

All Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-33 Results

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Isaac Allerton and his wife were assigned pews in New Haven meeting house, 10 March 1646/7 [Small Gen 815]. (The Salem record may refer to a different man, as the records come so close together, and Allerton had not lived at Marblehead for some time.) <i>FREEMAN:</i> In "1633" Plymouth list of freemen, immediately after Councillors, and well before those admitted on 1 January 1632/3 [PCR 1:3]; in Plymouth list of 7 March 1636/7 [PCR 1:52]. <i>EDUCATION:</i> Although there is no direct evidence of Isaac Allerton's education, and nothing written in his own hand, he must have been well-educated to engage in business, political and diplomatic activities as extensively as he did. <i>OFFICES:</i> In early 1621, after the death of John Carver, William Bradford was chosen Governor, and "Isaac Allerton was chosen to be an assistant unto him who, by renewed election every year, continued sundry years together" [Bradford 86]. Chosen Assistant, 1 January 1633/4 [PCR 1:21]. <i>ESTATE:</i> In the 1623 Plymouth land division "Mr. Isaak Alerton" received seven acres [PCR 12:4; MQ 40:10]. In the 1627 Plymouth cattle division Mr. Isaac Allerton, his wife Feare Allerton, Bartholomew Allerton, Remember Allerton, Mary Allerton and Sarah Allerton were the first six persons in the second company [PCR 12:9]. Assessed £3 11s. in Plymouth tax list of 25 March 1633 and £1 16s. in list of 27 March 1634 [PCR 1:9, 27]. Assigned mowing ground for year, 1 July 1633 [PCR 1:14]. On 6 May 1635 the Massachusetts Bay General Court noted that "Mr. Ollerton hath given to Moses Maveracke, his son-in-law, all his houses, buildings, & stages, that he hath at Marble Head, to enjoy to him & his heirs forever" [MBCR 1:147]. On 27 October 1646 "Isacke Allerton" of New Amsterdam in the province of New Netherlands, merchant, confirmed to son-in-law Thomas Cushman of New Plymouth a debt of one hundred pounds owed to Isaac by John Coombe [PCR 2:133]. In his "will," undated and proved 19 October 1659, "Isaac Alerton, late of New Haven, deceased," devoted most of the space to a list of debts owing to him, and then ordered "my son Isaac Allerton and my wife, as trustees to receive in my debts, & to pay what I owe, as far as it will go & what is overplus I leave to my wife and my son Isaac, as far as they receive the debts to pay what I owe." The inventory, taken 12 February 1658/9, totalled £118 5s. 2d., and included "the dwelling house, orchard & barn with two acres of meadow," E75 [MD 2:155-57; Small Gen 818-24]. <i>BIRTH:</i> About 1586 (deposed 26 September 1639 aged about 53 [Lechford 189-90; MD 4:109-10]). <i>DEATH:</i> New Haven between 1 February 1658/9 (court appearance) and 12 February 1658/9 (date of inventory). <i>MARRIAGE:</i> (1) At Leiden 4 November 1611 [New Style] Mary Norris "single woman from Newbury in England" [MD 7:129-30]; died Plymouth 25 February 1620/1 [Prince 289]. (2) At Plymouth between 1623 and 1627 Fear Brewster, daughter of WILLIAM BREWSTER; she died not long before 12 December 1634, presumably at Plymouth [MD 30:97-98; WP 3:177]. (3) By 1644 Joanna Swinnerton, probably the "Mrs. Swinnerton" who received a grant of land at New Haven on 17 March 1640/1 [NHCR 1:50; NEHGR 124:133; MD 42:124]. <i>CHILDREN:</i></p> </div>
Name:											
Birth:											
Lived In (Residence):											
Death:											
Family Members:											
Migration:											
Military Service:											
Marriage:											
More:											
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- n - New search
- r - Refine search
- p - Preview current record
- > - Highlight next record
- < - Highlight previous record

With first wife

i BARTHOLOMEW, b. say 1613; he returned to England, became minister at "Bamfield," Suffolk; m. (1) Margaret ____; m. (2) Sarah, dau. of Benjamin Fairfax; and had at least four children [MD 40:7-10].

ii REMEMBER, b. say 1615; m. by 6 May 1635 Moses Maverick [MBCR 1:147], son of Rev. JOHN MAVERICK [MD 5:129-41; NEHGR 96:358-61; Small Gen 669-80].

iii MARY, b. say 1617; m. by about 1636 Thomas Cushman, son of ROBERT CUSHMAN [MD 4:37-42]; a late annotation to Bradford's 1651 list noted that "Mary Cushman the daughter of Mr. Allerton" was still alive in 1690 [Bradford 448]; she d. Plymouth 28 November 1699 [MD 6:63], the last of the *Mayflower* passengers to die.

iv Child, bur. St. Peter's, Leiden, 5 February 1620 [NS] [Dexter 601].

v Son, stillborn aboard the *Mayflower* 22 December 1620 in Plymouth Harbor [Mourt 41].

With second wife

vi SARAH, b. Plymouth about 1626; no further record.



vii ISAAC, b. Plymouth say 1630; Harvard 1650 [Sibley 1:253-56]; m. (1) about 1652 Elizabeth ____ [NEHGR 124:83-84 argues that she was a daughter of Joanna Swinnerton, third wife of Isaac's father]; m. (2) Virginia about 1663 Elizabeth (Willoughby) (Overzee) Colclough, dau. of Capt. Thomas Willoughby and widow of Simon Overzee and George Colclough [Wakefield, *Isaac Allerton of the Mayflower...* (Plymouth 1990) 4-5]; all modern authorities agree that the Isaac Allerton born at New Haven in 1655, son of this Isaac Allerton by his first wife, died without issue, and some other origin must be found for the Allertons who appear in New Haven late in the seventeenth century [MQ 45:23; MD 42:117].

ASSOCIATIONS: Brother of Sarah Allerton, wife successively of John Vincent, DEGORY PRIEST and GODBERT GODBERTSON. On 2 December 1633, as part of the settlement of the estate of Godbert Godbertson, it was noted that "the greater part of his debts are owing to Mr. Isaack Allerton, of Plym., merchant, late brother of the said Zarah" [PCR 1:20].

COMMENTS: In his list of *Mayflower* passengers Bradford included "Mr. Isaac Allerton and Mary his wife, with three children, Bartholomew, Remember and Mary. And a servant boy John Hooke" [Bradford 441]. In his 1651 accounting of these families, he reported that "Mr. Allerton his wife died with the first, and his servant John Hooke. His son Bartle is married in England but I know not how many children he hath. His daughter Remember is married at Salem and hath three or four children living. And his daughter Mary is married here and hath four children. Himself married again with the daughter of Mr. Brewster and hath one son living by her, but she is long since dead. And he is married again and hath left this place long ago. So I account his increase to be eight, besides his son's in England" [Bradford 444-45].

Isaac Allerton was one of the busiest and most complicated men in early New England, and no attempt is made here to cover his career comprehensively. A full-scale biography would be needed for that, and an outline of what is available is given in the next section below. Records for Allerton may be found in virtually every colony on the Atlantic seaboard and in the Caribbean, including Newfoundland, New Netherland, New Sweden, Virginia, Barbadoes, and Curacao.

Although some records of Allerton in New Netherland describe him as "of Suffolk," it is not certain that this refers to his place of origin in England, as some have claimed.

In noting his various residences above, we do not estimate years of removal, as he seems to have maintained residences simultaneously at more than one location. Also, the attempt made above to describe the estate of Allerton does not come close to showing the

magnitude and intricacy of his business activities. No one has yet tried to survey comprehensively this, the major part of Allerton's life.

Since Moses Maverick, the husband of Remember Allerton, received Isaac Allerton's estate at Marblehead, and Isaac Jr. received his father's estate at New Haven, it is likely that Thomas and Mary (Allerton) Cushman were at some time given Allerton's property at Plymouth (assuming that there was more at Plymouth than the debt assigned by Allerton to Cushman in 1646 [PCR 2:133]).

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE: The descendants of Isaac Allerton were treated extensively by Walter S. Allerton about a century ago, but this account is now obsolete [*A History of the Allerton Family in the United States, 1585 to 1885...* (New York 1888, rev. 1900)].

More recently Lora Underhill published an extremely detailed account of Isaac Allerton and his children [Small Gen 756-851]. Although this version of the life of Isaac Allerton has been shown to have errors, and although many new discoveries have been made, it has great value because it attempts to cite every record in which Allerton ever appeared (as available in 1934), and prints many of the records in full.

Much of the modern research on Allerton has been carried out by Newman Hall, presented in a series of periodical articles [NEHGR 124:133; MQ 45:23-24, 47:14-18; Virginia Genealogist 32:83-92, 171-78, 287-96; MD 40:7-10]. More recently Robert S. Wakefield has prepared the four-generation "genealogy in progress" published by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants [*Isaac Allerton of the Mayflower...* (Plymouth 1990)].

For a different interpretation of the character of Isaac Allerton, see Michael McGiffert, "Religion and Profit Do Jump Together: The First American Pilgrim," *Reflections* 87:15-23 (a publication of Yale Divinity School).

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Results per page:

1-1 of 1

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