

Please pass this news to others who might be interested

Park/e/s Family News

Have you sent the Society your lineage for permanent record?

"That we may more clearly appreciate and cherish our rich heritage"

X - 1

November, 1973

ANNUAL MEETING

BOOKS GIVEN

The annual meeting of the Park/e/s Society was held at the Ramada Inn in Mystic. This is approximately on the site of "Whitehall", which Robert¹ named after his home in England. He was buried about a half mile from the Inn.

Many thanks to Mrs. Betty Ruppert of Washington, D.C., who has contributed Ruby Anderson's "Parke Family Scrapbooks".

Those attending visited "Whitehall", a beautiful old colonial home which is owned by the Stonington Historical Society and has been restored by them.

Also thanks to Mrs. Helen B. White, widow of Wilfred O. White, who has contributed to our growing number of books which are presently housed in the vault at the Preston Town Hall.

Our speaker for the day was Mr. William Cook, our newly-elected president, from Buffalo, N.Y. He gave an interesting talk, with slides, of his month-long trip this past summer to England. Through his talk, he traced the ancestry of Thomas² back through English kings, William the Conqueror, and Saxon kings. This was particularly interesting because of his many stories and anecdotes. This was a two-part talk, the rest to be given at our 1974 meeting.

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES B-14

- Pres.-William Cook, Buffalo, N.Y.
- V.Pres.-Stuart Park, Wells, Vt.
- Treas.-Wilfred A. Park, Preston, Conn.
- Secy.-Nancy Poole, Norwich, Conn.
- Asst.Secy.-Kay Parke, Cobleskill, N.Y.

Trustees with expiration dates:

Dorothea Cogswell, Newton Highlands, Mass.

Douglas Adams, Cambridge, Mass.

Vanda Spangle, Newington, Conn.

1974

Betty Thurber, Manchester, Conn.

Betty Ruppert, Washington, D.C.

Brainerd Peck, Lakeside, Conn.

1975

Stuart Park, Wells, Vermont

Kathryn Parke, Cobleskill, N.Y.

Parke Spicer, Poquetonock, Conn.

1976

Because of the small turnout at our annual meeting, we would like suggestions as to a better time or place to hold our meeting. One suggestion given is the Park-McCullough House, North Bennington, Vermont. We would appreciate your thoughts on this matter.

LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. Dorothy W. Bowden
Glens Falls, N.Y.

Ruby Parke Anderson
North Stonington, Conn.
(Honorary life member and
President Emeritus)

Mrs. Raymond Ruppert
Washington, D.C.

John Bindloss--first President
Stonington, Conn.

Mrs. John Bindloss-life associate

Again we are asking you for information about our ancestors. Robert¹ had nine children. One of them is our ancestor. Please share with us any stories which may have been handed down to you about any of your ancestors.

Mrs. Joseph Raina, associate
Redlands, Cal. (has attended)

Miss Kathryn E. Parke

—Cobleskill, N.Y.

—Park

Wells, Vermont

Mrs. Edward Hernden

New York, N.Y.

Miss Dorothea Cogswell

Newton Highlands, Mass.

Mrs. Florence Benjamin

Norwich, Conn.

Mrs. Julia B. Bowers

Loudonville, N.Y.

Mrs. Mable Park Bowers

ANCESTOR Thomas⁶ (Josiah⁵, Thomas⁴,
Thomas³, Thomas², Robert¹)

Part 2 of Kaye Parke's contribution.

We left Thomas⁶, his wife, four children and his father, Josiah, in Pennsylvania, where he had built on land which he thought was unassigned but actually did not have clear title, and had to pay again to extinguish titles to this wild land.

Nevertheless, here he managed to live out the rest of his life, raising his family (nine of an eventual ten children) by dint of working for others for the cash needed to buy supplies in far-away Wilkes-Barre. In the interims between jobbing-out and making these prolonged supply-trips, he cleared and cultivated land until it would finally support them--though in the earlier days, the children knew the taste of bread so seldom that it was cause for rejoicing when there was enough of the rye they had to harvest too early and dry before the fire, then pound to flour in a hollowed stump, to make a good round loaf.

Stubborn Thomas seems to have been intent on achieving a civilized sort of life for his family. When the children needed schooling and there was no school, he taught it in his own use. Meetings for worship were also held there--whether the itinerant preacher was Baptist, Congregationalist, or (something of a

scandal!) Universalist. He and his oldest son Daniel⁷ (my gr-gr-grandpa) built the first saw-mill in the township where he had been first settler, and rigged it to grind grain as well. His youngest son, James, he determined should become a doctor, and a doctor he became, though after his father's death in 1819.

Thomas had not accepted a Revolutionary pension, apparently feeling that his desperately won freedom was pay enough. It had taken 74 years of strenuous life to wear out this tough Park. At the end, he was buried in the graveyard his old father had marked out, on the NY-Penna line, just east of the Susquehanna. For the sake of his widow, who survived him for 24 years, son James walked to Washington to establish the pension claim his father had always proudly refused to make - but that's another story.

There's a building - obviously it was a house, at first - still standing on the Floyd Munn farm in East Athena, Pa., which is supposed to have been built by Thomas. It isn't the log cabin that straddled the state line, where James⁷, being born in a room on the Pennsylvania side, became the first white child born in Litchfield township. This one was built in later years, when the family must have been larger and definitely more prosperous. Still - when I stand in the doorway, I can imagine the old pioneer stepping out of a misty October morning - perhaps to visit his daughter Elizabeth Park Wolcott, up the mountain in a clearing three miles away. He'd just shoot some game as he went, to take her a gift. Or perhaps he'd go down to the mill on the crick and see how Dan'l. was getting along, teaching his young Wolcott and Park nephews how to handle saw without nipping their fingers too. No, East Athens really hasn't changed too much-- Thomas Park feels more alive than many of his later descendants, to this day.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mrs. Wilogene A. Simpson would like information about Sarah Parks, born Feb. 17, 1788 in Virginia, married Thomas Alexander on Feb. 4, 1808, died January 9, 1824. Also, information of Margaret Parks, died Sept. 12, 1822 and Robert Parks, died Feb. 17, 1824 (these could be Sarah's parents), also Rebecah Parks, died March 9, 1814, aged 21 years.

Please send any information of the above to:

Mrs. Wilogene A. Simpson
Rt. 1, Box 692
Yreka, Calif. 96097

Jean B. Grube is projecting a book on the descendants of Nathan SPICER (1735-1811) Revolutionary War Veteran, and his two wives: Leah (1739-1764); and Abigail MAYHEW (1748-1820).

Nathan was a great-great-grandson of Robert PARKE. Mrs. Grube is particularly interested in finding out more about the ancestry of Abigail Maynew, Nathan's second wife; and would also welcome correspondence from all descendants of Nathan SPICER or related names.

Nathan Spicer's children were: Nathan, Jr., married Catherine FILKINS; George, married Elizabeth GAMBLE; Ebenezer; Jeremiah, married Rhoda BROWNELL; Michael, married Sarah ATWOOD; Leah, married Reuben DOTY; Benjamin; Rachel, married Sylvanus BISHOP; Daniel, married Sally or Mary JONES; Jacob, married Anna EMMONS; Hannah, married Elisha WELLS; and the Reverend Tobias, who married Phoebe JONES.

Please send information to:

Mrs. Joseph Grube
2834 Ruby Ave.
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Mrs. Wallace Carrow is searching for any descendants of Benjamin Martin and Lennora Parks, married in 1815 at Scipio, New York.

Please send any information to:

Mrs. Wallace Carrow
8854 Brand Ave.
Rt. #2
Clare, Mich. 48617

MEMBERSHIP

- Regular: \$3.00 Annual dues or \$50.00 lifetime membership. Any person whose Park/e/s ancestors go back before the American Revolution.
- Associate: \$1.50 Annual dues or \$25.00 lifetime membership. Any person of Park/e/s lineage whose family immigration to the now United States does not antedate 1700, and any other member of any active member's family is eligible.
- Contributing or Family: \$5.00 Annual dues or \$75.00 lifetime membership. Any person or organization may be a contributing member. Any person qualified for regular membership may have a family membership instead, including spouse and children under 18 years of age.

Dues should be sent to:
Mrs. Nancy Poole, Acting Secy.
16 Case St.
Norwich, Conn. 06360

Enclosed is \$ _____ for dues.

_____ Regular _____ New _____

_____ Assoc. _____ Renewal _____

_____ Contributing _____

_____ Family _____

ANCESTRAL SAFARI - PART I

Those who can trace their ancestry back to Thomas² Parke and his wife, Dorothy² Thompson, are descended from kings and emperors, according to newly-elected President William G. Cook who gave the "address of the day" at the Society reunion in Mystic on August 11.

Records compiled by various genealogists and historians show that Dorothy's line goes back to those and other distinguished forebears through her mother, Alice¹ (Freeman) Thompson, second wife of Robert¹ Parke, the immigrant ancestor. There were no children by this second marriage.

Co-Member Cook took the audience on an ancestral tour of southern and southwestern England, illustrating his remarks with brightly colored slides. Because of shortness of time, the talk got only as far as Land's End, Cornwall. The consensus was that the speaker would continue at the 1974 meeting. This he agreed to do.

Among the places identified with Parke-Thompson ancestors in London were the Houses of Parliament or old Palace of Westminster (William the Conqueror); the White Tower of the Tower of London (William and Henry II); Westminster Abbey (William, Henry I, Henry II and King John).

There were colorful views of the Saxon crowning stone at nearby Kingston (Edward the Elder, Edmund the Magnificent, Ethelred the Redeless); Reading Abbey (burial place of Henry I) and Windsor Castle (William, both Henries and John).

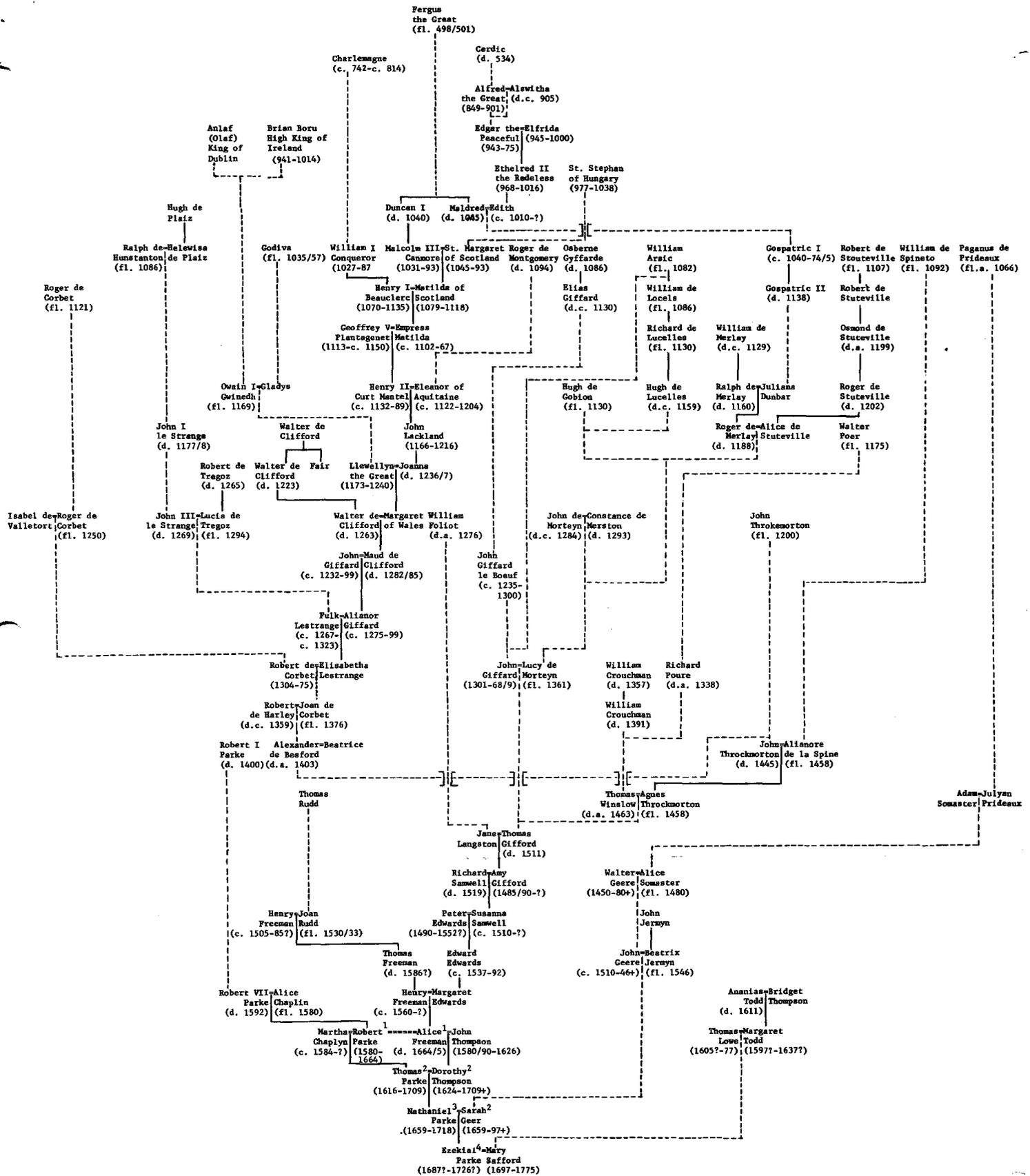
Moving out into the counties, there were interesting views, including Canterbury Cathedral (Henry II); Dover Castle, Battle Abbey (built on the site of the Battle of Hastings) and the invaders' landing-area at Pevensey (William the Conqueror).

The audience was taken quickly to Ockley where King Ethelwulf repelled the Vikings "with great slaughter"; Winchester Cathedral (Alfred the Great, Edward the Elder and others); New Forest (William); Beaulieu Abbey (King John); Lymington harbor (King Henry II) and Corfe Castle (Queen Elfrida and King John).

Not all the sites were connected with royalty. Viewers saw the Old Curiosity Shop; the famous Tate Gallery in London; the prehistoric hill fort now called Old Sarum; the beautiful Chichester and Salisbury Cathedrals; mysterious Stonehenge and the Isle of Wight whence Robert¹ Parke sailed for New England in 1630, and finally, lovely Devon and Cornwall, stamping ground of the Prideaux family, ancestors of Nathaniel³ Parke.

Next year's concluding episode will show the famous Glastonbury Abbey, Bath Abbey where Edgar was crowned first king of all England in 973; Brimpsfield, ancient seat of the family of Gyffarde-Giffard-Gifford; Blenheim Palace on whose grounds Henry II's mistress, the Fair Rosamond, had a hideaway; Oxford; Verulamium, ancient Roman capital of Britain; Parke family haunts in Essex and Suffolk; Coventry (Lady Godiva was an ancestor); Fladbury, where the speaker made a rubbing from the brass of ancestors Sir John Throckmorton and Alianore de la Spine; Worcester Cathedral, with the tomb and effigy of King John; Shrewsbury abbey with the tomb of Sir Roger de Montgomery, second in command at the Battle of Hastings and ancestral spots in Yorkshire, Northumberland and Edinburgh.

Cousin Cook will also display his abbreviated (9 feet tall) family tree showing Dorothy² Thompson's ancestral roots back to William the Conqueror and Charlemagne.



Note 1--Name of spouse is given only where it is essential for showing his/her ancestors.

Note 2--Dotted lines indicate one or more generations have been skipped in the interest of space

Note 3--Abbreviations: b--born; d--died; fl--alive; a--before; +--after; ?--date uncertain

Dorothea Cogswell, a Trustee, copy-
righted and is selling a new-type
genealogical chart: FAMILY GROUP CHART
OF ANCESTORS--11" x 17", folding once
into any 3-ring notebook; groups 5
generations vertically; space for all
generations' dates and places; paren-
theses above names for identifying
numbers. These charts can be Tables
of Contents for notebook or series.
Surnames run straight up, helping
beginners. To continue upward, copy
any top-line name, no., and data in
lowest box of another chart, and con-
tinue indefinitely. These are work-
ing charts, for one's own line during
research.

These charts are heavy, quality
paper, white or yellow; same price.
Color difference lets husband and wife
know their own charts instantly--even
if ancestors intermarried.

Price: 1 chart--\$2; 2 charts--\$4;
3 charts--\$5; 5 charts--\$8 (20% off);
10 charts (get a group)--\$15 (25%
off). Prices for 15 or more charts
on request. Give color (white,
yellow, mixture).

Send orders to:

Miss Dorothea B. Cogswell
83 Carver Road
Newton Highlands, Mass. 02161

Park/e/s Family News
c/o Mrs. Nancy L. Poole
36 Case St.
Norwich, Conn. 06360

ENCLOSE A STAMP!

It is a well-known fact that any-
body in the family research field
who acquires specialized knowledge
of the subject, attracts inquiries
from far and near.

Often the correspondence becomes
quite voluminous, and the hobbyist
soon finds postage and stationery be-
coming a bit expensive.

To make reasonably sure of receiving
an answer, and a prompt one, old hands
at the game always enclose a stamped-
self-addressed envelope. This is just
common courtesy. To save the ad-
dressee's time and further expedite
a reply, inquiries can be put in the
form of a questionnaire, which usually
requires simple fill-in of dates,
names, places. Often this can be re-
duced to the message side of a Govern-
ment post card (typed, if it's very
lengthy).