

Chapter 1 : When the Redskins Rode () - IMDb

George Washington, Frontiersman is a well-crafted book, with real historical characters, acting out in real situations what happened in the years just prior to the American Revolution, and if you want to know the historical George Washington that is rarely, if ever, told in history classes, you need to get this book and read it.

George Washington Birthplace National Monument The memorial mansion at this site symbolizes "Wakefield," where George Washington was born, on February 22, 1732, and spent the first 3 years of his life. His family then moved farther up the Potomac, to the Hunting Creek plantation that later became known as Mount Vernon. Four years later the family moved again, to the "Strother estate," on the Rappahannock River opposite Fredericksburg. On this tract he built Wakefield, probably between 1743 and 1744. George never owned it. The farm eventually passed to his son, William Augustine, who was living in the home during the War for Independence, when fire accidentally destroyed it. It was never rebuilt. Wakefield, a replica of a typical Virginia plantation home of the 18th century, has been constructed to represent the boyhood home of George Washington. In 1800 Washington heirs and the Commonwealth of Virginia donated to the United States the old Washington family burial ground and a small plot of land at the house site. A year later the U. S. Government bought an additional 11 acres and in 1801 erected a granite shaft where members of the family had placed a stone marker in 1744. In 1923 the Wakefield National Memorial Association organized to recover the birthplace grounds and restore them as a national shrine. Several years later Congress authorized the erection of a house at Wakefield as nearly as possible like the one built by Augustine Washington. By the association, aided by John D. Rockefeller, because extensive research on the birthplace house and grounds failed to yield reliable information about the appearance of the original house, the reconstructed memorial mansion is only a general representation of a Virginia plantation house of the 18th century. Its design is based on tradition and surviving houses of the period. Archeological excavations by the National Park Service and others, however, have revealed foundation remnants that might well have been those of the original house. George Washington Birthplace National Monument. Reconstruction took place in 1933, at which time workers moved the granite shaft to the present location. The Federal Government paid part of the cost of building the house and landscaping the grounds. The house has eight rooms, four downstairs and four in the half story up stairs. A central hallway is located on each floor. The bricks were hand made from the clay from an adjoining field. A tilt-top table in the dining room is the only surviving piece of furniture reported to have been in the original house. The furnishings are designed to portray life in the early 18th century. Plantings near the land-front door of the house may be derived from those that grew on the place when Washington lived there as a boy. The boxwood, well over 100 years old, was brought from the home of Sarah Tayloe Washington, a daughter of the last owner of the birthplace home, and probably is descended from boxwood originally at Wakefield. In the garden near the house are found only those flowers, vines, herbs, and berries common to Virginia gardens of the period. About 50 feet from the house is a typical colonial-period frame kitchen, built on the traditional site of the old kitchen. Washington himself was buried at Mount Vernon. George Washington Birthplace National Monument was established in 1933. It consists of more than 100 acres, all in Federal ownership.

Chapter 2 : National Park Service - Founders and Frontiersmen (George Washington Birthplace National M

George Washington, Frontiersman has 45 ratings and 3 reviews. Mark said: The first novel by Zane Grey I think that I've read. It happens to be one of his.

Frontier surveyors, in addition, had ample opportunities to patent choice tracts of land in their own names, and many acquired holdings of several thousand acres. Surveying was a respectable occupation for a young Virginian in , roughly on a par with law, medicine, the church, or military service, and most of the surveyors were drawn from the Virginia gentry. Young men of 17 usually did not serve as county surveyors. Most novice surveyors began as apprentices or deputies to county surveyors and did not become county surveyors themselves, if ever, until they had had some years of experience. Before 20 July , nevertheless, GW received a commission from the president and masters of the College of William and Mary appointing him surveyor of newly formed Culpeper County. Most probably, William Fairfax, who attended council in Williamsburg from March to May , secured the commission for him. Under those circumstances it is not surprising that GW chose to survey on the frontier. Culpeper, although a new county, was fairly well settled. Most of its desirable lands had been surveyed and granted while it was part of Orange County, whereas on the other side of the Blue Ridge, in Frederick County, people were claiming many vacant tracts in , providing a great deal of lucrative business for a surveyor. During the fall of GW ran at least 15 surveys on the Lost River, as the upper portion of the Cacapon River is called, and during the following spring he ran at least 49 surveys on the Cacapon, Lost, North, and Little Cacapon rivers and on the Potomac River near the mouths of the Cacapon and Little Cacapon. GW, however, did not long remain surveyor of Culpeper. On the survey that he made on the Shenandoah River on 16 Aug. In either case, he continued surveying in Frederick County, and for his surveys there to continue to be legal he should have had another surveying appointment of some kind. It is certain only that Lord Fairfax continued to allow GW to survey for grants after he ceased to be surveyor of Culpeper County and that no one challenged the legitimacy of his work. GW usually received his surveying assignments in packets of land warrants issued from the Proprietary land office at Belvoir. The person for whom the land was to be surveyed in most cases paid a fee of 18s. Lord Fairfax or his agent approved the claim and chose the surveyor who was to lay off the bounds. The most desirable set of warrants for a surveyor was one that gave him a number of relatively small and simple four-or-five-sided tracts to measure, within a compact area so that he could move rapidly from one to another, collecting the maximum number of fees for the time he spent in the field. His surveys were often simple and near each other and sometimes had the additional advantage of being contiguous, making it possible to use one or more boundaries for two tracts. On at least 3 occasions GW was able to do four surveys in a day and on at least 13 other occasions three surveys in a day. At other times, of course, he worked more slowly, because the surveys were large or complex or there was some distance to travel between them. GW, like most frontier surveyors, usually surveyed in the spring and fall, when the weather was most pleasant, snakes and insects were least troublesome, and the thin foliage of trees made it easier to sight long boundary lines through wooded areas. He departed significantly from this pattern only in Aug. In the field GW undoubtedly used the instruments commonly used by other American surveyors of the time. Boundary line bearings were determined with a circumferentor, or plain surveying compass as it was sometimes called, which consisted essentially of a magnetic compass in a brass case with open brass sights attached, the whole mounted on a staff or tripod. Distances were measured with a surveying chain, a series of interconnected wrought iron links, each about 8 inches long, usually totaling 2 poles or 33 feet in length. Most Virginia surveyors used local people as chainmen and markers and often had different crews on consecutive surveys. Included in the field books are the date of each survey, the name of the person for whom it was run, the bearings of the boundary lines without correction for magnetic declination, 12 their lengths in poles, the trees or other natural features that marked the corners of the tract, the names of any owners of adjoining lands, and the names of the chainmen and usually of the marker. Often, however, the bearing and length of the final course, the one that closed the survey, are omitted. Instead of running that line on the ground with compass and chain, GW, like other surveyors, frequently calculated it from the plat, or small map, that he later made of

the survey. The acreage of a survey, once determined, was usually inserted into the field book to be part of the original record, but plats, with a few early exceptions, do not appear in the field books, being drawn only for the finished surveys. Most include the water features and the names of adjoining landowners as required by Virginia law. In some cases, however, even these items are missing. His plat of the 21 Mar. The elaborate style that he used for his first plat in July did not survive long under the pressures of routine surveying. Usually beside or below the plat, GW copied the written description of the survey from the field book, again without corrections for magnetic variation. He dated the survey with the date that the lines were run in the field and signed it at the bottom next to the names of the chainmen and marker, normally with a stylized signature used only on his surveys. Many, however, were not granted until the late s or the s and s. One did not have to pay Lord Fairfax his annual quitrent of 1s. The grants, when issued, were signed by Lord Fairfax. The plat, the names of the chainmen and markers, and, in most cases, the date of the survey are omitted. Virginia current money for a survey of 1, acres or less, a sum that was due any time after the survey was run in the field but in some cases, at least, was not paid until months or even years later. How GW justified the higher fee is not known, but it seems to have been paid without objection. GW gave no reasons for quitting the profession of surveying after the fall of , but there are two evident ones. As lucrative as surveying on the Northern Neck frontier was between and , it offered only diminishing prospects for the future. The supply of desirable new lands was already beginning to run low in the Northern Neck by , and the dominance of Lord Fairfax in the whole land-granting process prevented Northern Neck surveyors, whether they held county appointments or not, from establishing power bases of their own in the way many frontier surveyors in other parts of Virginia did. As a Northern Neck surveyor, GW would be no more than a gentleman of the second rank. In addition, GW had a strong appetite for soldiering, whetted no doubt by the example of his half brother Lawrence. By the spring of GW had learned that the office of adjutant for the colony, an office that Lawrence held, was to be divided into districts. On 10 June he asked Lt. Robert Dinwiddie to consider him for the Northern Neck adjutancy. Instead, the council on 6 Nov. As late as Nov. Only his death 5 weeks later put an end to his surveying. The most valuable of these, the finished surveys with their plats and full descriptions of the boundaries, are among the most widely dispersed. Several public repositories have one or more finished GW surveys, but only the Henry Huntington Library and Princeton University seem to have more than No field book has been found for , and the earlier of the two field books in the Library of Congress has five sheets torn out for the year However, two of those sheets, including the title page, are at Cornell University, and another is in the Dreer Collection at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. That sheet, which includes two surveys, is at the Pennsylvania Historical Society. A thorough search of the Northern Neck grant books revealed 13 GW surveys not found in the other sources. Of the surveys GW made for grants, only 6 were not found in the grant book. The acreage for a particular tract is not always the same in the finished survey, the grant, and the field-book entry. The acreage on the finished survey is the most accurate one in all cases and has been given in our list whenever possible. The grant, which occasionally has clerical copying errors, has been used as the second choice, and the field-book entry, which sometimes has errors in calculation that were corrected in the finished survey, as the third choice. Locations are usually given in reference to a major river or stream and are generally taken directly from the finished survey, grant, or field-book entry, in that order. To determine their exact locations in relation to the numerous streams that flow into the lower Shenandoah River, most of them were platted on a modern terrain map. Granted to James Hamilton, 3 June Granted to Robert Denton, 3 June Granted to Francis McBride, 3 June Granted to Francis McBride, 4 June Granted to John Dunbar, 4 June Granted to John Elswick, 3 June Granted to James Scott, 6 June Granted to Joseph How, 6 June Granted to Andrew Viney, 6 June Granted to Luke Collins, 5 June Granted to Barnaby McHendry, 4 June Granted to William Baker, 9 April Granted to Samuel Baker, 11 October Granted to William Warden, 4 June Granted to David Edwards, 13 April Granted to Thomas Edwards, 14 April Granted to George Hyatt, 5 April For John Parke, Jr. Granted to John Parke, 18 August Granted to Evan Pugh, Sr. Granted to Jacob Pugh, 30 May Granted to Joseph Powell, 15 June Granted to Thomas Hughes, 18 November Granted to Hugh Hughes, 4 May Duplicate grant to Hugh Hughes, 11 November For William Hughes, Sr. Granted to William Hughes, Sr. For William Hughes, Jr. Granted to William Hughes, Jr. Granted to Nicholas Robinson, 9 November

Granted to William Welton, 15 April For Edward Kinnison Kennison , Jr. Granted to Edward Kinnison, Jr.

Chapter 3 : George Washington's Professional Surveys

George Washington, Frontiersman by Zane Grey But even more thrilling is that Zane Grey chose for the central character of this culminating work the father of our country, George Washington, as a young man on the frontier.

In November, 1811, George W. They and their party, which includes their good friend Michael T. Simmons are the first Americans to settle north of the Columbia River in what is now Washington. The Simmons party makes the historically significant decision to settle north of the Columbia primarily because the discriminatory laws of the provisional government of Oregon Territory prohibit George Bush, an African American who is a key leader of the group, from settling south of the river. George Washington Bush ? His father, of African descent, was said to be a sailor, and his mother was an Irish American servant. During this time he traveled extensively in the Western plains and mountains, perhaps reaching Puget Sound. Bush farmed and raised cattle, and the family was well off. However, Missouri, a slave state, had passed racial exclusion laws, and Bush and his sons faced increasing bigotry and discrimination. In an effort to escape the discrimination, the Bushes joined the family of their friend Michael Simmons, a white Kentuckian, and three other white families related to the Simmons, to head west on the Oregon Trail. When the Simmons party reached the Columbia River in the fall of 1811, they found that the provisional government of Oregon Territory had enacted discriminatory laws, like those of Missouri, barring settlement by African Americans. Not wishing to separate from the Bush family, Simmons and the other members of the party decided to locate north of the Columbia, where American settlers and their provisional government had not yet extended their reach. In October, 1811, the entire party set off from Fort Vancouver down the Columbia River to the Cowlitz, and up that river to Cowlitz landing. From there they spent 15 days making a road through the forest to Budd Inlet, where Simmons established a settlement he called New Market, which later became Tumwater. In early November, 1811, George and Isabella Bush and their sons settled nearby, on a fertile prairie that soon took their name. The family began a farm, using seeds they had carried with them, that soon became the most productive in the region. Within a few years Simmons and Bush had set up a sawmill and a gristmill near their claims. As more settlers poured into the region, Bush became famous for his generosity. From his stores of grain, he provided newcomers, sometimes half-starved from the journey, food for their first winter and seed to start their farms, asking no payment other than to return, when they could, the amount they took. Bush was also known for his friendly relations with and influence among the Indians of the region. Discrimination and Exception Ironically, the discriminatory laws the Bushes were trying to avoid had followed them, at least in part due to their own pioneering efforts. The American settlement north of the Columbia was one of the catalysts for the Treaty of Oregon, which resolved the U. As a result, Bush did not have a clear legal claim on the acres he and his family had painstakingly cultivated. When Washington Territory was organized in 1859, many of the new legislators were friends and neighbors of the Bush family and beneficiaries of their generosity. Although this experience did not necessarily make them less prejudiced, it did inspire them to make an exception for George Bush and his sons. Congress did so in 1862, and the Bush Prairie farm remained in the hands of the Bush family for generations. Several of their sons went on to play active roles in Thurston county civic and political affairs. The eldest, William Owen Bush, was a member of the first state legislature in 1859 and an award-winning farmer who worked the Bush Prairie farm until his death in 1887. The series is in the collection of the Washington State Capitol Museum. This essay made possible by: Humanities Washington George Washington Bush ? Simmons, Thurston County pioneer, n. Paintings, Drawings, and Murals ed. University of Washington Press, 1997; Clinton A. Snowden, History of Washington New York: The Century History Company, 1906, Vol. Thomas, George Bush M. Thesis, University of Washington, 1968; HistoryLink.

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