

## Hannah *Langford* Potter Beecher

Birth: unknown, England  
Death: Apr. 5, 1659  
New Haven  
New Haven County  
Connecticut, USA

Immigrated in 1639.

was a midwife

m 1) William Potter, who died in England, 6 Oct 1607, at St. Thomas, Lewes, Sussex, England

Their children, all baptized St. Thomas, Lewes, Sussex, England, include:

1. William bp 28 Aug 1608
2. John bp 18 Feb 1609
3. Mary bp 21 Mar 1611/12
4. Steven bp 01 Aug 1614

m2) John Beecher, their children include Isaac Beecher

Hannah was born in England about 1584. Her parents are not known. Hannah married William Potter on October 6, 1607 at St. Thomas a Becket Church in Lewes, East Sussex, England. In the next few years, sons William and John were born, along with two other children who probably died young. Hannah's husband William died in August of 1619. She married John Beecher in 1622. They had a son, Isaac. John Beecher was one of the seven men sent by Eaton to New Haven in advance of the colony. In 1635, the younger William Potter, his wife Frances and a son Joseph arrived in Boston.

Accompanying them were Hannah Beecher and her son Isaac. They all arrived in New Haven on June 26, 1638, but John Beecher had died the previous winter. They settled on Beecher's parcel of land, which Hannah was allowed to claim. Hannah died in New Haven on April 5, 1659. Her will, dated June 13, 1657, stipulated that son William should be executor, son Isaac should receive one third of the estate and William should control the other two thirds, in order to take care of his younger brother. She also named all three children of John Potter, John, Samuel & Hannah Blackly, calling them her grandchildren. The exact date of Hannah's death is unknown, but she must have died soon after June, 1657. She must have been buried in New Haven Green, the only burying

place for New Haven until 1797. Between 1797 and 1812, a few of those buried there were re-interred in the Grove Street Cemetery, but most were left under the green and three churches were eventually built over the graves. Some of the gravestones were moved to the Grove Street location, and some remain under the Center Church on the Green. Most of the old gravestones were destroyed. No gravestone exists for Hannah.- courtesy of Ken Smith

#### Her Will

I Hannah Beecher of New Haven, expecting my great change do make this my last will and testament, I bequeath my soul unto the hands of Lord Jesus Christ whose meritt I hope to be saved and my body to be burried at the discretion of my son William Potter my Executor. And for my worldly goods I give unto John Potter my Grand child twenty shillings and to Hannah Blackly, my Grand child, wife to Samuel Blackly, twenty shillings. And to Samuel Potter my Grand child twenty shillings to be paid to them within three months after my decease. And for the rest of my estate I give one third part to my son Isaac Beecher and two thirds to my eldest son William Potter, making him my Executor, desiring him to be as a father to his younger brother and his children. And in dividing my goods my will is that my son William should have my feather bed with that belongeth to it, unto his part and that the rest be divided at the discretion of my Overseers with the assistance of Sister Wakeman and sister Rutherford and I desire my loving freinds Mr. Mathew Gilbert and John Wakeman to be overseers of this my last will whereunto I have set my hand this 13th day of June, Anno 1657.

the mark of  
Hannah Becher.

Witnesses,  
Mathew Gilbert,  
John Wakeman  
Sarah Rutherford

#### Family links:

##### Spouse:

William Potter (\_\_\_\_ - 1619)

##### Children:

William Potter (1608 - 1662)\*

John Potter (1609 - 1644)\*

Isaac Beecher (1624 - 1690)\*

\*Calculated relationship

Burial:

Center Church on the Green Churchyard

New Haven

New Haven County

Connecticut, USA

Created by: Bushnell

Record added: Dec 29, 2011

Find A Grave Memorial# 82637196