Edmund Hart of Westfield, Massachusetts

The family of Edmund\(^1\) Hart is well documented in "John\(^1\) and Mary (Hart) Greet of Westfield, Massachusetts, Southold, Long Island, and Wethersfield, Connecticut: With Notes on the Family of Edmund\(^1\) Hart and on Charity\(^2\) Hart, Wife of Thomas\(^2\) Loveland of Glastonbury, Connecticut" (Gale Ion Harris, *The American Genealogist*, 72:42-48 [Jan 1997]; hereinafter *TAG*) and *The Great Migration Begins* (Robert Charles Anderson, The New England Historical Genealogical Society, hereinafter *TGMB*). Additional information was provided by Alice Smith, a fellow descendant of the compiler's immigrant ancestor, John\(^1\) Lanning. Edmund was not the brother of Deacon Stephen\(^1\) Hart as sometimes claimed.

1. **Dr. Edmund\(^1\) Hart**, born about 1610; died intestate at Westfield, Massachusetts about 23 September 1672 "by the immediate hand of God in thunder and lightning"; married about 1638 [Mary Phelps] (*History of Weymouth*), the sister or sister-in-law of George Phelps; she died Weymouth, Massachusetts 20 Aug 1659.

Edmund\(^1\) Hart from Dorchester and Weymouth arrived in Westfield by 17 October 1664, when "lately of Waymouth," he purchased Westfield meadow and upland from Praisever Turner of Northampton. He died intestate about 23 September 1672 "by the immediate hand of God in thunder and lightning." His only son, Elisha\(^2\) Hart, died nearby in Windsor, Connecticut, on 15 Aug 1683, leaving an estate to be distributed by his administrators, Edward Neale and Thomas Loveland, "to said Heart's eight Sisters, to each an equal portion." Undated entries under "The Lands of Isaac Phelps" at Westfield mention land "bought of Father George Phelps which was formerly Edmund Harts" and "two parcels bought of Edward Neal and Thomas Loveland administrators to Elisha Hart." (*TAG*)

From *The Great Migration Begins*:

**ORIGIN:** Unknown.
**MIGRATION:** 1632
**FIRST RESIDENCE:** Dorchester
EDMUND HART OF WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

REMOVES: Weymouth 1636, Westfield 1664

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: Admission to Dorchester church prior to 14 May 1634 implied by freemanship.

FREEMAN: 14 May 1634 (as "Edmonde Harte," eighth in a sequence of ten Dorchester men) [Massachusetts Bay Colony Records 1:369]

EDUCATION: He made his elaborate mark to a deed in 1666 [Suffolk Land Records 5:82].

ESTATE: Granted sixteen acre Great lot of Dorchester, 16 Jan 1632/3 [DTR 1]; "John Phillips shall have for Edward Hart three-quarters of an acre meadow at Squantum Neck," 1 Feb 1635/6 [DTR 15] received Lot #53, four acres, in the meadows beyond Naponset [DTR 321].

Granted eighteen acre Great Lot in Weymouth, 1636 [Weymouth Hist 199]; granted lot #49, seven acres, in the first division, and Lot #19, twenty-one acres, in the second division, 14 Dec 1663 [Weymouth Hist 200-01].

In the Weymouth land inventory of about 1643 "Edmond Hart" held three parcels of land: eleven acres in the East Field, "first granted to him"; three acres on Kingoke Hill, "first granted to Aingell Hollard"; and eighteen acres among the Great Lots [Weymouth Hist 188].

On 5 September 1664 "Edmond Hart of Weimouth" sold to James Nash Senior of the same "my dwelling house & lot adjacent thereunto being twenty acres more Oregon less...land first granted of Edward Sarrell alienated from him to Timothy Wales from him to Stephen French & now in the possession of Maine Edmond Hart," also "my two divisions of commons." also "all my right title and interest in the town" [SLR 5:82].

On 17 October 1664 "Edmund Hart of Waymouth, planter, "purchased of Praiisever Turner of Northampton, miller, one-half of two parcels which Turner had purchased from Edward Griswold of Windsor, at Woronoco, "being seven Oregon eight miles...from Springfield": one-half of twenty-five acres of meadow, and one half of twenty-five acres of upland meadow (the other half of each lot being sold to Cornelius Merrey) [HamLR A:58]

30 September 1672: "Edmund Hart of Westfield dying suddenly this sennight past inquiry was made by a jury of 12 men concerning his death who found it to be by the immediate hand of God in thunder & lightning as they conceive; their verdict is on file. And the said Edmund Hart dying intestate the inventory of his estate was presented to this Court and power of administration upon is granted to George Phelps which he accepted of. Also Elisha Hart son of Edm[un]d Hart being weak to manage his own matters chose his uncle the said Geo[rge] Phelps for his guardian from the court approved for that end" [HamPR 1;147].

The inventory of the estate of "Edmund Hart late of Westfield deceased" was signed 25 July 1673 and totalled &68 16s. 6d. Including real estate valued at &96 1s.: "eleven acres of meadows &55"; "twenty acres of land in the woods &40"; "a homelot Fortside four acres land not taken up &1 1s." There was a debt due to Aaron Cooke from "Edmund Hart...his son-in-law John Scone can testify to
it." There is also a cow John Scone hath not inventoried which is said to be given
to Scone's wi fe: Also Edward Neale hath one acre of land: Also john Greet hath
one acre of land not inventoried" [HamPR 1:148]

On 31 March 1674 the court further ordered that the distribution of the
estate of Edmund Hart of Westfield be "that Elisha Hart (for that he is very weak
for abilities of his mind...being crazy in his body) shall have &15 of the said
estate"; "Edm: Hart's daughters shall have the rest of the estate in equal portion:
and if any of the daughters shall die before distribution of the estate be made such
portion shall go to the children of such daughters if they have any; and Elisha Hart
's having at the last Court at Springfield chosen his uncle George Phelps for his
guardian whom that court allowed of, this court declares that no person shall trade
Oregon bargain with the said Elisha without the consent of his said guardian"
[HamPR 1:154]

BIRTH: By about 1610 on receipt of land grant in 1633.
DEATH: Westfield about 23 September 1672, "by the immediate hand of God in
thunder & lightning" [HamPR 1:147].
MARRIAGE: By about 1638 ____ ____; she died Weymouth 20 August 1659.

Children (TAG, TGMB):

i. **ELIZABETH**, b. Weymouth, MA say 1638; m. Weymouth, MA 26 June 1661
   **JOHN MOOR**.

ii. ** MARTHA**, b. Weymouth, MA 12 Oct 1640; d. [Westfield, MA] ca. 1683; m. 24
     Jan 1662 **EDWARD NEALE** of Weymouth.

iii. daughter, b. say 1642.

iv. **daughter**, b. cay 1644.

v. **CHARITY**, b. say 1646, m. by 1677 **THOMAS** of Wethersfield; direct ancestors of the compiler, see **Hale, House and Related Families** for more information.

It seems to have escaped prior notice that a sixth sister, Charity
Hart, had married Thomas Loveland, son of the "widow Lovenam" of Wethersfield (modern Glastonbury), the other administrator of
Elisha Hart's estate in 1683. On 20 May 1678, Thomas Loveland
"of Wethersfield," for twenty bushels of wheat, sold to John Root
of Westfield land "which fell to him the said Loveman [sic] by the
decease of Edmund Hart formerly of the said Westfield." The deed
recites that the land was Loveland's "proper right by his present
wife Charity daughter to the said Edmund Hart Deceased and
whatever was willed and ordered by Springfield Court to be the
portion of my Said wife out of his Fathers estate." Witnesses John
Chester Jr. and Steven Chester were Wethersfield men. Thomas
and Charity "Loveman" both signed by marks. (TAG)
vi. Mary, b. probably Weymouth, MA say 1648; m. probably at Westfield, MA, after Feb 1665/66 and before 16 Sep 1669 John Greet of Wethersfield, CT, b. ca. 1640, d. before Feb 1687/88, from Newfoundland to Boston ca. 1659, residing at Eagle Neck, Southold, Long Island Sep 1677.

   Children, surname Greet: 1. Mary, b. Westfield, MA say 1668, living in May 1714; m. (1) Wethersfield, CT 9 Feb 1687/8 Zachariah Seymour (Richard¹), b. Hartford, CT ca. 1642, d. Wethersfield, CT Aug 1702 aged 60 years, son of Richard¹ and Mercy (Ruscoe) Seymour of Hartford and Norwalk, CT; m. (2) after Sep 1705 Joseph Hollister (Thomas², John¹), b. after March 1680/1, living in Middletown, CT in 1741, son of Lt. Thomas² and Elizabeth (Lattimer) Hollister of Wethersfield. 2. John, b. Westfield, MA 1 or 6 Jan 1670/1?. 3. [Edmund], "Ed Gritt" appears on a list of 72 names on an undated and unnumbered page bound near the front of the first volume of the original Wethersfield vital records.

vii. Experience, b. Weymouth, MA say 1650; m. by 1677 William¹ Shepard of Westfield, MA; divorced Oct 1677.

   Child, surname Shepard: 1. John m. Elizabeth³ Woodruff (Matthew²).¹)

viii. Sarah, b. say 1653, m. (1) by 25 July 1673 John Scone of Westfield, MA, d. Westfield, MA 19 Aug 1684; m. (2) Springfield, MA 15 July 1692 John Burbank of Suffield, (then MA, now) CT.

   Child, surname Scone: 1. Sarah, b. Westfield, MA 7 March 1678; m. Wethersfield, CT 2 March 1699 John² Taylor (William¹), b. Wethersfield, CT July 1649.

ix. Elisha, b. by 1658; d. 1683 "infirm in mind."
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This is a complete every-name index for the entire document; each woman is indexed under her maiden name and her married name(s). A question mark, (?), indicates an unknown maiden name.