

# CUPERS COVE - 1610

## A BRIEF HISTORY AND SETTLER LIST

### Newfoundland's First Colony

In 1610 a London & Bristol Co. was chartered with the intent to colonize Newfoundland.

A perusal of this company charter will reveal a gathering of courtiers, gentlemen and merchants of import.

### The 48 Patentees of 1610:

Alder	Robert	
Allen	Edward	
Alport	Thomas	
Aldworth	Thomas	
Bacon	Francis, Sir	Solicitor General
Bowdler	Richard	
Browne	John	
Constable	John	
Cope	Walter	
Crispe	Ellis	
Duddridge	John	
Doughtie	John	
Dunn (Donne)	Daniel, Sir	(afterwards) Master of the Wards
Fishburn	Richard	
Freeman	Ralph	
Freeman	William	
Gifford	Philip	
Guy	John	
Guy	Philip	
Haviland	Anthony	
Hobby	Richard	
Holsworthy	Richard	
Hooke	Humphrey	
Howard	Henry, Sir	Earl of Northampton
Jennings	Abram	
Jones	Thomas	
Jones	William	
Juxon	John	
Juxon	Thomas	
Kirkham	Robert	
Langton	John	
Langton	Thomas	
Lewis	William	
Meridith	William	
Needham	Francis	
Short	John	
Spencer	Humphrey	
Slany	Humphrey	
Slany	John	
Stockley	John	
Stone	Simon	
Tanfield	Lawrence, Sir	Chief Baron of the Exchequer
Turner	William	
Vigars	John	
Weld (1)	John	
Weld (2)	John	
Whittingham	John	
Willoughby	Percival, Sir	

---

These initial patentees numbered 48 of which 24 were merchants of London and 10 were merchants of Bristol. A few months after its inception, through share sells, the Bristol adventurers were ascending to the majority -...The Bristollians consideringe ther many voices might heare prevaile against the government of the buyness as it is nough established...

Some historians have dismissed this attempt at colonization with a fleeting glance, however, the shares valued at 25 pounds in 1610 were selling for 40 pounds in 1612 - and this without advertising or promotional material. Although they dared not put it in writing this may have been a clandestine scheme to monopolize the entire Newfoundland fishery trade.

Dorset, even at this early date, was already involved in the Newfoundland fishery. That first summer the settlers met with ...one Master Peter Coxe of Poole who hath been here coastinge this summer...

In August, 1610, the first 39 settlers arrived at Cupers Cove (later Cupid). These were not however the first Englishmen settled in Newfoundland - Sir. Humphrey Gilbert, on his fatal voyage of 1583 met with ...the inhabitants of Newfoundland... This colony at Cupers Cove was however our first attempt at organized colonization. Some of the settlers names mentioned for that first year were:

William	Chatchmaid	
William	Colston	Later returned to Bristol. Bristol historians might recognize him as the gentleman who later entertained Charles 1st in his house on Small Street.
Richard	Fletcher	Master Pilot and Director of Fishing.
John	Guy	Governor (from Bristol).
Philip	Guy	Brother of John.
John	Morris	A Tiler, died accidentally Feb 1, 1611.
Thomas	Percy	A Sawyer, died of remorse from a killing n Rochester.
William	Stone	died April 13, 1611 of laziness according to Gov. Guy.
Marmaduke	Whittington	died of the effects of smallpox contracted in Bristol.
Thomas	Rowley	son of Roger (Shropshire).

Also 3 other sawyers, 8 fishermen, 2 fish splitters, 1 surgeon and one sick fishermen left behind by Alexander Sanford of Lime

---

Additional names mentioned in 1612 when the settlers increased to 67:

Babacucke (Babcock?)	James	
Butler	Samuel	
Carton (Garton?)	Edward	Willoughby apprentice died Feb 1, 1613.
Cowper	Thomas	Willoughby apprentice.
Crout	Henry	Willoughby agent.
Crowder	John	
Davis	George	a cooper, died Jan 27, 1613.
Frewin	George	a cooper, died Jan 27, 1613.
Griggs	Matthew	a Turner, died Mar 6, 1613.
Guy	Nicholas	from Bristol.
Harrington	John	Willoughby apprentice.
Hartland	Edward	a tailor, died Feb 10, 1613.
Hatton	William	Willoughby apprentice.
Holworthy	James.	
Lane	George.	
Olney	Oliver ?	A Surveyor, Willoughby apprentice
Pearson	Bartholomew	Agricultural expert of Wollaton, Nottingham -
Willoughby agent.		
Perrie	Edward	

Poulton	Edward	Willoughby apprentice.
Russell (Rossell)	Robert	Willoughby apprentice.
Spenser	??	Brother of patentee Humphrey Spencer, from London.
Taylor	Thomas	
Teage	Master	
Tipton	Fraunces.	
Toncks	John	A Mason, died Feb 29, 1613.
Tottle	Edward	Willoughby apprentice - sent back home.
??	Tobias	Irish apprentice.
Vaughen	George	
Wattes	William	Chief Carpenter, died Mar 11, 1613.
Whittington	George	
Wichalle (Michell) (Mitchell)	George.	
Willes	?	died 1613.
Willoughby	Thomas	Black sheep son of Sir. Percival sent out to reform himself, age 19.
And 16 Women.		

---

About 1612 the merchant and writer Lewis Roberts visited this colony with his employer, merchant Thomas Harvey of London, albeit Roberts was only 16 at this time.

Michael Crumb of Bristol is also mentioned in this colony (but the source is not reliable) which name today is corrupted or rather improved into Cumby.

The Company issued instructions to keep a ...journall of accidentes and wyndes, etc., so that the memorie of accurantes perrishe not'... In the middle of the wether report we find this genealogical gem - Mar 27, 1613. ...In the afternoon the sun showed herself at times but something mild. This night was Guy's wife brought abed with a young son, some half hour in travail. This night a little frost but to no purpose'... (The father was Nicholas Guy).

The colonist were under the able governorship of Capt. John Mason from 1616 to 1621.

During 1620-24 England suffered a severe economic depression and in 1626 she plunged into a war with France without having ended the war with Spain and this, with good reason, drew our adventurers away from colonizing schemes. These colonists (some returned to England) continued on under the governorship of John Slany, London merchant, who died in 1632, and perhaps his factor in Newfoundland, Richard Newell. Sir. Percival was not now a young man. The colonists dispersed and survived from henceforth, undoubtedly by joining their next neighboring colony began as early as 1617 by Bristol merchants who had broken away from the parent company.

When Capt. Mason later founded his New Hampshire he looked to Newfoundland for experienced colonists and our American researchers may do well to review this list. Some of the names mentioned in Mason's New Hampshire are repeats of the Newfoundland names: Vaughan, Lane, Spence and Crowder (Crowther).