

August 18, 2006

531 Lockshire Road
Columbia, SC 29212

The Heritage Library
Courtyard Building - Suite 300
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Attn: Mrs. Barbara Franosko

Dear Mrs. Franosko,

I wanted to make an entry into the Heritage Library's **Parker Family File** in the reception area of the library that pertains to my future release (home-spun, private publication) that will be similar to the book that I have placed in The Heritage Library, *The Lumpkin Family of King and Queen County, Virginia..... the Poland of America*.

The Parker family history as it -pertains to my paternal side will include largely the descendants of Albert Straughn Parker, Sr., son of Philip and Catherine A. (Lankford) Parker. Albert, Sr. served in the CSA, 55th VA Regt., which fought at Gettysburg. All of the male Parkers today, who descend from Albert Straughn Parker, descend through just one male, my grandfather, Robert Linthicum Parker, and Albert's wife, Letitia Jones (Blackburn) Parker Rowland. These paternal great-grandparents moved to Baltimore, MD from "*Clay Hill*", a plantation in Essex County, Virginia, consisting of 1,200 acres. This parcel of land is located on the south side of the road that forms the border between Essex and King and Queen County, very close to the old Beazley P. O. *Clay Hill* burned around 1940 and is no longer under cultivation. This farm is adjacent to property owned by my second cousin, Mr. Albert Hugh Lumpkin of Tappahannock, VA. *Clayhill* was formerly owned by the Gatewood family prior to the Civil War and thereafter. It is still intact as a single parcel of land and is being presently maintained as a forest for pulpwood procurement.

The Parker home was obviously frame, but the ruins of the two end chimneys can still be seen from what was described to me by my great aunts, Mrs. Lola (Parker) Sauls Clark and her sister, Mrs. Lillian (Parker) O'Brien of Baltimore, MD. My great-grandmother Letitia was widowed by her first husband Albert and then married a Mr. Rowland, an Englishman, who was also living in Baltimore. My great-grandparents and some other family members are buried in Loudon Park Cemetery in Baltimore. My paternal grandparents Robert Linthicum Parker and his wife, Emma Jane (Jordan) Parkerm, are buried in Cedar Hill Cemetery in Baltimore along with many other members of the Jordan, Greenstreet and Jeeter family members, who connect with the Jordans.

Albert Straughn Parker, Sr. had a sister, Catherine A. Parker, who married Lewis George(?) Mundy, and they in turn has a son, Lewis "Rod" Garrett(?) Mundy, who married Ella Lumpkin. The two males having the same middle initial, but not the same name, had to be researched for better validation of kinship within the family. One thing is certain, the middle initial stands for either George or Garrett, or vice versa, in the father/son name. This needs to be noted by serious researchers. In so noting, this connection provided a wealth of connections which helped solve the kinship between my mother Nora Mandy Lumpkin Parker's family with that of my father, Oliver Robert Parker.

Albert Straughn Parker, Sr. had three or more brothers, but those included in my release will emphasize the known brothers, John and Calvin and sister, Catherine. John reportedly had two daughters by a his wife, a Miss Kay. There may have been a second marriage for John, since it seems that John's wife died leaving the two girls. John remained at home with his mother and another person "Elliott" during the war and after the war he served as a farm manager in King William, County, VA., having been recommended by a Mr. Parker (likely a cousin) of *Blandfield Plantation*, which is one of the largest plantations on the Rappahannock River. Calvin, also served in the same 55th VA Regt. and lost a leg as a result of the war; the two served together. The descendants of Calvin will be listed as they are known to me. Unfortunately, not too many of the Parkers from his line will be represented in my forthcoming release, due to the lack of information and interest from that side of the family.

The father of Letitia Jones (Blackburn) Parker Rowland was Robert L. Blackburn (the initial L. is sometimes inconsistent in records). Her uncle, James Blackburn, also served and they were in the same 55th VA. Regt. The up-line Blackburns, reportedly brothers to Robert and James, are: Churchill Blackburn, Elias Blackburn and Dandridge Blackburn. The Skelton family will also be emphasized since Letitia's mother was Eurora Skelton, wife of Washington Skelton.

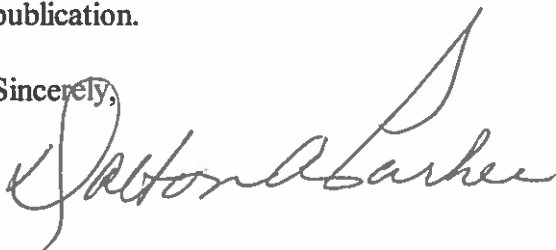
I have unsuccessfully been able to prove kinship between the former owners of *Rippon Lodge* (Dumfries, VA), the ancestral home of the Blackburn family in America, with that of Wade Hampton Ellis a descendent of Elias Blackburn mentioned above. Somehow, there seems to be a connection with the Ellis family of South Carolina, perhaps those in the Hilton Head Island, SC area. The Rev. Peoples has allowed me access to his private Ellis family publication.

Family lore has stated that the Blackburns were connected to the Washington family of Virginia. To be sure, a nephew of President George Washington, Judge Bushrod Washington, married a Blackburn. The nephew of Bushrod Washington married the niece of his wife, another Blackburn. Both of these Washington nephews inherited Mt. Vernon and are buried in the family crypt.

There is another possible connection with the Blackburns and the Washington family, but this stems with Mrs. Martha (Dandridge) Custis, the widow, who married George Washington. It is with the Jones family of King and Queen County (Rev. Orlando Jones) that a possible kinship exists with Letitia Jones (Blackburn) Parker Rowland. Rev. Orlando Jones and his father, Ian, were rectors of the same church, Bruton Parish Church, in Williamsburg and they are both buried inside the church chancery. Orlando was an ancestor of Martha Washington through Colonel John Jones of New Kent County (later divided into King William, Hanover King and Queen County). The present locations of the family plantations of *Little White House* and *Elsing Green* lie on the Pamunkey River which separates Hanover from King William County. If anyone can offer further details on kinship between the Jones and Blackburn families, I would appreciate hearing from them.

This letter is very much into detail. I'd appreciate it if the information I have presented here remains within the library for the present, because I have yet to complete my manuscripts for final publication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dalton Barber". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

August 18, 2006

531 Lockshire Road
Columbia, SC 29212

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Attn: Mrs. Barbara Franosko

Dear Mrs. Franosko,

I appreciate your contacting me today about the availability of the four language dictionaries (Cassel's Latin, French, Italian and German) that the library will allow me to purchase at \$3.00 each. Enclosed is a check for \$12.00 and I sincerely thank you for the follow-up in calling me today.

I purchased the Chinese dictionary when I was last there the first week of August. (I come each year for this week and another week in the first of June.) I noticed that there was also a Greek dictionary among those in the box. If for any reason this Greek dictionary was not used by the library for its collection, please let me know (803) 772-4788; I would like to purchase that one also.

Since I do not think I will be in HHI real soon, just keep these books there on the bottom shelf as you described and I shall call ahead when I come. My wife and I usually take fall break, so it may be a little time before I get there. Just use this letter as your documentation for this transaction.

I notice that there is a permanent Parker family file folder in the row of file cabinets on the right of the main reception area. A researcher had made inquiry on the Parker family (Virginia mainly). You may want to have a copy of this letter placed there in this Parker file where we could both refer to this transaction, if you are not the person on the desk duty. I also want to enter into this file a statement of my Parker connection under the separate letter that I am sending with this dispatch. This letter refers to the forthcoming private release of the Parker Family of King and Queen County, Virginia.

Thanks so very much to you and the dedicated staff there who make so many things happen in the research worlds of history and genealogy.

Sincerely,


Dalton Parker

Encl: Check to Heritage Library for \$ 12.00 # 3822