

The 17th-Century Great Migration to New England and Beyond

Conventicles, Companies, Congregations, Dispersal

*Class 3: Yeomen's Companies and
Extended Family Companies*

Robert Charles Anderson, FASG

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



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by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Meet today's presenter



Robert Charles Anderson, FASG
Director of the Great Migration Study Project

OVERVIEW

- **Presentation (60 mins.)**
 - Yeomen Companies
 - Extended Family Companies
- **Q&A (30 mins.)**

Yeomen Companies

- A group of self-selecting migrating families led by an affluent yeoman (rural) or tradesman (urban).
- Comparable to a Clerical Company except for the occupation of the leader.
- Not all families need to be genealogically related, although some or many may be.
- Not all need to migrate in the same year, and some may come earlier than the leader (chain migration).
- From one parish or a cluster of neighboring parishes.

Thomas Oliver I

- From Thorpe Achurch, Northamptonshire:
 - Thomas Oliver, 1632, Boston
 - Edmund Quincy, 1633, Boston
 - Thomas Meakins, 1633, Boston
 - Elizabeth Woodroffe, 1633, Boston
 - Christopher Peake, 1634, Roxbury

Thomas Oliver II

- Robert Browne was born about 1550, took his BA at Cambridge in 1573, and by the early 1580s was showing signs of being a separatist.
- He evaded serious punishment because he was distantly related to William Cecil, Lord Burghley, Elizabeth's chief minister.
- He departed for the continent in 1581. "Browne's group was the first Puritan company to emigrate as a church."
- In 1583 Browne and part of his group moved to Scotland.
- He was back in England by 1585, when he ostensibly conformed, and in 1591 he was made rector of Thorpe Achurch.

Thomas Oliver III

- Despite his alleged conformity, for the rest of his life Browne engaged in typically puritan nonconformist acts.
- In 1604 and 1605, Browne was forced to sign the Three Articles, but he continued in his minor nonconformist acts.
- By 1615 he had been suspended again.
- In 1616 a schism arose at Thorpe Achurch, in which a faction led by Thomas Oliver took control of the church. This seems to have been a dispute between two different flavors of puritanism.
- In 1626 Browne regained control of the church and remained in that position until his death in 1633.

Thomas Oliver IV

- Thomas Oliver was born about 1575 and married for the first time in 1600 at Lilford, adjacent to Thorpe Achurch.
- He and his first wife had four children baptized at Lilford between 1601 and 1608.
- He then disappears from the records until 1617. During these years his first wife died, he married again and had three more children.
- In 1617 he begins to appear in records at Thorpe Achurch, having five more children baptized there between 1617 and 1623.
- The split in the Thorpe Achurch church arose at the same time as the reappearance of Thomas Oliver there.

Thomas Oliver V

- When Browne regained control of the church, Oliver and others of his faction refused to attend services at Thorpe Achurch, as a result of which they were brought before the church court.
- In 1632 Oliver chose to migrate to New England, settling at Boston, the first of his company to do so.
- Almost immediately he was chosen ruling elder at Boston church, although he does not seem to have been known to any other church members.
- WHAT IS THE EXPLANATION FOR THIS?

Thomas Oliver VI

- County of Origin for Boston Residents, 1630-1640

Lincolnshire	36
Suffolk	33
London	21
Essex	21
Northamptonshire	12
Middlesex	9
Norfolk	6

Walter Haynes I

- About 20 passenger ships in 1638 [Winthrop].
- Two port lists of passengers survive:
 - *Confidence* from Southampton
 - *Bevis* from Southampton
- Limited data exists for two other ships:
 - *Diligent* from Ipswich (Cushing list of Hingham settlers)
 - *Martin* (will of passenger who died at sea)

Walter Haynes II

The List of the Names of the Passeng^r Intended for New England in the good shipp the Confidence of London of C C. tonnes, John Jobson, M^r And thus by vertue of the Lord Treas^r warr^t of the xjth of Aprill, 1638. Southampton, 24^o Aprill, 1638.

		Ages.		
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difeild* in the County of			John Riddet	26
Wilts <i>Lennen weauer</i>	55		Rich Bidlcombe	16
Eliz: Hayne <i>his wife</i>			—	
Thomas Hayne	}	<i>their sonnes vnder xvj yeares of age.</i>	Peter Noyce of Penton in the	
John Hayne			County of South ⁿ t <i>yeoman</i>	47
Josias Hayne			Thomas Noyce <i>his sonne</i>	15
Suffrance Hayne	}	<i>their daughters</i>	Eliz: Noyce <i>his daughter</i>	
Mary Hayne				

The Founders of New England: Originally Collected and Published in the New England Historic and Genealogical Register by Samuel G. Drake (NEHGS: rept 2012), p. 57

Walter Haynes III

- 24 families
- 9 settled in Sudbury
- 2 settled in Watertown
- 4 settled in Salisbury
- 5 settled in Newbury
- 3 settled in Hingham
- 1 settled in Boston

Walter Haynes IV

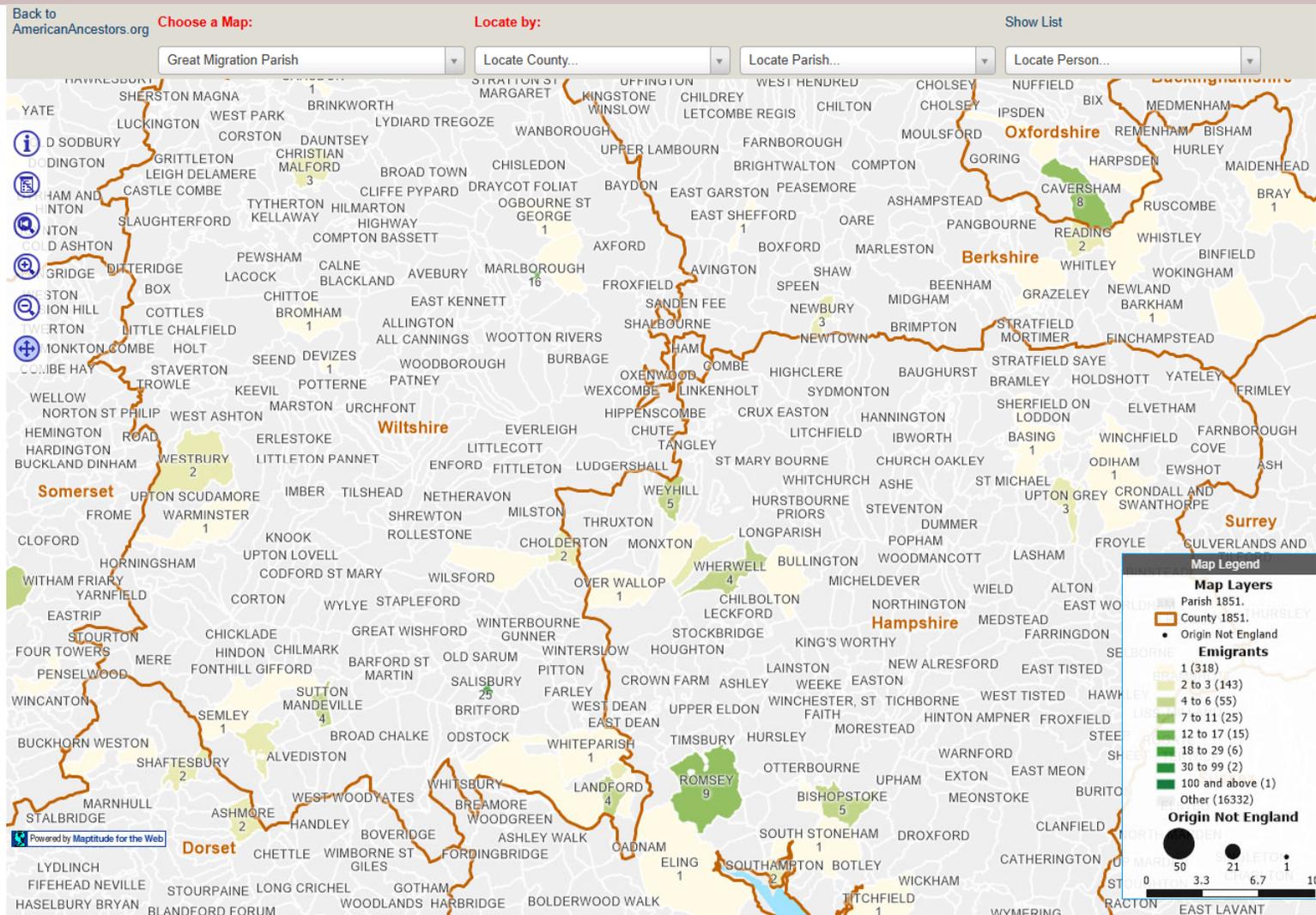
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John Waterman	05	00	0	anie bent	05	00	0
Nicholas Noyes	05	00	0	Elezabeth plemten	05	00	0
Doreyti Noyes	05	00	0	Richard barnes	02	10	0
Abigale Noyes	05	00	0	agnis Blanchet	05	00	0
William Stret	05	00	0				
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of Licores					<hr/>		
					76	08	0

The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 32:410

p mee ffRA: NORTON.

[From the Middlesex County Court Files.]

Walter Haynes V



Walter Haynes VI

- Walter Haynes, 55, Sutton Mandeville, Wiltshire [10]
- John Goodenow, 42, Semley, Wiltshire [4]
- Edmund Goodenow, 27, Dunhead, Wiltshire [5]
- Thomas Goodenow, 30, Shaftesbury, Dorset [4]
- William Kerley, Ashmore, Dorset [1]
- <Edmund Kerley, Ashmore, Dorset [1]>
- <Edmund Moores, Kingston Magna, Dorset [1]>

Walter Haynes VII

- Caversham, Oxfordshire
- Three to Hingham
 - John Benson
 - Thomas Jones
 - Martha Wilder
- Three to Newbury
 - John Ilsley
 - John Stevens
 - William Stevens
- One to Salisbury
 - William Ilsley

Review

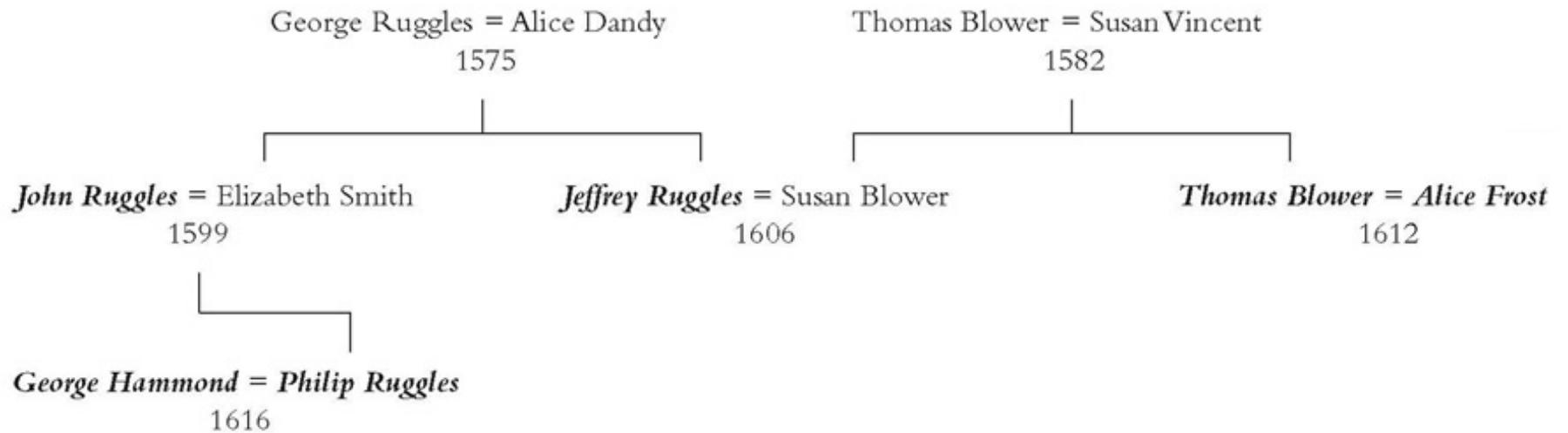
- Top-down companies, 1620-1633
 - Gentleman's Companies
 - Merchant Companies
- Bottom-up companies, 1633-1640
 - Clerical Companies
 - Yeomen Companies

QUESTIONS?

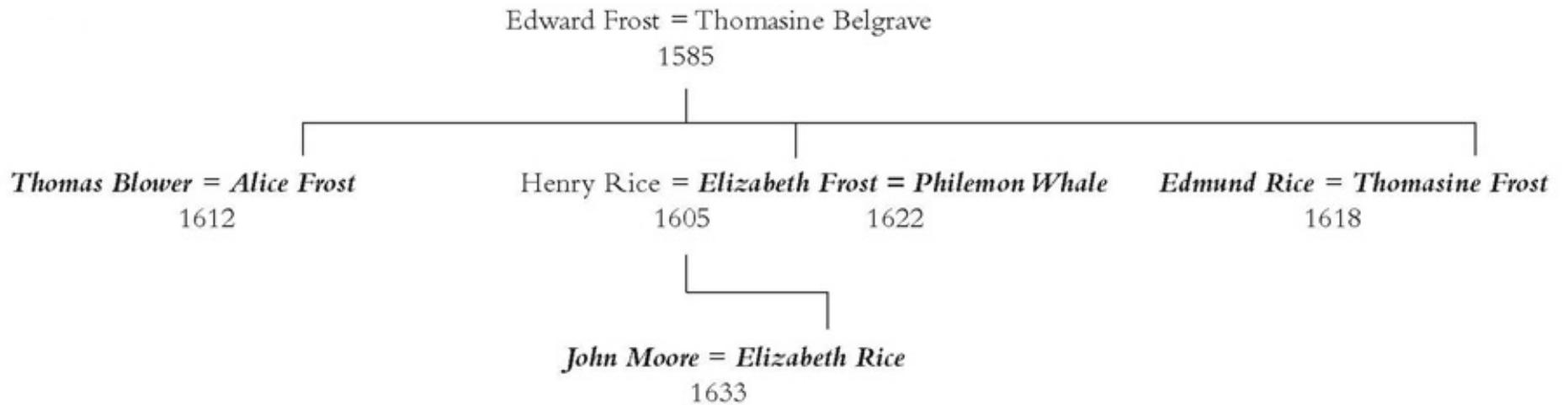
Extended Family Companies

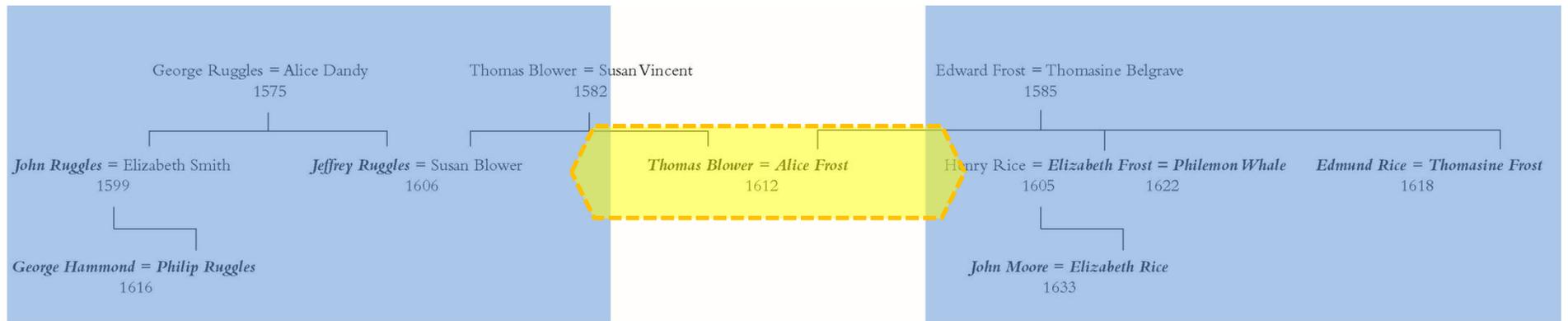
- An Extended Family Company comprises all those individual immigrants who can trace a genealogical connection to all others in the company, no matter how distantly related, whether by consanguinity or by affinity.
- Any Extended Family Company can share members with any of the other four types of companies.
- Extended Family Companies frequently share members with two or more companies of other types, forming larger networks.

Sudbury, Suffolk

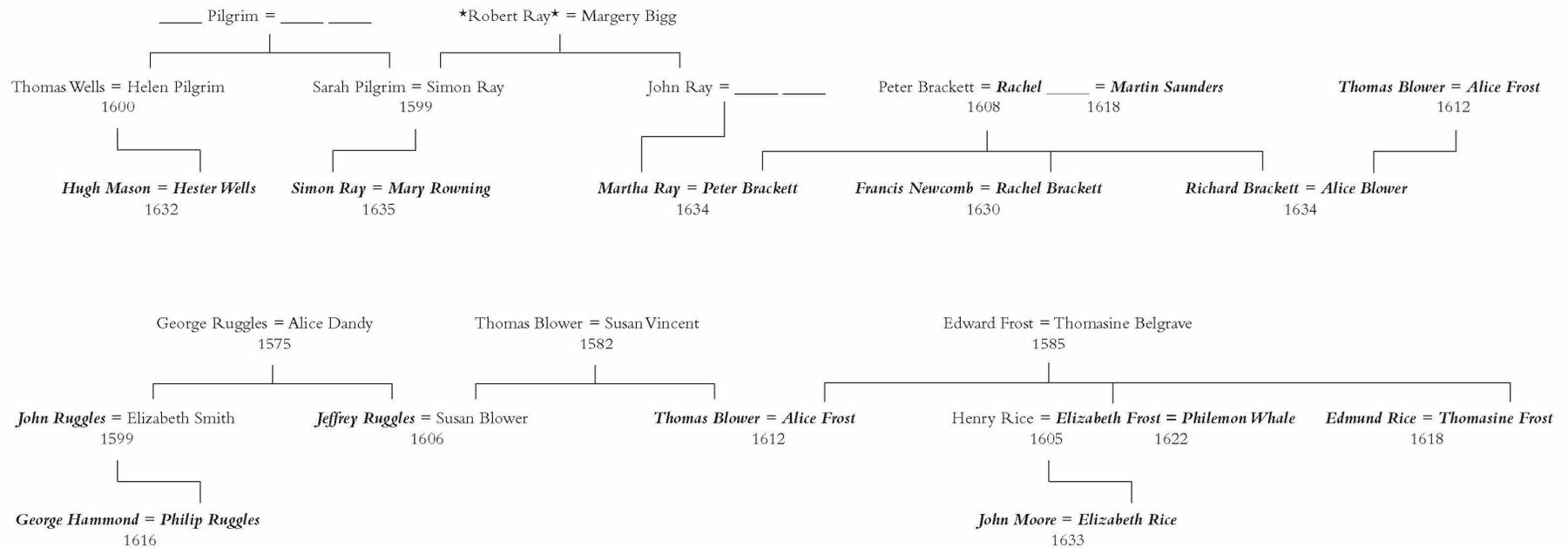


Great Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire





Large Family Company



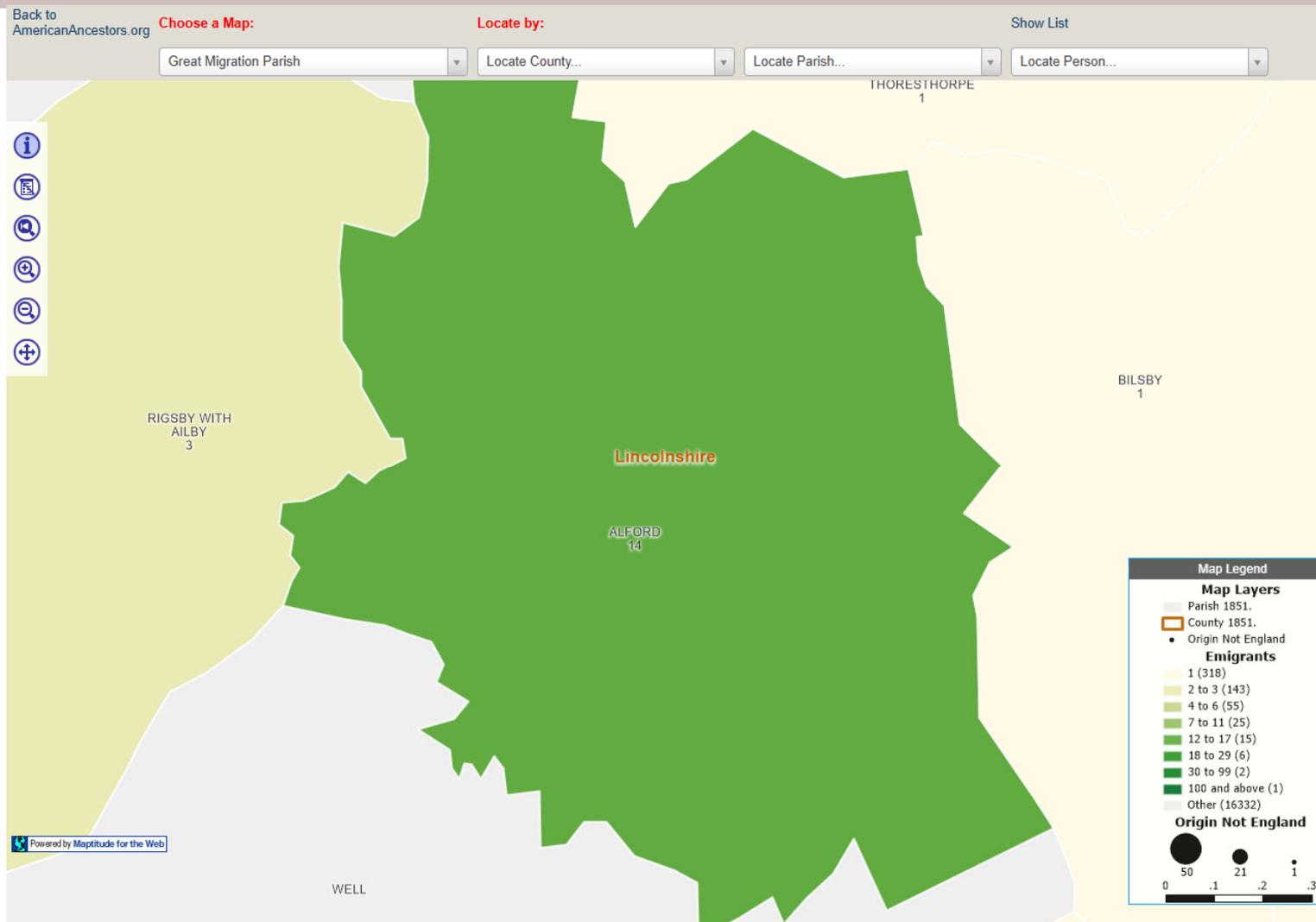
Sudbury, Suffolk VI

- John Wilson Clerical Company, Part I
 - John Wilson, 1630, Boston [WF 678-83]
 - William Baulston, 1630, Boston [WF 97-102]
 - Henry Gosnall, 1630, Boston [WF 337-38]
 - George Hammond, 1630, Boston [WF 576]
 - Jeffrey Ruggles, 1630, Boston [WF 572-74]
 - John Ruggles, 1630, Boston [WF 574-77]
 - William Waterbury, 1630, Boston [WF 665-67]

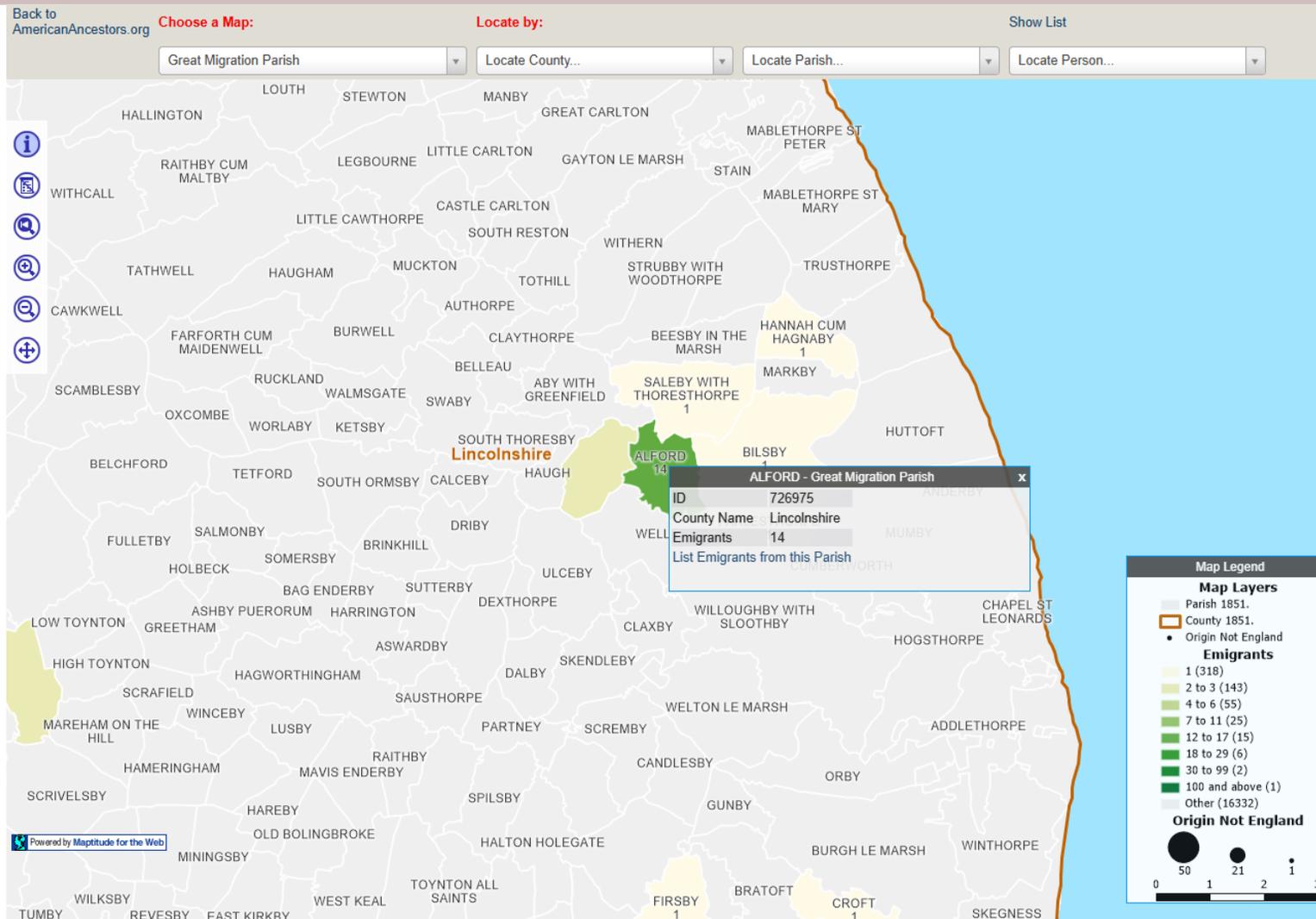
Sudbury, Suffolk VII

- John Wilson Clerical Company, Part II
 - Richard Brackett, 1632, Boston [GMB 203-6]
 - Thomas Blower, 1635, Boston [GM 2:1:338-40]
 - Francis Newcomb, 1635, Boston [GM 2:5:242-45]
 - Martin Sanders, 1635, Boston [GM 2:6:171-76]
 - Peter Brackett, 1639, Brackett [NEHGR 155:279-94].

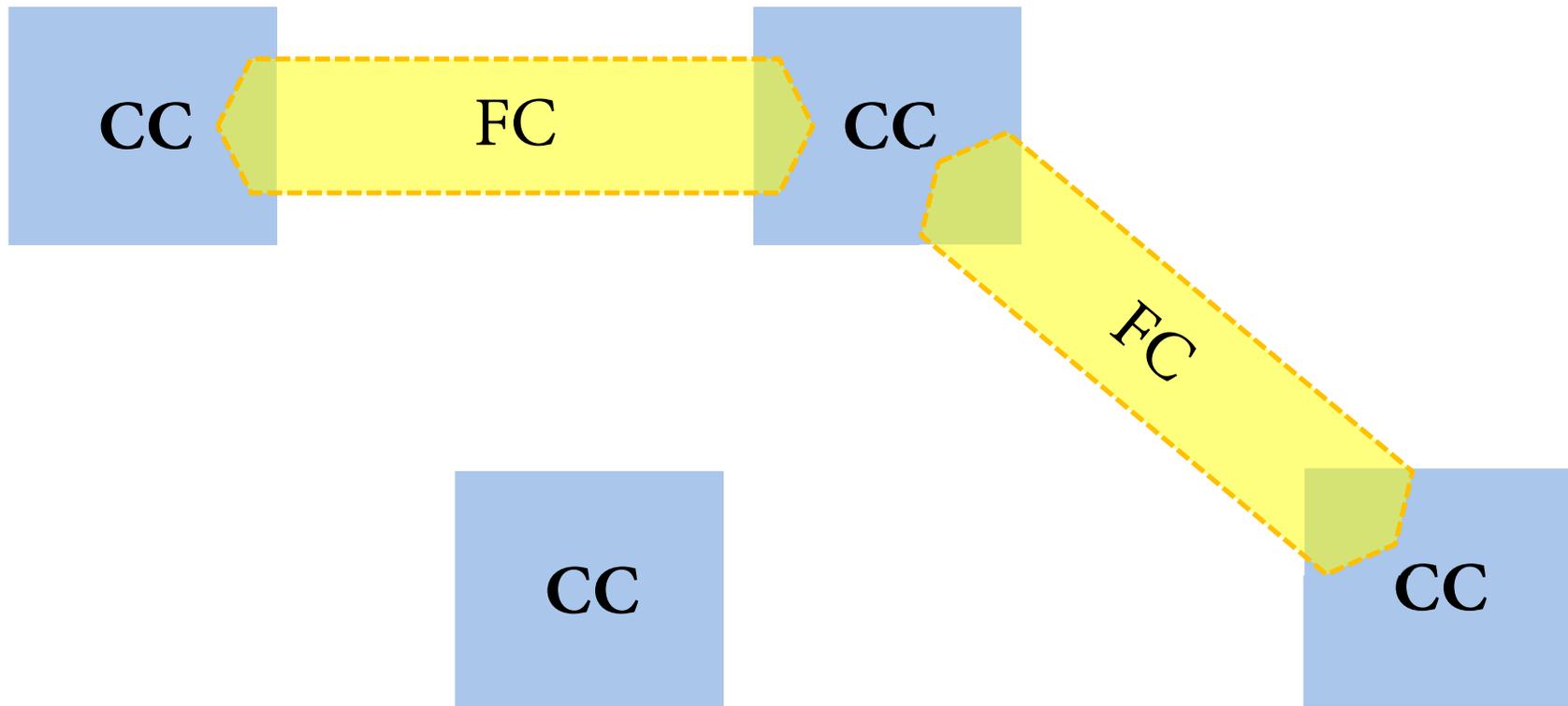
Alford, Lincolnshire II



Alford, Lincolnshire III



Looking to the Future



CC = Clerical Company
FC = Family Company

Unexplained: Dorking, Surrey

- William Mullins, 1620, Plymouth
- Peter Brown, 1620, Plymouth
- John Brown, 1632, Duxbury
- Christopher Hussey, 1633, Lynn
- William Bassett, 1635, Lynn
- Hugh Burt, 1635, Lynn
- Stockdale Coddington, 1641, Roxbury

Last of the Arithmetic I

- Of the total of 20,000 immigrants, about 2000 were fishermen and others without puritan connections.
- Some overlap between latter group on the one hand and Merchant's and Gentleman's Companies on the other.
- Merchant's and Gentleman's Companies together much fewer than Clerical and Yeoman Companies together.
- Unknown number of "lone wolves."
- At a guess, no more than 5,000 combined non-puritans, "lone wolves," Merchant Companies, and Gentleman's Companies.

Last of the Arithmetic II

- Last week we estimated that there may have been about 5,000 in perhaps fifty to seventy-five Clerical Companies.
- We are left then with about 10,000 individuals who came as part of Yeomen Companies.
- Yeomen Companies were probably somewhat smaller than Clerical Companies, say 25 individuals.
- This would imply about 400 Yeomen Companies.
- The completion of the GMSP will test this hypothesis.

QUESTIONS?

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The 17th-Century Great Migration to New England and Beyond 2024

Thank you for registering for the online seminar, *The 17th-Century Great Migration to New England and Beyond: Conventicles, Companies, Congregations, Dispersal!*

The participants in the 17th-century Great Migration to New England were drawn from the most committed English protestant reformers, those who most wanted the Church of England to make a full break with the Church of Rome. In this five-week course, Director of the Great Migration Study Project Robert Charles Anderson will explain the who, what, and why of the mass movement of people to New England from Old England in the 1620s and 1630s and the subsequent migrations in the generations to follow.

The colonists to New England in the early 17th century were largely men and women who began to form networks across England as early as the 1530s, meeting together in conventicles and godly households. As the decades passed, many of these reformers became more and more frustrated as one monarch after another refused to make the desired reforms. A breaking point was reached in the 1620s and a small stream of English men, women and children began to move to the New World. The pace of migration increased in the later 1630s, when thousands of migrants crossed the Atlantic each year. They were organized in companies, led by a minister or an affluent layman, based on the existing conventicles. Initially, many of the members of these migrating companies settled together in one New England town, but they soon began a process of sorting themselves out in different ways. Traces of the old English connections may still be seen decades later, even so late as the settlement of the American West two centuries on. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the 300-year sweep of history and the context surrounding your early immigrant ancestors' movements!

AmericanAncestors.org/17th-century-great-migration-new-england-and-beyond-2024



THANK YOU!

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