

## *Descendants of Peter Harrison*

William Schooler, the Revolutionary War soldier, married Elizabeth Harrison, connecting the Schoolers to one of the most well-known families in colonial Virginia. Past Schooler family histories have tried to state that this is the same Harrison family that yielded two United States Presidents: William Henry Harrison and his grandson Benjamin Harrison. No connection between the two families has been found.

The Harrisons are said to have gone to England with the Danish sea kings under Canute circa 1000 AD. Many Harrisons settled in Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire. Probably the most famous of the English Harrisons was Thomas (the Regicide), a major general in Cromwell's army. He was among the signers of the death warrant for King Charles I of England, who was executed in 1649. Eleven years later, when Charles II regained the throne, Thomas was hanged together with other rebels at Charing Cross, London on October 13, 1660. It is believed that one or more of his sons emigrated to Virginia.

In Virginia there were three distinct families of Harrisons. The first is the "James River" line, founded by Benjamin Harrison, clerk of the Jamestown colony, (1590 - 1648). Benjamin V (1726 - 1791, fifth generation from Benjamin I) was a signer of the Declaration of Independence and Governor of Virginia 1781-1784. His son **William Henry Harrison** (1773-1841) was territorial Governor of Indiana in 1800, General of the Northwest Army in the War of 1812 and became the 9th President of the United States in 1841. His grandson Benjamin (1833 - 1901) was the eighth generation in this line from the Jamestown Benjamin and became the 23rd President of the United States in 1889.<sup>20</sup>

The second Harrison family, the "Blue Ridge" line, has held a belief in a connection to the Regicide.<sup>20</sup>

The third "Northern Neck" line makes no claim to the Regicide. It is this line to which the Schoolers are connected.<sup>20</sup> The direct relations to Elizabeth Harrison are illustrious in their own right. Elizabeth's brother John was a major in the military. Her first cousin Benjamin was a colonel and an advocate for Kentucky statehood, framer of the Kentucky Constitution, and Kentucky legislator. Harrison County in Kentucky, where the Schoolers lived in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, was named for him.

Elizabeth's father was Charles Harrison. Hence there are a plethora of Charles Harrison Schoolers throughout the descending branches of the family tree.

### *Generation No. 1*

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#### **1. Peter<sup>1</sup> Harrison**

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Born: About 1530 in St. Andrews, Cambridge, England

Died: 1593 in St. Andrews, Cambridge, England

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#### **Child**

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+ 2            i. **Anthony<sup>2</sup> Harrison**, born about 1563 in Cambridgeshire, England

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### *Generation No. 2*

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#### **2. Anthony<sup>2</sup> Harrison** (Peter<sup>1</sup>)

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Born: About 1563 in Cambridgeshire, England

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#### **Child**

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- + 3            i. **Anthony<sup>3</sup> Harrison**, born about 1600 in Cambridgeshire, England; died after 1680 in New Kent County, Virginia
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*Generation No. 3*

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**3. Anthony<sup>3</sup> Harrison** (Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)

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Born: About 1600 in Cambridgeshire, England  
Died: After 1680 in New Kent County, Virginia

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**Child**

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- + 4            i. **Richard<sup>4</sup> Harrison**, born about 1630 in Cambridgeshire, England; died after 1680 in New Kent County, Virginia
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*Generation No. 4*

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**4. Richard<sup>4</sup> Harrison** (Anthony<sup>3</sup>, Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)

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Born: About 1630 in Cambridgeshire, England  
Died: After 1680 in New Kent County, Virginia

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**Child**

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- + 5            i. **Andrew<sup>5</sup> Harrison**, born 1650 in Cambridgeshire, England; died 1718 in St. Mary's Parish, Essex County, Virginia
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*Generation No. 5*

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**5. Andrew<sup>5</sup> Harrison** (Richard<sup>4</sup>, Anthony<sup>3</sup>, Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)

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Born: 1650 in Cambridgeshire, England  
Died: 1718 in St. Mary's Parish, Essex County, Virginia

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Married: **Elinor Ellitt** About 1671 in New Kent County, Virginia, daughter of **Samuel Ellitt** and **Elizabeth ?**.

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Born: About 1658 in Essex County, Virginia

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**Children**

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- i. **William<sup>6</sup> Harrison**, married Hannah ?.<sup>4</sup>
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- + 6      ii. **Andrew<sup>6</sup> Harrison**, born 1687 in Old Rappahannock, Essex County, Virginia; died July 13, 1753 in Orange County, Virginia

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iii. **Elizabeth<sup>6</sup> Harrison**, married **Thomas Munday**.<sup>4</sup>

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iv. **Margaret<sup>6</sup> Harrison**, married **Gabriel Long**.<sup>4</sup>

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*Generation No. 6*

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**6. Andrew<sup>6</sup> Harrison** (Andrew<sup>5</sup>, Richard<sup>4</sup>, Anthony<sup>3</sup>, Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)<sup>1,2</sup>

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Born: 1687 in Old Rappahannock, Essex County, Virginia

Died: July 13, 1753 in Orange County, Virginia

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Married: **Elizabeth Battaile<sup>3</sup>** 1710 in St. Thomas Parish, Orange County, Virginia, daughter of **John Battaile** and **Elizabeth Smith**

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Born: 1695 in Essex County, Virginia

Died: 1770 in Caroline County, Virginia

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**Children**

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- + 7      i. **Charles<sup>7</sup> Harrison**, born 1717 in St. Thomas Parish, Orange County, Virginia; died 1786 in Franklin Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.
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8      ii. **Elizabeth Harrison<sup>3</sup>**, born April 28, 1718 in Essex County, Virginia. She married **Richard Cousins<sup>3</sup>** 1738.

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9      iii. **John Harrison<sup>3</sup>**, born 1719 in St. Thomas Parish, Orange County, Virginia. He married **Sarah Daniels<sup>3</sup>**.

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- + 10      iv. **Lawrence Harrison**, born 1720 in Essex County, Virginia; died January 1772 in Tyrone Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.
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11      v. **Margaret Harrison<sup>3</sup>**, born 1722 in Essex County, Virginia. She married **Samuel Kercheval<sup>3</sup>** 1742.

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12      vi. **Battaile Harrison<sup>3</sup>**, born 1725 in Essex County, Virginia. He married: (1) **Francis White<sup>3</sup>** 1755; born 1725; died 1789; (2) **Frances Tinsley<sup>3</sup>** November 17, 1792; born 1715.

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13      vii. **Andrew Harrison<sup>3</sup>**, born April 18, 1718 in Essex, Virginia; died July 13, 1743.

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More About Andrew Harrison:

He is mentioned in his father's will.

More About Elizabeth Battaile:

Her husband was first her guardian and then later her husband.

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**7. Charles<sup>7</sup> Harrison** (Andrew<sup>6</sup>, Andrew<sup>5</sup>, Richard<sup>4</sup>, Anthony<sup>3</sup>, Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)<sup>4,5</sup>

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Born: 1717 in St. Thomas Parish, Orange County, Virginia

Died: 1786 in Franklin Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania; buried on John Sterling's farm, Green Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

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Married: (1) **Sarah Daniels<sup>5</sup>**

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Married (2) **Mary Barbour<sup>5</sup>** 1739

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Married (3) **Sarah Smithers<sup>5</sup>** 1743 in Westmoreland County, Virginia, daughter of **William Smithers**

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Born: 1719

Died: In Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania; buried on John Sterling's farm, Green Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

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**Children**

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14	i. <b>Nicholas<sup>8</sup> Harrison<sup>5</sup></b> , born 1738 in Virginia; died after 1810 in Logan County, Ohio. He married <b>Isabelle Curry<sup>5</sup></b> 1796. They had 8 children.
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+ 15	ii. <b>Major John Harrison<sup>5</sup></b> , born 1744 in St. Thomas Parish, Orange County, Virginia; died June 19, 1821 in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky.
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16	iii. <b>Corporal Richard Harrison<sup>5</sup></b> , born between 1746 and 1756; died 1809 in Bedford County, Virginia.
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17	iv. <b>Robert Harrison<sup>5</sup></b> , born 1750 in Virginia. He married <b>Rebecca Wheeler<sup>5</sup></b> April 12, 1808; born 1750.
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More About Robert Harrison:

Robert Torrence raises the possibility in his book *Torrence and Allied Families* that this Robert and Rebecca Harrison may be the parents of Cynthia and Ann Harrison, for whom the town of Cynthiana, Kentucky, was named.

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18	v. <b>Sarah Harrison<sup>5</sup></b> , born 1752 in Virginia.
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19	vi. <b>Charles Harrison<sup>5</sup></b> , born 1754 in Virginia.
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+ 20	vii. <b>Elizabeth Harrison</b> , born 1763 in Virginia; died between 1799 and 1808 in Harrison County, Kentucky.
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More About Charles Harrison:

Between 1754 and 1768 Charles moved to Pennsylvania. In 1758 he sold the land his father gave him. He was constable for Orange and Yohogania Counties, Virginia.

More About Sarah Smithers:

She may have died before 1753, or November 1758, when her husband sold land and she did not sign the deed. (None of her death dates work with the birth dates of her children.)

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**10. Lawrence<sup>7</sup> Harrison** (Andrew<sup>6</sup>, Andrew<sup>5</sup>, Richard<sup>4</sup>, Anthony<sup>3</sup>, Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)<sup>5,6</sup>

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Born: 1720 in Essex County, Virginia

Died: January 1772 in Tyrone Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

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Married **(1) Catherine ?<sup>7</sup>**

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Married **(2) Catherine Marmaduke<sup>7,8</sup>** 1748 in Orange County, Virginia

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Born: 1730

Died: 1836 in Harrison County, Kentucky

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**Children**

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| 21 | i. <b>Major William<sup>8</sup> Harrison<sup>9</sup></b> , born in Orange County, Virginia; died June 11, 1782 in Sandusky, Erie County, Ohio. He married <b>Sarah Crawford<sup>4</sup></b> . |
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More About Major William Harrison:

Burned at the stake by the Wyandotte and Moravian Indians.<sup>4</sup>

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| 22 | ii. <b>Catherine Harrison<sup>10</sup></b> , born 1744 in Frederick County, Virginia; died 1824 in Pennsylvania. She married <b>Colonel Isaac Meason<sup>4</sup></b> . |
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| + 23 | iii. <b>Colonel Benjamin Harrison<sup>11</sup></b> , born 1750 in Orange County, Virginia; died 1808 in Washington County, Missouri. He married <b>Mary Newall<sup>4</sup></b> . |
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| 24 | iv. <b>Lawrence Harrison<sup>12</sup></b> , born about 1753 in Frederick County, Virginia; died November 12, 1833 in Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio. He married <b>Mary Allison<sup>4</sup></b> , February 19, 1788, in Bourbon County, Kentucky; born February 24, 1769. |
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More About Lawrence Harrison:

He was a lieutenant, 13th and 7th Virginia Regiments, American Revolution. On February 15, 1785, he was living in Tyrone Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.<sup>4</sup>

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| 25 | v. <b>Battaile Harrison<sup>13</sup></b> , born about 1757 in Frederick County, Virginia; died November 16, 1776 at Fort Washington, New York County, New York. |
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More About Battaile Harrison:

Battaile was Elizabeth Harrison Schooler's first cousin, and was 19 years old when he was killed. The American defeat at Fort Washington is detailed in the book *1776* by David McCullough (Simon & Schuster, New York, 2005), pp. 240-244. He states, "Fifty-nine Americans had been killed."

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| 26 | vi. <b>Elizabeth Harrison<sup>14</sup></b> , born about 1759 in Frederick County, Virginia. She married <b>John Dawson<sup>4</sup></b> . |
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| 27 | vii. <b>Mary Harrison<sup>15</sup></b> , born 1761 in Frederick County, Virginia; died February 07, 1836 in Cynthiana, Harrison County, Kentucky. She married <b>Captain Thomas L. Moore<sup>4</sup></b> in Harrison County, |
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Kentucky; born 1745 in Kent County, Maryland; died October 20, 1823; both buried in Poindexter Village, near Cynthiana, Harrison County, Kentucky.

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More About Major Captain Thomas L. Moore:

1st Lieutenant in Captain Benjamin Harrison's 13th Virginia Regiment and subsequently under Colonel William Russell and Colonel John Gibson. He was promoted to captain, January 23, 1778. He served with George Rogers Clark in Illinois with Captain Uriah Springer.<sup>4</sup>

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More About Lawrence Harrison:

Lawrence was constable of Orange County, Virginia.

*Generation No. 8*

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**15. Major John<sup>8</sup> Harrison** (Charles<sup>7</sup>, Andrew<sup>6</sup>, Andrew<sup>5</sup>, Richard<sup>4</sup>, Anthony<sup>3</sup>, Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)<sup>5</sup>

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Born: 1754 in St. Thomas Parish, Orange County, Virginia<sup>4</sup>

Died: June 19, 1821 in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

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Married **Mary Ann Johnston**<sup>5</sup> May 25, 1787, Cave Hill (her father Dr. Benjamin Johnston's estate), now Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky,

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Born: 1734 (I believe this date to be inaccurate)

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More About Major John Harrison<sup>4</sup>:

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, he took his father's gun and joined the company of Captain John Stevenson's Rifle Regiment on December 16, 1776. He was commissioned Ensign of the 13th Virginia Regiment, becoming 2nd Lieutenant in January 1777; 1st Lieutenant in 1778; Captain-Lieutenant January 1, 1781. In 1785 he was promoted to Major, having served in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth. He was present at Wayne's Treaty in 1795 and conversed with the Delaware Indians in their native tongue, having been familiar with this language as well as French. He was in Dunmore's Campaign against the Shawnees in 1774.

In 1785 he went down the Ohio River, via Wheeling, West Virginia, in a flat boat to Louisville. He was joined by his cousin, Benjamin Harrison, son of Lawrence Harrison. Both had been soldiers in the 13th Virginia.

At his funeral his remains were followed to the grave by all of the military companies of Louisville.

28 Nov 1799 Harrison County, Kentucky Deeds: John Harrison and wife Mary Ann of Jefferson County, Kentucky to William Schooler and wife Betsy (formerly Harrison and sister of the said John) and Elizabeth Schooler, infant daughter of William and Betsy of Harrison County right to 140 1/2 acres on Mill Creek a branch of south fork of Licking, and then to Elizabeth Schooler.

His will was probated on August 13, 1821 in Jefferson County, Kentucky.

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**20. Elizabeth<sup>8</sup> Harrison** (Charles<sup>7</sup>, Andrew<sup>6</sup>, Andrew<sup>5</sup>, Richard<sup>4</sup>, Anthony<sup>3</sup>, Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)<sup>16</sup>

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Born: 1763 in Virginia<sup>17</sup>

Died: Between 1799 and 1808 in Harrison County, Kentucky

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Married **William Schooler<sup>18</sup>** 1779<sup>19</sup>, son of **Benjamin Schooler** and ? **Devine**

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Born: 1760 in Spotsylvania County, Virginia

Died: May 1833 in Harrison County, Kentucky

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See notes in "Descendants of William Schooler, Generation No. 5".

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**23. Colonel Benjamin<sup>8</sup> Harrison** (Lawrence<sup>7</sup>, Andrew<sup>6</sup>, Andrew<sup>5</sup>, Richard<sup>4</sup>, Anthony<sup>3</sup>, Anthony<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)<sup>5</sup>

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Born: 1750 in Orange County, Virginia

Died: 1808 in Washington County, Missouri

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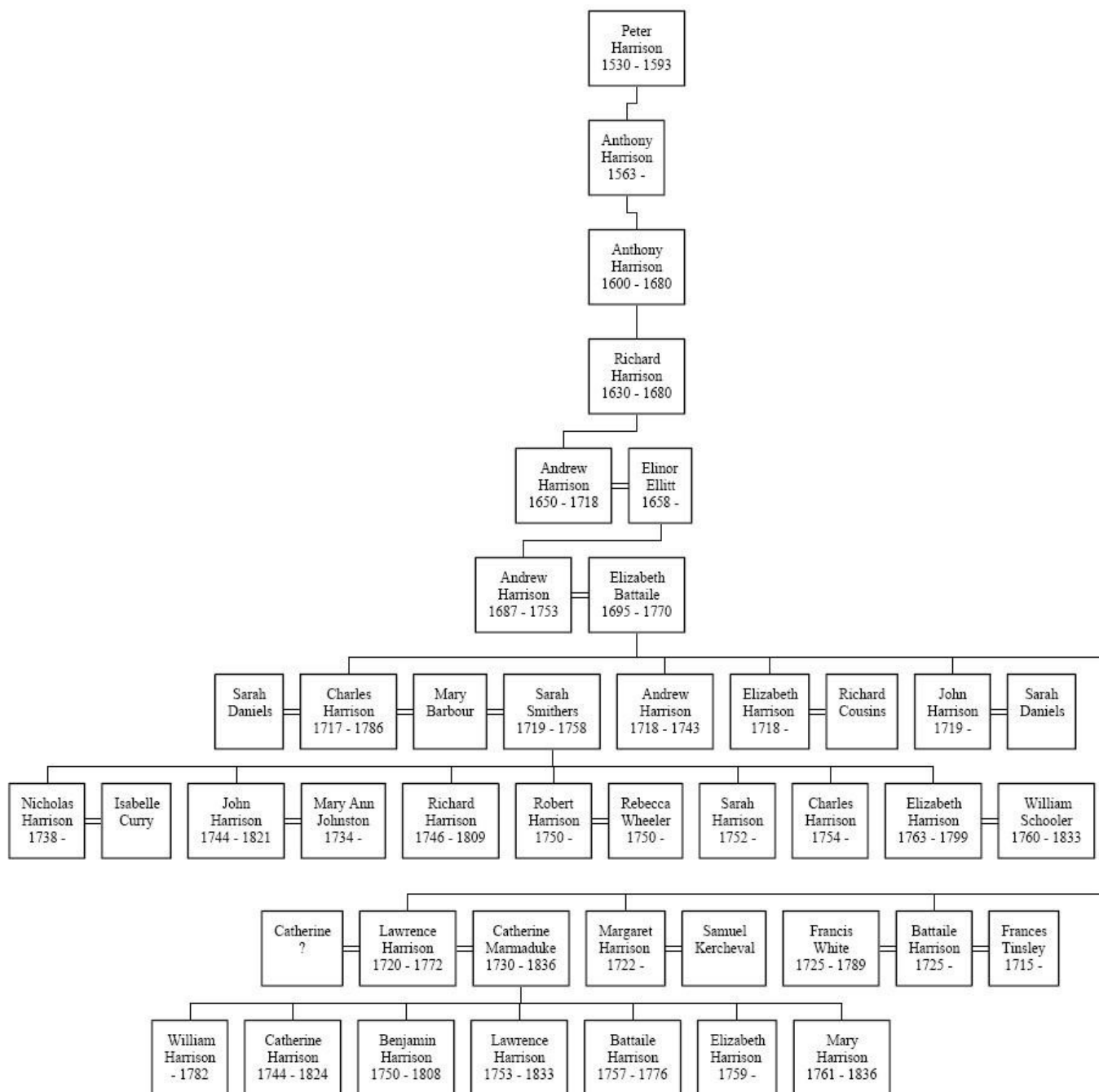
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More About Colonel Benjamin Harrison:

Harrison County, Kentucky, is named in his honor. He was an advocate for Kentucky statehood, framer of the Kentucky Constitution, and Kentucky legislator. A short biography of him exists called *Benjamin Harrison, 1750 - 1808, A History of His Life And of Some of the Events In American History in Which He was Involved*, by Jeremy F. Elliot, 1978. Benjamin was first cousin to Elizabeth Harrison Schooler.

On February 7, 1775, he led a company of Virginians to Hamestown and released prisoners. He entered the Army in December 1776 and was appointed Captain in the 13th Virginia Regiment, December 16, 1776. He was in service at Fort Pitt, under General Hand, 1777-78; at Brandywine and Germantown. In early 1779, he was again ordered to Fort Pitt, remaining until February 1781, after which he was retired with the rank of Major. In 1782 he was made Colonel of the Westmoreland County Militia, Pennsylvania. He settled in Bourbon County, Kentucky, where he had prospected before the Revolutionary War. He was a delegate from Bourbon County to the convention that met at Danville in 1787; also in 1788; again in 1792 at which the Kentucky Constitution was formed. He was a senator from Bourbon County; a member of the Legislature, in 1793, when Harrison County was established, which was named for him. He was a trustee of the Harrison Academy, established 1798.

## *Descendants of Peter Harrison*



## *Endnotes*

1. Elizabeth Annette Schooler Watkins, *Schooler Family Web Page*, "Electronic."
2. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN: P3BZ-5S.
3. Elizabeth Annette Schooler Watkins, *Schooler Family Web Page*, "Electronic."
4. *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, (Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1981), Genealogies of Virginia Families, Vol. III, pp. 948 - 957.
5. Elizabeth Annette Schooler Watkins, *Schooler Family Web Page*, "Electronic."
6. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:1BF7-VH.
7. Elizabeth Annette Schooler Watkins, *Schooler Family Web Page*, "Electronic."
8. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:B81K-FK.
9. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:P3BW-V5.
10. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:P3BW-ZN.
11. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:P3BW-WB.
12. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:P3BW-XH.
13. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:P3BX-0S.
14. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:P3BX-10.
15. FamilySearch Ancestry File, AFN:P3BX-25.
16. Elizabeth Annette Schooler Watkins, *Schooler Family Web Page*, "Electronic."
17. "Virginia Historical Magazine," Vol. 55, No. 1, Jan 1947, pp 85-94.
18. Elizabeth Annette Schooler Watkins, *Schooler Family Web Page*, "Electronic."
19. "Harrison County (Virginia) Historical Magazine," Vol 55 pg 85-94.
20. R. Pierre Taylor, *The Schooler-Harrison Family of England, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Missouri and Points West.*, (May 1986), "Electronic", <http://www.taylorappaloosa.com/Shoolers.html> [sic], accessed September 3, 2009.