A genealogical profile of Thomas Tilden

**Birth:** Thomas Tilden was most likely born in England.

**Death:** The date and place of his death are unknown.

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

**Life in England:** Nothing is known of his life in England.

**Life in New England:** Thomas Tilden arrived in Plymouth Colony in the summer of 1623. In the land division of 1623 he received three acres, probably one each for himself, a wife and child. His name does not appear in the division of cattle held in Plymouth Colony on May 22, 1627, so he had died or left the colony by that time.

**Family:** Assuming the two additional acres were assigned to a wife and child, Thomas Tilden was married by 1622. He has been tentatively identified as a brother of Nathaniel Tilden of Tenterton, Kent, who emigrated to New England in 1635, but this hypothesis remains unproved.

**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.

G E N E A L O G I C A L L I B R A R I E S I N P L Y M O U T H

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

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