

History of Elizabeth Patch

Elizabeth, daughter of Nicholas and Jane Patch, was christened 16 April 1594 in South Petherton, Somersetshire, England. She married William Woodbury, son of John Woodbury, 29 January 1616.

Elizabeth and William had six children born in South Petherton, England. They were among the very first of the Puritan to leave their home in England and come to New England.

First they settle in Salem, Essex, Massachusetts, then removed to Beverly, Massachusetts where they were given land.

First they belonged to the church in Salem, then when a church was organized in Beverly, they were transferred to the church in Beverly, Massachusetts.

They were truly among those that endured the hardships of pioneer life. But they were hard workers and made out okay.

Elizabeth's husband, William, was a lawyer or became one after coming to New England.

He was also a farmer and builder. He built and owned the first garrison house in Beverly.

Some of Elizabeth's brothers and their families were early pioneer settlers of Salem, too. Her brother Edmund Patch and his wife's daughter Elizabeth was the first English female born in Salem, Massachusetts.

Elizabeth's brother, Nicholas Patch, was a proprietor in Salem in 1639.

This made life much more pleasant for Elizabeth having some of her brothers and their families near her. And also her husband's brother John and son Humphrey.