

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: Edward Foster

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: Edward Foster was born about 1610, based on his date of marriage.

Death: He died between November 24, 1643, the date of his will, and February 22, 1643/4, the date of his inventory.

Ship: Unknown, 1632

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

Life in New England: Edward Foster was named in the March 23, 1633, tax list for Plymouth. Sometime between March and September 1634, he moved to Scituate. He joined the church there on January 8, 1634/5, and became a deacon on February 22, 1637/8. When the congregation split in 1639, with Reverend Lothrop and many of the church members leaving for Barnstable, the Fosters were among those who stayed. He served as deputy for Scituate to the Plymouth court in the years 1639, 1640 and 1641. He also served on several juries and several committees.

Family: Edward Foster married Lettice Hanford in Scituate on April 8, 1635, and had three children. She married (2) Edward Jenkins by about 1650.

Children of Edward and Lettice Foster:

- Timothy was baptized in Scituate on March 7, 1636/7. He was buried there on December 5, 1637.
- Timothy was baptized in Scituate on April 22, 1638. He married (1) Ruth (Tileston) Denton on October 13, 1663, in Dorchester as her second husband and had six children. He married (2) Relief (Holland) Dowse on March 9, 1681/2, in Dorchester as her second husband and had three children.
- Elizabeth was born in Scituate in 1644. She married (1) Ephraim Hewett in Scituate on November 9, 1665. She married (2) James Ray on January 17, 1681/2, in Hingham and had one child. She died on February 15, 1682/3. He died on June 5, 1723.