

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: Degory Priest

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Degory Priest was born about 1580 in England. He was “about 40” in April 1619.

Death: He died in Plymouth Colony on January 1, 1620/1.

Ship: *Mayflower*, 1620

Life in England: Degory Priest identified himself as coming from London in his betrothal to Sarah Vincent in Leiden.

Life in Holland: Degory Priest was in Leiden by November 1611. He was a hatter.

Life in New England: Degory Priest came to Plymouth Colony in 1620, leaving his wife and two daughters in Leiden. He died in the winter of 1620/1.

Family: Degory Priest married Sarah (____) Vincent, widow of John Vincent, on November 4, 1611, and had two daughters. She married (2) Godbert Godbertson in Leiden on or shortly after November 13, 1621, and had one son. Both Sarah and Godbert Godbertson died in Plymouth in 1633.

Children of Degory and Sarah Priest:

- Marah was born about 1612. She married Phineas Pratt by about 1633 and had eight children. She died in Charlestown in 1689. Her name is often given as “Mary,” but it was Marah, meaning “bitterness” in Hebrew, taken from Ruth 1:20.
- Sarah was born about 1614. She married John Coombs about 1632 and had two sons. She went to England by October 1646, and presumably died there.