

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: Henry Howland

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Henry Howland was born about 1603, probably in Fen Stanton, Huntingdonshire.

Death: He died on January 1, 1670/1, in Duxbury.

Ship: Unknown, 1632

Life in England: Henry Howland was the son of Henry Howland and Margaret (—) of Fen Stanton, one of six children. His older brother Humphrey was a member of the Drapers' Company of London. Their brother Simon was apprenticed to Humphrey in 1622 and made free of the company on March 24, 1629. Henry was apprenticed to Humphrey on October 1, 1623, but apparently never finished his apprenticeship.

Life in New England: Henry Howland first appeared in Plymouth records in the 1633 list of Plymouth freemen. He moved to Duxbury in 1636. Henry Howland served on many juries and was the Duxbury surveyor of highways in 1656 and 1668. By December 22, 1657, he was a Quaker sympathizer and had allowed religious meetings in his house, which was against the law. He continued to behave as a Quaker "or manifest encourager of such" and ultimately was disenfranchised on October 6, 1659.

Family: Henry Howland married Mary _____ by 1628, assuming she was the mother of all his children, and had eight children. She died on June 16, 1674, in Duxbury.

Children of Henry and Mary Howland:

- Abigail was born about 1628. She married John Young on December 13, 1648, in Plymouth and had eleven children. He died in Eastham on January 28, 1690/1. She died on April 7, 1692.
- Zoeth was born about 1631. He married Abigail _____ by 1657 and had nine children. He was killed on March 26, 1678, at Pocasset (Tiverton, Rhode Island) during King Philip's War. She married (2) Richard Kirby in November 1678.
- Samuel was born about 1638. He married Mary Sampson about 1673 and had nine children. She died after February 4, 1714/5. He died before April 18, 1716, at Freetown. John was born about 1641. He married Mary Walker on January 29, 1684/5. He died in Freetown before August 8, 1687.
- Mary was born about 1643. She married James Cudworth by 1665 and had seven children. He died before December 17, 1697. She died in Scituate between November 4, 1699, and January 5, 1699/1700.
- Sarah was born about 1645. She married Robert Dennis on November 19, 1672, in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, and had five children. He died in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, on June 5, 1691. She died in Portsmouth on October 2, 1712.
- Elizabeth was born about 1647. She married Jedidiah Allen by about 1669 and had thirteen children. He died in Shrewsbury, New Jersey, on January 21, 1711/2. She died after February 8, 1711/2.
- Joseph was born about 1649. He married Rebecca Hussey in Hampton on May 4, 1683, and had four children. He died on August 15, 1692. She married (2) Samuel Collins on August 20, 1695, and had seven children. She died on June 4, 1739.