

HISTORY OF THE FRANCIS WEST AND MARGERY REEVES FAMILY

Francis West was born about 1605 in England. Having been invited by a Mr. Thomas of Marshfield, Mass. he left the town of Salisbury in England in about 1636 and came to the adjacent town of Duxbury at the north end of Plymouth Bay and settled there.

He married Margaret Reeves in Duxbury on 27 Feb 1639 and they became the parents of the following children who were probably born in Duxbury and Bridgewater:

Mary b. possibly about 1640 or later

*Samuel b. 1643 m. Tryphosa Partridge d. 1689

Thomas b. 1646 m. Elizabeth _____

Peter b. abt. 1648 m. Patience _____

Ruth b. abt. 1651 m. Nathaniel Skiff

Francis is spoken of as a carpenter in Duxbury records. In 1640 he, having been censured and set in stocks for some misdemeanor was also ordered to make a pair of stocks to be set up in some convenient place in Duxbury. In 1640 and in 1642 he was a member of the Grand Jury. In 1642 he purchased a house and land at Millbrook in Duxbury and in 1643 he was on the list of those able to bear arms. in 1645 he became one of the original proprietors in Bridgewater about 15 miles west and south on land purchased by Miles Standish from the Indians.

Francis returned to Duxbury in 1655. He was admitted as a Freeman in Plymouth Colony in 1656. In 1657 he was a surveyor of Highways and in 1660 he was the Constable in Duxbury.

In 1661 he again purchased land at Millbrook which is recorded as follows: William Ford and his wife Ann, acknowledge the sale of their land lying in the township of Duxbury, both upland and meadowland, unto Francis West and his heirs forever. Before me this 27th day of May 1661.

John Alden, Assistant T. C.

This land was adjacent to John Alden's land, on the west.

In 1671 Francis was appointed by the court as overseer of the ordinances. In 1672 the local Cedar Swamp was divided into 7 lots of 5 shares each, which were distributed to proprietors thus----lot 2-George Partridge, Philip Delano, Mr. Alden, John Soule' and Francis West.

During the last years of his life his son, Peter, took care of him, and his Estate, which amounted to only 16 pounds, was given to Peter by the probate court. He died at Duxbury on 2 Jan 1692 at age of 86 years.