

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Harris R4661

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 March 2012.

State of North Carolina }
Pasquotank County } ss

On this third day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty three, personally appeared John Harris, a resident of the said County of Pasquotank in open Court, being the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, then sitting & held for the said County of Pasquotank, aged [blank] years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed. June. the 7th 1832; that he was drafted in the Army of the United States in the year 1780, served under Captain Williams, in the second Regiment of drafts, raised in the District of Edenton J Branch L Col; that he served three months, and was discharged on the 11th. day of December 1780, the certificate of which discharge under the hands of J. Branch L Col: and Henry Dixon Col: Commad't G B [sic] Brigade, is hereby annexed, that he was again drafted in the year 1781 and served another tour of duty of two months and obtained his discharge on the 27th. day of August 1781 from John Gray which discharge is also hereunto annexed. which latter service he performed at Great Bridge in Virginia & part of the time as a Sergeant— And the said John Harris hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or an annuity, except the present, & he declares, that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court, the day & year aforesaid. John hisXmark Harris sen

These are to Certify that the Bearer hereof John Harris Private soldier of Capt Williams Company of the second Regiment of Drafts Raisd in the district of Edenton has served three months Agreeable to Law and hereby is discharged. Given under my hand this 11th day of Dec'r. 1780 J Branch L Col
To all whom it may Concern both Civil & Military Henry Dixon Col Command't. of s'd Brigade

August the 17th Day 1781 this may Certify that John harris has Served a tower of Duty agreeable to Law and is here By dischargd By Me John Gray

[Harris's claim was denied because he did not prove at least six months service. On 17 Feb 1834 he petitioned Congress directly for a pension, apparently unsuccessfully.]

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Pasquotank County } June Term 1838.

On the 5 day of June AD 1838 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Justices for the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County of Pasquotank State of North Carolina, John Harris a resident of said State & County aged 77 years (seventy seven years) who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832.

That he was drafted in the Militia in the year 1777 [sic] and served under this draft three months under the command of Capt Rufus Williams, during this term of service this affiant says he served in the Western part of North Carolina in pursuit of Cornwallis [spring of 1781], and was present at the capture of a few English troops and about three hundred tories. at the end of this term of service this affiant was discharged and returned home, and this affiant asserts that this discharge was delivered to Mr Shepard the former member of Congress from this District.

This affiant declares that soon after he returned home and made a crop, sometime about the first

of August 1778 [sic] he was drafted again for three months which three months he served under the command of Lieutenant Baylie Jackson and Genl [Isaac] Gregory of Camden County. During this service this affiant declares that he served at the great swamp [Dismal Swamp], and at Edmond's Mills near the great Bridge in the state of Virginia, this affiant asserts that he served out the time for which he was drafted and received his discharge which discharge he delivered to said Shepard the member of Congress from this District.

This affiant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

(signed) John hisXmark Harris

[William Gregory, son of Gen. Gregory, stated that Harris was reputed to have been a Revolutionary soldier.]

William Davis being duly sworn says that he is aged 79 years, that he is a pensioner of the United States for Revolutionary Services, that he is now very infirm and incapable of going about from a cancer, he declares that he served in the revolutionary war in company with John Harris during one campaign, and that the foregoing of said Harris is true. William hisXmark Davis

State of North Carolina }
Pasquotank County }

On this the 3^d day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty six personally appeared before me Stephen D. Pool one of the Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid, John Harris a resident of the County of Pasquotank and State of North Carolina aged about ninety years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

From lack of memory he does not remember the years in which he entered into the service, remembers that he was always drafted for service, and that he was drafted three several times, and served three months under each draft, but under the last engagement he thinks he was discharged before the lapse of three months. He further declares that he received his discharges from his several Captains, two of them he preserved, and the third by some accident he lost. he thinks that he gave the two to some person after the passage of the law of the 7th of June 1832 for the purpose of enabling that person to procure the pension to which he was entitled under that Act. He further says that under one engagement he was near the battle fought on Briers Creek [sic: Brier Creek GA, 3 Mar 1779] but he does not recollect in what State, that battle was fought. He further states that under one engagement the Captain of his Company was named Rufus Williams, but does not remember the names of the other Captains under whom he served. He further states that under one of these said engagements he was under the command of Gen Gregory and he thinks that at that time he was at Great Bridge in Virginia. He further says that there is no person living that he knows of by whom he can prove these things.

He was born in the County of Pasquotank State of North Carolina, being the same in which he now lives. He has not record of his age.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or Annuity except the present, and declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Subscribed & sworn to before me June 3^d 1846.

John hisXmark Harriss

NOTE: On 1 Feb 1853 in Pasquotank County Ephraim Harris of Elizabeth City, son and one of the heirs of John Harris, deceased, and executor of his estate, applied for any pension that might be due.