

HADLEY NEWSLETTER

(Hadley, Headley, Hadlee, Hadly, Hadleigh, etc and their related kin)

Vol. CCIX

Sep 2023

Our patriarch, George Hadley (ca 1612 – 1686):

We are virtually certain our Patriarch George Hadley was born in England, although we have yet to find *proof* of that assumption. We do know he died on 29 September, 1686 probably in the town of Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts.

We also know his *will* was probated in Suffolk County, Massachusetts on 04 November, 1686. We know this because we have his will, which is on file, in the *Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Archives*, Suffolk County, Massachusetts.

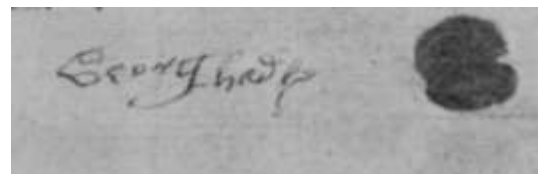
This *will* can be viewed online if you have access to the **American Ancestor** website, published by the *New England Historic Genealogical Society*.

The actual *will* of George is found in *Suffolk Case #1-1999:7, pages 1510:1-6*.

In reading his *will*, it is clear from a superficial analysis of the handwriting, it is someone other than George who has written the *will* for him. His *will* is notarized by three men who testify they knew our George and witnessed his signature on his *will*. If we compare the handwriting of George's *will* with his actual signature on his *will*, it is obvious there are two very different styles of writing.

Below, is the copy of George's handwriting from his *will*. The entire *will* is available, online. However, the spelling, handwriting, style of written expression and faded paper makes the will difficult to read.

The *Hadley Newsletter* is having trouble as it tries to read the will and understand its content. We would greatly appreciate help in reading this *will* and recording its exact content in a format that can be easily read by others.



This *will* of our patriarch George Hadley, who died on 29 September 1686 and buried on 30 September 1686, went through Probate in Boston, Massachusetts on November 4, 1686. If you are willing to work on interpreting, transcribing and recording George's *will*, please let Jim Hadley know of your kind offer. In future *Hadley Newsletters*, as the *will's* content is analyzed and understood, it will be shared with you, our readers, with full credit given to those who helped in making the will understandable to all.

The following web address is for the will of our patriarch George Hadley. It has been copied from the files of the American Ancestor belonging to the New England Historic Genealogy Society. The actual will is housed in the Suffolk County Court, Land and Probate Files, building, 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, Massachusetts We thank them for use of their file.

<https://app.americanancestors.org/ExploreDatabases/PrintPage?collectionId=2735&volumeId=48697&pageId=69451724&range=6&familySearch=False>

On the Edge of a Milestone:

Vivian Hadley, will be turning **95 years old on 06 Sept 2023**. For the past 1-1/2 years, Vivian had been living at: Wheelock Terrace, 32 Buck Road, Hanover, NH 03755

Vivian had been married for 64 years to the late Darwin Hadley (1924-2012), Canaan, NH and they have no living children or immediate relatives. Darwin was the 7th great grandson of our patriarch George and both he and Vivian were most interested in their Hadley genealogy.



We thought it would be a wonderful gift if Vivian received a slew of birthday notes or cards to acknowledge that we care for **all** Hadleys, even if they have no immediate Hadley family left. We are asking you, our caring Hadleys, to consider sending Vivian a birthday greeting.

“Hardship often prepares an ordinary person for an extraordinary destiny.” C.S. Lewis

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