Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: John Turner

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: John Turner was most likely born in England by 1590.
Death: He died in Plymouth Colony during the winter of 1620/1.
Ship: Mayflower, 1620
Life in England: Nothing is known of his life in England.
Life in Holland: He was in Leiden by 1610 when he became a citizen. At that time he was a merchant.
Life in New England: John Turner came to Plymouth Colony with two sons. All three died during the winter of 1620/1.
Family: John Turner married probably by 1615. They had at least two sons whom Turner brought with him to Plymouth Colony. It is believed that his wife stayed behind in Leiden. William Bradford in his account of the <i>Mayflower's</i> passengers wrote that John Turner "had a daughter came some years after [1620] to Salem where she is now living." An orphan named Elizabeth Turner appeared in a 1622 list in Leiden, who could have this daughter. At Elizabeth Turner was in Salem in 1635. She has been tentatively identified as the daughter of this John Turner.
Children of John and Turner:

- A son was born, possibly around 1615. He died in Plymouth Colony in the winter of 1620/1.
- A son was born, possibly around 1615. He died in Plymouth Colony in the winter of 1620/1.
- Elizabeth was born perhaps about 1619. She married in Salem between 1637 and 1650, but there is no further information.