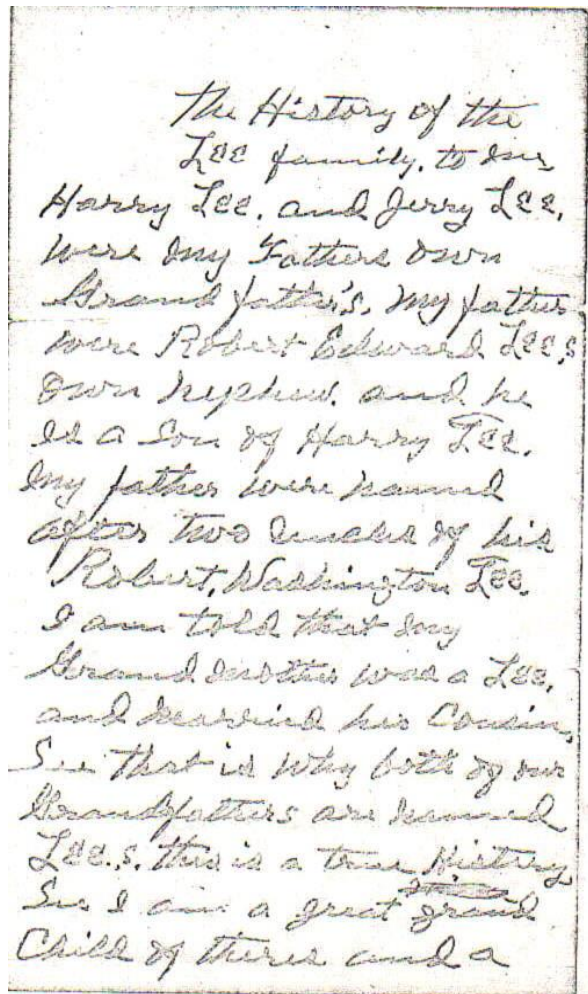


Here is a copy of a letter written by Narcissus Verlilia 'Lily' Lee, at age 66, explaining what was believed to be the family connection with Henry 'Light Horse Harry' Lee, and his son, Gen. Robert E Lee.

It is well known that some descendants of the 'Virginia Lees' went to Alabama at that time. I have found the connection, although not exactly as she thought.



The History of the
Lee family, to my
Harry Lee, and Jerry Lee,
were my Fathers own
Grand fathers, my father
were Robert Edward Lee's
own nephew, and he
is a son of Harry Lee.
My father were named
after two uncles of his
Robert, Washington Lee.
I am told that my
Grand mother was a Lee,
and married his Cousin.
See that is why both of our
Grand fathers are named
Lee's. this is a true history.
See I am a great grand
Child of theirs and a

The history of the Lee family, to my Harry Lee, and Jerry Lee, were my fathers own grandfathers. My father were Robert Edward Lee's own nephew, and he is a son of Harry Lee. My father were named after two uncles of his Robert, Washington Lee. I am told that my grandmother was a Lee, and married his cousin See that is why both our grandfathers are named Lee. This is a true history. See I am a great grand child of theirs and a

Great niece of R. E. Lee.
 My name is by birth
 Narcissus Verilia Lee
 but known now as
 Mrs Lily Williams,
 Patsy Jean Williams
 Grand mother,
 Hope she can honor
 the name,
 He is her ^{Stanley's} Great Great
 Great Uncle,
 I wish her all of the
 honors can be bestowed
 up on her for my
 sake, and Stanley's
 Respectfully,
 Mrs Lillie Williams

great niece of R. E. Lee.
 My name is by birth
 Narcissus Verilia Lee,
 but known now as
 Mrs Lily Williams,
 Patsy Jean Williams
 grandmother.
 Hope she can honor
 the name.
 He is her great great
 great uncle.
 I wish her all of the
 honors can be bestowed
 upon her for my
 sake and Stanley's.
 Respectfully,
 Mrs Lillie Williams

Pine Valley,
 Miss, U.S.A.
 Mrs and Mrs S. L. Williams
 8432 - 12th Street
 Port Arthur,
 Texas,
 1938
 MISS.

Pine Valley, Miss
 to
 Port Arthur, Tx
 postmarked 1938
 with a three cent stamp

Here is what research has shown:

Descendants of Richard Henry Lee I

1 Richard Henry Lee I Abt. 1617 - 1664

..+Ann Constable Abt. 1621 - Aft. 1664

2 Richard Lee 1647 - 1714

...+Laetitia Corbin Abt. 1656 - 1706

3 Henry Lee Abt. 1691 - 1747

....+Mary Bland

4 Henry Lee

.....+Lucy Grymes

5 Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee 1756 - 1818

.....+Matilda Lee

6 Robert Edward Lee, General 1807 - 1870

.....+Mary A R Custis

2 William C Lee Abt. 1650 - 1696

...+Alice Felton 1648 -

3 Richard Lee Abt. 1670 -

.....+Mary Young - Aft. 1690

4 John Lee, Esquire Abt. 1690 - 1766

.....+Mary W Bryan 1704 - Bef. 1780

5 Edward Lee 1725 - 1775

.....+Mary Allen Abt. 1730 - Abt. 1815

6 Jeremiah Lee 1771 - 1824

.....+Elizabeth Avera Abt. 1771 - Aft. 1830

7 Henry 'Harry' Lee 1810 - 1835

.....+Elizabeth Jane Lee 1814 - 1877

Descendants of Hugh Lee I

1 Hugh Lee I Abt. 1609 - 1661
....+Hannah Hewitt Abt. 1616 -

2 Hugh Lee, II, of Blackwater Bef. 1650 - 1714
.....+Ann Barnett Abt. 1643 - 1735

3 Hugh Lee III Bef. 1669 - 1739
.....+Ann Tatum Abt. 1670 - 1743

4 William Lee Bef. 1696 - 1761
.....+Rebecca Burchet Abt. 1698 - 1759

5 William Lee II 1727 - 1796
.....+Elizabeth Ann Westbrook Abt. 1725 -

6 Samuel Lee Abt. 1747 - Aft. 1828
.....+Kessiah (Lee) - Bef. 1828

7 Samuel Lee, Jr 1772 - 1857
.....+Sarah Thorton - 1807

8 Jonathan Lee 1799 - 1836
.....+Absebeth (Lee) Bef. 1801 - 1830

9 Robert Washington Lee 1823 - 1881
*2nd Wife of [1] Robert Washington Lee:
.....+Mary Ann Henry 1828 - Aft. 1880

10 Narcissus 'Nannie' Verlilia 'Lillie' Lee 1872 - Aft. 1938
.....+Abner B Williams 1859 - Aft. 1905

11 Stanley Lee Williams 1898 - 1951
.....+Gladys Neva Walker 1904 - 1982

12 Patsy Jean Williams 1928 -
.....+Frederick Lale Varnado 1927 -

13 Debra Susan Varnado 1951 - 1981
*2nd Husband of Debra Susan Varnado:
.....+John Randall (Carlson) Farmacka 1951 -

14 Sandra Gail Farmacka 1976 -
.....+Marco Antonio Leal 1974 -
15 Alana Nicole Leal 1998 -
15 Alyssa Susan Leal 2001 -

(7) *2nd Wife of Samuel Lee, Jr:

.....+Mary Rhodes Abt. 1789 - 1814
8 Samuel Washington Lee 1811 - 1867
8 Elizabeth Jane Lee 1814 - 1877
*2nd Husband of [4] Elizabeth Jane Lee:
+Henry 'Harry' Lee 1810 - 1835

Although there is probably some family connection way back in England between the families of John Lee and Hugh Lee, no proof has been found.

General Robert E Lee and Henry 'Harry' Lee are both decendants of Richard Henry Lee, I (the Imigrant, and son of John Lee). They are 4th cousins, once removed.

Henry 'Harry' Lee married Elizabeth Jane Lee.

Elizabeth Jane Lee is a descendant of Hugh Lee, I (and his son of Blackwater River, Virginia). Elizabeth Jane Lee is half-sister to Jonathan Lee, father of Robert Washington Lee.

The relation is:

Jonathan Lee is the half-brother... of the wife... of the 4th cousin, once removed... of General Robert E Lee.

It is rare to find an actual connection between the two Lee lines, no matter how distant or remote. This one is done by half-siblings and marriage.

The letter of Lilly Lee is accurate up to a point.

From her letter, the 'Robert' part of Robert Washington Lee's name was from Robert Edward Lee that was the son of Henry 'Harry' Lee. But this Henry 'Harry' Lee was not the same person as the famous Henry 'Light Horse Harry' Lee, father of General Robert E Lee.

Also, Robert Washington was born before Henry 'Harry' had any known children.

Henry 'Harry' did have at least 3 brothers, but I have not verified their names at this time. It's possible the name came from one of them.

The 'Washington' part of Robert Washington Lee's name possibly came from his uncle, Samuel Washington Lee, brother of Elizabeth Jane, and half-brother to Jonathan.

Or there may be another Washington that I have not found yet, such as the brothers of Henry 'Harry'.

The Jerry Lee is Jeremiah Lee, of Johnston county, North Carolina, and father of Henry 'Harry' Lee. In one North Carolina census he is listed as Jerry Lee, and Jeremiah in others.

Elizabeth Jane Lee would be the grandmother that Lily was told married a cousin.

It should be noted that the mother of Elizabeth Jane Lee was Mary Rhodes, 2nd wife of Samuel Lee, Jr. Robert Washington Lee's first wife was Margaret Rhodes, and there is a strong probability she was a relation to Mary Rhodes, his step-grandmother. This could make for all kinds of other possible connections.

Starting in North Carolina and continuing through into Alabama, there were several families very closely associated that had many marriages among them. Just some of these were the Lee, Allen, Rhodes, Thigpen, and Williams.

With the way the names match, the locations, and the time period, it's easy to see how mistakes could be made. Lily was born in 1872, many years after most of these people had died, and was given handed down information.

Everyone in the South, then and now, looked to a 'family connection' with the famous 'Virginia Lees'.

I hope this makes sense, and you are able to follow the rationale.

It has taken a LOT of research to reach this point, and I believe these are the mostly likely conclusions, based on Lily's letter, and available facts.

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