A genealogical profile of Edward Bangs

**Birth:** Edward Bangs was born in England about 1591.

**Death:** He died in Eastham between October 19, 1677, and March 5, 1677/8, describing himself in his will as “aged 86 years.”

**Ship:** *Anne* or *Little James*, 1623

**Life in England:** Edward has been tentatively identified as the son of John and Jane (Chavis) Bangs of Panfield, Essex, who was baptized on October 28, 1591.

**Life in New England:** Edward Bangs came to Plymouth in 1623. In the land division of that year he received four acres, causing some to believe that he had a wife and two children at that time. The other three people may, however, have been servants or other non-family members placed with him. Edward lived in Plymouth until about 1644 when he and a number of others moved to Nauset (Eastham). He was a freeman in 1633 and served in a number of offices, including “layer-out of lands,” deputy, surveyor, treasurer of Eastham, and on various juries and committees. In Eastham he was an innkeeper.

**Family:** Edward married Lydia Hicks by 1633 and possibly several years earlier. They had one son and she died within a year or two. He married (2) Rebecca _____ about 1635. They had nine children. She was not mentioned in his will and apparently predeceased him.

**Child of Edward and Lydia Bangs:**
- John was born about 1634, possibly earlier. He married Hannah Smalley on January 23, 1660/1, in Eastham but there are no children recorded. He died between January 27, 1702/3, and May 17, 1708.

**Children of Edward and Rebecca Bangs:**
- Rebecca was born about 1636. She married Jonathan Sparrow on October 26, 1654, in Eastham and had eight children. She died before October 19, 1677.
- Sarah was born about 1638. She married Thomas Howes, Jr. in Eastham about 1657 and had four children.
- Jonathan was born about 1640. He married (1) Mary Mayo in Eastham on July 16, 1664, and had twelve children. He married (2) Sarah _____ by 1719 and (3) Mrs. Ruth Young on July 23, 1720. He died in Brewster on November 9, 1728.
- Lydia was born about 1642. She married Benjamin Higgins on December 24, 1661, in Eastham and had nine children.
- Hannah was born about 1644. She married John Doane on April 30, 1662, in Eastham and had eight children. She was still alive in 1677.
- Joshua was born about 1646. He married Hannah Scudder on December 1, 1669, in Eastham, but left no children. He died on January 14, 1711.
- Bethia was born on May 28, 1650. She married Gershom Hall by 1669 and had five children. She died on October 15, 1696.
- Mercy was born October 15, 1651. She married Stephen Merrick on December 28, 1670, in Eastham and had five children.
- Apphia, her twin, married (1) John Knowles on December 28, 1670, and had two sons. She married (2) Stephen Atwood Jr. by March 6, 1677, and had three or four children.

**For Further Information:**
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.


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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

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


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