

DIANE RAPAPORT

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Diane Rapaport, a former trial lawyer, has made a new career as a historical consultant, award-winning author and popular speaker. She offers an unusual combination of expertise and experience—in law, history and genealogy—and a gift for discovering and telling the stories of our past. She specializes in court records and other historical resources of New England, and her current research focuses on African Americans and Native Americans in the colonial period.

Academic Record

University of Minnesota Law School, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 1978.

Ohio State University, B.A., History, 1975; Miami University (Ohio), 1969–1971.

Employment

Historical consultant, Quill Pen Historical Consulting, LLC, Burlington, MA, 2009–. (See QuillPenHistorical.com.)

Author and speaker, 2003–. (See DianeRapaport.com.)

Publisher, Quill Pen Press, LLC, Burlington, MA, 2005–. (See QuillPenPress.com.)

Attorney, co-founder of law firms Rapaport & Neff and Rapaport & Rapaport, Boston, MA. 1985–2004.

Attorney, Gray & Wendell, Boston, MA, 1983–1985.

Attorney, Gray Plant Mooty, Minneapolis, MN, 1978–1982.

*Note: Highest Martindale-Hubbell AV® Peer Review Rating for Legal Ability and General Ethical Standards (since 1985).**

Publications

Books

- *The Naked Quaker: True Crimes and Controversies from the Courts of Colonial New England* (Beverly, Mass.: Commonwealth Editions, 2007). Finalist, *ForeWord Magazine's* “2007 Book of the Year” Award for History.
- *New England Court Records: A Research Guide for Genealogists and Historians* (Burlington, Mass.: Quill Pen Press, 2006). **2007 Benjamin Franklin Awards**, Independent Book Publishers Association: First place for **Best History Book** and **Best Reference Book**, and finalist for **Best New Voice (Nonfiction)**. Also **2007 Award for Best Genealogical Resource**, CT Society of Genealogists.

Magazines

(For complete list of articles, see “Publications” page of DianeRapaport.com.)

- “Tales from the Courthouse” column and feature articles, *New England Ancestors* (New England Historic Genealogical Society), 2004–. Diane’s column, bringing colonial history to life with true stories from court records, has won 3 **Excellence in Writing Awards** from the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors.
- “Scottish Slavery in Seventeenth-Century New England,” *History Scotland* (Jan./Feb. 2005).
- “Scottish Genealogy” column and feature articles, *The Highlander*, 2004–2009.

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Papers Presented

- “Local Justice: Archival Discoveries at New England Historical Societies,” New England Historical Association Conference, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI, 2005.
- “Scots for Sale: The Fate of the Scottish War Prisoners in Seventeenth-Century New England,” Conference on Slavery/Antislavery in New England, Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife, Deerfield, MA, 2003.

Speaking Experience

Approximately 150 lectures, workshops, and appearances, since 2003, at colleges and universities, libraries, historical and genealogical groups, museums, TV and radio; selected list of venues below. (Complete list at “Schedule” page of *DianeRapaport.com*; scroll down to “See Previous Events.”)

- **Colleges and universities**
 - Harvard University
 - Dartmouth College
 - Tufts University
 - Brandeis University
 - Western Connecticut State University
- **Historical and genealogical groups**
 - Massachusetts Historical Society
 - Maine Historical Society
 - South Boston Historical Society
 - Old Colony Historical Society
 - Hampton (NH) Historical Society
 - New England Regional Genealogical Conferences
 - Historic New England
 - Old State House (Hartford, CT)
 - Association of Professional Genealogists
- Massachusetts Society of Genealogists
- New Hampshire Society of Genealogists
- Connecticut Society of Genealogists
- Genealogical Society of Vermont
- Ohio Genealogical Society
- **Other groups and venues**
 - Boston Public Library
 - Social Law Library, Boston
 - BNN TV, Boston Cable Channel 9
 - Women’s National Book Association
 - College Club of Boston
 - Old South Meetinghouse, Boston
 - Friends of the National Archives
 - Massachusetts Archives
 - Scots’ Charitable Society of Boston
 - New Hampshire Highland Games
 - Newburyport (MA) Literary Festival

Memberships and Affiliations include:

- American Bar Association
- American Society for Legal History
- National Council on Public History
- Organization of American Historians
- American Historical Association
- New England Historical Association
- Society of American Archivists
- New England Archivists
- American Society for Indexing (and its New England Chapter)
- Association for Documentary Editing
- New England Museum Association
- Association of Professional Genealogists (and its New England Chapter)
- Independent Book Publishers Association
- Independent Publishers of New England
- Small Publishers Association of North America