To All Descendants
of Robert Parke (1580 - 1665)

Greetings:

and a cordial invitation to join with us in the organization of the Parke Society, our own family association.

Never in the history of our country was it more vital to us and our children's children to cherish, to preach and practice, and to promulgate the ideas and ideals of our honest, hard-working, self-reliant, God fearing forefathers. Let us therefore, band together to this end; to take part in other appropriate activities; and to meet each summer in the warm spirit of common kinship.

These are worthy and rewarding activities. So come to North Stonington on Sunday, August 4th, 1963.

The program of the Family Reunion and some plans for the future are set forth on the opposite side of this invitation.

Please, return your acceptance card promptly — today! — and thank you for thus helping us to make advance arrangements for an enjoyable and fruitful gathering of the clan.

Ruby Parke Anderson, Secy. pro tempore
(Mrs. Eugene Atwood Anderson)
Program for August 4th

11:00 a.m. — Memorial Service at the Old Road Church, Pequot Trail, Stonington — sponsored by the Denison Society, whose annual meeting is Saturday, August 3 and who have invited us to join them in this service: sermon by the distinguished Rev. Dr. Morgan Phelps Noyes, direct descendant of Rev. James Notes, first pastor of this historic church.

1:30 p.m. — Luncheon at the Third Baptist Church, North Stonington, served by the ladies of the church and that means all you can eat of the very best of good old fashioned New England fare! Adults $1.50, children 50c — reservations must be made in advance.

2:30 p.m. — "Ancestor Hunting in England," a talk illustrated with color slides by our "cousins," Ray and Beth Ruppert of Washington, D.C.

Awarding of Scholarship Prize for the best paper on local history by a North Stonington pupil to the Junior High and High Schools: Judges, Miss Sally C. Cow, Mrs. Jesse Berry, and Mr. Charles Utter.

3:00 p.m. — Organization Meeting of the Parke Society: 1 — Election of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, pro temp., to serve till annual meeting in 1961. 2 — Appointment of Committees to draft constitution and by-laws, to make a membership drive, to plan the Society’s activities, and to arrange the program for the 1964 meeting. 3 — Discussion of Society’s aims and objects, ways and means, finances, etc. 4 — Such above matters as may come up for action.

Miss Ella F. Wood of the Conn. League of Historical Societies will be with us to offer expert advice and answer questions.

Notes and Comments

The first Saturday in August is proverbially Denison Day when the Denison Society hold their annual meeting and reunion at the Denison Homestead in Mystic. May we not hope, to make the Sunday immediately following Parke Day Robert Parke's son Thomas married Dorothy Thompson, sister of George Denison’s first wife, and thereafter there were numerous intermarriages between the two families so that today many of us share kinship in both the Denison and Park lines. We look forward to interesting and enjoyable historical weekends.

As the famous Historian of New York State, Dr. Albert B. Corey has pointed out there are two basically different kinds of family pride: pride in family and pride of family. The former is selfish and status seeking, breeding snobbery. The second is generous and patriotic, inspiring public spirited leadership and service, the ideal of noblesse oblige.

We descendents of Robert Parke can be proud of our ancestry and the Parke Society can engage in a number of worthwhile projects. Bring your ideas to the organization meeting and let us lay out a program of activities of which we can also be proud.

We already have a start in two directions. First, in encouraging the young people to know better the rich history of their own community. And second, in the compilation of data for a Parke Genealogy which Mrs. Anderson, as many know, has worked on for many years.

Reservations are Needed

To provide for us all adequately the ladies of the hotel must know now, so please return your reservations card promptly.

In and around our better hotels and motels are very popular and if you come from away and plan a long weekend you will be wise to reserve accommodations. For your convenience we add a list of good addresses in the New London-Norwich neighborhood.