

A genealogical profile of William Bennett

Birth: William Bennett was born about 1604.

Death: He died in Manchester on November 20, 1682.

Ship: Unknown. He arrived ca. 1632.

Life in England: There is no information about his life in England, although he may have trained as a carpenter there.

Life in New England: William Benett first appeared in Plymouth Colony in the tax list of March 25, 1633. He left for Salem within a year. He obtained land there and married. His wife was a member of the church and their children were baptized there. He served as a fenceviewer in 1640. By 1645 he had removed to the area that became Manchester. There he served on several juries, was constable in 1650 and 1662, and was a selectman in 1665 and 1679. Bennett was a carpenter, but at the age of 73 was licenced to keep an ordinary [tavern or inn], perhaps because he was no longer able to work.

Family: William Bennett married Janes Knowles about 1637, assuming she is the mother of all his children.

Children of William and Jane Bennett:

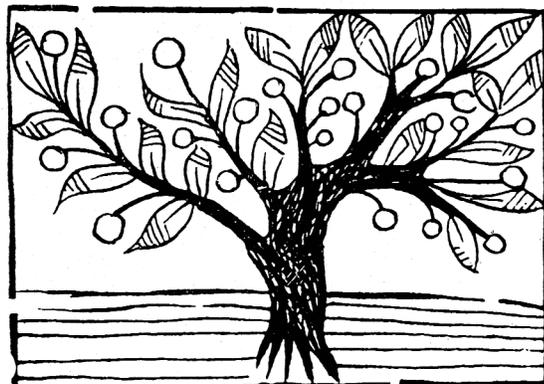
- Moses was born about 1637. He was baptized in the Salem church on July 2, 1643. He was living on November 20, 1682, apparently unmarried.
- Deliverance was born about 1639. She was baptized in the Salem church on October 8, 1657. She married Christopher Crow/Crowell in Salem on October 8, 1657, and had four children. She drowned off Nahant in 1680.
- Aaron was born about 1641. He was baptized in the Salem church on July 2, 1643. He married (1) Ann _____ by 1665 and had six children. He married (2) Elizabeth _____ by 1708. He died December 3, 1708, when his will was written, and Mach 21, 1709.
- Mary was baptized in Salem on September 3, 1654. She was living, unmarried, on November 20, 1682, the date of her father's will.

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.

Dean C. Smith. *The Ancestry of Samuel Blanchard Ordway, 1844-1916*. Edited by Melinde L. Sanborn. Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1990.



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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.

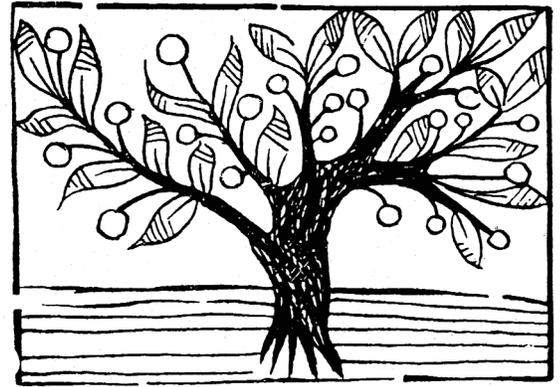
Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

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

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- www.PlymouthAncestors.org
- www.CyndisList.com
- www.FamilySearch.org
- 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

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

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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