[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
* 
* 
* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406863) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406863)

Hi I was wondering some stuff

This is quote from GHoP

" The rest appeared gay and brisk, most of them with white Shirts, **Watches**, and a deal of **Silk Vests**" this describes Bart Roberts' pirates when they dressed up just before capture

While it is perhaps stuff that writer had made up (it is I think unlikely and if my memory serves me rigth that was what the surgeon of HMS Swallow wrote)

And when I came accors that that In 1720 pirates under the leadership of Howell Davis, Thomas Cocklyn, and Oliver la Bouche captured the *Bird*, an English vessel captained by William Snelgrave. When the men confiscated the booty, it included bolts of satin, **silk**, and taffeta; coats; **watches**; and **waistcoats**( not to metion those captains's coats and that one coat affair between pirates) some could verify this captured gargo to be real to make sure that I am not lying here.

All know that Roberts was the successor of the Davis and the crew was pretty much same. So it seems to me that loot (like told by Snelgrave's coat affair) was sold before the mast like slop clothing to pirates and some of the Davis's men had those stolen clothes still when they were captured and dressed in them...

if true I am surprised I have heard strories like that that some of the W. Rogrer's men gambled their clothes but were there really savers among the prodigal sons.....

**Edited March 12, 2012 by Swashbuckler 1700**

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406866) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406866)

 On 3/12/2012 at 10:27 AM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

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if true I am surprised I have heard strories like that that some of the W. Rogrer's men gambled their clothes but were there really savers among the prodigal sons.....

According to some of the pirate articles we have from the General History, plunder was divided along very specific rules. I suppose a much-desired item could be sold (I don't recall the sale of Snelgrave's coat, but feel free to quote it here), but then to whom would the money it was sold for go?

And if I recall the Rogers account, the men traded their clothing for food and souvenir type stuff at one of the ports they stopped at shortly after leaving England.

No doubt some people saved and others didn't. However, the very nature of turning pirate seemed to favor the philosophy of "a short life and a merry one." Keep in mind that watches and vests could provide evidence if the pirates were caught, so someone with the foresight to save probably also would have the foresight to sell such things if they intended to live a life post-piracy. (I am conjecturing here that the reason for a pirate to save money would be for their retirement from the trade. At least I'm guessing that's what you're getting at.)

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
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* Member
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* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406867) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406867)

 On 3/12/2012 at 10:52 AM, Mission said:

 On 3/12/2012 at 10:27 AM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

All know that Roberts was the successor of the Davis and the crew was pretty much same. So it seems to me that loot (like told by Snelgrave's coat affair) was sold before the mast like slop clothing to pirates and some of the Davis's men had those clothes when they were captured and dressed in them...

if true I am surprised I have heard strories like that that some of the W. Rogrer's men gambled their clothes but were there really savers among the prodigal sons.....

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Coat affair

*"Amongst my Adventure of Goods, I had in a Box three second-hand embroidered Coats. One day the three Pirate Captains…enquired for them, saying, “They understood by my Book such Clothes were in my Ship.” I told them, “They were in a Box under the bed place in the State-room. So they ordered them to be taken out, and immediately put them on.” But the longest Coat falling to Cocklyn’s share, who was a very short Man, it almost reached as low as his Ancles. This very much displeased him, and he would fain have changed with Le Boofe, or Davis: But they refused, telling him, “As they were going on Shore amongst the Negroe-Ladies, who did not know the white Mens fashions, it was no matter. Moreover, as his Coat was Scarlet embroidered with Silver, they believed he would have the preference of them, (whose Coats were not so showy) in the opinion of their Mistresses.*

*The Pirate Captains having taken these Cloaths without leave from the Quarter-master, it gave great offence to all the Crew; who alledg’d, “If they suffered such things, the Captains would for the future assume a Power, to take whatever they liked for themselves.” So upon their returning on board next Morning, the Coats were taken from them, and put into the common Chest, to be sold at the Mast."*

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406869) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406869)

So from this, I'd guess that the money would go into some universal pot which would be divided among the pirates when the accounting occurred. Kind of like when I said, "a much-desired item could be sold." This is provided they followed the precepts laid down in those articles we have that specify such things. Keep in mind that the crew was upset that things weren't being divided properly, so they must have had some sort of system in place. Blackbeard schemed to keep all the accumulated plunder for himself by marooning some men, so it seems reasonable to say that for some pirate crews the bulk of the money may not have divided until some future time. (They would almost have to divvy out some of it when they made landfall, though.)

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
* 
* 
* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406870) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406870)

 On 3/12/2012 at 11:27 AM, Mission said:

So from this, I'd guess that the money would go into some universal pot which would be divided among the pirates when the accounting occurred. Kind of like when I said, "a much-desired item could be sold." This is provided they followed the precepts laid down in those articles we have that specify such things. Keep in mind that the crew was upset that things weren't being divided properly, so they must have had some sort of system in place. Blackbeard schemed to keep all the accumulated plunder for himself by marooning some men, so it seems reasonable to say that for some pirate crews the bulk of the money may not have divided until some future time. (They would almost have to divvy out some of it when they made landfall, though.)

Yes and those rules confirms that captains could sometimes dress a little better because they got biggest share of loot (with money you can buy more clothes from the purser or the most expensive clothes or get greater share of looted clothing) I believe that captured sailor clothing was also sold before the mast and not only finery...

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406876) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406876)

 On 3/12/2012 at 11:50 AM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

Yes and those rules confirms that captains could sometimes dress a little better because they got biggest share of loot (with money you can buy more clothes from the purser or the most expensive clothes or get greater share of looted clothing) I believe that captured sailor clothing was also sold before the mast and not only finery...

Prove it. You have presented one instance, the highlighting of which sort of suggests that this procedure might be out of the ordinary.

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
* 
* 
* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406878) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406878)

 On 3/12/2012 at 0:21 PM, Mission said:

 On 3/12/2012 at 11:50 AM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

Yes and those rules confirms that captains could sometimes dress a little better because they got biggest share of loot (with money you can buy more clothes from the purser or the most expensive clothes or get greater share of looted clothing) I believe that captured sailor clothing was also sold before the mast and not only finery...

Prove it. You have presented one instance, the highlighting of which sort of suggests that this procedure might be out of the ordinary.

Well pirates were used to slop chests aboard merchant or navy ships and why not use same working system if you meant that I should say why captured sailor clothing would also been sold before the mast and not only finery...

If you mean captain stuff I said "sometimes a little better"

I believe that reason why the captains took those coats is just because they did not like so buy them since in those ships selling looted clothing was normal and these captains wanted get some finery free and not to give the crew a change to get them...

**Edited March 12, 2012 by Swashbuckler 1700**

[**Dread Pyrate Greyhound**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/11490-dread-pyrate-greyhound/)

* Plunderer
* 
* 
* Member
* 451 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Ohio
* Interests:Golden Age of Pyracy, Age of Sailing ships (spacifically 1600-1730) Vintage pirate Legos, weaponry in usage during the Age of Pyrates, Fuedal Japan

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406880) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406880)

*Black Bart's Articles dictated that everyone was allowed a 'shift of clothes' when a ship was taken, Black Bart himself, was reputedly, a VERRY dapper dresser, having died in a crimson damask waistcoat, large hat with red feathers, and a gold cross studded with diamonds. But in all honesty, I have read they would have had rougher clothes worn when at sea, and much finer clothes for Shore Leave, plundered from wealthy indiviuals.*

*Although, I suspect that a pirate could have had the inclination to dress in a simple silk vest or waistcoat, but would most likely save their finest clothes for shore leave. I myself play the 'Gentleman Pyrate' archtype, so I dress in more elaborate outfits, beacause my character was raised an aristocrat in Charles II court. That being said, I am still considering an elegant, yet VERY toned down outfit for while at sea.*

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406881) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406881)

I tend to agree with you that pirate captains may have dressed a little better than the normal sailor based on what I perceive as their psychology, but I don't really have any proof of that. Period drawings of pirates suggest this, however, as we have discussed before on the forum, these drawings were not made of the actual pirates but were based on the artist's interpretation, probably using his knowledge of non-pirates to illustrate from.

But I was talking about the comment that captured clothing was sold before the mast. I'm guessing that comes from this comment, "So upon their returning on board next Morning, the Coats were taken from them, and put into the common Chest, to be sold at the Mast." This could be interpreted as meaning everything in the common chest (which was probably stuff that could not easily be given out in shares) was sold at the mast. Or it could be interpreted that the coats were of such value and interest that they would be sold before the mast because several people wanted them. You need independent, corroborating proof for you assertion.

One a normal ship, clothing sold before the mast was supposed to be a way for the men to buy clothing if they needed it or as a way to raise money for the family of a deceased seaman. (The deceased clothes and effects would be sold to raise the money which would go to the sailor's widow and children. I believe this is from Henry Teonge.)

However, its purpose was bastardized so that the men on our normal (non-pirate) ship would buy clothing at the mast at more than it was worth who borrowed against their wages to do so before making landfall. They would then go into town and sell it for less than they had paid as a way of borrowing against their future wages. This allowed them to buy drinks, food and whatever else they might want. (If I am remembering this rightly, it is according to Edward Barlow's account. Barlow has a tendency towards cynicism at times from my reading, but it would be a neat sort of scam if you think about it.)

The question being... why would the pirates do this? Just to get fancy clothes? That hardly supports your idea that they would be saving money. (I think that's your original idea, isn't it?)

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
* 
* 
* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406883) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406883)

 On 3/12/2012 at 1:47 PM, Dread Pyrate Greyhound said:

*Black Bart's Articles dictated that everyone was allowed a 'shift of clothes' when a ship was taken, Black Bart himself, was reputedly, a VERRY dapper dresser, having died in a crimson damask waistcoat, large hat with red feathers, and a gold cross studded with diamonds. But in all honesty, I have read they would have had rougher clothes worn when at sea, and much finer clothes for Shore Leave, plundered from wealthy indiviuals.*

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Source of Robert's outfit is the not always the best book "general history of pyrates" **but in this matter to me it seems to be corect**...Roberts I believe looted his clothes from the governor of Martinigue who Roberts so brutally executed. So I believe what Johnsons said about Black barts's look since if man loots 400 ships he could get his hands on sime nice gear. **So I firmly believe of what was said about Roberts** and because his pirate crew (not all were hang) and activities Involved many people not to mention his former crew mwmbers who were I believe interviewed by the mystical Capt Johnson to his book.

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
* 
* 
* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406884) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406884)

 On 3/12/2012 at 1:52 PM, Mission said:

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The question being... why would the pirates do this? Just to get fancy clothes? That hardly supports your idea that they would be saving money. (I think that's your original idea, isn't it?)

I think it is safe to say that captains sometimes had **a little** better outfit...

Where John Rackhams nicname Calico Jack come from (I know his calico clothes)but is the "Calico Jack" mentioned in any period sources?

**Edited March 12, 2012 by Swashbuckler 1700**

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
* 
* 
* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406887) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406887)

About captain clothing.... here is good Foxe's article [http://www.piratesin...Captain\_947.asp](http://www.piratesinfo.com/cpi_Pirate_Captain_947.asp)

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
* 
* 
* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406888) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406888)

I started this topic and I don't mind that it has gone offtopic... so let us continue...

[**Fox**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1019-fox/)

* Old Twillian
* 
* 
* Moderator
* 2,564 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Beautiful lush Devon, England
* Interests:Nautical history of the 16-18th centuries and living history based thereon.

Shooting pirates.

[Posted March 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406895) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406895)

Hmm, some interesting points...

First off, the only actual account I can recall offhand of pirates holding a mast sale is that posted above, but it included more than just the coats - at least Snelgrave's watch was also sold. However, I suspect that it was more common than the one source suggests, simply because it makes a lot of sense. Given that many items taken by pirates would be impossible to divide equally, the mast-sale would be a good way of realising the value of the items and levelling the shares received by each pirate at the same time.

Methods of distributing loot varied from ship to ship, as one would imagine. John Taylor's company apparently kept a common chest and divvied up the loot whenever they made landfall. Kidd's men had a more formal division wherein each man was called in turn and swept his share up into his hat. Anstis' crew appear to have divided loot after each ship they captured. The keeping of a common fund, even by companies divided over more than one ship, was fairly commonplace. When Charles Harris' ship was captured the authorities found no money on board because all the loot was kept on Low's flagship. Bellamy's company also kept a chest, but did not formally divide the loot. Instead, each man could have money whenever he wanted it by applying to the quartermaster, who kept an account book of everything given out.

Were pirates savers? Well, why not... many of them certainly experienced a "short life and a merry one", but that doesn't mean that they were hoping for it. Roberts' articles, for example, state that no man was to talk of breaking up the company until each had received £1,000. Retirement from piracy was certainly the eventual aim of many (perhaps most) pirates, and they naturally hoped to have accumulated enough to do so in style. (Cue the argument about pirates' motives...)

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

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* Member
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* Gender:Male
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* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406905) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406905)

 On 3/12/2012 at 6:09 PM, Foxe said:

Hmm, some interesting points...

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So what you say about that Black Bart's crew having so stuff looted in Davis's time...

[**Fox**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1019-fox/)

* Old Twillian
* 
* 
* Moderator
* 2,564 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Beautiful lush Devon, England
* Interests:Nautical history of the 16-18th centuries and living history based thereon.

Shooting pirates.

[Posted March 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406906) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406906)

It's quite possible, I don't see any reason why not, but bear two things in mind:

Firstly, although a nucleus of Roberts' men had been together since Davis led the mutiny on the Buck, many of Davis' men had left the company by the time of the final battle: John Taylor had joined Cocklyn's crew, and it's possible some of his friends and supporters went with him; Kennedy had sailed for home with a sizeable number of men; and Thomas Anstis and a good number of the company deserted and went on their own account. By the time of the last battle, probably the majority of the company had not been with Davis.

Secondly, Roberts' company took a lot of ships between Snelgrave's vessel and their last battle, so the watches and waistcoats could easily have come from somewhere else.

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
* 
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* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406910) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406910)

 On 3/13/2012 at 6:52 AM, Foxe said:

It's quite possible, I don't see any reason why not, but bear two things in mind:

Firstly, although a nucleus of Roberts' men had been together since Davis led the mutiny on the Buck, many of Davis' men had left the company by the time of the final battle: John Taylor had joined Cocklyn's crew, and it's possible some of his friends and supporters went with him; Kennedy had sailed for home with a sizeable number of men; and Thomas Anstis and a good number of the company deserted and went on their own account. By the time of the last battle, probably the majority of the company had not been with Davis.

Secondly, Roberts' company took a lot of ships between Snelgrave's vessel and their last battle, so the watches and waistcoats could easily have come from somewhere else.

Indeed good points there. Was that part on GHoP actual record written by HMS Swasllow's surgeon? ( oh if I could remember were I have read that that it was from surgeons journal) if so it is the one of the most realistic parts of GHoP... Do we have any reason not to believe that what Johnson said about Capt. Roberts's look since even his crew and other period pirates in the same are had nice stuff like fine waistcoats too... I also Believe that B. Roberts section (in the Johnson's book) is one of the best parts since (like I said earlier) that Roberts I believe looted his clothes from the governor of Martinigue who Roberts so brutally executed. So I believe what Johnsons said about Black barts's look since if man loots about 400 ships he could get his hands on some nicer gear. **So I firmly believe of what was said about Roberts** and because his pirate crew (not all were hang) and activities Involved many people not to mention his former crew mwmbers who were I believe interviewed by the mystical Capt Johnson to his book. But certainly GHoP is not perfect in any part.....

BTW Is the Rackhams Calico nickname mentioned in period sources?

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted March 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406925) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406925)

"[Walter] *Kennedy* and another left them [the pirates who deserted Bart. Roberts] here [in Scotland], and travelling to one of the Sea-Ports, shipp'd themselves for *Ireland*, and arrived there in Safety. Six or seven wisely withdrew from the rest, travelled at their Leisure, and got to their much desired Port of *London*, without being disturbed or suspected; but the main Gang [19 men] alarm'd the Country where-ever they came, drinking and roaring at such a Rate, that the People shut themselves up in their Houses, in some Places, not daring to venture out among so many mad Fellows: In other Villages, the treated the whole Town, squandering their Money away, as if, like *Æsop*, they wanted to lighten their Burthens: This expensive Manner of Living procured two of their drunken Stragglers to be knocked on the Head, they being found murdered in the road... *Kennedy*, having spent all his Money, came over from *Ireland* and kept a common Bawdy-House on *Deptford* Road..." (Shornhorn's version of the General History, p. 209)

So seven or eight men may have been inclined not to waste their money from a group of 27 or 28 men in this example. (Although it's hard to say because the narrative doesn't tell what happened to those six or seven men who went to the Port of London and the man who accompanied Kennedy.)

[**Fox**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1019-fox/)

* Old Twillian
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* Moderator
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* Gender:Male
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Shooting pirates.

[Posted March 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406932) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406932)

 On 3/13/2012 at 9:35 AM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

Indeed good points there. Was that part on GHoP actual record written by HMS Swasllow's surgeon? ( oh if I could remember were I have read that that it was from surgeons journal) if so it is the one of the most realistic parts of GHoP...

Part of the description of Sierra Leone inserted in the chapter on Davis was later used by John Atkins, surgeon of the Swallow, in his own book. Since Atkins had actually been there and Johnson (as far as we know) had not, the obvious conclusion is that Atkins wrote the description and gave it to Johnson, then reused it in his own book years later.

The account of the trial of Roberts' men in the GHP is also taken from the record of the trial kept by Atkins in his capacity as register (a kind of clerk) of the court. Johnson may have got it direct from Atkins, or he may have copied from the printed version, which in turn came from Atkins' record.

 Quote

Do we have any reason not to believe that what Johnson said about Capt. Roberts's look since even his crew and other period pirates in the same are had nice stuff like fine waistcoats too... I also Believe that B. Roberts section (in the Johnson's book) is one of the best parts since (like I said earlier) that Roberts I believe looted his clothes from the governor of Martinigue who Roberts so brutally executed.

Although Roberts was reputed to have executed the governor of Martinique, and the rumour was repeated by Johnson, there is no evidence that he actually did so.

 Quote

So I believe what Johnsons said about Black barts's look since if man loots about 400 ships he could get his hands on some nicer gear. **So I firmly believe of what was said about Roberts** and because his pirate crew (not all were hang) and activities Involved many people not to mention his former crew mwmbers who were I believe interviewed by the mystical Capt Johnson to his book. But certainly GHoP is not perfect in any part.....

There's nothing mystical about Johnson 

 On 3/13/2012 at 2:15 PM, Mission said:

So seven or eight men may have been inclined not to waste their money from a group of 27 or 28 men in this example. (Although it's hard to say because the narrative doesn't tell what happened to those six or seven men who went to the Port of London and the man who accompanied Kennedy.)

Those six or seven men may have actually been:

"*Thomas Lamburn, whose father and mother live in Robin Hood's Alley in Suffolk Street in the Mint*

*James Bradshaw, living at the Cork, a public house in Cork Lane in Spittlefields and keeps the said house*

*John Cherry, lodging at the White Lion, a public house in Wheeler Street, Spittlefields*

*Thomas Jenkins (whose real name is Francis Channock) to be heard of at the Sign of the Golden Bull or Yorkshire Gray a little about the wet dock in Rotherhithe.*

*Charles Radford, a lodger at Mr Hitchcock's, a musician, near the Watch house in Brook Street in Ratcliffe*

*Thomas Haydon, gone to sea but when at home lodges at Mrs Price's in Elephant Lane Rotherhithe*"

Of these men, only James Bradshaw appears to have actually been taken up for questioning and committed to the Marshalsea prison, but he claimed to have been forced by Howell Davis and was not brought to trial. The man who accompanied Kennedy was probably "*William Callifax, at Dublin near Cable Street*". There is some evidence to suggest that at some point Callifax was actually in command of the company.

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[Posted March 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406959) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406959)

Thanks, Foxe. Although we know who they were, but we don't know what did they did with their share. (Hearkening back to the original question about pirates as savers.)

Some of them must have saved their Moidores against the future, but the inclination from that passage seems to lean towards short l. and m. one. 

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
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[Posted March 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406978) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406978)

 On 3/13/2012 at 6:49 PM, Foxe said:

 On 3/13/2012 at 9:35 AM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

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Of these men, only James Bradshaw appears to have actually been taken up for questioning and committed to the Marshalsea prison, but he claimed to have been forced by Howell Davis and was not brought to trial. The man who accompanied Kennedy was probably "*William Callifax, at Dublin near Cable Street*". There is some evidence to suggest that at some point Callifax was actually in command of the company.

So that part of GHoP is better than the most other parts of it or ?

Odd that we cannot know did Bart really killed governor that sort of stuff should be easy to check...

[**Fox**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1019-fox/)

* Old Twillian
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* Moderator
* 2,564 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Beautiful lush Devon, England
* Interests:Nautical history of the 16-18th centuries and living history based thereon.

Shooting pirates.

[Posted March 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406979) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406979)

I reckon the chapter on Roberts is one of the most reliable parts of the book, partly because of Atkins, partly because of the availability of material (the printed account of the trial of Roberts' men is one of the fullest, and Roberts made regular appearances in newspapers), and possibly partly because of Johnson's use of several other witnesses.

No governor of Martinique is reported as having been killed during the time of Roberts' career, so we can be fairly certain that he didn't really do it. It is possible though that the rumour got mangled and that actually it was some other government official belonging to Martinique or a different foreign colony who might be harder to track.

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
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* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406980) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406980)

 On 3/14/2012 at 3:35 PM, Foxe said:

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I believe also that the chapter on Roberts is one of the most reliable parts ... and I think bonny, Read and some of the Bb stories are the most improvised and bit less true than Bart's but many odd details like Bb 16 yeard old wife has proven to be true.....

And it is really well possible that it was just one government official....

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted March 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406989) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406989)

 On 3/14/2012 at 2:07 PM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

Odd that we cannot know did Bart really killed governor that sort of stuff should be easy to check...

You clearly haven't been doing this for very long...

[**Fox**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1019-fox/)

* Old Twillian
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* Moderator
* 2,564 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Beautiful lush Devon, England
* Interests:Nautical history of the 16-18th centuries and living history based thereon.

Shooting pirates.

[Posted March 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=406992) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=406992)

 On 3/14/2012 at 3:59 PM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

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Has it?

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
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* Member
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* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
* Interests:pyrates, pryvateers, naval military and other history, different books, good movies, music (a little bit), drawing, games,...

[Posted March 15, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407005) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407005)

 On 3/14/2012 at 6:46 PM, Foxe said:

 On 3/14/2012 at 3:59 PM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

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Has it?

From [*The Republic of Pirates*](http://www.republicofpirates.net/AboutBook.html) *book's bage*

"Blackbeard led a favored subset of

his crew to North Carolina’s village capital, Bath, where they took the king’s pardon from [Governor](http://www.republicofpirates.net/Eden.html)

[Charles Eden](http://www.republicofpirates.net/Eden.html). He married a local girl – a fact confirmed by Admiralty documents found while

researching [*The Republic of Pirates*](http://www.republicofpirates.net/AboutBook.html) "

I don't mean the 14 wife stuff but he was really married

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[Posted March 15, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407007) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407007)

Captain Gordon reported a rumour that he'd heard that Blackbeard was married at Bath, the same rumour that Johnson repeated. No evidence that the rumour was true has yet surfaced (to my knowledge), nor is it known how old the wife might have been.

I'm saying that it's not true, it very well may be, but it's still only rumour.

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[Posted March 15, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407010) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407010)

 On 3/12/2012 at 0:21 PM, Mission said:

 On 3/12/2012 at 11:50 AM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

Yes and those rules confirms that captains could sometimes dress a little better because they got biggest share of loot (with money you can buy more clothes from the purser or the most expensive clothes or get greater share of looted clothing) I believe that captured sailor clothing was also sold before the mast and not only finery...

Prove it. You have presented one instance, the highlighting of which sort of suggests that this procedure might be out of the ordinary.

Found while looking for something else:

"V. *to keep their Piece, Pistols, and Cutlash clean, and fit for Service*: In this they were extravagantly nice, endeavouring to outdo one another, in the Beauty and Richness of their Arms, giving sometimes **at an Auction (at the Mast)** 30 or 40 *l*. a Pair, for Pistols..."

(Roberts' articles with note by Charles Johnson).

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[Posted March 15, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407011) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407011)

Yeah, I think I saw another reference to it as well, but now I can't find it for some reason. So I'd say we've proven it in this case. :)

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[Posted March 15, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407020) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407020)

 On 3/14/2012 at 5:09 PM, Mission said:

 On 3/14/2012 at 2:07 PM, Swashbuckler 1700 said:

Odd that we cannot know did Bart really killed governor that sort of stuff should be easy to check...

You clearly haven't been doing this for very long...

What do you mean (well i haven't ) if ship could not disappear (like you have discussed somewhere here) why could governor....

**Edited March 15, 2012 by Swashbuckler 1700**

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No, I've learned that as simple as some historical fact may appear to be, it is rarely so once you start to dig into it. Of course, I've learned the same thing about many things we think are 'facts.' But now we enter the dim realm of perception and consciousness which is so far OT that I'm not going to continue rambling any more.

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[Posted March 15, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407028) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407028)

 On 3/15/2012 at 11:29 AM, Mission said:

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Well yeah everyting is copmlicated but when we look at it all is damn simple some things are true some aren't or perhaps they are somewhere between but that do we knew what was rigth is not simple... 

**Edited March 15, 2012 by Swashbuckler 1700**

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[Posted March 16, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407078) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407078)

Here's another interesting quote from Captain Martel's section of the General History.

"...for so many idle People employing themselves in Privateers, for the sake of Plunder and Riches, which they always spend as fast as they get, that when the War is over, and they can have no farther Business in the Way of Life they have been used to, they too readily engage in acts of Pyracy, which being but the same Practice without a Commission, they make very little Distinction betwixt the Lawfulness of one, and the Unlawfulness of the other." (Johnson, p. 65, 3rd ed.)

Swashbuckler 1700, you might also say this proves your assertion that Privateers and Pirates were the same, but 1) Johnson is talking specifically about individuals who see no difference between privateering and piracy and 2) I would argue back that Johnson is over-generalizing with his sweeping statement, "being but the same Practice without a Commission". But feel free to run with it if you like.

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* Gender:Male
* Location:Beautiful lush Devon, England
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Shooting pirates.

[Posted March 21, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407264) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407264)

Whilst perusing some documents this evening I've come across two points relevant to this thread: a correction and an addition.

Firstly, James Bradshaw *was* brought to trial, convicted and sentenced to death, but was pardoned.

Secondly, in his cell awaiting execution Walter Kennedy admitted that Bart Roberts had "murdered the French Governor of an American Island". No real progress, might (or might not) still have been a lesser official whom the pirates confused with the governor, and no place is mentioned.

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted March 22, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407283) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407283)

See?

 On 3/15/2012 at 11:29 AM, Mission said:

No, I've learned that as simple as some historical fact may appear to be, it is rarely so once you start to dig into it. Of course, I've learned the same thing about many things we think are 'facts.' But now we enter the dim realm of perception and consciousness which is so far OT that I'm not going to continue rambling any more.

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
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* Member
* 1,115 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Europe
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[Posted March 22, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=407302) (edited) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=407302)

 On 3/21/2012 at 6:15 PM, Foxe said:

Whilst perusing some documents this evening I've come across two points relevant to this thread: a correction and an addition.

Firstly, James Bradshaw *was* brought to trial, convicted and sentenced to death, but was pardoned.

Secondly, in his cell awaiting execution Walter Kennedy admitted that Bart Roberts had "murdered the French Governor of an American Island". No real progress, might (or might not) still have been a lesser official whom the pirates confused with the governor, and no place is mentioned.

hah haaaaaa!!!! 

one point to Johnson!

**Edited March 22, 2012 by Swashbuckler 1700**

[**Fox**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1019-fox/)

* Old Twillian
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Shooting pirates.

[Posted April 28, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=408811) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=408811)

From the Calendar of State Papers, Domestic. May 1701:

"Proceedings upon the petition to the king of Eliz. Mead, relict and executrix of Hen. Mead, and Gertrude Beck, relict and executrix of Will. Beck; setting forth that their husbands sailed from Plymouth in April, 1696, in the Adventure, gally, Mead being master and Beck quarter-master, under command of capt. Wm. Kidd, bound to the East Indies; and soon after, and before any act of piracy committed by Kidd, their husbands died, leaving on board their clothes, instruments, books, etc., **which were sold by Kidd on board and at the mast, as is usual**, viz.: the goods of Mead for 900 pieces of eight in gold, and the goods of Beck for 450 pieces, which gold was seized with the gold and effects of Kidd; the truth of which Kidd has, before his attainder, certified. They pray that the said effects may be delivered to them. The certificate dated April 30, 1701, was annexed to the petition."

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

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[Posted April 29, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=408819) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=408819)

 On 4/28/2012 at 3:07 PM, Foxe said:

From the Calendar of State Papers, Domestic. May 1701:

"Proceedings upon the petition to the king of Eliz. Mead, relict and executrix of Hen. Mead, and Gertrude Beck, relict and executrix of Will. Beck; setting forth that their husbands sailed from Plymouth in April, 1696, in the Adventure, gally, Mead being master and Beck quarter-master, under command of capt. Wm. Kidd, bound to the East Indies; and soon after, and before any act of piracy committed by Kidd, their husbands died, leaving on board their clothes, instruments, books, etc., **which were sold by Kidd on board and at the mast, as is usual**, viz.: the goods of Mead for 900 pieces of eight in gold, and the goods of Beck for 450 pieces, which gold was seized with the gold and effects of Kidd; the truth of which Kidd has, before his attainder, certified. They pray that the said effects may be delivered to them. The certificate dated April 30, 1701, was annexed to the petition."

So it seems to be quite a common practice. I am not saying that all did it. It makes me wonder (I am **not** claiming that the pirates were often well-dressed) why Snelgrave's coats were auctioned at the mast and not just sold and share the money of it? It seems that pirates were always need for clothing and it was ( at least sometimes if not often) auctioned among the crew ( alongside with other stuff like smoking pipes, playing cards as dead man's property or even loot) but clothing would often be just mariners garment. We have so many hints of pirates selling stuff board and at the mast so we can say it was a practice. And Kidd and Davis had not same articles or etc. and that "as is usual" is quite revealing.

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
* 
* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
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[Posted May 9, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409104) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409104)

"[From the Chapter on Captain Nathaniel North] The first cruise he made, they took a couple of good prizes, which made every man's share very considerable; but North, as he got his money lightly, so he spent it, making the companions of his dangers the companions of his diversions, or rather joining himself with them, and following their example; which all (who are acquainted with the way of life of a successful Jamaica privateer) know is not an example of the greatest sobriety and economy. His money being all spent, he took the same method for a recruit, that is, he went a second time privateering, and met with such success, that he engaged very heartily in this course of life, and made several lucky cruises." (Captain Charles Johnson, *The History of the Pirates* (aka. Vol II of *The General History*), 1834 Edition, p. 184-5)

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[Posted June 2, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409607) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409607)

Well found on web site <http://pirates.hegewisch.net/articles_new.html> but it seems to be pretty much real

Privateer ship's but it seems to be little later than gaop...

" That all the small Plunder, shall be brought to publick Sale, and be delivered to the highest Bidder, for which their Shares shall be accountable, excepting the Captain's Perquisites, which are such as did belong to the Captains of Prizes, and such Clothing as the Captain shall think proper to allow the Prisoners."

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
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* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
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[Posted June 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409817) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409817)

And here are some more pirates frittering away money...

“[bartholomew Roberts] Elated with this Booty, they had nothing now to think of but some safe Retreat, where they might give themselves up to all the Pleasures that Luxury and Wantonness could bestow, and for the present pitch'd upon a Place called the *Devil’s Island*, in the River of Surinam on the Coast of *Catana*, where they arrived, and found the civilest Reception imaginable, not only from the Governor and Factory, but their Wives, who exchanged Wares and drove a considerable Trade with them.” (Johnson, 3rd, p. 223)

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

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[Posted June 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409827) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409827)

There is no neede to find all tales of pirates spending their money there is no dought of that they did it but what about the small group of other pirates who saved stuff.

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

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* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
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[Posted June 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409831) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409831)

It's a topic, I'm a reader and collector of info and I like sharing. You may not want to read it, but others might. (Heck, I might want to use it in the future. When writing a surgery article, I sometimes come back here and see what I've written so I can use my own info!)

[**Fox**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1019-fox/)

* Old Twillian
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Shooting pirates.

[Posted June 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409835) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409835)

I think it's more important than that. If the original question is "were pirates savers?" then evidence that they were not is just as important as evidence that they were.

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[Posted June 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409839) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409839)

Okay.... Sorry for that

Indeed but (at least me) already has bias of pirates like I have that pirates were not generally savers but what about those who could have been savers. But since all stuff that is here is related to topic it is good that some others can get info here but I am pretty sure that pirates spending money has already dealth with in other treads bettter than pirates saving things.

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

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[Posted June 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409848) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409848)

The other thing it shows is that the balance of evidence weighs quite heavily against their bothering to save for the future. However, to say that none saved would be as big a folly as to say that all did.

History - messy - particularly on the granular level - you know the drill.

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

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[Posted June 14, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=409851) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=409851)

 On 6/14/2012 at 8:44 AM, Mission said:

History - messy - particularly on the granular level - you know the drill.

Now I quote myself now but here is a sample of my endles visdom ( ) " really often, in history, things do not happen suddenly but little by little" I was talking things like habits

and indeed you are quite rigth with about pirate savings.....

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

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[Posted July 12, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=410226) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=410226)

Here's a bit about some French pirates from *The Memoirs of Pére Labat 1693-1705*, translated and edited by John Eaden.

“[Feb. 4th, 1705 - I believe] As soon as our men received their share of the money for the caique and her cargo, they promptly went ashore to carouse as long as the money lasted, according to custom.” (Labat, p. 244)

"Most of the crew had spent all their money by the 20th February [1705], so I helped [Filibuster Captain] Daniel to make them return to the ship. In order to do this we spread a rumour in the town that an English merchantman was expected at St. Thomas [where they were], and on hearing this all the crew came aboard in the evening." (Labat, p. 244)

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

* Dread Pyrate
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[Posted July 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=410229) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=410229)

Indeed mission many pirates were not savers

However back to the Davis. It seems that clothes could be saved in order to use them as disguise if needed. I bet that Davis would have a change to sell these if he would have needed. It seems to me that Davis' Robert's company were saving clothes if not money e.g looking their dressing up before capture. So some clothes migth be saved for special occasions.

From 1724 edition of GHoP:

"Having come within Sight of the Place, he ordered all his Men under Deck, except as many as were absolutely necessary for working the Ship, that those from the Fort seeing a Ship with so few Hands, might have no Suspicion of her being any other than a trading Vessel; then he ran close under the Fort, and there cast Anchor; and having ordered out the Boat, he commanded six Men in her, in old ordinary Jackets, while he himself, with the Master and Doctor, dressed themselves like Gentlemen; his Design being, that the Men should look like common Sailors, and they like Merchants. In rowing ashore he gave his Men Instructions what to say in Case any Questions should be asked them."

So it seemed that sometimes outfits couls have been saved in so they could be used as disguise.I hope you got what I mean....

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

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* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
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[Posted July 13, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=410231) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=410231)

Sure, why not?

Although many pirates seem to have been incredibly short-sighted for the most part. You read over and over again about various pirates doing stupid things like crossing the Atlantic without taking adequate supplies - particularly water.

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[Posted July 30, 2012](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=410417) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=410417)

“Capt. Thomas Cromwell of Boston, master of the ship ‘Separation,’ obtained a commission in 1645 from the Earl of Warwick, the Lord Admiral of the Long Parliament, and after capturing several rich prizes in the West Indies, came into Massachusetts Bay and was forced by a strong northwest wind to take refuge in Plymouth Harbor where he remained for two weeks. There were about eighty men in his crew and they ‘did so distemper themselves with drink as they became like madd-men; … they spente and scattered a great deale of money among the people, and yet more sine than money.’ [bradford, History of Plymouth Plantation, p. 441]” (Dow and Edmonds, *The Pirates of the New England Coast 1630-1730*, p. 23)

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

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[Posted July 1](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=419288) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=419288)

"When [Captain] *Knot* Arrived within the Capes [of Virginia - at Virginia Beach]. the Wind turning Westerly, as he came to an Anchor, upon which 4 of the Pyrates came to him and required leave to hoist their boat out, which *Knot* Complied with, accordingly these 4 men put off the Boat, designing to go to the Bay, [These four pirates, four other pirates and two Portuguese prisoners had been put on Knot's ship along with a boat for their use after Knot's ship was captured about 300 miles from Virginia Beach. Knot had been forced to take the men back to shore and say they were passengers from London if asked.], but being quickly weary with rowing, they put into *Back River* [an inlet of Chesapeake Bay]; as soon as they came on Shore, their first care was to find out a Tavern, where they might ease themselves of their Golden Luggage. ['They [apparently referring to all 8 of the pirates] had brought on Shore with them in *Spanish Gold* and *Gold Dust* upwards of 1500 *Pound Sterling*.'] They soon found a place to their mind, where for some time they lived very profusely treating all that came into their Company, and there being in the House English Women Servants, who had the good fortune by some hidden Charms, to appear pleasing to these Picaroons, they set them Free, giving their Master 30 Pounds, the price he demanded for their time. Their Extravagant way of living soon discovered they were not Passengers from *London*, as they pretended, but rather Pyrates, accordingly they were taken up, and Commited on Suspicion, as such, to the County Goal. The other four not hearing of the fate of their Companions landed at *Hampton* in *James River* [Virginia], where pursuing the same courses, they were likewise taken up and Commited to Goal." (*The American Weekly Mercury*, Thursday March 17th, 1720)

[**Swashbuckler 1700**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/20630-swashbuckler-1700/)

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[Posted July 4](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=419293) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=419293)

Thanks for sharing. Most interesting.

Another example of not saving.

Did not something similar happen to Henry Every's men in Britain?

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

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* 
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[Posted July 15](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=419328) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=419328)

This is interesting and related to the idea of saving money, at least in the short term.  It is from Ed Fox's book *Pirates in Their Own Words*, being taken from court examinations of four former pirates who traveling from Madagascar (where their money would have had only limited value) to New York (where there would be many opportunities to spend it.) Ed explains,

 Quote

One remarkale feature of these depositions is that many of the passengers were arrested in possession of large sums of money but none of them appear to have obtained it by piracy. Three of those whose testimonies are reproduced here won all their money gambling (though nobody on board the Margaret admitted to losing money gambling) and the very enterprising Richard Roper managed to accumulate the equivalent of around 35 years’ worth of wages for a seaman in a comparatively short time by doing sewing repairs and nursing favours for his shipmates. Money acquired through piracy could, of course, be confiscated, but money that was come by legitimately could not, and this may or may not have had a bearing on the pirates’ keenness to explain the source of their income. The fact that they all told the same unlikely story suggests that it was something they had discussed together beforehand. (Fox, p. 59-60)

Their money was seized by Captain Lowth of the East India company who seized the ship when it stopped at the Cape of Good Hope.

The four men being questioned included:

   1. Thomas Bagley - "...he saith that he had ...in gold and silver to the value of Two Thousand one hundred and Fourty peeces of Eight together with his Chest and Cloaths, and saith that he wonne the foresd mony at play." (Fox, p. 62-3)

   2. Michael Hicks - "...he had aboard ...abt the value of one hundred pound sterling in silver and in gold abt the value of six hundred pounds sterling, great part of which mony he won at play." (Fox, p. 65)

   3. Richard Roper - "...he had aboard ...abt the value of four hundred pounds sterling in silver and gold and Cloaths and other things to ye value of ten pounds, most of the sd mony being given him for tending upon sick people working of Cloaths and other services." (Fox, p. 68)

   4. John Barret - "he had aboard ...one and twenty hundred Lyon Dollars [a large Dutch silver coin], thirteen hundred ps of Eight, in plate and small mony to ye value of one hundred ps of Eight and in corrall and amber to the value of one hundred peeces of Eight more, a great part of which mony he won at play." (Fox, p. 71)

Had they not lost the money, it would have been interesting to know what happened to them after they reached New York.

[**Coastie04**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/27-coastie04/)

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* Gender:Male
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* Interests:Nautical history, sailing (especially tall ships and my own 'Sanctioned Mistress'), shooting (of all eras and calibers), and homebrewing.

[Posted July 17](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=419330) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=419330)

Is that just a pirate's way of laundering money?  I can imagine: "No judge, I didn't acquire that money by piracy; my shipmates did and then I won it from them fair and square."

[**Mission**](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/profile/1929-mission/)

* Goat Specialist
* 
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* Admin
* 5,081 posts
* Gender:Male
* Location:Monroe, MI
* Interests:Scholarly piracy, designing and creating haunted house rooms and props, movies, abstract thinking, abstruse thinking, obstructive thinking, ideating, random thinking, movies, cartoons, movies, movies scores, cycling, world peace and small furry dogs, movies, writing, drawing, personal skills training, gremlins and, of course, lest I forget, movies.

[Posted July 18](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=findComment&comment=419332) · [Report post](http://pyracy.com/index.php?/topic/18584-pirates-the-savers/&do=reportComment&comment=419332)

Actually, I got something wrong in my original post (which I have changed). I had said the ship was seized by George Lowther, which would have been impossible because this all occurred in 1696. Lowther's pirate career didn't begin for another 25 years. (I had thought they had mispelled his name which was fairly common until I realized the dates were so out of synch.)  Instead, the money was taken by a Captain Lowth of the East India Company. He seized the ship the *Margaret*, which was under the command of Samuel Burgess, for reasons not stated in the accounts found in Ed's book. Burgess had sailed to Madagascar in the *Margaret* to sell goods to pirates and obtain slaves for the return trip. It seems likely that Lowth thought he was seizing pirates (although they had pardons, which he also seized)  and pirated goods;  the four men claiming that the money was not pirate treasure, but gambling or care-giving earnings in their testimonies was an attempt to claim the money was legally obtained and get the money back. Without futher evidence, however, who can say?

Because Lowth seized the ship, the owners of the *Margaret* sued the East India Company. Burgess was convicted of piracy in a trial in London as a result of these events, so it would seem that the owners of the ship lost that suit, although I don't actually know that. I suppose the pirates could have brought individual suit to get their money back since they had received pardons... although their explanations for how they came by the money were absurdly flimsy and, based on other court accounts of pirates from this period, probably wouldn't have held up.