A genealogical profile of Edmund Chandler

Birth: He was born in England, probably by 1587.

Death: He died in Duxbury between May 3, 1662, the date of his will, and June 2, 1662, the date of his inventory.

Ship: Unknown, probably 1629 or 1630 [see below]


Life in Holland: Edmund Chandler has been identified as the man of that name in Leiden by 1613. In that year he became a citizen. He held three known occupations in Leiden, say weaver, draper and [tobacco] pipe maker. He buried a child at the Pieterskerk in 1619, at which time he lived on the Nieuwestedt. He probably left Leiden in 1629 or 1630, when many of the congregation emigrated to Plymouth Colony.

Life in New England: The first mention of Edmund Chandler in the colony’s records was in the recording of his name in the 1633 list of freemen. He lived in Duxbury, where he served on various committees and as constable in 1636 and 1637. Chandler’s name appeared in a number of land deals. At his death, he owned property in Duxbury, Bridgewater and Dartmouth. In his will, he gave three of his daughters “three thousand and five hundred [weight?] of sugar which belongs to me in Barbadoes.” As one of his sons sailed for Barbadoes, where he died, Edmund Chandler might have had investments there as well. He may have been the brother of Roger Chandler, another colonist who had lived in Leiden.

Family: Edmund Chandler had at least one wife and probably two, as there is a significant gap between his third and fourth children. Neither of the wives are known by name. He made no mention of a wife in his will and was probably a widower.

Children of Edmund and ______ Chandler:
- Samuel was born about 1612. He married by 1673, but the wife’s name is unknown. There were no recorded children. He died in Duxbury in 1683.
- [Probably] Lydia was born about 1614. She married Richard Higgins in Plymouth on December 11, 1634, and had two sons. She died before 1651.
- A child was buried in Pieterskerk on March 26, 1619.

Children of Edmund and _____ Chandler [birth order uncertain]:
- John was born about 1632. He sailed for Barbadoes in 1653 and apparently died there. There is no evidence for a wife or children.
- Sarah was born about 1638. She was named in her father’s 1662 will, but there is no further information.
- Anna was born about 1640. She was named in her father’s 1662 will, but there is no further information.
- Mary was born about 1642. She was named in her father’s 1662 will, but there is no further information.
- Benjamin was born about 1644. He married Elizabeth Buck by 1672 and had at least two children.
- Joseph was born about 1646. He married Mercy _____ by 1673 and had six children. He died in 1721.
- Ruth was born about 1648. She was named in her father’s 1662 will, but there is no further information.

For Further Information:
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