

RELIC

From: RELIC
Sent: Monday, December 06, 1999 11:03 AM
To: 'dagwel@uswest.net'
Subject: RE: Birth Records- Cloverland Farm- PW County

Dear Mr. Lewis:

This is in response to your inquiry about the 1841 birth record of your ancestor William Lee LEWIS. Official birth records in Virginia do not begin until 1853. A birth record before that date can only come from a private source such as a family Bible record or a church register. The only church register available to us for the period of 1841 is that of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Haymarket (published by the Prince William County Genealogical Society as *St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Haymarket, Virginia, Parish Records: 1837-1995*). Unfortunately, it does not mention anyone from your LEWIS family.

If they were living in Prince William County in 1850, the census would show the parents and children living together as a family. I checked an abstract of that census (by Ron Turner), but did not find the family group you described.

I was not able to find a William B. LEWIS anywhere in the northern Virginia area in 1840 or 1850 (census indexes). There are several William LEWISes in the region but I don't have enough information to identify the one you want. (Do you have his birthdate, names and approximate dates for all his children?) The historic site file we have on Cloverland plantation, near Thoroughfare, Virginia, does not mention that the farm was ever owned by the LEWIS family. Neither does the 1941 WPA guide to Prince William. (Title: *Prince William, the Story of Its People and Its Places*).

I notice one connection with the LEE family: From the 1941 book (p. 195-196): [CLOVERLAND] "This was the home of Edward CARTER (1767-1806), son of Charles CARTER (1733-1806) of Corotoman and Shirley and half-brother of Ann Hill CARTER (1773-1829), the mother of Robert E. LEE." I confirmed from the land tax list that in 1841, Cloverland was owned by Commodore Bladen DULANEY (d. 1856) who married a daughter of Edward CARTER. According to the 1841 land tax list, William B. CARTER was not a land owner in Prince William County.

I found William B. CARTER on the 1842 personal property tax list for Prince William County (the 1841 list on microfilm is too faint to read). He was charged with 1 white male tithable (a labor/militia registration), and was taxed on 1 horse. He owned no slaves or other taxable personal property. If he was living at Cloverland he must have been a tenant farmer or overseer. The tax list does indicate he lived in the western part of Prince William, where Cloverland is located.

Without more information about William B. and what became of his family, it will be difficult for me to give you further help. Hope the above is of some use to you.

Sincerely, **Donald L. Wilson**, Virginiana Librarian
Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center for Genealogy and Local History (RELIC)
Bull Run Reginal Library, 8051 Ashton Avenue, Manassas, VA 20109-2892
(703) 792-4540

The views expressed herein are mine and may not reflect those of the Prince William Public Library System.

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill and Delores Lewis [mailto:dagwel@uswest.net]
Sent: Saturday, December 04, 1999 2:41 PM

To: Don Wilson
Subject: Birth Records- Cloverland Farm- PW County

Don,
Your name was given to me by Dan deButts of the Fauquier Heritage Society. I am trying to locate birth records for my Ggrandfather, William Lee Lewis, born July 16, 1841, at Cloverland farm. Son of William Buckner Lewis, and Elizabeth Jane Lee. Dan sent me some excellent info about the Farm, and suggested that I

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contact you for further help. Do you have any information that would lead me to the birth record desired? My ultimate goal is to track Elizabeth Jane Lee's ancestors to determine if and where there might be a connection to the family of Gen. Robert E Lee. Your help in this matter is truly appreciated. Bill Lewis Eugene,OR :-)