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978-0-521-44764-5 - New England's Generation: The Great Migration and the Formation of Society and Culture in the Seventeenth Century

Virginia DeJohn Anderson

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Based on a collective biography of nearly 700 participants in the Great Migration, this book approaches the social history of seventeenth-century New England in a new way. Unlike previous studies that have examined towns and their inhabitants, *New England's Generation* follows seven shiploads of emigrants through the course of their lives in Old and New England. This approach offers the most comprehensive view ever of the patterns and functions of migration within the new settlements, furnishes new insights into the formation of American Puritan society and culture, and captures the dynamism of life within the first generation of New England settlers.

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# *New England's generation*

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FOR  
MY MOTHER AND FATHER  
MY SISTERS AND BROTHERS

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## Acknowledgments



The idea for this project germinated over a decade ago when I made a transatlantic migration of my own, albeit one from west to east. In 1976, the Marshall Aid Commemorative Commission granted me a scholarship for two years' study in England. It was during this sojourn in the land that New Englanders left that I began to wonder why they had done so and how their lives had been changed by their decision to cross the ocean.

Several institutions have offered generous financial support over the years. The Department of History at Harvard University supplied the funds for computer processing. In 1983, I became the fortunate recipient of a Whiting Fellowship, which allowed me to take a year off from teaching and complete the dissertation upon which this book is based. In 1990, the Eugene M. Kayden Advisory Committee at the University of Colorado selected this book for its Annual Faculty Manuscript Award, providing funds to subvene the costs of publication.

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