

# A genealogical profile of Thomas Rogers

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**Birth:** Thomas Rogers was born by about 1572, based on his date of marriage.

**Death:** He died in Plymouth in the first winter, 1620/1.

**Ship:** *Mayflower*, 1620

**Life in England:** Thomas Rogers was born in Watford, Northamptonshire, northwest of London, son of William and Eleanor Rogers. He married there in 1597 and left sometime after May 1613, the last recorded baptism of one of his children.

**Life in Holland:** The Rogers family was in Leiden by February 22, 1614, when Thomas bought a house on the Barbarasteeg. He became a citizen on June 25, 1618, and worked as a camlet-merchant (camlet is a mixed fiber fabric, originally made of silk and camel hair). Thomas sold the house on April 1, 1620. His wife and three of the children appeared in the 1622 poll tax, described as poor people, living in the kitchen or back part of the house.

**Life in New England:** Thomas came over with his son Joseph. He died the first winter and Joseph may have lived with Governor Bradford and family. Governor Bradford said of Thomas Rogers, "The rest of Thomas Rogers' [children] came over and are married and have many children." Since the only child known to have immigrated is John, and he had only four children, it would seem that his daughters followed later and have not yet been identified.

**Family:** Thomas Rogers married Alice Cosford on October 24, 1597, in Watford, Northamptonshire. She apparently died in Leiden sometime after the 1622 poll tax listing.

## Children (all baptized in Watford):

- Thomas was baptized March 24, 1598/9, and buried May 27, 1599.
- (possibly) Richard, baptized March 12, 1599/1600, and buried April 4, 1600.
- Joseph was baptized January 23, 1602/3. He married, assuming she was his only wife, a woman named Hannah \_\_\_\_\_ by 1633. They had eight children and died in Eastham in January 1677/8. He was buried in the Old Cove Burial Ground.
- John was baptized April 6, 1606. He came to Plymouth in 1630. John married Anna Churchman in Plymouth on April 16, 1639, and had four children. He died in Duxbury between August 26, 1691, and September 30, 1692.

- Elizabeth was baptized December 26, 1609. She was living in Leiden in 1622 and may have come to New England later in life.
- Margaret was baptized May 30, 1613. She was living in Leiden in 1622 and may have come to New England later in life.

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## 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.

*Mayflower Families through Five Generations: Vol. 19: Thomas Rogers*. Alice W. A. Westgate, comp. Plymouth: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 2000.

Clifford L. Stott. "The English Ancestry of Pilgrim Thomas Rogers and His Wife, Alice (Cosford) Rogers." *The Genealogist* 10 (1989, published 1998):138–49.

Robert S. Wakefield. "Mayflower Passengers Turner and Rogers: Possible Identification of Additional Children." *The American Genealogist* 52(1976): 110–113.



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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](http://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.

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508-746-1622; [www.plimoth.org](http://www.plimoth.org)

## RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- [www.PlymouthAncestors.org](http://www.PlymouthAncestors.org)
- [www.CyndisList.com](http://www.CyndisList.com)
- [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org)
- [www.USGenWeb.org](http://www.USGenWeb.org)



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## 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](http://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](http://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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