Open the door to your early New England ancestry for FREE

Essential family history resources from NEHGS available for FREE, one week only

October 18, 2016—Boston, Massachusetts—From October 18 to October 25, New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) is offering FREE access to essential resources for early New England family history research. With the creation of a free account at its award-winning website, AmericanAncestors.org, family historians can access the most authoritative scholarship on early settlers in America.

During a special free access week, family historians can search nearly 300,000 records across a unique set of databases that are at the forefront of early American genealogical research: The Great Migration Study Project, the Early New England Families Study Project, and Torrey's New England Marriages to 1700. In addition to these essential databases, family historians will also benefit from how-to guides and webinars at NEHGS that provide helpful research tips and techniques, essential resources, and contextual information to advance genealogical research.

Between 1620 and 1640 about 20,000 men, women, and children crossed the Atlantic to settle New England. The Great Migration Study Project, under the scholarly direction of Robert Charles Anderson, provides concise, trusted genealogical and biographical sketches of these early immigrants to America. In the nine searchable databases of the Great Migration Study Project, researchers can pore over some 100,000 records that expertly narrate the lives of early immigrants to New England.

Following the work of the Great Migration, the Early New England Families Study Project provides fully searchable accounts of New England Families from 1641 to 1700 focusing on individuals who emigrated in 1641 or later, with sketches grouped by year of marriage. Lead Genealogist Alicia Crane Williams uses Clarence Almon Torrey's bibliographic index of early New England marriages (and its recent successors) as a guide to compiling authoritative and fully documented sketches of individuals and families in New England in the period immediately following the Great Migration.

The foundation of the Early New England Families Study Project is Torrey's New England Marriages to 1700. This famous work by Clarence Almon Torrey, owned by NEHGS, is an indispensable resource for any family historian with New England ancestors. The twelve-volume manuscript, presented as an every-name searchable database, enumerates more than 99% of all pre-1700 marriages for New Englanders, including those who married in Europe prior to migrating. In total, vital information on more than 37,000 couples is comprehensively cited in this key index.

Learn more at AmericanAncestors.org/early-new-england

About American Ancestors and New England Historic Genealogical Society

The founding genealogical society in America, New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) was established in 1845. Today it has a national collecting scope and serves more than 200,000 constituents through an award-winning website, www.AmericanAncestors.org. Since 1845, NEHGS has been the country's leading comprehensive resource for genealogists and family historians of every skill level. Today NEHGS provides constituents with worldwide access to some of the most important and valuable research tools anywhere.

American Ancestors is the public brand and user experience of NEHGS representing the expertise and resources available for family historians of all levels when researching their origins across the country and around the world. NEHGS's resources, expertise, and service are unmatched in the field and their leading staff of on-site and online genealogists includes experts in early American, Irish, English, Scottish, Italian, Atlantic and French Canadian, African American, Native American, Chinese, and Jewish research. Expert assistance is available to members and nonmembers in a variety of ways. The NEHGS library and archive, located at 99-101 Newbury Street in downtown Boston, Massachusetts is home to more than 28 million items, including manuscript documents, genealogical records, books, photographs, and other items dating back hundreds of years.

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