

**WILLIAM LEE (Dorothy possibly Taylor)
Of Richmond County, Virginia**

William Lee of Richmond Co. Virginia, the earliest known ancestor of this Lee line, married Dorothy (possibly Taylor) and died by December 1717.

The first known record of William Lee in the Rappahannock/Richmond Co. area of Virginia occurred on 19 Oct 1689 when William Lee witnessed a deed between John Harper of Sittenburne Par. and Robert Richardson of New Kent Co.¹ On 9 Aug 1695 William Lee was paid for four days attendance as a witness for William Tomlin in a suit agst. Thomas Portwood for four days attendance.² *William Lee was probably of age to conduct business (21 yrs.) by 1689, his birth year then was prior to 1669.*

On 5 Feb 1712/13 William Barber, Charles Barber, Stanley Gower, and Robert Tomlin at a court held 6 Aug last past filed a bill in chancery and therein set forth that one James Williamson had granted unto him 1800 acres by patent in Rappahannock Co., now Richmond, great part of which is since by several conveyances to the above and by reason of uncertainty in the bounds with markers having been destroyed...report is that patent cannot be surveyed nor bounds found and neighbors are now claiming large portions of the patent. Persons were appointed to take depositions and did of Richard King, Richard Branham, William Lee, and David Berrick, which depositions on the motion of Barber were recorded.³

On 8 Mar 1715/16, an attachment obtained by William Lee from Moore Fautleroy, justice of the peace, agst. estate of John Lane is dismissed.⁴ On 4 Oct 1716 Charles Barber of Farnham to William Barber of same land on Totusky Creek, lower side of a small creek which divides the land of sd. Barber from that of Charles Lewis.⁵

On 4 Dec 1717 Dorothy Lee, relict of William Lee, made oath that William Lee departed this life without a will...certificate granted her for letters of administration giving security with Thomas Taylor in the amount of 100 pounds sterling. Appraisers appointed were Robert Tomlin, David Berrick, Stanley Gower and Charles Lewis.⁶ Note: *Though relatives were often tasked with providing security for administration or executorship of an estate and though we know Dorothy's mother was Elizabeth Taylor, there is still no adequate proof that Dorothy was a Taylor. Dorothy could easily have been the daughter of a previous husband of her mother.*

A Richmond Co. order dated 4 Dec 1717 to appraise the estate of William Lee by Robert Tomlin, David Boszick, Charles Lewis, and Stanley Gower was recorded 5 Feb 1717/18.⁷ On 5 Feb 1717/18 an appraisal of the estate of William Lee was returned and recorded.⁸

The NFP Registers list the births of the following children to William and Dorothy Lee: William Lee 14 May 1704 (see separate write up), Charles Lee 18 Sept 1706, Richard Lee 9 Apr 1711 and John Lee 11 Oct 1713.⁹

¹ FHLC Film #33649 Rappahannock Co., Virginia Records 1684-1692, mixed deeds and probate, page 219

² FHLC Film #33678, item 3-4, Richmond Co., Virginia Court Order Book 1 & 2 (1694-1699)

³ FHLC Film #33707, Richmond Co., Virginia Court Order Book 6 (1711-1716)

⁴ FHLC Film #33707, Richmond Co., Virginia Court Order Book 6 (1711-1716)

⁵ Familysearch.org, Richmond Co. Va., Deed Book 7, page 166

⁶ FHLC Film #33707, Richmond Co., Virginia Court Order Book 7 (1716-1717)

⁷ FHLC Film #33733, Item 1, Richmond Co., Virginia Wills and Inventories, Vol. 4(1717-1725), page 11

⁸ FHLC Film #33707, Richmond Co., Virginia Court Order Book 7 (1716-1717)

⁹ FHLC #33746, Richmond Co., Virginia Parish Records, North Farnham Parish 1672-1801, filmed November 1950. "Copy of NFP Register 1672-1800 Property of circuit Court of Richmond Co., VA. to be kept on file in the clerk's office forever. E. Carter Delano, Deputy Clerk, Warsaw, Virginia, 2 May 1927

CHARLES LEE born 1706, son of William and Dorothy Lee, married Jane and had a daughter Katherine Lee on 18 May 1737.¹⁰ (Judy Fox, certified genealogist, connected the family of Charles Lee, wife Jane, of Orange Co. Va. to Charles Lee, wife Jane, of Richmond Co. Va. A descendant of Charles Lee b. 1706 has matching YDNA with descendants of William Lee b.1704. (See Judy's write up on geneticlincoln.com or in The National Genealogy Society Quarterly.)

The North Farnham Parish Registers show the deaths of the following:

JOHN LEE died 12 Dec 1722.¹¹

ELIZABETH LEE died 3 Dec 1726.¹²

RICHARD LEE died 10 Dec 1726.¹³

Dorothy Lee married second Thomas Cribbin and third Richard Croucher. Dorothy Lee married Thomas Cribbin between 4 Dec 1717 and 20 Dec 1718 and Thomas Cribbin died sometime between these dates as well. Dorothy married Richard Croucher by 20 Dec 1718. She had guardianship of Thomas Cribbin, son of Thomas Cribbin, who sought his inheritance on 1 April 1724 by filing suit in chancery against Dorothy and Richard Croucher.

On 20 Dec 1718 Dorita Croucher witnessed the will of William Hodskins.¹⁴

Indenture 15 Oct 1718 Mary Doyle of Sittenburne Par., widow, to Richard Croucher of NFP sells 75 ac. on Totusky Creek, part of a 200 ac. patent granted John Kennedy, father of Sara Fleming, dated 18 Mar 1663/4 which sd. land depended to her after the decease of her brothers James and Samuel Kennedy without issue, one of the three coheirs thereof...adj. Samuel Samford, Job Hammond Jr. George Blewford, and Totusky Creek.¹⁵ Indenture 19 Nov 1718 Mary Doyle, widow of John Doyle of Sitt. Par. to Richard Croucher of NFP all my right to 75 ac. released by Sarah Fleming, John Fleming her son, and Mary Doyle.¹⁶ On 28 Nov Mary Doyle sold land formerly bought by her husband John Doyle of Sarah Fleming widow...21 years since purchase by Doyle...rel. of claim.¹⁷ On 5 Feb 1718/19 Mary Doyle ack. deed for land for 21 years to Richard Croucher.¹⁸

Indenture 4 Feb 1720/21 Job Hammond of Farnham to Richard Croucher of same for 1200 pounds tobacco 10 acres in parish on Totusky Creek adj. land sd. Croucher now lives on, James Fouchee, and witnessed by Thomas Taylor and Gilbert Murry.¹⁹ On 5 Apr 1721 John Hamon ack. deed for land to Richard Croucher.²⁰

¹⁰ FHLC #33746, Richmond Co., Virginia Parish Records, North Farnham Parish 1672-1801, filmed November 1950. "Copy of NFP Register 1672-1800 Property of circuit Court of Richmond Co., VA. to be kept on file in the clerk's office forever. E. Carter Delano, Deputy Clerk, Warsaw, Virginia, 2 May 1927

¹¹ FHLC #33746, Richmond Co., Virginia Parish Records, North Farnham Parish 1672-1801, filmed November 1950. "Copy of NFP Register 1672-1800 Property of circuit Court of Richmond Co., VA. to be kept on file in the clerk's office forever. E. Carter Delano, Deputy Clerk, Warsaw, Virginia, 2 May 1927

¹² FHLC #33746, Richmond Co., Virginia Parish Records, North Farnham Parish 1672-1801, filmed November 1950. "Copy of NFP Register 1672-1800 Property of circuit Court of Richmond Co., VA. to be kept on file in the clerk's office forever. E. Carter Delano, Deputy Clerk, Warsaw, Virginia, 2 May 1927

¹³ FHLC #33746, Richmond Co., Virginia Parish Records, North Farnham Parish 1672-1801, filmed November 1950. "Copy of NFP Register 1672-1800 Property of circuit Court of Richmond Co., VA. to be kept on file in the clerk's office forever. E. Carter Delano, Deputy Clerk, Warsaw, Virginia, 2 May 1927

¹⁴ Headley Jr., Robert K., Wills of Richmond County, Va., 1699-1800, 1983 Baltimore: Genealogy Publishing Co., p. 45

¹⁵ FHLC Film #33707, Richmond Co., Virginia Court Order Book 7 (1716-1717), p. 342

¹⁶ FHLC Film #33707, Richmond Co., Virginia Court Order Book 7 (1716-1717), page 344

¹⁷ FHLC Film #33707, Richmond Co., Virginia Court Order Book 7 (1716-1717bid), page 345

¹⁸ FHLC Film #33707 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 8,

¹⁹ FHLC Film #33690 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 8, p. 296

²⁰ FHLC Film #33707 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 8,

On 1 Apr 1724 Richard and Dorothy Croucher, formerly Dorothy Cribbin, summoned to answer bill in chancery by Thomas Cribbin.²¹ On 2 Sept 1724 suit in chancery between Thomas Cribbin and Richard Croucher and Dorothy, his wife, formerly Dorothy Cribbin and Thomas Taylor respondents. At motion of Thomas Taylor continued.²² On 2 Dec 1724 suit in chancery between Thomas Cribbin comp. and Richard Croucher and Dorothy his wife, formerly Dorothy Cribbin resp. dismissed.²³

On 2 March 1725/6 William Barber Jr. of Sitt. Par. to Charles Bruce of same land formerly purchased by Mathias Tenney of Thomas Sneed by Deed and now in possession of Charles Bruce by a lease from Thomas Scriven dec'd. adj. Richard Croucher and main branch of Charles' Beaverdam and witnessed by Thomas Hughes and William Bruce.²⁴

Indenture 23 Oct 1725 Mark Anderson of Sittenburne Par., King George Co. to Richard Croucher of NFP 80 ac. in Sittenburne Par., Richmond Co. adj. land formerly sold to Robert King dec'd., Charles' Beaverdam, William Griffin, Charles Bruce, and Evan Thomas and witnessed by William Bruce and Thomas Taylor.²⁵ On 2 Nov 1725 Mark Anderson ack. deed to Richard Croucher.²⁶

On 5 Feb 1728/29 an account of the estate of Thomas Cribbin, paid debts.²⁷ On 7 Nov 1732 Richard Croucher of NFP summoned for drunkenness on 7 Oct last past.²⁸ On 6 July 1736 Richard Croucher of NFP summoned for being drunk.²⁹ Indenture 8 July 1737 Richard Croucher of NFP to Newman Brockenbrough 10 ac. where sd. Croucher now lives, on Totusky Creek and witnessed by John Lawson, John Graham, and John Smith.³⁰

On 2 Mar 1740/41 the LW&T of Richard Croucher presented by Dorothy Croucher exec. Appraisers appointed were Francis Tarpley, Isaac Webb, Henry Williams, and Billington McCarty.³¹ The will of Richard Croucher no date, names son William and daughter Katherine and executors Billington McCarty and wife, no name given for wife.³² On 4 May 1741 the appraisal of the estate of Richard Croucher was returned and recorded.³³

On 6 May 1751 on motion of Dorothy Croucher who was summoned a witness for James Landman to prove the nuncupative will of Betty Plume dec'd. ordered pay her 25 pounds tobacco for one day.³⁴

On 2 Apr 1751 Thomas Styles vs. Dorothy Croucher in ejectment.³⁵ "Originally, an ejectment was concerned with the recovery of possession of land, for example against a defaulting tenant or a trespasser, who did not have (or no longer had) any right to remain there."³⁶

On 8 Nov 1752 Thomas Styles lessee of Billington McCarty plt. vs. Dorothy Croucher def. Jury finds that Daniel McCarty in his lifetime to wit, the 29 Mar 1724, seized in fee simple all the lands and

²¹ FHLC Film #33708 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 9

²² FHLC Film #33708 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 9

²³ FHLC Film #33708 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 9

²⁴ Familysearch.org, Richmond Co. Va. Deed Book 8, page 3222

²⁵ FHLC Film#33690 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 8 (1720-1733), p.296

²⁶ FHLC Film #33708 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 9

²⁷ FHLC Film #33679 Richmond Co., Virginia Account Book 1 (1724-1783), p. 27

²⁸ FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

²⁹ FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

³⁰ FHLC Film #33691 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 9 (1734-1741), p. 362

³¹ FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 11

³² FHLC Film #33677, Item 1 Richmond Co. Virginia Will Book 5 (1725-1753, p. 376

³³ FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 11

³⁴ FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

³⁵ FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

³⁶ *Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. 22 July 2004. Web. 10 Aug. 2004

premises in question and died unseized having first made his LW&T in writing bearing date the day and year aforesaid. We find the sd. LW&T of the sd. Daniel McCarty in these words. In the name of God...and that the devise therein whereby the sd. testator gives unto his son Billington all his land at Farnham Creek in the county that were the testators grandfather Billington's land to his sd. son and the heirs male of his body with several remainders over includes the sd. premises...We find that after the death of the sd. Daniel McCarty his sd. son Billington by virtue of the above devise entered upon the sd. lands unto him devised whereof the premises and parcels by his indenture dated 29 Sept 1736 did lease for the consideration in the sd. indenture expressed the premises in question unto Richard Croucher his exec. and assigns for the during the term of 21 years to commence on the 25 Dec thereafter. We find the sd. indenture in these words. We find that the sd. Richard Croucher by virtue of the sd. indenture entered into the sd. premises and was of them possessed sometime in the year 1741 leaving the def. his widow and executrix who hath been in possession of the same ever since the death of the sd. Richard Croucher. We find that the sd. Billington McCarty departed this life sometime in the year 1744 leaving the testator of the plt. his eldest son and heir at law. How if the law be for the plt. we find for him the sd. message 50 acres of land and one shilling damage, otherwise we find for the def. Cause is continued to next court for the matter of the law to be argued.³⁷

On 17 Nov 1752 court order to divide the estate of Richard Croucher between Dorothy Croucher and Katy Croucher, daughter of William Croucher dec'd. We are informed by Dorothy Croucher and Catherine Brannon, his sister, that there was a legacy left for William Croucher by his father amounting to 3 pounds, 2 shilling which they allowed to be taken out of the sd. estate. Catherine Croucher (now Brannon) was instituted 17 pounds, 2 shillings, 9 pence of the sd. estate which was paid her by her mother, she and her husband allowing before us to be satisfied.³⁸

WILLIAM CROUCHER and wife Anne had a daughter Caty born 24 Sept 1748³⁹ and William and Eleanor Croucher had a daughter Caty born 24 Jan 1752.⁴⁰ The will of Caran Brannon names daughter Eleanor Croucher, wife of William Croucher 8 Feb 1749/50.⁴¹

CATHERINE CROUCHER married Thomas Brannon and moved to Amelia Co., VA. An indenture dated 17 March 1753 between Richard Stanly of Amelia to Thomas Brannon of same for 10 £ sells 100 ac. in Nottoway Parish on south side Tommahillon Swamp.⁴² The will of Dorothy Croucher dated 25 Feb 1754 and probated in Amelia Co., Va. 26 Sept 1754 names grandsons James Brannon, Thomas Brannon, and Caren Brannon, daughter Catherine Brannon and her daughter Anne Brannon, and son in law Thomas Brannon⁴³. An inventory and appraisal of the estate of Dorothy Croucher dec'd. by Thomas Brannon exec. Appraisers are Wm. Hightower, John Durham, Charles Williams....recorded 22 May 1755.

³⁷ FHLC Film #33711 Richmond County, Virginia Order Book 13

³⁸ FHLC Film #33679 Richmond Co., Virginia Account Book 1 (1724-1783), p. 357

³⁹ FHLC #33746, Richmond Co., Virginia Parish Records, North Farnham Parish 1672-1801, filmed November 1950. "Copy of NFP Register 1672-1800 Property of circuit Court of Richmond Co., VA. to be kept on file in the clerk's office forever. E. Carter Delano, Deputy Clerk, Warsaw, Virginia, 2 May 1927

⁴⁰ FHLC #33746, Richmond Co., Virginia Parish Records, North Farnham Parish 1672-1801, filmed November 1950. "Copy of NFP Register 1672-1800 Property of circuit Court of Richmond Co., VA. to be kept on file in the clerk's office forever. E. Carter Delano, Deputy Clerk, Warsaw, Virginia, 2 May 1927

⁴¹ FHLC Film #33677, Item 1, Richmond County, Virginia Will Book 5, p. 620

⁴² Familysearch.org, Amelia County, Virginia, Deed Book 4, page 550

⁴³ Familysearch.org., Amelia Co., Virginia Will Book 1, p.108