

## The Isaac LaRue Line<sup>1</sup>

The evidence is sketchy at best when it comes to the history of the LaRues (La Rue/Larew/La Rew/Laroe/LaRoux or just about any other spelling) before Abraham LaRue immigrated to America. Some researchers believe Francois de la Rue (1606-1689) is the direct ancestor to the LaRues of Kentucky. Francois and his brothers were Huguenots<sup>2</sup>, moved about France in an effort to escape Catholic persecution, and in about 1666 he fled to Mannheim-in-the-Palatinat, in Germany. He then, with his brothers came to America around 1680. Francois died in Albany, New York, on June 22, 1689. He may be the direct ancestor to the LaRues from which George Miller descends. Perhaps he was a great granduncle.

The best guess for the first identifiable ancestor may be Anthoine Le Roux. Tradition states that when the LaRue brothers arrived in Germany, they were confronted with terrible weather, bad flooding along the Rhine River and continued persecution from the Roman Inquisition as their new city was attacked and laid waste by French Catholic, Bavarian, and Turkish armies. Anthoine appears to have had three wives before dying somewhere around 1666. One of his sons was Abraham LaRoux, born 1637.

Abraham LaRoux (b. 1637) lived a short life. He married Jeanne Du Four, the widow of Isaac Fremor, and daughter of Jeanne Du Four Bourgeois of Manheim, and had a few children, one of whom was his son Abraham, born 1664. Unfortunately Abraham LaRoux died a young man in 1666; his wife Jeanne survived him by seventeen years.

Abraham, the son of Abraham and Jeanne LaRue was born on March 1, 1664, baptized March 1664 in Mannheim. It appears he arrived in America about 1680. Not long after he arrived, he owned land in Ulster County, New York from 1688 to 1690. In 1690 he sold the land and moved to Staten Island. He was twice elected constable of the First Division of Richmond. Abraham had two wives, the first being Magdaleine Gille. She was baptized on December 3, 1662, and belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church. Abraham and Magdaleine were wed in 1687, and had one child, Peter, baptized on March 25, 1688.

---

<sup>1</sup> Much of text comes from <http://www.jLaRue.com/genealogy.html>

<sup>2</sup> The Huguenots were members of the Protestant Reformed Church of France during the 16th and 17th centuries. Since the 17th century, people who formerly would have been called Huguenots have instead simply been called French Protestants, a title suggested by their German co-religionists, the Calvinists. French Protestants were inspired by the writings of John Calvin in the 1530s, and they were called Huguenots by the 1560s. By the end of the 17th century, roughly 200,000 Huguenots had been driven from France during a series of religious persecutions.

Shortly after this, Magdaleine died, because Abraham married again in 1690 to Olive Gerritszen Cresson, a widow with several children of her own, including peter's future wife Elizabeth. Abraham died in New Jersey in December 1711.

Peter LaRue was born in Kingston, New York in 1688. He married his step-sister, Elizabeth Cresson (born 1690.) Together Peter and Elizabeth had five children: Isaac, Abraham, Jacob, Elizabeth, and Anna<sup>3</sup>. A farmer, he moved first to Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and then in 1749 followed his sons to the northern Shenandoah Valley, Frederick County, Virginia. Elizabeth died circa 1778; Peter LaRue died in 1783.

Isaac LaRue, Sr. was born in Hopewell Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, in 1712. Isaac married Phebe Carman sometime before 1743. They appeared to have one child Rebecca in NJ. The balance of their children were born after they moved to Long Marsh in the Shenandoah Valley, Orange County, Virginia in 1743:

Rebecca LaRue(1737-1743)

Jacob LaRue (1744 -1821) (see biographical notes below)

John LaRue (1746 – 1792)

Elizabeth LaRue (1748 – 1749)

Isaac LaRue (1750 – 1818)

Mary LaRue (1752 – 1848)

Sarah LaRue (1755 – 1825). Sarah LaRue married Robert Hodgen July 31, 1775

Samuel LaRue (1761 – 1782)

James LaRue (1762 – 1809)

Jabez LaRue (1768 – 1823)

Although he started out with a simple log cabin, by 1779 he owned more than 40,730 acres in Kentucky alone and about 300 more in Virginia. He also had over 100 horses. He voted in an election for the House of Burgesses of Virginia in July 24, 1758. Issaac LaRue died March 1795.

---

<sup>3</sup> From "Baptismal and Marriage Registers of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston, Ulster County, New York," 1891.

Jacob LaRue, Sr. (May 1, 1744-August 15, 1821). The oldest son of his parents' ten children, Jacob LaRue he married Mary Frost in 1765. He built a big stone house (as well as a barn and milk house) called "Bloomfield" in Virginia 1775. In the gable end of the house is a dressed stone with the inscription "Jacob and Mary 1775." By 1783, he owned 18,000 acres in Jefferson County, Kentucky, and another 8,136 in a few other counties. He moved to Hardin County, Kentucky in 1798. By all accounts, from the time of his arrival in Kentucky to the day of his death, Jacob LaRue lived the life of a quiet and respected planter. Mary LaRue lived six years after arriving in Kentucky, dying in 1804.

Jacob and Mary had ten children:

John LaRue (1766-1798)

Phebe LaRue (1768-1822)

Hannah LaRue (1772-1815)

Isaac LaRue (1773-1815)

Mary LaRue (1774-1828)

William LaRue (1779-1825)

Jacob LaRue (1783-1851)

Samuel LaRue (1781-1825)

James LaRue (1782-1859)

Deidamia LaRue (1785-1859) Diedamia LaRue married her first cousin, John H. Hodgen (Robert Hodgen's son) on December 30, 1802.

In 1805, Jacob married again, and had three more children, Morgan J., Sarah Jane, and Jesse. An appraisal of his estate mentions thirteen slaves and a distillery. He planted an asparagus bed which his descendants used for 75 years after his death.

After his second marriage, he was elected to Justice of the Peace of Hardin Co., a position he held for years. He spent the evening of Sept. 14, 1821 teaching his young daughter Sarah how to mold pewter spoons, however before dawn on September 15<sup>th</sup> he passed away from "acute indigestion." Jacob and Mary LaRue are buried five miles north of Hodgenville in family burial grounds<sup>4</sup>. Jacob LaRue's headstone reads "Mark the Perfect man & behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace"

---

<sup>4</sup> From *Everhart - Miller and Allied Families*, by Mrs. Allie Everhart Miller; West Point, Miss.: 1931, pp. 72-77