

# Package ‘salem’

November 5, 2020

**Type** Package

**Title** Provides Access to Salem Witchcraft Data

**Version** 0.2.0

**Description** Data related to the Salem Witch Trials  
Datasets and tutorials documenting the witch accusations and trials centered around Salem, Massachusetts in 1692. Originally assembled by Richard B. Latner of Tulane University for his website <https://www.tulane.edu/~salem/index.html>. The data sets include information on 152 accused witches, members of the Salem Village Committee, signatories of petitions related to the events, and tax data for Salem Village.

**License** CC BY-NC-SA 4.0

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**Imports**

**Suggests** dplyr (>= 1.0.0), ggplot2, knitr, rmarkdown, sf, stats, tidy

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**Collate** ``accused\_witches.R`` ``committee\_list.R`` ``salem\_village.R``  
``tax\_comparison.R`` ``parris\_social.R`` ``salem\_region.R``

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Elin Waring [aut, cre],  
Richard Latner [aut]

**Maintainer** Elin Waring <elin.waring@gmail.com>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2020-11-05 16:40:05 UTC

## R topics documented:

accused_witches . . . . .	2
committee_list . . . . .	3
parris_social . . . . .	3
salem_region . . . . .	4
salem_village . . . . .	5
tax_comparison . . . . .	6
<b>Index</b>	<b>7</b>

---

accused_witches	<i>Accused witches</i>
-----------------	------------------------

---

### Description

A dataset containing list of accused witches, the month of accusation, whether they were executed and, if so, what month.

### Usage

```
accused_witches
```

### Format

A data frame with 152 rows and 8 variables:

**Accused.Witch** Name of accused

**Residence** Town of residence

**Month.of.Accusation** Month of accusation as number

**Month.of.Execution** Month of execution as number. Missing for those not executed.

**Sort** ID from original data set

**Month.of.Accusation.Name** Month of accusation as ordered factor

**Month.of.Execution.Name** Month of execution as ordered factor. Missing for those not executed.

**executed** Indicator of whether the accused was executed

### Source

<https://www.tulane.edu/~salem/Accused%20Witches.html>

---

committee_list	<i>Committee list</i>
----------------	-----------------------

---

**Description**

A dataset containing list of Salem Village Committee members 1685-1698. Given in long format, with one row per member per year. In 1688 there were only 4 members; in all other years there were five.

**Usage**

committee\_list

**Format**

A data frame with 69 rows and 5 variables:

**Committee.Members** Name of committee member

**Social** Their social position (3 groups)

**Petition** Did this person sign either the pro- or anti-Parris petition in 1695

**Sort** ID from original data set

**Year** Year of membership

**Source**

<https://www.tulane.edu/~salem/Committee%20List%20Data%20Set.html>

---

parris_social	<i>The social positions of pro-Parris and anti-Parris individuals</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

A dataset containing a list of individuals who signed pro-Parris and anti-Parris petitions and their social positions

**Usage**

parris\_social

**Format**

A data frame with 189 rows and 5 variables:

**Name** Name of the individual

**view** Stance on Parris

**Sex** Sex of the individual

**Identification** The social position of the individual (five groups)

**Sort** ID from original data set

**Source**

<https://www.tulane.edu/~salem/Pro-Parris%20Data%20Set.html>

---

salem\_region

*Simple Features data for Salem*

---

**Description**

A dataset containing map information for the three counties represented in the accused\_witches data set (not including present-day Maine locations) in simple features format. It also includes associated data on accusations. This data should *never* be used to analyze accusations. The data is based on modern town boundaries from the Massachusetts Document Repository. Some simple cleaning has been done to facilitate basic mapping. Specifically, the names Salem Town and Salem Village are used rather than the modern Salem and Danvers. Additionally, a field, TOWN\_LABEL is attached to the largest area for each town or community.

**Usage**

salem\_region

**Format**

A data frame with 437 rows and 28 variables:

**TOWN** Name of town in upper case letters

**TOWN\_ID** ID of town

**TYPE** Type of municipality C = City or T = Town

**ISLAND** Indicator for islands. Note that many towns have multiple polygons

**COASTAL\_PO** YES for ocean polygon within town limits, NO otherwise

**FOURCOLOR** Codes allowing shading of all towns with 4 symbols

**FIPS\_STCO** FIPS for state and county

**CCD\_MCD** US Census town code

**FIPS\_PLACE** FIPS town code

**FIPS\_MCD** FIPS State & County & Census Town Code concatenated

**FIPS\_COUNT** FIPS County

**ACRES** Area in acres

**SQUARE\_MIL** Area in square miles

**SHAPE\_Leng** The perimeter in meters

**SHAPE\_Area** The polygon area in square meters

**n\_accused** Total accused

**February** Number accused in February

**March** Number accused in March

**April** Number accused in April  
**May** Number accused in May  
**June** Number accused in June  
**July** Number accused in July  
**August** Number accused in August  
**September** Number accused in September  
**October** Number accused in October  
**November** Number accused in November  
**TOWN\_LABEL** Town name to be used for labelling  
**geometry** Simple Features geometry

### Details

Complex analyses require the sf package, but simple mapping can be done using ggplot2.  
 FIPS refers to the Federal Information Processing Standard

### Source

<https://docs.digital.mass.gov/dataset/massgis-data-community-boundaries-towns-survey-points>

---

salem_village	<i>Salem village</i>
---------------	----------------------

---

### Description

A dataset containing tax list of everyone who appeared on the tax assessment rolls for 1690, 1695, and 1697. This is a "a good, though imperfect, indicator of the village's adult male population" plus some widows (and excluding young men who were not independent).

### Usage

salem\_village

### Format

A data frame with 137 rows and 5 variables:

**Name** Name of taxpayer (may be a family)  
**Petition** Did this person sign either the pro- or anti-Parris petition in 1695  
**Church.to.1696** Was the person a member of any church through 1696  
**Sort** ID from original data set

**Details**

May be merged with the tax\_comparison data set based on name matching, but care should be taken to review and make judgements about matching.

**Source**

<https://www.tulane.edu/~saalem/Salem%20Village%20Data%20Set.html>

---

tax\_comparison

*Tax list data for Salem*

---

**Description**

A dataset containing tax list data for Salem, MA, 1681-1700. Payments are in shillings (converted from original records). Petition refers to Pro-Parris, Anti-Parris and No Signature. Data are in long format with one record per person per year, while the original data was in wide format with a variable for each year. May be merged with the tax\_comparison data set based on name matching, but care should be taken to review and make judgements about matching. This data set includes more years of tax records than salem\_village.

**Usage**

tax\_comparison

**Format**

A data frame with 200 rows and 5 variables:

**Name** Name of the tax payer

**Petition** Stance on Petition

**Year** Year of payment

**Tax** Tax paid

**Sort** ID from original data set

**Source**

<https://www.tulane.edu/~saalem/Tax%20Comparison%20Data%20Set.html>

# Index

## \* datasets

accused\_witches, 2

committee\_list, 3

parris\_social, 3

saalem\_region, 4

saalem\_village, 5

tax\_comparison, 6

accused\_witches, 2

committee\_list, 3

parris\_social, 3

saalem\_region, 4

saalem\_village, 5

tax\_comparison, 6