

Mayflower
Serial

CANADIAN MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

NEWSLETTER

January 1983

Vol. II No. 2

"We know on whose shoulders we stand."



The Holiday Season is now behind us, marking the end of yet another year. I hope you and yours had an enjoyable Christmas and I wish you all good health and happiness in this new year of 1983.

We should set a goal for ourselves this year, a resolution to do all we can to expand our membership. I am sure we can come up with some good ideas to help publicize our existence. Clyde Soule started us off, a copy of the item he sent to his local newspaper is enclosed.

All newspapers are interested in human interest stories; call your local paper, tell them about your genealogical work, your Pilgrim ancestors and the forming of our Society in 1980. Be sure to include the headquarters address so prospective members may get in touch.

Another idea is to advertise in other genealogical newsletters. Many of us subscribe to newsletters from other organizations in North America. For those who do, send our name and address and depending on their format, chances are they would be happy to enlighten their readers.

The above suggestions take little time or effort on your part, but if everyone would do it the results could be tremendous for our membership. I don't know about the rest of you but I learned of the Society through an article written in a Toronto newspaper. Advertising is definitely the only way to attract members.

There are thousands of potential members in Canada and although not all know they are Mayflower descendants, those who have traced back will never know about us if they do not hear about us.

Let's give them an earful!

Headquarters & Library:

Mrs. Susan E. Roser, Editor
289 Glen Oak Dr.
Oakville, Ont.
L6K 2J6

H.F. Pierce, M.B.E., Gov. & Historian
162 Walmer Rd.
Toronto, Ont.
M5R 2X9
(416) 922-9110

TOURING PLYMOUTH COLONY...

- Provincetown features a 225 foot granite monument on Town Hill dedicated to the Pilgrims. What is so unusual is that it is a copy of a 14th century Italian tower - and no one knows why!
- The Congregational Church in Falmouth was built in 1796. Its bell was made the same year by Paul Revere. Revere charged the congregation \$338.94, a real bargain because 186 years later the bell still rings every Sunday!
- Daniel Webster is buried in the Winslow Cemetary, Marshfield's first burying ground. Gotham's Hill, about a mile to the south, was a cemetary of a different sort. Here Webster buried his favorite horses "with full honors" on their feet, bridled and haltered!

Sharon Cadieux of Glenburnie, Ont. deserves an honourable mention for being the only member to respond to the trivia question in the last issue. (Where are all you Howland descendants?) The house in question was the Jabez Howland House, built in 1667 by Jacob Mitchell, grandson of Francis Cooke. Jabez bought the house and resided in it until 1680. It is widely believed that among his visitors were his parents John and Elizabeth Howland.



(Let's hear from our members! Send in your tid-bits about historical sites in Plymouth Colony.)

* * * * *

In 1667 the town of Eastham voted that every householder must kill at least 3 crows or 12 blackbirds per annum. By the end of the century the law was that each bachelor must kill at least 6 blackbirds or 3 crows per annum and would not be allowed to marry until he had done his quota for that year.

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PLYMOUTH COURT RECORDS

Att a Generall Court holden at Plymouth the first of March, 1652

Before William Bradford, gent, Gov, John Browne,
Thomas Prence, John Alden, and
Miles Standish, Thomas Willet,
Timothy Hatherley,

Gent, Asistants.

Whereas Edward Hall is departed the goverment, endebted unto divers men much more than his estate will amount unto and satisfy, the Court, haveing seriously considered of the promises, doe order that the estate shalbee equally devided unto such creditors as can make full proof of their debts proportionable to what is owing them from him, and that all such shall repaire unto Capt Standish, Mr. Alden, Mr. Colliare, and Constant Southworth, of Duxburrow, betwixt this present day and the first of May next ensuing the date heerof; the said Capt Standish and the rest above expressed being those whom the Court have deputed to have the oversight of the desposing of the said estate according as is above mensioned; and all such as shall neglect to come in and make claime of their debts by the time above prefixed shall lose their proportion of the aforsaid estate.

Wheras complaint is made that som of the naighbouring Indians of the towne of Rehoboth have sustained great dammage in their corne by the horses and other cattle of the said towne, and that the grandiury-men of Rehoboth have been by the Court enquired of about it, and they know nothing of it, Mr. Browne is requested and deputed by the Court to make enquiry of what dammage is donn them in that respect, and to see it satisfyed; and that such fences may bee made and repaired as ought to bee for preventing of future dammage in that behalfe; and Mr. Browne is allsoe deputed to make enquiry about the man that seleth strong waters at Providence.

The Court have ordered Capt Standish and Mr. Alden to provide portions out of the estate of Thomas Chillingsworth, deceased, for his children, and to take cecurity in the Courts behalfe for the right desposing of the said estate, lres of adminnestracon being graunted unto Joane Chillingsworth, wife of late deceased Thomas Chillingsworth, to adminnester upon his said estate.

lres of adminnestracon are graunted unto Grace, the late wife of William Hallowell, deceased, to adminnester upon his estate; and in regard of present infeirmity, shee being not able to appeer at the Court, Captaine Standish and Mr. Alden are appointed to require her oath unto the inventory of the said estate at home.

lres of adminnestracon are graunted unto Elizabeth, wife of the late deceased Robert Waterman, to adminester upon his estate, and to pay the debts soe fare and by equall proportions as the estate will amount unto.

BULLETIN BOARD

A reminder that 1983 membership dues are now due.
Please send your payment of \$15.00 to:

Rev. Melvin Donald, B. Comm.
Deputy Gov. & Treasurer
14 Belsize Dr.
Toronto, Ont.
M4S 1L4

Our Society depends on membership dues and donations
for its survival. Let us all do our share.

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SOCIETY NEWS

THE GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL RECEPTION & TEA

SAT. FEB. 19th, 1983

2:30-5:30

A tradition is beginning this year with the 1st Annual Governor's Reception & Tea. The event will take place in rather appropriate surroundings, an historic house belonging to the Toronto Historical Board. The Mackenzie House is located at 82 Bond St., Toronto. (1st street east of Yonge and north of Queen.)

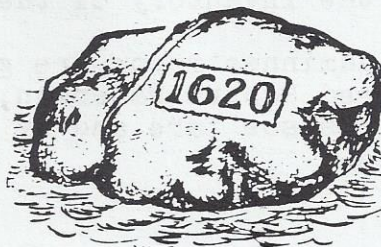
Gov. Pierce has taken great pains to ensure that the occasion will be an enjoyable one, including having the affair catered. It would be appreciated if those attending could volunteer the \$6.50 per person being charged to the Society.

R.S.V.P.

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TRANSFERRING TO CANADIAN SOCIETY

Membership may be retained in your State Society if you wish to transfer to our Canadian branch. Write your State Secretary asking for the transfer and send \$2.00 U.S. for a photo-copy of your documents and ask that they be sent to our headquarters. We hope to have colonies within reach for friendly get togethers and to help with new members' papers.



PLYMOUTH FIRSTS!

1. 1st white man born in New England was Peregrine White in 1620, son of William and Susannah White.
2. 1st white woman born in New England was Elizabeth Alden in 1623/24, daughter of John and Priscilla Alden.
3. 1st physician to settle in America was Dr. Samuel Fuller.
4. 1st commissioned military officer in America was Capt. Miles Standish.
5. 1st white men to establish trading posts on the Penobscot, Kennebec and Connecticut Rivers were the Pilgrims.
6. 1st native born Americans to enroll at Harvard (1640's) were William Bradford Jr., Josiah Winslow and Thomas Prence Jr., although they failed to graduate.
7. 1st Pilgrims to graduate from Harvard were Nathaniel Brewster 1642 and Isaac Allerton Jr. in 1650.
8. Organization of the First Church of Plymouth was the first congregational church in America.
9. 1st colony to start registration of deeds was Plymouth in 1636.
10. 1st Mayor of New York was Thomas Willet c1664, a "Leyden Pilgrim." He returned to Plymouth Colony where he died in 1674 at Swansea.
11. 1st apple tree in New England is said to have been planted by William Brewster on his farm in Duxbury.



"Just watch, tomorrow it will be turkey soup, then cold sliced turkey, then turkey hash . . ."
by Gordon Brooks

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THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

I wish you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year in 1983 and sincerely hope that we will meet at our catered tea in February, to do so personally.

Perhaps we can cheer up those of us who have not been feeling well of late by exchanging age old experiences of our Pilgrim Fathers. In these times so many of us need to reflect on the courage of our Mayflower antecedents. Courage was their forte. We are made of the same 'stuff' - let us exercise our everyday lives as they would have done. Let 1983 be the year that we find ways and means of meeting each other more.

*

In our first newsletter, pg. 8, were listed the nominees for our advisory board and Board of Assistants. At our dinner in November all were elected by acclamation to serve until January 1984. The

Reverend Melvin Donald, B.Ed., B.D., B. Comm and Margaret Brodylo, Regent of the Western Colony were both elected Deputy Governors.

Congratulations to Clyde Soule for being the first member of our Society to submit a copy of his memorandum to a local newspaper. The item appeared in the Guelph Daily Mercury, Nov. 29, 1982. This is a superb resumé of our annual Mayflower Compact & Dinner.

I have ordered a few engraved objects d'art based on our heritage, one of which will be awarded to Mr. Soule for his initiative and help. If all our members in the far flung areas of Canada would do the same we would carry out our aims to pass on the message of our heritage to our posterity.

I continue to get letters congratulating Susan E. Roser on her excellent role as Editor. In this respect Susan will be presented with her insignia of office at our tea in February. May Susan do us the honour to wear it for many, many terms.

The Compact Dinner pictures turned out perfectly and will be on exhibit at the tea. Orders may be placed at that time for your copies. Our photographer Derrick Crowell has volunteered to take some black and white photos at the tea so that they may be used in the newsletter.

*

I would like your views on two ideas I have to help publicize our Society. We could rent films from the Plymouth Plantation or Society that could be shown to other patriotic groups, churches, schools, etc. on the grounds that so many Loyalists throughout Canada had Pilgrim backgrounds.

Would a small float be out of the question? Surely we would have plenty of opportunities to display our craft in various local communities. My thoughts are along the lines of using an old car and building a plywood frame to simulate the hull and deck, coarse cloth could be used for sails, and costumes could be made to represent our ancestors. It would be possible to get T.V., Radio and Newspaper coverage.

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QUERIES

(Somebody, somewhere, must need to know something. Couldn't we have a more interesting queries section in the next newsletter?)

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"Consistency is the last refuge of the unimaginative."

- Oscar Wilde

MAYFLOWER SOCIETY HOUSE

We are all acquainted with, if only in name, the Mayflower Society House in Plymouth. Since 1941 the house has served as headquarters of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. What you may not be aware of is the interesting history of the 228 year old home.

The land itself was held by Howlands for many years, from Joseph Howland (son of John) to his brother Thomas, to Consider Howland who sold it to Edward Winslow (grandson of original Edward). Edward built the house in 1754.

The house changed hands many times and was witness to several interesting events. Ether anesthesia experiments were carried out there by Dr. Charles Jackson and Dr. Wm. Morton in 1843. A few years earlier, in 1835, the house was the scene of the wedding of noted poet-philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson to Lydia Jackson, sister of the good doctor.



*Headquarters of The General Society of Mayflower Descendants
4 Winslow Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts*

In 1898 the house was finally given a face lift and was restored. Bought by wealthy Chicago lawyer Charles L. Willoughby for a summer home, he commissioned well known architect and restorationist Joseph Chandler to carry out the remodelling and renovations.

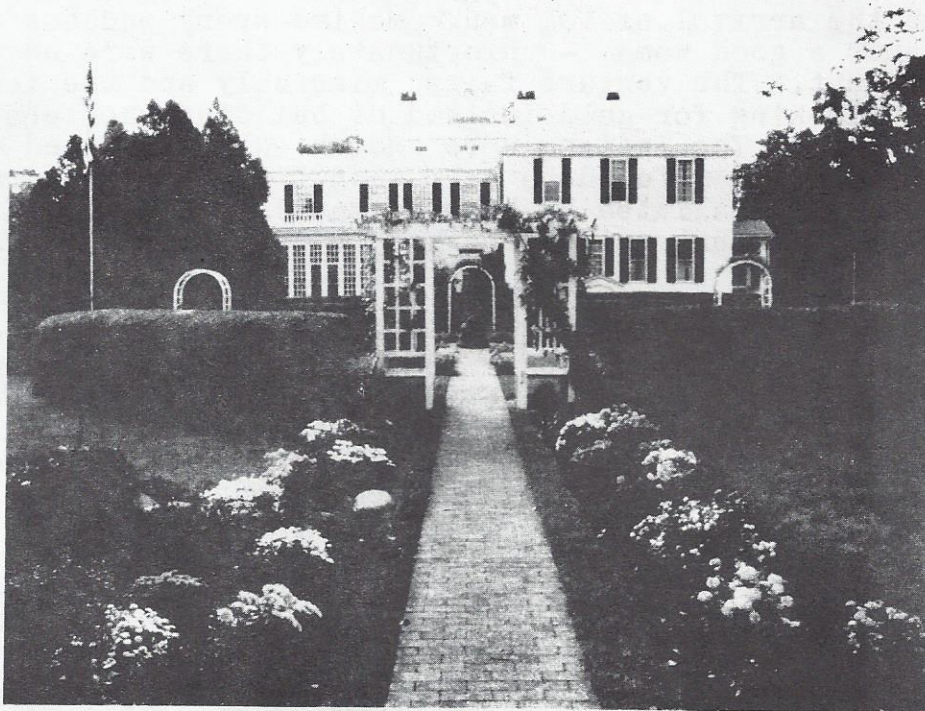
The house began in 1754, as "a clapboard house with a decorated central entrance and hipped roof, was set low and close to the ground in the manner of its time. The interior consisted of two large rooms, the parlor and the hall, flanking the central hallway on the first floor, and two large bed chambers on the second floor. The two floors were connected by an exquisitely turned 'flying' staircase, the front half the present 'mirror image' staircase one sees today. A kitchen ell extended to the rear of the house."*

The extensive renovations included moving the house back 30 feet thus enlarging the front yard, and raising the foundation 5 feet, enhancing the view of the coast. Porches were added to three sides, cupola and balustrades to the roof, and several new rooms to the rear. Chandler also created a more elaborate entrance portico and made use of the rich woods of mahogany, cherry and sycamore throughout the house.

The end result is an architectural beauty. While the front of the house has been preserved as Colonial, the rear is distinctly Victorian, a magnificent combination of eras long past. To set the mood even further are the furnishings, straight from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

Maintenance and upkeep of the Mayflower Society House is provided through annual membership dues and an endowment fund.

*Green Mountain Pilgrim, Vol.5, No.2



* * * * *

Our bones lie on that hillside in Plymouth Churchyard; obscure, unmarked, secreted, to preserve our graves from the knowledge of savage foes. No stones tell where we lie. And yet, let me say to you, who are our descendants, who possess this glorious country and all it contains, who enjoy this hour of prosperity and the thousand blessings showered upon you by God of your Fathers: We envy you not. We reproach you not. Be rich, be prosperous, be enlightened; live in pleasure, if such be your allotment on earth; but live, also, always to God and to Duty.

—DANIEL WEBSTER

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO VIRGINIA DARE?

On August 18, 1587 Eleanor (White) Dare, wife of Ananias Dare, gave birth to a daughter Virginia, the first child born of English parents in America. We know of her birth, but we will never know of her life - if she had one - for Virginia Dare and 89 men, 17 women and 11 children disappeared and were never heard from again.

The story is an interesting one, and sadly mysterious. It begins 36 years before our Pilgrim ancestors landed at Plymouth.

In 1584 Sir Walter Raleigh, wishing to start a settlement in the New World, obtained a charter from Queen Elizabeth to begin a colony in any unsettled part of North America. Two ships set out and landed near Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. After surveying the area the Englishmen left Roanoke Island and sailed back to England with two Indian "tourists" Manteo and Wanchese. The land was named Virginia in honor of the Virgin Queen.

Raleigh's first attempt at colonization occurred the following year with the arrival of 108 men. Behind every successful man there stands a good woman - unfortunately there were no women in the settlement. The venture failed miserably and the few months were spent looking for gold instead of building shelters and planting crops. The Indians were undoubtedly disgusted with the lazy white men and refused to help when the settlement ran out of food. The men retaliated by burning the Indians' cornfields and before the unfortunate situation had ended, some settlers had lost their lives.

In 1586 Sir Francis Drake arrived anchoring his ships off the island. He was on his way back to England after fighting the Spanish and after seeing the deplorable conditions, agreed to take the sick and weary men back with him. (Isn't it amazing that 108 men lasted barely a year while our Pilgrim ancestors, who numbered 48 - and 29 of these were women and children, made a life for themselves and others!)

Raleigh was not discouraged by the first colonization attempt and tried again in 1587. This time, being a little wiser perhaps, he sent 150 men, women and children. The three ships, headed by Gov. John White, were headed for Chesapeake Bay but the ships' Captains landed at Roanoke Island. Two of the ships sailed back to England while the settlers went about the task of building cabins and beginning their new life. It was at this time that Virginia Dare, granddaughter of Gov. White, made her entrance into the "new" world.

It was soon realized by the settlers that the island was too swampy to set up a permanent settlement, so it was decided to move about 50 miles into the mainland. Gov. White was about to leave for England for supplies and it was agreed that the settlers would carve the name of their destination on a tree so the Governor would be able to find them upon his return. "If you have any trouble, carve a cross above the name," he told them.

Thirty-three settlers accompanied Gov. White back to England. When he arrived, he found that England was at war with Spain and with the Spanish Armada sailing the seas it was impossible to get back to the colony with supplies.

It took three long years, but Gov. White finally returned in August 1590 with Captain Cook. Upon their arrival they found a tree with the carving "CRO" and knowing the meaning proceeded to the settlement. The site was deserted, the cabins destroyed and another tree carving was found with the word "CROATOAN", again no distress mark. Croatoan Island was south of Roanoke and the home of the friendly Croatoan Indians.

Here is where a twist is added to the mystery. The searchers experienced stormy weather, a shortage of food and water and damage to the ship. They returned and docked at Plymouth, England on October 24, 1590. They left - without going to the Croatoan Indian village to see if the settlers were there. Gov. White left - without even knowing if his daughter and granddaughter were alive or dead!

Sir Walter Raleigh sent search expeditions to America but they were never found. The 117 colonists had disappeared, and were never heard from again.

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KNOW YOUR ANCESTRAL LINES

By recording your family lineage you may be doing others a service. Future generations will bless you. In the 360 years since the Mayflower landed here, 14 or 15 generations have grown up. In the fifth generation you have 16 great-grandparents. In the tenth, you have 512 greats of the seventh order. From Mayflower times we each have between 3000 and 4000 ancestors. Revolutionary ancestors go back only about six or seven generations (if you are my age). The establishment of one line may open up several others. One member of the Michigan Society hoping to find a line to the Aldens, found eight lines to them, and in addition several more to Bradford, Brewster, Rogers, Samson and Warren -- a total of 26 lines! You just never know. So keep searching. And WRITE it all down!

from Michigan Newsletter 1959

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Mayflower descendants meet

Clyde Soule of Dawson Road attended the second annual meeting and dinner of the Canadian Mayflower Descendants Society, held recently at the Holiday Inn, Toronto. This is the first Mayflower Descendants Society outside the United States. The new society was organized in 1980: Soule is a charter member and has been a member of the general society for many years. This new Canadian Mayflower Descendants Society has its headquarters in Toronto but covers all of Canada. Its remarkable growth in membership won it the membership contest for 1981, which included societies in the United States. The Society's name will now be engraved on the bowl in the Mayflower Society house in Plymouth, Mass. The Canadian society will be receiving a certificate of award in the near future. Many of the Canadian members are United Empire Loyalists or those who have immigrated to Canada. The Canadian society issues a quarterly newsletter and contacts for this are Mrs. Susan E. Roser, editor, 289 Glen Oak Drive, Oakville, Ont. L6K 2J6 and H.F. Pierce, M.B.E., governor and historian, at 162 Walmer Rd., Toronto, M5R 2X9.

The Daily Mercury, Guelph, Mon., Nov. 29, 1982-

We extend our thanks to Clyde Soule and Cheryl Barlow who took the initiative and had these items placed in their local papers.

Send me the item you had printed and it will appear here for all to see and enjoy.

PRISCILLA DOLL!

7198 — Delight a child with a doll inspired by Priscilla of Pilgrim fame. Tissue pattern pieces for doll about 24" tall and costume \$2.50

Pilgrim Dolls



7198 DOLL
24"



917 DOLL
24"

JOHN ALDEN DOLL!

917 — This John Alden doll is 24" tall and wears a historic costume. Tissue pattern pieces for doll and costume; directions included . . . \$2.50

QUESTIONS

SHOULD WE BUY THESE KITS IN BULK. . .

HOW MANY WOULD YOU BUY.

PLEASE SEND IN IDEAS FOR THESE APPROPRIATE MAYFLOWER LIFETIME PRESENTS.

WHO WILL VOLUNTEER TO HANDLE THE ENTIRE PROJECT.

Suggested by Vance Pierce
Life Member

Are you a Mayflower heir?

The newly formed Society of Mayflower Descendants in Canada is looking for members who are descendants from the 102 Pilgrim Fathers, who sailed aboard the Mayflower and landed in New England on Nov. 21, 1620.

It is estimated that there are over 140,000 descendants across Canada. If you have documented evidence of your family tree and wish to join this society, get in touch with its governor, Harry F. Pierce at 162 Walmer Road, Toronto, M5R 2X9, phone number 922-9110. The local member on the Advisory Board is Cheryl Barlow of College St., Cobourg.

In return for the \$15 annual membership fee, members receive the Mayflower Quarterly from the mother society headquartered in Plymouth Mass, plus local newsletters from the headquarters in Toronto. Also included is a membership card which certifies that the member is a legitimate descendant of the Mayflower Pilgrims.



BETT MANN ARCHIVE

Colonial houses were small, and the central room was used by the whole family. To protect their privacy of communication young people resorted to the "whispering rod," a hollow stick, through which they conversed.



Many of the colonials sprang from English stock that engaged in the occupations portrayed here.



A Chicken Seller



A Chimney Sweep

A Fruit Vendor



A Broom Hawker



A Fish Peddler and His Wife

