

Understanding the Historical Context of a Record

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American Ancestors®

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Historical Context

- Important when analyzing sources and records
- Helps us understand attitudes of our ancestors
- Offers insight into why certain questions were asked on certain records
- Offers insight into record availability
- Helps guide research to non-traditional sources

Historical Context

- “It is a concept that is used in the social sciences to define the set of circumstances and situations in which an object of study is found.”
- “It allows us to better understand its reason for being, its importance and its relationship with its environment.”

Meanings.com

Historical Context

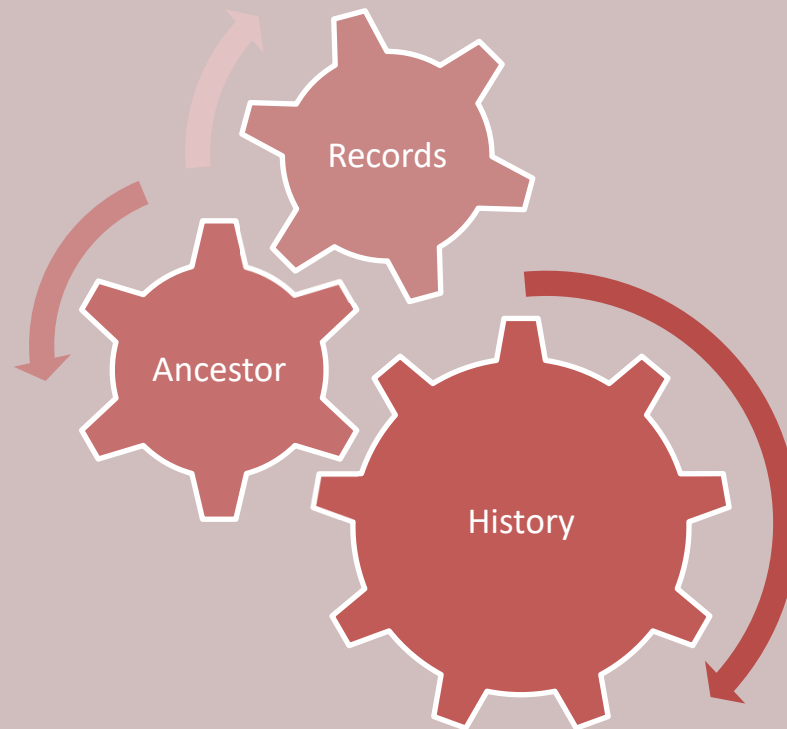
- Types of context:
 - Political
 - Economic
 - Social
 - Cultural
 - Religious
- Not all may be important for the record in question

History, History, History

Understanding History

- Books on historical events
 - Offer insight into why and how
 - Suggest origins for immigrants
 - Open your understanding of the place and time
 - Exist on many topics
- Glimpse of what your ancestors experienced
- Offer bibliographies of records and sources

Understanding History



List **24**

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED

ALL ALIENS arriving at a port of continental United States from a foreign port or a port of the insular possessions of the United States, and all aliens arriving at a port of said insular possessions from a foreign port, a port of continental United States, or a port of the insular possessions of the United States.
This (pink) sheet is for the listing of

S. S. "ROMERIO" Passengers sailing from CHICAGO, 28TH AUGUST, 1926.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
No. on List	HEAD-TAX STATUS (This column for use of Government officials only)	NAME IN FULL		Age	Sex	Calling or occupation	Able to—			Nationality: (Country of which citizen or subject)	Race or people	Place of birth		Immigration Visa Number	Issued at—	Date	*Last Count
		Family name	Given name				Yrs. Mns.	Married or single	Read			Write	Country				
1	DIPL.	PEDRA	Ricardo C.	40	M	Merchant.	Yes	Spanish-English-French.	Yes	Peru.	Spanish American	Peru.	Lambaye.	639	Paris	24/7/26	France
2	DIPL.	PEDRA	RUANA	20	F	nil.	Yes	do.	Yes	do.	do	do.	Chilolayo.	do	do	do	do.
3	DIPL.	PEDRA	Olaris	20	F	nil.	Yes	do.	Yes	do.	do	do.	do.	do	do	do	do.
4	DIPL.	TOHAREFINE	Alexandre	37	M	nil	yes	English	yes	Russia	Russian	Russia	Petersburg	7	Nice	2/8/26	France
5	U.S.S.	TOHAREFINE	Louline	40	F	nil	yes	English	yes	U.S.A.	U.S.A.	U.S.A.	New York	Claims American Citizenship			do
6	DIPL.	DIMANCESCO	Dimitri	29	M	Diplomat	yes	English	yes	Romania	DIPL.	DIPL.	DIPL.	DIPL.	DIPL.	DIPL.	DIPL.
7	DIPL.	DUOLISIM	Alberto V.	34	M	Manager	yes	Eng. Fr. It.	yes	Italy	Italian	Italy	Rome	253	London	5/1/26	Italy
8																	
9																	

12	13
Immigration Visa Number	Issued at
	or town
639	Paris
do	do
do	do
7	Nice
Claims American Cit	
IN ROUTE TO LEGATION WASHINGTON.	
San Ysidro Calif. 7-7-	
253	London

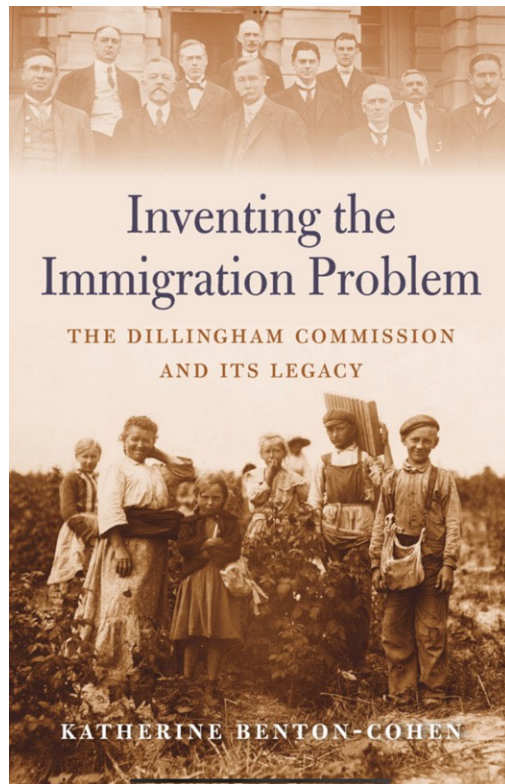
Tip:

Ask yourself questions about
the record

Understanding History

- WHO: *Alberto V. Guglielmo*
- WHAT: *Immigration Visa Number 253*
- WHEN did passenger lists begin to include visa numbers?
- HOW did my ancestor get a visa number?
- WHY did my ancestor have to have one?
- WHERE can I learn more?

History of U.S. Visas



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- [2 The Gentlemen's Agreement](#)
- [3 Hebrew or Jewish Is Simply a Religion](#)
- [4 The Vanishing American Wage Earner](#)

[5 Women's Power and Knowledge](#)

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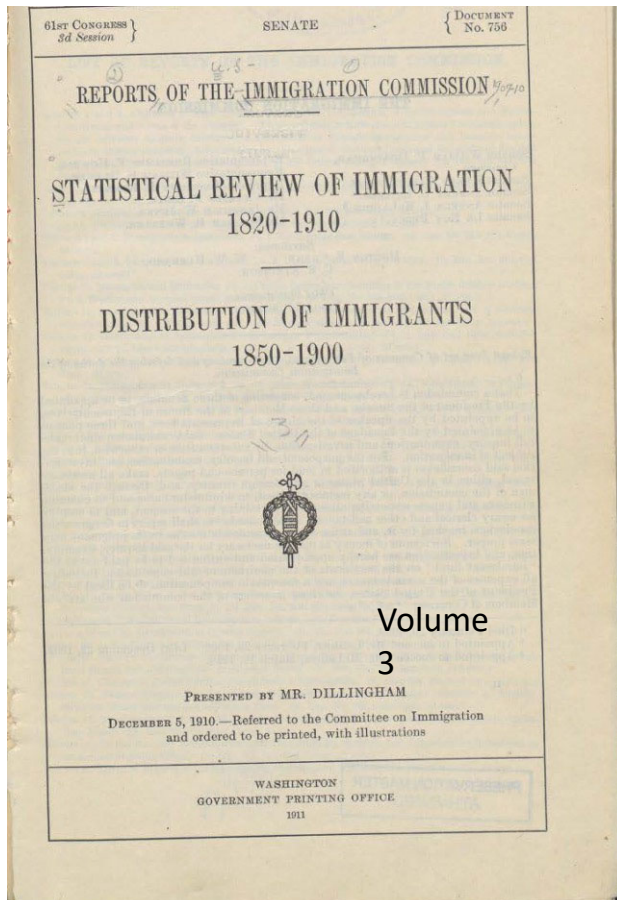
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Dillingham Commission Reports:

- 41 volumes
- A 42nd volume, index, never published



- Officially submitted to the Committee on Immigration – December 5, 1910
- Printed in 1911

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Dillingham Commission Report

TABLE 38.—*Number of immigrants whose passage was paid by self or relative, during years 1908, 1909, and 1910, by*
[Compiled from reports of the United States Commissioner-General of Immigration.]

Race or people.	1908.			1909.			1910.		
	Self.	Relative.	Other than self or relative.	Self.	Relative.	Other than self or relative.	Self.	Relative.	Other than self or relative.
African (black).....	3,456	961	209	3,305	863	139	3,831	994	141
Armenian.....	2,301	971	27	2,530	559	19	4,678	811	19
Bohemian and Moravian.....	5,519	4,595	50	3,923	2,891	36	5,463	2,948	51
Bulgarian, Servian, and Montenegrin.....	17,252	957	37	5,662	539	13	14,177	907	46
Chinese.....	786	421	56	1,000	670	111	886	854	30
Croatian and Slovenian.....	16,921	3,432	119	17,160	2,927	94	35,926	3,501	135
Cuban.....	2,654	628	41	2,540	811	29	2,106	1,199	26
Dalmatian, Bosnian, and Herzegovinian.....	3,535	199	13	1,696	190	2	4,507	394	10
Dutch and Flemish.....	5,445	3,982	99	4,706	3,319	89	7,994	4,795	223
East Indian.....	1,641	18	51	315	15	7	1,623	137	22
English.....	31,172	16,547	1,337	25,385	12,629	1,007	35,004	17,097	1,397
Finnish.....	3,806	2,561	379	8,225	3,067	395	10,537	4,671	528
French.....	8,536	3,835	510	10,069	8,838	516	11,917	8,670	520
German.....	43,565	28,381	1,092	36,290	21,176	1,068	47,878	22,567	935
Greek.....	20,135	2,588	65	18,069	1,556	37	37,019	2,078	38
Hebrew.....	30,542	63,492	353	22,537	34,782	312	33,638	44,174	388
Irish.....	21,700	14,241	486	18,348	12,379	458	23,541	14,300	541
Italian, North.....	18,716	5,777	207	19,980	5,008	162	25,774	4,727	279
Italian, South.....	68,875	41,252	420	125,473	38,947	828	147,763	44,092	818
Japanese.....	7,060	9,265	93	848	2,374	53	497	2,265	36
Korean.....	19	7	-----	9	2	-----	14	4	1
Lithuanian.....	7,967	5,639	114	10,692	4,460	102	14,004	8,538	172
Magyar.....	17,373	6,841	164	21,903	6,740	61	19,905	7,333	64
Mexican.....	3,729	1,825	128	8,434	6,988	169	9,438	8,129	193
Pacific Islander.....	1	1	-----	3	3	1	-----	1	60
Polish.....	44,033	23,816	256	56,650	20,330	585	68,745	20,197	470

Following the Trail

- From the Dillingham Report
- Immigration Acts of
 - 1917
 - 1921
 - 1924
- Learning about Immigration Act of 1924

February 9, 1924

1924.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE.

2221

356. A letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting, with a letter from the Chief of Engineers, reports on preliminary examination and survey of Tolovana River, Alaska (H. Doc. No. 193); to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors and ordered to be printed.

357. A letter from the Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives, transmitting a list of property belonging to the United States in the various rooms of the House in the Capitol Building and folding room in the House Office Building; to the Committee on Accounts.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Under clause 2 of Rule XIII.

Mr. JOHNSON of Washington: Committee on Immigration and Naturalization. H. R. 6540. A bill to limit immigration of aliens into the United States, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. No. 176). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. FRENCH: Committee on Appropriations. H. R. 6820. A bill making appropriations for the Navy Department and the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, and for other purposes; without amendment (Rept. No. 178). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WYANT: Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. H. R. 6717. A bill granting the consent of Congress to the State highway department of North Carolina to construct a bridge across the Pee Dee River in North Carolina between Anson and Richmond Counties; without amendment (Rept. No. 177). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. HULL of Iowa: Committee on Military Affairs. H. R. 518. A bill to authorize and direct the Secretary of War to sell to Henry Ford nitrate plant No. 1, at Sheffield, Ala.; nitrate plant No. 2, at Muscle Shoals, Ala.; Waco Quarry, near Russellville, Ala.; and to lease to the corporation to be incorporated by him Dam No. 2 and Dam No. 3 (as designated in H. Doc. 1262, 64th Cong., 1st sess.), including power stations when constructed as provided herein, and for other purposes; minority views of (Rept. No. 143, pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

CHANGE OF REFERENCE.

Under clause 2 of Rule XXII, committees were discharged from the consideration of the following bills, which were referred as follows:

A bill (H. R. 2636) for the relief of Harold Holst: Committee on Military Affairs discharged, and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

By Mr. FRENCH: A bill (H. R. 6820) making appropriations for the Navy Department and the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, and for other purposes; to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

By Mr. UPSHAW: A bill (H. R. 6821) to create a commission to be known as the Federal motion picture commission, and defining its powers and duties; to the Committee on Education.

By Mr. RAINEY: A bill (H. R. 6822) for the improvement of commerce and navigation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors.

By Mr. KEARNS: A bill (H. R. 6823) to amend section 204 of the revenue act of 1921; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTER: Joint resolution (H. J. Res. 181) creating a joint committee of three Members of the Senate and three Members of the House to investigate the administration of Indian affairs in the State of Oklahoma; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Washington: Resolution (H. Res. 177) for the immediate consideration of H. R. 6540; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. NELSON of Wisconsin: Resolution (H. Res. 178) authorizing the Committee on Patents to inquire into the subjects of patents incident to the operations of the United States Army Air Service, Naval Bureau of Aeronautics, the United States mail air service, or any agency, branch, or subsidiary of either; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. GRAHAM of Pennsylvania: Resolution (H. Res. 179) amending clause 4 of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. EVANS of Montana: Memorial of the Legislature of the State of Montana, asking for appropriations to continue construction work on the Flathead irrigation project and all other Federal irrigation projects in the State of Montana; to the Committee on Appropriations.

Also, memorial of the Legislature of the State of Montana, asking for legislation to permit the Indian Bureau to pay school tuition for Indian children on the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. LEAVITT: Memorial of the Legislature of the State of Montana, requesting that the Congress of the United States authorize the Bureau of Indian Affairs to pay tuition of Crow Indian children; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Also, memorial of the Legislature of the State of Montana, asking Congress for appropriations to continue construction work on the Flathead irrigation project and on all the other Federal irrigation projects in the State of Montana; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. SWANK: Memorial of the Legislature of the State

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Kristofer Allerfeldt

‘And We Got Here First’: Albert Johnson, National Origins and Self-Interest in the Immigration Debate of the 1920s

Abstract

Congressman Albert Johnson was co-sponsor of the 1924 Immigration Act — the so-called National Origins Act. Partly as a result of this, he has been considered one of the arch-advocates of a more restrictive immigration policy in early twentieth-century America. Closer examination proves his stance to be more reasoned than his reputation would suggest. Such scrutiny shows him to be no less committed to restriction and reveals some unpleasant political and racial views and language. But detailed reading also shows that his arguments, political techniques and rhetoric seem somewhat closer to their mainstream modern equivalents than has frequently been acknowledged. What emerges from inspection of Johnson's stance is that he is dealing with a far less united and unified lobby in favour of immigration control and a far more effective opposition to such measures throughout the 1920s. As in so many other crucial political debates, self-interest emerges as the key consideration, and not only from Johnson's perspective.

Keywords: 1920s, Herbert Hoover, immigration policy, Mexican immigration, Red Scare

Ralph Waldo Emerson once argued that all history is biography. This view is unfashionable at present, connected as it is to an outmoded ‘great man’ view of the subject. Without getting into the rights or wrongs of this argument, it is still possible to use biography as a highly effective analytical tool. Finding and examining the person, or people, at the heart of an event, movement or idea can be the key to genuine understanding. The views of the man on the ground; the twists and turns of the individual's career trajectory; the insights, utterances and actions of those involved in events of historical importance — all these elements of biography can provide valuable material for the historian. Close examination of the individual can yield surprising results. A figure thought to hold a distinct outlook, or represent a certain group or faction, may on closer examination demonstrate something different: even an opposing, conflicting or contradictory view to those they ‘should’ espouse.

This is the case with this examination of Albert Johnson, a key — if not *the* key — figure in the American immigration debates of the 1920s. There is a

Suitably for this study, it is Johnson himself who put forward the measure which would set these debates in motion, and the narrative of this measure's progress in many ways defines the territory of the debate. In the last months of 1920, Johnson introduced what to him was, and would remain, the only real solution to the problem of immigration. His bill (HR 14461) aimed to introduce a total moratorium on immigration for two years. The measure fitted the mood of the times.⁷ The House reduced the ban to 14 months, but passed it by 296 to 42. The Senate rejected it, and on the day the Johnson Bill passed through the house, the chair of the Senate Immigration Committee, William Paul Dillingham of Vermont, advocated that a limit be placed on entry of no more than ‘five percent of the number of that nationality already resident here’.⁸ The tortuous quest to define a suitable ‘National Origins’ scheme which would dominate the immigration policy decisions of the decade had been set in motion.⁹

Johnson, sensing that a total suspension would not pass the upper house and seeing a winner in Dillingham's proposal, at first reluctantly gave the idea his support. As chair of the House Immigration Committee, he realized the potential of the quota as a means of ‘equitable’ and ‘scientific’ restriction, and knew that such tags were vital to its passage into law. There is little doubt that he always felt that anything which stopped short of total exclusion would simply delay any long-term solution of the ‘immigration problem’. However, politician that he was, in many ways he made the measure his own, even going as far as later claiming that he had ‘campaign[ed] for Congress in 1912 on the percentage restriction plan’.¹⁰ He voted for the bill, which became the — temporary — Emergency Quota Act of May 1921.

It was in the debates of the next three years surrounding the attempts to make the Emergency Quotas permanent that real divisions in even the hard-core restrictionist lobby crystallized. Johnson explained to a press briefing that his two-year suspension would still allow potential immigrants with relatives already citizens of the USA to come and join them; his stated aim was to ‘limit immigration to the close blood relatives of naturalized citizens’.¹¹ This utterance sounds very close to the idea of the later National Origins schemes, but

7 The 66th Congress had seen eight — albeit unsuccessful — proposals for a total suspension of immigration, for periods ranging from two to ten years, including a previous one by Johnson. See House Report 1109, 66th Congress, 3rd Session.

8 Senator William P. Dillingham, cited in the *Washington Post*, 13 December 1920.

9 Under this, immigration levels would be regulated to mimic and preserve the existing national — European — populations of America by drawing on the proportions recorded in a variety of US decennial censuses. The general significance of the National Origins debate is extremely ably handled in Mae M. Ngai, ‘The Architecture of Race in American Immigration Law: A Re-examination of the Immigration Act of 1924’, *The Journal of American History* 86(1) (June 1999), 67–92.

10 Johnson to Frank Babbot (his successor as President of the Eugenics Research Association), 1 April 1927, cited in Desmond King, *Making Americans: Immigration, Race and the Origins of the Diverse Democracy* (Cambridge, MA, 2000), 204.

11 Johnson, cited in the *Oxnard Daily Courier*, 29 November 1920.

FN
9

another
article
here

The Architecture of Race in American Immigration Law: A Reexamination of the Immigration Act of 1924

Mae M. Ngai

On February 4, 1929, Dr. Joseph A. Hill presented a plan for immigration quotas based on national origin to the United States Senate immigration committee. Hill was the chief statistician of the Census Bureau and chairman of the Quota Board, a committee under the departments of State, Commerce, and Labor. Congress had mandated the board to allocate the quotas under the Immigration Act of 1924. That law restricted immigration into the United States to 150,000 a year based on quotas, which were to be allotted to countries in the same proportion that the American people traced their origins to those countries, through immigration or the immigration of their forebears.¹

This was the third time in as many years that Hill had submitted a plan to Congress, and again members of Congress interrogated him as to the accuracy of the quotas. Hill's professional authority as one of the nation's leading demographers rested on a thirty-year tenure at the Census Bureau and was manifest in his patrician appearance. But determining the national origins quotas was arguably the most difficult challenge of his career.

Indeed, in early 1929 it was still not at all certain that the system mandated in 1924 would come into being. Congress had already postponed implementation of the quotas twice. The first two reports submitted by the Quota Board were criticized

Mae M. Ngai is assistant professor of United States history at the University of Chicago. This essay, submitted while she was a graduate student at Columbia University, received the Louis Pelter Memorial Award for 1998. This article is drawn from the author's "Illegal Aliens and Alien Citizens: United States Immigration Policy and Racial Formation, 1924–1945" (Ph.D. dissertation, Columbia University, 1998).

I am grateful to the following people for their support and constructive criticism: Eric Foner, Elizabeth Blackmar, Alan Brinkley, Gary Gerstle, Neil Gerenda, Matthew Jacobson, Ira Katznelson, Rebecca McLennan, Gary Okihiro, John Torrey, and Clarence Walker. I also wish to thank David Nord and members of the Pelter Award committee for their suggestions and Yuji Ichioka and Aaron Shapiro for assistance with illustrations.

¹ U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on Immigration, *National Origins Provision of the Immigration Law*, 71 Cong., 2 sess., Feb. 4, 1929, p. 16. The Immigration Act of 1924 stipulated that permanent immigration quotas were to go into effect on July 1, 1927. In the meantime, immigration was governed by temporary quotas, which were allocated to each European country at 2% of the number of foreign-born of each nationality in the 1890 census. The temporary formula gave 85% of the quotas to northern and western European nations. Act of May 26, 1924, chap. 190, 43 Stat. 153.

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immigration, and that completed "Asiatic" as a peculiarly American racial category. Finally, the article turns to the role that immigration law played in the racial formation of Mexican immigrants and Mexican Americans. While not subject to numerical quotas or restrictions on naturalization, Mexicans were profoundly affected by restrictive measures enacted in the 1920s, among them deportation policy, the creation of the Border Patrol, and the criminalization of unlawful entry.

This analysis of the Immigration Act of 1924 suggests that immigration law and policy were deeply implicated in a broader racial and ethnic remapping of the nation during the 1920s, a remapping that took place in mutually constituting realms of demography, economics, and law. It involved, in addition to changes in immigration patterns and policy, the migration of African Americans from the South to northern cities and the legal justification for de facto segregation in the North, and the completion of the legal process of forced assimilation of American Indians.¹¹

The Invention of National Origins

If the quota system went into effect without the unqualified confidence of its authors, the project had been marked by doubt from the beginning. Census and immigration records, upon which the Quota Board relied in making its calculations, were woefully incomplete. The census of 1790, the nation's first, did not include information about national origin or ancestry. The census did not differentiate the foreign-born until 1850 and did not identify the places of birth of parents of the native-born until 1890. Immigration was unrecorded before 1820 and not classified according to origin until 1899, when it was arranged, not by politically defined nation-states, but according to a taxonomy called "races and peoples." Emigration was not recorded until 1907. To complicate things further, many boundaries in Europe changed after World War I, requiring a translation of political geography to reattribute origins and allocate quotas according to the world in 1920.¹²

To calculate the quotas, the Quota Board first had to conceptualize the categories that constituted the system. "National origin," "native stock," "nationality," and other

¹¹ The United States Supreme Court could not sanction de jure segregation in the North, but it did legitimate de facto segregation based on free market principles in *Corrigan v. Buckley*, which upheld the use of racial covenants in real property. *Buchanan v. Warley*, 245 U.S. 60 (1917); *Corrigan v. Buckley*, 271 U.S. 323 (1926). See Gilbert Osofsky, *Harlem, the Making of a Ghetto: Negro New York, 1890–1930* (New York, 1968); Donald Massey and Nancy Denton, *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass* (Cambridge, Mass., 1993). The Indian Citizenship Act of 1924, which declared all Native American Indians American citizens, completed the "assimilation" that stripped Native American Indians of their sovereignty. Such citizenship was circumscribed by Indians' continued legal status as wards, a codification of their presumed racial backwardness. Act of June 2, 1924, 43 Stat. 253. See Frederick Hoxie, *A Final Promise: The Campaign to Assimilate the Indians, 1880–1920* (Cambridge, Eng., 1995), 236–37.

¹² LaVerne Beales, "Distribution of White Population as Enumerated in 1920 According to Country of Origin," typescript, Oct. 16, 1924, file 16, box 2, Reports, Correspondence, and other Records relating to Immigration Quota Laws and National Origins Statistics, ca. 1920–1936, NN-374-63, Population Division, Records of the Census Bureau, RG 29 (National Archives); Minutes of Quota Board meeting, May 25, 1926, file 19, *ibid.* The concept of "races and peoples" used by the Immigration Bureau included sovereign countries, prototypical or ethnic groups, religions, and races. The schedule differentiated "Polish" from "Polish (Hebrew)," and "Italy (north)" from "Italy (south)" and listed Indians as "Hindu."

Immigration Act of 1924

- Legislative history:
 - 1 Feb 1924: H.R. 6540 Introduced (Johnson)
 - 20 Feb 1924: S. 2576 Introduced (Reed)
 - 17 Mar 1924: H.R. 7995 Introduced (Johnson)
 - 12 Apr 1924: H.R. 7995 Passed the house
 - 18 Apr 1924: Senate suspends indefinitely S. 2576, requests conference with House on H.R. 7995
 - 19 May 1924: H.R. 7995 presented to President for signing
- Signed into law 31 May 1924 by Calvin Coolidge

Country or region of birth	Estimated quotas based on 2 per cent of census plus 10	
	Census of 1890	Census 1910
Albania.....	104	
Armenia (Russian).....	117	
Austria.....	1,090	
Belgium.....	609	
Bulgaria.....	100	
Czechoslovakia.....	1,973	
Danzig, Free City of.....	323	
Denmark.....	2,882	
Esthonia.....	202	
Finland.....	245	
Fiume, Free State of.....	110	
France.....	3,978	
Germany.....	45,229	
Great Britain and North Ireland.....	41,772	
Irish Free State.....	20,886	
Greece.....	135	
Hungary.....	588	
Iceland.....	136	
Italy.....	4,689	
Latvia.....	217	
Lithuania.....	402	
Luxemburg.....	158	
Netherlands.....	1,737	
Norway.....	6,533	
Poland.....	8,972	
Portugal.....	574	
Rumania.....	731	
Russia.....	1,892	
Spain (including Canary Islands).....	224	
Sweden.....	9,661	
Switzerland.....	2,181	
Yugoslavia.....	835	
San Marino.....	110	
Andorra.....	100	
Liechtenstein.....	100	
Monaco.....	100	
Palestine.....	101	
Syria.....	112	
Turkey.....	123	
Hejaz.....	105	
Persia.....	125	
Egypt.....	166	
Liberia.....	100	
Abyssinia.....	100	
Morocco.....	100	
Union of South Africa.....	110	
Australia.....	220	
New Zealand and Pacific Islands.....	167	
Total.....	161,184	2

Country or region of birth	Estimated quotas based on 2 per cent of census plus 100	
	Census of 1890	Census of 1910
Albania.....	104	292
Armenia (Russian).....	117	253
Austria.....	1,090	4,994
Belgium.....	609	1,142
Bulgaria.....	100	302
Czechoslovakia.....	1,973	11,472
Danzig, Free City of.....	323	300
Denmark.....	2,882	3,846
Esthonia.....	202	998
Finland.....	245	2,714
Fiume, Free State of.....	110	148
France.....	3,978	3,926
Germany.....	45,229	40,172
Great Britain and North Ireland.....	41,772	34,508
Irish Free State.....	20,886	17,254
Greece.....	135	2,142
Hungary.....	588	3,932
Iceland.....	136	150
Italy.....	4,689	28,138
Latvia.....	217	1,126
Lithuania.....	402	1,852

Estimates per H.R. 7995

Understanding History

- U.S. citizens think too many immigrants are arriving
- Congress appoints Dillingham commission
- Senator Dillingham is anti-immigrant
- In 1921 he proposes a quota act
- Ultimately Congress approves Immigration Act of 1924 and President signs it into law
- Puts limits on number of immigrants allowed in the country

Understanding History

- WHO: *Alberto V. Guglielmo*
- WHAT: *Immigration Visa Number 253*
- WHEN did the passenger lists begin to include visa numbers? *Began to phase in in 1925*
- WHY did my ancestor have to have one? *A result of the Immigration Act of 1924*
- HOW did my ancestor get a visa number? *Applied via U.S. consulate in older country*
- WHERE can I learn more? *Many books available*

Understanding Attitudes

Understanding Attitudes

- Attitudes of those in charge
 - Regarding colonization
 - Regarding disagreements among those residing in the country/area they are in charge of
- Attitudes that served as push factors to immigrants
- Attitudes of those in the U.S. or other country in regard to immigrants
- Attitudes drawn from religious beliefs

William Rotch

- A staunch Quaker
- Owned whaling and cargo ships
- Brother, Francis, owned the *Dartmouth*
 - Had taken whale oil to England
 - Came back laden with tea, then was denied landing
 - Tea ended up thrown in the Boston harbor
- Was at odds with non-Quaker individuals in Massachusetts for his pacifism

Historical Books/Articles

- American Revolution – General
- American Revolution – Massachusetts
- Quakers – General
- Quakers – Nantucket
- Quakers – American Revolution Period
- Massachusetts – Rotch Family

Tip:

From books come references
that lead you to records

know the result of our mission. Fanning thought this reasonable, and put the question to all the principals there. They all readily agreed until it came to —, who very reluctantly gave his con-

We then proceeded to New York, and applied to the commodore Sir George Collier of the navy and Sir Henry Clinton of the army.

On representing our case to Sir George Collier, he readily gave us an order forbidding any British armed vessel to take any out of our harbor. This was a great relief. I then laid before the state of our captured seamen, that all the exchanges of prisoners were partial, that as we made no prisoners we had none to exchange; consequently ours remained in the prison ships until they died. On his understanding the reasonableness of our request, he ordered that all our men should be released who were not taken on armed vessels (for such we had no right to apply), and that it should not be so in future as long as he held the command.

We also applied to Sir Henry Clinton, through one of his Maj. André, that fine young man who lost his life as a spy. He could get no written order from him, but he intimated that he would direct that those in his department should not molest us, which no doubt did, as they gave up their expedition, and we had a quiet until Sir George Collier's command expired, and he was succeeded by the arrival of Admiral Arbuthnot, and the same mills then came upon us.

Timothy Folger was then sent to New York, and he obtained like order to that obtained from Sir George. Added to this, he permits for a few vessels, about fifteen, to whale on our coast, we were successful; but it was with great difficulty that distinction could be made between English and American cruisers, as the latter would make prizes of us if British permits were found.

I now come to the most trying scene in my whole experience during the war. I was with four others impeached for high treason by Thomas Jenkins, when there was no step between being clear and death.

The laws of this state at that time made it high treason for any person to go to a British port without the consent of the court. We had been well assured that if we applied we should be refused, and if we did *not* apply to the *British*, we must from every appearance be destroyed by them. Under serious consideration, I was willing to be joined to the two others, and as before stated, proceeded as with our lives in our hands. This was made one of the great charges in the impeachment.

We were examined before a committee of the court on the impeachment, but knowing we were to appear again when the witnesses should attend, we made no defence, which we afterwards found was an error in judgment.

By this means the court thought us guilty, and were about to

I now come to the most trying scene in my whole experience during the war. I was with four others impeached for high treason, by Thomas Jenkins, when there was no step between being clear and death.

The laws of this state at that time made it high treason for any person to go to a British port without the consent of the court. We had been well assured that if we applied we should be refused, and if we did *not* apply to the *British*, we must from every appearance be destroyed by them. Under serious consideration, I was willing to be joined to the two others, and as before stated, proceeded as with our lives in our hands. This was made one of the great charges in the impeachment.

COMPLAINT AGAINST WILLIAM ROTCH AND
OTHERS, 1779.

Communicated by FREDERICK C. SANFORD, Esq., of Nantucket, Mass.

IN the autobiography of William Rotch, published in the REGISTER, he states (vol. xxxii. p. 38) that in 1779 he was "with four others impeached for high treason by Thomas Jenkins, when there was no step between being clear and death." Appended to the manuscript autobiography is the following copy of Mr. Jenkins's petition to the Massachusetts General Court. The reader is referred to the above autobiography of Mr. Rotch for his account of these matters. See also Mr. Starbuck's "Nantucket in the Revolution" (REGISTER, xxix. 50) for reference to them.

Copy of Thomas Jenkins's Complaint against Sundry Persons.

To the Honorable Council and the Honorable House of Representatives
in General Court assembled at Boston, State of Massachusetts Bay,
November, 1779.

Thomas Jenkins humbly sheweth, that as a true and liege subject of the State of Massachusetts Bay, as well as from enormous personal injuries received, he is most strongly urged to lay the following representation and complaint before the supreme Legislature of the State.

Your petitioner complains of Dr. Benjamin Tupper, Timothy Folger, Esq., Wm. Rotch, Samuel Starbuck and Kezia Coffin, all of the Island of Nantucket, as persons dangerous and inimical to the freedom and independence of this and the other United States of America, as encouragers, aiders and abettors of the Enemy, in making inroads on the state territories, and depredations on the property of the good subjects of this State.

It can be clearly proved, if your honors should see fit to order an in-

Where to Turn?

- Autobiography – find the beginning of the transcript in the *Register* to see where the manuscript is found
- Thomas Jenkins court document – look at the Massachusetts State Archives Collection, colonial period, 1622-1788 (aka Felt Collection)


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AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR OF WILLIAM ROTCH.

WRITTEN IN THE EIGHTIETH YEAR OF HIS AGE.

Communicated by FREDERICK C. SANFORD, Esq., of Nantucket, Mass.

[Continued from vol. xxxi. page 264.]

WE* arrived in the harbor of Newport, where Capt. Dawson commanded the navy and Gen. Prescott the army, but the refugees had made interest with the general not to permit us to land, and we were ordered to depart by Capt. Dawson. We interceded with him to let us stay a little longer, for we found the expedition was progressing rapidly, and unless we could arrest it, it would be in vain to proceed to New York.

Again Dawson, by request of Gen. Prescott, under the influence of the refugees, ordered us immediately to depart. Dr. Tupper

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR OF WILLIAM ROTC.

WRITTEN IN THE EIGHTIETH YEAR OF HIS AGE.¹

Communicated by FREDERICK C. SANFORD, Esq., of Nantucket.

Memoranda.

A FRIEND of mine has repeatedly requested me to put on paper some of the occurrences of about twenty years of my life, from 1775 to 1794, which he had heard me relate in conversation.

When the revolutionary war broke out in 1775, I saw clearly that the only line of conduct to be pursued by us, the inhabitants of the Island of Nantucket, was to take no part in the contest, and to endeavor to give no occasion of offence to either of the contending forces. A great portion of the inhabitants were of the denomination of Friends, and a large number of the considerate of the other societies united in the opinion that our safety was to be found in a state of neutrality, as far as it could be obtained, although we had no doubt that suffering would be our lot, and which we afterwards experienced from both parties. Our situation was rendered more difficult from having among us a few restless spirits who had nothing to lose, and who were often thwarting our pacific plan and subjecting us to dangers, not caring what confusion they brought upon us, if

¹ William Rotch, an enterprising and successful merchant of Nantucket and New Bedford, was born at Nantucket, Oct. 14 O. S. (15 N. S.), 1734, and died at New Bedford, May 16, 1828. For his biography and genealogy, see Ricketson's "History of New Bedford," pp. 108-15. See also "Nantucket in the Revolution," in the REGISTER (*ante*, xxviii. 272-8, 436-42; xxix. 48-53, 141-5. This autobiography is dated "New Bedford, 2d month, 1814."—ED.

Beginning of transcription



An Inventory of the Rodman-Rotch Families Family Papers, 1738-1915

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2021-09-23.

Finding aid written in English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College

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Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, 19081

friends@swarthmore.edu
<http://www.swarthmore.edu/friends>

An Inventory of the Rodman-Rotch Families Family Papers, 1738-1915

Collection Inventory

Ser. 1. Journals, biographical and genealogical, 1803-1809, n.d.

Journals

Diary, [Rodman, Eliza?] Phila., 1803
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Scope and Contents

AMS. Eliza Rodman? (1782-1864), attending Quaker meetings, accounts of travels.

Diary, [Rodman, Eliza?], 1805, 1807.
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Scope and Contents

AMS. Includes visits to Stafford Springs, CT, and visit to Shakers. In 1807 visits to Boston, Plymouth, and Sandwich. First part of the volume was used by Benjamin Rodman as student work book.

Rotch, Joseph: "Journal of a Southern Tour", 1809, 5 mo
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Scope and Contents

AMS. From New Bedford to NYC, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Virginia

Rotch, William (1734-1828): "An autobiographical Memoir of William Rotch written in the eightieth year of his age"
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Physical Facet

Ms. copy. An account of events in Nantucket during the years 1775-1794, written ca. 1814.

Genealogical material, dealing with ancestors of Julia W. Rodman:

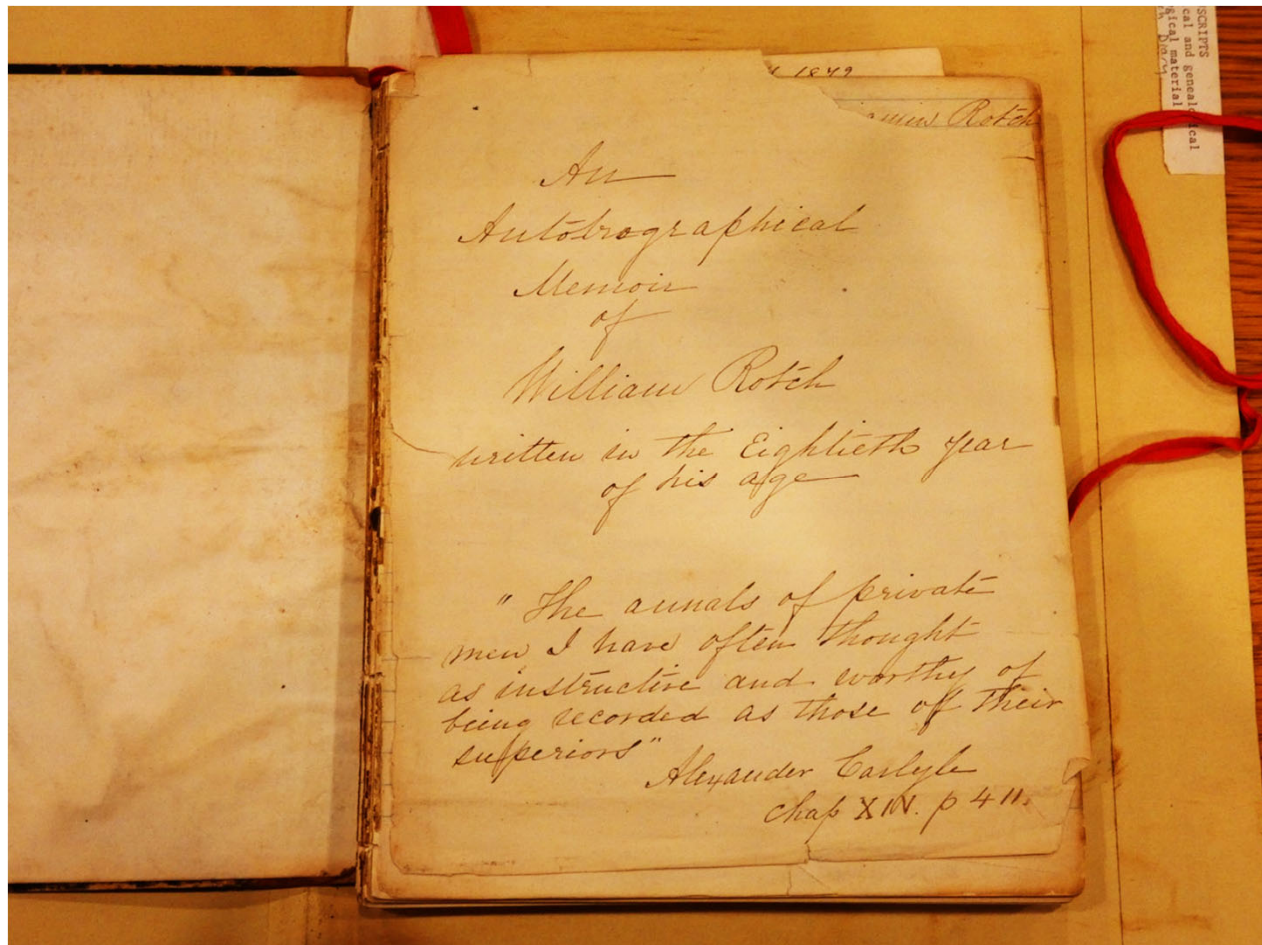
Material on Rotch, Starbuck, Rodman, Prior, Haydock
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Chart of Robert Susanna Heath's family
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Chart of Tristram Coffin descendants
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Memo of Mary Prior to her children
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)

Memorial for Mary Prior
Box 1 (Mixed Materials)



The Diary

long as he held the command.
He also applied to Sir Henry Clinton
through one of his Aids (Major Andre
^{that fine young man who lost his life as a spy})
He could get no better order
from him but he intimated that
he would direct that those in his
department should not molest us,
which he no doubt did as they gave
up their expedition, and we had a
little quiet until Sir George Collier's
command expired and he was
succeeded by the arrival of
Admiral Arbuthnot and the ~~Shoring~~
Mills then came upon us.
Timothy Folger was then sent to
New York, and he obtained a letter
order to that obtained from Sir George.
^{See forthwith page} Added to this he
got permits for a few vessels (about
fifteen) to whale on our Coast, which
were successful, but it was with
great difficulty that distinction
could be made between English
and American cruizers as the
latter would make prize of us if

British permits were found.
I now come to the most trying
scene in my whole experience during
the war. I was with five other troops
impeached for High Treason by
Thomas Jenkins when there was
no step between being clear & death.
The laws of this state at that
time made it High Treason for
any person to go to a British port
without the consent of the Court.
He had been well assured that
if we applied we should be refused
and if we did not apply to the
British we must for every
appearance be destroyed by them.
Under serious consideration I was
willing to be joined to the two
others and as before stated pro-
ceeded as with our lives in our
hands. This was made one of the
great charges in the impeachment
a copy of which I shall annex.
He was examined before a
Committee of the Court on this

Massachusetts State Archives collection, colonial period, 1622-1788

[ADD TO PRINT LIST](#)

Authors	Massachusetts. State Archives (Author)
Format	Microfilm 35mm
Language	English
Publication Date	2002-2009
Publisher	Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah
Place of Publication	Salt Lake City, Utah
Physical	181 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Part of the FamilySearch full-text search options at www.familysearch.org/labs

 Feedback

Notes

Includes indexes in most volumes.

Microfilm of documents at Massachusetts State Archives, Boston, Massachusetts.

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Subjects

Locality Subjects

www.familysearch.org/en/search/catalog/koha:1055547

Massachusetts. Miscellaneous Records 1774-1783



Image 211 of 1,043

Feedback

State of the ²⁷⁹Mass^{ts} Bay } To the Honorable the
Council & the honorable
the House of Representatives in General Court
assembled at Boston Novr 1779

Thomas Jenkins humbly sheweth

That as a true
and lege subject of the State of the Massachusetts Bay,
as well as from enormous personal injuries received, he is
most strongly urged to lay the following representation
& Complaint before the Supreme Legislature of the
State.

Your Petitioner complains that
Benj Tupper Timothy Folger Esq Wm Roth Samuel
Starbuck & Keziah Coffin all of the Island of Nantuck
set as Persons dangerous & inimical to the Freedom and
Independence of this & the other United States of America
as encouragers, orders, & abettors of the Enemy in
making roads on the State Territories, & depredations
on the Property of the good Subjects of the State.

It can be clearly proved (should your
Honors think fit to order an enquiry) that several
attempts have been made by some of the above Persons to
induce the Inhabitants of Nantuck to settle a cross
border with & supply the Enemy. For particular
there is Timothy Folger, apply to the Legislature of the

Transcript



Show Keywords

Summarize the document

Transcript



Click the pencil above to make edits to the transcript.

7 State of the Massth Bay To the Honorable
the House of Council & the honorable
assembled Representatives in General
Court at Boston Novr 1779 279 Thomas
Jenkins humbly sheweth the That as a
true and lege subject of the State of the
Massachusetts Bay, as well as from
enormous personal injuries received, he is
most strongly urged to lay the following
representation & Complaint before the
Supreme Legislature of the State Your
Petitioner complaint of Doctor Benj Tupper
Timothy Folger Esq Wm Roth, Samuel
Starbuck & Keziah Coffin, all of the Island
Nantuck set as Persons dangerous &
munical to the Freedom and Independence
of this & the other United States of America
as encouragers, orders, & abettors of the
Enemy in making roads on the State
Territories, & depredations on the

The Impeachment

Tip:

Always look at images before
and after the one you are
brought to

Insight into Questions

Insight into Questions

- Government forms created for needs of the government and their concerns of
 - Military manpower
 - Individuals entering the country
 - Population
- New questions often the result of historical events
- Look for published directions given to those handling the records

Historical Events

- Colonization
- Emigration and Immigration
- Control of Certain Individuals
- War
- Assassinations
- The Great Depression
- Epidemics and Pandemics

1870 Census

- First census after U.S Civil War
- 1870 Census had 20 columns of questions (6 more than 1860)
- Important additions to 1870
 - Father foreign born
 - Mother foreign born
 - Constitutional relations
 - Male citizens of U.S. of 21 years and upwards
 - Male citizens of U.S. of 21 years and upwards where right to vote is denied or abridged

Page No. 71

Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to

U.S. Male Citizen,
21 and older

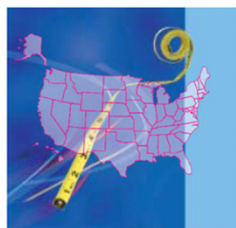
U.S. Male Citizen,
21 and older,
denied right to vote

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in 5th Ward New Bedford, in the County of Bristol, State
of Massachusetts, enumerated by me on the 5th day of July, 1870. 214
Post Office: New Bedford Samuel Weston, Ass't Marshal.

1	2	3	DESCRIPTION.			7	VALUE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED.		10	PARENTAGE.		14	15	EDUCATION.		18	CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS.		
			Age at last birthday. If under 1 year, give months in fractions, thus, 1 ¹ / ₂ .	Sex.—Males (M.), Females (F.)	Color.—White (W.), Black (B.), Mulatto (M.), Chinese (C.), Indian (I.)		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.		Father of foreign birth.	Mother of foreign birth.			If born within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	If married within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)		Attended school within the year.	Cannot read.	Cannot write.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1		Julia	21	F	W	At home			Mass										
2		Bernette Thomas	35	M	W	Domestic			Ireland	1	1				1	1		1	1
3		Dorgan Hannah	28	F	W	Domestic			Ireland	1	1								
4	441 663	Clifford John H	61	M	W	Lawyer	15,000	50,000	Rhode Island									1	
5		Lucas E	62	F	W	Keeps House			Mass										
6		Annie	32	F	W	At home			Mass										
7		Walter	20	M	W	At school			Mass					1					

1870 Census, New Bedford, Mass.

Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses From 1790 to 2000



U.S. Department of Commerce
Donald L. Evans,
Secretary

Samuel W. Bodman,
Deputy Secretary

Economics
and Statistics
Administration
Kathleen B. Cooper,
Under Secretary for
Economic Affairs

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
Charles Louis Kincannon,
Director

ued September 2

POL/O - MAIR/O

part of the enumeration should be performed with absolute accuracy. Every male person born within the United States, who has attained the age of 21 years, is a citizen of the United States by the force of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution; also, all persons born out of the limits and jurisdiction of the United States, whose fathers at the time of their birth were citizens of the United States (act of February 10, 1855); also, all persons born out of the limits and jurisdiction of the United States, who have been declared by judgment of court to have been duly naturalized, having taken out both "papers."

The part of the enumerator's duty which relates to column 19 is therefore easy, but it is none the less of importance. It is a matter of more delicacy to obtain the information required by column 20. Many persons never try to vote, and therefore do not know whether their right to vote is or is not abridged. It is not only those whose votes have actually been challenged, and refused at the polls for some disability or want of qualification, who must be reported in this column; but all who come within the scope of any State law denying or abridging suffrage to any class or individual on any other ground than the participation in rebellion, or legal conviction of crime. Assistant marshals, therefore, will be required carefully to study the laws of their own States in these respects, and to satisfy themselves, in the case of each male citizen of the United States above the age of 21 years, whether he does not, come within one of these classes.

As the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution, prohibiting the exclusion from the suffrage of any person on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, has become the law of the land, all State laws working such exclusion have ceased to be of virtue. If any person is, in any State, still practically denied the right to vote by reason of any such State laws not repealed, that denial is merely an act of violence, of which the courts may have cognizance, but which does not come within the view of marshals and their assistants in respect to the census.

Township or other
division of county
(Insert proper name and also name of class, as township, town, precinct, district, etc. See instructions.)

Unincorporated place West Tisbury Village
(Enter name of any unincorporated place having approximately 500 inhabitants or more. See instructions.)

Institution
(Insert name of institution, if any)

	PLACE OF ABODE				NAME of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any Include every person living on April 1, 1930. Omit children born since April 1, 1930	RELATION Relationship of this person to the head of the family	HOME DATA				PERSONAL DESCRIPTION				EDUCATION		PLACE OF BIRTH		
	Street, avenue, road, etc.	House number (in cities or towns)	Num- ber of dwelling house in order of visitation	Num- ber of family in order of visitation			Home owned or rented	Value of home, if owned, or monthly rental, if rented	Radio set	Does this family live on a farm?	Sex	Color or race	Age at last birthday	Marital con- dition	Age at first marriage	Attended school or college any time since Sept. 1, 1929	Whether able to read and write	Place of birth of each person enumerated and of his the United States, give State or Territory. If of foreign birthplace is now situated. (See Instructions under "Place of Birth" on Canada-English, and Irish Free State- English.)	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
51	unsubscribed		43	46	Foster Robert	Head	O	16200	R	W	M	W	48	On	41	No	Yes	Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland
52					— Emily P	Wife-H				V	F	W	42	On	20	No	Yes	Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland
53					— Emily C	Step daughter				V	F	W	24	S		No	Yes	Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland
54					— Louise A					V	F	W	16	S		Yes	Yes	New York	Northern Ireland

Enumerated by me on April 8, 1930, Edward Lee Luce, Enumerator.

s or her parents. If born in oreign birth, give country in ons.) Distinguish Canada- e from Northern Ireland	MOTHER TONGUE (OR NATIVE LANGUAGE) OF FOREIGN BORN				CITIZENSHIP, ETC.			OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY				EMPLOYMENT		VETERANS		Number of farm sched- ule	
	Language spoken in home before coming to the United States	CODE (For office use only. Do not write in these columns)			Year of immigra- tion to the United States	Naturalization	Whether able to speak English	OCCUPATION Trade, profession, or particular kind of work, as spinner, salesman, riveter, teach- er, etc.	INDUSTRY Industry or business, as cot- ton mill, dry-goods store, shipyard, public school, etc.	CODE (For office use only. Do not write in this column)	Class of worker	Whether actually at work yesterday (or the last regu- lar working day)		Whether a veter- an of U. S. military or naval forces			
		State or M. T.	Country	Na- tivity								Yes or No	If not, line number on Unem- ployment Schedule	Yes or No	What war or expedi- tion?		
MOTHER		A	B	C	22	23	24	25	26	D	27	28	29	30	31	32	
Northern Ireland	English	00	03	✓	1905	No	yes	None									51
Northern Ireland	English	00	03	✓	1907	No	yes	None									52
Northern Ireland	English	00	03	✓	1915	No	yes	None									53
Northern Ireland		36	03	o				None									54

1930 Census, Tisbury, Mass.

Port: _____
 Microfilm Publication Number: _____
 Roll Number: _____
 Page or Group: _____
 Line or List: _____

March 1903 to February 1907

List or Manifest of Alien Passengers For the U.S. Immigration Officer at Port of Arrival

Required by the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, under Act of Congress approved March 3, 1903, to be delivered to the U.S. Immigration Officer by the Commanding Officer of any vessel having such passengers on board upon arrival at a port in the United States.

S.S. _____ sailing from _____, 190__ Arriving at Port of _____, 190__

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
No. on List	Name in Full	Age		Sex	Married or Single	Calling or Occupation	Able to		Nationality (Country of last permanent residence)	Race or People	Last Residence (Province, City or Town)	Final Destination (State, City or Town)	Whether having a ticket to such final destination	By whom was passage paid?	Whether in possession of \$50, and if less, how much?	Whether ever in the United States; and if so when and where?	Whether going to join a relative or friend; and if so, what relative or friend, and his name and complete address	Ever in prison or almshouse or institution for care and treatment of the insane or supported by charity? If so which?	Whether a Polygamist	Whether an Anarchist	Whether coming by reason of any offer, solicitation, promise, or agreement, express or implied, to labor in the United States	Condition of Health, Mental and Physical	Deformed or Crippled. Nature, length of time and cause.
		Yrs.	Mos.				Read	Write															

g at Port of _____, 190__

15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Whether ever in the United States; and if so when and where?	Whether going to join a relative or friend; and if so, what relative or friend, and his name and complete address	Ever in prison or almshouse or institution for care and treatment of the insane or supported by charity? If so which?	Whether a Polygamist	Whether an Anarchist	Whether coming by reason of any offer, solicitation, promise, or agreement, express or implied, to labor in the United States	Condition of Health, Mental and Physical	Deformed or Crippled. Nature, length of time and cause.

Record Availability

The Architecture of Race in American Immigration Law: A Reexamination of the Immigration Act of 1924

Mae M. Ngai

On February 4, 1929, Dr. Joseph A. Hill presented a plan for immigration quotas based on national origin to the United States Senate immigration committee. Hill was the chief statistician of the Census Bureau and chairman of the Quota Board, a committee under the departments of State, Commerce, and Labor. Congress had mandated the board to allocate the quotas under the Immigration Act of 1924. That law restricted immigration into the United States to 150,000 a year based on quotas, which were to be allotted to countries in the same proportion that the American people traced their origins to those countries, through immigration or the immigration of their forebears.¹

This was the third time in as many years that Hill had submitted a plan to Congress, and again members of Congress interrogated him as to the accuracy of the quotas. Hill's professional authority as one of the nation's leading demographers rested on a thirty-year tenure at the Census Bureau and was manifest in his patrician appearance. But determining the national origins quotas was arguably the most difficult challenge of his career.

Indeed, in early 1929 it was still not at all certain that the system mandated in 1924 would come into being. Congress had already postponed implementation of the quotas twice. The first two reports submitted by the Quota Board were criticized

Mae M. Ngai is assistant professor of United States history at the University of Chicago. This essay, submitted while she was a graduate student at Columbia University, received the Louis Pelter Memorial Award for 1998. This article is drawn from the author's "Illegal Aliens and Alien Citizens: United States Immigration Policy and Racial Formation, 1924–1945" (Ph.D. dissertation, Columbia University, 1998).

I am grateful to the following people for their support and constructive criticism: Eric Foner, Elizabeth Blackmar, Alan Brinkley, Gary Gerstle, Neil Gerenda, Matthew Jacobson, Ira Katznelson, Rebecca McLennan, Gary Okunishi, John Torrey, and Clarence Walker. I also wish to thank David Nord and members of the Pelter Award committee for their suggestions and Yuji Ichioka and Aaron Shapiro for assistance with illustrations.

¹ U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on Immigration, *National Origins Provision of the Immigration Law*, 71 Cong., 2 sess., Feb. 4, 1929, p. 16. The Immigration Act of 1924 stipulated that permanent immigration quotas were to go into effect on July 1, 1927. In the meantime, immigration was governed by temporary quotas, which were allocated to each European country at 2% of the number of foreign-born of each nationality in the 1890 census. The temporary formula gave 85% of the quotas to northern and western European nations. Act of May 26, 1924, chap. 190, 43 Stat. 153.

The Journal of American History June 1999

67

immigration, and that completed "Asiatic" as a peculiarly American racial category. Finally, the article turns to the role that immigration law played in the racial formation of Mexican immigrants and Mexican Americans. While not subject to numerical quotas or restrictions on naturalization, Mexicans were profoundly affected by restrictive measures enacted in the 1920s, among them deportation policy, the creation of the Border Patrol, and the criminalization of unlawful entry.

This analysis of the Immigration Act of 1924 suggests that immigration law and policy were deeply implicated in a broader racial and ethnic remapping of the nation during the 1920s, a remapping that took place in mutually constituting realms of demography, economics, and law. It involved, in addition to changes in immigration patterns and policy, the migration of African Americans from the South to northern cities and the legal justification for de facto segregation in the North, and the completion of the legal process of forced assimilation of American Indians.¹¹

The Invention of National Origins

If the quota system went into effect without the unqualified confidence of its authors, the project had been marked by doubt from the beginning. Census and immigration records, upon which the Quota Board relied in making its calculations, were woefully incomplete. The census of 1790, the nation's first, did not include information about national origin or ancestry. The census did not differentiate the foreign-born until 1850 and did not identify the places of birth of parents of the native-born until 1890. Immigration was unrecorded before 1820 and not classified according to origin until 1899, when it was arranged, not by politically defined nation-states, but according to a taxonomy called "races and peoples." Emigration was not recorded until 1907. To complicate things further, many boundaries in Europe changed after World War I, requiring a translation of political geography to reattribute origins and allocate quotas according to the world in 1920.¹²

To calculate the quotas, the Quota Board first had to conceptualize the categories that constituted the system. "National origin," "native stock," "nationality," and other

¹¹ The United States Supreme Court could not sanction de jure segregation in the North, but it did legitimate de facto segregation based on free market principles in *Corrigan v. Buckley*, which upheld the use of racial covenants in real property. *Buchanan v. Warley*, 245 U.S. 60 (1917); *Corrigan v. Buckley*, 271 U.S. 323 (1926). See Gilbert Osofsky, *Harlem, the Making of a Ghetto: Negro New York, 1890–1930* (New York, 1968); Donald Massey and Nancy Denton, *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass* (Cambridge, Mass., 1993). The Indian Citizenship Act of 1924, which declared all Native American Indians American citizens, completed the "assimilation" that stripped Native American Indians of their sovereignty. Such citizenship was circumscribed by Indians' continued legal status as wards, a codification of their presumed racial backwardness. Act of June 2, 1924, 43 Stat. 253. See Frederick Hoxie, *A Final Promise: The Campaign to Assimilate the Indians, 1880–1920* (Cambridge, Eng., 1995), 236–37.

¹² LaVerne Beales, "Distribution of White Population as Enumerated in 1920 According to Country of Origin," typescript, Oct. 16, 1924, file 16, box 2, Reports, Correspondence, and other Records relating to Immigration Quota Laws and National Origins Statistics, ca. 1920–1936, NN-374-63, Population Division, Records of the Census Bureau, RG 29 (National Archives); Minutes of Quota Board meeting, May 25, 1926, file 19, *ibid.* The concept of "races and peoples" used by the Immigration Bureau included sovereign countries, prototypical or ethnic groups, religions, and races. The schedule differentiated "Polish" from "Polish (Hebrew)," and "Italy (north)" from "Italy (south)" and listed Indians as "Hindu."

¹² LaVerne Beales, "Distribution of White Population as Enumerated in 1920 According to Country of Origin," typescript, Oct. 16, 1924, file 16, box 2, Reports, Correspondence, and other Records relating to Immigration Quota Laws and National Origins Statistics, ca. 1920–1936, NN-374-63, Population Division, Records of the Census Bureau, RG 29 (National Archives); Minutes of Quota Board meeting, May 25, 1926, file 19, *ibid.* The concept of "races and peoples" used by the Immigration Bureau included sovereign countries, proto-national or ethnic groups, religions, and races. The schedule differentiated "Polish" from "Polish (Hebrew)," and "Italy (north)" from "Italy (south)" and listed Indians as "Hindu."

The screenshot shows the National Archives Catalog interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for "Advanced", "Help", and "Log in / Sign Up". Below the search bar, the page indicates "Result 2 of 132". The main content area is titled "Record Group 29: Records of the Bureau of the Census". It features a "Series" label with a warning icon and the text "NOT YET AVAILABLE ONLINE". The title of the series is "Reports, Correspondence, and Other Records Relating to Immigration Quota Laws and National Origin Statistics, ca. 1920–1936". Below the title, it provides the "Other title: Population Division; Reports, Correspondence, and Other Records Relating to Immigration Quota Laws and National Origin Statistics, ca. 1920-1936" and the "Creator: Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Population Division. ca. 1913-1946 (Most Recent)". At the bottom of the main content area, it lists "NAID: 5634574", "Textual Records", and "Collected: ca. 1920-1936".



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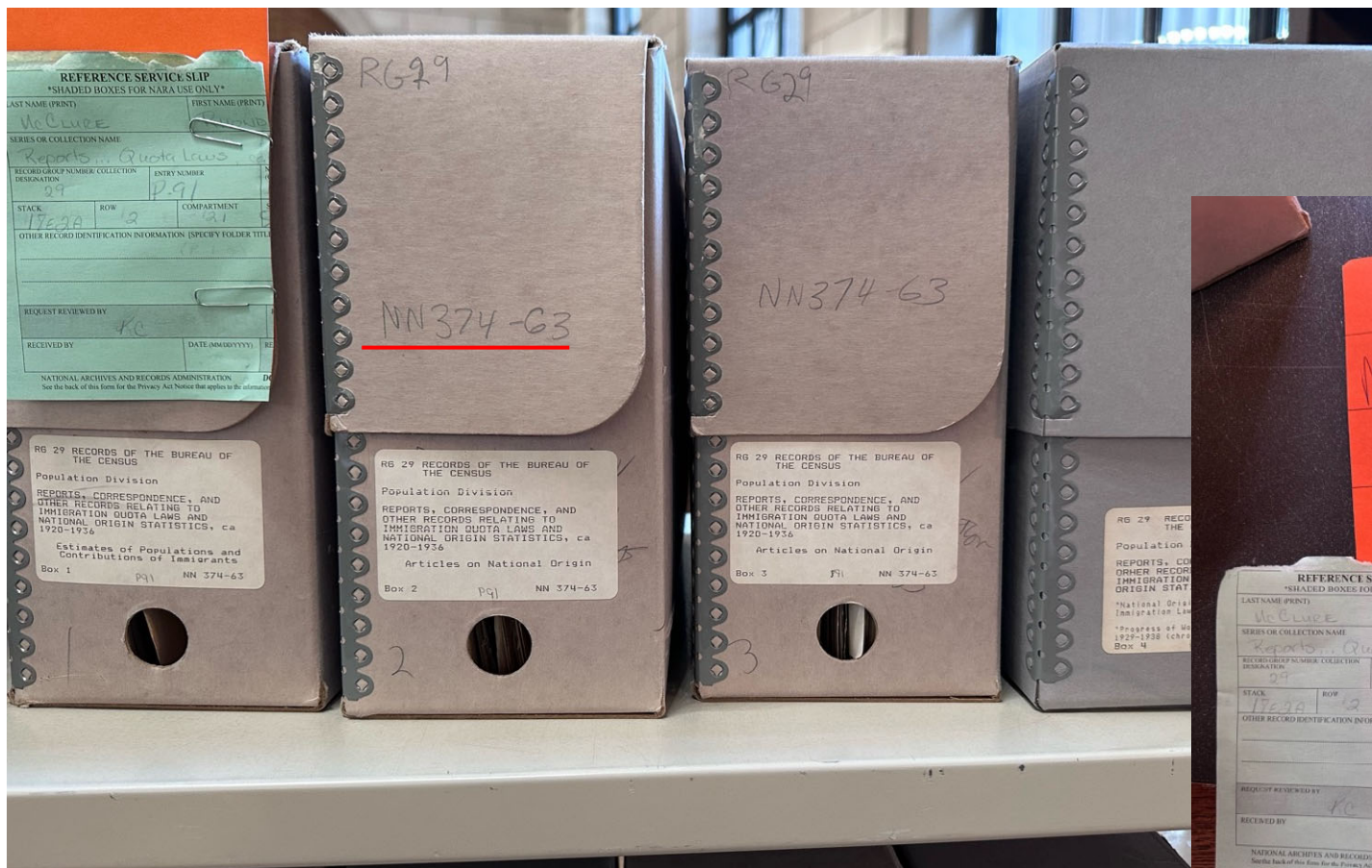
This Series contains records, none of which are available online.

Arrangement

Reference to National Archives

Tip:

Always write down the NAID
number



National Origins Board Files

October 16, 1924.

DISTRIBUTION OF WHITE POPULATION AS ENUMERATED IN 1920 ACCORDING
TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

First of all, it must be understood that all estimates are necessarily to be made in the form of "numerical equivalents." This term is here employed to designate the amount of any specified national stock, not the total number of persons descended, in whole or in part, from natives of the specified foreign country. To illustrate: Suppose that each of four persons had one English, one German, one Swedish, and one Dutch grandparent. No one of these four persons can properly be classified as of English, or Swedish, or German, or Dutch stock, but the four together can properly be considered as equal, for statistical purposes, to one person of English, one of Swedish, one of German, and one of Dutch origin; that is to say, the combined amount of English, Swedish, German, and Dutch blood in these four persons is equal to the combined amount in four persons one of whom was of pure English blood, another of pure Swedish blood, etc.

The census reports prior to 1850 did not record separately the foreign-born population of the United States. The immigration reports, however, as far back as 1820, classify persons arriving in this country according to place of last permanent residence; and, beginning with the fiscal year 1899, they record incoming aliens according to race or people. For the period from 1820 to 1867 the reports relate to incoming alien passengers, and for subsequent years, to immigrants.

Emigration was not recorded prior to 1907, but beginning with the fiscal year 1908 emigration statistics have been compiled which show the numbers of aliens departing according to race or people. Since 1910, or possibly since

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 - No preview
 - Newspapers
 - More

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Explore historical records and family tree profiles about **Solomon Frankfurt** on MyHeritage, the world's family history network. ... 1969**Solomon Frankfurt** in U.S. Social Security Death Index (SSDI). **Solomon Frankfurt** was born on December 3 1872. **Solomon** lived in **Wilmington**, Delaware 19802, USA. **Solomon** passed away ...

Corporate Financial Services in Germany | Wilmington Trust
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When Germany is the preferred home for your financial transaction or special purpose vehicle (SPV), you need a specialized team onsite to meet your comprehensive management needs. Let **Wilmington Trust** introduce you to our wide range of financial services designed to help your ...
Missing: **solomon**

Genealogy Information for frankfurt Ancestry
<https://www.ancestry.com/genealogy/records/results?lastName=frankfurt> ▼
NAME: Elka Frankfurt. BIRTH: 1887. DEATH: FATHER: Judah Frankfort. MOTHER: Etta Weinstein · NAME: Emma Frankfurt. BIRTH: 24 Apr 1900 New York, New York, USA. DEATH: 13 Dec 1992 **Wilmington**, Delaware, USA. FATHER: **Solomon Frankfurt**. MOTHER: Mary Sbritsky · NAME: Eva Frankfurt. BIRTH: 1850. DEATH: ...

Emma Frankfurt 1900-1992 - Ancestry
https://www.ancestry.com/genealogy/records/emma-frankfurt_125458509 ▼
Emma Frankfurt. Found 4 Records, 1,154 Family Trees. Born in New York, New York, USA on 24 Apr

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← → ↻ Secure | <https://www.google.com/search?q=solomon+frankfurt+wilmington&ei=YXW1Wv-bDMe-ggfljZaAAw&start=0&sa=N&biw=1345&bih=649>

Apps HockeyEastOnline... NCAA DIVISION I M... Olympics Hockey FHL Desktop Replacing Circus P... Massachusetts, Pa... Microsoft Office Ho...

The Morning News from Wilmington, Delaware on September 21 ...
<https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/160390535/>
111 Sunday to Miss Eva Frankfurt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Frankfurt, of 830 Jefferson street. The ceremony will take place at the Savoy Plaza, in Philadelphia. Roper's Aide Urges Sharp Code Revisions to Avoid 'Federal Dictatorship' Says Business Men Must Change Attitude and Whole Business Philosophy By ...

Becoming American, Remaining Jewish: The Story of Wilmington, ...
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0874136946>
Toni Young - 1999 - History
Sbritsky, who was from Yelisavetrad, Russia, lived in New York and Pennsylvania before moving to Wilmington to be with his sister, Mrs. Solomon (Mary) Frankfurt.201 He remained as the rabbi of Chessed Shel Emeth until at least 1923 or 1924.202 By 1921 Rabbi Isaac Schub was also at Chessed Shel Emeth as a cantor or ...

The News Journal from Wilmington, Delaware on November 20, 1969 ...
<https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/154721736/>
FRANKFURT In Daybreak Nursing Home on November 20, 1969. Solomon, husband of the late Mary Frankfurt, 830 Jefferson St., father of Isa tice. ISEAU H. ANDREW TALLEY, Prothonofary Per RUTH E. GREEN, LOST German Shep, Pup, male, blk. collar i flea collar. Ans. -o Smokey. 8th & Wash'gt'n. Rew. o'clock.

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Becoming American, Remaining Jewish

The Story of Wilmington,
Delaware's First Jewish Community,
1879–1924

Toni Young

Place and Time

RELIGIOUS RIVALRY: A NEW ALTERNATIVE

In Wilmington's welcoming environment, the Jews expressed their religious beliefs openly, but given the freedom of life in America, they had to define positions relative to religious observance. Throughout the decade the Jews chose between two Orthodox synagogues, Adas Kodesch and Chessed Shel Emeth, and the reform Temple of Truth. In 1922, the choice expanded to include a Conservative synagogue, Beth Shalom.

Chessed Shel Emeth continued to attract many of the more recently arrived families who were not as Americanized, felt most comfortable with other newcomers, and earned a modest living.¹⁹⁸ During the first decade of its existence, Chessed Shel Emeth had met in different buildings. In 1912, while the synagogue rented space on the third floor of Freihofer Bakery at Eighth and Orange streets, President Isaac Weinstein appointed a building committee, which consisted of Morris Chaiken (chairman), Max Green, Fred Flanzer, Morris Braiger, Morris Feldman, Julius Glantz, Abraham Hirshman, Solomon Moore, Simon Spire, Morris Ezrailson, Jonah Levine, and Ben Muderick.¹⁹⁹ Shortly after its appointment, the committee purchased 229 Shipley Street and hired E. W. H.

Nearly all of the members were tailors, junk dealers, and clothing merchants. The exception was the turn of the President Isaac Weinstein from Russia in 1914, who opened a shop. The members were tailors, junk dealers, and clothing merchants.

On June 21, 1914, at the beginning of the month, Chessed Shel Emeth celebrated the laying of the cornerstone of its new synagogue on Shipley Street below Third.²⁰⁰ Reverend Hillel Sbritsky, the rabbi of Chessed Shel Emeth, led the opening prayer. Sbritsky, who was from Yelisavetrad, Russia, lived in New York and Pennsylvania before moving to Wilmington to be with his sister, Mrs. Solomon (Mary) Frankfurt.²⁰¹ He remained as the rabbi of Chessed Shel Emeth until at least 1923 or 1924.²⁰² By 1921 Rabbi Isaac Schub was also at Chessed Shel Emeth as a cantor or rabbi.²⁰³

Hillel Sbritsky – brother of
Mary (Sbritsky) Solomon

Relatives offer insight and perhaps
additional records.

Place and Time

Frank's abduction and hanging while the out-of-town morning papers, which were earlier editions, did not. The editorial claimed, "This newspaper frequently gets important news items not in Philadelphia or New York morning papers that reach this city." Even the later editions of the out of town papers wouldn't have more information than the *Morning News* because the *Morning News* received the services of the Associated Press.

198. Sol Polotsky, interview by author.

199. Golden Jubilee Chesed Shel Emeth Congregation 1900-1950, Wilmington, 1950.

200. *Ibid.* *Morning News*, 23 June 1914.

201. Census 1920; Ed Glick, interview with author, 12 January 1997.

202. WCD 1914-1924.

203. WCD 1921-22.

204. *Morning News*, 22 June 1914.

205. *Morning News*, 22 June 1914. M. David Geffen explains the reference to their own tongue probably means Yiddish since most Jews at the time spoke Yiddish, not Hebrew.

206. *Ibid.*

207. *Morning News*, 22 February 1915.

208. *Ibid.*

209. Rabbi Levinthal, chief Orthodox Sbritsky, Morris Chaiken, and J. Coher ceremony.

210. JHSD, typewritten membership

211. Bill Frank, interviews by author, Sklut, interview with author July 1990.

212. *Sunday Star*, 23 September 1917.

213. Bill Frank, interview by author.

214. *Ibid.*

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- Footnote 201
 - Census 1920
 - Ed Glick, interview with author, 12 January 1997
- Footnote 202
 - WCD [Wilmington City Directory] 1914-1924
 - WCD 1921-1922

"Clarence C (Pearl S) eng h 2411 Jessup
Sbritsky Hill (Sadie) rabbi Chised Shel
Emeth Synagogue h 221 Shipley
Scabato Herman (Blanch) lab h 801 W 3d
Scabato Margaret alk r 814 W 5th

1921-22 Wilmington, Delaware City
Directory (R.L. Polk & Co.), p. 516.

Place and Time

Non-Traditional Sources

Non-Traditional Sources

- May not be devoted to genealogy
- Can be useful because of
 - Period
 - Location
 - Subject matter
- Bibliographies can lead you to new records

Non-Traditional Sources

- Theses and dissertations
- Books about any topic if the period and location match your research
 - Waterways in early periods
 - Household staff (e.g. maids, cooks, etc.)
- Historic commission reports

Scots Emigrants to East Jersey, 1682-1702: Motivations and Outcomes

Derrick Johnstone

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National Records of Scotland

E72 Exchequer Records: Customs Books (Second Series) (Port Books for 1662-1696) (E72/1 Aberdeen; E72/15 Leith; E72/16 Montrose)

GD24/1/826.148 Letter to the Earl of Perth from D. Toshach, Amboy, complaining that land sold to him could not be had, 17 March 1685

GD29/106 Copy of Order in Council permitting the ships "Hope" and "James" of Leith to transport Scots settlers to New York, 5 May 1669

GD50/186/65.6 Mss. Re. Lord Neil Campbell's Lands in New Jersey

GD109/2590 Papers relative to case of Sophia Johnstoun, sister of John Johnstoun, druggist in Edinburgh, against lord Bargany, for breach of promise, 1684

GD112/6/31 Bond by Lord Neil Campbell to Mr Robert Blackwood for 2000 merks, 27 August 1685

GD112/6/35.1 Extract bond of infetment by Lord Neil Campbell to Mr Robert Blackwood, 24 August 1685

GD112/16/7/1.55 Receipt by John Wake for £10 as passage money due by Lord Neil Campbell for himself and his man, from New York to London, 10 June 1687

GD155/201 Letters of Inhibition at the instance of John Graham of Balgowan against David Toshack of Monzievaird and Catharine Campbell for fulfilment of heritable bond, 1674

RD2 to 4 Deeds (Books of Council and Session; mainly 1681 to 1687)

Secondary sources

Reference website

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Derrick Johnstone, *East Jersey Bound*, <https://eastjerseybound.scot/> (database)

-----, 'East Jersey Bound: Database Notes and Bibliography' <https://eastjerseybound.scot/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/East-Jersey-Bound-database-notes-and-bibliography.pdf>

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Adams, Ian and Meredyth Somerville, *Cargoes of Despair and Hope: Scottish Emigration to North America 1603-1803* (Edinburgh: John Donald, 1993)

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Anderson, James, 'The Martyrs of the Bass', in Thomas McCrie et al, *The Bass Rock: Its Civil and Ecclesiastic History* (Edinburgh: John Greig & Son, 1847)

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from England in the 1630s.¹⁶ However, more recent contributions have tended to rebalance earlier historiography, drawing out the significance of economic motivations.

There have been more recent articles on specific topics, including Fryer on the leadership role played by Robert Barclay of Ury, and Cunningham, Lett and Lurie on administrative sources relating to the initial period of Scots emigration.¹⁷ This renewed interest led to the New Jersey Early Land Records Project with its online database and scanned documents, valuable for my research.¹⁸

1.2 The 'leading lights' and the role of merchants

Landsman played heavily on the involvement of Scots landowners, their interest in agricultural improvement and desire to replicate Scottish social structures in East Jersey.¹⁹ While the significant role of Robert Barclay of Ury is reasonably well documented, there is less appreciation in the literature of the motivations of other principal protagonists including Lord Neill Campbell of Ardmiddle and George Scot of Pitlochrie.²⁰ Furthermore, there has been limited attention to back-stories and milieu of the merchants involved, figures such as Andrew Hamilton and John Johnstone who leave footprints in the histories of New Jersey and neighbouring colonies.²¹ Correspondingly, little use has been made of records in Scotland to elucidate these.

Focusing on the processes for colonial settlement and emigration can cast new light on an under-explored aspect of Scottish historiography: that of merchants and investors in the latter part of the 17th century, on their businesses and networks. There have been few studies of local business communities and none that compares for depth with Agnew's for

¹⁶ Virginia DeJohn Anderson, *New England's Generation: The Great Migration and the Formation of Society and Culture in the Seventeenth Century* (Cambridge University Press, 1991); David Grayson Allen, 'The Matrix of Motivation', *New England Quarterly*, 59.3 (1986), 408-18

¹⁷ Linda G. Fryer, 'Robert Barclay of Ury and East New Jersey', *Northern Scotland*, 15.1 (1995), 1-17; John T. Cunningham, *The East of Jersey: A History of the General Board of Proprietors* (Newark: New Jersey Historical Society, 1992); Joseph R. Klett, 'Transcription of the Minutes of the Proprietors of the Province of East New Jersey, 1682-1684' and Maxine N. Lurie, 'The Barclay Record Book and Its East Jersey Minutes', both in *Journal of the Rutgers University Libraries*, 63 (2007), 10-22, 29-78

¹⁸ New Jersey State Archives, <https://www.nj.gov/dca/archivesdbportal/EarlyLandRecords.aspx> [accessed 13 November 2024]

¹⁹ Landsman, *Scotland and Its First American Colony*, 72-96

²⁰ D. Elton Trueblood, *Robert Barclay* (New York: Harper & Row, 1968); Fryer, 'Robert Barclay of Ury', 1-17

²¹ Michael J. Birkner et al., *The Governors of New Jersey: Biographical Essays* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2014), 40-44; Whitehead, *Contributions to the Early History of Perth Amboy*, 68-84.

Learn more on them!

1.3 The 'supporting cast'

Relatively little has been written about female emigrants to East Jersey, reflecting limited evidence from documentary sources and the older historiography which concentrated on male roles. Wives and other female family members could exercise considerable influence in household decisions to emigrate, not least where families contained committed women of the kind celebrated in the Covenanter martyrology.³⁷ Women inevitably had a huge contribution to make in colonial settlement, and any widows would have been likely to exercise their legal powers in continuing family farms, in trade and in property transactions.

The leaders of the East Jersey venture could only succeed in their design if they were able to attract sufficient skilled and other workers to clear land, build houses and infrastructure and carry out other essential tasks. The typical model of the time was for property owners and merchants to bring indentured servants. Some of these might be servitors with a pre-existing relationship with a proprietor, expected to provide loyal and dutiful service in return for payment and protection, while others would be recruited on the open market or impressed into service. There is a wealth of literature on indentured servants in colonial America and the abuses many suffered, including studies of both adults and children from Scotland.³⁸ However, none deals with those who reached East Jersey. *not even Goldhamer's Emigrants vs Chains*

In 1684 and 1685, there were also prisoners, Covenanters who would neither swear oaths of allegiance nor abjure taking up arms against the King. Transportation was used by the Privy Council to dispose of dissidents who were seen as a threat to social order.³⁹ The Council looked to merchants to take responsibility for this cargo, with prisoners expected to enter into indentures to pay for the costs of their passage.

³⁷ James Anderson, *The Ladies of the Covenant* (Glasgow: Blackie and Son, 1850)

³⁸ Abbott Emerson Smith, *Colonists in Bondage: White Servitude and Convict Labor in America, 1607-1776* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1947); David W. Galenson, *White Servitude in Colonial America: An Economic Analysis* (Cambridge University Press, 1981); Jacqueline A. Rinn, 'Factors in Scottish Emigration: A Study of Scottish Participation in the Indentured and Transportation Systems of the New World in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries' (unpublished Ph.D., University of Aberdeen, 1979); Angela Austin, 'Forgotten Children: Scotland's Colonial Child Servants, 1680-1760' (unpublished M.Phil., University of Glasgow, 2017).

³⁹ Karin Bowie, *Public Opinion in Early Modern Scotland, c.1560-1707* (Cambridge University Press, 2020), 126-135.

can be borrowed on archive.org context

Screenshots taken from Notability (Mac) of my reading of this thesis.

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Applying to Your Family

The
Princeton
Guide to
Historical
Research

ZACHARY M. SCHRAG

Guides

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Emily Morgan

- Emily Morgan
 - dau. of Charles Waln Morgan and Sarah Rodman
 - m. New Bedford, Bristol Co., Mass., 24 May 1842, William J. Rotch
- Per published New Bedford Vital Records, marriage took place in New Bedford Congregational Church
- Rotch, Morgan, Rodman families all staunch Quakers in New Bedford

Applying Questions

- WHO: *Emily Morgan & William J. Rotch*
- WHAT: *Marriage in Congregational Church, 1842*
- WHY did they marry there?
- WHEN did they leave the Quaker faith?
- HOW did they leave the Quaker faith (i.e. choice, disowned)?
- WHERE can I learn more?

[MACRIS Home](#)
[Return to Results](#)
[Help for Details](#)

Historic Burial Ground Detail: NBE.807

Oak Grove Cemetery

MHC ID	NBE.807 MACRIS Maps for NBE.807 Inventory: 
Historic Name	Oak Grove Cemetery
Common Name	-
Street Address	Parker St
	-
City/Town	New Bedford
Village/Neighborhood	-
Local Number	64/3; 70/2; 76/37;
Year Constructed	C 1843
Architects	Civil Works Administration; Emergency Relief Administration; Everett, Elisha Hinman; Monumental Bronze Company; Thompson, Zebulon Haskell; Works Progress Administration;
Architectural Styles	-
Uses	Burial Ground;



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

176

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Oak Grove Cemetery

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)



2. Location

Street & number: Parker StreetCity or town: New Bedford State: MA County: BristolNot For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

☐ national ☐ statewide ☒ local



Old Oak Grove Cemetery is densely populated, though a largely undeveloped area does exist between the west side of Circuit Avenue and Liberty Street. Historic maps show a small public section along the east side of Circuit Avenue. This “public ground,” for burials of indigent people, is bordered on the west and north by what research has established is an exclusively African American section, labeled Section J (#19) on cemetery maps, in the northeastern corner of the cemetery, between the main circuit road and the cemetery’s eastern border, in what was the old section’s original back corner. Maps show section J as three and a half serpentine areas, one shared with part of section O, and including a total of 78 plots. Cemetery records indicate 480 burials in Section J, but markers exist for eighteen persons not accounted for in records; they may be among the 164 interments for which names were not recorded. As of 2012, only 134 markers had survived for the nearly 500 persons buried in Section J.

Burials of members of the Society of Friends are also common in Oak Grove Cemetery, though they are distributed throughout the ground. Given the fact that the city’s original Friends cemetery was moved to abut Rural Cemetery in the southwestern part of the city in the mid 1800s, one might have expected later Quaker burials to have been made there instead of in Oak Grove. However, Oak Grove’s more picturesque setting may have appealed to some New Bedford Friends, among them William Rotch, Jr. and James Arnold, the city’s most prominent horticulturists. Moreover, theological differences arising from a schism between “Old Lights” and “New Lights” may have led the latter—who either left or were dismissed from New Bedford Monthly Meeting between 1818 and the mid-1830s—to choose Oak Grove over Rural Cemetery. The marble markers on these Quaker graves are markedly simple, often bearing only the deceased’s name and dates in Quaker style. James

² See [Jesse Fillmore Kelley], *History of the Churches of New Bedford* (New Bedford: E. Anthony & Sons, 1869), 67.

The Social World of Oak Grove Cemetery

The tendency to display earthly status in cemeteries that so irked lawn-park advocates is evident at Oak Grove Cemetery, though not nearly to the degree that it is manifest at the city's Rural Cemetery. It is at least possible that the presence of a number of graves of wealthy persons who were birthright Quakers tends to moderate the display of status here. The William Rotch, Sr. and Elizabeth Rotch markers (died 1824, #14) are plain, in keeping with the Quaker testimony of simplicity; Elizabeth Rotch's marker is inscribed only with her name (photo 14). Rotch was New Bedford's preeminent whaling merchant up to the time of his death in 1828, but he was also a steadfast and conscientious Quaker. Even the Oak Grove markers for men and women born into Quaker families, but who resigned membership or were disowned during the 1820s schism in the New Bedford Meeting—among them William Rotch, Jr., Samuel Rodman, Cornelius Grinnell, Jr., James Arnold, Andrew Robeson, and Charles Waln Morgan, all leaders in the whaling industry—are markedly plain.⁴⁰ Like the William Rotch, Sr. gravestone, the Samuel and Elizabeth Rodman markers (#32), across Circuit Avenue from the Rotch family lot, show birth and death dates in Quaker fashion. All of these families had grown remarkably wealthy, chiefly through whaling and maritime trade. One historian has termed the Rotches “the architects of New Bedford and the force which changed the village of ‘Bedford’ into the whaling capital of the world. . . . The Rotch Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller were to steel and oil.”⁴¹ James Arnold (died 1850) is buried in the Arnold Arboretum, married a daughter of William Rotch, Sr. and is buried there. His estate was estimated at \$600,000. William Rotch, Jr. left an estate worth roughly \$1,000,000 and died in 1850.



New Lights vs Old Lights?

- Schism in New Bedford
- Where can I find more about this event?
- What records might it lead me to?

THE NEW ENGLAND QUARTERLY

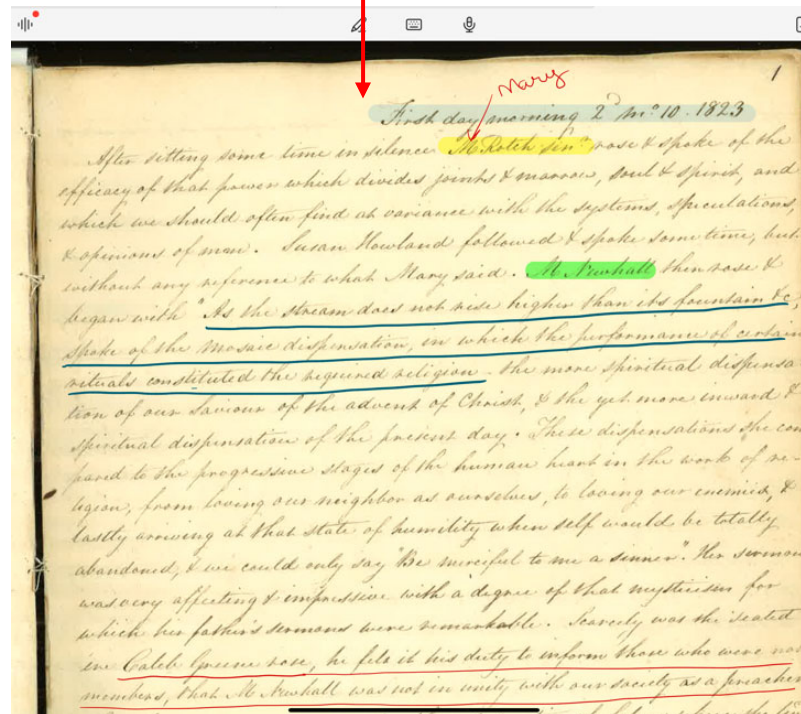
SEPTEMBER 1959

THE NEW-LIGHT QUAKERS OF LYNN AND NEW BEDFORD

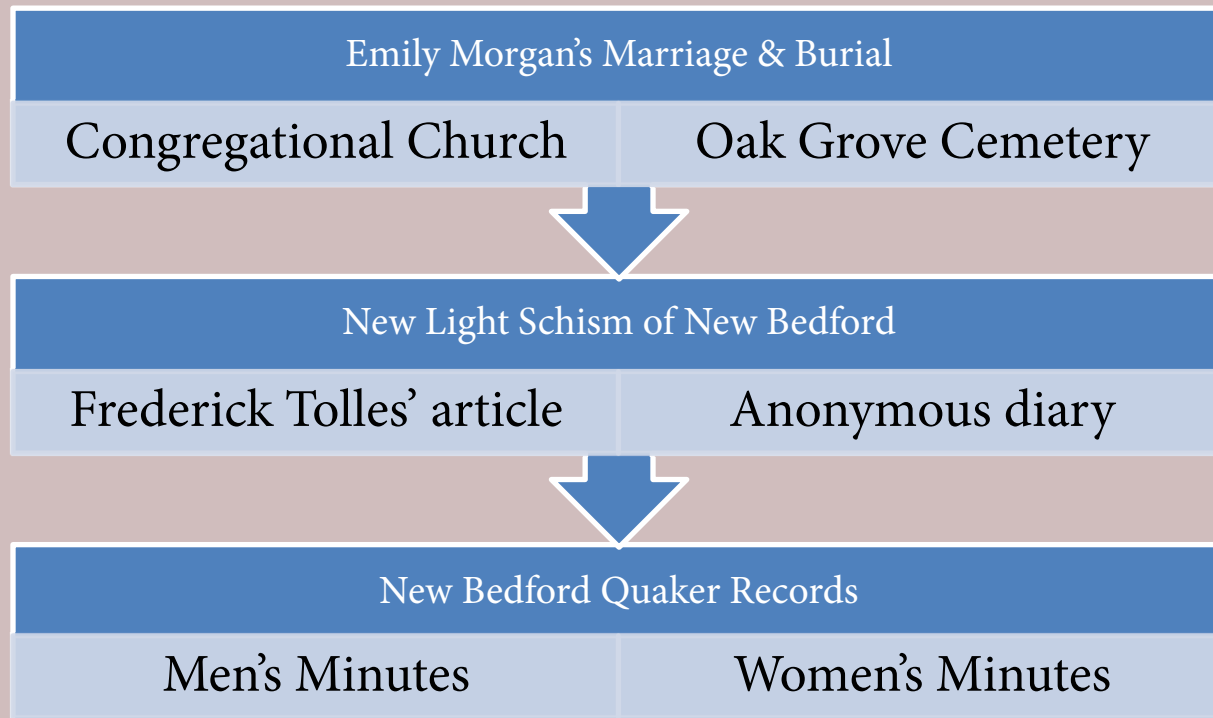
FREDERICK B. TOLLES

I GOT some leaves out of your book—from your New Bedford Friends,” said Ralph Waldo Emerson to Lucretia Mott in 1858. “I remembered,” the Philadelphia Quakeress commented, “that his mind was enlightened beyond his pulpit and ordinances about the time of the enlightened Mary New[h]all’s (New Light) coming out, and I doubt not she had some influence on him.”¹ Literary historians, more addicted to the pastime of tracing “influences” than the practical-minded Lucretia ever was, have duly noted that, while supplying the Unitarian pulpit in New Bedford in 1834, Emerson read with interest an account of the “New-Light” movement among the New Bedford Quakers, that he was indeed impressed by some remarks of Mary Newhall, a New-Light preacher, and that he formed a lasting friendship with Mary Rotch, a prominent New-Light-turned-Unitarian. But the full story of the schism which convulsed the Quaker meetings of eastern Massachusetts in the early 1820’s has never been told.

Frederick B. Tolles, “The New-Light Quakers of Lynn and New Bedford” *The New England Quarterly*, 1959 (vol. 32, pp. 291-319) – cited an anonymous diary held by Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore (p. 305)



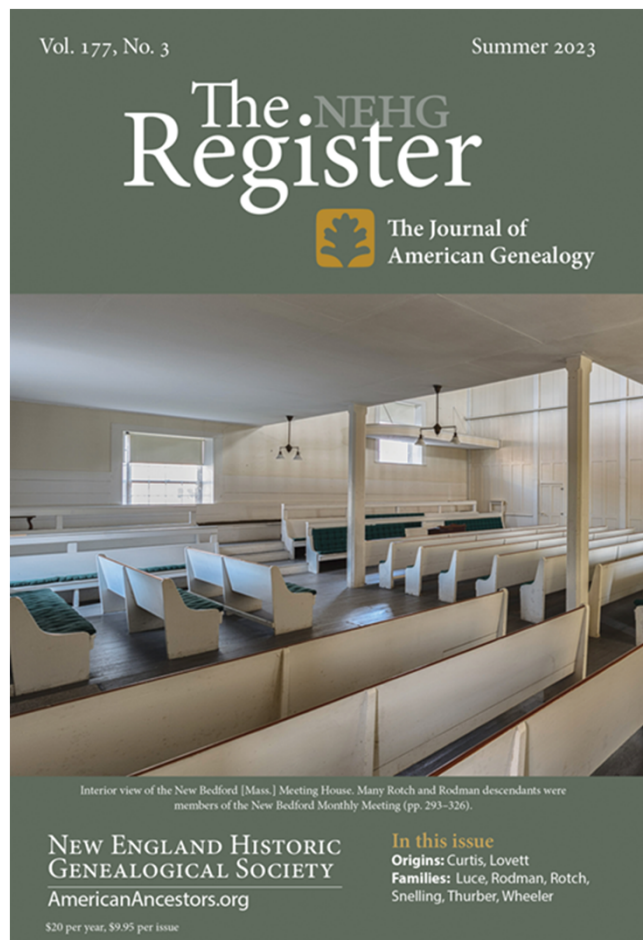
New Lights



1. Overall tone and thoughts about the ultimate published research:
 - a. How did their disownment affect their interactions within:
 - i. Family
 - ii. Business
 - iii. Community
 - b. Identify religious connections of those of the family that broke away from the Quakers
 - i. Can we tell from their letters, diaries, etc. if they still adhered to the overall tenets?
 - ii. Some appear to have converted to the Congregational faith – can we find baptisms, or other membership information to support this? Or did they simply marry in that faith?
 - c. What percentage of whalers in the area were non-Quakers in the 1700s?
 - d. Overall influence of the Quaker faith in the New England region – especially in Massachusetts
 - e. Is there any indication that the Mary Newhall New Light schism of New Bedford may have been a precursor to the Hicksite break?
2. Organizations to contact in regard to records and resources:
 - a. Old Dartmouth Historical Society – New Bedford Whaling Museum (<https://seahistory.org/museums-sites/old-dartmouth-historical-society-new-bedford-whaling-museum/>)
 - b. Mystic Seaport Museum (<https://www.mysticseaport.org/>)
 - c. Swarthmore Friends Historical Library (<https://www.swarthmore.edu/friends-historical-library>)
3. Published resources already collected:
 - a. Robynne Rogers Healey, ed., *Quakerism in the Atlantic World, 1690-1830* (University Park, Penn.: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2021) – I have purchased a Kindle version of this volume
 - b. Everett S. Allen, *Children of the Light, The Rise and Fall of New Bedford Whaling and the Death of the Arctic Fleet* (Carlisle, Mass.: Applewood Books, 1973) – I have purchased this volume in paperback
 - c. Frederick B. Tolles, “The New-Light Quakers of Lynn and New Bedford,” *The New England Quarterly*, vol. 32, no. 3 (Sep. 1955), pp. 291-319 – I purchased a PDF download of this from JSTOR (it is also uploaded in the new Dropbox folder)
 - d. Sarah Crabtree, *Quaker, Whaler, Coward, Spy!: William Rotch and the Age of Revolutions* (have downloaded this and created a PDF of this document)

Ultimately...

- Hundreds of pages of Quaker minutes, marriages, and registers
- Hundreds of letters (some digitized, others viewed and digitally photographed in repositories)
- 39 books
- 15 articles
- Records from Nantucket, New Bedford, Lynn (Mass.); New York, and England



The Rotches and the Rodmans A Tale of New Bedford Quakerism

Rhonda R. McClure

Project Origins and Support

Originating as a research project, the story of the Rotches and the Rodmans evolved into a four-part, extended tale that was supported by a generous contribution from Marc Chardon. The four articles* are:

- Part 1 — Quakers in New England
- Part 2 — Rotch and Rodman Families
- Part 3 — "New Lights" vs. Old Lights
- Part 4 — The Fall Out

The original work on these families began as a research project to verify a maternal line that had been taken back to Emily Morgan, daughter of Charles Waln and Sarah (Rodman) Morgan. Emily was born 13 December 1821 in New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts, and had married there 24 May 1842 William J. Rotch.¹ In reviewing the abstracted marriage record, the couple were married in the First Congregational Church; however, it was well known that the Rotches and Rodmans were early Massachusetts Quaker families. Had Emily Morgan and/or William J. Rotch left the Society of Friends? If so, was there a way to identify what had happened? And what did that mean to their families?

Part 1 — Quakers in New England

Beginnings of the Society of Friends

While most think of William Penn and Pennsylvania when the Quakers are mentioned, the Society of Friends, more commonly referred to as the Quakers, trace back to the mid 1600s and George Fox of England. Fox is considered the founder of the Society of Friends. After seeking insight from non-con-

* The author wishes to thank Caroline White, Archives & Manuscript Librarian, Robert S. Cox Special Collections and University Archives Research Center, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Jordan Landes, Curator, Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College; Jody Goodman, Special Collections Librarian, Special Collections/History Room, New Bedford Free Public Library; Mark D. Procknik, Librarian, Grimshaw-Gudewicz Reading Room, New Bedford Whaling Museum; and Paul O'Pecko, Vice President of Collections and Research, Mystic Seaport. ¹ *Vital Records of New Bedford Massachusetts to the Year 1850*, 3 vols. (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1932), vol. 1, p. 332 (birth); vol. 2, p. 377 (marriage).

Tip:

Always dig deeper for a better
understanding

Timelines

- Compile timeline
 - Begin with ancestral events
 - Add general events pertinent to period & locality
- Consider color coding (may need a key)
- Include a column for notes/thoughts
- Include source citations

Timeline of Quebec History
with Geoffrion Facts

Key		
Geoffrion Entries	Epidemics	Fur Trading Entries

Date	Fact	Notes
24 Jul 1534	Jacques Cartier plants a cross on the <u>Gaspé Peninsula</u> and claims it for France ¹	
1535	Jacques Cartier arrived at Stadacona ²	
1541	Cartier, second in command under Jean François de La Rocque, sieur de Roberval, « crossed the Atlantic again bringing <u>hundreds</u> of settlers with them, many of whom came straight from prison.» ³	
1600	Pierre de Chauvin de <u>Tonnetuit</u> founds a trading post at <u>Tadououssac</u>	
1603	Samuel de Champlain takes possession of lands he calls (Newfoundland) and Acadie (Acadia)	
1603	King Henry IV commissions an exploratory and settlement expedition	Henri IV had appointed the <u>duc</u> de Montmorency, admiral of France as lieutenant general, with the power to grant lands in seigneurial tenure. ⁴ This commission included transporting 60 people ("vagabonds, if others could not be had" ⁵
3 Jul 1608	<u>L'Habitation</u> (Quebec City) founded by Samuel de Champlain	

¹ Jacques Lacoursière and Robin Philpot, *A People's History of Quebec*, p. 9

² Lacoursière and Philpot, *A People's History of Quebec*, p. 11

³ Lacoursière and Philpot, *A People's History of Quebec*, p. 11

⁴ William J. Eccles, *The French in North America, 1500-1783*, rev. ed., p. 15.

⁵ William J. Eccles, *The French in North America, 1500-1783*, rev. ed., p. 15.

Every fact or note has a source citation.

Timeline of Quebec History
with Geoffrion Facts

Date	Fact	Notes
1667	Île de Montréal census: mentioned twice 1) Pierre Jofriau, age 33, servant of Jean Aubuchon; 2) Pierre Geoffrion, age 30, residing alone ³²	
10 Oct 1667	Pierre is among the signers of the petition to the King demanding “ <u>lettres patentes</u> ” for the religious hospital of St-Joseph (Hotel Dieu). ³³	
9 Apr 1668	Pierre listed as a <u>signé</u> of the <u>vente</u> par Pierre Charron au <u>profit</u> de Jean Voyne (Notaire Benigne Basset, no. 445) ³⁴	
26 Aug 1668	Pierre is granted a farm of 3 acres of frontage on the Saint Lawrence River by 20 acres deep in Pointe-aux-Trembles by Dominique Galinier, <u>sulpicien</u> . ³⁵	If Pierre was a member of the Carignan-Salières, this would have been about the time that he might have received his concession as the regiment was disbanded. ³⁶ According to a presentation in regard to the 350th anniversary, Verchères is one of the towns founded by an officer of one of the companies (see below 1669). ³⁷ Dominique Galinier was a <u>Sulpicien</u> – one of the first, arriving 12 Aug 1657, with three others. He is identified as a vicar. The record mentioned here has not been found but is the same land he turns around and sells 1 Feb 1669 which was handled by the notary Benigne Basset. However, it is still unclear WHY Pierre has this piece of property and the 1669 <u>vente de terre</u>

³² Online scanned images of both entries (in two different formats) along with the PRDH entries. Are these two different men?

³³ Maria Mondoux, L'Hotel-Dieu, premier hôpital de Montréal : d'après les annales manuscrites, les documents originaux de l'Institut des Religieuses hospitalières de Saint-Joseph et autres sources. 1642-1763 (Montréal :n.p., 1942), p. 373-4.

³⁴ Répertoires de Notaries, Benigne Basset, 1668, no. 445. Original document has not been seen.

³⁵ Have not found this record, nor is there a source citation in the Geoffrion PDF. Appears to be only as referenced in the vente de terre when Pierre sells the land, 1 Feb. 1669. Notaire Benigne Basset. Scans from the Archives Nationales du Québec now in my possession.

³⁶ <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/news/videos/Pages/carignan-salieres-regiment.aspx>

³⁷ <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/news/videos/Pages/carignan-salieres-regiment.aspx>

Colored text and highlights draw attention to questions and issues.

Timeline: History & Family

Timeline of Quebec History
with Geoffrion Facts

Date	Fact	Notes
1 Jan 1681	Jean-Baptiste Colbert inaugurated the <i>congés</i> system (trade licenses) in which up to 25 congés would be issued by the governor each year ⁵⁵	The licenses allowed three men in one canoe to trade in the west Could André have been involved in this in 1693 with Ignace Gaultier de la Chesnaye?
1681	Pierre Geoffrion residing in Verchères with his family: Pierre, age 43; Maria Priot, age 36; André, age 11; Jean, age 9; Marie, age 8; Toussaint, age 6; Françoise, age 4; Anne, age 6 months. ⁵⁶	
1681	An André Geoffrion enumerated in Varennes (Ste-Anne) in household: Nicolas Colson, age 55; Louis Latonne, age 36; Marin Durut, age 30; Pierre Charron, age 11; André Geoffrion, age 9 ⁵⁷	Was André enumerated twice? First with his family and then second here?
9 Mar 1681	Baptism of Pierre Geoffrion's daughter Anne in Contrecoeur, though it appears the family was residing in Verchères at the time of the birth. Anne was born 19 February 1681. ⁵⁸	
15 Jun 1681	confirmations of Pierre Geoffrion's son Jean Jofrion (age 9) and daughter Marie Jofrion (age 8), parish of Contrecoeur, residing in Verchères. ⁵⁹	He is baptized with a Pierre Charon, age 9, who could be the same Pierre Charron, age 11 enumerated with an André Geoffrion, age 9, in the household of Nicolas Colson in the 1681 census.
11 Jul 1681	Confirmation of André Geoffrion, residence "eveche de Quebec," age 10 at Ste-Anne in Varennes ⁶⁰	
1682	Arrival of Governor Antoine Lefebvre de La Barre and intendant Jacques de Meulles	"The intendants of New France and the West Indies were responsible for justice, civil administration,

⁵⁵ "Timeline – The Fur Trade" *The Canadian Encyclopedia* <<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/timeline/the-fur-trade>>

⁵⁶ PRDH

⁵⁷ Drouin Collection, 1681 Census, Varennes (SteAnne), No. 98995, www.genealogiequebec.com

⁵⁸ Drouin Collection, Contrecoeur Parish, as viewed on GenealogieQuebec.com

⁵⁹ Contrecoeur Parish, as viewed on FamilySearch, image 325 of 671 (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-899Q-91GR>)

⁶⁰ Drouin Collection, Confirmations Varennes (Ste-Anne) No. 4038211, www.genealogiequebec.com

A large audience is seated in a conference hall, viewed from behind. The audience is filling the room, and a presentation screen is visible at the front. The word "QUESTIONS?" is overlaid in large white letters.

QUESTIONS?



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