Tolman Register Report

In many resources people have mixed up the respective Thomases. Read with care! I am curious what the connection is between the Tolmans, who lived in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA, the Lynn, Essex co., MA community. Many of the Tolman children married people from Lynn. Curious... Surname variations include: Toleman, Toalman and Tolman.

First Generation

1. Thomas¹ TOLMAN died in 1632 and was buried on 24 August 1632 in Salcombe Regis, Dorsetshire, England. Based on the birth of his eldest child, and assuming that he is the first child of a first marriage, Thomas was probably born circa 1585/1590. We know nothing of Thomas' wife.

They had one child:

2 i. Thomas

Generation: G9 Grandparents Person Numbers: 3852/3853

Second Generation

Family of Thomas TOLMAN (1)

2. Thomas TOLMAN, Sr. (*Thomas*¹) was born in 1608/9 in England^[2,3] and baptized in Salcombe Regis, Dorsetshire, England on 9 December 1608. He died in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA on 18 June 1690; he was 82^[2,3,4].

This Thomas came over aboard the *Mary & John* in 1630 according to family histories and by the Mary & John Clearinghouse, where he is on their master index as #648: "Tolman, Thomas (1608-1690) of Dorchester, MA. Possibly from Salcombe Regis, Devon 14:65"[9]. Richard Anderson, however, demurs^[4]. He maintains that Thomas probably migrated alone and was from the same village as Roger Clapp^[5], but makes no mention of the *Mary & John*.

Thomas was a Wheelwright^[5] and was educated enough to have signed and sealed his will^[4]. Once here, he settled in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA, where his name is on the Church Covenant in 1636^[4]. He took the Oath of Freeman on 13 May 1640 in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[4,5,6,7,8]. Furthermore, he served as Constable there in 1661^[5]. His first official mention in Dorchester Town Records is on 31 October 1639: "It is ordered that Goodman Tolman's house be appointed for the receiving any goods that shall be brought in whereof the owner is not known"^[4].

He owned lands in Dorchester from the seaside to the Dedham, Norfolk co., MA line and was the owner of a tract of land seven miles long, west of Neponset bridge in what are now parts of Canton, Stoughton and Sharon, MA^[4,5].

He located near Pine Neck (known as Point Norfolk in 1860), his house having stood within one hundred feet of Pine Neck Creek on the west side and on the north side within about two hundred feet, the creek forming there an elbow shape. In 1852, the Old Colony Railroad Corporation removed the most of the cellar once belonging to his house. The house in which his son Thomas afterwards lived, between what is now Ashmont and Washington Streets, was probably built by him. In 1860, some of his descendants still owned and resided on land that belonged to him and remained in possession of one of the branches of the family^[4]. From a 21st century perspective, it sounds like his land is currently under the Braintree branch of the Red Line.

His will "commenced" 25 May 1688 and was signed and sealed on 25 May 1688^[4].

Before 1632 when Thomas was 24, he first married **Sarah [surname not known]**, in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[3,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17]. Sarah died before Thomas' second marriage in 1677.

They had the following children:

3 i. Mary

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4	II.	Thomas
5	iii.	Hannah
6	iv.	John
7	٧.	Ruth
8	vi.	Rebecca
9	vii.	Sarah

Generation: G8 Grandparents Person Numbers: 1926/1927

Before 1677 when Thomas was 69, he second married **Katherine [surname not known]**, in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[3,13,18,19]. Katherine died on 7 November 1677 in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[4,20].

Third Generation

Family of Thomas TOLMAN Sr. (2) & Sarah [surname not known]

3. Mary³ **TOLMAN** (*Thomas*²⁻¹) was born circa 1632/3 in Dorchester, Suffolk County, MA^[5] and died in Lynn, Essex County, MA on 14 February 1723; she was 91, as "Collins, Mary, mother of Henry, 3d"^[21]. There is another Mary Collins death record of "Mary, w. Henry, Feb 27, 1713/4" in Charles S. Viall's Bible Record. There were no other Mary Collins in Lynn, essex co., MA at the time. I'm going with the first record due to its "parent of Henry 3rd" notation.

Mary's parentage is known from her father Thomas' will in which he made a bequest to "my daughter Mary Collins" [22].

Circa 1650/1651 when Mary was 18, she married **Henry COLLINS**, **Jr.**, son of **Henry COLLINS**, **Senior** & **Ann RIALL/ROYAL**, in Lynn, Essex County, MA or Dorchester, Suffolk County, MA^[3,23,24,25].

They had the following children (surnamed COLLINS):

- i. Henry
- ii. Hannah
- iii. John
- iv. Sarah **Rebecca**
- vi. Eleazer

Generation: G7 Grandparents Person Numbers: 962/963

4. Thomas TOLMAN, Jr. (*Thomas*²⁻¹) was born in 1633 in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[4] and died in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA on 12 September 1718; he was 85^[4]. Like his father, Thomas was a wheelwright^[5] and lived on Tolman's Lane in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA. This lane is located one hundred feet from Ashmont Street^[5]. He made Freeman there in 1678^[4] and was admitted into Dorchester Church along with wife on 17 May 1674^[4].

On 4 November 1654 when Thomas was 21, he married **Elizabeth JOHNSON**, daughter of **Richard JOHNSON**^[3,5]. Elizabeth died on 15 December 1726 in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[4].

- **5. Hannah TOLMAN** (*Thomas*²⁻¹) was born on 27d:5m(July):1642 in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[5,22] and died in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA on 4 August 1729; she was 87^[5]. Hannah first married **George LYON** and second married **William BLAKE Jr.**.
- **6. John TOLMAN** (*Thomas*²⁻¹) was born circa 1643, as estimated from his death information and died in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA on 1 January 1724/5; he was $82^{[4]}$. He made Freeman in $1678^{[4]}$.

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On 30 November 1666 when John was 23, he first married **Elizabeth COLLINS**, daughter of **Henry COLLINS**, **Senior** & **Ann RIALL/ROYAL**, in Lynn, Essex co., MA^[23]. Elizabeth was born circa 1646 or 1648 in Lynn, Essex County, MA and died in Lynn, Essex co., MA on 21 February 1686; she was 40, as "Collins, Eliza, d. Henry"^[24]. On 15 June 1692 when John was 49, he second married **Mary [surname not known]**^[4].

- **7. Ruth TOLMAN** (*Thomas*²⁻¹) was born in 1644 in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA and baptized in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA on 7 December 1644^[5]. She died in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA on 1 May 1681; she was 37^[5]. Ruth married **Isaac ROYAL**.
- **8. Rebecca TOLMAN** (*Thomas*²⁻¹) was born in 1647 in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA and baptized in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA in 1647^[5]. Rebecca married **James TUCKER**.
- **9. Sarah TOLMAN** (*Thomas*²⁻¹) was born in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[5] and died before 1691 in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[5]. On 18 January 1659 Sarah married **Henry LEADBETTER**, in Dorchester, Suffolk co., MA^[5].

Sources

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