A genealogical profile of Thomas Brian

Birth: Nothing is known of Thomas Brian’s date or place of birth.

Death: Nothing is known of his date or place of death.

Ship: Unknown, possibly 1630


Life in New England: Thomas Brian was the servant of Samuel Eddy, who arrived in New England in 1630. On January 10, 1632/3, Brian was brought before the Plymouth Court for running away from his master. He was found guilty and whipped, afterwards being returned to his master. There is no further mention of him in Plymouth records. In 1642, Isaac Allerton’s servant, a Thomas Briant, was released from prison, where he had been for two months for some unrecorded offence. The similarity of names has led to speculation that they were the same man, although the lapse of time between records makes this identification doubtful.

Family: There is no evidence that Thomas Brian married or had 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.


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

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

A collaboration between PLIMOTH PLANTATION and the NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY* www.PlymouthAncestors.org