

Case No. 39561

State of New Jersey v. Benjamin Worth
Indictment for Felony (on May 16, 1777, Benjamin Worth is accused of traveling from
Barnards Town, in Somerset County, to Staten Island, then in the possession of the
Enemy, returning to Barnards Town on August 23, in a secret and clandestine manner)
Morris and Somerset : 1777

New Jersey State Archives
Supreme Court of New Jersey
Case Files, 1704 - 1844 (SSV00001)

6/9/2025

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State of New Jersey v. Benjamin Worth

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See also: SOY00001-Morris County Oyer & Terminer Minutes, October 16-November 12, 1777, [page 33](#), and [page 50](#)

PLAINTIFF	State of New Jersey
DEFENDANT	Worth, Benjamin (Yeoman) (of Barnards Town, Somerset County)
OFFICIAL	Paterson, William (Attorney General)
JURY FOREMAN	Horton, Elijah (Grand Jury)

39561

STATE v. WORTH

MORRIS

FELONY

Morris Cyer & Term.
Oct. 1777.

The State } Indict. for
vs }
Benj^a Walth. } Felony, &c.

A true Bill

Elijah Horton Foreman.

The Defendant being
arraigned plead
Guilty

The Jurors, in Behalf of the State of New Jersey, for the
Body of the County of Morris, &c upon their Oath & Affirmation present,
That this State of New Jersey, and the United States of North America
now and for some Time past have been at open War & Enmity
with George the Third, King of Great Britain, & that Benjamin
North, late of Barnard Town, in the County of Somerset, & State
of ^{a Subject of this State} New Jersey, being an well disposed Person, not having any
 REGARD for the Duty of his Allegiance, & withdrawing that usual
Love, and that true and due Obedience & Fidelity, which every
Subject of this State ought to bear towards the said State, and
the Government thereof, after the fourth Day of October, in the
Year of our Lord, one thousand, seven hundred, & seventy six, to wit,
on the sixteenth Day of May, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand,
seven hundred, and seventy seven, did, from Barnard Town of,
voluntarily, maliciously, and feloniously go over to Staten Island,
a Place then being in the Possession of the Enemy, to wit, of the Army
of the said King of Great Britain, and did, on the twenty third Day
of August, in the Year last of, voluntarily, maliciously, and
feloniously come from Staten Island of, so as of, being in the
Possession of the Enemy of, and return to Barnard Town, in the
County of Somerset, and State of, in a secret & clandestine
Manner, and without any Leave, License, or Passport previously
obtained from the Governor or Commandant in Chief of this State for
the Time being, or from any General Officer of the Army of the
United States, or of any of the Brigadiers General of the Militia
of this State, to the wil Example of all others in the like Case
offending, against the Form of the Act of the General Assembly
of this State in such Case made and provided, against the Peace
of this State, the Government, and Dignity of the said

Wm. Caterer,

Att. Gen.