

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: William Palmer

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: William Palmer was born in England about 1581 (based on the estimated date of his first marriage).

Death: He died in Duxbury in November 1637.

Ship: *Fortune*, 1621

Life in England: Little is known of his life in England. He apparently married and had children there, two of whom remained.

Life in New England: William and his son, William, Jr., came to Plymouth on the *Fortune*. His wife came over in the summer of 1623 on the *Anne* or *Little James*. He was a freeman of Plymouth in 1633 and later moved to Duxbury. He was a nailer, and his inventory listed tools including a bellows and anvil.

Family: William married (1) Frances _____ by about 1606 in England, and had four children. He married (2) Mary _____ by 1637 and had one son. She married (2) Robert Paddock by October 20, 1646, and (3) Thomas Roberts on March 24, 1650/1, in Plymouth.

Children of William and Frances Palmer (order uncertain):

- Henry was born about 1606. He was mentioned in his father's 1637 will, but there is no further information.
- Bridget was born about 1608. She was mentioned in her father's 1637 will, but there is no further information.
- A daughter, name unknown, was born about 1610. She married Henry Rowley by about 1630 and had two children. She died by 1633.
- William was born about 1612. He married Elizabeth Hodgkins on March 27, 1634, in Plymouth and had one daughter. He died before August 25, 1636.
- Child of William and Mary Palmer:
- William was born on June 27, 1638, in Duxbury. He married Susanna _____ about 1662 and had at least three children. He died in Dartmouth in 1675.