

French, Humphrey Register Report

Humphrey French is currently a frustrating dead end. Like William Hall, his parentage is currently unknown, but identification of his parents will likely link him to a French line that will go back The Great Migration. He is nowhere to be found in the *NEHGR*, nor is he anywhere in the Massachusetts records before the birth of his children. The only clue we have is that the "Essex Co. Probate Records show a Will for Humphrey French of 27 Dec 1711, a Tailor of Salem." I've yet to find this will, but hopefully will do so soon and it will provide the necessary info to crack this.

First Generation

1. Humphrey¹ FRENCH^[1] was born circa 1672 in Salem, Essex co., MA and died there after September 1712; he was 40^[2]. This assumes he died soon after Elizabeth's birth in that town. If the 27 December 1711 will is his, Humphrey was a tailor. Humphrey was in Beverly, Essex co., MA -- where his first two children were born -- until 1690, then he moved the family to Salem, Essex co., MA -- where the rest of his children were born.

Before 1686 when Humphrey was 14, he married **Abigail [surname not known]^[3]**, in Salem, Essex co., MA^[2,4]. Abigail was born circa 1670 in Salem, Essex co., MA. Her birth date is based on date of birth of their eldest child in 1686. She died after 12 September 1712; she was 42^[2].

They had the following children:

2	i.	Abigaile1
3	ii.	Mary1
4	iii.	Abigaile2
5	iv.	Elizabeth1
6	v.	Deliverance
7	vi.	Mercy
8	vii.	Mary2
9	viii.	Abigail3
10	ix.	Abigail4
11	x.	Elizabeth2

Generation: G6 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 594/595

Second Generation

Family of Humphrey FRENCH (1) & Abigail [surname not known]

2. Abigaile1 FRENCH (Humphrey) was born on 24 November 1686 in Beverly, Essex co., MA^[5] and died before 28 September 1693, when Abigaile2 was born.

3. Mary1 FRENCH (Humphrey) was born on 27 March 1690 in Beverly, Essex co., MA^[5] and was baptized there on 6 July 1690^[6].

4. Abigaile2 FRENCH (Humphrey) was born on 28 September 1693 in Salem, Essex co., MA^[7] and died before 22 June 1708 when Abigaile3 was born.

5. Elizabeth1 FRENCH (Humphrey) was born on 11 August 1698 in Salem, Essex co., MA^[6].

6. Deliverance² FRENCH (Humphrey) was born on 6 April 1701 in Salem, Essex co., MA^[8]. She is listed as a son in the town records and a daughter in the First Church Records.

On 13 September 1725 when Deliverance was 24, she married **Ebenezer MARSH Jr.**, son of **Ebenezer MARSH Sr. & Alice BOOTH**, in Salem, Essex co., MA^[9].

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They had the following children (*surnamed MARSH*):

- i. **Katherine**
- ii. Humphrey
- iii. Ebenezer
- iv. Caleb

Generation: G5 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 246/247

7. Mercy FRENCH (*Humphrey*) was born on 18 February 1702/3 in Salem, Essex co., MA^[6].

8. Mary2 FRENCH (*Humphrey*) was born on 21 November 1707 in Salem, Essex co., MA^[6] and was baptized there on 6 July 1707^[6]. Those are how the dates are given in the vital records of Salem, Essex co., MA -- I think they are switched or that a year is wrong.

9. Abigail3 FRENCH (*Humphrey*) was born on 22 June 1708 in Salem, Essex co., MA^[7] and died before December 1709 when Abigaile4 was born.

10. Abigail4 FRENCH (*Humphrey*) was born in 1709 in Salem, Essex co., MA and was baptized there in December 1709^[12]. It looks like this one lived.

11. Elizabeth2 FRENCH (*Humphrey*) was born on 2 September 1712 in Salem, Essex co., MA as "d. Henry and Abigail"^[6].

Sources

1. Perley, Sidney, The History of Salem, Massachusetts, 3 vols., (Salem: Sidney Perley, 1924), [Salem], III:239.
2. Torrey, Charles, New England Marriages Prior to 1700., (Boston: New England Historic and Genealogical Society), [Torrey].
3. LDS Family Group Record
4. "Salem, Essex co., MA Vital Records," [SalemVR], III:239.
5. "Beverly, Essex co., MA Vital Records," [BevVR], I:143.
6. "Salem, Essex co., MA Vital Records," [SalemVR], I:324.
7. Ibid. I:324 [Ct. R.].
8. Ibid. I:324 [C.R.1].
9. Ibid. III:385 and IV:63.
10. Ibid. II:61 [Ct. R.].
11. "Danvers, Essex co., MA Vital Records," [DanversVR], II:406.
12. "Salem, Essex co., MA Vital Records," [SalemVR], I:324 [C. R. 1].