

Our Warren Ancestors

By
James C. Retson
Last revised at
<https://www.retson.ca/warren.pdf>
December 5 2021

Contents

Our Warren Ancestors	1
Warren Context.....	1
1 Richard Warren 1585 – 1628 Elizabeth Walker	1
2. Sarah Warren John Cooke	3
Appendices.....	4
Abbreviation	4
Old Style Calendar	4
Researching Warren.....	4
Sources	4
General Resources	4
Websites	5
Relationship to author	6

Warren Context

The Warren family was one of the first settlers in North America along with Francis Cooke and his son John Cooke. The name on the line ended when Sarah Warren married John Cook(e).

1. Richard Warren b. abt 1585 England, m. Elizabeth Walker 14 Apr 1610 in Great Amwell, Hertfordshire, England, d. 1628 in Plymouth, Plymouth Colony

1 Richard Warren 1585 – 1628 Elizabeth Walker

Available evidence suggested by Caleb Johnson has Richard Warren being born in Hertfordshire, probably about 1585ⁱ. He married Elizabeth Walker 14 April 1610 at Great Amwell. He was christened at the Abbey at St. Albans, Hertfordshire, on 12 April 1585.ⁱⁱ The earlier estimate by Anderson predated the 2002 finding of the will of Elizabeth Walker’s father, Augustine Walker – a will that not only names daughter Elizabeth as the wife of Richard Warren, but also names that couple’s first three daughters, Mary, Ann and Sarah, in their correct order of birthⁱⁱⁱ This fits reasonably well with his 1610 marriage to Elizabeth at Great Amwell (roughly a dozen miles from St. Albans), though it would appear – if he was baptized close to his actual birth – to make him slightly younger than Elizabeth, whose christening is understood to be that recorded some miles to the north at Baldock in September of 1583.[5] That age discrepancy, which would be somewhat unusual, could perhaps undergird the earlier estimate of Anderson et al., in *The Great Migration Begins* (published in 1995, some years prior to the discovery of Augustine Walker’s will), that Richard was born by “about 1578 based on estimated date of marriage”. [6]

Richard married Elizabeth Walker, 14 Apr 1610, at Great Amwell, Hertford, England, daughter of Augustine Walker.

Their children,

- i. Mary Warren, b. 25 Dec 1610 abt. 1609, m. abt 1629 Robert Bartlett (d betw 19 Sep and 29 Oct 1676, Plymouth). d Plymouth 27 Mar 1683,
 - ii. Anna Warren, b abt 1612, m Thomas Little, 19 Apr 1633, Plymouth, d. 24 Feb 1675 Marshfield, Plymouth County, Massachusetts
- 2.
- iii. Sarah Warren b say 1614, m John Cooke 28 Mar 1634 Plymouth, d. 25 Jul 1696 Hingham, Plymouth
 - iv. Elizabeth Warren, b 1616 , m 1635/6 Richard Church, d. 09 Mar 1669 Plymouth,
 - v. Abigail Warren, b abt 1618 Enfield, England, m Anthony Snow 8 (or 9) Nov 1639 Plymouth, d. 03 Jan 1693 Plymouth,
 - vi. Nathaniel Warren, b. 1624 Plymouth, m Sarah Walker 19 Nov 1645, d. 16 Oct 1667 Plymouth,
 - vii. Joseph Warren Sr b. 22 Mar 1627 Plymouth, m. Priscilla Faunce abt 1653, d. 04 May 1689. They had six children, d.4 May 1689, Plymouth. She died on May 15, 1707, in Plymouth.

According to his Mayflower passenger record, Richard was a merchant from London. He was one of the forty-one adult-male signatories to the Mayflower Compact, composed upon the arrival of the Mayflower at Cape Cod Harbor in November 1620. He settled at Plymouth and in the 1623 division, Richard received an unknown acreage of land (probably two) for his passage aboard the Mayflower. He also received five acres for passage aboard the Anne; this was presumably for his wife and five daughters: Mary, Anna, Sarah, Elizabeth and Abigail, who arrived in 1623.

When the Pilgrims were planning to leave Leyden, Holland, to migrate to the new world, they found that they needed to find financial investors and additional settlers. Several of the new recruits came from London, Mr. Richard Warren among them. The Mr. title implies that he was a man of either rank or wealth. He has been described as of London in the booklet Mourt's Relation, published about 1622.

A trip across the Atlantic was difficult at best in 1620. The Mayflower had delayed leaving until late in the season, so the voyage became stormy as the weeks progressed through the fall and into the start of winter. Richard Warren was one of the group of Pilgrims who went ashore on December 6, 1620 (O.S.) and engaged in a "huggery" with a group of the natives, referred to as "The First Encounter". This story appears both in Mourt's Relation, published in London in 1622, and (in a condensed version) in William Bradford's Of Plymouth Plantation.

Richard Warren survived the dreadful time of sickness when about half of the one hundred and three passengers died in the extreme hardships, including near starvation, of the first couple of years of the settlement. Richard received a grant of land in the 1623 Division of Land.[21]

In July of the year 1623 he had welcomed his wife and five daughters who arrived on the ship Anne along with sixty more people to live in the new settlement. He seems to have been one of the five assistant governors from 1624-1628.

In 1626 twenty seven Plymouth settlers, called Purchasers, were involved with the colony joint-stock company which afterwards was turned over to the control of senior colony members. That group was called Undertakers, and were made up of such as Bradford, Standish and Allerton initially who were later joined by Winslow, Brewster, Howland, Alden, Pence and others from London, former Merchant Adventurers. The agreement was dated October 26, 1626 and was finalized sometime in 1627. Richard Warren may have originally been a party to the agreement, but due to his death, which may have been sometime in 1628, his name on the charter was changed to that of his wife, recorded as "Elizabeth Warren, widow." Elizabeth Warren, as a widow, was named in a law passed by the Plymouth Court specifically to give her the Purchaser status that her husband had - "hee dying before he had performed the bargaine, the said Elizabeth performed the same after his decease...."

The Warren family is listed in the division of cattle, 1627.[14] [22] It is believed that the list includes everyone's name residing then in Plymouth.

The Warren house, built in 1627, stood at the same location as the present house, at the head of Clifford Road, with its back to the sea. It was re-built about 1700 and owned by Charles Strickland (in 1976).

Richard Warren died at Plymouth of unknown causes, sometime in 1628 (exact date unknown). Richard Warren's widow Elizabeth would live to be more than ninety years of age, dying on 2 Oct 1673. Both she and her husband were buried on Burial Hill in Plymouth. Richard Warren left behind a wife, remarkable in her own right, seven children who married and had descendants numbering in the millions, probably the largest number of any Mayflower Family. During her widowhood, Elizabeth Warren's name is noted in Plymouth Colony records. Elizabeth was listed as the executor of her husband's estate, paying taxes as head of household and as an independent agent in her own right.

2. Sarah Warren 1614 – 1696 John Cooke 1608 -1695

Sarah Warren, daughter of Richard Warren and Elizabeth Walker, was born 1614 in London, City of London, Greater London, England. She married John Cook a passenger on the Mayflower, on 28 March 1634 at Plymouth.

John Cooke son of Francis Cooke and Hester Mathieu was born in Leiden in 1607/08. He was baptised January-March 1607 at the French Walloon church in Leiden, Holland (MD 27:153). John spent his early years in Leiden, Holland, and came with his father on the Mayflower to Plymouth in 1620 at the age of about 13 or 14.

John was then raised in Plymouth; his mother and sisters came over on the ship Anne in 1623, along with his future wife Sarah Warren. John would become a deacon in the Plymouth Church, in the 1630s and in 1636, Samuel Eaton (who was still breast-feeding when he came on the Mayflower) was apprenticed to him.

He became a deacon of the Plymouth Church in the 1630s. At some point during the late 1640s, John Cooke "fell into the error of Anabaptistry," and was cast out of the Plymouth Church. He was excommunicated from the church ca. 1657. The Church record states: "This John Cooke although a shallow man became a cause of trouble and dissension in our Church and gave just occasion of their casting him out; so that Solomon's words proved true in him that one sinner destroyeth much good."

He married Sarah Warren, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Walker) Warren, on 28 March 1634 at Plymouth. He removed from Plymouth and took up residence in Dartmouth, where he died in 1695.

He served on juries and on various special assignments, and was a long-time Plymouth deputy (see chapter 5). Probably around the time he was excommunicated, he became a Baptist. In 1664 he was granted fifteen acres of land near Dartmouth (PCR 4:67), and he had other significant land dealings in the area. In 1666 he was a deputy for Dartmouth (PCR 4:122). He was one of the advisers for the defense of Dartmouth against the Indians (PCR 4:146). He became a magistrate for Dartmouth authorized to marry, to administer oaths, and to issue warrants for court trials at Plymouth (PCR 4:163). Though Nathaniel Morton called him "a shallow man," he appeared to be a populist-type leader who was also able to command the respect of the authorities. He married Sarah Warren, daughter of Mayflower passenger Richard Warren 28 March 1634 (PCR 1:29), and they had five children. Cooke died 23 November 1695, (Dartmouth VR 3:25), having lived through the entire life of Plymouth Colony. He was frequently mentioned in Plymouth records as John Cooke, Jr., which was to distinguish him from John Cooke, Sr., see above, who was apparently no relation.¹

. Their Children

- i. Sarah Cooke b. , 20 Nov 1635 Plymouth, Plymouth, Massachusetts, m. Arthur Hathaway 20 Nov 1652 Plymouth, d. 26 Feb 1712 Dartmouth, Bristol County, Massachusetts, United States of America
- 3. ii. Elizabeth Cooke b. 16 Mar 1641 Plymouth, Plymouth, Massachusetts, m. 28 Nov 1661 Daniel Wilcox New England, USA, d. 06 Dec 1715 Tiverton, Newport, Rhode Island,
- iii. Esther (Hester) Cooke, b. 16 Aug 1650 Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, m. Thomas Taber 1668 New England, d. 16 Apr 1671 Dartmouth, Bristol County, Massachusetts,
- iv. Mary Cooke b m. 1630 Plymouth, Massachusetts, m. Capt Richard Stillwell, May 1655 d. 25 Jan 1715 Dartmouth Bristol, Massachusetts
- v. Mercy Cooke b. 16 Aug 1650 Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, m. Stephen West 1683 Dartmouth, Bristol, Massachusetts, d. 21 Nov 1733 Dartmouth, Bristol County, Massachusetts

John Cooke died November 23 1695, at Dartmouth. She died 25 Jul 1696 at Hingham, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, United States of America.

Appendices

Abbreviation

Abt. About aft after b. born bef. before bpt. baptisms bur buried d. died OS Old Style
NS New Style

Old Style Calendar

The Old Style calendar was in use at the time of this history... The year began on 25 March and ended on 24 March of the succeeding year. March was the first month, December was the tenth month, February was the twelfth month, and so on. Because some parts of Europe, not England, had adopted the Gregorian calendar, still in use today, the New England colonists increasingly used a double year dating system between 1 January and 24 March. March. Though this practice adequately defines the year, it does not take into consideration the fact that the Julian calendar (Old Style) was ten days behind the Gregorian calendar during the 1600s (until 1 March 1699/1700 Old Style (O.S.), when it became necessary to add eleven days). Thus, to translate Plymouth Colony dates to the new calendar, it is necessary to add ten days. For example, the Mayflower Compact was signed on 11 November 1620 O.S., which is 21 November 1620 New Style,.. see George Ernest Bowman, "Old Style and New Style Dating," *Mayflower Descendant* (hereafter MD) 1 (1899):17-23.[Stratton, Eugene Aubrey. *Plymouth Colony: Its History and People: 1620-1691* (p. 29). Ancestry.com. Kindle Edition.]

Researching Warren

Sources

"Richard Warren" in Anderson, Robert Charles, *The Great Migration Begins Immigrants to New England Volume 3 New England Historic Genealogical Society Boston 1995, Page 1935-1937*
Henry Fitz-Gilbert Waters. "Richard Warren of the Mayflower and some of his Descendants." *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, 1901, Vol. 55:70-78.
Johnson, Caleb, "Richard Warren", at [MayflowerHistory.com](http://mayflowerhistory.com/warren/)

General Resources

William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation: Historical Account Real History of the Mayflower Voyage, the New World Colony & the Lives of Its First Pilgrims*, Mosaic Books. Kindle Edition.

Fraser, Rebecca, The Mayflower, the Voyage, and the Founding of America, New York: St Martin's Griffin
Kindle Version
Philbrick, Nathaniel, The Mayflower and The Pilgrims' New World, New York: G.P. Putnam 2008
Philbrick, Nathaniel. Mayflower, A Story of Courage, Community and War, Penguin Publishing Group. Kindle
Edition.
Stratton, Eugene Aubrey. Plymouth Colony: Its History and People: 1620-1691 . Ancestry.com. Kindle Edition.

Websites

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Warren-66>

[https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Space:The Voyage of the Mayflower](https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Space:The_Voyage_of_the_Mayflower)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard Warren](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Warren)

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/6797309/richard-warren> accessed Oct 30 2021 Memorial #6797309,
citing Burial Hill, Plymouth, Plymouth County, MA

Relationship to author

10th great grandfather



Richard Warren

b: 1578
Hertfordshire, England
d: 20 Oct 1628
Plymouth, Plymouth, Massachus

9th great grandmother



Sarah Warren

b: 1614
London, City of London, Greater
d: 25 Jul 1696
Hingham, Plymouth County, Mass

8th great grandmother



Elizabeth Cooke

b: 16 Mar 1641
Plymouth, Plymouth, Massachus
d: 06 Dec 1715
Tiverton, Newport, Rhode Island,

7th great grandfather



John Wilcox

b: 1670
Little Compton, Newport, Rhode I
d: 26 Feb 1717
Little Compton, Newport, Rhode I

6th great grandmother



Rebeckah Wilcox

b: 14 Aug 1711
Little Compton, Rhode Island, Brit
d: 26 Jul 1752
Beekman, Dutchess, New York, U

5th great grandfather



Jabez Mosher

b: 02 Sep 1731
Tiverton, Newport, Rhode Island,
d: 1810
Cambridge, Washington, New Yor

4th great grandfather



Hezekiah "Ki" Mosher

b: 18 Oct 1756
Quaker Hill, Beekman, Dutchess
d: Aug 1821
Augusta, Ontario, Canada

3rd great grandmother



Sophia Mosher

b: 18 Apr 1799
Augusta Twp, 1654301, Ontario,
d: 18 May 1880
Augusta Twp., Leeds & Grenville

2nd great grandfather



Robert Nicholson Spicer

b: 11 Aug 1832
Augusta, Grenville, Ontario, Cana
d: 26 Nov 1904
Maynard, Augusta, Grenville, Ont

Great grandmother



Abigail Almeda Spicer

b: 13 Sep 1860
Prescott, Ontario, Canada
d: 10 Jul 1940
Merrickville, Ontario, Canada

Maternal grandfather



Edward Elbert Atkinson

b: 26 Feb 1887
Merrickville, Merrickville-Wolford,
d: 14 Jan 1957
Vancouver, British Columbia

Mother



Grace Elizabeth Atkinson

b: 11 Dec 1916
Waskada, Manitoba, Canada
d: 04 Jun 2008
Truro, Colchester County, Nova S

Self



James Clifford Retson

b: 28 Jul 1948
Truro, Colchester County, Nova S
d:

ⁱ "Richard Warren", Caleb Johnson's MayflowerHistory.com, by Caleb Johnson; <http://mayflowerhistory.com/warren/>

ⁱⁱ "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975", database, FamilySearch

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:J933-777> : 21 March 2020), Richard Warren, 1585.

ⁱⁱⁱ Davies, Edward J. "The marriage of Richard Warren of the Mayflower TAG Vol 78 no 2 pp81-86
<https://www://www.americanancestors.org/DB283/i/13261/81/24793378>