

Isaac Robinson



No Picture Available

Born: 1610 Netherlands

Married: Margaret Hanford

Died: 1704 Barnstable, MA

Parents: John Robinson & Bridget White

http://www.pilgrimjohnhowlandsociety.org/article_pastor_robinsons_advice.shtml.

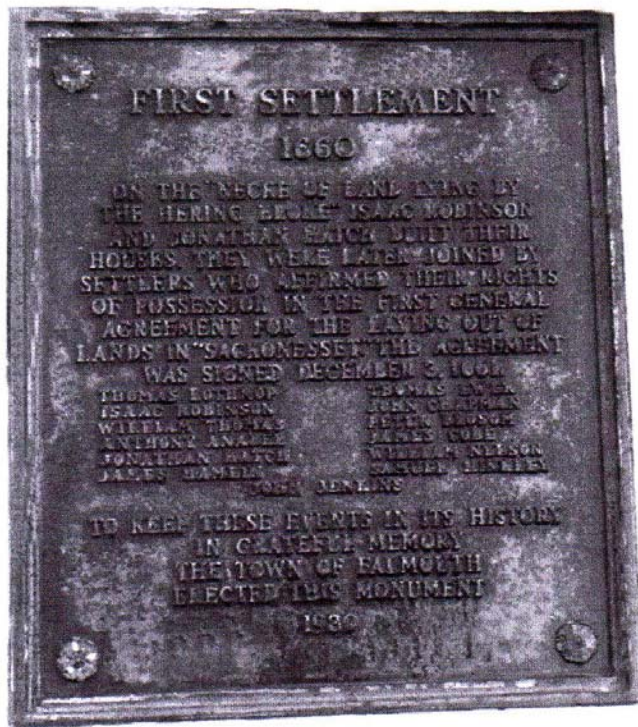
Isaac Robinson, born in 1610, sailed to America in the *Lion* in 1631 when he was 21 years old. He was a freeman of Plymouth colony and moved around a bit, from Plymouth to Scituate, to Barnstable to Falmouth and back to Barnstable.

In 1636 he married Margaret Hanford.

Isaac got into a little trouble when it came to religion. In 1659 he was disenfranchised for opposing the persecution of Quakers and Baptists. In 1665 he became a Quaker and settled in Falmouth and kept a tavern at Succanett.

In 1701 he returned to Barnstable where he had retained his church membership. He died about 1704.

By his first wife Isaac had five children; he had four more children by his second wife Mary Faunce. Isaac's son Peter had 15 children and his grandson fathered 12, so the Robinson influence was well established in America.



Plaque commemorating the First Settlement is mounted on a stone close to Surf Drive on the beach side next to the mouth of Fresh River. Photo by Janet Chalmers.

**FIRST SETTLEMENT
1660**

ON THE "NECKE OF LAND LYING BY THE HERING BROKE" ISAAC ROBINSON AND JONATHAN HATCH BUILT THEIR HOUSES. THEY WERE LATER JOINED BY SETTLERS WHO AFFIRMED THEIR RIGHTS OF POSSESSION IN THE FIRST GENERAL AGREEMENT FOR THE LAYING OUT OF LANDS IN "SACKONNESSET." THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED DECEMBER 3. 1661.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| THOMAS LOTHROP | THOMAS EWER |
| ISAAC ROBINSON | JOHN CHAPMAN |
| WILLIAM THOMAS | PETER BLOSSOM |
| ANTHONY ANABEL | JAMES GORE |
| JONATHAN HATCH | WILLIAM NELSON |
| JAMES HAMLIN | SAMUEL HINKLEY |
| JOHN JENKINS | |

TO KEEP THESE EVENTS IN ITS HISTORY
IN GRATEFUL MEMORY
THE TOWN OF FALMOUTH
ERECTED THIS MONUMENT
1930



Where The Settlers Landed

This view of the "necke of land lying by the hering broke" probably isn't too different, looking seaward, from the first settlers' view in 1660. The memorial boulder and plaque stand just west of the Fresh river herring brook entrance on Surf Drive. Inscription reads as follows:

"First Settlement — 1660. On the 'necke of land lying by the hering broke' Isaac Robinson and Jonathan Hatch built their houses. They were later joined by settlers who affirmed their

rights of possession in the first general agreement for the laying out of lands in 'Sackonneset'. The agreement was signed December 3, 1661.

Thomas Lathrop, Isaac Robinson, William Jones, Anthony Anabel, Jonathan Hatch, James Hamblin, Thomas Ewer, John Chapman, Peter Blossom, James Cobe, William Nelson, Samuel Hinckley, John Jenkins.

To keep these events in its history in grateful memory the Town of Falmouth erected this monument — 1930."

More information on the boulder-plaque.

Information from the book: 18th Century Deeds by Dorothy Svenning; Archivist; Falmouth Historical Society

He came in the ship "Lyon" in 1631 at the age of 21 to Scituate, MA. Made Freeman in 1633; joined the church at Barnstable, MA 7 Nov 1636. On the 20th of February 1634 he sold his Estate to John Twisden, and removed to Barnstable accompanied by the Rev. John Lathrop. About 1663 he removed to Falmouth, MA and in 1701 to Tisbury on Martha's Vineyard. In November 1701 he returned to Barnstable, where he had retained his church membership, and resided with his daughter, Fear, the wife of Mr. Samuel Baker, until his death in 1704, age 94.

He was in the 1633 list of Plymouth freemen between those admitted 1 January 1633/4 and those admitted 1 January 1634/5. He was also in the 7 March 1636/7 list of Plymouth Colony freemen and in the Scituate section of the 1639 Plymouth Colony list of freemen; his name was then erased and reentered in the Barnstable section of the same list. He was in the Barnstable section of th 1658 Plymouth Colony list of freemen.

On 7 March 1659/60 the court "taking notice of sundry scandals and falsehoods in a letter of Isacke Robinson's, tending greatly to the prejudice of this government and encouragement of those commonly called Quakers, and thereby liable...to disenfranchisement, yet we at present forebear the censure until further inquiry be made into things." On 6 June 1660 Isaac Robinson "for being a manifest opposer of the laws of this government expressed by him in a letter directed the Governor and otherwise" is disenfranchised of the freedom of the corporation. An interlineations following says, there being some mistake in this, Isaac Robinson is re-established and by general vote of the court, accepted again; this interlineations may have been made as late as 1673, for Isaac Robinson is not in the 29 May 1670 list of Plymouth freemen, and on 4 July 1673 Plymouth Court "voted Mr. Isacke Robinson to be reestablished in the privilege of a freeman of this corporation."

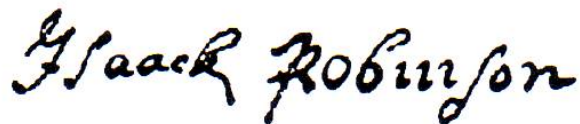
He held many public offices such as Deputy for Barnstable to Plymouth General Court, Tax Collector and Coroner's jury. He does not appear in the 1643 Plymouth Colony list of men able to bear arms.

On 24 May 1649 Isaac Robinson testified that he heard Mr. Gillson say that he wanted to leave his land to two of his sister's children (John and Hannah Damman) which he looked upon as his own, and that he heard Gillson's wife acknowledge it and say she wouldn't wrong them.

On 1 March 1658/9 Isaac Robinson and Gyles Rickard Sr.,complained on behalf of two children of Henery Coggen, deceased. Perhaps as a result of this, John Coggen, one of these children, chose Mr. Isaac Robinson as one of his guardians. On 8 April 1664 he was discharged as guardiian.

(The above copied from Ancestry World Tree Project: CANNEY/PECKHAM GENEALOGY)

Below is a copy of his signature:



According to tradition, this scion of a distinguished family died about 1704 in Barnstable, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Fear Baker.

Copy of signature and above information found in the book, "The History of Martha's Vineyard" by Banks & Daen, 1911, pg 60.

In 1660 fourteen families came by boat from Barnstable to Suckanesset and built their homes on a strip of land between what is now Siders Pond and Salt Pond. They were led by Isaac Robinson, who had incurred the wrath of the Barnstable elders by protesting harassment and persecution of Quakers. Settled by families with principles of religious toleration, Falmouth remained tolerant. There is no record of Quaker persecution here, and the Native Americans also were generally treated fairly. In particular, Jonathan Hatch, one of the original proprietors, developed strong ties of mutual friendship and respect with the local Wampanoag tribe. It was a point of pride with the settlers that all land for settlement was bought rather than taken from the Indians, and that Cape Cod Indians did not join other New England tribes in the bloody uprising of 1675 known as King Phillip's War.

Isaac Robinson and his companions built a permanent community; many of their descendants are still living in Falmouth and their memory is perpetuated in many of the street names of the modern town. The original settlement and the first meeting house were located close to the landing place, near the old town burying ground off Mill Road. In 1749, the present village green was laid out and a new meeting house was built there. Gradually other villages developed around family homesteads like that of the Nye's in North Falmouth. The Benjamin Nye house, built in 1699, is still standing as are other reminders of those early days. One is the Saconnesset Homestead in West Falmouth, which was built in 1678 by Thomas Bowerman, a Quaker who had been imprisoned in Barnstable.

Fishing and farming were the major sources of income; industry was represented in the salt works along the south shore, where solar evaporation of sea water produced salt for preserving fish and game. Windmills were used to pump the water through pipes made of wooden logs. The cultivation of Sassamanesh (cranberries) by the Wampanoags was continued by the settlers, providing one of Cape Cod's major crops.

The settlers were governed by the Court of the Council of Plymouth until 1686, when their settlement was incorporated as a township under a charter from the Court. The document itself has never been found but there is evidence that Falmouth applied at the same time as the town of Rochester and was chartered under the same general laws. The 1686 Charter provided for self government on the pattern of traditional town meeting. When Falmouth was incorporated it was still called Suckanesset. The earliest use of the name "Falmouth" is found in 1694; presumably the town was named after Gosnold's home port of Falmouth, England.

<http://lwvf.org/PastPresent.html>



• West Falmouth Friends Meeting House

According to a 1685 Minute of Sandwich Monthly Meeting: "Friends of Suckonesset were encouraged to meet together."

This was the formal start of the West Falmouth Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, which 300 years later continues as a preparative meeting, like similar groups in South Yarmouth and East Sandwich, of the Sandwich Monthly Meeting.

Of the 44 pounds subscribed for the purpose, 8 pounds were contributed by ten Sandwich Friends. The 14 Falmouth Friends who contributed 36 pounds for the building of their meeting house were Richard Landers, Thomas Bowerman, Stephen Harper, Joseph Landers, Benjamin Bowerman, Justes Gifford, Stephen Bowerman, **Isaac Robinson**, John Robinson, Peter Robinson, William Gifford, Benjamin Swift, John Wing, and Daniel Allen.

http://www.hawkshome.net/history/west_fal_mm.htm

More Pictures of the 1660 plaque



Transcribed copies of Suckanesset town records pertaining to Isaac Robinson
(obtained from the Historical Society)

(5) 29 November to 3 December, 1661.

The 29 November, 1661. We whose names are here under have agreed for ourselves and for whome any of us are agents for Laying out of Landes at Sacnesset first the necke of land lying by the hering broke shall be in Generall Secondly that Jonathan Hatch and Isaack Robinson, because they had bulde their houses Should have their Lots by their houses--that is to say, Jonathan Hatch to have ten ackers by his hous, Lying a gainst the necke Leaeing a suffisent way in to the necks--and Isaac Robinson to have foure ackers by his hous and eight ackers next ajoyning to Jonathan Hatch in towards peases Land also becaus he thought him selfe wronged to be put out of the necke we have condesended that he should have an acker and halfe of medow with in the Gret necke tow wards peases Land Thirdly taking a view of the Land beyond them and peases Land that it would yeld but eight ackers to every shere so accordingly we Laid it out by Lots All which lots but upon the bay or bech and rune to the hils Leueing a suffisent way.