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This is a family history and genealogy website which traces the life and descendants of our ancestor – John Fuller of Newton, Massachusetts, USA.

Who Was John Fuller of Newton

John was born in 1611 in England and died and was buried 1698 in Newton, MA. He was a malster, farmer, elected officer of Cambridge and Newton, founding member of the church and one of the first settlers of Newton, MA. He was an educated man as we have copies of documents penned by him.

The history books and First Settlers Monument in Newton agree that he arrived about 1644 to a part of Cambridge, MA which later became Newton, MA. We do not know much about John's early life in England nor do we have the name of a ship or the exact date he/they arrived in New England. At that time Cambridge, which is north of the Charles River, also included land south of the river where there were very few farms and the area was more wilderness than farmland. [Read More.....a short history of Newton](#)

John's wife, Elisabeth Cole was born in Lavenham, Suffolk, England, UK and was baptized in the St Peter and St Paul Parish Church Jan 1, 1622/3. [Read More.....
Laveham](#)



Lavenham Parish Church

Elisabeth's father, Walter, in his Will of 1653, left 20 shillings to his daughter, Elisabeth; "the nowe wife of John Fuller in New England" and those few words gave the descendants of John Fuller of Newton assurance as to what part of the world they were from.

In 1653 John of Newton was one of the three ‘John Fullers’ who immigrated to New England prior to 1650 and all three married an “Elizabeth” and named their first son “John”. So it is no wonder that the history books of the time mixed up their lives. [Read More.....3 John Fullers](#)

Children

John and wife Elizabeth, had 8 children of which 7 lived to have families of their own. The official Vital Records of Massachusetts show no birth record for the first three children (John Jr., Elizabeth & Jonathan) however we find them in the Births section of the “Town” Vital Records for Newton (b. about 1645, 1647 & 1648). The Vital Records for Cambridge do record the births of the remaining five children (Joseph 1652/3; Joshua 1654; Jeremiah 1658/9; Bethia 1661 & Isaac 1665). Their daughter Elizabeth along with her husband, Job Hyde, died in 1685 so their 8 living children were divided and raised by each of the couple’s parents. Their son Jonathan and his wife Mindwell had no children and in his Will left his farm to his namesake nephew Jonathan, son of his brother Captain Joseph. Their son Captain Joshua was married three times and had five daughters and no sons to leave his farm to, as was the custom of the day. [Read More.....children](#)



First Settlers Monument

First Settler

John Fuller is named as one of the first settlers in Newton, MA and his name is one of the 20 engraved on the North side of the 'First Settlers Monument' which stands in the East Parish Burying Ground Cemetery in Newton. [Read More.....first settlers monument](#)

John and many of the descendants of John and Elisabeth can be found in the following cemeteries situated in Newton, Middlesec, MA, USA:

East Parish Burying Ground. [Read More](#)

West Parish Burying Ground. [Read More](#)

Newton Cemetery. [Read More](#)

Maltster

John Fuller was a Maltster by trade for which he would have apprenticed for 7 years in England; his Malt House is mentioned in his will.



Fuller House 351 Crafts Street, Newton

At the time, Farming, Malting, Brewing and Selling Beer were all separate occupations. John of Newton was both a Farmer and a Maltster and would have increased his family fortunes both by owned land in the area and earning money through the profitable craft of supplying malt to the community for making beer. Many households brewed their own beer as this was the normal family beverage before the arrival of tea and coffee. [Read More.....maltster](#)

Land and the Fuller Farm



Fuller Farm

In 1655 John Fuller bought 9 acres of land in Watertown for £44 from Nicholas Davison of Charlestown. In 1657 “John Fuller of Cambridge” [assume this is south of the river] sold 9 acres in Watertown to Richard Sanger for £46.

In 1658, John Fuller initially purchased 750 Acres of land on the south side of the James River, which became the nucleus of what was known as the Fuller Farm. Over his lifetime, John accumulated some 1000 acres and distributed the land to each of his five sons in his Will so that each son received a farm of about 200 acres at the time of their marriage. The Will stipulated that no land was to be sold to a third party before first offering it to his brothers. Each of these family farmsteads is located on a map of Newton and as the farm was handed down generation after generation, the new occupant is listed on the map. [Read More.....family farmstead map](#)

Documents

We have accumulated the original of several family documents dating back to 1593 and where possible have placed a copy on this website. In cases where the Church of England owns the document, we have transcribed it and placed the transcription on the website. [Read More.....documents involving the Fuller Family](#)

Wills

Old Wills are a treasure trove of information for family researchers. During the process of transcribing the Wills of many of John's descendants, we found several gems and even had to change our genealogy in several instances based on the information in these Wills. We have transcribed the Wills of John Fuller and each of his sons plus many of his Descendants – keep tuned in as there are more to come.

John's Will stipulated that "...and further my will is that my abovesaid sons shall not allinate [alienate – to transfer ownership] the above given and granted lands unto any stranger until first the next relation of the above said Fullers have the offer of it;....." [Read More.....Wills for many of his descendants](#)

DNA

The Y-DNA is passed from each direct male descendant to his sons and all the next generation's sons down to living direct line male descendants today. Therefore we know John Fuller of Newton's Y-DNA as we have five direct male descendants with the same Y-DNA. If you have the same Y-DNA, please contact us. [Read More.....we know John's YDNA](#)

Did our John Fuller of Newton descend from the **Mayflower Fullers** – Answer is No – YDNA shows the Mayflower Fuller are haplogroup "R" vs ours which is "I"

All known proven direct male descendants of John have the same Y-DNA and the same Haplogroup of I-M253. Research suggests that it originated in an area that is now Denmark. How can John Fuller of England have **origins in Scandinavia**. We know the Vikings settled in the eastern side of England and their king ruled England from 1016-1035 AD. We also know that "Fuller" is an [occupational name](#) and therefore John's ancestors were "Cloth Fullers" at the time they chose their last name, likely prior to year 1400. However it was Henry VIII (1538) that ordered the surname of the father be recorded on all birth records. [Read More.....vikings](#)

Genealogy – Descendants of John Fuller of Newton

You have access to our data base information on a companion website with some 30,000 descendants and their spouses. There is a surname index where you can check to see if your family name is a descendant of John of Newton or you can look at the descendants tree to find your ancestors, assuming you are a descendant of John of Newton. You can follow one branch down 8 generations from John of Newton and you can also look through the family of

Elizabeth Cole, John's wife as this information was taken from the Lavenham, Parish Records. [Read More.....search our genealogy data base](#)

Who was Simon Onge

Simon Onge was born 1619 in Lavenham, Suffolk, England, UK and his family was among the first settlers



Lavenham, Suffolk, England

of Watertown, Massachusetts, New England in 1631. After his mother died, Simon received a small farm in Newton from John Fuller and after Simon died in 1678, John penned a letter to the Probation court wherein he stated that he had lent Simon the land for Simon's lifetime. The land in question was part of John's deeded land and no sale document had been issued. However, the issue was the subject of two court cases and part of Massachusetts history. That letter and the description of the arrangement leads us to believe that John knew Simon from Lavenham very well as he would not have made such an arrangement with a stranger. We did not find any reference of this fact in the two court cases, however this gives us a link between John and Lavenham other than the fact that his wife was from Lavenham. [Read More.....did John Fuller know Simon Onge](#)

Who was James Fuller of Lavenham

James Fuller was born about 1542 and raised his family in Lavenham, England. James died in 1622 and in



Guild Hall, Lavenham, UK

his will left property and money to his two children (John and Marie) as well as his four grandchildren (John Fuller the elder; John Mascall; John Fuller the younger and Suzan Fuller).

We have gathered evidence that links John Fuller of Newton to Lavenham through his association with Simon Onge and now through this Will of James Fuller, will show that John could fit into the James Fuller Family and could be the grandson, John Fuller the younger. This leads us to speculate as to **the most likely ancestral line for John Fuller of Newton** is back to James Fuller. [Read More.....John's grandfather](#)



Puritans

Seeking refuge and a new beginning for his fellow Puritans, **John Winthrop** joined the Massachusetts Bay Company in 1629 in England. Just one year later (1630) and ten years after the Mayflower, the first seven ships of that Company sail from England and Governor Winthrop, the first governor of Massachusetts, founded a settlement on the Shawmut peninsula which today is Boston, Massachusetts. [Read More.....founder of Massachusetts Bay](#)

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