

A genealogical profile of Walter Woodworth

Birth: Walter Woodworth was born about 1612, based on his inclusion in the 1633 tax list.

Death: He died between November 26, 1685, the date of his will, and February 25, 1685/6, when his inventory was taken.

Ship: Unknown, 1633

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

Life in New England: Walter Woodworth first appeared in Plymouth records on the tax list of 1633/4. He moved to Scituate by 1643. There he held several offices including surveyor of highways (1645, 1646, 1656) and arbiter (1645, 1662/3, 1665). He was included in the June 1662 list of servants and ancient freemen eligible for land, and received one share of land at Saconnet [Little Compton, Rhode Island].

Family: Walter Woodworth married _____ by 1641 and had ten children. She died about 1664.

Children of Walter and _____ Woodworth:

- Thomas was born about 1641. He married Deborah Damon on February 8, 1666/7, in Scituate.
- Sarah was born about 1643. She was apparently married by November 26, 1685, but nothing further is known.
- Joseph was born about 1645. He married Sarah Stockbridge on January 6, 1669/70, in Scituate and had eight children. He died between December 3, 1712, and June 13, 1718. She died sometime after December 3, 1712.
- Elizabeth was born about 1648. She had an illegitimate child by Robert Stetson Junior by July 22, 1676. She was apparently married by November 26, 1685, but nothing further is known.
- Mary was born on March 10, 1650/1, in Scituate. She married Aaron Simmons/Simonson on December 24, 1677, and had six children.
- Benjamin was born about 1656. He married (1) Deborah _____ by about 1680 and had at least two daughters. He married (2) Hannah _____ by 1691.
- Isaac was born about 1658. He married Lydia Stanlake at an unknown date.
- Martha was born about 1660. She married Zachary Damon in June 1679 in Scituate and had six children.
- Mehitabel was born on August 15, 1662, in Scituate. She was unmarried on November 26, 1685.
- Abigail was born about 1664. She was unmarried on November 26, 1685.

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.

Roger D. Joslyn. "The Descendants of John¹ Stockbridge." *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 133 (1979): 93–101.

Jeannette Woodworth Belan. *The Woodworth Family of America: Descendants of Walter Woodworth Through Six Generations*. Torrington, Connecticut: the author, 1988.



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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.

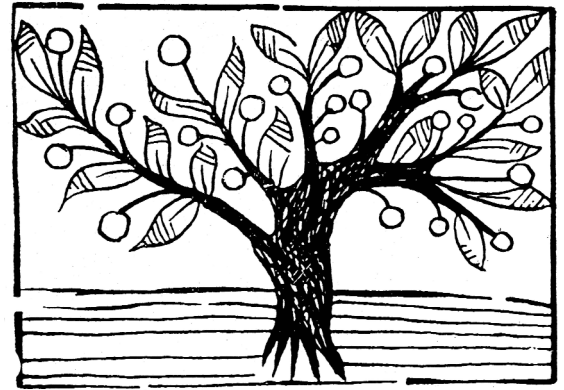
Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

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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