

THE ORIGIN OF GABRIEL¹ WHELDEN OF YARMOUTH AND MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

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The first evidence of Gabriel Whelden's presence in New England was on 29 June 1639 when his daughter Katherine Whelden composed a letter back to England reporting the death of her sister. The letter is summarized in Thomas Lechford's *Note-Book*, as follows:^[1]

A letter by Katherine Weelden to M^r John Shanvat of Nottingham dated 29.4.1639. touching the Death &c. of Martha Weelden of Dedham who was Drowned about 12 Dayes before. She was a godly mayde by all probabilites in this letter testified.

This letter is the only evidence found that Gabriel Whelden lived at Dedham, Massachusetts,^[2] before moving to Yarmouth (then called Mattacheeset) in Plymouth Colony. On 6 October 1639, "Gabiell Wheildon" was "lycensed to dwell at Mattacheese wth the consent of the committes of the place, & to haue land there."^[3] On 17 June 1641, the Plymouth Colony Court ordered William Lumpkin and Hugh Tilly to pay "Gabiell Wheildon" fifteen shillings for his third part in their boat that was damaged.^[4] In 1642 Gabriel was surveyor of highways for Yarmouth^[5] and was reappointed for the same post 1 June 1647.^[6] However, sometime before 14 May 1648, he sold his property in Yarmouth to Edward Sturgis.^[7] Probably about this time Gabriel moved to Malden, Massachusetts,^[8]

¹ Edward Everett Hale, Jr., ed., *Note-Book Kept by Thomas Lechford, Esq., Lawyer, in Boston, Massachusetts Bay, from June 27, 1638 to July 29, 1641* (Cambridge, Mass., 1885; repr. Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1988), 102. The surname Shanvat (or Shamvat) has not been found in English records reviewed. It is possible that the surname was actually *Chamlet*, and that John "Shanvat" was related to Gabriel Whelden's aunt by marriage, Christobel (____) (Whelden) Hewitt, whose will, abstracted in the text below, mentions a sister Morris Chamlet.

² Robert Charles Anderson notes that at the Dedham town meeting of 28 August 1638 "[blank] Weeden brickstieker [i.e., brickmaker]" was one of five men requesting admission as town inhabitants (Don Gleason Hill, ed., *The Early Records of the Town of Dedham, Massachusetts, 1636–1659* . . . [Dedham, Mass.: Dedham Transcript, 1892], 48). However, Weeden is never mentioned again, and, based on his occupation, it seems unlikely this man was Gabriel Whelden.

³ Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, ed., *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England*, 12 vols. in 10 (Boston: William White, 1855–61), 1:95. The date is incorrectly reported as 3 September 1638 in James W. Hawes, "Early Wheldens of Yarmouth," in Leonard H. Smith, Jr., *Cape Cod Library of Local History and Genealogy*, 2 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1992), 1:732–33. But otherwise Hawes' documented account is fairly accurate.

⁴ Shurtleff, *Records of New Plymouth* [note 3], 2:21.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 2:34, 41.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 2:115.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 2:129.

⁸ Charles H. Pope, *The Pioneers of Massachusetts* (Boston: the author, 1900), 489, states that Gabriel Whelden went to Lynn before settling at Malden. However, no documentation for this statement has been found.

where he died between 11 February 1653/4 (date of will) and 4 April 1654 (date of probate).^[9]

On 21 October 1653, not long before his death, Gabriel and his youngest son John sold to William Crofts of Lynn, Massachusetts, their property in Arnold, Nottinghamshire, England.^[10] Consequently, some authors have claimed that Gabriel Whelden was from Arnold.^[11] A search for him in Arnold church records proved fruitless — but it is evident from this sale and from the 1639 letter, cited above, that Gabriel was from Nottinghamshire.

A radial search around Arnold soon revealed that all of Gabriel Whelden's known children were baptized at St. Leodegarius Church in Basford, Nottinghamshire,^[12] three miles southwest of Arnold. Both parishes are in Sherwood Forest, just north of Nottingham.

Thomas Whelden the sonne of Gabriel Whelden was baptized the first day of februarye [1611/2]

Kathren Weelden the daughter of Gabriel Weelden baptized the 6 of march [1616/7]

Henry Wheeldon the sonne of Gabriel Wheeldon baptized the one and twentieth day of februarye [1618/9]

Mary Wheeldon the daughter of Gabriel Wheeldon [and] Martha Wheeldon the daughter of Gabriel Wheeldon [;] Both of them together baptized the third and twentieth day of December [1621]

John Wildon sonne of Gabriel Wildon was baptized the fifth day of November [1623]

Ruth Wheelding baptized fifth july the daughter of Gabriel Wheldon [1626]

Thomas Wilden the sonne of Gabriel Wilden was buried the 15 of April [1614]

John Weelding son of Gabrill baptized 4 Oct 1630^[13]

Since Gabriel was married at least by 1611,^[14] he must have been born by say 1590 (21 was the normal early age for marriage). Unfortunately, baptismal

⁹ Robert H. Rodgers, *Middlesex County in the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay in New England: Records of Probate and Administration, October 1649–December 1660* (Boston: NEHGS, 1999), 146–47.

¹⁰ Essex County Deeds, 1:24; Deloraine Pendre Corey, *The History of Malden, Massachusetts, 1633–1785* (Malden, Mass.: the author, 1899), 158 n. 67.

¹¹ For example, Josephine C. Frost, *Ancestors of Amyntas Shaw and His Wife Lucy Tufts Williams* (New York: privately printed, 1920), 49; George M. McCune, *Gordon B. Hinckley: Shoulder for the Lord* (Salt Lake City: Hawkes Publications, 1996), 35.

¹² The Basford parish registers have been microfiched by the Manuscripts and Special Collections Department at the University of Nottingham (nottingham.ac.uk/mss/collections), who graciously provided author Stramara with a copy of the first microfiche covering up to 1635. The earliest records are quite damaged and in several places totally illegible.

¹³ Bishop's transcripts for Basford, 1627–1831 [FHL 0,503,474 Item 1], were reviewed by Clifford L. Stott, CG, AG, FASG, up to 1641; records for 1628–29 and 1633 are missing.

¹⁴ There is no entry for Gabriel Whelden's marriage in the Basford marriage registers, which have been published as volume 6 of W.P.W. Phillimore, *Nottinghamshire Parish Registers: Marriages*, 22 vols. (London: Phillimore & Co., 1898–1933). In fact, his marriage was not in any

records for Basford are missing from 1582 through 1595, and Gabriel's baptism has not been found in surviving registers for nearby parishes. The minister of Basford up to 1595, Rev. John Simpson, was also minister at nearby Radford, but Basford baptisms do not appear with the Radford ones.

Gabriel Whelden served as churchwarden at Basford in 1622.^[15] His uncle Thomas Whelden had previously held this position in 1603.^[16] Thomas made his will 8 March 1610 [1609/10, as can be determined from the regnal year given at the beginning of the will].^[17] Thomas was buried at Basford 11 April 1610. Because the will provides valuable genealogical information, much of it is quoted at length here.

In the name of God, Amen. The Eight day of March, the Seaventhe yeare of the Raigne of our Sou[er]eign Lord James, by the grace of God kinge of England, France and Ireland, defender of the Faithe And of Scotland the Three and Fortethe And in the yeare of our Lord God 1610. I Thomas Whelden of Basforde in the County of Nottingham, blacksmith, beinge sicke in bodye, but of good and p[er]fect memory, God be praised, doe ordaine & make this my laste Will & Testam[en]te . . . I give unto Christobell myne espoused wife for the Tearme of her life the occupation of this howse and the close adioyninge & one garden that is payled, reservinge that smithy and chamber with all the tooles belonginge to my trade of farryer And one garden att the howseend there wch I give and bequeath to Gabraell Whelden my Nephewe Itm I give vnto my sayde nephew Gabraell Twelve swathes of meadowe lying in Daboreck [Daybrook?] and moreover one close commonly called the longe close, to him & his heires for ever and after the decease of my wife, I doe give vnto my sayde Nephew the whole howse & close lyinge thereunto Also I give my land in Bagthorpe field to my sayde Wife & Nephew to occupye and enioye the same Ioyntly and equally between them, And after my wives decease to my sayde Nephewe and his heires I doe give the same Whollye for ever. Itm I give to George Atkinsonne the suite of apparel which is now on my back. Itm I give to Thomas Lambe one Leather dublett. Itm I give to Rob[er]te Reye my neather stocks and shooes on my feete. Itm I give to my Nephew Gabrell my best shute of Apparrell. Itm I give to my brother Henry Whelden one Cow wch is att Anthony Trewmans. Itm I give to my Wyfe one Cowe. Itm I give to my Nephew afforesaid one Heiffer. Itm I give to the poor of Basforde Twenty shillings wch is in the handes of Will[ia]m Ashers to be put forthe that the stock may be uphoulden and the increase thereof may continew from yeare to yeare, to the use of

of the published Nottinghamshire marriage registers in this series. Marriages for Arnold begin in 1544 (volume 13) and show no marriages for the year 1617, despite the supposed marriage of Gabriel Whelden and Mary Davis on 3 August 1617 at Arnold, according to a member submission to the IGI.

¹⁵ University of Nottingham Manuscript Archives, Role I82478.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, Roles I56579 and I59402.

¹⁷ The Manuscripts and Special Collections Department at the University of Nottingham graciously provided author Stramara with a photograph of Thomas Whelden's will (catalogued as Ne D 785). The will was proved 17 July 1610 at York (see note 30 below). The wills and several deeds (see notes 17–18, 22–25 below) are in “Ne D 783–NE D 791, 1590–1638, Bundle of deeds relating to a messuage and land in Basford, Nottinghamshire, purchased from Gabriel Wheldon in 1638.” It is extremely rare to find such an extensive record of a Great Migration colonist disposing of his property before immigrating.

the sayde pore for ever, to be dispensed at the descretions of the minister & church wardens. Itm I give to my sister Hellen Stamforde one pewter dishe and one ewe hogg and to each of her thre Children Twelve pence, and to ev[er]y one a pewter dishe and to Bridgett the youngeste Daughter I give the chair wth the Table. Itm I give to Margarette Fellowe the daughter of Thomas Fellowe one pewter dishe and Twelve pence in money. Item I give to ev[er]ye my God children Twelve pence in money. Item I give to my sister Jane one pewter dishe, or Twelve pence in money, And to Marye Crampton her Daughter Twelve pence and one pewter dishe and to all the reste of her Children to ev[er]ye one Twelve pence. Itm I give to my Wife the board and frame in the howse to stande to her use for her lyfe and to continue afterwarde as an heireloome. The reste of my goods not bequeathed, my debts, legacyes and funeral expenses and charges payed I give to my sayde Wife & Nephew whome I ordayne and make loynt Executors of this my will and Testament.

And Henry Davis & Richard Hicks my sup[er]visors Whome I put speciall truste to see this my Will faithfully fulfilled executed These beinge Witnesses John Herring Cler George Hutchinson[n]e Richard Hicks, Henry Davis Will[ia]m Stamforde Richard Taylor^[18]

The will indicates that Thomas Whelden had a brother Henry Whelden and two sisters: Helen, wife of Mr. Stamford, and Jane, who had a daughter Mary Crampton, suggesting that Jane was the wife or widow of a Mr. Crampton. Evidently, Thomas Whelden had no children of his own and was quite fond of his nephew Gabriel Whelden. While the will does not identify Gabriel's father, it is probable Henry was Gabriel's father. Apparently Thomas was careful to leave something to all nieces, nephews, and godchildren, but he did not mention any children of brother Henry. Gabriel's oldest son was named Thomas, presumably for his uncle, and the next son was named Henry, presumably for Gabriel's father.

On 4 April 1617, William Stanford, tailor of Somercotes, Derbyshire, leased a close of land in Basford to Gabriel Whelden, "blacksmith of Basford."^[19] On 15 August 1637, John Hutchinson, gentleman of Basford, drew a deed of exchange of land in Basford and surrounding areas with Gabriel Whelden, "husbandman of Basford," and his wife Jane.^[20] This is the earliest mention of Gabriel's wife by name, but it is not clear whether she was the mother of Gabriel's children.

The "wife of Gabriell Wheeldon, miller," was one of two residents of Basford presented as "sectaries" (religious sectarians) before 1642.^[21] Persecution of those who failed to follow the tenets of the established Church of England was a major reason for the Great Migration to New England 1620–1640, and this record suggests that Gabriel Whelden's immigration to New England may have been largely because of this religious persecution.

¹⁸ The copy of the will indicates that all the witnesses except Henry Davis were sworn.

¹⁹ Manuscripts and Special Collections, University of Nottingham, Ne D 786.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, Ne D 787.

²¹ H. Hampton Copnoll, *Nottinghamshire County Records: Notes and Extracts from the Nottinghamshire County Records of the 17th Century* (Nottingham: Henry B. Saxton, 1915), 162, Appendix D.

Half a year later, in February 1637/8, an inventory was made regarding a piece of Gabriel's property.^[22] This document is open to interpretation and thus is transcribed line by line with spacing replicating the original. The superscript tilde (~) replicates the abbreviation mark used on words in the manuscript. The double strikeout (==) replicates the crossing out of a word. "Your honor" was John Holles, 2nd Earl of Clare, as will be seen from related documents presented below.

A note of Gabarell Wheeldens land
of Basford febr~ 1637

one kilne house and a kilne in it to dry woorts or
mault in conta~ [contains] 1 bay of building^[23]
one hors mill house and hors mill in it to grind
oates to make oatemeall cont~ 2 bais of building
and he is to lease the kilne and hors mill in good
reparations
the dwelling hous contains 3 bais of building
the ground abut the house conta~ 1 aker ~~of~~
and there doth belong 7 roods of arable
land to it that is to say
one land laying in the parsons plot
conta~ 2 roods to estimation
~~one~~ two lands in Louger feild ~~laying~~ [single strike only]
furlong lying for 3 roods
2 lands more in broome feild laying for 2 roods
a close by the to hous with a lease allmost for
3 years to come and after that lece it your honors
owne land and that leace is worth 3 pound
and henry boote sais that he can lett the
house and ground ~~and be~~ and the 7 roods
of land bee sids the close in lece for 3 po 6 shil~
8 pence a yeare
his price is 55 pounds and that 5 shillings
which henry boot did give in earnest [large space left]
his desire is to have an answer speedly that
he may put of his goods presently and prepare
for new England

[Note in left margin:]

if your honor by it there must be a tenant presently to till the
land that is this year to be plowed

²² Manuscripts and Special Collections, University of Nottingham, Ne S 79 2.1637. Although this document contains no indication whether the date is 1636/7 or 1637/8, the fact that the property was transferred 10 March 1637/8 (see below) indicates the inventory was taken a month earlier, not thirteen months earlier.

²³ A "bay" refers to a vertical division of a building, related to a bay window (usually on a second floor) projecting outward from the building.

A third party must have written this document, not Gabriel Whelden himself. Gabriel is consistently referred to by third person pronouns. Henry Boot is mentioned as someone who is willing to “lett” (rent) the house and land. Thus, the last three lines, where it says, “his desire is to have an answer speedly that he may . . . prepare for New England,” refer to Gabriel Whelden, not to Henry Boot. This is substantiated further by the large space after the word “ernest” (Henry Boot paid five shillings as earnest money, i.e., a down payment). Likewise, in the original there is a discernible gap between the sentences, denoting a break in thought. In short, the property has been assessed by a third party and the Earl is informed that if he were to “by” (i.e., buy) Gabriel Whelden’s property, he will need a tenant, and Henry Boot is willing to be that tenant.

On 10 March 1638 [1637/8, as can be determined from the regnal year], Gabriel made two transactions. As “yeoman of Basford,” Gabriel entered into a feoffment of his property for £55.0.5 to John, Earl of Clare.^[24] This is the same property and amount as suggested in February’s assessment. The Earl of Clare then appointed John Hooper as his attorney to possess the lands in the tenure of Gabriel Whelden.^[25] Gabriel secured a bond of £120 from the Earl of Clare for the performance of the covenants as set out in the feoffment,^[26] and on 24 March 1637/8, Gabriel assigned to the Earl a lease of a close of arable land.^[27]

Thus Gabriel Whelden was putting his affairs in order, disposing of some of his property, and gaining capital so that he could depart for New England. Spring was the optimum time to set sail before the hurricane season began, and so it is likely Gabriel and his family emigrated in the spring of 1638. However, since the first certain record of the family in Massachusetts was not until June 1639, their emigration could have been in the spring of 1639.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

The names of the parents of the Whelden siblings named in the 8 March 1609/10 will of Thomas Whelden are unknown. The first mention of a Whelden in the Basford parish registers was in 1570/1, when a John Weldon was buried there. He and several other Wheldens remain unplaced.^[28] As mentioned above, the baptismal registers are missing for 1582 to 1595. Marriages have been published,^[29] but they do not show any Wheldens before 1600 besides those marriages given below.

²⁴ Manuscripts and Special Collections, University of Nottingham, Ne D 788.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, Ne D 789.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, Ne D 790.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, Ne D 791.

²⁸ The following are unplaced: John Weldon buried 10 Mar 1570/1; John Wildon baptized 24 January 1573; John Wildon, infant, buried 7 June 1573; Agnes Wildon, wife of Nicholas, buried 21 November 1582; Richard Weldon, son of William, baptized 20 July 1597; and Elizabeth Wildon, wife of Nicholas, buried 6 August 1600.

²⁹ See note 14.

The Archdeaconry Court of Nottingham was the probate jurisdiction for most of the southern half of Nottinghamshire. The registered copy wills proved in that court are included in the records of the Prerogative and Exchequer Courts of York; a review of the combined indexes for all three courts revealed only two wills of interest: the will of Thomas Whelden, already discussed, and the will of his remarried widow, Christobel (____) (Whelden) Hewitt, discussed below.^[30]

Children of _____^B Whelden, birth order uncertain; born perhaps at Basford, Nottinghamshire:

- i. THOMAS WHELDEN, bur. Basford 11 April 1610, m. (1) ELIZABETH _____, bur. Basford 13 Jan. 1581/2; m. (2) CHRISTOBEL _____, who m. (2?) Basford 9 April 1611 Thomas Hewitt of Nottingham. As Christobel Hewett of Nottingham, widow, she left a will dated 1 Feb. 1618[9?], proved 22 April 1619,^[31] mentioning sister Morris Chamlet, Gabriell Welddon (to receive two shillings), Henry Weldon (to receive thirteen shillings four pence), and many other people (relationships not specified).
- ii. HELEN WHELDEN, bur. Basford 28 Aug. 1616; m. (1) Basford 7 May 1581 HENRY ROGERS; m. (2) Basford 29 Sept. 1600 WILLIAM STAMFORD.
- iii. JANE WHELDEN, m. by 8 March 1609/10 _____ CRAMPTON. She probably was Jeane Crampton, wife of Hugh Crampton, bur. Basford 16 April 1627; Hugh Crampton was bur. there 20 May 1634.^[32]
- + iv. HENRY^A WHELDEN.

HENRY^A WHELDEN was living on 8 March 1609/10 when he was mentioned in the will of his brother Thomas, and on 1 February 1618[9?] when he was mentioned in Christobel Hewett's will. If Henry was not the father of Gabriel¹ Whelden, then an unknown brother of Thomas and Henry must have been Gabriel's father.

Probable child of Henry^A Whelden:

- + i. GABRIEL¹ WHELDEN, b. by say 1590, perhaps at Basford.

GABRIEL¹ WHELDEN was born by say 1590 (assuming he was about 21 at the time of his first known marriage), perhaps at Basford. He died at Malden, Massachusetts, between 11 February 1653/4 and 4 April 1654.^[33] His first known wife was **JANE** _____, who was living on 15 August 1637.^[34] He married

³⁰ These indexes were reviewed at the Family History Library by Clifford L. Stott, CG, AG, FASG. The will of Thomas Whelden was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Nottingham, and registered in the Prerogative and Exchequer Courts of York, 31:390 [FHL 0,099,496].

³¹ Proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Nottingham, and registered in the Prerogative and Exchequer Courts of York, 35:343 [FHL 0,099,503].

³² Bishop's transcripts for Basford [note 13].

³³ However, Corey, *History of Malden* [note 10], 390, gives Gabriel "Welding" a death date of 11.1653 [January 1653/4].

³⁴ Neither the Basford registers nor the surviving bishop's transcripts up to 1640 show the burial of any woman who could have been Gabriel Whelden's wife.

(second?), probably after 1639 in Massachusetts, **MARGARET _____**,^[35] who d. after 2 October 1655,^[36] presumably in Massachusetts.

As shown above, Gabriel Whelden arrived in New England in 1638 or 1639, settling first at Dedham, Massachusetts, moving to Yarmouth, Plymouth Colony in 1639, and finally to Malden about 1648. His will, dated 11 February 1653/4, proved 4 April 1654, named wife Margaret as sole heir and sole executrix. Not surprisingly, her stepchildren protested. In 1655 “Henry Weilden, John Weilden, Rich: Taylor Taylor and Rich: Taylor husbandman” brought a lawsuit against Margaret for withholding monies due to them from Gabriel Whelden’s estate relating to prior debts.^[37] This document shows that two Whelden daughters married men named Richard Taylor; these couples are correctly identified here for the first time.^[38]

Children of Gabriel¹ Whelden, all presumably with his wife Jane; all baptized at Basford.^[39]

- i. THOMAS WHELDEN, bp. 1 Feb. 1611/2; bur. Basford 15 April 1614.
- ii. KATHERINE² WHELDEN, bp. 6 March 1616/7; d. Eastham, Mass., after 5 March 1688/9; m. Plymouth, Plymouth Colony, 9 Oct. 1639 GILES HOPKINS, bp. Hursley, Hampshire, 30 Jan. 1607/8, d. Eastham between 5 March 1688/9 (date of will) and 16 April 1690 (date of probate), son of Stephen¹ and Mary (_____) Hopkins.^[40]
- iii. HENRY WHELDEN, bp. 21 Feb. 1618/9; d. Yarmouth 28 Oct. 1694;^[41] m. Yarmouth 25 Jan. 1647[8?] EED _____,^[42] d. 15 May 1682.^[43]

³⁵ The suggestion that Margaret was an American Indian is discussed (and disproved) in Donald Lines Jacobus, “Austin Barse and His Alleged Indian Connections,” *The American Genealogist* 15 (1938–39):111–18 at 114–15.

³⁶ Margaret responded on 2 October 1655 to the lawsuit brought by Gabriel’s sons and two of his sons-in-law (Rodgers, *Middlesex County Probate and Administration* [note 9], 147–48).

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ The analysis of Jillaine Smith on these two contemporary Richard Taylors of Yarmouth was essential for this article; see, for example, her analysis at board.ancestry.com/surnames.taylor/18793/mb.ashx.

³⁹ In Shurtleff, *Records of New Plymouth* [note 3], 2:104, is a record of the adjournment on 7 July 1646 of a lawsuit between Teague Jones and “Ralph Welden” and the latter’s daughter. As this is the only mention of Ralph Welden found, it seems likely the first name should have been recorded as Gabriel, not Ralph, or the last name should have been recorded as something other than Welden. Teague Jones was a young man who married between 1645 and 1650; the name of his wife is unknown (Mrs. John E. Barclay, “The Jones Family of Yarmouth and Middleboro, Mass.,” *The American Genealogist* 31 [1955]:123–26 at 123–24).

⁴⁰ Robert Charles Anderson, *The Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony, 1620–1633* (Boston: NEHGS, 2004), 271–75; John D. Austin, *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations . . . Vol. 6 Family: Stephen Hopkins*, 3rd ed. (Plymouth, Mass.: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 2001), 10.

⁴¹ Robert Moody Sherman and Ruth Wilder Sherman, ed., *Vital Records of Yarmouth, Massachusetts to the Year 1850*, 2 vols. (Warwick, R.I.: Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Rhode Island, 1975), 1:129.

⁴² *Ibid.*, 2:841.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, 1:125, “wife of Henry Whelding.”

- iv. MARY WHELDEN, bp. 23 Dec. 1621; found dead in a boat off Duxbury, Plymouth Colony, before 4 Dec. 1673, when there was an inquest;^[44] m. by 1648^[45] RICHARD¹ TAYLOR, tailor, d. Yarmouth before 13 Dec. 1673, when an inventory of his estate was taken.^[46]
- v. MARTHA WHELDEN, bp. 23 Dec. 1621; d. ca. 17 June 1639, drowned in or near Dedham, Mass.^[47]
- vi. JOHN WHELDEN, bp. 5 Nov. 1623; d. evidently before 4 Oct. 1630, when another son John was baptized.
- vii. RUTH WHELDEN, bp. 5 July 1626; d. Yarmouth 22 June 1693,^[48] m. soon after 27 Oct. 1646 RICHARD¹ TAYLOR, husbandman, “of the Rock,”^[49] d. between 28 Oct. 1699 (date of codicil to will) and 6 October 1703 (date of probate).^[50]
- viii. JOHN WHELDEN, bp. 4 Oct. 1630; d. Yarmouth 20 Nov. 1707;^[51] m. say 1653 MARY FOLLAND, b. say 1627, d. between 20 May 1711 and 23 Nov. 1721, daughter of Thomas¹ Folland of Yarmouth.^[52]

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⁴⁴ Shurtleff, *Records of New Plymouth* [note 3], 5:122–23, “wife of Richard Taylor sometimes of Yarmouth.”

⁴⁵ Ann, daughter of Richard Taylor, was born 2 December 1648, and Ruth, daughter of Richard Taylor, was born 11 April 1649 (Sherman and Sherman, *Vital Records of Yarmouth* [note 41], 2:841, 842). Because of the closeness of the birth dates, one of these girls had to be the daughter of Richard Taylor, tailor. See James W. Hawes, “Richard Taylor, Tailor, and Some of His Descendants,” in Smith, *Cape Cod Library* [note 3], 1:758–93 at 764–65.

⁴⁶ The inventory showed that this Richard Taylor was a tailor (the complete inventory is at etext.lib.virginia.edu/users/deetz/Plymouth/P210.htm; a summary is in *Mayflower Descendant* 25 [1923]:39). Possibly (but less likely because of geography) Mary Whelden’s husband was Richard Taylor, tailor of Boston, who married Mary _____ by 2 February 1646/7, when their only known child John was born there (Annie Haven Thwing, *Inhabitants and Estates of the Town of Boston, 1630–1800, and The Crooked and Narrow Streets of Boston, 1630–1822*, CD-ROM [Boston: NEHGS and Massachusetts Historical Society, 2001], refcode 57245; [Ninth] *Report of the Record Commissioners Containing Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699* [Boston: Rockwell & Churchill, 1883], 23). If Mary Whelden’s husband was the Boston tailor, then she was not the woman found dead in a boat before 4 December 1673.

⁴⁷ See note 1 and related text.

⁴⁸ Sherman and Sherman, *Vital Records of Yarmouth* [note 41], 1:129, “Ruth, wife of Richard Taylor Senr.”

⁴⁹ Shurtleff, *Records of New Plymouth* [note 3], 2:110. For a brief account of Richard Taylor “of the Rock,” see Hawes, “Richard Taylor, Tailor” [note 45], 758–59.

⁵⁰ Barnstable County Probate, 2:262. Richard Taylor’s will, dated 2 September 1693, was made a few months after the death of his wife. He died 1 August 1703, according to Frederick Freeman, *The History of Cape Cod: The Annals of Barnstable County and of Its Several Towns . . .*, 2 vols. (Boston: Geo. C. Rand & Avery, 1860–62; repr. Yarmouth Port, Mass.: Parnassus Imprints, 1965), 2:208, and Hawes, “Richard Taylor, Tailor” [note 45], 758.

⁵¹ Sherman and Sherman, *Vital Records of Yarmouth* [note 41], 1:132.

⁵² Maclean W. McLean, “John and Mary (Folland) Whelden of Yarmouth, Mass.,” *The American Genealogist* 48 (1972), 4–11, 81–88, at 6.