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WILLIAM¹ HOLTON OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, AND NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

With Discussion of his Prior History and Probable English Origin

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A common problem encountered by genealogists is proving whether a same name applies to one person or two, especially if there is a gap of years between records. William Holton has long presented this problem.

Was the William Holton baptized at Nayland, Suffolk County, England, on 20 October 1610 the same William Holton who sailed from nearby Ipswich on the *Francis* in April 1634? ¹ Was he also the same man said to have been in Newtown (Cambridge), Massachusetts, from 1634 to 1636, then migrated to Hartford, Connecticut, in 1636, and finally to Northampton, Massachusetts, about 1654? ²

Although we will show that William Holton was in Hartford much earlier than has been supposed in some more recent accounts, indisputable evidence has not been found for every aspect of the above identification of this man. What follows is an evaluation and analysis of the known facts which, however, we believe support the description.

First, we address the question as to whether the William Holton baptized at Nayland on 20 October 1610 was the 1634 passenger on the *Francis*. The *Francis* and her sister-ship, the *Elizabeth*, sailed from Ipswich on the last

¹ An account of this family has long been available in typescript form (Edward Payson Holton, comp., Harriet Scofield, ed., "Genealogy of the Descendants in America of William Holton (1610–1691) of Hartford, Conn., and Northampton, Mass." [typescript, 1935]). See also James Savage, *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, 4 vols. (1860–62; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1965), 2:455.

² More recent sketches (discussed further in the present article) are those of Mary Lovering Holman in *Ancestry of Colonel John Harrington Stevens and His Wife Frances Helen Miller*, 2 vols. (Concord, N.H.: Rumford Press, 1948, 1952), 1:390-91, and Robert Charles Anderson, whose brief account of William "Haulton" in *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635*, Volume III (G-H) (Boston: NEHGS, 2003), 246-47, directly questions the identification.

day of April 1634.³ William Haulton, aged 23 years, was second on the passenger list for the *Francis*, having taken the Oath of Allegiance at His Majesty's Custom House in Ipswich in the spring of 1634.⁴ Peter Wilson Coldham transcribed the name as "William Haulton 23," and Charles Edward Banks transcribed it as "William Hailton, 23."⁵ All three transcriptions place William second on the list, a single passenger traveling without an accompanying passenger, and all indicate that he was twenty-three years old. Therefore, this man was born in 1610 or 1611.

SUFFOLK COUNTY, ENGLAND

Published notes from Banks's research state that William Holton migrated from Nayland in Suffolk County, was first in Cambridge (Newtown), and second in Hartford, but his authority for this statement is not known.⁶ About 1936, not long before Banks's notes were published, Miss Lilian J. Redstone, a genealogist of Woodbridge, Suffolk County, had been engaged by the Holton Family Association to search the Holton wills of Suffolk and the parish records of Nayland "in an effort to establish the English ancestry of Deacon William Holton."⁷ The results of Miss Redstone's research were submitted in 28 pages of notes from parish and probate records "containing all that can be found of the Holtons of Nayland, near Ipswich," and summarized in a December 1937 *Bulletin*:

³ John Camden Hotten, ed., *The Original Lists of Persons of Quality . . .* (1874; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1962), 279 (a separate roster listing the underage passengers notes that the *Francis* sailed "the last day of April").

⁴ Hotten, *Original Lists* [*supra* note 3], 36.

⁵ Peter Wilson Coldham, *The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1660* (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1988), 114; Charles Edward Banks, *The Planters of the Commonwealth: A Study of the Emigrants and Emigration in Colonial Times* (1930; repr., Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1984), 121.

⁶ Charles Edward Banks, *Topographical Dictionary of 2885 English Emigrants to New England, 1620-1650*, 3rd ed. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1963), 158. This "Dictionary" was originally published in 1937, six years after Banks's death in 1931. The book was compiled by Elijah Ellsworth Brownell from Banks's notes and manuscripts and must be used with caution and only for clues. The English "origins" in this compilation often represent no more than the presence of the emigrant's surname in a parish. They result from Brownell's construction of Banks's notes and do not necessarily represent how Banks himself might have interpreted them.

⁷ *Holton Family Association Bulletin*, no. 7 (Dec. 1936): 2. Lilian J. Redstone's father, Vincent Burrough Redstone of Woodbridge, was in 1924 a member of the Committee on English Research of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He and his daughter Lilian, then of London, were credited for their assistance by Charles Francis Mason in his article, "The English Home of Capt. Hugh Mason of Watertown, Mass.," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR] 78 (1924), 256-58, at 258.

In all these [records] there was only one William Holton of the correct age to have been the immigrant from Ipswich, and he was the son [bp. 20 Oct. 1610] of Edward and Constance (Adkinson) Holton, grandson of John and Ann (Harvey or Hervery), and probably great grandson of Thomas Houlton, the elder, of Nayland. No record of this William can be found later in Nayland, and no mention of him in probate records searched. His father's probate record has not been found.⁸

My own research on this matter has benefited from the 28 pages of Redstone notes, which came into my possession about 1991.⁹ In order to verify and possibly expand upon the prior research, I examined Nayland and other parish records for Suffolk County. Various dates and places for William Holton's christening appear in the International Genealogical Index. One is "Winston Manor, near Ipswich," but the Family History Library Catalog shows no listing for Winston Manor. Records for Winston Parish were searched; no Holtons relevant to this article were found there.¹⁰ Transcripts of baptisms, burials, and marriages for Wiston or Wissington were also searched. No marriages or baptisms were found for Holtons in Wiston, but the burials of George Holton in 1559, age 64; widow Elizabeth wife of George; and Ann wife of George Holton, in 1525, age 33, were found.¹¹

The search of the Nayland Parish records was more productive. From 1558 through 1630, two infants named William Holton were baptized in Nayland. In 1602, "Aprill the 28 daie was bapt Will^m sonne to Thomas Holton."¹² In 1610, "October the 20 daie was bapt Willim sonne of Edward Holton."¹³

An exhaustive search of Nayland Parish records from 1558 through 1670 revealed only five other records for a William Holton—two baptisms, two

⁸ *Holton Family Association Bulletin* [unnumbered] (Dec. 1937): 3. It is not known whether Elijah Ellsworth Brownell, the compiler of Banks's notes, was aware of this family-association sponsored research effort then in progress.

⁹ By the time I acquired the notes and correspondence (about 28 pages in pencil on lined paper), they had passed through several hands, and since about 1940 had been stored in a cardboard box in a barn in Worcester, Mass.

¹⁰ Church of England, Parish Church of Winston (Suffolk), transcribed by Charles Partridge, FHL microfilm 992006, items 5-7.

¹¹ Church of England, Parish Church of Wiston [also Wissington] (Suffolk), transcribed by Charles Partridge, FHL microfilm 992006, items 14-16. There were numerous George Holtons baptized, married, and buried in Nayland. The families of the various George Holtons were consistently identified there as sons, daughters, or wives of George "the elder" or George "the Younger."

¹² Suffolk, Nayland, England, St. James Parish Registers, 1558-1755, p. 23, FHL microfilm 1849154; Nayland, Suffolk, England, A Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland: Baptisms, 1557-1639, 1640-1751, Burials 1558-1639, Marriages Registration 1558-1753, transcribed by Charles Partridge, p. 131, FHL microfilm 992046, items 5-9.

¹³ Nayland, St. James Parish Registers [*supra* note 12], p. 28; Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557-1639, p. 138.

burials, and one marriage. Susan daughter of William Holton was baptized on 29 July 1632.¹⁴ William son of “Will. & Christian Holton,” was baptized on 10 June 1636.¹⁵ Both William Holton baptized in 1602 and William Holton baptized in 1610 were of the right age to marry and father a child born in July 1632.¹⁶

The wife (no first name) of William Holton, rug weaver, was buried on 1 January 1637 [1637/8?].¹⁷ On 24 June 1640, “Holton, William (wid)” married Jane Briscoe.¹⁸ As there were no other marriages recorded in Nayland for a William Holton, we conclude that this marriage was for widower William Holton, rug weaver, whose first wife was buried in January 1637[8?]. William Houlton, sexton, was buried on 6 February 1663,¹⁹ no age given. The age of the William Holton who sailed on the *Francis* in April 1634 matches the baptism of the younger William Holton (“sonne of Edward Holton”) in Nayland on 20 October 1610.

A study of the probate records—including those abstracted in the Redstone notes and others—naturally focuses on whether either parent of the William baptized in 1610 left a will and whether this William is mentioned in the wills of any Holton relatives in the mid-1600s. The records reveal two contemporary Edward Holtons that reasonably could have been his father:²⁰

- (A) EDWARD HOLTON, son of John, bp. Nayland 9 April 1570;²¹ m. there 8 Nov. 1598 CONSTANCE ADKINSON,²² bp. 25 May 1576, dau. of Henry.²³ Constatin Holton, widow, was bur. in 1661,²⁴ no probate found for her.
- (B) EDWARD HOLTON, “butcher,” bur. Nayland 3 Nov. 1632.²⁵

No record of a baptism that could be for Edward(B), the butcher, has been found. Thus it is likely that his baptism predated the parish records,

¹⁴ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, p. 172.

¹⁵ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, p. 178. A note below entry says “[entry crossed].” No record of marriage for William Holton and Christian was found.

¹⁶ Assuming a full term baby baptized within a few days of birth, the marriage could have occurred as late as Oct. 1631. William born in April 1602 would be 29 years old and William born in Oct. 1610 just 21 years old.

¹⁷ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Burials 1558–1755, p. 136.

¹⁸ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Marriages 1558–1753, p. 89.

¹⁹ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Burials 1557–1755, p. 7.

²⁰ Another Edward, son of Thomas, bp. 17 Oct. 1596 (Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, p. 124), was too young to be the father of William.

²¹ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, p. 90.

²² Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Marriages 1558–1753, p. 9.

²³ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, p. 96.

²⁴ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Burials 1557–1755, p. 4.

²⁵ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Burials 1557–1755, p. 131.

which begin in 1558, and he was in his mid-70s or older when buried. In the period 1598–1620, eleven children (including William in 1610) of “Edward Holton” were baptized in Nayland. The records name the mother, Constance, for only one of them, a Constance baptized on 2 September 1599.²⁶ On close examination, it appears that the sequence of eleven baptisms probably includes children of both Edwards, (A) and (B). For example, the first child in the sequence, another Constance, was baptized on 11 July 1598, five months *before* the marriage of Edward(A) and Constance Adkinson.²⁷

Edward(A) Holton was a brother of Frances Holton (baptized in Nayland on 28 January 1564[5]) who married Nicholas Garrad there on 7 December 1591.²⁸ On 16 July 1634, the will of Frances Garrad of Nayland, widow, named “her kinsman” Edward Holton as her executor.²⁹ Thus Edward(A) apparently was still living in 1634—after the burial of Edward(B) in 1632—but died sometime before 1661, when his widow was buried.

Although no burial or probate record has been found for Edward(A), there is indirect evidence that he—not Edward(B)—was the father of the child William baptized in 1610. The will of (another) Edward Holton of Ipswich, butcher, dated 28 January 1666 and proved on 6 November 1668, mentions no wife or children but names brothers, nieces, and nephews of Ipswich and Nayland.³⁰ They include brothers James, Robert, John (all identified as butchers in their own wills), Henry (deceased), and, among others, nephew Edward Pattison and “my kinswoman” Constance Pattison. The names *Robert, John, Henry*, and *Constance* all appear in the list of children baptized to “Edward Holton” at Nayland between 1598 and 1620.³¹ As suggested by the occupations, Edward, the testator in 1666, and these four siblings could have been children of the butcher, Edward(B), buried there in 1632. If William Holton, baptized in 1610, was another son of the butcher, it seems probable that he also would have been mentioned in the 1666 will of Edward of Ipswich.

²⁶ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, pp. 126, 128, 129, 132, 134, 135, 138, 140, 141, 145, 150.

²⁷ I have double-checked this date in the original; it is definitely 11 July 1598.

²⁸ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, p. 85, Marriages 1558–1753, p. 7.

²⁹ Abstract included in the Redstone notes [*supra* note 9], citing Arch. Sudbury, Muriell 68.

³⁰ The heading for this transcribed will reads: “Edward Houlton, Will Proved 6th November 1668, Prerogative Court of Canterbury.” This Edward is referred to as “Edward Holton, my brother, late of Ipswich, butcher, deceased,” in the 1669 will of Robert Holton “butcher” of Nayland (abstract included in the Redstone notes [*supra* note 9], citing Arch. Sudbury, Franklin, f. 24.

³¹ “Kinswoman Constance Pattison” (evidently mother of “nephew Edward Pattison”) might explain the Constance Holton bp. 11 July 1598, before the marriage of Edward(A) and Constance Adkinson.

In summary, the present review of the probate and parish records generally agrees with the conclusions in 1937 based on the research of Miss Redstone. The William baptized at Nayland on 20 October 1610 was probably a son of Edward and Constance (Adkinson) Holton, but no definite later reference to him is found in the parish or probate records. The result is consistent with but falls short of proving that this William was the passenger on the *Francis* in 1634.

As members of the same parish often emigrated together, an investigation was made to see if there were passengers from Nayland on the two ships. A study of the passenger lists for the *Francis* and the *Elizabeth* showed Nayland resident John Firman on board the *Elizabeth* and possible Nayland resident John Barnard on board the *Francis*.

The surname *Firmin* appears often in the Nayland parish records. Robert Charles Anderson has shown that John Firmin from Nayland migrated in 1630 to Watertown, returned to England in 1633, and then returned to New England in 1634.³² John Firman, 40, made his second trip to New England on the *Elizabeth*. John Laverick, 15; Sarah Reynolds, 20, Susan Munson 25; Rebecca Isaac, 36; Anne Dorifall, 24; and John Sherman, 20, traveled with him, all destined for Watertown.³³ Hotten and Coldham both transcribed Firman's age as 46.³⁴ This man was probably John Firman, widower, who married at Nayland on 30 June 1618 Susan Warrick/[Warren?] widow.³⁵

The surname *Barnard* also appears frequently in Nayland records. *Francis* passenger John Barnard, aged 36, traveled with "Mary his wife," 38, Fayth Newell, 14, and Henry Hayward, 7.³⁶ Hotten listed him as John Bernard, 36, Mary, his wife, 38, no residence given.³⁷ Baptism of a John Barnard, "son of Rob. Barnard," was recorded in Nayland on 9 December 1595,³⁸ making him 38 in April 1634. A John Barnard married on 12 January 1618 Elizabeth Barnard.³⁹ A John Barnard married on 2 June 1628 Margaret Coke.⁴⁰ Anderson and the Sanborns say this man's origin is

³² Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620–1633*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995), 1:675-78, at 675.

³³ Banks, *Planters of the Commonwealth* [*supra* note 5], 121; Coldham, *Complete Book of Emigrants* [*supra* note 5], 114-15. Coldham does not list these passengers in a way that associates them. No record was found in the Nayland Parish records for any men and women accompanying Firman.

³⁴ Hotten, *Original Lists* [*supra* note 3], 281.

³⁵ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Marriages 1558–1753, p. 13; Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [*supra* note 32], 1:677.

³⁶ Coldham, *Complete Book of Emigrants* [*supra* note 5], 114.

³⁷ Hotten, *Original Lists* [*supra* note 3], 279.

³⁸ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, p. 123,

³⁹ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Marriages 1558–1753, p. 13.

⁴⁰ Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Marriages 1558–1753, p. 16.

unknown, that he migrated in 1634 on the *Francis*, settled first in Cambridge, then in Hartford, 1636, and finally in Hadley, 1659.⁴¹

The foregoing circumstances point to the conclusion that William Holton, a 1634 passenger on the *Francis*, probably was the William Holton baptized in Nayland in 1610. No evidence was found that would disprove this identification, but it cannot be regarded as fully proven. We turn next to the question whether the 1634 *Francis* passenger was the same William Holton who was initially in Cambridge (Newtown) and later in Hartford, Connecticut.

NEWTOWN (CAMBRIDGE)

John Winthrop recorded the arrival of the ships [*Francis* and *Elizabeth*] in an entry dated “July” [1634]:

The last month arived heere 14: great shippes & one at Salem . . . but the 2: which came from Ipsweh., of more than 120: lost but 7: none of the shippes lost any passingers. . . .⁴²

No records have been found to place William Holton in any Massachusetts town between July 1634 and May 1636. His associations in Hartford and Northampton, however, offer support for the claim that he went first to Newtown. *Francis* passengers William Westwood and John Barnard, who both migrated to Hartford, went first to Newtown. William Bloomfield, who sailed on the *Elizabeth*, went first to Newtown. Hartford neighbor Thomas Bull was first in Newtown. Edward Elmer and Robert Bartlett, both passengers on the *Lyon* were first at Newtown, then Hartford, and then in Northampton with William.

Passengers from the “great shippes” who went to Newtown intensified the demand for land, particularly meadowland. Early in July 1634, Winthrop wrote: “6: of newtone went in the blessinge (beinge bonde to the dutche Planttion) to discover Conectecott river, intendinge to remove their towne thither.”⁴³

The General Court convened at Newtown on 4 September 1634, where debate centered on the Newtowners’ desire to remove to Connecticut. However, after deliberation, they accepted the offer to enlarge their boundaries.

⁴¹ Robert Charles Anderson, George F. Sanborn Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume I (A-B)* (Boston: NEHGS, 1999), 158–61.

⁴² Richard S. Dunn, James Savage, and Laetitia Yeandle, eds., *The Journal of John Winthrop, 1630–1649* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1996), 119, 121.

⁴³ *Journal of John Winthrop* [*supra* note 42], 121.

A relieved Winthrop wrote, “and so the feare of their removeall to Conectecott was removed.”⁴⁴ Winthrop was mistaken.

In October 1635, about sixty persons from Newtown traveled to the west bank of the Connecticut River and began the plantation that would become Hartford.⁴⁵ The main group, led by Thomas Hooker, left Newtown on 31 May 1636 and arrived in Hartford in June. “Mr Hooker pastor of the Church of N:towne & most of his congregation went to Conectecott: his wife was carried in a horse litter, & they droue 160: cattle & fedd of their milke by the waye.”⁴⁶ The claim to be examined here is that William Holton was with this party, “and with the rest of the settlers of 1636 he received his land on the south side of Little River.”⁴⁷

If William was indeed first in Cambridge, he generated no records there. However, based on the evidence discussed in the following section, he probably was in Cambridge not more than about two years.⁴⁸ As he was unmarried on arrival, and of a relatively young age, he may have worked as a laborer, probably on some farm, and thus was not named in any surviving record for his stay in Cambridge.

HARTFORD

Doubts that William Holton of Hartford and Northampton was the passenger on the *Francis* in 1634 and had migrated from Cambridge to Hartford with the early settlers, seem to have developed from a false impression that evidence does not place him in Hartford early enough to support the claim. Therefore, for present purposes it is useful to review how that impression apparently came about, then present specific evidence showing that William was an inhabitant in Hartford certainly by 1640, and probably several years before that.

In the early 1860s, James Savage wrote that William Holton “was an original proprietor” of Hartford and that he “came in the *Francis*, from Ipswich 1634, aged 23.”⁴⁹ In her sketch, “The Holton Line,” published in

⁴⁴ *Journal of John Winthrop* [*supra* note 42], 125-28.

⁴⁵ *Journal of John Winthrop* [*supra* note 42], 158, 161.

⁴⁶ *Journal of John Winthrop* [*supra* note 42], 177.

⁴⁷ “Descendants . . . of William Holton” [*supra* note 1], 2. Although this statement was not documented, it has remained for generations part of the family tradition and lore.

⁴⁸ Robert Charles Anderson has noted that none of these settlers who removed to Hartford “had lived in Cambridge for more than four years, and some for only one or two” (“Focus on Hartford,” *Great Migration Newsletter* 3 [1992]: 27).

⁴⁹ Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary* [*supra* note 1], 2:455. The full sketch (with abbreviations expanded) says that Holton “was an original proprietor but we are ignorant from which of the Massa-

1948, the well-known genealogist Mary Lovering Holman referred to the earlier comments by Savage and wrote that William Holton “settled in Hartford, Conn., where he owned land in 1653 and was a proprietor. . . .”⁵⁰ More recently, in 2003, Robert Charles Anderson, in his brief “William Haulton” sketch, also referred to Savage, then added: “but Mary Lovering Holman was clearly dubious of this identification.” Anderson further stated that the “earliest record of [Holton] in Hartford is the baptism of his son Samuel on 1 November 1646,” and “[g]iven the lack of records of William Holton of Hartford prior to 1646, we conclude that he was not the same man as the passenger of 1635 [*sic*].”⁵¹ The stated basis for that conclusion is, however, clearly erroneous.

Anderson may have read too much into Holman’s sketch,⁵² but more significantly, they both appear to have overlooked relevant lists entered in the Hartford town votes immediately after the minutes of a meeting of 14 January 1639[/40]. The first of these three lists is headed, “The Names of such Inhabitants as haue Right in vndivided Lands.” The second is headed, “The Names of such Inhabitances as were Granted lotts, to haue onely at The Townes Courtesie. . . .” The third list is headed only with a date, “3^d Jan^ry 1639,” but it is the same described in the record of a Hartford proprietors’ vote in 1671 as a “rule for diuifsion of lands agreed upon & entered in the Town book dated 3^d Jan^ry 1639.” William “Houlton” appears in the first and third of these lists, but not in the second.⁵³ Thus, in 1640, William not only

chusetts towns he had removed. [He] came in the *Francis*, from Ipswich 1634, aged 23, had John; Samuel, bapt. 1 Nov. 1646; William; Mary; Sarah; Ruth; Rachel; and Thomas, all born probably before 1655, when he removed to Northampton, though we have no dates for any; was the first deacon at Northampton, ordained 13 May 1663, representative 1664, 7, 9-71, once for neighboring town of Hadley, and died 12 Aug. 1691.”

⁵⁰ Holman, *Stevens-Miller* [*supra* note 2], 1:390-91. Her statement, “where he owned land in 1653,” has been a barrier to placing William in Hartford earlier.

⁵¹ *Great Migration* [*supra* note 2], Volume III (G-H), 246-47.

⁵² Holman notes Savage’s claim without comment, but does give William’s birth year as “about 1610,” which would seem to be based on the age of the *Francis* passenger. Anderson also mentions “a record of [Holton’s] Hartford landholding which appears to be part of the Hartford land inventory of February 1639/40, but the actual entries were made by the ‘second recorder,’ who did not begin his work until 1652.” This statement uncharacteristically confuses the “second recorder” of Hartford lands with William Andrews, who was chosen as register on 12 Jan. 1651/2. The “second recorder,” as shown below, was an unknown person who made many of the actual entries during the period from 16 Nov. 1639 to 1652 while John Steele was the official register or town clerk.

⁵³ *Hartford Town Votes, Volume I, 1635–1716*, Conn. Hist. Soc. Coll. 6 [Hartford, 1897]: 16-24, at 19, 23. The first two lists were copied into the town’s book of distributions in 1665 (*Original Distribution of the Lands in Hartford Among the Settlers, 1639*, Conn. Hist. Soc. Coll. 14 [Hartford, 1912]: 499-501 [549-50 of original]), and the proprietors’ vote in 1671 regarding the third is at p. 551 [582 of original]. It is odd that Anderson’s sketch of William “Haulton” in 2003 does not account for these lists, as he explicitly

was present, but moreover was regarded as a proprietor entitled to land in his own “just right,” not as one of the more recent arrivals to whom land was granted by the inhabitants as a courtesy, or gift.⁵⁴ The clear implication of these lists is consistent with that gleaned from the Hartford land holdings, discussed next, which associate Holton with men known to have arrived in Hartford in 1636.

At its October 1639 session, the General Court of Connecticut ordered the Towns, including Hartford, to provide “a Ledger Booke, with an Index or alphabett vnto the same: Also shall choose one who shall be a Towne Clerke or Register, who shall before the Generall Court in Aprill next, record every man’s house and land already graunted and measured out to him, with the bounds & quantity of the same. . . .”⁵⁵ William Holton’s land holdings were recorded in two places in this ledger book, two parcels at page 183 (of the original) and five parcels at pages 274-75. The former two entries were for small parcels on the east side of the Connecticut River (in present East Hartford) that William purchased from other inhabitants, probably in or about 1651.⁵⁶ Three of the latter five entries evidently were made at an earlier date and warrant closer examination here.

The five land entries at pages 274-75 (of the original) were entered under a date, “Febr: Anno dom: 1639,” and a standard heading, “Severall parcels of Land in Hertford vpon the River of Connecticut belonginge to Will[ia]m Holton & to his heires forever.” The first three entries were in the handwriting of the unknown “second recorder,” and represent the typical early pattern of a small houselot on the west side and some lots, mainly for the purpose of raising of livestock, on the east side of the Great River.⁵⁷

One parcell on which his dwelling house now standeth [the Secretary’s record says “for a house lotte”] Contayninge by estimation two roods (more or lesse) Abutting on the high way leadinge from Georg Steels to the great swamp on the on the [sic] east, & on the high way leading from Georg Steels to Thom: Richards his Land on the North & on Thom: Seldens [Secretary’s record says Richards] land on the west & on Paul Pecks land on the south.⁵⁸

referred to them the year before in his discussion of early landholding (“Focus on Hartford” [*supra* note 48], 29).

⁵⁴ For an informative discussion of this distinction, see William DeLoss Love, *The Colonial History of Hartford* (1914; U.S. Bicentennial Edition, Chester, Conn.: Centinel Hill Press, 1974), 119-20.

⁵⁵ *The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut*, 15 vols. (Hartford, 1850-90), 1:37.

⁵⁶ *Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], 174, with an editor’s footnote explaining that the “record is in the handwriting of John Steele” [the town’s official recorder from 1639 to 1652] and was “entered to “Willm Holton” on the Secretary’s record, with marginal date “March 1651,” vol. 2, part I page 41.”

⁵⁷ *Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], 260.

⁵⁸ A separate entry shows that Holton sold this lot to John Halles [Hall] Sr. before 1652, as Hall’s parcels are recorded in the handwriting of John Steele (*Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], 373).

One parcell of vpland Contayninge by Estimation foure acres (more or lesse) Abuttinge on Richard Riselies land on the Eaft & on Will[ia]m Andrews his land & on Will[ia]m Blumfeilds land on the south & on Will[ia]m Blumfeilds land on the weft & on John Barnards land on the North.⁵⁹

One parcell lyeinge on the East side of the great River Contayneing by Estimacon three acres (more or lesse) Abutting on Nath: Elyes Land on the weft & on Arthur smiths land on the south & on Thom Judds land & on Hockanum River on the North & on the land now common on the East.⁶⁰

The fourth and fifth land entries under this standard heading were for small parcels on the east side of the Great River and probably acquired at some later time, as they are entered in the handwriting of John Allyn, the official recorder from 1659 to 1696.⁶¹

We can find no reason to think that the three parcels shown above were not recorded for William Holton in February 1639[/40], as the heading immediately above them indicates. All three were entered in the handwriting of the “second recorder,” who

made his entries in the volume during the period in which John Steele was the official register or town clerk [1639 to 1652]. All or the first part of the entries of every man’s land (except the few made by the first recorder) which have the heading dated February 1639, as well as two which (probably by a slip of the recorder’s pen) are dated February 1640, are in the handwriting of this second recorder. His identify, like that of the first recorder, is unknown.⁶²

We conclude therefore that William Holton was an inhabitant and was in possession of land in Hartford in early 1640. How long had he already been there? No specific record of him appears earlier, but the land records provide clues. The entries above for William Holton show that in 1640 his adjoining landowners in (present) East Hartford included William Bloomfield and John Barnard, the former of whom had immigrated on the *Elizabeth* in

⁵⁹ A separate entry shows that Holton sold this lot to Richard Risley before 1652, as it was recorded to Risley in the handwriting of John Steele (*Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], 266–67). Risley died in Hockanum, a neighborhood on the east side of the Great River, before 7 Dec. 1648, when his estate was distributed (Charles W. Manwaring, *A Digest of the Early Connecticut Probate Records: Hartford District*, 3 vols. [1904–06; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1995], 1:31–32).

⁶⁰ Not listed with Holton’s property is a parcel “belonging to James Cole & to his heires,” which originally belonged to Holton sometime before 1652: “One p[ar]sill lying Neere the wollfe pound wch he Recaiued of william Holten for land belonging to Sayd James Coll lying Neere Hockanum riuier Contain[ing] by Estima[tion] three acres be it more or less Abutting on the hyway leading from georg Steeles to the greatt Swamp on the East & on Rocke hill on the weft & on land belonging to the Sayd James Coll on the North” (*Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], 195–96).

⁶¹ *Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], 261, xi.

⁶² *Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], xi–xii (remarks by the editor, Albert C. Bates).

1634, was first in Cambridge, then had removed to Hartford in 1636, and the latter of whom was on the *Francis* in 1634, then in Cambridge, and also removed to Hartford in 1636.⁶³

The land recorded to William Bloomfield included a 12-acre upland parcel bounded “by the high way leading from the towne over Rocky hill toward the Little River on the south . . . & on Robert Bartletts & on John Barnards & on Will[ia]m Holtons land on the East. . . .”⁶⁴ The land recorded for John Barnard included a three-acre upland parcel “abutting on the high [sic] Leadinge from Will[ia]m Holtons to John Savells Land on the East & on Will[ia]m Blumfields Land on the west & on Robert Bartletts land on the North & Will[ia]m Holtons Land on the South.”⁶⁵

In addition, the land recorded for Thomas Bull included a parcel of upland “Abutteing on the high way Leading from Georg Steels to the Great swamp on the East . . . & on Will[ia]m Holtons Land on the North. . . .”⁶⁶ Thomas Bull had immigrated on the *Hopewell* in 1635, was first in Cambridge, and also removed to Hartford in 1636.⁶⁷

John Barnard (immigrant on the *Francis* in 1634 with William “Haulton”), William Bloomfield (immigrant on the sister-ship *Elizabeth*), and Thomas Bull (who followed them on the *Hopewell* in 1635), all removed to Hartford in 1636, and all owned parcels there in 1640 bordering land owned by William Holton. It is therefore not unreasonable to believe that Holton, probably still single or only recently married, came there from Cambridge at or near the same time as these men.

Having presented evidence showing a strong possibility that the William Holton baptized in Nayland in 1610 was the 1634 passenger on the *Francis* and, in any case, that the passenger almost certainly settled in Hartford in or about 1636 after a brief sojourn in Cambridge, the next part of this article presents information concerning his later activities and on the identity of his wife. The article concludes with a Genealogical Summary.

Little is recorded of William Holton’s activities in Hartford after 1640. His son Samuel was baptized there on 1 November 1646.⁶⁸ Samuel was not

⁶³ *Great Migration* [supra note 41], Volume I (A–B), 158-61, 329-33.

⁶⁴ *Original Distribution* [supra note 53], 285–86 (in handwriting of the “second recorder”).

⁶⁵ *Original Distribution* [supra note 53], 217–18 (in handwriting of the “second recorder”).

⁶⁶ *Original Distribution* [supra note 53], 231–32 (in handwriting of the “second recorder”).

⁶⁷ *Great Migration* [supra note 41], Volume I (A–B), 469-76.

⁶⁸ “Samiwell Hotten Sun of william Hotten,” included with “Early Hartford Vital Records” in *Original Distribution* [supra note 53], 577.

the oldest of William's sons,⁶⁹ but was the only one of his eight known children for whom a birth or baptism record has been found.⁷⁰ At the time of this baptism, Thomas Hooker, teacher Samuel Stone, and ruling elder William Goodwin were ministering to Hartford residents. Two years before, in 1644, Hooker preached a series of sermons arguing against Anabaptist beliefs and advocating a return to the foundation of the covenant. He argued that baptism, the "seals of our first entrance into the covenant . . . be extended only to children of church members."⁷¹

Since baptism was administered only to the children of those who gave convincing proof of their faith and determination to follow Christ,⁷² William Holton must have become a church member sometime before his son was baptized in 1646. Requirements for becoming a church member, that is satisfaction that the individual had arrived at saving grace, generally were exacting and lengthy, requiring months or years to complete.⁷³ However, the detailed confession of faith, that is, a narrative of one's conversion to saving grace, was said to be less strenuous under Thomas Hooker.

On 6 December 1649, William Houghton, plaintiff, brought an action in the Particular Court in Hartford against Jeruis [Jarvis] Mudge, defendant, "for a debt to the value of 6*l.* 10*s.*" William was granted the "right to the Cowe, w^ch the defend^t had formerly sould him in Satisfaction for the Debt."⁷⁴ Mudge had come from Boston to Hartford soon after December 1638, and moved on to Wethersfield and to New London, Connecticut, where he died in 1652.⁷⁵

⁶⁹ Samuel was still living in 1691 (see Genealogical Summary) when John Holton was called "eldest son" in the distribution of their father's estate (Hampshire Co., Mass., County Court, Booke of the Records, item 1, William Holton estate distribution, 1691, 184).

⁷⁰ Anderson has noted, "[l]ittle is known of the earliest years of the church at Hartford, because of the total loss of all church records prior to 1685 . . . although a very few baptisms were for some reason included in the town's vital records, along with the births" ("Focus on Hartford" [*supra* note 48], 27-28).

⁷¹ Hooker's lectures were published in 1649 as *The Covenant of Grace Opened* (Frank Shuffelton, *Thomas Hooker, 1586-1647* [Princeton, N.J.: Princeton Univ. Press, 1977], 265).

⁷² Mary Jeanne Anderson Jones, *Congregational Commonwealth Connecticut, 1636-1662* (Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan Univ. Press, 1968), 49.

⁷³ Perry Miller, *Errand into the Wilderness* (Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press, 1956), chapter 3; Perry Miller, *The New England Mind* (1939; repr. Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press, 1954), chapters 10, 12, 13, 15; Thomas Jefferson Wertebaker, *The Puritan Oligarchy; The Founding of American Civilization* (New York: C. Scribner's Sons, 1947), chapter 2.

⁷⁴ *Records of the Particular Court of Connecticut, 1639-1663*, Conn. Hist. Soc. Coll., 22 (Hartford, 1928): 72-73.

⁷⁵ Gale Ion Harris, "Jarvis¹ Mudge and John¹ Henryson Families of Connecticut," *The American Genealogist* 81 (2006): 18-30, at 19-20.

NORTHAMPTON

Thomas Hooker, the spiritual and civic leader of Hartford, died unexpectedly on 7 July 1647 of an “epidemical sickness,” which also claimed many of his parishioners.⁷⁶ Almost immediately, the simmering antagonism between teaching elder Samuel Stone and ruling elder William Goodwin flared into open hostility. From about 1653 until 1659, the Hartford church experienced “such virulence, contagiousness, and publicity, that it attracted the attention of all the churches in New England, and occupies a large place in every history of early ecclesiastical affairs in this Colony.”⁷⁷

Whether Hooker’s death and the ensuing church problems played a part in motivating William Holton to leave Hartford is unknown, but in any case, in May 1653 he joined with 23 men from Dorchester, Farmington, Haddam, Hartford, New London, Stamford, Wethersfield, and Windsor to petition the Massachusetts General Court for permission to move to ‘Nonotack,’ on the Connecticut River 15 miles above Springfield. They planned

to plant, possess and Inhabit the place . . . as their own Inheritance . . . your humble petitioners having some knowledge of the place by reason of the propinquity of our habitation to be a place desirable to erect a town for the furtherance of the public weale by providing Corn and raising cattle not only for their own by likewise for the good of others the propagating of the gospel the place promising in an ordinary way of gods providence a Comfortable Substance whereby people may Live and Attend upon god in his holy ordinances without distraction.⁷⁸

The phrase, “having some knowledge of the place,” implies scouting expeditions, and to “attend upon god in his holy ordinances without distraction” was perhaps a pointed reference to the church problems. The Hartford petitioners were “Edward Elmor, John Gilberd, Thomas Rote, Joseph Smith, John Stedman, William oughton [Holton], Robert Bartlet, John Cole, Nicolas Acley and Thomas Bird.”⁷⁹

Springfield leaders John Pynchon, Eliezer Holliock [Holyoke], and Samuel Chapin sent a petition dated 6 June 1653 in support of the venture:

⁷⁶ George Leon Walker, *History of the First Church in Hartford, 1633–1883* (Hartford: Brown & Gross, 1884), 114; *Journal of John Winthrop* [*supra* note 42], 690. Thomas Hooker is the subject of a “Historic Ancestors” lineage by Martin Edward Hollick, *The Genealogist* 16 (2002): 165-67.

⁷⁷ Walker, *History of the First Church* [*supra* note 76], 151.

⁷⁸ James Russell Trumbull, *History of Northampton, Massachusetts: From Its Settlement in 1654*, 2 vols. (Northampton, Mass.: Gazette Printing Co., 1898–1902), 1:5-6.

⁷⁹ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:6.

We . . . humbly tender our desires that Liberty may be granted to erect a plantation about fifteen miles above us on this River of connecticut . . . there are diverse in our neighboring plantations that have a desire to remove thither with your Aprobation thereof to the number of twenty-five families at least that already Appeer whereof many of them are of considerable quality for Estates and fit matter for A church when it shall please God to give opportunity that way.⁸⁰

On 24 September 1653, Springfield merchant John Pynchon bought the land from the Indians and the prospective planters purchased their land from him.⁸¹ Pynchon recorded payments by six men, who did not all pay the same amount. Only three of the six settled in Northampton and land was not granted to any of the others. According to Trumbull, “Dea. Holton paid more than anyone else and that may possibly account in some measure for his prominence in the first business transactions of the town.”

Purchase of Nonotuck & Nootuck.

William Holton, of Hartford, is charged ‘for the
Purchase of Nanotuck,’ (he paid in Pork £03.00.00)⁸²

On 3 October 1653, William Holton and twenty men—not all the same who signed the first petition—met and agreed that any who had signed the original petition, or any others who joined with them

would by the next Spring come twelve next ensuing the date hereof, or else every Such Persons as Shall be deficient in that kind Shall lose his money paid for the purchase with the charges that they have been at unless he shall give such [*blank*] to the company designed for that work that the said company please give them more time.

William was the eighth to sign this petition.⁸³

Anderson has named John Bliss, James Bridgman, Richard Fellows, and Joseph Parsons as Hartford men settling in Northampton, and notes that the “second petition for the formation of Northampton included a preponderance of Hartford men, many of whom did come to settle in Northampton. Four of these had earlier made the move from Cambridge to Hartford.” Only three, however, are named in the article, Robert Bartlett, his son Samuel, and Edward Elmer.⁸⁴ Others are named, who came from Springfield, Wind-

⁸⁰ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:7

⁸¹ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:11.

⁸² Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:576. William became a deacon in 1663.

⁸³ “Northampton Records Transcribed from the Original Book, An Dom 1759. Book 1,” p. 1, Northampton Town Hall, Town Clerk’s Office, where I consulted them in Oct. 2003.

⁸⁴ Robert Charles Anderson, “Focus on Migration Patterns,” *Great Migration Newsletter* 11 (2002): 4.

sor, Dorchester, Lynn, Saybrook, and Boston.⁸⁵ The length of the article, however, did not permit an explicit summary of all migration routes. William Holton, who came from Hartford and was one of the first planters in Northampton, was included in the summary statistics.

James Trumbull, the Northampton historian, wrote that “it is quite probable” Robert Bartlett, Edward Elmer, William Holton, and John Webb were the first planters to arrive in Northampton, the first three settled on the west side of Pleasant Street.⁸⁶ Robert Bartlett, origin unknown, arrived on the *Lyon* on 16 September 1632 and settled first at Cambridge, then in Hartford in 1639 and Northampton in 1656.⁸⁷ Edward Elmer, origin unknown, also came in the *Lyon* in 1632, settled first at Cambridge, then in Hartford and Northampton.⁸⁸ In 1654 William Holton, Richard Lyman, Joseph Parsons, John Lyman, and Edward Elmer were “to build a house for the Towne of Northampton.”⁸⁹

Although very few documents have been found for the early period of William Holton’s life, he generated a great many in his last 37 years. From 1654 until his death in 1691, he signed almost every Northampton town petition or document. He was continuously involved in town affairs, repeatedly elected to represent Northampton at the Massachusetts General Court, frequently served as a juror in the Hampshire County courts, and regularly was appointed to “lay out” various portions of Northampton and newer towns in the vicinity. He was instrumental in establishing the first church and in bringing the first minister to Northampton.

On 23 May 1655, the General Court granted the “petition of the inhabitants of Nonotuck,” allowing William Houlton, Thomas Bascom, and Edward Elmer to be “the three men to end all small causes.”⁹⁰ On 11 December 1655, William Holton and Edward Elmer joined with selectmen William Miller, Richard Lyman, and Joseph Fitch “for making rates.”⁹¹ Holton, Elmer, and Bascom were confirmed commissioners at the April 1656 General Court.⁹²

⁸⁵ “Focus on Migration Patterns” [*supra* note 84], 3-4.

⁸⁶ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:18.

⁸⁷ Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [*supra* note 32], 1:117.

⁸⁸ Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [*supra* note 32], 1:634.

⁸⁹ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:25, quoting the town records.

⁹⁰ *Records of the Court of Assistants of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay, 1630–1692*, 3 vols. (Boston: County of Suffolk, 1901–28), 1:227.

⁹¹ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:28.

⁹² *Records of the Court of Assistants* [*supra* note 90], 1:271; “William Holton/Northampton Petition for Commissioner,” vol. 38B, pp. 12, 12A, Massachusetts State Archives, Boston. No town record exists to explain when these three men were appointed to submit this request.

In the summer of 1657, Lampancho, a local sachem, sold Northampton townsmen a parcel called Pewongenuchm; William Holton and William Janes witnessed his mark.⁹³ The section called Manhan was divided that summer; William Holton, Joseph Fitch, and Robert Bartlett measured the division and were paid by the day.⁹⁴

The lots granted to the original planters before their arrival were recorded on 30 November 1657. William Holton owned a four acre home lot plus parcels in the first and second square, the lower end of Great Rainbow, Venturers Field, the Great Swamp, and Manahan.⁹⁵ He was elected as selectman on 17 December 1657.⁹⁶

On 8 February 1657/8, William Holton measured “the sequestered land [and] view[ed] the fence.” He was again elected a commissioner.⁹⁷ At the 18 March 1657/8 town meeting, he was appointed to present a petition to the General Court and instructed to

propound concerning further power or help in matters of Judicature either from the Bay or Springfield [and] secondly to treat with Mr. Willard⁹⁸ about a minister and to have advice about [*illegible*] two meetings and to desire what course to take about the preventing of excess of liquors in coming our town and of cider and all those that were present at the making of the vote did promise to consent to it in case that the major part of the inhabitants of the town do approve of it.⁹⁹

William apparently “treated with Mr. Willard,” resulting in the selection of “Mr. Eliazer Mather as a fit man . . . [to] go unto North Hampton to minister unto the inhabitants there.”¹⁰⁰ On 6 January 1659, the townsmen agreed to give 80 acres in Manhan meadow to Mather, of which Holton gave 10. Only Joseph Fitch gave an equal amount; the 34 other men donated less.¹⁰¹

In 1658 a second group, the Hartford Company, withdrew from the Hartford Church to plant a new town in Northampton’s Capawonke meadow. Former *Francis* passengers and Newtown settlers John Barnard and William

⁹³ “Northampton Records . . . Book 1” [*supra* note 83], 2.

⁹⁴ “Northampton Records . . . Book 1” [*supra* note 83], 4.

⁹⁵ “Northampton Proprietors Records, Town of Northampton, 1650–1731,” p. 134, Northampton Town Hall, Town Clerk’s Office, where I consulted it in Oct. 2003.

⁹⁶ “Northampton Records . . . Book 1” [*supra* note 83], 6.

⁹⁷ “Northampton Records . . . Book 1” [*supra* note 83], 7.

⁹⁸ Probably Simon Willard, an early settler of Concord, Mass., and Assistant from 1654 to 1667 (John Gorham Palfrey, *History of New England*, 4 vols. [Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1876–77], 2:329, 637).

⁹⁹ “Northampton Records . . . Book 1” [*supra* note 83], 9.

¹⁰⁰ *Records of the Court of Assistants* [*supra* note 90], 1:345.

¹⁰¹ “Northampton Proprietors Records” [*supra* note 95], 3.

Westwood were in this contingent. On 17 October 1658, they were granted Capawonke on the condition they inhabit the place by the next May.¹⁰²

On 28 May 1659, the General Court appointed William Holton, Richard Lyman, John Pynchon, Eliezer Holyoke, and Samuel Chapin to lay out the bounds of Norwottuck in accordance with its grant on 25 May 1658 to the Hartford Company. The committee reported back to the Court on 30 September 1659.¹⁰³ The Court also approved Northampton's petition that William Holton, Arthur Williams, and Richard Lyman be appointed as commissioners.¹⁰⁴ When land holdings were recorded on 19 February 1660, William Holton's 86 acres made him the largest landholder in Northampton; Joseph Parsons was next with 81 acres.¹⁰⁵

A church was gathered and the covenant subscribed to on "18th 4. [June] 1661."¹⁰⁶ William and Mary Holton, daughters Ruth Baker, Mary Burt, Sary King, and son-in-law John King were among the approximately 65 Northampton residents who signed the covenant that year. William and Mary were among the first 35 persons to be admitted as church members.¹⁰⁷ The church functioned for two years without a deacon or ruling elder, offices customarily filled when a minister was ordained. William Holton, deacon, and John Strong, ruling elder, were ordained on 13 May 1663.¹⁰⁸

In May 1664 William was in Boston representing Northampton at the General Court. John Eliot Sr. petitioned on behalf of the Indians of Puti-kookuppog, requesting a place for them to settle near Quoboag, now Brookfield. The Court agreed and appointed Mr. Samuel Smith, Mr. Eliezer Holyoke, and Mr. William Holton "to determine the situation and limits of the said Indian plantation & to order the same as may be for the accommodation of both English and Indian."¹⁰⁹ This record was the first to mention William as "Mr." Holton.

William continued to represent Northampton at the General Court from August 1664 though October 1672.¹¹⁰ He served as juror at the Hampshire

¹⁰² Sylvester Judd, *History of Hadley . . .* (1905; reprint, Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1993), 11.

¹⁰³ "General Court Order Appointing Committee to Lay Out Norwottuck," Massachusetts State Archives, 113:570; Judd, *History of Hadley* [*supra* note 102], 13.

¹⁰⁴ *Records of the Court of Assistants* [*supra* note 90], 1:372.

¹⁰⁵ "Northampton Proprietors Records" [*supra* note 95], 5.

¹⁰⁶ Church Books of the First Church of Christ of Northampton, 1661–1924, p. 6, FHL microfilm 186160.

¹⁰⁷ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:107.

¹⁰⁸ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:135.

¹⁰⁹ *Records of the Court of Assistants* [*supra* note 90], 1:109.

¹¹⁰ Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, ed., *Records of the Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay in New England*, 5 vols. in 6 (Boston: William White, 1853–54), 4, pt. 2:117, 142, 295, 314, 331, 418, 449, 485.

County courts on 31 March 1663, 28 March 1665, 27 March 1666, 26 March 1667, 29 March 1770, and 28 March 1674.¹¹¹

At the 11 October 1672 General Court, William Holton, Lieutenant William Clarke, Lieutenant Samuel Smith, Cornet William Allys, and Isaac Graves were appointed as a committee to lay out a new plantation called Squakheag (Northfield).¹¹² On 7 May 1673, in answer to a petition from Hadley planters, the Court granted them the land lying “near to the northward bounds of Hadley,” directing “Major John Pynchon, Lieutenant William Clarke, and Mr. William Holton to “order in the meantime their prudential affairs[,] granting of lots[,] and otherwise reserving in some convenient place 250 acres of land for a farm for the county’s use and disposal.”¹¹³

During King Phillip’s War, Indians attacked vulnerable Connecticut River towns, thus forcing Major John Pynchon to summon military assistance from Connecticut. By the end of November 1674, believing the Indians had gone into winter quarters, Major Appleton and his forces returned to Connecticut leaving small garrisons in each town. The 26 troops in Northampton were commanded by a local militia lieutenant, William Clarke, and housed with residents.¹¹⁴ During the fall and winter, palisades were erected around the town, but not all of the approximately 100 Northampton homes were within the palisades.¹¹⁵ On the night of 14 March 1675/6, Northampton was attacked.

[T]he Enemy fell upon Northampton in three Places broke through the Fortification of Palisades, set up around the Town a little before, for their better Security; but the Town being at that Time full of soldiers, they were quickly repulsed, after they had killed four Men and two Women, and fired four of five Dwelling-houses, and as many Barns, with the Loss of many of their Lives, as was supposed.¹¹⁶

The assault came on the easterly side of Round Hill, on King Street, and at the lower end of Pleasant Street, near the Holton home. The palisades were “quickly broken through, and a desperate conflict ensued,” as the

¹¹¹ Hampshire Co., Mass., Probates, vols. 1-4, 1660–1780, 1:22, 46, 68, 81, 93, 114, 125, 163, FHL microfilm 879184.

¹¹² J. H. Temple and George Sheldon, *A History of the Town of Northfield, Massachusetts, for 150 Years, with an Account of the Prior Occupation of the Territory by the Squakheags, and with Family Genealogies* (Albany, N.Y.: Joel Munsell, 1875), 62.

¹¹³ Shurtleff [*supra* note 110], 4, pt. 2:557.

¹¹⁴ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:272.

¹¹⁵ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:275-76.

¹¹⁶ William Hubbard, *The History of the Indian Wars in New England . . .*, 2 vols in 1 (1865; repr. New York: Kraus Reprint Co., 1969), 205.

Indians swarmed through the town.¹¹⁷ Four houses outside the palisade and one house inside were burned. Five were killed: original settler Robert Bartlett, Mary Earle, James McRennal, Increase Whelstone, and [William's son] Thomas Holton.¹¹⁸

The Holton home was the only dwelling within the palisades to catch fire. No record exists of what was lost, but as there were little means to extinguish fires, we can presume much was destroyed. We do not know where William and Mary lived after this, but records suggest they did not rebuild. Fifteen years later, the inventory of their estate listed no property and few household goods.¹¹⁹ Possibly they resided with one, or more, of their children, perhaps Ruth Baker, who had lost her husband and son the previous fall, or eldest son John who had returned to Northampton,¹²⁰ or Sarah King who gave birth to her 12th child on 25 April 1683 and died two weeks later, leaving 11 children.¹²¹ When William distributed his property in November 1688 to his sons-in-law David Burt, John King, and Thomas Strong, no parcel was described as a home lot with a dwelling.¹²²

William continued to serve as commissioner, elected on 29 March 1676,¹²³ 26 March 1678,¹²⁴ 6 March 1780,¹²⁵ and 28 March 1682.¹²⁶ By 1682 the committee to resettle Northfield thought it safe to move ahead. The General Court appointed Ensign John Lyman, Sergeant John King, and Sergeant Preserved Clapp to "supply the place of the deceased, and to join with the remaining part of the former Committee."¹²⁷ On 11 April 1688, Northfield proprietors agreed to give "each of our honored Committee, Mr. William Clarke, Deacon William Holton, Sergt. John King, and Ensign Preserved Clapp, five acres of interval land in the Three Little Meadows,

¹¹⁷ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 63, 1:308-09].

¹¹⁸ Hubbard, *History of the Indian Wars* [*supra* note 116], 205.

¹¹⁹ William Holton estate distribution, 1691 [*supra* note 69].

¹²⁰ Joan A. Hunter, "Clarifying John² Holton of Northampton and Dedham, Massachusetts, and His Wife, Abigail Fisher," *NEHGR* 159 (2005): 25-34, at 30.

¹²¹ "Descendants . . . of William Holton" [*supra* note 1], 15-19.

¹²² "Northampton Proprietors Records" [*supra* note 95], 134-37, 177-79, 192.

¹²³ Hampshire Co, Mass., Probates, 1:174.

¹²⁴ A Booke of the Records of the Acts of the County Courts Holden at Springfield and Northampton in the County of Hampshire 1677-1728, 26 March 1678 court, FHL microfilm 886420, item 1.

¹²⁵ Booke of the Records [*supra* note 124], 6 March 1680 court.

¹²⁶ Booke of the Records [*supra* note 124], 28 March 1682 court.

¹²⁷ *History of the Town of Northfield* [*supra* note 112], 94.

without paying any purchase money.¹²⁸ No record has been found to indicate what happened to William's five acres.¹²⁹

The first extensive epidemic of smallpox among the English colonists "seems to have begun [in 1689] when a ship came into Boston from Barbados carrying Negro slaves who had smallpox. The ship was quarantined on arrival in October, but the disease effected Boston and adjoining towns that winter and increased in intensity the following summer."¹³⁰ Trumbull says the peak of the epidemic came during the summer of 1690, when 100 people were sick at one time in Deerfield and 80 at Northampton. Twenty-five persons died in Northampton in 1690 and 23 in 1691, including 11 original Northampton settlers, several who were 80 years old and upward.¹³¹ Deacon William Holton died at Northampton on 2 August 1691,¹³² and if he was the boy baptized at Nayland on 20 October 1610, he was about 11 weeks shy of 81. Mary died there on 16 November 1691.¹³³ Presumably their sons and daughters buried them in the Bridge Street Cemetery; however, any grave markers that may have been erected did not survive.¹³⁴

MARY (—) HOLTON

William married a woman named Mary. The Holton Family genealogy provides only her first name,¹³⁵ as do several family genealogies published prior to that work.¹³⁶ No clue has been found to her place of birth, arrival in

¹²⁸ *History of the Town of Northfield* [*supra* note 112], 14.

¹²⁹ His three grandsons, William, Thomas, and Eleazer Holton, waited until 1717 to remove from Northampton to settle in Northfield.

¹³⁰ Ian Kenneth Steele, *The English Atlantic, 1675–1740: An Exploration of Communication and Community* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986), 254.

¹³¹ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:414.

¹³² "Northampton Records . . . Book 1" [*supra* note 83], 140.

¹³³ "Northampton Records . . . Book 1" [*supra* note 83], 140.

¹³⁴ On 2 Sept. 1939, members of the Holton Family Association, led by Rev. Charles Leonard Holton, President, dedicated at Northampton Bridge Street Cemetery a memorial stone to William and Mary Holton, "located in the old part of the Cemetery and is quite near the commemorative boulder of Elder John Strong" (*Holton Family Association Bulletin* [March 1940], p. 3).

¹³⁵ "Descendants . . . of William Holton" [*supra* note 1], 4, 7.

¹³⁶ Charles Edwin Booth, *One Branch of the Booth Family . . .* (New York: By the author, 1910), 200; John Edwin Salisbury, *American Ancestors of Oratio Dyer Clark and of His Wife Laura Ann King* (Asbury Park, N.J.: Martin & Allardyce, 1917), 52; Josiah Granville Leach, *Memoranda Relating to the Ancestry and Family of Hon. Levi Parsons Morton, Vice-President of the United States (1889–1893)* (Cambridge: Riverside Press, 1894), 124; *History of the Town of Northfield* [*supra* note 112], 460.

New England, or any record of her marriage to William.¹³⁷ No wife was listed with him on the *Francis*.

A persistent but almost certainly incorrect claim is that William married Mary Winche. This assertion appears in print and circulates widely on the Internet. No documentation to support it has been seen, and we believe it can be traced to a casual remark made by Moses Whicher Mann at the first Holton Family Association reunion in Northfield, Massachusetts, on 29 August 1924.¹³⁸ During his prepared talk, Mann referred to the voyage of the *Francis*, noting that there were “twelve married men and their wives, twenty single men, and forty children 15 years and younger . . . among whom was one MARY WINCHE, age 15.”¹³⁹ The Association printed his speech in a booklet and distributed a copy to each of the members. Although Mann did not say William married Mary Winche, the presence of her name in capital letters on the first page of this booklet has been sufficient evidence for many, although never accepted by the Association as fact.

Mary Winche was listed on the *Francis* as a 15-year-old female traveling with Rowland Stebbins and his family. Stebbins, from Bocking, Essex, settled at Springfield, Massachusetts. Mary was probably the same who became the second wife of Richard Everett in Springfield: “Richard Euerett & Mary Winch joyned together in marriage 4 mon [June]: 29 day. 1643.”¹⁴⁰

In addition to the church record discussed above, Mary Holton is named independently in only two records—her own death record and John Webster’s will. In October 1658, when Northampton voted to give land to the Hartford Company, William Holton helped lay out the boundaries.¹⁴¹ John Webster, of the Hartford Company, may have been with the surveyors when

¹³⁷ For this question, a review was conducted of all known families that migrated from Nayland, all passengers on the *Francis* and *Elizabeth*, early residents of Newtown, and families that settled early in Hartford, Wethersfield, and Windsor, as well as families discussed in *The Great Migration Begins*.

¹³⁸ Moses Whicher Mann, b. Newbury, Vt., 11 Feb. 1846, d. Lincoln Center, Mass., 10 March 1933; m. Elizabeth Clapp, daughter of Samuel Socrates and Tryphena (Clapp) Holton. Mann served many years as President of the Medford Historical Society and for 22 years was editor of the Historical Society magazine (Emilie Durand Holton, comp., “Holton Family Genealogy, 8th to 14th Generation,” 670 pages [typescript, 1950–65], 410).

¹³⁹ Moses Whicher Mann, “Glimpses into the Holton Family History,” a paper delivered at Mt. Hermon, Mass., 29 Aug. 1924, printed as part of *Holton Family Association Bulletin*, No. 1.

¹⁴⁰ Clifford L. Stott, *Vital Records of Springfield, Mass., to 1850*, CD-ROM (Boston, Mass.: NEHGS, 2002), citing Book 1: Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1638/9–1728, 13. Although it is possible that William married fellow passenger Mary Onge, no evidence has been found to suggest this possibility. Thomas Sherwood, also a passenger on the *Francis* with his wife Alice, later married a Mary, surname unknown. A suggestion that she may have been Mary Onge is based on both being on the same ship (Frank P. Sherwood and Frances H. Sherwood, *A Changing America Seen Through One Sherwood Family Line, 1634–2006*, 2 vols. [New York: iUniverse, 2006], 1:39).

¹⁴¹ Judd, *History of Hadley* [*supra* note 102], 13.

he became ill. He signed his will on 25 June 1659, but he recovered, dying about three years later. His will was probated on 26 March 1662. He gave to

Mary the wife of William Holton of Northampton in part of recompence for her great love and paynes for me I give forty shillings.¹⁴²

Mary was named after Webster's wife, children, and grandchildren, and was the only non-family member to receive a bequest. Her 40s. equaled what Webster left his grandchildren. A plausible explanation is that Webster was staying with the Holtons when he first became ill, and Mary nursed him back to health.

William and Mary died intestate, but the distribution of their estate indicates that the children knew their wishes. Eldest son John presented the inventory, swore to its accuracy, and posted a security bond of £120. He presented a distribution that he, his brothers, and his brothers-in-law had agreed upon, and the court approved. The inventory and agreement were entered into the county records on 24 November 1691:

Tis agreed by the sons and sons in Law of Deacon Holton whose names are underwritten that whereas their father and mother died intestate and having given deeds of all their lands that there being about 68 pounds 11 shillings of estate left and should be divided as follows, *viz.*

That whereas they understand that it was their father and mothers mind that Sarah King should have feather bed and some furniture there unto belonging they too agree their to which Lt. King accepted in full of all claims due from the estate to s[ai]d King.

That their mothers clothes which were prized at about twenty five pounds should be divided among the three daughters.

That the remainder of the estate to be to the three sons John the eldest son to have a double part and that the debts and funeral expenses should be paid by the sons in proportion to what they received out of the estate: which estate hath been already distributed: an inventory whereof they herewith present to this Honored Court. [*signed*] John Holton; Samuel Holton; William Holton; Thomas Lyman; Joseph Root.¹⁴³

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

WILLIAM¹ HOLTON was probably, as discussed above, the boy baptized at Nayland, Suffolk County, England, on 20 October 1610, a son of Edward and Constance (Adkinson) Holton.¹⁴⁴ He died at Northampton, Massachusetts, on 2 August 1691.¹⁴⁵ He married by about 1636 (assuming she was his

¹⁴² Hampshire Co., Mass., Probates, John Webster will, 1:21.

¹⁴³ William Holton estate distribution, 1691 [*supra* note 69].

¹⁴⁴ Nayland, St. James Parish Registers [*supra* note 12], p. 28; Transcript of the Parish Register of Nayland [*supra* note 12], Baptisms 1557–1639, p. 138.

¹⁴⁵ "Northampton Records . . . Book 1" [*supra* note 83], 140.

only wife and mother of his children) MARY —, who died there on 16 November 1691.¹⁴⁶

Children of William¹ and Mary (—) Holton, all born probably at Hartford:¹⁴⁷

- i MARY² HOLTON, b. say 1636, d. Northampton between 9 April 1713 and 19 Dec. 1718 (dates of her will and its proof),¹⁴⁸ m. (1) there 18 Nov. 16[torn, 1655] DAVID BURT,¹⁴⁹ bp. Harberton, co. Devon, England, 18 Oct. 1629, d. Northampton 9 Sept. 1690, son of Henry and Ulalia (Marche) Burt.¹⁵⁰ Mary m. (2) Northampton after 1691, when she was called “widdow Burt,”¹⁵¹ and before 30 March 1692,¹⁵² as his 2nd wife, JOSEPH ROOT, b. Hartford ca. 1640, d. Northampton 19 April 1711, son of Thomas and — (—) Root.¹⁵³
- ii SARAH HOLTON, b. say 1638, d. Northampton 8 May 1683;¹⁵⁴ m. there 18 Nov. 1656 JOHN KING,¹⁵⁵ b. prob. England ca. 1629,¹⁵⁶ d. Northampton 3 Dec. 1703.¹⁵⁷ John m. (2) Northampton Nov. 1683, Sarah (Whiting) Mygatt,¹⁵⁸ b. ca. 1645, dau. of William and Susan (—) Whiting and widow of Jacob Mygatt.¹⁵⁹ Sarah d. prob. in Hartford before 20 Nov. 1704, when administration of the estate of “Sarah King, late wife of Capt. John King of Northampton,” was set to Benjamin Graham and Joseph Mygatt of Hartford.¹⁶⁰

¹⁴⁶ “Northampton Records . . . Book 1” [*supra* note 83], 140.

¹⁴⁷ “Descendants . . . of William Holton” [*supra* note 1], 7, places the children in a different birth order: Mary, Sarah, Ruth, John, Rachel, Samuel, William, Thomas. Based on dates of childbearing and assuming that each woman was about 45 when she bore her last child, I have slightly rearranged the order.

¹⁴⁸ Hampshire Co., Mass., Probates, Mary Root will, 1718, 4:9. Her death date is stated as 16 Dec. 1713 in Donald Lines Jacobus and Edgar Francis Waterman, *Hale, House and Related Families, Mainly of the Connecticut River Valley* (Hartford: Connecticut Historical Society, 1952), 489.

¹⁴⁹ “Northampton Booke, Records of Marriages Births and Deaths,” 95, Northampton Town Hall, Town Clerk’s Office, where I consulted the original in Oct. 2003.

¹⁵⁰ George Skelton Terry, “Genealogical Research in England: Burt-March,” NEHGR 86 (1932): 83; Nathan Grier Park II, *The Ancestry of Lorenzo Ackley and His Wife, Emma Arabella Bosworth*, Donald Lines Jacobus, ed. (Woodstock, Vt.: N. Grier Park II, 1960), 233; “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 140 (death).

¹⁵¹ Booke of the Records [*supra* note 124], David Burt estate distribution (1690), 140.

¹⁵² Date of her parents’ estate distribution; Joseph Root signed for her. Mary’s 2nd marriage was not found in the Northampton town records; however, very few marriages were recorded for 1691–1693.

¹⁵³ James Pierce Root, *Root Genealogical Records, 1600–1870* (New York: R. C. Root, Anthony & Co., 1870), 103.

¹⁵⁴ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 138.

¹⁵⁵ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 95.

¹⁵⁶ Benjamin W. Dwight, *The History of the Descendants of John Dwight of Dedham, Mass.*, 2 vols. (New York: John F. Trow & Son, 1874), 1:119.

¹⁵⁷ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 141.

¹⁵⁸ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 101, no day given.

¹⁵⁹ Frederick T. Mygatt, *A Historical Notice of Joseph Mygatt . . .* (Brooklyn, N.Y.: Harmonial Association, 1853), 43-44; Lucius Barnes Barbour, *Families of Early Hartford, Connecticut* (1977; repr., Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1982), 412, 676.

¹⁶⁰ Manwaring, *Early Connecticut Probate Records* [*supra* note 59], 2:90. The date 17 May 1704 for her death is given in Lucius Barnes Barbour, *Families of Early Hartford, Connecticut* (1977; repr., Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1982), 412, but not found in the town or church records.

- iii JOHN HOLTON, b. say 1641, d. Northampton 14 April 1712;¹⁶¹ m. Dedham, Mass., 1 March 1666/7 ABIGAIL FISHER,¹⁶² b. there 29 [sic] of the 12 m^o [Feb.] 1648[9],¹⁶³ bp. there 28d 12m [Feb.] 1648[9],¹⁶⁴ dau. of Joshua³ (*Joshua*², *Anthony*¹) and Mary (Aldis) Fisher.¹⁶⁵ Abigail d. Northampton or Northfield after 1718¹⁶⁶ and before March 1723, when her sons sold their father's land in Northampton.¹⁶⁷
- iv RUTH HOLTON, b. say 1644, d. prob. Durham, Conn., after 30 Dec. 1710;¹⁶⁸ m. (1) Northampton 5 Feb. 1662/3 JOSEPH BAKER,¹⁶⁹ b. prob. Lynn, Mass., son of Edward and Joan (—) Baker.¹⁷⁰ He d. Northampton 29 Oct. 1675, killed by Indians.¹⁷¹ Ruth m. (2) Northampton in 1678 THOMAS LYMAN,¹⁷² b. Windsor, Conn., ca. 1649, son of Richard and Hepzibah (Ford) Lyman.¹⁷³ Thomas d. Durham 15 July 1725, age 75.¹⁷⁴
- v SAMUEL HOLTON, bp. Hartford 1 Nov. 1646,¹⁷⁵ d. Northampton 14 July 1730;¹⁷⁶ m. (1) Hartford 24 June 1673 MARY (GILBERT) ROSSITER,¹⁷⁷ b. there 15 Dec. 1649, bp. 17 Dec. 1649,¹⁷⁸ dau. of Jonathan and Mary (White)

¹⁶¹ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 143. On 4 Aug. 1664, John Winthrop Jr. in Hartford entered in his medical records a prescription for “Mrs. Pinchon,” at Springfield, followed next by one for “Holton John 16y: servant to Mr. Pinchon” (Medical Records of John Winthrop, MS, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, 568). This servant of the Pinchons at Springfield in 1664 was too young to have been the son of William and Mary Holton of Northampton.

¹⁶² Don Gleason Hill, *The Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths, and Intentions of Marriage, in the Town of Dedham, Volumes 1 & 2 . . . 1635–1845* (Dedham, Mass.: Dedham Transcript, 1886), 10. For a recent discussion of the identity of Abigail's husband, John Houlton, see Hunter, “Clarifying John² Holton . . .” [*supra* note 120], NEHGR 159 (2005): 25-34.

¹⁶³ Hill, *Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths* [*supra* note 162], 4. The day of this birth cannot be correct; the date of her baptism, 28 Feb. 1648[9], suggests she was born probably earlier that month.

¹⁶⁴ Don Gleason Hill, *The Record of Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths . . . Transcribed from the Church Records in the Town of Dedham, Massachusetts, 1638–1845* (Dedham: Dedham Transcript, 1888), 31.

¹⁶⁵ Philip A. Fisher, *Fisher Genealogy* (Everett, Mass.: Massachusetts Pub. Co., 1898), 6, 11.

¹⁶⁶ Sylvester Judd, “Judd Manuscript, Northampton Records, 1650–1820,” 96, FHL microfilm 186155.

¹⁶⁷ Hampshire Co., Mass., Deeds, N:612.

¹⁶⁸ William Chauncey Fowler, *History of Durham, Connecticut, From the First Grant of Land in 1662 to 1866* (Hartford: By the Town, 1866), 86.

¹⁶⁹ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 100.

¹⁷⁰ Nelson M. Baker, *Genealogy of the Descendants of Edward Baker of Lynn, Mass., 1630* (Syracuse, N.Y.: By the author, 1867), 7-9. Baker says little about Joseph, names Ruth, daughter of Dea. William Holton as his wife, names his children and adds, “little is known of this family, and probably there are few, if any, descendants.”

¹⁷¹ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 137.

¹⁷² “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 99, month and day are not given, the marriage is listed with 1678 entries.

¹⁷³ Lyman Coleman, *Genealogy of the Lyman Family . . .* (Albany, N.Y.: J. Munsell, 1872), 197.

¹⁷⁴ Fowler, *History of Durham* [*supra* note 169], 86.

¹⁷⁵ *Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], 577.

¹⁷⁶ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 147.

¹⁷⁷ “Northampton Booke” [*supra* note 149], 97.

¹⁷⁸ *Original Distribution* [*supra* note 53], 580 (baptism), 583 (birth).

- Gilbert and widow of John³ Rossiter (*Bryan*², *Edward*¹);¹⁷⁹ (2) after 6 Sept. 1681, when he divorced Mary,¹⁸⁰ and before 17 Feb. 1703/4,¹⁸¹ ABIGAIL —, who d. Northampton 8 April 1733.¹⁸²
- vi RACHEL HOLTON, b. say 1649, d. perhaps Guilford, Conn., after 15 April 1707;¹⁸³ m. (1) Northampton 16 Oct. 1671,¹⁸⁴ as his 2nd wife, THOMAS STRONG, b. say 1637, d. Northampton 3 Oct. 1689,¹⁸⁵ son of Elder John and Abigail (Ford) Strong of Taunton, Windsor, and Northampton.¹⁸⁶ Rachel m. (2) Northampton 16 May 1698,¹⁸⁷ as his 3rd wife, NATHAN BRADLEY, b. England in 1638, son of — — and his 2nd wife Elizabeth —.¹⁸⁸ He d. prob. Guilford 10 Nov. 1713.¹⁸⁹
- vii WILLIAM HOLTON, b. say 1651, d. Hartford between 16 Nov. 1711, date of his nuncupative will, and 7 Jan. 1711/2, when it was probated,¹⁹⁰ m. Springfield, Mass., 22 Nov. 1676 SARAH MARSHFIELD,¹⁹¹ b. there 2 of y^c 12 mon. [Feb.] 1656[/7], dau. of Samuel and Esther/Hester (Wright) Marshfield.¹⁹² Sarah d. Hartford between 24 Dec. 1711 and 7 Jan. 1711/2, the dates of her will and its proof.¹⁹³
- viii THOMAS HOLTON, b. say 1653, d. Northampton 14 March 1675[/6].¹⁹⁴

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¹⁷⁹ Homer Worthington Brainard, Harold Simeon Gilbert, and Clarence Almon Torrey, *The Gilbert Family, Descendants of Thomas Gilbert, 1582(?)–1659* (New Haven: By the authors, 1953), 47.

¹⁸⁰ *Records of the Court of Assistants* [*supra* note 90], 1:197.

¹⁸¹ Date of first deed naming Abigail as Samuel's wife (Hampshire Co., Mass., Deeds, D:99-100).

¹⁸² "Northampton Booke" [*supra* note 149], 147.

¹⁸³ Hampshire Co., Mass., Registry of Deeds, D:469.

¹⁸⁴ "Northampton Booke" [*supra* note 149], 100.

¹⁸⁵ "Northampton Booke" [*supra* note 149], 139.

¹⁸⁶ Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume VI (R-S)* (Boston: NEHGS, 2009), 584.

¹⁸⁷ "Northampton Booke" [*supra* note 149], 103.

¹⁸⁸ Ralph D. Smythe, "The Bradleys of New Haven and Guilford (Conn.)," *NEHGR* 57 (1903): 134-35.

¹⁸⁹ Glenn E. Griswold, *Connecticut Inscriptions, New Haven County: Guilford, North Guilford* (1938; repr., Sarasota, Fla.: Aceto Bookmen, 1993), 7.

¹⁹⁰ Manwaring, *Early Connecticut Probate Records* [*supra* note 59], 2:231-32.

¹⁹¹ "Judge Pyncheon's Marriage Record: 1685–1711," *NEHGR* 123 (1969): 259; Stott, *Vital Records of Springfield* [*supra* note 140], citing Springfield Town Vital Records, 4:239.

¹⁹² Charles H. W. Davis, "Records of Springfield, Mass.," *NEHGR* 18 (1864): 144.

¹⁹³ Manwaring, *Early Connecticut Probate Records* [*supra* note 59], 2:231.

¹⁹⁴ Trumbull, *History of Northampton* [*supra* note 78], 1:313; Hubbard, *History of the Indian Wars* [*supra* note 116], 205n.