

A Genealogical Profile of Robert Hicks

Birth: Robert Hicks was born in England about 1578.

Death: He died in Plymouth on May 24, 1647.

Ship: *Fortune*, 1621

Life in England: Robert Hickes was a fellmonger (leather-seller) living on Bermondsey Street in Southwark. His first eight children were baptized at St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, Surrey.

Life in New England: Robert Hicks came to Plymouth in November 1621. His wife and three children came on the *Anne* or *Little James* in the summer of 1623. He was a freeman in Plymouth by 1633. He served the colony in several minor capacities in 1633–4 as an arbiter, appraiser, rater for taxes and as part of a committee for dividing meadow land, but apparently nothing else after that time. Margaret Hicks was educated enough to sign her name to her will. Samuel Fuller in his will requested that “when my daughter Mercy is fitt to goe to scole that mrs Heeks may teach her as well as my sonne.” She may have taught other children as well. Both Robert and Margaret Hicks made wills. She died in Plymouth between July 8, 1665, and March 6, 1665/6.

Family: Robert Hicks married Margaret _____ by 1603. She died in Plymouth between July 8, 1665, the date of her will, and March 6, 1665/6, the date of probate.

Children of Robert and Margaret Hicks:

- Thomas was baptized on February 19, 1603/4, and buried on April 23, 1604.
- John was baptized on October 12, 1605, with no further record.
- Sarah was baptized on October 25, 1607, and buried on February 24, 1617/8.
- Richard was baptized on September 17, 1609, with no further record.
- Samuel was baptized on August 18, 1611. He married Lydia Doane on September 11, 1645, in Plymouth and had two children. He died by June 1677.
- Lydia was baptized on September 6, 1612. She married Edward Bangs before 1633 and had one son. She died a year or two later.
- Phoebe was baptized on March 15, 1614/5, and married George Watson by about 1636 and had seven children. She died on May 22, 1663.

• Mary was baptized on May 11, 1617, and buried on September 14, 1619.

• Ephraim was born in Plymouth about 1625. He married Elizabeth Howland on September 13, 1649, and died on December 12, 1649 of “a violent death.”

For Further Information:

Robert C. Anderson. *The Great Migration Begins*. Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1995.

Robert C. Anderson. *The Pilgrim Migration*. Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2004.

Eugene A. Stratton. *Plymouth Colony: Its History and People, 1620–1691*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing, 1986.

Robert S. Wakefield “The Children of Robert Hicks.” *The American Genealogist* 51:57–58. (1975).



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Where do I go from here?

Researching your family's history can be a fun, rewarding, and occasionally frustrating project. Start with what you know by collecting information on your immediate family. Then, trace back through parents, grandparents, and beyond. This is a great opportunity to speak to relatives, gather family stories, arrange and identify old family photographs, and document family possessions that have been passed down from earlier generations.

Once you have learned all you can from family members, you will begin to discover other sources. A wide variety of records can help you learn more about the lives of your ancestors. These include birth, marriage, and death records; immigration and naturalization records; land records; census records; probate records and wills; church and cemetery records; newspapers; passenger lists; military records; and much more.

When you use information from any source — an original record, a printed book, or a website — always be careful to document it. If you use a book, you should cite the author or compiler, the full title, publication information and pages used. Also be sure to record the author's sources for the information. If the author's sources aren't provided, you will have to try to find the original source. Many genealogical works contain faulty information, and the Internet also contains many inaccuracies. In order for your work to be accepted — by lineage societies and other genealogists — it must be properly documented.

IMPORTANT GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES

New England Historic Genealogical Society

Founded in 1845, NEHGS is the country's oldest and largest genealogical society. The library contains over 200,000 books, plus significant manuscript and microfilm collections, and a circulating library by mail. NEHGS members receive two periodicals, the *Register* and *New England Ancestors*, and can access valuable genealogical data online.

NEHGS, 101 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116;
888-296-3447; www.NewEnglandAncestors.org.

Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

As a non-profit, educational organization our mission is: to offer the public powerful experiences of history, built upon thorough research of the Wampanoag and Pilgrim communities. We offer multiple learning opportunities to provide a deeper understanding of the relationship of historical events to modern America. Members have access to our Research Library.

Plimoth Plantation, 137 Warren Avenue, Plymouth, MA 02632;
508-746-1622; www.plimoth.org

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- www.PlymouthAncestors.org
- www.CyndisList.com
- www.FamilySearch.org
- www.USGenWeb.org



PLYMOUTH ANCESTORS[®]

GENEALOGICAL LIBRARIES IN PLYMOUTH

General Society of Mayflower Descendants Library

A collection focused principally on the genealogies of the descendants of the *Mayflower* passengers.

4 Winslow St., Plymouth; 508-746-3188; www.mayflower.org

Plymouth Collection, Plymouth Public Library

Over 1200 items relating to the descendants of the Pilgrims, as well as the many other immigrants who settled in the area.

132 South St., Plymouth; 508-830-4250;
www.plymouthpubliclibrary.org

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy by Christine Rose and Kay Germain Ingalls, Alpha Books, 1997.

Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research by Marcia Melnyk, NEHGS, 1999.

Shaking Your Family Tree: A Basic Guide to Tracing Your Family History by Ralph J. Crandall, NEHGS, 2001.

Unpuzzling Your Past by Emily Croom, Betterway Books, 2003.

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