

## JOHN BROOKE

## ELIZABETH WHETMAN

John Brooke and Elizabeth (Whetman) Brooke are ancestors by right of their daughter Joane's marriage to Robert Foote of Shalford, Essex County, England, son of Robert Foote of Royston. (Map1 #28)

Margaret Brooke, sister of Joane, married John Foote, the older brother of Robert Foote of Shalford, and son of Robert Foote of Royston. John and Margaret lived in London where John had a successful grocery business. (See chart in 2-2)

In the words of Abram W. Foote, we are informed further that,

"John Brooke, lived in London, Eng., leather seller; md. Elizabeth Whetman.

Children:

1. Margaret Brooke, md. John Foote of London, son of Robert Foote of Royston, Cambridgeshire, Eng., Nov. 1616. They had children; John, Thomas, Samuel, Elizabeth and three others. Margaret died 1634.
2. Joane Brooke, md. Robert Foote of Shalford, son of Robert Foote of Royston and brother of John Foote of London, grocer. They had nine children; Robert, Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph, James, Nathaniel, Francis, Daniel and Joshua.
3. Thomas Brooke; lived in London, Eng., haberdasher, Will 1625" <sup>1</sup> (See Chart in 2-2)

In this same source we are told that John Brooke, of London, was probably a member of the Leatherseller Company of London. <sup>2</sup>

The Medieval forms of the name Brook or Brooke are Ate-Broc, Attenbroke, etc., which was afterwards softened to A-Broke, and pluralized to Brooks. The Brookes of County Suffold, England, were descended from William de la Brooke, owner of the Manor of Brooke, in Somersetshire; and who died in 1231. In the Hundred Rolls, the word Broke, which means 'brook', is quite extensively used in the description of names; as Henry le Brok; Lawrence del Brock, etc.

Though John Brooke and his wife Elizabeth nor any of their children came to America, there were several Brooks who did, including Richard Brook at the age of 14, and William Brook at the age of 20, who came in the ship, "Blessing" in July 1635. Richard resided in Marchfield, removed to Scituate, then to Rehoboth and died in 1695. William settled in Salem, Mass., 1639, where he was one of that town's earliest proprietors. Robert Brooks of Maidstone, England, came over with his wife in the 'Hercules', March, 1634. He resided at Marblehead in 1637. These mentioned are probably the immigrant ancestors of the Brooks in America.

Though John Brooke and his wife Elizabeth did not migrate to New England, nor their children, yet their daughter, Joane, married Robert Foote and their son, Nathaniel, who married Elizabeth Deming, (2-3), did migrate to America.

Abram W. Foote, in his writing of 1932, gave only a list of three children; Margaret, Joane and Thomas. Since then research has uncovered a listing of twelve children, all born in London, England. This research was done recently by Mrs. Nephi Nielson of Long Beach, California:

1. Robert Brooke, b. abt. 1561.
2. John Brooke, b. abt. 1563.
3. Joane Brooke, b. abt. 1564; md. Robert Foote. (2-2)
4. Margaret Brooke, b. abt. 1564; md. May 11, 1581, John Foote. Will Oct. 10, 1614.
5. Susan Brooke, b. abt. 1565; md. Henry Bonner.
6. Nathaniel Brooke, b. abt. 1567; died 1634.
7. Katherinr Brooke, b. abt. 1569; mde. Richard Flood.
8. Sarah Brooke, b. abt. 1571; mde. Mr. Storey.
9. Thomas Brooke, b. abt. 1573; died Dec. 1, 1625.
10. Deborah Brooke, b. abt. 1575.
11. Martha Brooke, b. abt. 1577.
12. Benjamin Brooke, b. abt. 1579.<sup>3</sup>

1. #17, Vol. 2, p. 649
2. ibid, p. 655
3. #170, p. (2-4)