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## Re: Thomas Park of Ballingers Mountains, Albemarle County, Virginia

Posted by: [Gordon Parks](#) (ID \*\*\*\*\*8448)

Date: May 27,  
2006 at 12:35:52

In Reply to: [Re: Thomas Park of Ballingers Mountains,  
Albemarle County, Virginia](#) by Terry Parks

of 5132

Being of descendant of Thomas Parks of Ballenger Mountain VA and expecting to travel to VA in the summer of 2006, I, Gordon Parks, [glparks@frontiernet.net](mailto:glparks@frontiernet.net), want to visit the area.

Ballenger Mountain cannot be located by that name in Albemarle or Amherst County VA.

A query posted on the Parks family genforum site resulted in a response from Terry Parks, [paroman@flash.net](mailto:paroman@flash.net), After numerous emails and wading through a stack of new names and locations we have put together the following.

First, the family name is variously spelled or misspelled as Ballenger, Bellenger, Bellinger, Bellanger, Balinger, Barringer and Ballinger.

We were initially drawn to southwest Albemarle County because there is a Ballinger Creek and in colonial times a Bellenger Creek Church there. There is also in the neighboring county of Fluvanna a Ballinger Creek. Also, to just about 11 miles west NW from Charlottesville is Beaver Creek Mountain. Flowing eastwardly is Beaver Creek that has been twice damed by Henley Dam and Garnett Dam before flowing into the Mechums River.

Checking documents we found:

Joseph and Richard Bellinger received 2000 acres in Albemarle County VA by patent June 1, 1750. It is described in part as being on the south side of the Buffalo River it mentions late Secretary Carter, Sycamore Longground creek and side of Tobacco Row Mountain.

On November 13, 1751, Thomas Parks leased for the price of five shillings 400 acres of land in St. Ann's Parish, Albemarle County, Virginia from John Graves of Caroline County, such land adjoining Benjamin Stinnit (Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, page 395).

The will of "Thomas Parks of Ballengers Mountains, Albemarle County, Virginia" is dated 24 February 1752/probated 12 March 1761 (Albemarle County, Virginia, Will Book 2, page 101)

This land became part of Amherst County when it was formed from Albemarle County in 1761.

Deed dated July 5, 1762 Joseph Mays of Amherst County for 60 pounds purchases 400 from Joseph Ballenger and wife Sarah, and Richard Ballenger. Lines: Ballenger's Mt., Edward Carter. Deed book A, page 36.

Deed dated April 10, 1765, from Joseph Ballenger of Amherst County to Richard Ballenger of same, for £50, conveying 232 acres on branch of Beavor (sic) Creek and part of a 2000 acre patent granted to Joseph and Richard Ballenger. Lines: Top of Ballengers Mountain, Joseph Mays. Witnesses were Henry Franklin and Drury Tucker (by his mark). Deed Book A, page 335, Amherst County, Virginia.

Deed dated April 10, 1765, from Joseph and Richard Ballenger of Amherst County, to Henry Franklyn of same, for £42, conveying 156 acres on branch of Beavour Creek and being part of 2,000 acres granted to Joseph and Richard Ballenger by patent. Lines: George Seaton. Witnesses were Drury Tucker (by his mark), Henry Franklyn, Jr., and James Franklyn. Deed Book A, page 338, Amherst County, Virginia.

Indenture dated July 30, 1766, from James Bush of Amherst County to McPherson & Minzies, of Henrico County, Merchants, 5 shillings to secured debt of bond as of July 30, 1766, of £106-16-2 half penny and principal of £53-8-1 penny farthing, conveying 75 acres joining Thomas Parks and Henry Childers and piece of land that Peter Field Trent bought of Benjamin Stinnett and same land James Bush bought of John Stinnett; also 373 acres that James Buxh bought from Glover Davenport and where John Berry lives joining William Cabell, Jr. and Thomas Parks; also one cow marked with John Stinnett's mark and calf with his own makr. One cow with Drury Tucker's makr and calf with mine. Two red "Earlings" and other stock and household goods. Witnesses were Thomas Reid, Gabriel Penn and William Penn. Signed by James Bush (by his mark). Deed Book B, page 122, Amherst County, Virginia.

Deed dated August 5, 1771 Joseph Mays and wife Sarah sell 400 acres, called Ballenger's Mountain to James Mobley. Lines: Sycamore Longround Creek, Edward Carter. Deed Book C, page 215, Amherst County, Virginia.

After scrolling through topozone maps for hours and keeping the above in mind we have concluded that what was called Ballenger Mountain until at least 1771 is now named Mobley Mountain. <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=37.6298618&lon=-79.1094711&datum=nad83&u=5> Mobley Mountain is located in the 2000 acres originally obtained by the Ballenger brothers, Beaver Creek in on one side and Long Branch is on the other. Also, several family members owned land nearby including on Long Branch, John Parks Jr., grandson of Thomas and on Stonehouse Creek, Francis (Franky) Parks Mays, granddaughter of Thomas.

The community of Sardis is at the foot of Mobley ( Ballenger) mountain.

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