

James Patterson appeared in Shelby County IL court on 06Mar1837 to apply for a federal pension (FPA w10861) for Revolutionary War veterans. In his deposition he described his military service,

In July 1775 Patterson was drafted into the North Carolina militia in Rutherford County. In Captain James Wilson's company he rendezvoused at Burke Court House and proceeded to Ramsour's Mill where after the battle they chased and killed fleeing Tories (drowned in the mill pond). In 1778 and 1779, Patterson volunteered as a minute man called out frequently against Tory depredations and Indian raids. In the Fall of 1779, his company mobilized under General Griffith Rutherford to aid General Benjamin Lincoln in the siege of Savannah. In Oct1780, his Rutherford militia company fell in with Colonel James Williams in the assault upon Kings Mountain. Then they herded prisoners to the Moravian Towns.

That sometime in December 1780, about the last of December he thinks, he again volunteered as a militiaman in Rutherford County under Captain Jesse Lytle — Major Reese Porter, Lieut. Thomas Whitesides, Ensign William Wilson—he soon after joined the army under General Morgan in the district of Ninety Six between Broad River and Saluda River—and thence soon after marched with Morgan's forces to the **Cowpens** and was at the battle of the Cowpens; engaged in the battle some time near the middle of January—he was under Col. Rutherford in the battle with the militia who retreated in the first attack but he was **wounded and cut down** but afterwards recovered and joined the regular troops under Col. Howard and assisted during the rest of the battle in defeating the British and joined in pursuit of the enemy..

After Cowpens, Patterson continued deploying in the North Carolina militia with General Nathaniel Greene's army until the end of the war.

In 1790, James Patterson married Miss _____ Nelson in Ninety Six District SC. They moved to Rutherford County (current Marshall County) Tennessee, then Muhlenburg County KY before settling in Illinois.

James Patterson was born in Montgomery County VA 05Jul1758. He died 03Dec1838 in Moultrie County IL He was buried in the Patterson family cemetery in Sullivan Township, section 13.