

Guide to the Lord Fairfax land survey C0353

Lord Fairfax land survey

June 8, 1739



Title Statement

Guide to the Lord Fairfax land survey C0353

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

C0353

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/467

Unit Date

June 8, 1739

box

1 (folder)

Language

English

Abstract

A land survey performed on behalf of Lord Fairfax and written on June 8, 1739 by King George's County surveyor John Warner.

Creator

Fairfax family

Creator

Fairfax, Thomas Fairfax, Lord, 1693-1781

Extent

0.01 Linear Feet 1 folder

Physical Location

R 72, C 3, S 4

Repository

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions.

Use Restrictions

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Acquisition Information

The donor is unknown.

Processing Information

Processing completed by Amanda Brent in June 2019. EAD markup completed by Amanda Brent in June 2019. This collection used to be a part of the Virginia historical documents collection, C0034.

Preferred Citation

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Historical Information

Colonial land surveying in America was an activity generally performed for the purpose of transferring land ownership from the British Crown to private ownership. Surveyorship was a legitimate and respected trade and could be learned through apprenticeship, with much of its activities originating from land surveying of the British Isles. Successful land surveyors were accurate, precise, and detailed with their surveys. Basic surveying methods used many different kinds of surveying tools, but most popular was a tool called Gunter's Chain, which was in use in the United States for three hundred years. Surveyors and chainmen swore oaths to be fair and accurate when it came to performing the high-stakes task of land surveying. The trade has never waned and continues into the modern day, albeit with up-to-date land surveying technology.

Scope and Content

A land survey performed on behalf of Lord Fairfax and written on June 8, 1739 by King George's County surveyor John Warner, likely as a part of the "battle of the maps," which was an effort made by Lord Fairfax and other local Virginia families to lay official claim to parts of the Northern Neck of Virginia. Fairfax succeeded in 1745, thanks to Warner's surveys conducted at the behest of London's Privy Council.

A transcription of this collection is available upon request.

Related Material

The Special Collections Research Center also holds several other collections on historic Virginia.

Keywords

Fairfax County (Va.)
Fairfax County (Va.) -- History
Virginia -- History
Surveying

Alternative Form Available

This document was digitized and is available [here](#).

Bibliography

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Arrangement

This is a one item collection.