

Charles Fortee of London:

Edenton's First Master Builder

By Michael L. Marshall

Editor's note: For an enlarged view of figures, simply zoom in on your computer.

Introduction

Research into the deed records of Chowan County has shown that in 1712, when lots in present-day Edenton were first surveyed and laid out, there were already a significant number of craftsmen of various types in the area including a carpenter named Charles Fortee. That he was considered skilled at this trade is demonstrated by the fact that he was the man engaged to perform the carpentry work on the first courthouse. Additional information about him that emerged during the course of carrying out research for this article seemed strongly to suggest he was the same Charles Fortee trained as a master carpenter through an apprenticeship in London with the Worshipful Company of Carpenters. It is believed that a credible case for this conclusion is made by facts that will be presented and discussed in the remainder of this article.

Other craftsmen, who were early lot purchasers or were working in the area at the time, included shipwright Richard Alban (1716); carpenters William Branch (1718), Thomas Matthews (1718), William West (1719), John Champion (1720), and John Ismay (1722); joiner Patrick Ogilby (1718); shoemaker Laurence Mague (1716); bricklayer Thomas Cook (1722); feltmakers Thomas Betterley (1718) and Richard Grills (1718); tanner William Mackey (1722); tailors Edward Wingate (1718) and James Palin (1721); cooper, Zachary Elton (1725); whitesmith/tinsmith William Dowars (1727); and vintner/tavern keeper Bartholomew Scott (1725).

The First Courthouse

The town known today as Edenton traces its roots to an act of the Colonial Assembly passed in November 1712, “to promote the building of a Court House to hold the Assembly in, at the fork of Queen Anne’s Creek, commonly called Matchacamak Creek in Chowan Precinct.”¹

Two men, Nathaniel Chevin and Thomas Peterson, offered land for a town and were named as commissioners of the town to sell lots. The original town, situated on Chevin’s 100-acre tract on the east side of present-day Broad Street, was surveyed by Col. Edward Moseley into half-acre lots, each to be sold for 20 shillings. Four lots were reserved for a courthouse, church and other public uses. In order to keep any of the lots, the purchaser had to build, within a year of the date of purchase, a “habitable” dwelling house or edifice of not less than 15 feet by 20

feet. Failure to do so caused the lot to revert to the town's commissioners, who could then resell it to the same or another purchaser.

Moseley's original survey, referred to as the "old plan" of the town in many of the early deeds, has been lost. However, now deceased Edenton historian, Miss Elizabeth V. Moore, using extant deeds and other records, recreated a map of what the survey may have looked like (Fig. 1, Elizabeth V. Moore map [Courtesy: Thomas Butchko, *An Architectural Portrait: The Historical Architecture of Edenton, North Carolina*]).

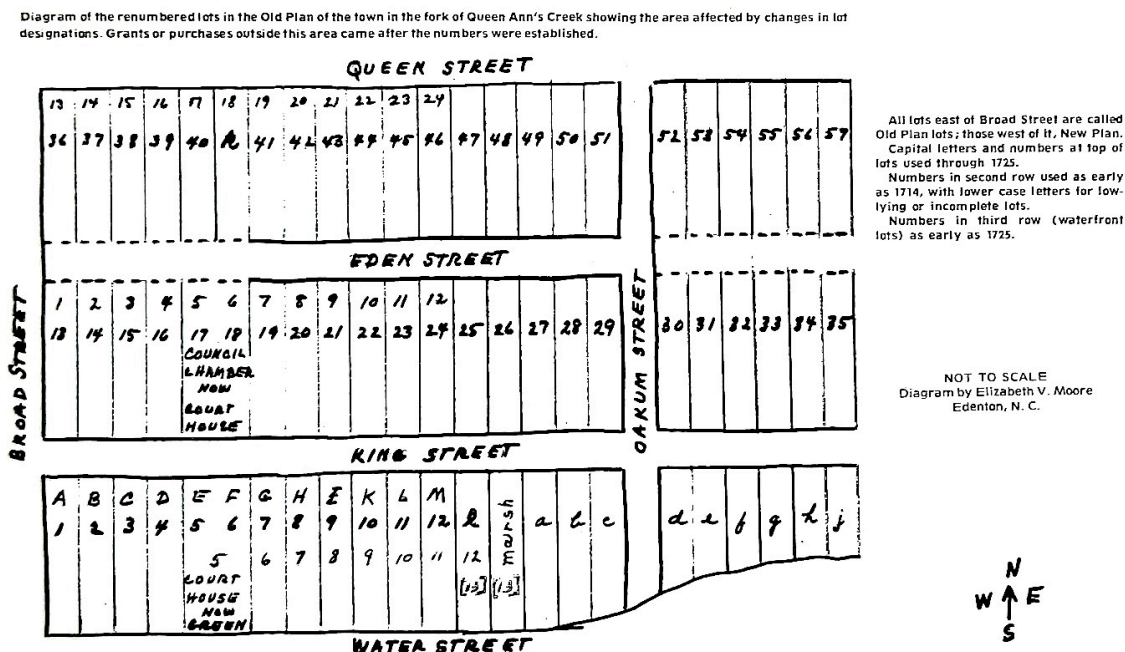


Figure 1

These original half acre lots were 66 feet in width and 330 feet in length, except for a few that bordered Queen Anne's Creek. At this early date, the fledgling town did not have a formal name, but it was generally referred to in the early records simply as the town at the forks of Queen Anne's Creek.

Edward Moseley, who had surveyed and laid out the town in 1712, was the first owner of lots there, purchasing lots 1 and 2 (as designated on the Moore map) from Nathaniel Chevin and Thomas Peterson on August 12, 1714.² The next buyer was Charles Fortee, who purchased two lots from Nathaniel Chevin on September 1, 1715.^{3&4} These lots are designated on the Moore map by the lower-case letters "a" and "c" and, like Moseley's lots, fronted on Edenton Bay. In the two deeds from Chevin to Fortee, he is styled a carpenter.

The first building to be constructed on the lots reserved for public use was a courthouse. Evidence gleaned from the deed records shows that this first "Chowan County Courthouse" sat on what is now called the courthouse green (lots 5 and 6 on Moore map), facing the 1767 courthouse and East King Street. It was a wooden framed structure roofed with shingles and plastered on the interior.⁵

It seems probable that work on the courthouse began in late 1715 or early 1716 as records show that its first use occurred on July 31, 1716, when “a General Court or Court of Pleas and Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery [was] held at the Court House on Queen Anne’s Creek.”⁶ Justices present that day were Christopher Gale, Chief Justice, and his assistants, Griffin Jones, John Palin and Thomas Harvey.⁷ Although this is the first mention of the courthouse, records show that as soon as the court was called to order it was adjourned to meet later the same day at the house of William Branch, who lived on fifty acres near the town, which he had purchased in 1704.⁸ The next session of court, convened in August of the same year, also met at Branch’s house, and in fact, the next five sessions of court either met at his house or opened at the courthouse only to be immediately adjourned to reconvene there.⁹ It was not until July 29, 1718 that the court held an entire session in the new courthouse suggesting that in the intervening two years, although the building was already designated as a courthouse, it was still not completed and ready to serve the court’s needs.¹⁰

Important details about the materials used in this building as well as the names of those paid for their contributions to its construction are contained in a list of expenditures for the first courthouse at Queen Anne’s Creek compiled by Col. Edward Moseley and dated March 9, 1720.¹¹ This document shows that the total cost for the building amounted to two hundred and eighty-seven pounds, seventeen shillings

and nine pence. More than half the sum was paid to a Capt. Lee, who supplied the plank among other materials and services. This is probably the Thomas Lee that operated one of the earliest sawmills in the region across Albemarle Sound from Edenton in present day Washington County.¹² Located south of Mackey's, which was originally known as Lee Point, the mill located in what is now the town of Roper, was founded by Capt. Thomas Blount of Chowan County in 1701 or 1702, and later owned by Lee, who had married Blount's widow. Charles Fortee was paid the substantial sum of eighty pounds for his carpentry work (Fig. 2, Moseley courthouse expenditure statement showing payments to Charles Fortee for carpentry work [Courtesy: State Archives of North Carolina, Division of Archives and Records]).

Publick Court House — — — — — 2^d —

Cap. Lee in Specie 20. 50^{cts} Cent makes — — — — — L 30. —

3 Horses & hired man carting etc^a — — — — — — 15. —

6. 25. paid Fortee of Carpenter in bills — — — — — 20. —

Oct. 17. p^d Cap. Lee of Ball of his Acct — — — — — 13. 10. —

Nails at sundry times wth in Boston

500. — 20. — 10

3. — 10. of Albion 12

6500. — 4. — 4.6 — 1.9.3

50. from Boston — 3.17.9

— 1.18.7 1/2

Estab^d p^d Port — on 5. 15. 10^{cts} in lieu of Specie — — — — — 11. 11. —

Aug. 24. p^d Fortee in bills — — — — — 30. —

Rep — 2. p^d 30 — — — — — 30. —

wool — Nails p^d Mr. Pray in Specie 1. 8. — — — — — 2. 16. —

p^d In. Marks wth from London in bills — — — — — 3. 5. —

Figure 2

Messrs. Bray, Harvey and Vail were paid for providing nails, John Marks for providing roofing shingles, and a Mr. Paine for his contribution of oyster shells for ceiling & plastering. The list of expenditures also includes a charge of fifteen shillings for three horses and a hired man carting. If there were other materials used they were not included on Moseley's list of expenditures. While records show that glass windows were in place in the courthouse by the 1750s, they appear not to have been part of the original construction.¹³ Window openings secured with wooden shutters may have been used before glass windows were installed. When completed, this first courthouse was functional but was surely not much more than a utilitarian wooden structure. When William Byrd visited Edenton in 1728, while taking part in the survey of the boundary line between the colonies of North Carolina and Virginia, his description of the courthouse reflects its likely architectural austerity: "Justice herself is but indifferently Lodged, the courthouse having much the air of a Common Tobacco-House."¹⁴ Indeed, the General Assembly itself was less than satisfied with this first courthouse, and on October 2, 1722, it passed an Act that provided for a new one to be built of dimension not less than 24 feet by 16 feet. In furtherance of this, the Justices of Chowan Precinct bought two lots from the town commissioners for this purpose, but it was never built.¹⁵

Charles Fortee, Citizen and Carpenter of London

Who was this man, Charles Fortee, who appeared in the Chowan records on September 1, 1715, when he purchased two waterfront lots on Edenton Bay known and described in the old plan as lots “a” & “c” and was paid for his carpentry work on the courthouse? Research strongly suggests he is the man of the same name mentioned in the records of the Carpenters’ Company of London, one of the livery companies of that city that traces its origins to the thirteenth century as a medieval trade guild. Their Minute Books of Courts and Committees (CC | MC), show that on June 4, 1706, Charles Fortee, “Sonne of Charles Fortee Citizen & Fishmonger of London,” was bound to Richard Golding for seven years to learn the trade and become a master carpenter (Fig. 3, Carpenters’ Company record showing indenture of Charles Fortee in 1706.

[Courtesy: London Lives (<https://www.londonlives.org>)].¹⁶

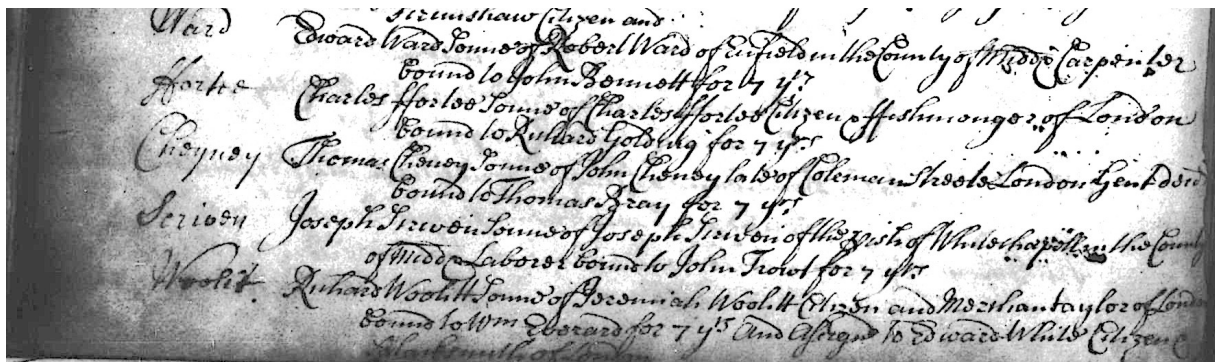


Figure 3

A seven-year term was the most common, and in the better trades, apprenticeships usually started at the age of fourteen, and by the “custom of London,” apprentices there had to be over 14 and under 21 years of age. This suggests that he was probably born not later than 1692, and possibly a year or two earlier. Nothing is known of this young man during his years of apprenticeship, but it is clear he served out the full seven years he was bound to Golding. The Minute Books of Courts and Committees provide the evidence that on August 4, 1713, he was made free and became a Citizen and Carpenter of London as provided by the testimony of Sarah Gillis, the late widow and executrix of Richard Golding, Citizen and Carpenter (Fig. 4, Carpenters’ Company record showing end of indenture of Charles Fortee in 1713. [Courtesy: London Lives (<https://www.londonlives.org>)]).¹⁷

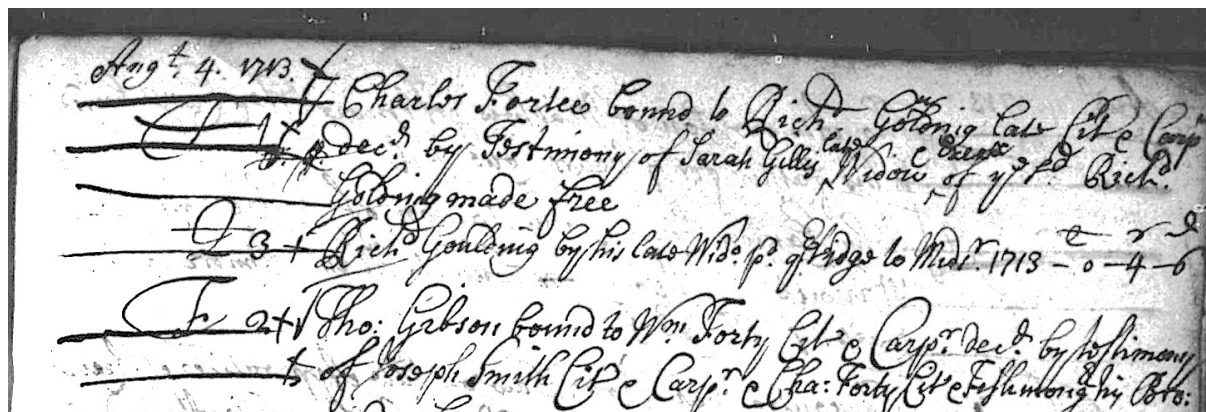


Figure 4

In eighteenth-century London, carpenters and joiners were distinct professions, although the same person often performed elements of both

trades. Campbell, in his 1747 volume called *The London Tradesman*, details both professions.¹⁸ There he explains the work of a house carpenter: “The Carpenter is employed in the Wooden-Work, from the Foundation to the Top. In Works where the Foundation is supposed soft, the Carpenter drives Piles down to support the Edifice. In Brick-Works he places Bearers, where the chief Weight of the Building lies. He lays the Joists, Girders, and Rafters in Flooring, and when the outward Case is built, he puts on the Roof and prepares it for the Slater. This is the proper Business of a House-Carpenter . . . Strength is the chief of his Study, and to dispose of his Work in such a Manner as that which is designed for the Support of a Building may not, by its Weight, overturn it . . . He must read English, write a tolerable Hand, and know how to Design his Work [and] he must understand as much Geometry as relates to Mensuration of Solids and Superficies.” There were three distinct categories of carpenters: master carpenters, small master craftsmen and their apprentices, and journeymen and laborers. Master carpenters sometimes served as building contractors and were not only responsible for the construction itself, but also for the design of the building and the supply of necessary materials.

Appearance in Edenton

As mentioned earlier, Charles Fortee first appeared in the Chowan records on September 1, 1715, when he purchased two lots in the town. This was just over two years after he was made free of his indenture and

became a master carpenter. Why he chose to travel to Edenton or how he made his way there is unknown, although it may be that someone with knowledge of the new town at the fork of Queen Anne's Creek recruited him specifically to work on the courthouse. As will be discussed later, this possibility is supported by the fact that not long after the courthouse was completed in July of 1718, he wrapped up his affairs and disappeared from the Chowan records and then reappears in London two years later. The only things we know about his time in Edenton come from scattered records he left behind. Interestingly, the next mention of Fortee after he purchased the two lots comes on October 16, 1716, when he and an Eleanor Fortee witnessed a deed from shoemaker Laurence Mague to Thomas Bray of Chowan Precinct, Gentleman.¹⁹ This Eleanor Fortee is doubtless his wife and evidence that will be discussed later suggests he married her after arriving in Edenton and not before leaving London. Regrettably, no record of this marriage could be found. On July 30, 1717, Charles Fortee witnessed a Chowan deed from Christopher Dudley and his wife Ann to William Kelley of Nansemond County, Virginia.²⁰ On October 16, 1717, Fortee filed a Plea of Debt in court against Robert Calf.²¹ The case was continued until the following year when a court convened on January 21, 1718 found in favor of the plaintiff and allowed Fortee to recover against Calf the sum of thirteen pounds sterling together with the costs of the suit.²² There is no evidence in the extant court records as to the substance of the suit. Later that year, on July 27, 1718, his name appeared in a conveyance of a lot by Nathaniel Chevin to William Branch at the forks of Queen Anne's

Creek, “joining Charles Fortee’s lot on which [Edward] Moseley’s schooner was built.”²³ This is the lot designated on the Moore map as lower case “b.”

The next record of Fortee is interesting in that it offers a clue as to the identity of his wife, Eleanor Fortee. This is a deed, dated September 27, 1718, from Charles Fortee of Chowan Precinct to Francis Hammerden, a sea captain of Dover, Kent, England.²⁴ By its terms, Fortee conveyed to Hammerden for seventy pounds containing by estimation one hundred thirty acres more or less, situate, lying and being on Queen Anne’s Creek commonly called Mattacomack Creek, bounded southwest with the “Town Land” and northeast by the land of Nicholas Crisp. This instrument included the following language: “I am the sole and lawful owner thereof & I am Lawfully seized and possessed of the above bargained premises in my own proper Right as a good perfect & absolute estate by Inheritance in fee simple.” A search of the Chowan land records revealed no conveyance by which Fortee acquired this property directly. However, research disclosed that the prior owner of this land was John Goreham and that it was sold to him by Francis Branch of Chowan Precinct, planter, and his wife Ann Branch by deed dated July 15, 1712.²⁵ The consideration was twelve pounds and the land was described as one hundred thirty acres more or less at the mouth of Mattacomack Creek joining Nicholas Crisp. John Goreham died testate in Chowan Precinct in 1717 as his will was dated September 30, 1717

and proved at the October term of court there.²⁶ The will devised to his wife Eleanor his plantation on Queen Anne's Creek "I now dwell on," and named her as his executrix. It also devised to his nephew John Goreham, son of Alexander Goreham, land on Darby Creek "called in Indian Renocooset," and also lands on Kesiah River, and in case of his death, to his two sisters." Despite considerable effort little could be learned about other Goreham family members mentioned in the will. The 1733 map drawn by Edward Moseley called "A New and Correct Map of the Province of North Carolina," shows the Kesiah River in what is today Bertie County and appears to be the river now called the Cashie. The nephew John Goreham may be the man of that name mentioned in a Bertie County deed of May 12, 1730 that conveyed six hundred acres from George Smith to Richard Moore and described as on the north side of Roquis Creek, adjacent to John Goreham.²⁷ In any case, the foregoing evidence suggests that Charles Fortee must have inherited John Goreham's one hundred and thirty acres from Eleanor Goreham or her heirs, but there is nothing in the record to say how this occurred. It seems most probable that Fortee inherited the land through some connection of his wife, Eleanor, to John and Eleanor Goreham. When Fortee sold the land to Hammerden, there was no mention of his wife Eleanor or dower interests in it, so it seems she predeceased Charles as did Eleanor Goreham.

The month of October following the sale by Fortee of the one hundred thirty acres to Francis Hammerden proved to be a busy one for him in terms of wrapping up his business affairs in Chowan Precinct. On October 4, 1718, he executed to Thomas Betterley, feltmaker, a bond in the sum of one hundred pounds sterling money of Great Britain to answer and discharge what moneys the said Charles Fortee shall appear to be indebted to Thomas Bray, Esq., of North Carolina.²⁸ Two days later, on October 6, 1718, Fortee executed four other instruments. By one, he conveyed to Thomas Betterley for the sum of twelve pounds one house and lot in Queen Anne's Town.²⁹ Recall that Fortee bought two lots from Nathaniel Chevin, one of the commissioners for the town, on September 1, 1715, *viz.*, lots "a" and "c." As it turned out, he did not build on lot "a" within the required one year and title to this lot escheated to the commissioners, who sold it again on February 18, 1720 to Thomas Betterley.³⁰ By another instrument of the same date, Fortee acknowledged receipt of twenty pounds and fourteen shillings from Betterley, stated to be in the possession of Richard Lewis and also one white mare bought of David Attkins, etc., and the deed goes on to describe stock marks for several animals.³¹ The same day, Fortee executed a power of attorney to my well beloved friends Richard Lewis, planter, and Thomas Betterley, feltmaker, to receive sums of money for me.³² Finally, again that day, Fortee executed a power of attorney to Capt. John Lovick of North Carolina to be his true and lawful attorney and in my stead to acknowledge a bill of sale conveying a house and lot to Thomas Betterley, "the said house and lot stands on a piece of land

commonly called the Rice Patch.”³³ Collectively, these acts strongly suggest that Charles Fortee was planning to leave Chowan and the town at the fork of Queen Anne’s Creek. No further records of him have been found in North Carolina after October 6, 1718.

Return to London

Exactly when Charles Fortee left North Carolina or how he returned to London are unknowns. There was considerable commerce between the American colonies and British ports such as London, Bristol, Southampton and others in the early eighteenth century. In fact, research has shown that the Francis Hammerden, to whom Fortee sold the one hundred thirty acres in 1718, was a sea captain that made regular trips between Boston and London and there was considerable trade between Boston and Edenton. What is known is that Fortee was back in London by January 11, 1720, when he signed a marriage allegation noting his intent to marry a spinster named Hannah Roberts (Fig. 5, Charles Fortee marriage allegation. [Courtesy: Ancestry.com]).³⁴

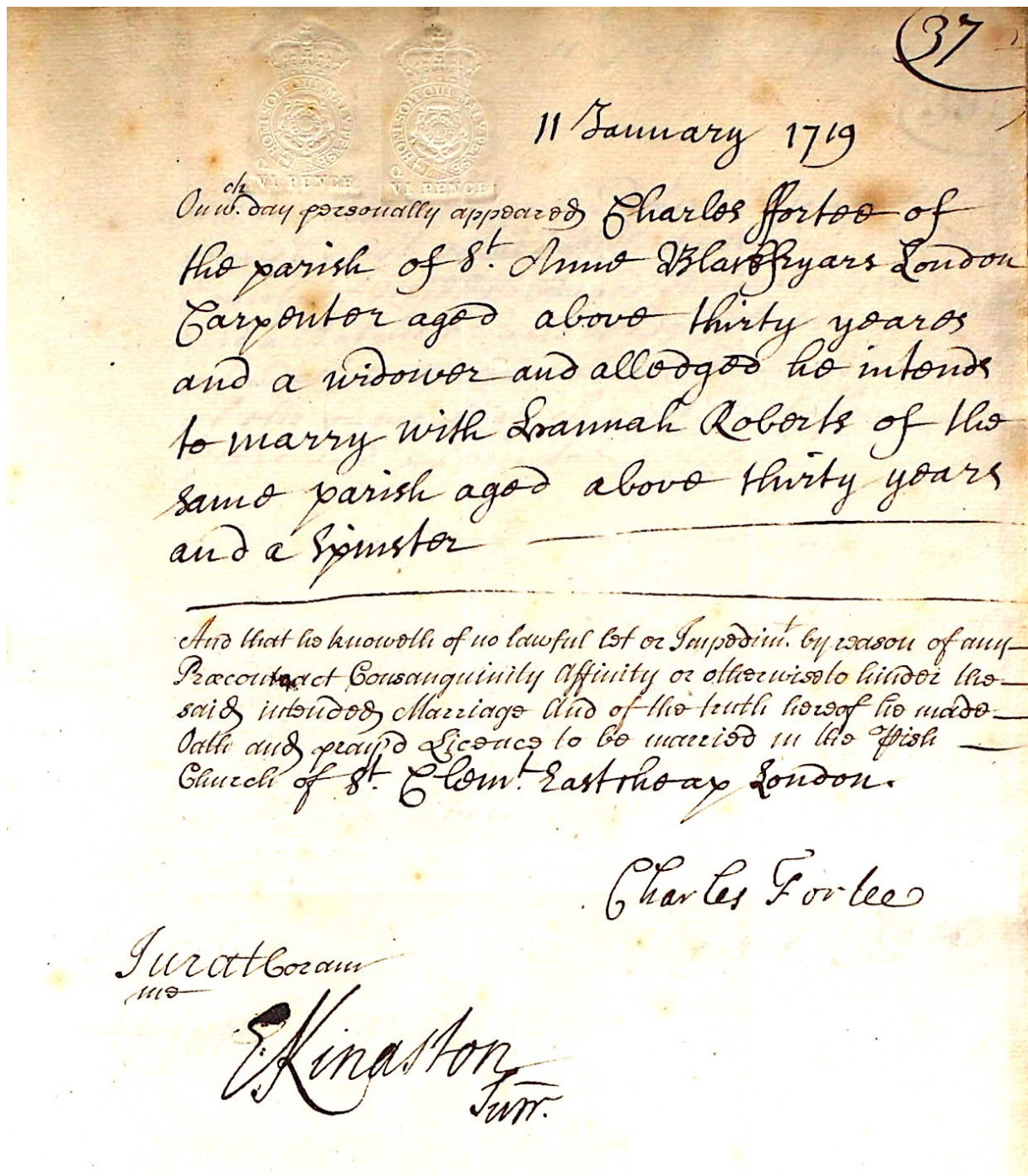


Figure 5

Marriage bonds and allegation were used for couples that applied to marry by license, as opposed to marriage by banns. The marriage allegation was the document in which the couple or more often just the

groom alleged that there were no impediments to the pending marriage. The one signed by Fortee reads as follows: “On this day personally appeared Charles Fortee of the parish of St. Anne Blackfryars London Carpenter aged above thirty years and a widower and alleged he intends to marry with Hannah Roberts of the same parish aged above thirty years and a spinster.” The document continues: “And that he knoweth of no lawful lot or impediment by reason of any Precontract (i.e., a previous marriage or contract for marriage), Consanguinity (i.e., being related by blood) affinity (i.e., being related by marriage) or otherwise to hinder the said intended Marriage and of the truth of which he made Oath and prayed License to be married in the parish Church of St. Clem^t Eastcheap London.” The document was signed by Fortee and in the lower left hand corner is an abbreviation for the Latin term, *Jurat coram nobis*, which means he swears before us. The signature that follows is probably that of a priest. The corresponding bond for this intended marriage is shown in Figure 6 (Fig. 6, Charles Fortee-Hannah Roberts marriage bond. [Courtesy: Ancestry.com]).³⁵ The part in Latin at the top is known as the “bond” and includes the penalty to be paid if the conditions are not fulfilled. Until 1733, the bond was written in Latin as is the one shown here. The part below is the “condition,” and states the nature of the promise. Fortee’s name is written in the bond as *Carolum*, Latin for Charles.

N Overint universi per presentes, Nos Carolum Fortee pro
 Jo: Anne Rlatfryard London Carpenter
 et

teneri & firmiter obligari Reverendo in Christo Patri ac Domino
 Johanni ————— permissione Divina, London' Episcopo in
 Sacculis libris legalis Monetæ Angliæ, solvend' eidem Reverendo
 Patri, aut suo certo Attornato, Executoribus, Successoribus vel Assigna-
 tis suis: Ad quam quidem solutionem bene & fideliter faciend' Obliga-
 gamus nos & utrumque nostrum per se pro toto & in solido, Hæredes,
 Executores, & Administratores nostros firmiter per præsentis. Sigillis
 nostris Sigillat Dat. Munderino ————— Die Mensis Januarij
 Anno Dom. 1719.^o

THE Condition of this Obligation is such, That if hereafter there shall
 not appear any lawful Lett or Impediment, by reason of any Pre-Con-
 tract, Consanguinity, Affinity, or any other Lawful means whatsoever; but that
 Charles Fortee abovebounden and Annah
 Roberts Spinster

may lawfully Solemnize Marriage together, and in
 the same afterwards lawfully remain and continue for Man and Wife, accor-
 ding to the Laws in that behalf provided: And moreover if there be not at
 this present time any Action, Suit, Complaint, Quarrel, or Demand, moved or
 depending before any Judge Ecclesiastical or Temporal, for or concerning any
 such lawful Impediment between the said Parties: Nor that either of them be
 of any better Estate or Degree, than to the Judge at granting of the Licence
 is suggested,

And lastly, If the same Marriage shall be openly solemniz'd in the Church, in
 the Licence specify'd, between the Hours appointed in the Constitutions Ec-
 clesiastical confirm'd, and according to the Form of the Book of Common-Pray-
 er, now by Law establish'd, and do save harmless and keep indemnified the
 above named Reverend Father in God, his Chancellor and Surrogates, and all
 other his Officers and Ministers whatsoever by reason of the Premises: then
 this Obligation to be void, or else to stand in full force and virtue.

Sigillat & deliberat in presentia

Charles Fortee
 Tho: Gyles Jun^r & N.P.

Figure 6

However, this was not his last appearance in the London records as his name can be found again among the Minute Books of Courts and Committees of the Carpenters' Company as a master carpenter taking on apprentices. On February 5, 1723, there is a note that George Butler, late an apprentice of John Warden, Citizen & Carpenter, sued out his indentures and was assigned to Charles Fortee, Citizen & Carpenter, for the remainder of his apprenticeship.³⁶ A subsequent note, dated July 7, 1724, stated that Butler was made free by the testimony of his master, Charles Fortee (Fig. 7, Carpenters' Company record showing end of indenture of George Butler in 1724. [Courtesy: London Lives (<https://www.londonlives.org>)]).³⁷

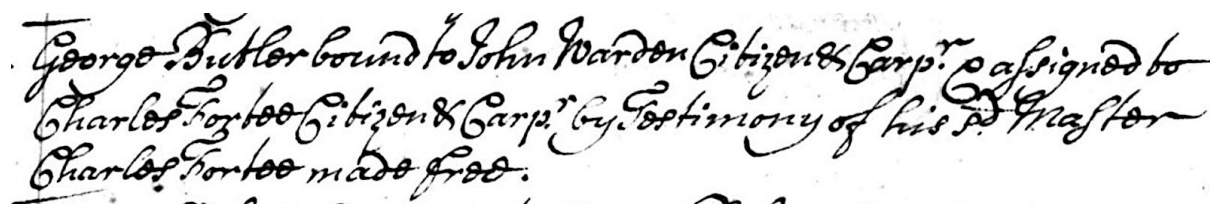
The image shows a snippet of a handwritten record in cursive script. The text reads: "George Butler bound to John Warden Citizen & Carp. assigned to Charles Fortee Citizen & Carp. by testimony of his Master Charles Fortee made free." The handwriting is fluid and characteristic of the 18th century. There are some ink blots and the text is written on a light-colored, possibly aged, paper.

Figure 7

One last record, this one dated April 6, 1725, revealed that William Porter, son of William Porter of Battersea in Surrey, a gardener, was bound to Charles Fortee, Citizen & Carpenter, for a term of seven years and paid a premium of ten pounds to Fortee to take him on as an apprentice.³⁸ Sadly, there is no further mention of Fortee in these records

leaving his fate unknown. There is one other reference to a Charles Fortee that records his burial in London. Found in the register of the parish church of St. Sepulchre, it states that a Charles Fortee was buried on May 20, 1730.³⁹ Whether this could be the same man as the one discussed in these pages cannot be said and that is regrettable as it would certainly be more satisfying to have a conclusive finish to this story of Edenton's first master builder. Perhaps some future researcher will make a discovery that will provide a more definitive epilogue.

Endnotes:

[1] Clark, Walter L., ed., *State Records of North Carolina*, 16 volumes, (Winston and Goldsboro, State of North Carolina, 1895-1906, Vol. 23, p. 95.

[2] Chowan County deed book B1, p. 38.

[3] Chowan County deed book B1, p. 232.

[4] Chowan County deed book B1, p. 234.

[5] Brodsky, Marc D. *The Courthouse at Edenton: A History of the Chowan County Courthouse of 1767*. Chowan County, Edenton, North Carolina, 1989, p. 16.

[6] Brodsky, p. 15.

[7] Ibid.

[8] Chowan County deed book W1, p. 62.

[9] Brodsky, pp. 15-16.

[10] Ibid, p. 16.

[11] Chowan County Miscellaneous Records, 1719-1916, Box 1 (C.R.024.928.34), State Archives of North Carolina, Division of Archives and Records, Raleigh, North Carolina.

[12] Jordan, Don et al. *The Cupola House Carver*. The Elizabeth Vann Moore Foundation In support of The Cupola House Association & The Edenton Historical Commission. Edenton, North Carolina, 2021, pp. 42-43.

[13] Brodsky, p. 16.

[14] Ibid.

[15] Ibid., pp. 16-17.

[16] Carpenters' Company: Minute Books of Courts and Committees CC | MC 3rd October 1699 - 5th September 1710, London Lives 1690-1800, GLCCMC251100145 (www.londonlives.org, version 2.0, March 2018).

[17] Carpenters' Company: Minute Books of Courts and Committees CC | MC 1st May 1676 – 9th August 1715, London Lives 1690-1800, GLCCMC251120095 (www.londonlives.org, version 2.0, March 2018).

[18] Campbell, R. *The London Tradesman: Being A Compendious View of All the Trades, Professions, Arts, both Liberal and Mechanic, now practiced in the Cities of London and Westminster*. London: Printed by T. Gardner, at Cowley's-Head in the strand, 1747, p. 160.

- [19] Chowan County deed book B1, p. 544.
- [20] Ibid., p. 558.
- [21] Ibid., p. 33.
- [22] Ibid., p. 34.
- [23] Chowan County deed book B1, p. 620.
- [24] Chowan County deed book C1, p. 559.
- [25] Chowan County deed book W1, p.114.
- [26] John Goreham will: Ancestry.com. North Carolina, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015. Original data: North Carolina County, District and Probate Courts.
- [27] Bertie County deed book C, p. 221.
- [28] Chowan County deed book B1, p. 679.
- [29] Ibid., p. 678.
- [30] Chowan County deed book F1, p. 71.
- [31] Chowan County deed book B1, p. 678.
- [32] Ibid.
- [33] Ibid., p. 679.
- [34] London and Surrey, England, Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1597-1921, provided in Association with London Metropolitan Archives, MS 10091/56.

[35] London and Surrey, England, Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1597-1921, provided in Association with London Metropolitan Archives, Ref. No. DL/A/D/24/10091 E3.

[36] Carpenters' Company: Minute Books of Courts and Committees CC | MC, 4th May 1731 - 2nd August 1737, LL GLCCMC251050011 (www.londonlives.org, version 2.0, March 2018).

[37] Carpenters' Company: Minute Books of Courts and Committees CC | MC, 3rd January 1721 - 3rd October 1727, GLCCMC251040187 (www.londonlives.org, version 2.0, March 2018).

[38] Ref. Carpenters' Company: Minute Books of Courts and Committees, CC | MC, 4th May 1731 - 2nd August 1737, GLCCMC251050092 (www.londonlives.org, version 2.0, March 2018).

[39] "England Deaths and Burials, 1538-1991", database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JCCN-4XJ> : 15 March 2020), Charles Fortee, 1730.