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William Norris and Elizabeth Patrick

By [Steven Norris](#) August 19, 2003 at 08:44:03

I collected the following information on William Norris (Rev. Sol.) and his wife, Elizabeth Patrick, several years ago while working on my own Norris family in Georgia. I found that I'm not related to these folks, and I am no longer researching this line. However, I'm very happy to share the information below, with the hope that it helps someone else.

WILLIAM NORRIS Rev. Sol.

The following information was taken from a card file at the Georgia State Archives in Atlanta. The information was provided by: (1.) Lona Norris Carroll (Mrs. Henry C.) of Tennille Georgia, member DAR, Nat. No. 190682, Major General Samuel Elbert Chapter and (2.) Christine Carroll Ferguson (Mrs. William H.) of Tennille Georgia, member DAR, Nat. No. 190683, Major General Samuel Elbert Chapter. Please note that the DAR required no proof of lineage at this early date, and they have no records showing the descendants of William Norris. The information was probably given to the Georgia State Archives by these women in the 1920's or 1930's. The card file shows:

-- William Norris, Rev. Sol. (1760-1842)
-- wife: Elizabeth Patrick
-- children known: James, William, Joel, Isaac, Thomas, Sally

The family apparently originated in South Carolina, based upon the birthplace of James, William, Joel, and Isaac shown in later census records. Using this DAR information as a starting point, I believe that we can accurately follow William Norris after his arrival in Georgia. I've found the following records:

1. (Richmond Co. Ga. Deeds, G.355)
Instrument 11 Dec 1798 -- Thomas Walford of Wilkes Co. Ga to William Norris of City of Augusta, sells part of lot 21 fronting on McIntosh Street in the City of Augusta, bounded north by William Belamy, east by late Reuben Coleman, and northwardly and southwardly by Charles Hill and Company, conveyed to Lewis Noicle(?) by Noah

Helsey 27 Oct 1790, and to Thomas Walford by William Spencer, 12 Apr 1793. wit: Holland McTyre, David B. Butler J. P. Deed recorded in Richmond Co. Ga. 13 Sept 1799.

2. William Norris of Capt. Holland McTyre's District (McTyre) mentioned in The Augusta Chronical newspaper, 30 Nov 1799, p. 1, column 1, legal notice showing he owed property tax.

3. (Richmond Co. Ga. Deeds, K.279)

Instrument 12 April 1804 -- William Norris and Elizabeth his wife of City of Augusta to William Harkness of same, sells part of lot 21 fronting on McIntosh Street in the City of Augusta, description the same as shown in the deed above. Sg. William Norris by signature, Elizabeth Norris by mark. wit. John Kennedy, Andrew Harkness Deed recorded in Richmond Co. Ga. 6 Feb 1807, proved by John Fee by signature recognition.

4. Georgia Land Lotteries 1805 and 1807.

-- William Norris of Richmond Co. drew blank in 1805 Georgia Land Lottery

-- William Norris of Richmond Co. drew LL 42, Dist. 18, of Baldwin Co. in 1807 Georgia Land Lottery

(Note: I believe this land is later part of Jones Co. Georgia (see map) but this needs to be verified)

Now, the picture gets a little cloudy about where William Norris went next. He apparently left Richmond Co. in 1807, because his sale deed was proved by "signature recognition" suggesting that he was no longer around. Some people say he went to Montgomery Co. Georgia, which once included all of present-day Emanuel and Johnson Cos. Much more research on this subject is needed. I'll present the following records in chronological order, but I don't really know where he was living until he re-appears in Jones Co. Georgia in 1821.

5. Montgomery Co. Georgia Marriage Records:

-- Isaac Norris m. Polly Cowart, 25 August 1811, Montgomery Co. Ga.

-- Sally Norris m. Benjamin Powell, 21 July 1811, Montgomery Co. Ga.

(These marriage records suggest that William Norris and Elizabeth Patrick were living somewhere in the area in 1811).

6.2 Sept 1817 -- Legal Notice published in the Georgia Journal newspaper:

"Will be sold on the first Tuesday in October next, at the courthouse in Emanuel County, between the usual hours, the following parcels of land, to wit ... (then follows a lengthy list of foreclosures, including) ... 200 ac. of pine land, as the property of William Norris, to satisfy an execution in favor of James Raney; levied on by Samuel Moore, Constable."

7. Jones Co. Georgia Tax Digests

1821 -- William Norris, Capt. Moore's District, poll tax only

-- John Norris, Capt. Moore's District, 250 ac. in Early Co. LL 170, Dist. 11

-- James Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

-- Joel Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

1822-1824 Tax records are missing for the county

1825 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid by Lewis Bedding

1826 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid personally

8. Georgia Land Lottery of 1827

-- William Norris RS (ie. Rev. Sol.) of Brown's Dist. Monroe Co. drew LL 248, Dist. 9, Sec. 2

-- James Norris of Stalling's Dist. Monroe Co. drew LL 206, Dist. 10, Sec. 5

8. (Houston Co. Deeds, C.334)

Instrument 27 Dec 1827 -- William Norris of Houston Co. to James W. Cannon of same, sells 1/2 of LL 33, Dist. 14 of Houston Co. Georgia. wit: John Green, Daniel Golding, Isaac Norris, Wm. Johnson J.I.C.

(Note: Isaac Norris of Houston Co. also sold land to James W. Cannon on 3 Jan 1828 and lived adjacent to him in the 1830 census. See records for Isaac Norris below)

After this 1827 deed, I found no further records of William Norris Rev. Sol. that we can be certain is the same person. The women that gained membership in the DAR said that William died in 1842. I don't know how they knew that. He may have died in Houston Co. Ga. 1827-1830, or he could have lived somewhere with Sally (Norris) Powell.

THOMAS NORRIS (said to be son of William Norris Rev. Sol.)

-- I found no mention of Thomas Norris, but there is one possibility for his widow in Putnam Co. Georgia. See the section on John Norris below.

ISAAC NORRIS (said to be son of William Norris Rev. Sol.)

1. Montgomery Co. Georgia Marriage Records:

-- Isaac Norris m. Polly Cowart, 25 August 1811, Montgomery Co. Ga.

-- Sally Norris m. Benjamin Powell, 21 July 1811, Montgomery Co. Ga.

2. 1820 Census, Emanuel Co. Georgia, p. 85

Isaac Norris Household, adjacent to Abner Sandford

1M 26-45 (Isaac Norris)

2F 0-10

1F 16-26 (Polly Norris)

3. Jones Co. Georgia Tax Digests

1821 -- William Norris, Capt. Moore's District, poll tax only

-- John Norris, Capt. Moore's District, 250 ac. in Early Co. LL 170, Dist. 11

-- James Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

-- Joel Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

1822-1824 Tax records are missing for the county

1825 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid by Lewis Bedding

1826 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid personally

2. Georgia Land Lottery of 1827

--Isaac Norris of Capt. Hammock's Dist. Jones Co. entered and entitled to one draw.

3.(Houston Co. Ga. Deeds, C.336)

Instrument 3 Jan 1828 -- Isaac Norris of Houston Co. to James W. Cannon of same, sells 50 acres of LL35, Dist. 14 of Houston Co.wit. Nimrod Ducker, John B. Cannon, William Johnson J.I.C.

(Note:William Norris Rev. Sol. of Houston Co. also sold land to this James W. Cannon on 27 Dec 1827, Isaac Norris as witness.The Will of Isaac Norris (probate 1860) shows daughter, Elizabeth Cannon, likely a connection of James W.)

4.(Jones Co. Ga. Deeds, O.270)

Instrument 21 Dec 1829 -- Matthew Clements of Jones Co. to Isaac Norris of same, sells LL9, Dist. 8 of Jones Co.wit. Benjamin Trapp, Thomas B. Slade J.I.C.

5.Houston Co. Ga. Tax Digests

1829 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Blanchard's Dist., 152.5 ac. of LL35, Dist. 14, and 1 poll

1830 -- Tax records for the county are missing

1831 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Goodwin's Dist., 150 ac. of LL35, Dist. 14, and 1 poll

6.1830 Census, Houston Co. Georgia, p. 282

Isaac Norris

1M 30-40

1F 30-40

1F 10-15

1F 5-10

shown adjacent to James W. Cannon

7.(Jones Co. Ga. Deeds, P.23)

Instrument 6 Sept 1831 -- Isaac Norris of Jones Co. to Leattitia Holloday of same, sells 1/2 of LL9, Dist. 8, of Jones Co.wit. J. Fragin, Willis S. S. Scott, Balle Patterson, J.I.C.

(Note:Sale of the remaining acreage is not recorded)

8. Georgia Land Lottery of 1832

--Isaac Norris of Jones Co. no district shown, entered and entitled to 2 draws.

9.1840 Census, Emanuel Co. Georgia, p. 193

Isaac Norris

1M 40-50

1F 40-50

10.1850 Census, Emanuel Co. Georgia, p. 459

Isaac Norris59MFarmerb. SC

Mary Norris59Fb. Ga.

11.Will of Isaac Norris, sg. in Emanuel Co. (no date), prv. June 1860 in Johnson Co.

-- grandson, Isaac N. Townsend, 150 ac. on Little Ohoopee adjoining Solomon Page, Andrew Townsend, Lanier Powell

-- dau. Elizabeth Cannon and three of her sons, not named

-- dau. Milly Powell, and her dau. Manda
-- dau. Martha Townsend
-- exec. Andrew Townsend, Lanier Powell
-- wit. Henry Sumley, Joseph H. Sutton, Benjamin Norris, John Tapley, James M. Tapley
(Note: Witness Benjamin Norris was son of William Norris and Belison Powell of Emanuel Co. and shown in his household in the 1850 census)

12. As these records show, there is a long period in the life of Isaac Norris when he owned land in Jones Co. and Houston Co. simultaneously. Isaac seems to move back-and-forth between his two tracts, and is just as likely to be shown "of Jones Co." as he is to be shown "of Houston Co." I mention this because there is a completely different Isaac Norris from North Carolina that first appears in adjoining Twiggs Co. about 1850 -- apparently no relation.

JOHN NORRIS (probably son of William Norris, Rev. Sol., but not mentioned in the card file at the Georgia State Archives)

1. 1820 Census, Putnam Co. Georgia, p. 93, the following are shown adjacent:

-- John Norris, 1M 18-26, living alone
-- Martha Norris, 1F 26-45, living alone, unidentified (Perhaps widow of Thomas Norris?)

2. Georgia Land Lottery of 1820

-- John Norris of Slaughter's District, Putnam Co. drew LL 170, Dist. 11, of Early Co. Georgia

3. Jones Co. Georgia Tax Digests

1821 -- William Norris, Capt. Moore's District, poll tax only

-- John Norris, Capt. Moore's District, 250 ac. in Early Co. LL 170, Dist. 11

-- James Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

-- Joel Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

1822-1824 Tax records are missing for the county

1825 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid by Lewis Bedding

1826 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid personally

(Note: Land taxable to John Norris exactly matches the draw in Putnam Co. the previous year)

4. Not found in the 1830 Georgia census, but should be in or near Monroe Co. Need to look again.

5. 1840 Census, Monroe Co. Georgia, p. 204b:

John Norris Household

1M 5-10

1M 15-20

1M 40-50

1F 15-20

1F 50-60

The following households are shown adjacent to John Norris in 1840 --

Newdaygate Owsley (See the records for James Norris below)

Thomas Gorden

John Norris

William Parker

Edmond Jourdan (William Norris of Emanuel Co. married Belison Powell, and named a son Jourdan Norris)

6.1850 Census, Monroe Co. Georgia, p. 72

John Norris56MMillerb. SC

Selia Norris57Fb. SC

Plana(?) Norris22Fb. Ga

Elizabeth Norris20Fb. Ga.

John M. Norris14Mb. Ga.

William Norris12Mb. Ga.

(Note:Here we see children named William and Elizabeth that match the names of the Rev. Sol. and his wife.The children in this household don't match the ones shown in 1840, but I think it is the same John Norris.I would follow all of the tax lists in Monroe Co. 1830-1850 just to make sure it's the same John).

JAMES NORRIS (said to be son of William Norris Rev. Sol.)

1.(Jones Co. Ga. Deeds, G.127)

Instrument 1 June 1816 -- Richard Blunt of Jones Co. to James Norris of same, sells LL 146, Dist. 10, of Jones Co.wit.William Blunt J.P., Harris Gresham, J.P.

2.Jasper Co. Georgia Marriage Record

-- James Norris m. Catherine Love, 20 November 1817

(Note:It was tradition in Georgia to record the marriage in the Bride's county.Catherine apparently from Jasper Co. and James from Jones Co.)

3.(Jones Co. Ga. Deeds, K.41)

Instrument 22 Dec 1817 -- James Norris of Jones Co. to Rowland Ross of same, sells 1/2 of LL 146, Dist. 10 of Jones Co.wit.Newdaygate Owsley, Thomas E. Rogers

(Note:Sale of remaining acreage is not recorded.)

4.1820 Census, Jones Co. Georgia, shows James Norris adjacent to Newdaygate Owsley.

5.Jones Co. Georgia Tax Digests

1821 -- William Norris, Capt. Moore's District, poll tax only

-- John Norris, Capt. Moore's District, 250 ac. in Early Co. LL 170, Dist. 11

-- James Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

-- Joel Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

1822-1824Tax records are missing for the county

1825 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid by Lewis Bedding

1826 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid personally

6.(Monroe Co. Ga. Deeds, A.175)

Instrument 11 March 1822 -- Martha Bridges widow of Chatham Co. by her attorney Bailey Keller to James Norris of Monroe Co., sells LL 121, Dist. 13 of Monroe Co. drawn by Martha Bridges, lying on the waters of Deer Creek.

7.Georgia Land Lottery of 1827

-- William Norris RS (ie. Rev. Sol.) of Brown's Dist. Monroe Co. drew LL 248, Dist. 9, Sec. 2

--James Norris of Stalling's Dist. Monroe Co. drew LL 206, Dist. 10, Sec. 5

8.Monroe Co. Georgia Tax Digest

1828 -- James Norris, Capt. Stalling's Dist, 202.5 ac in Monroe Co., LL 121, Dist. 13, adjoins Abner Glanton

-- James Norris, Capt. Stalling's Dist, 202.5 ac in Carroll Co., LL 206, Dist 10, adjoins unknown

9.Monroe Co. Marriage Records

-- John W. Chandler m. Mary Milles (Mills), 8 August 1839, by John P. Dickson MG, (A. 172)

-- James Norris m. Mary Chandler, 17 April 1849, by Wm. W. Hardy MG (B.52)

10.Will of James Norris, sg. 8 Sept 1874 in Monroe Co., prv. 21 May 1879 in Monroe Co. Will Bk. (1876-1927) p. 51.

-- wife:Mary A. Norris

-- dau. Josephine A. Norris, cow, calf, feather bed

-- after death of my wife, "all my children" share and share alike, to wit:

Simmion Norris, Joel F. Norris, Catherine M. Norris, James E. Norris, George C.

Norris, Josephine A. Norris, William T. Norris, Lorenzo L. Norris, Charles B. Norris, Samuel M. Norris, Louis L. Norris, Mary A. Pridgeon, Sarah A. Benton, Margaret M. Speir, Emily J. Hudgens, Frances A. Buckalew, Martha S. Peyton, Amanda Moseley.

-- execs.Alexander Spicer, Thomas T. Buckalew

-- wit.T. H. Wynn,M. S. Joran (Jordan?),A. H. Shi,T. E. Walton

(Note:daughter, Margaret M. "Speir" probably should be Margaret M. Spicer, wife of Alexander Spicer, Executor)

11.James Norris appears in the Census of Monroe Co. 1830-1870.I haven't copied all of these census records because his Will names "all my children".I think he had a few other children that died young.

JOEL NORRIS (said to be son of William Norris Rev. Sol.)

1.Jones Co. Georgia Tax Digests

1821 -- William Norris, Capt. Moore's District, poll tax only

-- John Norris, Capt. Moore's District, 250 ac. in Early Co. LL 170, Dist. 11

-- James Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

-- Joel Norris, Capt. Gresham's District, poll tax only

1822-1824Tax records are missing for the county

1825 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid by Lewis Bedding

1826 -- Isaac Norris, Capt. Hammock's District, poll tax only, paid personally

2. Monroe Co. Georgia Marriage Records

-- Joel Norris m. Matilda Beckham, 5 April 1826, by Wm. W. Moon J.P. (A.37)

3. Will of Sherwood Beckham, sg. 4 Jan 1837, prv. 7 Jan 1837, Monroe Co. Will Bk. A

-- wife Mary: all property for life or widowhood.

-- son, Solomon Beckham: 1/2 of property in return for caring for widow.

-- son-in-law, Joel Norris: waiver of \$300 debt.

-- son, John S. Beckham

-- son, William C. Beckham

-- daughter, Mary S. Young

-- son, James D. Beckham

-- daughter, Matilda H. Norris

-- execs. William C. Beckham, James D. Beckham, Solomon Beckham

-- wit. James Bell, William Smarr, William W. Hardy

4. 1850 Census, Harris Co. Georgia, p. 95

Joel Norris 53M Farmer b. SC

Matilda Norris 43F b. Ga

Mary Ann Norris 23F b. Ga

Sarah Ann Norris 20F b. Ga

Sherwood Norris 18M b. Ga

Joel P. Norris 14M b. Ga

James P. Norris 12M b. Ga

Jasper Norris 9M b. Ga

Fielding Norris 6M b. Ga

Missouri F. Norris 1F b. Ga

5. Joel Norris died intestate in Harris Co. Georgia March 1854. John W. Thompson

Admr. per petition in book 30, p. 96. Minor children mentioned in the estate:

-- Felly A., James P., Jasper A., Missouri Frances, Pleasant J.

WILLIAM NORRIS (said to be son of William Norris Rev. Sol.)

1. 1830 Census, Bibb Co. Georgia, p. 51b (adjoins Monroe Co.) shows William Norris, age 20-30, and his young family. This is probably the correct William, but additional research in Bibb Co. records is needed.

2. 1840 Census, Emanuel Co. Georgia, p. 193, near Isaac Norris, Andrew Townsend, Lanier Powell

William Norris Household

2M under 5 (John Norris, William Norris)

1F under 5 (Mary Norris)

2M 5-10 (Benjamin Norris, Jourdan Norris)

1M 10-15 (Isaac Norris)

1F 10-15 (Unknown)

1M 30-40 (William Norris)

1F 30-40(Belison Norris)

3.1850 Census, Emanuel Co. Georgia, p. 459

William Norris45M b. SC

Delison Norris41F

Isaac Norris21M

Benjamin Norris18M

Jourdan Norris17M

John Norris16M

Mary Norris12F

William Norris10M

James Norris9M

(Note:Most sources show wife as Belison Powell, often said to be the sister of Piercy (Powell) Davis, wife of Lewis Davis.)

SALLY NORRIS (said to be daughter of William Norris Rev. Sol.) has not been researched.

More Replies:

- [Re: William Norris and Elizabeth Patrick](#)
Tracy Prior 5/12/10
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 - [Re: William Norris and Elizabeth Patrick](#)
James Norris 5/19/10
 - [Re: William Norris and Elizabeth Patrick](#)
James Norris 5/21/10
 - [Re: William Norris and Elizabeth Patrick](#)
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- [Re: William Norris and Elizabeth Patrick](#)
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