

The Parke Society

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

Parke Castle & Roger Parke of England/Ireland

David Cole Parke #52, Region I Trustee

As a child, I lived in Ireland and loved the country and people dearly. I especially loved the history and quaintness of the villages and towns.

After more than forty years of living in the United States I recently returned to Ireland with my wife Jan and we explored the land I loved so much and also researched some family history. We explored where the Cole family of west County Cork flourished. Later we investigated a branch of the Parke family that lived in County Leitrim, a part of the larger Parke family of England.

During the 1600s there was much turmoil in England and Ireland. Many English left their mother country as colonists to go to both the New World and Ireland. Ireland had been a thorn in England's side and there were many Catholics that caused problems for the Protestant monar-

chy. Many English settlers were sent from England to Ireland to "Plant" loyal citizens and help pacify the "Wild" Irish. This process was called "Plantation".

One Roger Parke was "planted" into County Sligo around 1601. He married Alice Jones in 1609. (She was the sister of Sir Roger Jones the Constable of Sligo Castle.) They had two children, Robert and William. In the late 1620s when Robert was a young man and rising in the military, it is recorded that he had "1000 men in mortgage from Con O'Rourke and Irish Papist" and was planted at what was then called Newtowne Castle. Captain Robert Parke had the castle remodeled to his liking. The central tower was torn down and a new manor house was built into the walls of the castle using the material from the old tower. The castle was made more comfortable and yet was still very strong. Robert was in charge of the castle during the 1641 Rebellion. In 1642, Sir Frederick Hamilton made Robert a prisoner on suspicion of disloyalty to the Commonwealth. The castle was captured by an Irishman named O'Hart and held till 1652 when it was surrendered to the Parliamentarians. Robert was restored to the castle. Robert became a member of Parlia-

ment in 1661 for County Leitrim. He married Ann Povey from County Roscommon. They had three children: Robert (1661), Mary or Maggie (1663), and Ann (c1665). The family lived in the castle (now called Parke's Castle) for some time enjoying life there. In 1677, a tragedy struck the family. One afternoon, young Robert (16) and Maggie (14) were out on Lough Gill (the large body of water that was beside the castle) in a boat returning from visiting up the lough. A storm came up and they both were lost by drowning. Eventually the surviving daughter, Ann, inherited the Parke estate. She married Sir Francis Gore and they had 12 children (9 sons and 3 daughters). Their son Robert was the last resident of Parke Castle.

Parke Castle was abandoned in 1691 and fell into disrepair and then into ruin. It remained a ruin for over 250 years. In 1970, The Office of Public Works started archeological digs and restoration of the castle. The castle was fully restored and opened to the public in 1990.

This castle, or fortified manor house, has three stories and a bawn, or walled enclosure. Inside the bawn are the Gate House, the Hall, turret,

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Queries and More

Query #1

Information on Roger Parke, Pvt. US 12th Reg. b. NJ 1756, Capt. Morgan's Co., enlisted from Monongalia Co., VA 30 June 1812. Wounded, died 5 Nov 1813. Buried Anglican Cathedral, Quebec City, Canada. Son, George Parke of Coshocton Co., OH applied for father's C(B?)ounty Land Warrant, 15 Sep 1823. Need any information on either of them, or descendants. Believe Roger son of Jonah or Jonas Parke of Alexandria Twp., Hunterdon Co, NJ. Cecilia Kasberg #535, Roger Parke Lineage Leader

Query #2

Info on Robert Park/e found in 1782, Monongalia Co., VA as well as Andrew Parke, 1810. Roger Parke b. c 1756, NJ also from there, prior to 1812. Other Park/e/s listed in 1820 census are: John, Sarah, Joseph, Ann, James, Andrew and William. C. Kasberg #535

Info on: Noah Park, Jonathan L. Park/e, Robert Park, 1830 Census, Harrison Co., VA(WV). C. Kasberg #535

Info on: Jonathan, Charles, David, Philip, Samuel, Roger Park/e/s, 1813-1847, Coshocton, OH C. Kasberg #535

Info on: Joseph R. Parke, son of James and Elizabeth Parke, b. 1850, Mansfield, Warren Co., NJ. C. Kasberg #535

Info on: Aaron Parke, wife, Eliz., dau. Lydia, b. 1842. Kingwood Twp., Hunterdon Co., NJ. C. Kasberg #535

Info on: Andrew Park/e/s m. Carolyn Gruendyke, 1840, Independence Twp., Warren Co., NJ. C. Kasberg #535

Query #3

I am researching Park in Lancaster Co., PA and need assistance. My line is Robert and Elizabeth Park (Robert d. 1753). Their daughter, Sarah Park, who was b. 1752, married Andrew Young 16 June 1772 (or 1777) in Dauphin Co., PA. They moved to Milford, Butler Co., OH c 1800 and she died there 18 Aug 1828. Virginia Fraser, 202 Third St., Seal Beach, CA 90740 (member prospect, Marjorie!)

Query #4

Seeking parents of John Parks b. c 1810/12 d. 1863 (?). Believe 1st m. c 1833 to (name unknown) who issued 2 girls named 1. Mahala b. 1834 IN and 2. Mary b. 1836 IN. 2nd m. c 1840/42 to Kate West who issued a son - Wilson Parks b. 23 Jan 1843 Eugene(Verm Co.) IN. Also in a Eugene, IN cemetery there is an old broken stone that states "John Parks died 1863." If my John Parks, he would have been c 51/53 yrs old. Grateful for any info on my John/Kate Parks - also on John's parents. Doris Jean Payton Parks #757, 102 E. Seymour St., Kentland, IN 47951

Seeking help on Daniel C. Hill b. 1810 IN marr. c 1830/32 Mahala (Parks?) b. 1812 KY. Acc. to 1850 Census they were with 3 Parks' chil-

dren- Mahala 16 IN, Mary 14 IN and male D.C.H. Parks 7 IN. Believe the 7 y.o. male was Wilson Parks b. 23 Jan 1843 Eugene (Verm Co), IN to John Parks and Kate West. Believe two girls were from John's first wife. Wilson had two half sisters acc. to Civil War records. Think Mahala Hill was John Parks' sister. A Mahala Parks m. 1854 to Selvestor Morgan-Vermillion Co., IL. Would like to exchange any info. D.J.P. Parks #757

Statement in Perryville, IN public library: "Oct 4, 1849 - Capt. John Parks led a wagon train to California gold fields". They left from Perrysville, (Verm Co.) IN. My GG grandfather was a John Parks whose son was born at Eugene, (Verm Co) IN and lived there all his life. My John Parks was c 37 yrs old then. Need to exchange info on this John Parks, his parents, his siblings. His father may have been a George Parks but need proof. D.J.P. Parks #757

Query #5

Looking for info on following wives that marr. my PARKS ancestors:

Anna REED, b. c1750, NJ; m. 1767, Rowan Co., NC to Noah Parks Sr.; d. 1833, Rowan Co., NC.

Mary DAVIS, m. John PARK Jr. of Hopewell, NJ.

Sarah SMITH, b. 1675, England; m. c1700, Hopewell, NJ to John PARK;

Ann PATISON m. 1676, England

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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.

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**The
Parke
Society
1998**



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

Application Fee	\$ 15.00	Mrs. Marjorie Isaac #825
Annual Dues	\$ 20.00	202 Meadowbrook Dr. Apt. 4
Life Membership	\$200.00	Clarks Summit, PA 18411-9245

dove cote, stable, well, kitchen and blacksmith shop. Outside the walls are the remains of some of the moat that used to surround the castle but was filled in over time and became useless when the level of the water in Lough Gill fell.

The restoration has brought Parke Castle back to its glory days. There is a fine diorama of the castle and how it looked at various stages of development. There is also a room showing Robert Parke and his family in daily activity. The castle is now part of the National Parks and Monument Service of Ireland. This is a wonderful place to visit if you are a Parke and looking for your past heritage.

Information Courtesy of: Mr. William Parke, Derrygonnelly, Co. Fermanagh, Ireland and The Office of Public Works, National Parks and Monument Service of Ireland.

See lineage charts and drawings on pages 20-23.

ERRATA

Ed. Please note the previous issue of the Newsletter is incorrectly identified. The issue carrying the article on War of 1812 veteran, Robert Parks (1776-1863) on page 1 should be correctly labeled as 1998-Vol. 35 No. 1 on all odd numbered pages. Please make a note of this change.

We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

If you are sharp and realize what you see is not what you get, you will notice a discrepancy. If Robert Park (NC/GA 1775) was in NC why did he come to GA on a ship? The Robert Park that came to GA in 1775 was not the Robert Park of NC. David Parke was kind enough to give me information to look up "Emigrants from Scotland to America". The Robert Park who came to GA in 1775 was from Greenock Scotland, single, 24 years old and a storekeeper bound for GA. He was a passenger on the Christy (Andrew Lee, Master) and sailed between July 28th and August 4th 1775. I first thought he was the Robert Park from Scotland who died Sept. 2, 1849 and is buried in Magnolia Cemetery, Augusta, GA. (Ancestoring, Vol. IV). However, on further reflection that would make him 98 years old, so this is not likely.

When Ella Lyon PS# 90 joined, a notation on her application for membership indicated that Robert Park was in Mecklenburg deeds as early as 1767 through 1773. She (Lyon) was descended from Sarah Ann Park Zabriskie, (4U52) John Miller Park's 2nd child.

David Hardman PS# 550 was descended from Samuel Wallace Park (4U53), John Miller Park's 3rd child, and made no mention of Robert Park. So that part of the article is also wrong. Norine Allen PS# 807 is descended from Cynthia Jane Park (4U56), John Miller Park's 6th child, and has done the most in finding the known information on Robert Park and family. (Norine is fortunate enough to live in Logan, Utah where the Everton Publishing Co is located. They publish genealogical books of all kinds and have one of the best genealogical libraries in the World.)

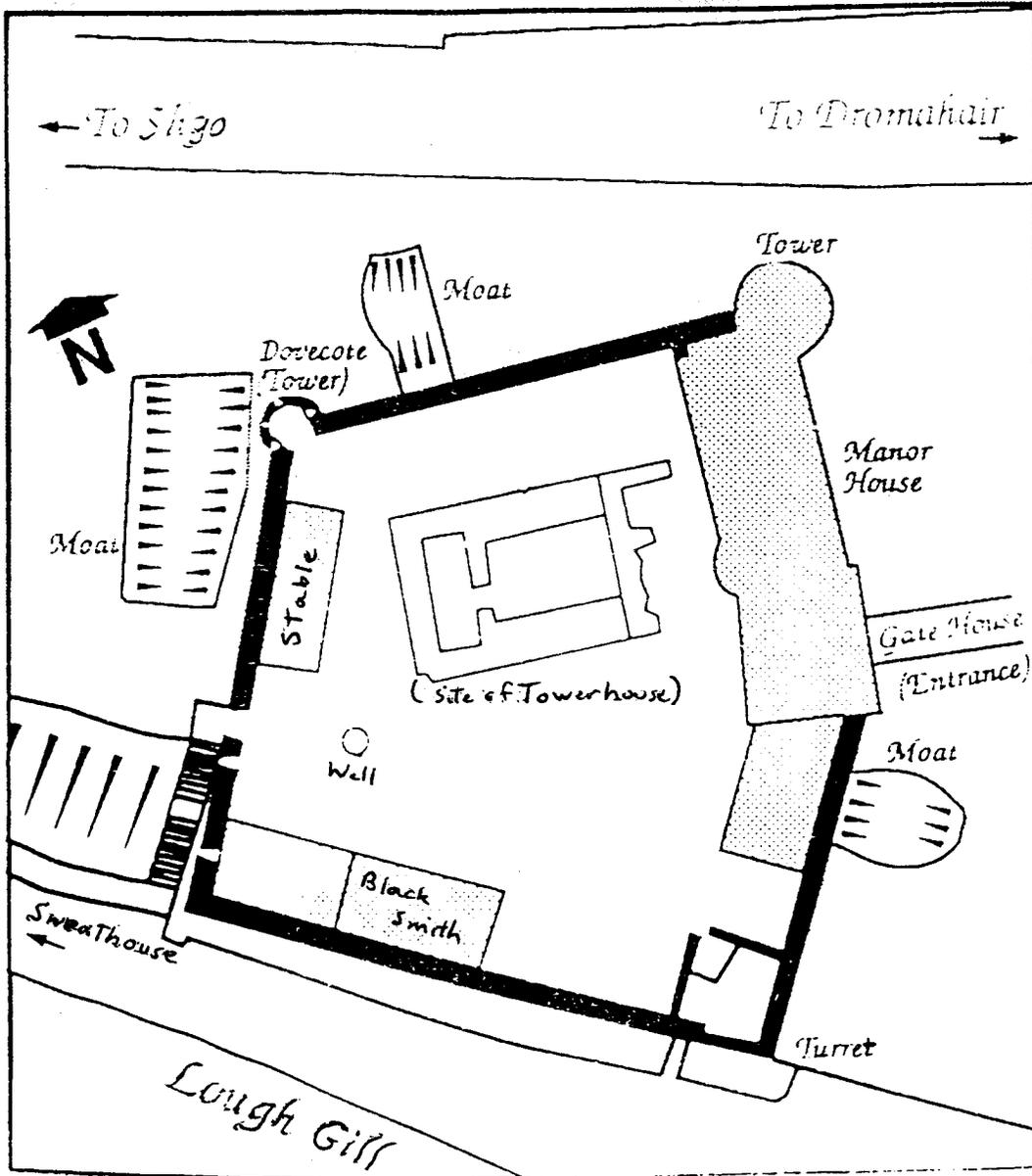
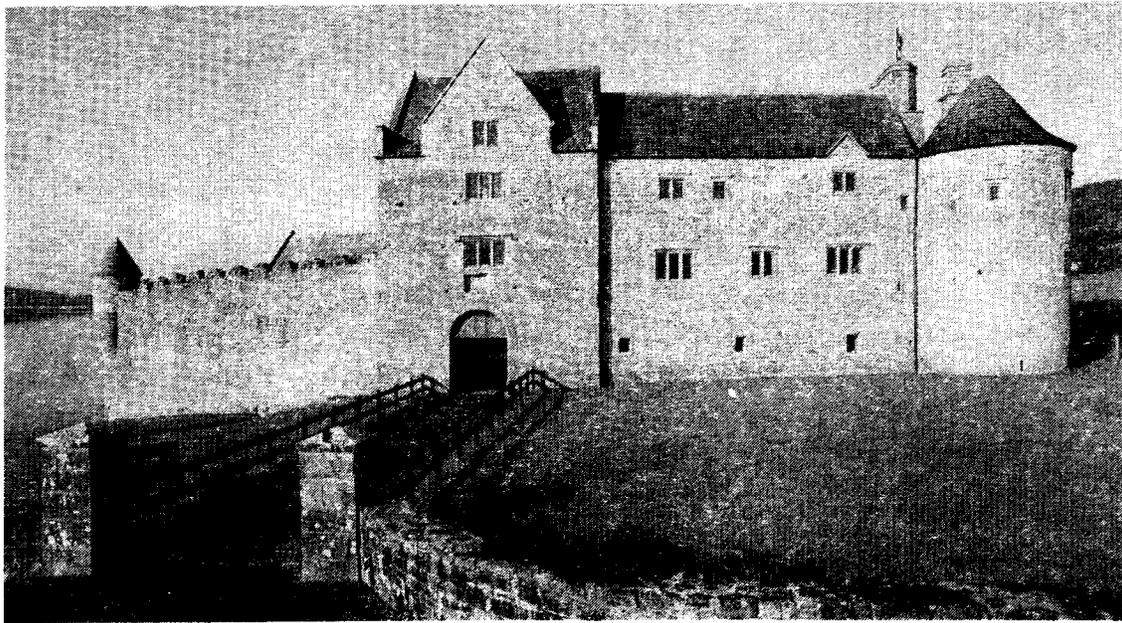
I have a letter from cousin Norine that shows these dates: Robert Park of North Carolina was sold 202 acres of land in Tryon County on 30 Nov 1775 by Samuel Rankin (Court Minutes 1769 - 1779). In 1776 Robert Park was appointed to the Safety Committee. In 1777 Robert Park was appointed Constable. In 1778 Constable Robert Park was to wait on the Grand Jury.

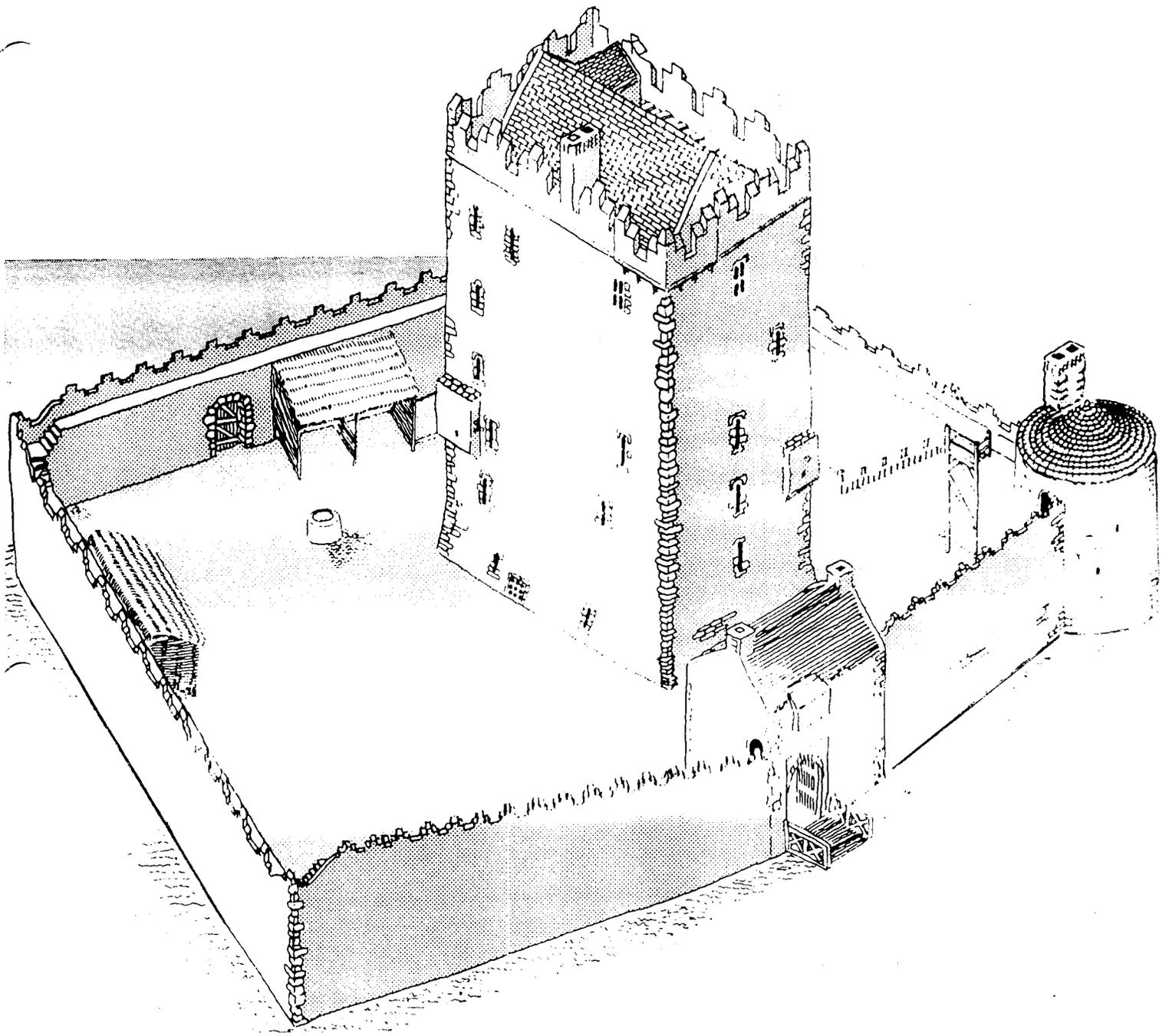
This does not describe an individual who just got off the boat from Scotland in GA or any place else. And there is more. Robert Park disappeared from the Tryon and Lincoln counties area and appeared in Jackson County, GA area beginning in 1785. He and James were on the Tax rolls which meant James was old enough to buy and sell land. Robert Park had 200 acres in Wilkes County. In 1787 Robert transferred 200 acres in Wilkes County to James Park. Was this a wedding present?

Momentarily moving ahead, we note Robert died in 1802. In his will he listed: James Park, Patrick Park, Elizabeth Epy (Espy), John Park, Garrett Park, Ezekiel Park, Robert Park, and granddaughter Nancy Park. Looking at the time frame, it is not impossible to get married and have children and a grand child in 27 years. But! Patrick was married to Susan Smith 1784, (Page 14 Park/e/s Marriages). That is only nine years after 1775 and he has an older brother, James. Also, Patrick was witness to a Will in 1786 in Lincoln County, NC.

We do not know when James was married but we know his daughter was born in 1789 and was married 10 April 1810 to Robert Reed

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Towerhouse reconstruction - c 1550

6th Generation

S Duke Parke
m Eliza Armstrong

7th Generation

Elizabeth
1830-1916
m 1850 Thomas Gordon
Catherine
m Robert Adams (Dr)
Duke (Mjr)
Henry (d young)
William John
1845-1890
m 1869 Charlotte Wilkin
Mary Jane
-1921
unmarried
Emilie
-1875
unmarried

8th Generation

Mary
1870-1926
m Sam Linton
Charlotte
1871-
m William Crooke
Edith
1873-
m E D Rogers
Florence
1874-
m William Bealty
William
1876-
Ellie S Lee
Charles
1877-1942
m Jeannie Kittson
Winifred
1879-
m William McLoughlin
David Wilkin
1881- to US
1m Ethel Large
2m Eliza Compton
Catherine
1885-1979
John Ernest
1889-
Duke
1889-
m Anna Ferguson
children lv in Canada
Donald
m Violet Quinn
Wilkin
m Ottillie Knox
Laura
m Les Thrasher
Margaret
m Kenneth Crawford
Reta
m James Kelso

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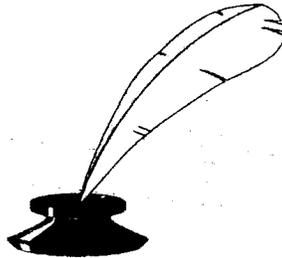
Doug has suggested that this issue should be more about "why we do genealogy" rather than the specifics. While it is true that many turn to genealogy to find their roots, I don't think that reason is sufficient to hold our interest indefinitely. Searching for one's roots is an opportunity to learn so much more about our country and its people.

I am a late comer to genealogy although I did know my Wolcott-Parke ancestry. I never seemed to have the time or inclination to follow up on my other roots, much to the dismay of my mother-in-law. She even had a researcher send me material on my Bidlack ancestry, but at the time I did not realize the variations of surname spellings and so thought since it was spelled "Bidlake", it must be another family. Then Norm was transferred to the Reading area and we met Jill and David Parke. Jill and I shared a love of history and David interested me in the Parke Society because he was (and is) so enthusiastic about the Park/e/s surname.

My Parke ancestry is well-documented so why am I an active member of the Parke Society? Well, one of the reasons is the wealth of almost endless historical material uncovered while researching the Park/e/s surnames. We have information about many time periods and states in our country. Not only do we have members whose ancestors fought in the Revolution but also on opposing sides in the Civil War. Many of our ancestors left their homeland for freedom to practice their religion and yet then laid down stringent rules once they settled

on our shores.

This history is so much more interesting when there are actual people involved. One of the Parke Library



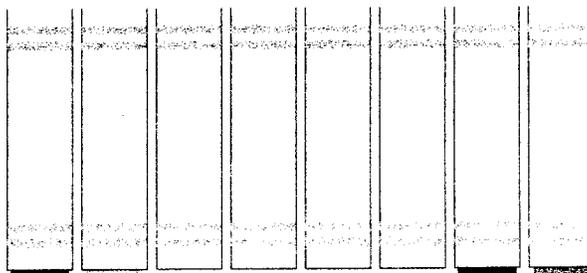
books I have been reading is "Beginnings of Thomas Cooper of Springfield & Some Allied Families" by Agnes Cooper & John B. Cooper. Thomas Cooper emigrated in 1634 and was apprenticed to Francis Stiles, a carpenter who had been engaged by Sir Richard Saltonstall & others to manage their plantation in New England which included most of Connecticut. By 1641 Thomas was in Springfield and in 1644 was named as a selectman. He continued to be an influential individual in the community being chosen 18 times in 30 years as selectman. He also was a member of the permanent committee that made grants of land in the Plantation and so had many transactions with the Indians in order to secure title to the land. In 1675, word was received of a plot by the Indians to destroy Springfield. On October 4th the

settlers took refuge in three fortified houses. Nothing occurred and Thomas, a Lieutenant of the militia company, decided on making a personal visit to the Indian fort. He did not expect that he would be harmed because he had worked with them for a long time. However, both he and a companion were killed. The Indians then did much damage to the settlement.

This true story of the early settlement of one community in New England brings to life the reality of those early settlers, their relationship with the Indians, and their isolation when that relationship soured. Thomas Cooper, born in England about 1617, was an average man, of unknown background, but in Springfield he matured into a very responsible citizen of integrity and courage. His descendants have reason to be proud of him.

The authors of this book did an excellent job because they made Thomas come alive - I knew that he was a real person. And I think this is a very important point to make about genealogy. It shouldn't just be about names, marriages, births and deaths. Do some research on what was going on in the geographic area during the time period of a particular ancestor, and incorporate this material into your writing. This material can be especially helpful when information on the ancestor is very scant. Not only will this make your family history more interesting but it will also be an excellent history lesson for others.

Another reason I am active in the Society is because I have



had the opportunity to meet so many Park/e/s "cousins", especially at Convocations. The Convocation speakers that we have heard have been excellent. I still remember the lady genealogist at Detroit who said that if you were lucky, your ancestor either was in jail or on the town because very accurate records were kept in those instances. I found this to be true when I read about one of my ancestors who was in excellent financial circumstances when he emigrated to Massachusetts in the 1630's but then fell on hard times. There are records stating that his wife received assistance and their children were bound out. However, it does seem sad that if your ancestor was an average, hardworking individual, he is so much more difficult to trace.

I find my work with the Society Library interesting. I enjoy helping members look for their missing 'links' and think I am as thrilled as they are if we do locate one. My hat is certainly off to the lineage leaders and Tad who have the job of fitting all these links together - a huge crossword puzzle! I am also most appreciative of all the work members have done on their genealogies/family histories. The Society is very fortunate to have so much material available.

Please make use of your Library and also if possible, try to attend the Parke Convocation at Lansing this July. Come see those Lineage Books - are you aware that Tad brings along a copier? This is also a chance to see what makes our Society unique with the added plus of meeting new Park/e/s "cousins".

Ancestral Tours

Jean Churchill PS# 934

Mrs. Thompson, PS#955, has written an interesting article in the Parke Society Newsletter Vol 35 No. 1 pg 10 on her trip to England. However, there is an alternative for those members who would rather leave the planning and travel details to others. Ancestral Tours to Great Britain creates heritage-based general interest and also custom-designed tours. An example of one of their custom tours is the 'Mary & John West Country Tour to England' which will visit local villages, churches, genealogy research workshops, etc. connected with the Puritan ancestors who sailed to America in 1630. There will be special church services, genealogy workshops, and other activities which help the American visitor to experience the 'real' England while not enduring

wasted time or energy.

Tour prices begin at \$2,000 per person, double occupancy, plus airfare. I have the Mary & John brochure with registration form which lists the day-to-day activities and gives an idea what one of their tours is like. Also available is their booklet "20 Tips For A Successful Genealogical Research Trip to Great Britain". If anyone is interested in either the booklet or a photocopy of the brochure please send me a SASE. I am also very interested in hearing from any member who might be interested in an Ancestral group tour visiting the geographic area (with genealogical research) of your Park/e/s ancestors. (See my address under Dana Parks Library by-line.)

Corrections to Robert (NC/GA 1775?)

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(Park/e/s Marriages 1770 - 1870 Pg. 5) and according to 1850 census of Gibson Co. TN she was 61 and Robert was 63. Fourteen would be young for James to have had children, especially if it was not a shotgun wedding.

Norine Allen and I both believe he was the Robert Park who married Mary Fuller in Baltimore, MD on 19 Nov 1761. All the circumstantial evidence fits but no solid tie has been conclusively proven as yet.

No. Robert Park of the "U" lineage was NOT the one who came

to the USA in 1775.

An interesting note in all this is; James Park had a son (John Miller Park) born 22 April 1802 in Jackson Co. GA who grew up in TN and on 28 Oct 1824 married Matilda Stewart, the great grand daughter of the woman whose will Patrick Park witnessed in 1786.

Ed. As this line is further clarified, a corrected lineage chart will be developed. We look forward to Roy Park sharing these findings in the future.

SETTLEMENT PATTERNS: If your ancestors settled in Kentucky just after the Revolutionary War, they may have had boundary lands from Virginia. Those who settled in Tennessee generally served from North Carolina. If your forebears settled in Arkansas, Missouri, or Illinois 1816-1817, and initially held 80 or 160 acres, quite likely they served in the War of 1812. (Contra Costra., CA G. S. Newsletter #9)

Roger Parks (IV) of Hunterdon County, NJ

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With a name like Roger Parks and from Hunterdon County, New Jersey he was probably a descendent of Roger Parke, Quaker immigrant to West Jersey in 1682. Like other Parks of Northwest New Jersey, his immediate ancestry is conjectural; his current descendants unknown.

Roger Parks, the focus of this article—I will call him Roger IV—was born, according to his prisoner-of-war record, about 1755-56. That is four generations or one hundred years after Roger I, the Northwest New Jersey immigrant ancestor. Roger I, from his marriage to Ann Patison in Allendale, Northumberland in 1676, through his land transactions in West Jersey starting with 1682, is well documented but not defined. He is clearly not the Roger Parke who married Sophia Claes in Westchester, New York. Roger, of Westchester, died in 1690. Roger I was buying land for adult children and witnessing wills in the late 1690's.

Roger IV enlisted in the 12th U.S. Infantry, June 1812, while living in Monongalia County, now West Virginia. Two other Parkes, his son George and a nephew, Joseph, son of Andrew Parke, enlisted just a month before he did.

The 12th U.S. Infantry was a newly authorized regular army regiment recreated for the war emergency of 1812. Like other such units it was poorly equipped, inadequately trained and at the command level, incompetently led by political generals. In spite of these shortcomings, the Regiment had marched to the Niagara front, near Buffalo, New York by late summer of 1812 to participate in what was

planned to be an invasion of Canada.

Unfortunately, the militia general, Van Rensselaer, could not get the regular Army General Smyth to obey his orders. After two half-hearted attempts, one by each general, to invade, the regulars went into winter quarters—the militia went home. But in the two abortive attempts some soldiers had been killed, wounded or captured.

On 28 November 1812, a detachment under Colonel William H. Winder embarked from Black Rock, New York to capture British batteries across the Niagara River. The initial assault was successful but the follow-up support troops never left their boats. Winder withdrew, but he had lost about 100 men, killed, wounded or captured, including George and Joseph Parks, who were both captured.

As POW's, they were in good company. Lieutenant Colonel Winfield Scott had been captured six weeks earlier during Van Rensselaer's failed invasion. I do not know where Roger IV was during this invasion activity. I doubt he was with the pre-invasion assault troops, so escaped capture. With the rest of the regulars, he spent the winter tending camp, shoveling snow and preparing for the campaigns of 1813.

Again, the plan was to invade Canada. After some initial successes, the capture and burning of York (now Toronto) and the capture of Fort George (now Niagara on the Lake) the American commanders turned indecisive and their indecision turned into disasters.

I do not think Roger Parks IV

was a part of either the early successes or the battle field disasters. I think the Army in recognition of his age had given him "light" duty at Fort Schlosser on the New York side of Niagara Falls. In any event, as the early victories turned to defeats, and following a successful Indian ambush of U.S. troops near Beaver Dams, the English Army, encouraged by this victory, began raiding across the Niagara River. On 5 July, the English troops surprised Fort Schlosser just after daybreak and seized considerable booty and, I think, Roger Park's IV.

I have not found Roger mentioned in the history books as a party to this skirmish. Then again, history books seldom mention privates. The English POW records, Quebec, show he was captured 5 July 1813 at "Fort Slusher." This date agrees with the action at Fort Schlosser and "Slusher" is a very close phonetic spelling.

The POW record shows Roger was a 57-year-old male, born in New Jersey, gray haired, stout, blue eyed with a smallpox potted face and 5'7" tall. The record also shows he died 6 Nov 1813. Anglican Cathedral, Quebec City records show he was buried at the Church 8 November 1813. The records do not indicate the cause of death.

The Quebec POW's were kept aboard five prison ships anchored in the St. Lawrence River. Two of them were hospital ships. As is the case in all wars, the housing was marginal, the rations skimpy and the treatment harsh. The British commander recognized the severe living conditions and had warned his U.S.

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counterpart that unless the United States made arrangements for an early exchange of prisoners many of the British held POW's would die.

The record also does not show if Roger was able to visit with George and Joseph after he was captured. Neither was present at his burial services. They may have been paroled or exchanged prior to his capture and not present in Quebec.

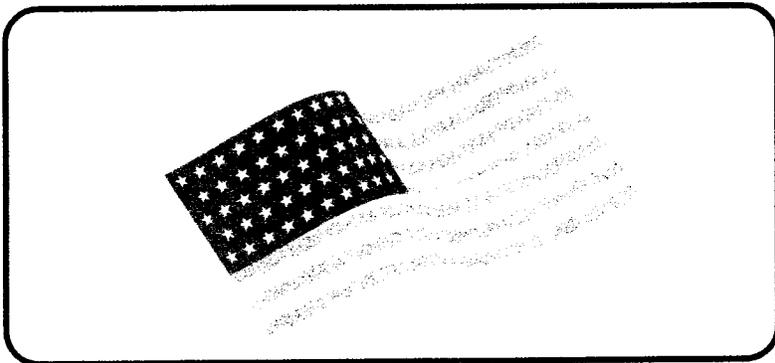
Both George and Joseph returned to Monongalia County, West Virginia after the war. George moved to Ohio in 1820; Joseph stayed in West Virginia. Roger's estate was probated in 1823, with his daughter Polly Parks Lash as Administrator. As of 1823, there were seven sons and two daughters sharing his estate. George, living in Coshocton County, Ohio, on behalf of the estate, filed a bounty-land claim on Rogers' service. Neither George nor Joseph ever filed claims on their own service.

Notes, Comments and Sources

Roger Parke of Hexham, Northumberland, England, Quaker immigrant to West Jersey in 1682, can be followed through New Jersey Colonial Documents, land surveys and wills. Specifically, see West Jersey Records, Liber B, part one, page 415 for his first land purchase in 1682. See West Jersey Records, Liber B, part two, page 508, showing his purchase of land for his adult daughter, Ann, in 1698. His early land purchase and his Quaker/Colonial government activities can be followed in Burlington Court Book (1680-1709), LDS fiche #6101067.

For his marriage to Ann Patison in 1676, see LDS film #1484601.

The Army service records for the Park's are found: Register of Enlistments in the U.S. Army 1793-1914, Microfilm Publication M233, Roll 10, Federal Record Centers. Specifically, George Parks, page 73, #901; Joseph Parks, page 109, #1358; Roger Parks, page 233, #2893. Their prisoner of war records as found in the National Archives of Canada and microfilmed by the LDS Church can be seen; for George and Joseph on LDS film, #1631260, page 42; for Roger on LDS film #1631261 entry 973. Rogers' death and place of



burial is documented in a letter from Mrs. H. Thomas Lee, Quebec, Canada to Cecilia Kasberg citing the Anglican Cathedral, Quebec City, Church records. LDS film #1631260 also has many letters and memoranda discussing the treatment of POW's. None specifically mention the Parks.

Samuel T. Wiley's History of Monongalia County, West Virginia, 1883, page 492, has the complete roster of Captain Willoughby Morgan's First Company. Privates George, Joseph and Roger Parke are there.

Roger's probate record can be seen on LDS film #0840862, Monongalia County, Court Order

Book, V9-11 (1823-1836).

The bounty land claim on Rogers' service is Can #1658, Bundle #108, Warrant #25409-160-12, Military Service Branch, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C. 20408. The LDS Library also has The War of 1812 bounty land records. Index LDS film #0983163.

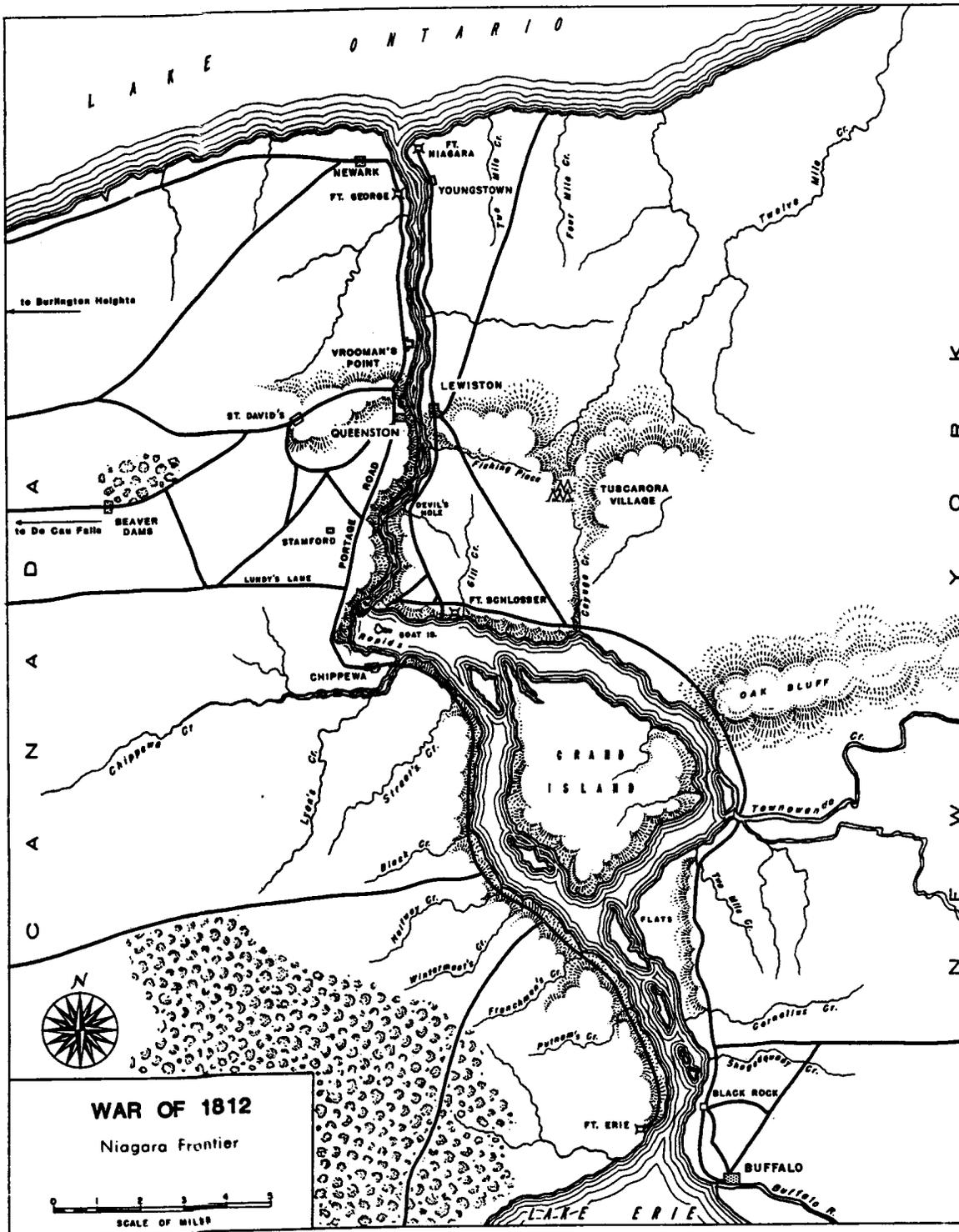
For information on The War of 1812 military activity and leadership, I've relied on Colonel John R. Elting's Amateurs, To Arms, the definitive military study of this too little remembered war.

It should be noted that there is a major discrepancy in Rogers' age. He told the U.S. Army recruiting officer he was 42. His church burial record shows his age as 57. I cannot read the age shown on his British POW record but I'm inclined to say it shows 47. It is absolutely a something "7." Based on his earlier activities, age 57 is high.

He probably had to knock some years off his age, even at 47, to enlist. As his age is not material to this story, I have not researched it to a definitive conclusion.

Nor have I established that Joseph Parks was Roger's nephew—which is to say I cannot prove that Roger and Andrew were brothers. Both were emigrants from Northwest New Jersey to Monongalia County in the late 1780's. Like other New Jersey Parks of that time period, their antecedents, in spite of what you read in these pages, are mostly speculative.

Ed. See reference map on page 28



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The Smith-Harrison Museum

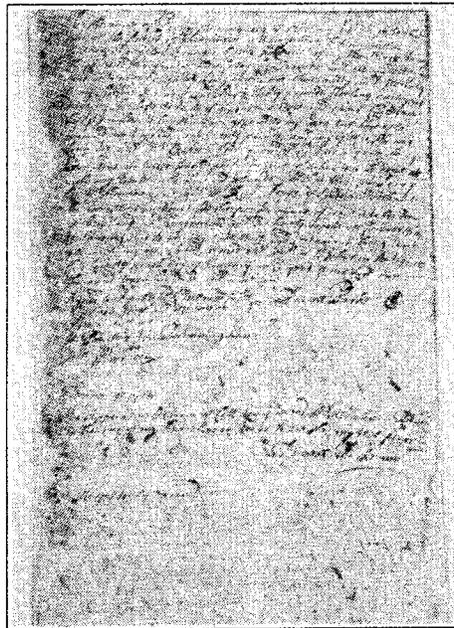
William Parke(VA 1631)

edited by Jean Churchill

I would not first think of Alabama as a destination if I were interested in viewing more of George and Martha Washington's history but the Smith-Harrison Museum in Columbiana, Selby County, Alabama has an extensive collection of their memorabilia. Eliza Parke Custis inherited this family treasure from her grandmother Martha Washington. She not only cared for it but also made sure that her descendants understood the importance of preserving this collection.

The most recent owner, Charlotte Smith Weaver (6th generation grand daughter of Martha Washington) of Chelsea, Alabama decided in the 1980's that the time had come to share this legacy with the nation. Approximately one third of the collection went to Mount Vernon but the rest is now on display at Columbiana.

These are 'family' items (fur-

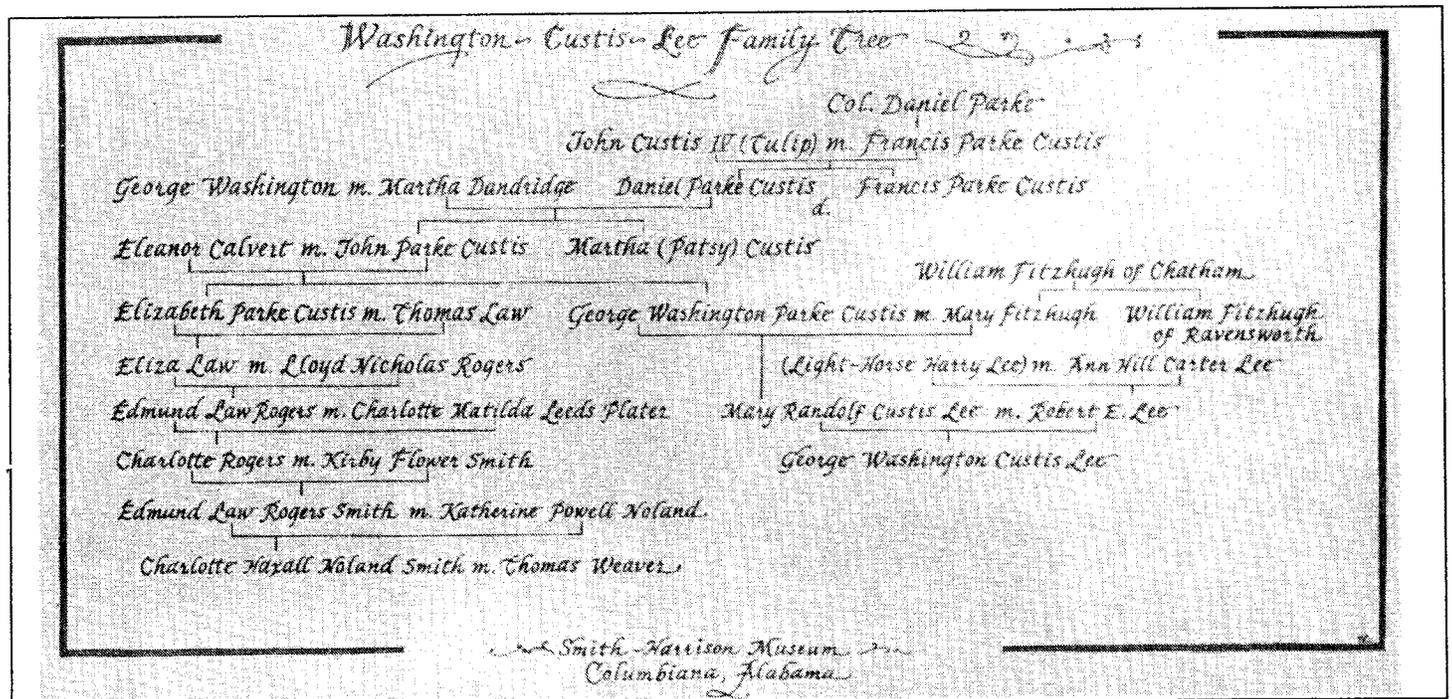


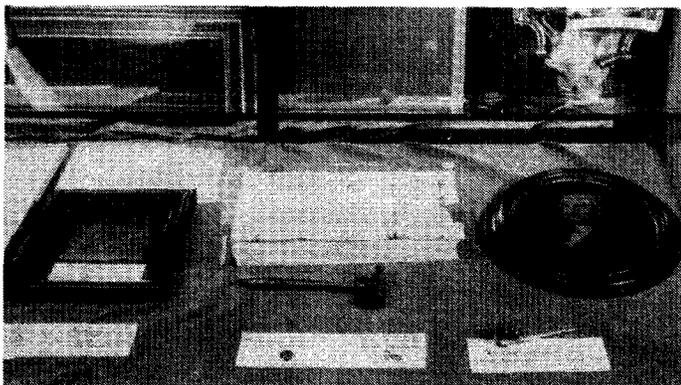
niture, porcelain, glassware, portraits, etc.) used by President and Mrs. Washington along with original letters and documents. The oldest item is the 1710 handwritten will of Colonel Daniel Parke "which states that only

those who incorporated the name 'Parke' in their names could inherit from his estate". Martha's family is certainly to be commended for their devoted guardianship of this National Treasure as it passed from one generation to another traveling from state to state.

The museum is small but a new climate controlled addition is planned which will provide room for the remainder of the collection now being kept at the bank. This museum founded by Karl Harrison, a local banker, with other area businessmen is open from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday through Friday for guided tours.

[Edited from an article by Billie Etling which appeared in *Daughters of American Revolution Magazine* Vol.132 #2; February 1998. Photographs courtesy of the DAR.]





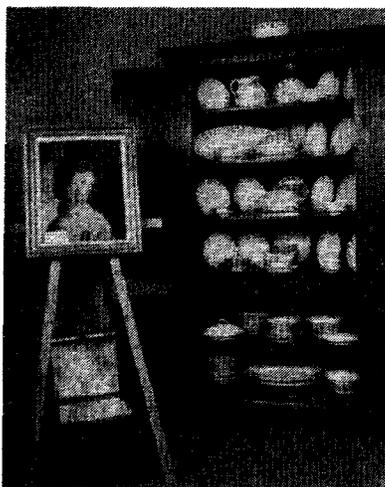
Pictured above is a piece of original lining out of George's coffin, a shirt button and a pair of cufflinks worn by George, also a writing instrument that was in his surveying tools. The mallet, made of wood, came from a tree that George had lunch under.



This bust of Martha was done by a Louis McD. Sleeth and is carved out of marble. It currently stands in Memorial Continental Hall.



A copy of a painting of Washington by artist John Trumbull. He was one of Washington's aides.



Thanks to Eliza Parke Custis, the adopted granddaughter of George, we have some of our treasures from Mount Vernon. After the death of Martha, she took wagon loads of things they had left to her daughter's home in Baltimore. We have some of them in our Museum.



The little chest is Martha's letter box. Bottom right is an original letter written by Martha, the year before her death. The leather book in the center is probably our finest possession. It is Martha's prayer book.

to Roger PARKE of Hexham, Eng.

I also have info on the Thomas PARKS family of VA & SC. Thomas b. c1750, Amelia Co., VA; d. 1831, Laurens Dist., SC. His son, William, m. Nancy Dillard, Laurens Co., SC; William's son, Peyton m. Dorothy FRYAR and d. 1863, Tippah Co., MS. I found a history of this family in the Ripley, MS Public Library. I don't think they are mine and will be glad to send what I have to others. Cathy Ramsey Quinn #1243, PO Box 186, Conway, AR 72033; 501-3299-2044

Query #6

Need info on Susan Amelia Park, second wife of Hoxsie Perry Babcock, my GG grandfather. She was said to be living in Clark's Falls, CT in 1902. Parents were Sterry Park and Lucy Slocum. Need info on burial site. Clark's Falls is a section of North Stonington, and my mother was born and raised there. Hoxsie and first wife Eliz. P. White are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Ashaway, (Town of Hopkinton), RI. Appreciate any help. Scott Bill Hirst #1280, 20 Maple Ct., Ashaway, RI 022804-9630

Query #7

Need location of stones of a certain Daniel and Ruth Beeman (Beman) who may have been parents of Thomas Beeman who married Phebe Parke (Nathaniel, Thomas, Robert) in 1712. They are buried on what is now private property. I assume it was their land during their lifetime. Before 1930, a genealogist named Edward Naman Sheppard read the stones as:

"Daniel Beeman(Beman) died Dec 20, 1741

Ruth Beeman(Beman) died Nov 06, 1736"

EN Sheppard said they were buried in Ekonk, CT (now in Sterling, Windham Co, CT). A Beeman cousin of mine, Brainard T Peck, said in a letter to me that they likely were buried "on someone's farm and not in a regular cemetery." I have visited the known cemeteries in the area and confirmed they are not buried there. I believe they may be buried on Nathaniel Parke's original Voluntown proprietor's lot #156 in what is now Sterling, Windham Co., CT. Nathaniel received this lot, by draw, for his volunteer service in the Narraganset War 1675/6.

Nathaniel's lot should have been between Lt. Thomas Avery's lot #154 and Capt. James Avery's lot #158 and not too far from Lt Thos Leffingwell's lot #145. It may have been near where R. 14A crosses Rt. 49 at Sterling Hill. However, I have never seen a map with the original lots in their current position as I have for the first 125 lots which are in what is now Voluntown. Does anyone know the location of these stone of Daniel and Ruth Beeman (Beman)? Gail Howell #1245, 107 Lonsdale Ave, Dayton, OH 45419; email TheArbella@aol.com

Query #8

Will correspond with anyone researching Hugh PARK, b. ca 1750, County Antrim, Ireland. He married 1st Mary STRONG and 2nd Jennet GLENN. Would like the birth, death, and marriage date for Mary STRONG to Hugh PARK. Doris I. Greeson #1069, 7101 Malta St., San Diego, CA 92111-4234; email digreeson@juno.com

C. Fletcher Parks, #939, Keytesville, MO, b. 5 Mar 1914, died 7 March 1998 from complications of Alzheimers disease. Through the assistance of Home Health-Hospice, Mr. Parks was able to live at home with his wife Anne and celebrate his 84th birthday 5 March this year.

Marjorie Park, #941, b. 20 Oct 1908, of Sherman, NY and Wauchula, FL died 18 Nov 1997 in Sherman, NY. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles L. Park, whom she married 8 Jan 1931 and who d. 3 Jan 1978 and a daughter, Charlene Park, in 1941. Surviving is a daughter, Sharon Overbagh of Sherman, NY, three grandsons; and a brother, George Hapgood of Clymer. Burial was in Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

Member News

Grace Parks Dettmer #844, Safety Harbor, FL reports her uncle, Reginald Parks, Blairstown, NJ celebrated his 100th birthday on 15 August 1997. He is the only one of 14 children, (born to Catharine Wire and Charles Wesley Parks), who is still alive. At the party were his wife Eula Parks; her sister, Helen Hendershot; nephews Harold Parks and Dale Parks and Grace, a niece. Reg is in good health; just a bit hard of hearing. Harold Parks lives in Toms River, NJ and Dale resides in Marathon, FL.

Joelene S. Johnson #944, announced the descendants of Benjamin Wadestill Parks (b. 5 Feb 1853, d. 29 Sep 1939) have another annual reunion planned for 25 July 1998. The site is in the Zorinsky Park, Omaha, NE. The pavilion is reserved from 10am; catered lunch served at 12 noon. Interested persons should contact Joelene Johnson at 1705 Oakdale, Lincoln, NE 68506; ph (402) 483-5317

Parke Society Members Draw a Line in the Sand

Society members were recently informed of plans by a local developer in Stonington, CT to build a large 200 unit hotel 150 feet from the Whitehall Burying Grounds near the Mystic River. These sacred grounds were donated in 1664 by Robert Parke (MA 1630) and contain the remains of early settlers of the area including such venerable family names as Parke, Woodbridge, Gallup, Wheeler, Williams, Dean as well as Revolutionary War veterans, Civil War veterans, native Americans and one slave. Local historians, historical societies and Parke Society members have been expressing their concern over the proposed changes.

David L. Parke, Reading, PA, Past President of the Parke Society, wrote to the Stonington Planning and Zoning Commission saying he speaks for several hundred family members who oppose any zoning change involving the cemetery. Another relative, James R. Marsh, Frederick, MD stated descendants of Robert Parke include Princess Diana, Humphrey Bogart, Sonja Henie and wives of George S. Patton, Harry S. Truman and Brigham Young. John and Brett Parke, Potomac, MD wrote, "Our family history is important to us and we feel that further encroachment of this site would be unconscionable. Historical preservation is what makes

New England unique-as residents of the Mystic area should know." Gordon Ralls, Jr., Pleasant Hill, CA, another Parke descendant, likened the zone change to disturbing Indian burial grounds. Stonington resident Beverly Creehan told the Commission the thought of destroying area history should be unthinkable. "Let the dead rest in peace," she wrote. Lance Mayer, of the Lyman Allyn Art Museum in New London, said the burial ground is one of the most important early graveyards in this part of the state and contains some of the best examples of gravestone carvings of the period. Carol W. Kimball, Historian for the Mystic River Historical Society, also wrote to the commission, and noted that state law bars municipalities from appropriating any ancient burial place for any use other than a burial ground. William S. Parke, Buffalo, NY wrote, "The Whitehall Burying Grounds and surrounding greenbelt are sacred and historic properties. The burial ground of my ancestor and others should not be disturbed, nor the surrounding area diminished, by commercial development."

The Wolmans, respected developers who own nine other hotels, announced plans which would impact four parcels involving some 16 acres along Route 27 near the river and the

cemetery. The developers are seeking change in the present zoning which would eliminate or modify the restrictive greenbelt residential designation and permit tourist and commercial use. The Stonington Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing 4 June 1998 for purposes of airing the request.

The first person allowed to speak was a representative of Mystic River Partners, who withdrew the zoning change request for the Whitehall Burying Grounds and the buffer on south and east edge. Others stood to object to the overall proposal. Objections included increased traffic, loss of green area and fishing quality, too large building on site, and the impact on the Mystic River Basin. Thirty six letters from Park/Parke descendants sent to the commission were recorded. Objections were also heard from Gallup family descendants and the local Pequot Indian tribe.

Another hearing in early July, 1998 is scheduled. Parke Society members who are interested in voicing support for preservation of the area and its history should contact Mary Park Flanders, 800 Riverview Road, Rexford, NY 12148-1320; (518) 399-9788. Ms. Flanders can advise as to current status of the project and how members may assist.

The Number One Rule in Genealogy-

**When tracing ancestors,
remember to stay within
the lines.....**

PARKE SOCIETY CONVOCATIONS TO PLACE IN YOUR PLANNER!

**JULY 23-26, 1998 - HOLIDAY INN SOUTH/ HOTEL &
CONVENTION CENTER
LANSING, MICHIGAN**

**LATE JULY, 1999 - WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
HOTEL SELECTION IN PROGRESS**