Petition for Bounty Land
The Heirs of Argyle Herbert,¹ Lieutenant – State Navy

The facts are – He was commissioned a ¹st Lieutenant of the Sloop Norfolk Revenge² July 12th 1776 = and resigned his commission April 29th, 1779. He was, between these periods, in service two years, nine months & a half. It is probable he was in service before he was made first Lieutenant and if he was for two and a half months he completed his three years service before he resigned. I have reported this claim in the printed list No. 5 as allowable = and still think it ought to be allowed notwithstanding the proof is not full & conclusive.

If allowed, it should be for a service of three years as Lieutenant.

Respectfully Submitted
John H Smith, Commissioner &c
March 18th, 1834

To his Excellency
The Governor

[Note: The heirs are not identified in this file. They were represented by J. Adam Smith, as their attorney.]

¹ HERBERT, ARGILL [ARGIL, ARGYLE] VA First Lieutenant, Virginia Navy Argill Herbert was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the Virginia Navy on 12 July 1776 and served aboard the Virginia Navy Galley Norfolk Revenge (Captain JOHN CALVERT). He was dissatisfied with Calvert and was assigned to the Virginia Navy Galley Caswell (Captain WILLIS WILSON) on 22 November 1776. [NOAR, 148] However, Calvert was in the Virginia Navy Sloop Defiance in September 1776, [Stewart, 160] and Herbert is referred to as the “Commander” of the Norfolk Revenge, so he apparently commanded the galley for a time. He was transferred to the Caswell on 5 December 1776. Herbert resigned on 29 April 1779. [Stewart, 200]
http://www.awiatsea.com/Officers/Officers%20H.html

² WESTCOTT [WESCOTT], WRIGHT VA Wright Westcott [Stewart, 265] (Wescott) [NOAR, 332] was commissioned on 18 June 1776 to command the Virginia Navy Sloop Scorpion, on the Potomac River. On 7 September 1776 he was ordered to Portsmouth, and then to join Commodore BOUCHER in Chesapeake Bay. On 11 September he was ordered to transport troops to New York. [NOAR, 332] He was aboard the Scorpion in December 1776. [Stewart, 265] Westcott later commanded the Virginia Navy Galley Norfolk Revenge. On 28 May 1778 the Norfolk Revenge was sunk in Nansemond River with a loss of prisoners, including Lieutenant EDWARD MORTON. [Stewart, 53] Westcott and the members of the crew who escaped were ordered by the Virginia Navy Board to proceed to Jamestown for reassignment. [Stewart, 53] After the Norfolk Revenge was sunk Westcott transferred to the Virginia Navy Galley Henry. He was one of the retained officers of the Navy. He was the guardian and near relative of Stephen Wright, who started with him to Martinique. They were captured by HMS Cereberus and put in prison [Stewart, 265] Westcott died 1 February 1784. [Stewart, 266] http://www.awiatsea.com/Officers/Officers%20W.html