Research Around the States: Rhode Island

Andrew D. Boisvert, DAR Library

September 27, 2023

General Published Resources

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Religion

Lemons, J. Stanley, 2019. Retracing Baptists in Rhode Island: Identity, Formation, and History.

Thorngate, Janet, 2017. Newport, Rhode Island, Seventh Day Baptists.

Hayman, Robert W. 1982. Catholicism in Rhode Island and the Diocese of Providence.

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Wills, Probate, Military

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Chamberlain, Mildred Mosher. The Rhode Island 1777 Military Census.

Cady, John H., Rhode Island Boundaries 1636-1936.

Vital Records and Cemetery Books

MacGunnigle, Bruce Campbell, 1991. East Greenwich, Rhode Island, Historical Cemetery Inscriptions.

Waite, Gayle E., Lorraine Tarket-Arruda, 1998. Hopkinton, Rhode Island Historical Cemeteries.

Waite, Gayle E., Lorraine Tarket-Arruda, 2008. Charlestown, Rhode Island Historical Cemeteries.

McAleer, Althea H 2000. Elm Grove Cemetery, North Kingstown, Rhode Island.

Sterling, John Eylers, Barbara J. Austin, Letty R. Champion 2009. *Newport, Rhode Island Colonial Burial Grounds*.

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Sterling, John Eylers, James Lucas Wheaton, 2004. South Kingstown, Rhode Island Historical Cemetery.

Eddleman, Bill, John E. Sterling, 1998. Coventry, Rhode Island Historical Cemeteries.

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Arnold, James N. Vital Records of Rhode Island, 1636-1850.

African American Resources

Melish, Joanne Pope, 1998. Disowning Slavery.

Herndon, Ruth Wallis, 2001. Unwelcome Americans: Living on the Margin Early New England.

Specific Online Resources

Armenian Historical Association of Rhode Island. https://ahari.clubexpress.com/

Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission. https://preservation.ri.gov/

Heritage Pamphlets

The Arabic-Speaking People in Rhode Island

The Armenians in Rhode Island

The Cape Verdeans in Rhode Island

The French in Rhode Island

The Germans in Rhode Island

The Greek People in Rhode Island

The Irish in Rhode Island

The Italians in Rhode Island

The Jews in Rhode Island

The Lithuanians in Rhode Island

The Portuguese in Rhode Island

The Southeast Asians in Rhode Island

The Ukrainians in Rhode Island

Old Stone Bank Records 1844-1897. https://federalhillirish.com/f/the-old-stone-records-keep-revealing-secrets

Monthly Meetings in North America: A Quaker Index https://www.quakermeetings.com.

Narragansett Dawn: A newsletter edited by Princess Redwing and Ernest Hazard and published by the Narragansett Tribe of Indians in 1935 and 1936. It includes short articles by a variety of writers on the culture, history, and politics of the Narragansett Indians. It also includes religious and poetic writing, lessons in the Narragansett language, advice from community leaders, and a "milestones" section documenting births, deaths, and other life transitions. https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/sc_pubs/5/

Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association https://rijha.org/

THE TOWNS OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Town Barrington	Founded 1717	Separated from; Original Names; Notes; Etc.
barrington	717	Prom Massachusetts as part of the new town of Warren
Band 4 7	1.003	in 1747; Re-established as Barrington in 1770
Bristol	1681	From Massachusetts in 1747; called Mt. Hope in 1679
Burrillville	1806	From Glocester
Central Falls	1895	From Lincoln
Charlestown	1738	From Westerly
Coventry	1741	From Warwick
Cranston	1754	From Providence
Cumberland	1747	From Massachusetts; formerly called Attleboro Gore
East Greenwich	1677	Called Dedford 1686-1689
East Providence	1862	From Massachsetts; originally Rehoboth then Seekonk
Exeter	1743	From North Kingstown
Foster	1781	From Scituate
Glocester	1731	From Providence
Hopkinton	1757	From Westerly
Jamestown	1678	Indian name Conanicut
Johnston	1759	From Providence
Lincoln	1871	From Smithfield
Little Compton	1682	From Massachusetts in 1747
Middletown	1743	From Newport
Narragansett	1901	From South Kingstown
Newport	1639	Original Town
New Shoreham	1661	Admitted to Colony in 1664 as Block Island,
		Incorporated and name changed in 1672
North Kingstown	1641	Incorporated as Kingstown in 1674; called Rochester
		1695-1689; called North Kingstown after 1723
North Providence	1765	From Providence
North Smithfield	1871	From Smithfield, called Slater for 16 days in 1871
Pawtucket	1628	Part from Massachsetts in 1862;
		Part from North Providence in 1874
Portsmouth	1638	Original Town; called Pocasset until 1639
Providence	1636	Original Town
Richmond	1747	From Charlestown
Scituate	1731	From Providence
Smithfield	1731	From Providence
South Kingetown	1723	From Kingstown when divided into North and South
Tiverton	1694	From Massachusetts in 1747
Marren	1747	From Massachusette towns of Barrington, Swansea and
		Rehoboth, part from Bristol in 1873
Warwick	1643	Original Town; called Shawmet until 1648
Westerly	1669	Called Haversham 1686-1689
West Greenwich	1741	From East Greenwich
West Warwick	1913	From Warwick
Woonsocket	1867	Part from Cumberland in 1867,
		Part from Smithfield in 1871

References: Rhode Island Manual; Rhode Island Boundaries 1636-1836 (1936) J. H. Cady: History of Barrington (1898) T. W. Bicknell: Historical Data Relating to Counties, Cities and Towns in Massachusetts (1975) P. Guzzi

Suggestions for additions and corrections are welcome. We wish to provide the most accurate information possible.

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