

From "From Concord, MA to the Wilderness: The Brown Family Letters, 1792-1852" Brown-Groover, NEHGR V131 1977:

"The founding father of this family was Thomas Browne (1601-1688), a native of Lavenham, Suffolk Co., England, who had settled, with his wife Bridget, in Concord by the year 1640. Thomas was not the first of his family to emigrate to America, having been preceded by two uncles, Abraham and Richard Browne, who crossed with the Winthrop fleet in 1630, and by a cousin, John Browne, who came c. 1632 on the Lion. They were all from Lavenham, and all settled in Watertown. The exact circumstances of Thomas's emigration are not known, but it is probably that he, accompanied by the Reverend Edmund Browne, 5 years his junior, arrived in 1637, joining their relatives in Watertown. In 1638, the settled in the newly established town of Sudbury, where Edmund, a graduate of the University of Cambridge, became the first pastor and both were assigned land. Although generally regarded as brothers, they were more likely cousins. It is known that they had different fathers, each bearing the same name as his father. Since Thomas's mother Sara died in childbirth, it is not unreasonable to assume that he and his cousin Edmund, grew up as "brothers." In 1640 Thomas decided to make his permanent home in the nearby town of Concord."