



## WINSLOW HERITAGE SOCIETY



*"Freedom from Want"* by Norman Rockwell

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving, many pause to reflect on this tradition signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. "...During the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of 'Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens' to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November. Thanksgiving has been celebrated nationally on and off since 1789 after a proclamation by George Washington. The event that Americans commonly call the 'First Thanksgiving' was celebrated by the Pilgrims after their first harvest in the New World in 1621. This feast lasted three days and, as accounted by attendee Edward Winslow, it was attended by 90 Native Americans and 53 Pilgrims."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Thanksgiving (United States), Wikipedia

“The New England colonists were accustomed to regularly celebrating ‘thanksgivings’---days of prayer thanking God for blessings such as military victory or the end of a drought.<sup>2</sup>

The Church of England continues to celebrate a “thanksgiving” in September, similar to celebrations held in churches in America sometimes called “harvest home”.



The Following is a summary of some actions taken at the annual meeting on Saturday, October 29, 2016. Full minutes will be published in the newsletter ahead of next year’s meeting.

Under New Business: It was decided to develop a web page in order to increase membership in the Winslow Heritage Society. Once WHS has a web page, it will take advantage on an opportunity presented by the Mayflower Society to advertise the page in the *Mayflower Quarterly*.

It was suggested that WHS look into development of a charm representative of the Society. If a charm proves to be too expensive at this time, possibly a button or some other item that represents WHS.

A standard article will be developed for WHS to be submitted by members to newsletters published by various lineage societies. This may be a good way to spread the word about WHS and increase membership.

Old Business: The Secretary has completed a list that includes the lineage of each member. This list is for informational purposes so if someone needs assistance with a lineage, by contacting the secretary they may be put in touch with others who share the family line.

The status of Kerswell Green Farm apparently remains the same. After WHS contacted the local authorities last year, a citizen of England has also made contact. The only report to date is that the authority visited the site; however, no one was home and no investigation of the

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<sup>2</sup> Thanksgiving (United States), Wikipedia

interior was made. Should anyone wish to reach out the contact information is: Daniel Wilson, Enforcement Investigations Officer, Malvern Hills District Council, The Council House, Avenue Road, Malvern, Worcs. WR143AF, UK.

A DNA update was provided. Members are encouraged to test on FTDNA where the Winslow Project is registered.

Information Item: According to the WHS by-laws, next year's meeting is to be held in Plymouth, MA, during the General Society of Mayflower Descendants' Congress (September). Visiting Plymouth during Congress is an exciting opportunity for those of Mayflower descent and the various family organizations associated with the early New England settlers.

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*Have you ever stopped to consider what events took place during the lives of our Pilgrim ancestors? Below is a timeline of events during the life of one Mayflower passenger, Elizabeth Tilley Howland, that was prepared by WHS editor, Kathy Myers, for an article that appeared in the Women of the Mayflower series in the Mayflower Quarterly.*



*Pilgrim Maiden Statue, Plymouth, MA*

**1607**

Elizabeth Tilley baptized.  
English found Jamestown

**1620-21**

Mayflower sets sail;  
Mayflower Compact signed;  
Plymouth Colony founded;

**1623/4**

Elizabeth Tilley marries John  
Howland

**1620-21 (cont.)**

Elizabeth Tilley orphaned;  
First Thanksgiving

**1625**

King James I dies;  
Charles I ascends;  
First child, Desire,  
Born (1624/5)

**1628**

Massachusetts Bay Colony  
is founded

**1630-1640**

Approx. 20,000 colonists  
come to New England

**1635**

Boston Latin School  
Founded

**1636**

Harvard Founded

**1637/8**

John Howland purchases  
Rocky Nook;  
Violent earthquake felt  
throughout New England,  
first recorded seismic event  
in New England (1638)

**1642-1653**

English Civil War;  
Charles I beheaded,  
1649; Commonwealth  
of England declared  
followed by Protectorate  
under Cromwell

**1653**

English monarchy  
restored under King  
Charles II

**1660**

Plymouth has approx.  
2,000 inhabitants

**1672/3**

John Howland dies,  
buried at Burial Hill

**1675-1678**

King Philip's War;  
Rocky Nook burns;  
Elizabeth lives in Plymouth  
with son, Jabez

**1680**

Jabez Howland house  
sold, Elizabeth lives with  
daughter, Lydia Brown, in  
Swansea, MA

**1687**

Elizabeth Tilley Howland dies at Swansea, buried in Little Neck Cemetery (now) Providence, RI



Jabez Howland House, Plymouth, MA