

A genealogical profile of Christopher Wadsworth

Birth: Christopher Wadsworth was born about 1609, based on the estimated date of his marriage.

Death: He died after July 31, 1677, the date of his will, and before October 27, 1680.

Ship: Unknown, 1632

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

Life in New England: Christopher Wadsworth settled first in Plymouth, and appeared on both the tax list and list of freemen in 1633. He was appointed constable for the Duxbury area on January 1, 1633/4, before the town was named, and Duxbury constable in 1637 and 1638. He served on numerous juries and committees and was deputy for Duxbury to the Plymouth General court several years between 1640 and 1667. He was also a selectman for the town between 1666 and 1671.

Family: Christopher Wadsworth married Grace _____ by about 1634 and had four children. She died between January 13, 1687/8, the date of her will, and June 13, 1688, when the will was probated.

Children of Christopher and Grace Wadsworth:

- Joseph was born about 1634. He married Mary _____ at an unknown date and had six children.
- Samuel was born about 1636. He married Abigail Lindall about 1660 and had seven children. He died in April 1676 at Sudbury during King Philip's War.
- John was born about 1638. He married Abigail Andrews on July 25, 1667, in Duxbury and had five children. He died in Duxbury on May 15, 1700. She died in November 1723 in Duxbury.
- Mary was born about 1640. She married Henry Andrews about 1659 as his second wife and had five children.

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.



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PLYMOUTH ANCESTORS

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.

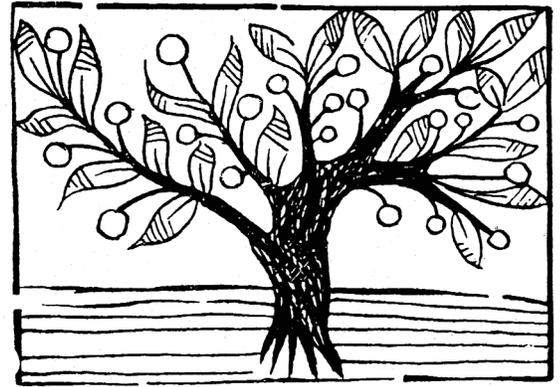
Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

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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