

**ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY REFERENCES
TO THE
TRANS-ATLANTIC HUMAN TRADE
ON
PERTH AMBOY, NEW JERSEY**

Compiled by Jessica Hanson under the guidance of Stephanie Bryan, Ann Chinn, and Ann Cobb
for the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project 2023.

SELECTED SECONDARY SOURCES:

- Armstead, Shaun, Brenann Sutter, Pamela Walker, and Caitlin Wiesner. “‘And I Poor Slave Yet’: The Precarity of Black Life in New Brunswick, 1766–1835.” In *Scarlet and Black*, edited by Marisa J. Fuentes and Deborah Gray White, 91–122. Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers History. Rutgers University Press, 2016. <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctt1k3s9r0.9>.
- Dyke, John. *Perth Amboy: A Port Of Slavery, A Port Of Freedom*, 2017. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6-oqr1FQ4I>. **Thorough and unique complex production by Perth Amboy City Historian John Dyke upon enslavement at the port of Perth Amboy and the evolution to its more modern connections to Black history truth telling/ Civil Rights.**
- Ernst, Daniel R. “Legal Positivism, Abolitionist Litigation, and the New Jersey Slave Case of 1845.” *Law and History Review* 4, no. 2 (1986): 337–65. <https://doi.org/10.2307/743831>.
- Falk, Debra. “Slavery in New Jersey Explored on NJ PBS | News.” NJ PBS. Accessed August 2, 2023. <https://www.njpbs.org/blog-post/slavery-new-jersey-documentary-njpbs/>. **Discusses a 2022 NJ PBS documentary regarding the**

little known local New Jersey history of slavery that is not emphasized by predominant culture and the shame that some Black citizens felt due to this lacking in the public school system.

Gigantino II, James J. *The Ragged Road to Abolition: Slavery and Freedom in New Jersey, 1775-1865*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014. Examines the “gradual end to slavery and highlights the integral role that black and white New Jerseyans played in defining slavery’s place in their own state and within the larger nation in everything from the Revolution, to colonization, to the internal slave trade, to the sectional crisis.”

Gigantino, James J. . “Trading in Jersey Souls: New Jersey and the Interstate Slave Trade.” *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies* 77, no. 3 (2010): 281–302. <https://doi.org/10.5325/pennhistory.77.3.0281>. Details the illicit transactions of a vicious judge and enslaver named Jacob Van Wickle, who banded up with his Louisiana state senator brother-in-law Compton to violate New Jersey's anti-slavery laws by turning enslaved into their valuable commodities through elaborate lies, resulting in legal proceedings.

Hennelly, Robert. “Secret History of a Northern Slave State: How Slavery Was Written into New Jersey’s DNA.” Salon, July 29, 2015. https://www.salon.com/2015/07/29/secret_history_of_a_northern_slave_state_how_slavery_was_written_into_new_jerseys_dna/.

Hodges, Graham Russell. *Root and Branch: African Americans in New York and East Jersey, 1613-1863*. Chapel Hill, NC: 1999.

Lindsay, Lisa A. *Captives as Commodities: The Transatlantic Slave Trade*. New Jersey: Pearson, 2008. UK: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Marshall, Kenneth E. “Powerful and Righteous: The Transatlantic Survival and Cultural Resistance of an Enslaved African Family in Eighteenth-Century New Jersey.” *Journal of American Ethnic History* 23, no. 2 (2004): 23–49. ([stable link](#)) Examines a prestigious African couple, from their captivity in their homeland to their survival of the brutal Middle Passage voyage to their enslavement in central New Jersey. See p. 29 for a specific reference to Perth Amboy.

Moss, Simeon F. “The Persistence of Slavery and Involuntary Servitude in a Free State (1685-1866).” *The Journal of Negro History* 35, no. 3 (1950): 289–314. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2715701>.

“Native People of NJ - Lenni-Lenape.” Accessed August 2, 2023. <http://www.usgennet.org/usa/nj/state/Lenape.htm>. Details the history of the first enslaved of New Jersey, the Indigenous tribe, Lenni-Lenape.

NJ.com, Matt Arco | NJ Advance Media for. “No Sugarcoating N.J.’s History with Slavery from Murphy at Juneteenth Event.” nj, June 20, 2022.

<https://www.nj.com/politics/2022/06/no-sugarcoating-njs-history-with-slavery-from-murphy-at-juneteenth-event.html>.

“Part 1 – Early Settlement and the Rise of Slavery in Colonial Dutch New Jersey.” Accessed July 11, 2023.

<https://www.montclair.edu/anthropology/research/slavery-in-nj/part-1/>.

Pavlovsky Jr., William Stephen, "A Vista of the Capital-Part of the City of Perth-Amboy," Courtesy of John Kerry Dyke, Perth Amboy City Historian

Perth Amboy Now. “Perth Amboy Named UNESCO Site Of Memory Associated With The Slave Route Project,” February 10, 2021.

<https://perthamboynow.com/perth-amboy-named-unesco-site-of-memory-associated-with-the-slave-route-project/>.

“Remarks by City Historian John K. Dyke at the 6/19/21 Juneteenth Flag Raising | The Amboy Guardian.” Accessed July 11, 2023.

<https://www.amboyguardian.com/2021/07/09/remarks-by-city-historian-john-k-dyke-at-the-6-19-21-juneteenth-flag-raising/>.

“Routes of Enslaved Peoples | UNESCO.” Accessed July 16, 2023. <https://www.unesco.org/en/routes-enslaved-peoples>.

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<https://www.mycentraljersey.com/story/news/local/middlesex-county/2021/10/04/middle-passage-perth-amboy-nj-honors-african-slaves-port-marker/5947149001/>.

Safian, Gail R. . “Slavery in New Jersey: A Troubled History.” Historic Exhibit, in consultation with South Orange-Maplewood Community Coalition on Race, June 2020. <https://villagegreennj.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/juneteenth-exhibit.pdf>.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ALsrNxBhBI>.

Society, The New Jersey Historical. “Cudjo Banquante: African Enslaved Soldier Business Owner | The New Jersey Historical Society.” Accessed July 11, 2023. <https://jerseyhistory.org/cudjo/>.

Speare, Max. "Slavery, Surveillance, and Carceral Culture in Early New York City." Ph.D. diss. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2022. Retrieved from [Emory Libraries Resources Terms of Use - Emory University Libraries](#) See pp. 55-58 for a discussion of "PoPaw," a "runaway" West African captive who had probably recently arrived via the port of Perth Amboy.

Weintraub, David . "Enslavement and the Trans-Atlantic Human Trade Historical Marker," 2021.
<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=184553>.

Whitehead, William A. Contributions to the Early History of Perth Amboy and the Adjoining Country, with Sketches of Men and Events in New Jersey during the Provincial Era. New York: D. Appleton, 1856. See pp. 316-320. [Contributions to the early history of Perth Amboy and adjoining country; with sketches of men and events in New Jersey during the provincial era : Whitehead, William A. \(William Adee\), 1810-1884 : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive](#) A brief accounting of enslavement in Perth Amboy, suggesting that: "Barracks of considerable size once stood in Perth Amboy, near the junction of Smith and Water streets, in which the slaves were immured and imported; and, there, as in almost every place, the labor of families, with very few exceptions, was exclusively performed by blacks for many years previous to the Revolution."

PRIMARY REFERENCES TO VESSELS (PERTH AMBOY & EASTERN NEW JERSEY COMBINED):

SlaveVoyages Database Links: [Perth Amboy](#) & [Eastern New Jersey](#)

Year of Arrival	SlaveVoyages ID	Vessel Name	Voyage itinerary imputed port where began (ptdepimp) place	Voyage itinerary imputed principal place of slave purchase (mjbyptimp)	Voyage itinerary imputed principal port of slave disembarkation (mjslptimp) place	Captives arrived at 1st port	Captain's name
1685	37346	Mariner's Adventure	Port Unspecified	Madagascar	Perth Amboy	114	Wolliford, William

CSPCS, 58: nos, 7, 8, 9, 31, 33, 34, 35, 106: Great Britain, *Calendar of State Papers: Colonial Series* (London, 1878-1905), Vols. 1, 5, 7-21, 42, 58:

July 23, 1686 record proving Wolliford was the “master” of Mariner’s Adventure:

<https://www.british-history.ac.uk/cal-state-papers/colonial/america-west-indies/vol12/pp209-224>

July 23. New York.	786. Affidavit of William Wolliford , master of the ship Mariner's Adventure, and of his crew, that he has traded in no port belonging to Royal African Company. Sworn before Lucas Santen, Collector. <i>Copy. 1 p. [Col. Papers, Vol. LVIII., No. 8.]</i>
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August 24, 1686 further record proving Wolliford was captain of Mariner’s Adventure and his issues with African Trading Company:

<https://www.british-history.ac.uk/cal-state-papers/colonial/america-west-indies/vol12/pp224-239>

Aug. 24.	827. Agreement between Governor Dongan, William Wolliford , and William Wilson, that all the goods in the Mariner's Adventure that come to the Custom House are to remain there until security has been given to answer any claims of the Royal African Company. <i>Signed, William Wilson. ½ p. [Col. Papers, Vol. LVIII., No. 35.]</i>
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These entries don't regard Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade; however, noting William Wolliford's continual business dealings with the East Indian and African Companies October 1686:

<https://www.british-history.ac.uk/cal-state-papers/colonial/america-west-indies/vol12/pp253-270>

Oct. 2. New York.	891. William Wolliford 's receipts for freight and salvagemoney received for a bale? of silk brought into New York. 1 p. <i>Endorsed.</i> [<i>Col. Papers, Vol. LVIII., No. 59.</i>]
Oct. 2.	892. A second receipt by Wolliford and his mate for their share of salvage-money for the same. <i>Scrap. Endorsed.</i> [<i>Col. Papers, Vol. LVIII., No. 60.</i>]
[Oct. 2.]	893. An account of the value of the bale of silk, its value and the apportionment of the shares. <i>Signed, M. Nicolls. Long sheet.</i> [<i>Col. Papers, Vol. LVIII., No. 61.</i>]
Oct. 4.	894. Minutes of Council of New York. Lieut.-Colonel John Young sworn of the Council, Major Brockholes being absent. Acts and orders for regulation of the Indian trade at Albany read and approved. New order on the same subject. Order for the Sheriffs to ascertain the numbers of the Militia and statistics of births, marriages, and deaths and other matters relating to the population. [<i>Col. Entry Bk., Vol. LXXIII., pp. 19A–22A.</i>]
Oct. 4. New York.	895. Certificate of agreement arrived at between the Surveyor-General of Customs and William Wolliford , that the ivory brought in by him should be carried to England, when Wolliford should give satisfaction to the East Indian and African Companies that he had not encroached on their privileges. <i>Signed, Pat. Mein. ½ p. Endorsed.</i> [<i>Col. Papers, Vol. LVIII., No. 62.</i>]

Year of Arrival	SlaveVoyages ID	Vessel Name	Voyage itinerary imputed port where began (ptdepimp) place	Voyage itinerary imputed principal place of slave purchase (mjbyptimp)	Voyage itinerary imputed principal port of slave disembarkation (mjslptimp) place	Captives arrived at 1st port	Captain's name
1733	25318	Catherine	Port Unspecified	Loango	Perth Amboy	238	Farmer, Jasper

The Daily post-boy. <https://lcn.loc.gov/sn88063862> [London, England] : T. Warner v. ; 39 cm. Newspaper: **Listed on SlaveVoyages but the Library of Congress said they do not have digitized access to it, just a listing.**

Donnan, Elizabeth, ed., *Documents Illustrative of the History of the Slave Trade to the Americas, vol. III* (Washington, DC, 1930): [Volume III \(New England and the Middle Colonies\): page images at HathiTrust](#)

Notes:

- On page 445 (actual book's page) page 465 of the scan, it notes Farmer "master" with a New York Custom House entry as an outward bound voyage for Africa on August 28, 1732.
- Though not noted on SlaveVoyages, on page 495 (actual book's page) page 515 of the scan, it notes Catherine of this port (chapter is entitled The Middle Colonies: New York 1733); on page 462 (actual book's page) page 482 it begins the charts and is titled "Negroes imported into New York: 1715-1765." It lists the "master" as Mathew Wolfe; the sloop was built in Rhode Island, 1730; Donnan's book lists 2 "negroes" from Jamaica (so likely 2 enslaved were sold into slavery in New York as a first port)

[164] 'C. O. 5: 1222, New York. The New Jersey importations follow, no. 170. These lists, drawn from the Naval Officers Lists, are intended to include all vessels which brought any negroes into the colony. The returns were usually made on Mar. 25, June 24, Sept. 29, and Dec. 25, but for considerations of space they are here consolidated by years. The frequent references from later to earlier entries of the same vessels are not enclosed in brackets.

- On pages 510-511 (actual book's page) pages 530-531 of the scan, it notes "Negroes Imported into New Jersey: 1718-1757" on the square sterned Catherine of New York by Jasper Farmer on July 9, 1733 "Entred for 130 negroes...from Angola in Africa."

Foy, Charlie (Rutgers University), New York Transatlantic Slave Trading Voyages Database: <https://rucore.libraries.rutgers.edu/rutgers-lib/24092/PDF/1/play/>

Notes:

- Foy’s 2008 dissertation notes on page 37/38 (pages 54-55 of actual pdf) that to avoid “very high” duties and tariffs so New Yorkers were getting their ships’ captains to “off load” enslaved a mile or two away from town in Perth Amboy, New Jersey. There in Perth Amboy Edward McManus also thinks that “hundreds” of slaves were held in pens to be sold to New York purchasers again to avoid import duties’ payments.
- On page 149 (actual dissertation) 166 pdf, a brave enslaved person of Perth Amboy self-emancipated like many indigenous of the time: “The few slaves who did escape to frontier areas tended to be Native Americans or, like the Perth Amboy Mulatto named Tom “pass for an Indian.”
- On page 171 (actual dissertation) 188 pdf, another enslaved person (16 year old male) was being held in Perth Amboy’s jail (1763); he had been noted as “not resembling the African Negroes...born in Bombay, in the East Indies; and that he came to New-York from Santa Croix, in the Snow Nancy.”

Guillaume Martin R., “The Transatlantic Slave Trade to New York: circa 1682-1774: A Case Study of a Minor Port,” MA dissertation (Queen’s University, Kingston, 2002)

NJHS, mss group 49, Journal of the Catherine: *New Jersey Historical Society* (Newark, NJ);

<https://jerseyhistory.org/manuscript-group-49-ship-logs-collection-1732-1839/?highlight=group%2049#Summary>

Saint James’ Evening Post: StJEP,33.08.25: **Only available on microfilm through the Library of Congress**

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1757	25027	William	New York	Gambia	Eastern New Jersey	50	Griffith, David

British National Archives (Kew): T70/1527: **You can order a copy of this record to be sent to you or view the original at the British National Archives building in Kew. All copying requests start with a non-refundable page check costing £8.40 (\$10.57 U.S. dollars)**

Donnan, Elizabeth, ed., *Documents Illustrative of the History of the Slave Trade to the Americas, vol. III* (Washington, DC, 1930):

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=pst.000018404012&seq=532&q1=william>

Notes:

- On page 510 (actual book's page) page 530 of the scan, it is titled "Negroes Imported into New Jersey 1718-1757" ... "in the Eastern Division of this Province by the Custom House books...at the Perth Amboy"
- On page 512 (actual book's page) page 532 of the scan it notes Griffith, Dav'd "master" on the sloop Williams that had been built in New York 1754 with a Perth Amboy Custom House entry as incoming voyage from the Coast of Guinea Africa bringing 50 enslaved "negroes." SlaveVoyages notes enslaved were predominantly purchased from Gambia, though I was not able to verify where that source data came from.

Lydon, James, "New York and the Slave Trade," *William and Mary Quarterly*, 35 (1978): 375-94: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/1921840>

Notes:

On page 379 (actual article's page) page 6 of the pdf, it discusses the dangers of the African coast from trading companies competing to battle for the enslaved they were capturing to trade. Further, it had become very expensive with insurance rates during the "war years" (1756-1758) (Seven Year's War: global conflict/French & Indian War: America: 1756-1763) and enemies seizing cargo, but still several captains undertook slaving voyages, like David Griffith upon the William

Year of Arrival	SlaveVoyages ID	Vessel Name	Voyage itinerary imputed port where began (ptdepimp) place	Voyage itinerary imputed principal place of slave purchase (mjbyptimp)	Voyage itinerary imputed principal port of slave disembarkation (mjslptimp) place	Captives arrived at 1st port	Captain's name
1757	37021	Sally	Perth Amboy	Africa, Unspecified Port	Eastern New Jersey	24	Farmer, Thomas

Colonial Office British National Archives (Kew): CO5/1036: You can order a copy of this record to be sent to you or view the original at the British National Archives building in Kew. All copying requests start with a non-refundable page check costing £8.40 (\$10.57 U.S. dollars)

Donnan, Elizabeth, ed., *Documents Illustrative of the History of the Slave Trade to the Americas*, vol. III (Washington, DC, 1930): [Volume III \(New England and the Middle Colonies\): page images at HathiTrust](#) > <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=pst.000018404012&seq=532>

Notes:

- On page 510 (actual book's page) page 530 of the scan, it is titled "Negroes Imported into New Jersey 1718-1757" ... "in the Eastern Division of this Province by the Custom House books...at the Perth Amboy"

- On page 512 (actual book's page) page 532 of the scan it notes Farmer, Thos "master" (though Slave Voyages says Thomas Farmer) on the Schooner Sally that had been built in Boston 1755 with a Perth Amboy Custom House entry as incoming voyage from Africa (unspecified port) bringing 24 enslaved "negroes."

Year of Arrival	Slave Voyages ID	Vessel Name	Voyage itinerary imputed port where began (ptdepimp) place	Voyage itinerary imputed principal place of slave purchase (mjbyptimp)	Voyage itinerary imputed principal port of slave disembarkation (mjslptimp) place	Captives arrived at 1st port	Captain's name
1762	36245	Africa	Rhode Island, Port Unspecified	Africa, Port Unspecified	Eastern New Jersey	0 (total disembarked 50)	Searing, James Hammond, Stephen

Colonial Office British National Archives (Kew): T70/1263: You can order a copy of this record to be sent to you or view the original at the British National Archives building in Kew. All copying requests start with a non-refundable page check costing £8.40 (\$10.57 U.S. dollars)

Coughtry, Jay, *The Notorious Triangle: Rhode Island and the African Slave Trade, 170[9]-1807* (Philadelphia, 1981): 241-85:

<https://archive.org/details/rhode-island/page/260/mode/2up>

Notes:

- On page 250, a chart verifies the 50 tons Sloop Africa left Rhode Island September 6, 1761 captained by James Searing, noting a "No. of enslaved: 60."

LList 1 Oct 1762: *New Lloyd's List* (later, Lloyd's List), (London, England): No. 2788:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015035803785&seq=166>

- On page 2787 (actual page), scanned page 166, a notation verifies the ship Africa from Rhode Island captained by Searing arrived from Africa.

Hetty, Bubier N. England
 Industry, Norris ditto
 Wolfe, Courtin N. foundland
 Quernseg ————— arrived from
 N. S. de Loretta, Colonbo Streights
 Correnburg ————— arrived from
 Adolph Frederick, Lundstrom
 St. Utes
 Ann & Elizabeth, Edberg Crofwick
 Rhode Island ————— arrived from
 Africa, S aring Africa
 Habanna ————— arrived from
 Lady Amelia, Catrall Jamaica

Minchinton, Walter E., Celia King, and Peter Waite (eds.), *Virginia Slave Trade Statistics, 1698-1775* (Richmond, 1984), page 163

Year of Arrival	Slave Voyages ID	Vessel Name	Voyage itinerary imputed port where began (ptdepimp) place	Voyage itinerary imputed principal place of slave purchase (mjbyptimp)	Voyage itinerary imputed principal port of slave disembarkation (mjslptimp) place	Captives arrived at 1st port	Captain's name
1763	Sally	24646	Port Unspecified	Africa, Port Unspecified	Eastern New Jersey	24	Farmer, Thos

Colonial Office British National Archives (Kew): CO5/1036: **You can order a copy of this record to be sent to you or view the original at the British National Archives building in Kew. All copying requests start with a non-refundable page check costing £8.40 (\$10.57 U.S. dollars)**

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Notes:

- On page 512 (actual book's page) page 532 of the scan, it is titled "Negroes Imported into New Jersey 1718-1757"..."in the Eastern Division of this Province by the Custom House books...at the Perth Amboy"; the Slave Voyages site lists this as a source and asserts Thos Farmer arrived again on the Sally in 1763. However, this source does not verify that, just the 1757 Sally voyage. This may be verified through the BNA inaccessible source listed prior.