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Tavern and Inn Keeper, Ipswich, Mass., 1644 - 1652

John Baker was born in England in 1598; died in Topsfield, Mass. in 168-. He married in England Elizabeth (-), born about 1606; she was living in 1666.

John Baker was apprenticed to a grocer in Norwich, England, on 9 April 1616 for twelve years. In 1628 he was a citizen of Norwich and engaged in the grocery business. In 1637 he came to New England, intending to settle in Charlestown, but chose Ipswich instead.

By 1638 he possessed a house lot on High Street in Ipswich and three years later was made a freeman on 2 June 1641. He soon became a man of prominence and property and was licensed to sell wine in 1644 and 1647 and beer in 1652. He was licensed to brew and sell beer and the following entry is found on the records of the Court for 28 September 1652:

"John Baker is discharged from his presentment for suspicion of not putting in six bushells malt in a hoggshead."

John bought an extensive tract of land in Topsfield and removed there between 1670 and 1678. He was of Topsfield in 1680, where he died some time during that decade.

Joseph² Baker (Capt. Thomas^{4,3,2}, John¹), born in Topsfield was a direct descendant of the immigrant John¹ Baker. Joseph was also a tavernkeeper. He was born in Topsfield 23 May 1741. He died in Beverly 27 June 1801. He married Hepzibah Thorndike of Beverly 27 July 1762. Joseph Baker was a constable, esquire and tailor and lived in Bradford, Topsfield and Beverly. He was an Inn Holder in Topsfield and Beverly.

-by Claire Chamberlain Bryant
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REFERENCES

Essex Antiquarian, Baker Genealogy, p. 158; 165 #45