

# A Genealogical Profile of Myles Standish

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**Birth:** Myles Standish was born about 1593 (based on the estimated date of his first marriage).

**Death:** He died on October 3, 1656 in Duxbury and was buried in the Old Burying Ground.

**Ship:** *Mayflower*, 1620

**Life in England:** There is no information about his life in England, although there is some evidence for believing that he was born in Ellenbane on the Isle of Man.

**Life in Holland:** Myles Standish was a soldier in the Netherlands serving in the area of Leiden.

**Life in New England:** Myles Standish came over to take command of the colony's military affairs. As Captain, he was prominent in dealing with the area Natives as well as with other colonies on several occasions. He also returned to England for several months in 1625–6 as Plymouth's representative. He served as governor's assistant for many years, as well as Deputy Governor in 1653 and Treasurer, 1644–56. He was a freeman, first of Plymouth and later of Duxbury. His second wife, Barbara, came to Plymouth in 1623, either on the Anne or Little James. They were married before the new colonists received land for corn planting the following spring.

**Family:** Myles Standish married (1) Rose \_\_\_\_\_ by about 1618. She died on January 29, 1620/1, in Plymouth. He married (2) Barbara \_\_\_\_\_ by 1624 and had seven children. She died after October 6, 1659.

## Children of Myles and Barbara Standish:

- Charles was born in 1624. He died between May 22, 1627 and 1635.
- Alexander was born about 1626. He married (1) Sarah Alden by about 1660 and had eight children. She died before June 13, 1688. He married (2) Desire (Doty) (Sherman) Holmes by 1689 and had three children. He died on July 6, 1702. She died on January 22, 1731, in Marshfield.
- John was born about 1627. There is no further record.
- Myles was born about 1629. He married Sarah Winslow on July 19, 1660, in Boston, but there were no recorded children. He died at sea after March 20, 1661.
- Lora was born about 1631. She died by March 7, 1655/6, unmarried.

- Josias was born about 1633. He married (1) Mary Dingley on December 19, 1654, in Marshfield. She died on July 1, 1655, in Duxbury. He married (2) Sarah Allen after 1655 and had eight children. He died in Preston, CT on March 19, 1690. She died after September 16, 1690.

- Charles was born by about 1635. He was still living on March 7, 1655/6, but there is no further record.

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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.

Lawrence Hill. *Gentlemen of Courage- Forward*. Alderly Edge, Cheshire: Magnolia Publishing Company, 1987.

*Mayflower Families through Five Generations: Vol. 14: Myles Standish*. Robert S. Wakefield, editor. Plymouth: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1997.

Myles Standish. *The Standishes of America*. Boston: privately printed, 1895.

G.V.C. Young. *Pilgrim Myles Standish: First Manx-American*. Pell, Isle of Man: Mansk-Svenska, 1984.



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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*

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## 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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