

## Morrill Register Report

Surname variations include: Morrill, Morrell, Morrel, Morell, Morrol and Morel.

### First Generation

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**1. [not known]<sup>1</sup> MORRILL.** We know nothing of this couple, save the sons who migrated to New England. Assuming that Isaac is the eldest child of a first marriage, the parents could have been born circa 1565-1570.

Children:

- |          |     |                   |
|----------|-----|-------------------|
| <b>2</b> | i.  | Isaac (1588-1662) |
| <b>3</b> | ii. | Abraham           |

Generation: G10 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 7460/7461

### Second Generation

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#### Family of [not known] MORRILL (1)

**2. Isaac<sup>2</sup> MORRILL** (*not known<sup>1</sup>*) was born in 1588 in England<sup>[1,2]</sup>, as based upon his given age at death. Isaac died in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA on 18 December 1662; he was 74<sup>[1,3]</sup> and was buried on 21 December 1661 in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2,4]</sup> as "Isaac Morell, an aged brother". Please note that the Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA records as published have mistakenly put his death in 1662. His burial information contains 1661, which is the correct year of his death.

Isaac migrated to New England in 1632 aboard the *Lyon*<sup>[8,16]</sup>. His English roots are still a matter of debate which Anderson deals with quite nicely: "Banks gives the origin of Isaac and Abraham Morrill as Hatfield Broadoak, Essex, without evidence. The presence of Isaac Morrill on the *Lyon*, and his settlement in Roxbury along with others of the Nazeing community, makes this a likely neighborhood, however<sup>[18]</sup>."

Once here, he settled in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[8]</sup>, where he made Freeman on 4 March 1632/3<sup>[9,10]</sup>. He was one of the largest landowners in town. The Roxbury book Of Possessions lists 12 parcels of land for Isaac -- eight of which were granted by the town and five of which he bought: "Isaack Morrill his two houses, two forges, one barn with out housing and two orchards, and a swamp"; "four acres more or less upon Pine Hill south"; "six and twenty acres called by the name Foxeholes"; "fifteen acres more or less called Smithfield"; "one acre and a half in the lower calves pasture"; "nine acres of salt marsh"; "in the second allotment of the last division ... fourth lot ... one hundred and thirteen acres one quarter and ten pole and two hundred and four acres in the four thousand acres, and six acres more or less upon Pine Hill"; "four acres more of less upon the great hill bought of Griffen Craft"; "five acres of the fresh meadow ... lately the land of John Scarbrow"; "two acres and a half ... lately the land of Robert Williams"<sup>[5,9]</sup>.

He and his wife became active members of the community. "Isaak Morrell and [Sarah] Moreell the wife of Isaak Morrel" were members #41 & #42 on Eliot's list, entered without comment amongst others joining in 1632<sup>[8,20]</sup>. Isaac served on the Suffolk grand jury on 19 September 1637<sup>[8,19]</sup>. Further, he was admitted to the Ancient & Honorable Artillery company in 1638<sup>[9,17]</sup>.

Isaac could sign his name<sup>[9]</sup> and was a Blacksmith. His inventory includes "two forges". His blacksmith tools were bequeathed to his "cousin" Isaac Morrell<sup>[5,6,7,8]</sup>. He was co-author of the blacksmith's petition of September 1639, which was drafted with the help of the colonial lawyer Thomas Lechford. This is probably the petition of "goodman Morrel's" that was still in committee on 27 September 1642<sup>[12,13]</sup>:

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*The humble petition of Isaacke Morrell & Thomas Carter, blacksmiths in the behalf of themselves & the rest of the blacksmiths within this colony: showing and informing this court that whereas heretofore coals have been in this country sold them for 30s. a cauldron now of late they are raised to £4 lacking but 2s. cauldron, and moreover that they are forced speedily to buy them at that great price or else they can not be gotten for money but are brought up & sent away into other parts of this continent, - and your petitioners conceive that unless some speedy remedy be found out to help & prevent these mischiefs their trade will be much hurt and the commonwealth deeply prejudiced<sup>[11]</sup>.*

Isaac's will was dated 15 December 1661 and proved on 23 January 1661/2. In it, he bequeathed to "my dear & loving wife" the use of his entire estate during her life. After she died, £40 was to be distributed equally between "my four grandchildren to wit John Smith, Isaac Smith, Francis Smith and Abraham Smith". To "my grandchild Mary Smith ... my farm lying between Reading and Andover being more than two hundred acres". The residue was to go to "my two sons (to wit) John Smith & Daniell Brewer & to my grandchild Sarah Davis" (with some additional household goods for her). What I have given to "John Smith and his wife Katherine if she outlive him" was to be enjoyed by them during their lifetimes and then equally to their now children and any future children John Smith will have "by my daughter Katherine" to be carefully used so that the children are not "embesselled" or disappointed. If "my loving wife" as a result of sickness or poverty requires the sale of any property for her comfortable supply, it may be sold. He named his "loving sons Tobias Davis & Daniel Brewer" as executors; and "loving friends Thomas Weld & Edward Denison" overseers. Witnesses to the will were Samuel Danforth and Elisha Cooke.

At probate three nuncupative codicils were added, all representing desires of the deceased made on 19 December 1661 (1) £3 to Roxbury church (evidence of Samuel Danforth, Edward Denison and John Smith); (2) anvils and all smith's tools and instruments to cousin Isaac Morrill (evidence of Tobias Davis and Sarah Morrell); (3) wearing apparel to brother Abraham Morrell, grandchild Sarah Davis and sons John Smith and Daniel Brewer (evidence of Sarah Morrell)<sup>[7,14]</sup>.

In May 1663 Tobias Davis & Daniel Brewer, executors of his estate, petitioned for the right to lay out in a specific place the 204 acres that had been granted to him in his lifetime. The court noted that the land in this location had already been taken, but the petitioners could take up land in any place "not prejudicing former grants"<sup>[14,15]</sup>.

Circa 1624 when Isaac was 36, he married **Sarah [surname not known]**, in England<sup>[1,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28]</sup>. She was born in 1600<sup>[1]</sup> and died in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA on 9 January 1672/3; she was 72<sup>[1,2,29]</sup>. Her death was noted as "Sarah, widow of Isaac Morrel, aged 72". Unlike her husband, Sarah could only make her mark whilst swearing to codicils<sup>[9]</sup>.

They had the following children:

- |           |      |                  |
|-----------|------|------------------|
| <b>4</b>  | i.   | Sarah            |
| <b>5</b>  | ii.  | <b>Catherine</b> |
| <b>6</b>  | iii. | Isaac1           |
| <b>7</b>  | iv.  | Isaac2           |
| <b>8</b>  | v.   | Hannah           |
| <b>9</b>  | vi.  | Elizabeth        |
| <b>10</b> | vii. | Abraham          |

Generation: G9 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 3730/3731

**3. Abraham MORRILL** (*not known*<sup>1</sup>) was named in his brother Isaac's will, as was his son Isaac who was the "cousin Isaac Morrill" who received the senior Isaac's blacksmith tools. Abraham didn't marry until 1645 and thus is assumed to have been much younger than Isaac. Note that claims that he came over on the *Lyon* in 1632 are false<sup>[2]</sup>. He was in Cambridge, Middlesex co., MA by 1635 and later removed to Salisbury, Essex co., MA<sup>[2]</sup>.

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### Third Generation

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#### Family of Isaac MORRILL (2) & Sarah [surname not known]

4. **Sarah MORRILL** (*Isaac<sup>2</sup>, not known<sup>1</sup>*) was born circa 1625 in England<sup>[2]</sup> and died in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA on 23 February 1648/9; she was 23<sup>[2,30]</sup>. Her death is noted in the records as "Sarah Davis bro. Morel's daughter died, by occasion of unheedful taking cold upon an abortion [i.e., miscarriage]". Circa 1646 when Sarah was 21, she married **Tobias DAVIS**, in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup>.

5. **Catherine<sup>3</sup> MORRILL** (*Isaac<sup>2</sup>, not known<sup>1</sup>*) was born circa 1627 in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup> and died in Reading, Middlesex co., MA on 12 September 1662; she was 35<sup>[1,31,32,33]</sup> as "Smith, Katherine". She is buried in North Chelsea (now Revere), Suffolk co., MA.

On 1 August 1647 when Catherine was 20, she married **Lieutenant & Captain John SMITH**, son of **Francis SMITH & Alice [surname not known]**, in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[1,2,31,32,34,35,36,37,38,39,40]</sup>. Their marriage record is noted in the Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA vital records as "Smith, John & Katherine Morrol".

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

- i. Mary
- ii. John
- iii. Sarah [*Stillborn*]
- iv. Isaac
- v. Benjamin
- vi. **Francis**
- vii. Abraham

Generation: G8 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 1864/1865

6. **Isaac1 MORRILL** (*Isaac<sup>2</sup>, not known<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 27 or 28 November 1632 in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup> and died there in January 1632/3<sup>[2]</sup>.

7. **Isaac2 MORRILL** (*Isaac<sup>2</sup>, not known<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 5 February 1633/4 in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup> and died there in January 1639; he was 5. He was buried there on 31 January 1639<sup>[2]</sup>.

8. **Hannah MORRILL** (*Isaac<sup>2</sup>, not known<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 6 or 12 September 1636 in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup>. On 5 November 1652 when Hannah was 16, she married **Daniel BREWER**, son of **Daniel BREWER**, in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup>.

9. **Elizabeth MORRILL** (*Isaac<sup>2</sup>, not known<sup>1</sup>*) was born in May 1638 in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup> and died there in May 1638. She was buried in May 1638 in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup>.

10. **Abraham MORRILL** (*Isaac<sup>2</sup>, not known<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 6 June 1640 in Roxbury, Suffolk co., MA<sup>[2]</sup> and died there on 13 November 1661; he was 21, "being a hopeful young man about 21 years old"<sup>[2,4]</sup>.

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