

Burgess, Joseph (b. 1635, d. AUG 1695)

Note: Joseph Burge was born circa 1639 in Sandwich, Barnstable Co., MA, New England, son of Thomas Burge, Sr. and Dorothy (?), This date ascertained from his own testimony on 28 October 1669, when he testified regarding the estate of Robert Rollock and stated he was then "aged about 30 yeares."

Joseph was also known as Joseph Burges. He was the son of Thomas Burge, Sr. and Dorothy (?).

As of 4 June 1659, Joseph was also known as Joseph Burgis [Court record].

Joseph Burgis appears in Court records as a defendant before the court on 4 June 1659 under the heading of "for being drunke" and "for taking away a beast attached for the country." He was fined  $\text{D}1$ .

Joseph Burge purchased land from Thomas Burge, Sr., his father, who had originally purchased the land through Captain Standish, of the Indian Sachem of Nauset, Josias, on 10 July 1663 at Manomet, Plymouth Co., MA, New England.

Joseph married Patience Freeman, daughter of Edmund Freeman, Jr. and Rebecca Prence, before 1667 at MA, New England [Date based on b. of 1st child, husband named in Father's deed of 29 April 1674 - See below].

Joseph Burge sold 26 acres of upland and marsh. To Richard Handey at Pawkuset (Pocasset), near Sandwich, Barnstable Co., MA, New England, on 30 May 1673. He signed with a mark. On the second of the 4th month 1673, Joseph and his wife, Patience Burge acknowledged their act and deed.

Joseph Burge received, by deed, from Edmund Freeman, Jr., "for fatherly affection unto my son Joseph Burge and my daughter Patience, the wife of Joseph Burge, aforesaid and according to my promise att their marriage Doe give freely one moyetee [sic 'moiety', meaning 'half'] of upland (6 acres) in Sandwich." On 29 April 1674 at Sandwich, Barnstable Co., MA, New England.

Joseph Burge appears in Court records as a defendant before the court on 27 October 1675 at Plymouth, Plymouth Co., MA, New England, being fined  $\text{D}5$  for abusing the watch at Sandwich "by entering into the guard, and assaying to take away a gun, and beating on of the guard which opposed him therein" ... viz: six shillings to the constable for bringing him to the court, and ten shillings to John Dexter, the son of Ensigne Dexter, which was beaten as aforesaid, and five shillings apiece to the said Ensigne Dexter and his son for their coming up to attending on the Court, on the said business and the remainder of the said five pound to the country. Memorand: that seaven shillings and six pence is abated of what is due to the country from the said Burge."

Joseph Burge was fined again by the court, in the amount of 10 Shillings [no reason is given for his appearance] in October 1677 at Plymouth, Plymouth Co., MA, New England.

Joseph Burge sold 30 acres of upland and meadow to Richard Handey at Pawkuset (Pocasset), near Sandwich, Barnstable Co., MA, New England, on 14 December 1677. Both Joseph and Patience Burge acknowledged the sale on 4 March 1677.

Joseph Burge was fined £5 for selling liquor to the Indians on 5 March 1677/78 at Plymouth, Plymouth Co., MA, New England. The fine was "respected" on his good behavior. On this same date, he was fined ten shillings for prophanly swearing in the face of the court.

In March 1678/79, Joseph Burge had an Indian maid as a servant. She was the sister of John Sassamon, a faithful Indian, who informed the Governor of Plymouth that Philip was endeavoring to raise trouble... and engage all the Sachems round about in a war "against the colonists"... prior to King Philip's War.

He left a will dated 5 August 1695 at Rochester, Plymouth Co., MA, New England, being "weak of Body and waiting for my change" which was signed by a mark. He appointed his "Deare and Loving" wife Patience executrix and gave her the use and improvement of all real and personal estate, until her death or remarriage.

Son Benjamin was to have the land in Rochester when he became twenty one, plus five pounds in Cattle.

Land in Sandwich was to be disposed of in order to obtain a share of land in Rochester for son Ichabod, with a bequest of ten pounds in cattle.

Daughters Rebeckah Rose and Dorrity Clifton were bequeathed 20 shillings each. Capt. Seth Pope, Thomas Tupper, and Jacob Burge were to act as overseers.

Joseph Burge died between 5 August 1695 and 31 August 1695 in Rochester, Plymouth Co., MA, New England,, [Date of Will and end of date limit designated in inventory].

The estate inventory of Joseph was presented on 3 October 1695 at Rochester, Plymouth Co., MA, New England, which recorded his decease in August 1695 [MD 27:35-36] and valued the Rochester housing and land at £80 and the Sandwich house and land at £150. It also included one Indian girl, a slave, valued at £10. Total value of the estate was £329 - 6s.

His will was probated on 3 October 1695 at Rochester, Plymouth Co., MA, New England.20

Joseph is found, often, in association with a "Mistress Syselia Fish" (third wife of Benjamin Bartlett) in the court records of Plymouth Colony. The surname of this "Syselia" is unknown and could possibly suggest some form of a connection between the two. Further information regarding "Syselia" will be provided at a later date, strictly for research material regarding Joseph Burge of Sandwich.

1658 land holder in Sandwich

1659 fined for selling liquor to the Indians

1660 employed to drill the cavalry company

1667 authorized to look abroad for lands

1677 sold his property in Sandwich to Richard Bourne and moved to Rochester

1689 represented in the court at Plymouth

Will: I Joseph Burgess, of Rochester, being weak of body, and waiting for my change; but my understanding and memory remain with me, blessed be God; I now commit my soul to God, and my body to the grave in God's time, in hope of a blessed resurrection, at the resurrection of the dead.

I do now make this my last will and testament touching the disposal of all my outward estate, and by this will I make void and nul all my former wills by me made at any time heretofore.

And first I do appoint and ordain my dear and loving wife Patience Burgess to be my executrix, to see this my last will and testament performed according to my will, contained in this instrument as followeth;

Item. I give unto my son, Benjamin Burgess, all my lands that I have in Rochester, both upland and meadow, house, barn, with all edifices and appurtenances thereunto belonging or any ways appertaining.

Item. I give unto my dear and loving wife, Patience Burgess, during her life or widowhood, for her relief, all the improvement of all my homestead, my house and barn, excepting that land I had of Mr Samuel Prince by exchange, and all my moveable estate within doors and without, all said movables to be at my wife's dispose, when she pleaseth, only to our children; - by the word homestead I intend all my uplands and meadows that belong to this land I now live upon, all except the above excepted; and when my said wife marry or deceased, then my son Benjamin shall take said lands into his own possession with the appurtenances, but not until my said son come to the age of one and twenty years.

Item. I also give my wife all my upland and meadow that I have in Sandwich, with all the rights I have or in any ways appertaining with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging for her to dipose of, for the obtaining of a share of land for Ichabod at Rochester, for either that land Captain Pope mentioned of his own, or other, and the other part of the money, as my wife takes more, to be at her dispose.

Item. I give unto my daughter Rebbecca Ross twenty shillings in money.

Item. I give unto my dayghter Dorrity Clifton twenty shillings in money.

Item. I give unto my son Ichabod Burgess ten pounds in cattle or other to be paid to him when he comes to the age of one and twenty years.

Item. I also give unto Benjamin Burgess five pounds in cattle or other good pay, when he comes to the age of one and twenty years.

I also appoint my trusty and well beloved friends, Captain Seth Pope, Thomas Tupper and Jacob Burgess, all these three, to act as overseers of this my will. To this my last will I set my hand and seal this fifth of August 1695.

Joseph Burgess

Signed and delivered the day before-said in presence of these witnesses. Seth Pope. Thomas Tupper. Jacob Burgess.

Thomas Tupper and Jacob Burgess, whose names stand as witnesses to this will, made oath before Barnabas Lothrop, Esq., Judge of Probate for the county of Barnstable, that they did see the above named Joseph Burgess, now deceased, sign, seal and declare this to be his last will and testament. October the third, 1695. Examined and duly compared with the original, and entered October the 7th, 1695. Attest: Joseph Lothrop, Register

Immigration: Place: Rochester, Mass