

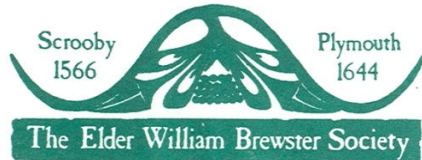
# ***THE ELDER BREWSTER PRESS***

A Publication of the Elder William Brewster Society

Volume 3, ISSUE #1 - June 2011

website- [www.brewsterfamily.org](http://www.brewsterfamily.org) - Glennon Harrison, Webmaster

*Gregory Evan Thompson - Editor - GThomp5749@aol.com*



## OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT** - ARTHUR YOUNG  
**VICE PRESIDENT** - BENJAMIN BREWSTER  
**TREASURER** - JANE E. COBB  
**HISTORIAN** - GREGORY E THOMPSON  
**SECRETARY** - JULIA E POST  
**ELDER** - DR. THOMAS BIRD  
**MEMBERSHIP** - GREGORY E THOMPSON  
**DIRECTORS** - MICHAEL GREENE  
DAVID STRINGFELLOW  
MARY B SHERWOOD  
BETTE I BRADWAY

## IN THIS ISSUE

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** PG 2  
**PLYMOUTH ATTRACTIONS** PG 9  
**TRIENNIEL MEETING INVITATION** PG 11  
**TREASURER'S REPORT** PG 1  
**HISTORIAN'S REPORT** PG 4  
**PROMINENT BREWSTERS** PG 4

## TRIENNIAL MEETING RESERVATIONS

**DON'T MISS OUT - THE TRIENNIAL MEETING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER BEFORE THE MEETING. PLEASE USE THE FORM ON PAGE 11. MAIL ALL REQUESTS TO :**

**MRS JANE COBB  
P.O. BOX 467  
BRIDGEWATER, MA. 02324**

**SPACE IS LIMITED - SO PLEASE RESERVE NOW !!**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of last report, 10/08/2010  
\$26,304.93

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Receipts            |             |
| Membership Dues     | \$ 985.00   |
| Interest on Account | \$ 24.16    |
| 2011 Tri meeting    | \$ 35.00    |
| Brewster Pin Sales  | \$ 12.00    |
| Donations           | \$ .00      |
| Total Receipts      | \$ 1056.16  |
| Balance             | \$27,361.09 |

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Expenses                    |           |
| Postage, Printing, Supplies | \$ 871.57 |
| Total Expenses              | \$ 871.57 |

Balance as of 04/29/2011 \$26,489.52  
Respectfully submitted  
Jane Cobb, Treasurer

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

I am pleased to report that since the last newsletter was published, I have approved 51 New Members. a GREAT increase in members.

1. Susan Bower Litzenberger  
Pahrump, Nevada
2. Blair A. Becker  
Stockton, California
3. Lindsay R. Castles  
Stockton, California
4. Jonathan Allen Wignot  
Lake Oswego, Oregon
5. David Allen Gillespie  
Katy, Texas
6. Paul Stanton Bumpus  
Plymouth, Massachusetts
7. Donald Kaye Brewster  
Tequesta, Florida
8. Claudia Brewster DeBonte  
Tequesta, Florida
9. Rachel Brewster  
Belfast, Maine
10. Lewis Brewster  
Newport Beach, California
11. Jill Sheridan Chapman  
Pisgah Forest, North Carolina
12. James Lawley Wormelle  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
13. Margaret Louise Shock  
Paramount, California
14. Richard Dennis Souther  
Honolulu, Hawaii
15. James Paul Smith  
Camarillo, California
16. Kristen Lucka Hallows  
Hilliard, Ohio
17. Dr. Clinton Cleon Shock  
Ontario, Oregon
18. Dwayne Arnold Bower  
Pahrump, Nevada
19. Gilbert Powers Doughty  
Portland, Maine
20. David Lee Johnson  
Plantation, Florida
21. Jackson Everett Wignot  
Lake Oswego, Oregon
22. Cynthia Anne Wignot Medina  
Lake Oswego, Oregon
23. Ronald Edward Wignot  
Lake Oswego, Oregon
24. Timothy Wignot  
Lake Oswego, Oregon
25. Lindsey Wignot  
Lake Oswego, Oregon
26. Brandon Rowley  
Antelope, California
27. DeAnn Dawn Caddy  
Ironton, Minnesota
28. William Dennison Whitbeck, Sr.  
Sumpter, South Carolina
29. Suzanna Olson Weir Ed.d  
Lafayette, California
30. Caitlyn Medina  
Lake Oswego, Oregon

31. Leslie Rae Davis Manthei  
New Harmony, Vermont

32. Daniel Allen Smith  
Camarillo, California

33. Gerri Smith Askren  
Camarillo, California

34. Mary-Ruth O Duquette  
Harrisville, Rhode Island

35. Archibald M. Grant  
Warwick, Rhode Island

36. Jared G Parker  
Scottsdale, Arizona

37. Lily Jane Parker  
Scottsdale, Arizona

38. Karen Cromwell Parker  
Scottsdale, Arizona

39. Halle Elizabeth Hutcherson  
Tallahassee, Florida

40. Jeremy Barnes Klein  
Tallahassee, Florida

41. Susan Marie Kohler  
Richmond, Virginia

42. Pamela Moffitt Green  
Palm Springs, California

43. Wayne Robert Gould  
Pueblo, Colorado

44. Holly Hall Kluck  
Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey

45. Terry Thomas Murphy  
Sylvania, Ohio

46. Ruth Odessa Grant Payne

47. Raymond Charles Raser  
Escondido, California

48. William Joseph Smith, Sr.  
Camarillo, CA

49. William Joseph Smith, Jr.  
Camarillo, CA

50. Michael Christopher Bland  
Warren, R.I.

51. Georgeann McBride Blatterman  
Duxbury, MA.

#### UPDATE OF THE BREWSTER GENEALOGY

I have received a wonderful response to my request for family materials. Several members have sent in information which has now been added to update the Brewster Genealogy. Please continue to send this material to me so that it can be added. This material can be scanned and e-mailed, or it can be mailed to me by snail-mail.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### A Message from the Treasurer

Dues, for a three-year period is \$20.00 for members who have their newsletters via postal mail. **NOTE: IF YOU PROVIDE US WITH AN E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR SENDING THE NEWSLETTERS THE DUES ARE ONLY \$15.00.**

If you have an e-mail address, please send it to us. This will help cut down on our always increasing postage/printing expenses considerably. We are very pleased with the email responses we have received so far. Please remember. **IF YOU CHANGE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS, PLEASE LET US KNOW. WE CANNOT SEND YOU YOUR NEWSLETTER IF YOU DON'T.**

Send checks payable to **ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER SOCIETY** to me:

Jane E Cobb, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 467  
Bridgewater, MA 02324-0467

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE !!!**

**" REMINDERS AND FINAL NOTICES"** went out quite a while ago. Members who have expired dues in 2009 will be dropped after this newsletter from the roster. Please contact me at [bwater1@comcast.net](mailto:bwater1@comcast.net) or at my mailing address if you think you may be one of those members. We would hate to lose any of our valued members !!!

Sincerely, Jane E. Cobb, Treasurer

**BREWSTER FAMILY STORIES**

\*\*\*\*\*  
"Brewster family stories" accepts articles written by members and non members. If you would like your article published in the Brewster Press, please email to [GThomp5749@aol.com](mailto:GThomp5749@aol.com) or mail to me at P.O. Box 355, Branford, Ct 06405  
\*\*\*\*\*

**BREWSTER PINS NOW AVAILABLE**

The new Brewster pins are \$4.00 each including postage and can be purchased by mailing a check to: Gregory Thompson, P.O. Box 355, Branford, CT 06405



**ARTICLES WANTED**

Please send me family articles for publication in the Brewster Press. I will accept articles by e-mail or snail mail.

**HISTORIANS REPORT**

As you can see, we have MANY new members this year. I am hoping that a majority of these new members will make the trip to Plymouth, Massachusetts in September to introduce. It's always a pleasure to meet new members in person to put a face to the name.

**PROMINENT BREWSTER'S**

This Article about Frederick Foster Brewster is very near and dear to my heart, because I live in New Haven, CT not too far from Edgerton Park. It is a beautiful place containing gardens and grounds almost exactly as they were left by Mr. Brewster. The house, of course, is gone, but you can still see the beauty of the surrounding property.

The late Frederick Foster Brewster, who had his majestic 25-acre "Edgerton" estate built on the Hamden-New Haven line in 1908 as a wedding present to his wife, was a member of an old and prominent New England family dating back to the founding of Plymouth Colony by the Mayflower pilgrims.

The Brewster name appears frequently in volumes on the history of New England. One such history book states, "Frederick Foster Brewster's position in the community is one of importance and influence...for many years he has been one of the leading capitalists in New Haven."

The Brewster family was founded in this country by William Brewster, who was born in Scrooby, England, in 1566. He landed at Plymouth, Mass. with the Mayflower Pilgrims

on Dec. 16, 1620 with his wife and two children, Love and Wrestling Brewster. Love Brewster served in the Pequot War and was a member of Miles Standish's company in the military enrollment of 1643. He married Sarah Collier of Duxbury.

From them the line of descent to Frederick Brewster is traced through their son, William, and his wife, Lydia Partridge Brewster; their son, Benjamin, and his wife, Elizabeth Whittier Brewster; their son, Simon, and his wife, Anne Andrus Brewster, the latter of Norwich and the former of Griswold, where he died in 1801 at the age of 81; through their son, Joseph, and his wife, Hannah Tucker Brewster; and through their son, Patrick, the paternal grandfather of Frederick Foster Brewster.

Patrick Brewster was born in Norwich in 1793 and died there in 1873. He married Catherine Fannie Roath Preston. Benjamin Brewster, son of Patrick and Catherine Fannie Roath mother of Frederick Foster Brewster, was born in Norwich in 1828 and died at "Scrooby" in Cazenovia, N.Y. in 1897.

In 1849 Benjamin Brewster went to California where he engaged in mercantile and other western enterprises for 25 years and amassed a fortune. In 1874 he returned east to reside permanently in New York City.

Some of the greatest financial movements of that period were more or less the result of his genius. He was prominently identified with the building of the elevated railways in New York City and was also a leader in many large railroad transactions, one of the most important being the reorganization of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railroad.

At the time of his death, Benjamin Brewster was vice president of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Company, and a heavy stockholder and director in the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway Company, the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company and other large

enterprises. He was also a director in the International Navigation Company, owner of the American line of steamers.

History books assert that Benjamin Brewster "inherited many of the noble traits of his ancestors, and he illustrated by percept and example the best of New England race, integrity, perseverance, benevolence, deep religious feeling, courage of conviction and love of letters, art and nature."

In 1891 Benjamin Brewster erected a handsome summer residence at Cazenovia, N.Y. which he named "Scrooby" in honor of the ancestral English Manor House of Elder William Brewster. He married Elmina Hersey Dow at San Francisco, Calif., in 1863.

Frederick Foster Brewster was born at Irvington-on-the-Hudson on Aug. 13, 1872 and was educated at St. Paul's School. He came to New Haven in 1890 and at that time became connected with the W. & E.F. Fitch Company, manufacturers of malleable iron goods.

His first position was that of clerk but soon after Mr. Brewster was appointed secretary and later also vice president of the company. The concern was sold in August of 1919 and at that time Mr. Brewster retired from active business.

Mr. Brewster maintained offices at 129 Church St., New Haven, from which he directed his large and important business and financial interests. He was a director of the Second National Bank of New Haven, the New Haven Gas Company, the United Illuminating Company, and the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. He also was a trustee of the New Haven Savings Bank.

On Aug. 11, 1908, Mr. Brewster married Margaret Brewster Fitch, a daughter of his cousin, John Brewster Fitch, and Anna Heaton Fitch. Their marriage at Trinity Church on New Haven's historic green followed by a gala reception at the Hillhouse Avenue home of the

bride's parents, was the social event of their generation in New Haven.

As a wedding present to his bride, Mr. Brewster embarked on the construction of "Edgerton" on what then was known as the Ivy Nook section of Whitney Avenue. Mr. Brewster's mother, as a wedding gift, furnished the entire mansion when it was finished.

For over 50 years, the Brewster's maintained rigid privacy at their estate, erecting a 12-foot high gray stone wall around its entire 25 acres. The couple had four children. For years, the Brewster New Year's Eve party at the huge English Manor House in the center of "Edgerton" was New Haven's annual social highlight.

The mansion had well over 50 rooms and during most of its history, the estate required the services of some 30 servants, domestics and gardeners. The family automobiles were painted in so-called "Brewster Green."

One expert in recent years called the Brewster mansion "one of the last great examples of the English Manor House in America." One history book said of the Edgerton estate: "It is one of the show places of New Haven and, indeed, is one of the most beautiful private residences in this part of the country."

Mr. Brewster died in 1959 and in his will, decreed that Edgerton be left to the City of New Haven as a public park. He also ordered that the family mansion be demolished after the death of his wife. Mr. Brewster once told friends that it cost some \$100,000 a year to maintain the estate. He felt that no private family, not any institution, could afford the costs of maintenance which he felt his cherished estate commanded. And so he ordered that his mansion be razed before the property becomes a public park.

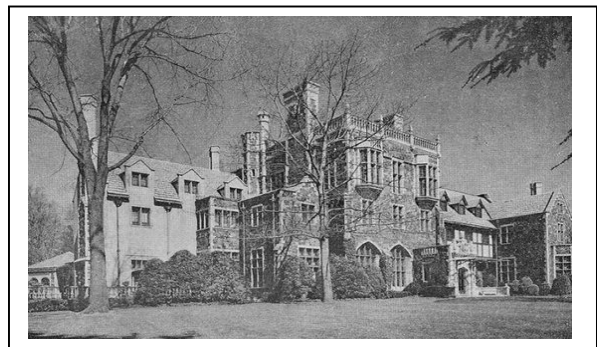
Mrs. Brewster survived her husband by five years, passing away late last year. The Brewster

summer home, "Morelands" in Dublin, N.H., was sold to an investment group. An auction of furnishings within "Edgerton" was held and all the old antiques and family furniture were sold.

#### Edgerton Estate - North View



#### Edgerton Estate - South View



#### Edgerton Park - Arial View



The land belonging to Edgerton Park was originally a parcel of Eli Whitney's (of the cotton gin fame) property. Almost adjacent to where his factory was located. This parcel was conveyed to his daughter who sold it to Frederick Brewster so that he could build his wife an estate as a wedding present. On the lot was the home of Ms Whitney called "Ivy Nook"

Mr. Brewster raised Ivy Nook and built his palatial mansion. For those of you who have never been to New Haven, Ct it is a town absolutely FULL of history. Many restorations of old homes are going on right now. This was the hometown of the famous "Winchester Family" of the gun fame, as well as tons of other historic families who have made their home there. And of course, don't forget, it is the home to Yale University and Eli Whitney.

A Passport Entry of Frederick Foster Brewster

**DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT.**

Age: 47 years. Months: medium  
 Stature: 6 feet, 0 inches, Eng. Chin: round  
 Forehead: high Hair: grey  
 Eyes: brown Complexion: fair  
 Nose: straight Face: oval

**IDENTIFICATION.**  
 New Haven, Conn., June 9th, 1916

I, Max Farrand, solemnly swear that I am a native citizen of the United States; that I reside at 230 Church St. New Haven; that I have known the above-named Frederick Foster Brewster personally for 7 years and know him to be a native citizen of the United States; and that the facts stated in this affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Max Farrand  
 230 Church Street, New Haven, Conn.

Sworn to before me this 9th day of June 1916

(Seal) D. Goldberg  
 Deputy Clerk of the U.S. District Court at New Haven, Conn.

Applicant may be communicated with at the following address:  
Box 524, New Haven, Conn.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**  
 STATE OF Connecticut COUNTY OF NEW HAVEN, ss. New Haven, Conn., June 12, 1916

I, Frederick Foster Brewster, a NATIVE AND LOYAL CITIZEN of the UNITED STATES, hereby apply to the Department of State, at Washington, D.C., for a passport.

I solemnly swear that I was born at IRVINGTON, NEW YORK, on or about the 13th day of August, 1872; that my [father/husband] is and was a WHITE citizen of the United States; that I am domiciled in the United States, my permanent residence being at 840 Whitney Ave. New Haven in the State of Connecticut, where I follow the occupation of MANUFACTURER; that I am about to go abroad temporarily, and I intend to return to the United States within three months with the purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein; and that I desire a passport for use in visiting the countries hereinafter named for the following purpose:

Canada recreation  
 (Name of country) (Object of visit)

I intend to leave the United States from the port of New Haven, Conn., on board the N.Y. N.H. & H.R.R. on 18 June 1916.

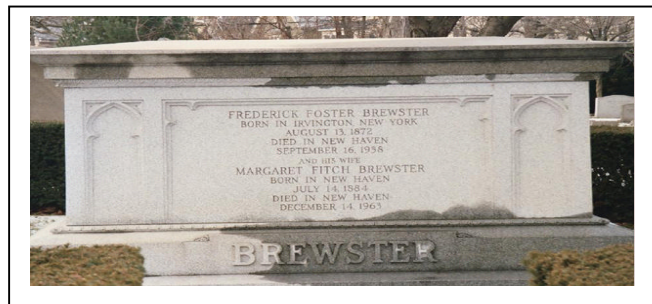
**OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.**  
 Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; So help me God.

Frederick Foster Brewster  
 Sworn to before me this 12th day of June, 1916.

(Seal) D. Goldberg  
 Deputy Clerk of the U.S. District Court at New Haven, Conn.

The above picture is from Ancestry.com

The Brewster's are buried in the famous Grove Street cemetery, where many earlier families are buried.



This is an article written in the New York Times, regarding Mr. Brewster and his wealthy friends. Mr. Brewster had connections with the Standard Oil Company.

## MORE STANDARD OIL MEN IN NEW HAVEN

Secretary Pratt and Frederick  
Brewster Added to Road's  
Directorate.

### FOUR NOW IN THE BOARD

Mellen Keeps Peace with New York  
Central by Giving Latter an Op-  
tion on Ontario & Western.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., June 7.—It is officially announced that the following have been elected Directors of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company:

Henry K. McHarg of Stamford, Frederick F. Brewster of New Haven, A. Heaton Robertson of New Haven, Lewis Cass Ledyard of New York, Charles M. Pratt of New York, and Richard Olney of Boston.

Of these gentlemen Henry K. McHarg is the Director and Vice President of a Southern railroad company and a prominent capitalist, whose name was suggested for a Directorship in the company some months ago when Vice President Todd retired.

Frederick F. Brewster is a wealthy young man in this city who is understood to have large interests in the Standard Oil Company.

A. Heaton Robertson is a Yale graduate and a New Haven lawyer, who in 1904 was the Democratic candidate for Governor of Connecticut. He has acted as attorney for the railroad in various capacities.

Lewis Cass Ledyard is a New York lawyer and a Director of the Boston & Maine, who represents large stock holdings in that corporation of the American Express Company, which, it is understood, is to be exchanged by agreement for the New Haven Company's shares.

Charles M. Pratt of New York is Secretary of the Standard Oil Company and Director in many other corporations, including the Boston & Maine, in the stock of which he is a large holder. His shares are also, it is understood, to be exchanged for New Haven stock. He and President Hadley of Yale University married sisters, both of them daughters of the late Gov. Morris, who was Governor of Connecticut in 1893 and 1894.

Richard Olney of Boston was Secretary of State under President Cleveland. He is a Director of the Boston & Maine and has represented it as legal counsel.

In railroad circles here the additions to the New Haven Directorate are interpreted positively as the first open step in the coming merger of the New Haven corporation with the Boston & Maine, the latter thus getting immediate representation in the prospectively consolidated companies. Another significant feature is that the Connecticut majority in the corporation's Board of Directors is preserved, three residents of Connecticut going in along with three non-residents.

The representation of the Standard Oil group of capitalists in the new Directorate is also regarded as extremely significant and with an important bearing upon the future finances of the corporation. A prominent officer of the New Haven Company can be quoted as saying to-day that recent legislation has not, as reported, made any change in the legal necessity that a majority of the Directorate must be bona fide residents of this State.

William Rockefeller and H. H. Rogers of the Standard Oil Company have been Directors of the New Haven for several years.

Published: June 8, 1907  
Copyright © The New York Times

Don't forget to send me your family stories so that they can be put into the newsletter. Send them to me at:

Gregory Evan Thompson

P.O. Box 355

Branford, CT 06405



## The Triennial Meeting

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the Triennial Meeting in Plymouth, Massachusetts. For those who have never been, Plymouth is a town full of history and a warm and friendly place to visit. This year, our treasurer and I have worked especially hard to provide you with an excellent meal (Pilgrim Buffet) as well as entertainment. This year we have decided to focus on what a large and prominent family the Brewster's are. Your one and only Historian and membership chairman will talk about "Famous Brewster's in History" Some of whom you may have heard of, and many that you probably have not.

I also will discuss the progress of the update of the Brewster Genealogy and how you can contribute to this important family legacy.

There will be other surprises as well. We always have a great time, and since we have almost 200 new members since the last meeting, I'm expecting the turnout to be fantastic!!!!!!!

Find the meeting form and dates and costs on the next page.

If you plan on attending the cut-off date is **September 2, 2011** I ask that you respect this deadline as the Hotel needs to order the correct amount of food and supplies. Space is limited, so PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE don't wait till the last minute. We can promise you a good time. I am especially excited to meet in person some of the many members that I have worked with over the years, and conversed via e-mail but have never met in person.

Plymouth, Massachusetts has something for everyone, especially for history lovers. Hope to see you there in September 2011

## Some Plymouth, Ma. Sites

The Mayflower II



Burial Hill



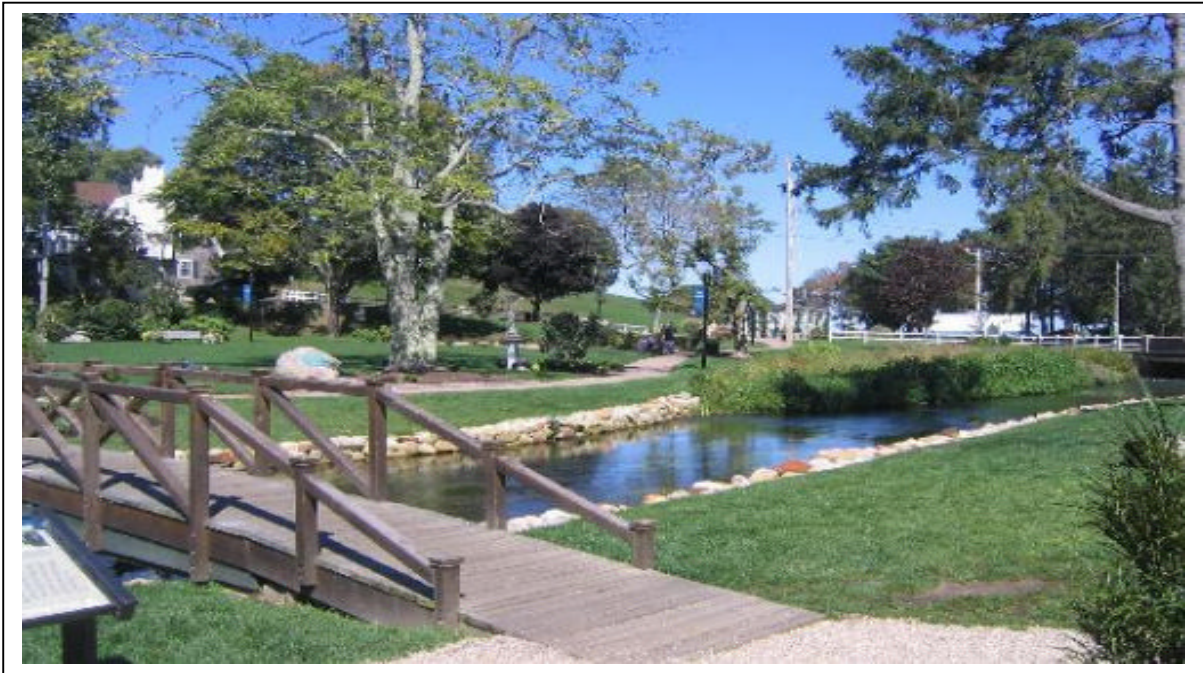
Plymouth Plantation



Pilgrim Hall Museum



**More Plymouth, Massachusetts Attractions**



**Beautiful Brewster Gardens**

**The Jenny Grist Mill**



*You are cordially invited to attend the 2011 Triennial Meeting of*

**THE ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER SOCIETY**

*Saturday, September 10, 2011*

*Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor*

*180 Water Street*

*Plymouth, Massachusetts*

*Memorial Service at Brewster Gardens (pending)*

*2:00 p.m.*

*Business Meeting*

*3:00 pm*

*Buffet Dinner / \$35.00 per person*

*6:30 pm*

***Please use the form below when placing your reservations. Reservations must be received NO LATER than September 2, 2011. Space is limited, so be sure to reserve early ! Checks should be made out to the Elder William Brewster Society and sent to Jane Cobb, P.O. Box 467, Bridgewater, MA. 02324-0467. (\$35.00 per person)***

*Cut*

***Elder William Brewster Society Triennial Meeting  
September 10, 2011***

*Name (s) attending dinner* \_\_\_\_\_

***PLEASE PRINT*** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please circle*

*Attending Memorial Service (if held)*

*Y*

*N*

*Number attending meeting only (Members only)* \_\_\_\_\_

*Your email address would be helpful, in case of any changes* \_\_\_\_\_

*A phone number would be greatly appreciated* \_\_\_\_\_

**The Elder William Brewster Society  
c/o Gregory Evan Thompson  
P.O. Box 355  
Branford, CT 06405**

**DUES EXPIRATION ON LABEL**

Return Address Service requested

This Newsletter is copyrighted 2011  
The Elder William Brewster Society

Currently published June and October  
Permission to use data found in the Elder  
Brewster Press, in whole or in part, is  
forbidden without written permission  
(and is never permitted for commercial  
purposes). Thank you for your under-  
standing.

Address all requests to:  
Gregory Evan Thompson, P.O. Box 355  
Branford, CT 06405

Old Map of Cape Cod, Massachusetts

