

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

Pension Application of James Barns S1894

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Indiana

Vigo County Sct.

On this nineteenth day of November [1832] personally appeared in open court before the judge of the Probate Court of said county now sitting James Burns a resident near Terre Haute in the county of Vigo & State of Indiana, aged eighty three 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 that he entered the service of the United States under Col. Munford (who commanded the militia of Mecklenburgh County Virginia) [sic: Robert Munford of Mecklenburg County] in the summer of 1776 or 7, he does not recollect which, at Mecklenburgh Court House, that John Burten [sic: John Burton] of Roanoke River was his Captain, that he marched under said Burten to Portsmouth where he was stationed, he thinks that Colo Munford did not go all the way with them, the time, upon further reflection was after Norfolk was burnt [1 Jan 1776], that he was out in the service on that tour about three months, and was then discharged at Portsmouth, that he resided in Mecklenburgh County in the State of Virginia when he entered the service as aforesaid, that he was drafted into the service, that he marched direct to Portsmouth, that he has no documentary evidence of this tour or service nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure to prove said service, that he entered the service of the United States a second time under the command of Colo. Lew. Burrell [sic: Lewis Burwell] in the company commanded by Capt. Rellis Jeffries the Lieutenants name James Brown, in the month of June (he thinks) of the year when Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781], & continued in the service until after Cornwallis surrendered, after which he was marched to an old field to guard some arms taken from the British, he was then marched as a guard to some Brittish prisoners on their way to Winchester in Virginia, continued on said march four or five days & was then discharged, he and the rest of the company was then set at liberty, but he does not recollect whether they received written discharges or not, when he was discharged he belonged to the company of Capt Elijah Graves; having been transfered to that company after he reached Gloster Town [sic: Gloucester], in consequence of Capt. Jeffries company being too full, he was drawn out by lot. he thinks he served upwards of three months on this tour perhaps four, when he entered the service the second time he also lived in Mecklenburgh County Virginia and entered as a drafted man, he was not in any battle, being stationed at Gloster about four miles from the Brittish, he did not served either time with any of the Continental regiments or companies but the second time when stationed at Gloster he was drilled every morning with some French soldier stationed at the same place he marched by Williamsburgh in going to Gloster leaving it a little to the right, that he has no documentary evidence to prove said service, nor does he know of any person whose testimony he could procure to prove said service, he further states that he was born the fourteenth day of December 1748, in the County of Northumberland in Virginia on the waters of the Potomac, he has no record of his age, but sent by a man into Northumberland County a great many years ago to get his age & who brought it to him, from which account he knows his age, since the revolutionary war he moved to Charlotte County in Virginia, then to Burke County in North Carolina, then to Kentucky & finally to Indiana in the County of Vigo where he now lives, that Hugh Lambert & Joel Downey live in his present neighbourhood to whom he is well known, and who can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his service as a soldier of the Revolution. he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

James Barns

NOTE: On 25 Sep 1838 James Barns applied to have his pension transferred, having moved to Blount County TN because "he was old and feble and wished to spend the remainder of his life with his children." James Barns, Jr. certified his identity.