



## The pilgrims in Leiden: Where were the pilgrims before they sailed to America?

Ceren Spuyman - May 4, 2021

The pilgrims in Leiden are a really important part of Dutch and American history. They were a crucial group in the history of the US. They were an ostracized religious group that escaped from England and came to live in Leiden. From there, they would sail to the New World.

Before the pilgrims came to Leiden, the city already had a history of diverse inhabitants. Before they were expelled at the beginning of the 80 Years' War, the streets of Leiden housed the Catholic Spaniards. After they were forced to leave, French-speaking refugees took their place. All of this led to a massive increase in population: between the late 16th century and the mid-17th century, the population of the city grew from 15,000 to 45,000.

Then the pilgrims arrived. Anyone familiar with the founding story of the United States will have heard about this group before: the tiny group of people who sailed to America aboard the Mayflower to become the founders of the Colony of Plymouth in New England. Another association you'll have with the pilgrims is, of course, Thanksgiving.

### Fleeing from England

So how did the pilgrims end up in Leiden? Well,



*Fields of Flowers and Windmills near Leiden, 1886 by Claude Monet*

prior to their move to the Netherlands, many of the pilgrims lived in a farming village called Scrooby, close to northern Nottinghamshire. Because of the belief system they held, they had irreconcilable differences with the Church of England, so the group had to leave the country.

By the early 1600s, Queen Elizabeth was persecuting the pilgrims and her successor, James I, followed. Elizabeth made it illegal to attend the services of an unofficial church. Disobeying meant fines, imprisonment or execution.

Leiden Cont. On Page 2

Like anyone sensible, the pilgrims didn't love the idea of dying for their beliefs. So, they attempted to leave England in 1607, and succeeded in doing so in 1608. They held high hopes that they would establish a city somewhere which would allow them to keep their religious beliefs and identity.



Hotel de ville de Leyde.

oldbookillustrations.com

*Leiden is a city on the Old Rhine River in the Netherlands. The city hall (Stadhuis) is a Renaissance building dating from 1597. The caption reads in the original French: Hôtel de ville de Leyde.*

### **Leiden: the pilgrim's home away from home**

First, the pilgrims arrived in the largest city of the Netherlands, Amsterdam. Amsterdam was already home to many separatist groups, as well as people following religions other than Christianity, so the pilgrims decided to settle in Leiden instead.

Leiden was the second biggest city in the Netherlands at the time and had a thriving industrial centre with a lot of job opportunities in the textile and brewing sectors. These industries allowed the pilgrims to find work without Dutch language skills. The city was, and still is, home to the prestigious Leiden University.

In the permission letter from the city for their relocation the pastor Robinson wrote that Leiden “refuses no honest people free entry to live in the city, as long as they behave honestly and obey all the laws and ordinances, and under those conditions, the applicants’ arrival here would be pleasing and welcome.”

The pilgrims settled on land close to the St. Pieterskerk. In a short amount of time, the number of Pilgrims in the city increased to 300 from the initial 100.

### **Pilgrims in Leiden**

For pilgrim families who moved to Leiden from bigger cities, adjusting to city life was not such



*Tulip Fields at Sassenheim, Near Leiden, 1886 by Claude Monet*

a big deal. However, for those who came from farming backgrounds, the adjustment was more difficult. Apart from a few like William Brewster who eventually took a job as an English teacher and John Robinson who enrolled to the university for a doctorate, many of the pilgrims worked at demanding jobs six days a week.

In addition, they lived in small, one-roomed houses. Parents would sometimes teach their kids how to read and write at home, and who would then help out around the house from age eight up.

### **Times of hardship**

The life in this newfound city was not easy. At first, this was accepted, but as the years went by, and many of the original pilgrims got older, they started to find their living conditions intolerable. Many of them had little to no educational background. That and the language barrier made going about daily life was difficult. Additionally, their now grown-up children were learning Dutch, refusing the “old ways”, and yearning for a different way of life. Their parents feared that their legacy was approaching extinction.

At the same time, the political state of the Netherlands was also becoming more unstable. There was a military coup, and the number of riots, military restrictions, and instances of censorship increased dramatically. Rumors of war abounded, as the twelve year truce with Spain was coming to an end.

### **Journey to the unknown**

Afraid of losing their identity and therefore their legacy, the pilgrims of Leiden decided to leave behind the harsh conditions of Leiden in search of a new home. They didn't want to assimilate, or be punished for their beliefs. In the end, they decided to sail to America.

At first, only a few of the pilgrims made the

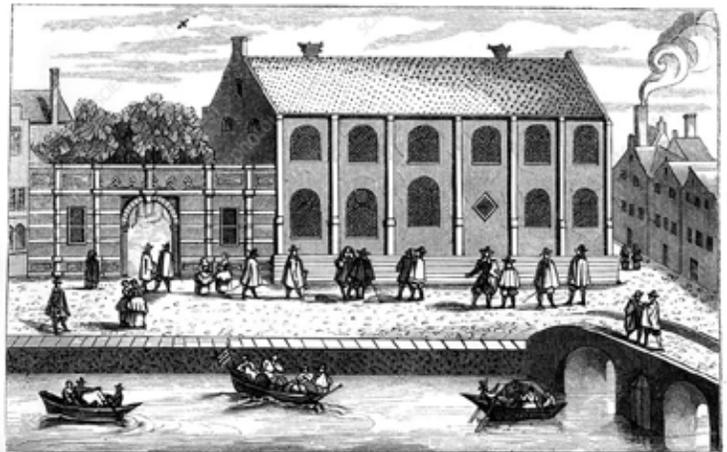
journey to America - made up of a very small group of people. These were the youngest and fittest pilgrims from Leiden. Moreover, each of them had essential skills that would be crucial for their lives in the New World.

The rest of Leiden pilgrims were supposed to join them later - some of them didn't make it over. As the years went on, the pilgrims that stayed in the Netherlands became part of the Dutch culture and the Calvinist church. Some even changed their names.

The Pilgrims and their story is an important part of the Dutch-American culture which shaped the national identity shared by millions today.

*Original Publication Link Below:*

<https://dutchreview.com/culture/history/the-pilgrims-in-leiden/>



*Science Photo Library  
Leiden University, Leiden, Netherlands, 1614*

I was saddened that our 400th commemorations were canceled due to the pandemic as I was looking forward to being in Plymouth for the GSMD Congress and learning more about the Pilgrims and Plimoth history. Despite those closures, last August I was afforded the opportunity to 'virtually' attend Plimoth~Patuxet's Beyond the Mayflower, an educational institute for classroom teachers funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The 2-week course was an intense examination of primary documents (i.e. *Mourt's Relation* [1622], *Good News from New England* [1624], and of course Bradford's *Of Plimoth Plantation*), the history of the Indigenous Tribes taught by native scholars, as well as archaeological evidence [i.e. Cole Hill's excavations] – all which broadened the contextual understanding of the Mayflower's landing and the Pilgrims' relations with the Wampanoag tribe.



In the year since the Institute, I have deepened my knowledge of the factors which lead the Separatists to make such a perilous journey across the North Atlantic: societal pressures to conform to Jacobean norms, political influences keeping power within the aristocracy, economic measures keeping the Separatists from gaining influence - in addition to religious intolerance of teachings differing from the Church of England [*Making Haste from Babylon* by Nick Bunker, 2010]. All the while, European fishermen exploring the North American coast introduced an unknown pathogen (perhaps brought by rats on the ships) which decimated the indigenous tribes (estimated to have killed 70% of the coastal population) and left the Wampanoag vulnerable to advancements from the Narragansett tribe to the south ... and then the Pilgrims landed [*Mayflower* by Nathaniel Philbrick, 2006].

This year, the pandemic provided time to reflect on our story, re-examine its accuracy, making certain that the narrative includes multiple perspectives, and gave such reflection its much needed attention. How has our Pilgrim story strayed from its facts? What voices have been left out? And most importantly – how do we correct our narrative to accurately tell the WHOLE 'Plimoth Settlement' story? We have great resources with Plimoth~Patuxet Museum, Pilgrim Hall, and GSMD helping us.

WASMD is an educational organization. Our primary role – per our tax-exempt status – is to promote the story of the Mayflower voyage and her passengers. Probably never more than now has our role been so vital. Our Education Committee has been working hard to ways to promote our scholarships (... and yes, that's plural!) The Board has been investigating where volumes of the 'Silver Books' can be found across Washington ... and where they might be needed ... to aid with genealogical

# Gov's Message Cont'd

research. WASMD now has – thanks to 'virtual' Board meetings this past year - the capability to provide online presentations. Jerri McCoy recently presented on Lineage Societies, and future presentations are being organized.

While we are still awaiting word if we can gather in person this fall [The Embassy Suites were not taking reservations as of our last BOA mtg], the BOA continues to find new ways to live out our mission for the next generation. Stay well. We will be in touch when plans are finalized for our next in-person gathering.

Bruce D. Harrington  
31st Governor

## Welcome Our Newest Board Member!

My name is Tim Brinson and I am a descendant of Pilgrim John Howland. I was born and raised in the rolling hills of southern Indiana, where I spent many weekends exploring the creeks and woods of Owen County, Indiana. I would often wonder what life was like for the first settlers of that area. I have always loved history of all kinds, especially American History. I left Indiana in 1983 to join the



*Tim Brinson, Pictured with a Red Cross Organization Vehicle.*

United States Air Force, where I was a Gunner on a nuclear armed B-52 Bomber. After the cold war ended with the former Soviet Union, I joined the 43rd police academy in Pasadena, Texas, where I worked for 25 years, until I retired in December of 2014. While working for the Pasadena Police Department, I worked in the Patrol and Juvenile Divisions. After retiring, I moved to Bellingham, Washington, where I absolutely fell in love with Washington State! I now volunteer with the American Red Cross in the Pacific Northwest in the Reunification Division, where I help people locate their loved ones in all types of disasters in the United States. I am very excited to be the Assistant-Historian for Junior Members and hope to grow the membership in the Washington Mayflower Society.

## In honor of our Historian Jerri McCoy

In honor of our Historian Jerri McCoy's dedication & commitment to the WASMD - (especially in this past year with 400% increase in applications!) - The Board of Assistants has purchased a brick with Jerri's name for the Historian's walkway at the Mayflower Society House in Plymouth! Thank you Jerri!



### Have you checked out the GSMD lately?

If you haven't explored the GSMD website lately, log in to the member's only section on the website and click on the Partnerships Banner to discover some of your membership benefits!

<https://www.themayflowersociety.org/>



The Washington Mayflower Society donates to the Seattle Public Library in memoriam of deceased members. These funds are used for books and materials in the Genealogy Collection.

# Shop and Support WASMD Scholarships!

The WA Society of Mayflower Descendant's Board is working hard to launch a sustainable scholarship program.

AmazonSmile is one more way that works towards accomplishing that goal. Below is information and a link to AmazonSmile for you to learn about the Smile Program from Amazon. If you shop Amazon please consider setting the WASMD Scholarship Program as your donation organization.

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser. When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

**When you start your shopping session, use the [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) URL.**

When you log in to your account, go to your Account & List tab on the upper right under your name. On the drop down menu, click on the "Your Amazon Smile" tab. There you will have the opportunity to choose or change the charity you wish to support. You can use the search box to find us listed as Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Washington. Once selected, you should receive an email confirming your selection.

Thank you for supporting our scholarship program!



# Washington Society Board Members

**Governor – Bruce D. Harrington**

Governor@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Deputy Governor – Jocelyn Paulson**

DeputyGovernor@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Recording Secretary – Marilynn Sabo**

RecordingSecretary@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Corresponding Secretary – Luanne Green**

CorrespondingSec@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Treasurer – Martha Music**

Treasurer@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Historian – Jerri McCoy**

Historian@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Assistant Historian – Andrea Arnold**

AssistantHistorian@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Assistant Historian Juniors - Tim Brinson**

AsstHistorian-Jrs@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Elder – Carol Jean Gaffney**

Elder@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Captain – Jeffrey Doughty**

Captain@WashingtonMayflower.org

**Evergreen Log Editor – Barb Doughty Maghirang**

logeditor@WashingtonMayflower.org

### Assistants:

Barb Doughty Maghirang, Federal Way

Dorothy Hull, University Place

Cheryl Eastwood, Redmond

Kathleen Quickstad, Sammamish

Allen Gray, Issaquah

Robert Keatts, Walla Walla

Ken White, Kalama

Tom Brown, Seattle

### General Society Officers

Deputy Governor General (DGG) – Martha Music

Assistant General (AG) – Cheryl Eastwood

### Immediate Past Governor

Judith A. Arnold

## The Treasurer's Note:

Annual members ~ FYI - The invoice for 2022 dues will be either emailed or mailed to you depending on your preferred delivery method around October 20th. Payment is due December 15th.

Life members ~ Remember “to remain a Life Member the Society must be informed annually of the member’s current contact information.” (ByLaws Article III Sec. 3c) By the society having your current contact info, you are able to receive the latest Mayflower Quarterly, Evergreen Log, etc. If you have not already done so, please contact the treasurer, Martha Music by one of the following methods by December 15th.

Mail ~ PO Box 394, Allyn, WA 98524

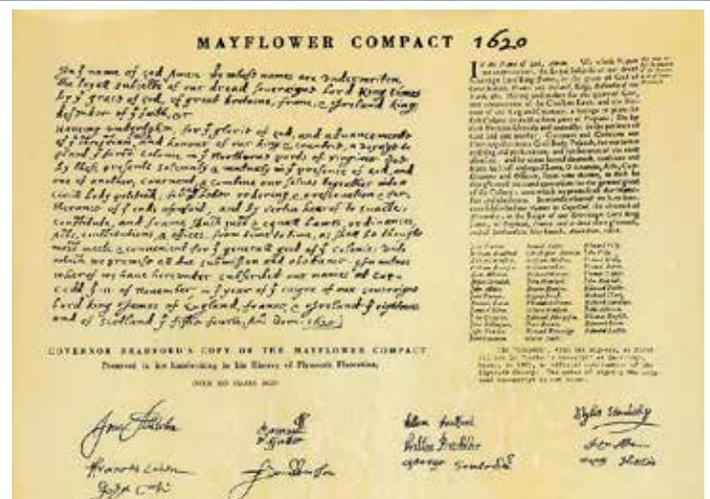
Email ~ treasurer@washingtonmayflower.org

Telephone # ~ 360-275-3457

Thank you, Martha Music



## Mayflower Compact



William Bradford's Copy of the Compact

# Welcome Aboard!

## New Members

Congratulations on tracing your family's history to a 1620 passenger of the ship Mayflower emigrants from England and Holland, Signers of America's first self-governance agreement (the Mayflower Compact) and present at America's first Thanksgiving!

WA#	First/Last	Ancestor(gen#)	City
1923	Lynne De Merritt	Myles Standish (11)	Seattle, WA
1924	Christopher D. Goe	William Brewster (13)	Lynnwood, WA
1925	Hannah M. Goe	William Brewster (14)	Portland, OR
1926	Timothy S. Goe	William Brewster (13)	Manteca, CA
1927	Jake B. Siewert	William Brewster (14)	Seattle, WA
1928	Shirley A. (Fielder) Bernard	John Howland (12)	Bellevue, WA

## New Supplementals

WA#	Society Member	Ancestor (gen#)
1653	Joel Richards	William Brewster (12)
1882	Kenneth White	Myles Standish (11)
1882	Kenneth White	Henry Samson (10)

## NEW JUNIOR MEMBERS WELCOMED!

A great gift for newborns and juniors (in and out of state.) Junior members receive a birthday card annually through their 18th birthday. Birthday cards are mailed first class, with "Return Receipt Requested," to ensure addresses are updated. Sponsors may request application forms and send address changes to this email address: [AsstHistorian-jrs@WashingtonMayflower.org](mailto:AsstHistorian-jrs@WashingtonMayflower.org)

### Sponsor

Lance Skidmore  
Lance Skidmore

### Junior Member

Sophia Rodriguez  
Reese Rodriguez

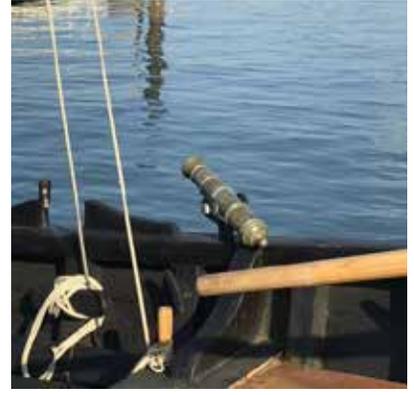
### Ancestor

John Alden  
John Alden

# The Mayflower “Fuller Shallop”



The Fuller Shallop is a restored replica of the original 33' open vessel that came to America aboard the Mayflower, which was about 90' long on deck. The two-year restoration was done at Lowell's Boat Shop in Amesbury, MA. Since 1793 Lowell's Boat Shop has been building and restoring wooden boats and is now a working museum.



So you ask, “What is a shallop”? There are a number of different definitions. It is basically a historical term meaning a wide bottom sailboat used for coastal fishing or as a tender. It is equipped with oars and perhaps with cannons. The Mayflower passengers used the shallop to explore the New England coastline, including Plymouth Harbor.

Then you ask, “Did Deacon Samuel Fuller, a Mayflower Passenger, own the original?” The answer is no. A descendant of Samuel Fuller generously donated the money so the replica could be restored. Hence, the name “Fuller Shallop.” The Fuller Shallop set sail with a small



crew on June 10th and is now making its way down to Plymouth, where it will be docked beside the Mayflower II. It has been stopping at different ports/harbors on the way to Plymouth. The expected arrival date in Plymouth is Saturday, June 19th. It just so happened on June 15th, it was docked at the local yacht club in my hometown, Hingham. While it was there, my sister took these pictures and texted them to me.

Learning about the “Fuller Shallop” was so interesting that I wanted to share it with you.

Martha Music - July, 2021

Photographs by Margaret Curtis

## A Letter from the Editor

### Welcome Cousins!



I hope you are able to safely gather with loved ones this summer to enjoy long awaited visits and swap stories once again. Your BOA has been busy with Society business virtually and we are all very

excited about our scholarships! You will hear more about the details soon.

On that note, Governor Bruce has made a \$100 donation to the scholarship fund and is issuing a matching challenge to all our cousins. So far we have raised \$600 for the scholarship funds!

If you accept Governor Bruce's challenge, please send your check to Martha Music, our Treasurer, and make a notation that it is for the Scholarships.

Take care and have a fun and safe summer!

Cousin Barb Doughty Maghirang  
Your newsletter editor



## On The Horizon

### Summer, 2021

Summer Picnic & BBQ - Canceled

### Fall, 2021

GBOA Meeting, Plymouth - Sept. 10, 2021

Mayflower Compact Day - TBD

### Winter, 2021

2022 Membership Dues - Dec. 15, 2021

Life Members annual update of contact information - Dec. 15, 2021

### Spring, 2022

A Letter Home

Scholarship Deadline - Apr. 1 2022

## Summer Picnic & BBQ Announcement

**Out of an abundance of precaution, your Board of Assistants unanimously voted to cancel our 2021 Summer Picnic. The cancellation of this event was our only option to continue to safeguard members.**

**As more people become vaccinated and businesses return to full service, we're hoping we will be able to hold our 2021 Fall Compact Day Meeting in November.**

**Take care and meanwhile, enjoy your newsletter!**

## What's the difference between Holland and the Netherlands?

Many visitors to the Netherlands refer to Holland as the Netherlands. They think the two are one and the same but, unfortunately, they're wrong. We've probably all used the names used interchangeably at some point in our lives.

So what is the difference between Holland and the Netherlands?

Long ago the Dutch fought the Spanish for their independence in the Eighty Years' War and when they won, they formed the Republic of the Seven United Netherlands.

When the Dutch were conquered by Napoleon Bonaparte, he made his brother King and the country became the Batavian Republic which included Belgium.

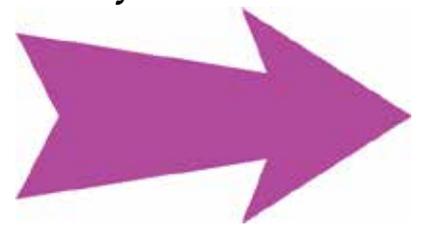
After the French were defeated, the country became the United Kingdom of the Netherlands. When Belgium rebelled and formed their own country in 1830, the Netherlands as we know it today came to be.

Nowadays, the official name of the country is the Kingdom of the Netherlands and it consists of twelve provinces. Two out of the twelve provinces include the name Holland: the provinces of "Noord-Holland" and "Zuid-Holland" which translated to English would mean North-Holland and South-Holland.

So travelers, that's the difference between Holland and the Netherlands!



**Print page 13 and color the ship!  
Concentrate to stay in the lines!**



## Did you know... **carrots** were purple until the 17th century?

Have you ever seen purple carrots at farmers' markets or specialist produce shops? Contrary to popular belief, it's the orange version of the carrot that is the mutant strain, not the purple one. Before the 17th century, almost all cultivated carrots were purple. It was the Dutch farmers who, in the late 16th century, developed the orange version of this vegetable that became so popular in the Netherlands. Rumor has it that the orange variation was cultivated as a tribute to the House of Orange dynasty that liberated the Dutch from the Spanish rule.



Society of Mayflower Descendants  
in the State of Washington  
8621 John Dower Rd SW, Lakewood, WA 98499  
Return Receipt Requested

