

A genealogical profile of William Collier

Birth: William Collier was born about 1585, based on his date of marriage.

Death: He died after May 29, 1670, and before July 5, 1671.

Ship: Unknown, 1633

Life in England: William Collier was a grocer in England. He had apprenticed to William Russell and became a member of the Grocers' Company of London on March 3, 1627/8. He was one of the financial backers of Plymouth Colony. He lived in the parish of St. Olave, Southwark, Surrey and operated a brew-house in London.

Life in New England: William Collier was admitted as a free-man of Plymouth in January 1633/4. He removed to Duxbury after 1639. William Collier was a very influential man in Plymouth Colony, serving as Assistant Governor for many years, as well as on numerous committees.

Family: William Collier married Jane Clark in Southwark on May 16, 1611, and had thirteen children. She died after June 28, 1666.

Children of William and Jane Collier:

- Mary was baptized in Southwark in February 18, 1611/2. She married Thomas Prence on April 1, 1635, in Plymouth as his second wife and had two children. She died before 1644. He died on March 29, 1673.
- Hannah was baptized in Southwark on September 14, 1613. She was buried there on August 31, 1625. Rebecca was baptized in Southwark on January 10, 1614/5. She married Job Cole in Plymouth on May 15, 1634, and had three children. He died after 1683 and before his wife's death. She died in Eastham on December 29, 1698.
- Sarah was baptized in Southwark on April 30, 1616. She married Love Brewster on May 15, 1634, in Plymouth and had four children. He died in 1650. She married (2) Richard Parke after September 1, 1656. She died in in Plymouth on April 26, 1691.
- John was baptized in Southwark on March 18, 1616/7, and buried there August 24, 1618.
- Elizabeth was baptized in Southwark on March 9, 1618/9. She married Constant Southworth on November 2, 1637, in Plymouth and had eight children. He died on March 11, 1678/9. She died sometime after her husband's will was written, February 10, 1678/9.
- John was baptized in Southwark on March 23, 1619/20, and buried there August 6, 1625.
- Catheren was buried in Southwark on January 13, 1621/2.
- James was baptized in Bermondsey on March 16, 1622/3, and buried in Southwark on August 24, 1624.
- Martha was baptized in Bermondsey on March 28, 1624, and buried in Southwark on May 30, 1625.

- William was buried in Southwark on August 12, 1625.
- Lydia was baptized in Southwark on March 8, 1625/6, and buried there four days later.
- Ruth was born about 1628. She married Daniel Cole by 1644 and had five children. She died in Eastham on December 15, 1694.

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. John G. Hunt. "Origin of Three Early Plymouth Families: Cole, Collier, and Clarke." *The American Genealogist* 42 (1966): 119–21.

Robert S. Wakefield. "The Children of William Collier." *The American Genealogist* 49 (1973): 215–16.

Robert S. Wakefield. "More on the Children of William Collier." *The American Genealogist* 51 (1975): 58.



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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.

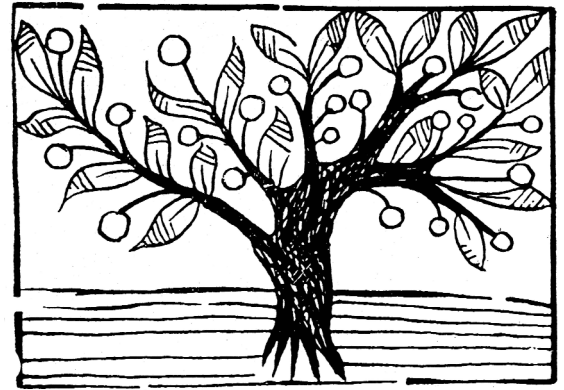
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RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- 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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