

# A genealogical profile of John Barnes

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**Birth:** John Barnes was born about 1608 based on his date of marriage.

**Death:** he died between March 6, 1667/8, when he wrote his will, and August 30, 1671, when his inventory was taken.

**Ship:** Unknown. He was in Plymouth prior to March 25, 1633.

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

**Life in New England:** John Barnes appeared frequently in the Plymouth Colony records. He bought and sold parcels of land in Plymouth, Puncateesett (near Rhode Island), Barnstable, Accushenah and Taunton. He also bought and sold the time of servants. He was occasionally in court on charges of slander or unfair trading practices. He served on a number of committees, including those to regulate wages, arrange accommodations for a new minister, repair the highway, construct a prison and survey meadows. He was a surveyor of highways for Plymouth on several years, surveyor of arms in 1643 and a selectman in 1650. He had problems with drinking, was fined by the court for drunkenness, and ultimately was disenfranchised on October 6, 1659. He was killed by his bull, who “suddenly turned about upon him and gave him a great wound with his horn in his right thigh, about eight inches long, in which his flesh was torn both broad and deep.” He died 32 hours later.

**Family:** John Barnes married (1) Mary Plummer on September 12, 1633, and had five children. He married (2) before March 1, 1652/3, Joan \_\_\_\_\_. She was still living on March 8, 1682/3.

## Children of John and Mary Barnes:

- Mary was born about 1640. She married Robert Marshall in Plymouth in 1660 and had two sons. She was not mentioned in her father’s will and may have died by then.
- Jonathan was born about 1642. He married Elizabeth Hedge on January 4, 1665, in Plymouth and had nine children.
- Hannah was born about 1644. She was still living on October 14, 1651, but there is no further information.
- John was born about 1646 and died in Plymouth on December 25, 1651.
- Lydia was born about 1646 and died before her father wrote his will on March 1667/8. There is no indication that she married or had children.

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## For Further Information:

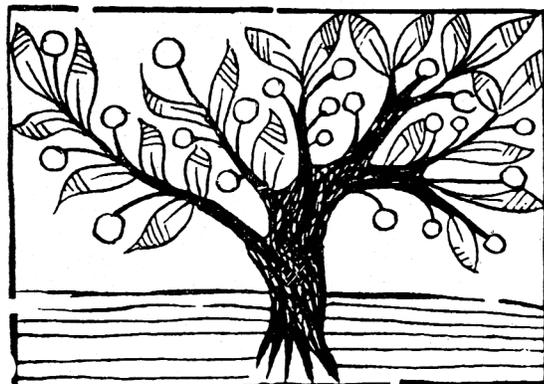
Robert C. Anderson. *The Great Migration Begins*. Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1995.

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

Darrett B. Rutman. *Husbandmen of Plymouth: Farms and Villages in the Old Colony, 1620–1692*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1967.

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

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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).

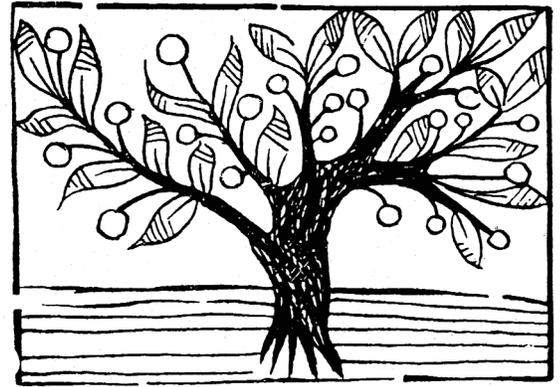
### Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

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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