

# Will of William Bradford

The last Will and Testament Nunckupative of Mr William Bradford senir: Deceased May the Ninth 1657 and exhibited to the court held att Plymouth June 3d 1657

Mr William Bradford senir: being weake in body but in prfect memory haveing Defered the forming of his Will in hopes of haveing the healp of Mr Thomas Prence therin; feeling himselfe very weake and drawing on to the conclusion of his mortall life spake as followeth; I could have Desired abler then myselfe in the Desposing of that I have; how my estate is none knowes better then youerselfe, said hee to Lieftenant Southworth; I have Desposed to John and William alreddy there proportions of land which they are possessed of;

My Will is that my son Joseph bee made in some sort equall to his brethern out of my estate;

My further Will is that my Deare & loveing wife Alice Bradford shalbee the sole Exequitrix of my estate; and for her future maintainance my Will is that my Stocke in the Kennebecke Trad be reserved for her Comfortable Subsistence as farr as it will extend and soe further in any such way as may bee Judged best for her;

I further request and appoint my welbeloved Christian ffrinds Mr Thomas Prence Captaine Thomas Willett and Lieftenant Thomas Southworth to be the Suppervissors for the Desposing of my estate according to the prmises Confiding much in there faithfulness

I comend unto your Wisdome and Descretions some smale bookes written by my owne hand to bee Improved as you shall see meet; In speciall I Comend to you a little booke with a blacke cover wherin there is a word to Plymouth a word to Boston and a word to New England with sundry usefull verses;

These pticulars were expressed by the said William Bradford Govr the 9th of May 1657 in the prsence of us Thomas Cushman Thomas Southworth Nathaniell Morton; whoe were Deposed before the court held att Plymouth the 3d of June 1657 to the truth of the abovesaid Will that it is the last Will and Testament of the abovesaid Mr William Bradford senir.

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## William Bradford and Mary (Atwood) Holmes

Maj. William Bradford, the son of William Bradford and Alice (Carpenter) Southworth, was born on Thursday, 17 June 1624 o.s. in Plymouth, New Plymouth Colony. He died at the age of 79 on Sunday, 20 February 1704 o.s.. He was buried in Burial Hill cemetery, Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.

William Bradford (aged about 52) married Mary (Atwood) Holmes in 1677 in Plymouth, New Plymouth Colony.

Mary (Atwood) Holmes was the daughter of John Wood alias Atwood and Sarah Masterson.

Their children were:

- Ephraim Bradford, born in 1685 in Plymouth or Kingston, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, died in 1746. He married Elizabeth Brewster on Monday, 13 February 1710 o.s. in Plymouth or Kingston, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.
- Israel Bradford, born in 1678, died on Wednesday, 26 March 1760 in Kingston, Massachusetts. He married Sarah Bartlett on Thursday, 27 November 1701 o.s. in Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.
- David Bradford, born in 1690 in Kingston, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, died on Monday, 16 March 1730