

THOMAS ROGERS OF THE *MAYFLOWER*

Among those on board the ship Mayflower when it finally arrived in New England in November, 1620 was Pilgrim Thomas Rogers.

Thomas was born about 1572. He married in Watford, Northamptonshire, England on October 1597 to Alice Cosford. Before he came to Plymouth, Thomas was a draper. Besides being a weaver himself, he would provide materials to be processed, from wool to yarn. Also, he would take cloth to the guild to be inspected and sold. He sold his house in Leiden, Holland to help raise money and to prepare for the voyage.

Thomas Rogers traveled on the Mayflower with only his eldest son Joseph, leaving behind in Leiden his wife and their three other children – John, Elizabeth and Margaret. Thomas Rogers was a signatory to the Mayflower Compact, but perished in the winter of 1620/21. His son Joseph survived to live a long life. John and possibly his daughters came to Plymouth sometime after 1627.

William Bradford's 1651 recollection of the fate of Thomas Rogers and his family: "Thomas Rogers dyed in the first sicknes, but his sone Joseph is still living, and is married, and hath 6 children. The rest of Thomas Rogers (children) came over, and are married, and have many children."

Children of Thomas and Alice (Cosford) Rogers:

1. Thomas (Baptized March 24, 1598/9 and was buried May 27, 1599.)
2. Joseph
3. John
4. Elizabeth
5. Margaret

Which child of Pilgrim Thomas Rogers
is your Mayflower ancestor?

Sources:

- Robert Charles Anderson, *The Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony 1620-1633*, (2004)
Eugene Aubrey Stratton, *Plymouth Colony: Its History & People 1620-1691*, (1986)
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)