

Private John Maxwell

(War of 1812 Veteran Candidate for St. Paul's Episcopal Church Recognition)

St. Paul's Churchyard Inscription No. 245⁽¹⁾

IN MEMORY
CAPT. JOHN MAXWELL
BORN THE 26TH OF JULY, 1780
LOST AT SEA THE --- OF JANUARY, 1815
OF
MRS. OLIVIA ANN MAXWELL
HIS WIFE
BORN THE 9TH OF MAY, 1791
DIED [ON] THE 19TH OF JULY, 1814
AND OF
VIRGINIA MAXWELL
THEIR DAUGHTER
BORN THE 21ST OF JUNE, 1812
DIED THE 27TH OF OCTOBER, 1813

Beneath this tomb, the wife and daughter
sleep.
The father buried in the stormy deep.
And nature's tears are springing in our eyes
To see how death dissolves our dearest ties.
Yet surely He who made the wond[er]ous chain
Hath skill to join its sever(e)d links again.
We leave[,] O God[,] this treasured [precious]
hope to [with] thee [Thee],
And would not alter Thy [thy] divine decree.[!]

Subject Name: John Maxwell⁽²⁾ [Disambiguation: "Capt. John Maxwell^(3,4)"]

Subject Date of Birth: July 24, 1780⁽⁵⁾; July 26, 1780⁽²⁾

Subject Place of Birth: Ukn

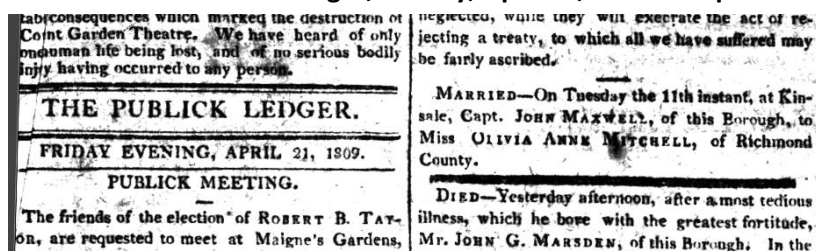
Subject Date of Death: January 1815⁽²⁾ or November 7, 1816⁽⁴⁾

Subject Place of Death: "...at Sea..."⁽²⁾

Subject Cause of Death: Ukn

Subject Burial: Borough Churchyard, Inscription No. 245. (S. W. Between Cove St. Gate and Western Wall.)

"Norfolk Gazette and Publick Ledger," Friday, April 21, 1809: "Capt. John Maxwell"



¹ St. Paul's Inscriptions, C. W. Tazewell, Tazewell Papers, Library of Virginia Accession No. 24194: (Inscription dissimilarities noted in italics and brackets.)

² Compiled Military Service Records for the Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration.

³ Tombstone Inscription No. 245.

⁴ Marriage Announcement, Norfolk Gazette and Publick Ledger, Apr. 21, 1809.

⁵ "Maxwell, John, son of James and Helen (Calvert) Maxwell," http://calvertgenealogy.net/brickwalls/cornelius_calvert_family_group.html

THE PUBLIC LEDGER.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 19, 1814.

At this interesting period, it is very disappointing to experience a disappointment in the mail; but so it is; the mail stage arrived last night, bringing no papers north of Petersburg.

The papers by yesterday's mail stated that Gen. Brown had obtained a second victory, in which the enemy lost 1400 men; the failure in the mail last evening leaves us in suspense upon this intelligence.

On Monday three of the enemy's frigates came down the Bay, and anchored in Lynhaven Bay.

MARRIED—On Monday evening, near Portsmouth, by the Rev. Mr. Symes, MR. WILLIAM FRANCIS, Merchant, to Miss MARTHA STREET, all of this place.

DIED—Yesterday, MRS. OLIVIA ANN MAXWELL, Wife of Captain John Maxwell, of this Borough.

—In Petersburg, on Thursday last, MR. JOHN DICKSON, Editor of the Petersburg Intelligencer.

Subject Date of Marriage: Tuesday, April 11, 1809⁽³⁾

Spouse Name: Olivia Ann Mitchell⁽³⁾

Spouse Date of Birth: Monday, May 9, 1791⁽²⁾

Spouse Date of Death: Tuesday, July 19, 1814^(2,6)

Spouse Place of Death: Norfolk⁽⁴⁾

Spouse Cause of Death: Ukn.

Spouse Burial: Borough Churchyard, Inscription No. 245.

⁶ Norfolk Gazette and Publick Ledger, Wed., July 20, 1814.

Subject War of 1812 Service:

Stuart Lee Butler's "A Guide to Virginia Militia Units in the War of 1812" (See below, pgs 152-153.)

Selected War of 1812 Compiled Military Service Records⁽⁷⁾ (Appended at bottom.)

Notes: John Maxwell was born July 26, 1780. On April 11, 1809 the marriage of Capt. John Maxwell of the Borough of Norfolk to Olivia Anne Mitchell of Richmond County was published in the Norfolk Gazette and Public Ledger. The marriage took place at Kinsale, Westmoreland County. Olivia died on July 19, 1814 in the Borough of Norfolk. From September 12, 1814 to October 25, 1814 John Maxwell served as a private in Capt. Miles King's Company of Virginia Militia Artillery. The company was attached to Lt. Col. William Lindsay's Corps of Artillery. The only muster roll and only pay roll of the company show he was sick in his quarters. After his service ended, Capt. Maxwell returned to the sea and was lost in January of 1815.

Comments: The Minutes of the *Norfolk Female Orphan Society* indicates a "Capt. John Maxwell" bequest for a \$2500 legacy prior to July 26, 1816 "to purchase a house for an asylum for poor girls." A marble tablet recognizing the bequest was to be prepared, according to a July 1, 1817 entry in the Minutes.⁽⁸⁾

Disposition: Approved. Plaque recommendation: "PRIVATE JOHN MAXWELL"

⁷ *Index to the Compiled Military Service Records for the Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration.

⁸ *Norfolk Female Orphan Society Minute Book 1816-1853*, Accession #9401, University of Virginia Library:
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/southerncharitiesproject/database/state/virginia/norfolkfos/>

NORFOLK BOROUGH

(54th Regiment)

BRIGADE: 9

DIVISION: 4

Regimental command:

Lt. Col. William Sharp - June 3, 1803

Maj. Thomas Newton - June 4, 1803

Maj. James Maurcie - October 19, 1809

The city's militia units served in the Norfolk vicinity during the war. A number of Norfolk borough units absorbed other militia units arriving from other counties. For these units, see the units under each county's listings.

COMPANIES:

Capt. Peter Ferguson

June 22-July 13, 1813

Capt. Thomas McCandlish Troop of Cavalry

March 6-September 20, 1813

August 20-October 20, 1814 [Detachment of Cavalry - 1813]

Ens. George Kelly

August 21-October 25, 1814 [9th V.M. - Sharp]

Capt. Miles King Artillery "Norfolk Light Artillery"

August 21-October 25, 1814

Attached to corps commanded by Col. William Lindsay at Fort Barbour.

Capt. Arthur Lee

February 24-August 14, 1813 [3rd V.M. - Boykin]

August 20-October 24, 1814 [8th V.M. - Magnien]

Capt. James R. Nimmo

June 22-July 13, 1813

October 8, 1813-April 28, 1814 [5th V.M. - Mason & Preston]

August 21-October 24, 1814 [9th V.M. - Sharp]

Capt. George Ott Flying Artillery

March 4-September 8, 1813 [6th V.M. Artillery - Reade]

Attached to 2nd V.M. - Sharp, March 4-31, 1813.

September 9, 1813-January 31, 1814 [Battalion of Artillery, 1813-1814]

Lt. William Seymour

June 22-July 16, 1813

Capt. John West

June 22-July 16, 1813

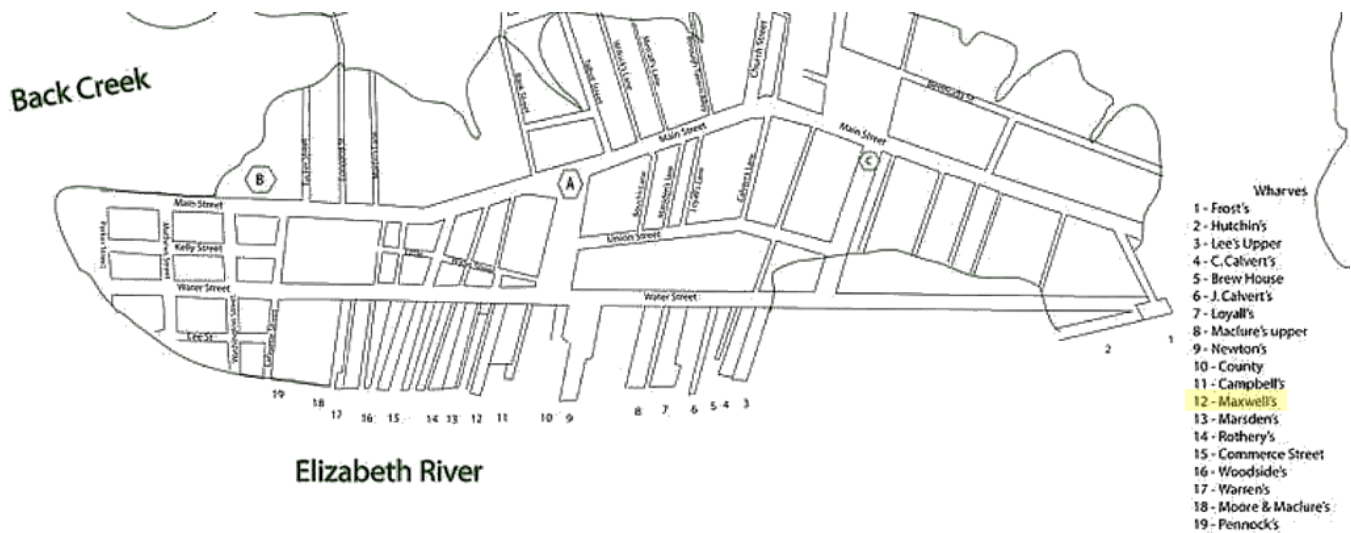
August 16-October 24, 1814 [8th V.M. - Magnien]

Capt. Julian Magagnos

March 9-September 9, 1813 [2nd V.M. - Sharp]

October 7, 1813-March 10, 1814 [5th V.M. - Mason & Preston]

August 21-October 24, 1814 [9th V.M. - Sharp]



Borough of Norfolk - 1802

M | Capt. King's Company, | Va. | Militia.
Artillery.

John Maxwell

Pl { Captain Miles King's Company of
Art'y Militia, attached to the Corps
of Art'y commanded by Lt. Col.
William Lindsay.

(War of 1812.)

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for Ent. Service to Oct 25, 1814.

Roll dated

Norfolk Oct 25, 1814.

Commencement of service, Sept 12, 1814.

To what time engaged, Oct 25, 1814.

Present or absent, Absent

Remarks: Sick in Quarters

Bumham

(569)

Copyist.

M | Capt. King's Company, | Va. | Militia.
Artillery.

John Maxwell

Pl { Captain Miles King's Company of
Virginia Militia Artillery.

(War of 1812.)

Appears on

Company Pay Roll

for Aug 21 to Oct 25, 1814.

Roll dated Oct 25, 1814.

Commencement of service } Sept 12, 1814.
or of this settlement,

Expiration of service or } Oct 25, 1814.
of this settlement,

Term of service charged, 1 months, 13 days.

Pay per month, 8 dollars, _____ cents.

Amount of pay, 11 dollars, 35 cents.

Remarks: Sick in Quarters

Bumham

(572)

Copyist.

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