

The Parke Society Newsletter

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

Announcing the Parke Society “State/County” Project

by Ken Parks PS#1406

If you’ve visited the newly-revamped Parke Society website (and I certainly hope you have by now!), you’ve probably noticed that the restricted “Members Only” section from the old site is no longer there. As we worked our way through the process of revising the site, we realized that much of what was in that section didn’t need to be restricted to members only, so decided to opt for keeping as much content as possible accessible to everyone who visits the site.

However, we recognized that going forward, we wanted to develop databases and resources that could be of value to Park/e/s researchers, and restricting access to that material to members would be the best way to encourage people to join the Society.

We’ve long realized that we have a wealth of information available from the compiled research of our members over the last fifty years, and have searched for a way to make that vast amount of data available in a manner that makes the most sense. With the coming of the electronic age, we think we have found a way to do just that.

The Research Room

What we will be developing for this new members-only section will be a virtual “Research Room,” with various resources cross-referenced to enable one to search for a name, place, or any other research criterion, throughout the various elements contained within. Content will be added on a regular basis, just as on other genealogy sites, so if one does not find the sought-after information at first, checking back from time to time may yield results as more content is added.

Some of the resources to be found there will be:

- The complete Revolutionary War pension files of all Park/e/s individuals. These are the same files, containing the actual

continued on p. 3

In This Issue:

The Parke Society “State/County” Project.....	1
From the President’s Desk.....	5
Aaron Parks: Father of Ebenezer? (LK=RY).....	6
Historian’s Corner.....	10
The Society Online.....	12
Lineage Key Catalogue, Part 13 (UZ-ZZ).....	13
Welcome, New Members!.....	15

THE PARKE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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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
Annual Dues	\$ 30
Life Membership	\$265
(US funds only)	

THE PARKE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER is 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 are always welcome, as are photographs, document scans, and other significant visual materials.

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PARKE SOCIETY Board members live all over the country. Before sending a request, inquiry, article, suggestion, dues, or lineage materials, please check the listing below to be sure the material is directed to the proper Board member.

ADDRESSES AND OTHER MEMBERSHIP CHANGES: Send all changes of mailing address, name, phone number, email address, 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

P.O. Box 590
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CONVOCATIONS: Send questions to President and Convocation Coordinator, **Ken M. Parks**, PS#1406 at kenparks@earthlink.net.

DNA TESTING: Send DNA questions to our DNA Group Administrator, **Ken M. Parks**, PS#1406 at kenparks@earthlink.net.

DUES: Send dues and dues-related questions to our Secretary:

Mrs. Joanne G. Rodgers, PS#1523
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Make dues payments payable to The Parke Society, Inc. (Note: please do not send these questions to the Treasurer.) **VERY IMPORTANT: BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER ON YOUR CHECK!**

GENEALOGY QUESTIONS AND MATERIALS: Send these to our Historian, **Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks** #425H at 70741.2122@compuserve.com, or by surface mail to

P.O. Box 590
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Please also send such materials to your Lineage Leader, if you have one.

COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, AND CRITICISMS: Send all general correspondence of this kind to our President, **Ken M. Parks**, PS#1406 at kenparks@earthlink.net.

LIBRARY: Send all questions relating to the Library, including loans of materials, to **Ken M. Parks**, PS#1406 at kenparks@earthlink.net.

MEMBERSHIP: Send questions concerning Parke Society membership, requests for membership packets, and all application materials to our Registrar, **Mr. Ronald Neal Parks**, PS#1458, at registrar@parke.org.

MISSING LINKS: Send all questions and articles relating to Missing Links to our Missing Links Editor, **Mrs. Jean Churchill**, PS#934, at sdtjs2001@yahoo.com, or by surface mail to her at P.O. Box 4854
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NEWSLETTER: Send article submissions and comments to our Editor, **Paul Jordan-Smith**, PS#1451 at parkenews@csedl.org. *Handwritten submissions cannot be accepted.* If you don't have email, send all *typed* materials to

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WEBSITE: Send suggestions to our Webmaster, Paul Jordan-Smith, PS#1451, at webmaster@parke.org.

The Parke Society "State/County" Project

cont'd from p. 1

images of the original records, that are available on paid sites, but ours will be identified, when known, by Lineage Key and Family Group Sheet (FGS) number, and cross-referenced to enable researchers to find other records pertaining to that individual and family in other Parke Society resources. As they become available, pension files from other wars, such as the War of 1812, Mexican War, and the Civil War will be added with the same identifying information.

- An eBook Library of Park/e/s-related books. This will consist of public domain volumes of various books; family histories, county histories, and other types of books, with information relating to a Park/e/s family or individual. Again, these will be identified by Lineage Key when known and can either be read online or downloaded to your computer as a PDF (Portable Document Format) file. Some of the volumes will duplicate books found in hard-copy form in the Dana Parks Jr. Memorial Lending Library, but most will be items we do not currently have in book form.
- Missing Links articles by Jean Churchill PS#934. These are currently available on the public pages of the new website, but will be moved to the restricted area when it is created. Short "teasers" of some of the articles will then be available on the public pages to encourage non-members to join in order to access this remarkable collection of research by Jean over the years. Again, these will be cross-linked to other Research Room resources.
- Lineage Key folders. Over time, we will create file folders on each Lineage Key that contain a miscellany of information

on each Lineage Key as it becomes available. Photos, obituaries, burial information, census, and other types of information will be deposited here, much like a Family File one might find in the vertical files at a historical society or genealogy library.

- And finally, we will be creating the State/County project, which will be the way members can easily tap into the information that the Parke Society has amassed on the various Park/e/s lineages over the years. Here's how it will work:

The State/County Project

Work has already begun on the creation of what will be a long-term, extensive research project. The goal is to catalog every Park/e/s surnamed individual in every federal census, as well as all available state censuses, identify them by Lineage Key, and, when known, their individual FGS number.

This census information will be contained in files sorted by state, and by each county within that state. For example, one would be able to go to Chester County, Pennsylvania and view every Park/e/s individual by census year, with identifying information, when known, that can lead to other related information within our resources.

In addition to all census listings from 1790 to 1940, each county file will also contain other types of information relating to any Park/e/s individual within that county. Birth, marriage, death, and burial records will be contained in the county file along with tax lists, land/deed, will/estate/probate, and any other pertinent available information that occurred in that county relating to a Park/e/s individual. In short, any type of Park/e/s record from that county will be included, as found within our files or in public records. All census

continued on p. 4

The Parke Society "State/County" Project

cont'd from p. 3

records and other information found here will have source citations, making it easy for researchers to evaluate the source and examine it independently for themselves.

How might this aid a Park/e/s researcher? By knowing where your earliest Park/e/s ancestor was located at some point in their life, you can then go to that county file and see what other Park/e/s families were there, and what other information is available. As we all know from our research, many counties had numerous unrelated Park/e/s families living there at the same time, or over a period of time, and the county files will help identify which individuals are from which family line, thus saving much time and speculation in one's own research. Wonder if a Park/e/s individual found in, say, Montcalm County, Michigan is related? Go to the county page for Montcalm County and find that individual in the census or other records and whether they've been identified by Lineage Key or FGS number.

This will be a huge project. As one genealogy conference speaker stated, regarding large research projects, it's like the old question, "How do you eat an elephant?" The answer, of course, is "one bite at a time." Our first bite, so to speak, is starting with the 1850 census, cataloging all Park/e/s in every state in existence at the time. Searching for the four main spelling variations (Park, Parks, Parke, Parkes), we come up with a total of 15,311 individuals in the 1850 census. Of course, we know there are others hidden in the index under various odd spellings due to poor census image quality or less-than-perfect transcriptions of poor handwriting, and hopefully we'll catch those at some point along the way.

We chose to begin with the 1850 census because it is the earliest census which

names every individual, rather than simply the head of household, and lists their age rather than an age range, and also gives their state or country of birth. It's also a census which includes many individuals born prior to the American Revolution. And since the place of birth is included, we can identify many individuals who came to America from other countries and may, in some cases, be able to estimate their date of immigration to within a few years.

As we expand this project to other census years, we begin to see the extent of the task we've set ourselves. Looking at earlier census years, the number of Park/e/s listed drops dramatically from 2,162 in 1840, until we find only 363 in 1790. Of course, this is largely due to the fact that only heads of household are named, although the population as a whole decreases as we go backward in time. As we go forward from 1850, we see a steady increase in the numbers until the Park/e/s population in the United States peaks at 72,375 in the 1930 census. Though that seems like a large number of people to catalog and identify, compared to the 1,292,490 Smiths in the 1930 census, we got off lucky! Curiously, the Park/e/s population drops significantly by 1940 to 65,065, a phenomenon worth looking into at some point.

What keeps the project within the realm of possibility is that, as we advance from 1850 onward, we will have already identified many families which will appear in future censuses, and as we enter the 20th century, other records, along with our own database, will make it easier to identify individuals and families. Of course, at every step along the way there will be some people we will be unable to identify, but by identifying most everyone else, we can more easily focus our research efforts on those individuals in the future.

I don't know whether such a surname research project involving unrelated lin-

eages has been undertaken before, but I would wager that, if we are not unique in this, the Parke Society will certainly be in rare company once this project is well underway. While the “leg work” involved in cataloging the names will take time, it is the availability of research by Parke Society members and staff over the last fifty years, and other research done prior to that, that makes this project even remotely feasible. We build on the work of many others who have gone before us, and this project will be a credit to the hard work done by all of them, and by you!☺

From the President’s Desk

By Ken Parks PS#1406

Fall is always a busy season for all of us on the Parke Society staff, as we’ve just finished our annual meeting and usually have a long list of items to follow up on from that gathering. This year is no exception! Here is a brief summary of some of what happened at the meeting.

2013 Annual Meeting in Harrisburg

Some of the highlights of what took place:

- New slate of officers elected for 2014
President: Kenneth M. Parks PS#1406
Vice President: Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks PS#425
Secretary: Joanne Rodgers PS#1523
Treasurer: Lu Etta Terock PS#861
Historian: Fr. Michael (Tad) Parks PS#425
Registrar: Ronald Neal Parks PS#1458
- Trustees elected
Curtis Harvey Parks PS#1166
Ronald Neal Parks PS#1458
- Voted to approve an increase in the annual dues from \$25 to \$30 effective 1 November 2013, the first dues increase in over ten years. This should provide

enough additional revenue to avoid the small negative balance in net income reported for the past year, combined with lower expenses projected for the coming year.

- Voted to proceed with planning of the 2014 Convocation, to be held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Date to be determined in the next few weeks, which will likely be early to mid-August. Research room, meetings, and other Convocation events to be held at the Lancaster Historical Society, with a banquet to be held either at the Convocation hotel or a nearby restaurant. Full details, including dates and hotel information, will be published in the next newsletter issue and will be available on the Parke Society website as soon as they are set.
- Discussed membership data from past years and recommended several areas to address:

The need to increase the number of new members in the coming year by recruiting through online venues such as our Facebook page, and the various Park/e/s message boards.

The need to retain the current active members by creating content for the members-only section of the website (see separate article in this issue about the State/County research project.)

The need to contact inactive members, particularly those who joined within the last five to ten years, to invite them to reactivate their membership. These contact emails or letters should be tailored to their particular lineage information, particularly those in fragment lines, with an eye towards seeing if there are avenues of research not yet explored, or now available online since they first joined the Society.

continued on p. 6

From the President's Desk

cont'd from p. 5

The need for renewed efforts to increase participation in the DNA project. The number of Lineage Keys represented, both among our current membership as well as non-members, at present is only about 25% of the total number of Lineage Keys. Also, looking at past statistics, it appears that the more DNA tests ordered, the more our new memberships tend to increase.

- Announced the formation of a State/County research project. (For more information about this, see separate article in this issue.)

As mentioned above, one of the most exciting results of our meeting was the decision to go forward with a full-blown Convocation in 2014, something we have not done since 2008. The Convocation will be utilizing the wonderful facilities of the Lancaster Historical Society, with plenty of room to set up our Research Room, including the entire Parke Society Library contents, the full array of Lineage Binders containing lineage and member information, as well as internet access for online research in conjunction with the printed materials. Attendees will also be able to use the library of the Lancaster Historical Society, as well as access materials in their archives. To view this wonderful facility, visit their website at: <http://www.lancasterhistory.org>.

Since we'll be meeting in Lancaster, talks, panel discussions, and visual displays will focus on the various Park/e/s lineages in early Pennsylvania history, but we certainly encourage all members to attend, whether they have Park/e/s Pennsylvania roots or not. Of course, even if your particular Park/e/s lineage does not have a Pennsylvania connection, you may have other family lines from Pennsylvania, and the Lancaster Historical Society's resources

could prove helpful for researching those lines as well!

You may have seen recent episodes on PBS of "Genealogy Roadshow." We will be planning our own version of this, in that attendees will be able to sign up in advance for a 45 minute consultation with Parke Society staff members for a closer look at their lineage. Reviewing and discussing brick-wall issues in light of the increasing availability of resources online may lead to breakthroughs in areas you'd long since thought hopeless. And of course, if you haven't taken steps to have your lineage represented in the DNA project, there's plenty of time to order that test and get the results back before we meet in Lancaster!

Dates will likely be in August, with the Convocation running Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, culminating with a banquet, followed by our (brief) Parke Society Corporate Business Meeting. Details will be set by the time the next newsletter arrives, and perhaps even sooner on our Parke Society website. Check the website from time to time for updates and start making plans to join us in Lancaster!☺

Aaron (1RY1): Father of Ebenezer (2RY2) Parks? (LK=RY)

By Jean Churchill, PS#934

Aaron (1RY1) Parks is presently considered the founder of this fragment line. According to several researchers, Aaron was born 5 Oct. 1764 at either Preston or Windham, CT, but I have been unable to find his name on any of the Connecticut Vital Records. He was living in the Town of Ashford when, early in 1781, he enlisted and was enrolled into the Company commanded by Capt. Parson, in the Regiment commanded by Col. Samuel B. Webb in CT Line of United States Troops, to serve during the war. In about March in the same year, he

went into actual service with his company until the close of the war, and was honorably discharged at West Point, NY on 10 June 1783, obtaining a printed discharge signed by General George Washington. It was noted on the back that the discharge should be considered as a furlough until the ratification of the definitive treaty of peace.

Researchers state that Aaron Parks and Rachael Dolly Walker were married at Ashford, Windham, CT in Sept. 1785. Rachael was born in 1766, the daughter of Ebenezer Walker and Sabrina Whitaker. One researcher gives Rachael's place of birth as Rehoboth, Bristol, MA. Their first two children were born at Ashford. About 1789 Aaron moved his family north to Sudbury, Rutland, VT. In 1803 Aaron was commissioned a Captain in the 7th Company in the First Regiment, Second Brigade, Second Division of Vermont. While living in Sudbury six more children were born to this couple before Rachael died 19 Aug. 1804.

About 1805, Aaron married Rebecca Marion/Merriam. There has been quite a bit of confusion over Rebecca's surname, but I am inclined to agree with the researchers who believe that it is Merriam, because Aaron names Myra Miriam as his adopted daughter on his pension application. Myra was born in 1804, so probably was a child from Rebecca's earlier marriage. By 1807 Aaron had moved his family to Malone, Franklin, NY, in northern New York, not far from the Canadian border. He and Rebecca had three children, all born in New York. He was known as Captain Aaron Parks in 1821 when Henry S. Waterhouse, Adj. Hospital Surgeon, 42nd Brigade New York Militia, filed an affidavit detailing Aaron's poor health.

"An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the

US in the Revolutionary War" was passed by Congress on 18 March 1818. In order to qualify for a Revolutionary War Pension under this act, the petitioner had to show proof of service and need. Aaron swore under oath that neither he nor any other person held in trust for himself any property or securities, contracts or debts which was due him nor did he have any other income but that listed in his schedule. He owned 50 acres of land with a small house and barn but it was encumbered by a mortgage. His personal estate, which included livestock, farm implements, furniture, and other household items, was valued at \$278.56. The only exclusions allowed were clothing and necessary bedding.

At this time, Aaron's family consisted of himself, wife Rebecca, daughter Susan Prescott, adopted daughter Myra, son Hiram, son Harry, and daughter Olinda. Aaron's occupation was that of farmer and by reason of a hernia and back problems he was unable to perform hard labor and stood in need of assistance for support of himself and his family. He received a Certificate of Pension 21 July 1819 of \$8 a month, commencing 10 Apr. 1818.

Unfortunately, under the Act of May 1820, Aaron was stricken from the Roll of Pensions because of a question about his real estate property. On 1 January 1822, Judge Horton of the Town of Malone sent a letter to Congress asking that Aaron Parks pension be reinstated because he was still involved in debt and nearly destitute of property and that in their opinion the circumstances of the said Aaron Parks were such that his name could with the utmost propriety be continued upon the pension roll under the Act of 1 May 1820. This was signed by the Judge and six other well-respected men of the Town. Up through 1823 letters and sworn testimony in Aaron's favor continued to be sent to a member of

continued on p. 8

Aaron (1RY1): Father of Ebenezer (2RY2)?
cont'd from p. 7

Congress. Aaron Parks must have been reinstated at some point because his name appears as a Pensioner on both the 1835 and 1840 NY Pension Lists.

Researchers believe Aaron and Rachael Parks were parents of four daughters: Orville (b.1786) married David Woods; Sabrina (b.1792), Susan (b.1801); and Mary (1794 VT–1856 OH), who married David Livingston (b. NY–d. NY). In 1938, her descendant Viola Nichols Ball was accepted to the DSDAR and joined a Chapter in Ohio.

Aaron also had four sons from his first marriage:

1. Ebenezer (2RY2) Walker Parks (3 June 1788 at Ashford, Windham, CT–15 Aug.1851 Blissfield, MI) He married (1) Roxcey Olds (1787 MA–1830 OH); (2) Mary Gildreth Bears (d. 1844 OH); (3) Caroline Unknown. Ebenezer is enumerated in the 1820, 1830 and 1840 censuses of Huron/Erie Counties of Ohio. By 1850 he is in Blissfield, Lenawee Co, MI where a copy of his will dated 12 March 1851 names his children as: Alanson, Orville, Mariah, Mary, Aaron, Margaret, John, and Wesley. Ebenezer is of interest since several Parke Society members have joined under his name. DNA results have proved a link to the Robert MA1630 lineage. Cheryl Morris PS# 598 states that she has no hard evidence to connect Ebenezer W. Parks with Aaron Parks of VT and NY except the statement of Ebenezer's son that his grandfather was an Aaron who fought in the Revolutionary War. (Counties of Porter and Lake Indiana by Weston A. Goodspeed pub. 1882). There were three daughters: Orville (b

ca.1851) married John Gould; Mariah; and Mary. His son from his first marriage was:

- a. Alanson (3RY1) Parks (1812–1896 Page, Cass, ND) married 1837 Cass Co, MI to Emeline Hendricks (1815–1899 MI). The 1885 Census of North Dakota, p. 3 Cass Co, ND lists Alinzon Parks from New York b. ca. 1813, parents from VT, widower. This couple had 6 daughters and five sons.

Ebenezer (2RY2) Walker Parks married (2) 1831 Sandusky, OH Mary Gildreth Bears. There were two daughters and two sons:

- b. Aaron (3RY5) Parks (1833 Erie Co, OH–1911 Porter, IN) married 1 June 1856 Valparaiso, Porter, IN to Jane Cook
- c. John (3RY8) Parks (b. 1839 Huron, OH) John was a soldier in the Civil War and was killed at the battle of Fort Donelson, Gen. Lew Wallace's Regiment.

Ebenezer (2RY2) Walker Parks married (3) aft. 1831 to Caroline Unknown. There was one child of this marriage:

- d. Wesley (3RY9) Parks (1850 Blissfield, MI–1926 WI). He may have been living in La Crescent, Houston, Minnesota in 1870.

2. Alanson (2RY5) Parks (3 Jan.1798 Sudbury, VT–aft. 1880 Portville, Cattaraugus, NY). Alanson married Charlotte Jones (1815–1875) 5 May 1835 at Augusta, Ontario, Canada. By 1870, the family had moved to Portville. Their nine children were born in Canada. Three daughters: Permelia (b. ca.1835) married George Wickware; Harriet (1837) married Almeron Wickware; and Caroline (1837) married James Lind-

say. Not very much is known about their sons:

- a. Jonas Parks (b. 1838)
 - b. Alpheus Parks (b. 1840) may possibly be the Alpheus living in Merrick, NE in 1870.
 - c. William Parks (b. 1842)
 - d. Charles Parks (1843–1918) married ca. 1878 Nancy Unknown. Living in Portville. Their son Albert was living in Corning, Steuben, NY in 1900.
 - e. Davis Parks (b. 1845)
 - f. Alexander Parks (b. 1857)
3. Aaron (2RY6) Parks, Jr. (14 July 1800 Sudbury, VT–4 July 1872 Constable, Franklin, NY). He married Nancy Cooper (1805–1879) on 30 Sept. 1830 at Malone, Franklin, NY. They were the parents of five daughters and one son: Sophrona (1832–1918 SD); Julia (1834); Mary (1837–1913 SD); Lorinda (b. ca.1843); William; and Minerva:
- a. William W. Parks (1835 VT/NY–1919 Fall River Co, SD). William did not marry. He served in the Civil War and in 1913 was admitted to Battle Mountain Sanitarium, Hot Springs, Fall River, SD. He is buried at Hot Springs National Cemetery, Hot Springs, SD.
 - b. Minerva Parks (b. 1838 VT) married John T. White. They had six children, surname White. In 1880 they were living in Vermillion, Clay, Dakota Territory. Their daughter Rose is of interest because in 1931 she wrote the Commissioner asking for Aaron's Revolutionary War record and also stated that the papers received by Aaron in 1803 referring to his commission in the Vermont Militia were in her possession. Rose

evidently did not complete her NS-DAR application.

4. Carlton (2RY8) Parks (23 Aug.1802 Sudbury, VT–22 Apr.1877 Dansville, MI). Carlton married Minerva Unknown (1802 NY–1872 MI). Carlton was a shoemaker. By 1860, Carlton and his wife are in Ingham Co, MI but none of their children are listed in the household. Three sons and one daughter, Francis (ca. 1835 NY):
 - a. Nealon F. Parks (ca. 1830 NY). Listed on 1850 census for Macedon, Wayne, NY with his father. His occupation is given as blacksmith.
 - b. Suel Parks (ca. 1832 NY–12 June 1862), buried Fairview Cem., Dansville, MI. Suel married 6 July 1854 to Alfa Effie Platt (1833–1908). Suel does not appear on the 1850 census with his parents but is a boarder in the household of Joseph Williams, Henrietta, Monroe, NY. By 1860 he is living in Ingham, MI. Researcher states he had a son and a daughter.
 - c. Aaron Parks (ca. 1825 NY–) married Sarah A. Unknown. In 1850, his household is one house away from his father's. His occupation is listed as laborer. Aaron enlisted in Company G, Michigan 26th Infantry Regiment on 12 Dec 1862. He was mustered out on 12 May 1864 at Spotsylvania Court House, VA but the record states that he did not survive the war. He is buried in Dansville, Ingham Co, MI.

Aaron Parks married his second wife, Rebecca Marion/Merriam (b. ca. 1772) about 1805. One daughter Orinda (ca. 1812NY–1899VT) married Abraham Williamson, and two sons were born to

continued on p. 10

Aaron (1RY1): Father of Ebenezer (2RY2)?
cont'd from p. 9

this couple and all are named in Aaron's pension file:

5. Hiram (2RY11) Parks (1808 NY–30 Sep 1883 in Lee, Lee, IL). This is according to family researcher who also gives mother's name as Rebecca Merriam. Hiram married Martha Moon (1808 NY–1898 Lee, IL). By 1850, this couple is settled in Palmyra, Lee, Illinois. They had three daughters: Mary (ca. 1835 NY); Eunice (ca. 1837 NY); Rebecca (ca. 1839 IL); and five sons:
 - a. Hiram Wainwright Parks (ca. 1841 IL–bef. 1885) married Lydia Ellen Sayre (1846 IL–1943 IL). Hiram served as a Lieutenant in D 140 Illinois Inf. during the Civil War and his widow applied for a pension in November 1899. Two daughters.
 - b. Robert Bruce Parks (13 Dec. 1844 IL–06 Feb. 1928 Friend, Saline, NE) married 1870 Ellen A. Deck (1847 PA–1924 NE). Bruce Parks served as a Private in Company D, Illinois 140th Infantry Regiment. Five sons and one daughter were born to this couple.
 - c. Henry Augustus Parks (15 Jan. 1847 IL–18 April 1928 IL) married 1873 Martha I. Hathaway. One adopted daughter.
 - d. Frederick Parks (Sep. 1848–1931 Seward, NE), buried in Seward Cem., Seward, NE. Frederick married 1872 Mariah Unknown. Two daughters: Mabel G. Parks and Iva Parks
 - e. Abner Parks (ca. 1852) married Mary A. Unknown. Abner is head of household on the 1880 Palmyra, Lee, Illinois census. Others in the

household include his wife and parents. I have not been able to find Abner after 1880.

6. Harry C. (2RY10) Parks (1810 NY–Jan 1844 Malone, Franklin, NY). Not much is known about Harry but evidently he married and had at least one child because Abraham Williamson was appointed guardian of Emma Jane, minor daughter of Harry C. Parks (see Franklin Co, NY Guardianships of 25 Aug. 1845).

The search continues for the parentage of Aaron Parks. My major sources have been our Parke Society materials, census, cemetery, birth, death records, Family Lines, and Aaron's pension file. For more detailed descendant information, additions, or corrections please contact me at wobens1899@gmail.com. ☺

Have you renewed?
Check the date on your envelope.
Don't miss the next issue!

Historian's Corner: Notes from All Around

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

On Volunteerism and the Parke Society:

When we speak of the Parke Society, you will often see the term "Core Staff." This refers to those principal officers and appointees who compose the operational backbone of the organization. It is not a large group. We have been very lucky in that fortune seems to send our way individuals to take up vital functions when those posi-

tions become vacant. Such was the case with the recent switch over in secretaries, and also when we had to replace our registrar upon the sudden and unexpected death of the incumbent a few years back. We, the operating officers of the Society, are extremely grateful for these persons. While our mission is to be a “clearing house” of Park/e/s information, there is a tremendous amount of back-office work that needs to happen in order for the Society to successfully function. Unfortunately, from time to time, we need to clarify what we are as an organization.

The first thing to know is that we are an organization of volunteers. No one is fully employed by the Parke Society. While we might outsource some functions (editing of the Newsletter for example), none of us is paid for what we do. This means that we don't operate like an ordinary business that has office hours, and so forth. Parke Society duties are fitted in as the time is available to each of us.

The second thing to know is that just because we are doing genealogy as an avocation, does not necessarily imply that we are fully retired, and have nothing better to do. All of us are shared resources with family, household, sometimes work, and other functions. Hence the time available for the Society is finite, not infinite. Therefore we need to measure the expectations of our interaction with the Parke Society against those parameters.

In my own case, I am not fully retired. I am a priest and although I do not have a full time parochial cure (*i.e.* I am not the pastor or rector of a parish), I am assigned to the Cathedral Church and another parish here in Milwaukee. Those assignments do take a portion of my time. And then there is the household and other activities that I might be engaged in.

As it stands now, I usually spend one or two days a week entirely devoted to the Society. I need to prioritize my work, and so I attend to in this order, items for publication, new member files, updating Society databases and lineage binders, reviewing files of deceased members, and general administrative work.

Though I may not be the best correspondent in the universe, I do open and read every item that comes into my office. I may or may not respond right away. It all depends on the current work load, whether it is something I am currently working on, or whether it is something that will need quite a bit of additional work to answer. Not all questions to me can be answered in one or two sentences. Sometimes it takes a whole day of research to answer your questions.

So I ask your patience with me in this regard. Please understand that if I don't immediately respond, or seem to take a glacially slow approach to your question or email, it is not out of disrespect. It's just the fact of life that I am shared with other activities of life.

You can help me to be able to better serve you, the members. If and when I happen to ask for additional information, such as group sheets, or copies of documents that you might have referred to, the sooner you can get those to me, the better all the way around. If I request, say, your family group sheets up to your own generation, I do that so I can index your family, and get all of your information within our search engines. If your response is perhaps three or four months later, by that time your file will have moved down the to-do stack some distance. And while I will put your response in your file for follow-up, it may take me a while to get down to that point again. Please note that I do not maintain a tickler file for follow-ups. That too takes

continued on p. 12

Historian's Corner

cont'd from p. 11

time, time that I would rather spend doing genealogy for the Society. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

On Disclaimers:

Sometime ago, the Society took a verbal hit over the information that we have in our records. It was an unfair criticism by a professional genealogist in that he did not understand our mission and scope. Unfortunately, the member supplying him with these group sheets either did not understand the intent of them, or perhaps just failed to comment on that point. Since that time we have included the following disclaimer in correspondence where we talk about what is in our records, or where we actually supply family group sheets to our members:

***Disclaimer:** the Family Group Sheets provided by the Parke Society here or elsewhere are as they currently appear in our Lineage Binders. The information they contain is based on individual members' submissions, materials gathered from compiled genealogies, and other sources. It has not been independently verified and may change based on later research. The Society has done a reasonableness check only, and makes no warrants of completeness or accuracy.*

Let's be clear. We are a "Clearing House of Park/e/s Information." We gather information from members, from our own (limited) researching, and from other places, catalogue it, and then pass it on for other Society members to check for correctness and authenticity. We sometimes do some poking around to verify from original documents (on-line census, marriage records, grave stones) and if need be, comment on or discard a data element that seems inaccurate.

As an example of the last item, we were faced with a Robert Parks who purportedly married twice, once in 1829, and again in 1834. Marriage records for the two wives could be found in the West Virginia Marriage Index (official online title; West Virginia didn't exist until 1863). However, the 1850 Census lists two Roberts, in different counties, each with one of these wives. Unless this Robert was maintaining separate homes with two wives (probably not the case), the original Robert had only one wife. Accordingly, we have discarded that second marriage fact from the initial Robert group sheet.

Our purpose as a Society is to provide data gathered from all over that you, as a family line researcher, can consider and test. As in scientific experiments, we need to continue to test what we find, and in the longer term, make our records more accurate.

If we have sent you group sheets, or have made statements about an ancestor, and if you are passing that information on, please be sure to include the disclaimer given here. Think of our data as materials under copyright that you can do whatever you want with, as long as you give our disclaimer along with it☺

Got something to tell?
Write it up and send it to
parkenews@cseidl.org

The Society Online

By Paul Jordan-Smith, editor (PS#1451)

Newsletter by email

A few issues ago, the Society invited its membership to consider receiving issues of the Newsletter by email as PDF (Portable

Document Format) attachments instead of surface mail. As of this issue, 18 of our members have signed on. The benefits are several, both for members and for the Society as a whole. For one thing, we can get email copies to you sooner because we send them out the same day the printer gets the go-ahead, so you don't have to wait two weeks or more for printing and the mailout. Also, color versions of any photographs appear in full color, instead of black and white. Moreover, the Society's printing and mailout costs are reduced. So if you aren't already receiving copies by email, do consider that option.

Communicating by email

Speaking of email, we all really appreciate it when correspondents include the words "Parke Society" on the Subject line. If we get an email from someone we don't immediately recognize by name or email address, just knowing that it is Society related means it's probably safe to open.

Also, it helps our core staff and the editor a lot when members include their Parke Society membership number when signing an email.

The Society's website

If you haven't visited the Society's website at <http://parke.org>, you may not be aware of how much has changed, and is changing, both in format and content;. So explore the site, and especially check out the blog, which often reflects new information since the last newsletter. If you have any suggestions or corrections, send a note to webmaster@parke.org. ☺

Be sure to visit our website:

<http://parke.org>

Lineage Key Catalog—part 13

by Society staff

Since Vol. 45, No. 1 of the Newsletter, we've been publishing the Society's 300+ Lineage Key Catalogue, with data as to the founder and other details for the general information of Society members.

As most Society members know, we keep track of the various Park/e/s lines by assigning individual lineage keys. A lineage key consists of one or two letters like A, JJ, or RX. When new members join the Society, we check to see if their Park/e/s ancestry matches any existing lineage key. If not, we create a new key. Some lineage keys represent immigrant lines, but often they represent fragment lines: for example, Park/e/s who suddenly appear in Ashton, Ohio, with no reference to where they came from or to whom they are related.

In the course of our work, either through identification of matching individuals, or via DNA evidence, we might find that a fragment line actually belongs to another fragment or immigrant line. With positive identification, the one line is merged or consolidated into the larger or earlier line, and all group sheets and related materials are relabeled with the new lineage key. Line mergers are indicated in the narrative.

Though some lines have Society members in them, not all members are active in the Society. The word "DNA" appears after the lineage key if the line has had DNA testing, while the word "represented" indicates that a current member belongs to that line. If a child's name is in boldface, we have descendants from that child; otherwise, we know nothing further.

To date we've published all single-letter keys (Vol. 45, No. 1 – Vol. 46, No. 1), double-letter keys AA-ZZ and AX-ZX (Vol. 46, No. 2 – Vol. 47, no. 2), AY-IY (Vol. 47, No.

continued on p. 14

Lineage key catalogue, part 13

cont'd from p. 13

3), JY-PY (Vol. 48, No. 1), QY-ZY (Vol. 49, No. 1), AZ-TZ (Vol. 49, No. 2). The "Z" Lineage Keys are completed with this issue. Further Lineage Keys will appear in subsequent issues.

UZ Ann Parkes (1866, ENG – 1940, UT) (Represented by spouse) m. Edward Andrews (1870, ENG – 1905, ENG) in 1892, in England. After Edward Andrews died, Anne (Parkes) Andrews and her children immigrated to Ogden, Utah in 1920. This line belongs to the spouse of the member. No group sheets have been provided to us, hence all we know of this line is what was on an ancestry tree chart given us. Only two children are known, there may have been more. This is an immigrant line.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member.

Children surnamed Andrews:

Dora Mae Andrews (1901, ENG –1970, UT) m. Ernest Cleon Hogensen (1900, ID–1964, UT) 1929. Nothing further is known.

Lilly Elsie Mae Andrews (1898, ENG–????, UT) m. Freer Jones (1893, ENG–????, UT), circa 1917, probably in Utah. Only two children are known.

VZ John M Parks (1814, NC–1870, MO) (Represented) m. (1) Catherine Blackburn, circa 1922, six children are known to this union; m. (2) Jane K. Stonebrook, circa 1860, Ray Co., MO, two children are known to this marriage.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant members.

Children by first marriage:

William Wayne Parks (1834, IL –1922, MO) m. Emiline Silkwood circa 1859, six children.

Sarah A. Parks (twin to William above) (1834, IL–????), m. Jobe Ware in Ray Co., MO. Nothing further is known.

George Washington Parks (1851, MO–1917), m. 1873, MO, Lovina Jane Inman, 14 children.

Other children (surnamed Parks) are Francis Marion (1842, MO–1891) m. 1869 Elizabeth Mott; Blackburn (b. 1844, MO); and Wilson R. (b. 1840, MO), m. 1871 in Ray Co., MO, Rebecca Silkwood.

Children by second marriage:

Jane S. Parks, b. 1861, MO; and John Parks, b. 1865, MO.

WZ Henry Thomas Park (1827, KY – 1911, KS) (Represented) m. 1849 in Warren Co., IL, Sarah Ann Crawford (1829, KY – 1887, KS). Ten children are known.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant member, census analysis.

Children:

Francis Marion Park (1850, IL –1922, KS) m. 1875, IL, Margaret Elizabeth Crane (1847, IL–1918, KS). Eight children.

Other children, surnamed Park, all born in Illinois: Angeline, b. 1852, m. James E. Bennett; Mary

Elizabeth, b. 1854, m. George Wylie; George (1856 – 1856); John (1858 – 1858); Henry H. (1862–1936, IL) m. Jane A. (unknown); Warren, b. 1864; Ollie, b. 1866, m. M. DeForest; Ella, b. 1869, m. Sam Harrison; and Katherine Lucinda, b. 1892, m. Paul Meinike.

XZ **John (1XZ1) Parks** (1788, NJ–1868, OH) (Represented) m. Anna Elizabeth Waggoner (1797, PA–1881, OH), six children.

George (01XZ2) Parks, his brother (1786, NJ–1839, OH) (Represented) m. Mary Daugherty of Seneca Co., OH in 1820, five children.

Source materials: lineage papers and correspondence of descendant members.

Children of John and Elizabeth:

Lydia Ann Park (1822, PA – 1911, OH) m. the Rev'd. Jesse Williams (1827–1897), 4 children.

William Henry Park (1825, PA–1899, MO) m. Clara Rupert (1831–1910), 6 children.

Christopher Columbus Park (1829, PA–1915, OH) m. (1) 1855, in OH, Melinda C. Derr (1831–1865); m. (2) Elizabeth C. Smith, 1868, probably OH. Nine children which may have been all by the first wife, but uncertain.

Other children, surnamed Park: Mary (1820–1821); George (1827–1852); and John Rock(e)y (1833, OH – 1900, UT).

Children of George and Mary :

Peter Park, b. 1825, OH, m. Sarah Heming; Mary Park; John Park

(1832–1898, OH) m. Mary Jane Bell; Cecilia Park; and Catherine Delena Park (1837, OH–1924, OH) m. 1857, George W. Jones-Cleland.

Formerly, this key was used to describe 01XZ1 Miles Parks (1853, ONT–1910, ID), m. Ella Brown in 1876 in MI, and who is now classified as 09T24341i.

YZ Currently vacant, not in use.

Formerly, this key was used to describe 01YZ1 Joseph Thomas Parke (1794, NJ–aft. 1850, IN), m. (1) Susan Hill, c1816, OH; m. (2) Mary Wright. This was reclassified as 02FX4 and subsequently became classified as 06K597.

Formerly, this key was also used to describe 01YZ1 Nicholas Parks (1813, PA–1887, PA), m. Julian Matern, 1836, PA, and who is now classified as 04KY32.

ZZ See double letter Lineage Keys (Vol. 47, No. 2).☞

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

1602 Sandra Kay Parks

Scottsdale, AZ

Lineage is a new fragment line), LK=EN, commencing with a John¹ Parks (1822, OH-?) who married in 1850, Grant Co., IN., Frances Smith (1828, PA–1907; thence to John², who married Alice Stingley, George Washington³, Robert Isaiah⁴, to George Barlow⁵ (deceased), spouse of member.

continued on p. 16

New members
cont'd from p. 15

1603 Carole E. Echer

Black Earth, WI

Lineage is the Alexander line, LK=KY. Line is Alexander¹, John² (and Mary Gordon), Robert³, Nathaniel⁴, John Cook⁵, Elizabeth Jane⁶ Parks, who married Benjamin Starr, to George Lester⁷ Starr, Elizabeth Ginevra⁸ Starr to member⁹.

1604 Perry M. Streeter

Canisteo, NY

Lineage is Robert (MA, 1630, T) through his son Samuel (02S1), LK=S, Chart 16. Line is Robert¹, Samuel², Elizabeth³ Parke who married John Bennett, to Samuel⁴ Bennett, Sarah⁵ Bennett, Susannah⁶, Bates, John⁷ Burleson, Russell⁸ Burleson, Elizabeth⁹ Burleson, Francis Marion¹⁰ Streeter, Minor Thomas¹¹ Streeter, Francis Marion¹² Streeter, Robert Thomas¹³ Streeter, to member¹⁴.

1605 James W. Parks III

Baton Rouge, LA

Lineage is a new fragment line, LK=JN, commencing with a Courtney¹ Parks (ca. 1821, KY/VA-1878, IN) who married Julia Ann Huff in 1851, Toledo, OH, (1825, OH-1909), IN; thence to George William², George Lewis³, James William⁴, James William⁵, to member⁶.

1606 Thomas M. Blackburn

Mckinleyville, CA

Lineage is the fragment line, LK=CU, of Silas Leonard Parks (1801, VT-c.1876, MI), who married secondly,

before 1834, Elizabeth Betsey Brown (? , Canada - 1858, MI); thence to William James², Charles A.³, Wellington L.⁴, Ellamae⁵ Parks, to member⁶. Member is nephew to PS#842, Corabelle Parks DeClerg.

1607 Tamara Jo Myers

Huntington, PA

Lineage is the fragment line, LK=GP, of Hugh Parks who married Nancy Catherine Baughman; thence to John², David William³, William Wesley⁴, Walter Charles⁵, Ronald Neal⁶, to member⁷. Member is daughter of PS#1458 Ronald Neal Parks.

1608 Jay C. Grabowski

St Pete Beach, FL

Lineage is the fragment line, LK=EV, commencing with a James Parks (ca. 1728, VA-ca. 1780, VA), spouse unknown; thence to James Franklin², James Franklin³, Hezekiah Hisuiah⁴, Amanda J.⁵, Stephen Van Buren⁶, Charles Allen⁷, Charles Allen⁸ to member⁹.

1609 Shirley C Parks

Winchendon, MA

Lineage is Richard (MA, 1635, R) through his son Richard (02R1), LK=R, Chart 1. Line is Richard¹, Richard², Lt. Richard³, Ephraim⁴, William⁵, Phinehas⁶, Levi⁷, Martin Harrison⁸, Adelbert Everett⁹, Karl Martin¹⁰, Martin Adelbert¹¹ Parks, spouse to member. ♪

<p>The next editorial due date is February 15, 2014</p>
