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8.6 Analyze the founding of Pennsylvania as a haven for Quakers and the tolerance that drew many different groups to the colony, including: William Penn, Philadelphia, role of women, relationship with Indians.

**EXTENDED RESPONSE LESSON**

The Province of Pennsylvania, also known as the Pennsylvania Colony, was founded in English North America by William Penn on March 4, 1681 as dictated in a royal charter granted by King Charles II. The name Pennsylvania, which translates roughly as "Penn’s Woods", was created by combining the Penn surname (in honor of William’s father, Admiral Sir William Penn) with the Latin word sylvenia, meaning "forest land."

The Province of Pennsylvania was one of the two major restoration colonies, the other being the Province of Carolina. The proprietary colony’s charter remained in the hands of the Penn family until the American Revolution, when the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was created and became one of the original thirteen colonies.

Watch this video made by John Green from Crash Course. It discusses more colonies than just Pennsylvania, but it is quite informative!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p47tZLJbdag
The biography of William Penn from [www.biography.com](http://www.biography.com/people/william-penn-9436869)

William Penn and the Colony of Pennsylvania
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puGzRXOCReY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puGzRXOCReY)

Pennsylvania Reading Assessment

and...
Pennsylvania Colony and the Quakers
Quakers in Pennsylvania and New Jersey

( Pictured Above: Central to the Quaker way of life was the Meeting House. Here, Quakers would come together to worship. The above image depicts one of London’s Quaker Meeting Houses.)

WILLIAM PENN was a dreamer. He also had the king over a barrel. Charles II owed his father a huge debt. To repay the Penns, William was awarded an enormous tract of land in the New World. Immediately he saw possibilities. People of his faith, the Quakers, had suffered serious persecution in England. With some good advertising, he might be able to establish a religious refuge. He might even be able to turn a profit. Slowly, the wheels began to spin. In 1681, his dream became a reality.

QUAKERS, or the Society of Friends, had suffered greatly in England. As religious dissenters of the Church of England, they were targets much like the Separatists and the Puritans. But Friends were also devout pacifists. They would not fight in any of England’s wars, nor would they pay their taxes if they believed the proceeds would assist a military venture. They believed in total equality. Therefore, Quakers would not bow down to nobles. Even the king would not receive the courtesy of a tipped hat. They refused to take oaths, so their allegiance to the Crown was always in question. Of all the Quaker families that came to the New World, over three quarters of the male heads of household had spent time in an English jail.

( Pictured Above: William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania ("Penn’s Woods") and planner of Philadelphia, established a very liberal government by 17th century standards. Religious freedom and good relations with Native Americans were two keystones of Penn’s style.)

The Quakers of Penn’s colony, like their counterparts across the Delaware River in New Jersey, established an extremely liberal government for the seventeenth century. Religious freedom was granted and there was no tax-supported church. Penn insisted on developing good relations with the Native Americans. Penn believed the land belonged to the Native Americans and that if settlers wanted it, then they should pay for it. Penn was well respected by the Native Americans for these beliefs. Women saw greater freedom in Quaker society than elsewhere, as they were allowed to participate fully in Quaker meetings and could even preach in public.

PENNSYLVANIA, or "Penn’s Woods," benefited from the vision of its founder. Well advertised throughout Europe, skilled artisans and farmers flocked to the new colony. With Philadelphia as its capital, Pennsylvania soon became the keystone of the English colonies. New Jersey was owned by Quakers even before Penn’s experiment, and the remnants of NEW SWEDEN, now called Delaware, also fell under the Friends’ sphere of influence. William Penn’s dream had come true. Interested in learning about Quakers? Well here is a listing of hundreds of Quaker links, friends! Learn More...

Read this short summary of the life of William Penn.

http://www.ducksters.com/history/colonial_america/william_penn.php

Autobiography of George Fox George Fox founded The Religious Society of Friends, better known as Quakers. This is the story of his life. The presentation isn’t pretty, nor were some of the incidents in Fox’s life. However, this page is a tremendous source of Quaker information. Free Quaker Meeting House Quakers are pacifists. Yet, during the Revolution many Friends felt the American cause was so great that they had to take up arms. Once they did this, they were "read out" of meeting. (Quakers worship at meeting houses.) At Philadelphia’s Free Quaker Meeting House, fifty "read out" Friends — including Betsy Ross — came together to pray. This page features a lively little history of this Philadelphia meeting house. Plainfield Meeting House One of the first places Quakers found tolerance to practice their religion was in New Jersey. This page features a history of a Meeting House built in 1788. The Religious Society of Friends Don’t like where we’re sending you? Then head over to this great
William Penn: Visionary Proprietor
A well-researched, but easy-to-understand site. The page is broken down into sections which are a perfect length for Internet reading. The sections include: "Introduction" which serves as a biography; "Penn and the Indians" and "Penn Plans the City." The pages are peppered with pretty pictures too. Don’t be scared off by a very plain home page...this is the place to come for hapPENNing info. A 37 foot tall statue of William Penn stands proudly atop Philadelphia’s


City of Brotherly Love — Philadelphia

( Pictured Above: William Russell Birch’s idyllic engraving of the back of the Pennsylvania State House hints at the diversity of race and class that typified Philadelphia at the turn of the 19th century.)

William Penn had a distaste for cities. His colony, Pennsylvania, would need a capital that would not bring the horrors of European urban life to the shores of his New World experiment. Penn determined to design and to administer the city himself to prevent such an occurrence. He looked with disdain on London’s crowded conditions and sought to prevent this by designing a city plan with streets wider than any major thoroughfare in London. Five major squares dotted the cityscape, and Penn hoped that each dweller would have a family garden. He distributed land in large plots to encourage a low population density. This, he thought, would be the perfect combination of city and country. In 1681, he made it happen.

Penn’s selection of a site was most careful. PHILADELPHIA is situated at the confluence of the SCHUYLKILL and DELAWARE RIVERS. He hoped that the Delaware would supply the needed outlet to the Atlantic and that the Schuylkill would be the needed artery into the interior of Pennsylvania. This choice turned out to be controversial. The proprietors of Maryland claimed that Penn’s new city lay within the boundaries of Maryland. Penn returned to England to defend his town many times. Eventually the issue would be decided on the eve of the Revolution by the drawing of the famed MASON-DIXON LINE.

With Penn promoting religious toleration, people of many different faiths came to Philadelphia. The Quakers may have been tolerant of religious differences, but were fairly uncompromising with moral digressions. It was illegal to tell lies in conversation and even to perform stage plays. Cards and dice were forbidden. Upholding the city’s moral code was taken very seriously. This code did not extend to chattel slavery. In the early days, slavery was commonplace in the streets of Philadelphia. William Penn himself was a slaveholder. Although the first antislavery
society in the colonies would eventually be founded by Quakers, the early days were not free of the curse of human bondage.

Early Philadelphia had its ups and downs. William Penn spent only about four years of his life in Pennsylvania. In his absence, Philadelphians quibbled about many issues. At one point, Penn appointed a former soldier, JOHN BLACKWELL, to bring discipline to town government. Still, before long Philadelphia prospered as a trading center. Within twenty years, it was the third largest city, behind Boston and New York. A century later it would emerge as the new nation’s largest city, first capital, and cradle of the Liberty Bell, Declaration of Independence, and Constitution.

Native Americans in the Colony of Pennsylvania

![William Penn's 1682 treaty with the Lenape - Benjamin West Painting](image)

William Penn’s 1682 treaty with the Lenape - Benjamin West Painting

William Penn & Indians

Before its founding, Pennsylvania was inhabited by Native Americans for 12,000 – 18,000 years. Fast forward to the 17th century, by the time William Penn began establishing his “experimental” colony at least six tribes were already settled onto the land. These tribes included the Lenni Lenape (also known as the Delaware) who lived near the Delaware River. The Susquehannocks which lived further west near the Susquehanna River. The Shawnee in the
Ohio Valley and the Eries located on Lake Erie. These tribes had established their own culture which dated back to the late stages of the Stone Age and when William Penn came upon them, not much had changed. Said to be kind and paternalistic, William Penn decided he wanted to deal with the Native Americans as such and even dictated a regulation of trade which set up a type of protection for the Indians. Besides his regulation on trade William Penn also established a policy which extended equal rights and privileges under English law to the tribes in the area. Due to his kindness and patience to attempt to understand the natives and even attempt to learn some of their language, William faced very little native resistance during his colonization of the southeastern portion of Pennsylvania.

William Penn and the Lenape Natives

Native Americans Penn and the early Quakers insisted that the Lenape natives who lived in Pennsylvania be treated fairly, and for the next fifty years, there was peace between the white settlers and the Lenape. But when the French and English went to war, the Native Americans became caught in the middle and eventually sided with the French.

To end the war, the British signed treaties with the Lenape, promising protection and compensation for ancestral land. Unfortunately, those promises were not fulfilled once the war was over. In despair, the Native Americans tried to capture English posts and fought with the settlers. At times, Native Americans would even take settlers captive. In the early fall on 1764, English troops destroyed most of the remaining Lenape villages in Pennsylvania.

Women in Early America and Pennsylvania

Women’s lives in Pennsylvania and the other twelve colonies are discussed in this article. Please click on this to read about the rights the role of women in the colonies as well as Pennsylvania.

http://social.rollins.edu/wpsites/hist120/2012/10/31/women-in-early-america-and-pennsylvania/
Advantaged by their central location, the middle colonies served as important distribution centers in the English mercantile system. New York and Philadelphia grew at a fantastic rate. These cities gave rise to brilliant thinkers such as Benjamin Franklin, who earned respect on both sides of the Atlantic. In many ways, the middle colonies served as the crossroads of ideas during the colonial period.

In contrast to the South where the cash crop plantation system dominated, and New England whose rocky soil made large-scale agriculture difficult, the middle colonies were FERTILE. Land was generally acquired more easily than in New England or in the plantation South. Wheat and corn from local farms would feed the American colonies through their colonial infancy and revolutionary adolescence.

The middle colonies represented exactly that — a middle ground between its neighbors to the North and South. Elements of both New England towns and sprawling country estates could be found. Religious dissidents from all regions could settle in the relatively tolerant middle zone. Aspects of New England SHIPBUILDING and LUMBERING and the large farms of the South could be found. Aptly named, they provided a perfect nucleus for English America.