

Genealogy - An American Link

Since the 'five daughters and seven sons' produced by Edmund Parker in the early 16th century, the family has dispersed from Lancashire, with each generation, to other parts of Britain and then around the world. Some of those migrations are recorded, while for others the link to the 'Parkers of Browsholme' has been lost. However the most significant migration for the family was to the then Colony of Virginia in 1680 and this link to Browsholme is described below.

Robert Parker of Browsholme (b.1527) married (1554), Elizabeth Chadderton of Nuthurst, Lancs. They produced four sons, the youngest being William Parker who went to Cornwall about 1580. Robert's father Edmund (c.1490-1547) bought a new lease of Nether Browsholme in 1507 and for his wife, Elizabeth, the heiress of John Redmayne, he built the present house. (see Genealogy for earlier Parker ancestors.)



William Parker (1560-1631), now Archdeacon of Cornwall married, Joan Panchard (m.1589) and they had two sons the elder being James Parker. James Parker (1590-1672) the eldest son of William, married Katherine Buller, of Shillington, Cornwall, on 12th December 1616; Richard was the ninth child and the fourteenth son of this marriage that produced twenty-one children!

Richard Parker (1630 –1677, the 'emigrant') emigrated to the Colony of Virginia, arriving in Nasemond County in 1647 it is said due to a price being put on his head by Oliver Cromwell for his support of Charles I and the royalist army. Richard married Elizabeth Bailey formerly of London, England, in 1649 and had three sons, Thomas, Richard and Frances, by that union; also three daughters who apparently died young. Following Elizabeth's death he remarried Judith Hunt in 1668 in the Isle of Wight, County Virginia but I do not have any record that they had any children. Richard died in 1677.

The private publication 'A History of the Parkers of Rowan County and Stanley County Carolina' by William Ashley Hinson I (1994) contains research into the life of the 'emigrant'. It refers to various grants of land in Virginia, his work as a surgeon ('chirurogen') and the grant of 1420 acres of land in the southern branch of the Nansemond to his three sons. Also note 'Some Ancestors and Descendants of Richard Parker' by Eleanor Davis McSwain (1980). Finally, recently Theodore E Blake II has provided detailed and thorough research into the American family.

Browsholme Hall - www.browsholme.com