Colony of Virginia, ~~at Jamestown~~. The captured prisoners, who had been en route to Mexico, are traded ~~into indentured servitude in exchange~~ for food that can feed the ship's crew.

### 1623

The *First Folio* of Shakespeare's works is published. It preserves a written record of 18 plays that have never been printed and groups his plays for the first time into histories, comedies, and tragedies. The *First Folio* also includes the Droeshout portrait, which is, generally considered an authentic image.

### 1629

King Charles I grants the Carolana Land Grant to Sir Robert Heath. The proposed province includes land south of the Roanoke—present-day Albemarle—Sound~~The grant will never be acted upon, but it signifies that the Colony of Virginia can be divided for settlement.~~

### 1632

The *Second Folio*, full of small corrections, is published.

### 1650

~~While news-~~Knowledge of the Lost Colony ~~at Roanoke~~ has slowed exploration of present-day North Carolina~~Carolana since 1590, but a few~~ settlers finally from the Virginia colony do begin to ~~slowly~~ venture south, into Indian lands around the Roanoke ~~—present-day Albemarle—~~ Sound and along the area's rivers.

### 1655

Nathaniel Batts becomes the first known person of European descent to set up a permanent home in Carolana. It is located ~~along the Salmon River~~ at the western end of the Roanoke Sound.

[Photos/Graphics](#): the Nicholas Comberford map of 1657, which show Batts house in the southern part of Virginia

[ FOR REFERENCE: this is the panel text that notes importance of First Folio (for consideration with the listing for 1623: ]

**ARE LIBRARY** **400**

**IG M RE**

**THE BOOK THAT GAVE US SHAKESPEARE**

After William Shakespeare died in 1616, few friends had the ability to bring his works together in a single volume. It was published in 1623, 70 years after his death.

**AFTER HIS DEATH, TWO OF SHAKESPEARE'S FRIENDS FROM HIS ACTING COMPANY PUT TOGETHER THIS HISTORY-MAKING BOOK.**

The First Folio contains 36 of Shakespeare's plays—almost all of them. It gives us our first printed edition of his works. It's the only book that has been lost, largely because it was so valuable that it was kept in a safe.

It's the only book in the world that was created by the man whose name it bears. It's the only book in the world that was created by the man whose name it bears. It's the only book in the world that was created by the man whose name it bears.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SHAKESPEARE PLAY?**

**Folger SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY** **400**

**TO BE OR NOT TO BE**

The "To Be, or Not to Be" speech is one of the most famous in Shakespeare's works. It's the only speech that has been performed on stage in every country in the world.

**THE SPEECH THAT BEGINS WITH THIS QUESTION HAS BEEN REHEARSED AND PERFORMED BY THOUSANDS OF ACTORS.**

But what if Shakespeare's words meant it to this speech, the most widely performed in the world? What if it was the only speech that has been performed in every country in the world? What if it was the only speech that has been performed in every country in the world?

**WHY? GREAT TAKES ON "TO BE OR NOT TO BE."**