

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: Robert Barker

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Robert Barker was born about 1616.

Death: He died between February 18, 1689, the date of his will, and March 14, 1691/2, when his lands were divided.

Ship: Unknown

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

Life in New England: The first mention of Robert Barker in the Plymouth Colony records is a complaint by him about his master, carpenter John Thorp, reported to the Court on January 20, 1632/3. Seven months later, his master having died, his apprenticeship was given to William Palmer, who was to teach him the trade of nailer. There is no evidence that Barker practiced either trade as an adult. He was a ferryman in Marshfield in 1645 and an innkeeper there from 1646. He moved to Duxbury in 1653. He served on a number of juries and was a surveyor of highways in Marshfield in 1645 and in Duxbury several times between 1654 and 1679.

Family: He married Luce/Lucy _____ by 1642 if she was the mother of all his children. She was still living on March 7, 1681/2.

Children of Robert and Lucy Barker:

- Isaac was born about 1642. He married Judith Prentice in Plymouth on December 28, 1665, and had ten children. He died in Duxbury on February 14, 1688/9.
- Francis was born about 1646. He married Mary Lincoln in Duxbury on January 5, 1674, and had five children. He died after 1713/4.
- Rebecca Barker was born about 1650. She married (1) Josiah Snow around 1669 and had ten children. She married (2) John Sawyer on November 23, 1694. She died in Marshfield on April 28, 1711.
- Robert was born about 1651. He married (1) Alice Snow by 1682 and had eight children. She died after September 5, 1697. He married (2) Phebe (Cook) (Arnold) Marsh after October 9, 1705. He died September 25, 1729.
- Abigail was born about 1657. She married Joseph Rogers by 1677 and had nine children. He died before July 16, 1716. She died before June 10, 1718.