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## Rhode Island: A Guide to the Smallest State (American Guide Series)

*Federal Writers Project*

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#7589627 in Books 2007-03-01 2007-03-15Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x 6.00 x 1.75l, #File Name: 040302188X500 pages | File size: 74.Mb

**Federal Writers Project : Rhode Island: A Guide to the Smallest State (American Guide Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rhode Island: A Guide to the Smallest State (American Guide Series):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An old guide to an old StateBy bukhtanA deep-freeze in Chicago obliged me to shelter in the public library of one of the suburbs. The collections in these libraries are being whittled down by re-purposing projects, but I managed to pick one easy time-killing read of the shelf: this Rhode Island : a Guide to the Smallest State. It's unlikely that anyone who looks at this Guide needs to be told what sort of thing it is: one of, I think, 48 books produced in the Thirties by Federal Writer's Project, all nearly comprehensive summaries of the salient points in the physical nature, history, architecture and other lore-producing aspects of the state in question.Like the other Guides, this one is written in a workmanlike manner, composed of general sections on various aspects of the state and feature by feature tours of the cities and larger towns. Sobriety is a watchword here.The State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations was especially well-served by the Guides; every bit of the State is of interest to those who are interested in place and history, but there is little there that really stands out when compared to other areas on the upper Eastern Seaboard, aside from Newport. The great Roger Williams is of course just a ghost in American history who left almost nothing physical behind him, as those who've visited the Roger Williams National Memorial will be aware. But exploration of Rhode Island is always repaid.As in anything of this nature, there are a

few lapses. The Guide neglects to point out that the Redwood Library in Newport, a first among libraries of some sort, was designed by the same architect, Peter Harrison, who designed the great Touro Synagogue, a monument of Colonial architecture and American Jewish culture. There is also no adequate picture of the Synagogue. Both buildings far surpass in aesthetics and historical significance any of the clownish mansions for which Newport is famous. Those who like their historical literature (the Guide is in fact principally a book of history) to be of recent date will of course discard this book, if they come across it. But I find that an extra patina, interesting in its own right, is added to any epoch by its being considered from vantage points no longer our own. There are several sections of black and white plates, and good maps of the cities. I looked only at the book, not the Kindle product, which I see is available here on . So I don't know if any features are absent or poorly formatted in the Kindle version. For that matter, I think I had the first edition in hand and so can't comment on the physical nature of this 2007 Scholarly Press edition.

American Guide Series. Additional Contributors Are Harry L. Hopkins And Louis W. Cappelli.