

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: Myles Standish

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Myles Standish was born about 1593 (based on the estimated date of his first marriage).

Death: He died on October 3, 1656 in Duxbury and was buried in the Old Burying Ground.

Ship: *Mayflower*, 1620

Life in England: There is no information about his life in England, although there is some evidence for believing that he was born in Ellenbane on the Isle of Man.

Life in Holland: Myles Standish was a soldier in the Netherlands serving in the area of Leiden.

Life in New England: Myles Standish came over to take command of the colony's military affairs. As Captain, he was prominent in dealing with the area Natives as well as with other colonies on several occasions. He also returned to England for several months in 1625–6 as Plymouth's representative. He served as governor's assistant for many years, as well as Deputy Governor in 1653 and Treasurer, 1644–56. He was a freeman, first of Plymouth and later of Duxbury. His second wife, Barbara, came to Plymouth in 1623, either on the Anne or Little James. They were married before the new colonists received land for corn planting the following spring.

Family: Myles Standish married (1) Rose _____ by about 1618. She died on January 29, 1620/1, in Plymouth. He married (2) Barbara _____ by 1624 and had seven children. She died after October 6, 1659.

Children of Myles and Barbara Standish:

- Charles was born in 1624. He died between May 22, 1627 and 1635.
- Alexander was born about 1626. He married (1) Sarah Alden by about 1660 and had eight children. She died before June 13, 1688. He married (2) Desire (Doty) (Sherman) Holmes by 1689 and had three children. He died on July 6, 1702. She died on January 22, 1731, in Marshfield.
- John was born about 1627. There is no further record.
- Myles was born about 1629. He married Sarah Winslow on July 19, 1660, in Boston, but there were no recorded children. He died at sea after March 20, 1661.
- Lora was born about 1631. She died by March 7, 1655/6, unmarried.
- Josias was born about 1633. He married (1) Mary Dingley on December 19, 1654, in Marshfield. She died on July 1, 1655, in Duxbury. He married (2) Sarah Allen after 1655 and had eight children. He died in Preston, CT on March 19, 1690. She died after September 16, 1690.
- Charles was born by about 1635. He was still living on March 7, 1655/6, but there is no further record.