

# A genealogical profile of Josiah Winslow

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**Birth:** Josiah Winslow was born on February 11, 1605/6, in Droitwich, Worcestershire.

**Death:** He was buried on December 1, 1674, in Marshfield.

**Ship:** Unknown, 1631

**Life in England:** Josiah Winslow was the youngest child of Edward and Magdalen (Oliver/Ollyver) Winslow of Droitwich, Worcestershire.

**Life in New England:** Josiah Winslow arrived in Plymouth in 1631, sent by the colony's investors to keep accounts. The investors accepted him initially for the sake of his brother, Edward Winslow, *Mayflower* passenger and Assistant Governor. Unfortunately, Josiah proved to be incompetent. William Bradford wrote that he "did wholly fail them and could never give them any account; but trusting to his memory and loose papers, let things run to such confusion that neither he nor any with him could bring things to rights." He was admitted a freeman of Plymouth on January 1, 1633/4, but moved to Marshfield by 1643. Josiah's confusion over financial matters apparently held to the last, and the court made void his conditional bequest of house and land to his son Jonathan, as he had already given the property to him at his marriage. Josiah was one of five brothers (Edward, John, Gilbert, Kenelm, and Josiah) who came to New England.

**Family:** Josiah Winslow married Margaret Bourne by 1637 and had six children. She died on September 28, 1683.

## Children of Josiah and Margaret Winslow:

- Elizabeth was born on September 24, 1637, in Marshfield. She was apparently accidentally shot and killed by her eight-year-old brother, Jonathan, in 1646.
- Jonathan was born on August 8, 1639, in Marshfield. He married Ruth Sargent by 1664 and had six children.
- Margaret was born on July 15 or 16, 1640, in Marshfield. She married John Miller on December 24, 1659, in Marshfield and had eight children.
- Rebecca was born on July 15, 1643, in Marshfield. She married John Thatcher by 1665 and had eight children.
- Hannah was born on November 30, 1644, in Marshfield. She married (1) William Crow on April 4, 1664, in Plymouth. She married (2) John Sturtevant by 1687 and had two children.
- Mary was born about 1646. She married John Tracy on June 10, 1670, in Marshfield and had one daughter.

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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.

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

Edgar Francis Waterman and Donald Lines Jacobus. *The Waterman Family, Volume I, Descendants of Robert Waterman*. New Haven, Connecticut: Edgar F. Waterman, 1939.



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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).

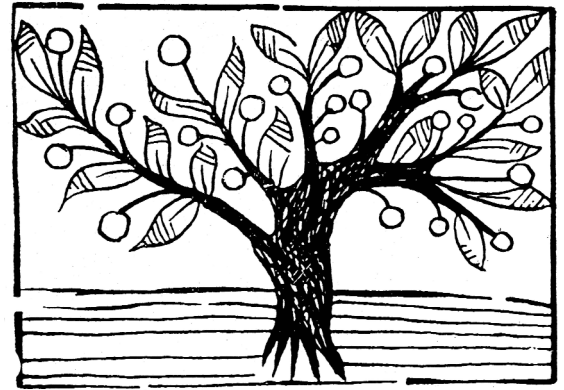
### Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

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.

Plimoth Plantation, 137 Warren Avenue, Plymouth, MA 02632;  
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)



## 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](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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