

The Slave Ship Sally

Taken from: <http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/sally/story.html>

Background

The voyage of the Sally was an example of what eighteenth-century New Englanders called "the triangle trade." Rum-laden Rhode Island ships sailed to Africa and acquired cargoes of Africans, who were carried to the plantation colonies of the Caribbean and sold. The ships returned home with holds filled with sugar and molasses, which was distilled into rum – Newport alone possessed nearly two dozen rum distilleries – and shipped to Africa to produce more slaves, more sugar, and more rum. In the century before 1807, roughly 100,000 Africans were carried into New World slavery on Rhode Island ships, most to the Caribbean.

The Sally's voyage stands out for several reasons. Not only is it the best-documented Rhode Island slaving venture, but it was also one of the deadliest. The timing of the voyage was also significant. The year 1764 marked the beginning of the imperial crisis between Great Britain and its thirteen mainland North American colonies, a crisis prompted by Parliament's attempt to collect a duty on Caribbean sugar. It also saw the founding of the College of Rhode Island, a venture in which the four Brown brothers were deeply involved. In 1804, the College would change its name to Brown University in honor of a gift from Nicholas Brown, Jr., the son of one of the Sally's owners.

Document:

Taken from <http://www.slavevoyages.org/tast/database/search.faces>

Voyage 36299, *Sally* (1765)

Vessel name	Sally
Flag	U.S.A.
Flag*	U.S.A.
Place registered	Providence
Rig	Brig
Tonnage	11
Standardized tonnage*	22
Vessel owners	Brown, Nicholas
	Brown, James
	Brown, Moses
Particular outcome of voyage	Sold slaves in Americas - subsequent fate unknown
Outcome of voyage for slaves*	Slaves disembarked in Americas
Outcome of voyage if ship captured*	Not captured
Outcome of voyage for owner*	Delivered slaves for original owners
African resistance	Slave insurrection
Place where voyage began*	Newport
First place of slave purchase	Gambia

Second place of slave purchase	Windward Coast, port unspecified
Principal place of slave purchase*	Windward Coast, port unspecified
First place of slave landing	Antigua, port unspecified
Principal place of slave landing*	Saint John (Antigua)
Region where voyage began*	Rhode Island
First region of slave purchase	Senegambia and offshore Atlantic
Second region of slave purchase	Windward Coast
Principal region of slave purchase*	Windward Coast
First region of slave landing	Antigua
Principal region of slave landing*	Antigua
Year arrived with slaves*	1765
Date voyage began	1764-09-10
Date trade began in Africa	1764-11-15
Date vessel departed Africa	1765-08-20
Captain's name	Hopkins, Esek
Number of slaves intended at first place of purchase	140
Total slaves embarked	167
Total slaves embarked*	167
Number of slaves arriving at first place of landing	90
Total slaves disembarked*	90
Slave deaths during middle passage*	77
Percentage of slaves embarked who died during voyage*	46.1%
Sources	Coughtry, 151,156-57,241-83: Coughtry, Jay, <i>The Notorious Triangle: Rhode Island and the African Slave Trade, 1700-1807</i>. (Philadelphia, 1981). Donnan,III,202,210,213: Donnan, Elizabeth, <i>Documents Illustrative of the Slave Trade to America</i>, 4 vols. (Washington, DC, 1930-33). CO267/1,1766.05.31.: <i>The National Archives</i> (Kew, UK) Colonial Office Hedges,I:75-81: Hedges, James B. <i>The Browns of Providence Plantations. Vol. 1, The Colonial Years</i> (Providence, 1968)

Voyage 36299, Sally (1765)



Newport

Place where voyage began
Date that voyage began: 1764-09-10

Intended number of slaves to purchase: 140

1 Gambia

First place of slave purchase
Date that slave purchase began: 1764-11-15

2 Windward Coast, port unspecified

Second (and major) place of slave purchase
Date that vessel left: 1765-08-20

Total slaves embarked: 167

1 Antigua, port unspecified

First place of slave landing
Slaves arrived: 90

Total slaves disembarked: 90