

Sergeant John Porter

John Porter was born in England, probably Dorset, in 1596, to Samuel and Sarah. He died in Salem, MA on 06 September 1676. In 1641, he was a constable at Hingham, MA, and in 1644, the deputy to the General Court. In 1644 he moved to Salem, MA and was the largest land holder at the time of his death (well over 1,000 acres). He was elected selectman in 1649 and served for 27 years., deputy to the General Court in 1668, and often served as surveyor and bridge builder. He participated in the Pequot war and afterwards was part of Governor Endicott's military staff. It is said that he married Mary Endicott (sister of Governor Endicott) by 1622, who died in 1684/5. It is known that he was a close friend of Governor Endicott. John was a farmer and also owned a sawmill. He established the first tannery in New England and thus founded the hide and leather trade.

Further reading:

Bower, Glenn L. *Just a Family History*. 2011.

Hanna, Doreen Potter, Potter, Louise. *A Potter-Richardson Memorial*. 1957.

Porter, Joseph W. *A Genealogy of the Descendants of Richard Porter*. Bangor ME, 1878.

Porter, Juliet. *A Porter Pedigree*. Worcester, MA, 1907.