

Museum Musings Article- Krum News
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Early Krum Families

Hugh Watson "H.W." & Martha (Miller) Park

Arrival in Krum-around 1890

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The Park heritage in America began June 12, 1630 when Sir Robert Park, an English Baronet, landed in Salem, Massachusetts with 76 colonists on the ship *Arabella*, flagship of the governor John Winthrop fleet which bore 700 colonists. Robert was secretary to Governor Winthrop, who had a "patent" from King Charles to settle the Connecticut Colony. Robert was born in Gastingthorpe, England in 1580 died in Mystic Connecticut in 1665.

In subsequent generations, the Parks distinguished themselves during the Revolutionary War, and Thomas Park (1749-1819) fought the Indians while being wounded by multiple arrows in the Wyoming Massacre of 1781 on the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania. He moved upriver and settled straddling the Pennsylvania-New York Border in 1788 where numerous Parks reside today.

During later years, it is believed that the Krum branch of the Park family came to Texas by way of New Jersey, Georgia, Tennessee and Kansas. Pioneer Hugh Watson "H.W." Park migrated from the anthracite coal region of Pennsylvania, where he was born, to Kansas in 1870. He and his family were among the first white settlers on that frontier. He, his wife Martha Miller Park and children Loran born 1863, Leora D. born 1864, Sybil born 1866, Rue Ann born 1869 all born in Pennsylvania, Hugh Raymond born 1874, Elvira born 1877, Wayman born 1881, Helen M. born 1884 and James born 1887 all born in Kansas, came to the new town of Krum in 1892. They bought the house that the Santa Fe Railroad had built for its agent. Mr. Park worked in the lumberyard for Arthur Jackson until he moved on to Alamogordo, New Mexico Territory. H.W. Parks died in New Mexico in May 1917 and in 1921 his body was reburied at Krum Jackson Cemetery when his wife Martha died and was buried at Krum.

Hugh Raymond Parks, son of the pioneer, came to Texas with his family and lived here for the rest of his life. For a time, he worked on a farm south of town owned by H.C. "Doss" Wilson, and on July 11, 1897 married a daughter of his employer, Elizabeth "Bessie" Wilson. Mr. Park became a respected member of the Krum community having served as a school, township and Methodist Church officer. He worked as a carpenter and helped build many houses in Krum; was public-weigher for 14 years; served as postmaster from 1917 to 1923, and was acting in that post (while Morris Ferrell was on military leave) at the time of his death. Hugh Raymond Park died in 1943 and Bessie in 1965. Both are buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery.

Hugh Raymond and Bessie had 11 children (one died at birth.) All of them were born in Krum, attended Krum schools and are now deceased.

Loran Fred Park was born in 1898 and died in 1972. Loran's first wife was Liska Ceicle (name as shown on tombstone) Chambers, daughter of E.A Chambers and Dora Brown. Loran and Liska had one son Roliene Cecil Park born in 1924. Liska Park died on April 3, 1925 and is buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery. Cecil Roliene still resides on the old Park place west of Krum. On March 12, 1927 Loran married Willie Myrtle Burkholder of Sanger. She and her infant daughter died on May 18, 1931 and are buried at Sanger. In 1932, Loran married Esther Vivian Thornal who was the daughter of Jessie C. Thornal and Clara Belle Herrington. Loran met Vivian while she was a coed at North Texas State Teacher's College. Vivian became endeared to a generation of 5th graders while teaching at Krum Elementary School from 1947-1967. Loran Park was an auto mechanic for John Morris Chevrolet for many years and in this position was thought of as honest, fair and capable. He was a lifetime dedicated member and officer of the Krum Methodist Church, the original city

council, school board, and the Lion's Club. Loran and Vivian had two sons Loran Dallas Park born in 1933 and married to Margie Nell Briggs and Loman Thornal Park born in 1934 and married to Patricia Steege. Dallas Park served on the Crowley Texas School Board for over 35 years, half of these as president. In recognition of his service, a new school was named Dallas Park Elementary in 2002. Vivian Park died in January 1968 from cancer. On November 27, 1968 Loran married Maybell P. Howard in Shelby County Texas. Loran and Vivian Park are buried at RoseLawn Cemetery in Palestine, Anderson County, Texas.

Ethel Mae Park born 1900 died in 1944 buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery. She was married in 1919 to William Lee Koiner. Ethel and William Lee had these children: William L. "Junior" born around 1921, Edith born around 1923, Ida B. born around 1924, Corbett Wayne born in 1928, Hugh Watson born and died 1931, Marie born 1932, Charles E. "Sonny" born 1935, and Frances G. "Frankie" born 1937.

Earl Park was born around 1903, married to Oma Park, no children. Earl is buried in Emory, Rains County, Texas. Earl may have died around 1982 and Oma around 1980.

Myrtle Park born and died in 1905-buried Krum Jackson Cemetery

Harold W. "Mutt" Park born 1906, married 1941 to Evelyn W. Crubaugh and they had no children. Harold may have died around 1981.

Martha Park born 1908, died in 1990, married to John A. Berry -both buried at Walters Cemetery, Walters Oklahoma. Martha and John had 6 children Linda born around 1934, John born around 1936, Naioma born around 1937, Joyce born around 1939, Walton and Waymond.

Ruth Lenora Park born 1911, died in 1934, buried at Jackson Cemetery Krum. Her obituary from the May 1, 1934 paper says "After an illness of only five days Mrs. Ruth Cofer passed away of pneumonia at the Denton Hospital Tuesday morning at 10:15 o'clock. Ruth was born September 21, 1911 and was reared here where everyone knew and loved her for her sunny and sweet disposition." She was married to Christopher Columbus "Lum" Cofer, Jr. in August 1931 they had two sons Billy Cofer born in 1932 Milton Cofer born in 1934.

Eugenia "Jean" Park born 1914 married Lowell Sheridan Stout and they had 3 children Sheridan, Hugh David and Josie. Jean then married Ivan G. Ferguson. Jean died May 3, 1980 and is buried at Krum Jackson Cemetery.

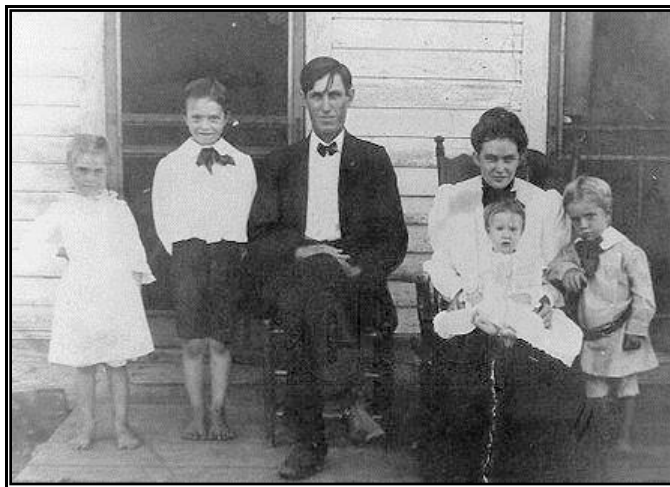
Mabel Edith Park was born May 10, 1916 and died September 18, 2000. On October 13, 1940 Mabel married Urial S. Sparkman who died in 1977. Mabel and Urial had these children: sons Dudley wife Raima, Dan wife Becky, Ruth Ann husband Sid, Lucille "Lou" husband David, Cecile and Jane. Mabel and Urial Sparkman are buried at Gribble Springs Cemetery, Sanger, Texas.

Joan Park born September 3, 1920 and died on January 24, 2004. She married Ernest Wiley Campbell on October 16, 1937 in Marietta Oklahoma. Joan was a member of the Methodist Church and a homemaker. Joan and Ernest had two sons Joe and Cecil Campbell. Joan is buried at Green Valley Cemetery.

Hugh R. Park born 1923, died 1984, married to Irene Reeves Park in 1948. Hugh and Irene had three sons Raymond Keith, Richard Earl and Stanley Wayne. Hugh H. Park is buried at Stinnett Cemetery, Stinnett, Hutchison County, Texas.

Would you like to become a part of the Krum Heritage Museum family? The Krum Society of Historic Preservation needs members who would be willing to work at the museum. This involves setting up exhibits, working scheduled shifts on Saturdays, cleaning & anything else that needs to be done. The society meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm where decisions are made about the museum. We are also having our yearly membership drive in January and the yearly dues to join the Krum Society of Historic Preservation are

\$24 for individual, \$36 for a family and \$50 for a business. Please help support your home town museum by becoming a member and helping at the museum.



Park_1_Park Family
L to R: Ethel-Loran-Hugh-Bessie holding Harold "Mutt"& Earl



Park_3 -Children of Hugh & Bessie Park
Martha-Jean-Mable Ethel-Joan
Loran-Earl-Mutt



Park_2 Ruth Park Cofer