

# A genealogical profile of Edward Tilley

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**Birth:** Edward Tilley was baptized at Henlow, Bedfordshire on May 27, 1588, son of Robert and Elizabeth (\_\_\_\_) Tilley.

**Death:** He died in Plymouth Colony in the winter of 1620/1.

**Ship:** *Mayflower*, 1620

**Life in England:** Edward Tilley most likely lived in Henlow until he emigrated to the Netherlands sometime after his marriage.

**Life in Holland:** Edward Tilley worked as a weaver in Leiden.

**Life in New England:** Edward Tilley, his wife, Agnes, and two relatives, Humilty Cooper and Henry Sampson, came to Plymouth Colony in 1620. Edward was a member of several exploring parties, during one of which, he “had like to have sounded [swooned] with cold.” The Tilleyes both died during the winter of 1620/1 although both children survived.

**Family:** Edward Tilley and Agnes Cooper were married on June 20, 1614, in Henlow, Bedfordshire. There are no recorded children.

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## ***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.

Robert L. Ward. “English Ancestry of Seven *Mayflower* Passengers: Tilley, Sampson, and Cooper.” *The American Genealogist* 52 (1976): 198–208.



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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](http://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](http://www.plimoth.org)

## RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- [www.PlymouthAncestors.org](http://www.PlymouthAncestors.org)
- [www.CyndisList.com](http://www.CyndisList.com)
- [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org)
- [www.USGenWeb.org](http://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](http://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](http://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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