



Gardner's Beacon™



CAPE ANN AND SALEM PLANTER



Thomas Gardner Society, Inc. Founded 2010

Volume X -- Issue 1 -- Fall 2020

Gardner's Beacon™ is published by the Thomas Gardner Society, Inc. (ThomasGardnerSociety.org).

We hope that our readers have been successful in staying well in these trying times. This Newsletter is a little late; there will be another issue by the year's end. Ann has just completed eight years of serving on a board for a local DAR chapter. Her last position was Registrar which includes genealogical work. With her experiences, we will be defining several options for supporting the Thomas Gardner Society, Inc. through various types of membership. Below, we report recent findings on Thomas and Margaret and discuss a method for proving lineage. As well, our focus is on the crew at Cape Ann.

Focus on Margaret

Image 1 was snipped from a digitized record that recently became available on the web. There are lots more for us to review; too, index work has come a long way. The image is a record of a [Thomas Gardner and Margaret Friar](#) marrying on 28 Apr 1617. The source comes via digitization of records in Sherborne, Dorset, UK. Is this our Thomas and Margaret? The first print reference that we saw for Margaret was [Felt who mentioned her](#) over 200 years ago. And, we know that Felt was thorough as demonstrated by his *Annals of Salem*.

Before going on, the current status coming this way is that we see the [baptism of Thomas, George, and Richard](#) with some of the records noting that the child was a son of Thomas Gardner. Unfortunately, there are lots of Gardner records in that area, so we have our work cut out for us in Dorset trying to sort this out. There are records in adjoining other areas that need some attention, as well.

Another clue might be that the family of Gardners with sons with the right names (in order) disappears from the records and show up in New England. All of this will be scrutinized further, but it is enough for us to use Thomas and Margaret in our work with the WikiTree team to get the profile of

these two corrected. The work has already started with [Thomas' profile](#) now having only two wives, Margaret and Demaris, with the first being the mother of the children.

In looking at the records, it appears that research on the Friars might be an easier row to hoe. Image 2 shows the [baptism of a Margaret Friar](#) in 1598. Who might she be? In 1610, there is a Will of a Walter Friar who mentions his daughter Margaret. Too, other children are mentioned, including Thomas Friar. Going back further, there is a record of the marriage of a Walter Friar and a Grace Mullins.

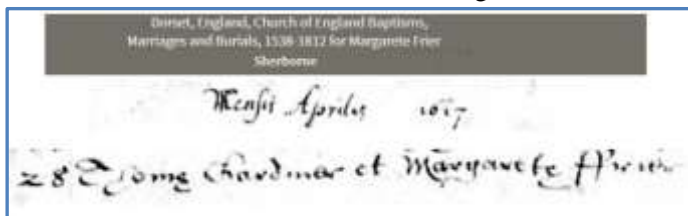
On the other hand, coming this way, Savage in his listing of the first entrants to New England mentioned [Thomas Friar](#) (Fryer, Friar).

Savage remarked that this Thomas might have been the brother of Margaret who married Thomas Gardner of Salem.

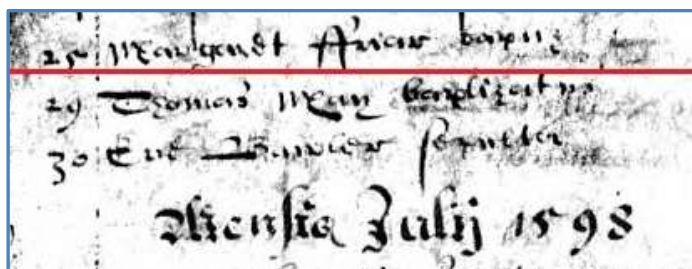
There are a lot less Friar records for us to look at than Gardners, so we will let Margaret take the stage, for a while. Per usual, we will be posting research notes via our blog and other media such as keeping WikiTree updated.

Filters, and their use

We have started our look at [descendants of Thomas and Margaret \(Friar\) Gardner](#). This work will focus on the progeny of each child and will report through various media and schemes. For some, we will use WikiTree if there are collateral families that have already done work. We have been creating profiles, as needed, but that is not necessary. Actually, it might bog down the work since text files would be sufficient, though we will consider a few other formats.



1 - Marriage of Thomas and Margaret



1 - Baptism of Margaret



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The key is that [we need sources specified](#) from which we can grade the information. The rating will go from verified to speculative with the latter not being shunned. Rather, we want to fill in the first five generations completely and work down to around 1900. Hopefully, we would have mostly strong referencing done, but we will not shy from using modern techniques, that are sound.

We can look at examples. One group has been at this for [over 100 years](#) and has an on-line database. A recent post looks at this example, where information is available. And, we can confirm that this information was provided with source references. We also know that process will mark information needing attention, rather than throw it out.

So, take a line, such as that of Dr. Frank's sister, [Lucie M. Gardner](#); her record stops at the 2nd great-grandson of Thomas and Margaret through their son, Samuel who is #6 in Dr. Frank's 1907 book. His name is Simon Stacey Gardner. So, taking that example, someone wanting to show their pedigree to T&M would only need to reference that Simon node and how they relate to it.

Relate? Yes, if some member has a sister who has not been identified through an application or a brother, then one would merely need to show the sibling relationship. It would be that easy. Now, this example database might have 7M persons, however there are lots of gaps. Take the Massachusetts listing of sailors and soldiers. It is [17 volumes](#). Many of these people are not known to the organization which does have provisions to prove new Patriots.

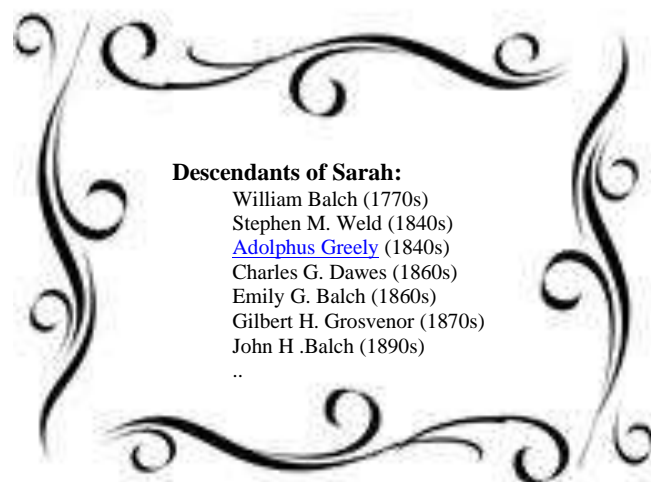
Cape Ann

Besides descendants of T&M, we have an interest in all of the families that were at Cape Ann when T&M were there. We already know some. For instance, daughter [Sarah married John Balch](#) who came with his wife with the Cape Ann crew. There may have been some disagreement about who was there, but we'll be inclusive for now in the interest of helping research go forward.

Another motivation is that the [400th anniversary](#) of the arrival is coming up whether 1623 or 1624. Despite that, as we see with the Great Migration Project, there were entrants by the ton until around 1640. We can attest that we see lots and lots of people not covered in WikiTree, hence the decision to not use that as a funnel.

Good old HTML can work once we set up the format. In time, we will settle on a technical approach for the future. Lots of options exist including doing our own with links to the other resources. That is, a type of overlay from TGS where TGS provides an independent access.

[Richard Crowninshield Derby \(1834 -1862\)](#): Descendant of Samuel (#6). He was a scholar and attended college, but his health forced him to quit. He took private lesson and was talented in music and art. He went west and experienced the frontier living. Richard sold dry goods in Wisconsin. Then, he went to Minnesota and built a house. After 1856, he was back in Boston. On the "opening of the Civil War ... he enlisted in the 4th Battalion Rifles." In August of 1861, he "received a commission as 2nd-lieutenant with the 15th Regiment and attained the rank of Captain. Richard died at Antietam (17 Sep 1862). His diary was published in 1865 with a bio. The title is *The Young Captain* by P.A. Hanaford. We have adopted Richard as one example of the [frontier experience](#) which requires special attention in terms of understanding the lineage of people.



Descendants of Sarah:

- William Balch (1770s)
- Stephen M. Weld (1840s)
- [Adolphus Greely](#) (1840s)
- Charles G. Dawes (1860s)
- Emily G. Balch (1860s)
- Gilbert H. Grosvenor (1870s)
- John H. Balch (1890s)
- ..



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