Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: William Honywell

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Nothing is known of William Honywell's date of place of birth.

Death: He died after June 1, 1641.

Ship: Unknown, by June 24, 1633

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

Life in New England: William Honywell first appeared in Plymouth records when he agreed on June 24, 1633, to serve Thomas Prence for seven years in return for 25 acres of land and 12 bushels of Indian corn. On February 28, 1639/40, the terms were altered and Honywell was to plant and tend corn on Thomas Prence's land "newly taken in" on the south side of town until harvest. At that time he was to have half of the corn grown and 25 acres of land. On June 1, 1641, he was to have the land due him for his service at Jones River,"or some other convenient place." This agreement was the last record which can be definitely attributed to the 1633 colonist. His name did not appear in the 1643 list of men able to bear arms or any other colonial record thereafter. A William Honywell was charged with bestiality, but not convicted, in 1665/6, but it is not clear that this was the same man.

Family: There is no evidence that William Honywell married or had children.