



***In-Depth First Settler Profile:  
George Hubbard (1650) /  
Elizabeth (Watts) Hubbard***

**Name:** George Hubbard

**Birth:** 1601, “probably in eastern or southern England.”  
(*Hubbard History/Day*, 1895)

**Emigration:** To Hartford by 1639 from Dorchester or  
Newtown (Cambridge), Mass.(GBRC); to Middletown  
1652.(MVR)

**Death:** March 18, 1684 (MVR, BCVR)

**Occupation & Public Service:** “About 1650, or when he left  
Hartford, he carried with him a commission from the  
colonial government as ‘Indian Agent and Trader for the  
Mattabesett District.’” (In 1649 he had been “fined 10  
pounds for exchanging a gunn with an Indian.”)(*Hubbard  
History/Day*, 1895). George Hubbard was one of the 10 men  
who organized the first church in 1668(FFS); he contributed  
land for the second meeting house (1668), which was located  
in the middle of what is now Main Street, near Liberty and  
Grand Streets. (*Hubbard History/Day*, 1895)

**Marriage:** m. Elizabeth Watts, 1640, Hartford, Conn. (b.  
about 1622, Bocking, Essex, England; d. 1702, Middletown,  
Conn.) She was the daughter of Richard Watts and Elizabeth  
(Duck) Watts of Dorsetshire, England and later Hartford,  
Conn. (*Hubbard History/Day*, 1895)

**Parents:** Unknown

**Children** (MVR, Land Records, vol. 1, page 5 & 26;  
BCVR)(*One Thousand Years of Hubbard History/Day*, 1895):

(1) Mary Hubbard, b. January 16, 1641, Hartford, Conn.; d.  
Dec. 18, 1721, Middletown, Conn.; m. Thomas Ranney, May  
1659, Middletown, Conn. (11 children)

(2) Joseph Hubbard, b. December 10, 1643, Hartford, Conn.;  
d. Dec. 26, 1686, Middletown, Conn.; m. Mary Porter, Dec.  
29, 1670, Middletown, Conn. (6 children)

(3) Daniel Hubbard, b. December 1645, Hartford, Conn.; d.  
November 9, 1704, Haddam, Conn.; m.(1) Mary Clark,  
February 24, 1669-70, Middletown, Conn. (1 child); m.(2)  
Sarah Cornwell, October 16, 1675, Middletown, Conn. (6  
children)

(4) Samuel Hubbard, b. May 1648, Hartford, Conn.; d.  
November 4, 1732, Hartford, Conn.; m. Sarah Kirby, August  
9, 1673, Middletown, Conn. (11 children)

(5) George Hubbard, b. December 15, 1650, Hartford,  
Conn.; d. 1675, Middletown, Conn. (unmarried)

(6) Nathaniel Hubbard, b. December 10, 1652, Middletown,  
Conn.; d. May 20, 1738, Middletown, Conn.; m. Mary Earle,  
May 29, 1682, Middletown, Conn. (10 children)

(7) Richard Hubbard, b. July, 1655, Middletown, Conn.; d.  
July 30, 1732, Middletown, Conn.; m. Martha Cornwell,  
March 31, 1692, Middletown, Conn. (6 children)

(8) Elizabeth Hubbard, b. January 15, 1659, Middletown,  
Conn.; d. December 6, 1725; m. Thomas Wetmore, February  
20, 1684, Middletown, Conn. (2 or 6 children)

**Residence/Property:** “His home lot was situated on the east  
side of Main Street, north of Green Street.” (FFS) “In 1654  
he was made freeman, and settled with his son-in-law,  
Thomas Wetmore, on opposite corners on the east side of  
Main Street. He owned large land tracts on the west side and  
the east side of the river.”

**Will:** Vol. 1, p. 325 (MAN). (Estate inventory, May 13, 1685:  
243-10-00, i.e. 243 pounds)

**Burial Location:** Riverside Cemetery, Middletown, Conn.  
“Tradition locates George Hubbard’s grave close to the  
burying ground entrance, but no headstones show where he  
or his widow’s dust is mouldering.” (*Hubbard History/Day*,  
1895)

**Notes:**

(FFS): “At a town meeting Dec. 17, 1666: ‘Wharas in Mr.  
Hamline this day Gave a drum to the town and train band:  
the town Voated to alowe Goodman Huberd fourtie Shillings  
for Sweeping the meeting hous and keeping the Glas and for  
his Son Josephes beating the drum for all Comon meeting  
both on Saboth days and all other meeting ...’”

(CAF): “George Hubbard was an early settler in Hartford,  
and had six sons, Joseph, Daniel, Samuel, George, Nathaniel,  
and Richard. The two oldest sons settled in Middletown.  
This George Hubbard was a distinct person from the George  
Hubbard who resided in Wethersfield, Milford and Guilford.  
The genealogies of their families show this.” (Field, pg. 146)

(MUH): “George Hubbard was of Hartford and Middletown.  
Dau. Mary m. Thomas Ranney.”

(CBRMC): “The Hubbard family of Middletown, Conn., are  
descendants of George Hubbard, who was born in 1601 in  
the eastern or southeastern part of the island of Great  
Britain, where large numbers of persons bearing the family  
name were located. The name in America first appeared in  
Hartford in 1639 in a list of settlers who came overland from  
the vicinity of Boston, Mass., in 1635 and 1636, and located  
the towns of Windsor, Hartford, and Wethersfield, Conn.,  
and also Springfield, Mass. Conspicuous among these settlers  
was George Hubbard, who resided in Hartford until 1650 or  
1651, when, having disposed of his property, he removed, in  
company with about fifteen other families, to the township of  
Mattabesett, as it was called until the middle of the seven-  
teenth century, when it became Middletown and embraced  
what are now Middletown, Portland, Chatham, Cromwell,  
and Middlefield. George Hubbard bore with him from  
Hartford a commission from the Colonial government as



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‘Indian agent and trader for the Mattabesett district.’ It was recorded of him that he was highly respected and of marked integrity and fairness, which he must have been to be selected by the colony as its Indian trader, for promiscuous trading was forbidden, and the possession by the Indians of firearms and fire water would produce direful results; so the trading was confined to one man of discretion and judgment. In 1654 George Hubbard was made a ‘freeman’ and settled on the east side of Main Street. He owned large tracts of land on both sides of the river, and was the keeper of the first meeting house in Middletown. In 1640 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Watts, and this marriage resulted in the birth of eight children. ... George Hubbard lived to be over eighty years of age, and an inventory of his property at his death showed him to be worth 243 pounds. His widow died in 1702, and their remains were buried in Riverside Cemetery, near the old log church in Middletown, and within a stone’s throw of their residence.”

(SAV): “GEORGE, Hartford, perhaps as early as 1639, but it is not kn. from what town in Mass. he went, m. Elizabeth d. of Richard Watts of the same, had Mary, b. 16 Jan. 1642; Joseph, 10 Dec. 1643; Daniel, bapt. 7 Dec. 1645; Samuel, May 1648; George, 15 Dec. 1650; rem.to Middletown, there had Nathaniel, 1 Dec. 1652; Richard, July 1655; and Elizabeth 15 Jan or Feb. 1660. He was made freem. 1654, and d. 18 Mar. 1685. In May foll. to div. his est. seven ch. are nam. Mary, w. of Thomas Ranney, aged 44; Joseph, 42; Daniel, 41; Samuel, 37; Nathaniel, [[vol. 2, p. 484]] 33; Richard, 30; and

Elizabeth w. of Thomas Wetmore, 25. His s. George d. at M. 1675 unm.; Mary m. May 1659; and Elizabeth m. 20 Feb. 1685.”

(GFHC): “George Hubbard, immigrant ancestor of this family, was born in England in 1601, probably in the eastern or southeastern part. He settled before 1639 in Hartford, Connecticut. Another George Hubbard, who settled in Wethersfield, Connecticut, was doubtless a relative, but not his father. William Hubbard and Thomas Hubbard, also of Hartford, among the early settlers, seem also to be closely related. George Hubbard came with the first settlers overland from the Massachusetts Bay colony. He was given six acres of land ‘by courtesy of the town, with privilege of wood and keeping cows on the common’ and resided on a lot adjacent to land of James Ensign and George Graves on a road that ran parallel with the Connecticut river, from the south meadow to George Steele’s place. In 1640 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Watts, and was then assigned a home lot and land on the east side of the Connecticut river. He moved in March, 1650-51, with about fifteen other settlers and their families to Mattabesek, later called Middletown, Connecticut. He was licensed as an Indian agent and trader as early as 1650; in 1654 was admitted a freeman. He owned much land on both sides of the river, living on what is now Main street. He, with Thomas Wetmore and two others, gave land for the second meeting house. His son Joseph used to beat the drum to call the people to meeting or to warn them against hostile Indians. His will is dated May 22, 1681, and it states his age as eighty years. His inventory is dated May 13, 1685, and it states that he died March 18, 1684. His widow died in 1702. One record

**Abbreviation code used in SMFSD**  
**biographical sketches and in-depth profiles:**

(MVR) Middletown Vital Records (originals at Middletown City Hall, Middletown, Conn.; also available on microfilm at Russell Library, Middletown, Conn.)

(BCVR) *The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records* (original index at Connecticut State Library, Hartford, Conn.; printed index available from Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, Md.; digitized index available on CD-Rom as part of *The Ricker Compilation of Vital Records of Early Connecticut*, Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, Md.)

(MLR) *Middletown Land Records* (originals at Middletown City Hall, Middletown, Conn.; also available on microfilm at Russell Library, Middletown, Conn.)

(MAN) *Digest of Connecticut Probate Records*, Hartford District (Manwaring, Charles William. *A Digest of the Early Connecticut Probate Records*. Originally published 1904-1906; reprinted 1995. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1995.)

(CBRMC) *Commemorative Biographical Record of Middlesex County, Connecticut, Containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens, and Many of the Early Settled Families*. Chicago, Ill.: J.H. Beers & Co., 1903.

(MUH) *Middletown Upper Houses* (Adams, Charles C. *Middletown Upper Houses, A History of the North Society of Middletown, Connecticut from 1650 to 1800 with Genealogical and Biographical Chapters on Early Families*. New York, N.Y.: The Grafton Press, 1908.)

(FFS) Frank Farnsworth Starr (“The Settlers of Mattabesek 1650-1660.” *Middletown Penny Press*, Oct. 11, 1900; also published in the *Middletown Tribune* 250th Anniversary supplement.)

(CAF) *Centennial Address of Rev. David Field*. (Field, David D. *Centennial Address: With Historical Sketches of Cromwell, Portland, Chatham, Middle Haddam, Middletown, and its Parishes*. Middletown, Conn.: W.B. Casey, 1853.)

(GMB) *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620-1633* (Anderson, Robert Charles, FASG. *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-1633, Vol. I-III*. Boston, Mass.: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1996.)

(SAV) *Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England* (Savage, James. *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England, Showing Three Generations of Those Who Came Before May, 1692, on the Basis of Farmer's Register*. Boston, Mass.: Little, Brown & Co., 1860-1862.)

(GFHC) *Genealogical & Family History of the State of Connecticut* (Cutter, William Richard. *Genealogical and Family History of the State of Connecticut: A Record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of a Commonwealth and the Founding of a Nation*. New York, N.Y.: Lewis Publishing Co., 1911.)

(HMC) *The History of Middlesex County* (Henry Whittemore, ed. *The History of Middlesex County 1635-1885*. New York, N.Y.: J.H. Beers & Co., 1884)

(RPCC) *Records of the Particular Court of Connecticut, 1639-1663* (Adams, Arthur W., ed. *Records of the Particular Court of Connecticut 1639-1663*. Hartford, Conn.: Connecticut Historical Society, 1928.)

(HCCM) *Hartford County Court Minutes, 1663-1687* (Ullmann, Helen Schatvet, CG, FASG., ed. *Hartford County, Conn., County Court Minutes, Vol. 3 & 4, 1663-1687, 1697*. Boston, Mass.: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2005.)

(NEHGSR) *NEHGS Register (New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. Boston, Mass: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1847-2007.) (Online database available at [NewEnglandAncestors.org](http://NewEnglandAncestors.org))

(TAG) *The American Genealogist* (articles by Donald Lines Jacobus, ed., 1922-1971) (*The American Genealogist*. New Haven, Conn.: D.L. Jacobus, 1922-1971)



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says that 'he was highly respected and of marked integrity and fairness.' Children: Mary, born at Hartford, January 16, 1641-42; Joseph, December 10, 1643; Daniel, baptized December 7, 1645, died November 9, 1704; Samuel, born May, 1648, died November 4, 1732 ; George, December 15, 1650 ; Nathaniel, December 10, 1652, mentioned below; Richard, July, 1655; Elizabeth, January 15, 1659."

**(GFHC):** "George Hubbard was born in the southeastern part of England, in 1601, and died March 18, 1684, his will being dated May 22, 1681. His name first appears as one of

the company which made the settlements at Pyquag, Dorchester, and Newtown, and he is in a list of the early settlers at Hartford in 1639. He was granted land on which he lived with his family, but in March, 1651-52, sold his possessions in Hartford and removed to Mattabesett, now Middletown. He was made a freeman in 1654, and owned large tracts of land on both sides of the river. He held a number of public offices and donated land for the second meeting house."

**For further reading:**

**One Thousand Years of Hubbard History**, by Edward Warren Day, New York: Harlan Page Hubbard, 1895.

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