

A genealogical profile of Henry Rowley

Birth: Henry Rowley was born by about 1605, based on his estimated date of marriage.

Death: He died between May 29, 1670, and July 1673.

Ship: Unknown, 1632

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

Life in New England: Henry Rowley first appeared in Plymouth records in the tax list of March 25, 1633. He was living in Scituate before September 1634, where he joined Rev. Lothrop's church. He moved to Barnstable about 1640. There he served as constable (1640, 1641), deputy to the Plymouth court (1643), and surveyor of highways (1646, 1647, 1653). The identification of Henry Rowley's wife as a Palmer rests on evidence found in William Palmer's will. In this document, Palmer referred to "Rebecca my Grandchild and Moyses Rowly whom I love," who were to get some part of his estate, which he stipulated were not "to put in their father or mothers hands but preserve it for them until they come to yeares of Discretion." He also wanted "yong Rowly" to be placed with the minister, Mr. Partridge, to be raised. These passages have led many to believe that Moses Rowley was a grandson by an unnamed daughter, although the will's language is unclear.

Family: Henry Rowley married (1) _____ (possibly Palmer, see above) by about 1630 in Plymouth and had two children. She died by 1633. He married (2) Anne (Elsdon) Blossom on October 17, 1633, in Plymouth but had no children.

Children of Henry and _____ Rowley:

- Sarah was born about 1630. She married Jonathan Hatch on April 11, 1646, in Barnstable and had eight children.
- Moses was born about 1632. He married Elizabeth Fuller on April 22, 1652, and had ten children. He died in East Haddam, Connecticut, on June 14, 1705. She died in Connecticut after March 7, 1714/5.

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.

Florence H. Barclay. "Notes on the Palmer Family of Plymouth." *The American Genealogist* 32 (1956): 39–45.

Mayflower Families through Five Generations: Vol. 4: Edward Fuller.

Bruce C. MacGinnigle. Plymouth: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1992.



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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.

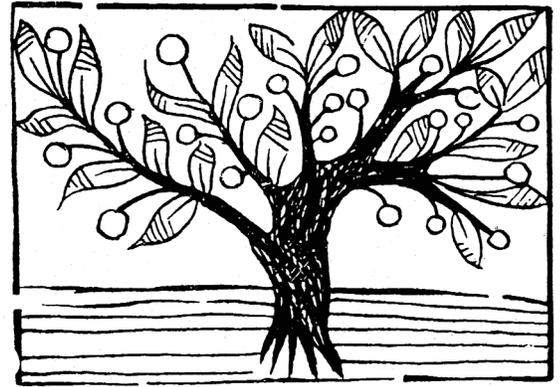
Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

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



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

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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