

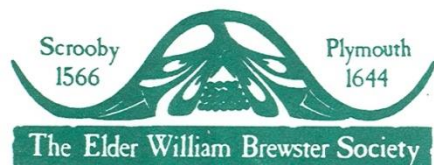
The Elder William Brewster Press

A Publication of the Elder William Brewster Society

Volume 16 No 1, May 2024

Web site- www.brewsterfamily.org - Gregory E. Thompson, webmaster

Gregory Evan Thompson – Newsletter Editor Gthomp5749@aol.com



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Message from the President's Desk

Hello Brewster Cousins:

I hope that this newsletter reaches all of you in good health and happiness. I have been working behind the scenes to get things started and putting together ideas for a future Scholarship Fund. If anyone would be interested in serving on this committee, please let me know. New ideas are always welcome. I am also looking for someone to take over the production of the newsletter. I will work along with you so you can learn what needs to be done step by step.

In order to move forward to allow non-lineage "Friends" to join our society, it will mean that the by-laws will have to be changed. I am working on the wording of this change and will report shortly.

We also have been asked to sponsor a professional English Genealogist, who is well known in England and who has written several books so that she can research into the English records to see if she can discover the maiden name of Mary Brewster. We have sponsored a project of this nature before, but nothing was found. I would like to propose that we put aside \$5,000 payable in \$500 installments and paid based on reports of what has been researched and the results. Since we won't be meeting again until 2026, I am asking that you give me your approval via email. Please email YES or NO to Gthomp5749@aol.com. And send any questions.

PLEASE EMAIL ME BY JUNE 01, 2024

THANK YOU

Gregory Evan Thompson

PRESIDENT

**ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT
9/27/23- 4/30/24**

Balance as of last published report:	\$39,200.86
Receipts	
Membership Dues	\$ 2054.00
Application Fees	\$ 325.00
Insignia	\$ 160.00
Donations	\$ 10.00
	\$ 2549.00
	\$41,749.86
EXPENSES	
Postage, Printing, Supplies	\$1156.34
GSMD Partnership Renewal	\$ 250.00

Balance as of 4/30/24 \$ 40,343.52

Respectfully submitted – *Jane E. Cobb*
Treasurer

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Please check those expiration dates:

Besides keeping your dues up to date, it is VERY important to keep us informed of any **postal or email** address changes. Please let me know of any changes so that you can continue to receive the newsletters.

DUES: If you see **2024** on your mailing label, or on your membership card, you need to renew. Those of you that receive the newsletter via email, will need to check your membership cards. Please renew, so we don't lose you as a member!

I am the one to contact if you are unsure of your Membership Renewal Date. Please do this as soon as possible. Postage is at an all-time high and it costs our society a lot of

money to send out all the reminders. Again, just drop me an email if you are not sure of your membership date.

Members who receive the newsletters via Postal mail	\$20.00
Members who receive the newsletters via email	\$15.00

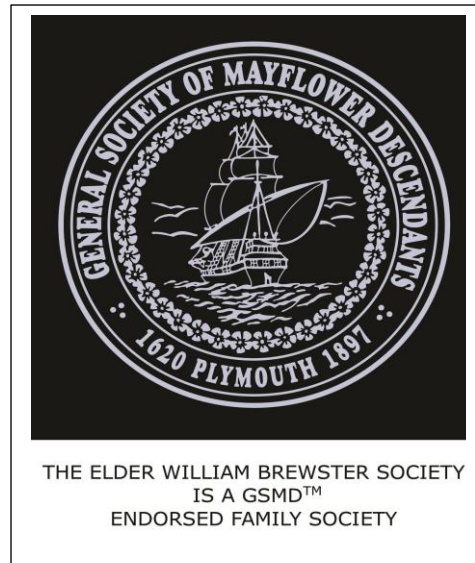
Checks must be made payable to The Elder William Brewster Society and sent to:

Jane Cobb, Treasurer
Elder William Brewster Society
604 Mallow Scrub Way
Sebastian, FL 32958

Email: brewsoc1620@gmail.com

Warmest wishes:

Sincerely,
Jane Cobb, Treasurer.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS
The historian has approved 13 New Members. Please help me welcome them to our Society.

APPROVED NEW MEMBERS

1. **Kevin James Ennis**
Bartlett, TN
2. **Susan Landers Gilbert**
Sunnyvale, CA
3. **Gregory Stewart Hull**
Mesa, AZ
4. **Jeannette Kay Boehm**
Silver City, IO
5. **Tawny Elaine Godin Welch**
Sherman Oaks, CA
6. **William F Howard**
Baltimore, MD
7. **Parker Jeffrey Harris**
Sanderstown, RI
8. **Eric A. Greenquist**
Eugene, OR
9. **Emily True Marx**
Austin, TX
10. **Gina Allen Mathis Ibarra**
Danville, CA
11. **Landon Rupert Ibarra**
Danville, CA
12. **Ana Lucia Ibarra**
Danville, GA
13. **Linda Henson Sorrow**
Peachtree City, GA

Welcome to our New Members!

Remember, it is very easy to enroll family members into the Brewster Society simply by providing paperwork showing how they are related to you. They can use YOUR paperwork and not have to do all of the research again.

Contact our Membership Chair, Barbara Lee- Kelly for information at:

Blee1090@rocketmail.com

REINSTATEMENT POLICY CHANGE

We have been experiencing a lot of members who join for one 3- year period, then don't renew and then come back years later and wish to rejoin. Although we are very pleased to have older members return, it does cause us additional work. With that said we will now require that the new \$25.00 application fee be paid with new renewals that have expired for more than 1 year. A lot of times it is just a matter that you've changed your email address or moved and not let us know, and so we can't find you. So please keep us current on any changes in email or addresses when necessary.

The EWBS will soon be offering non-lineage memberships called "Friends of Elder Brewster" many people have shown interest in our society but lack the proof of lineage from the Elder. We will soon offer a "Friends" category of membership where you can join without having to prove lineage to the Elder.

STAY TUNED FOR THIS OFFERING SOON

BREWSTER INSIGNIA

We have a good supply of Brewster Insignia pins. This beautifully designed insignia created by our member William Warner of CT, celebrates our pride to be an Elder William Brewster descendant. Wear it with pride to your Mayflower Society meeting.

The pins can only be purchased by current Brewster Society members and eligibility will be checked at the time of purchase.

To order, they can be purchased for \$35.00 each plus \$6.00 shipping and handling.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: EWBS

Mail all requests and checks to:

Gregory Evan Thompson
17 David Drive
East Haven, Ct 06512-1125



ATTENTION MEMBERS

Please consider having your newsletter sent to you via email. Not only does it save the society a ton of money in printing and postage, but it's also in color when you get it by email. The newsletter looks so much better in color.

Please contact our treasurer, Jane Cobb if you wish to make this change. She can be reached at brewsoc1620@gmail.com
Also, please keep your email current so you won't miss any of these newsletters.

Members needed for a new Bylaws Committee.

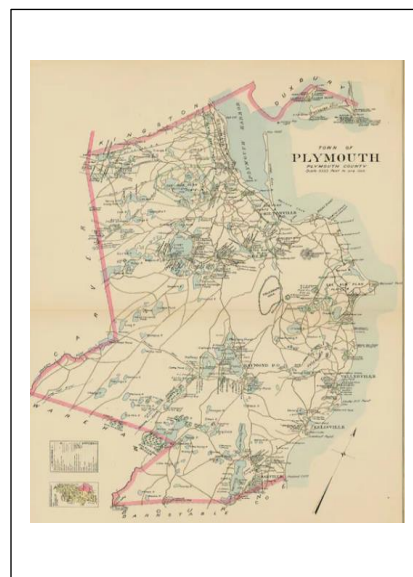
I am looking for 4 people in addition to myself to work on a bylaws committee. Our bylaws are very outdated, and changes haven't been made in many years. You can live anywhere in the country; however, you must be able to have access to ZOOM as this will be how the meetings will be held.

Some experience in working with bylaws is helpful but not required. Some of the changes that I would like to work on are:

1. Non-lineage Associate members
2. Scholarships
3. Term Limits
4. Possibility of having Zoom meetings for members in between the Triennial Meeting.

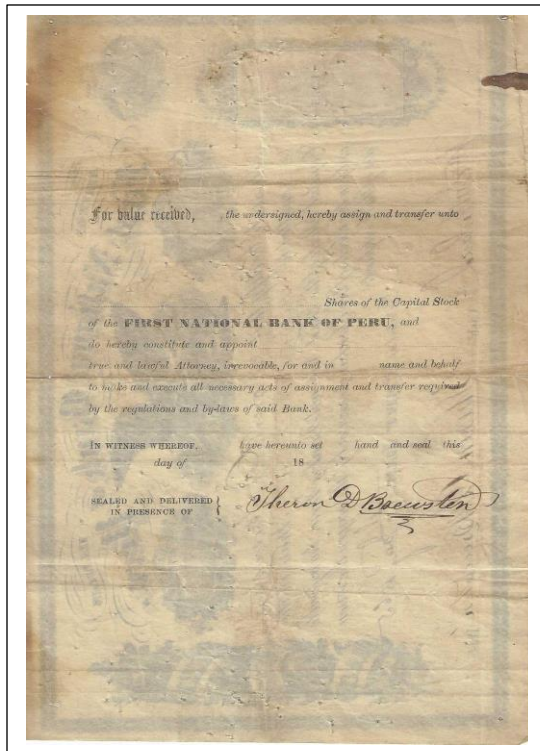
Please email me with any questions or your willingness to serve on this important committee at Gthomp5749@aol.com.

THANK YOU!!!

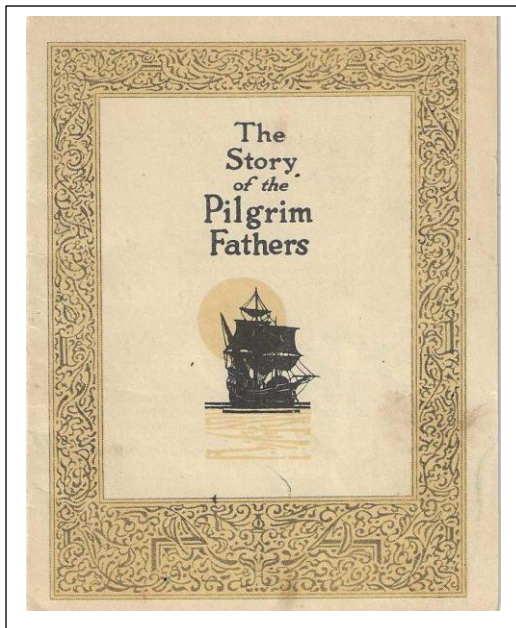


MEMBER DONATIONS AND SUBMISSIONS

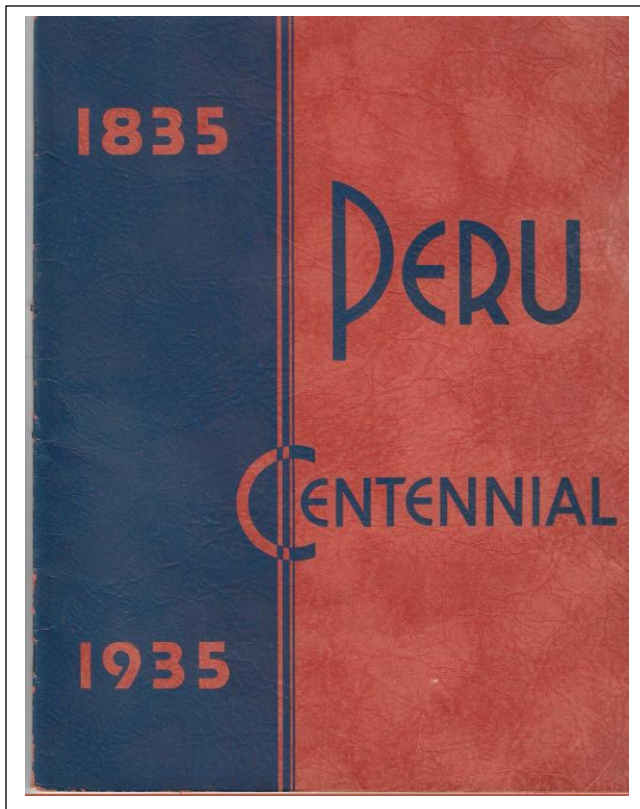
From time to time, we receive various donations (non-monetary) items such as books, certificates, letters from family members, and other various interesting documents and items. We recently received a donation of material from a NON-MEMBER. Her family came upon some items that they thought would be better in the hands of our society instead of just sitting in a file or drawer. The name of the donor was Jayne Klein. We thank her for her donation to our Brewster Society Archives,



This is an original stock certificate from the First National Bank of Peru, Illinois made out to Theron D. Brewster for 52 shares of the capital stock of the bank. It is dated 01 January 1865. It is signed by Theron D. Brewster himself as he was the President of the Bank. The certificate is very fragile but in almost perfect condition.



Also donated was this small booklet called "The Story of the Pilgrim Fathers" is an 18-page booklet talking about the Pilgrim fathers and what they endured during the travel across the ocean to the new world. I'm not sure when it was published but the item was copyrighted in 1920 by CHASE & SANDBORN of Boston, Chicago, and Montreal, Canada.



This is the year book for the class of 1935 in Peru, Illinois which is commemorating the One Hundred Years of Peru's Existence. It contains a very detailed history of the town and contains numerous photographs. It lists the names of all Mayors of the town since it's inception. Has various information about the businesses, School, Churches, and other important entities in the town during it's first 100 years. In the back pages of the document is a listing of those businesses and individuals who donated either money or services for the publication of this booklet. It is in very good condition.

See Story about Theron Daniel Brewster on Pg 9

NEW INSIGNIA IDEAS

We are in the process of creating some new and exciting insignia for the Brewster Society. We already have the pin, but we are looking into Challenge coins, Lapel Pins, Coffee mugs and various other items. As the interest and sales of these items evolve, we will offer more items with the Brewster Society logo.



HELP SUPPORT THE MEETINGHOUSE

The Connecticut Society of Mayflower Descendants has created and developed a beautiful Challenge coin to help raise funds for the Pilgrim Meetinghouse in Plymouth, MA. The cost of the coin is \$25.00, and all proceeds go to renovating and updating this National Treasure. The shipping cost for the coin is being paid for by the Governor of the CT Society, Gregory E Thompson.



Front & Back of Coin

To purchase a coin, send a check for \$25.00 payable to the Ct Society of Mayflower Descendants and mail to

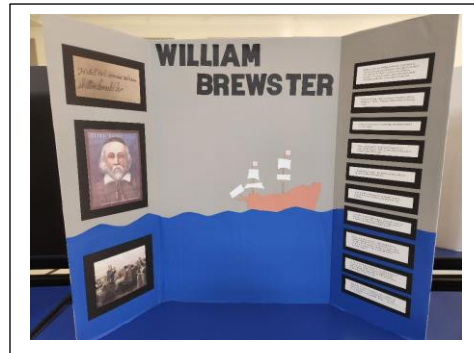
Gregory E Thompson

17 David Drive

East Haven, Ct 06512-1125

Member Submissions

The following is a submission by member Gina Ibarra whose son Landon did a presentation about William and Mary Brewster at his elementary school and wax museum. Landon is in the third grade and created a trifold decorated to show an image of Elder William Brewster, his signature, and another image of him giving the prayer at the first Thanksgiving on the left side. He also made a small replica of the Mayflower sailing in the vast ocean in the middle, and had his speech outlined on the right side.



Landon Ibarra

He stood in the middle dressed to look like Elder William Brewster and was holding his great-great grandmother's Bible as a prop, to reflect that William Brewster came to the New World for religious freedom. He also had his

new Elder William Brewster Membership Certificate on the table beside him.

His speech had to entail 10 facts about William Brewster's life. His teacher suggested that he should have some kind of closing sentence to wrap it all up.

Here was his speech:

1. *Hello, my name is William Brewster. I was born in 1566 but nobody actually knows what day or month I was born in. My father's name was also William Brewster. My Mom's name was Mary Brewster. Sadly, she died in 1586 when I was only 19 years old.*
2. *I had five siblings. They are James, Prudence, Henry, George and Edward Brewster and we lived in Scrooby Manor.*
3. *I went to Peterhouse of Cambridge University when I was 14 in 1580.*
4. *After I left Cambridge University, I went to be a secretary for William Davison, who was a rising star in Queen Elizabeth's service.*
5. *I married Mary in 1590. My dad was getting old and sick, so he died in the same year.*
6. *I had my first child, Jonathan, on August 12, 1593. Then we had Love, Patience, Fear and Wrestling Brewster.*
7. *In 1608 I successfully led a group of people known as the "Scrooby Separatists" to Holland where we lived in Leyden and became the Leyden Church.*
8. *In 1620, I sailed to America on the Mayflower for religious freedom with my wife Mary and two of my sons, Love and Wrestling. Jonathan stayed to work in Leyden. Patience and Fear stayed with Pastor Robinson's family.*

9. *In 1620, I ended up in Cape Cod Bay, Massachusetts when we were supposed to go to Virginia. As the Elder, I led the prayers on the first Thanksgiving in 1621. Sadly in 1627 Mary died.*

10. *I died when I was 76 on April 10, 1644, in Duxbury, Plymouth, Massachusetts, and in the 21st century I will have a 12th great grandson named Landon Ibarra. I think I had a very nice life.*

I don't know about anyone else, but when I see a young student sharing interest in his ancestors it gives me quite a thrill. Thank you, Landon, for sharing this wonderful presentation with us. You make us ALL proud in taking interest in your heritage.



A MAP OF HOLLAND

Theron Daniel Brewster (Daniel7, Daniel6, John5, Daniel4, Benjamin3, Jonathan2, William) Married first, at Peru, IL, on 25 January 1844, Phebe A Mann, born in PA, and died at Peru, IL on 22 Jan 1849; married second, at Peru, IL, 20 May 1850, Margaret, daughter of Henry and Arabella (Newman) Jones of Pittsburg, PA, born there, 28 Jan 1830. He died at Peru, IL on 02 Mar 1897.

Theron D Brewster attended the academy at Westfield, CT. In 1835 he located to Peru, Illinois and commenced trading in real estate, and the same year he laid out "Ninawa Addition" to the city of Peru.

From 1843-46 he engaged in the mercantile business and then began dealing in grain and built a large warehouse on the bank of the Illinois River, where he carried on an extensive business.

At the end of five years, he rented his warehouse and engaged in the dry-goods business for several years. In 1856 he sank the Peru Coal Shaft, which was owned by a stock company of which Mr. Brewster was president. The shaft was worked for over 17 years. He then became connected with the Peru Plow Company which he managed until 1882 when it was organized by a stock company, and Mr. Brewster was one of the principal stockholders. After the organization of this company, he retired from active business.

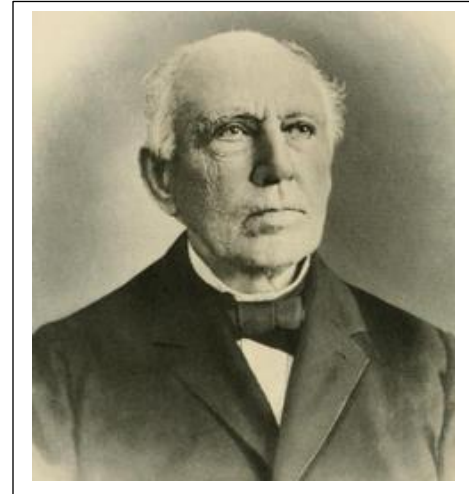
Mr. Brewster served as the first Mayor of Peru being elected in 1851 and was re-elected in 1852 and 1854. He was treasurer of the School Board for eight years and in 1838 was town trustee. He held the office of President of the Old Peru Bank during its entire existence -from 1853-1880. He was one of the first directors of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Company, was a member of the executive committee and one of the principal men in working up the enterprise.

In 1841, Mr. Brewster presented stone church to the Presbyterian congregation at Peru, which in 1853, changed to Congregational, and he was a liberal supporter of that church.

What is known of the "Ninawa Addition" upon which most of the business part of Peru is situated was originally owned by Lyman D Brewster (uncle of

Theron) Theron D. Brewster, Pelatiah Brewster, Calvin Brewster and four others.

Theron died intestate, and left an estate valued at over \$30,000 which in 1897 was a substantial sum. He had eight children by his two wives.



Theron Daniel Brewster

By his first wife Phebe Mann he had two children:

1. **Sylvia Asenath Brewster**, born 22 Jan 1845, died at Los Angeles, CA on 10 Apr 1904. She was unmarried
2. **Frank Lyman Brewster**, born 13 Feb 1847, died at Hot Springs, S. Dakota, on 10 Apr 1904. He was unmarried.

By his second wife, Margaret Jones:

3. **Theron Daniel Brewster Jr.**, born 28 Mar 1851, died 25 Jun 1852
4. **Harry Brewster**, born 9 Jun 1853, died 18 Jan 1855.
5. **Jesse Brewster**, born 25 Jun 1856, resided in Peru.
6. **Margaret Crosdella Brewster**, born 13 May 1859, she married at Peru, IL 14 Oct 1889, Harry H Fenmore, son of Henry and Sarah Mackin Fenmore of Chicago, IL

7. **Benjamin Denison Brewster**, born 24 Nov 1864, married at Peoria, IL. 4 Jun 1902, Anna Magdalene, daughter of John and Louisa Detweiller of Peoria, born there 14 Nov 1875. He was a real-estate broker and manufacturer of agricultural implements at Peru.

8. **Theron Daniel Brewster Jr.** born 9 Apr 1867, married at Marseilles, IL on 28 Jun 1899, Elizabeth, daughter of Donald and Sarah Nicholson of Marseille, born there 13 Feb 1874. They resided in Marseille.

LOOKING FOR ARTICLES OF INTEREST

We are always looking for interesting family articles pertaining to the Brewster family. If you would like to have your article published, let us know. Even if you are unsure how to write an article for publication, we can help you with that. Almost every family has at least one interesting event that happened that would be of interest to the membership. Please contact me at Gthomp5749@aol.com. These will be published as space permits.



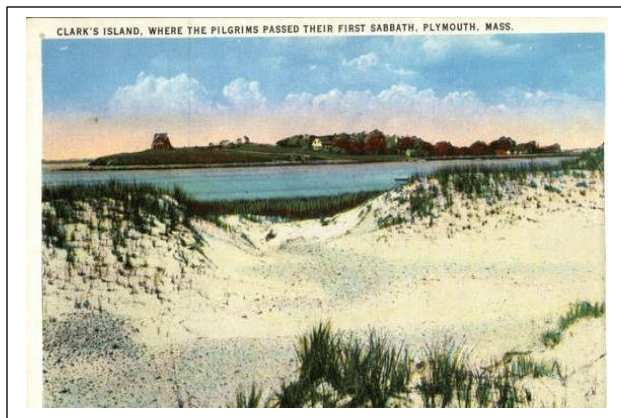
BREWSTER GARDENS, PLYMOUTH, MA

The Story of the Pilgrim Fathers The Voyage to the West

The delays and disappointments which affected their departure were nothing compared to their terrible and harrowing experiences when well out to sea. It is only necessary to visualize the puny, little *Mayflower* and then to contrast her with those titanic liners that today ply the ocean lanes, to appreciate how bold was the undertaking and how fraught it was with infinite danger and peril. Tempest-tossed they were, and storm driven in the teeth of many a raging gale, now rising high on the crest of mountainous waves, now rolling and pitching in the troughs of the down-streaming seas. Storm succeeds storm, shaking the gallant *Mayflower* from stern to stern. In one fateful moment, one of the vessel's supporting frames was twisted out of place, requiring herculean efforts to get it into position again, so that the carpenters might caulk the seams which had opened in the sides and deck. But there was divinity that shaped their ends, a Guiding Hand that succored the historic ship in its dire distress and saved the intrepid voyagers from final and complete disaster. Bravely they out-rote the tempest and the gale, and when on the 21st day of November, nine weeks out from Plymouth, they sighted land and found refuge in Provincetown harbor, joyful were the acclamations and fervent were the prayers of gratitude to God for safe deliverance from the manifold dangers which had beset them.

On the same day, the far-seeing leaders of the expedition in the stuffy, little cabin of the *Mayflower* drew up a formal compact, a "civil body politic" under the terms of which each subscriber held himself amenable to "just and equal" laws framed for the "general good" With the signing of this compact, popular constitutional liberty was brought into being. Forty-one adult males signed the historic document and John Carver was declared their first Governor. With equal promptness and dispatch (for there was no time to be lost) they went about the business of finding a suitable location for their little company. Three explorations were made before the final

settlement at Plymouth. One was along the shore, under Captain Myles Standish, and two by water in the ships shallop, a smaller craft stowed away in the hold of the *Mayflower* intended for use in the shallow waters of the coast and inlets. On the third and last of these explorations in the shallop, driven by heavy seas they were forced to make a landing on Clark's Island so called because Clark, the mate, was the first man to step ashore. Here they rested and spent the Sabbath Day in worship- their first religious service on New England soil. The next day, Monday, December 21st they left the island and venturing ashore came upon "divers cornfields and little running brooks" a place as they supposed "fit for the situation" and here it was, having reached at last the goal of their pilgrimage, they set foot upon the rock at Plymouth.



Clark's Island- place of the first Sabbath.

Squanto – Aide and Friend

European Captains visiting the shores of North America prior to settlement would often take native Americans prisoners to later sell them as slaves.

In 1614, a number of Wampanoag men were taken prisoner by the explorer Thomas Hunt and sold as slaves all the way in Spain. One of these slaves, Tisquantum was eventually freed and travelled to England, where he worked for a number of years as a shipbuilder.

During his time in Europe, Tisquantum became known by the name of Squanto, the name he's most remembered in history.

Looking to find his way home, and now fluent in English, he got the position of interpreter for an expedition, led by explorer Capt. Robert Gorges.

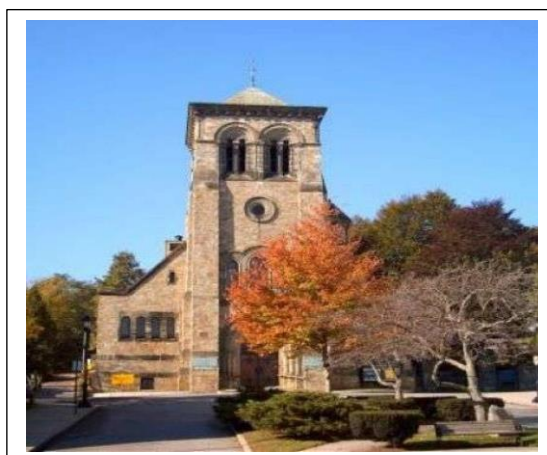
While in New England, the captain and his crew were killed by Chief Massasoit, and his Wampanoag men, who spared Squanto. Once free he made his way back to his home, a village called Pawtuxet which lay where Plymouth now stands. When he arrived home, he found the entire village empty, having been decimated in his absence, from plagues between 1614 and 1620, which wiped out much of the native American tribes in New England and the Maritimes.

Squanto became a friend and ally of the Pilgrims up until his death on 30 Nov 1622.

ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER PRESS

17 DAVID DRIVE

EAST HAVEN. CT 06512-1125



MAYFLOWER MEETINGHOUSE