Black Loyalists of Nova Scotia: Tracing the History of Tracadie Loyalists 1776-1787

By Carmelita Robertson
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History Section
Nova Scotia Museum
Nova Scotia Department of Tourism and Culture

CURATORIAL REPORTS

The Curatorial Reports of the Nova Scotia Museum make technical information on museum collections, programs, procedures and research accessible to interested readers.

The reports may be cited in publications, but their manuscript status should clearly be indicated.
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The Project: *Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities*

The history of the Black citizens of Nova Scotia is a rich and varied one. This diverse matrix—African slaves and freedmen, Black Loyalists from the United States, the Nova Scotian colonists of Sierra Leone, the Maroons from Jamaica, the refugees of the War of 1812—is a fascinating addition to Canadian multiculturalism, yet it has been largely overlooked.

Beginning in 1991, the Nova Scotia Museum (NSM) began to redress this lack through undertaking research into African Nova Scotian heritage and developing a collection of data on Black cultural heritage. By 1997, our attention had become focused on the earliest group to emigrate to the province: the Black Loyalists. In particular, we were interested in knowing more about Birchtown—at one time the largest community of free Blacks anywhere in the New World—and Tracadie, one of the oldest continuously Black communities in Canada.

The result was the two-year project *Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities*, undertaken by the History Section of the Nova Scotia Museum, in partnership with the communities of Birchtown / South Nova (through the Black Loyalist Heritage Society) and Tracadie / Guysborough (through the Brownspriggs Historical Committee), as well as the Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia, and the Learning Resources Technology Division and the African Canadian Services Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Education.

This project was funded by the Multiculturalism Programme of the Department of Canadian Heritage and by the History Section of the Nova Scotia Museum.

Project Description

*Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities* consisted of three components: research, public education, and community development. A team composed of Nova Scotia Museum staff and project staff worked with an Advisory Group to plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate all aspects of the project from its commencement in late January 1998 to its completion in late January 2000.

Members of the Advisory Group included representatives from the two communities: Gloria Desmond, Pat Skinner, Sharon Clyke-Oliver, later replaced by Marjorie Turner-Bailey, and Richard Gallion; a representative from the Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia, Henry Bishop; Robert Upshaw, later replaced by Patrick Kakembo, from the African-Canadian Services Division of the Department of Education; David States from Parks Canada Atlantic Regional Office, and Gilbert Daye from the Department of Canadian Heritage Multiculturalism.
Historical Research

Historical research involved two principal streams: research aimed at better understanding the circumstances and connections of Black Loyalists prior to their removal to Nova Scotia, and research focusing on the experience of Black Loyalists once they arrived in the province.

Research on the pre-Nova Scotian context was undertaken by the NSM's ethnologist, Ruth Holmes Whitehead, who focussed on sources that provided information on the conditions from which the Black Loyalists came - principally slavery - and the reason for their migration, the American Revolution. Because many of those who emigrated to Nova Scotia came from South Carolina, emphasis was put on researching South Carolina sources, such as wills and inventories, maps, diaries, contemporary narratives and runaway slave ads, to determine exactly where individual Black Loyalists had worked and lived, their genealogies, and history of ownership if enslaved.

Working under Ruth Whitehead's direction, research on the Nova Scotian context was undertaken by Project Historian Carmelita Robertson, a Black Loyalist descendant. Importantly, the Project Historian's work included training and coordinating local researchers in each of the two Black Loyalist communities: in Birchtown, Marjorie Turner-Bailey, Gary Jacklin and David Hartley, who are all descendants of Black Loyalists, and in Tracadie, Monica Kennedy. Training workshops held with local researchers included hands-on instruction in conducting oral interviews, locating and accessing research sources, and collecting and recording historical data.

Copies of the following historical research data will be maintained and made available by the History Section of the Nova Scotia Museum, with copies provided to community partners:

- Oral interviews (tapes and transcripts)
- Family genealogies (Birchtown/Shelburne only)
- Historic photographs
- Wills (abstracts & copies if available)
- Cemetery inventories
- Land papers (abstracts & copies if available)
- Inventory site forms for buildings associated with Black Loyalists and their descendants
- Miscellaneous material, including church records, newspaper survey (Shelburne papers), diaries, contemporary narratives, and ledger books.

Archaeological Research

Working under the direction of NSM archaeologist David Christianson, Project Archaeologist Stephen Powell oversaw the Tracadie field work during May and early June 1998, while Project Archaeologist Laird Niven led the field work in Birchtown from early June to late August 1998. Field work in both locations was supported by Field Assistants Katie Cottreau-Robins and Sharain Jones, a Black Loyalist descendant. Additional field support in Tracadie was provided
by volunteer James Desmond, and in Birchtown by three individuals hired by the Black Loyalist Heritage Society: Corey Guye, Amanda Page, and Stanley Bower.

**Tracadie**

Since there had been no survey of Black Loyalist settlement features in the Tracadie area, the main focus of the Tracadie archaeology was to locate and document sites associated with early Black Loyalist settlers in the 1787 Brownspriggs-grant area of Antigonish and Guysborough Counties.

Sixteen areas of archaeological interest were recorded during the course of the survey. Based on a small artifact sample, evidence found at one site located within the 1787 grant area suggests it may have been the home of one of the first Black families in the East Tracadie area. Many of the other sites found during the survey can be directly associated with the descendants of Black Loyalist families. While more work is required to record settlement features and cemetery sites in greater detail, this preliminary archaeological study increases the awareness and knowledge of Black Loyalist sites within eastern Nova Scotia.

**Birchtown**

In contrast, archaeological work in Birchtown began in 1993 and has continued every year since that time, revealing the location of a number of features associated with Black Loyalist settlement. As a result, the principal objective of the Birchtown archaeology was to gain a deeper understanding of the community through more detailed archaeological investigation of selected settlement features.

The field work was designed in three phases:

(i) **Surveying of the Goulden and Acker properties, land suspected of having belonged to Col. Stephen Blucke, the man who led the Black Loyalists in Birchtown.** This survey led to a decision to carry out a detailed excavation on the site, in search of a house formerly on the property. As stated in Laird Niven's report, "The testing and excavation revealed the cellar of a relatively substantial building that appears to have been abandoned by the end of the eighteenth century. The artifacts recovered were exceptional for what we know of the Black Loyalist period in Birchtown, not only because of their quantity but their quality as well."

(ii) **Testing of a probable Black Loyalist dwelling, north of the town, to confirm that it dated to the eighteenth century.** The presence of several diagnostic artifacts at this site suggested a date of 1783 to before the 1790s, and that the occupation is almost certainly Black Loyalist. The single stone wall found indicates a very rudimentary structure, which appears to represent a more typical Black Loyalist dwelling and stands in contrast to the relative wealth of the Acker site.

(iii) **Bisection of a selected rock mound (one of a series of 22 mounds), in the hopes of recovering stratigraphic and artifactual data that would answer questions regarding the age of the mound, cultural affiliation, and/or function.** Although excavation revealed that the mound
was deliberately constructed, and does not appear to be the result of standard field clearing as we understand it, no features or artifacts were encountered to suggest age, cultural affiliation or function.

Results of archaeological investigation that are available to community partners, as well as other interested parties, include:

- Approximately 16,000 recovered artifacts, and associated documentation, at the History Section, NSM
- Photographic documentation of the fieldwork undertaken, particularly extensive for Birchtown
- Documentation of seventeen sites associated with Black Loyalists, using the Maritime Archaeology Resource Inventory (MARI) form

Public Education

The public education component of Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities involved the development and delivery of a variety of products and activities designed to increase awareness and understanding about the story of Nova Scotia's Black Loyalists to a wide range of audiences. These ranged from community meetings and newsletters, to press releases and presentations, participation in the filming of Loyalties (an award-winning documentary about the NSM's research on Nova Scotia's Black Loyalists), publications and exhibits.

Results from the historical and archaeological research are available in four reports:

**Tracing the History of Tracadie Loyalists, 1776-1787.** NSM Curatorial Report No. 91, by Carmelita Robertson, features short biographies of people who arrived in 1783 in Port Mouton, Nova Scotia, as listed in the Book of Negroes, many of whom relocated to Guysborough after fire burned Port Mouton to the ground in 1784. It also includes information found in the Loyalist Muster Roll of Chedabucto Negroes, 1776-1785, and in the Tracadie land grant (more commonly known as the Brownspiggs grant) which gave 3000 acres to seventy-four Black Loyalist families in 1787. 146 pages, 8 illustrations.

**Archaeological Surveys in Two Black Communities, 1998: Surveying the Tracadie Area and Testing Two Sites in Birchtown.** NSM Curatorial Report No. 92 Stephen Powell describes the project to locate and document settlement features associated with early Black Loyalist settlers in the 1787 Brownspiggs grant area of Antigonish and Guysborough Counties. Laird Niven describes the formal testing of a house cellar at AkDi-6 and the bisection of an enigmatic rock mound at Ak-Di-21 in Shelburne County. 57 pages, 20 illustrations.
Was this the home of Stephen Blucke?: The excavation of AkDi-23, Birchtown, Shelburne County. NSM Curatorial Report No. 93. Laird Niven describes the house feature and the exceptional artifacts recovered during the 1998 archaeological investigation at this late 18th-century site. 80 pages, 47 illustrations.

The Shelburne/Birchtown Black Loyalists. NSM Curatorial Report No. 94. Ruth Holmes Whitehead presents short biographies of all Black individuals emigrating to Shelburne County, Nova Scotia in 1783, after the American Revolution, excerpted from a copy of the Book of Negroes in the collection of the Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management, Halifax, NS, with some additional information. 294 pages, 7 illustrations.

Led by Manager of Interpretation Sheila Stevenson, an exhibit team (designer Grant Murray, Ruth Holmes Whitehead, Carmelita Robertson, Henry Bishop, David States, Kevin Thomas, John Tate, and Deborah Scott) produced the travelling exhibition Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities. It consisted of thirty-six running feet of text and graphics, including panels with the names of all known Black Loyalists, and three cases of archaeological artifacts.

The exhibit opened at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History in Halifax on January 26, 2000, in time for African Heritage Month. Its itinerary for the period June 2000 to late 2003 includes the Black Cultural Centre, Birchtown Community Centre, the Shelburne County Museum, the Antigonish Heritage Museum, the Queens County Museum, the Cumberland County Museum, the Museum of Industry (all in Nova Scotia) and the New Brunswick Museum.

The education program accompanying the exhibition was developed to engage the school audience in active learning.

The exhibit content was expanded and produced in two Nova Scotia Museum Info sheets, Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities, Part One and Part Two.

The exhibit, education program, and Info material provided the content for a virtual exhibit produced by the History Section of the Nova Scotia Museum and contracted by the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN), to be part of Canada's Virtual Museum for a five-year period from 2001 to 2005. The URL is http://www.museum.gov.ns.ca/BlackLoyalists.

Community Development

Developing community capacity with respect to heritage preservation and presentation and the associated benefits which it was hoped would accrue, were key elements of Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities. This goal was accomplished in a variety of ways through working with individuals and organizations in both communities.
Through direct experience, community researchers and archaeology field assistants increased their understanding of sources, materials, and methodologies associated with historical research and archaeology, and developed their skills in these areas.

By sharing information and ideas, and making the views, interests and needs of their communities known, Advisory Group members influenced the development and outcomes of the project, and furthered their knowledge of various aspects of heritage work. Museum staff also learned from the knowledge and experience that the Advisory Group members contributed during this exchange.

Members of the Black Loyalist Heritage Society and the Brownspriggs Historical Committee accessed local financial support and hired temporary staff to undertake heritage-based activities. Societies now have access to the foundation of knowledge, artifacts, and support materials needed to develop interpretive centres or museums that tell the Black Loyalist story, and to undertake related initiatives, such as applying for historic site designation.

New knowledge about Black Loyalist heritage, combined with increased profile through media coverage and interpretive products such as the travelling exhibit, has the potential to result in a strengthened sense of community identity and pride. While this outcome is particularly meaningful for individuals with Black Loyalist roots, it has the potential to positively impact communities as a whole, and lead to increased economic well-being through the development of cultural tourism facilities and activities.

Finally, the project brought together two communities with a common heritage, and forged relations between the communities and the provincial museum. In the process of bringing together those interested in the story of Nova Scotia's Black Loyalists, understandings and relationships were developed that, if properly nurtured, will continue to help transcend barriers between Black and White, and establish the trust and respect needed to improve inter-racial relations in the long term.


By the time work on Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities began in 1998, the Nova Scotia Museum had already compiled a collection of information on Nova Scotia's Black heritage that includes primary research, archaeological investigations, oral histories, and historical photographs and illustrations.

More specifically, the collection contains the following material:

Newspaper Survey
A total of 682 historical newspapers in the Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management collection, Halifax, have been surveyed for mentions of Black persons; 229 contained Black material yielding a total of 2500 references. Skeletal data from all references has been recorded; the complete text of some references has also been recorded. This information is available on a disk at Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management, and in hard copy with the History
Section of the Nova Scotia Museum.

Newspapers surveyed include:
Acadian Recorder, 1840-41
Halifax Journal, 1790-1800, 1812, 1813, 1840-41
Halifax Gazette, 1752-1765
Halifax Gazette or Weekly Advertiser, 1765-1766
Halifax Morning Post & Parliamentary Reporter, 1841
Nova Scotia Gazette, 1766-1770
Nova Scotia Gazette & Weekly Chronicle, 1771-1774
Nova Scotia Magazine, 1790-1792
Nova Scotia Royal Gazette, 1840
Royal Gazette & the Nova Scotia Advertiser, 1790-1799
Times, 1841
Weekly Chronicle, 1790-1800, 1812-13

Archaeology Permit Reports

Unpublished Research Reports
"Tracadie Oral Interviews" (edited transcripts), Carmelita Robertson, 1997.

Oral History Interviews

Photographs
Copies of historic photos from families in the Tracadie area and from the Guysborough Museum collection, as well as documentary photos of sites associated with Black Loyalists in the Tracadie area, such as buildings and cemeteries.

Videotape version of the slide show Escape to Nova Scotia.
The Nova Scotia Museum would like to acknowledge a number of individuals and programs that contributed over time to the development of this collection, including Rachael Colley Whynot, Affirmative Action student (1992); Tammy Poirier, Nova Scotia Community College work-placement student (1995); Jemal Abawajy, Graduate student born in Oromia, East Africa (1995); Carmelita Robertson (a Black Loyalist descendant), Graduate Student (1995), Volunteer (1995-96), NSM Black History Research Grant Recipient (1996), Arts Apprentice, Department of Canadian Heritage Multiculturalism Program (1997); Christine Hobin, Volunteer (1997-98); Elizabeth Peirce, Volunteer (1997-98), and Sharain Jones (a Black Loyalist descendant), NSM Black History Research Grant Recipient (1997).

The Museum also wishes to acknowledge the individual who twice made it financially possible to undertake some of this research, and who prefers to remain anonymous.

Deborah Scott, Project Manager/Manager of Collections
History Section Nova Scotia Museum
The Black Loyalist Monument
at Upper Big Tracadie, Nova Scotia, erected in 1988 by the Upper Big Tracadie United Baptist Church.
Photo: Ruth Holmes Whitehead, Nova Scotia Museum
People of African descent have been in Nova Scotia for a long time. They have played an important, but often understated, role in the formation of the province. Yet acknowledgment or recognition of the fact that 'Black' history of Nova Scotia is also part of the whole history of Nova Scotia has been a long time in coming. There still remains the belief that all Blacks in Nova Scotia are immigrants of the last 100 years or so. Beginning in the twentieth century, many individuals and groups have been trying to right this oversight.

How far back can one go before there are recorded references to the Black presence in Nova Scotia? From the early 1600s to mid 1700s, Nova Scotia was under French control and was called Acadie. After the 1720s there were more than over 300 people of African descent enslaved at Fortress Louisbourg, Cape Breton Island. When the British gained full control over the province in 1763, Blacks continued to be part of the population. A major influx of Blacks into Nova Scotia occurred at the end of the American War of Independence (also known as the American Revolution), which lasted from 1776 to 1783.

This war was fought because European settlers, mainly French and German, and English-speaking settlers, living in thirteen American colonies no longer wanted to be ruled by a government that was far away in Britain; they wanted to be self-governed. During this war the British offered freedom to any 'slave' who ran away from a 'master' and joined the British. Of course many people jumped at the chance for freedom and took up the offer. Some served with the British as soldiers in Black regiments like the Black Company of Pioneers. This regiment, first raised in Philadelphia, was disbanded at Shelburne, Nova Scotia, in 1783.

Some who fled to the British side served as troops in mercenary bands under other Blacks, such as Colonel Tye, an ex-slave, whose former name had been Titus. When Colonel Tye died of battle wounds, command of the group was taken over by Stephen Blucke, who eventually settled in Birchtown, Nova Scotia. Other escapees served within various British military departments, such
as the Royal Artillery or the Wagon Master General’s Department.

When the war ended, many people who had sided with the British made their way to New York, the last safe haven for any British supporters still on American soil. From there they set out for other places to live. Among them was a group now commonly called the Black Loyalists. This included free people, slaves, and indentured servants. Any person who had been freed as a consequence of the British war promise had to leave American territory, or risk being forced back into slavery. To do so, they had to produce a Certificate of Freedom, a document that proved they had supported or joined the British during war-time. Any person who had been free before the war had to have an official document proving their status as free person.

Others who were enslaved by British soldiers or civilians loyal to the Crown were permitted to leave because they were seen as the property of the person who enslaved them, and as such must go where the master went. Keep in mind that slavery was not abolished in British colonies, including Nova Scotia, until 1834. In 1783 it was still legal to own a slave in the British colonies.

Because of the slavery issue, many of the Blacks leaving New York at this time were recorded in a document called the “Book of Negroes.” This bound manuscript was an inventory of all those Blacks aboard British vessels who were legally permitted to leave New York. It was compiled by Americans and the British so that American slave owners could be compensated for their loss of property – their slaves.

The “Book of Negroes” records about 3500 people of African descent leaving New York for various parts of the world: Belgium, England, Germany, Quebec, and Nova Scotia (which, in 1783, included the present-day province of New Brunswick). Of the 3500 people listed about 3000 set out for various places in Nova Scotia: Annapolis Royal, Fort Cumberland, Halifax, Saint John, Saint John River, Port Roseway (present-day Shelburne), and “Port Mattoon” (Port Mouton). Although the bulk of those Black Loyalists recorded as departing the U.S. are found in the “Book of Negroes”, there are many other Blacks who fled the states during or right after the war whose names are not found
These people made their way to Nova Scotia either as slaves or as free people, often working on fishing and whaling vessels. One example is Thomas Brownspriggs. It is believed that he came as part of a group that sailed into Chedabucto Bay, Nova Scotia, from St. Augustine, Florida. Listed as being aboard the *Argo* was a Black man named Henry Thomas, a well-educated servant to a Captain Brownriggs. It is believed that Henry Thomas later became known as Thomas Brownspriggs, the man who was instrumental in acquiring a 3000-acre (1200-hectare) grant of land in Tracadie for himself and 73 other Black Loyalist grantees in 1787.

Those like Brownspriggs who made it to Nova Scotia from ports other than New York are not listed in the "Book of Negroes." They are harder to trace; but it is not an impossible feat. All of those who came to Nova Scotia as Black Loyalists, or during the Black Loyalist influx, need to have their histories recovered. As descendants of their legacy, we owe them that much.
A page from the "Book of Negroes"
Photo: Ruth Holmes Whitehead, Nova Scotia Museum
Explanation of this Report

This report traces the history of those Black Loyalists who were granted 3000 acres (1200 hectares) of land at Tracadie, Nova Scotia, in 1787. The “Book of Negroes” chronicles the departure of some of them from the States in 1783, as part of a larger group of Black Loyalists whose initial stop in Nova Scotia was Port Mouton. Many of those who first settled at Port Mouton were forced to relocate in 1784 after a fire burned the town to the ground. The greater part of the Port Mouton Black Loyalists, along with some White Loyalists, relocated to Chedabucto, now called Guysborough, on the eastern shore of Nova Scotia.

Using a document called the “Loyalist Muster Roll of Chedabucto Negroes, 1776 - 1787,” one can follow their travels and determine who left Port Mouton and ended up at Chedabucto. A muster roll is a list of names of people who drew government rations and provisions. Some people found in the muster roll at Guysborough are not found in the “Book of Negroes” because, as previously stated, some Loyalists made their way to Nova Scotia from American states other than New York, and via different means.

After four years of living in Guysborough, without adequate land to farm, 74 Black Loyalist families chose to petition for land elsewhere. In 1787 they were granted 3000 acres (1200 hectares) of land at Tracadie. Information on this is found in the documents dealing with the Tracadie land grant of 1787, more commonly known as the Brownspriggs Grant.

This report is divided into three chapters. The first chapter contains biographies of those persons listed in the “Book of Negroes” who left New York for Port Mouton, Nova Scotia. The second chapter contains information found in the “Loyalist Muster Roll of Chedabucto Negroes, 1776 - 1785.” The information found in the muster roll is very limited, giving only the name of the individual and whether they are a man, woman or child. The third chapter of the report examines the 1787 Tracadie land-grant documents, including the processes taking place before the people were granted the land, a list of who was granted the land, and where the land was located. At the
beginning of each chapter is an introduction with a brief history of the document used, and an explanation to the information that is presented in the chapter.

There are four appendices: Name Variations of Tracadie Land Grantees, Ships departing for Port Mouton, NS, 1783, Origin Distribution Chart of Black Loyalists of Port Mouton, and Crown Land Grant Book 19, document 15. Following the appendices is a selected bibliography of the source material quoted or referred to in the report. Finally, there is an Index of Names that includes general introduction followed by two sections of names. Part I lists people with known and verified surnames, taken from the "Book of Negroes," the muster roll, or the Tracadie land grant. Sometimes these people are found in all three documents, with slight name variations. The earliest recorded name appears first, then any variations are indicated in brackets. Part II includes those people who have no documented surnames. There is an explanation at the beginning to help the reader along.

If the reader is using this report for genealogical purposes, they should go to the index first and check for names they are interested in, and for their variations.
Chapter One

Black Loyalists from New York to Port Mouton, 1783
The "Book of Negroes" manuscript of 1783 is an important source for researching many Black Loyalist ancestors who came to Nova Scotia. It is a contemporary record of many of those who left the United States for other parts of the world following the American War of Independence (or American Revolutionary War), 1775-1783.

Photo: Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management
Introduction

From the beginning of the American War of Independence until its conclusion, there were a number of Blacks fleeing bondage in America. Many of them went to Nova Scotia as free persons, slaves, and indentured servants. Most of those who were free had gained their freedom by accepting the terms of freedom offered them in two proclamations made during the war. These proclamations are known by the names of the men who issued them. They are the Dunmore Proclamation and the Clinton Proclamation, both of which loosely state that ‘to all Negroes who desert their Rebel masters...freedom.’ Many people took advantage of this offer.

Towards the end of the war, many people who had sided with the British made their way to the last British bastion on American soil – New York. There, plans were made for their evacuation. This included those Blacks who had gained their freedom, and those slaves who continued to be enslaved to others. During this time, the American spokesperson, General George Washington, future first president of the United States and representative of American slave holders, requested that all Blacks behind British lines be returned to their rightful owners. The British commander-in-chief, Sir Guy Carleton, refused on the grounds that the promise of freedom made to the Blacks in the Dunmore and Clinton proclamations would be upheld.

After much discussion, a resolution was reached; all Black people who had in their possession Certificates of Freedom would be allowed to leave. These Certificates of Freedom were issued by either General Birch or General Musgrave to every Black person who made their way to British lines during the war. Also, as part of the agreement, an invoice had to be drawn up recording the name, age, physical description, former master, former residence, and year of escape (if applicable), for every Black person who was leaving from New York to go to other parts of the world. This inventory was to be used as a checklist to verify that the enslaver had lost his ‘property’, that his ‘property’
was indeed the "Negro" as found listed in the "Book"; and therefore that he, the enslaver, could be compensated for his loss.

New-York, 21st April 1783.

THIS is to certify to whomsoever it may concern, that the Bearer hereof
Cato Ramsey—a Negro, resorted to the British Lines, in consequence of the Proclamations of Sir William Howe, and Sir Henry Clinton, late Commanders in Chief in America; and that the said Negro has hereby his Excellency Sir Guy Carleton’s Permission to go to Nova-Scotia, or wherever else he may think proper.

By Order of Brigadier General Birch,

One of the few surviving "Certificates of Freedom" issued to Black persons who left the United States following the American Revolutionary War. This particular certificate belonged to a man named Cato Ramsey, who would be found in Birchtown, Shelburne County, Nova Scotia.

Photo: Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management
An Explanation of the Text

If the reader is using this report for genealogical purposes, it is suggested that you look first at the Index of Names that comes at the end of the report before proceeding any further. The index is set up alphabetically by surname. The reader is also advised to keep in mind that names undergo spelling changes from person to person and from time period to time period. In the index some of the variations are indicated. Further explanation is found in the index section.

This section of the report presents information from the “Book of Negroes” pertaining to those Black Loyalists who made their way from New York to Port Mouton, Nova Scotia, in 1783.

The information is not presented in the manner in which it appeared in the original document, but all of the information that was part of the original document is included. The format is as follows: at the top right of each page is information relating to the vessel. This includes the name of the vessel, the master of the vessel, and the date the vessel was inspected for the purpose of inventorying the Black passengers. This information appears only on the first page for the vessel passenger list. If the list is lengthy and runs into several pages, only the name of the vessel is found at the top of the page, with /continued . . . written beside it. For example, Brig Elijah/ continued . . .
For the passenger, the information that is given is as follows:

Name of the individual, age (more than likely an estimation in 1783), physical description (if available).

Former place of residence before going to New York and Port Mouton.

The status of the person, e.g., born free.

Date the person left or was left by their enslaver, and the name of the enslaver.

If a person was indentured to another person as a servant, the name of the person to whom they were indentured, called the indenturer is given (if applicable).

The department of the British forces with which the person was stationed. Possession of a “Certificate of Freedom”.

Keep in mind that not all of this information was applicable to everyone. Some people will have all of the information listed above, and others will have parts of this information listed above.

Occasionally, there will be a person on this list who was indentured to another. Sometimes a person was still enslaved by a White Loyalist or soldier. This information, if applicable, is also included.

Sample entry 1:

Molly, 21, likely wench

Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.

Left enslaver William Elliot of Charlestown, prior to the siege of that town in 1780.

Stationed behind British Lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Someone researching Molly would know from this entry that she was approximately 21 years of age in 1783. She was in good physical condition. Prior to her arrival in New York, Molly had lived in Charlestown, South Carolina, as a slave to William Elliot of that town. Just before siege of Charlestown (March-May 1780), Molly made her escape. We don’t know what happened to Molly between 1780 and 1783. We do know that she ended up being stationed behind the British lines in the Wagon Master General’s Department. When British Loyalists, soldiers and supporters evacuated New York, Molly was listed as being aboard the sloop Elk, inspected on the October 7, 1783. She was destined for Port Mouton, Nova Scotia.
Sample Entry 2:

Phil Birtley, 50, ordinary worn out
Formerly resided in Willtown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Birtley of Willtown, South Carolina, early in 1780.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Indentured to John Nash.

In this example, we have a middle-aged man named Phil Birtley. His physical description says he is worn out. He used to lived in Willtown, South Carolina, as a slave to John Birtley. Phil Birtley left John early in 1780. He had in his possession a Certificate of Freedom signed by General Musgrave, which meant that he had gotten his freedom by escaping his rebel master and joining the British. He had indentured himself to a John Nash, to come to Nova Scotia. Phil is listed as one of the Black Loyalists inspected aboard the brig Jenney bound for Port Mouton in 1783.

Once again it is suggested that the person looking for their ‘roots’, start with the Index of Names beginning on page 129.
The information that follows was taken from the “Book of Negroes” and checked against the *Black Loyalist Directory*, by Graham Russell Hodges. The copy of the “Book of Negroes” from which this information was extracted is located on microfilm at the Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management. The actual copy is available at the Public Records Office (PRO) in London, England. The data has been edited, to a degree.

**EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS USED WITHIN THIS REPORT:**

[sic; ] error, with the correction made

[?] possibly the proper the spelling

[?] unclear

[sic] error

[ ] correct spelling
Grace, 26, stout wench
Formerly resided in Pennsylvania.
Left enslaver Richard Drew of Pennsylvania, when the British troops left Philadelphia.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Betsey, 22, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in Southampton, Virginia.
Born free, but served her time of indenturement with Richard Barrow.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Isabella, 22, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas White of Charlestown, South Carolina, prior to the siege of that town in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Molly, 21, likely wench
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver William Elliot of Charlestown, South Carolina, prior to the siege of that town in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Jane, 24, ordinary mulatto wench
Born free at Middletown, New Jersey.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Sukey, 21, stout wench
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Smith of Charlestown, South Carolina, after the siege of that town in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Sukey, 21, ordinary mulatto wench
Born free in the City of New York.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Fanny, 25, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in Southampton, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Hope of Southampton, Virginia, and joined the British in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Sloop Elk / continued . . .

Katy, 22, stout wench
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Mr. Lawrence of Charlestown, before the siege of that town, and joined
British. Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Mary, 17, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Left enslaver Isaac Johnson of Philadelphia, and joined the British troops in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Betty, 1, infant
Born within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Elijah, 6 month, infant
Born within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Sukey, 6 month, infant
Born within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Dolly Wilkinson, 62, stout wench
Formerly resided in Nansemond, Virginia.
Left enslaver Willis Wilkinson of Nansemond, Virginia, 'on her own bottom' in 1779.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
'On her own bottom' is a nautical term meaning she is self-supporting and not indentured.

Villotte Miller, 34, stout wench
Formerly resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Abram Miller, 40, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sam Hawkins, 25, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Rye, New England.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Amie Orphan, 8, likely girl
Formerly resided near Charleston, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Mr. Hughes who lived near Charleston, South Carolina in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Lieutenant Colonel Bridges, 43, ordinary fellow, lame
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Reuben Simmons, 37, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Carlisle County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Abraham Wilson of Carlisle County, Virginia, in 1781.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

William Davis, 30, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in James River, Virginia.
Left enslaver Lewis Burnel Martin of James River, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

March Jones, 40, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in Santee, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Mr. Jones of Santee, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Paul Johnson, 21, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Sterling, New Jersey.
Says he was born free.
Left the man he lived with, Able Noble of Sterling, New Jersey in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Cato, 23, likely fellow
Formerly resided in the City of New York.
Got his freedom when his enslaver, Thomas Harris of the City of New York, died.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

John Mosely, 25, likely fellow
Formerly resided in Portsmouth, Virginia as a free man.
Left the man he lived with John Cunningham of Portsmouth, Virginia in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Solomon Lawson, 30, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Princess Ann County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Colonel Anthony Lawson of Princess Ann County, Virginia in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

William Dean, 62, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in Crane Island, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Dean of Crane Island, Virginia in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Levi Johnson, 26, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in Accomack County, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Smith of Accomack County, Virginia in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Ballamay, 38, stout fellow
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Jacob Rowan, 26, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Accomack County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Arthur Upshaw of Accomack County, Virginia in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Tom Hunter, 22, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Bessel Mosely of Norfolk, Virginia in 1781.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jacob Watson, 27, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in Richmond County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Philip Watson of Richmond County, Virginia in 1776.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

George Price, 40, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Richard Barrisworth of Charlestown, South Carolina in 1780.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Thomas Freeman, 31, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Gloucester County, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Roots of Gloucester County, Virginia, in 1781.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Peter Robertson, 24, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in New York.
Left enslaver Frederick Jay of New York, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Roger Scot, 57, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in place not recorded.
Says he got his freedom from Lord Dunmore.

Henry Calls, 22, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Nansemond, Virginia.
Left enslaver George Hellis of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

James Rea, 24, ordinary fellow, without legs
Formerly resided in Williamsburg, Virginia.
Left enslaver George Wilk of Williamsburg, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Robert Cain, 19, likely lad
Formerly resided in Georgetown, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Harriot of Georgetown, Virginia, in 1777.

Silas Bright, 26, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Fife of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

George Johnson, 29, ordinary fellow
Says he was free.
Served his time at Sterling Ironworks.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Joseph Warrington, 25, stout fellow
Formerly resided at Eastern Shore, Virginia.
Left enslaver George Bundeck of Eastern Shore, Virginia, in 1780.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
George Wise, 30, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Francis Thorowgood of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Robert Holt, 24, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Williamsburgh, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Holt of Williamsburgh, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Ben Frankham, 21, ordinary fellow
Says he was born free in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Alexander Duke, 24, stout fellow
Says he was born free in Barbadoes.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Joseph Hartly, 20, stout fellow
Says he was born free in Virginia.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Richard Bush, 60, ordinary fellow
Formerly resided in Nansemond, Virginia.
Left enslaver Nancy Goddin of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Samuel Saunders, 20, likely lad
Formerly resided in Crane Island, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Beans of Crane Island, Virginia, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Betsey Elliot, 25, ordinary wench
Proved free by Bill of Sale produced.

Lucy Johnson, 25, ordinary wench
Says she was born free Rhode Island.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Peggy Minton, 22, likely wench, Quadroon.
Formerly resided in Williamsburgh, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Black of Williamsburgh, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Fanny Harris, 20, likely wench
Formerly resided in James River, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mrs. Bird of James River, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Children: No name girl, 7 months old, also aboard the Elijah.

No name girl, 7 months old
Mother: Fanny Harris, 20, of Williamsburgh, Virginia, also aboard the Elijah.

Nelly Bush, 54, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in Princess Ann County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Andrew Stewart of Princess Ann [County], Virginia, in 1777.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Jenny Fracklan, 24, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in Norfolk County, Virginia.
Says she was born free in the house of Mr. John Pen of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nancy Basset, 28, likely wench, mulatto
Proved to be free. Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Patience Jackson, 23, very likely wench, mulatto
Says she was born free Rhode Island.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Rebecca Duke, 16, ordinary wench, mulatto
Says she was born free.
Lived with Mr. Baird of Virginia.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jane Bush, 17, likely wench, mulatto
Formerly resided in Crane Island, Virginia.
Left enslaver Andrew Stewart of Crane Island, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Peggy Wise, 26, stout wench
Formerly resided in Guin’s Island.
Left enslaver Humphrey Guin of Guin’s Island, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Katy Bridges, 54, ordinary wench, mulatto
Born free. Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Jane Bridges, 13, likely girl, quadroon  
Born free. Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Hannah Linning, 34, ordinary wench, blind in one eye  
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver John Lynning [Dr. John Lining] of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1780.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Mellia Johnson, 19, fine girl  
Says she was born free, South Hampton, Long Island, New York.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Since Dean, 62, ordinary wench  
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Samuel Colbert of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1778.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Dinah Johnson, 54, ordinary wench  
Formerly resided in New York.  
Left enslaver Mr. Henry Holland of New York, who left her free at his death.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Patty Vantyle, 21, fine wench  
Proved to be free.  
Certified by Mr. David Matthews, Mayor of New York City.

Massey Vantile, 4  
Proved to be free.  
Certified by Mr. David Matthews, Mayor of New York City.

Rebecca Scot, 20, ordinary wench  
Formerly resided in Beaufort, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Thomas Rutledge of Beaufort, South Carolina, in 1778.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Joseph Scot, 11, likely boy  
Formerly resided in Beaufort, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Thomas Rutledge of Beaufort, South Carolina, in 1778.

Mary Scot, 6 months, infant  
Born free.
Mary Bright, 26, ordinary wench
   Born free at Jamaica, Long Island, New York.
   Certified by Mr. Hugh Willis.

Matthew, 9
   Born free.

Silas, 1 1/2, infant
   Born free.

Esther Roberts, 28, ordinary wench
   Free as proved per Bill of Sale produced.

Diana Roberts, 10, fine girl
   Free as proved per Bill of Sale produced.

Peggy Rea, 25, likely wench
   Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
   Left enslaver David Shields of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1778.
   Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Mimbo Scot, ordinary fellow
   Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
   Left enslaver Joseph Scot of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1778.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Phebe Scot, 3 months
   Born within the Lines.

Susannah, 23, stout wench
   Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
   Left enslaver Andrew Reynolds of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1779.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Eaddie, 5
   Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
   Left her/his enslaver, Andrew Reynolds of Norfolk, Virginia.

Chloe, 23, likely wench
   Formerly resided in Nansemond, Virginia.
   Left enslaver Thomas Bean of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1776.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Priscilla, 21, stout wench
Formerly resided in Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Joshua Jolly Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1777.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dianah, 62, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Lynning [Dr. John Lining] of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1780.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate. [Mother of Hannah Lining?]

Nancy Johnson, 36, stout wench
Formerly resided in Accomack, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Smith of Accomack Virginia, in 1777.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Abigail, 35, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in New York.
Left enslaver Peter Barbery of New York, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Children: Joseph, 5, also aboard the Brig Elijah.

Joseph, 5
Mother: Abigail, 35, also aboard the Brig Elijah.

Sally Oxford, 22, ordinary wench
Formerly resided in Nansemond, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Sheppard of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1777.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Elizabeth, 27, stout wench, mulatto
Says she was born free at St. Augustine, East Florida.

Judith, 9 months, mulatto
Born free.

Ellice, 17, stout wench
Formerly resided in Santee River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Captain McDonald of Santee River, South Carolina, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

James Campbell, 9 months
Born within the lines.

Patty Christopher, 30, stout wench, mulatto
Free as proved by proper certificate.
Silvia, 14, likely wench, mulatto
   Free as proved by proper certificate.

Cathern Scot, 40, stout wench
   Formerly resided in place not recorded.
   Left enslaver Lord Dunmore.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Elizabeth Edwards, 26, ordinary wench
   Formerly resided in place not recorded.
   Left by her enslaver, General McDougall, in 1776.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Elizabeth Edwards, 4
   Born within the Lines.

Jean Quack, 28, stout wench, mulatto
   Born free.

Elizabeth Quack, 50, ordinary wench, mulatto
   Born free.

Sally Quack, 17, likely wench, mulatto
   Born free.

Mary Ann Thomson, 22, likely wench
   Formerly resided in Barbadoes.
   Left enslaver William Potts of Barbadoes.
   Taken prisoner on her passage from Bermuda to Virginia.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Osmond Thomson, 8, likely boy
   Formerly resided in Barbadoes.
   Left enslaver William Potts of Barbadoes.
   Taken prisoner on his passage from Bermuda to Virginia.

Cathern Hubert, 30, likely wench, mulatto
   Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
   Left enslaver Henry Lamot of Norfolk Virginia, in 1776.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Fanny Hubert, 9
   Left enslaver Henry Lamot of Norfolk, Virginia.
Phil Birtley, 50, ordinary worn out
Formerly resided in Willtown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Birtley of Willtown, South Carolina, in 1780.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Indentured to John Nash.

Charles Middleton, 57, ordinary & worn out
Formerly resided at Ashely River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Arthur Middleton of Ashley River, South Carolina, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Indentured to John Nash.

Abraham, 10, fine boy
Proved to be the property of John Nash by Bill of Sale.

Bina, 17, likely wench
Proved to be the property of John Nash by Bill of Sale.

Pompey, 4 months
Proved to be the property of John Nash by Bill of Sale.

Illustration: Falconer's Marine Dictionary, 1780
Henry Derling, 32, stout fellow, free mulatto
Formerly resided in Jamaica South.
Got his freedom from enslaver, Garret Derling of Jamaica South, in 1777.
Indentured to Mr. Thomas Cutler.

Philip Thompson, 24, stout fellow, mulatto
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver James Thompson of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Andrew Izzard, 28, stout fellow, black
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Ralph Izzard of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
[Note: There were two Ralph Izzards, second cousins, alive in Charlestown during the Revolution.]

Peter French, 93, remarkably stout for his age
Free.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Jeff, 5, fine boy, mulatto
Bound until 21 years of age to Mr. Cutler.
Indentured to Mr. Thomas Cutler.

Robert Conway, 51, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Woodbridge, New Jersey.
Left enslaver David Alstin of Woodbridge of New Jersey, in the year 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thomas James, 18, stout fellow
Formerly resided in St. Christophers.
Left enslaver John Stephens of St. Christophers.
Brought off by the Captain of the Alcide.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Samuel DeGraw, 24, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Tappan, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Land DeGraw of Tappan, New Jersey, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

George Wilkins, 53, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Princess Ann County, Virginia.
Left enslaver S. Wilkin of Princess Ann County, Virginia, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Chris King, 28, stout fellow
Formerly resided near Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.
Left enslaver Thomas Reese of near Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Bass, 19, stout fellow
Born free.
Formerly resided in Nansemond, Virginia.
Served some time with Ned Street of Nansemond, Virginia.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Townsend, 25, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Delaware.
Left enslaver Stephen Townsend of Delaware, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Wright, 25, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Stephen Wright of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Stephen Van Borun, 20, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Paramus, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Albert Ackerman of Paramus, New Jersey, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Andrew Whitehead, 29, stout fellow
Formerly resided in South Carolina.
Left enslaver Hemed [Hemmet?] Whitehead of South Carolina, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Cato Brown, 31, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Richard Jardine, 31, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Nansemond, Virginia.
Left enslaver Edward Jardin of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Daniel Brown, 45, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Maryland.
Left enslaver Thomas Russel of Maryland, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Ben Astens, 56, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Newcastle County.
Left enslaver Alexander Atkins of Newcastle County, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Longstreet, 45, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Princetown, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Derick Longstreet of Princetown, New Jersey, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Quash Shepherd, 29, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Nansemond, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Shepard of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Prince Crosbie, 22, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Timothy Crosbie of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thomas Boyle, 26, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Cecil County, Maryland.
Left enslaver Adam Boyle of Cecil County, Maryland, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Bristol Borden, 20, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Northampton County, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Borden of Northampton County, Virginia, in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Gab Morris, 23, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Surryside, Virginia.
Left his enslaver, John Allen of Surryside, Virginia, in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Rachel Wilson, 34, stout wench
Formerly resided in Hampton, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Curl of Hampton, Virginia, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Lucy Hart, 35, stout wench
Formerly resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Amelia Connor, 19, stout wench
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver James Vandross [Vanderhorst] of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Sally, 16 months
Born within the British Lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Pomp Wilson, 54, stout fellow
Formerly resided in Hampton, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Curl of Hampton, Virginia, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sukey Dismal, 24, stout wench
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver B. Guy of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Children: Nancy, 5; George, 11 months. Both also aboard the Nisbet.

Nancy Dismal, 5
Mother: Sukey Dismal, 24. Also aboard the Nisbet.

George Dismal, 11 months
Mother: Sukey Dismal, 24. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Massey, 22
Left enslaver John Jay, Esq., in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Elizabeth, 20
Free born.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Hannah, 22
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Stephen Wright of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Children: Nancy, 15 months old. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Nancy, 15 months
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Mother: Hannah, 22, also aboard the Nisbet.

Jenny Conway, 33, stout wench
Formerly resided in Spanktown, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Oxford Birt of Spanktown, New Jersey, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Children: Hannah, 10; Bristol, 12. Both were also aboard the Nisbet.
Bristol, 12
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Mother: Jenny Conway, 33, also on the Nisbet.

Hannah, 10
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Mother: Jenny Conway, 33, also on the Nisbet.

Betty Westerfield, 28, stout wench
Born free at Rhode Island.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.

Phillis, 40, stout wench
Born free at Rhode Island.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.

Molly Sweney, 30, stout wench
Formerly resided in Willoughby Point.
Left enslaver John Willoughby of Willoughby Point, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.

Rose French, 16, stout wench
Formerly resided in Shrewsbury, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Obadiah Brown of Shrewsbury, New Jersey, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.

Phillis, 22, stout wench
Formerly resided in Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Erskine of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Child: Mary, 1, also aboard Nisbet.

Mary, 1
Formerly of South Carolina.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Mother: Phillis, 22, also aboard the Nisbet.

Nancy, 21, stout wench
Formerly of South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Miles of South Carolina, in 1781.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Sarah Stebbs, 22, stout wench
   Born free on Long Island, New York.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
   Children: John, 20 months old. Also aboard the Nisbet.

John Stebbs, 20 months,
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
   Mother: Sarah Stebbs, 22. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Dinah, 22, stout wench
   Formerly of South Carolina.
   Left enslaver John Rag [sic; Wragg] of South Carolina, in 1778.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
   Children: John, 2; Lakey, 7 months. Both aboard the Nisbet.

John, 2
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
   Mother: Dinah, 22. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Lakey, 7 months
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
   Mother: Dinah, 22. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Fanny, 30, stout wench
   Formerly of Boston.
   Left enslaver Dr. Bluefinch of Boston, in 1775.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Silvia Thompson, 23, stout wench
   Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
   Left enslaver Thomas Ladson of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1778.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Hagar, 20, stout wench
   Formerly of Canonachee [?], South Carolina.
   Left enslaver Thomas Broughton of Canonachee [?], South Carolina, in 1779.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Nanny, 26, stout wench
   Formerly of Eastern Shore, Virginia.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
   Children: Mary, 7 months old. Also aboard the Nisbet.
Mary, 7 months, infant
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Mother: Nanny, 26. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Nancy, 20, stout wench, several scars in her face
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Rutledge of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Children: Jem, 9 months old. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Jem, 9 months, infant
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Mother: Nancy, 20. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Hannah, 40, stout wench, free
Formerly of Maryland.
Served 31 years with John Gale of Maryland.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Children: Rose, 7. Also aboard the Nisbet.

Rose, 7
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Mother: Hannah, 40, also aboard the Nisbet.

Lydia, 29, stout wench
 Formerly of Senee [Santee/Sewee?], South Carolina.
Left enslaver Robert Murray of Senee [Sewee/Santee?], South Carolina, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Bridget, 35, stout wench, one-eyed
Formerly resided in Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver James Murphy of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1775.
Stationed behind British lines with in the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate

Nelly, 36, stout wench
Born free at Hackensack, New Jersey.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Ilinda, 19, stout wench, mulatto
Born free at Flushing, Long Island, New York.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Rachel, 19, stout wench, free
Formerly of Savannah, Georgia.
Her former enslaver was Governor Graham of Savannah, Georgia.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Children: Sally, 16 months, also aboard the Nisbet.

Sally, 16 months, infant
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Mother: Rachel, 19, also aboard the Nisbet.

Lydia, 23, stout wench, free
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Alstin [Alston] of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Jenny, 3 months, infant
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Peggy Waldron, 30, stout wench, free
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Isaac Waldron of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Children: Diana, 8; Benjamin, 1; both also aboard the Nisbet.

Diana Waldron, 8
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Mother: Peggy Waldron, also aboard the Nisbet.
Benjamin Waldron, 1, infant
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Mother: Peggy Waldron, also aboard the Nisbet.

Peggy, 24, stout wench
Born free on Bahamas Island.

Betty, 3, free

Susannah, 65, stout wench

John Ryerson, 36, stout fellow, one-eyed
Formerly of Hackensack, New Jersey.
Left enslaver John Ryerson of Hackensack, New Jersey, in 1776.

Kitty, 25, stout wench
Formerly of New Jersey.
Left enslaver Peter Trumbly of New Jersey, in 1776.

Sam Cooper, 32, stout fellow
Formerly of New England.
Left enslaver John Cooper of New England.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Pompey Perkins, 30, stout fellow
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.
Left enslaver James Perkins of Boston, Massachusetts.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Simon Rutledge, 23, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Rutledge of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1777.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Charles Sweeney, 40, stout fellow
Formerly of Hampton, Virginia.
Left enslaver Major Sweeney of Hampton, Virginia.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Richard Price, 30, stout fellow
Formerly of Hampton, Virginia.
Left enslaver James Price of Hampton, Virginia, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
York, 27, stout fellow
Formerly of Eastern Shore, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Borden of Eastern Shore, Virginia, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Hercules, 26, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Hanscomb of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Charles Barren, 25, stout fellow
Formerly of Hampton, Virginia.
Left enslaver James Barren of Hampton, Virginia, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jacob Westerfield, 34, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Bergen, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Crisparus Westerfeldt of Bergen, New Jersey, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Benjamin, 23, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Isaac Waldron of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nancy Savage, 17, stout wench
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Savage of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Ned Dickinson, 21, stout fellow
Says he was born free in West Indies.
Pressed on board a Man of War.
"Pressed" means drafted and forced to serve aboard a British naval vessel.

Charles Lamb, 30, stout fellow
Formerly of Kent County, Maryland.
Left enslaver Frederick Hanson of Kent County, Maryland, in 1777.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Abraham Bayard, 30, stout fellow
Formerly of Cecil County, Maryland.
Left enslaver Samuel Bayard of Cecil County, Maryland, in 1777.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Ship Nisbet / continued . . .
Joseph Harris, 53, stout fellow [ordinary fellow]
Formerly of Rhaway Neck, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Joseph Harris of Rhaway Neck, New Jersey, in 1775 [1776].
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
[Note that there is another entry for Joseph Harris later in the original document. In this listing Joseph Harris is listed but once. Differences between the two entries in square brackets.]

Job Work, 22, stout fellow
Formerly of Hemps Landing, Virginia.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Willis Page, 35, stout fellow
Formerly of Nansemond, Virginia
Left enslaver John Driver of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Polly, 14, fine girl
Formerly of Springfield, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Peter Trumbly of Springfield, New Jersey.

Peggy, 7, fine girl

Paul Jackson, 35, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.
Left enslaver Joe Jackson of Boston, Massachusetts in 1775.

Charles White, 25, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Dr. Dillehour [John DelaHowe] of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1777.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dick Roach, 55, stout fellow
Left enslaver Lieutenant Colonel DeLancey.

Benjamin Gerrow, 25, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Peter Gerrow of Charlestown, South Carolina.

Isaac Balton, 23, likely fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Joseph Johnson of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Bacchus Erwin, 40, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

William Goodwin, 45, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Nansemond, Virginia.
Left enslaver James Goodwin of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1780.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Moses Mount, 20, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Allentown, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Michael Mount of Allentown, New Jersey, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Esther Clark, 35, ordinary wench
Formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Ship Nisbet / continued...

William Billinger, 23, likely fellow
  Formerly resided at the Ashley River, South Carolina.
  Left enslaver George Billinger of Ashley River, South Carolina, in May 1780.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Isaac Betty, 25, ordinary fellow
  Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
  Left enslaver John Betty, of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1780.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Violet Parkin, 27, ordinary wench
  Mr. Parkin's property. Enslaved Mr. Parkin.

Dick Parkin, 6 months
  Mr. Parkin's property. Enslaved by Mr. Parkin.

Anthony Redhook, 25, likely lad
  Formerly of Nansemond, Virginia.
  Left enslaver Moses Redhook of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1779.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thomas Bruin, 30, ordinary fellow
  Formerly of Hackensack, New Jersey.
  Left enslaver David Bruin of Hackensack, New Jersey, in 1779.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Joseph Bartlet, 31, stout man
  Formerly of Poughkeepsie, New York.
  Left enslaver Gilbert Livingston of Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1779.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Samuel Willis, 41, very ordinary fellow
  Formerly of Bergen, New Jersey.
  Left enslaver David Earle of Bergen, New Jersey, in 1779.
  Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Rachel Willis, 30, very ordinary wench
  Formerly of Jamaica, Long Island, New York.
  Left by enslaver Increase Carpenter of Jamaica, Long Island, New York, in 1776.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
  Children: Joseph Willis, 9 months; Charles Willis, 5; Jenny Willis, 3.
  All aboard the Nisbet.

Joseph Willis, 9 months
  Mother: Rachel Willis, 30, also aboard the Nisbet.
Charles Willis, 5
Mother: Rachel Willis, 30, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

Jenny Willis, 3
Mother: Rachel Willis, 30, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

Ben Field, 38, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Piscataway, New Jersey.
Left by enslaver Jeremy Field of Piscataway, New Jersey, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Eleanor Field, 27, stout wench
Formerly of Piscataway, New Jersey.
Left by enslaver Jeremy Field of Piscataway, New Jersey, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Children: Ben Field, 4; Sarah Field, 2. Both aboard the *Nisbet*.

Ben Field, 4
Mother: Eleanor Field, 27, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

Sarah Field, 2
Mother: Eleanor Field, 27, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

James Annie, 39, stout fellow
Formerly of Rhode Island.
Left enslaver John Annie of Rhode Island, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sam Smith, 36, stout fellow
Formerly of Monmouth, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Colonel Samuel Breese of Monmouth, New Jersey, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sam Dismal, 31, stout fellow
Formerly of Somerset County, Maryland.
Left enslaver John Dismal of Somerset County, Maryland, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Garret Hart, 29, stout fellow
Formerly of Reading, Pennsylvania.
Left enslaver Conrad Ralph near Reading, Pennsylvania, in April 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Isaac Warren, 25, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Warren [Waring?] of Charlestown, South Carolina, in May 1780.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thom Richardson, 32, stout fellow
Formerly of Aarons County, Maryland.
Left enslaver Edward Dawson of Aarons County, Maryland, in July 1777.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Rachel Jordan, 30, stout wench
Formerly of Nansemond, Virginia.
Left enslaver Solomon Slaughter of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Dempse Jordan, 11, likely boy
Mother: Rachel Jordan, 30, also aboard the Nisbet.

Judy Jordan, 9, likely wench
Mother: Rachel Jordan, 30, also aboard the Nisbet.

Joseph Wingwood, 24, stout fellow
Formerly of Wando River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Gilbert Wingwood of the Wando River, South Carolina, in 1780.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Flora Hill, 21, ordinary wench
Formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Green, 44, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Lucy Given of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nelly Lamb, 21, stout wench
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Colonel Ruffin Jordan of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Funky Hancock, 25, ordinary wench
Formerly of Princess Ann County, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Hancock of Princess Ann County, Virginia, in 1781.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Arthur Boler, 34, stout fellow
Formerly of Portsmouth, Rhode Island.
Left enslaver Medcalfe Bowler of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, in 1781.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Phebe Boler, 35, ordinary wench
Says she was born free at Portsmouth, Rhode Island.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Betsy Boler, 12, likely girl
Says she was born free.
Formerly of Portsmouth, Rhode Island.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Fan Barclay, 42, ordinary wench
Says she was born free.
Certified by James Henderson, Waggon Master.
Children: Rachel Barclay, 16; Elizabeth Barclay, 12; George Barclay, 8; Israel Barclay, 6;
Tishy Barclay, 3; Jane Barclay, 6 months. All aboard the *Nisbet*.

Rachel Barclay, 16, likely girl
Mother: Fan Barclay, 42, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

Elizabeth Barclay, 12, likely quadroon
Mother: Fan Barclay, 42, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

George Barclay, 8, likely boy
Mother: Fan Barclay, 42, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

Israel Barclay, 6
Mother: Fan Barclay, 42, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

Tishy Barclay, 3
Mother: Fan Barclay, 42, also aboard the *Nisbet*.

Jane Barclay, 6 months old
Mother: Fan Barclay, 42, also aboard the *Nisbet*. 
Mary Stratton, 24, likely wench  
Formerly of Eastern Shore, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Ben Stratton of Eastern Shore, Virginia, in 1779.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.  
Children: Rose Stratton, 8; Johnny Stratton, 2; Peggy Stratton, 4 months.  
All are listed as being on the Nisbet.

Rose Stratton, 8  
Mother: Mary Stratton, 24, also aboard the Nisbet.

Johnny Stratton, 2  
Mother: Mary Stratton, 24, also aboard the Nisbet.

Peggy Stratton, 4 months  
Mother: Mary Stratton, 24, also aboard the Nisbet.

Hannah Richardson, 22, ordinary wench  
Formerly resided at Head of Elk, Maryland. This place was the head of the Elk River.  
Left enslaver Ben Bennet of Head of Elk, Maryland, in 1779.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nancy Sheppard, 40, stout wench  
Formerly of Nansemond, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Edward Buxton of Nansemond, Virginia, in 1779.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.  
Children: Priscilla, 8, also aboard the Nisbet.

Priscilla Sheppard, 8, ordinary  
Mother: Nancy Sheppard, 40, also aboard the Nisbet.

Richard Redock, 39, ordinary fellow  
Formerly of Virginia.  
Left enslaver Colonel Redock [Redwick?] of Virginia, in 1778.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Charity Redock, 14, ordinary girl  
Formerly of Virginia.  
Left enslaver Colonel Redock [Redwick?] of Virginia.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jenny Redock, 12, ordinary girl  
Formerly of Virginia.  
Left enslaver Colonel Redock [Redwick?] of Virginia.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Betsy Palmerton, 20, stout wench
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Joseph Palmerton of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1778.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Children: Billy Palmerton, 4, also aboard the Nisbet.

Billy Palmerton, 4
Mother: Betsy Palmerton, 20, also aboard the Nisbet.

John Van Bruyck, 33, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Tappan, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Samuel Van Bruyck of Tappan, New Jersey, in 1779.

Nancy Van Bruyck, 28, stout wench
Formerly of Tappan, New Jersey.
Left enslaver David Edwards of Tappan, New Jersey, in 1779.
Children: Sarah Van Bruyck, 5, also aboard the Nisbet.

Sarah Van Bruyck, 5
Mother: Nancy Van Bruyck, 28, also aboard the Nisbet.

Francis Wells, 24, stout lad
Formerly of Mulberry, Virginia.
Left enslaver Thomas Wills of Mulberry, Virginia, in 1780.

Thomas York, 31, stout fellow
Formerly of Reading, Pennsylvania.
Left enslaver Colonel Bird of Reading, Pennsylvania, in 1777.
“Bird” quite possibly “Byrd”.

Ship Nisbet / continued...
John Bucher, 23, stout fellow  
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Mr. Webb of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave’s Certificate.

Fortune Rivers, 30, ordinary fellow  
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Molly Rivers of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sally Rivers, 30, ordinary wench  
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Molly Rivers of Charlestown, South Carolina, 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jenny Rivers, 7, ordinary child  
Born free within the British lines.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Close Herring, 50, nearly worn out  
Formerly of Tappan, New Jersey.  
Left enslaver Patton Herring of Tappan, New Jersey, and joined the British troops in 1778.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

William Sampson, 28, likely fellow  
Formerly of New Windsor, New York.  
Left enslaver James Jackson of New Windsor, New York, in 1777.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Peter Young, 21, ordinary fellow  
Formerly of Crane Island, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Charles Conner of Crane Island, Virginia, in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Samuel Minton, 60, nearly worn out
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Thomas Minton of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Prince Frederick, 32, stout fellow
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.
Left enslaver Captain Frederick of Boston, Massachusetts, New England, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Gilbert Lafferts, 21, likely lad
Enslaved by Mr. James Henderson.
Waggon Master Bill of Sale produced.

Jenny Frederick, 32, ordinary wench
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
Certified to be free by Jonah Frederick of Boston, Massachusetts.

Illustration: Falconer's Marine Dictionary, 1780
Thomas Thomas, 36, stout fellow  
Formerly of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia.  
Left enslaver Charles Thomas of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Barry Sawyer, 25, stout fellow  
Formerly of Princess Ann County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Charles Sawyer of Princes Ann County, Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Shinea Sawyer, 33, stout wench  
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver John Ivie of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nelly Sawyer, 14, likely wench  
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver James Hickerson of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Chloe Sawyer, 11, likely wench  
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver John Ivie of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Tom Sawyer, 10, likely boy  
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver James Micherson of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Tom Summer, 35, ordinary fellow  
Formerly of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia.  
Left enslaver Josiah Summer of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia, in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Pinna Summer, 21, likely wench
Formerly of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia.
Left enslaver Josiah Summer of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Cato Summer, 2½
Born free within the British lines.

Michael Wallace, 38, likely fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver James Wallace of Norfolk, Virginia, and joined Lord Dunmore in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Hannah Wallace, 22, ordinary wench
Formerly of Gloucester, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Arronstead of Gloucester, Virginia, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dick Wallace, 4, fine boy
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Ralph Henry, 30, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Gloucester, Virginia.
Left enslaver Patrick Henry, of Gloucester, Virginia, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Miney Henry, 25, ordinary wench
Formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Molly Henry, 4, fine child
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
James Reid, 33, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Doctor Reid of Norfolk, Virginia. Joined Lord Dunmore in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Patty Reid, 23, likely wench
Formerly of James River, Virginia.
Left enslaver Joseph Corrin of James River, Virginia, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Bristow Garritt, 32, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Essex County, Virginia
Left enslaver James Garrett of Essex County, Virginia, and joined Lord Dunmore in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Rose Garritt, 20, likely wench
Left enslaver Mrs. Wade, in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Anthony Cooper, 63, worn out
Formerly of Suffolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Willis Cooper of Suffolk County, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sarrah Cooper, 60, worn out
Formerly of Suffolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Willis Cooper of Suffolk County, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Isaac Cooper, 14, likely boy
Formerly of Suffolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Willis Cooper of Suffolk County, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nancy Cooper, 4, fine child
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Hector Lewis, 40, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Frank Lewis of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Illustration: Falconer's Marine Dictionary, 1780
Judith Jackson, 53, ordinary wench
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Clain of Norfolk, Virginia, early in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Silas Brown, 51, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
Left enslaver Richard Brown of Portsmouth, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Murray Scott, 28, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Princess Ann County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Isaac Murray of Princess Ann County, Virginia, in 1779.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Molly Scott, 30, ordinary wench
Formerly of West Branch, Virginia.
Left enslaver Christopher Godwine of West Branch, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jack Tollberry, 26, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Roanock [Roanoak], North Carolina.
Left enslaver John Alexander of Roanock [Roanoak], North Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sillo Tollberry, 23, stout wench
Formerly of Beaufort, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Isaac Barnett of Beaufort, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Kate Godfrey, 30, ordinary wench
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mathew Godfrey of Norfolk, Virginia, early in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Port Godfrey, 12, likely boy
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mathew Godfrey of Norfolk, Virginia, early in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Lucy Godfrey, 7, ordinary child
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mathew Godfrey of Norfolk, Virginia, early in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Salley Godfrey, 1½
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Lewis Church, 27, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Robert Betty of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Brown, 45, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Doctor Seaman of Norfolk, Virginia, and joined Lord Dunmore in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Peggy Brown, 30, stout wench
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Colonel Godfrey of Norfolk, Virginia, and joined Lord Dunmore in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jenny Brown, 5, ordinary child
Born free within the British Lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

James Brown, 2
Born free within the British Lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Nancy Brown, 1 ½
Born free within the British Lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

London Winters, 40, incurably lame
Formerly of North Landing, Virginia.
Left enslaver Patrick Singleton of North Landing, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
James Tucker, 55, almost worn out  
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Captain McFipps of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1776. Joined up with Lord Dunmore.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Lewis Cornick, 30, ordinary fellow  
Formerly of Princess Ann County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Lamber Cornick of Princess Ann County, Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Rachel Cornick, 30, sickly wench  
Formerly of Princess Ann County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver William Tannable of Princess Ann County, Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Tom Cornick, 6 months, infant  
Born free within the British lines.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Argill Killing, 22, stout fellow  
Formerly of Princess Ann County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Adam Killings of Princess Ann County, Virginia, in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Peggy Thomas, 22, stout wench  
Formerly of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia.  
Left enslaver James Otter of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia, in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

David Thomas, 5, likely boy  
Formerly of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia.  
Left enslaver James Otter of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia, in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Tony Carragan, 47, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Samuel Tryar of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

James Hector, 55, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Hampton County, Virginia.
Left enslaver William R. Currell of Hampton County, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Judy Hector, 30, stout wench
Formerly of Hampton County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Robert Bright of Hampton County, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Kate Hector, 8, likely child
Formerly of Hampton County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Robert Bright of Hampton County, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

John Hector, 1½
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Sam Godfrey, 26, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mathew Godfrey of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sucky Godfrey, 22, stout wench
Formerly of Hampton, Virginia.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Salley Godfrey, 6, ordinary child
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Robert Godfrey, 2  
Born free within the British lines.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

James Godfrey, 1  
Born free within the British lines.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Sam Grayson, 32, stout fellow  
Formerly of Georgia.  
Left enslaver Colonel Grayson of Georgia, early in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Salley Grayson, 20, ordinary wench  
Formerly of Georgia.  
Left enslaver Colonel Grayson of Georgia, early in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

James Anderson, 35, lame and ordinary fellow  
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Mr. Anderson of Charlestown, South Carolina, early in 1780.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dianach Anderson, 25, stout wench  
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Mr. Anderson of Charlestown, South Carolina, early in 1780.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

James Stewart, 29, stout fellow  
Formerly of Sommerset [Somerset] County, Maryland.  
Left enslaver John Stewart of Sommerset [Somerset] County, Maryland, early in 1780.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Joseph Smith, 54, lame  
Formerly of Cecil County, Maryland.  
Left enslaver William Currier of Cecil County, Maryland, early in 1777.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Eliza Laston, 24, stout wench
Formerly of Baltimore, Maryland.
Left enslaver Isaac Laston of Baltimore, Maryland, early in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Charles Laston, 4
Born free within the British Lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

James Philip, 40, stout fellow
Proved to be the 'property' of Captain Symon.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Peter Stogdon, 19, stout lad
Proved to be the 'property' of Widow Stogdon.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Prince, 11, likely boy
Proved to be the 'property' of Doctor McIntyre of General Hospital.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Amelia, 35, ordinary wench
Proved to be a free woman, and goes as a servant to the General Hospital.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Salley, 6, ordinary child
Enslaved by Dr. McIntyre.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

Samuel Mixied, 45, stout fellow
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
Left enslaver Thomas Brown of Portsmouth, Virginia, in 1778 - 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Moses Halstede, 30, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Henry Halstede of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1775 - 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
York Nash, 50, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Thomas Nash of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Mary English, 25, stout wench, mulatto
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver George English of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

King Tucker, 51, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Robert Tucker of Norfolk, Virginia, about 1775-1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dianah Tucker, 22, stout wench
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Mathew Cuttonon of Charlestown, South Carolina, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nezer Wright, 22, stout fellow
Formerly of Crane Island, Virginia.
Left enslaver Stephen Wright of Crane Island, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Henry Givin, 33, stout fellow
Formerly of Givins Island, Virginia.
Left enslaver Henry Givin of Givins Island, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dublin Miller, 65, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mason Miller of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1775-1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Samuel Hutchins, 39, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Joseph Hutchins of Norfolk, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Lucy Hutchins, 30, stout wench
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Samuel Colbert of Norfolk, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Garth Wright, 50, stout fellow
Formerly of Crane Island, Virginia.
Left enslaver Stephen Wright of Crane Island, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Ben Poole, 43, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Edward Poole of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Mary Poole, 40, stout wench
Formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jack Ellis, 28, stout fellow
Formerly of Ashley River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Will Ellis of Ashley River, South Carolina, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Pompy Beacon, 30, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Samuel Beacon of Norfolk, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Mary Halstead, 36, stout wench
    Formerly of Hampton, Virginia.
    Left enslaver Francis Rice of Hampton, Virginia, in 1775-76.
    Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
    Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
    Children: Phillis, 11, also aboard the Danger.

Phillis Halstead, 11
    Formerly of Hampton, Virginia.
    Left enslaver Francis Rice of Hampton, Virginia, in 1775-76.
    Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
    Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
    Mother: Mary Halstead, 36, also aboard the Danger.

Charity Beacon, 36, stout wench
    Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
    Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
    Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Venus Williams, 50, stout woman
    Formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
    Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
    Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sally Stewart, 26, stout wench
    Formerly of Williamsburgh, Virginia.
    Left enslaver John Tassell of Williamsburgh, Virginia, in 1775-1776.
    Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
    Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Moses Kelly, 37, stout fellow
    Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
    Left enslaver Mary Kelly of Portsmouth, Virginia, in 1778.
    Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
    Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jenny Kelly, 32, stout wench
    Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
    Left enslaver Mathew Godfrey of Norfolk County, Virginia, around 1778.
    Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
    Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Ship Danger / continued...

**Petter, 6, fine boy**
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mathew Godfrey of Norfolk County, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

**Bridget Godfrey, 55, stout wench**
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mathew Godfrey of Norfolk County, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

**Salley Collins, 22, stout wench**
Formerly of Georgetown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Maurice Seaman of Georgetown, North [sic; South] Carolina, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

**Jacob Collins, 40, stout fellow**
Formerly of Santee River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Collins of Santee River, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

**Hannah Ellis, 20, stout wench**
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver William Ellis of Charlestown, South Carolina, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

**Abraham Herron, 4**
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.

**Jack Robinson, 22, stout fellow**
Formerly of Hamps landing [Hemps Landing?], Virginia.
Left enslaver Tully Robinson of Hamps Landing, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

**Quash English, 29, stout fellow**
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John English of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Clarly English, 29, stout wench
Formerly of South Carolina.
Left enslaver Colonel Deavux of Beaufort, South Carolina, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
"Deavux" is probably an error and is correctly spelled "Deveaux."

Marian Maxico, 27, stout wench
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
Left enslaver Thomas Brown of Portsmouth, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Rachael Maxico, 8
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
Left enslaver Thomas Brown of Portsmouth, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Prince Robinson, 23, stout fellow
Formerly of Hempslanding [probably Hemps Landing], Virginia.
Left enslaver Tully Robinson of Hemps Landing, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Hannah Robinson, 32, stout wench
Formerly of South Branch, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Wheaton of South Branch, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Peggy Robinson, 12, likely girl
Formerly of South Branch, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Wheaton of South Branch, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Tom Seaman, 50, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Morris [Maurice?] Seaman of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Daniel Frip, 39, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver Mathew Frip of Norfolk, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Rose Frip, 39, stout wench
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Singletown of Norfolk, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Lucy Frip, 9, likely girl
Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Singletown of Norfolk, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nicholas Forde, 60, stout fellow
Formerly of King George County, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Thorntown of King George County, Virginia, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dick Poole, 19, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Howard Poole of Norfolk, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jacob Williams, 22, stout fellow
Formerly of Gloucester County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Samuel Williams of Gloucester County, Virginia, in 1781.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Quomo Robinson, 45, stout fellow
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver David Robinson of Norfolk County, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Betty Quomo, 50, stout wench
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Will Wilson of Norfolk County, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jack Neal, 23, little fellow
Formerly of Hempslanding [Hemps Landing?], Virginia.
Left enslaver James Robinson of Hempslanding, Virginia, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Frank Miller, 70, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Massey Miller of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jenny Miller, 50, stout wench
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
Left enslaver Joseph Coles of Portsmouth, Virginia, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Nancy Miller, 9
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
Left enslaver Joseph Coles of Portsmouth, Virginia, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Royal Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Pompy Clarke, 33, stout fellow
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts, New England.
Left enslaver Doctor William Clarke of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the General Hospital's department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Phillis Clarke, 30, stout wench
Formerly of Santee River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Joseph Legare of Santee River, South Carolina, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the General Hospital's Department.
“Legare” is more commonly spelled “Legare” in South Carolina.
Joseph Dickson, 50, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Savannah, Georgia.
Left enslaver William Dickson of Savannah, Georgia, in 1778-79.
Stationed behind British lines within the General Hospital's Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Browne, 40, stout fellow
Born free in Gloucester County, Virginia.
Stationed behind British lines within the Artillery Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Cato Ramsey, 50, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Cecil County, Maryland.
Left enslaver Benjamin Ramsey of Cecil County, Maryland, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the General Hospital's department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Suckey, 60, ordinary wench
Formerly of Cecil County, Maryland.
Left enslaver Benjamin Chine of Cecil County, Maryland, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the General Hospital's Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Children: Cato, 5 years old, also aboard the *Danger*.

Cato, 5
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the General Hospital's Department.
Mother: Suckey, 60 years old, also aboard the *Danger*.

Lucey Lambert, 28, stout wench with only one eye
Born free in the City of New York. Passenger in the ship.

Nancey Leonard, 26, stout wench
Formerly of Long Island, New York Province.
Left enslaver Dr. Tucker of Long Island, New York Province, in 1776.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate. Passenger on the ship.

Jacob Kemp, 40, stout fellow
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Adams of Portsmouth, Virginia, in 1779.
Passenger on the ship.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
David Raymond, 40, stout fellow
Formerly of Norwalk, Connecticut.
Left enslaver John Raymond of Norwalk, Connecticut, in 1776.
Indentured to Lieutenant S. Major [also spelled Majer].
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Prince Baker, 39, stout fellow
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts, New England.
Left enslaver Nathaniel Baker of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1776.
Indentured to Nathaniel Marks.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dorothey, 30, stout wench
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.
Left enslaver Ralph Stoddart of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1776.
Indentured to Nathaniel Marks.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Goseman, 23, stout fellow
Indentured to Mr. Weir.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Charles Harrison, 25, stout fellow
Formerly of New Georgia, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Charles Kelly of New Georgia, South Carolina, in 1779.
Indentured to Nathaniel Marks.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Daniel Proffitt, 23, stout fellow
Formerly of Rappahannock [Rappahannock], Virginia.
Left enslaver Thomas Hunter of Rappahannock, Virginia, around 1778.
Indentured to Maurice Salt.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sibe Proffitt, 32, stout wench
Formerly of White Plains, New York Province.
Left enslaver Isaac Packley of White Plains, New York Province, around 1778.
Indentured to Maurice Salt.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Rose Gozeman, 24, stout wench
   Formerly of Rhode Island.
   Left enslaver John Easton of Rhode Island, in 1779.
   Indentured to Mr. Weir.
   Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Fanney Gozeman, 5 months
   Born free within the British lines.
   Indentured to Mr. Weir.

Peter Dorram, 25, missing his right arm
   Born free at the Head of Elk, Maryland.
   Indentured to Mr. Robinson.

Harry Blauvelt, 32, stout fellow
   Free as per voucher produced from Hermanus Blauvelt.
   Indentured to Lieutenant S. Majers [also found spelled as Majors].

Dorras Scudder, 20, stout wench
   Formerly of Norwich, Connecticut.
   Left enslaver Isaac Scudder of Norwich, Connecticut, in 1777.
   Indentured to Maurice Salt.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Andrew Dickson, 11, fine boy
   Born free.
   Indentured to John Dickson.

Peter Mercer, 54, ordinary fellow
   Formerly of Stafford County, Virginia.
   Left enslaver John Mercer of Stafford County, Virginia, in 1777.
   Indentured to Mr. Morrell.
   Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thomas Ormond, 25, stout fellow
   Formerly of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia.
   Left enslaver Aaron Ormond of Nancy Mund [Nansemond], Virginia, and joined with Lord Dunmore, in 1776. Indentured to Captain Hubble.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Toney Bartram, 25, stout fellow
   Formerly of Fairfield, Connecticut.
   Left enslaver Joal Bartram of Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1779.
   Indentured to Captain Hubble.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
John Fredrick, 24, stout fellow
Born free in the Island of Jamaica, West Indies.
Indentured to Mr. Ellis.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Peter Sampson, 19, stout fellow
Formerly of North Carolina.
Left enslaver David Core of North Carolina, in 1779.
Indentured to Mr. Bready.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thomas Thomson, 20, stout fellow
Formerly of Ashley River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Andrew Middleton of Ashley River, South Carolina, in 1779.
Indentured to Mr. Ellis.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Prince Perry, 45, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Fairfield, Connecticut.
Left enslaver Colonel Perry of Fairfield, Connecticut, in 1776.
Indentured to Captain Hubble.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Daniel Payne, 22, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Virginia.
Left enslaver General Washington of Virginia, in 1779.
Indentured to Maurice Salt.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
“General Washington” is probably “General George Washington.”

Polly Groves, 26, likely wench
Born free in Barbadoes, West Indies.
Indentured to Captain Hubble.
Certified by General Birch.

Darcas, 28, stout wench
Born free at Flushing on Long Island, New York.
Indentured to Captain Hubble.
Certified free by David Mathews, Mayor of New York.
Scipio Conner, 22, stout fellow
Formerly of Santee River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Conner of Santee River, South Carolina, in 1779-80.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Broughton, 21, stout fellow
Formerly of New England.
Left enslaver Thomas Broughton of New England, in 1779-80.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Suckey Broughton, 20, stout wench
Formerly of New England.
Left enslaver Thomas Broughton of New England, in 1779-80.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thomas Summers, 31, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Summers of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1779-80.
Indentured to Thomas Clarke.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Sarrah Miller, 39, stout wench
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Summers of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1779-1780.
Indentured to James Clarke.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Suzannah Turnbull, 23, stout wench
Born free at Providence in the West Indies as appears by General Birch Certificate.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Indentured to James Clark.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Sam Turnbull, 10, likely boy
Born free at Charlestown, South Carolina, as appears by General Birch Certificate.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Indentured to James Clark.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Titus Eldridge, 21, stout fellow
Formerly of New York.
Left by enslaver, Joseph Eldridge of New York, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Prince Aldrich, 34, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Timothy Crosby of Charlestown, South Carolina, about 1779.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Betsey Aldrich, 33, ordinary wench
Betsey was given her freedom by James Way.
James Way was a farmer at Newtown Landing on Long Island, New York.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Tabby Rogers, 20, stout wench
Formerly of Western Shore, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Allen, of Western Shore, Virginia, about 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Betsey Rogers, 2
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Easter Rogers, 10, likely girl
Formerly of Western Shore, Virginia.
Left enslaver William Allen of Western Shore, Virginia, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Cato Cox, 26, stout fellow
Born free at Frankford, Province of Pennsylvania.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

John Cox, 10, likely boy
Born free at Frankford, Province of Pennsylvania.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Jenny Cox, 24, ordinary wench
   Formerly of New York Island, New York.
   Freed by enslaver, John Dykman of New York Island, New York, at his death.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
   Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Betsey Forsyth, 22, stout wench
   Formerly of New York, New York.
   Left by enslaver, George Townsend of New York, New York, in 1776.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
   Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

John Forsyth, 22, stout fellow
   Formerly of New York, New York.
   Left by enslaver, George Rapalje of New York, New York, in 1776.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
   Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Lydia Forsyth, 1
   Born free within the British lines.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.

Isaac Spencer, 43, stout fellow
   Formerly of Chester County, Pennsylvania.
   Left enslaver Henry Tromble, Chester County, Pennsylvania, around 1778.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Jack Scolly, aged 32, stout fellow
   Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.
   Left enslaver John Scolly of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1775-1776.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
   "Scotty" is probably a spelling error for the name "Scolly".

Phebe Scolly, 25, stout wench
   Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.
   Left enslaver Arnold Wills of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1775-1776.
   Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General's Department.
   Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Jupiter, 35, stout fellow
Formerly of Brunswick, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Jasper Harmer [Farmer?] of Brunswick, New Jersey, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Robert Backhus, 26, stout fellow
Formerly of James Island, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Hugh Alson of James Island, South Carolina, about 4 years ago.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Molly Backhus, 21, stout wench
Formerly of Johns Island, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Thomas Litcon [sic] of Johns Island, South Carolina, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Phillis Farmer, 30, stout wench
Formerly of Brunswick, New Jersey.
Left enslaver Richard Jackwish [sic] of Brunswick, New Jersey in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Cato Rogers, 44, stout fellow
Formerly of New Port, Rhode Island.
Left enslaver William Rogers of New Port, Rhode Island, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Robert Dalton, 36, stout fellow
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.
Left enslaver James Dalton of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Nelly Dalton, 26, stout wench
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Joseph Lagree [Legare], Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Suzan Dalton, 2
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Peter Tarbett, 32, stout fellow
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.
Left enslaver Joseph Tarbett of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Peggy King, 28, stout wench
Formerly of Chester County, Pennsylvania.
Left enslaver Fraser of Chester County, Pennsylvania, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Robert King, 4
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Richard Samson, 25, stout fellow
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Bushell of Portsmouth, Virginia, in 1777-1778.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Daniel Reading, 28, stout fellow
Formerly of Walkhellen, New York.
Left enslaver Hans Miller of Walkhellen, New York, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Mary Reading, 19, stout wench
Born free at New York.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Will Hannabill, 25, stout fellow
Born free at Paramus, New Jersey.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.

Sarah Hannabill, 21, stout wench
Born free at Flushing, New York.
Stationed behind British lines within the Wagon Master General’s Department.
Robert Bowland, 35, stout fellow  
Formerly of Jamestown, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Champion Travers of Jamestown, Virginia, in 1779-80.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thomas Russall, 24, stout fellow  
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Doctor Wast of Charlestown, South Carolina, around 1778.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Sam Wedder, 30, stout fellow  
Formerly of Goose Creek, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Doctor Wedder of Goose Creek, South Carolina, in 1777-78.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

John, 21, stout fellow  
Formerly of Hackensack, New Jersey.  
Left enslaver Isaac Vorcheen of Hackensack, New Jersey, in 1775-76.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

John Nicholas, 21, stout fellow  
Born free in Gloucester County, Virginia.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

John Jackson, 19, stout fellow  
Formerly of Glocester [Gloucester] County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Rabo of Glocester [Gloucester] County, Virginia, around 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Lewis Freeland, 29, stout fellow  
Formerly of Second River, New Jersey.  
Left enslaver John Scuyler of Second River around 1777.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Elizabeth Freeland, 22, stout wench  
Born free near Parramus [Paramus], New Jersey.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Lewis, 32, stout fellow
Formerly of Cortlands Manor, New York.
Left enslaver Mr. VerPlank of Cortlands Manor, New York, in 1780.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Richard Jarrett, 30, stout fellow
Born free at East Chester, New York Province.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Sam Van Nostrand, 53, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Acquickenack [Acquackenack, now Passiac], New Jersey.
Left enslaver C. Van Nostrand of Acquickenack, New Jersey, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Sarrah Van Nostrand, 50, ordinary wench
Formerly of Acquickenack [Acquackenack, now Passiac], New Jersey.
Left enslaver C. Van Nostrand of Acquickenack, New Jersey, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Sarrah Van Nostrand, 20, ordinary wench
Formerly of Acquackeneck [Acquackenack, now Passiac], New York [sic; New Jersey].
Left enslaver C. Van Nostrand of Acquickenack, New Jersey, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Isaac Howard, 27, stout fellow
Formerly lived near Lewistown, Pennsylvania.
Left enslaver George Howard of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Morris Seaman, 21, stout fellow
Formerly of Georgetown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Saul Paul of Georgetown, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Ship L’Abondance / continued . . .

Sarrah, 70, ordinary wench
  Formerly of the Grenadas, West Indies.
  Left enslaver Captain Wilson of the Grenadas, West Indies.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Belinda, 50, ordinary wench
  Left enslaver P. N. Brooke Livingston, who gave her freedom.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Moses Kelty, 20, stout fellow
  Formerly of Norfolk, Virginia.
  Left enslaver George Kelty of Norfolk, Virginia, in 1779.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Thomas Cooper, 20, stout fellow
  Formerly of Acquackinack [Acquackenack, now Passiac], New Jersey.
  Left enslaver Cornelius Vanyinkle of Acquackinack, New Jersey, in 1779-1780.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Jane, 30, ordinary wench
  Formerly of Newark, New Jersey.
  Left enslaver John Sears of Newark, New Jersey, in 1775.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Aaron Jones, 42, stout fellow
  Formerly of Monmouth County, New Jersey.
  Left enslaver Hendrick Smith, in 1777.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Isaac Jones, 10, fine boy
  Formerly of Monmouth County, New Jersey.
  Left enslaver Richard Stout of Monmouth County, New Jersey, in 1777.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Sarrah Jones, 42, stout wench
  Formerly of Monmouth County, New Jersey.
  Left enslaver Richard Stout of Monmouth County, New Jersey, in 1777.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Thomas Drake, 17, likely lad  
Formerly of Monmouth County, New Jersey.  
Left enslaver Thomas Thurman of Monmouth County, New Jersey, about 1778.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Tom, 17, likely lad  
Formerly of unknown place.  
Left enslaver Nicholas Cyphrus, a French Merchant.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

John Hamilton, 24, stout fellow  
Formerly of Barbadoes.  
Left enslaver Mr. James Hamilton of Barbadoes, around 1778.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Kate Walters, 40, stout wench  
Formerly of unknown place.  
Left enslaver Rebecca Ramsburgh, who gave her freedom.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Will Robinson, aged 19, stout lad  
Born free in the City of New York, New York.  
Stationed behind British lines within the Black Brigade.

Adam Green, 23, stout lad  
Formerly of Portsmouth, Virginia.  
Left enslaver John Brown of Portsmouth, Virginia, around 1778.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Latice Young, 20, stout wench  
Formerly of Willtown, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver William Young of Willtown, South Carolina, around 1778.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Jack Williams, 24, stout fellow  
Formerly of Horse Savannah, South Carolina  
Left enslaver William Williamson of Horse Savannah, South Carolina, around 1778.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Ship L'Abondance / continued . . .

Judith Dewitt, 22, stout wench
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Dewitt of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Dublin Moore, 31, ordinary fellow
Formerly of James Island, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Moore of James Island, South Carolina, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

John Charles Clap, 35, stout fellow
Born free in New Cursesaw [sic].
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Thomas Holmes, 22, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Cairnes of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Jacob Brady, 40, stout fellow
Formerly of Chesterfield, Warwick County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Archibald Brodie of Chesterfield, Warwick County, Virginia, around 1779.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Daniel Elliott, 29, stout fellow
Formerly of Santee River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver General Sumpter of Santee River, South Carolina, in the year 1777.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
General Sumpter is probably General Thomas Sumter.

Stanle Platt, 29, stout fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Peter Thorn Platt, Charlestown, South Carolina, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Peter Thorn Platt is possibly Peter Templatt.
Peggy, 30, stout wench
Formerly of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Martin Joice of Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1775-76.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Children: Peter, 2 years old. Also on board L’Abondance.

Peter, 2
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Mother: Peggy, 30 years old; formerly enslaved in Norfolk County, Virginia.

Sally Wilson, 18, stout wench
Formerly of Island of Providence.
Left enslaver William Fredericks of Island of Providence, around 1780.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

James Russell, 20, stout fellow
Born free.
Formerly resided in Norfolk County, Virginia.
Lived with John Mansburgh of Norfolk County, Virginia.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Captain George Fraction, 27, stout fellow
Formerly of James River, Virginia.
Left enslaver David Leach of James River, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

John Cooper, 27, stout fellow
Formerly of Livingston Manner, New York.
Left enslaver Martmas Cooper of Livingston Manner, New York, in 1777.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Betsey Robinson, 40, ordinary wench
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina
Left enslaver John Robinson of Charlestown, South Carolina, after he gave her freedom.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Mingo Leslie, 34, ordinary fellow
Formerly of Charlestown, South Carolina.
Left enslaver John Leslie of Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1779-80.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Dianah Johnson, 18, likely wench
Formerly of Goose Creek, South Carolina.
Left enslaver William Johnson of Goose Creek, South Carolina, in 1779-80.
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Martin Cox, 44, nearly worn out
Formerly of Surrey County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Colonel Cox of Surrey County, Virginia in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Lymus Pandorrus, 52, nearly worn out
Formerly of New River, South Carolina.
Left enslaver Richard Pandorrus of New River, South Carolina, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
"Pandorrus" probably "Pendarvis".

Maria Pandorrus, 32, ordinary wench
Formerly of Savannah, Georgia.
Left enslaver William Jones of Savannah, Georgia, in 1779.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Oliver Vinson, 30, stout fellow
Formerly of Monmouth County, New Jersey.
Left enslaver John Freeman of Monmouth County, New Jersey, in 1776-77.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Dianah Vinson, 28, stout wench
Formerly of Thorough-fair Neck, Pennsylvania.
Left enslaver Samuel Rutt of Thorough-fair Neck, Pennsylvania, in 1776-77.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Judith Mozely, 28, likely wench
Formerly of Princess Ann County, Virginia.
Left enslaver Colonel Mozely of Princess Ann County, Virginia, around 1778.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.
Peggy Mozely, 18, likely wench  
Formerly of Princess Ann County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Colonel Mozely of Princess Ann County, Virginia, around 1778.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Isaac Taylor, 39, ordinary fellow  
Formerly of Communepaw, New Jersey.  
Left enslaver John Van Horn of Communepaw, New Jersey, in 1775-1776.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

John Hedler, 26, likely fellow  
Born free, as appears by a certificate from Brigadier General Birch.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Dianah Hedler, 27, ordinary wench  
Born free, as appears by a certificate from Brigadier General Birch.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

James Hedler, 6, ordinary boy  
Born free, as appears by a certificate from Brigadier General Birch.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Charlotte Hedler, 1  
Born free, as appears by a certificate from Brigadier General Birch.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Cato Winslow, 49, ordinary fellow  
Formerly of New York, New York.  
Left enslaver Mr. Winslow of New York, New York, in 1775-76.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Rose Winslow, 40, ordinary wench  
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.  
Left enslaver Captain Valantine of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1775-76.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Toby Winslow, 11, likely boy  
Formerly of Boston, Massachusetts.  
Left enslaver Captain Valantine, Boston, Massachusetts, in 1775-1776.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Hannah Winslow, 4, ordinary child
  Born free within the British lines.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Mary Thomson, 54, nearly worn out
  Born free at Newark, New Jersey.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified by Brigadier General Birch.

Margaret Thomson, 25, stout wench
  Born free at Newark, New Jersey.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified by Brigadier General Birch.

Polly Thomson, 10, ordinary child
  Born free at Newark, New Jersey.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified by Brigadier General Birch.

Rachell Thomson, 3, ordinary child
  Born free at Newark, New Jersey.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified by Brigadier General Birch.

Sally Thomson, 1, ordinary child
  Born free at Newark, New Jersey, as certified by Brigadier General Birch.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

Betsey, 50, ordinary wench
  Proved to be free and produced voucher of proof at inspection time.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

George Wilkinson, 19, stout fellow
  Formerly of Nancy Munn [Nansemond] County, Virginia.
  Left enslaver Willis Wilkinson of Nansemond County, Virginia, in 1779.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Toney, 34, ordinary fellow
  Formerly of Brooklyn.
  Left enslaver Rymer Suydam of Brooklyn, to shift for himself, in 1776.
  Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
  Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Hager Kennedy, 29, ordinary wench  
Formerly of Augusta County, Georgia.  
Left enslaver Mathew Hardey of Augusta County, Georgia, in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.  
Children: Sam, 1. Also aboard L‘Abondance.

Sam Kennedy, 1  
Born free within the British lines. Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Mother: Hager Kennedy, 29. Also aboard L‘Abondance.

Peter Harding, 28, stout fellow  
Formerly of Northumberland County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver James Paul of Northumberland County, Virginia in 1779.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Kate Harding, 40, ordinary wench  
Formerly of Gloucester County, Virginia.  
Left enslaver Mr. Armsted of Gloucester County, Virginia, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Ebenezer Harding, 2½  
Born free within the British lines. Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.

John Jackson, 30, stout fellow  
Formerly of Morristown, New Jersey.  
Left enslaver Peter Curtinas of Morristown, New Jersey, around 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.

Hannah Jackson, 30, stout wench  
Formerly of Morristown, New Jersey.  
Left enslaver Aaron Gilbert of Morristown, New Jersey, in 1776.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Pompy Colt, 27, ordinary fellow  
Formerly of Santee River, South Carolina.  
Left enslaver Mr. Colt of Santee River, South Carolina, around 1779-80.  
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.  
Certified free as per General Musgrave Certificate.
Toby Castington, 33, stout fellow
Formerly of Kent County, Virginia.
Left enslaver John Conner of Kent County, Virginia, and joined Lord Dunmore in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Cloe Mann, 34, ordinary wench
Formerly of Virginia.
Left enslaver Samuel Griggory of Virginia, in 1776.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Certified free as per General Birch Certificate.

Bettsey Mann, 5
Born free within the British lines.
Stationed behind British lines with the Black Brigade.
Eleven vessels left New York for Port Mouton, Nova Scotia in 1783. Of the 558 Black Loyalists aboard these ships, 34 per cent were from Virginia, 17 per cent were from places unknown, 16 per cent were from South Carolina, 10 per cent were from New Jersey, and the remainder were from various states throughout the U.S. To date very little data has been accumulated on the lives of these people during their initial few months in Nova Scotia.

Their stay in Port Mouton was a short one. In 1784 a fire razed the town to the ground. The people relocated to other parts of the province. Most of them resettled along the eastern shore, at Chedabucto, on the eastern shore, later renamed Guysborough. Included amongst those who went to Chedabucto were many individuals who would later listed as grantees at Tracadie.

The listing that follows was taken from the “Loyalist Muster Roll of Chedabucto Negroes, 1776 - 1785.” A muster roll was a list of individuals who were collecting government rations. Many early Loyalist settlers, Black and White alike, relied on these rations.

This listing gives the data as it was found in the muster roll, and, whether that person’s name is also found in the “Book of Negroes” (abbreviated in the list as BON).

If a person is recorded in the “Book of Negroes,” it means they left from New York in 1783, and readers would be well advised to check the index and find the reference page for their biography found in chapter one of this report.

There are various reasons that an individual might not be recorded in the “Book of Negroes.” They might have arrived in province independently aboard fishing vessels or whaling boats, or they could been part of a group of Loyalists who settled at Chedabucto after coming from St. Augustine,
Florida. (Their story will need be told in another report.)

No other information appears in the original muster roll, except the names of the individuals and their status. The data begins on the next page.

EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS USED WITHIN THIS REPORT:

<p>| [sic] | error |
| [ ] | correct spelling |
| [sic; ] | error, with the correction made |
| [? ] | possibly the correct spelling |
| [?] | unclear |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>&quot;Book of Negroes&quot; Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amiel, James</td>
<td>Man</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amiel, Fanny</td>
<td>Woman</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amiel, Israel</td>
<td>Child under ten years old</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amiel, Diskey</td>
<td>Child under ten years old</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amiel, Eliz.</td>
<td>Child over ten years old</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amiel, Rachl</td>
<td>Child over ten years old</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amiel, Jane</td>
<td>Child under ten years old</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amiel, Geo.</td>
<td>Child over ten years old</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash, Chal.</td>
<td>Man</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash, Betty</td>
<td>Woman</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash, Lydia</td>
<td>Child under ten years old</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacchus, Bob.</td>
<td>Man</td>
<td>Not in BON</td>
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During the initial settlement in the 1700s, Tracadie was an all-inclusive place-name for the area that today has been split into the smaller communities of Tracadie, Big Tracadie, Monastery, Rear Monastery, East Tracadie, and Upper Big Tracadie. Most of the Brownspriggs grant was located around East Tracadie, Monastery and Rear Monastery.
Introduction to the Tracadie Land Grant of 1787, also known as the Brownspriggs Grant.

Life in Guysborough was tolerable during the warmer months. There was plenty of fish, fowl, game, and edible wild plants. But when winter came the situation changed. First to suffer were "the poor and improvident, and then among those who never refused to share their fast diminishing stores with their less favoured neighbours" (Hart 1975, 62).

Years of having no land to cultivate plagued the free Black population. Hard-pressed to support their families, they had to rely on the wider community. Some of the men worked in the woods, lumbering, others worked on fishing boats, whaling boats, or as ships' pilots. The women did what Black women in North America have done for centuries; they were domestic servants, doing the laundering, cleaning, and cooking for white households.

In 1787, four years after their arrival in the province, several Blacks of Guysborough had had enough. Fed up with being landless, and completely at the mercy of the whims of the wider community for employment, they chose to petition the government for land. Their representative, Thomas Brownspriggs presented their petition.

Their petition was heard, and a location for resettlement was chosen for the seventy-four families, at the head of Tracadie Harbour. The surveyor underwent the usual checks of ensuring that the land was not laid out or reserved.

Document One:
579-1787 Warrant [of] Thomas Bowspriggs [sic] & others Negromen
It appearing to me that a Warrant of Survey hath been duly executed according to His Majesty's Instructions and the Governor's Orders and that the Surveyor General of the Woods hath certified that the Lands described are not within any Reservation for the Crown. let a Grant be prepared agreeable to the royal Instructions and in the usual form taking care to
annex the Plan there to and to insert the Commencement of Quit Rent --
S.S. Blowers
Atty [Attorney] General
Halifax Septembr. 29, 1787
[Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management, RG20 "A" vol. 17-19]

Because the designated area was proven available, the surveyor measured the land and the applicable documents were processed, thereby granting 3000 acres of land to 74 Black Loyalists.

Document Two:
To the Secretary of the Province of Nova Scotia
Warrant to survey - BrownSpriggs, Thos. & others Traccadie Harbour 19
John Parr Esqr Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief, in and over his Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia, and the Islands of St. John's and Cape Breton, and their Dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

To Charles Morris Esqr Chief Surv[eyor] of Land You are forwith by yourself or Deputy to Admeasure and lay out unto Thomas Bownspriggs (sic) & 73 others at Trackady according to the annexed List Plantation, containing Three Thousand Acres and make a due Return into the Secretary's Office within Six Month from the Date hereof, with a Plott or Description hereunto annexed, as also to certify the Nature and Quality of the said Lands, comfortable to his Majesty's Instructions, and for so doing this shall be your Warrant.
Given under my Hand at Halifax, 28th Day of Sepr 1787
J Parr [signature]
[Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management, RG20 "A" vol. 17 - 19]
Crown Land Map showing the layout of the Tracadie land grant, also known as the Brownspriggs Grant.
NOVA SCOTIA. GEORGE THE THIRD, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, and so forth. To all to whom these Presents shall come, GREETING. Know ye that we of our Special Grace, certain knowledge and [illegible], have given and granted, and by these Presents, for Us, our heirs and Successors, do give and grant unto:

Thomas Brownspriggs, Peter French, Samuel Milton, James Lenox, Benjamin Gero, Thomas Richardson, Alexander Elmes, Richard Jordan, Samuel Dismal, Prince Hederick, Robert Bachus, John Skelly, James Emma, Anthony Morris, Quart Shepard, Isaac Bolton, John Devos, John Slaught[er], Charles Ringwood, James Thomas, William Gordon, Samuel Grierson, Charles Lamb, John Green, Jr., John Bratton, Pompey Colt, Samuel Willis, Adam Minton, Garrret Hart, Anthony Barton, Charles Sweeney, Charles Ash, Pompey Clark, Prince Frederick, Bachus Erwin, Joseph Ringwood, Christopher King, Moses Redwick, John Vanbright, John Framer, Samuel Smith, Joseph Colt, John Robertson, Jacob Westoff, Cornelius Hunt, Samuel Hawkins, Wm Sampson, Andrew Izard, Cesar Jordan, Willis Page, Joseph Harris, Joseph Bowers, Philip Thompson, Robert Dawton, Daniel Brown, King Farr, Jacob Brady, Samuel Magra, Seven Waters, Prince Costly, Gilbert Lafforts, George Baker, Clause Herring, Philip Batley, Robert Conway, John Ireland, Dinnah Lumian, Rachel Brewer, Violet Milles, Mina Townsend, Thomas Bailey, York Berden, Abraham Bayard, & Andrew Whitehead, their Heirs & Assigns, a Tract of land in Severalty containing three Thousand Acres, at a Place called Traccadie in the County of Sydney, beginning at the upper bound of Land laid out for Peter Bennors & Sons, on the east side of Traccadie Harbour, thence to run South eighty-seven degrees east ninety three Chains thence South twelve degrees East one hundred & sixty Chains thence, South Sixty one degrees, West two hundred and twenty four Chains, thence North twenty nine degrees West Ninety Eight Chains & ninety links thence North Sixty one degrees East one hundred & sixty chains to the Harbour or River Traccadie, thence running down said River & Harbour & crossing over the same to the bounds first mentioned.

And hath such shape, form and marks as appears by a plat thereof hereunto annexed; together with all woods, underwoods, timber, trees, lakes, ponds, fishings, waters, water courses, profits, commodities, appurtenances, and hereditaments whatsoever, therunto belonging or in anywise appertaining; together also with priviledge of hunting, hawking and fowling in and upon the same, and mines thereon; and also saying and reserving to us our heirs and successors all white pine trees, if any shall be found growing AND TO HOLD the said parcel or tract of Three Thousand acres of land and all and singular other premises hereby granted unto the said Several and Respective Grantees, their Heirs and Assigns, the aforesaid three Thousand Acres share and share alike forever in free and common Soccage the said Grantees their Heirs or Assigns, YIELDING and PAYING therefore unto us, our heirs and successors, or to our Receiver-General for the time being, or to his Deputy or Deputies for the time being, yearly, that is to say, at the Feast of St. Michael, in every year, at the rate of two shillings for every hundred acres, and so in proportion according to the quantities of acres hereby granted; the same to commence and be payable, from the said Feast of St. Michael, which shall first happen after the expiration of Ten years from the date hereof. Provided always and this present Grant is upon condition, that the said Grantees, their heirs or assigns, shall and do within three years after the date hereof, for every fifty acres of plantable land hereby granted, clear and work three acres at least in that part thereof as he or they shall judge most convenient and advantageous or else to clear and drain three acres of swampy or sunken ground, or drain three acres of marsh, if any such contained therein; and shall and do within the time aforesaid, put and keep upon every fifty acres thereof accounted barren three neat cattle, and continue the same thereon until three acres for every fifty acres be fully cleared and improved; and if there shall be no part of the said tract fit for present cultivation without manuring and improving the same, he or they,
within the time aforesaid, shall be obliged to erect on some part of their said land one good dwelling house, to be at least twenty feet in length and sixteen feet in breadth; and to put on their said land the like number of three neat cattle for every fifty acres, or otherwise, if any part of the said tract shall be stony or rocky ground, and not fit for planting or pasture, shall and do within three years as aforesaid, begin to employ thereon, and continue to work for three years then next ensuring in digging any stony quarry or mine, one good and able hand for every fifty acres, it shall be accounted a sufficient cultivation and improvement. Provided also that every three acres that shall be cleared and worked or cleared and drained as aforesaid shall be accounted a sufficient seating cultivation and improvement, to save forever from forfeiture fifty acres of land in any part of the tract hereby granted. And the said Grantees, their heirs and assigns, be at liberty to withdraw his or their stock, or forbear working in any quarry or mine in proportion to such cultivation and improvements as shall be made upon the plantable lands, swamps, sunken grounds or marsh therein contained. And if the said rent hereby reserved shall happen to be in arrear or unpaid for the space of one year from the time it shall become due, and no distress can be found on the said lands, tenements and hereditaments hereby granted, or if this grant shall not be duly registered in the Registrar’s Office of our said Province within six months from the date hereof, and a docket also entered in the Auditor’s Office of the same, then this grant shall be void, and the said lands, tenements and hereditaments hereby granted, and every part and parcel thereof shall revert to us, our heirs and successors. And provided also and upon this further condition, that if the land hereby given and granted to the said Grantees and their heirs as aforesaid shall at any time or times hereafter come into the possession and tenure of any person or persons whatever, inhabitants of our said Province of Nova Scotia, either by virtue of any deed of sale, conveyance, enfeoffment or exchange, or by gift, inheritance, descent, devise or marriage, such person or persons being inhabitants as aforesaid, shall, within twelve months after his, her or their entry and possession of the same, take the oaths prescribed by law, and make and subscribe the following proclamation:
That is to say, “I do promise and declare that I will maintain and defend to the utmost of my power the authority of the King in his Parliament as the supreme Legislature of this Province” before one of the Magistrates in the Secretary’s Office of the said Province, the person or persons so taking the oaths aforesaid, and making and subscribing the said declaration, shall be deemed the lawful possessor or possessors of the lands hereby granted. And in case of default on the part of such person or persons in taking the oaths, and making and subscribing the declaration within twelve months aforesaid, this present grant, and every part thereof, shall and we do hereby declare the same to be null and void to all intents and purposes, and the lands hereby granted, and every part and parcel thereof, shall in like manner revert to and become vested in us, our heirs and successors, anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.
Given under the Great Seal of our Province of Nova Scotia. Witness our trusty and well-beloved JOHN PARR, ESQ, Our Lt. Governor & Commander-in-Chief in and over our said Province this Twentieth day of December, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty Seven and in the twenty-seventh year of our reign. By Command of the Lieut. Governor J. Parr. Richd Bulkeley. Signed in Council. Richd Bulkeley. Registerd 20th Dec., 1787.
Evidently the issue of land granting was not a simple matter. Primary source documents indicate that many complexities common in early land granting practices factored into the settling of the Brownspriggs grant. Although both the warrant and the grant are clear about the dimensions of the land and the names of the grantees, the land was not settled accordingly. Government correspondence states that Thomas Brownspriggs, who was to oversee the granting of 40.5 acre lots per grantee, allotted part of the land to several persons who were not listed on the original 1787 grant. The government also subsequently regranted large portions of the land to other settlers, on the pretense that the land had been granted previous to the Black Loyalist petition, but that they had not noticed their error until after the fact.
Circumstances such as these contributed to the resettling of Black Loyalists further into the interior of the province. Not many of the descendants of the original Tracadie Land Grant actually hold property on the land of the first grant. Further research into land tenure is a necessary component in recovering the history of the people of the Tracadie grant; although constituting a part of the overall project, it is not a part of this particular report.
A. Name Variations of Tracadie land grantees

B. Ships departing New York for Port Mouton, Nova Scotia, 1783

C. Number of Black Loyalists per State (in 1783 known as Colonies)

D. Documents pertaining to the Tracadie Land Grant
The starting point for this appendix was the 74 grantee names. From there we looked back through earlier records to find spelling variations of these particular surnames.

The table that follows shows, in the first column, the names as they appear in the grant. The second column has the names as they appear in the the “Loyalist Muster Roll of Chedabucto Negroes.” The final column contains the names as they are found in the “Book of Negroes.”

Please take note that many of the surnames have undergone changes throughout time, therefore the way the name was spelled on the grant is not necessarily the way the name is found spelled today. Check the Index of Names for variations.

For example, the name Berden at present has at least two variant forms: Borden and Bowden; and, the name Dismal has evolved into Desmond.

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<td>Smith, Samuel</td>
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<td>Smith, Sam</td>
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<td>Sweeney, Charles</td>
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<td>Book of Negroes 1783</td>
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<td>Vanbright, John</td>
<td>Van Bruyck, John</td>
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<td>Waters, Seven</td>
<td>Waters, S</td>
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<td>Willis, Samuel</td>
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<td>Willis, Samuel</td>
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<td>Westoff, Jacob</td>
<td>Westerfield, Jacob</td>
<td>Westerfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitehead, Andrew</td>
<td>Whitehead, Andw.</td>
<td>Whitehead, Andrew</td>
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</table>
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### Ships departing New York for Port Mouton, Nova Scotia, 1783

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inspection Date</th>
<th>Vessel Type &amp; Name</th>
<th>Number of Black Loyalist Passengers</th>
<th>Master of the Vessel</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th October 1783</td>
<td>Sloop Elk</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Peter Slack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 October 1783</td>
<td>Brig Joseph</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ben Coward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 October 1783</td>
<td>Brig Elijah</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>Alexander Buchanon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09 November 1783</td>
<td>Brig Jenney</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>---- Ammerson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 November 1783</td>
<td>Ship Nisbet</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>---- Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November 1783</td>
<td>Ship Peggy</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>James Beazley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November 1783</td>
<td>Ship Danger</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>James Duncan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November 1783</td>
<td>Brig Concord</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>George Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November 1783</td>
<td>HMS L'Abondance</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>Lt. Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November 1783</td>
<td>Brig Diannah</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Will Browne</td>
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Total Number of Black Loyalists who left New York for Port Mouton, Nova Scotia: 557
### APPENDIX C

**Origin Distribution of Black Loyalists going to Port Mouton**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Sloop Elk</th>
<th>Brig Joseph</th>
<th>Brig Elijah</th>
<th>Brig Jenney</th>
<th>Ship Nisbet</th>
<th>Ship Peggy</th>
<th>Ship Danger</th>
<th>Brig Concord</th>
<th>Diannah</th>
<th>L’Abondance</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>Maryland</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This table shows which Colonies (now States) the Port Mouton Black Loyalists originally came from before leaving New York.

*In 1783, New England included ....
PUBLISHED MATERIAL:


UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL:

Department of Natural Resources, Province of Nova Scotia, Halifax:
*Crown Land Grant Sheet*, Antigonish County, Index No. 104
Topo Map Ref. Antigonish County, 11F/12, 3rd edition

Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management, Halifax
“Book of Negroes”. RG1 vol. 433.


Land Grant, Old Book 19 doc. 15. Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management


Nova Scotia Museum, Halifax:
This index is divided into two sections. Part I lists people who have surnames as recorded in the “Book of Negroes,” the “Chedabucto Muster Roll,” or the “Tracadie Land Grant.” This includes Black Loyalists, enslavers, and indenturers. Part II contains those persons having no surnames recorded in the “Book of Negroes,” the “Chedabucto Muster Roll,” or the “Tracadie Land Grant.”

For those persons with surnames, all entries are arranged alphabetically by surname, followed by first name and the page(s) on which the name appears. Any known variants from the three sources used in this report are also given. The earliest known version of the name appears first, followed by the variants in brackets. For example:

**Lastname [var. <name variant>], Firstname, page number**

**Backhus [var. Bacchus], Molly, 79, 94**

Sometimes a person was not recorded in the “Book of Negroes” with a surname, but is later found in one of the two other documents with a surname. They are listed with the earliest known surname. For example, Diana [also Dinah] Lining has no surname in the “Book of Negroes.” Her enslaver is listed as a John Lynning. In the muster roll and grant she is listed as Lining. It can be deduced that this is probably one in the same person. Therefore she is listed in the index of people with surnames, under the name of Lining.

If a child had no surname, but was clearly identified in a document as being the child of a woman with a surname, then that child is listed with the surname of the mother.

Those persons with no identifiable surnames have been listed under their first name in part II of the index. As a matter of respect, they have not been listed under the surname of the person who enslaved them, because there is not enough evidence, at this point, to conclude that they permanently adopted that surname as their own. The surname of the person who enslaved them is listed in brackets [ ], and can be looked up in the surname index.
**EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS**

<table>
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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<td>[sic; ]</td>
<td>error, with the correction made</td>
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<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>possibly the proper spelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[?]</td>
<td>unclear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[sic]</td>
<td>error</td>
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<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>correct spelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chas., Chal.</td>
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<td>Toney</td>
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<td>Ab.</td>
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<td>Jno.</td>
<td>John, Jonathan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jas.</td>
<td>James</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robt., Rob.</td>
<td>Robert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wm.</td>
<td>William</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lieut., Lt.</td>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
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<td>Col.</td>
<td>Colonel</td>
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<tr>
<td>poss.</td>
<td>possibly</td>
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<tr>
<td>var.</td>
<td>variant</td>
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<td>Capt.</td>
<td>Captain</td>
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<td>Sus.</td>
<td>Susan or Susannah</td>
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<td>Saml.</td>
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<tr>
<td>a.k.a.</td>
<td>also known as</td>
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* This means that the child listed is not listed as having a master. If the mother is listed with the enslaver's name then that name is listed with the child as well.

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For example:

Hannah [Wright]
Nancy [Wright*]

In this example, Hannah is the mother of Nancy. Hannah was enslaved by a person with the last name Wright. Nancy was originally listed only as the child of Hannah, with no other name given. Because Nancy is the child of Hannah, shown beside her is the name of her mother’s enslaver, with an asterisk to show that this does not necessarily mean that the same person enslaved the child.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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I also thank board members of the Brownspriggs Historical Society, consisting of Patricia Skinner, Gloria Desmond, and Donna Hochman. Their inquiries as to when the report would be available to the public kept the development process at a brisk pace.

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_With this report, I acknowledge some of those ancestors who went before._