

I certify to the best of my belief that Capt John Barrat was in the Naval Services of this State during the whole of the Revolutionary War
James Barron
Gosport Sept'r 27th 1831



[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) in a separate file in the name of Barrett, John, assumed to be the same person as John Barret above.]

To his Excellency David Campbell Governor of Virginia [13 Sep 1838]

Your Petitioners, John and William Barrett, two of the Heirs of their Grandfather Capt. John Barrett deceased Respectfully represent that their Grandfather Capt. John Barrett served as a Capt. in the Virginia State Navy in the War of the Revolution, that he entered the service in 1775 or early in the year of 1776, and continued in service untill the end of the war, at the time he entered the service he resided in the Borough of Norfolk

Your Petitioners further represent that their Grandfather the aforesaid Capt. John Barrett was taken a prisoner in Company with his Brother and oldest son who were both on board of the same vessel with him and taken to New York, there placed on board of a Prison Ship, that Capt. John Barrett the aforesaid made his escape from on board of the said prison ship, and his Brother and son both died on board the said prison ship, of these facts your Petitioners have no personal knowledge other than that derived from traditinary accounts our aforesaid Grandfather Capt. John Barrett in his life time nor his kins since his death have never received bounty land as promised to the Officers and Soldiers of the War of the Revolution They pray that their Petition with the evidence herewith filed may receive the Consideration of your Excellency and that they may be allowed the land bounty promised etc

And your Petitioners will ever pray &c &c
John W Barrett
William H. Barrett

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session, 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 30th day of April, 1785, in the name of John Barrett as Capt of the Navy for £169.7.6, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to himself and was given for services prior to the 1st January, 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
4th day of October 1838./ Jas E Heath AUDITOR.

Memorandum of evidence in the case of Capt. John Barrett

See John Paul Jones' life P361 – shows that Barrett was in service on the 1st of March 1775 [sic: see endnote] & very satisfactorily that he was in service from the Autumn of 1775 – see the Executive Journal of 1776 July 12th Commissioned see Navy list (in Executive Chamber) of 1779 Note 101 John Barrett certifies the death of [the rest missing]

I do hereby Certify that I was personally well acquainted with Capt. John Barrett who served in the Virginia State Navy in the War of the Revolution, he resided in the Borough of Norfolk as this Deponent believes at the commencement of the War of the Revolution and entered in to the service as Captain in the Virginia State Navy in the year 1775 or early in the year 1776, and from information received from old and respectable persons I believe that he served to the end of the War of the Revolution. This deponent further states that the aforesaid Capt. John Barrett died in the Borough of Norfolk in the year of [blank] intestate leaving the following Children his sole and only Heirs at Law. viz Alexander, Thomas, Amia, and Nancy Barrett Alexander Barrett the aforesaid died many years ago intestate and without issue. Thomas Barrett the aforesaid died many years ago intestate leaving the following Children Viz John, Ann the wife of Andrew Simmons, Thomas, William and Robert Barrett. Amia Barrett married my brother Frederick

Hennicke both of whom died intestate leaving one only Child, Frederick Hennicke. Nancy Barrett married Claudius Brickly both of whom died intestate leaving one only Child, Claudius Brickly who has been absent many years and has not been heard from, and is now believed to be dead. These facts I state partly from traditionary information, and partly from my own personal knowledge. Given under my hand this 8th day of September 1838
Sarah Latham

Commissions, this Day issued unto James Cocke Esq'r Captain and Commander of the Raleigh, a Brigantine in the service of this Commonwealth
John Barret first Lieutenant & Joel Sturdevant second Lieutenant; Also John Calven [John Calvert] Captain & Commander of the Row Galley Norfolk's Revenge, Argile Herbert [Argyle Herbert VAS1500] first Lieutenant, Robert Elam Second Lieutenant & James Tennant Master.

Executive Department/ Richmond Va Oct 2 1838

The above is a Copy from the Journal of the Executive of July 12th 1776

Wm H Richardson Sec'y Con'n

Saturday 13 September 1777.

Ordered that the keeper of the public Store delived Lieut John Barrett six yards of Cloth with proper trimmings From page 285

Saturday October 11th 1777.

Ordered, that a Warrant issue to Lieut John Barrett for thirty pounds upon account for the purpose of furnishing necessaries for his family. From page 298.

Friday the 12th day of December 1777

This Board doth recommend to his Excellency the Governor and the Hon'ble the Council Lieut John Barrett as a proper person to be appointed Captain to the Hero Galley. From page 329.

Thursday the 23rd day of July 1778.

Ordered that the keeper of the public Store deliver to Captain Barrett seven Blanket for the use of the Men on Board the Hero Galley From page 433

Thursday the 3rd day of September 1778.

Capt John Barrett personally appeared before the Board and resigned his Commission, which is ordered to be filed. From page 262

The foregoing entries are truly Copied from the Naval Journal.

Given under my hand at the Auditors Office Richmond this 4th day of October 1838.

Jas E Heath aud

Captain John Barrett was Commandant of a Brig in the Virg'a State service on March the 1st 1776 – how long before that time does not appear – in the Life of John Paul Jones at page 361 a Biographical sketch is given of Comm'e Rich'd Dale [Commodore Richard Dale] who is represented to have been the mate of a Brig belonging to Colo Newton which was commanded by Capt Barrett It would seem from this sketch that Colonel Newton' brig was taken into the State service in the Autumn of 1775 – if so then Capt Barrett entered the State Navy at that time – he was afterwards on the 12 July 1776 commissioned in the Navy and is reported to have resigned on the 3^d of September 1778 – his accounts however as Captain were settled up to the 4th of Nov'r 1778 – this would make him in service three years save Four months

This case is rejected the evidence of three years service not being satisfactory/ DC [David Campbell] (Rejected Dec. 23 1839)

NOTE: The following passage appears on p 361 of *Life and Character of the Chevalier John Paul Jones* by John Henry Sherburne (1825):

“In March, 1776, Capt. Barrett, the commander of the brig, was engaged in the Virginia state service....”