The Founding of Pennsylvania

The colony of Pennsylvania was founded in 1681 by William Penn with the approval of King Charles. Penn was a Quaker who believed in religious freedom and made it clear that tolerance for all religions would be one of the founding principles of Pennsylvania. The colony was originally called “Sylvania,” meaning “woods” or forest”, by Penn, but the King of England renamed “Pennsylvania” in honor of his father Admiral William Penn.

The founding of Pennsylvania can be seen as a reform. Penn sought religious freedom and tolerance in his new colony at a time when, in England, there was religious persecution that forced many people to flee the country to avoid being punished for their beliefs.

Primary

1. Title: Northampton County (Pa.) papers, ca. 1682-1887.
   Call number: (PHi)456

2. Author: George Croghan. Edited by Nicholas B. Wainwright.
Title: George Croghan’s journal, 1759-1763: from the original in the Cadwalader Collection of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Call number: F 483 .C76 1947b

Secondary

1. Author: Edwin B. Bronner.

   Title: William Penn's holy experiment: the founding of Pennsylvania, 1681-1701.

   Call number: UPA F 152.B84 1962

2. Author: Henry J. Cadbury.

   Title: The founding of Pennsylvania.

   Call number: Gpp*.69 vol.7

3. Author: prepared by the Philadelphia Museum of Art Project of the Works Projects Administration of Pennsylvania.

   Title: The founding of Pennsylvania: historic background for a pageant -- /prepared by the Philadelphia Museum of Art Project of the Works Projects Administration of Pennsylvania.

   Call number: Vb* .999