

The Parke Society

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

Mysteries of the Lineage Keys Unveiled!

by (Fr.) Michael (Tad) Parks+, PS #425H

Lineage Keys. What are they, how do they work, and why do we use them? As the title of this piece states, it's one of the greater mysteries of Parke Society operations. Basically, it's the way the Society has solved a problem that most family genealogists don't have to face: how to sort out the various Johns, Samuels, and Georges, of different ancestral lines, without losing our minds. Actually, they're not all that hard to understand, but it seems to baffle our membership to the extreme. So now we'll unravel this mystery, and give you all a secret decoder ring to understanding the Keys.

The problem

The first thing we must realize is that there is no common thread or ancestry for all persons who bear

the name Park, whether it is spelled with an "e," an "s," an "es," or as just plain Park. And you do need to bear in mind that up till the early part of the twentieth century, surname spelling was quite variable at that.

The surname was a late invention in terms of human identity. It arose of necessity as the population increased, and people started to come together in villages and towns. There had to be a way to distinguish, in every day social intercourse as well as official records, between this John, that John, and the other John down the road.

The natural instinct was to refer to this John as the son of Jonah and that John as the son of Andrew. This patronymic naming convention is found throughout human history and is, in some places still in use. In the old King James Version of the Scripture, you will see references to Simon bar Jonah (Simon, son of Jonah). Scandinavian names are particularly noteworthy in this regard. Think of Peterson, Anderson and Jacobson. (In older Scandinavian spellings as well as many modern ones, the "s" is even doubled, the first "s" being the possessive, the second being the first letter of "son": Arvid Persson would be Arvid, son of Per.)

Other ways of distinguishing between similarly-named individuals also arose. It might be a particular

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Send all changes of mailing address, name, phone number, email address, or any reports of deaths or other important family events to our Executive Director, **Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks** #425H at 70741.2122@compuserve.com, or by surface mail to him at

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Please note: handwritten submissions cannot be accepted.

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THE PARKE SOCIETY (org. 1963) 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. Fees are:

Application Fee	\$ 15.00
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physical trait, a trade or occupation, or where they lived. For some reason, this latter naming convention seems to be particularly common in England. It's from the place of residence that our surname, in all its various forms, derives. Somewhere in the dim past there were people who resided by the King's Preserve or Park and hence they were known as "John by the Park" and eventually John Park.

So unless we want to subscribe to a literal Adam and Eve theory, not all people with a surname of Park, Parke, Parkes, or Parks are actually related to one another by blood.

This being the case, we're now faced with how to keep all the various Park/e/s blood lines sorted out, once they have come to this side of the pond.

Lineage keys to the rescue

Like surnames, Lineage Keys were also created of necessity. Generally, we can say that the Lineage Keys are The Society's way of sorting out and keeping track of the various Park/e/s ancestral lines that emigrated from England to the colonies. The Society owes its invention to David Parke, PS#13, the former Lord High Everything (he held at one time or another, practically every office in The Society). What he did was to give each distinct line of Park/e/s ancestry its own identification, or Lineage Key, under which all the family group sheets and other data for that line were stored.

In theory, the system's really quite simple. Lineage Keys started out as a single letter, such as "R," "K," or "A." But we soon outgrew that limitation, and have since gone to two letter keys, like "LL," "DU," and "YT." Some noteworthy Lineage Keys that you'll see are "K" for Roger (NJ, 1682), "R" for Richard (MA, 1635), and "A" for Arthur (PA, 1720).* [See end of this article for a footnote.]

Essentially, each Lineage Key represents all known descendants of a particular ancestral line, including immigrant and fragments. We set the keys up as we go along. At the moment, we have single-letter keys (A-Z), double-letter keys (AA-ZZ), and when these proved not enough, we set up further double-letter

composite keys, AX through ZX (omitting XX since that was already covered in the original double-letter keys). As time went on we added AY to ZY and then AZ to YZ. But we kept finding more and more Park/e/s and so we have been setting up new blocks, AW to ZW, AV to ZV, AU, to ZU and so on, working backwards through the alphabet. At this point we are in the AP to ZP block, with no end in sight. Where will it end? Nobody knows.

Keys to the kingdom

As the society continued to grow and to gather information about various Park/e/s, two things became apparent.

First, there were a whole lot more immigrant ancestors by the name of Park/e/s than we had anticipated. Each time we came across another immigrant Park/e/s, a new Lineage Key would be set up for them and their offspring. These are referred to as **Immigrant Lines**.

Secondly, we finally had to come to terms with those Park/e/s who seemed to pop up out of nowhere. You know, the King Cyrus Alexander Park who suddenly appears in Tennessee in the early nineteenth century. It is as if he was created *ex nihilo* (out of nothing). If we were truly to be the Park/e/s information clearing house, we had to document these **Fragment Lines** also.

So the Lineage Key system expanded and now includes well over 250 different keys, documented in about 40 substantial binders in the Society's Milwaukee office.

Family Group Sheets (FGS)

And so we have Lineage Keys. Now come the Family Group Sheets. Let's take Richard, Lineage Key "R" as our working example. All the group sheets for Richard have the letter R in the group sheet number. The first group sheet is for the immigrant (or founder if a fragment line), and we place in front of the Lineage Key the Generation Number, starting with the first generation. In our example, Richard himself is the first generation of that line to appear on our shores, so the Generation Number for him is "1." Following the Lineage Key is a purely sequential number. For Richard, of course, that would also

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be "1." So Richard's FGS is "1R1."

Richard had four children, identified as 2R1 through 2R4 respectively. These then are their FGS numbers, identifying them as the second generation, children one through four. Moving on to the third generation, their group sheets would be "3R" with a sequential number following, 3R1 through whatever was needed. In a perfect world, the first child of the first child would always be a sequential number "1," but that's not always the case. Sometimes information is imperfect when we originally catalogue the descendants, and the first child may turn out to be the third or fourth child. The point is that once a Family Group Sheet's sequential number is assigned, it is assigned *permanently*. It is only a means to catalogue a particular descendant, and has no other intended meaning. We try to make allowances for the possibility of unknown children by leaving spaces in the numbering, but even then we will sometimes have to come up with something like a "5R52a" due to a late discovery of another child with children of his/her own.

The secret: how to read a Lineage Key

Here's how to read a Lineage Key. Let's take **5K317** as our working example. First, we split this up into three groups: The "5," the "K," and the "317."

The number "5" indicates that this person is in the **fifth** generation from Roger, the immigrant ancestor, Roger being the first generation.

The "K" indicates that this person is a member of the **ROGER (NJ, 1682)** ancestral line; that is, the person whose Key this is descended from Roger.

The "317" is a sequential number in the fifth generation. Generally, the lower the number, the closer this person is to being a child of the first child.

There you have it: the mystery of how to read the Lineage Keys references used by The Parke Society.

But wait! How do we know who all these Lineage Keys represent? Unfortunately, we have no ready online reference to the Lineage Keys and their particulars at this time; we're working on fixing that

lack. The complete set of Lineage Binders is kept in the Society's Milwaukee office. Lineage Abstracts (usually copies of the cover sheet and the first two or three generations) are in the hands of the Librarian, the Editor, and the DNA Group Administrator.

Indexing the Family Group Sheets

With over 250 active Lineage Keys in use, and some 40 substantial binders of family group sheets, we soon realized that we had a little problem on our hands: how to find a particular Park/e/s individual easily and fast—that is, without paging through all the volumes. That need led us to the next step in organizing our Park/e/s materials: the creation of the Givename Index.

But that's a topic for another Historian's Corner.

Consolidations

If you've been following me so far, you might be asking, "What happens when we find an ancestor further back, perhaps even an immigrant ancestor, for one of the fragment lines?" Good question! This does happen from time to time. In fact, to date, we've had sixteen fragment lines disappear into the Roger of New Jersey "K" line, while about eight fragment lines have been consolidated into the Thomas of Virginia "C" line.

When new information requires us to consolidate, all the group sheets formerly in the fragment line are relabeled in the new parent line with the proper generation, key, and sequential numbering. For the sake of later research, we note on the relabeled sheet the original Family Group Sheet number, as a memory aid for others working with these pages. In theory, we should change all prior references to the old Lineage Key and Family Group Sheet numbers, but that is much more easily said than done.

Charts

We have another layer in the basic Lineage Key system, called the Charts. Some time back, David Parke was looking for some way to group the Society's descendant members in some meaningful way: mainly so that they could recognize easily whether they were related or not. David had set up a total of eighteen such charts by the time I took over as the Historian. Most dealt with descendant

lines from Robert through his son, Thomas (02T1). As an example, Chart 6 groups all descendants of Robert through Thomas (02T1), Thomas (03T2), and Thomas (04T11). Hence, all individuals of a particular chart number are at least distant cousins.

In another Historian's Corner, I'll provide a complete listing of existing Charts.

I hope that this piece has helped you to decipher the mystery of the Lineage Keys. While it might seem a bit confusing at first. It is actually fairly simple. Just remember: generation number, Lineage Key, sequential number.

Miscellaneous notes

A couple of surprises were in store for me as I got into Park/e/s genealogy.

First, there's little mixing of most of these Ancestral lines until much later. For example, the Robert and Richard lines, which were often located quite near to each other, never intermarried until well into the nineteenth century.

Second, I was amazed that some names rarely appeared in various lines until quite late. For example, the given name "Robert" is not found in the Richard line until the birth of Robert S. Park, (09R8679) in 1872. Likewise, the given name "Richard" is not found in the Robert line until well into the eighteenth century. For that matter, very few Pauls are found throughout all the Park/e/s lines until the twentieth century.

Just some examples of the fascinating stuff that turns up in genealogical digging.■

*Robert Parke, who came to the colonies in 1630, purportedly with the Winthrop Fleet, is an exception to the rule of a lineage reflected by a single key. The Robert heritage has been particularly assiduous at going forth and multiplying. David Parke assigned four Lineage Keys to Robert's descendants. Lineage Key "T" is for all the progeny descending through Robert's son Thomas (his FGS number is 02T1). Likewise, "W" is used for the descendants of William (02W1), son of Robert, and "S" is used for the descendants of Samuel (02S1), son of Robert. There is also Lineage Key "AA" which was assigned to Robert's daughter Anne (02AA1), who married Edward Payson. There isn't much more to say about Anne. She died young (age 22), had only one child who died in infancy, and therefore, her line died out.

Fragment Index Update

(Lineage Keys)

by Jean Churchill #934, Librarian
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- AP** (#1406-Ken Parks DNA Admin.) Henry Parks (c1800 NC-c1838 Monroe Co?,TN) m. abt. 1823 Elizabeth Thomas (c1805 NC-c1880 Roane Co,TN), dau. of Jonathan Thomas
- FP** (#1452) Jonathan Parks (c1785-abt.1859) m. (1) Kiddy Webb 1806 Chowan, NC; m.(2) Riney Goodwin 1829; m.(3) Miram Jordan 1846 Gateo,NC.
- XQ** (#1415) John Parks/es (bef.1800 PA-bef.1850 Clinton Co, IL) m. Sarah (perhaps Herrin) (1803 NC-1850/1861 Clinton Co, IL). Sarah's father might be John Herrin
- EV** (#1010 and #1446) James Parks (c.1728 VA– c.1780 Montgomery Co, VA) perhaps of Thomas VA "C" lineage. Son, James (c1757 NC-1806 Grayson Co,VA) m.abt. 1780 NC to Hannah Martin (c1761-abt.1806)■

News Flash: Robert Parks/Laban Parks Missing Link Update (LK=WR)

by Jean Churchill #934, Librarian

It's an exciting time for this lineage (LK=WR). We now have several probable connections within our current membership as well as from incoming members. Two members from the established **Robert (MA, 1630)** lineage have participated in our DNA project and the results may prove to be very interesting to the Robert/Laban group. Watch for more definite information from myself and our DNA Administrator Ken Parks in the next issue of our Newsletter.■

The Park/e/s DNA Surname Project

by Ken Parks PS #1406

Group Administrator

PARK/E/S DNA Surname Project

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I'm happy to announce that we now have seventy (70!) members in the Park/e/s DNA surname project, and we seem to be adding new members on a weekly basis! At this pace, we may be able to reach our goal of doubling the number of tests in our database by the end of 2006. I'd especially like to thank our Parke Society members, as the majority of recent tests are from our own membership—thank you for your support!

New look for our Webpage

I invite everyone to take a look at the project's webpage, as we have recently made changes which I hope will show the information more clearly:

<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/park-e-s>

The grid showing the test result numbers now has matching tests grouped and color-coded to make comparisons easier, and the results page showing each participant's lineage information has been reformatted to match the results grid. Please note that the webpage now uses tabs at the top of each page to navigate the site, rather than being on one page as before.

New 59-marker test from FTDNA

Family Tree DNA (FTDNA), our testing firm, recently introduced a new 59 marker Y-DNA test and lowered the prices on some existing tests. While I do not yet have specific information on how much further this new 59 marker test will allow us to refine our ability to find the Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA), needless to say the addition of 22 markers should prove quite valuable. I will discuss this in more detail when I have more information from FTDNA.

Here are the new group rates, as well as the costs of upgrading existing tests to the higher levels:

Y-DNA12 \$ 99

Y-DNA25

\$ 148 (*Only available through surname projects*)

Y-DNA37	\$ 189
Y-DNA59	\$ 269
Y-Refine 12to25	\$ 49
Y-Refine 12to37	\$ 99
Y-Refine 12to59	\$ 189
Y-Refine 25to37	\$ 49
Y-Refine 25to59	\$ 148
Y-Refine 37to59	\$ 99

As always, if you're considering ordering a new test or upgrading, I'll be happy to answer any questions you might have regarding which test level would best suit your needs.

Contribute to the General Fund

As I've discussed previously, FTDNA has a special feature which allows anyone to contribute to a General Fund for our surname project. The donor can then contact me, as group administrator, and specify whether the donation is for a specific test, or whether they would like to leave its use up to the discretion of the administrator. We have recently had a generous donation by a Parke Society member, already being put to good use, and I would encourage others to consider this option. This is a wonderful opportunity for members who are not eligible DNA donors themselves to make a valuable contribution to the project. To contribute, look for the link on the left side of the Park/e/s DNA Surname Project homepage called "Contribute to the Surname Project General Fund."

Reaching beyond "The Big Pond"

One of our goals as family historians is to trace our ancestral lines back to our immigrant ancestors and beyond. DNA testing can be a valuable tool in this search for cousins overseas, and we are going to be making efforts in the coming months to find Park/e/s descendants in England, Ireland, Scotland and elsewhere to join our DNA surname project.

Lee Christensen #957, the founder of our surname project, has already begun the search for any possible Parke descendants in the UK who may be related to the Roger (NJ, 1682) line LK=K. If anyone has any information or leads in this regard, feel free to

contact me and I will be happy to pass the information along to Lee.

This leads me to our group analysis for this issue, which will focus on the Roger (NJ, 1682) test results in our database.

An Analysis of the Roger Parke (NJ, 1682) LK=K DNA test results.

As of this writing, there are thirteen test participants in the Park/e/s DNA database who show a common genetic link. Most can trace their ancestry back to Roger (NJ, 1682) through his two sons, Roger II and John. Three of the participants have not yet found the connection to Roger Parke, but the genetic evidence clearly shows they are part of this genetic family of Parke descendants.

The 12-marker analysis

While the 12-marker level of testing does not give a refined set of results, we will compare these tests at this level and see what, if anything, they can tell us.

Six of the test participants are known Roger Parke descendants through son Roger II, and these six individuals all match 12/12, giving us a good idea of what the 12 marker DNA “signature”, or haplotype is for the Roger Park→Roger II line of descent:

Test #s 696-1639-1640-4406-24000-28641
13-23-14-10-11-14-12-12-12-13-28

Two participants descend from the Roger Parke→John line, and they show mutational differences on the twelfth marker, not only from the Roger II line, but from each other as well:

#5013: 13-23-14-10-11-14-12-12-11-13-27

Roger→John→John→Ebenezer

#2707: 13-23-14-10-11-14-12-12-12-13-29

Roger→John→John→Noah

In addition, test #5013 shows another mutation on marker 10, further delineating their particular branch of the family tree. At what point these mutational differences occurred is hard to tell from only one test per branch. The mutations could have occurred as early as the second or third generations listed above. Additional testing of more descendants could help

clarify this.

Four of the remaining test participants are also 12/12 matches with the Roger Parke→Roger II descendants. Even though they do not yet have a paper trail back to Roger (NJ, 1682), from the results we have at present it would seem likely they descend from Roger II. However, more test participants are needed to determine if this is indeed the case.

Test #s matching the Roger Parke→Roger II results: 4407-14059-21784-25930. Lineage information for each of these test participants can be found on the Park/e/s DNA Surname Project webpage.

The remaining test participant-#21446-differs from the Roger Parke→Roger II results on marker 11:

13-23-14-10-11-14-12-12-12-14-28

Here is the lineage information for test participant #21446:

Earliest known ancestor is Richard Park, born in NJ, probably Hunterdon Co., but maybe Sussex, which was later Warren Co. He married Sarah LODER of Oxford Twp., Sussex Co. NJ. They moved to Norfolk Co., Ontario c1801, possibly stopping enroute in Pennsylvania for a year or two. Richard was born c. 1760, and died c. 1830. Richard's son, John PARK, was born c. 1786 in NJ, and died in 1831 York Co., Ontario, Canada.

It is suspected that Richard PARK is from the Roger Parke II line, through Roger II's son John.

This would be consistent with the DNA test results, as far as they go.

The 25 marker analysis

To date, only four of the participants in this group have tested at the 25 marker level:

#1639: Roger Parke→Roger II→Joseph →Joseph→Micajah

#2707: Roger Parke→John→John→Noah

#14059: William? Park (b. c1793 VA or MD)→John Emory (b. 1827 VA-d. 1881 MO)

#21784: William? Park(b. c1793 VA or MD)→Abraham Park (b. 1834 OH-1891 AR)
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The PARK/E/S DNA Surname Project

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#1639 and #2707, in addition to a difference on marker 12, show an additional difference on marker 21. The mutation would appear to have occurred in the #1639 line, as #2707 matches the remaining two tests on marker 21.

#14059 and #21784, the two William? Park descendants, differ from each other only on marker 25, with the mutation appearing to have occurred in the #21784 line of descent.

Conclusions

At this point, we have a fairly good idea of the 12-marker signature for a Roger (NJ, 1682) descendant. However, to refine any analysis to the point of assigning signatures to various branches of the family tree would require both more test participants and upgrades of the existing tests to either the 37- or 59-marker level. At this point, anyone testing from the Roger (NJ, 1682) line should be ordering at least a 37-marker test, and the new 59-marker test would be the ideal. ■

Book Review

By Ken Parks #1406

Born Fighting: How the Scots-Irish Shaped America by James Webb, copyright by Broadway Books, 2004.

Many of our Parke Society members trace their Park/e/s and other ancestors to Northern Ireland, reflecting a Scots-Irish heritage. The history of the Scots-Irish may be well known to some of our members, while others may be less familiar with that story, both overseas and in America. I could certainly include myself among the uneducated prior to reading this book.

James Webb, the author of six best-selling novels, is also a filmmaker (*Rules of Engagement*), an Emmy Award winning journalist, and has taught litera-

ture at the university level. One of the most highly decorated Marines of the Vietnam War, he served as Assistant Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Navy during the Reagan Administration.

Though no mention of the Park/e/s surname appears in *Born Fighting*, at times I felt as if Webb had written this book specifically for me. He writes movingly about his ancestors, and the story of his Scots-Irish family will parallel that of many who read this book. Written with a novelist's touch, the book nevertheless reflects the research worthy of a trained historian and gifted genealogist. It contains an extensive endnote section citing his sources, serving as a guide to further reading on the subject. Though he does not specifically talk about his own family history research, from the detail of his family stories it is clear he has done a good bit of genealogical work over the years.

Webb takes us back to the very origins of the Scots and brings us forward in time with a clear explanation of the forces of nature, culture and politics that shaped the Scots as a people. He tells the story of why some Scots moved to the Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland in the seventeenth century and the events that later caused them to emigrate to America in the early part of the eighteenth century.

This early history makes clear the reasons why the Scots-Irish played an important role in the settling of the American frontier and their vital involvement in the War for Independence. Webb quotes a Hessian officer, writing home during the War of the American Revolution:

Call this war by whatever name you may, only call it not an American rebellion; it is nothing more or less than a Scotch Irish Presbyterian rebellion.

Later chapters trace the Scots-Irish migration patterns in America, largely through the Shenandoah Valley, and their settlement of the rugged Appalachians, so similar in topography to their ancient Scottish homeland. He covers such subjects as the career of Andrew Jackson (the first American President of Scots-Irish descent), the role of the Scots-Irish in the Civil War and discusses the influence

the Scots-Irish culture has had in shaping modern American society as it stands today.

While tempted to quote numerous well-written passages from the book, I will leave it to interested readers to discover these for themselves. I will close, though, with Webb's words which sum up what we have all discovered as dedicated family historians,

Some remember at least pieces of this journey, and some do not. Some care, and some do not. Some think it matters, and some do not.

This is a book for all those who think it matters. ■

Dana Parks Jr. Memorial Circulating Library

by Jean Churchill #934, Librarian

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Our library is available to all active Parke Society members. If you have a question about a particular book or manuscript, please contact me at the above snail or email addresses. Please provide your Parke Society number when requesting information. I'm willing to search a particular volume for your ancestor but my success will greatly depend upon the amount of information you are able to provide. Name of spouse, geographic location, and time period are very helpful.

Two new manuscripts have been added to our library:

Armstrong, Colonel (Ret.) Jimmy D. *Descendants of King Cyrus Alexander "KCA" Park, Sr.* 2006. 000/ARM

A longer review of this excellent material will appear in a future newsletter. The Missing Link for this lineage appeared in 2000 (Vol. 40, No. 3, p.36). Mrs. Melinda McGregor, PS# 1095, and Mrs. Janie Roesner, PS# 1228, are descendants of this line.

Harmon, Shirley A. *James and Elizabeth Davis Parks: Ohio Pioneers* pub. November, 1999. 000/HAR; (LK=TZ); Index; (Loan fee: \$3.).

The Missing Link for this lineage appeared in 2001 (Vol. 38, No. 1, p. 8) as well as in a book review of *James Parks (1781-1861) and Elizabeth Davis (1782-bef.1860)*, edited by Lois Iams Blake. It was followed up by an article written by W.W.Parks, PS#1367, and his brother R.R. Parks, which appeared in 2001 (Vol. 38, No. 3, p. 39). Sara Weigand, PS#1034 and Mrs. Saundra Beckum, PS#1311 are also active researchers.

This manuscript includes a pedigree chart, family group records, an excellent Table of Contents, and an Index, all of which make it very easy to follow. It is a helpful addition in researching this line because it contains thorough source material including census data, tax lists, wills, cemetery information, and Civil War files.

The compiler includes information on earlier Parks of Pennsylvania and the Jonathan Davis family. The reader does need to remember that there are numerous Park/e/s fragment lines in southern Pennsylvania and it is difficult to be absolutely sure of naming the correct ancestor without the use of DNA.

Dr. Harmon has researched the Pennsylvania and Ohio areas where this family resided. She believes that the father of James (b. abt.1781) is David Parks of Fayette County, PA, based on the fact that he named his eldest son David. The death record of this son states that he was born in Fayette Co, PA.

She also discusses the question of whether the wife of James (b. abt.1781) was Elizabeth Davis or Elizabeth Boyd. The book *Tombstone Inscriptions & Family Records of Belmont County, Ohio* by Esther Weygandt Powell gives her the surname Boyd but without any research. The great grandson of James Parks, W.C. Parks believed that her surname was Davis. His reasoning was partly based on their son who was named Jonathan D. Parks with the "D" standing for Davis. Dr. Harmon says there is a possibility that James was married twice but she has no record to support this.

The manuscript provides the following new information for the **James & Elizabeth (Davis) Parks lineage**:

A. David Parks² (1803 Franklin, Fayette Co,
continued on p. 10

Library report
cont'd from p. 9

- PA,1824 Belmont Co, OH) mar. **Sarah Jones**. Please note spelling changes within this family:
1. **James Parks**³ (1826-1903) mar. **Nancy Sudduth** (earlier spelling Suddeth)
- B. **Rachel Parks**² (abt.1805-) mar. **Carlile Bright**. (earlier spelling is given as Carlile). Other changes within this family:
1. **James Bright**³ (abt.1834-) mar. **Nancy J. Hackel**. (earlier spelling Mackle) 8 Sep. 1872 Bethel, Monroe Co, OH
 2. **Joseph Bright**³ (abt.1841-9 Oct.1878 Monroe, OH). Died unmarried
- C. **Jonathan Parks**² (1806-1877) mar. **Rosanna Foraker**. Note spelling changes within this family:
1. **Thomas Parks**³ (1827-1899) mar. **Eliza Grooves** (earlier spelling Groves)
 2. **William L. Parks**³ (1832-1898) mar. **Rosannah Keyser** (earlier spelling Rosanna)
 3. **Robert Parks**³ (1840-1938) mar. **Martha J. Parrish** (earlier name, "Comrade Robert")
- D. **Elizabeth Parks**² (1810-1888) mar. **Samuel Arters** (b.1812 Fayette Co,PA-d.1893 Kirkwood, Belmont Co,OH) son of William and Elizabeth Arters 3 Mar. 1836 in Union, Belmont Co, OH. They had 4 children:
1. **Isaac Arters**³ (1837-1911) mar. (1) **Ann Pollock** 25 Sep.1862; divorced; mar. 24 Sep.1868 to (2) **Mary Ellen Moreland**. Isaac served as a Private in Co.D, 185th OVI; received pension for injuries while serving. Two children by second marriage. William b. Kirkwood Twp, Belmont Co, and Susannah b. Richland, Belmont Co, OH
 2. **Sarah Jane Arters**³ (1839- ?) mar. **John Harris** (abt.1829 MD-?) 10 Nov.1863. Seven children all born in Kirkwood, Belmont Co, OH.
 3. **William Arters**³ (1842- ?) mar. **Susan R. Mathews** 19 Jan.1871. Two children, Eva and William, were listed with the John Hare family on the 1880 census
 4. **Caroline Arters**³ (1844- ?) mar. **John Taylor Hare** 19 May 1870. Three children, all
- born in Union, Belmont Co, OH
- E. **John B. Parks**² (1815-1874) mar. **Annis Gilliland**
1. **James Parks**³ (abt.1840 Franklin, Fayette Co, PA, 24 Oct.1927 Cleveland,OH) mar. (3) **Harriette Clark** 10 May 1926, Cuyahoga Co., OH. James Park served in the Civil War as a Private and Corporal in Co. B, 126th Regiment OVI. He was discharged as a result of a gunshot wound—application for pension filed
- F. **Joseph Parks**² (1818-1844) mar. **Margaret Bigley**. Note marriage, death, and spelling changes within several of their family group:
1. **Luetta Parks**³ (abt.1846 Union, Belmont Co, OH-?); formerly spelled Letitia
 2. **Thomas Parks**³ (abt.1847-1921 Union, Belmont Co, OH)
 3. **Mary Parks**³ (abt.1849) mar. **William H. Harrison** 13 Feb.1867 in Belmont
 4. **John Parks**³ (abt.1851-18 Jul.1878 Belmont, OH) mar. [unknown] Warnach 26 Sep.1871 in Belmont
 5. **Anna D. Parks**³ (abt 1853- ?); middle initial "J" in earlier material
 6. **Lewis Parks**³ (abt.1855-1877 Belmont, OH)
- G. **Thomas Parks**² (1821-1886) mar. **Belinda Neselroad**. Note spelling changes within several of this family group:
1. **Price Parks**³ (1860-1938) mar. **Annie Wilson** (earlier spelling is Anice)
 2. **George Parks**³ (1864-) mar. **Noma More** (earlier spelling is Neoma Moore)
 3. **Philena Parks**³ (1865-1959) mar. **David Lehman** (earlier spelling is Lena Parks).
- Please note that this is not a complete listing of all the grandchildren of James and Elizabeth (Davis) Parks. For more complete information please borrow this book or contact Saundra Beckum, PS#1311, at sabeckum@aol.com.■

A Park Family Reunion

by Ed Park, PS# 1465

The Chattanooga Park family (descended from the K line of Roger (NJ, 1682) through John I and John II) reunion of 2005 really began in 2004 when, with a few first cousins, we cobbled together a reunion of first cousins, and managed to interest some third and fourth cousins at the same time. This event was enthusiastically received, and in the effort to pull cousins together, it became evident that there were a great many cousins in the Chattanooga vicinity. We also became aware of the Park Family Reunions of 1918 through 1923 from newspaper articles, complete with the group photos. At this reunion, the seeds were planted to resurrect the type of reunion held long ago, but little did I know what I was getting into!

However, before I get into the preparation of the 2005 reunion, I first want to speak a little about my personal journey in discovery of my Park family history. For most of my life, I knew little about my Park(e) ancestry. My father had had a hard life as a child, along with his mother and siblings. This was because his father had abandoned the family, and was otherwise a man short on responsibility and honor. This abandonment occurred just before the throes of the Great Depression. The pain inflicted on my father his family, and what my father had to endure to grow up, support his mother and younger siblings, beginning when he was only twelve years old, embittered him toward his Park family. The same was generally true of his siblings. As a consequence, I grew up knowing little about my Park kinfolk, as was the case of my siblings. I was an ancestry illiterate.

In 2003, my cousin George Mayo contacted me to encourage me to help him with marking the graves of our ancestors with memorial stones. George had previously discovered the unmarked graves of our great-great-grandparents, Lunsford Yandell Park and Isabella Barron Park. George and his brother Tim had two headstones prepared to mark these graves, and George was now interested in getting more contributors to help him get a proper stone on our grandmother's grave (now nicely completed!). This

got me interested, and began a process of considerable personal discovery for me. Mind you, I have ten living siblings, so anything I came up with was to get a lot of distribution!

George had followed a bit of information from his mother to find and contact a cousin in New York, Jonathan Guyot Smith. Jonathan had sent George copies of newspaper articles about the earlier reunions, and in one article it mentioned the placement of a grave memorial for James Park and Martha Yandell Park, my Park great-great-great-great grandparents. George had contacted another lead from Jonathan, Rollie Taylor. From Rollie's work, we could see the lineage of this family from James and Martha, down to my grandfather. This led me to Rollie Taylor.

One can imagine the feeling I had when I looked at a genealogical map of my family, almost down to my father. I was simply amazed, and so much of it was right near me. From Rollie's work, I could see the family of Lunsford and Isabella, and I learned the name of my own great-grandparents, Robert William Park and Austine Morris Appling. I never knew. George wanted to go to Lafayette (which in our part of the country has the accent on the second syllable, not the third) and try to find the grave of James and Martha, which he finally did on his own. He called me from Arizona to say the stone was not readable and wanted me to go and clean it up, take a picture and send it to him. He told me where to find it. I did as asked, and was flabbergasted to see the plot in Lafayette. I cleaned up the stone and took some digital pictures, which I emailed to many siblings, nephews, nieces, and cousins, none of which (other than George) had ever seen or knew of the existence of these ancestors. You can imagine the roar of feedback! This was the fall of 2003.

Now back to 2004. We pulled off a modest little reunion, and saw first cousins I hadn't seen in forever, and their children I had never met. I met cousins whose name I had seen on a mailbox for years, wondered about, and who upon meeting seemed like brothers. One third cousin said his young son looked just like me. We held a dance at the end of this reunion, and it became contagious. While we were po-

continued on p. 12

A Park Family Reunion

cont'd from p. 11

lite and cordial before, once we started the dance the decorum turned into an upheaval of laughter, yelling, and clapping. That's how this reunion ended, with a lot of touching, breathing, smiling, and hugging and a consensus for a next year reunion!

When it came time to start planning the 2005 reunion, it was just me driving it. Rollie Taylor had emailed me his lastest long list of Park family descended from James and Martha on down. I wondered how to contact them. I had no phone numbers, addresses and sometimes not an update of those still living. Rollie often did have the city and state of last address. He also fixed me up with a system of look up, where one could combine the results of two different search engines and possibly get a phone number or street address. But I had 198 pages to the James and Martha genealogy. Hmmm, where to start?

I jumped in, starting with my nearest cousins, people whose names I could see, but no other information. Using Rollie's system of cross-referencing, I began to see how to crack open public information. I made my first fleeting calls to total strangers, who just happened to be my cousins. This was surely a nerve-wracking experience, sounding like some sort of weird come-on. I had to learn how to cut to the chase without sounding like a military first sergeant. I called cousins all over the USA and it would be easier to name the states I didn't call than the ones I did. Inevitably, the closer I got to the reunion cutoff, the more I eliminated calling the ones so far away. I implored contacts to seek out their siblings and first cousins to help me spread the communication. This worked fairly well, and in fact it is still working. In the end, I heard from cousins who heard about the reunion in their Sunday school class, at the grocery store and other odd sources.

With the feedback of about five out-of-town contributing cousins and our experience from the year before, we laid out an aggressive agenda. I was obsessed with making the trip worth it for cousins traveling long distances, and as a result we planned too much activity. We ended up with cousins com-

ing from Washington State, California, Arizona, Colorado, Wisconsin, Indiana, Virginia, New York, Massachusetts, Maryland, Florida, and throughout the southeast. The attendance numbered about 115, counting the various parts of the reunion they attended.

Even though we over-scheduled activities at our reunion, I was proud of the things we attempted. Our base was a hotel in Chattanooga, from which we made an interesting trip to Frank Shaw, Jr's historical homestead in Kensington, Georgia, a few miles west of Lafayette. About half the participants made the trek to Kensington, and all who made it were thrilled. Frank has preserved the homestead of his great-great-grandparents, just as it was adapted through the years by successive heirs. Each successive addition to the home made it all the more unique, and each room was filled with period pieces in fine condition. In one room were two grand pianos, and as fate would have it, Cousin Bill Adams, a concert pianist from Lexington, Kentucky, was awestruck at their beauty and careful restoration. Finding a concert pianist among his visitors, Frank led Bill to the best sounding of the two restored pianos, and Bill entertained all to an impromptu concert, which carried throughout the rooms of the old home as it may have done many years before. Adjacent halls and rooms were filled as Bill played favorite pieces from memory, and it proved to be serendipity to all.

Frank has many historical items throughout the home, many family-oriented, while others are of a period nature. There were farming equipment and tools, a custom schoolhouse from about 1870, complete with the books used by students from the period, household items for canning, butter churning, and all the sundry jobs a homestead would have included. Did I mention Frank's collection of Cadillacs?

One effort that my sister and other siblings coordinated was a special gathering of the offspring of my great great Park grandparents, Lunsford and Isabella Barron Park. This was a very large family, partially separated in age by the Civil War. Isabella bore eleven children over twenty-nine years! Inevitably, the family split up, especially so after the early death, relatively, of both Lunsford and Isabella. Rose

Park Cantrell opened her mountain home to all these cousins, about 65 in all, for a lovely buffet lunch on the lawn under canopies. Rose and her four sisters hosted a luncheon for all these cousins, many unknown to each other, and most others out of contact for years. For two hours we seemed to swarm over each other and at the end a sudden summer downpour entertained us (the canopies saved us all from a real drenching). How does one have an intimate conversation with so many cousins in two hours? Obviously, it didn't happen. I know I waved to many with whom I didn't get to chat.

Another interesting activity planned was a get together with many bringing their prized family heirlooms and genealogical archives. This activity appeared to me to be like bees in a hive, with so many stooped over looking at documents and admiring old family bibles, photos, and memories, clustering in groups to compare documents, and just plain finding and connecting to each other. I failed in the activity by not allowing enough time, as our dinner sat waiting on us as we connected. I wish now to have invested more time, somehow, in doing this. At the same time, older folks cannot be rushed, including me. My brother told me that after the banquet that followed this gathering, he went home to bed; he was just dead tired!

One event led to another, in rapid succession. After our banquet dinner, and to much fanfare for those in attendance the year before, we had planned another folk dance. This was at the regular venue for the local folk dance group, in downtown Chattanooga. One of our cousins, Fred Park, is a renowned contra dance teacher and caller. If Fred is in town, best to have a dance. Sure enough, we scheduled the hall and all migrated there. I would guess about 40% of the banquet attendees managed to make it to the dance. It was clear after our dance last year that there could be no reunion without a dance. To top it off, we invited many of the regular dancers from Chattanooga to join us, and in total there were about 90 dancers on the floor. Yes, we had live music, all the way from Asheville, North Carolina. The dance was a hoot! Like last year, everyone came alive, and even my 86-year-old mother, an Alzheimer's patient, jumped up, remembering the steps and her dancing past. Cousins who told me emphatically they would

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not dance but would come, I witnessed dancing—and smiling at the same time. We danced until 11 PM, but by 10 many reunion attendees had given it up.

A day that began with communal breakfasts, and went from downtown Chattanooga to Kensington, Ga., a few cemeteries going and coming, to Signal Mountain, back downtown, then to a dance, was done. I know many cousins who went non-stop the entire day. I went home and found two brothers (one from West Virginia, the other from Colorado), bunking with me, ready to chat about everything they had done. We drew line charts locating where cousins fit it, dug up old pictures of all of us, and didn't go to bed until 2.

It is my opinion that there is a reason one has a reunion. Somehow, I felt a bit like my feet were better attached to the ground I walked on; I felt better connected. (I'm also a lot wiser on how to sequence a reunion schedule.)

Epilogue: Reunion plans for 2006 are still somewhat fluid, but discussions are underway for a gathering at Frank Shaw's family homestead sometime this summer. It will likely consist of an afternoon and evening gathering and covered dish supper. I can offer no specific details at this time, but we are working on as much notice as we can do. For more information, please email me, Ed Park, at eparkseven@yahoo.com, or call 423-876-7883. I prefer email, but call if you do not have email. ■

The next editorial due date is
June 15, 2006

The following is the first installment of a multi-part piece contributed by Nancy Sorenson, PS# 1415. Subsequent installments will appear in forthcoming issues of the Parke Society Newsletter.

—Ed.

Missing Link (Lineage Key = XQ)

by Nancy Sorenson, PS# 1415

For several years, I have been trying to discover more about the ancestry of my great grandfather, John E. Parkes, who was born in 1826 and died 27 Feb., 1899. He is buried in Flint Cemetery, Belle Rive, Jefferson Co, Illinois. My searches on the internet put me in touch with a distant cousin, Sandy Streitberger, a teacher in Florida. She had been looking for the same John Parkes, who was her great great grandfather. Upon comparing notes, I recalled that when I was a child, her grandmother, Nellie Iona Parks Davis, visited my father, Douglas Parkes Wilbanks, when we lived in El Paso, Texas. I remember she and I spent some time playing old phonograph records on my dad's wind-up Victrola.

Sandy and I have visited county libraries and courthouses in Clinton County and Jefferson County Illinois, finding records pertaining to our common ancestors. We have reached back one more generation from John E. to John Russel Parks, but have not been able to trace any father back than that. The following data was put together using resources contributed by both of us.

John Russel Parks was born about 1790-1800; we established his age according to the 1840 Clinton Co. census. He was probably born in Pennsylvania or North Carolina; no date exists to prove either one, but family tradition says it was Pennsylvania. He lived in North Carolina in 1825 when his son Charles was born. His son, John E. was born in 1826 in either North Carolina or Illinois (Census data varies on this). He was not listed in the 1830 Clinton Co. census. His remaining 3 known children were born in Illinois according to the 1850 census. They are Mary, born 1836; Elizabeth, born 1839; and James born 1841. He purchased land in Clinton Co., in 1837 and 1839; records of these land purchases are clearly documented in the Archives in the Clinton Co. Courthouse, under Public Domain Land Tract Sales. The county seat of Clinton Co, is Carlyle. According to Clinton Co. probate records, he

died Dec. 7, 1844 in Clinton Co., leaving his widow, Sarah, and five children, as listed above. We have not found his burial site, nor that of his wife.

John Russel Parks's listing in the 1840 census states that he was employed in agriculture, and the household contained one male, between 40 and 50 (John R.), one female between 30 and 40 (his wife Sarah), two males between 10 and 15 (Charles and John E.), one female between 5 and 10 (Mary), and one female between 0 and 5 (Elizabeth). James had not been born yet. A probate case was filed on 3 or 5 January 1845, by his son Charles. Later additions to the probate record, dated Jan. 28, 1847, list a subpoena to Charles Parks, which is crossed out and replaced with Mrs. Mary Parks. She is not listed in any further documents. We wondered whether Charles had moved away and perhaps Mary was his wife, but we have no other information on this. The final settlement of the probate was dated 1 Mar., 1847, received by John's widow, Sarah. In the 1850 census, the mother, Sarah, 47, born in North Carolina, was listed as head of household, and living with her were her son, Charles, farmer, 25, born in North Carolina, and daughters Mary, 14, and Elizabeth 11, and son James, 9, all three born in Illinois. John E. and his wife Sarah and child were listed separately.

Our only information on John R. Parks' wife Sarah is that she was born in 1803 in North Carolina, from the 1850 census, and died between 1857 and 1860 in Clinton Co. She was not listed in the 1860 census, but was listed in a land sales record in 1857. There have been some family rumors as to Sarah's maiden name, but no verification has been found so that information is not included here. Various land records in the Clinton County Courthouse show transfers of land among the various heirs of John R. Parks. In 1857, the persons involved were Sarah, John E. Mary, and Elizabeth. Between 1859 and 1871, the named parties are John E., Sarah C. (John E.'s wife), Elizabeth and Jacob Phillips, and Mary Parkes and later Mary and Thomas Herrin. From this I conclude that Sarah, John R.'s wife, died between 1857 and 1861. None of these transfers mention the younger son, James L., although the 1862 Civil War Census of Clinton County lists James L. Parkes, 21 and John E. Parkes, 36, both farmers living on the same piece

of land in East Fork township, as having no Civil War service. Perhaps James was not listed in the land transfers as he was a minor at the time. I have no further data on what happened to Charles, Elizabeth, Mary, or James after this period. This about covers the information I have regarding the elder John Parks, listed here as John Russel Parks and his wife Sarah.

The next generation, John E. Parks/Parkes is better documented, although his place of birth is still uncertain. I have the family Bible of John E. and Sarah Caroline Parks/Parkes, which has a detailed listing of the births and deaths of them and their children, except for deaths of those who survived to later years.

Entries in the Parkes family Bible, owned by Nancy Wilbanks Sorensen:

(Births)

John Parks born 1826

Sarah C. Parks born Feb. 22, 1826

Mary Elizabeth Parks born 1849

John Rusel Parks born Apr. 13, 1852

Luisa Catherine Parks born May 19, 1854

Charles Calvin Parkes born June 5, 1857

Agnes Josephine Parkes born Dec. 26, 1859

John H. Parkes born July 15, 1862

Susan Arminta Parkes born Nov. 20, 1868

Allies M. Parkes born May 10, 1866

John A. Parkes born Dec. 14, 1872

(John A. and Ella's family)

Burrel Rubin Parkes born Mar. 21, 1895

John Calvin Parkes born June 31, 1899

(Deaths)

Mary Elizabeth Parkes died Feb. 11, 1852

Luisa C. Parkes died June 2, 1867

Allies M. Parkes died Aug. 29, 1870

Susan Arminta Parkes died May 9, 1886

James H. Parkes died May 26, 1889

Burrel Rubin Parkes died Aug. 8, 1897

John E. Parkes died Feb. 27, 1899

Ella Parkes died Mar. 19, 1900

John A. Parkes died Nov. 12, 1900

Sarah C. Parkes died Aug. 31, 1907

Including the information to follow, thus, we have death dates for all of the nine children of John E.

Parkes and Sarah Caroline Brewster Parkes, except for John Russel, born April 13, 1852. The 1860 Clinton Co. census lists John Parks, M, 35, farmer, NC; Sarah, F, 34, NC; Louiza, F, 6, IL; Charles, M, 3, IL; Josephine, F, 3 mo., IL. (I assume from this that John Rusel Parks born Apr. 13, 1852, from family Bible listing, had died before 1860, since he would have been 8 years old and still living at home.) Since this census lists John (E.) as born in North Carolina, but the 1850 census lists him as born in Illinois, we are uncertain which is correct. I tend to think the North Carolina location is correct; however his son Charles' obituary states that he was born in Pennsylvania.

John E. Parkes wife was Sarah Caroline Brewster; her maiden name has been listed in several family sources. However, a reprinted *Clinton County Marriages, 1825 to 1907* lists John Parks and Sarah "Green" as married 16 Nov., 1848 by T. L. Nichols, J.P. and the date that our John E. and Sarah were married, according to the Bible was 16 Nov., 1848. I can find no trace of any Greens in county archives, but there are a number of Brewster/Brusters listed, some of whom owned land close to the Parks land. Apparently, the original handwritten marriage listing is held at the Southern Illinois University library, but we have not had an opportunity to go there to see whether the writing is clear. It seemed to us that if the "Brew..." were scrawled, it could have been interpreted "Gree..." by a transcriber who then just finished it into a known word. Another, more remote possibility, is that Sarah might have had a previous marriage that lasted only a short time, but no one seems to have ever hear of such a thing.

In trying to discover whether any of the Parkes fought in the Civil War, I found an 1862 Civil War Census stating that John Parkes, 36 and James L. Parkes, 21, both of the same land description in East Fork Township, Clinton Co, IL, both farmers, were listed as having no service record. Another John Parks listed in the same census in Clinton Co, was John C., single, born about 1838. We have no record of such a person in our family records. He might have been from an entirely different family or he might have been some distant relation. ■

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

1460 Mrs Donna M Schumacher

Lineage is Robert-Thomas, LK = “T,” Chart **3**, Line is Robert¹, Thomas², Martha³, Isaac⁴ Wheeler, Thomas⁵ Wheeler, Isaac^{6,7} Wheeler, Timothy Swan⁸ Wheeler, Joseph Swan⁹ Wheeler, Joseph Henry¹⁰ Wheeler, and so on to Member who is of the 13th generation, maiden-named Wheeler.

1461 William Stevenson Parke

Lineage is Robert Thomas, LK = “T,” Chart **10**. Line is Robert¹, Thomas², Robert³, Hezekiah⁴, Paul⁵, Elisha⁶, Ephraim⁷, Sidney⁸, Andrew⁹, Fenton Marion¹⁰, to PS#156, Robert¹¹ Parke, grandfather to member.

1462 Mrs. Julie Ann Parks

Fragment Line, Lineage Key “**HP.**” Line is from a Samuel Parks, born c1785 North of Ireland, death date unknown, m. Elizabeth McAvoy or McEvoy, born c1830 also North of Ireland. Migrated to America somewhere before 1888 with children, but after 1856 for sure. Line is Samuel¹, Edward², William Francis³, Charles Francis⁴, to member.

1463 Gary Lee Parks, MD

Fragment Line, Lineage Key “**IP.**” Line is from a Hugh Parks, born 1757 Orange County, NC, married 18 Dece 1781, to Elizabeth Barnhill. Line is Hugh S.¹, Hugh S.² Jr., James Allen³, James Louis or Lewis⁴, James Thomas⁵, James Leonard⁶, to member.

1464 Mrs Mary Elizabeth Parks

Associate member, carrying on husband’s research. Another Fragment Line, Lineage Key “**JP.**” Line is from another Hugh Parks, born 1781 York Co., PA, married December 1805, Belmont Co., OH, Mary Nichol (1785-1882), he died there in 1864. Line is Hugh¹, William², Hugh Whiteford³, William Campbell⁴, to William Whiteford⁵, deceased spouse of Associate member.

1465 Edward Joseph Park

Lineage is Roger, LK – “**K**” Line is Roger¹, John², John³, Moses⁴, James⁵, John Esten⁶, Lunsford Yandell⁷, Robert William⁸, Wert St. John⁹, Wert St. John, Jr.¹⁰, to member

1466 Mrs Shirley Mae Tabat

Associate member, carrying on husband’s research. Lineage is Roger of NJ, LK = “**K.**” Line is Roger¹, Roger², William³, Zebulon⁴, John⁵, Jane⁶, John W⁷ Thompson, Julia Etta⁸ Thompson, Doris Pauline⁹ Weaver, to Leo Edwin¹⁰ Tabat, deceased spouse to Associate member.

1467 Norma Jean Lemay

Another Fragment Line, Lineage Key “**KP.**” Line is from a William¹ (?) [lots of unknown data], to Abraham², born 1834, OH(?), who married in 1860 Hester Roseann Bishop. He died in 1893 in Madison Co., AR, to Otis Everett³ Park, William Everette⁴ Park, to Norma Jean⁵ Park, member

1468 Richard Neil Parks

Lineage Key = “**WR**,” The so-called Robert & Laban line. His line is from Robert¹ (c1758-1840) & Mary (Unknown) to John B², John Madison³ Sr., John Madison⁴ Jr., Henry Clyde⁵, Wallace Gordon⁶, member

Places to visit: The Erin Historical Society Museum

This museum located in the village of Erin (Chemung Co, NY) on the corner of State Route 223 and Rodbourn Place. It is open Sundays, June 4th to September 24th from 2-4 p.m. The Museum will be open by appointment for research or just to visit by contacting Patricia Wainwright, Curator (607-739-1642) or by email: rodopat@juno.com. This year’s exhibit is “Churches and Religions of Erin”. This includes a large file of James Smith’s (a Park descendant) research on the Erin Methodist Church. This will be of interest to those Parke Society members who are descendants of this Park lineage who came to Erin from New Jersey. ■