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News on to others
send us their
name and address

Parkes Family News

Vol XIII No 3
June 1976

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Promoting Fellowship, Genealogical Research,
and the Preservation of our Heritage.

Contact made with group in Chautauqua Co. N. Y.

Robert¹ descendants moved
from Wells VT

Parkes like to get together! This will be our Society's 14th gathering next August 21st. We are a strong and growing group. But would you believe there is a Park reunion that dates back to 1864?

For the past few months there has been correspondence between our President, Stuart Park of Wells VT and a Park group of Western New York State in Chautauqua County. It is hoped that ties can be made to bring us together in the near future.

Sarah J. Park kept notes of their reunions for many years and here are some of her interesting comments:

"The origin of our Park reunion will date back to the winter of 1864 when my brother, George⁸ Park Sr. came home; a paroled prisoner from the Army of the Civil War; to make our family one more visit. We then conceived the idea of meeting once every year, and that meeting to be at our Father's house, the home of our childhood. The date was Christmas.

Mother passed away Nov. 10, 1872. We continued our reunions in harmony until Father too was called from our midst, Sep. 26, 1885. I could not give up without an effort, the happiest day of the whole year to me, hence the thought occurred to me, why not have a general Park Reunion of all the relatives.

Cousins with whom I asked advice seemed eager for me to proceed, and offered their assistance and hearty support. With so many substantial backers I commenced with an earnest determination to find all the Park relatives and descendants of our grandfather, Elijah⁶ Park. (Simeon⁵, Eleazer⁴, Thomas³, Thomas²)



E. B. & F. C. Williams

Wm Williams

see picture of Wm Williams' House page 3

REUNION SCHEDULE

- To honor William Williams at
NORWICH CT AUGUST 20th
- Members gather at the Sheraton-Norwich
Motor Inn - get your "packet" on arrival
informal visiting - buffet dinner
8PM Trustees Meeting
- LEBANON CT AUGUST 21st
- Congregational Church Lower Hall
- 9-11 Registration and opportunity to share
genealogical records. Members should
bring their interesting material.
- 11-1 Visit the Trumbull & Williams Houses
- 1 Luncheon at Congregational Church \$4
 - 2 Society Meeting followed by program
on the Parke Revolutionary ancestors.
 - 4 additional opportunity to visit homes
return to Sheraton-Norwich Motor Inn
 - 6 smorgasbord - buffet supper - visiting

Park/e/s Family News

Published sporadically for members of
THE PARKE SOCIETY, Inc.

Editor: William G. Cook
295 Summer St.,
Buffalo, NY 14222

News items and history of your Parke
Family line are welcome.

Distributed free to all members.

Those who are interested in joining
should request an application form from
the Secretary.

Miss Priscilla C. Parke
125 Amity St.
Amherst, MA 01002

Any change of address should be
forwarded to the Secretary promptly.

OFFICERS 1975-6

- President - Stuart N. Park
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- Vice President - Elizabeth H. Ruppert
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- Dorothea B. Cogswell
83 Carver Rd Newton Highlands MA 02161
- David L. Parke
616 Elm St, S Dartmouth MA 02748
- Elizabeth P. Thurber
58 Turnbull Rd, Manchester CT 06040

New Members - WELCOME!

- Mrs. Morris R. Anderson, 77 Maple Rd.
East Aurora NY 14052
- Mrs. Douglas Paine Adams,
58 Monument Ave., Charlestown MA 02129
- Mrs. Arthur M. Fitts Jr.,
1613 Shelburne Lane, Sarasota FL 33581
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard Park Jr.,
81 Tarton Lane, Williamsville NY 14221
- Mr. William P. Park Jr.,
4352 W. Crystal, Chicago IL 60651
- Mrs. Lester H. Biish Sr., Rt 1,
62 Cedar Crest, Willimantic CT 06226
- Mr. Edward W. Parks, RD 1, Miller Rd.,
Middleboro MA 02346
- Mrs. Gerald Klisch, 2740 N. Center Rd.
Saginaw MI 48603
- Mr. David Cole Parke, 1586 Imperial Way
Fortuna CA 95540
- Mr. Robert D. Parks, 188 Bayfront Way
East Falmouth MA 02536
- Mrs. Durrance R. Gilmore, 911 4th St.
Liverpool NY 13088
- Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Park, 70 Belcher St.
Sharon MA 02067
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Park, 301 Bond St.
S. Weymouth MA 02190

NECROLOGY

Word has been received from Carol M. Sharp of the death of her mother, Mrs. Louise Parke Morrow, a charter member of the Society. At the several meetings Mrs. Morrow attended she was the eldest member present. She died at her home in Westerly CT Aug. 8, 1974.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of the Parke Society will be held Saturday, August 21, 1976 at the Congregational Church, Lebanon CT beginning at 2 PM.

By-Law changes to be considered:
Article II Sec 1e Family membership to be discontinued and replaced by a Junior Membership - the child of a member whose age is under 18. All adult members will be either Regular or Associate.

Sec 3 Dues shall be payable by December 31 for the ensuing year.
Stuart N. Park, President
Priscilla C. Parke, Sec'y

ARCHIBALD MacLEISH - pedigree

prepare your story

for the reunion

Last March's issue of the NEWS carried an article about the great contemporary American poet, Archibald MacLeish, a descendant of Robert¹ & Martha (Chaplyn) Parke. In case you are interested in reckoning your own degree of cousinship, his pedigree is shown below:



Archibald MacLeish

(1961 photo)

Robert¹ Parke = Martha Chaplyn
 Thomas² Parke = Dorothy Thompson
 Dorothy³ Parke = Joseph Morgan
 Dorothy Morgan = Ebenezer Witter
 Elizabeth Witter = Benjamin Brewster
 Steven Brewster = Anne Andrews
 Elias Brewster = Margery Morgan
 Martha Brewster = Moses Hilliard
 Elias Brewster Hilliard = Julia Whittlesey
 Martha Hilliard = Andrew MacLeish
 ARCHIBALD MacLEISH = Ada Taylor Hitchcock
 Children: Kenneth, Mary Hilliard
 Brewster Hitchcock, William Hitchcock

As announced in the last issue of the Park/e/s Family News, the theme of the 1976 reunion of the Society Aug. 21 will be "Revolutionary Soldiers of Parke Ancestry". If you had any such, please send in a statement about it for incorporation in the reunion program.

Some of us have minimal information such as, "Lexington Alarm". Others have more complete material. Send what you have, long or short, to President Stuart N. Park, Wells, VT, 05774. Hurry!

Treasurer Wilfred Park points out that the publication, "Preston in Review", lists the following Park/e/s who served in the Revolution: Hezekiah, Jonathan, Roswell, Moses, Jonas, Rufus. Who will be first to claim any of these and send more information to Stuart?

But please note: By whatever name, any member of the clan made a contribution. So tell us about it.



William Williams House in Lebanon CT

The above picture shows the house in which William Williams spent his married life and where he died. Now a National Historic Site the house will be open for the Society by special arrangement on Saturday August 21st.

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Book Reviews

PARKE SCRAPBOOK I, Ruby Parke Anderson 1965 (303 p) \$15.

The first of a series of which three have been published, this book gives a brief history of the Separate Church Movement in Connecticut. A background is laid for the Preston Separate Church where the Rev. Paul Park was pastor for over 50 years - the latter half of the 18th century. The bulk of the book is given over to the reproduction of his records. Though his tabulations of the church's activity have historic and genealogical significance, the handwriting renders it quite difficult to comprehend. A transcription and indexing would provide a significant aid to the reader. The latter was included in Vol. II.

The final section (69 p) is devoted to the genealogy of the Rev. Nehemiah Smith III, a descendant of Robert¹ Parke (thru Thomas² and Martha³). The book is of somewhat limited interest to Parke descendants seeking genealogical assistance since it covers only those families associated with the Separate Church in Preston CT.

PARKE SCRAPBOOK II, Ruby Parke Anderson 1967 (160 p) plus 4 maps (14" x 17") of Great Britain Island of early days by Charles H. Pearson, 1883. Norman, Saxon, Roman and Monastic periods. \$15. Here is the genealogy of the descendants of Robert¹ Parke, a passenger in the Winthrop Fleet of 1630, who first settled in Roxbury MA. It is presumed by the author that Richard Parke, who arrived in the "Defense" in 1635 and also settled in Roxbury, was the son of Robert. Therefore his lineage is carried forward in this book on that basis, along with sons Thomas, William, and Samuel, through the fifth generation.

(both volumes available from: Mrs. R. R. Ruppert, 1515 Ritchie-Marlboro Rd., Washington DC 20027)

The Connecticut Bicentennial Series 1975 Vol. XII Connecticut Signer: WILLIAM WILLIAMS by Dr. Bruce P. Stark, Univ. of CT (89 p) with complete bibliography. Paperback \$2.50. Of special interest to members of the Parke Society as we commemorate Robert¹ Parke's descendant, William Williams this Summer. Included is much genealogical information of the Williams family noting the many who went into the ministry, making this perhaps the outstanding clerical family in Connecticut during the Colonial period.

Since William chose politics we find here an excellent discourse on his active participation on local, state and federal levels. The author points up especially the close relationship between religion and politics during the 18th century. It is fascinating to see the drastic changes that took place in each.

This is excellent preparation for your visit to Lebanon in August.

(available from: Parke Genealogical Research, Box 49, S. Dartmouth MA 02748)

This is a reminder to those interested in Park/e/s graves, that a book listing all such graves in Preston is available from the Preston Town Hall at \$3 each.

Many Park/e/s Pioneers

Among the Parke books listed in the last issue was PARKS RECORDS by Frank S. Parks 1925. In this were noted the many early arrivals of those named Park, Parke and Parks. Listed below are some of the pioneers to arrive in the 17th and 18th centuries:

PARK	PARKE
L Roger NY 1699	(STW) Robert CT 1630
P Peter CT 1748	V Daniel VA 1670
E Samuel PA 1757	F Thomas PA 1724
K Roger NJ 1678	Richard MA 1635
Nathaniel PA 1681	A Arthur PA 1720
J Alexander NH 1731	John SC 1770
Y William MA 1756	
PARKS	
Richard PA 1713	William MD 1727
D Samuel VA 1750	H Edward CT 1669
John VT 1794	

Interesting Ancestors

HERVEY COKE PARKE, Manufacturer, Philanthropist, Churchman

(Ezra Smith⁷, John⁶, Joseph⁵, Joseph⁴, Nathaniel³, Thomas², Robert¹) One of the most successful businessmen in Michigan in the 19th century was Hervey C. Parke. He was born in Bloomfield near Detroit in 1827 not long after his family had moved from Camden, NY. His father was the only doctor from Lake St. Clair to Ann Arbor and served as postmaster in Bloomfield as well. Young Hervey attended a local private academy and completed his schooling in Buffalo.

He had just returned to Bloomfield to teach when his mother and father both died in an epidemic of 1846. In addition to teaching he was a clerk in a hardware store in Pontiac. In 1850 he went to the Upper Peninsula where his uncle, Marquis W. Kelsey, was superintendent of a copper mine. He served as the financial manager and later started a mining supply business. In 1854 Hervey was instrumental in organizing Christ Episcopal Church in Clifton, the first on the upper peninsula. Six years later he was among the organizers of Trinity Church, Houghton and served as a vestryman. In 1860 he married Frances Anna Hunt, daughter of former Congressman, James Bennett Hunt. He settled in Hancock where he became the first village president. The extreme weather during the winters proved detrimental to his health so Hervey sold his business and moved south to Detroit in 1865. During the trip on the steamer "Petawbic", the ship was struck by the steamer "Meteor" and sank. He, his wife and two small children were rescued by the other ship.

The following year he bought half interest in a small drug manufacturing business, forming Duffield, Parke & Co. A short time later he hired a 22 year old salesman, George S. Davis who proved an able fellow. In 1871, with the departure of Dr. Samuel Duffield, the company was reorganized as Parke, Davis & Co., with Mr. Parke as President and Mr. Davis as General Manager. This concern grew into a worldwide operation and became the largest biological and pharmaceutical manufacturer.

In 1868 Mr. Parke's wife died leaving him with four small children. Four years later he married Mary Melinda Mead whose family had come over the Genesee Trail and settled in Almont, north of Detroit. Four more children were added to the family in the following years.



H. C. Parke

Over the next 25 years, in addition to his business responsibilities, Mr. Parke spent much time serving his church and helping it grow as people moved to the suburbs. It is told that on a Sunday afternoon it was his practice to visit the various outlying parishes. If he found a special need - a new roof for the church - a coat for the minister - he made a gift on the spot. He served as a member of the standing committee of the Episcopal Diocese and was trustee of St. Luke's Hospital. A public school is named for him in Detroit.

In 1892 he bought a ranch east of San Diego where he laid out groves of fruit trees. It was here that he died in February 1899 leaving his wife, three daughters and four sons.

Poor Princess Joan!

back to the year 1200AD

Another footnote to history which concerns an ancestor of Dorothy Thompson, wife of Thomas² Parke, is not an entirely pleasant one.

Everyone has heard of King John of England, the vengeful, treacherous, but cultured and literate monarch of Runnymede fame. Not so well known is his illegitimate daughter Joan (Joanna, Janet), a natural daughter by Agatha de Ferrers, some say. Joan is first seen in 1203 when a charge is recorded for conveying the king's daughter out of England. By Oct. 15, 1204, she had been betrothed as third wife to Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, Prince of Wales, and part of her dowry, the Castle of Ellesmere, Salop., was given to Llewelyn April 16, 1205. The marriage took place that year or the next.

Princess Joan was legitimized in 1226 by Pope Honorius III. She was well loved by the Welsh people and apparently had her father's ear, being frequent peacemaker between England and Wales, a position she continued to hold after her half-brother, Henry III, ascended the English throne.

But Joan was involved in a scandal with her distant cousin William de Braiose, "who plotted against the King, having been caught in the chamber of the Prince (Llewelyn) with the Princess Janet, wife of the Prince". Llewelyn hanged de Braiose May 2, 1230.

Joan died at Abercaern and was buried in a cemetery on Conway Bay "with sore lamentation and honor". Her husband founded a Franciscan monastery at her burial place, Llanfaes on the Isle of Anglesey. The grave was despoiled at the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII and it was not until the early 19th Century that her coffin was rescued from use as a watering trough and her effigy discovered in a ditch. They are now in the south porch of the church at Beaumaris, two miles distant from the ruined abbey.

CONNECTICUT

- the "Provision" State

Because so many Americans trace their descent from the Park/e/s of Connecticut, the following, clipped by Treasurer Wilfred A. Park of Preston from a Connecticut SAR publication, seems pertinent.

General Washington from Valley Forge (1777-78) begged Gov. Trumbull of Connecticut for help "lest we disband". In response Gov. Trumbull sent 300 cattle on-the-hoof, arriving in Valley Forge within three weeks. He followed this with provisions, arms, ammunition, clothes, blankets and such, which kept Washington's starving and freezing army from disbanding. This was typical of the constant aid given by Connecticut to the more than 1,000 pleas from Gen. Washington, considering which Connecticut's Council of Safety met and acted in over 1,100 meetings held in the famous First War Office at Lebanon from 1776 to 1784. (The building is on the agenda for visits by those attending the Parke Society reunion Aug. 21) Connecticut--at Lebanon--should be the focal point for the 1976 (Bicentennial) celebration. Why?

Because Connecticut men--2,000 of them made up 50% of the Revolutionary forces at Bunker Hill. Connecticut men--13,000 of them made up the total Revolutionary armed forces of 16,000 who fought on Long Island. Over 4,000 Connecticut men made up over 80% of the 5,000 who fought at Saratoga and forced Burgoyne's surrender. Of Washington's army of 5,000 at Yorktown, over 4,000 men came from Connecticut. Less than 700 came from south of the Mason & Dixon line. At Lafayette's instigation the French forces--in their fleet and on shore numbered some 11,000 men at Yorktown, which of course insured the capture of Cornwallis's army of 8,500.

"People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors."
--Edmund Burke

Registrar PECK speaks

The June 1976 issue of the CONNECTICUT MUTMEGGER included a three page summary of a talk made before the Connecticut Society of Genealogists by Brainerd T. Peck. The subject was "The Parke Society, Inc.". It described the beginning in 1963 at North Stonington CT through the efforts of Mrs. Ruby Parke Anderson. Most of the members at that time were descendants of Robert¹ since this is where he and his children settled.

The talk went on to give some of the story of many of the descendants of Robert¹ and the Society activities.

Considerable response has been received since the article appeared. The Connecticut Society has over 2,500 members all over the country. They are certainly the ones who will know whether they have a Park/e/s in their lineage! It is hoped that our Society can prove helpful in their genealogical research. Past President Peck is to be commended in making our Society better known.

Book Donations Sought

Items have appeared in the News from time to time concerning the Society material on file in the Preston, CT town hall, and available to members for perusal on the site. This is the Society's "library". If you have any Park/e/s material of interest to other or future members, why not donate it for safe storage there? When you come to the reunion, tell one of the officers about it, or write a letter. The list of addresses is published elsewhere in this issue.

Historian Ruby Anderson resigns

In hopes that Ruby Anderson, founder of the Society, might renew her active participation as Historian, Stuart Park and David Parke visited with her last February. She pointed out that she could not associate with the Society as long as membership was open to Parke descendants other than from Robert¹ of CT. Since the Trustees have no plans to recommend a change in the By-Laws to that effect, it was moved and passed that the resignation of Mrs. Anderson be accepted with regret.

Are your DUES paid?

With the Society's fiscal year starting August 1 there has been confusion as to who has paid dues and for what year! A dues envelope enclosed in this issue notes how our records stand.

Since your payment may have been credited to the wrong year please send word to the Sec'y so we can start out 1977 in good order. Dues are still only \$3 per year.

With a By-Law change in August we will pay on a calendar year basis. 1977 dues should be paid before the end of this year.

New Society Album

Since many interesting items about members and their forebears are received by the Society it was felt that a suitable place should be provided for their safe-keeping. Trustee, Dorothea Cogswell, took it upon herself to obtain the proper album.

So once she undertook the task it was as good as done! Now, all pictures, newspaper clippings, letters, certificates etc. will be protected and can be seen at annual meetings in the future.

The envelope you receive with this issue has a place for messages and you might have something interesting to send in now. However, don't feel that you are limited by that envelope! Share your news and the results of your genealogical research.

Material sent to Ruby Anderson for Library needs to be identified

For many years Society members have sent in valuable material for inclusion in the Parke Library. Now that Mrs. Anderson is no longer the Society Historian all such items should go to our NEWS Editor, William G. Cook, 295 Summer St, Buffalo, NY 14222. He may want to review it in the future issues before placing it in the vault at Preston Town Hall.

Mrs. Anderson reports that she is uncertain which items sent to her belong to the Society. So if you have submitted material for the Library in the past please advise Stuart Park.



MAKE
YOUR
PLANS
NOW!

AUG 21

LEBANON
CT.

ROOMS STILL AVAILABLE

Treasurer Wilfred Park, arrangements chairman for the Aug. 21 reunion of the Society, says he has been able to persuade the Sheraton Norwich Motor Inn to hold 12 additional rooms for those attending, until Aug. 1, the deadline date for reservations.

Reservations must be made asking for rooms reserved by the Parke Society (a reservation card was included in the previous issue of the News), in order to obtain the 25% discount the Society has obtained for its members. Net rates to Society members are \$35 double, \$26 single.

Tell Wilfred you're coming!

Planning to eat luncheon at the Aug. 21 Society reunion? You'd better make advance reservations, so there'll be food enough. Please notify Wilfred A. Park, RFD 1, Norwich, Conn. 06360 of number planning to attend (\$4 per plate), and number planning to visit the William Williams and Gov. Jonathan Trumbull Houses, the two historic sites connected with the Parke family. Ask Wilfred for any other particular information you may want. All this will aid in planning and help make this weekend "the most enjoyable possible for those attending", says Cousin Wilfred.

For those who plan to stay on into the evening after the Society reunion on Aug. 21, there will be a smorgasbord or buffet supper. The trustees plan to hold a post-election meeting and have arranged for this service. Other members are invited and encouraged to eat with the trustees.

Park/e/s Family News

Box 49
South Dartmouth MA 02748

address correction requested

