

Instances of Slavery or Servitude in New England, Excluding Pequot and King Philip's Wars, 1630-1675

Compiled by Jenny Hale Pulsipher for John Wompas Digital Archive, 2018. This is not a comprehensive listing. It represents information encountered in the course of my research on *Swindler Sachem*.

Date	Name	Nature of servitude	Race / Ethnicity	Location	Incident	Source
1630	Pequot woman	domestic servitude	Indian	MBC	Claims Blackstone had a Pequot woman servant at Puritans' arrival.	Bolton, 92-93
4 Dec. 1638	William Andrews, John Haslewood, Gyles Player	judicial slavery, domestic	English	MBC	Andrews, servant to Mr. Henry Coggan, convicted of assault, conspiring against master's life and peace of commonwealth. Haslewood and Player convicted of theft. All sentenced to be whipped and enslaved within the colony.	<i>MCR</i> , 1:246
1 Mar. 1642/43	Elizabeth Sedgewicke	judicial slavery, domestic, term	English	MBC	Sedgewicke convicted of theft, sentenced to whipping and "condemned to slavery, till she have recompenced double for all hir thefts."	<i>CLM</i> , xxix, #2878
28 April 1642	Marmaduke Barton	judicial slavery, domestic, term	English	MBC	Barton convicted of theft and running away, committed to the prison keeper as a slave until next General Court.	<i>CLM</i> , xxix, #2883
1640s	Scottish and Irish prisoners of English Civil War	judicial slavery, foreign, 10 years	Scottish, Irish	MBC	Prisoners in English Civil War, sent to Massachusetts as slaves for term of 10 years.	Morgan, 110-112

1 Oct. 1645	Guinea natives	perpetual foreign slavery (contrary to colony law)	African	New Hampshire	Capt Smyth charged with importing "negrs" "fradulently & injuriously taken and brought from Ginny." Court orders Mr. Williams of Pascataqua to send "ye neger which he had of Capt Smyth hither, yt he may be sent home."	<i>MCR</i> , 2:115, 120, 136, 176; 3:49, 58, 84
Sept. 1646	Indians	judicial slavery (threatened)	Indian	MBC	Indians convicted of damaging English property, mocking English. Ordered to provide satisfaction or to be turned over to English they harmed for service "or to be sold in exchange for Negroes."	<i>PCR</i> , 9:71
Sept. 1658	Joane	domestic servitude	Indian	MBC	Joane has been at Mr. Weld's, is to be with Governor of MBC for a year "hee finding her clothes for her service."	<i>PCR</i> , 10:207
1660 (testimony 30 July 1668)	Indian boy	perpetual slavery, domestic	Indian	Nova Scotia	Friends and kindred of orphan [or perhaps captive] pressure English to buy him to prevent his starvation.	BPL, MS Am 1432
Sept. 1660	Several Narragansetts	judicial slavery, foreign (threatened)	Indian	CC	Men who shot into an English house at night ordered to be sent to Barbadoes if delivered by sachems.	<i>PCR</i> , 10:248
April 1662	"Indian slave"	perpetual slavery, domestic	Indian	CC	Indian slave noted in John Latimer's will, appraised at £22.	<i>HAW</i> , 1:700
Sept. 1662	Several Indian children	"Covenant servants or apprentices"	Indian	CC	Several children of Long Island Indians to be raised in English families, as testimony of subjection to English.	<i>PCR</i> , 10:280
Sept. 1662	Two male followers of Shawatuck, Narragansett sachem	judicial slavery, foreign (threatened)	Indian	CC	Shamatuck, Narragansett sachem, detains, rides Thomas Minor's horse. Charged £20 (cost of horse). If not paid in 30 days, two of his men to be captured, sold, perhaps out of country.	<i>PCR</i> , 10:281

29 Sept. 1665	Indian girl, 4 years old	perpetual slavery (threatened)	English	MBC	Indians Spanesa and Poxonock agree to pledge their 4-year-old daughter to English purchasers Daniel Clark and Samuel Marshall of Windsor, CC, "to enjoy her & dispose of her as his own estate" if they fail to make good the title to 40 acres they sold Clark and Marshall at Warranoco.	<i>IDHC</i> , 55-56
Nov. 1666	Hugh Hancock	judicial slavery, foreign	English	MBC	Hancock arrested for unruly carriage, threatening speeches against master and colony. Fined £10 to govt, £12 to master. Sent to West Indies "to be sold for payment of fine."	<i>ECR</i> , 3:376
3 Jan. 1667	Wampanoag Indians	judicial slavery (threatened)	Indian	Martha's Vineyard , NYC	Col. Nicolls, governor of New York Colony, says if he has to send soldiers to reduce to obedience Indians who had damaged English goods "it will bring so great a charge upon their heads that perpetual slavery will be their end."	<i>NYCD</i> , 3:169-170
28 July 1669	Indian servants from New York	domestic servitude	Indian	RIC	Ninigret detained Indian servants, delayed return to masters.	<i>RICR</i> , 2:269
5 March 1671/72	James, Indian from Carolina	perpetual slavery (challenged)	Indian	MBC	Indian slave wins freedom from court; master appeals.	<i>NL</i> , Ayer MS 446
1672	James Indian	judicial slavery (threatened)	Indian	MBC	James imprisoned for breaking into Benjamin Scot's house, ordered to pay Scot treble damages. Prison keeper threatens to sell James into slavery if Scot doesn't pay prison charges within 2 weeks.	<i>SCR</i> , 1:113
20 April 1673	Indian	judicial slavery, domestic or foreign	Indian	MBC	John Winthrop Jr. writes that Indian delivered to Mr. Saunders by Springfield court is "to be as his servant or dispose [may be sold]."	<i>WFPT</i>

7 Oct. 1674	Tom Indian	judicial slavery, foreign, term	Indian	MBC	Tom convicted of rape, sold to West Indies for period of 10 years.	<i>MCR</i> , 5:25
1675	Bartholomew, Indian mulatto	domestic servitude	Indian mulatto	MBC	Bartholomew complicit with 5 Englishmen and one woman in theft of goods from John Hayman. Bartholomew's servitude mentioned.	<i>MCR</i> , vol. 3:121
22 Sept. 1675	31 Indians	domestic and foreign servitude	Indian	Surinam	English exiled from Surinam in favor of Dutch. They bring Indian "domestics" away with them, "having lived many years in their families." English deny rumor that they are slaves. On same ships are 81 "Christians," 31 Indians, 120 "Negroes."	<i>CSPC</i> , 9:282-283

Abbreviations:

CC	Connecticut Colony
MBC	Massachusetts Bay Colony
NYC	New York Colony
RIC	Rhode Island Colony

Sources:

Bolton	Charles Knowles Bolton, <i>The Real Founders of New England: Stories of Their Life Along the Coast, 1602-1628</i> (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1974 [1929]).
BPL	Boston Public Library, Special Collections, Boston, Massachusetts
CLM	William H. Whitmore, ed., <i>The Colonial Laws of Massachusetts, reprinted from the edition of 1672, with the supplements through 1680</i> (Boston: 1887).
CSPC	W. Noel Sainsbury and J. W. Fortescue, eds., <i>Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, America and West Indies</i> , 16 vols. (Vaduz: Kraus Reprint Ltd., 1964).
ECR	<i>Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, Massachusetts</i> (Salem, Massachusetts: The Essex Institute, 1913).
HAW	Sherman Wolcott Adams and Henry Reed Stiles, <i>History of Ancient Wethersfield, Connecticut</i> , 2 vols. (New York: Grafton Press, 1904).
IDHC	Harry Andrew Wright, ed., <i>Indian Deeds of Hampden County</i> (Springfield, Mass., 1905).

- MCR Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, ed., *Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England*, 6 vols. (Boston: William White, 1854).
- Morgan Edmund S. Morgan, *The Puritan Family: Religion and Domestic Relations in Seventeenth Century New England* (New York: Harper and Row, 1966).
- NL Newberry Library, Ayer Manuscripts, Chicago, Illinois
- PCR David Pulsifer, ed., *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth* (New York: AMS Press, 1968).
- RICR *Records of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*, 10 vols. (Providence: A Crawford Greene and Brother, 1856).
- SCR *Records of the Suffolk County Court, 1671-1680*, 2 vols., Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, vols. 29-30 (Boston: Colonial Society of Massachusetts, 1933).
- WFPT Winthrop Family Papers [transcripts], Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Massachusetts