

A Genealogical Profile of Godbert Godbertson

(also written as Cutbert Cutbertson)

Birth: Godbert Godbertson was born by 1592 based on his date of marriage.

Death: He died in Plymouth between July 1 and October 24, 1633.

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

Life in Holland: Godbert Godbertson was originally from “Oostland,” the area around Danzig, Poland. He was living in Leiden by April 1615, where he was a hatter. While in Leiden, he attended the English Separatist church.

Life in New England: Godbert Godbertson came to Plymouth with his family, including two stepdaughters, in 1623. He was a freeman of the colony. He and his wife both died in 1633 during an outbreak of smallpox. The inventory taken after their deaths was the earliest in Plymouth to include both the wife’s and husband’s possessions. The estate at their deaths was heavily indebted, including one entry to Sarah’s brother, Isaac Allerton, of over £75.

Family: Godbert Godbertson married (1) Elizabeth Kendall on May 27, 1617, in Leiden. He married (2) Sarah (Allerton) (Vincent) Priest on November 13, 1621, or shortly after in Leiden. She was the sister of Mayflower passenger Isaac Allerton and the widow of fellow passenger Degory Priest, who died in Plymouth in the winter of 1620/1, and had two daughters by him.

Children of Degory and Sarah Priest:

- Marah was born about 1612. She married Phineas Pratt by about 1633 and had eight children. She died in Charleston in 1689. Her name is often given as “Mary,” but Marah, meaning “bitterness” in Hebrew, taken from Ruth 1:20, was her name.
- Sarah was born about 1614. She married John Coombs about 1632 and had two sons. By October 1646, she had gone to England, and presumably died there.

Child of Gobert and Sarah Godbertson:

- Samuel Godbertson was born in Leiden about 1622. He eventually settled in Dartmouth. He married a woman whose name is unknown, and had one son.

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.

Mayflower Families through Five Generations: Vol. 8: Degory Priest. Robert S. Wakefield, editor. Plymouth: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1994.

Eugene A. Stratton. *Plymouth Colony: Its History and People, 1620–1691*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry Publishing, 1986.



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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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