



# **A Man Most Driven: Captain John Smith, Pocahontas and the Founding of America**

*Peter Firstbrook*

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# A Man Most Driven: Captain John Smith, Pocahontas and the Founding of America

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**A Man Most Driven: Captain John Smith, Pocahontas and the Founding of America** Peter Firstbrook  
Named a Best Book of 2014 by The Providence Journal

"A nuanced account of the English captain saved by Pocahontas reveals an astonishingly complicated personality. Former BBC producer Firstbrook finds in the roguish, quarrelsome, fearless adventurer Capt. John Smith a sterling example of the tenacious early-American character.... Exciting historical tales with romantic overtones." - **Kirkus Reviews**

Everyone knows the story of Pocahontas and how she saved John Smith. And were it not for Smith's leadership, the Jamestown Colony would surely have failed. Yet Smith was a far more ambitious explorer and soldier of fortune than these tales suggest—and a far more ambitious self-promoter, too, so reputed for his truculence that the pilgrims of the *Mayflower* snubbed him when he offered them his services, though his 1614 map of New England (which he named) made him the unrivaled expert on America.

Now, in the first major biography of Smith in decades, award-winning BBC filmmaker and author Peter Firstbrook traces the adventurer's astonishing exploits across three continents, testing Smith's claimed biography against the historical and geographical reality on the ground. *A Man Most Driven* delivers an enlightening dissection of this mythology-making man and the invention of America.

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