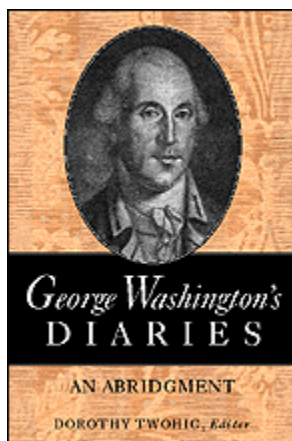


## Project History

**1966:** Virginia state archivist, William J. Van Schreeven, proposed that the University of Virginia sponsor a new documentary editing project for Washington's papers.

**1968:** The University of Virginia and the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association launched a new effort to publish the papers of George Washington. Donald Jackson, formerly of the University of Illinois Press, was named the editor-in-chief. Jackson's Papers of George Washington determined to be the most comprehensive compilation yet and include not just letters Washington wrote, but those he received. The project also sought to include all other documents attributable to Washington, including military orders, council of war minutes, intelligence reports, addresses, financial records, farm reports, and ledgers. In addition, the new Papers of George Washington commenced a massive search to locate documents across the globe. As a result, copies of 140,000 documents were identified and procured, making the Papers of George Washington the largest such collection ever compiled.

**1976-1979:** The Diaries of George Washington, a six-volume set containing all of Washington's diary entries from 1748 to December 13, 1799, is published by The Papers of George Washington.



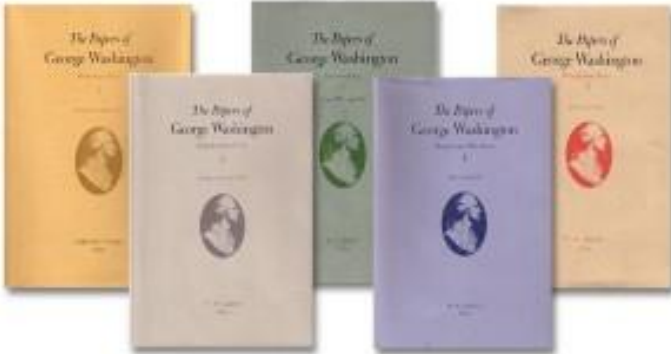
**1981:** The Papers published a one-volume daybook from the later years of Washington's presidency, titled, *The Journal of the Proceedings of the President*. Donald Jackson's successor as editor-in-chief, W.W. Abbot, devised a new system through which to present Washington's papers. Abbot divided the documents into five series, each corresponding to a different period in Washington's life:

The Colonial Series (1744 – June 1775)

The Revolutionary War Series (June 1775 – December 1783)

The Confederation Series (January 1784 – September 1788)

The Presidential Series (September 1788 – March 1797)  
The Retirement Series (March 1797 – December 1799)



**2004:** The Papers of George Washington embarked upon a massive digitization project with Mount Vernon and the University of Virginia Press's digital database, Rotunda. It was the first of the major Founding Father documentary editing projects to do so. The result was the Papers of George Washington Digital Edition, an online publication of the 55 volumes that had been published up to that point. The PGWDE is updated regularly with revised and improved annotations, new documents, and the latest print volumes.

**2005:** Editor-in-chief Ted Crackel, staff members Christine Patrick, Phil Chase, and John C. Pinheiro, as well as the chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Bruce Cole, presented President George W. Bush with what was then the latest volume of the Presidential Series. After a brief ceremony in the Oval Office, the editors donated a full set of the Papers of George Washington to the White House.



**2010:** The National Historical Publications and Records Commission and the University of Virginia Press announced plans to create a new web site to provide free access to the papers of the Founding Fathers. The project, entitled The Founders Online, will include all of the content from the print volumes, such as full transcriptions and annotations, and will be continuously updated to reflect new volumes and discoveries.

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## **How is the Papers of George Washington Project at the University of Virginia different from the George Washington Papers American Memory database at the Library of Congress?**

The Papers of George Washington project is different from the George Washington Papers American Memory database at the Library of Congress in two major ways:

- Their goals and purposes are very different  
*In presenting transcriptions of documents that are heavily annotated, the Papers of George Washington seeks to serve as a vital informational resource for academic research on Washington. In contrast, American Memory's George Washington Papers displays images of documents, few transcriptions, and even fewer annotations, making it an excellent resource for accessing original manuscripts, not for thorough research.*
- The the size and scope of each of these collection  
*The American Memory collection primarily includes documents from the Library of Congress, whereas the Papers of George Washington includes copies of documents from small and large American repositories, private collectors, and international libraries.*

## **How has the Papers of George Washington project progressed?**

Since its inception in 1968, the Papers of George Washington has published 63 of its projected 90 volumes and completed the Colonial, Confederation, and Retirement series. It remains on the schedule to finish the complete Papers in about 2023.

## Awards



**1986: *Lyman H. Butterfield Award from the Association for Documentary Editing***  
The Papers of George Washington received the Lyman H. Butterfield Award from the Association for Documentary Editing for excellence in the publication of documentary editions.

**2003: *Thomas Jefferson Prize, Society for History in the Federal Government***  
Assistant Editor Dr. Christine Sternberg Patrick received the Thomas Jefferson Prize from the Society for History in the Federal Government for editing Presidential Series volume 11 (August 1792 – January 1793). Patrick was lauded for “displaying all the qualities as a historian and an editor that make this documentary edition outstanding.”

**2005: *National Humanities Medal***

Papers of George Washington received the National Humanities Medal from President George W. Bush in the Oval Office of the White House. To this day, it remains the only documentary editing project to receive this honor.

**2007: *Outstanding Academic Title, American Library Association's Choice Magazine***

The American Library Association's *Choice* magazine named the Papers of George Washington Digital Edition an Outstanding Academic Title. *Choice* bestows this honor upon books and electronic sites and resources that provide valuable resources to undergraduates and libraries.

# Documentary Editing (What We Do)

The mission of a documentary editing project is twofold:

- provide accurate, readable, and accessible transcriptions of historical documents
- provide readers with the proper information to understand and use the text through the process of annotation

## The Documentary Editing Process

### Step 1: Authenticating the Manuscript

Before preparing a document for publication, editors must verify the signature, handwriting, date and content of the manuscript. Editors must also ensure that the paper and ink used in the manuscript align with the standards of the day. Finally, editors secure the provenance, or proven history, of the manuscript in question. Although this process takes a tremendous amount of time, it is crucial in maintaining the integrity of the papers and the project.

### Step 2: Selecting Version of Document

For documents from the 18th century it is common to find multiple drafts or copies of letters in bound volumes called *letter books*, in which individuals would copy the text of letters they had sent and received. Editors prefer to utilize the document that was physically sent but when the official document is unavailable they may use copies from letter books. In this case, they then have to decide which of the copies to utilize, as there may be differences in terms of content and date.

### Step 3: Transcribing the Document

The style of 18th-century handwriting, along with abbreviations, spelling, capitalization, and grammar that had not yet been standardized make the process of transcribing a document very difficult. Deciphering handwriting and sentences in 18th-century documents is made difficult by a lack of formal education and proper training amongst many individuals in this time period. In addition, physical conditions of the document—such as faded ink, damage to the manuscript, and unclear photocopies—can be problematic to transcription. The editors' goal is to preserve the original spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and paragraphing of the manuscript, as well as the author's intentions and words.

### Step 4: Annotating the Document

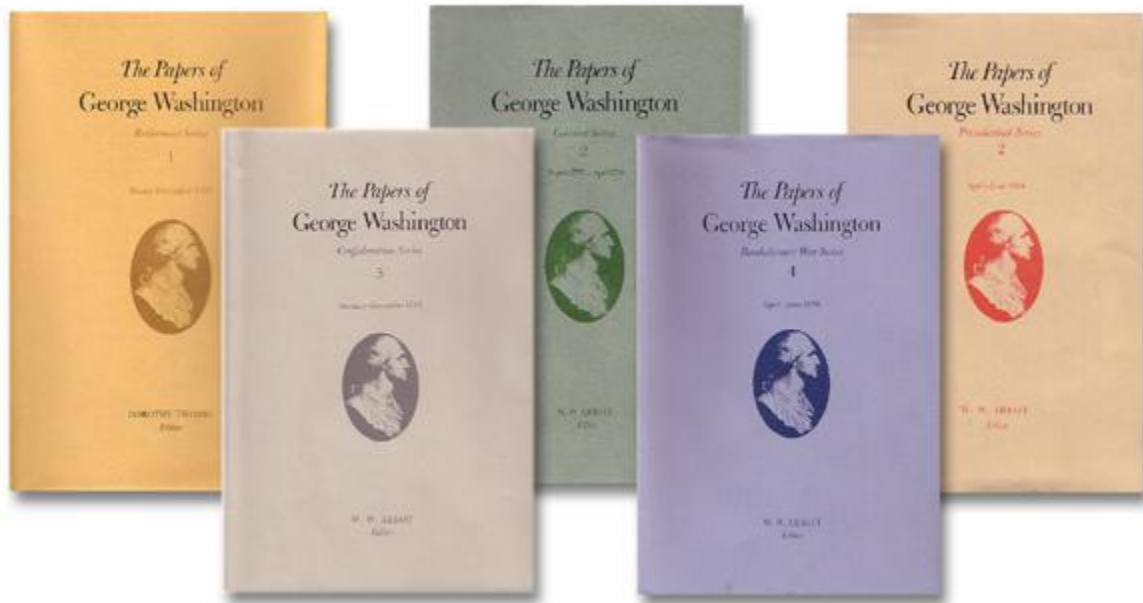
*“The work of properly annotating and indexing each document is one of the most time-consuming tasks the editors perform.”*

-Philander D. Chase, Editor Emeritus of the Papers of George Washington

In annotating documents, the editor identifies people, places, and events that the reader probably wouldn't know, in addition to any further information that would help the reader understand the document. This process requires thorough research, which is then used to write short, concise summaries on specific points. Annotations also contain information about where the original document is located, what textual problems the editor may have found in the manuscript, and what alternative versions of the document may exist. Annotations can also include other substantive information mentioned within the document, such as attached maps or illustrations, or relevant letters and enclosures.

## The Letterpress Edition

The Letterpress Edition of The Papers of George Washington consists of the following volumes, printed in five series, and the complete diaries, which can be found in most university, college, and public libraries. The series include not only Washington's own letters and other papers but also all letters written to him. Volumes are available for purchase from the [University of Virginia Press](#).



The **Diaries** span most of Washington's adult life. Begun in 1748 and kept until his death in 1799, these volumes reveal the lifelong preoccupations of the public and private man.

The **Colonial Series (1744–1775)** takes Washington through his command of the Virginia Regiment during the French and Indian War and then focuses on his political and business activities as a Virginia planter during the fifteen years before the Revolution.

The **Revolutionary War Series (1775–1783)** presents in documents and annotation the myriad military and political matters with which Washington dealt during the long war for American independence.

The **Confederation Series (1784–1788)** begins on 1 January 1784 with the hero of the American Revolution back at Mount Vernon under his own "vine and fig tree." It ends in September 1788 on the eve of his return to public life as president under the new Constitution. Unlike the series devoted to Washington's Revolutionary War and



presidential papers, the *Confederation Series* is composed almost entirely of personal letters and includes very few official documents.

The **Presidential Series (1788–1797)** when complete, will cover the eight precedent-setting years of Washington's presidency. These volumes include the public papers either written by Washington or presented to him during both of his administrations. Among the documents are Washington's messages to Congress, addresses from public and private bodies, applications for public office, letters of recommendation and documents concerned with diplomatic and Indian affairs. Also in these volumes are Washington's private papers, which include family letters, farm reports, letters to and from friends and acquaintances, and documents relating to the administration of his Mount Vernon plantation and management of the presidential household.

The **Retirement Series (1797–1799)** covers the interval between Washington's retirement from the presidency on 4 March 1797 and his death on 14 December 1799. Except for a trip to Philadelphia in 1798, Washington stuck close to home, only occasionally going from Mount Vernon into Alexandria or across the river to Georgetown and the new Federal City. The management and improvement of his farms at Mount Vernon were his major concern, and the pressing need for money forced him to give particular attention to the disposition of his large landholdings in the West. As "Father of His Country" he found himself not only entertaining a constant stream of visitors but also responding to a steady flow of letters from friends and strangers, foreign and domestic. From the start, senators, congressmen, Adam's cabinet members, and diplomats kept him informed of political developments. Washington's absence from the public state, never much more than a fiction, came to an end in July 1798 when his growing alarm over French policy and the bitter divisions in the body politic arising out of it led him to accept command of the army, with the promise to take the field in case of a French invasion. And in 1799 Washington for the first time became deeply involved in partisan electoral politics.

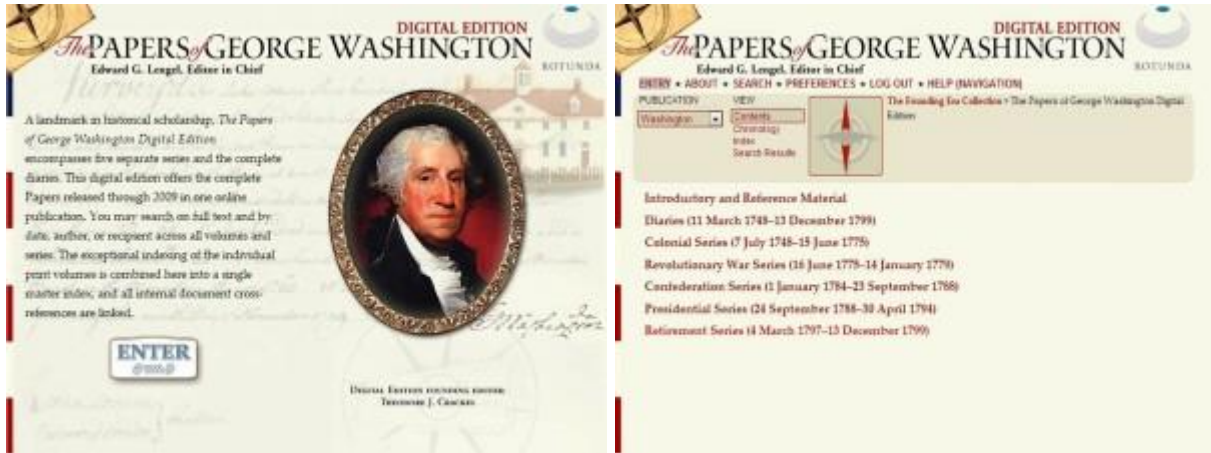
## The Digital Edition

The Papers of George Washington Digital Edition is a landmark in historical scholarship, encompassing five separate series and the complete diaries. There are three versions of this edition – Founders Online, the Rotunda Scholarly Edition, and the Mount Vernon guest version.

- **Founders Online** offers free access to the papers of George Washington, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, and Alexander Hamilton. The National Archives, through its National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), in cooperation with The University of Virginia Press created this site to make freely available online the historical documents of the Founders of the United States of America. Please note, the cumulative index is not available in this version. [Click here to read more about The Papers of George Washington»](#)



- The **Rotunda scholarly edition** offers the complete *Papers* to date in one online publication. You may search on full text and by date, author, or recipient across all volumes and series. The exceptional indexing of the individual print volumes is combined here into a single master index, and all internal document cross-references are linked. [Click here to access a trial version»](#)



- The **Mount Vernon guest version**, which has been prepared especially for the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Learning Center at the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center at Mount Vernon, offers the complete *Papers*, less the annotation and cumulative index, in a single, searchable online publication. Access to the public version is available by visiting the Mt. Vernon web site: <http://www.mountvernon.org/library/research-library/washington-papers/>

# Financial Papers Project



George Washington's Ledger Book 1, 1750-1772, Folio 1, Left Side. Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

The George Washington Financial Papers Project (GWFP), funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, is an innovative documentary editing project working to develop a free-access, open-source digital edition and editorial platform containing transcriptions of Washington's financial documents. Users will be able to read transcriptions of the financial documents; search those documents for people, places, commodities, and currencies; browse documents by account, place, ships, currency, occupation, and services; perform searches that trace and compare transactions by type, individual, and content over any time period; download data; and follow links to related correspondence in the Papers of George Washington Digital Edition. Additionally, those interested in editing and publishing financial documents will be able to use the open-source editing platform to build robust, accessible documentary editions.

## Project Background

Making Washington's financial papers accessible had been an early goal of the Project, but given their complexity and our means of publication, very little had been done. In the 1980s we published several pages from Washington's ledgers in the Colonial Series and over the years have included excerpts from various financial documents in annotation. Print publication, however, is not a viable solution; formatting the numerous types of financial documents would be not only time consuming but also prohibitively expensive. Furthermore, aside from an index, print publication provides no means of

performing complex queries or data manipulation. As the Project moved forward with the digital version of the letterpress volumes we began to think about accessibility solutions for the financial papers.

In 2010 we began collaborating with the developers of DocTracker (DT) on how the system might be customized to handle complex financial documents. Beginning in July 2012 we partnered with the DT development team, along with the Civil War Governors of Kentucky Digital Documentary Edition, to expand DocTracker's menu of core functions, and to tackle data entry and output requirements of complex documentary materials. A significant part of this expansion included the development of solutions for editing, representing (both transcription and data), and publishing financial documents. The [National Historical Publications and Records Commission](#) (NHPRC) provided funding for the development work and eventual release of the beta and final versions of DocTracker.



NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES

NATIONAL HISTORICAL  
PUBLICATIONS  
& RECORDS COMMISSION

In 2013 the National Historical Publications and Records Commission awarded The Papers of George Washington a three-year grant for the Financial Papers Project. Over the next three years, the GWFPP team will work on accomplishing the following goals:

- digitize document transcriptions from materials in the [Papers of George Washington, Series 5](#), at the Library of Congress as well as Gouverneur Morris' 1811-1816 account book
- develop a platform to edit and publish financial documents
- develop a web prototype that allows users to perform simple queries and download data
- write and distribute a guide for creating editions of financial papers

## George Washington Timeline

**1732:** George Washington is born in Westmoreland County, Virginia to Augustine Washington and his second wife Mary Ball

**1738:** Washington family moves to Ferry Farm (a plantation on the Rappahannock River near Fredericksburg); George Washington spends most of his youth here

**1743:** Augustine Washington, George's father, dies. George Washington is only 11 years old. Although George Washington is the older child of his household, Augustine leaves most of his property to his sons from his first marriage. Following the death of his father, George Washington's formal education ended. Washington inherited 10 slaves from his father's estate.

**1749:** George Washington is appointed county surveyor of the frontier county of Culpeper. He was seventeen years old.

**1751-1752:** George Washington travels to Barbados with his half-brother Lawrence in an attempt to cure the latter of a respiratory illness. George contracts smallpox while he is on the island. The trip is the only time George Washington travels outside of the North American continent.

**1753:** Virginia Governor Robert Dinwiddie sends Major George Washington to the Ohio Valley to deliver a message to the French, demanding that they leave the area. A few months later, Major Washington and 150 soldiers to the Ohio Valley to fight for Virginia's claim of the land. Washington's men engaged in a combative confrontation with French soldiers. Following this skirmish, Washington and his men retreated to the makeshift Fort Necessity, where Washington was forced to surrender. This event deeply embarrassed Washington and he resigned his commission. This failed campaign also sparked the French and Indian War.

**1755:** Washington returns to the Ohio frontier as a volunteer aide for General Braddock. During a battle between the French and the British near the Monongahela River, Washington exhibited great courage and leadership. He was later recognized for his conduct in battle with a promotion and was given command of the entire military force of Virginia.

**1759:** On January 6, 1759, George Washington married Martha Dandridge Custis. A native of the Tidewater region of Virginia, Martha Custis was a young widow who had inherited an enormous amount of wealth after the passing of her first husband, Daniel Parke Custis, and was the mother of two young children, Jacky and Patsy. Following their marriage, the newlywed couple, Jacky, and Patsy moved to Mount Vernon.

**1759-1775:** George Washington was a Gentleman Farmer at Mount Vernon in the years between his marriage to Martha and the onset of the American Revolution. Washington experimented with different farming techniques while also expanding his home at Mount Vernon.

**1775:** The newly formed Congress appointed George Washington to be the commander of the Continental Army. Washington would hold this position for the entirety of the American Revolution, totaling eight years.

**1783:** Following the end of the American Revolution, Washington addressed Congress on December 23 in Annapolis and resigned his commission. Through this action, Washington gave the power back to the people and was declared a hero around the world.

**1787:** Although determined to retire from public life after the Revolutionary War, Washington enters the public sphere and is unanimously elected president of what is now known as the Constitutional Convention.

**1789:** George Washington is unanimously elected as first President of the United States

**1793:** Washington begins his second term as President

**1797:** Refusing a third term, Washington retired from the presidency and all public life. By leaving office after two terms, Washington set a precedent that has been held to by most of the American presidents who followed him. He returns to Mount Vernon and enjoys a peaceful retirement.

**1799:** George Washington passed away on December 14 from a throat infection called epiglottitis in his bedroom at Mount Vernon. He was surrounded by close friends and his loving wife Martha.



## George Washington, 1732–1799

### **Q: Was Washington born at Mount Vernon?**

A: No. He was born February 11, 1732, near Bridges Creek, on an estate later called Wakefield (probably named by Washington's nephew William Augustine Washington), in Westmoreland County, Virginia, about forty miles south of Mount Vernon.

### **Q: When did Washington die and what ailment caused his death?**

A: Washington died at Mount Vernon in the late evening on December 14, 1799 from a throat infection called epiglottitis. On December 18 he was buried in the family vault at Mount Vernon.

### **Q: Were all the pall bearers at President Washington's funeral Masons?**

A: Mrs. Washington designated the Masonic Fraternity to take charge of the funeral. She requested, however, that Colonel Philip Marsteller, who was not a Mason, be a pall bearer. The five remaining pall bearers were all Masons.

### **Q: When and where was the first celebration of Washington's birthday?**

A: The first public celebration, of which there is record, was at Valley Forge, February 22, 1778, when Proctor's Continental Artillery band serenaded Washington. The first public celebration as a holiday was by order of Comte Rochambeau, February 12, 1781, when the French Army in Rhode Island was granted a holiday on that day, Monday, February 11th, 1781, Washington's birthday by the Julian Calendar, happened to fall on Sunday.

### **An old-fashioned George Washington joke from the Charlottesville (Virginia) Chronicle, 25 May 1883:**

"When did George Washington die?" asked a teacher of a large boy. "Is he dead?" was the astonished reply. "Why, it is not more than six months ago that they were celebrating his birthday, and now he is dead. Its a bad year on children. I reckon his folks let him eat something that didn't agree with him."

### **Q: Why is Washington's birthday celebrated on February 22 when he was born on February 11th?**

A: February 11th was GW's birthday according to the Julian (Old Style) calendar, but in 1752, the corrections of the Gregorian (New Style) Calendar were adopted by England, Ireland, and the colonies, and GW's birthday became 22 February [Donald Jackson and Dorothy Twohig, eds., *The Diaries of George Washington*, vol. VI, January 1790–December 1799 (Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1979) 282.]

Under England's interpretation of the Julian Calendar the new year began on 25 March. Because the year under the Julian Calendar was 365 days 6 hours, by the sixteenth century a considerable surplus had accumulated, moving the vernal equinox from 21 to 11 March. The error was corrected in 1582 by the Gregorian Calendar (New Style), adopted by most European countries. By 1752, when Great Britain adopted the Gregorian Calendar, the displacement was 11 days.[Donald Jackson, ed., *The Diaries of George Washington*, vol. I, 1748-65 (Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1976), 6.]



**Q: What was George Washington's middle name?**

A: According to the record of his birth in the family bible, Washington was not given a middle name.

**Q: Who were Washington's parents?**

A: George Washington was the son of Augustine Washington and his second wife, Mary Ball Washington. Few people know of George's father, because Augustine died when George was only eleven and he rarely spoke of him. But many people knew of his mother, Mary Ball Washington. She lived to be 82, and saw her son elected first President of the United States in 1789. (courtesy Mount Vernon)

**Q: Did George Washington have any brothers or sisters?**

A: Washington had five brothers and one sister who reached maturity: Lawrence, Augustine, Samuel, John Augustine, Charles and Betty. The first two were half-brothers. There were also a half-brother and half-sister and a full sister who died young.

**Q: How tall was George Washington?**

A: To the best of our knowledge Washington was about six feet in height. There are records which show his measurement to have been between six feet and six feet two inches at various times. He registered six feet three and one-half inches when measured for his coffin.

**Q: Did George Washington wear a wig?**

A: No. He wore his own hair which was light brown in color, tied in a queue and powdered. The queue was sometimes worn in a small black silk bag.

**Q: Did George Washington have wooden teeth?**

A: He had several sets of false teeth over the years, but they were not made of wood. For at least one set, Washington's dentist, Dr. John Greenwood, used a cow's tooth, one of Washington's teeth, hippopotamus ivory, metal and springs. The teeth fit poorly. (courtesy Mount Vernon)

**Q: Where are George Washington's false teeth?**

A: One set is in the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, one set in possession of Joseph R. Greenwood of New York, and another set at Mount Vernon.

**Q: Did George Washington chop down a cherry tree?**

A: Probably not. The story was likely invented by a man named Mason Weems shortly after Washington's death. Ironically, the story was intended to show how honest Washington was: George confesses to his father saying, "I cannot tell a lie."

**Q: Did George Washington own slaves?**

A: Yes. At age eleven he inherited ten slaves from his father. By the end of Washington's life, over three-hundred African-American slaves lived at Mount Vernon. (courtesy Mount Vernon).

**Q: Did Washington free his slaves?**

A: Yes. Washington's attitude towards slavery changed as he grew older and especially as he fought for liberty in the Revolution. He emancipated his slaves in his will and his estate paid pensions to the older African Americans for decades.

**Q: Which portrait of George Washington appears on the Dollar Bill?**

A: The picture on the Dollar Bill was taken from the “Athenaeum” Portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart. The original was painted in 1796.

**Q: How many times did George Washington actually sit to different painters for his portraits?**

A: There are nineteen artists of which there is little doubt that Washington sat for portraits. For some of these he sat more than once. Washington also sat for sculptors Houdon and Ceracchi.

**Q: Was Robert E. Lee related to George Washington?**

A: Robert E. Lee married the granddaughter of Jackie Custis who was Washington’s stepson. Lee is also GW’s third cousin, twice removed, since both men are descended from Augustine Warner, Sr., and Mary Towneley Warner (GW by way of their son, Augustine, Jr., and Lee by way of their daughter, Sarah). (courtesy Frank Grizzard)

**Q: Which states or future states did Washington visit in his lifetime?**

A: Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. It is not unlikely that he was within the bounds of Vermont during his trip to Lake Champlain in 1783.

**Q: Did Washington ever leave the United States?**

A: The only trip George Washington made outside of his own country was when he accompanied his half-brother Lawrence to the Barbados (1751–1752).

**Q: Was Washington ever awarded a college degree?**

A: Washington was not a college graduate but he received an honorary LL.D. from five educational institutions: Harvard, 1776; Yale, 1781; University of Pennsylvania, 1783; Washington College (Maryland), 1789; Brown, 1790. Although he did not complete college, Washington did maintain a large library at Mount Vernon.

**Q: Did Washington ever practice law or did he ever appear in court as an attorney?**

A: No. Washington acquired much legal training incidentally in connection with his duties as guardian and the many trusteeships and executorships which he assumed. He was, moreover, for years a justice of the peace of Fairfax County and not only heard minor cases, but also was a member of the County Court, which had an extended jurisdiction in equity as well as in civil and criminal law. In colonial days the justices were the county gentlemen, not trained lawyers, but the service was an excellent training in legal knowledge.

**Q: How many letters did George Washington write during his lifetime?**

A: Only a rough estimate can be given. The best authorities have estimated the total to be between 18,000 and 20,000. Of these, considerably fewer than half are in Washington’s own hand writing.

**Q: What was the last letter that George Washington wrote?**

A: The last letter that George Washington wrote was to his farm manager on December 13, 1799, the day before he died. He wrote Alexander Hamilton on the proposed Military Academy, on December 12.

**Q: To whom did Washington leave his public and private letters and papers?**

A: To his nephew, Bushrod Washington.

**Q: When did the first direct ancestor of George Washington land in America?**

A: John Washington, according to the best accounts available, landed in America early in the year 1657. His father had been a follower of Charles I during the civil war in England and had lost his benefice by order of Parliament, and evidently the young man was on his own very early. He was probably about 25 years old when he immigrated. George Washington was a direct descendant of John Washington, the immigrant.

**Q: Did Washington actually write the *Rules of Civility*?**

A: No. In fact “The Rules of Civility and Decent Behaviour in Company and Conversation” have been traced back to the sixteenth century. Some of the maxims were so fully exemplified in Washington’s life that biographers came to regard them as formative influences on his character.

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Questions and Answers taken from: History of the George Washington Bicentennial Celebration, Volume II, Literature Series (Washington, D.C.: George Washington Bicentennial Commission, 1932), 643-688. (unless otherwise noted)

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- [George Washington.](#)
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# Visualizations

Click on the links below to see data from some of Washington's documents transformed into visual representations of content.

## **[Account Book 2, 1767-1775](#)**

GW's account book – "Account Book 2, 1767-1775" (available online at the [Library of Congress](#)) – is compiled of copies of his business correspondence, invoices, and so forth. The original copies he wrote were sent to the merchants who were located within the American colonies, England, Ireland, and even Jamaica. Robert Cary and Co., a merchant company located in London, England, also sent GW a number of invoices detailing the costs of the goods which GW had requested from them. Included are a number of charts displaying different aspects of the information found solely within this account book.

## **[Revolutionary War Accounts, Vouchers, and Receipted Accounts 3, 1784](#)**

GW's account book – "Revolutionary War Accounts, Vouchers, and Receipted Accounts 3, 1784" (available online at the [Library of Congress](#)) – records his expenses to and from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was traveling to attend a meeting of the Society of Cincinnati, a patriotic organization established in 1783. GW brought three servants and five horses on this trip and the group stopped at several taverns for food and lodging. These stops and expenses are detailed in a number of individual receipts found within the book. Included on this page are visualizations of George Washington's journey.

## **[Virginia Colonial Militia Accounts, 1755-1758](#)**

GW's account book – "Virginia Colonial Militia Accounts, 1755-1758" (available online at the [Library of Congress](#)) – is a book of receipts and expenditures for munitions, recruiting, supplies, spying, etc. The visualization included illustrates with whom GW had transactions and how many transactions they had within this particular account book.