

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: Daniel Ray

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Daniel Ray was born about 1597, based on his date of marriage.

Death: He died before June 24, 1662.

Ship: Unknown, 1630

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

Life in New England: Daniel Ray, a seaman, was one of the men who originally came to Plymouth Colony but quickly removed to Massachusetts Bay. On June 9, 1630, Anthony Annable had sold a dwelling house and “garden plot & fence” to Daniel Ray in Plymouth. Some time in 1631, he moved to Salem. There he held various offices, including selectman (1636–7), Assessor (1639/40), Tythingman (1644), and Constable (1639). At his death, Daniel Ray owned property including “a farm of one hundred sixty acres of upland and ten acres of meadow.”

Family: Daniel Ray married Bethia ____ by 1637, and probably years earlier if she was the mother of all his children. They had two children. She was still living in 1662.

Children of Daniel and Bethia Ray:

- Joshua was born by about 1627. He married Sarah Walters on February 26, 1651/2, in Salem and had nine children. She died May 19, 1700.
- Bethia was born about 1630. She married (1) Thomas Lothrop before 1652. She married (2) Joseph Grafton by June 1676 as his second wife. She married (3) William Goodhue by 1685 as his third wife. She died December 6, 1686, leaving no children.