



THE STORY OF THE PILGRIM FATHERS

This display tells their story from the period of 1586 until their journey to America and subsequent settlement there. The story is split into four defined areas. 1 – Early days of the Puritans in England, 2 – The move to Holland, 3 – Preparations to Emigrate, 4 – Crossing the Atlantic, 5 – Arrival in America, 6 – First Landings, 7 – The Settlements Today and 8 – Remembrance.

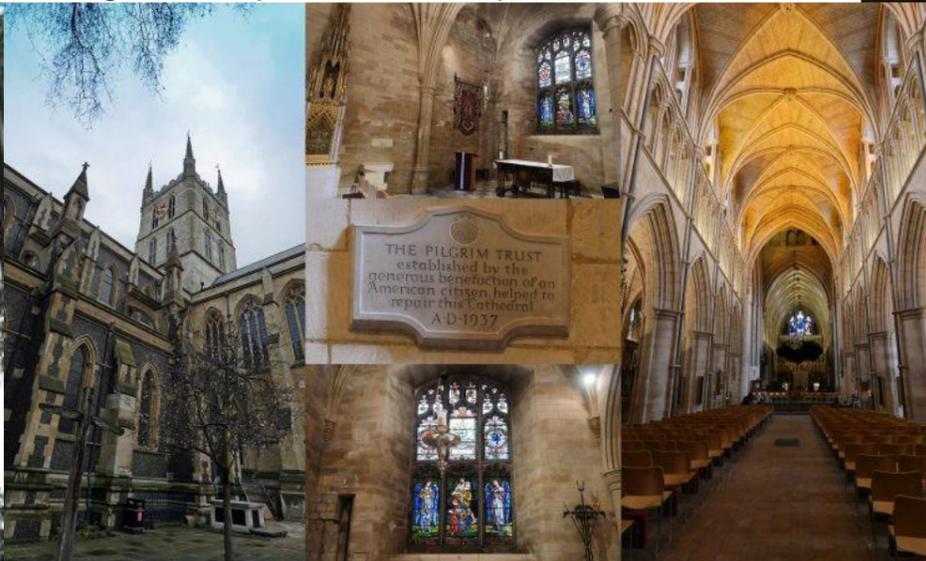
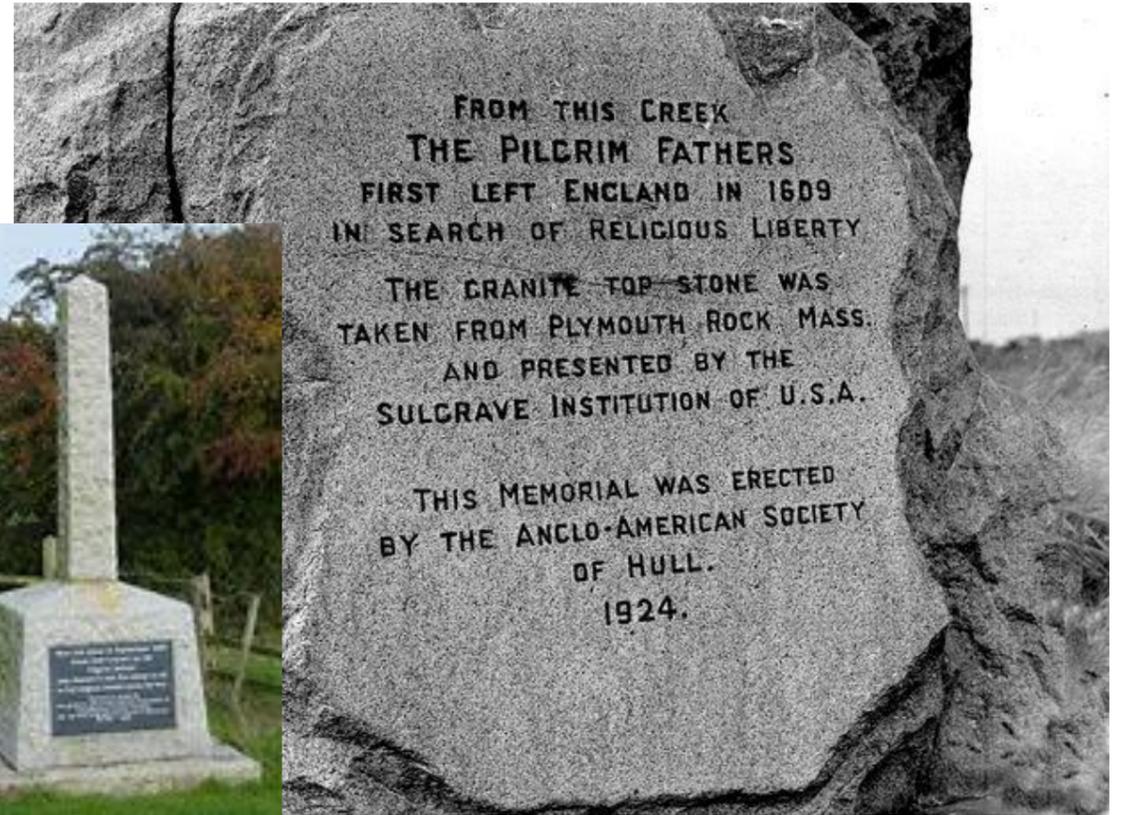
1 – Early Days of the Puritans in England

One group later to be described as “The Pilgrim Fathers” came together between 1586 – 1605 by shared theologian beliefs as expressed by Richard Clyfton a Brownist parson at All Saints Parish Church in Babworth, near East Retford. The group held Puritan beliefs something illegal at the time. Under the Act of



Uniformity 1559 it was illegal not to attend an official Church of England Service with people being fined the sum of One Shilling for each Sunday service missed.

The group were helped to move to Holland by William Brewster a former Diplomatic assistant to the Netherlands and they moved to Leiden around 1607. There is today a Memorial to the Pilgrim Fathers at Immingham the point of their departure.



1.1 Rotherhithe in London was the base of another group

There are a number of references to this group such as the plaque shown above left recording the sailing of the “Mayflower” commanded by its owner Captain Christopher Jones. Many of this group were imprisoned in The Clink (shown above right) for failing to comply with the Act of Uniformity and some were actually beheaded. There is a plaque in The John Harvard Chapel of Southwark Cathedral. Many of those imprisoned were released to emigrate on the “Mayflower”.

Captain Christopher Jones brought the “Mayflower” back to Rotherhithe where he died in 1622 aged 52 years and was buried in St Mary's Church Rotherhithe. It is reputed the “Mayflower” was left to rot on the Mud Flats, despite many efforts to have the ship saved for eternity.

1.2 – There were other groups in Lincolnshire and South Yorkshire who in general moved to Holland prior to joining the emigrants to America.

2 – The move to Holland



Several groups are known to have moved to Holland. The cancels shown left record the move.

The move was to Leiden a city of around 30,000 inhabitants. The success of the group was mixed with some of the group able to work in Leiden University and in the Textile, Printing and Brewing trades. Others were hampered by their Rural backgrounds and difficulties of language, this was overcome by the purchase of an Estate by John Robinson which then provided work.

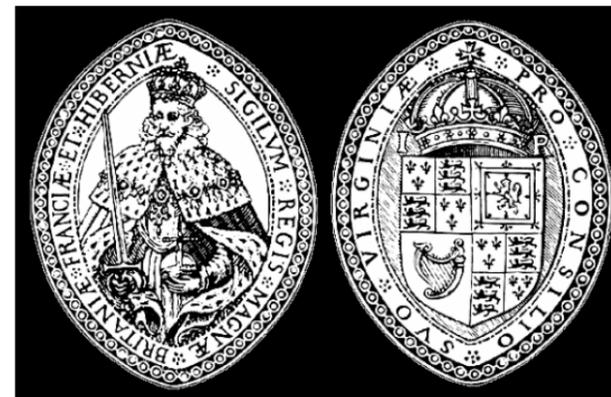


The courtyard shown below right was inhabited by John Robinson and 20 other pilgrims. William Brewster taught English at the University and John Robinson enrolled in 1615 to pursue a Doctorate. Brewster acquired typesetting equipment in 1616 funded by Thomas Brewer and commenced publishing debates.

The pictures left shows the corner of the Pilgrim Press and William Brewster Alley as it is today.

The group were not happy as their Puritan outlook was not mirrored by the local inhabitants and they sought somewhere where they could start a new life in a place not previously inhabited.

After much negotiation and political manoeuvre's, they were able to join another group from England who had obtained a grant of land in America at a place that had to be called "New England". Negotiated between King James of England and "The Virginia Company" The Seal and Coat of Arms of the Company are shown below.

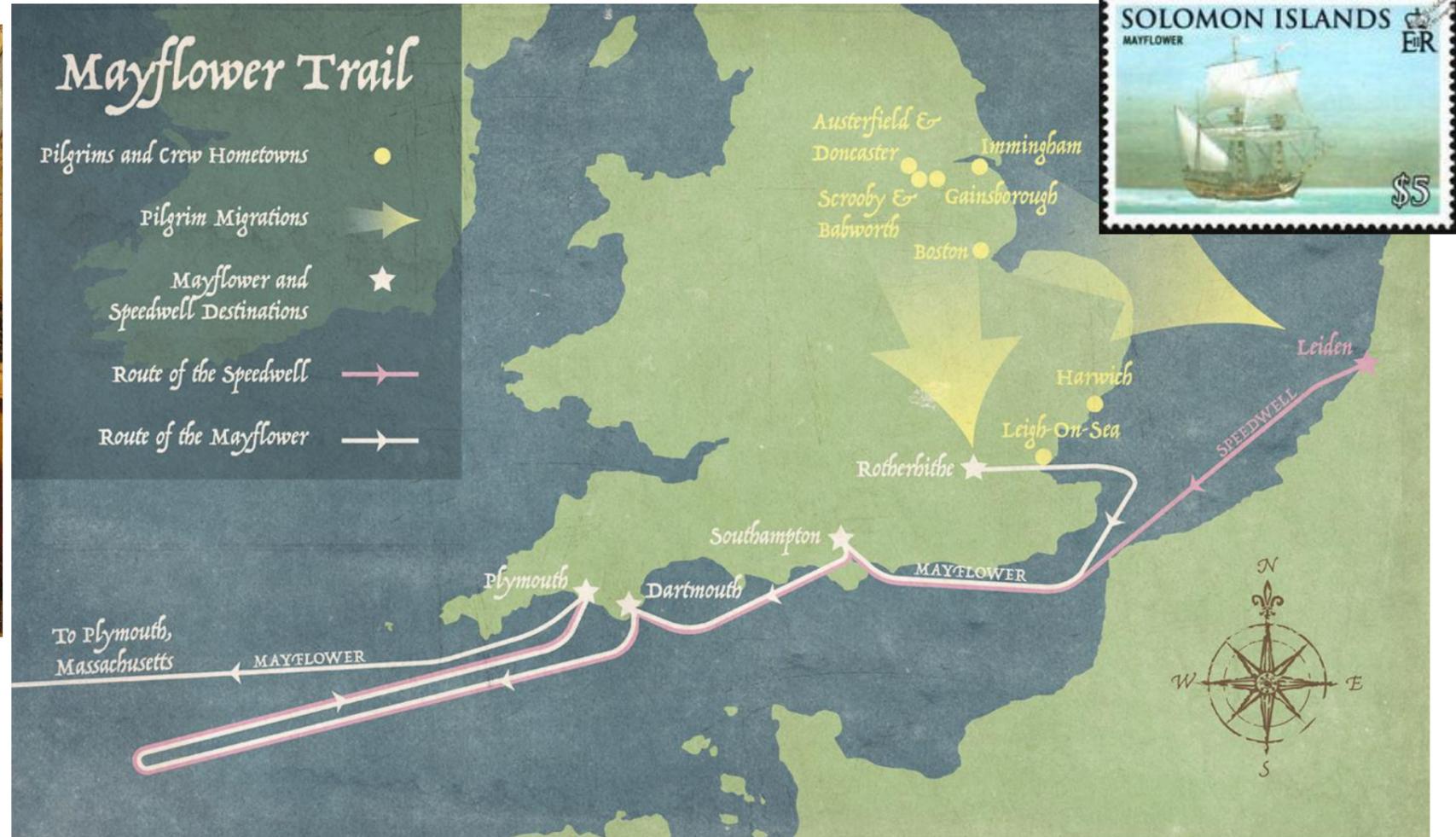


The Plaque shown left is in Leiden and is a Memorial to John Robinson who was a Pastor prior to his departure.

3 – PREPARATION TO EMIGRATE

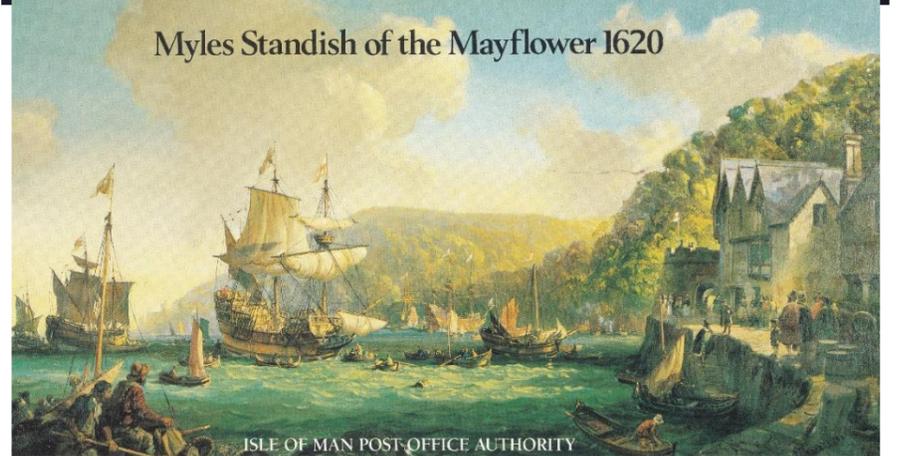


The Dutch settlers left Holland on a ship called the Speedwell (Originally named *Swiftsure*) from Delfshaven on 22nd July 1620, they arrived in Southampton, Hampshire and met the other colonists in their ship the Mayflower which had sailed from London.



Shortly afterwards the crew of the Speedwell reported their ship was taking in water and both vessels put in at Dartmouth, Devon. The picture by Wilcox of the two ships at Dartmouth were reproduced by the Isle of Man in a Presentation Pack see far right. Both ships sailed together from Dartmouth on 2nd September 1620 commemorated by the cover above. The initial routes of both ships are shown above.

At Southampton more Pilgrims joined the "Mayflower" including Stephen Hopkins who had previously visited Jamestown VA. Both ships sailed together on August 5th heading for Plymouth Devon, commemorated by the cover shown left.



3.1 To Plymouth and a False Start – both ships sailed from Dartmouth to Plymouth, both ships started the Atlantic Crossing but having passed Lands End the “Speedwell” once again reported leaks and both ships once again returned to Plymouth. Of the combined group of passengers 102 were chosen to travel on the “Mayflower” supplies were also consolidated. “Mayflower” finally sailed on the 6th September 1620 as commemorated by the cover shown right, the loading is shown below.

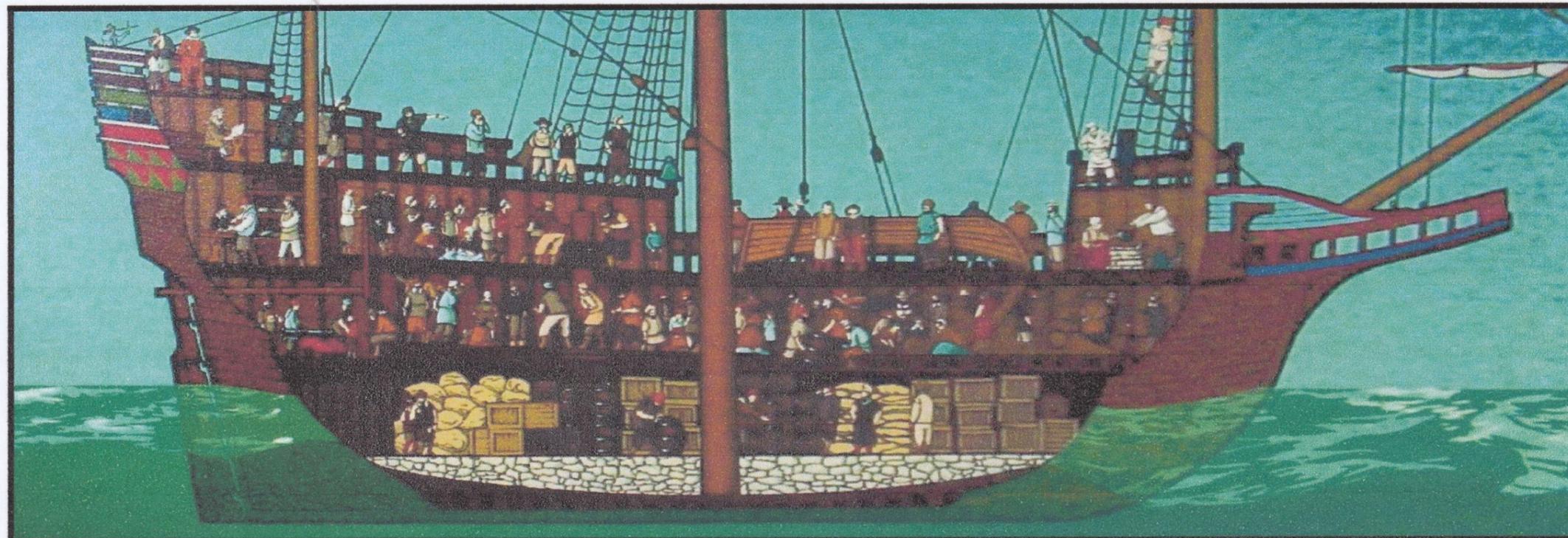
The 102 passengers were crammed into the middle deck along with 2 dogs and perhaps some Chickens and Goats. The crew about 30 stayed on the top decks. The ship was only about 100 foot long and 25ft wide. See the diagram below.

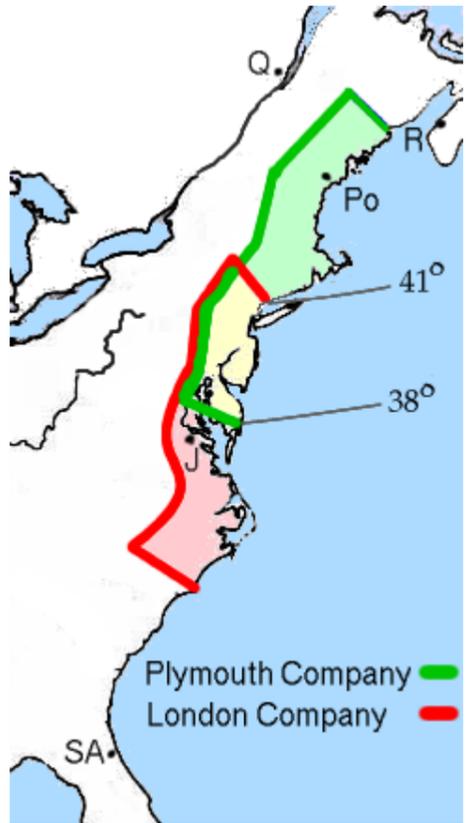


Mr. D. Beavington,
39, Ladysmith Road,
Plymouth,
Devon.

4 – The Atlantic Crossing

Little was recorded about the rough crossing of the Atlantic. It was recorded that one of the crew was extremely rude to one of the passengers, threatening to throw them overboard. William Bradford recorded that “It pleased God to smite him with disease” and the un-named sailor died and was thrown overboard himself. One passenger John Howland, fell overboard, but grabbed a rope and was hauled back on board. He later fathered 4 children, nowadays 2 million Americans claim to be descended from him. Three days before land was sighted William Button died. While at anchor a Boy Peregrine White was born and 4 passengers died including Dorothy wife of William Bradford.





5 – Arrival in America
 after enduring 66 days at sea, land was eventually sighted but they were about 500 miles north east of Virginia there intended destination shown left. They dropped anchor near today's Provincetown in Cape Cod (shown above) on 11th November 1620.

The Charter was incomplete for the Plymouth Council for New England when they departed England. The older Wincom patent was from their earlier abandoned dealings with the London Company. They decided that they could do what they liked and a brief contract was drafted to address the situation, it became known as the "Mayflower Compact" shown right.

A painting by Jean L. Gerome features the signing of the Compact and it is also featured on stamps.

John Carver was chosen as the colony's first Governor he had chartered the Mayflower and his signature is first on the Compact.



THE MAYFLOW COMPACT

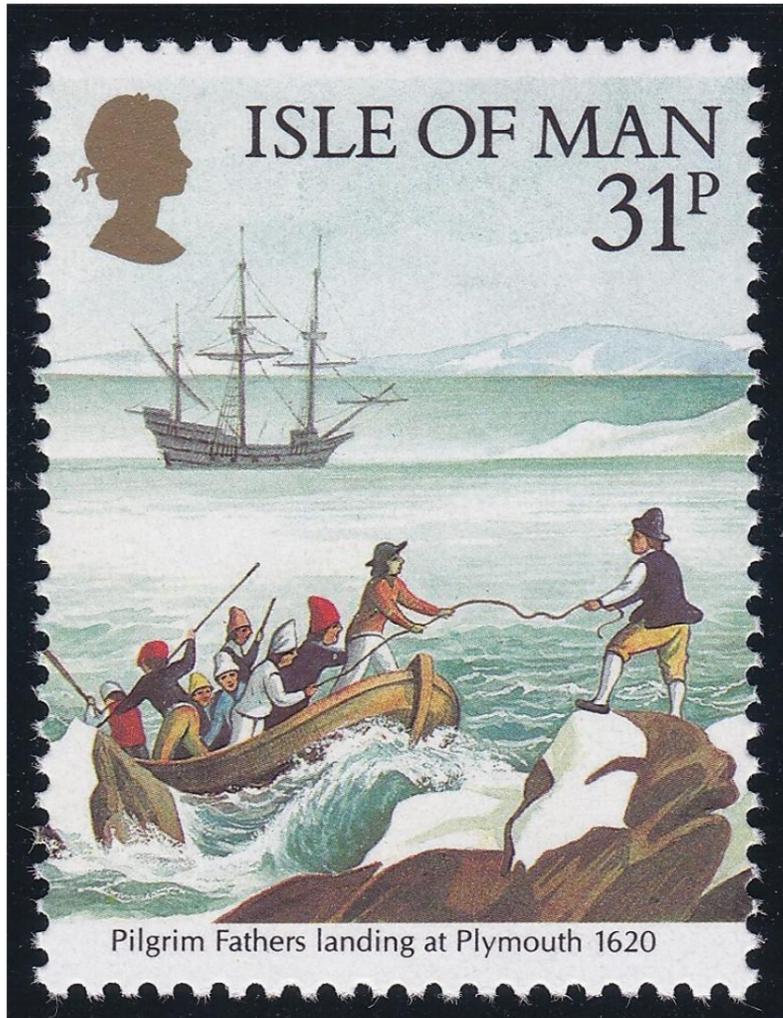
In y^e name of God Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the Loyall subjects of our dread soveraigne Lord King James, by y^e grace of God, of Great Britaine, Franc, & Ireland, King, defender of y^e faith, &c. Having undertaken, for y^e glorie of God, and advancemente of y^e Christian faith and honour of our King & countrie, a voyage to plant y^e first colonie in y^e Northerne parts of Virginia; doe by these presents solemnly & mutually in y^e prefrence of God, and one of another, covenant & combine our selves together into a civill body politick; for our better ordering, & preservation & furtherance of y^e ends aforesaid; and by vertue hearof to enacte, constitute, and frame such just & equall Lawes, ordinances, Acts, constitutions, & offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meete and convenient for y^e generall good of y^e Colonie: unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witnes whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cap-Codd y^e .11. of November, in y^e year of y^e raigne of our soveraigne Lord King James of England, France, & Ireland y^e eighteenth, and of Scotland y^e fiftie fourth. An^o: dom. 1620.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| † John Carver | * Richard Warren | † John Turner | † Edmond Margeson |
| * William Bradford | * John Howland | * Francis Eaton | * Peter Brown |
| * Edward Winslow | * Stephen Hopkins | * † James Chilton | † Richard Bitteridge |
| * William Brewster | † Edward Tilly | * † John Crazton | * George Soule |
| * Isaac Allerton | * † John Tilly | * John Billington | † Richard Clark |
| * Miles Standish | * Francis Cook | † Moses Fletcher | Richard Gardiner |
| * John Alden | * † Thomas Rogers | † John Goodman | † John Allerton |
| * Samuel Fuller | † Thomas Tinker | * † Digery Priest | † Thomas English |
| † Christopher Martin | † John Rigdale | † Thomas Williams | * Edward Doten |
| * † William Mullins | * † Edward Fuller | Gilbert Winslow | Edward Leister |
| * † William White | | | |

* HAS DESCENDANTS NOW LIVING. † DIED THE FIRST WINTER.

Alan Villiers

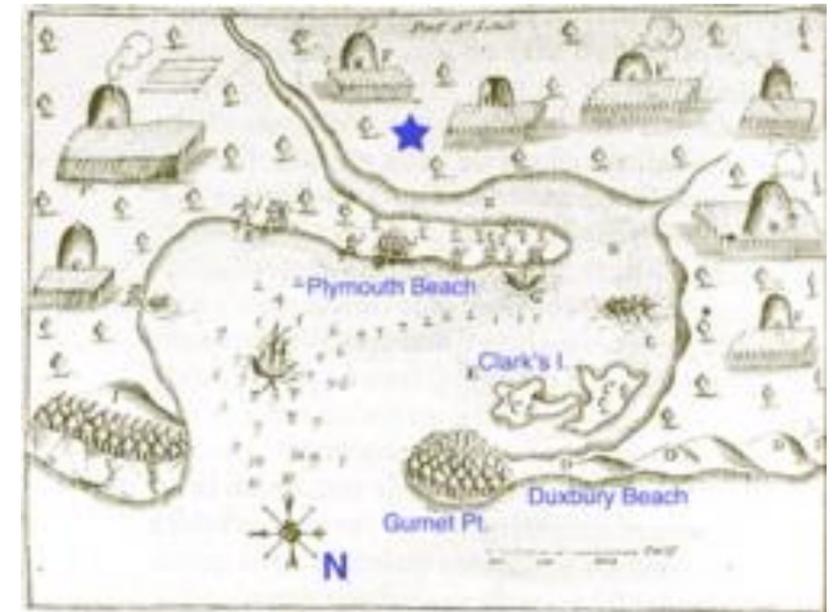
ALAN VILLIERS
 Master of Mayflower



One of the places they looked at was an island which was named Clark's Island after the Mate of the "Mayflower". The party returned to the "Mayflower" anchored 25 miles away, the ship was moved closer to the settlement between December 16-26th and is shown anchored in Plymouth Harbour,

6 – First Landings exploration was delayed for around two weeks because the "pinnacle" had to be assembled to fit aboard the "Mayflower". In addition to the philatelic references to this event a painting was created by Michele Felice Come around 1805 that now hangs in the White House.

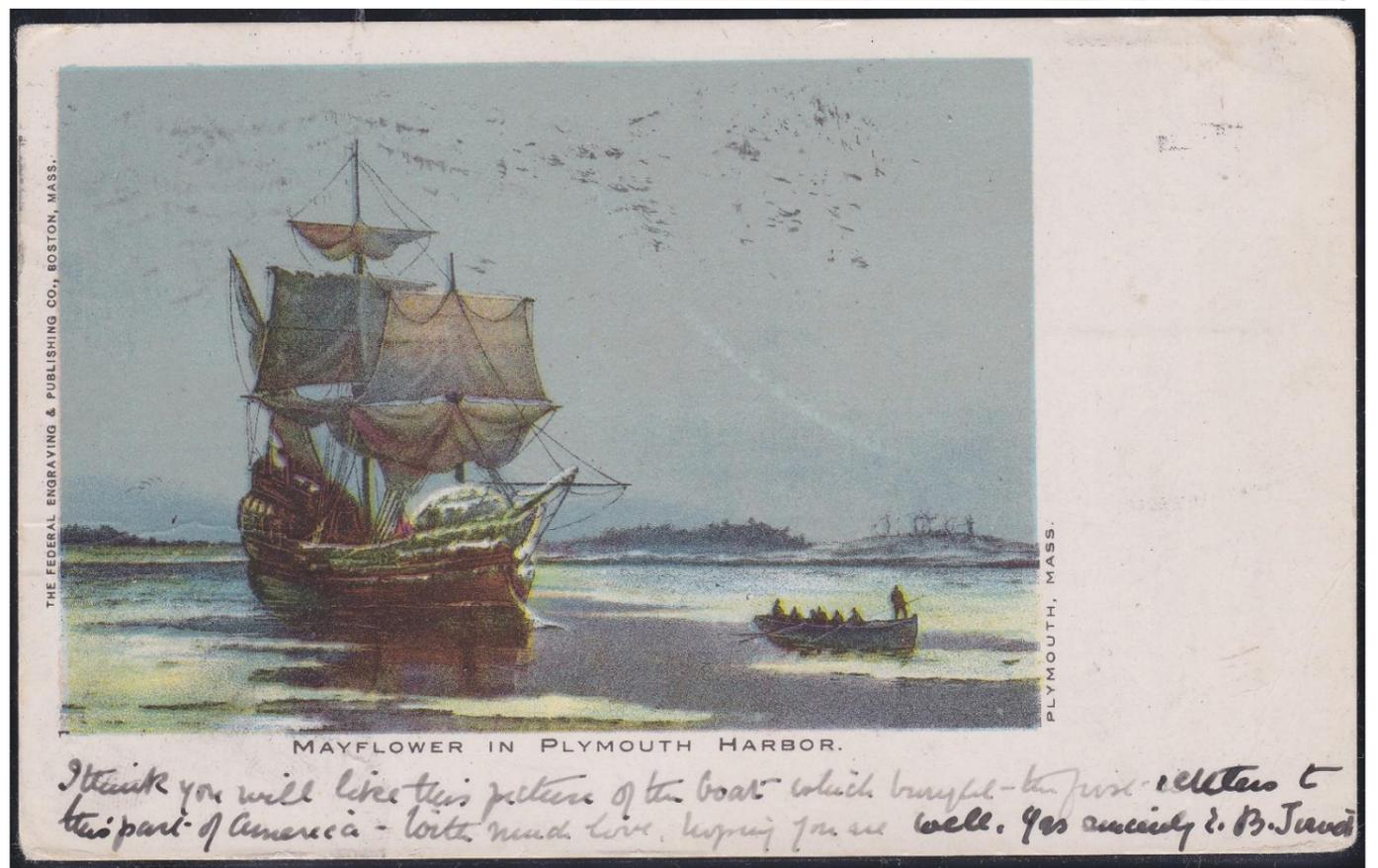
The area explored is featured below, the approximate location of the Plymouth Colony is shown as a Blue Star.



Disease ravaged the group and between landing and March only 47 colonists that they had contracted on the ship. During this time half the "Mayflower" crew also died.

The "Mayflower" stayed until 5th April 1621 arriving back in England on 6th May

William Bradford became Governor in 1621 upon the death of John Carver.



7 – THE SETTLEMENTS TODAY – The colony contains many counties and settlement names that would be familiar to English people e.g. Counties such as Bristol, Plymouth and Barnstable (note the slightly different spelling from Barnstaple Devon). A look at some of the modern postal markings shows a vast number of typical English names.

NEW BEDFORD
MAR 8 8:30 PM 1930 MASS.

TOWN OFFICE BUILDING HOURS
Mondays
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Tuesdays thru Fridays
8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If you provide the necessary data, licenses may be issued by mail.

Males—\$2.00
Females—\$5.00
Spayed Females—\$2.00

GIVE RED CROSS FUND

POSTAGE 3c

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Americo Peitavino
Box 185A
Old Westport Rd.
No. Dartmouth, Mass.

Rec 1345
JUL 13 1928
BARNSTABLE MASS.

VIA AIR MAIL

10 CENTS

VIA AIR MAIL

Mr. C. Lothrop Bartlett
Lum Oil Co.
Dallas
Texas.

BRAINTREE JUN 12 1890 MASS.

UNITED STATES POSTAGE TWO CENTS

Miss M. Helen Keith,
South Hadley,
College.
Mass.

DAWN OVER BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.
The sun rising out of the Atlantic Ocean bathes downtown Boston in warm tones as the city awakens.

Photo by John J. Klein

26 SEP 1995
MASS.

post card

ADMIN GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE FOR SCOTLAND

LADYWELL ROAD
EDINBURGH
EH12 7TF
SCOTLAND
UK.

Well, I was impressed with Boston and the weather, (79 one day, too hot for the city) and when I got back about it was true, it is beautiful. We hope to go on a whale watch today and looking in the mirror we could be mistaken for the swimming mammals. See you to soon
George + Liz

Cape Cod was the original arrival point of the Settlers.

After 5 days, return to
DEDHAM NATIONAL BANK,
DEDHAM, MASS.

DEDHAM JUN 28 1897 MASS.

UNITED STATES POSTAGE TWO CENTS

Van Horn

Barnard Pro
82 Devonshire St
Boston
Mass

EAST TAUNTON, MASS.
SEP 23 1906

PLATZVILLE MASS.
24 A.M. 1905

UNITED STATES POSTAGE ONE CENT

Miss E. Frances Durham,
Hatchville,
Mass.

Aug 31

Mr Rufus Lincoln
Wareham, Mass

UNITED STATES POSTAGE TWO CENTS

PLYMOUTH MASS.
JUL 29 2 PM 1923

Mr. John A. Redding, Esq.
134. Elm Street
Boston, Mass.

CLARKS ISLAND, SCENE OF THE FIRST PILGRIM BATH

THE MAYFLOWER, PLYMOUTH HARBOR 1620

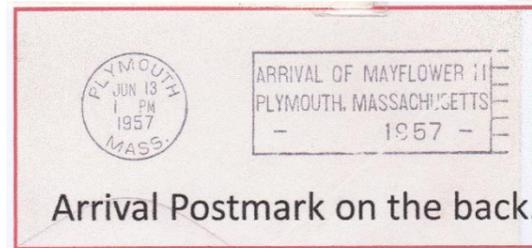
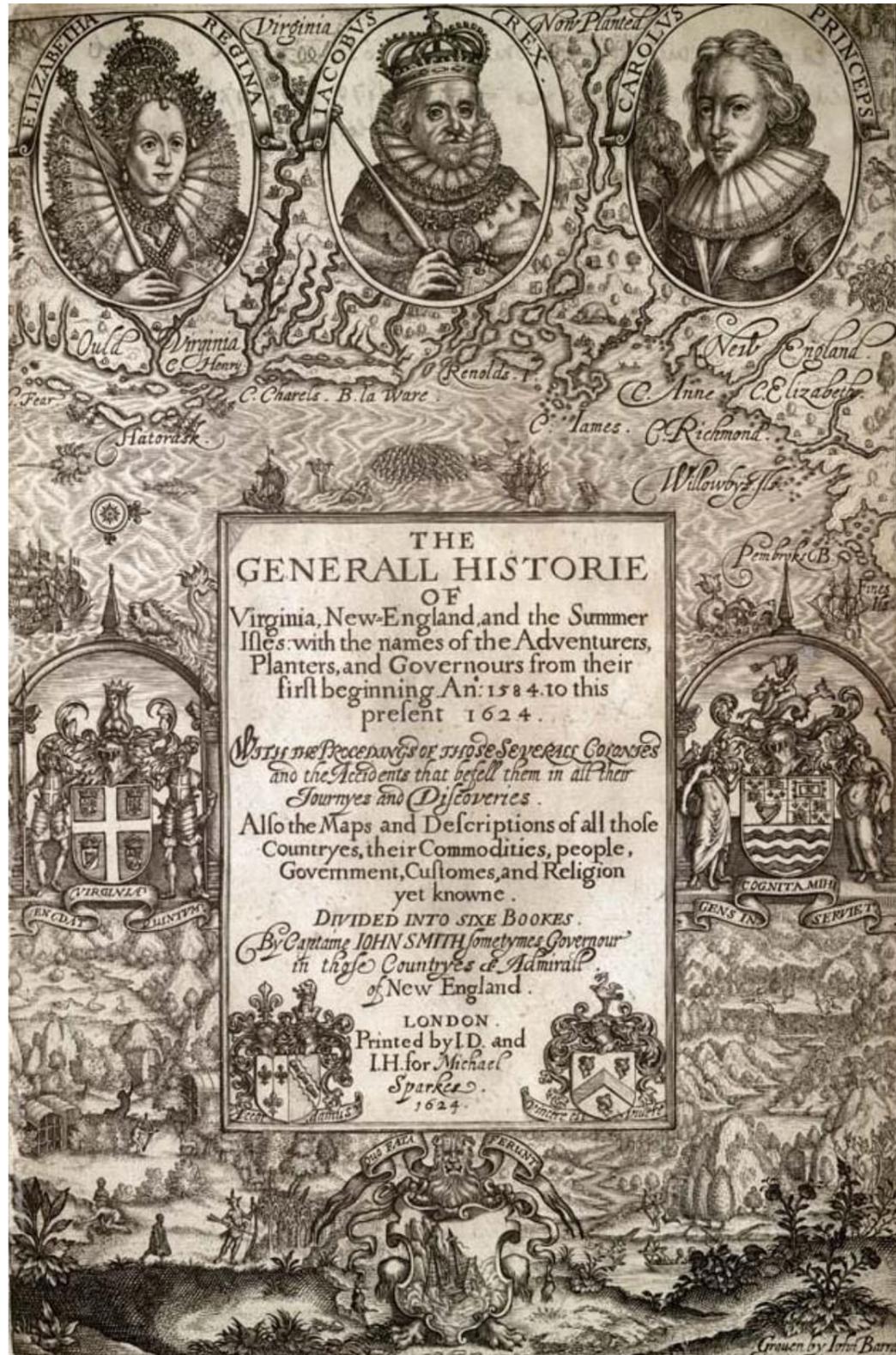
SWANSEA MASS.
AUG 30 1914

UNITED STATES POSTAGE TWO CENTS

Virgil M. Brand,
30 Elston Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

8 – REMEMBRANCE in 1957 a replica sailing ship was built in Brixham Devon based upon known designs of the 17th Century. The voyage of the “Mayflower” was re-enacted sailing from Plymouth Devon to Plymouth Massachusetts where the vessel remains in the Harbour.

The journey was Philatelically recorded as can be seen right from covers that were sent in either direction.



The item left is a record of the New England settlers, another record of Remembrance.



Note the items being carried by the Settler images including a map of the settlement.

