

Isham Harris (1741-1822)  
Captain, North Carolina Militia

Isham Harris was the son of Major West Harris (who also served in the Revolution) and Mary Turner. He was born Oct .23, 1741 Isle of Wight County, Virginia. Isham married Martha Mabel Green, Isle of Wight Virginia around 1760. The Harris families were tobacco farmers. North Carolina had the sandy soil necessary to grow tobacco. Sometime after Isham was 17 years old, he and his entire family (his wife, children, parents and siblings) moved to Montgomery County, North Carolina. About 1763 Isham had acquired his own property in Granville County, North Carolina.

North Carolina's counties changed drastically from its original formation. Granville, Wake and Bute counties changed over four different times up to the Revolutionary War. Isham first volunteered as a soldier in the militia of Brunswick County, Virginia. At this time, he fought for the Crown against the Cherokee Indians. By the beginning Revolution; Isham had achieved the rank of Captain in the North Carolina Militia. At the age of 38, Isham left his tobacco farm to support the cause. Although Isham did not fight in any skirmishes or battles, he did serve his Colony from 1779 – 1780 under the command of Col Joseph Taylor and Col Stephen Moore of (Caswell County Regiment).

Isham raised eight boys and one girl. All these children were born in Granville County, North Carolina. His sons either supported or fought in the Revolution. Isham died in Granville County, North Carolina on July 5, 1822 at the age of 80 years of age.

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