

**Following extracted from [The Greene Family History England to America: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, western North Carolina and Beyond](http://www.redbirdacres.net/greenehistory.html)  
From Alexander De Boketon of Old Europe to the New World**

<http://www.redbirdacres.net/greenehistory.html>

**JOHN GREENE (1597-1659)**, the pioneer in this country, with his wife and children, sailed from Southampton (England) on April 16, 1635, on the ship JAMES and landed in Boston, Massachusetts on June 3, 1635. They settled in Salem but were driven out by religious persecutions, and soon after went to Providence (Rhode Island). Here he was one of the twelve to who Roger Williams conveyed land in his 'initial deed', thusly called because the men are mentioned only by their initials, and one of the twelve original members of the first Baptist Church in Providence. He was of the party who with Samuel Gorton purchased Shawomet, later called Warwick (Rhode Island), from the Indians. His is the only name of a white man signed as a witness to the deed. His own plot, called Occupassnatuxet, more commonly known as Pastuxet, remained in the family until 1782, when it was bought by Governor John Francis, whose heirs are still in possession.

In August 1637, he was accused of having spoken contemptuously against magistrates and stood 'bound in a 100 marks to appear at the next Quarter Court', by order of the Massachusetts authorities.

In September following, for the same offense, he was fined \$20.00 and was to be committed until the fine was paid, and enjoined not to come into the jurisdiction of Massachusetts upon pain of fine or imprisonment at the pleasure of the Court. A few months later the same court of Massachusetts received a letter from Greene with which he charged the court with usurping the power of Christ over churches and men's consciences. The court again ordered him not to come into their jurisdiction under pain of imprisonment and further censure.

In 1643 came the summons to the Warwick men to appear in Boston to answer to the complaints of Pomham and Soconoco, 'as to some unjust and injurious dealing toward them by yourself'. Then soldiers were sent to bring them by force to Boston, after the accused refused to go, declaring they were legal subjects of the King of England, and beyond the limits of Massachusetts authority. On their arrival, there was a parley during which the officers declared that the Warwick settlers 'held blasphemous errors of which they must repent' or go to Boston for trial. Greene escaped capture but was banished like the rest.

Apparently Mrs. Joanne "Joan" Tattershall Greene did not die at sea in 1635 as has been recorded by others. Joan sought refuge with the Indians in the area called Occupassnatuxet (aka Pastuxet, now Warwick), Rhode Island, from the Massachusetts authorities in 1643. The event was so trying that she died there from shock.

After Joanne's death in 1643, John Greene returned to England and remarried twice. First to **Alice Daniels** of Gillingham on May 08, 1644 Gillingham, County Dorset, England, who died soon after marriage. Then to **Phillippa "Phillis" Arnold** of London on October

20, 1645 in London, County Middlesex. Three years later, however, when he, 3rd wife Phillipa, and Samuel Gorton returned from England, he had the satisfaction of landing in Boston, justified by the King of England.

Like others of this company of Shawomet settlers, Greene held responsible positions under the charter and was magistrate, assistant member of the town council, representative in the assembly, and commissioner from 1654 to 1657.

John Greene died in Warwick, Rhode Island in January of 1659