

U.S., New England Marriages Prior to 1700 for Nicholas Merritt

New England Marriages Prior to 1700

MERRITT, Nicholas (?1613-1686) & [Marv SANDIN]; ca 1636?; Salem

MERRET, John (1642-1707) & Marv _?_; b 1670; Marblehead

MERRITT, [?James] (1647-1713) & Sarah _?_ (?1658-1740); b 1685; Marblehead

MERRIT, Samuel (-1697?) & Abigail _?_; b 1684; Marblehead

MERRITT, [Nicholas] & Elizabeth _?_; b 1690; Marblehead

CHINN, [?John] & Rebecca [MERRETT] (-1717?); b 1681; Salem/Marblehead

DIXY, Thomas (1654-1691) & Elizabeth [MERRITT]. m/2 John HARWOOD 1695; b 1683; Salem

HARWOOD, John & Elizabeth (MERRITT) DIXEY, w Thomas; 29 Oct 1695, ?28 Oct; Salem

Marblehead

Marriages

FURNACE (Furness)

Christian, and John Merritt, Nov. 26, 1702

Marblehead

Deaths

MERRITT (Merett, Merrett, Merrit)

James, June 11, 1713, a. 66 y.

Nicholas, sr., June, 1736

CHINN (Chin)

Rebekah, 12m:1717

Great Migration - Immigrants to New England, 1634-1635
Volume V, M-P 110

NICHOLAS MERRITT

ORIGIN: Unknown.

MIGRATION: 1635 (based on grant of land on 28 March 1636 [STR 1:15]).

FIRST RESIDENCE: Marblehead.

OCCUPATION: Fisherman [STR 1:15].

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: On 4 July 1667, "Mary Merit" was admitted to Salem church [SChR 114].

EDUCATION: Signed his deed and his will by mark.

OFFICES: Essex coroner's jury, 2 December 1664, 6 March 1668/9, 30 August 1669, 2 September 1669, 26 October 1669, 1 May 1671 [EQC 3:297, 4:211, 212, 451]. Grand jury, 30 November 1669 [EQC 4:187, 9:85].

Marblehead constable, 24 November 1663 [EQC 3:108, 116, 155, 209, 210].

ESTATE: On 28 March 1636, "John Peach, fisherman, and Nicholas Mariott having fenced about five acres of ground on Marble Neck (though contrary to the order of the town) yet it's agreed that they may for the present improve the said place for building or planting, provided always that the propriety thereof be reserved for the right of the town of Salem, to dispose of in process of time to them or any other fishermen, or others as shall be thought most meet, yet so that they may have reasonable consideration for any charge that they shall be at" [STR 1:15].

On 1 January 1637/8, "Nicholas Merriott" was included in a list of "Inhabitants of Marblehead to be rated upon the rate of £120 whereof for them £8" [STR 1:63].

On 21 June 1669, "Nicholas Meritt & Margrett Sandy of Marblehead, administrators of the estate of Arther Sandy, late deceased," sold to "William Browne of the same town of Marblehead, fisherman, part of a dwelling house which was the dwelling house of the late said Arther Sandy, to say two-thirds parts westward of the said dwelling house, containing two lower & two upper rooms, the other third part containing one room being lately sold to Jno. Merritt, also an outhouse with about a quarter of an acre of land adjoining to the said outhouse & west end of the said dwelling house" [ELR 3:68].

On 10 April 1671, "Nicolas Merrett" was awarded two shares (out of fifty) in the stinted commons at Marblehead [EQC 5:279-80].

In his will, dated 17 July 1685 and proved 9 December 1686, "Nicholas Meritt Sr. of Marblehead" bequeathed to "my eldest son Jno. forty shillings"; to "my daughter Martha Owens" five pounds; to "my daughter Rebecca Chin twenty shillings"; to "my daughter Elizabeth Dixey twenty shillings"; "considering and well knowing my own weak condition and disability of myself to do anything for my own maintenance to subsist comfortably without breaking my estate and unwilling to pry away or alienate the same from my four sons Jno., James, Sam[ue]ll and Nicholas, they all declaring their readiness according to their several capacities to supply me with such necessaries as may be most suitable for me during my continuance in this world as also knowing well and considering the alike helpless condition of my daughter Mary and the necessity of effectual care to be taken by me for her comfortable maintenance after my decease during her natural life, I do upon these considerations give and bequeath the whole remainder of my estate, housing, lands and other estate to my aforesaid four sons Jno., James, Sam[ue]ll & Nicholas to be entered upon, held and enjoyed by them after my decease and distributed by the prudence and faithfulness of my overseers Capt. Ward and Lt. Legg"; "my four sons Jno., James and Sam[ue]ll and Nicholas" to be executors; "my trusty friends Mr. Sam[ue]ll Ward and Mr. Jno. Legg" to be overseers [SPR 11:50-51].

The inventory of the estate of "Nicholas Merritt Sr. of Marblehead lately deceased," taken 26 November 1686, totalled £179 8s. 6d. (against which were debts of £22 6s. due from the estate), of which £147 10s. was real estate: "his dwelling house, barn and land adjoining with one cow's commonage," £80; "one acre of meadow," £20; "his part in the farm," £40; and "one & 1/2 cow lease on the common," £7 10s. [SPR 9:329-30].

On 22 January 1691/2, "John Merritt of Marblehead, mariner, & Mary my wife, being by the last will of our father Nicholas Merritt deceased and an agreement of partition amongst the other brethren possessed of one quarter part of our father's purpart the Plaine Farm bought of W[illia]m Humphrey," sold to "Jno. Leg of the same place, merchant, for the use & behoof of his son-in-law Jno. Browne of Marblehead, merchant, ... a tract of land lying in Marblehead being one moiety of my quarter part or one eighth part of the whole purpart of my father Merritt deceased in the Plaine Farm abovementioned, three acres" [ELR 9:44].

BIRTH: About 1613 (deposed on 26 November 1672 "aged about fifty-nine years" [EQC 5:110]).

DEATH: Between 17 July 1685 (date of will) and 26 November 1686 (date of inventory).

MARRIAGE: By about 1643 Mary Sandin, daughter of ARTHUR SANDIN (1638, Marblehead) (on 27 November 1666, administration on the estate of "Arthur Sandy, late deceased," was granted to "Margaret, the widow, and Nicholas Merritt" [EPR 2:73]; on 25 June 1667, the court distributed "£20 to Mary, the wife of said Nicholas, who is the daughter of said Sandin" [EPR 2:73]; in her will of 20 August 1667, "Margaret Sanden, widow & late wife of Arther Sanden, late deceased," included a bequest to "the children of Nicholas Meret by Mary my daughter, being in number eight sons & daughter[s], now surviving ..., to be equally divided among those that survive of them to the age the sons at 21 years & daughters at 18 years or married" [EPR 3:13]).

CHILDREN:

- i JOHN MERRITT, b. about 1643 (deposed on 26 November 1672 "aged about twenty-nine years" [EQC 5:110]; deposed 16 March 1678[9?] "aged about thirty-five years" [EQC 7:331]); m. (1) by 1670 Mary _____ (eldest known child b. Marblehead 25 April 1670); m. (2) Marblehead 26 November 1702 Christian (____) Furnace, widow of William Furnace (on 26 November 1689, Salem court "grant[ed] administration to Christian the widow of W[illia]m Furnace of Marblehead deceased" [EPR 302:190]). (The five Merritt children baptized at Salem in September 1683 were children of John and his wife Mary [SChR 35].)
- ii JAMES MERRITT, b. about 1647 (d. Marblehead 11 June 1713, aged 66); m. by 1685 Sarah _____ (eldest known child bp. Marblehead 12 July 1685; on 2 July 1713, administration on the estate of "James Merrett late of Marblehead deceased intestate was granted unto his widow Sarah Merrett" [EPR 311:6, 159]).
- iii SAMUEL MERRITT, b. say 1649; m. by 1684 Abigail _____ (eldest known child bp. Marblehead 6 September 1684; on 22 June 1695, "Abigail Merrit hath signified under her hand and seal ... of her renouncing administration on the estate of her husband Samuel Merrit late of Marblehead, fisherman, deceased" [EPR 305:75, 300-1]).
- iv MARY MERRITT, b. say 1651; named in father's will of 17 July 1685, apparently incompetent.
- v MARTHA MERRITT, b. say 1653; m. by 1673 [Thomas?] Owen (eldest known child bp. Salem in August 1673 [SChR 30]).
- vi REBECCA MERRITT, b. say 1655; m. by 1678 John Chinn (assuming that one of the daughters "of sister Merrit's daughters" bp. at Salem on 19 May 1678 was a child of this couple [SChR 32]; on 29 September 1712, administration on the estate of "John Chinn late of Marblehead, cooper," was granted to "his widow Rebecca Chinn" [EPR 310:460, 311:13]).
- vii NICHOLAS MERRITT, b. say 1657, bp. Salem 21 July 1667 [SChR 28]; m. by 1690 Elizabeth _____ (eldest known child bp. Marblehead 30 March 1690).
- viii ELIZABETH MERRITT, b. say 1659, bp. Salem 21 July 1667 [SChR 28]; m. (1) by about 1679 Thomas Dixey (sons Nicholas, Samuel and Thomas bp. Salem in October 1683 [SChR 35-36]), son of THOMAS DIXEY (1637, Salem) [Sarah Stone Anc 28]; m. (2) Marblehead 28 October 1695 John Harwood. (On 30 July 1691, "[a]t the request of Elizabeth Dixy relict of Thomas Dixy deceased," an inventory was taken of the estate of Thomas [EPR 303:38]. On 30 December 1700, "Elizabeth Dixey alias Harwood, wife of John Harwood of Marblehead, fisherman," was granted guardianship of "Remember Dixey, daughter of Thomas Dixey late of Marblehead aforesaid deceased, being a minor of eleven years of age or thereabouts" [EPR 307:244-45].)
- ix HANNAH MERRITT, b. say 1661, bp. Salem 21 July 1667 [SChR 28]; d. by 20 August 1667 (when her grandmother bequeathed to the eight surviving sons and daughters of her daughter Mary [EPR 3:13]).

COMMENTS: On 14 November 1648, "Nicholas Merritt [was] fined for beating David Carwithen with a wand, five strokes" [EQC 1:152].

In establishing the birth order for the children of the immigrant, we begin with three premises: (1) in his will, Nicholas named his four sons in birth order; (2) in his will, Nicholas named his three married daughters in birth order; and (3) the three children baptized on 21 July 1667 were the three youngest children, listed in the order of birth.

Ages for sons John and James, based on depositions and age at death, determine the early end of the sequence. The estimated dates of marriage for daughters Martha and Elizabeth also provide estimated dates of birth for these two women. Based on these four estimated dates of birth, the three premises from the paragraph above and our usual rules for arranging birth order lead to the sequence presented above. Much uncertainty remains in these dates, given the lack of wills for these children and their spouses.

Martha (Merritt) Owen, Rebecca (Merritt) Chinn and Elizabeth (Merritt) Dixey all named daughters Remember [SChR 35; EPR 307:244-45]. This was presumably in honor of Remember (Allerton) Maverick, daughter of ISAAC ALLERTON (1620, Plymouth) and wife of Moses Maverick [MF 17:1-6; GMB 1:35-39, 2:1241-43], the most prominent resident of Marblehead. No genealogical connection has been found between the Merritts and the Mavericks.

Will of Margaret Sandin

Essex Institute historical collections, Volume 2: Margaret Sandin 5th mo 1675 The last will of Margaret Sandin of Marblehead made this 20th of August 1687 mentions that she was late wife of Arther Sandin. Samuel and Ephraim Sandin the children of John Sanden, my son late deceased, the children of Nicholas Merritt by Mary my daughter being in number eight sons and daughter, to the sons at 21 years and daughter at 18 years. I appoint my son Nicholas Merritt and Mary his wife executors. Witnesses Mary Veren, Henry West and Hilliard Veren, sen'r Allowed 23 5, '75.

Marblehead
MAGAZINEThe First Board
Of Selectmen

1648

by Bill Purdin

Nicholas Merritt, Sr. (Various spellings, Marriot, Merret, Merrett) Served 5 years: 1648, 1660, 1664, 1665, and 1671. He was born in 1613 (birthplace is unknown) and died in Marblehead in 1686. He came to Marblehead in 1636. He was a farmer with about 12 and a half acres and some cows. He was cited in Salem for fencing in land on "Marblehead Necke" (the area between Forest River and the ocean near what is now Swampscott) in violation of Salem's orders. He was literate and married to Mary Sandin with 8 children. While on the Board, he was one of two collectors for pasturage. *Places named for him:* Merritt Street (from Front Street to Circle Street). No other Merritt has served on the Board of Selectmen.



Photo added by The Guardian

James Meritt

BIRTH 1647
 DEATH 11 Jun 1713 (aged 65-66)
 Marblehead, Essex County, Massachusetts, USA
 BURIAL Old Burial Hill Cemetery
 Marblehead, Essex County, Massachusetts, USA
 MEMORIAL ID 19067984

Son, Samuel Merritt

An Inventory of the Estate of Samuell
Merritt Deceased as it was appraised by us for
 this 26 August 1695 and shown to Abigail
Merritt Relict Widow of Samuell
Merritt of Marblehead -

To one bed & bedsted & furniture	£. 30 00 00
To 2 small tables 2 chests & 2 chairs	£. 0 11 10 00
To a broken pot pot hooks & tramell	£. 0 11 6 00
To a dwelling house & ground	£. 28 00 00
	<u>31 16 00</u>

Wth Nath^l Norton
 Thomas Juggell

Son, Nicholas Merritt

ASHTON, the name of 16 English parishes.

JOHN, Scarborough, b. c. 1638; refugee at Newcastle in 1676, at Marblehead in 1690; living 1714. Lists 235, 237a, 238a. Three wives, 1st a dau. of Andrew Alger, who d. s.p.; 2d Susannah Foxwell, dau. of Mr. Richard and Susannah (Bonython) Foxwell, mother of all the ch. and d. at Newcastle; 3d, 30 July 1691, Mary (Edgecomb), widow of George Page, dau. of Nicholas and Wilmot (Randall) Edgecomb, who joined the Marblehead church in 1728 and deposed aged ±83 in 1730. Ch. Susannah, m. at Marblehead 14 Oct. 1684 Robert Codner; d.s.p. Mary, m. at Scarb. 23 Feb. 1687 Daniel Libby. Samuel, fisherman, m. 15 July 1686 Mary Sandin. 6 ch. Elizabeth, bap. 11 Dec. 1687, m. Nicholas Merritt, who d. at Marblehead in 1736. 10 ch. Philip, shoreman, m. 20 Nov. 1701 Sarah Hendly. 2 ch. Philip Jr. in 1725 printed Ashton's Memorial, Strange Adventures of Philip Ashton, Taken by Pirates. This narrative mentions (his cousins) Joseph Libbee, who saved him from drowning, and Benj. Ashton. Joseph, b. 1678, d. 22 Aug. 1725. (Gravestone at Marbl.); m. 1st 4 Aug. 1700 Mary Page, 2d 25 Jan. 1713-4 Mary (Dutch) Page, widow prob. of Christopher, dau. of Hezekiah Dutch, who surv. him. 5+4 ch.

Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire

Surnames, A-B

Daughter, Rebecca Merritt

No. 5306

behinn

John cooper.

1712. Sept. 23.

The Condition of this present Obligation is such, That if the above bounden Rebecca
Chion Relict of Sam Chion late of Marblehead, deceased and estate Administratrix
 of all and singular the goods, Chattels, and Credits of the s^d John Chion deceased,

Exp^{ts} of admⁿ on p^{er} p^{er} of the s^d Chion
 Late of Marblehead Dec^r 2- 1713
 The said State Court
 By s^d Enow as p^{er} Inventory - 121-00-0
 By p^{er} p^{er} as p^{er} s^d - 27-05-0

The said State Court
 By s^d Enow as p^{er} Inventory 10-18-8
 To s^d Enow as p^{er} s^d - 00-12-0
 To s^d Enow to obtain p^{er} p^{er} & p^{er} p^{er} 00-18-4
 allowed of admⁿ p^{er} s^d & p^{er} p^{er} 00-00-0
 allowed by Widow for p^{er} p^{er} of s^d 00-00-0
 To p^{er} p^{er} p^{er} & allowing admⁿ of
 Dividing of s^d & s^d 00-00-0

To s^d Enow 121-00-0
 To s^d Enow 40-6-8
 To s^d Enow 40-6-8
 To s^d Enow 20-3-4
 To s^d Enow 20-3-4

Robert Chion

MARBLEHEAD IN THE YEAR 1700

by

Sidney Perley

A collection of Nine Articles from

Historical Collections of the Essex Institute

John Merritt and Heirs of William Brown House. These two lots constituted the homestead of Arthur Sandy (or Sanden, Sandin), one of the earliest inhabitants of Marblehead. He was granted land there, by Salem, in 1638; and in May, 1640, was licensed to keep an ordinary at Marblehead, and this house was the first tavern in Marblehead. He died in 1667, his dwelling house, garden, orchard and outhouses being appraised at eighty-five pounds. His administrator conveyed the eastern part of the house and land to John Merritt of Marblehead, fisherman, June 21, 1669.* Some years later he made an addition to his part of the house, and the whole was standing at the time of his decease, in 1706. How much longer the old part of the house stood is not clear.

Mr. Sandy's administrator conveyed the western part of the house and land to William Brown of Marblehead, fisherman, June 21, 1669.† Mr. Brown died about 1684; and in 1686-7 this was described in a deed of adjoining land as being the property of Richard Gross, who was connected, probably, with the Brown family. The heirs of William Brown were in the possession of his part of the old house in 1700; and June 22, 1705, William Brown of Marblehead, cordwainer, for thirty pounds and sixteen shillings, mortgaged his interest in the house and land to Elizur Keysor of Salem, tanner.‡

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 97, leaf 28.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 68.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 17, leaf 80.

James Merritt House. Nicholas Merritt of Marblehead owned this land in 1669; and died possessed of it in 1686. In his will he devised his estate to his four sons, John, James, Samuel and Nicholas, who were to care for their sisters; and John, Samuel and Nicholas Merritt released the house and lot to their brother James Merritt, Jan. 12, 1686-7.§ The house and lot were valued at eighty pounds. Mr. Merritt probably removed the old house shortly after 1700, building upon the site a new house, and died possessed of the estate in 1713.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 35, leaf 108.

John Chinn House. This lot was very early in the possession of Mr. Thomas Pitman, and was part of an orchard belonging to Francis Johnson of Marblehead in 1655. Mr. Johnson was called of Boston, gentleman. Sept. 29, 1670, when he conveyed this lot and some land adjoining to Mr. Thaddeus Riddan of Lynn, merchant.* Mr. Riddan removed to Marblehead before July 30, 1677, when he conveyed this lot to John Chinn of Marblehead.† Mr. Chinn was a cooper, and built a house upon the lot; dying possessed of the house and land before Sept. 23, 1712, when administration was granted upon his estate. The homestead was inventoried at one hundred and five pounds. Mr. Chinn left a widow, Rebecca, and children, George Chinn, Elizabeth Chinn and Rebecca Chinn. Rebecca Chinn died —: 12 mo: 1717, and George Chinn released the house and land to his widowed sister Elizabeth Carter, June 17, 1718.‡ Mrs. Carter, married, secondly, John Crowell of Manchester before Dec. 17, 1722, when they conveyed the house and garden to Ebenezer Hawkes of Marblehead, blacksmith.§ Mr. Hawkes conveyed the lot and house, "known as the John Chinn house," and then occupied by George Chinn, to Thomas Kimball of Marblehead, tailor, Jan. 21, 1722-3. || For twenty-five pounds, Mr. Kimball conveyed his "now dwelling house" and land to his son Thomas Kimball of Marblehead, Nov. 3, 1742.¶ Mr. Kimball, the son, was a mariner, and the old house was probably taken down by Mr. Kimball before 1764.

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 94.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 38.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 35, leaf 54.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 41, leaf 104.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 43, leaf 146.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 112, leaf 244.

John Dixey House, Samuel Dixey House and Estate of Thomas Dixey House. These lots of land comprised the estate of Thomas Dixey of Marblehead, the ferryman. That part of the whole tract lying westerly of the western dashes belonged to Joseph Grafton of Salem, mariner, in 1649; and he conveyed it to Mr. Dixey Aug. 30, 1658.‡ That part of the premises lying between the dashes early belonged to Thomas Edwards, a shoemaker, who, by his wife Elizabeth, as his attorney, for three pounds and one shilling, conveyed it to David Corwithen, sr., July 9, 1649.§ Mr. Corwithen, with Richard Curtice and wife of Salem, for six pounds and ten shillings, conveyed the lot of upland and meadow to Mr. Dixey June 26, 1656.|| That part of the lot lying easterly of the eastern dashes early belonged to Joseph Younges of Salem, mariner, who conveyed it to David Corwithen of Salem Sept. 24, 1649;* and Mr. Corwithen, for three pounds, conveyed it to Mr. Dixey June 26, 1656.† Mr. Dixey died between Feb. 28, 1680, the date of his will, and Aug. 31, 1686, when it was proved before Governor Andros in Boston. June 29, 1686, two months before the will was proved, the sons divided the real estate. Their mother was also deceased at that time, and it is probable that Mr. Dixey had died some time before that date, the probate of the will, for some reason, having been neglected. This division was made as nearly as can be ascertained as shown on the map. John Dixey had the barn and land around it; and subsequently built a house upon it, which he owned in 1700. Thomas Dixey had his father's house and the land around it. He was the successor of his father as ferryman, and died about July 30, 1691, when the inventory of his estate was taken. The dwelling house, land and "privilege" were appraised at eighty pounds. He had one ferry boat, frape road and anchor, all of which were valued at three pounds. The title was in his estate in 1700. Samuel Dixey was of Marblehead and a fisherman, and built a house upon his lot. For three pounds, he conveyed the house and land around it to Col. John Legg, Esq., of Marblehead, merchant, Aug. 10, 1703‡ How much longer the house stood is unknown.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 51.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1, leaf 6.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 49.

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 64.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 50.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 16, leaf 75.