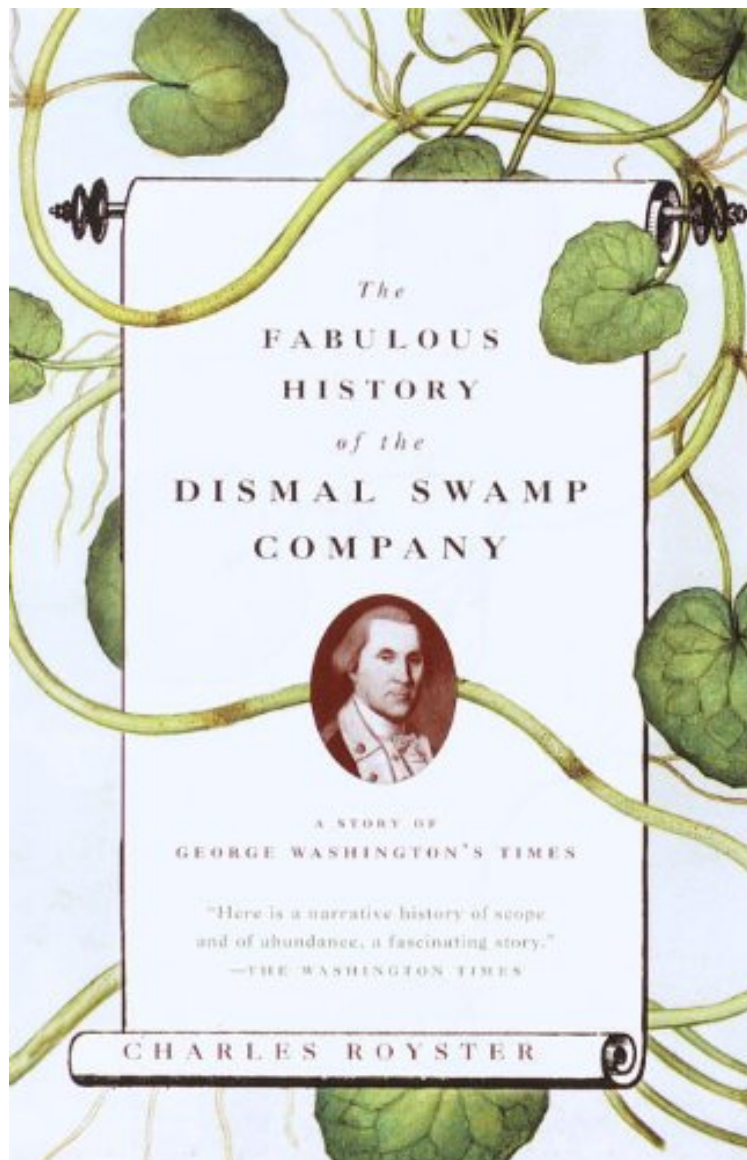


(Online library) The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company: A Story of George Washington's Times

## The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company: A Story of George Washington's Times

*Von Charles Royster*

*DOC | \*audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

Produktinformation Veröffentlicht am: 2010-12-08 Erscheinungsdatum: 2010-12-08 File Name: B004DEPF04 | File size: 27.Mb

**Von Charles Royster : The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company: A Story of George Washington's Times** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company: A Story of George Washington's Times:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Change the title! Von Ein KundeThis book is a meticulous study of the first investors of the Dismal Swamp Company and their trade with England before and after the revolution. Much like a financial and moral audit - ad nauseam - of the movers and shakers of 18th century Virginia with a list of names provided by Colonial Williamsburg - Lee, Byrd, Washington, etc. Readers expecting a thorough study of the Dismal Swamp, The Dismal Swamp Company, the Dismal Swamp Canal Company or the Dismal Swamp Land Company will be disappointed. Norfolk, Portsmouth and Southside Virginia's history suffer while the author spends pages on describing London neighborhoods, English theater and Westward expansion. Of 622 pages, almost one-third are notes and index. The short twelve page index states "Owing to limitations of space, not all names in the text are in the index". It's not the "limitations of space", it's the number of names. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Misunderstood Von Ein KundeWhat my fellow reviews fail to realize is that this book's importance does not lie in the Dismal Swamp Company. Royster has woven a narrative that not only describes the economic climate in which America's elite lived, but also demonstrates that without the support of overseas investors our nation would not have been able to expand as quickly as it did. Granted, the Dismal Swamp Company represents a clear failure, but look at the investors. Prominent Englishman and Virginian planters poured money into this financial black hole. Why? For decades it returned little, if any, profit. The reason they kept investing was the belief that they could make something out of a most inhospitable plot of marshland. In short, do not get bogged down in all the names and places. Instead, think about the overall meaning of what you read. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This is serious history, not a swashbuckler by Wilbur Smith Von S. Anderson After reading the previous reviews I almost didn't purchase this book. But because I had read and enjoyed Prof. Royster's book on "Light-Horse Harry" Lee and I'm interested in colonial Virginia, I gave it a try. Charles Royster is The Boyd Professor of history at LSU, the recipient of the Bancroft and Lincoln Prizes and the Sydnor Award. Did I find this book "Highly captivating and intriguing"? No. (Don't expect some Wilbur Smith swashbuckler laced with pirates and gratuitous sex.) Did I find the book very readable, informative, well-researched, thought-provoking and would I recommend it to American history enthusiasts? Definitely.

Kurzbeschreibung From historian Charles Royster--winner of the Francis Parkman, Bancroft, and Lincoln prizes--comes the history of one of eighteenth-century America's most fantastic land speculation deals: William Byrd's scheme to develop 900 square miles of swamp on the Virginia-North Carolina border and create fabulous wealth for himself and other shareholders, including George Washington. Royster scrupulously follows the paper trail through the byways of transatlantic deal-cutting, providing a rare view of early American economic culture. Elegantly written and impressively researched, *The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company* is an eye-opening account of greed, folly, and venture capitalism in the revolutionary era. From the Trade Paperback edition.. de *The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company* begins, appropriately, amidst a time of extraordinary popular delusions. The mania surrounding the Mississippi Company and the South Sea Bubble was just properly breaking around 1720, leaving countless speculators broken and penniless. But any lessons to be learned from these legendary schemes seem lost on the principals of Charles Royster's historical epic, including such august figures as George Washington and Virginia's William Byrd. They--apparently like all other men of means at the time--were driven to convert the vast tracts of America into cold, hard cash. Speculation on land, along with the various ventures intended to exploit it profitably, is the central theme to Royster's interconnected patchwork of stories that spans some hundred years and sprawls the better part of the globe. Nearly all these tales relate to, if sometimes obliquely, a particular company and the men (including a young George Washington) who founded it to "save" the impassable, frog-infested marsh on the Virginia-North Carolina border known as the Great Dismal Swamp. (Never mind that local folk thought of it as "a low sunken morass, not fit for any of the purposes of Agriculture.") Fortunately, Royster, an accomplished historian and author of the Francis Parkman Prize-winning *A Revolutionary People at War*, had more luck getting something valuable out of the Dismal Swamp than his Colonial predecessors. His richly detailed, circuitous saga makes for dense, satisfying reading. --Paul Hughes.com *The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company* begins, appropriately, amidst a time of extraordinary popular delusions. The mania surrounding the Mississippi Company and the South Sea Bubble was just properly breaking around 1720, leaving countless speculators broken and penniless. But any lessons to be learned from these legendary schemes seem lost on the principals of Charles Royster's historical epic, including such august figures as George Washington and Virginia's William Byrd. They--apparently like all other men of means at the time--were driven to convert the vast tracts of America into cold, hard cash. Speculation on land, along with the various ventures intended to exploit it profitably, is the central theme to Royster's interconnected patchwork of stories that spans some hundred years and sprawls the better part of the globe. Nearly all these tales relate to, if sometimes obliquely, a particular company and the men (including a young George Washington) who founded it to "save" the impassable, frog-infested marsh on the Virginia-North Carolina border known as the Great Dismal Swamp. (Never mind that local folk thought of it as "a low sunken morass, not fit for any of the purposes of Agriculture.") Fortunately,

Royster, an accomplished historian and author of the Francis Parkman Prize-winning *A Revolutionary People at War*, had more luck getting something valuable out of the Dismal Swamp than his Colonial predecessors. His richly detailed, circuitous saga makes for dense, satisfying reading. --Paul Hughes