

Records of the Island of R. I.

1638 - 1644

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Records of the Island of R. I.

1638 - 1644

- B Compact of the 7th day of the first month 1638 signed by  
William Coddington and 22 others 1  
E William Coddington elected Judge 7th 1st 1638 2  
B Engagement of William Coddington 2  
E William Dyre chosen Clarke 3

3rd month 13 day 1638

- B List of freemen present 3  
B 1. Freemen to be admitted by consent of Bodye 3  
B 2. Town to be built at spring - William Hutchinson to have  
6 Rots for himself and children 3  
B 3. Fence to be built from Bay to Bay and charge to be borne by  
each allotment 3  
B 4. Allotment of land, 1 acre for 1 beast or 5 sheep, 1½ acres  
for a horse 3  
B 5. Each inhabitant to be provided with musket, powder, balls etc. 3  
B 6. Meeting house to be set on neck of land 3

20th of the 3rd month

- B Members present 3  
B 7. Neck of land to be a common 3  
B 8. Allotments to be recorded 3  
B 9. Mr. Coggeshall, Mr. Sanford & John Porter to lay out allotments 3  
William Coddington's house lott & 6 acres 3  
Mr. Clarke, house lott and 6 acres 3  
William Dyre, House lott and 6 acres 4  
William Hutchinson, house lott and 6 acres 4  
Samuel Hutchinson, 6 acres 4  
Mrs Easton - 6 acres 4  
Edward Hutchinson, 6 acres 4  
Edward Hutchinson Jr., 6 acres 4  
John Sanford, 6 acres 4  
John Coggeshall 6 acres west side of spring 4  
Renae RånHall Holden, 5 acres west side of spring 4  
Richard Burden 5 acres west side of spring 4  
Will Balston, 6 acres west side of spring 4  
B 10. Will Balston to sett up a house of entertainment, brew beare  
& sell wines and strong waters etc. 4  
B 11. Coggeshall & Sanford to lay out plowing ground for Coddington  
and William Hutchinson 4

24th of the 4th 1638

- B Freemen present 4  
B (12) Officers of trained bands chosen 4  
(12) Bands to be paid for at 2 shillings per acre, ½ down and ½  
in a months time - Treasurer to give receipt 4  
B 14. Hutchinson & Coggeshall, Treasurers 4  
B 15. All moneys received by Treasurers to be employed by order  
of the Company 4

- B 16. Treasurers impowered to give receipts 4, 5  
 B 17. Highway between Titicut and Aquetneck to be repaired 5  
 B 18. Freemen to be fined for not attending Assembly 5

20th of the 6th 1638

- B Members present 5  
 B (19) Stocks and whipping post to be made 5  
 B 20. Dimensions of lots to be set 5  
 B 21. Freemen admitted 5

23rd of the 6th month

- B Members present 5  
 B 22. Thirteen lots to be laid out to Richard Dummer et al 5  
 B 23. House to be built for a prison, dimensions 5  
 B (24) Hog island grass granted to William Brenton 5  
 B 25. Richard Dummer to be credited £150 estate for building a mill 5  
 B 26. Richard Dummer and his friends to be accomodated in the present plantation or some other 5  
 B 27. Randall Holden to be Marshall for one year 5

15th of the 7th

- B Members present 5  
 B (28) George Williams & George Parker et al (6 Names) to be summoned for a drunken riot, all to be fined the first two to sit in stocks 5, 6  
 B 29. Mr. Esson, Coggeshall & Wilbour to assess damages 6

5th of the 9th month

- B Members present 6  
 B 30. Training day set 6  
 B 31. Town to be laid out 6  
 B 32. Edward Hutchinson to bake bread 6

16th of the 9th

- B Members present 6  
 B John Porter and John Coggeshall to lay out meadow and plowing ground for Nicholas Esson who is to build a water mill 6  
 B Committee to dispose of house and lands of John Lutner, carpenter, who has run away, to pay his debts 6  
 B Committee appointed for venison trade, prices set, fees allowed 6

2nd of the 11<sup>o</sup> month 1638

- B Members present 7  
 B Agreement to elect Judge and elders who are to govern in interval between meetings of the Body, which are to be quarterly 7  
 B Votes counted 7  
 B Officers elected 7  
 B Committee to survey land and bring in map 7  
 B Committee to lay out house lots 7  
 B Committee to consider, defaults of officers, invasions, military training and disposal of land 7

24th of 11<sup>o</sup> 1638

B Constable and Sergeant to be shosen, duties stated	8
B Samuel Wilbore, constable	8
B Henry Bull, Sergeant	8
B Prison to be finished	8

7<sup>o</sup> 12<sup>o</sup> 1638

B Richard Maxson, blacksmith, found guilty of oppression in his trade	8
B Osamund Douch to repair damage done	8
B Freemen admitted	8
B William Aspinwall suspected of sedition, boat not to be finished	8

21<sup>o</sup> 12<sup>o</sup> 1638

B Samuel Wilbore granted land in neck	9
B Sergant Hutchinson to have land reserved for Valentine Hill	9
B Freemen admitted	9
B Swine not to be kept in the plantation	9

6<sup>o</sup> of the 2<sup>o</sup> 1639

B Damage caused by cattle to be paid for by owners	9
B Persons allowed to plant extra acreage	9
B Hogs in town to be impounded	9
B Pound to be set up	10
B Alarms to be given by three musket shots and the cry of "Alarm, Alarm" - Judge's house to be the meeting place	10

28<sup>o</sup> of the 2<sup>o</sup> 1639

B Jeffrey Champlin & William Cowley vs William Aspinwall	11
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Posasset - On the 28<sup>o</sup> of the 2<sup>o</sup> 1639

B New Plantation to be set up	11
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16th 3<sup>o</sup> 1639

B New plantation to be called Newport - limits defined	11
B Servants of first settlers to be given 10 acres	11
B Town to be built on both sides of spring and by the sea side southward	11

5<sup>o</sup> of 4<sup>o</sup>

B Committee to divide Newport lands	11
B Fifty families to be accomodated	12
B Home allotments to be four acres	12

11<sup>o</sup> 5<sup>o</sup>

B Committee to lay out the town	12
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2<sup>o</sup> 7<sup>o</sup>

Freemen admitted	12
Trade with Indians to be investigated	12
Damage done by cattle to be assessed	12
Trade with Indians to be free to all	12
Land committee changed	12

1<sup>o</sup> of 8<sup>o</sup>

First Tuesday of month to be Court day	13
Treasurer and assistant elected	13
Secretary to have 10 acres of land for services.	13
Freemen admitted	13
Quarter Courts to be decided by vote - Judge to have double vote	13

Agreement made between William Coddington and Miantonomie, Sachem of Narragansett 7th of July 1640 - Ratified Aug. 6, 1640 14

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Jeremy Clarke chose Constable	15
William Foster - Clerk of Trained band	15
Trained bands to elect officers	16
Robert Jeffries to train the Band	16
No man to be more than 2 miles from home without gun or sword	16
Committee who are to settle affairs with Pocasset continued	16
Committee to write to Mr. Vane concerning a patent for the Island	16
Court adjourned for 3 weeks	16

Particular Court - 3rd of ye 10th 1639

John Bartlett and John Hudson fined for drunkenness	16
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General Court - 17th of 10<sup>o</sup> M<sup>o</sup> 1639

Mr. Easton fined for not carrying a weapon	17
Treasurer's account examined and ordered paid	17
William Coddington's lands to be extended, he to pay balance due for extra land	17
Treasurer to pay only monies authorised by Judge & Elders' warrant	17
Freemen admitted	17
Secretary to list all damages and collect for the same	17
Fence to be placed around corn fields after May 1st	17
Hoggs in the town to be inclosed	17
One bull to be kept for every 20 cows and heifers	17
Keepers to take care of cattle herds	17
Lands to be fired from March 1 to 15 only	18
Stocks and whipping post to be provided for Newport	18

Particular Court - 7<sup>o</sup> of 11<sup>o</sup> 1639

Members of Trained Band to procure arms by last day of April 1640	18
Ralph Earle and Mr. Wilbore to made good damage done by felling timber	18

General Assembly 22<sup>o</sup> Jan. 1639

- B Corn to be rationed - 1 bushel  $\frac{1}{2}$  peck per person for 6 weeks 18  
 (96 persons to be fed)  
 B Date of holding General Court changed 18

Quarter Court - 29 Januarie 1639

- B Jeremie Clark to serve as Treasurer 19  
 B Elections to be held the twelfth day of March 19  
 B Lands to be recorded on the 6th of March 19  
 B Secretarie to inform Judge & Elders concerning suits 19

General Assembly - 6<sup>o</sup> of March

- B Committee on land - report and map approved 19  
 B All Sea Banks to be free for fishing 19  
 B All inhabitants to have lands recorded 19

By the Judge and Elders - Mar. 10. 1640 19

Lands recorded 20 - 25

General Court of Elections - 12th 1st 1640 - Nieuport

- B Members present 26  
 B 1. William Hutchinson and nine others received back 26  
 B 2. Method of admitting freemen 26  
 B 3. Freemen admitted (8) 26  
 B 4. Title of Governor adopted 26  
 B 5. Governor and 2 Assistants to be from one town; Deputy  
 Governor and 2 Assistants to be from the other 26  
 B 6. Name of Portsmouth adopted 26  
 B 7. Officers elected 26, 27  
 B 8. Governor and Assistants to be Justices of the Peace 27  
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General Court - Nieuport 6th of May 1640

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 B 14. On occasion of an alarm of invasion three musket shots to be  
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 B 15. Governor to write to Plymouth 28  
 B 16. Grants of house lots to be built on within one year 28  
 B 17. Treasurer to make demands for money due on land grants 28  
 B 18. Particular Courts to be held at Newport & Portsmouth 28

General Court, Portsmouth 6<sup>o</sup> Aug 1640

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General Court 14<sup>o</sup> of the 7<sup>o</sup> 1640

- |   |     |   |    |
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| B | 31. | Governor to write Bay Governor concerning Indians                   | 32 |
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*John Vaughan*  
John Vaughan, record of land

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