

# The Parke Society

Promoting Fellowship, Genealogical Research, and the Preservation of our Heritage  
Clearing-house for research on all Park/e/s Immigrants from British Isles.

## Robert (MA 1630) Ancestry Verified to 1400 in Co. Essex, England

David L Parke #13

In 1978 I attempted to describe the background and life of Robert Parke, the first known immigrant of that name to arrive in America from the British Isles. The article, in four parts, detailed the facts then known.

The most important and authoritative research had been sponsored by Guy James Parke of Decatur IL. The results of this search were published in 1964 by Dr S. W. McArthur in The McArthur-Parkes Ancestral Lines p97-99.

This certified the lineages beginning with Robert's grandfather, William of Whight House, Gestingthorpe, Co Essex in England.

Many of Robert's descendants have endeavored to delve further back and to learn more about the family in England. Last spring I received a letter from Harwood E Park #415 that began: "You will understand that I send the enclosed with some glee, since I have been working on it for fifty years or more." What he had was a letter from the Somerset Herald, College of Arms in London signed by T. Woodcock dated 26 May 1986 from which I quote:

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### Letter from College of Arms

An extensive pedigree registered at the College this century under the reference Norfolk 39/82 which connects to another twentieth century pedigree registered under the reference Surrey 15.174 continues the descent of the Gestingthorpe family. These pedigrees continue through Robert Parke, third son of William Parke of Alphamstone.

Robert Parke is described as of Acton, Co Suffolk and of Gestingthorpe. His will was dated 12 Feb 1592-3 and proved 3 Apr 1593. By his wife Alice daughter of William Chaplin of Long Melford, Co Suffolk whom he married at All Saints, Sudbury, Suffolk in 1579, he had a son Robert Parke described as "of Acton and Hitcham, Co Suffolk, of Gestingthorpe, Co Essex and afterward of Mistick near New London, Connecticut in America, baptised 3 Jun 1580 at Poslingford, Co Suffolk, went to New England 1630 in the 'Arbella' of John Winthrop's expedition. Will dated 14 May 1660 proved 1664 at New London". The pedigrees continue through his descendants."

Enclosed with this report was the following lineage back to Robert Parke who died in 1400 and is buried with his wife Margaret in the church yard in Gestingthorpe. The dates are reasonable estimates based on known facts. Woodcock's statement agrees with the lineage shown in William G. Cook's #66 Looking Backward 1981 p82.

Names found in County

Essex prior to 1400 are:

Julian atte Parke of Gestingthorpe - alive in 1381

Thoma atte Park' - tax levy 1327 in Gestingthorpe

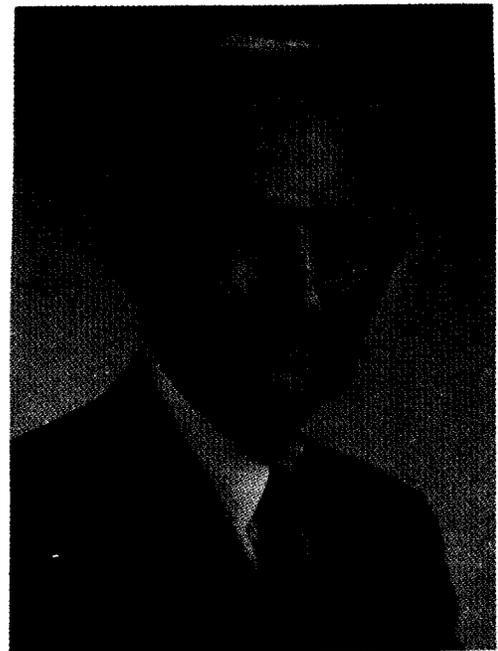
Roger atte Parke - alive in 1293

William de Parco of St Osith

Just how the above Parkes are related to the Robert who died in 1400 is yet to be discovered. We do appreciate the diligence of Harwood Park in providing the proof reported here.

Cont'd page 40

### Robert Hiram Park - Inventor



To write about Robert Hiram Park #118 and to do justice to his professional life could get rather technical.

Cont'd page 45

The 23rd Convocation of the Society at Park College, Parkville MO was well attended from all nine regions. It was especially gratifying to have ten from Region 9 (Southwest). Seventeen states were represented in all.

Ed Kilpatrick #326 replaced Dana Parks Jr CALS as President (Dana having served the five year maximum authorized in the By-Laws). Elected to be Vice President was Region 5 Trustee Richard R. Milligan #389 of Albany OR. Dick has a consuming interest in history and genealogy and has served as head of the Linn (Co. OR) Genealogical Society. He is presently publishing an extensive record of pioneer settlers in Linn Co. (over 1200) Two of his grandchildren are members: Lisa LeAnn Lewis #603, and Peggy Ann Milligan #779.

Taking Dick's place as Region 8 Trustee is Lyle Glen Orem #606 of Pendleton OR who has attended the last two Convocations with his mother and wife. Region 6 Trustee Henrietta Blain was reelected for another term. And in Region 3 Life Member Jill Parke #14 took over from Everett A Parke #557. Jill has previously served as Trustee from 1980-83.



Jill Parke - Trustee Region 3

Frankinsense and myrrh are gifts  
That currently seem odd;  
Magi deemed them none the less  
As suitable for God.

Gifts to God are like that still  
Unique and personal;  
Baker's loaf or juggler's act  
Are both acceptable.

Cheap or costly, large or small,  
It matters not a whit;  
One criterion there is,  
You must be proud of it.

Hervey C. Parke #162



Lyle G Orem  
Trustee Region 8

Richard R Milligan  
Vice President

## Welcome New Members

- 749. James Douglas Park
- 750. Mrs Gloria J. Henschen
- 751. Kevin R. Parke
- 752. Gilbert Lynne Brownwell
- 753. Mrs Violetta P. Lewis
- 754. Michael A. Hobart
- 755L Robert Leon Parke
- 756. Mrs Shirley Ann Alston
- 757. Mrs Doris J. Parks
- 758. Arthur E. Parks
- 759. Mrs Ray Pearl Condry
- 760. Warren W Parke
- 761. Elaine P Clements
- 762. Allen J. Parke
- 763. Judith P Schiffbauer
- 764. Mrs Eunice W. Bernard
- 765. John W. Parks
- 766. Ray H. Price
- 767. Loren Richard Gute
- 768. Albert Mallinson Park
- 769. Mrs Mary Stafford Bowman
- 770. Dr Kenneth Harvey Parker
- 771. Julia Kilpatrick
- 772L Russel Carlton Park
- 773. Herold Vincent Parkes
- 774. Mrs Agnes E. Cloninger
- 775. James Owen Schuyler
- 776. Kenneth W. Parks
- 777. Mrs Mary Gay Deats
- 778. Laura Joan Greenham
- 779. Peggy Ann Milligan
- 780. Chester Floyd Mack Jr
- 781. Armor M. Murdoch Jr

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Published by the Society for its members three times per year. Copies sent to libraries and genealogically oriented societies on request. Articles on research, historical records as well as news items and queries always welcome.

The Parke Society serves as a clearing-house for research on all Park/e/s immigrants from the British Isles. Regular membership open to any descendants. Associate membership open to any interested person. Inquiries and requests for membership should be directed to the Registrar:

Theodore E. Parks  
P. O. Box 590  
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Application Fee \$5.00  
Annual Dues \$10.00  
Life Membership \$100.00

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## Dedicated Service Awards Presented

The Society's Dedicated Service Awards for 1986 were presented by President Dana Parks Jr at the annual banquet.

The recipients this year were Margie Ellis Howell #88 of Evansville IN, Brainerd Tracy Peck #11 of Lakeside CT, and David Livingstone Parke #13 of Reading PA.

Their presentations read as follows:



Whereas Margie Lee Ellis Howell, a descendant of John Parke of Halifax County, North Carolina (c1700 - 1766), has been a devoted teacher in the-Kansas City (MO) schools, following in her mother's footsteps, and Whereas she has continued, in retirement, to be a guide to others as a volunteer tutor in the Reading Aid program, and Whereas she has done extensive genealogical research on her family lines and has published Kinfolk of William Parke & Synah Perry and Josiah Wilson & Margaret Crow, and has donated her voluminous correspondence and research material to the Powell Memorial Library in Troy, Missouri, and Whereas she has assisted many of our Society's members in their search for missing Parke ancestors in the southeast and midwest, Therefore this Society does take pleasure in bestowing upon her its Dedicated Service Award.



David L Parke Sr presenting the Dedicated Service Award to Brainerd T Peck at his home in Lakeside Connecticut

Whereas Brainerd Tracy Peck, a descendant of Robert Parke (MA 1630), has served in the Department of Agriculture of the State of Connecticut as director of Pesticide Control, and was for many years the radio voice providing guidance to the farmers on many timely subjects, and Whereas, as a descendant of many Connecticut pioneers, he was inspired to undertake extensive research of his own lines and to assist others in tracing theirs, and Whereas he was a founder of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, one of the largest and most successful of such organizations, he has served on its Board of Governors for over 20 years and is book review editor for its publication THE NUTMEGGER, and Whereas his guidance and support to our Society during its formative years were vital to its progress, he served as the Society's fourth President and as Registrar, Therefore, this Society does take pleasure in bestowing upon him its Dedicated Service Award.

Whereas David Livingstone Parke, a descendant of Robert Parke (MA 1630) served as executive officer of several manufacturing and investment corporations during his business career, and Whereas he continues to provide leadership in the International Order of St Luke the Physician, and many other humanitarian concerns, especially in his present home city of Reading PA, and Whereas he served as the second President of this Society and as Trustee and Historian, and Whereas he has been the Editor and Publisher of the Society's NEWSLETTER for the past ten years, developing it into one of the outstanding One-Name Society publications in this country, and Whereas his enthusiasm, industry and creative ability have held this Society together and raised it to its present status as an active and growing organization, Therefore this Society does take pleasure in bestowing upon him its Dedicated Service Award.

## George Ferris (1859-1896) Engineer-Builder of the Ferris Wheel

1892 was a year when the United States was prepared to show that she was of age. On the 400th anniversary of America's discovery, plans were underway for the Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The construction chief, Daniel H. Burnham, had recently completed the 22-story 'Capitol' building in Chicago, the world's tallest at the time. He assembled the cream of our country's architects and civil engineers and told them he was looking for the best idea that could outdo the Eiffel Tower that had been the star of the Paris Exposition of 1889. One of those present was a young civil engineer, George Washington Gale Ferris Jr, a 9th generation descendant of Robert Parke (MA 1630). Legend has it that George pulled out a pencil and paper that night while dining in a local chop house. He had been inspired by Burnham's comments that what was wanted was 'something novel, original, daring and unique.' Mere bigness was not enough.

The sketches of a tremendous wheel that Ferris made were described later to a reporter. "I fixed the size, determined the construction, the number of cars we would run, the number of people it would hold, and what we would charge." At 33, George Ferris had done nothing all that novel, original or unique, though his unusual design for the wheel proved daring enough. It might be said that he had re-invented the wheel, and certainly it was BIG!

George was the eighth child born to a Nevada farmer, who, we are told, wasn't, at 16, showing much promise in formal education. As a conventional remedy he was shipped off to a military school in California. From there he went east to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy NY. He was elected sophomore class president, sang first tenor, joined a fraternity and the rifle club. On the varsity baseball team he demonstrated his



George Washington Gale Ferris Jr

ability to rise to a challenge by reportedly nailing a Union College runner at the plate with a 344-foot throw from the outfield!

Following graduation Ferris became a tunnel and trestle engineer, bridge builder and head of his own company. He also pioneered techniques for forging structural steel. No one knows what inspired him to visualize the fabulous wheel. He perhaps had noted the 60-foot specimen at the old Burden Iron Works in Troy near his college as well as some small amusement park



Ferris Wheel in Chicago - 1893

wheels.

The first person to share his plans seriously was William F. Gronau, his partner and fellow RPI graduate, on whom most of the nuts-and-bolts work would later depend. The monster wheel was to be 250 feet in diameter, constructed like a bicycle wheel. It would rise four feet higher than Burnham's 'skyscraper' and would turn on a 70 ton axle 45 feet long. The 36 cars would each carry 60 passengers for a total of over 2000 at one time. When fully loaded, the wheel would weigh 1,200 tons, or as much as three Boeing 747s.

Selling the whole idea to the Exposition leaders was no easy task. Burnham thought the engineering so flimsy that the machine would collapse in the Lake Michigan gales, strong enough, it was popularly supposed, to "strip the fur off a buffalo." The officials relented when they realized that time was short and nothing else had been proposed to the Eiffel Tower. By that time the Exposition's construction funds were allocated. So, if Ferris would find his own financing he could have his concession. This he did successfully and then turned to placing contracts with the steel industry.

Less than six months later, despite three feet of frost, the foundations had been poured and five freight trains of 30 cars each were snaking across the prairie toward Chicago with thousands of bars, trusses and girders cut to fit like gigantic Tinkertoys. There were probably moments when George Ferris may have wondered whether this gargantuan creation would work. There was no spare time for testing that he would have preferred. However, on opening day 21 June 1893 all was well. Bands, flags, speakers and dignitaries were there. By the fair's end in October over 1,500,000 people had paid an exorbitant fee of 50¢ - equal to the Exposition's admission.

Cont'd next page

The two leisurely revolutions lasted 20 minutes.

Poet Eugene Field was a pessimistic:

The Ferris Wheel, with arms of steel  
High as a tower will wind you up;  
If you should fall, for good and all  
The doctors they would bind you up.

Although praise was heaped upon him, Ferris was not without his critics. They were quick to point out that others had built similar wheels. He never claimed that the design was exclusively his own nor that it was a new concept.

With the close of the fair there were lawsuits over the wheel's \$400,000. profit. The wheel was later dismantled and stored for one last fling when it was set up for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St Louis in 1905.

Meanwhile, an Illinois bridge builder named William Sullivan visualized something that Ferris had not, to design the wheel so that it was portable. Sullivan's family firm, Eli Bridge Co., has since sold and erected some 100 Ferris wheels all over the world. The use of Ferris' name gave him honor, but he never realized a penny from the resulting multimillion dollar spin-off. Mercifully George Ferris was not around when his wheel was finally dismantled. He died at the age of 37 in a Pittsburgh hospital in November 1896.

- Robert (MA 1630)
    - m Martha Chaplin
  - Thomas<sup>2</sup>Parke
    - m Dorothy Thompson
  - Dorothy<sup>3</sup>Parke
    - m Joseph Morgan
  - Martha Morgan
    - m Joseph Perkins
  - Jerusha Perkins
    - m Jeremiah Hyde
  - Jeremiah Hyde Jr
    - 1m Mary Waterman
    - 2m Elizabeth Brown
  - Jacob Perkins Hyde
    - m Martha Edgerton
  - Martha Edgerton Hyde
    - m George Washington Gale Ferris
  - G F WASHINGTON GALE FERRIS Jr
    - m Margaret Beatty
- (lineage courtesy Gary Boyd Roberts)

## Parke Descendents Marry Prominent Mormons

Five years ago the NEWS-LETTER told about Heber Chase Kimball, a principal in the Mormon trek to Utah. A descendant of Robert Parke (MA 1630) and grandfather of the late Spencer Kimball, he had 63 children by 17 wives. In addition to these women he supported 28 others who were widows.

Now we find in the book The Descendants of Thomas Beeman of Kent CT by Gwen Boyer Bjorkman 1954 other interesting early connections to the Mormon persuasion. All of those mentioned in this book are descendants of Robert Parke since his gt granddaughter Phebe (c1692-1777) married Thomas<sup>1</sup>Beeman.

The lineage continues through Ebenezer<sup>2</sup>, Reuben<sup>3</sup>, to Alvah<sup>4</sup> who married Sally Burtts. Of their eight children the three youngest are of special interest here. They were: Mary Adeline (1810-1851), Louisa (1815-1850) and Artimesia (1819-1882), all born in Livonia Ontario Co NY (now Livingston Co)

Mary Adeline married Joseph B. Noble 11 Sep 1837 at Bloom-

field NY. They came to Utah in 1847 and settled in Bountiful. Joseph was a member of the first quorum seventies, missionary to New York, bishop' counselor, bishop and patriarch. He performed the first plural marriage in the L.D.S. Church.

The second daughter, Louisa, 1st married Joseph Smith 5 Apr 1841 as his first plural wife. In 1846 following the murder of her husband she was sealed to Brigham Young. She bore Young two sets of twins who all died in infancy.

The third daughter, Artimesia married Erastus Snow 13 Dec 1838. He had embraced Mormonism in 1833 only three years after Joseph Smith founded the first church. He was one of the first Mormons to enter the valley of the Great Salt Lake. In 1861 he explored the Virgin River area in southern Utah and led several hundred families to settle there.

Ref. PIONEERS & PROMINENT MEN OF UTAH by Frank Esshom 1966 p1072. THE LION OF THE LORD by Stanley P. Hirshom p195, THE 27th WIFE by Irving Wallace p84. LIFE OF BRIGHAM YOUNG by Edward W. Tullidge 1876 p75 supplement.

## The Beatrice Bayley SCAM Has Clones - BEWARE!

Your NEWSLETTER has warned several times against the many scams offered through the mail relating to so called 'family heritage' or 'registry of Parks in America'. Foremost are BEATRICE BAYLEY Inc. and HALBERTS. There are also many others!

In 1980 Beatrice Bayley was warned by the State of Wisconsin to stop "employing any untrue, deceptive, or misleading advertisements . . . of its family heritage books." Last year they were found guilty of contempt of court, having violated the 1980 court order. The defendant admitted that the books were identical, no matter what the surname, and that the names listed were taken from auto license registrations, telephone books, social security lists, and city directories. No effort had been made or research

done to set forth relationships among the names listed.

Don't for a minute imagine that this 'wrist slap' has stopped these scams. Company names have been changed or new companies started, but the advertisements' wording has scarcely changed. Some names listed are American Genealogies Inc., Scranton PA, Roots Research Ltd, New York, Elizabeth Ross, Plainfield NJ, Yates Co, and Vicki Lee Karr.

In the case of Beatrice Bayley, the US Postal Service has directed the postmaster in Sterling PA to return all book orders and refuse to cash postal orders for the 'Family Heritage Books'. If you have ordered a book, it can be returned for refund within ten days and you will be out only the return postage. So notify your postmaster and help put these people out of business.

# Ancestral Safari

## Gospatric, the On-Again-Off-Again Earl

by William G Cook #66

Most of us of English descent have a generous infusion of Scottish blood, whether we know it or not. Gospatric I (1040-75), Earl of Northumbria, was one of those Scots.

On his mother's side, he was a great-grandson of Ethelred II the Redeless, whose royal forebears went back 500 years. You can't be much more Scottish than that! On his father's side, he was a grandson of Malcolm II MacKenneth, King of Scots, whose lineage goes back to the legendary 5th Century founders of the Scottish kingdom.

Unfortunately during the turbulent years when the Scots were interfering with William the Norman's efforts to consolidate the Conquest, Gospatric couldn't decide which side he was on.

There was always a seething movement to unseat King William and restore the native English dynasty. The logical candidate, Edgar the Atheling, another descendant of Ethelred the Redeless, was a fugitive guest of Malcolm III, King of Scots, who had married Edgar's sister Margaret. Malcolm was also Gospatric's cousin!

So King William, after two abortive attempts to find a man with good northern connections to keep the north country quiet, settled on Gospatric, whose ancestors had included several stout Englishmen who ruled Northumbria from Bamburgh, the great natural stronghold on the North Sea.

Gospatric was created Earl of Northumbria at William's Christmas court in 1067, 14 months after the Battle of Hastings. Within weeks the resistance movement blossomed and in 1068 Gospatric deserted to Edgar the Atheling. William invaded the north, seized York without a struggle, established order and sent a Norman, Robert Comyn, to rule Northumbria. In January 1069

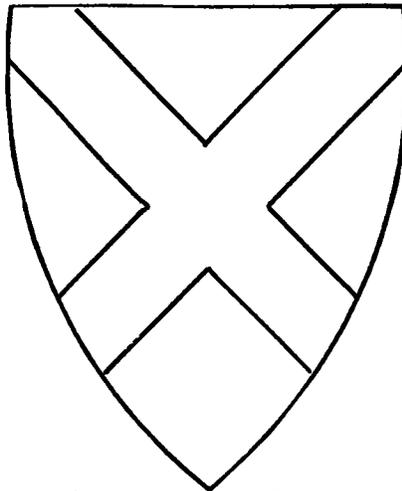
the resistance murdered him, and now Gospatric stepped in with an offer to buy the earldom from William. A deal was made and once more Gospatric was earl.

Again Gospatric joined the resistance, and again William had to attack in the north. Again he seized York, and as punishment staged a scorched-earth campaign, called in history 'The Harrying of the North'. Much of the land was still listed as "waste" in the 1086 Domesday Survey.

By 1070 Gospatric had had enough and threw himself on the king's mercy. Once more, in the summer of 1071, he was Earl of Northumbria, under a pledge of feudal homage to William. Now when Malcolm raided English lands, Gospatric, as William's "man", had to retaliate. To end this William himself invaded Scotland and forced Malcolm to do homage.

Yet in 1072 Gospatric again went over to Malcolm, and for the last time William removed him as Earl of Northumbria. So Malcolm created him Earl of Dunbar in Scottish territory. He already had succeeded his father as Lord of Carlisle and Allerdale.

The monks of Durham celebrated his death in 1075; in 1821 a stone coffin was found in their burial ground, in-



Gospatric II

scribed on its lid, Cospatricius Comes, "Earl Gospatric". The site is now a grassy plot within the cathedral complex, which I reached by scrambling through a window. The only visible coffin is that of the Venerable Bede, an earlier cleric and historian.

A son, Gospatric II, inherited Dunbar, Carlisle and Allerdale. He is recorded in 1115 as a witness to the foundation charter of the Abbey of Scone, where his ancestor, Kenneth I MacAlpin, is said to have brought the Stone of Destiny from Dunstaffnage in the 9th Century, where it was the crowning seat of the Scots kings until the English took it to Westminster Abbey.

As a "friendly" northern magnate, this Gospatric was made Baron of Beasley by Henry I in 1100, with sergeantry as a security guarantor along the fluid Scottish border.

Yet Gospatric was on the Scottish side in the last battle of his life, the Battle of the Standard, fought August 22, 1138 on Cowton Moor, Yorkshire. This was during the Civil War between Stephen of Blois and his cousin, Matilda "Empress", both contending for the English crown. King David's Scots were supporting Matilda, but the English, under the warrior Archbishop Thurstan of York, had four saints on their side, with their consecrated banners to prove it. The undisciplined Highlanders and Galloway Picts were no match for the better organized Yorkshire levees and their knights, and David sadly left the field. A small monument marks the site. Gospatric's arms were: Or a saltire argent (gold with the Cross of St Andrew in silver).

The Gospatricians are ancestors of the Parke-Thompson clan through a daughter, Juliana of Dunbar, and the families of de Marlay, Gobion, Morteyn, Giffard, Samwell and Edward

Cont'd next page

Gospatric from page 38

References: Bates, J.C. History of Cumberland, 99, 116; Burke's Armory; Burke's Extinct Peerage, 139; Cokayne's Complete Peerage IV: 504-5; X: 704; Douglas, D.C. William the Conqueror, 214-18, 226, 295; Encyclopedia Britannica (1964) 21: 306; New England Historic Genealogical Register 79: 370-71; Roberts & Reitwiesner's American Ancestors and Cousins of the Princess of Wales 143-44; Ancestral Roots of Sixty Colonists by Frederick Lewis Weiss; and Magna Charta Sureties - 1215 by Frederick Lewis Weiss & Arthur Adams.

GOSPATRIC I 1040/48-1075  
Earl of Northumbria 1st Earl of  
Dunbar, Lord of Carlisle and  
Allerdale

Gospatric II c1070-1138  
m Sibyl  
Juliana of Dunbar  
m Ralph de Merlay, Lord of Morpeth  
Roger de Merlay -1188  
m Alice de Stuteville  
Richard Gobion -c1230  
Hugh Gobion -1275  
m Matilda  
Joan Gobion  
m John de Mortheyn  
Sir John de Mortheyn -1346  
m Joan de Rothwell  
Lucy de Mortheyn fl 1361  
m Sir John Giffard III 1301-1368/9  
Sir Thomas Giffard I c1345-1394  
1m Elizabeth de Missenden  
Roger Giffard c1367-1409  
3m Isabella Stretley  
Sir Thomas Giffard II 1408-1469  
m Eleanor Vaux  
John Giffard  
Agnes Winslowe  
Thomas Giffard fl 1485/90-1511  
m Jane (Joan) Langston  
Amy Giffard 1485/90-  
m Richard Samwell -1519  
Susanna Samwell 1510/15-  
m Peter Edwards c1490-c1552  
Edward Edwards c1537-1591/2  
m Ursula Coles  
Margaret Edwards  
m Henry Freeman c1560-  
Alice Freeman -1664  
1m John Thompson -1626  
Dorothy Thompson 1624-  
THOMAS PARKE 1615-1709  
son of ROBERT (MA 1630)



MALE

## Parke Family Crests



FEMALE

For Sale

Descendants of Robert (MA 1630) will be interested in the availability of the Parke Family Crest as a pocket adornment. Shown here in actual size, one is for males the other for females.

This is an authentic crest of the Gestingthorpe family made in India of gold and silver wire and silk embroidery on a black or navy blue background. The badge, in rich color, is much better looking than the black and which reproduction.

The rules of heraldry forbid any lady (except the

Queen!) the use of the shield, crest, motto or helmet. She may wear the 'lozenge' shown.

The cost will depend on the number ordered. It will be approximately \$15 assuming we order at least 25. It will take roughly two months for delivery. Send your order to: David Parke, 805 Evergreen Dr Reading PA 19610, postmarked no later than Jan 31, 1987. Specify male or female and color of background.

This is the only time this offer will be made. Individual orders after January 31 will be \$30.

## In Memoriam

Dr Ruth M Bourne #412 died March 18th in San Diego aged 88. She was the author of an unpublished book on Colonel Daniel Parke (1669-1710) of Virginia, and several articles following extensive research. (see Vol XVI p33 & XVII p5)

Word has been received that Elly Peck Woods Jr #115 died in 1984. He was a descendant of Robert (MA 1630) through Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>3</sup>, Joseph<sup>4-5</sup> Daniel<sup>6</sup>, Hannah<sup>7</sup>, Temperance Peck to his father Elly Peck Woods.

Erma Longcore #31 died last spring in Lawton MI aged 93. She supplied material on her gt gt grandfather, founder of

Parksville NY (see Vol XXI p45) She was a descendant of Robert (MA 1630) through Samuel<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>3-4-5-6</sup>, Hiram<sup>7</sup>, John<sup>8</sup>, to her father Robert E<sup>9</sup>.

John Alden Wheeler #220 died October 5th in Jacksonville FL. He was born 26 Dec 1906 in New London CT. He had been a manufacturer's representative for the Graphic Arts industry.

Both John and his wife Mary Elizabeth #39 are descendants of Robert (MA 1630) through William<sup>2</sup>, he through Theoda<sup>3</sup> and she Martha<sup>3</sup>. They have a daughter Bebb Wheeler Stone of Pittsburgh PA and a son John Jr of Canandaigua NY.

Estimated dates added

1. c1375-1400	<b>VII</b> Robertt Parke of Gestingthorpe in Com: Essex	= Margaret da: of .... obijt 22 of August A <sup>o</sup> 1408
2. c1398-	<b>VI</b> John Parke eldest sonn & h <sup>r</sup> A <sup>o</sup> 5 of H:5	=
3. c1425-1455	<b>V</b> John Parke sonn & h <sup>r</sup> A <sup>o</sup> 24.H.6	=
4. c1450-	<b>IV</b> Willm Parke A <sup>o</sup> 2 <sup>o</sup> Rich 3 <sup>o</sup> ...	=
5. c1475-1531	<b>III</b> Willm eldest sonn: & h <sup>r</sup> obijt 1531	=
6. c1503-1551	<b>II</b> W <sup>m</sup> eldest sonne & h <sup>r</sup> obijt 1551	= ref. T. Woodcock letter
7. c1530-1574	<b>I</b> John Parke eldest sonn & h <sup>r</sup> obijt 1574	= Robert Parke=Alice Chaplin of Acton
8. c1560-1636	John Parke eldest sonn & h <sup>r</sup> now liveing 1634 at Gestingthorpe	= Margaret da: of Robert=Martha Chaplin Nicholas Martin of (MA 1630) Mapleston in Co: Essex
Elizabeth mar: to Henry Merton of Pebmersh in (Com: Essex	W <sup>m</sup> Parke only sonn & h <sup>r</sup> of Alphonstone in Co: Essex liveing A <sup>o</sup> 1634 9. c1583-1634	= Ester da: of Willm Strut of Wickham St Paul in Co: Essex Ann 1 da: married to Willm Edwards of Topsfield in Com: Essex

John Parke 22 sonn	Wm Parke eldest sonn & h <sup>r</sup> aged about 16 A <sup>o</sup> 1634 10. 1618-1683	Robert Parke 3 sonn	Ester 1 da:	Elizabeth 2 da:	Sarah 3 da:
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I hereby certify that the above Pedigree is a true copy of Pedigrees recorded at the Visitation of Essex 1634 and recorded in College of Arms Ms: C21 on folios 46b & 113.

Signed: *T. Woodcock* SOMERSET HERALD College of Arms: 29 May 1986

Robert Parke, Acton  
12 Feb 1592 proved 3 Apr 1593, Yeoman.  
In name of God, sick in body, yet good & perfect remembrance, soul to God, body to earth. To Edmund P my 2nd son tenement & copyhold land in Gestingthorpe, if he has no heirs then to William P my youngest son, John ffirmine (#10?) to take profits etc till son Edmund P is 21. Stock of corn, cattle etc to be priced & sold, money resulting equally among my 3 children. All household stuff to Alice my wife. John ffirmone, executor.

Witnesses:  
Thomas Newman  
John Park  
Robert Buckton

(Note that Robert Parke #12, the oldest son and presumably the heir is not mentioned.)

Robert Parke, Alphonstone  
20 Jun 1611 proved 20 Jan 1612, Clothier.  
In name of God, good health perfect memory, soul to God, body to earth to be decently & orderly buried. £5 to poor which come to my burial of whatever town or place they may belong. To John Garrad the elder sometime husband of my kinswoman Margaret G late of Bures St Mary deceased messuage, land & tenement & all hereditaments bought of Thomas Crysall now in occupation of Thomas Wyly in Assington or Wiston or both. To younger son & 2 daughters of sd John Garrad & born of the body of the sd Margaret his wife £10 each at 21 or day of marriage. To kinsman Edmund Parke (#13) £20 in 2 yrs of my decease. To Elizabeth Clarke, my kinswoman being daughter of John Clarke of Bures St Mary all copyhold tenements, land, meadows, pastures & feedings thereto belonging with all appurtenances which are situate in the parish of Nures Mount in the county of Essex of the manor of Wythermontford. To William Sympson the elder and my nephew the

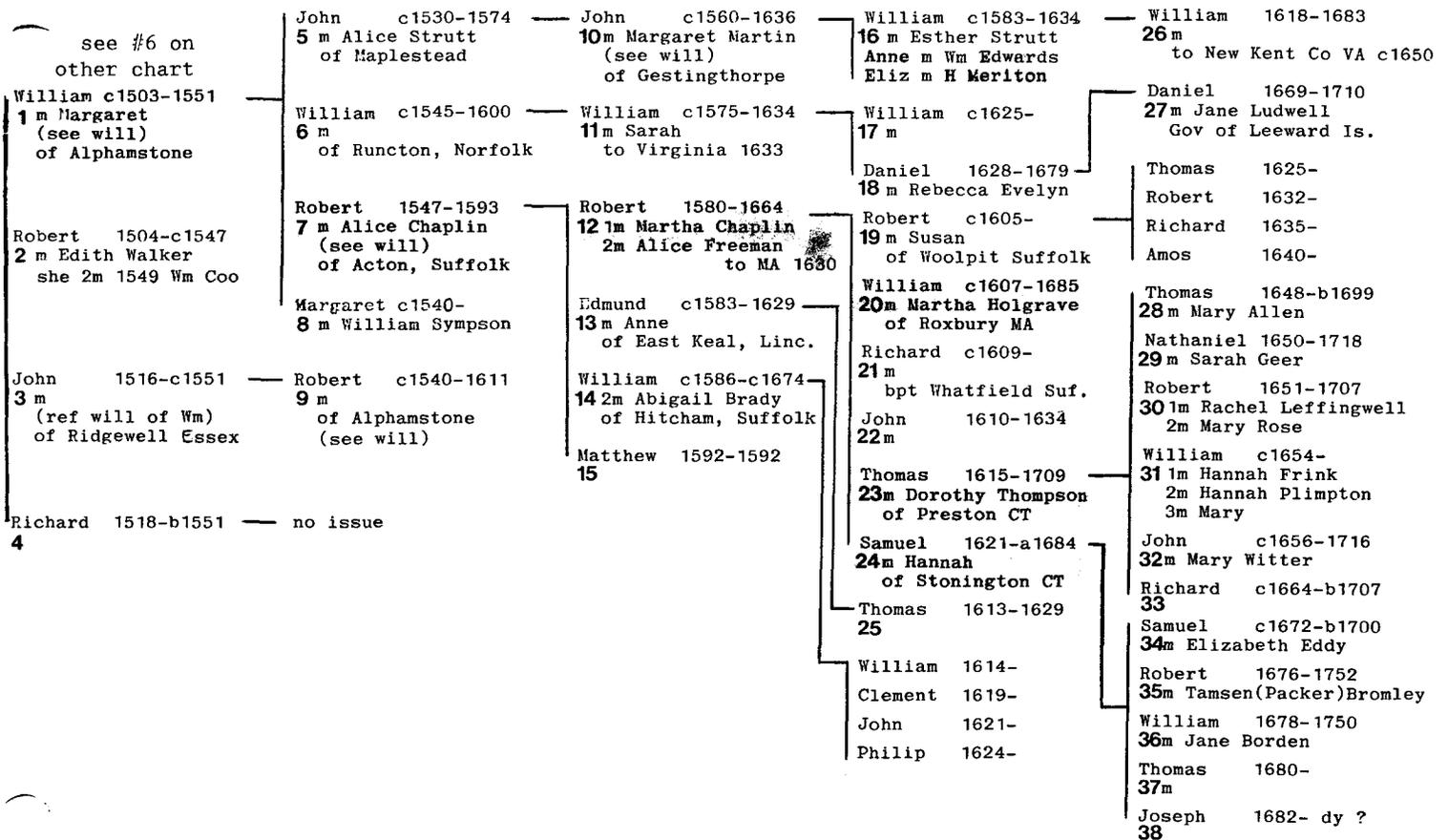
cow in 2 yrs. If son Robert dies before payment then £10 to wife Margaret and other 2 sons. To William Sympson son-in-law £6/13/4 on condition he puts my daughter in possession of land worth 4 marks a yr. To Robert P son of my brother John P of Ridge-well 3/4. To Alis Underwoode my maid 3/4, if they abide 1 yr after my decease. To all godchildren 4d. All things left in house by my father's will to remain. Son John P to have 1 of my horses. John to give Margaret Sympson his sister a cow. Residue of goods to executors. Executors wife Margaret, son John P.

Witnesses:  
Robert Kittell  
William Carter  
Richard Tennant

## Wills of Essex Parkes

number refers to chart on next page  
- 1 -

William Parke, Gestingthorpe  
25 Mar 1551 proved 13 May 1551, Yeoman.  
In name of God, whole mind, perfect remembrance, soul to God, body to churchyard of Gestingthorpe. Executors to pay debts. To church of Gestingthorpe 12d. To poor of Gestingthorpe 20d. To parish of Wickham St Pauls 20d. To parish of Maplestead Parva 20d. To Maplestead Magna 20d. To wife Margaret P £10. To son William P £20 in 1 yr. To youngest son Robert P £10 (1/2 at 18, 1/2 at 20). To sd Robert P 1 cow in 2 yrs. To son William P a



sum of £ 200 within 2 yrs of my decease. To Mary daughter of the said William Sympson and wife of John Sidey, gent. £ 20. To the 3 daughters of John Parke (#10) my nephew £ 10 each at 21 or day of marriage. To Elizabeth Dameon, my kinswoman £ 40, part of which her husband oweth me. To Katherine Hampton my kinswoman £ 40 in 1 yr. To Bridget Salter my kinswoman £ 20 on condition Henry Salter her husband cancels a bond. To Bridget Clarke and Mary Clarke, kinswomen £ 10 each. To servant Mary Fisher £ 20, at 21. To Thomas Deare 40/- at 18 (servant). To poor of Bures St Mary £ 3. To poor of Alphamstone £ 4. To poor of Henny Magna 10/-. To poor of Mount Bures 10/-. To poor of Pebmarsh 10/-. To all godchildren 3/4 each 21. Togodson William Parke (#16) son of my nephew John Parke of Gestingthorpe, yeoman, and his heirs for

ever all closes of land as Great Bishops, Little Bishops, and meadow called Borrelles and Bishops Meadow in Bures St Mary Measod of William Sidey of Bures. To all other servants 20/- at 21. To kinsman & nephew John Garrad the younger being the eldest son of John Garrad all lands recently purchased of one John Turner and lying in Wiston. To Mr George Barrie 10/- to preach at funeral. All else to nephew John Parke, he sole executor.

Witnesses:

Thomas Chaplyn  
Edward Turner  
Edward Newman

- 10 -

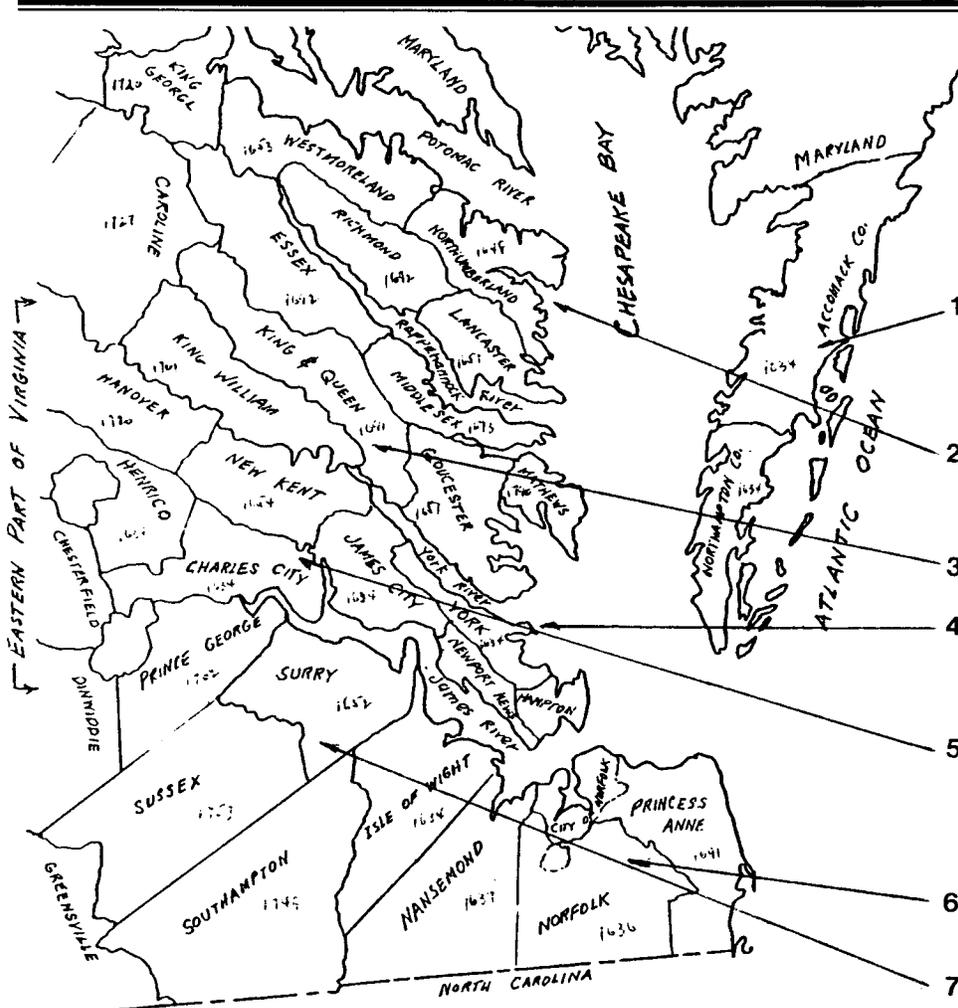
John Parke, Gestingthorpe  
10 Mar 1635 proved 8 Apr 1636, Yeoman.

In name of God, sick in body, good & perfect memory, soul to God, body to earth, to be buried at discretion

of executrix. To son William P & his heirs my capital message in Alphamstone wherein he dwells with all lands & tenements to ye same belonging. To wife Margaret my capital message wherein I dwell, also tenement in Little Maplestead called Collins with lands to the same & parcel called Spitt Croft in Maplestead & parcel of meadow on Wickham St Pauls all in tenure of William Ingham to have & hold for life or widowhood & to pay my son William P £ 20 yearly. To poor of Gestingthorpe 40/-. To poor of Maplestead Parva 40/-. To John Searles, servant 30/- To Richard Buffett, servant 10/-. To Bridget wife of William Lawsell £ 10. All rest of goods & chattells to wife Margaret P she sole executrix.

Witnesses:

William Carter  
John Coe  
Nicholas Bland



PARKS Immigrants to Virginia

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

First Names	Before 1640	1640 - 1660	1660 - 1680	1680 - 1700	After 1700
Thomas		1647			
Robert		1654			
Edward			1678		
John			1678		
Edward		1649			
Ambrose		1657			
Prescilla		1657			
John		1658			
Dorothy		1658			
Robert			1662		
Samuel			1664		
Jon.			1666		
Joseph			1677		
Daniell			1675		
William				1684	
James				1693	
Isaac					1703
Thomas	1635				
Daniell		1654 (to 1663)			
William		1655(2)			
Sarah		1655			
John		1642 (to 1694)			
John		1652			
Ellinor		1652			
William		1656 (to 1663)			
Fran.			1662		
Sarah			1663		
Daniell			1666		
Nicholas				1680	
Thomas				1683	
James				1699	
Joseph					1702
Robert	1639				
Ambrose				1683	
William					1703
John					1704
John					1705
Mary					1724
Joseph					1731
Robert			1671		
Anne					1705

County was created on date shown

Notes - 1. For specific county see tabulation by dates.  
 2. Dates cited are those for first appearance in a given area.

- Areas
1. Accomack & Northampton Cos.
  2. Northumberland & Westmoreland Cos.
  3. King & Queen and King William Cos.
  4. York Co.
  5. New Kent, Henrico, James City & Charles City
  6. Isle of Wight, Nansemond, Norfolk & Prin Anne
  7. Surry & Prince George Cos.

## Researching Parkes in Virginia

by Earl F Arnett #604  
 To gain perspective about immigrant PARKS in Virginia a good place to start is to look at the earliest land records as abstracted by Nell Marion Nugent in her Cavaliers & Pioneers of Virginia.

Appendix A presents a summary of the information to be found in all three volumes of her works. A total of 57 entries are noted in which PARKS are either immigrants or grantees of land. Most of these lands came to the grantee as the result of 'headright' claims; if a resident of the Colony brought a new settler  
 Cont'd next page

YEAR	NAME (note spelling)	LOCATION OF LAND	ASSOCIATED NAMES
1635	Thomas Parkes	??? (York) Co. Kethes Creek	Thomas Harwood
1639	Robert Parkes	Isle of Wight Co.	Robert Eley
1642	John Parkes	??? Co. Chestnut Neck	Thomas Stainoe
1647	Thomas Parkes	Northampton Co.	Wm Whittington
1649	Edward Parke	Northumberland Co. N side - Rappa. River	Wm Newsum Thomas Sax
1652	John Parke	Henrico Co. S side - James River	Robert Elam
1652	Ellinor Parke	New Kent Co. Chickahominy River	Thos. Claibourne
1654	Robert Parke	Northampton Co. Anancock Creek	Wm. Johnson
1654	Daniel Parks	York Co. Queens Creek (has land)	Robert Bird

1655	Wm. Parke Sr. Sarah Parke Wm Parke Jr & wife	York Co. SW side - York River	Matthew Huberd
5	Daniell Parke	York Co. S side - Old Mill Swamp	Robert Bourne
1656	Wm. Parkes	New Kent Co. S side - York River	Thomas Merrideth
1657	Ambrose Parkes	??? Co. Potomeck River Chapawannick Creek	Samuel Matthews
1657	Prescilla Parkes	as above for Ambrose	Thomas Broughton
1658	John Parkes	as above for Ambrose	Thomas Lullaman
1658	Edward Parke	New Kent Co. 'adj. land of Geo. Smith'	Wm Woodland
1658	Dorothy Parke	Northumberland Co. Dennisses Creek	Chris. Garlington
1658	Daniell Parke	York Co. takes added land for transporting 11 persons	
1658	John Parke	New Kent Co. S side - York River	Charles Edmunds
1662	Daniell Parke	York Co. takes more land - SW side - York River	
1662	Fran. Parke	James City Co. s side - York River	George Smith (see Edward Parke above)
1662	Robert Parkes	Northumberland Co.	Richard Rice
1662	Daniell Parkes	York Co. Queens Creek - new land	Daniell Wild
3	Wm. Parke Sarah Parke Wm Parke Jr & wife	New Kent Co. Black Creek	John Horsington
1663	Daniell Parke	York Co. St Andrews Creek	assigns land to John Horsington - see name above
1663	Thomas Parke	Westmoreland Co. Popes Creek	John Buttler
1664	Samuell Parks	??? Co. Chickaone River/Creek	Thomas Adams Richard Rise
1664	John Parke	??? Co. Panmunkey Path - S side Chickahominy River	John Beachamp Richard Cocke
1666	Daniell Parke	??? Co. E side - Chickahominy R. Warreny Old Town	Nocholas Merewether
1666	Jon. Parke	Northumberland Co. Chickaone Creek	Wm & Peter Priestly
1671	Robert Parkes	Surry Co. (Robert already has other land)	Richard Skynner
1675	Daniell Parke Esq	New Kent & Rappa. Cos.	Bryan Smith
1677	Joseph Parke	Westmoreland Co.	Elias Webb
1678	Edward Parke	Accomack Co.	Richard Holland
1678	John Parkes	Accomack Co.	Daniell Jennifer
'9	Edward Parke	Accomack Co.	Col Southy Littleton
1680	Nichloas Parke	New Kent Co.	Thomas Todd

to Virginia he was given a grant of 50 acres for each such person.

The English, under Queen Elizabeth and later monarchs, were intent on establishing in America a firm chain of permanent settlements - partly as the conquest in America intensified in competition with the French and Spanish. So, many in England, Scotland and Ireland were encouraged to migrate.

These early records are not necessarily conclusive in fixing the exact identity of the immigrant, but they do show the names of the sponsors and the primary location of the grant lands involved. The Nugent abstracts also are not necessarily a total record of such immigrants, as they seem to cover the period mainly between 1630 and 1730. Therefore, such records must be taken with some reservations. However, an analysis does give one the general extent of the earliest records of many PARK/E/S who came to Virginia. Appendix A presents a two part analysis:

- 1) a chronological listing giving the PARKS by name, the date of arrival, the name of the sponsor and the location of the sponsor's residence at the time.
- 2) a geographical grouping in which an arbitrary seven groups are identified according to a north/south orientation along the Virginia coast.

In looking at these records one is struck by the variety of PARKS and also by the apparent possibilities for confusion. By law the 'head-right' was supposed to be a person coming to America for the first and only time; but there were many escape clauses and it was not uncommon to see the same person claiming more than once. For instance, I am told that if an immigrant made a trip back to England and then returned to America, that person could be claimed for another 50 acres, and perhaps by a second sponsor. So, one must look at such  
Cont'd next page

VA Parkes from page 4a

records with a jaundiced eye.

Zella Armstrong in her Notable Southern Families has made the point that there was one THOMAS PARKES in Virginia by 1670; but which of the three immigrant Thomases was he? In 1635 THOMAS PARKS came to York Co.; in 1647 a THOMAS PARKE was in Northampton Co.; and in 1663 a THOMAS PARKE was in Westmoreland Co. Were these three different persons or were they all one and the same? It is my guess that they were three different persons; but I have no concrete proof. Furthermore, I have found no proof to link any of these to the THOMAS PARKES of Spotsylvania Co. in 1728, the supposed progenitor of either my direct line or one closely related.



Earl F Arnett

## English Tours

1987 may be the year that you will want to think of going to the British Isles to do some research on your family roots. Here are two organizations to help you.

The New England Historic Genealogical Society of Boston is offering a course in Family History for Americans centered on English genealogy. This will be held 7 to 22 July at the University of Leeds in Yorkshire. During the two weeks there will be ten afternoon excursions to such places as York Cathedral and Hadrians Wall. Contact: Family Society Tours Ltd, 24 Murray St

1680	John Parkes	New Kent Co. Stratton Major Parish	Ralph Greene Sr.
1683	John Parkes	New Kent Co. St Peters Parish	Grant - 964 acres
1683	Thomas Parke	New Kent Co. S side - York River	Moses Davies
1683	Ambrose Parke	Isle of Wight Co.	Henry Applewhaite
1684	Wm. Parkes	Rappahannock Co. Hoskins Creek	Henry Vaughan
1686	Ann Parks	Norfolk Co. S br. - Elizabeth River	Henry Henlane
1693	James Parks	King & Queen Co. (adj. to Robert Bird)	Robert Bird
1694	John Parks	New Kent Co. Escheat - Elimor Thomas	Grant - 450 acres
1699	James Park	Charles City Co. (near Westover)	Wm. Fetherton
1702	Joseph Park	??? Co. Panmunkey Neck - Cohoke Cr	Edward Bell
1703	Isaac Park	King William Co. Herring Creek	Edmund Jennings
1703	Wm. Parks	Nansemond Co. (near 'South Key')	Dennis Odier
1704	Wm. Park	Nansemond Co. Bennetts Creek	Joseph Booth (see below also)
1704	John Parks	Nansemond Co. Bennetts Creek	Joseph Booth
1705	John Park	Princess Anne Co Heigaloh Swamp	John Symons
1705	Anne Parkes	Prince George Co. Blackwater River	Richard Bland
1714	James Parkes	??? Co. Mattapony River	John Rogers
1719	Wm. Parks	New Kent Co. Forks of Panmunkey River	Reuben Welch
1724	Beverley Parke (note: maybe just a place?)	King & Queen Co.	John Martin Jr. (Grant)
1724	Mary Parke	Isle of Wight Co. Meherin River	Stephen Strickling
1731	Joseph Parks	Isle of Wight Co. Meherin River	John Lucas

Notes: 1) The 'location of lands' refers to that claimed by the person who transported the PARKS person listed; this will not necessarily mean that the PARKS person continued to live there.  
2) The 'associated name' generally refers to the Virginia resident who paid for the transportation of the PARKS person. Sometimes it may refer to another nearby land owner.

Norwalk CT 06851.

You can also follow your heritage trail in England with the help of Chris Barrett Associates of London. Their US representative is: Mrs. C.E. Woodward, 47 Bowman St., Westborough MA 01581. This

organization is reported to provide a specialist service to visitors from North America who wish to combine a touring holiday with some genuine family history research in London archives and in the counties of England.

Robert Hiram from page 33

However, here we will try to highlight some of his contributions through his inventions and writings in engineering. These have brought him several important awards: 1930, the National 1st Prize in Theory and Research by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers; 1945, Distinguished Civilian Service Award by the U.S. Navy; 1965, elected a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers; and in 1972, the Lamme Medal for Meritorious Achievement in the Development of Electrical or Electronics Apparatus of Systems by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

As a graduate of MIT in electrical engineering in 1923, he studied further in mathematical physics at the Royal Technical Institute in Stockholm, took an advanced course in engineering with the General Electric Co. and, after WWII, a course in electronics at George Washington University.

Robert<sup>11</sup> was born in Passau Germany in 1902 while his father Robert Ezra<sup>10</sup> (see Vol XIX p33) was studying for a doctorate in sociology. Following his graduate work, Robert entered the employ of General Electric Co in Schenectady NY where, over the next 5 years, he made advances in synchronous machine theory. "Park's Equations", as

his definitive description of the theory is internationally known, have resulted in several hundred scientific papers and a dozen books exploiting these famous equations. In fact, several professional careers have, to a large extent, been based on them.

At GE he was the first to apply the travelling wave theory to the calculation of circuit breaker recovery voltages. These investigations culminated in the publication of six remarkable papers, each a classic in its field. After GE, Robert was with Stone & Webster Engineering in Boston, then with Calco Chemical Div. of American Cyanamid Co in Bound Brook NJ. At the latter he was in charge of physics research, responsible for developments in spectrophotometry, absorption systems, recorders, color prediction, and electric heating devices.

Having contact with Czech engineers in 1938, he learned that they were certain of a World War II. He comments, "this led to my reading, with disapproval as you might guess, Hitler's *Mein Kampf*". In early 1940 with Germany's attack on France, "based on what I already knew as to the sad state of affairs that prevailed generally when it came to U.S. preparations for war, I took it that it was high time for me to find some

place where I could be of use in the way of effecting improvement."

With the help of Vannevar Bush, then president of Carnegie Institute and later director of the Office of Scientific Research & Development during the war, he found a berth in the Naval Ordnance Laboratory. There he had responsibility for submarine mine development with hundred engineers under his direction. He later was with the Bureau of Ordnance working on torpedo research. His contributions to the war effort were many, including 17 patents that he assigned to the United States (there are 39 others to his credit).

Following the war he became Director of Research Development & Engineering for Emhart Mfg. Co in Hartford CT. In later years he has operated as an independent consultant. His publications and reports over the years have been models of scientific exposition in which every word and phrase was chosen with a view to meticulous description and unimpeachable English.

Robert Hiram Park was married 13 Jan 1923 in Wollaston MA to Miriam Elizabeth Nelson by whom he had four sons and a daughter Cynthia #95. His nephew is Edward Cahill Park Jr #262. (Robert MA 1630, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Hezekiah<sup>4</sup>, Silas<sup>5</sup>, Elijah<sup>6</sup>, Asa G<sup>7</sup>, Ezra Starkweather<sup>8</sup>, Hiram Asa<sup>9</sup>, Robert Ezra<sup>10</sup>)

## We'd like you to know -

Grace May Barr Vellema #680 of Parkville MO, hostess for the Friday luncheon at the 23rd Convocation is an 11th generation descendant of Robert (MA 1630). She was born in 1908 at LaPlatte, Sarpy Co NE to Bion Ross and Dora May (Dasher) Barr. Her great grandfather A.B. Barr of Lancaster Co PA moved to Nebraska before 1857 the year county was created.

Grace attended schools near Omaha and spent a year



at Wichita Business College. She majored in accounting and was trained on key punch and IBM machines. A member of the American Institute of Banking for 12 years, she retired from the Commerce Trust Bank in Kansas City.

She is a DAR member. Her Parke lineage is from Robert (MA 1630) through Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>3</sup>, Margaret<sup>4</sup> who married Jabez<sup>3</sup> Spicer, then Nathan<sup>4-5-6</sup>, Catherine<sup>7</sup>, Martha M Sprague to her father. Grace first married Earl A Johnson and second Homer Vellema.

# Historian's Corner

Theodore E. (Tad) Parks  
PO Box 590, Milwaukee WI 53201  
Phone: 414 445 8894 (evenings)

One of the principle aims of the Society is to be a clearing house for Park/e/s genealogical information to help members extend their research, and to preserve their Park/e/s heritage.

Unlike most family associations and all patronal societies, our membership does not require that a Park/e/s lineage be traced back to any specific ancestor or immigrant. In fact a significant number of our members are still in search of their Park immigrant. Hopefully the Society will be able to give aid and assistance where needed, adding further details to established lines and locating connections for those who are presently 'stonewalled'.

We do make connections from time to time, although not as frequently as we would like. When it does happen it's almost as happy an event for me as it is for the member. Just recently I was able to do just that. I located a tentative connection for one of our members.

As I tied up loose ends on this possible new connection, I thought about the elements that made this possible and how it relates to disappointments experienced by some of our members. Luck obviously played a small part, and there was also some skill involved, but by far the greatest contribution was by the member.

He included with his papers some material that might have been considered extraneous. I doubt that I could have made a connection without it. In reflecting, I realized that these elements play a part in two of the Society's problems: a) the seemingly dead ends, and b) membership lapses.

Now I want to explore with you the interrelationship of these events. As a start, let's look at the item that keyed the discovery. In the

beginning I didn't have much to go on. An ancestor's name (William Magalen Parks Sr.) and a date (b 1798, probably Canada). The name didn't ring any bells, even though the middle name was somewhat unusual. At this point there was little I could do. Since we do not yet have a fully computerized given-name index, I must look through our group sheets, presently in 27 volumes. It is not an easy task. Usually, after some preliminary searching, I set up what is called a 'Disconnected Lineage Key' and hope for a bit of luck. It wouldn't have been my first. I have several such disconnected lines, some with even less information.

But this particular tale does have a happy ending. Subsequent data supplied by the member included a two page summary with names of brothers and sisters of his ancestral line along with lineage forms and ancestral charts. This was where I hit the jackpot. I now saw William Magalen as a husband and father. I saw relative dates and, most important, locations with several in central Michigan, a hot spot for known Parks.

The key, however, was a single middle name. On the summary page there was listed a child with the name Joel Eaton. This gave me a good idea where to start looking for William Magalen Parks. In all of our lineage binders there is only one place where the name Eaton appears. The Robert-Thomas-Nathaniel-Joseph line (Chart 13) was much in evidence in Michigan. This started with Daniel (6T195), it was not long before I came upon William M. Parks (8T6970) born 24 January 1798 and in the right place.

We still need additional evidence to firm up the connection, but I think it is safe to say that we probably have our man. And what's more important, the member knows where to go and who to contact (other member-descendants) to

pursue this possible connection. The result: confirmations, and finding many cousins.

Over my years with the Society, I have had the pleasure of helping many members like this one to find their connections. A significant factor in each case has been the availability of all the pertinent data known about the family, not just the last person on the lineage form.

Let us return now to a point I want to mention in this piece; if you are 'stonewalled' on some ancestor, is our Society able to give you all the help you need? Are you making the most efficient use of the resources available to you through your membership in the Society?

I have many 'disconnected lines' in the lineage binders, some with more information than others. Obviously, the more data you give me, the better the chances I have of finding your connection. While Lineage Form B is a minimum of documentation, is really not enough when I am attempting to find a connection. Ancestor charts, family group sheets, and copies of any other pertinent data are an absolute necessity to me. If there is any question in your mind whether something is helpful, send it! Often it has been just such items that have solved the puzzle. There really is no such thing as 'too much information'.

If you are at a standstill in your search but haven't yet sent me all that you have, please do so now! Don't wait for some particular data to appear in the pages of our NEWSLETTER. The data you have now may provide an answer for you and others.

Finally, 'don't give up the ship'. Keep me abreast of any additional research you are doing. No matter how insignificant it may seem, it may contain crucial data to solve your mystery when combined with the Society's records.

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## How Your Editor Spends His Vacation

This past summer has been the most pleasant one for me, and the Society has had a major role in this being so.

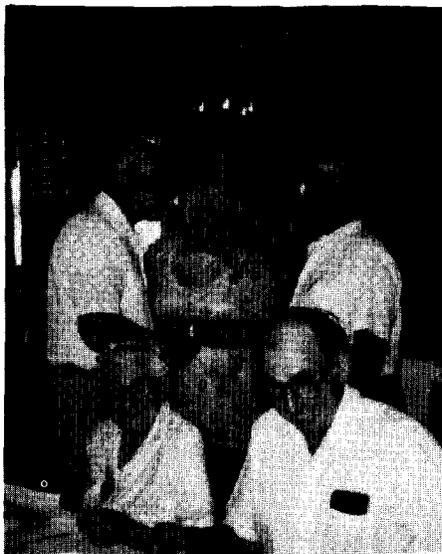
On July 13th Jill and I headed west from Reading PA for the Convocation in Parkville MO. The following evening we were in Columbus OH for dinner with Tom #306 & Betty Park and Earl #604 & Alice Arnett. Tom has served as Trustee for Region 5 and Earl is a well known researcher for Parks (and others) in Virginia and the Carolinas.

Another stop was at the Powell Memorial Library in Troy MO to see the Margie Howell (#88) Collection. Much is there on Parks not in Margie's line in letters, notes and court house records that should be added to the Society's library.

And then to Parkville where the weatherman reported it was hotter than anywhere else in the country! However, Park College took good care of us in an air-conditioned dorm so that Jill and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Tad has covered the events of the three days in his Closed Circuit letter. It was a special

Now for a little horn tooting! As societies go, our annual membership fee of \$10. is very reasonable. Our NEWSLETTER has been cited as one of the best in the field. It is distributed to over 200 libraries throughout the land. However, the NEWSLETTER is just the outward manifestation of the internal resources we have to offer. That is why the NEWSLETTER is an adjunct of your membership in the Society and not offered by subscription. We can help each other by the exchange of information. When you need my assistance, be sure to send me all the facts you have. Then my chances of finding the answer will be that much better.

Peace  
*Tad*  
Tad



Parke meeting in Napanee ONT

treat to meet new faces (as well as the old!) especially Chips Smallwood #519 from Salt Lake City, Joe Parks #349 of Austin TX and Larry Parks and his large family contingent from California.

I supposed that I knew everything that went on in the Society only to find that at least one action had been done surreptitiously! At the banquet much to my surprise, Dana Parks presented me with the Society's Dedicated Service Award. As another recipient, Margie Howell, remarked, "Its nice to have your efforts appreciated." I second that.

On the return trip Jill and I stopped in Springfield IL to see Lincoln's home. At the State Museum the curator showed me the volume Life of Lincoln by William Dean Howell (see Vol XXII p37) that had been owned by Judge Samuel C. Parks. And there were Lincoln's hand written corrections in the margin requested by the Judge in 1862.

Then, on our way to Leland MI for a visit with my brother Hervey #162, we saw on the map a town named PARKS, just west of Big Rapids. All that we found was a mobile home establishment. The owner said that there was once a general store run by a Mr Parks but she knew nothing about him. So we went to White Cloud, Newaygo

Co. seat, to visit the library. We picked up what facts we could on any Parks in the area, but nothing about Parks MI.

The next stop was St Johns MI where the Society's Secretary Janet Snyder treated to a delightful lunch at her farm. Later in the day we were in Pontiac to locate and photograph the Parke monuments at the Oak Hill Cemetery including my gt grandfather Dr Ezra Smith Parke (1793-1846).

I had been in touch with Cora Reid #231, genealogist at the Lennox & Addington Co Museum in Napanee ONT and arranged to meet her for a morning to see Parks records. She had contacted Marion Parks #419 of Bancroft who joined us and together we went to see the Parks Cemetery where the descendants of Cyrenius<sup>6</sup> Parks (1754-1828) are buried (see Vol XVII p23 & XXI p4). Cora inquired whether I might stay in Napanee that evening for dinner to which I agreed that I could. Much to my surprise she had invited about 25 others to join us at a restaurant, most of them Parks! They are eagerly awaiting the 1989 Convocation planned for nearby Kingston.

We had thought to take the Thousand Islands boat trip but put that off until 1989! Our last stop was at Sackets Harbor Battlefield just west of Watertown NY. I had thought we might meet our newest Life Member Russel Park in Syracuse, but he wasn't there. It later turned out he was off in Napanee attending a family reunion!

### Queries

#757 Seeking parents of WILSON PARKS b 1843 Perrysville, Vermillion Co IN, d 1927 in Hoopeston, Vermillion Co IL.  
1m1865 Rebecca Chenoweth  
2m 1877 Leah C. Purvo. Believe father was also WILSON.

#757 Seeking parents and siblings of SILAS LATTA b c1820 LaGrange IN m c1840 Sarah Norris. Two known ch. John Franklin b 1852 d1912 m Eva Alvetta Stowell, and Dave M.

# The President's Report at The Annual Meeting July 18th

To the members and officers of the Parke Society, Inc.

At this Convocation, my last as your President, I should like to summarize the accomplishments of the past five years and to express my appreciation to the officers and trustees and to those members who have taken an active part in the Society.

The Parke Society would not be what it is today without the able guidance of David Parke over the years since he was President. His untiring effort in behalf of each new President have resulted in a well organized Society with fine convocations. David has assumed much of the burden of being a chief executive officer because he is close to the center of operation of the Society.

Theodore Parks, our Registrar-Historian, has taken on a dual role and his activity is well documented in the NEWSLETTER as well as setting up an accounting system to handle registrations and inquiries and other business of the Society.

To get back to the accomplishments of the Society, the growth has been excellent and the credit goes to David and Tad for their outstanding guidance. Behind every president is an unseen guiding light. This is especially true in the Parke Society and I hereby say "Thank you" to David and Tad.

When I became President in 1981 at the Lancaster PA Convocation, I hoped to be able to carry on the work that my predecessors had done so well. The list is long and my appreciation to them for suggestions to benefit the Society is hereby acknowledged and expressed.

The 1982 Convocation at Salt Lake City was a fine example of sociability, study and sight-seeing made possible by Past-President Stuart Park and Trustee Pat Geisler and their contacts with the Mormon Church.

The 1983 Convocation at Woodstock VT again arranged by Stuart Park, through his contacts with the Woodstock Foundation and his knowledge of Park family history in the area.

The 1984 Convocation at Colonial Williamsburg VA was arranged through the effort of David Parke, and again through his knowledge of the Parke Families of Virginia. Each year the Parke family honors an ancestor from some area and, when possible, a local Parke descendant is the principal speaker at the banquet.

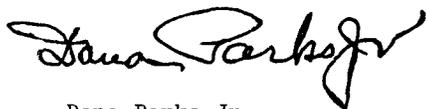
The 1985 Convocation held in Boston with its many historic sites, was set up by Larry Parks, Trustee of Region 1. Because Larry was unable to be present, David Parke picked up the ball and again we had a successful and interesting meeting, honoring Richard Park, my immigrant ancestor.

To our new President Ed Kilpatrick my thanks for arranging the 1986 Convocation that included a personal visit to Park College in advance. The Trustees now meet at the Annual Convocation and conduct the major business of the Society. Any urgent business is handled by correspondence, a poll taken and action ratified at the next convocation. Because of the wide geographical distribution of officers and trustees, this has proved to be a practical way to handle business that should not be delayed.

In closing this report, may I again say thank you to all those who have done so much to assist the development of the Parke Society as it is today. My request, as I step down, is that you all may support our new president in the same fine way that you helped me. Whatever I have done is small compared to the work of many of you. I shall always remember the experiences of being your president for the past five years.

I thank you all.

Respectfully submitted,



Dana Parks Jr.

## ELDERHOSTEL'S Are Fun

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### ARIZONA

Cochise Community Col.	Feb 22-28
	Apr 5-11
Univ of AZ - Tucson	Feb 1-6
	Mar 8-14
	May 3-9

### FLORIDA

Eckerd Col. St Pete	Jun 7-13
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### ILLINOIS

Campbell Ctr	May 24-30
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### NORTH DAKOTA

Univ. of ND	May 17-23
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### OREGON

Malheuer Field Sta.	Jun 7-13
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### UTAH

Brigham Young Univ	Mar 22-28
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### VIRGINIA

Hampton Univ	Jun 14-20
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Eligibility is open to those 60 or over and a commission may be 50 or over. The cost is \$205 per person Sunday through Friday including good lodging and meals plus field trips. To learn more about this fun activity write to: ELDERHOSTEL, 80 Boylston St, Suite 400, Boston MA 02116.

## Unusual Gravestone

On a gravestone in Holyoke MA the sad tale of an unfortunate descendant of Richard (MA1635) was concise:

Mr Nathl Parks

Who on 21st of March 1794

being out a hunting &

concealed in a ditch was

casually shot by

Mr Luther Frink.

Mr Frink must have felt shamefaced to be immortalized in stone as the man who caused the sudden demise of Mr Parks. In all fairness to him it should be mentioned that in those days the word 'casual' meant 'accidental'. Mr Frink wasn't being flippant.

Nathaniel (5R170) born Mansfield CT was the son of Thomas<sup>4</sup> (Edward<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>).