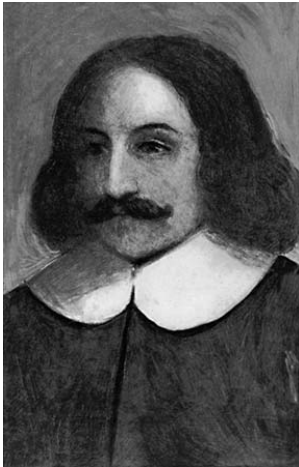


## GOVERNOR WILLIAM BRADFORD OF THE *MAYFLOWER*

Among those on board the ship *Mayflower* when it finally arrived in New England in November, 1620 was William Bradford.



William was baptized in Austerfield, County York, England on March 19, 1589/90. He had been orphaned at a young age and was raised by his uncles. He married Dorothy May at Leiden on 10 December 1613. Unfortunately, she fell overboard and drowned while the ship was still anchored in Provincetown Harbor. He married a second time to Alice (Carpenter) Southworth at Plymouth.

When Governor Carver died in 1621, William Bradford was elected colony governor, a position that he held for most of the rest of his life. He is recognized as a great leader of Plymouth Colony as he was fair and just in his decisions.

It is from Bradford's journal accounts and other writings including his book entitled *Of Plymouth Plantation*, that we learn about the early history of the Pilgrims in Plymouth Colony. William died May 9, 1657, revered and respected by all. William's wife Alice died in Plymouth on 26 March 1670.

Children of William and Dorothy (May) Bradford:

1. JOHN

Children of William and Alice (Carpenter)(Southworth) Bradford:

2. WILLIAM
3. MERCY
4. JOSEPH

Which child of Pilgrim William Bradford  
is your Mayflower ancestor?

Sources:

- Robert Charles Anderson , *The Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony 1620-1633*, (2004)  
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Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs, *Strangers and Pilgrims, Travellers and Sojourners: Leiden and the Foundation of Plymouth Plantation*, (2009)  
Nathaniel Philbrick, *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War*, (2006)