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Brackney's "Baptists in early North America: Swansea, Massachusetts (Vol. 1)" (Book Review)

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marshmallow chandelier to more practical, but still beautiful items, such as snack pockets made from vintage napkins.

While cookbooks more commonly find a home on public library bookshelves, *Back in the Day Bakery: Made with Love* is recommended for both public and academic libraries and particularly for faith-based institutions. This cookbook's unique mix of amazing recipes, crafts, and hospitality suggestions make it a wonderful resource for individuals who may be tasked with planning a ladies' tea, banquets, or other fellowship events. The friendly, neighborly tone of sharing baking secrets is perfect for college age students and young marrieds who may not have much cooking or baking experience. It also a wonderful resource for those who wish to expand their baking repertoire.

Reviewer

Leslie R. Starasta, Lincoln Christian University

Brackney, W.I. (Ed.). (2013) *Baptists in early North America: Swansea, Massachusetts* (Vol. 1). Macon, GA: Mercer University Press. 415 pp. \$60.00. ISBN 9780881464399

This is the first of thirteen volumes in *The Baptists in Early North America Series*. The series is designed to highlight particular styles or models of Baptist congregational life in the 17th and 18th centuries, and make the historical records available in a condensed, easy-to-use format. This first title in the series focuses on many of the “‘firsts’ in the Baptist story in North America” (p. xv) as they were the first congregation to transfer their community from the old world to the new world; had the first Welsh Baptist pastor; were one of the first pioneering Baptist congregations in New England; and had the oldest surviving congregation record dating back to 1649. The first few pages of the work contains images gathered from the sites visited and the documents consulted giving a direct historical connection to the long passed reality. This is followed by a short historical introduction which sets the stage for the events leading up to the congregation's Trans-Atlantic trip. The main body of the work is a typed transcription of the various church documents related to the congregation and its governance but then also contains many footnotes with further explanation, clarification, or alternate spellings. This work has value for those studying early colonial American Baptists but also gives a good picture of the contemporary issues those early church communities faced. Many Baptist and early American historians should anticipate the forthcoming titles in the series.

Reviewer

Mark Hanson, Maranatha Baptist University