

JOSHUA BARTLETT, NH - Signer of Loyalty Oath:

Joshua Bartlett, whose first ancestors had arrived on the Winthrop Fleet in 1635, was born in Newbury, Massachusetts, in 1707. In 1736 Joshua married Priscilla Jacobs, whose great grandfather, George Jacobs, Sr., had been hanged as a witch in Salem in 1691. Joshua's great grandfather, Richard Bartlett Jr., served several years as a Deputy in the Massachusetts Bay Colony General Court, and a century later, Joshua's second cousin, Josiah Bartlett, was a Signer of the Declaration of Independence. Earlier, in 1689, Joshua's grandfather, Samuel Bartlett Sr., assisted in the arrest of the tyrannical Royal governor, Sir Edmund Andros. Joshua and Priscilla had four daughters and five sons, (Joshua Jr., George, Matthias, Samuel, and Timothy) all of whom were patriots in the American Revolution. After the death of his wife, Joshua moved to Kingston, New Hampshire, to live with his eldest son, Joshua. Although he was nearly 70 years old and to do so was considered treason, Joshua signed the New Hampshire Association Test (a loyalty oath) in June 1776, thus demonstrating his strong support for American independence.