

## **James Anderson (1726-1782) Patriot # P-331155**

Provided patriotic service for colonial forces – Captain Smith’s Company

When James Anderson was born about 1726, in Essex County, Virginia, his father, Lawrence, was 23 and his mother, Mary, was 21. He married 18-year-old Margaret Troggs near Spotsylvania, Virginia in 1746. They had many children together including Lawrence, Charles, William, George, Josephine, and John. After the death of his wife Margaret in 1758, he then married 31-year-old Elizabeth Anne Hubert near Cumberland Virginia. More children were born to this union including Richard, Jacob, Thomas, Emily, and Sarah.

Since James was too old to join the patriot cause, he elected to donate supplies for continental forces – specifically cartouche box belts for Capt. Smith's Company. Cartouche box belts (aka cartridge pouches) of this time were usually an 18-hole leather case for holding a soldier’s ammunition. This item was an essential component of a soldier’s stand of arms. It was a black leather box worn on a shoulder strap or belt, and could incorporate a detachable bayonet frog (holster) as part of its assembly. During the latter part of the War of Independence, most of these cases were drilled out to hold more ammunition; often up to 29 cartridges.

James Anderson never got to see the final fruits of his patriotic support. He died in May 1782 before the war’s end. At the age of 56, he was buried near Cumberland, Virginia.

Submitted by Victor George “Vic” McMurry

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