

American History's "General George"

Watch this 43 min Video
in conjunction with this prose by
Mark Rockefeller entitled "General George" :
George Washington Documentary - Biography of the Life of George Washington

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WBIGI61oxnA>

"General George"

He was a boy born in Virginia and
He longed for a reputation.
And adventure and swimming
He learned the basics from friend and family
Spent 10 years on the Rappahannock River¹
Fredericksburg was near to there
He excelled in math and became a civil engineer
then he became a professional surveyor.
Before he was 16, he was making money in this profession
He learned social graces, dancing, fencing,
Fox hunting, appropriately acting, speaking and dressing.

When his older brother, Lawrence, passed on
He was given his military position,
His rank was major.
Virginia was progressing rapidly West
Untamed land full of American Indian's and French
Yes, The Father of the United States of America,
At one time fought for the Britain Empire!
He became commander of Virginia's entire military,
With an Army of a few hundred strong.
He was supposed to protect a frontier 350 miles long,
He acquired skills in commanding men,
They took control of the Ohio Forks again.

When Pittsburg was safe and secure,
We had the end of the French and Indian War.
Washington thought he was slighted by England,
They hardly acknowledged hard work he had done.
Then General George married a wealthy widow,
With lots of money and lots of land,
This mansion & farm found in Mt. Vernon,
Martha already had two children, he raised them as his own.
The next 26 years Washington farmed and became an entrepreneur,
Experimented with new crops, fertilizers, tools and breeding livestock.

He no longer raised tobacco it ruined the soil
And because of England it was not very profitable.
His plantation expanded and engaged in flour milling.
And Chesapeake Bay commercial fishing.
His success with flour lead to a Southern Mediterranean Market.
His hard work resulted in growth of his mansion.

¹ [The Rappahannock River in eastern Virginia is the country's longest free-flowing river in the eastern United States, running for approximately 184 miles.]

<https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/index.aspx?nid=210>

Plus, lots more land up to 8,000 acres,
He also operated a huge distillery 11,000 gallons of rye whiskey.
George Washington and slavery in Virginia,
Slaves were accepted and legal.
After the Revolutionary War he changed his view,
He had free Blacks and slaves fight in that war.
He was one of the few Southern founding Fathers that opposed slavery,
But Washington got disenchanted with England; and all the taxes,
Interfered with Freedom of the colonist
When he heard about the Boston Tea Party Washington stepped up,
'You can count on me, If need be'.
He tried to conquer New York but he had far fewer troops,
And they were less trained and because of the mighty English Navy, he was humiliated.

He regrouped and tried again — another humiliating defeat.
Then he went to White Plains where he had another great loss.
Washington withdrew to Pennsylvania with his 2,800 men.
The English had every good reason to believe
the Colonists would surrender in a few months.

Rather than be conquered and become English subjects,
Then Washington made a gutsy move,
on Christmas day he crossed the Delaware River,
And conquered Fort Trenton, and
Then he re-crossed the River to capture the Fort at Princeton.
Then a French General Comte-de-Rochambeau offered help and new hope
They thought maybe of attacking New York again.

But they changed their mind it wouldn't work,
instead Washington marched South to Yorktown
And the French General put squeeze on them,
After Cornwall Surrendered the war was over.
But it wasn't until 2 years that the peace treaty
Would be signed on the colonist terms.
General George Washington could have declared himself King
Instead he went back to Mt. Vernon and his wife,

But America still needed him. Secretary of the Treasury, Hamilton,
Secretary of the State, Jefferson
Constitution: written by Madison,
Secretary of Defense, John Knox, after his first term
He thought he had established the new Republic on solid ground.

Jefferson talked him into staying another term,
There was a war in Europe Washington decided to stay neutral,
That America would do better spreading West
Northwest Indian tribes backed by The Brits
Had access to the Mississippi by the Spanish.

— Written by Mark Rockefeller

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