

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Barnhill (Barnwell, Bornwell) ¹ W3751 Susan Barnhill f53NC
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 6/24/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 21st day of May 1839, personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the aforesaid County, Susan Barnhill or Bornwell a resident of the aforesaid County aged 70 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath that the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows."

This Declarant the aforesaid Susan Barnhill, states upon her said oath, that from old age and infirmity of body she is unable to attend Court to make this Declaration, and therefore makes it at her own the residence.

She further Declares that she is the widow of James Barnhill, who during the War of the Revolution, as a private Soldier and served the United States as hereinafter mentioned.

1st This Declarant states that she has reason to believe and does believe that in 1778, '79 her Deceased husband the aforesaid James Barnhill was drafted for a Tour of duty of five months in the United States service, and was attached to Captain Thompson's [Thomas Thompson's] Company and as private of Infantry in said Company served all of said tour.

This tour as well as this Declarant can learn, commenced on or about the 15th of October 1778, - that said troops rendezvoused in the town of Hillsboro and from thence were marched to Salisbury; thence to General Rutherford's [Griffith Rutherford's] Camp in South Carolina, and remained in South Carolina to the best of her information, till the expiration of his five months Service, was discharged and returned home.

That in this tour her husband was in a legally organized Corps, and called into Service (by draft) by competent authority.

That her husband had, she thinks a discharge for this tour but that it is now lost or misplaced so that she cannot find it.

This tour this Declarant proves by the affidavit of John Dolly² which is hereto annexed.

2nd This Declarant further sets forth upon her said, that she has reason to believe and does believe that in the Spring & Summer of 1781, her Deceased husband the aforesaid James Barnhill, as a private of Dragoons, served a three months tour of duty in the United States Service in Captain King's [Baxter King's] Company of Dragoons – O'Neal [William O'Neal] was Colonel: This tour this Declarant understands from the affiant John Dolley commenced on or about the first April, and terminated first July, that in this tour her husband was in a legally organized Corps and called into service by competent authority.

This Declarant is under the impression that her Deceased husband had a discharge for this three

¹ BLWt9419-160-55

² Sic, [John Dolley S6802](#)

months tour, from Colonel O'Neal, but that it is now lost.

3rd And the said Susan Barnhill further sets forth upon her said oath that in the Summer of the same year, her Deceased husband as private of militia, did volunteer, and served a three months tour of duty in the United States Service, in Captain Moore's [Elijah Moore's] company of Infantry: said tour commenced as well as Declarant can learn about the middle of August of the year 1781, that Thaxton [James Thackston], she thinks was Colonel – That at the expiration of this tour he was duly discharged and returned home, having served three months, as she heard her husband say.

The discharge for said tour is hereto annexed.

This tour is also proved by the affiant Dolley.

And this Declarant further states upon her said oath that, the three foregoing tours, as all the Service, that she has understood that her Deceased husband served in the war of the Revolution, she has often heard him speak of his Revolutionary Services, and Declares, to the best of her knowledge and belief that they three foregoing tours, as stated, contains a true account of her Deceased husband's Services in the War of the Revolution, to wit

1st Tour as prev.: Inf. in Capt. Thompson's Co: 5 months

2nd do as priv: Dragoons Capt. King's Co: 3 do

3rd do as prev: Inf: Capt. Moore's Co: 3 do

In all 11 months, and for such service this Declarant claims a pension.

She further declares that she was married to the said James Barnhill by John Sloss [? Slop or Slap?], Esq. sometime in the year 1788: this Declarant has no record of the date of marriage, but she nevertheless very distinctly remembers that in the February after her marriage her eldest child Robert was born.

This Declarant has a record in her family Bible, of the births of her husband & herself, also the dates of the births of her several children, the following is an extract from said 'Family Record,' to wit:

James Barnhill October 10, 1756

Susan Harper March 16, 1769

Robert Barnhill February 1, 1789

Elizabeth Barnhill August 27, 1791

Cabren [?] November 26, 1794

John August 24, 1797

William June 9, 1800

Susan October 21, 1802

Nancy November 26, 1804

James March 6 1807

Ellen February 25, 1809

Eliza September 22, 1812, and died February 8, 1817

This Declarant further states that the said record taken from her “family Bible” is in the proper handwriting of her Deceased of them James Barnhill aforesaid, and contains a Just and true family record as it purports, and is hereto annexed --

This Declarant further states, that said James Barnhill aforesaid died 25 March, 1825.

That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but that the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794, viz.: that is at that time above stated [1788].

Sworn to and subscribed on the day & year first above written before me.

S/ Susan Barnhill, X her mark

S/ Thomas Lynch, JP

[p 7 family record as reflected in the widow's application:

1 James Barnwell October 10
 Susan harner march 16th 1756
 2 Robert Barnwell Feb 1th 1789
 3 Elisabeth August 27th 1791
 4 Leabren November 26th 1794
 5 John August 24th 1797
 6 William June 9th 1800
 7 Susan October 21th 1802
 8 Nancy November 26th 1804
 9 James March 6th 1807
 10 Elen Feb 25th 1809
 11 Eliza September 22nd 1812
 12 died February 8th 1817

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Received of James Barnhill one publick gun agust the 27 1783 by me S/ Robert McEntire

Received of James Barnwill one
 publick gun agust the 27 - 1783
 by mee Robert McEntire

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Camp Cobenim Bluff [?] 18th Nov. 1781

James Barnhill Soldier from Orange County having sarved [sic] his Tower of Duty is therefore [sic] discharged by Order of Genl. Butler.

S/ Edwd. Douglass, ADC

Camp Coburn Bluff W. Va. 1781
James Barnhill soldier from Orange County having
served his term of duty is therefore discharged by order
of Genl. Butler ————— Genl. Douglas A.D.C.

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State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 21st day of May 1839, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County of aforesaid, at the residence of Mrs. Susan Barnhill (widow of James Barnhill Deceased) John Dolley a resident of said County aged 85 years, and an United States pensioner, who being first duly qualified according to law, maketh oath that he lived near to, and was well acquainted with the aforesaid James Barnhill.

This Deponent further states that in the fall of 1778 there was a draft in the aforesaid County of Orange for five months militia man to serve the United States in the War of the Revolution, when this affiant was drafted for said tour, was attached to Captain Thompson's company of Infantry, was marched to Salisbury, thence to South Carolina, was at Golphin's [sic, Galphin], Black Swamp, & Rutherford's Camp, Locke [Francis Locke] was our Colonel – this tour commenced as well as this affiant can remember on or about the middle of October 1778 and terminated on or about the 15th of March following, in all of said tour the aforesaid James Barnhill was private of Infantry in said Thompson's Company and as such served all of said five months, and was discharged & returned home.

2. This Deponent further states upon his oath, that on or about the 15th of June, 1781, he again entered the Service of the United States in Colonel Dually's [sic ?] Regiment, and that towards the latter part of June or first of July, when on Deep River, at Bells Mills, fell in with Captain King's Company of Dragoons, that had been out in the service to the South, and their tour of three months was expired and they were returning home. Said James Barnhill was a soldier in said King's Company and as a private this affiant always has understood served all of said three months tour as private of Dragoons in Captain Kings Company and returned home.

3. This affiant further states upon his oath that on or about the middle of September he volunteered as a private of militia in Captain Hodge's Company of militia, our object was to rescue the prisoners that Colonel Fanning had made when he took the town of Hillsboro said troops were pursued a Tory Forces to near the Town of Wilmington, and when in this tour remembers of seeing the aforesaid James Barnhill, and thinks it was at Swan's and that he with other soldiers were on their way home. Said Barnhill stated that his three months tour had expired.

This affiant lived near to said James Barnhill was frequently in his company, and has often heard him speak of his Revolutionary Services, and of his having served three three months tours.

This Deponent was present and saw the aforesaid James Barnhill and the present widow Barnhill (then Susan Harper) married.

That they were married by John Sloss – Esq. sometime in the year of 1778.

That said James Barnhill died in the year of 1825, that the afore said Susan Barnhill has not married since the death of her husband the aforesaid James Barnhill, but still remains his widow.

Sworn and subscribed the day and date first above written before me.

S/ Thomas Lynch, JP

S/ John Dolley, X his mark

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State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 27th November, 1839, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid John Dolley a resident of said County, aged ___ years who being first duly qualified maketh oath that in October in the year of 1778, he was drafted for a five months tour of duty in the militia in the United States Service, that Thompson was the Captain of his Company. Lewis Colonel: part of the Time was under Colonel Locke & while at Rutherford's Camp at "Black Swamp" General Ashe was defeated,³ this defeat was in the early part of March of the year of 1779 and not in 1780, as this deponent understands he stated in his first affidavit through mistake.

That in all of this tour, James Barnwell [sic] Deceased of the aforesaid County, served with us as private of Infantry and at the expiration of the five months tour was discharged with us & returned home.

This Deponent lives neighbor to Mrs. Susan Barnwell or Barnhill, who is now applying for a pension for the revolutionary Services of her Deceased husband James Barnhill aforesaid.

And this deponent further saith that the aforesaid Susan Barnwell has not married since the death of her husband James Barnhill, aforesaid, but remains his widow.

Sworn & subscribed the day and date first above written before me.

S/ N. J. King, JP

S/ John Dolley, X his mark

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848, for her husband service in the line service.]

3 Battle of Briar Creek, March 3, 1779