

Wheeler, a tailor," was admitted to Boston church [BChR 21]. He had three children baptized in that church: 12 November 1637, "Jonathan, the son of our brother Thomas Wheelar"; 10 May 1640, "Joseph, the son of our brother Thomas Wheelar"; 25 June 1643, "Rebecka the daughter of our brother Thomas Wheeler being about 9 days old" [BChR 281, 285, 293]. On 2 April 1653, he deposed "aged 48 years or thereabouts" and so was born about 1605 [MA Arch 38B:96]. He was too old to be the passenger of 1635, and called himself "tailor" in 1636, an unlikely occupation for the passenger of 1635, who had been the year before servant to a painter.

- (7) Thomas Wheeler first appeared at Salem in 1646 [STR 1:145, 153, 154]. Mary Wheeler was admitted to Salem church in November 1649 and her children "Issack [and] Zippora" were baptized there on 19 November 1649 [SChR 13, 22]. On 11 December 1649, "Thomas Wheeler of Lynn, yeoman," sold to John Burton of Salem land in Salem [ELR 1:12]. Thomas Wheeler appeared regularly in the Lynn records, sometimes with wife Mary, until 1666. On 27 October 1653, "Thomas Wheeler of Lynn" deposed that he was "aged about fifty years" [EQC 2:91]. On 27 March 1663, in a case involving a dispute at Lynn, "Thomas Wheeler" deposed that he was "aged about fifty-seven or fifty-eight years" [EQC 3:33-34]. In 1667 Thomas Wheeler appeared at Stonington, Connecticut, with wife Mary and son Isaac [Stonington Hist 636-38]. On 15 September 1680, "at Stonington," "Thomas Wheeler," deposing about events in Lynn "about eighteen years ago," stated that he was "aged about seventy-six years" [EQC 8:10; see also EQC 9:315-17]. This Thomas Wheeler was also too old to have been the 1635 passenger.

JOHN WHITCOMB

ORIGIN: Taunton, Somerset.

MIGRATION: 1635 on the *Hopewell* of Weymouth (on 8 May 1635, "Jon. Whettcomb and family" were passengers on the *Hopewell*, sailing from Weymouth for New England [NGSQ 71:174]).

FIRST RESIDENCE: Dorchester.

REMOVES: Scituate 1639 [DTR 40; PCR 1:141-42, 7:16], Lancaster by 1654 [PCLR 6:89].

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OCCUPATION: Planter [PCR 12:58, 158; ScitTR 1:248].

FREEMAN: Oath of fidelity at Scituate, 15 January 1644[/?] [PCR 8:183]. Propounded for Plymouth Colony freemanship, 5 June 1651 [PCR 2:167]. Admitted to Plymouth Colony freemanship, 3 June 1652 [PCR 3:7].

EDUCATION: Signed his deed [PCLR 6:89-90].

OFFICEHOLDING: Plymouth petit jury, 4 June 1652 [PCR 7:60].

Scituate constable, 3 June 1652 [PCR 3:8].

In Scituate section of 1643 Plymouth Colony list of men able to bear arms [PCR 8:191]. His inventory included “arms” valued at £1 [MPR 2:66].

ESTATE: On 5 July 1636, “John Whitcomb” was granted twelve acres “at Squantum Neck” in Dorchester [DTR 18]. On 18 March 1637/8, “John Whetcomb” was granted four acres, three roods and ten rods in the Neck and the same amount in the Cows’ Pasture [DTR 30].

On 31 October 1639, “Richard Leids hath half an acre commons on each division of commons of that which was John Whetcome which he purchased” [DTR 40].

On 13 April 1640, “Christopher Winter of Scituate, planter,” sold to “John Whitcombe of the same, planter, ... all that his house & ground thereunto belonging which were formerly bought by George Bower of John Stowe of Rocksberry, or had by division allotted by the freemen of Scituate which house & lands are lying and being in Scituate aforesaid & containing by estimation four acres of upland & three acres of marsh ground ... and one lot of upland lying in the Third Cliff in Scituate aforesaid containing by estimation twenty acres ... and a parcel of marsh ground lying at the southwest end thereof containing by estimation nine acres” [PCR 12:58-59].

On 1 December 1646, “Jno. Whetcome, planter,” was one of twenty-six inhabitants of Scituate who purchased from Timothy Hatherly most of his interest in the lands at Conihassett; Hatherly held three-quarters of the tract of land, and sold to Whitcomb one-thirtieth of that share [PCR 12:158-60; ScitTR 2:70-72]. As a consequence of this purchase, he received various parcels of land at Conihassett [ScitTR 2 *passim*].

On 4 July 1649, “[Joh]n Whetcome of Sittuate ..., planter,” sold to “Thomas Hicke of Sittuate ..., planter, ... all that parcel of upland lying and being in Sittuate aforesaid on the south side of the river commonly called and known per the name of the North River ... being per computation one hundred acres ... together with eight acres ... of marsh meadow ... all which said upland and marsh was given unto me the said John Whetcome per the freemen of Sittuate” [ScitTR 1:248-50].

An undated inventory of the first division of land at Lancaster includes “The Lands of John Whitcomb Senior”: “his house lot given and granted by the town lyeth on the west side [of the] neck being twenty acres”; and “his intervale lot part of it lying on the east side the North River there being by estimation about fifteen acres and a half ..., nine acres of intervale at Quasaponikin between his son John Whitcomb and him either of them having an equal proportion that is either four acres and half but it was not divided between them when it was laid out ..., this four acres and half makes up the other fifteen and half his full lot of twenty acres according to the town grant but according to liberty granted by a town order the fifteen acres and half exactly measured it was found to be but fourteen acres and half and so it is an acre wanting which is laid out together with his second division of intervale” [Lancaster Records 264-65].

On 25 March 1654, “John Whetcomb Senior of Lancaster ..., planter,” sold to “John Williams Junior of Scituate ..., husbandman, ... all my right, title and interest in half a share of upland of Cohasset land excepting ten acres of the aforesaid half share of upland formerly sold per me to Mr. Timothy Hatherly, also half a share of meadow land of Cohasset land aforesaid containing by estimation six acres and half ..., which half share of meadow lyeth in two parts or parcels, the one part or parcel of it containeth three acres & a quarter .. lyeth in the Great Marsh ..., the other part or parcel of meadow containing three acres & quarter ... lyeth within the Glade Islands being the half of the fifth lot of marsh” [PCLR 6:89-90; ScitTR 1:154; see also ScitTR 2:100, 140-41, 318-19].

The inventory of the estate of “John Whetcombs (deceased) of Lancaster,” taken 2 October 1662, was untotaled; the real estate totalled £112: “the house, orchard and broke upland,” £26; “land within fence unbroke up 24 acres,” £24; “intervale land without fence 11 acres,” £8 10s.; “house lots unbroke up 36 acres,” £18; “in meadow 12 acres,” £24; “in lands of second division 300 acres,” £7 10s.; and “in the common right in the town,” £4 [Rodgers 2:110; MPR 2:66-67, Case #24420].

On 2 October 1662, “whereas John Wetcomb late of this town of Lancaster in the county of Middlesex, who deceased without making a legal will ..., the widow and so many of the children of the deceased as therein is concerned,” agreed to a division of the estate: “Francis Wetcomb widow and late wife of the deceased shall have the now dwelling house and one half of the orchard that now is and that is to be of that which is nearest to the said dwelling house and so much broke up upland ground as will make up that in her part of the orchard two acres of the nearest broke up land thereunto, and also two acres of broke up

intervale land lying betwixt the said dwelling house and the river, also one third part of that we call the pasture and also one third part of the meadow and likewise a third part in all commonage ... during the time of her natural life," and some moveables; "John Wetcomb and Jonathan Wetcomb two of the sons of the said deceased John Wetcomb shall have the house lot which is next unto Goodman Breck's lot and also nineteen acres of intervale next adjoining thereto" and some moveables; "Job Wetcomb and Josiah Wetcomb the two younger sons of the said deceased John Wetcomb shall have the upland or house lot which formerly was their brother John's lot it being twenty acres and also twenty-one acres of intervale part of it adjoining to the before mentioned intervale lot and part of it lying at Qussaponakin and part of it where it shall fall to be laid out"; "Abigall Wetcomb daughter to the deceased John Wetcomb shall have one cow"; "when Mary Wetcomb daughter to the said deceased John Wetcomb is sixteen years of age we will give to her one cow" [Rodgers 2:111-12; MPR 2:67-70, Case #24420].

In her will, dated 12 May 1671 and proved 23 March 1671/2, "Francis Whetcombe of Lancaster" bequeathed to "my eldest daughter Katherin and my five sons every of them one shilling, if it be demanded, and my daughter Abigall my greatest brass pot, and the rest of my estate to be to my youngest daughter Mary and do hereby appoint her my sole executrix"; "the reverend Mr. Joseph Rowlandson and my beloved friend and neighbor Roger Sumner" to be overseers and to have care for "my daughter Mary in reference to her dispose in marriage" [MPR 3:311-12].

The inventory of the estate of "Francis Whetcombe," dated 13 June 1671, was untotaled and included no real estate [MPR 3:312-13].

BIRTH: By 1598, son of Thomas and Joanna (Pope) Whitcomb of Taunton, Somerset [M&JCH 26:61-73].

DEATH: Lancaster 24 September 1662 [LanVR 12].

MARRIAGE: St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton, 26 November 1623 Frances Coggan [NEHGR 68:63; M&JCH 26:70], daughter of Henry Coggan [NEHGR 111:169-70]. She died at Lancaster on 17 May 1671 [LanVR 14].

CHILDREN:

- i CATHARINE WHITCOMB, b. say 1624; m. Scituate 25 December 1644 RHODOLPHUS ELMES {1635, Scituate} [GM 2:2:424-26].
- ii JOHN WHITCOMB, bp. St. James, Taunton, 6 August 1626 [NEHGR 68:63; M&JCH 26:70]; m. (1) Lancaster 19 May 1669 Mary _____ [LanVR 13]; m. (2) Lancaster 16 January

- 1670/1 Mary _____ [LanVR 14]. (In both of these marriage records, the bride's surname was not given.)
- iii JONATHAN WHITCOMB, bp. St. James, Taunton, 14 September 1628 [NEHGR 68:63; M&JCH 26:70]; bur. there 28 October 1628 [M&JCH 26:70].
- iv ROBERT WHITCOMB, bp. St. James, Taunton, 20 December 1629 [NEHGR 68:63; M&JCH 26:70]; m. 9 March 1660/1 Mary Cudworth, daughter of JAMES CUDWORTH {1634, Scituate} [GM 2:2:249-58] ("Robert Whetcomb and Mary Cudworth, for disorderly coming together without consent of parents and lawful marriage, is sentenced to pay ten pounds fine and imprisoned during the pleasure of the court; and being desirous to be orderly married, accordingly were this 9th of March 1660[1]" [PCR 3:206; see also PCR 3:209, 220, 4:9]). In 1683 and 1695 the town of Scituate laid out land to Robert Whitcomb "in the right of his father John Whitcomb deceased" [ScitTR 1:396-97, 2:142].
- v JOAN WHITCOMB, bp. St. James, Taunton, 18 May 1634 [NEHGR 68:63; M&JCH 26:70]; no further record.
- vi JONATHAN WHITCOMB, b. say 1636; m. Lancaster 25 November 1667 Hannah _____ (bride's surname not given [LanVR 13]).
- vii JOB WHITCOMB, b. say 1638; m. by 1671 Hannah _____ (eldest known child b. Lancaster 27 December 1671 [LanVR 13; Manwaring 1:384-85]).
- viii JOSIAH WHITCOMB, b. say 1640; m. Lancaster 4 January 1664[5?] Rebecca Waters [LanVR 11], daughter of LAWRENCE WATERS {1634, Watertown}.
- ix ABIGAIL WHITCOMB, b. say 1642; named in mother's will 12 May 1671, apparently married; no further record.
- x MARY WHITCOMB, b. say 1647; not yet sixteen years old on 2 October 1662 [Rodgers 2:112]; named in mother's will 12 May 1671, unmarried; no further record (but see Stevens-Miller 91).

ASSOCIATIONS: Frances (Coggan) Whitcomb, wife of John Whitcomb, was sister of Judith (Coggan) (King) Rickard, wife of GILES RICKARD {1637, Plymouth}, and of HENRY COGGAN {1639, Barnstable}, and was aunt of the children of Mary (Coggan) Glass, four of whom came to New England, probably in 1639 [NEHGR 111:168-79].

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