Pension Application of John Harris W1422
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 12 March 2012.

Chesterfield County [Virginia]
On this 21st day of September one thousand eight hundred and forty eight personally appeared before me, William Gray a Justice of the Peace in and for the County & State aforesaid Rebecca Harris a resident of the Town of Manchester in the County of Chesterfield aged seventy years, who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the act of Congress passed the 29th of July 1848; That she is the Widow of John Harris who was a Lieutenant in the Light Dragoons and who was in service more than three years in the war of the Revolution and received a Land Warrant of 2666½ Acres from the State of Virginia for his servises which was located in the State of Ohio and sold by him in his life time. She further declares that she was married to the said John Harris on the 24th day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety four. That her husband the said John Harris died on the fourth day of December one thousand eighteen hundred and fifteen; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but was married at the time above stated and that the marriage took place prior to the second of January eighteen hundred as above stated. She further swears she is now a widow and that she has never before made any application for a pension.

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in the Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 26th day of February 1785, in the name of John Harris as Lieut of Cavalry for £77.7.6, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to himself and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782. To Wit. pay as Ens. from 11 Feb'y 1781 to 12th and as Cornet from 12 July to 28 Sept. and a Lieut from 28th Sept to 31st of December.

Given under my hand at the Auditor’s Office, Richmond, this 11th day of January 1849.
Jas. E Heath Auditor.

Council Chamber 21st January 1784.
I do certify that Mr. John Harris is entitled to the proportion of land allowed a Lieutenant of the Continental line who has served to the end of the war
Thomas Meriwether Benjamin Harrison
A Warrant for 266½ acres issued to Mr. John Harris 21st. January 1784 (No. 2,252.)
A Copy from the Records of the Virginia Land Office
Teste, S. H. Parker Reg. L. Office

I certify the [bearer] John Harris Esq’r was an officer (Lt.) in the 1st Reg. L. Dragoons at the end of the War
Jan 21 1784 Ed Carrington L Col Art’y. [Edward Carrington]
[Copy certified 22 Sep 1848]
NOTES:

On 22 Sep 1848 John Howlett and Archibald Freeland stated that John Harris was known as a Major at the time of his death.

The file includes copies of the permission and surety for the marriage of Rebecca Britton and John Harris, transcribed as follows:

“May 18th 1794

Sir

You will please to grant John Harris Jr license to marry my daughter Rebecca, and oblige Sir

To the Clerk of Chesterfield

Your obt Serv’t/ Anderson Britton

Teste. John Saunders.”

“May 20th 1794

D’r Sir

Capt John Harris, informs me has Business at your office that requires security. I am not well, or

would ride with him. You’ll please to consider me as bound for him as the matter requires.

Mr. Tho Watkins Chesterfield. I am your Humb’l. Serv’t &c/ Fra. Goode”

On 7 Nov 1842 in Henrico County VA the following were certified as children and heirs of John Harris:

Hiram Harris of Powhatan County; Hypatia, deceased wife of Colin McRae;
Ann, deceased wife of Dr. William Patteson;
Judith, deceased wife of the same Colin McRae;
Delia, deceased wife of Blair Burrel of Powhatan County;
Louisiana, wife of Alexander Brander of Richmond;
Matilda, wife of Dr. David McCaw of Powhatan County;
Philip F Harris, deceased without issue;
Mary E., deceased without issue, wife of Dr. Samuel Patteson;
Camilla Harris, single.

It was further certified that
Hypatia McRae was the daughter and only heir of Hypatia McRae, the first wife of Collin McRae;
Laura, Sidney, Christopher, and Olivia were the children and only heirs of Judith, the second wife of Collin McRae;
James, Delia, Ann, Martha, and Thomas Patteson were the children and only heirs of Ann Patteson;
William, Blair, Helen, Mary, Louisa, Margaret, and John Burrell were the children and only heirs of Delia Burrell.

The file contains two pages transcribed below from an original family record taken from the Bible of John Harris.

BIRTHS.

John Harris son of John and Obedience Harris was born 13th Oct. 1758.
Rebecca Harris (formerly Britton) daughter of Anderson & Ann Britton was born 4th Jan. 1779
Xenophon Harris son of John & Rebecca Harris was born on the 11th March 1795.
Hiram Harris son of the same was born 15th Sept’r. 1796
Hypatia Harris daughter of the same was born 15th Feb’y. 1798
Ann O. T. Harris daughter of the same was born 27th Ap’l. 1799
Judith Jordana Harris daughter of the same was born 14th Sep. 1800
Delia Harris daughter of the same was born 7th June 1802
Louisiana Harris daughter of the same was born 14th Mar. 1804
Caroline Matilda Rosina Harris daughter of the same was born 9th June 1806
Philip Francis Harris son of the same was born on the 8th May 1808
Caroline Matilda daughter of the same was born on the 20th May 1810
Mary E Harris daughter of the same was born 20th Ap’l. 1812
Camilla Harris daughter of the same was born 28th Oct. 1814
Hypatia Harris MacRae Daughter of Colin & Hypatia MacRae born January 20th 1817
Rebecca Ann Harris daughter of Hiram & Margaret Harris born 3rd of March 1823.
Henry Christian Harris son of the same born 3rd of February 1825.
Mary Eleanor Harris daughter of Hiram and Margaret Harris was born the 28th September 1827

MARRIAGES.
John Harris and Rebecca Britton were married on the 24th day of May 1794 by the Rev’d. Mr. Wm. Cameron
Colin McRae and Hypatia Harris were married on Thursday the 28th day of March 1816 by the Reverend Mr. Kirkpatrick
Colin McRae and Judith Harris were married on 16th of October 1818 by the Reverend Mr —
William A Patteson and Ann O T Harris were married on 8th April 1819 by the Reverend Bishop Moore
Hiram Harris and Margaret E Christian were married on 30th May 1822 by the Reverend Mr Hart
Hiram Harris and Margaret Wilson were married on 14th September 1826 by the Reverend Mr Duffie
Thomas Adkins and Louisana Harris were married on the 16th of November 1826 by the Reverend Mr. Hart.
Blair Burwell and Delia Harris were married on the 1st of March 1827 by the Reverend Mr. Hart.
David McCaw and Caroline Matilda Harris were married on the 14th of April 1837 [1831?] by the Rev’d. Mr. Lee
Samuel A. Patteson and Mary E. Harris were married on the 10th October 1833 by the Rev’d. Mr. Woodbridge