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THOMAS PHILLIPS 1678 - 1726

The Sun Tavern, Boston, Mass.

Thomas Phillips was the son of widow Mary Phillips of Plymouth, Mass. He was born about 1678 and died some time prior to his will which was proved in 1726. He married at Boston on 31 December 1702 Rebecca Blaney of Charlestown, Mass. Rebecca was born there on 13 February 1680/1, daughter of John Blaney and Sarah Powell, his wife.

Thomas Phillips first appears as an innholder in 1709, when on 9 June the Selectmen billeted 90 soldiers "now in her Majesty's service upon this present expedition, within the town of Boston. The soldiers were assigned to the several houses of entertainment and five were billeted with Thomas Phillips. The Boston Town Records show the location of his tavern. On 31 October 1712 Phillips received liberty to "dig up the highway from his dwelling house, being the Sun Tavern, to the dock which is about thirty feet," to lay a drain. He was notified on 21 February 1714/5 by the Selectmen to remove "the heap of dirt lying in the highway before or nigh his house at the entrance of Corn Market, which hath been made by dirt from his yard."

The dwelling of Phillips was the original Sun Tavern on the corner of Dock Square and what is now Faneuil Hall Square. He kept it, certainly from 1708 to 1724 when he was succeeded by Samuel Mears and others.

Thomas Phillips became a member of The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts in 1711 and continued until about 1724.

-by Howard Benjamin Burgess
72-10

REFERENCES

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Roberts' History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, 1895