



In-Depth First Settler Profile: ***Matthias Treat (1652) / Mary (Smith) Treat***

Name: Matthias Treat

Birth: England, probably at or near Pitminster, Somersetshire; date unknown. (*The Treat Family/Treat*, 1893)

Emigration: To New England by 1638 (probably Watertown, Mass.); to Wethersfield, Conn. 1639 (*The Treat Family/Treat*, 1893); to Middletown before November 1652; back to Wethersfield after selling his Middletown properties in January 1653.(FFS)

Death: July 8, 1662, Wethersfield, Conn.(*The Treat Family/Treat*, 1893)

Occupation & Public Service: At a town meeting in Middletown, November 1652, Matthias Treat was elected as a surveyor of highways.(FFS)

Marriage: m. Mary Smith, about 1648, Wethersfield, Conn. (b. about 1627, England; d. unknown). Mary Smith was a daughter of Richard Smith & Rebecca (unknown surname) of England, and later, Wethersfield, Conn. (*The Treat Family/Treat*, 1893)

Parents: Unknown

Children (*New England Families/Cutter*, 1913)(*The Treat Family/Treat*, 1893):

(1) Henry Treat, b. about 1649, Wethersfield, Conn.; d. 1681, East Hartford, Conn.; m. Sarah Andrews, about 1673. (2 children)

(2) Susanna Treat, b. about 1651, Wethersfield, Conn.; d. 1680, Wethersfield or Stamford, Conn.; m. William Clark, August 17, 1668, Wethersfield or Stamford, Conn. (11 children)

(3) Richard Treat, b. about 1655, Wethersfield, Conn.; d. unknown.

(4) Elizabeth Treat, b. about 1657, Wethersfield, Conn.; d. unknown.

(5) Abigail Treat, b. about 1659, Wethersfield, Conn.; d. about 1704; m. Stephen Hollister, about 1683, Wethersfield, Conn. (10 children)

(6) Dorcas Treat, b. about 1662, Wethersfield, Conn.; d. unknown; m. Richard Smith, January 20, 1681, Wethersfield, Conn. (? children)

Residence/Property: "His home lot of three acres was in the North Society, adjoining that of his brother-in-law, Joseph Smith. He also owned lands in other parts of the town. In January, 1653, he sold his house and lands in Middletown to John Wilcox, 'payle maker,' and removed to Wethersfield." (FFS)

Will: Vol. 1, p. 156 (MAN). (Estate inventory, September 16, 1662: 178-00-00; i.e. 178 pounds.)

Burial Location: Unknown

Notes:

(CAF): "Matthias Treat was also from Wethersfield and died before 1663, leaving a family which removed from this place." (Field, pg. 144)

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 Mattabeseck 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)

(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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(The Treat Family/Treat, 1893): “Very little is known in regard to Matthias Treat. He is supposed to have been a nephew, or a near relation, of Richard Treat, Sr.; have been unable to find any trace of him in England after a most thorough search. He was made a freeman May 21, 1657. In the Connecticut Colonial Records he appears as a party in various lawsuits from 1646 to 1649. The inventory of his estate, dated Wethersfield, September 16, 1662, amounts to 163 pounds.”

(SAV): “MATTHEW, or MATTHIAS, Middletown, the freem. of 1657, may have been br. of James, certain. call. serv. of Richard of Wethersfield, 1645, or soon aft. m. at W. 1648, Mary, d. of the first Richard Smith of the same, had Henry, b. 1649; Susanna, 1651; Richard, 1655; Elizabeth 1657; Abigail, 1659, wh. m. 1683, Stephen Hollister; and Dorcas, 1661; and he d. 1662. His wid. m. Anthony Wright.”

(New England Families, by William R. Cutter, 1913, pg. 1847-8): “Matthias Treat, the immigrant ancestor, was born in England and died in Wethersfield, Connecticut, July 8, 1662. He is thought to have been a nephew or near relation of Richard Treat Sr. No trace has been found of him in England. He was made freeman, May 21, 1657. In the Connecticut colonial records he appears as a party in several lawsuits from 1646 to 1649. He lived in Wethersfield on the east side of Broad street, on the old Samuel Boardman place, and

later he lived on the west side of Sandy lane. The inventory of his estate was dated September 16, 1662. He married, about 1648, Mary, daughter of Richard Smith, of Wethersfield. She married (second) before 1676, Anthony Wright, of Wethersfield. He was a member of the first troop of cavalry; he died in 1679; he was appointed administrator of Matthias Treat's estate, after his marriage with Mary (Smith) Treat. Children, born in Wethersfield: Henry; Susanna, born about 1651; Richard, about 1655; Elizabeth, about 1657; Abigail, about 1659; Dorcas, about 1662.”

(GFHC): Matthias Treat is referred to in the Wilcox family sketch: “John (2), son of John (1) Wilcox, was born in England and came to Hartford with his father. He removed to Middletown Upper Houses, where he died May 24, 1676. He had agreed to settle in Middletown, but failing to do so promptly, the general court in 1653 voted to compel him to occupy his grant or find a substitute. On March 10, 1657, he bought the homesteads of Joseph Smith and Matthias Treat, and afterwards sold them to his cousin, Samuel Hall.”

For further reading:

The Treat Family: A Genealogy of Trott, Tratt, and Treat, by John H. Treat, Salem, Mass.: Salem Press Pub. & Printing Co., 1893.

Hale, House, and Related Families, by Donald Lines Jacobus, Baltimore: Clearfield Publishing Co., 1952.

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