

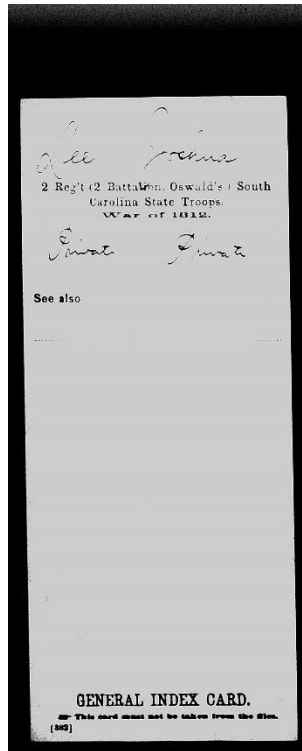
Joshua Lee 1782 – 1855

Joshua Lee was born in 1782 in South Carolina, a son of Moses and Sarah. The birth date seems suspect as the 1830 and 1840 US Census indicates an earlier birthdate. He grew up in the Marion District, where he married Martha Ford, born in 1780 in South Carolina, daughter of James Ford. To Joshua and Martha Lee were born six children:

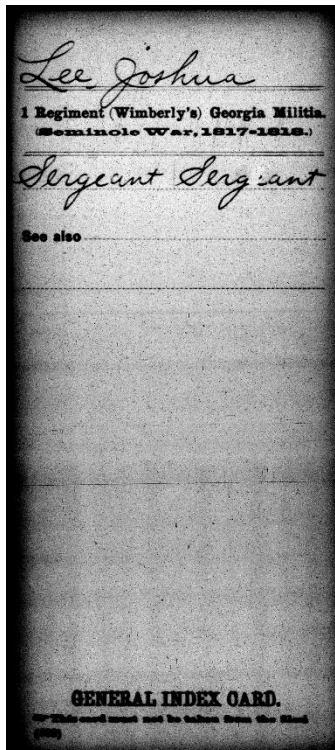
Elizabeth	b. 1801, m. James M. Patten.
Jemima	b. 1807, m. John Mathis, son of Edmund.
Nancy	b. 1809, m. Tyre Mathis, son of Edmund
Celia	b. 1812, m. William Seaborn Peters
Zachariah	b. 1816, m. Phoebe Register, dau. of Samuel
Sarah	b. 1820, m. Rev. Isaac D. Hutto.

Joshua Lee and family moved to Georgia in 1808, or 1809, and their first residence here was in Pulaski County, where he appears as a petit juror during the June Term, 1809, Pulaski Superior Court. He owned and lived on lot 23, 22nd district of Pulaski County (about 8 miles east of Cochran on Highway 26). The new settlers in the area formed Mt. Horeb Church of which Joshua and brother Jesse were members. In 1811, Joshua and Jesse, along with others formed the Trail Branch Baptist Church so they could worship closer to their homes.

During the War of 1812, Joshua served (1813) in a militia detachment stationed at Forts Green and Lawrence on the Ocmulgee River. Record indicates he was a private in the 2nd Regiment, 2nd Battalion of the South Carolina State Troops.



Another military record is found from 1818. Joshua is a Sargent in the 1st Regiment of the Georgia Militia during the Second Seminole War.



When Appling County was opened to settlers, Mr. Lee was among the first to move there (1819), where he is found during the 1820 Census (Richmond). In 1825, he moved on further southward and located in Lowndes County, where he settled on the west side of the Alapaha River and acquired land. Joshua is found in Lowndes during the 1830 and 1840 Census.

The 1830 Census indicates both Joshua and his wife were born between 1770 and 1780. There are four children: 1 male and three females in the Lee home.

The 1840 Census indicates both Joshua and his wife were born between 1770 and 1780. There are three children: 2 male and 1 female in the Lee home.

Records show he bought Lot 521, 10th District, Nov. 21st, 1827, from James Blair of Habersham County; Lot 520, Jan. 7, 1830, from Frederick Yeomans of Montgomery County, and several other adjoining lots later. He soon began construction of a large millpond and installed gin and gristmills operated by waterpower. This made his home and plantation a sort of gathering place for settlers to get their corn ground and cotton ginned, and this soon gave rise to the village called "Alapaha" but the name of which was changed in the 1850s to "Milltown" and in 1920 to "Lakeland", now the county seat of the County of Lanier. This property was cut into Berrien out of Lowndes in 1856, and into Lanier County in 1920.

Mr. Lee sold his possessions to William Lastinger, April 22, 1848, having traded with Mr. Lastinger for his valuable holdings in what was Ware but now Clinch County, consisting of several lots of lands with farms on each lot. His home-place was Lot 488, 7th district, which was the old Lastinger home-place, where he had settled about 1841 or 1842. He is found here in Ware during the 1850 Census with wife Martha, son Zachariah, his wife, Phoebe, and their four children: Elizabeth, Martha Rebecca, and Perry. There Joshua lived until his death in 1855. He was buried in a cemetery at what is now known as Prospect Church (the church was not organized until 1859) in DuPont, Clinch County, GA. Mrs. Lee, the widow, made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Hutto, until her death. Mr. And Mrs. Lee were charter members of Union Primitive Baptist Church, Oct. 1st, 1825, and were members there until they died. He was ordained a deacon in that church, April 13, 1833, and remained active in that capacity until his death. Martha is also buried in Prospect Cemetery in Clinch County, GA.

There is a historic marker in Lanier County, near Lakeland, which was erected in 2004 describing Joshua Lee's impact on the area. The marker inscription and location may be found within the Historical Marker Database. [Click here](#)

Reference:

Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia, Vol. 2, pgs. 183-184

Huxford Genealogical Society Inc. Magazine, Volume XXIII Number 4, December 1996, pg. 314.

"United States, Indexes to Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers (NARA M629, M694, M872), 1784-1858, 1899-1901", , *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:6VM3-MV8T> : Fri Dec 08 14:38:00 UTC 2023), Entry for Joshua Lee, 1818.

"United States Census, 1820", , *FamilySearch*

(<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XHLX-N1V> : Fri Oct 06 17:53:31 UTC 2023), Entry for Joshua Lee, 1820."United States Census, 1830", , *FamilySearch*

(<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XHGB-Z45> : Fri Oct 06 04:45:42 UTC 2023), Entry for Joshua Lee 1830.

"United States Census, 1840", , *FamilySearch*

(<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XHBN-DZV> : Fri Oct 06 18:13:47 UTC 2023), Entry for Joshua Lee, 1840.

"United States Census, 1850", , *FamilySearch*

(<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZYD-6HX> : Tue Oct 03 12:40:07 UTC 2023), Entry for Joshua Lee and Martha Lee, 1850.

Grave Marker, Prospect Church Cemetery, DuPont, Clinch County, Georgia.