

17 The deposition of Margrett Barber aged 47 years of a good bounty
sworn before me this 28th day of October 1665
that yet deponent being about 15 years since first met & hired
md Thos. Plot to live upon his land & being common & to him to
the house and deponent did bring out Charles Magnars wife to bed
of a girl who was black like a Negro & the sd Magnars
wife layd it to md Plot's negro Jack & he did acknowledge it to be
his child. This deponent did about that time see the sd Negro Jack
and might take an English woman of md Plot & by this abuse & had
her out of md Plot's mill house into the orchard & there threw
her upon a bench & got upon her & did deponent run & got an eye
& being at this sd Negro & cut him on the leg, but at this
neighborhood's sayd, it was his common practice: and these things together
with the complaint of John Baunister & Edward Spaight & divers
others of the neighbors to md Plot concerning his Negro Jack's killing
of their hogs they threatening to kill the sd Negro, whereupon md
Plot for prevention of future mischief to his neighbors to spare
his Negro's life, did by deponent's knowledge give the sd Negro a note
work was worth by Capt Roger Maynall, who the sd Plot sayd was
not valued with deponent, he should serve some certain time
& then make him his due, upon his good behavior he should be
free, But it was not made, as md Plot said, id any real
intent to sett him free, but only to make him offhand himself
better that neighbors might have no such cause of complaint
nor be in such feard of losing his Negro being threatened
by small people to be killed, But to his own knowledge after joes
Plot made to the sd Negro for some short time he did behave
himself so serving better than he did before. But afterward
he did fly out again, And for five or six years after got this
deponent lived there, the sd Plot had now a first maid but the sd
Negro lay with her or got her with child, who the sd deponent
was very knowing of, & did drive out of them of a Negro child
the being an English woman, and for being asked who was the
father of it, sayd, the about Jack the Negro, & he being asked
acknowledged it to be his

sworn before me Matthew Elloe
The day & years above written of

Margratt X Barber
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ret. for. of sequ