

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: Edward Bangs

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Edward Bangs was born in England about 1591.

Death: He died in Eastham between October 19, 1677, and March 5, 1677/8, describing himself in his will as “aged 86years.”

Ship: *Anne* or *Little James*, 1623

Life in England: Edward has been tentatively identified as the son of John and Jane (Chavis) Bangs of Panfield, Essex, who was baptized on October 28, 1591.

Life in New England:

Edward Bangs came to Plymouth in 1623. In the land division of that year he received four acres, causing some to believe that he had a wife and two children at that time. The other three people may, however, have been servants or other non-family members placed with him. Edward lived in Plymouth until about 1644 when he and a number of others moved to Nauset (Eastham). He was a freeman in 1633 and served in a number of offices, including “layer-out of lands,” deputy, surveyor, treasurer of Eastham, and on various juries and committees. In Eastham he was an innkeeper.

Family:

Edward married Lydia Hicks by 1633 and possibly several years earlier. They had one son and she died within a year or two. He married (2) Rebecca _____ about 1635. They had nine children. She was not mentioned in his will and apparently predeceased him.

Child of Edward and Lydia Bangs:

- John was born about 1634, possibly earlier. He married Hannah Smalley on January 23, 1660/1, in Eastham but there are no children recorded. He died between January 27, 1702/3, and May 17, 1708.

Children of Edward and Rebecca Bangs:

- Rebecca was born about 1636. She married Jonathan Sparrow on October 26, 1654, in Eastham and had eight children. She died before October 19, 1677.
- Sarah was born about 1638. She married Thomas Howes, Jr. in Eastham about 1657 and had four children.
- Jonathan was born about 1640. He married (1) Mary Mayo in Eastham on July 16, 1664, and had twelve children. He married (2) Sarah _____ by 1719 and (3) Mrs. Ruth Young on July 23, 1720. He died in Brewster on November 9, 1728.
- Lydia was born about 1642. She married Benjamin Higgins on December 24, 1661, in Eastham and had nine children.
- Hannah was born about 1644. She married John Doane on April 30, 1662, in Eastham and had eight children. She was still alive in 1677.
- Joshua was born about 1646. He married Hannah Scudder on December 1, 1669, in Eastham, but left no children. He died on January 14, 1711.
- Bethia was born on May 28, 1650. She married Gershom Hall by 1669 and had five children. She died on October 15, 1696.
- Mercy was born October 15, 1651. She married Stephen Merrick on December 28, 1670, in Eastham and had five children.
- Apphia, her twin, married (1) John Knowles on December 28, 1670, and had two sons. She married (2) Stephen

Atwood Jr. by March 6, 1677, and had three or four children.