

(From Lea-Funk Tidbits, <http://www.meocpa.com/lea.html>) The Lea family of Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee is of English origin. There were three Leas who came to Virginia circa 1740. Two of the Leas (James and William) were brothers and the third, John C. Lea, was a relative although the exact relationship has not been determined. They were all descendants of John Lea of Lea Hall Cheshire, England. The three Leas settled in North Carolina, circa 1749. The town of Leasburg is named for them.

James Lea, the elder brother, was born in 1718 and died June 2, 1788 at the age of about 70. His will probated in Orange County, NC, named his wife, Anne Tolbert, and his three sons, William, John, and Major wee appointed exectors. James Lea had served in the North Carolina militia, as a private under his brother Captain Gabriel Lea of Orange County, NC.

In 1776, he served under General Griffith Rutherford against the Cherokee Indians of East Tennessee. Int the valley of the Tennessee River they burned the Indian towns of Watauga, Mayay and Estalal. They routed the Indians where Franklin, NC, now stands and after completely subduing them retunred home in October. Their Colonel was James Martin under General Rutherford. James Lea fought the Tories at Ramsons&#39;s Mill, NC on June 29, 1780.

James Lea enlisted in the 10th Continental North Carolina Regiment, September 10, 1782, and served through the Siege of Yorktown. (source: book of Jesse Coleman McPherson)

James Lea (ggggg g-f)                      Anne Tolbert (ggggg g-m)

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b 1718 England / b England  
m 1738  
d June 2, 1788 NC / d

---Children---  
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Major Lea 1741-1843(102 yr)  
William Lea-Wash Parish, La  
John Lea  
Isabelle Lea (m John Graves)  
Nancy Lea (m Paul Haralson)  
Lucinda Lea (m Iveson Green)