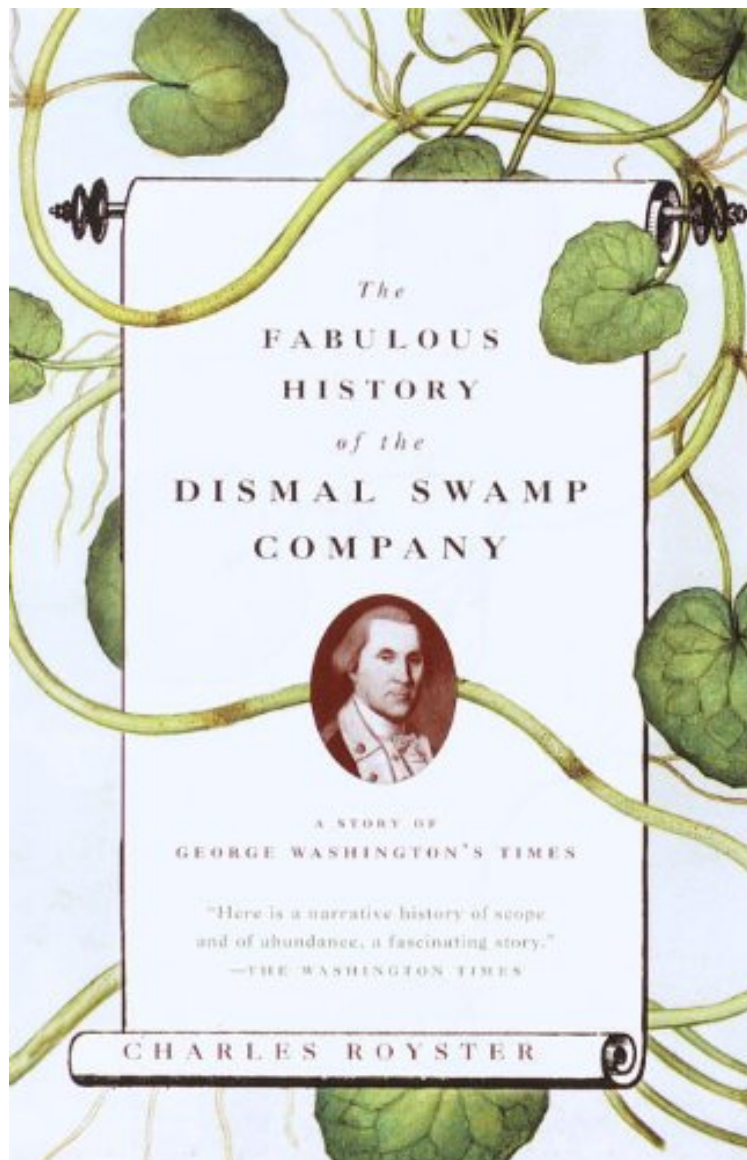


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The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company: A Story of George Washington's Times

Charles Royster

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lists of names, etc., etc., etc. While this was far from a compelling read, there were bits and pieces that I picked up that thoroughly entertained me. I certainly doubt that the general history reader would find this compelling, but I did enjoy reading about Lord Dunmore's reluctance to come to Virginia and, apparently, disagreeable personality and genuine enjoyment of liquid refreshment. I return to this book now and then for a quick refresher. However, I would not define it as a classic of historical literature. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. not so fabulous, but a good read. By Julia g k I found this book engaging and informative, although the stretches of text detailing who married who and purchased land from who were not pertinent to my research, the author did an excellent job exposing the interconnected web of wealth, influence, deception and greed around land speculation in America's early history. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent read. By History1585 This is an excellent book, however, not for the novice that may not already have a working knowledge of the subject, as it is complicated in reading, yet, it is a great piece of research material for someone that needs more than a simple overview of the history.

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.