

A Genealogical Profile of John Hocking

Birth: Nothing is known of John Hocking's date or place of birth.

Death: He died at the Kennebec River in Maine on April 1634.

Ship: unknown, prior to 1634

Life in England: Nothing is known of his life in England.

Life in New England: John Hocking was early at the settlement of Piscataway, New Hampshire. In April, 1634 he sailed to the Kennebec River where Plymouth Colony had established a trading post. Once there, he sailed past the Plymouth post, planning to intercept Natives coming with furs to trade. The Plymouth men, under the command of John Howland, went in a canoe to cut his anchor cables and force him downriver. In the ensuing altercation, John Hocking shot and killed one of the men in the canoe, and was then shot and killed himself. The Massachusetts Bay Colony's governor and council became involved in the resulting inter-colonial conflict, as did others in England, including the powerful Lord Saye and Sele and Lord Brookes. Eventually, the Plymouth colonists were exonerated. One of John Hocking's defenders in New England was a kinsman, but this man's identity is unknown.

Family: There is no evidence that John Hocking married or had children.

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.

Bradford, William. *History of Plimoth Plantation*. Edited by W. C. Ford. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1912.

Bradford, William. *Of Plymouth Plantation, 1620-1647*. Edited by Samuel Eliot Morison. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1952.