

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: John Cooke

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: John Cooke was probably born in England before 1607.

Death: He died after August 2, 1653.

Ship: Unknown, 1633

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

Life in New England: John Cooke was listed in the Plymouth tax list of March 27, 1634. He was designated by the term “Senior,” meaning he was older than the John Cooke, son of Francis Cooke, who also lived in Plymouth at this time. The terms “Senior” or “Junior” as used in the colonial records indicated a difference in age, but did not imply a blood relationship. The records do not always specify which of the John Cookes were meant so research is difficult. John Cooke, senior’s sale of a house and garden plot on August 2, 1653, is the last record which can be confidently attributed to him, and he may have left Plymouth at this time.

Family: There is no evidence that John Cooke married or had children.