

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: Josias Cooke

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Josias Cooke was born about 1610.

Death: He died in Eastham on October 17, 1673.

Ship: Unknown, 1633

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

Life in New England: Josias Cooke first appeared in the Plymouth records with Edward Doty on a charge of breaking the peace. He was admitted as a freeman on January 3, 1636/7. He left Plymouth for Eastham sometime after 1639 and before 1647. Primarily a farmer, he was also licensed to sell wine in Nauset [Eastham] in 1648. Josias Cooke served on a number of juries. He was a highway surveyor and constable in Plymouth, and served many years as a deputy to the court for Eastham. He became the Town Clerk of Eastham on June 7, 1648, and on June 8, 1664, was authorized by the Court to make contracts of marriage for the town of Eastham, administer oaths and issue warrants.

Family: Josias Cooke married Elizabeth (Ring) Deane, the widow of Stephen Deane, in Plymouth on September 16, 1635, and had three children. She died in Eastham by May 3, 1687.

Children of Josias and Elizabeth Cooke:

- Anna was born about 1636. She married Mark Snow in Eastham on January 18, 1654/5, and had one daughter. She died at Eastham on July 24, 1656. He married (2) Jane Prence and had eight children. He died in Eastham in 1694.
- Bethia was born about 1640. She married Joseph Harding in Eastham on April 4, 1660, and had nine children.
- Josiah was born about 1643. He married Deborah Hopkins in Eastham on July 27, 1668, and had eight children. She died between February 28, 1686/7, and December 7, 1727. He died in Eastham on January 31, 1731/2.