

COLONIZATION (1641-1763)

King Philip’s Kettle

This iron kettle belonged to the Wampanoag sachem Philip, also known as Metacom (c. 1639–1676). It was probably used for cooking over an open fire in his camp. The Wampanoag traded food and other natural resources with the English for durable kettles, like this one, and other iron goods.

This kettle was taken as a trophy by Captain Benjamin Church (c. 1639–1718) early in the bloody conflict that came to be known as King Philip’s War.

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1641 Plymouth Colony permits a group of English men to purchase a tract of land from Ousemequin, also known as Massasoit. The land, known as “Seaconcke,” includes present-day Rehoboth, Seekonk, and East Providence.

1660 The first English settlement is created within the present-day boundaries of Rehoboth. Families establish homesteads near the Palmer River in the southern part of Rehoboth.

1705 The Virginia Slave Code is written, which permits the trade and ownership of enslaved Africans. Virginia is the first colony to publish a comprehensive set of rules governing slaves.

Rev. Samuel Newman and many of his congregants establish a settlement in Seaconcke. They name it “Rehoboth,” the Hebrew word meaning a broad, open space. **1643**

King Philip’s War engulfs the settlement of Rehoboth and surrounding areas. The final event of the war occurs in August 1676 when Anawan, one of Philip’s captains, is captured at present-day Anawan Rock in Rehoboth. **1675**

The French and Indian War begins. The war is centered primarily in the Ohio River Valley, and fought almost exclusively for trading purposes. **1754**