

334/D-42

A PRELIMINARY DOCUMENTARY  
REVIEW OF HISTORICAL  
NOTATIONS OF THE  
GREAT MEADOWS  
1740 - 1970

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Battlefield, Farmington,  
Pennsylvania, 1987.

SCANNED

5/15/01

### SCOPE OF SOURCES STATEMENT

In compiling this report I have attempted to draw primary materials from as many sources that were within easy reach of office and home. Because of this material was drawn from only two sources -- the Fort Necessity National Battlefield Park Library and files and from my own extensive private library and files. Since no official travel time was allotted to the project, several major bases of information were passed over that would have yielded other primary descriptions of the Great Meadow and surrounding mountain flora. Principal of the places not visited was: The Hillman Library at the University of Pittsburgh; the Darlington Collection at the University of Pittsburgh; and the Western Pennsylvania Historical Society Library. Undoubtedly the State Museum and Archives at Harrisburg would also be a place to find useful information. Perhaps long-range plans can be made to tap these sources? Regardless of such plans I am confident that enough material has at this time been gathered under this cover to allow the resource managers of Fort Necessity National Battlefield to begin a serious study -- scientific and historical -- of the area called "Great Meadows."

As a rule, only those primary accounts that contained mention of some physical condition of the Great Meadows and or area [Mountain] flora have been selected for inclusion in this study. In only one or two instances did I deviate from this practice and then only because the citation was descriptive of some condition relevant to a general study of the Great Meadows. The same rule has generally guided my selection of period maps and illustrations for this study.

Believing that there are many other primary descriptions that could eventually be added to this study, I have purposely arranged all materials chronologically and have not numbered the completed report at this time. This will hopefully allow for the easier insertion of additional materials as found.

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### PROJECT ABSTRACT

The purpose of this report is to gather under one cover all known primary and or contemporary notations, 1740-1970, of an area historically called the " GREAT MEADOWS " or " the MEADOWS." The Meadows are located in present-day Wharton Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. More specifically, they compose a major portion of lands now owned and administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service under title of Fort Necessity National Battlefield. Historically the Meadows are most closely associated as the site upon which George Washington constructed a small fortified position known as Fort Necessity in the year 1754. At this site on July 3rd, 1754 was fought the opening engagement of the last of a series of American Colonial Wars for empire between England and France, The French and Indian War.

Recently, those responsible for the management of the park's natural resources have expressed a desire to initiate a long-term project aimed at redesigning the natural setting, now prevalent, to make all more closely resemble that of the year 1754. As a first step toward this end, the present report has been drafted. Hopefully the material gathered will after careful study by the park's Natural Resource Managers allow them to determine how best to continue such a project.

Materials collected have been arranged in chronological order. From such an arrangement it should be easy for planners to follow the natural and historic changes that have occurred to the area called "GREAT MEADOWS."

PRIMARY  
NOTATIONS OF THE  
GREAT MEADOWS  
1740 - 1970

1751 - Christopher Gist as a scout and explorer for the Ohio Company describes the land, plants, etc. through which he travels:

"Pursuant to my Instructions, from the Committee of the Ohio Company bearing date July 16th 1751."  
November --

"Saturday 9th to Tuesday 19th We were employed in searching the Lands, and discovering the Branches [ Creeks &c. ]."

"Thursday 21st The same course 5m -- greatest part of this day, We were cutting our way thro' a Laurel thicket, and lodged by the side of one at night."

NOTE: It is believed that during the above period that Gist visited the Great Meadow.

"Friday 22d Set out the same course N45<sup>d</sup>W2m -- and cut our way through a great Laurel thicket to the middle fork of Youghiogeni then S. down the said fork crossing a Run 1m -- then S45<sup>d</sup>W.2m -- over the [ said ] Fork where we encamped."

page 122.

"Saturday 30th to Friday December 6th We searched the Land several miles round, and found it [ about ] 15m -- from the foot of the Mountains to the River Monaugahela, the first five miles of which E. & W. is good level farming Land, with fine Meadows; The Timber White Oak, and Hicory. The same body of Land holds ten miles S, to the upper Forks of Monaugahela, and about ten miles North towards the mouth of Youghiogeni; [ The Land ] nearer the River for about eight or nine miles wide and the same length is much richer, and better timbered, with Walnuts, Locusts, Poplars, and Sugar trees; but is in some places very hilly

the Bottoms upon the River one mile and some places near two miles wide."

NOTE: The first half of the above notation (Nov. 30-Dec. 6) is descriptive of what Gist saw in and near Wharton Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. It is presumed that he also visited the Great Meadows at this time. The remainder of the citation is descriptive of the area between South Union Township and the town of Point Marion. The junction of the Cheat and Monongahela Rivers at Point Marion, Pennsylvania, was known in early times as the upper forks of the Monongahela.

page 123,

Source: George Mercer Papers Relating To The Ohio Company Of Virginia, comp. and ed. by Lois Mulkearn, Pittsburgh, 1954. See "Christopher Gist's Second Journal, July 16, 1751 - March 29, 1752." Consult the Table of Contents for various copies of this journal and extracts from reprinted.

1754 - George Washington as Lieutenant-Colonel commanding an advance party of the Virginia Provincial Regiment heading for the Ohio River Valley. He decides to set-up a camp at the Great Meadows:

May

"The 24th,.....The same Day at Two o'Clock, we arrived at the Meadows,.....Wherefore I placed Troops behind two natural Intrenchments, where our Waggon also entered."

Source: The Diaries of George Washington, ed. by Donald Jackson, 6 Volumes, Charlottesville, 1976-1980.  
Volume 1 pages 191-192.

See also:

Contrecoeur's Copy of George Washington's Journal for 1754, ed. by Donald H. Kent, Harrisburg, 1952, page 23.

The Olden Time, ed. by Neville B. Craig, 2 Volumes, Cincinnati, 1876. Volume 2 reprints the rare pamphlet A Memorial containing a summary view of facts.....  
Translated from the French, New York, H. Gaine, 1757.  
See page 199.

Extract of a letter from George Washington to Governor Robert Dinwiddie of Virginia dated "Gt Meadows 27th May 1754." He describes the movements of his force and events that have brought him to the Great Meadow and what has transpired since his arrival there:

"....This acct was seconded in the Evening by another that the French were at the ring of Yaughyaughane abt 18 Miles

-- I hereupon hurried to this place as a convenient spott. We have with Natures assistance made a good Intrenchment and by clearing the Bushes out of these Meadows prepar'd a charming field for an Encounter -- ..."

Page 105.

Washington, in later life -- 1786, reminiscing about the Battle of Fort Necessity. In particular, he recalls how the French force was positioned:

"About 9 Oclock on the 3d of July the Enemy advanced..... They then, from every little rising -- tree -- stump -- Stone -- and bush kept up a constant galding fire upon us;"

Page 172.

Source: The Papers of George Washington, Colonial Series Volume 1 1748 - August 1755, ed. by W.W. Abbot, Charlottesville, 1983.

Washington's official account of the battle dated "Williamsburg, July 19, 1754" notes that the French:

"...advanced in a very irregular Manner to another Point of Woods, about 60 Yards off, and from thence made a second Discharge;..."

Source: New Light On Washington's Fort Necessity, by J.C. Harrington, Richmond, 1957. See page 65.

1754 - Captain Louis Coulon de Villiers, Commander of the French force that attacked Fort Necessity:

".....I gave order to my troops to advance.....We then set ourselves about investing the fort: it was advantageously enough situated in a meadow, the wood of which was within musket shot of it."

Source: George Washington in the Ohio Valley, ed. by Hugh Cleland, Pittsburgh, 1955. Pages 108-111 contain an extract from the journal kept by de Villiers during the Campaign of 1754.

Note: "...within musket shot..." translates to the average effective range of a musket shot. The range at which an expended ball had a chance of actually hitting a target. This would be roughly a distance of 60 to 75 yards.

1755 - Captain Francis Peyton of the Virginia Provincial Regiment, serving as an adjutant officer Lieutenant-Colonel Ralph Burton of the British 48th Regiment of Foot.

Extract of a letter by Captain Peyton to his mother written while on the march with Braddock's Army:

"Monaktuca Camp, 6th July, 1755."

"Every mile of our march was now bringing us rapidly into their Country, and into the midst of them; and during the next night we came upon another of their camps, where fires were still burning. Here also were trees stripped by the French, and many insolent sentences written or carved upon the stems, and some drawings were made of the scalps of our men who had been killed two days before. After quitting that camp we came upon a more open country, and our roads were less difficult, for there was no undergrowth. Those woods were composed chiefly of white oak timber, in place of the chestnuts and laurels which covered the ridge we had cut our way through."

Source: Francis Peyton, "Capt. Francis Peyton's Letters To His Mother 1755," The Glades Star (1947), pp. 241-242.

1755 - Unknown Batman (military servant) attached to Captain Robert Cholmley 48th Regiment of Foot. Describes the Great Meadow:

"Wedensday June the 25th.....This day we marched Eight miles and Marched a Crosa the large Meadows, it being a Mile long and two hundred yards Broad."

Source: Braddock's Defeat, ed. by Charles Hamilton, Norman, 1959. "The Journal of Captain Robert Cholmley's Batman" page 23.

1755 - Unknown British Officer with Braddock's Army. Describes the army's crossing of the Great Meadow:

"Wednesday ye 25th. We marched about two Mile the other side ye great Meadows. It was strongly imagined if we met with any opposition, ye Meadows would be ye place; but we marched through without any Molestation or alarm. There are about 150 Acres of Meadow-land entirely clear. In ye middle of this spot is Fort Necessity; built by Mr. Washin/g/ton last Year when he retreated from the French; it was a small foursided figure, with a trench dug round it; they had some very good Swivells wch; when they retreated from thence, the french entirely disabled, but left them in the ditch. There are many human bones all round ye spott; but at present every thing is entirely pulled down."

Source: Braddock's Defeat, ed. by Charles Hamilton, Norman, 1959. "The Journal of a British Officer" page 45.

1758 - Lt. Colonel Adam Stephen of the Virginia Provincial Regiment. Stephen had served with Washington at the Battle of Fort Necessity on July 3rd, 1754:

"Remarks upon Braddocks Road from Fort Gumb: to the foot of

the Allegheny 10 M -- good Pasturage  
To the next Incamp Savage Riv. 5 M. Nothing but Lawnes  
Bad Roads

To the Little meadows 5 m.  
Good Pastures  
none upon the

To Bears Camp 12 -- Road. Pasture  
below tolerable

To the great Crossing of Yoghioh: 8 -- Indiff. Pasturage

To the great Meadows 12 -- very good Past:  
no P. in the Way

To Gist house 12 --  
good there"

Source: The Papers of Henry Bouquet, The Forbes Expedition,  
ed. by S.K. Stevens, Donald H. Kent, Autumn L.  
Leonard, 5 Vols., Harrisburg, 1951-1984. See  
Volume 2 page 654 "Memorandum On Braddock's Road."

"25th.--Proceed'd today to a Bottom upon Redstone Creek, about 9 miles from Guest's Place.....In this Bottom grows plenty of Clover, & I found some pieces of Stone Coal that burns well."

Pages 417-418.

On the return trip to Cumberland:

September

"11th.--Set off this morning & abot noon came to Youghy & soon on ye Road. About three miles below Guest's Place came up with ye wagons, betwixt Dunbar's encampment & ye Meadows, where I understood they had put some of ye bundles into ye King's wagons informing that some were wet in ye river. I made them stop by ye Meadows & spred ye skins to dry that were wet, one bundle of Bear skins being almost rotten 10 of which was so rotten I cast away....."

"12th.--This day we stop'd by ye Great Meadows & I followed ye King's wagons."

Page 443.

Source: John W. Jordan, ed., "James Kenny's Journal To Ye Westward 1758-59," Pennsylvania Magazine Of History And Biography (1913), 395-431.

1759 - Colonel James Burd while in charge of an armed party of men charged with clearing and improving the Braddock Road:

"10th Sept. saw Colonel Washington's Fort which was called Fort Necessity. It is a small circular stockade with a small house in the center; on the outside there is a small ditch goes around it, about eight yards from the stockade. It is situated in a narrow part of the meadows commanded by three points of woods. There is a small run of water just by it. We saw two iron swivels."

Source: Extract from original letters and papers of Colonel James Burd cited in Fort Necessity and Historic Shrines of the Redstone Country, by The Fort Necessity Chapter, Pennsylvania Society Of The Sons Of The American Revolution, Uniontown, 1932. Page 30.

1759 - James Kenny while delivering Indian trade goods and certain other items to Fort Pitt:

April

"20th.--It Rained a good deal in ye night & this morning, but abating awhile we got up ye horses & loaded them, covering each load. It rained smartly whilst we were loading, but I was for getting over ye Big Youghogany least it should rise too high for us; but we got over safe, one blanket falling off as we crossed & it floating down about 40 perches one of ye drivers Thomas Mercer stripped all off & waided up to his armpits & brought it out, & so we encamped near ye river upon a little creek-side, as there was no more good pasture until we go to ye Great Meadows. This evening James Hammons & John Mickle killed a bear, which is good eating."

"21st.--Proceeded to ye Great Meadows. Three of ye creatures gave out about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of ye way, but I tarried behind & brought them along. Put two loads on my own horse, so got them all to ye Meadows, where is good pasture. One of them belonging to William Underwood died in ye night; he could not swallow grass when he chewed it, but put it out."

"22d.--Cristy Miller killed two Turkey cocks this morning. Its concluded to lie by here today to let ye creatures rest & feed or else we cannot get ye goods to Redstone Creek, as all of them are loaded."

"23d.--As ye pasture is so good here, I think it prudent to let ye horses stay here this day also, as we cannot get all ye loads along without ye horses that failed last Seventh day & must carry ye dead horses loads also amongst them, & as these two days is fine weather, it is some mortification to me to wait....."

"24th.--Set off this morning & came to Guest's Place & met an express going to Cumberland...."

1762 - Lieutenant-Colonel William Eyre 44th Regiment of Foot.  
General observations made while serving as an engineer  
officer. From 1759-1764 he served as "Chief Engineer  
for the Department of New York." In this capacity he  
made numerous trips to the British western posts and  
territory.

"1st April set off from Fort Pitt in a Barge, up the  
Monongehala, and that Evening reach'd the second  
Crossing of this River by General Braddock near which  
Place he was defeated. This is thirteen Miles from  
the Fort, and the second Day, got up the River within  
nineteen Miles of Red Stone Creek, where [there] is  
a small Fort called Fort Bird, upon a Hill, made of  
Stockades. I got to this Place the 3d. and it is about  
sixty Miles up the River from Fort Pitt, and the  
Stream very gentle all the Way. In great Freshes it  
runs pretty strong. However upon the whole at all Sea-  
sons, it is very navigable River for Battoes. There  
are high Hills on each Side, and the Soil up to the  
Top of them extreamly rich, and what appeared to me  
very singular, that I observ'd every where after I  
pass'd the Chestnut Hill between that and the Ohio,  
the Tops of the Hills were the richest, no garden mold  
can be more luxuriant. This River I am told is navigable  
for Battoes or Canoes one hundred Miles higher up. Some  
say more but I fancy this is but at some Seasons in the  
Summer or only with Canoes, and I am told also the Land  
is rather better the farther one goes up the River. The  
Country its said, on each Side is pretty level. 4th Left  
Fort Bird, and got as far as where General Braddock's  
Grave is, about twenty or twenty four Miles. The Road  
thus far is pretty good, the Country only hilly and I  
left Guests House four Miles upon my left Hand, close to  
which General Braddocks Road pass'd. I cross'd what is

call'd the Laurel Hill, before I reach'd the Grave which is pretty steep on the East Side, tho' not so on the other, but they are both stoney. After I got on the East Side of this Hill, I fell in with General Braddocks Road. The 5th came to the great Crossings. The Road all the Way [was] very bad both wet and rocky, and very much out of Repair, particularly the Bridges, and Numbers of fallen Trees across the Road. The Country thro' which I came this Day [was] much worse than that of yesterday, and more mountainous. The great Meadows as they are call'd, seem'd to me to be not more than thirty or forty Acres, made famous by the Loss that Colo. Washington sustain'd, when he was attack'd in his Fort by the French and Indians. This Place is about one Mile nearer to Fort Cumberland than where General Braddock was buried. This Distance between General Braddocks Grave and the Crossings is nineteen or twenty Miles..."

pages 47-48.

An earlier notation made by Eyre may also be of some general interest:

"26th [March] Came to Bushy Run, thirty five Miles from Fort Ligonier. Five Miles from Fort Ligonier is the Chesnut Ridge. The Country is very hilly pretty much, as it is described from the three Ridges to Stony Creek. This Hill is pretty steep, and stony, but not near so bad as Laurell Hill. After one crosses this Hill which is four Miles over, you get into a more level Country tho hilly, but the Land [is] exceeding good, and continues so all the Way to Bushy Run. The Timber [is] very fine, lofty, and chiefly black and white Oak, with a good Deal of Chesnut, and the Valleys between these little Hills, would afford fine Meadows....."

pages 44-45.

Note: The area described near Bushy Run is near modern-day Jeanette, Pennsylvania. Located about 45 miles north and to the west of the Great Meadow.

Source: Frances R. Reece, ed., "Colonel Byre's Journal Of His Trip From New York To Pittsburgh, 1762," Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine 27 (March-June 1949 ) 37-50.

1770 - George Washington during a tour of western lands --  
Pennsylvania and Ohio:

October

"13. Set out about Sunrise, breakfasted at the Great Meadows  
13 Miles of, & reachd Captn. Crawfords about 5 Oclock.

The Lands we travelld over to day till we had crossd the  
Laurel Hill (except in smal spots) was very Mountainous &  
indifferent -- but when we came down the Hill to the Plan-  
tation of Mr. Thos. Gist the L<sup>and</sup> appeard charming;  
that which lay level being as rich & black as any thing coud  
possibly be. The more Hilly kind, tho of a different com-  
plexion must be good, as well from the Crops it produces, as  
from the beautiful white Oaks that grows thereon. The white  
Oak in generl. indicates poor Land, yet this does not ap-  
pear to oe of that cold kind. The Land from Gists to Craw-  
fords is very broken tho not Mountainous -- in Spots exced-  
ing Rich, & in general free from Stone. Crawfords is very  
fine Land; lying on Yaughyaughane at a place commonly call-  
ed Stewards Crossing."

Source: The Diaries of George Washington, ed. by Donald  
Jackson, 6 Volumes, Charlottesville, 1976-1980.  
Volume 2 page 289.

1775 - Nicholas Cresswell an English gentleman passes through the Great Meadows during a tour of the mid-Atlantic Colonies in America:

"Saturday, April 8th, 1775.....Crossed the Knobby Mountain. ....This is the worst road I ever saw, large rocks and bogs. Crossed the Savage Mountain and through the Shades of Death. This is one of the most dismal places I ever saw. The lofty Pines obscure the Sun, and the thick Laurels are like a Hedge on each side, the Road is very narrow and full of large stones and bogs. I measured a Pine that was blown down, 130 ft. long. Camped about 2 miles west of the Shades. 28m. Sunday, April 9th, 1775. Crossed the Little Meadow Mountain, supposed to be the highest part of the Appalachian or Allegany Mountain. The waters begin to fall to the westward. Crossed the Negro Mountain and the winding ridge. Crossed the line between Maryland and Pennsylvania. It is cut through the woods in a west course from some part of Delaware Bay about 20 yards wide. It is on the top of the winding ridge. Crossed the Yaughaganey River at the Begg crossings. Camped 2 miles west of it. Shot some Pheasants, which have made a good supper.

Monday, April 10th, 1775. Crossed the Fallen Timbers. Occasioned by a violent gust of wind from the east. The Trees are either torn up by the roots or broke off near the ground. Some Oaks 2 foot diameter are broke off and the tops carried to a considerable distance. Scarcely one tree left standing. I am told it continues 100 Miles in a west course and about a mile broad. Dined at the Great Meadows, a large marshy place clear of trees. Saw the vestiges of Fort Necessity. This was a small picketed Fort built by Colnl. Washington in the year 1754. About a mile to the westward of this Fort, General Braddock is buried at a small Run. They tell me he was buried in the middle of the road to prevent the Indians digging up his body. Crossed

the Laurel Mountain. Saw the place where Colonel Dunbar was encamped when he received the news of General Braddock's defeat in 1755. Great quantities of broken Bombshells, cannon, bullets, and other military stores scattered in the woods. This is called the Laurel Mountain from the great quantities of Laurel that grow upon it. A most delightful prospect of the country to the westward of it..... Much fatigued this evening. Heavy rain most part of the day."

Source: The Journal of Nicholas Cresswell 1774-1777, ed. by Samuel Thornely, London, 1925, pages 62-63.

1776 - Thomas Pownall as an explorer, geographer, and cartographer, his notations based on his own observations and the accounts of others:

Some general remarks on trees in North America:

"....The particular Kind of Tree which grows in each Tract is always determined by the peculiar Soil or Nidus which is suited to produce it in Preference to other Species. This does not exclude other Species also from growing at the same Time, but some one Species always predominates in each Tract; the Soil therefore is best known and always described by the European Settlers from its peculiar Vegetation, as Oak Land, Birch, Beech, or Chestnut Land; Pine-Barren, Maple Swamps, Gaedar Swamps, Walnut or Hickory, Firs, White and Red Elm, Magnolias, Locusts, Sassafras, and various other Trees are mixed with all these."

Page 24.

In describing the area in and around the Great Meadows, Pownall decided to use that already printed by explorer Christopher Gist in 1751. "I extract it from the Journal of a second Tour made by Mr. Gist in 1761 [1751], for the express Purpose of examining those Lands."

"....To begin with the Youghiogeny and its Branches: The Valleys on the Branches or Springs which form the Middle Forks, are but narrow at its Head; but there are about 2000 Acres of good farming Land on the Hills about the largest Branch. As one approaches Lawrel-hill, the Undergrowth towards and over this Hill is so abundant in Lawrel Thickets that the Traveller must cut his Way through them: The Lands of the Country through which the Youghiogeny runs are broken and stony, but rich and well timbered; in

some Parts, as on a Creek called Lawrel Creek, rocky and mountainous."

"....From the Mountains to Monongahela, about 15 Miles in the Line of Gist's Rout, the first Five Miles are good level farming Land with fine Meadows; the Timber White Oak and Hickory. The same Kind of Land holds South to the upper Branches or Forks of this River 10 Miles, and about the same Distance North to where the Youghiogeny falls into it, the Lands for about Eight Miles along the same Course of the River on each Side, though hilly, are richer and better timbered; the Growth Walnuts, Locust, Poplars, the Sugar Trees or Sweet Maple. The Bottoms or Intervals by the River Side are about One Mile wide, in some Places Two Miles. For several Miles more down the River on the East Side the Intervals are very rich, and a Mile wide: The Upland, which he examined for Eight or 10 Miles East, extraordinary rich and well timbered. The Intervals on the West Side are not above 100 Yards wide; the Upland on this Side the River, both up and down it, rich Soil and full of the Sugar Tree."

Pages 122-123.

Pownall continues with another description of the Great Meadow area. This time he depends upon extracts from Lewis Evans' A Brief Account of Pennsylvania 1749 [?]:

"From Will's Creek the Ground is very stony for the greater Part of the Allegeny Mountain; but not so much so from the Shawane Fields. The Mountain, though pretty stony, may have a good Waggon Road made over it. On the North West Side of this Chain of Hills there is all along a great Deal of swampy Ground, which is a considerable Obstruction to a direct Passage; but yet manageable by taking some little Compass round. From this Westward you cross Two Branches of Youghiogani: the greater, which is the most Westerly, at

Three Miles above the Joining of the Three Forks, or Turkey Foot. And the Three Forks are Three Miles above the Laurel Hill, through which Youghiogani precipitates by a great Fall of near Thirty Feet, and continues to run with great Rapidity for Two or Three Miles further. At this Time to go from the Crossing to Youghiogani below the Falls, they are obliged to go by the Meadows, there cross Laurel Hill, and return again Northward, and by that Means take near Thirty Miles to reach the navigable Water of this River; whereas if a Road could be made near the Fall, Fifteen or Twenty Miles might be saved in the Way to Fort du Quesne. There is a good Ford through Youghiogani, and the Ground all the Way good and sound; and a Road may easily be made along it. Laurel Hill, though small, is a Ridge very hard to cross, by reason of its Steepness; but at the Meadows is the best Pass we know of yet towards Virginia; there a Waggon, which would require four Horses to travel with, may be drawn up by Six. Probably a Pass may also be found for Wheel Carriages to the North of the Falls; and if there should, it would much improve the Portage between Poto-mack and Youghiogani, and reduce it to Fifty Miles, whereas it is now but little short of Seventy."

Pages 133-134.

Source: A Topographical Description Of The Dominions Of The United States Of America, Being A Revised and Enlarged Edition of A Topographical Description of Such Parts of North America as are Contained in The (Annexed) Map of the Middle British Colonies, &c. in North America, by T. Pownall, 1784, edited by Lois Mulkearn, Pittsburgh, 1949.

1778 - Thomas Hutchins a Captain in the British 60th Regiment of Foot, Engineer Officer, Geographer, and Mapmaker describes southwestern Pennsylvania from personal observations and after comparing notes with long-time resident Christopher Gist:

"The lands lying on a westerly line, between the Laurel Mountain and the Allegheny River, and thence northerly up that River for 150 miles, on both sides of the same, tho' not much broken with high mountains, are not of the same excellent quality with the lands to the southward of Fort Pitt. They consist chiefly of White Oak, and Chesnut ridges; and in many places of poor Pitch Pines, interspersed with tracts of good land; and low meadow grounds.

The lands comprehended between the River Ohio, at Fort Pitt, and the Laurel Mountain, and thence continuing the same breadth from Fort Pitt to the Great Kanhawa River, may, according to my own observations, and those of the late Mr. Gist, of Virginia, be generally, and justly described as follows.

The vallies adjoining to the branches or springs of the middle forks of Youghiogeny, are narrow towards its source, -- but there is a considerable quantity of good farming grounds on the hills, near the largest branch of that River. -- The lands within a small distance of the Laurel Mountain (through which the Youghiogeny runs) are in many places broken and stoney, but rich and well timbered; and in some places, and particularly on Laurel Creek, they are rocky and mountainous.

From the Laurel Mountain, to Monongahela, the first seven miles are good, level farming grounds, with fine meadows; the timber, white Oak, Chesnut, Hickory, &c. -- The same kind of land continues southerly (12 miles) to the upper branches or forks of this River, and about 15 miles northerly to the place where the Youghiogeny falls into the Monon-

gahela. -- The lands, for about 18 miles in the same Course of the last-mentioned River, on each side of it, tho' hilly, are rich and well timbered. -- The trees are Walnut, Locust, Chesnut, Poplar, and Sugar or sweet Maple. -- The low lands, near the River, are about a mile, and in several places two miles wide. -- For a considerable way down the River, on the eastern side of it, the intervals are extremely rich, and about a mile wide. The Upland for about 12 miles eastwardly, are uncommonly fertile, and well timbered; -- the low lands, on the western side, are narrow; but the Uplands, on the eastern side of the River, both up and down, are excellent, and covered with Sugar trees, &c.

Such parts of the country which lie on some of the branches of the Monongahela, and across the heads of several Rivers, that run into the Ohio, tho' in general hilly, are exceedingly fruitful and well watered. -- The timber is Walnut, Chesnut, Ash, Oak, Sugar trees, &c. -- and the interval or meadow lands are from 250 yards to a quarter of a mile wide."

Source: A Topographical Description Of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, And North Carolina, by Thomas Hutchins, reprinted from the original edition of 1778 (London), edited by Frederick Charles Hicks, Cleveland, 1904, pages 73-75.

1784 - George Washington during a tour of western lands:

September

"12th. Left Daughertys about 6 Oclock stopped a while at the Great Meadows, and viewed a tenament I have there, which appears to have been but little improved, tho capable of being turned to great advantage, as the whole of the ground called the Meadows may be reclaimed at an easy comparative expence & is a very good stand for a Tavern. Much Hay may be cut here when the ground is laid down in Grass & the upland, East of the Meadow, is good for grain."

Source: The Diaries of George Washington, ed. by Donald Jackson, 6 Volumes, Charlottesville, 1976-1980.  
Volume 4 page 18.

An extract of a letter by George Washington to his new land agent Thomas Freeman concerning the status of various parcels of land that he [Washington] owns in western Pennsylvania:

"September 23, 1784.

.....My tract at the Great Meadows may be rented for the most you can get, for the term of ten years: there is a house on the premises, arable land in culture, and meadow inclosed; much of the latter may be reclaimed at a very moderate expence; which, and its being an excellent stand for an Innkeeper, must render it valuable."

Source: The Writings Of George Washington 1745-1799, ed. by John C. Fitzpatrick, 39 Volumes, Washington, D.C.,

1932-1941. Volume 27 page 469.

1802 - F.A. Michaux, a French traveler in America. A general observation while passing through western Pennsylvania:

"The sugar-maple is very common in every part of Pennsylvania which the Monongahela and Alleghany water. This tree thrives most in cold, wet, and mountainous countries, and its seed is always more abundant when the winter is most severe. The sugar extracted from it is generally very coarse, and is sold, after having been prepared in loaves of six, eight, and ten pounds each, at the rate of seven-pence per pound. The inhabitants manufacture none but for their own use;..."

Source: Early Western Travels 1748 - 1846, ed. by Reuben G. Thwaites, 32 Vols., Cleveland, 1904. Volume page 163.

1816 - Freeman Lewis a surveyor from Uniontown visits the Great Meadow:

"....in 1816, the senior author [Lewis] of these sketches made a regular survey of it with compass and chain. The accompanying engraving exhibits its form and proportions [see illustrations]. As thereby shown, it was in the form of an obtuse angled triangle of 105 degrees, having its base or hypotenuse upon the run. The line of the base was, about midway, sected or broken, and about two perches of it thrown across the run, connecting with the base by lines of about the same length nearly perpendicular to the opposite lines of the triangle. One line of the angle was six, the other seven perches; the base line eleven perches long, including the section thrown across the run. The lines embraced in all about fifty square perches of land, or nearly one-third of an acre. The embankments then (1816), were nearly three feet above the level of the Meadow. The outside "trenches," (in which Captain Mackay's men were stationed when the fight began, but from which they were flooded out), were filled up. But inside the lines were ditches or excavations, about two feet deep, formed by throwing the earth up against the palisades. There were then no traces of "bastions," at the angles or entrances. The junctions of the Meadow, or glade, with the wooded upland, were distant from the fort on the south-east about 80 yards,-- on the north about 200 yards, and on the south about 250. North-westward in the direction of the Turnpike road, the slope was a-very regular and gradual rise to the high ground, which is about 400 yards distant. From this eminence the enemy began the attack, but afterwards took position on the east and south-east, nearer the fort."

Source: The Monongahela Of Old, by James Veech, Pittsburgh, 1910, page 53.

Freeman Lewis also produced an illustrated survey during the same visit. A notation at the bottom of his original drawing (see Illustrations attached to this report for a copy) provides the following information:

"...The embankment 21 Oct. 1816 was more 3 Feet above the level of the meadow land and the ditches from one to 2 Feet below the same, the wood land on the S.E. side 12 to 15 rods distant on the north 30 to 40 rods; on the south 50 rods or more and on the west a very gradual rise where the road or trail, passed along, 50 or 60 rods distant --- the Flat land on both sides of the run clear meadow, except some swamps or clumps of alder bushes near the stream."

1820 - John Woods an Englishman traveling along the National Road:

July

"31st. We preceeded, by the turnpike road, up a valley of the mountains; the road good. As we ascended, we found vegetation much later; the blackberries not ripe, a little rye not cut, oats quite green, no wheat or Indian corn to be seen. A few gooseberry-bushes, no fruit on them; some strawberry-plants; I had noticed a few raspberry-bushes, the fruit small and hard, of a dark red colour. A great variety of wild flowers, almost all new to me. Much timber in the hollows of the mountains, oak, chesnut, and pine; the pines of an immense height. I measured one that was cut in making the turnpike; it was 102 feet to the broken top, and there it was seven inches in diameter. Some that were standing appeared much longer; I thought the highest, at least, 140 feet high. The oaks and chesnuds were also very high, but they grew too close together to be very large, but many of them might contain from 50 to 150 feet of solid timber. Many thousands of trees, that were cut for making the turnpike, lay rotting by the sides of it, besides the vast quantities of dead trees in the woods. This day only, we passed some thousand loads of timber, thus decaying. I believe I have seen more timber in this wasting state, than all the growing timber I ever saw in my life in England. We saw no heath on the mountains, nor have I ever seen or heard of any in America. ....In the evening, we arrived at Mr. Kimberley's tavern; here we took our supper,...In the forenoon, it was extremely hot; in the afternoon, a little thunder and rain, and afterwards much colder: we travelled seventeen miles, mostly up hill, the road good, but rough, the stones being laid on rather large."

"August 1st. Having breakfasted, and paid five dollars, we set out and crossed the little Yougary or Cressing river, by a new stone bridge of one arch of 76 feet span, and very

high. We passed many ridges and small valleys; but little cultivated land, a small quantity of rye cut; only one piece of wheat, nearly ripe. Oats here form the chief crop, some nearly ripe, others just coming out in haw. A little Indian corn, but we were told the summers on the mountains were too short for it to ripen; and, therefore, they only planted a little to cut green. Some healthy-looking apple trees in the valleys, but with little fruit on them, owing to the spring frosts being later than usual. Some new land bringing into cultivation, potatoes or fallows first. The oats and potatoes, much better on the mountains, than those seen between them and Baltimore; indeed, the land in the hollows of the mountains was much better than a great deal of that we had passed before we arrived at the foot of them, but backward, the winters being severe, and the springs late."

".....Sixteen miles from the Little Cressing or Yougany, we came to the Big Cressing, and the small town of Smithfield, placed in a very romantic situation. It had three taverns, .....and about twenty other houses, mostly of logs. A noble stone bridge over the river, the centre arch ninety feet span, said to be the largest in the United States. The Yougany is one of the head streams of the Monongahela. Leaving the river, we followed the course of a small stream, to the Elephant tavern,....where we slept."

".....At noon this day, we passed the line between the states of Pennsylvania and Maryland.....We had come seventeen miles, weather very hot, with much thunder at a distance, but no rain. Mr. Paul's house was surrounded by some of the best meadows we had then seen in America; the hills inclosed them on both sides, and the valleys were narrow. [ This last notation is a reference to the Great Meadows ]

".....2d. We advanced up a valley for a great distance, and passed a mine of coal; it lay twelve or fifteen feet below the surface of the earth; the veins about three feet thick; several hundred bushels lay dug; it had a strong sulphureous smell. We afterwards passed over a large flat, of thin, weak,

black, wetish soil, covered with dwarf alders and large weeds; a little of this land cleared and planted with potatoes, they looked well. What little timber there was, was short and scrubby."

".....We now again ascended, and at length reached the top of Laurel Hill, the last ridge of the mountains. Much laurel on this eminence, resembling the Portugal laurel. Here we had the first, and a most extensive view of the west side of the mountains. As the air was clear, we could see objects distinctly; much cleared land in sight, and many fine springs; indeed, they were numerous all over the mountains, but there were but few houses. This day we descended gently down the hill; the road was steep and winding. As we advanced, the timber increased in size, mostly oak, and towards the bottom it was immensely large. From the summit to the town of Monroe [Hopwood], at the foot of the hill, is full three miles, most of the way very steep. Monroe was two years old, named in honour of the president of the United States....."

Source: Two Years' Residence In The Settlement On The English Prairie In The Illinois Country, United States, by John Woods, London, 1822. Above extract taken from reprint edition that appears in Early Western Travels 1748-1846, ed by Reuben G. Thwaites, 32 Vols., New York, 1966. Volume 10 pages 209-214.

which greatly exceed the two other sorts both in flavour and size, I shall give no further description of them. The wood of the black cherry-tree is very useful, and works well into cabinet ware.

The SWEET GUM TREE or LIQUID AMBER (Copalm) is not only extremely common, but it affords a balm, the virtues of which are infinite. Its bark is black and hard, and its wood so tender and supple, that when the tree is felled, you may draw from the middle of it rods of five or six feet in length. It cannot be employed in building or furniture, as it warps continually. Its leaf is indented with five points like a star. This balm is reckoned by the Indians to be an excellent febrifuge; and it cures wounds in two or three days.

### SHRUBS.

The Willow, Shin Wood, Shumack, Sassafras, the Prickly Ash, Moose Wood, Spoon Wood, Large Elder, Dwarf Elder, Poisonous Elder, Juniper, Shrub Oak, Sweet Fern, the Laurel, the Witch Hazel,

use of to discover where the veins of these metals lie hid; but I am apprehensive that this is only a fallacious story, and not to be depended on; however that supposition has given it the name of Witch Hazel.

The MYRTLE WAX TREE is a shrub about four or five feet high, the leaves of which are larger than those of the common myrtle, but they smell exactly alike. It bears its fruit in bunches like a nosegay, rising from the same place in various stalks about two inches long; at the end of each of these is a little nut containing a kernel, which is wholly covered with a gluey substance, which being boiled in water, swims on the surface of it, and becomes a kind of green wax; this is more valuable than bees-wax, being of a more brittle nature, but mixed with it makes a good candle, which as it burns sends forth an agreeable scent.

WINTER GREEN. This is an ever-green of the species of the myrtle, and is found on dry heaths; the flowers of it are white, and in the form of a rose, but not larger than a silver penny; in the winter it is full of red berries about the size of a flae, which are smooth and

round; these are p severe season by the in time in the highest p- dians eat these ber: very balsamic, and stomach. The people colonies steep both the beer, and use it as a dis the blood from scorb

The FEVER BLUE or six feet high; its lilach, and it bears a spicy flavour. The fruit is very brittle. A d or wood is an exc from this valuable p- name. It is an or for all inflammatory c wise much esteemed by the inhabitants of the colonies.

The CRANBERT the fruit of this b in size and appearance mon sort, which grow morasses and bogs, the height of ten or twelve feet, very rarely to be

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round; these are preserved during the  
severe season by the snow, and are at that  
time in the highest perfection. The In-  
dians eat these berries, esteeming them  
very balsamic, and invigorating to the  
stomach. The people inhabiting the interior  
colonies steep both the sprigs and berries in  
beer, and use it as a diet drink for cleansing  
the blood from scorbutic disorders.

The FEVER BUSH grows about five  
or six feet high; its leaf is like that of a  
lilach, and it bears a reddish berry of a  
spicy flavour. The stalks of it are exces-  
sively brittle. A decoction of the buds  
or wood is an excellent febrifuge, and  
from this valuable property it receives its  
name. It is an ancient Indian remedy  
for all inflammatory complaints, and like-  
wise much esteemed on the same account  
by the inhabitants of the interior parts of  
the colonies.

The CRANBERRY BUSH. Though  
the fruit of this bush greatly resembles  
in size and appearance that of the com-  
mon sort, which grows on a small vine in  
morasses and bogs, yet the bush runs to  
the height of ten or twelve feet; but it is  
very rarely to be met with. As the  
meadow

meadow cranberry, being of a local growth, and flourishing only in morasses, cannot be transplanted or cultivated, the former, if removed at a proper season, would be a valuable acquisition to the garden, and with proper nurture prove equally as good, if not better.

**The CHOAK BERRY.** The shrub thus termed by the natives grows about five or six feet high, and bears a berry about the size of a floe, of a jet black, which contains several small seeds within the pulp. The juice of this fruit, though not of a disagreeable flavour, is extremely tart, and leaves a roughness in the mouth and throat when eaten, that has gained it the name of choak berry.

## ROOTS and PLANTS.

Elecampane, Spikenard, Angelica, Sarsaparilla, Ginseng, Ground Nuts, Wild Potatoes, Liquorice, Snake Root, Gold Thread, Solomon's Seal, Devil's Bit, Blood Root, Onions, Garlick, Wild Parsnips, Mandrakes, Hellebore White and Black.

SPIKE

**SPIKENARD**, vulgar colonies Petty-Morrell. appears to be exactly the same as spikenard, so much valued by the ancients. It grows near the water in rocky places, and its leaves are about the size of a goose's foot, like that of angelica, and grows to an height of an half from the ground. It bears bunches of berries in all the parts of the elder, only rarely seen. The berries are of such a balsamic nature, that when infused in spirits, they make a most agreeable and reviving cordial.

**SARSAPARILLA.** A plant, which is the most common of the roots, it, is about the size of a finger, and runs in different directions, sometimes crooked to a great length, and sometimes from the principal stem or root, it sends out smaller fibres, all of which are very flexible. From the root it shoots a stalk about a foot high, which at the top branches into several stems; each of these has many leaves, much of the shape and size of a leaf; and from the root it sends out three stems grows a bunch of berries.

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## PLANTS.

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erlick, Wild Parf-  
shore White and

SPIKE

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SPIKENARD, vulgarly called in the  
colonies Petty-Morrell. This plant ap-  
pears to be exactly the same as the Asiatick  
spikenard, so much valued by the an-  
cients. It grows near the sides of brooks  
in rocky places, and its stem, which is  
about the size of a goose quill, springs up  
like that of angelica, reaching about a foot  
and an half from the ground. It bears  
bunches of berries in all respects like those  
of the elder, only rather larger. These  
are of such a balsamic nature, that when  
infused in spirits, they make a most palat-  
able and reviving cordial.

SARSAPARILLA. The root of this  
plant, which is the most estimable part of  
it, is about the size of a goose quill, and  
runs in different directions, twined and  
crooked to a great length in the ground;  
from the principal stem of it springs many  
smaller fibres, all of which are tough and  
flexible. From the root immediately  
shoots a stalk about a foot and an half long,  
which at the top branches into three  
stems; each of these has three leaves,  
much of the shape and size of a walnut  
leaf; and from the fork of each of the  
three stems grows a bunch of bluish white

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The Willow, Shin Wood, Shumack,  
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Spoon Wood, Large Elder, Dwarf Elder,  
Poisonous Elder, Juniper, Shrub Oak,  
Sweet Fern, the Laurel, the Witch Ha-  
zle,

1822 - An unidentified traveler notes the types of woods growing along and near the National Road in the mountain district of southwestern Pennsylvania:

"Hitherto the continuous woods, rarely interrupted by any other objects than log huts and zig-zag patches of cultivation, have been mostly deciduous, consisting of chestnut, locust, maple, elm, ash, and the variegated tribes of oak; but now you traverse here and there majestic groves of pine, their tall shafts rising as strait as artificial columns, without the incumbrance of a limb, to the height of sixty or seventy feet, and forming natural porticos or colonnades of infinite beauty and grandeur."

Source: National Intelligencer, Washington, D.C., X ( August 10, 1822 ), p. 2.

1825 - A group of canal surveyors from Lafayette Springs described as being "on the national road, 8 miles east of Union," having seen:

"....the mud walls of Fort Necessity...It is a humble work ...Its shape and extent are still to be traced by the remains of the mud embankments, and bullets are occasionally found in the vicinity...The embankments of the Fort I have said are still visible, and their situation, it may be added, are yet partially enclosed by the native thicket which once entirely surrounded them. The adjoining lands have been under cultivation for some time, but the site of Fort Necessity, has not yet been disturbed by the plough...."

Source: Daily National Intelligencer, XIII ( October 18, 1825 ), p. 2.

1830 - Jared Sparks an author/historian who visited the site of Fort Necessity and made some notations of what he saw:

"...The space of ground called the Great Meadows, is a level bottom, through which passes a small creek, and is surrounded by hills of a moderate and gradual ascent. This bottom, or glade, is entirely level, covered with long grass and small bushes, and varies in width. At the point where the fort stood, it is about two hundred and fifty yards wide, from the base of one hill to that of the opposite. The position of the fort was well chosen, being about one hundred yards from the upland or wooden ground on the one side, and one hundred and fifty on the other, and so situated on the margin of the creek as to afford an easy access to water. At one point the high ground comes within sixty yards of the fort, and this was the nearest distance to which an enemy could approach under the shelter of trees. The outlines of the fort were still visible, when the spot was visited by the writer, in 1830, occupying an irregular square, the dimensions of which were about one hundred feet on each side. One of the angles was prolonged further than the others, for the purpose of reaching the water in the creek. On the west side, next to the nearest wood, were three entrances, protected by short breastworks or bastions. The remains of a ditch, stretching round the south and west sides, were also distinctly seen. The site of this fort, named Fort Necessity, from the circumstances attending its erection and original use, is three or four hundred yards south of what is now called the National road, four miles from the foot of Laurel hill, and fifty miles from Cumberland, at Will's creek."

Source: The Olden Time, ed. by Neville B. Craig, 2 Vols., Cincinnati, 1876. Volume 1 page 50.

1833 - Mary Reed Eastman a traveler on the National Road:

Heading east on the road ---

"....At the foot of Laurel Hill, 2 more horses were attached to our team, on one of which sat a little boy to guide us and then we went up, and up and up 3 miles, admiring the hills and forests around and the prospects which were ever varying. There were a great many chestnut trees covered with blooms, around the sides of the hills, which were quite ornamental -- and the varieties of laurels (among which the Mountain laurel or Rhododendron) were abundant on each side of us. The vast mass of forest trees around, above and below us, and afar off in every directions far as the eye could reach,....."

Unfortunately, Mrs. Eastman did not record any impressions of the Great Meadows.

Source: Margaret W. Anderson, ed. by "In My Own Tame Way":  
The Diary of Mary Reed Eastman, " Muskingum Annals  
4 (1987), pp. 1-13.

1840 (1853) - Deed to tract of land called "Mount Washington" situated on the waters of the Big Meadow run in Wharton Township, Fayette County, Pa., embracing the Great Meadows, 1840 between James Sampey and Nathaniel Ewing. Also, a copy of the same deed 1853 between the executors of the estate of James Sampey and Nathaniel Ewing. Each note within the lengthy survey statement the presence of the following trees upon the "Mount Washington" tract of land:

dogwood, chestnut oak, white oak, maple. White oak is most frequently noted.

Source: Copies of the above deeds can be found in the Historian Files at Fort Necessity National Battlefield, Farmington, Pennsylvania.

1854 - Townsend Ward, a visitor to the site:

"...Fort Necessity is four miles east of Laurel Hill, and about three hundred yards south of the National Road. As we approached the spot, the star-spangled banner floated from its staff, as if in honor of our pilgrimage. The meadow or glade is entirely level -- the rising ground approaching the site of the fort one hundred yards on one side, and about one hundred and fifty on the other. Braddock's Road skirts the rising ground to the south. A faint out-line of the breast-work, and a trace of the ditch are yet visible, and now will remain so, for the rude hand which held the plow that aided during many years to level them, was stayed at the intercession of a lover of the memories of these old places. The creek was dry, and this is all that remains."

Source: The North American July 3rd, 1854./ Also cited in Report Of The Commission To Locate The Site Of The Frontier Forts Of Pennsylvania, ed. by Thomas L. Montgomery, 2 Vols., Harrisburg, 1916 2nd Ed. See Volume 2 pages 33-34.

1881 - Franklin Ellis author of a history of Fayette County, Pennsylvania: He walks over the grounds at Fort Necessity:

"....Sparks, who saw it [the remains of the fort] in 1830, makes the fort to have been diamond shape. At the present time it presents the shape of a right-angled triangle. It was a stockade fort or inclosure, hastily constructed under Washington's direction by Capt. Stobo, engineer. The French demolished it, and five years elapsed before Col. Burd visited it, and some of its outlines may have been indistinct by that time, and seeing ruins on both sides of the run, may have concluded the fort was round. Mr. Facenbaker, the present occupant, came to the property in 1856, and cut a ditch, straightening the windings of the run, and consequently destroying the outline. The ditch is outside the base-line, through the out-thrown two perches. A lane runs through the southeast angle. The ruins of the fort or embanked stockade, which it really was, is three hundred yards south of Facenbaker's residence, or the Mount Washington stand, in a meadow, on waters of Great Meadow Run, a tributary of the Youghiogheny. On the north, 200 yards distant from the work, was wooded upland; on the northwest a regular slope to high ground about 400 yards away, now cleared, then woods; on the south, about 250 yards to the top of a hill, now cleared, then woods, divided by a small spring run breaking from a hill on the southeast 80 yards away, then heavily, and still partially, wooded. A cherry-tree stands on one line and two crab-apples on the other. The base is scarcely visible, with all trace gone of line across the run. Mr. Geoffrey Facenbaker says he cleared up a locust thicket here, and left a few trees standing, and that it was the richest spot on his farm. About 400 yards below, in a thicket close to his lower barn, several ridges of stone were thrown up, and here he thinks the Indians buried their dead. He found in the lane in ditching logs five feet under ground in good preservation."

Source: History Of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, ed. by  
Franklin Ellis, 2 Vols., Philadelphia, 1882.  
Volume 2 page 830.

1896 - Reuben Gold Thwaites a noted American historian and author records his impressions during a day trip to the site of Fort Necessity:

"At Uniontown, a smart, well-built little city of eight thousand inhabitants.....we took carriage for Fort Necessity, ten miles distant to the southeast, on the National Road -- locally styled "the pike." White, dusty and rather stony, the old highway leads straight over the foothills through the pleasant rustic suburb of Hopwood, and soon begins its zigzag climb over the Laurel Hills. The road is often carved out of the side of a rugged slope, and then we have below us sharp descents, heavily forested with chestnuts, maples, oaks and lindens, already well in leaf. Great grapevines hang in rich festoons from the topmost boughs, masses of ferns and the glossy may-apple are luxuriating in the moist depths, flowering dogwoods lift their clusters of white bloom into gay relief on opposite hill slopes, shining masses of the great laurel give an air of luxuriance to the crests of roadside banks, and everywhere are flitting butterflies panoplied in rainbow tints, rejoicing in the scents and splendors of early summer. We have backward views, too, of the rolling country from which we have risen,....."

From the site of Braddock's Grave: "Two miles to the southeast, along the turnpike, which follows the crest of a low-lying spur, dipping towards the Youghiogheny, is Geoffrey Facenbaker's farm, which includes Great Meadows and Fort Necessity. Descending through a fenced cattle-way for three hundred yards, one emerges upon the meadow, a low, almost marshy tract of some fifty acres, surrounded by low, gently-sloping hills which once were heavily forested, but are now for the most

part open fields. A small creek, flowing southeasterly towards the Youghiogheny, and styled East Meadow Run, is in the center of the valley, and on the northern bank of this Washington built his fort."

"The first English fur-traders, in their journey along Nemacolin's Path, found here a springy, treeless basin much grown to bushes, but abounding in sweet grasses, and called it Great Meadows, in contradistinction to Little Meadows, a similar basin thirty-one miles to the east, and but twenty from Cumberland. In these meadows, Great and Little, they pastured their horses and cattle, in over-mountain trips, and Washington also found both of them serviceable in this regard, in his expedition of 1754....."

"I was surprised to find the remains of Fort Necessity so well preserved. Great Meadow Run, originally a lazy, weed-grown stream some ten feet wide, has been straightened by the present proprietor into a drainage ditch, but its ancient meanderings are readily distinguishable. The change in the course of the run destroyed an outlying work, but the embankment of the fort itself is traceable through the greater part of its length. The line of earth-work is still some eight or ten inches above the surrounding level; while on the inner side, counting the excavation ditch, it has a height of about fifteen inches. The accounts of visitors to the fort differ materially as to its shape.....our measurements with compass and line gave us an equilateral triangle with sides of about a hundred and twenty feet. Of the side nearest the run ( from northwest to southeast) seventy feet are now distinguishable; upon the side extending from the still perfect northwest corner towards the southern angle there remains the upper portion, a hundred and ten feet in length; the third side is broken at both ends, owing to the utter destruction of the southern and southeastern angles, but has ninety feet left in the curtain....."

"Two hawthorn trees are growing on the western embankment, one of them fifty-four inches in circumference; and Mr. Facenbaker reports that some thirty years ago, on coming into the property, he eradicated a young locust grove then occupying the site of the fort.....the site of Fort Necessity.....has been untouched by the plow unto this day; although thousands of crayfish, piling up little mounds of clay, are just now doing their best to disturb the surface."

"Leaving Great Meadows, with its sloping brown sides being ploughed and harrowed for field crops, we ascended once more through the cattle-way up to the turnpike, and an hour later were back at Summit House, turning off to the northeast on the byroad toward Jumonville's Camp."

At Jumonville Glen Thwaites notes: "The sides are hung thick with laurel now, and great beds of ferns carpet the ground; while all about, the dark mountain forest is very nearly as tangled and dreary as it was in Washington's day."

Source: Reuben Gold Thwaites, "A Day On Braddock Road,"  
The New England Magazine 15 New Series ( November  
1896 No.3 ) pp. 299-308.

1901 - Archer Butler Hulbert author/historian. His notations after making an extensive survey of the site of Fort Necessity:

"It was.....situated upon a small height of land near the center of the swampy meadow. "The natural entrenchments" of which Washington speaks in his Journal may have been merely this height of ground, or old courses of the two brooks which flow by it on the north and on the east. At any rate the fort was built on an "island," so to speak, in the wet lowland. A narrow neck of solid land connected it with the southern hillside, along which the road ran. A shallow ditch surrounded the earthen palisaded sides of the fort. Parallel with the southeastern and southwestern palisades rifle-pits were dug. Bastion gateways offered entrance and exit. The works embraced less than a third of an acre of land....."

Source: Washington's Road, by Archer Butler Hulbert, Cleveland, 1903. See pages 156-159.

Note: For Hulbert's detailed survey, comparison of maps, and meeting with Mr. Lewis Fazenbaker owner of the property see pages 172-187.

1967 - Mr.     ? Boyd a visitor to Fort Necessity National Battlefield recalling a former visit to the grounds:

"Mr. Boyd of Brownsville at visitor center on April 16, 1967 (age 77) stated he worked on harvesting the white oak trees on the Fazenbaker property at Fort Necessity. He claimed that this was the last stand of virgin white oak timber left at that time in Fayette county. He said this happened in 1923 and that Fazenbakers received \$14,000 for the timber. He said many of the trees cut were three to four feet in diameter and that the work was done by the Summit Lumber company of Bedford, Pa. He recalled that the boss was a man by the name of Mr. Henry who could write his name with difficulty, but that he had the ability to accurately estimate the amount of lumber that could be obtained from a log or tree."

Source: Personal conversation between Arthur Spiegler and Mr. Boyd on April 16, 1967.

Note taken by Arthur Spiegler April 16, 1967.

Original in FONE Resource Management Files 30AU986.

flowers, resembling those of the spikenard. The bark of the roots, which alone should be used in medicine, is of a bitterish flavour, but aromatic. It is deservedly esteemed for its medicinal virtues, being a gentle sudorific, and very powerful in attenuating the blood when impeded by gross humours.

GINSANG is a root that was once supposed to grow only in Korea, from whence it was usually exported to Japan, and by that means found its way to Europe; but it has been lately discovered to be also a native of North America, where it grows to as great perfection and is equally valuable. Its root is like a small carrot, but not so taper at the end; it is sometimes divided into two or more branches, in all other respects it resembles sarsaparilla in its growth. The taste of the root is bitterish. In the eastern parts of Asia it bears a great price, being there considered as a panacea, and is the last refuge of the inhabitants in all disorders. When chewed it certainly is a great strengthener of the stomach.

GOLD THREAD. This is a plant of the small vine kind, which grows in swampy

swampy places, and lies . The roots spread themselves surface of the morass, and up by handfuls. They entangled skain of thread gold colour; and I am yield a beautiful and per dye. It is also greatly of the Indians and colonists any foreness in the mouth of it is exquisitely bitter.

SOLOMON'S SEAL grows on the sides of river meadow land. It rises about three feet high, the fact, when the leaves themselves and reach a part in every root has an it about the size of a sixp appears as if it was made from these it receives its ly valued on account of purifier of the blood.

DEVIL'S BIT is and which grows in the field its name from a print t made by teeth in the root say that this was once an

] one of the spikenard. which alone should of a bitterish flavour is deservedly esteemed as being a gentle aperient in attenuated by gross humors.

root that was once found in Korea, from whence exported to Japan, and its way to Europe lately discovered to be from America, where it grows in perfection and is like a small root at the end; it divides into two or more branches, it respects it resembles a small root. The taste is bitter.

In the eastern Indies it is of great price, being used as a spice, and is the most valuable plants in all disorders, certainly is a great remedy.

This is a plant which grows in swampy

swampy places, and lies on the ground. The roots spread themselves just under the surface of the morass, and are easily drawn up by handfuls. They resemble a large entangled skein of thread of a fine bright gold colour; and I am persuaded would yield a beautiful and permanent yellow dye. It is also greatly esteemed both by the Indians and colonists as a remedy for any soreness in the mouth, but the taste of it is exquisitely bitter.

SOLOMON'S SEAL is a plant that grows on the sides of rivers, and in rich meadow land. It rises in the whole to about three feet high, the stalks being two feet, when the leaves begin to spread themselves and reach a foot further. A part in every root has an impression upon it about the size of a sixpence, which appears as if it was made by a seal, and from these it receives its name. It is greatly valued on account of its being a fine purifier of the blood.

DEVIL'S BIT is another wild plant, which grows in the fields, and receives its name from a print that seems to be made by teeth in the roots. The Indians say that this was once an universal remedy

for every disorder that human nature is incident to; but some of the evil spirits envying mankind the possession of so efficacious a medicine gave the root a bite, which deprived it of a great part of its virtue.

**BLOOD ROOT.** A sort of plantain that springs out of the ground in six or seven long rough leaves, the veins of which are red; the root of it is like a small carrot both in colour and appearance; when broken, the inside of it is of a deeper colour than the outside, and distils several drops of juice that look like blood. This is a strong emetic, but a very dangerous one.

## HERBS.

Balm, Nettles, Cinque Foil, Eyebright, Sanicle, Plantain, Rattle Snake Plantain, Poor Robin's Plantain, Toad Plantain, Maiden Hair, Wild Dock, Rock Liverwort, Noble Liverwort, Bloodwort, Wild Beans, Ground Ivy, Water Cressles, Yarrow, May Weed, Gargit, Skunk Cabbage or Poke, Wake Robin, Betony, Scabious, Mullen, Wild Pease, Mouse Ear, Wild Indigo, Tobacco, and Cat Mint.

## SANICLE

SANICLE has a root towards the upper part, fibres below; the leaves roundish, hard, smooth, shining green; a stalk to the height of a foot, smooth and free from knots; from the top of it are several small dish white, shaped like a tea made of the root is very famous.

**RATTLE SNAKE**  
This useful herb is of the  
and its leaves, which  
on the ground, are about  
an half wide, and five in  
the centre of these arise  
nearly six inches long, with  
white flower; the root is  
a goose quill, and much  
into several branches. The  
herb are more efficacious  
part of it for the bite of  
which it receives its name  
chewed and applied immediately  
wound, and some of the  
feldoms fails of averting  
symptom. So convinced

man nature is in-  
the evil spirits en-  
fession of so effica-  
root a bite, which  
part of its virtue.

A sort of plantain  
ground in six or  
the veins of which  
like a small car-  
appearance; when  
it is of a deeper co-  
and distils several  
like blood. This  
dangerous

S.

re Foil, Eyebright,  
t : Snake Plantain,  
1, Toad Plantain,  
dock, Rock Liver-  
; Bloodwort, Wild  
Water Cressles, Yar-  
it, Skunk Cab-  
in, Betony, Sca-  
Pease, Mouse Ear,  
, and Cat Mint.

SANICLE

SANICLE has a root which is thick  
towards the upper part, and full of small  
fibres below; the leaves of it are broad,  
roundish, hard, smooth, and of a fine  
shining green; a stalk rises from these  
to the height of a foot, which is quite  
smooth and free from knots, and on the  
top of it are several small flowers of a red-  
dish white, shaped like a wild rose. A  
tea made of the root is vulnerary and bal-  
samic.

RATTLE SNAKE PLANTAIN.  
This useful herb is of the plantain kind,  
and its leaves, which spread themselves  
on the ground, are about one inch and  
an half wide, and five inches long; from  
the centre of these arises a small stalk  
nearly six inches long, which bears a little  
white flower; the root is about the size of  
a goose quill, and much bent and divided  
into several branches. The leaves of this  
herb are more efficacious than any other  
part of it for the bite of the reptile from  
which it receives its name; and being  
chewed and applied immediately to the  
wound, and some of the juice swallowed,  
feldoms fails of averting every dangerous  
symptom. So convinced are the Indians

K k 3 of

of the power of this infallible antidote, that for a trifling bribe of spirituous liquor, they will at any time permit a rattle snake to drive his fangs into their flesh. It is to be remarked that during those months in which the bite of these creatures is most venomous, that this remedy for it is in its greatest perfection, and most luxuriant in its growth.

**POOR ROBIN'S PLANTAIN** is of the same species as the last, but more diminutive in every respect; it receives its name from its size, and the poor land on which it grows. It is a good medicinal herb, and often administered with success in fevers and internal weaknesses.

**TOAD PLANTAIN** resembles the common plantain, only it grows much ranker, and is thus denominated because toads love to harbour under it.

**ROCK LIVERWORT** is a sort of liverwort that grows on rocks, and is of the nature of kelp or moss. It is esteemed as an excellent remedy against declines.

**GARGIT** or **SKOKE** is a large kind of weed, the leaves of which are about six inches long, and two inches and an half broad; they resemble those of spinage in their

their colour and texture, The root is very large, and different stalks that run high, and are full of juice hang in clusters in the water, and are generally berries, as those birds the When the leaves first grow from the ground, after being boiled, are nutritious and wholesome when they are grown to a larger size, they acquire a poisonous quality, the roots applied to the hand of a person afflicted with a fever are a powerful absorbent.

**SKUNK CABBAGE** is a herb that grows in marshy places. The leaves of it are long, and six inches broad, and rather pointed. The root consists of great numbers of fibres, which is made use of by the colonies for the cure of the venereal disease, it issues a strong musky smell, something like tobacco, the same name before described, on account it is so termed.

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PLANTAIN is of  
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their colour and texture, but not in shape.  
The root is very large, from which spring  
different stalks that run eight or ten feet  
high, and are full of red berries; these  
hang in clusters in the month of Septem-  
ber, and are generally called pigeon ber-  
ries, as those birds then feed on them.  
When the leaves first spring from the  
ground, after being boiled, they are a  
nutritious and wholesome vegetable, but  
when they are grown nearly to their full  
size, they acquire a poisonous quality. The  
roots applied to the hands or feet of a per-  
son afflicted with a fever, prove a very  
powerful absorbent.

SKUNK CABBAGE or POKE is an  
herb that grows in moist and swampy  
places. The leaves of it are about a foot  
long, and six inches broad, nearly oval, but  
rather pointed. The roots are composed  
of great numbers of fibres, a lotion of  
which is made use of by the people in  
the colonies for the cure of the itch. There  
issues a strong musky smell from this  
herb, something like the animal of the  
same name before described, and on that  
account it is so termed.



mint, with a biting acrid taste; the flowers grow on the tops of the branches, and are of a faint purple or whitish colour. It is called cat mint, because it is said that cats have an antipathy to it, and will not let it grow. It has nearly the virtues of common mint \*.

## F L O W E R S.

Heart's Ease, Lilies red and yellow, Pond Lilies, Cowslips, May Flowers, Jessamine, Honeyuckles, Rock Honeyuckles, Roses red and white, Wild Hollyhock, Wild Pinks, Golden Rod.

I shall not enter into a minute description of the flowers above recited, but only just observe, that they much resemble those of the same name which grow in Europe, and are as beautiful in colour, and as perfect in odour, as they can be supposed to be in their wild uncultivated state.

\* For an account of Tobacco, see a treatise I have published on the culture of that plant.

FARI-

an herb that grows  
its root resembles a  
ed will greatly in-  
mediately convert  
shape into a round  
h state it will con-  
and during this no  
h will be affected.  
loses its astringent  
s beneficial to man-  
to cold water, and  
as very good for all  
ve

From herb of the  
om whence indigo is  
colonies. It grows  
eight of five or six  
and, when it divides  
from which issue a  
... hard bluish leaves  
breadth, and among  
... flower; the juice  
reeable scent.

... a woody root, di-  
nches, and it sends  
three feet high; the  
... of the nettle or be-  
... a strong smell of  
mint,

# FARINACEOUS and LEGUMINOUS ROOTS, &c.

Maize or Indian Corn, Wild Rice,  
Beans, the Squash, &c.

MAIZE or INDIAN CORN grows from six to ten feet high, on a stalk full of joints, which is stiff and solid, and when green, abounding with a sweet juice. The leaves are like those of the reed, about two feet in length, and three or four inches broad. The flowers, which are produced at some distance from the fruit on the same plant, grow like the ears of oats, and are sometimes white, yellow, or of a purple colour. The seeds are as large as peas, and like them quite naked and smooth, but of a roundish surface, rather compressed. One spike generally consists of about six hundred grains, which are placed closely together in rows to the number of eight or ten, and sometimes twelve. This corn is very wholesome, easy of digestion, and yields as good nourishment as any other sort. After the Indians have reduced

reduced it into meal by p  
make cakes of it and b  
the fire. I have already  
some nations eat it in c  
ripe, in which state it is  
the palate and extremely

WILD RICE. TH  
grows in the greatest pl  
the interior parts of Ne  
the most valuable of all  
productions of that coun  
of its utility, as a supply  
of the human species w  
part of the continent, an  
out any other trouble than  
ing it in, the sweetness  
quality of it attracts an in  
wild fowl of every kind  
from distant climes to en  
past; and by it become  
and delicious. In future  
be of great service to the  
as it will afford them a  
until in the course of culti  
plies may be produced; w  
realms which are not furn  
bounteous gift of nature,  
mate is temperate and the

reduced it into meal by pounding it, they make cakes of it and bake them before the fire. I have already mentioned that some nations eat it in cakes before it is ripe, in which state it is very agreeable to the palate and extremely nutritive.

**WILD RICE.** This grain, which grows in the greatest plenty throughout the interior parts of North America, is the most valuable of all the spontaneous productions of that country. Exclusive of its utility, as a supply of food for those of the human species who inhabit this part of the continent, and obtained without any other trouble than that of gathering it in, the sweetness and nutritious quality of it attracts an infinite number of wild fowl of every kind, which flock from distant climes to enjoy this rare repast; and by it become inexpressibly fat and delicious. In future periods it will be of great service to the infant colonies, as it will afford them a present support, until in the course of cultivation other supplies may be produced; whereas in those realms which are not furnished with this bounteous gift of nature, even if the climate is temperate and the soil good, the first

## LEGUMINOUS

etc.

1. Wild Rice,

1. CORN grows  
on a stalk full  
and solid, and  
with a sweet juice.  
of green, about  
three or four  
leaves, which are  
from the fruit

like the ears of  
white, yellow, or  
red are as large  
as the naked and  
smooth surface, rather  
generally consists  
of husks, which are  
removed to the num-  
ber of times twelve.  
Some, easy of di-  
gestion, as  
Indians have  
reduced

first settlers are often exposed to great hardships from the want of an immediate resource for necessary food. This useful grain grows in the water where it is about two feet deep, and where it finds a rich muddy soil. The stalks of it, and the branches or ears that bear the seed, resemble oats both in their appearance and manner of growing. The stalks are full of joints, and rise more than eight feet above the water. The natives gather the grain in the following manner: nearly about the time that it begins to turn from its milky state and to ripen, they run their canoes into the midst of it, and tying bunches of it together just below the ears with bark, leave it in this situation three or four weeks longer, till it is perfectly ripe. About the latter end of September they return to the river, when each family having its separate allotment, and being able to distinguish their own property by the manner of fastening the sheaves, gather in the portion that belongs to them. This they do by placing their canoes close to the bunches of rice, in such position as to receive the grain when it falls, and then beat it out, with pieces of

of wood formed for this purpose. When done this, they dry it in the sun, and afterwards tread or rub it to the husk; when it is fit to be put into the skins of fawn or deer, they are taken off nearly whole, and sewed into a sort of bag, to preserve it till the return of spring. It has been the subject of much speculation why this spontaneous growth is found in any other region than those countries situated between the parallels of latitude, where it is apparently adapted to the climate. In none of the countries to the west and east of the great lakes, or in the provinces north of the river, do the extremities of Labrador produce this grain. It is true that the quantities of it in the water are small, but at Lake Érié, but on enquiry we have never arrived nearer to the source than the blossom; after which it withers and died away. This is the north-west wind, and the cold, is much more powerful

ed to great hard-  
 an immediate re-  
 4. This useful  
 where it is about  
 re it finds a rich  
 of it, and the  
 r the seed, re-  
 r appearance and  
 : stalks are full  
 than eight feet  
 natives gather the  
 manner: nearly  
 gins to turn from  
 they run  
 of it, and  
 5. together just below  
 it in this situa-  
 longer, till it is  
 the latter end of  
 the river, when  
 separate allotment,  
 crush their own  
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 rtion that belongs  
 by placing their  
 hes of rice, in  
 e the grain when  
 ut, with pieces  
 of

of wood formed for that purpose. Having  
 done this, they dry it with smoke, and  
 afterwards tread or rub off the outside  
 husk; when it is fit for use they put it  
 into the skins of fawns or young buffalos  
 taken off nearly whole for this purpose  
 and sewed into a sort of sack, wherein they  
 preserve it till the return of their harvest.  
 It has been the subject of much specula-  
 tion why this spontaneous grain is not  
 found in any other regions of America, or  
 in those countries situated in the same pa-  
 rallels of latitude, where the waters are as  
 apparently adapted for its growth as in  
 the climates I treat of. As for instance,  
 none of the countries that lie to the south  
 and east of the great lakes, even from the  
 provinces north of the Carolinas to the  
 extremities of Labradore, produce any of  
 this grain. It is true I found great quan-  
 tities of it in the watered lands near De-  
 troit, between Lake Huron and Lake  
 Erié, but on enquiry I learned that it ne-  
 ver arrived nearer to maturity than just to  
 blossom; after which it appeared blighted,  
 and died away. This convinces me that  
 the north-west wind, as I have before hint-  
 ed, is much more powerful in these than  
 in

in the interior parts; and that it is more inimical to the fruits of the earth, after it has passed over the lakes and become united with the wind which joins it from the frozen regions of the north, than it is farther to the westward.

**BEANS.** These are nearly of the same shape as the European beans, but are not much larger than the smallest size of them. They are boiled by the Indians and eaten chiefly with bear's flesh.

The **SQUASH.** They have also several species of the **MELON** or **PUMPKIN**, which by some are called Squashes, and which serve many nations partly as a substitute for bread. Of these there is the round, the crane-neck, the small flat, and the large oblong squash. The smaller sorts being boiled, are eaten during the summer as vegetables; and are all of a pleasing flavour. The crane-neck, which greatly excels all the others, are usually hung up for a winter's store, and in this manner might be preserved for several months.

APPEN-

## A P P E N

**T**HE countries great lakes and from thence southward, although in the continent, and at a great sea, are so situated, that between them and conveniently be open those empires or colonies be founded or planted dered commercial ones Mississippi, which runs of them, will enable establish an intercourse equally as well as the the Danube, or the Volga which dwell on them have no other conveyance the produce of their importing those of other vessels of light bur

APPENDIX II

## APPENDIX II

A note of caution to future historians or researchers who may have occasion to use the following source dealing with the Fort Necessity Campaign of 1754:

Journal Of Colonel George Washington, edited with notes by J.M. Toner, Joel Munsell's Sons, Publishers, Albany, N.Y., 1893.

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As will be noted on the attached copy of the title page of the original edition of this book, the title is extremely lengthy. So lengthy, in fact, that most historians using this source have failed to read the small print. At least that seems to be the case. In particular, one brief but important line within the title appears to have been ignored:

"AN APPENDIX \*\* Is Added In The Form Of A Diary, Supplying An Account Of The Battle Of The Great Meadows And The Capitulation Of Fort Necessity; The Retreat Of The Army;..."

I have underscored the key portion of the above line.

Original copies of what was supposed to have been an original journal of the Fort Necessity Campaign 1754 in George Washington's hand that was captured with other private papers by the French at the capitulation of Fort Necessity, all end on June 27th, 1754. This applies to all known copies whether they be in the form of transcripts (French and English) or printed form (French and English). However, J.M. Toner, a skilled historian and writer, chose to follow a different course in his printed edition of Washington's journal of 1754. Instead of choosing to end his book on June 27th, 1754 as all other editions and copies do, Toner determined to continue the story of the Campaign in the form and style of a journal in such a masterly way that at first glance one might suppose that those dated entries beyond June 27th are also those of Colonel George Washington. The big problem is that many readers and historians have accepted Toner's entries as those of George.

Unfortunately, National Park Service historians and researchers have made the same error in using this source. As recently as 1985 those using the source at Fort Necessity National Battlefield were citing Toner's post June 27th journal entries as primary source material. My purpose is, of course, to caution all future staff members and outside researchers that may have occasion to use the Toner edition of Washington's journal of 1754. Obviously Toner did not attempt to disguise what he was doing. His intent is plainly and specifically stated in a portion of the title of his book. Toner is an outstanding historian. His careful footnoting and addition and re-printing of lots of useful related documents ( all primary ) can only be admired by all. Without question we should continue to use this as a valuable reference book. But caution to those who cite or use material printed between pages 135-166. The footnotes scattered between these pages are fine to use being generally distinguished from the supposed journal entries. The only section of the journal in which Washington uses his own name within a daily entry is that between pages 135-166. This was one subtle way in which Toner reminds the reader that entries between these pages are fictitious. The name "Sparks" is also used with some frequency. This is not a name of a soldier or person associated with the Campaign of 1754. Instead it is the last name of an early and still prominent historian and biographer of George Washington, Jared Sparks. Sparks also made a famous visit to the battlefield of Fort Necessity in 1830. He was one of those who became involved in the controversy regarding the true shape of the fort.

Bottom line. First, a plea to read titles of books a little more carefully. Eighteenth century book and manuscript titles tend to be extremely long. On occasion the same is true of books printed in the Nineteenth century that deal with the Eighteenth. Trust me. Your patience will not go unrewarded. Second, before deciding to cite a supposed primary source please question more carefully the origin of that source.

3

JOURNAL  
OF  
COLONEL GEORGE WASHINGTON,

COMMANDING A DETACHMENT OF VIRGINIA TROOPS,

SENT BY

ROBERT DINWIDDIE,

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA,

ACROSS THE ALLEGHANY MOUNTAINS, IN 1754, TO BUILD FORTS AT THE  
HEAD OF THE OHIO. IT COMPRISES THE HISTORY OF MARCHES,  
CAMPINGS AND EVENTS, A SKIRMISH WITH THE  
FRENCH, AND THE DEATH OF THEIR LEADER,  
DE JUMONVILLE.

The Journal fell into the hands of the enemy, who, in 1758,  
printed a version of it in French; a new translation of this  
into English is what is here given in the absence of the  
original. To complete the history of the Expedition

AN APPENDIX

IS ADDED IN THE FORM OF A DIARY, SUPPLYING AN ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE  
OF THE GREAT MEADOWS AND THE CAPITULATION OF FORT NECESSITY;  
THE RETREAT OF THE ARMY; WITH COPIES OF ORIGINAL MUSTER  
AND PAY ROLLS OF THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT, AND OTHER  
DOCUMENTS CONNECTED WITH THIS EXPEDITION.

Edited, with Notes,

BY

J. M. TONER, M. D.

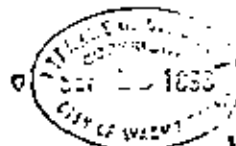
ALBANY, N. Y.:

JOEL MUNSELL'S SONS, PUBLISHERS.

1893.

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1353  
782



ILLUSTRATIONS  
AND MAPS

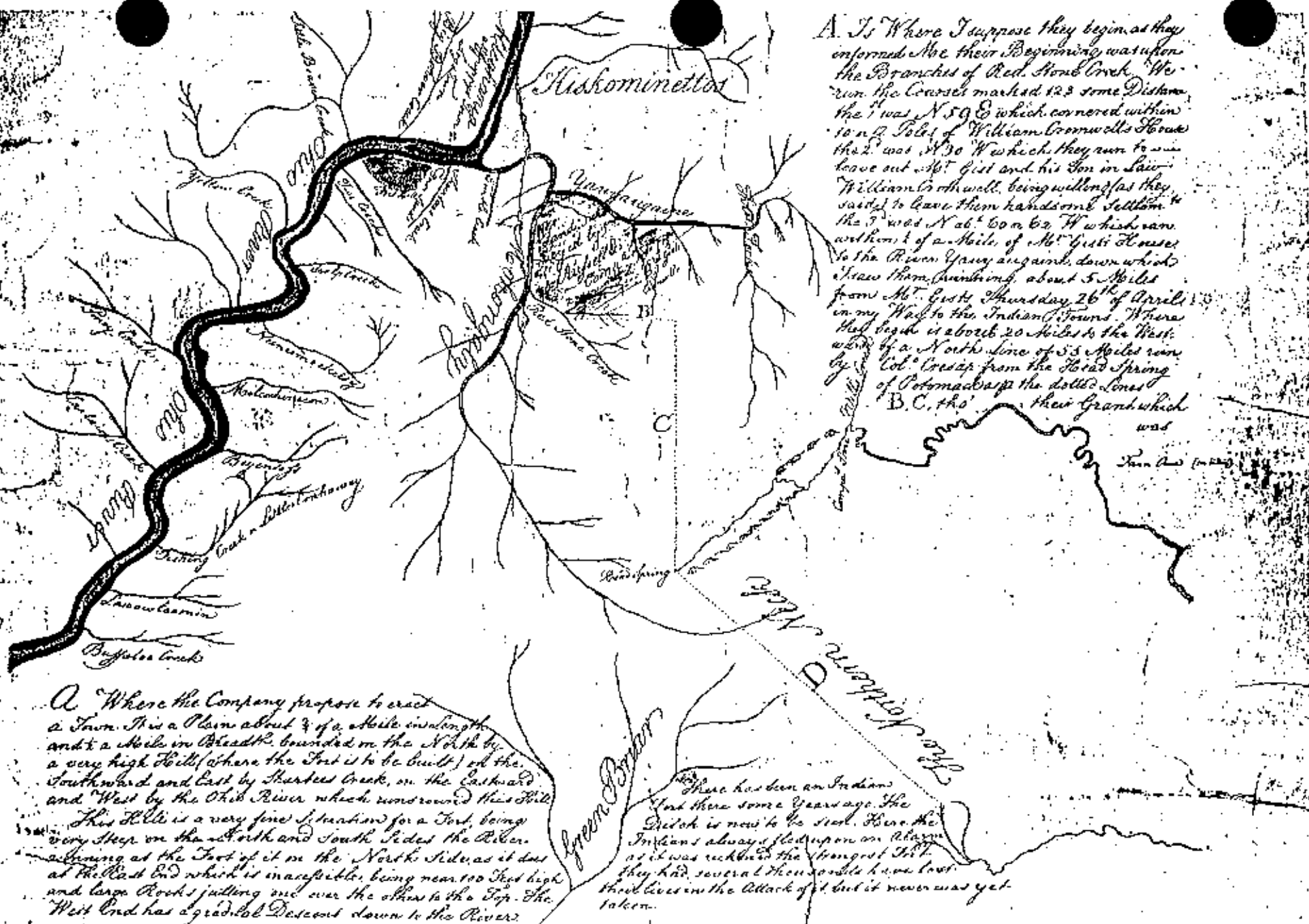
1753

"Map of the Ohio Company's lands on the Ohio River with the proposed location of a fort and settlement."

A manuscript map drawn by George Mercer circa 1753, showing the area explored by Mercer on behalf of the Ohio Company. The Great Meadows are not specifically depicted. However, they would be roughly located about the center of this sketch. This is the first known map to generally depict the area in which the meadows were located.

Original manuscript map in the Public Record Office, London.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 89-90.



A. Is Where I suppose they begin as they informed me their Beginning was upon the Branches of Red Horse Creek. We run the Corner marked 123 some Distance the 1 was N 59 E which cornered within 10 or 12 Poles of William Greenwells House the 2 was N 30 W which they run to leave out Mr Gist and his Son in Law William's other well being willing as they said to have them handsome Settlement the 3 was N 61 60 or 62 W which ran without of a Mile of Mr Gist's House to the River Yung against down which I saw them running about 5 Miles from Mr Gist's Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> of April in my Way to the Indian Towns. Where that begin is about 20 Miles to the West end of a North line of 55 Miles run by Col. Cresap from the Head Spring of Potomac up the dotted line B.C. the their Grant which was

A Where the Company propose to erect a Town. It is a Plain about 1/4 of a Mile in length and 1/2 a Mile in breadth bounded on the North by a very high Hill (where the Fort is to be built) on the Southward and East by Hurst's Creek, on the Eastward and West by the Ohio River which runs round this Hill. This Hill is a very fine Situation for a Fort, being very steep on the North and South Sides the River, running at the Foot of it on the North Side, as it does at the East End which is inaccessible, being near 100 Feet high and large Rocks jutting out over the others to the Top. The West End has a gradual Descent down to the River.

There has been an Indian Fort there some Years ago. The Dutch is now to be seen. Here the Indians always fled upon an Alarm as it was reckoned the strongest Fort they had, several thousand have lost their lives in the Attack of it, but it never was yet taken.

1753

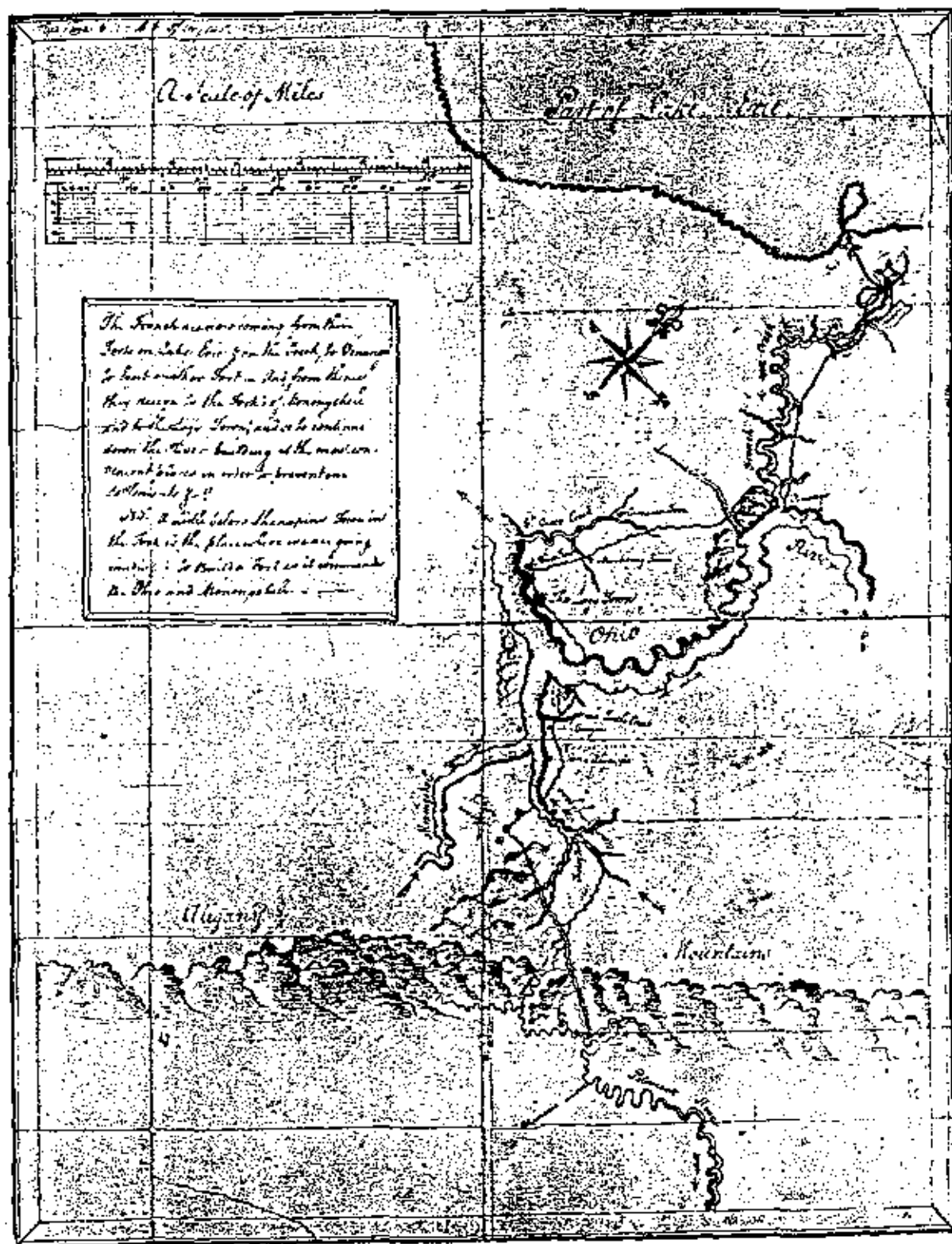
"Washington's Map Of The Ohio Country That Accompanied His Report To Governor Dinwiddie."

A manuscript map drawn by Major George Washington of the Virginia Provincial Regiment circa 1753. The Great Meadows are depicted in the center of the lower third of the drawing.

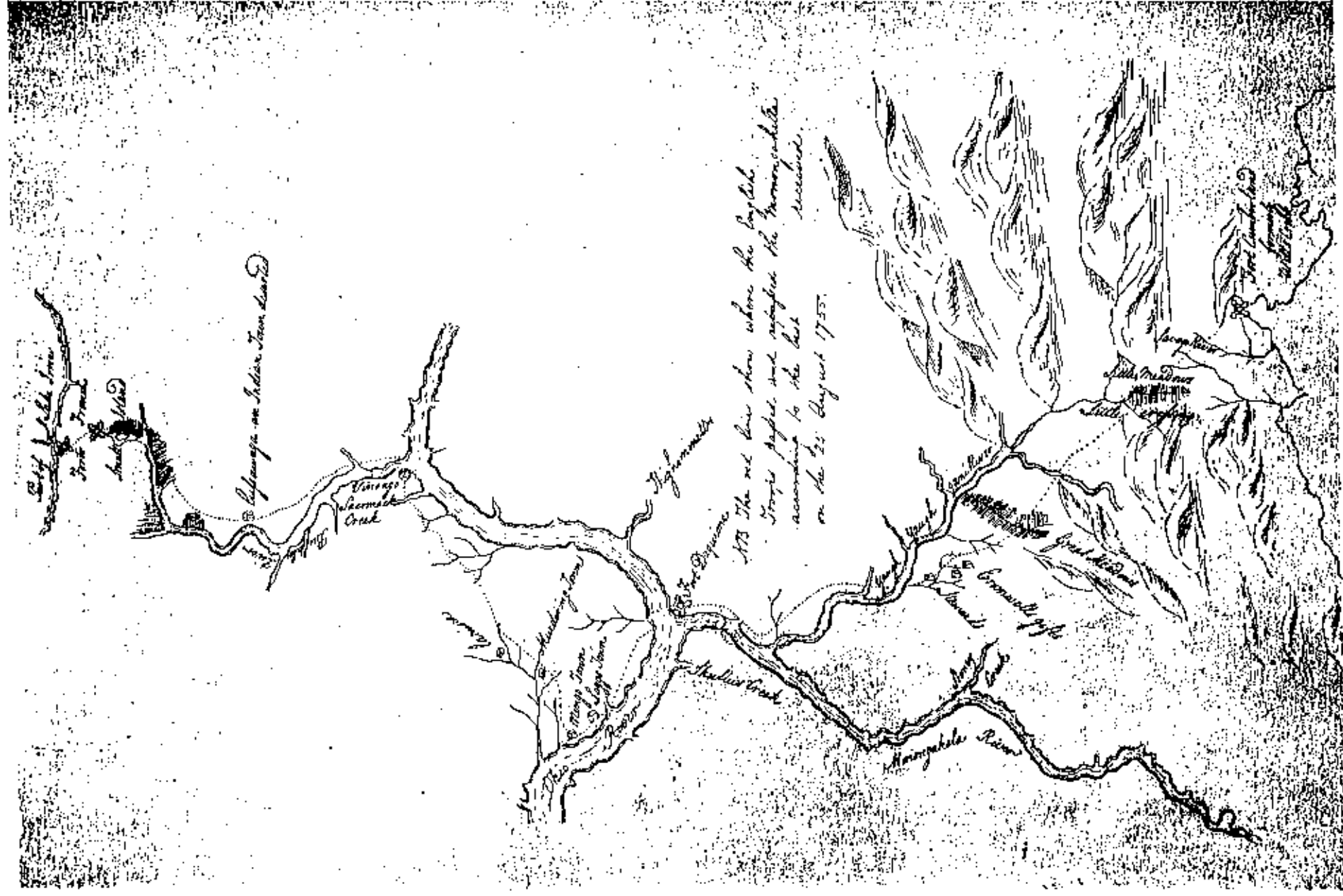
Original manuscript map in the Public Record Office, London.

Source: The Diaries Of George Washington, ed. by Donald Jackson and Dorothy Twohig, 6 Vols., Charlottesville, 1976-1979. See Volume 1 page 153.

December 1753



Washington's map of the Ohio country accompanied his report to Governor Dinwiddie. (Public Record Office, London. Crown Copyright)



18. George Washington's map of the Ohio country traversed in 1753-54.

1754

"Captain Snow's Scetch of the country by himself and the best accounts he could receive from the Indian traders 1754."  
( Preliminary Map ).

This drawing depicts the location of the Great Meadow and of Fort Necessity. This is the first known map to depict both features.  
-- The full identity of Captain Snow is uncertain at this time.

Original of this map is in the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 92-94.



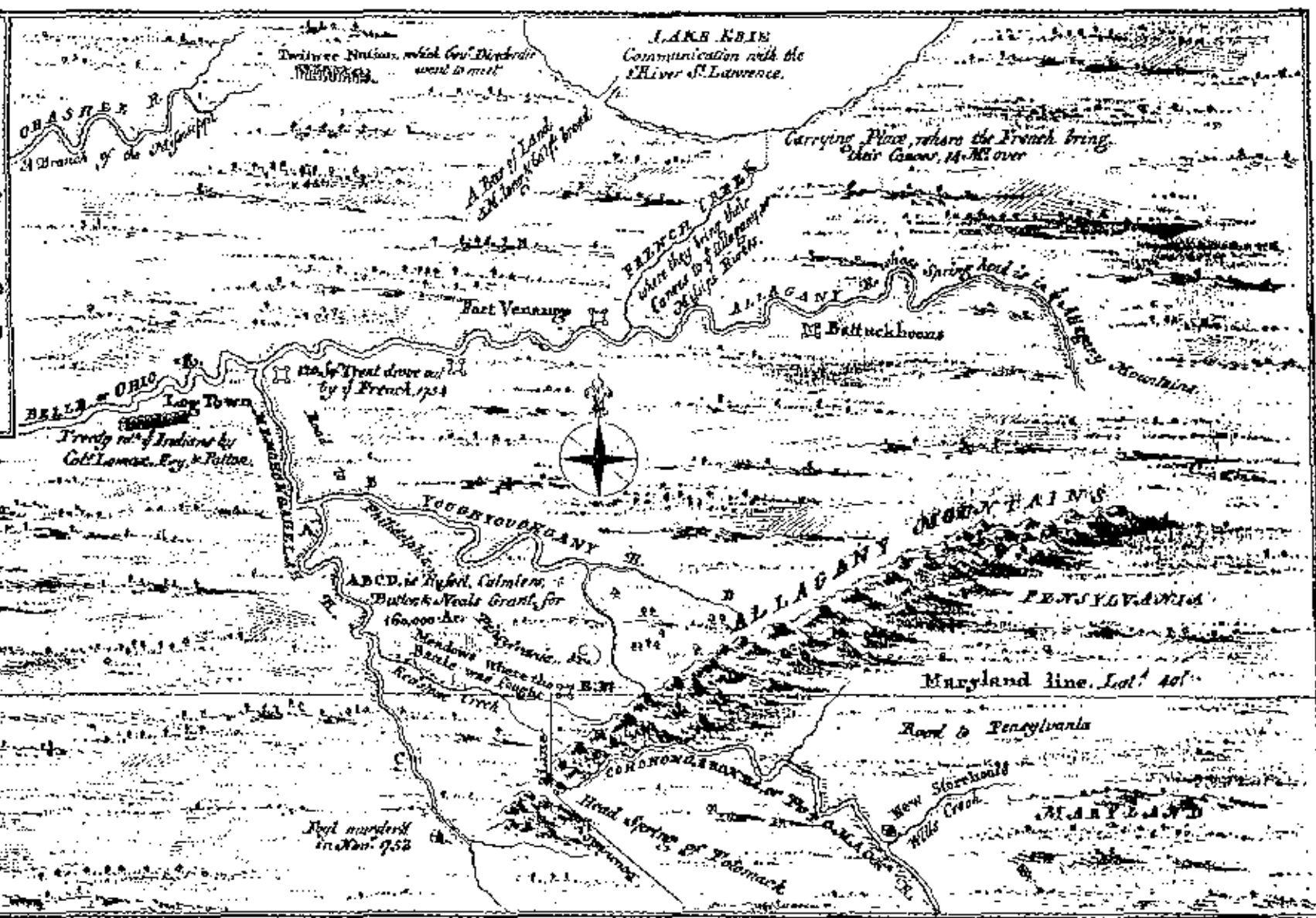
1754

"Captain Snow's Scetch of the Country by Himself; and the best accounts He could receive from the Indian Traders 1754."

( Finished Copy ).

Notations, location of the original, and source the same as the previous map.

Captain Snow's  
Sketch  
of the COUNTRY  
by Himself and the  
best accounts He  
could receive from  
the Indian Traders  
1754



21. Captain Snow's finished sketch of the same area. 1754

1755

Detail from "A Sketch of General Braddock's March From Fort Cumberland on the 10th of June 1755 to the Field of Battle on 9th July near the River Monongahela....."

Original manuscript map drawn by Patrick Mackeller, British engineer with Braddock's Army.

Original in The Cumberland Papers, The Royal Library, Windsor Castle, England.

Source: Photograph Files Fort Necessity National Battlefield.

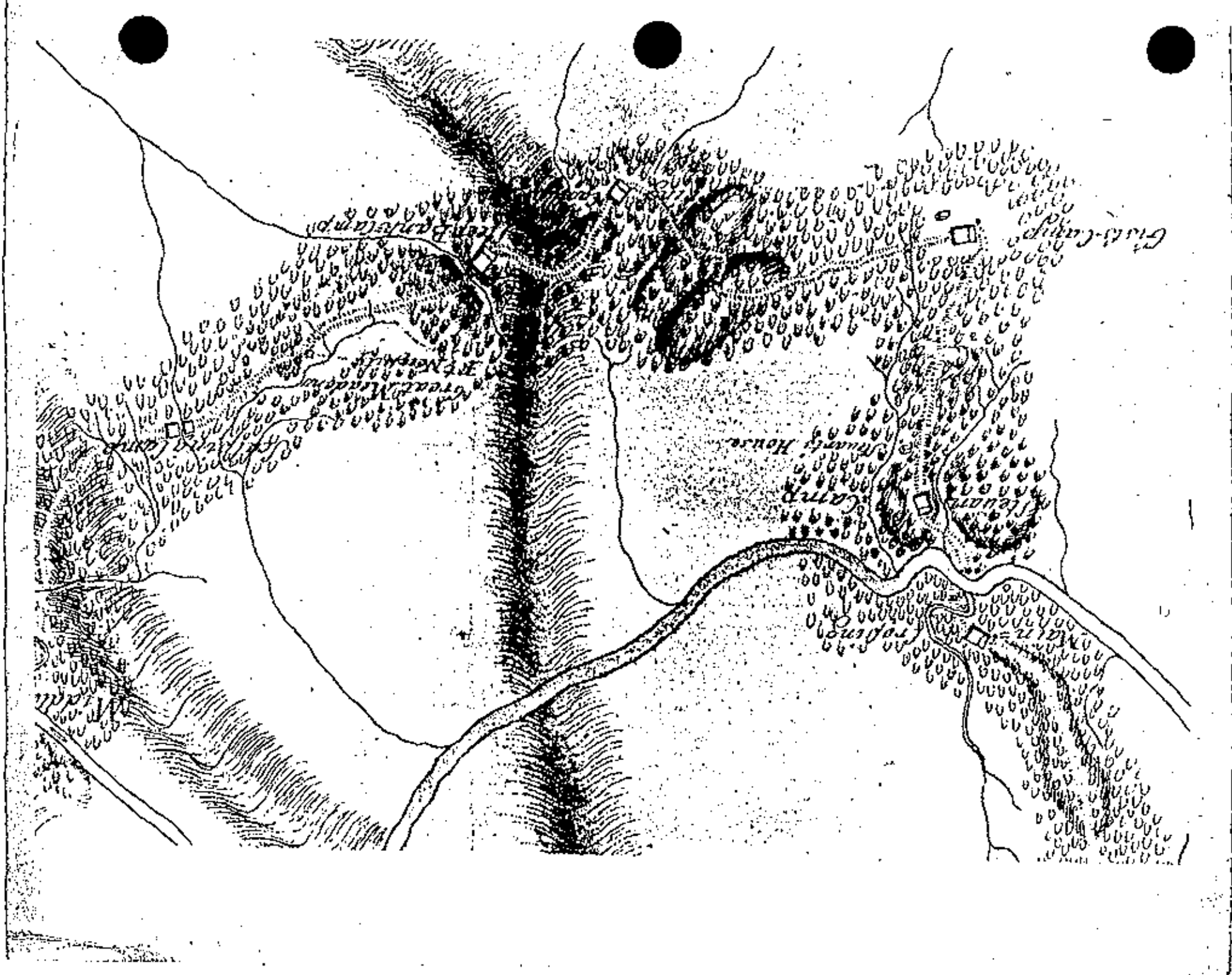
1753 - 1754

"A sketch map of the country traversed by George Washington in 1753-1754 between Cumberland, Maryland and Fort Le Boeuf, at Waterford, Pennsylvania, showing parts of the "Potomack" the "Menongehela," the Forks of the Ohio and French Creek."

Copy of a manuscript map by George Washington. The exact date that it was drawn is unknown. Post 1754? This is one of three existing copies. Please note that this particular copy has been drawn by a hand other than George Washington's but it is annotated in his hand. Note the size of the Great Meadows as depicted by George.

Original of this map is in the Public Record Office, London.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 90-91.



all- hard burs which  
 nches, that appear not  
 and from these I believe

## TREES.

Oil Nut, the Walnut,  
 Beech Nut, the Pecan  
 the Hickory.

or OIL NUT. As  
 made by any authors  
 the more particu-  
 The tree grows  
 the soil is rich and  
 of it seldom exceeds a  
 is full of branches,  
 are short and blunt,  
 those of the walnut.  
 like that fruit, which  
 furrowed, and more  
 also much longer  
 walnut, and contains a  
 kernel, which is very  
 seable flavour. I am  
 ch purer oil than that  
 of

of olives might be extracted from this nut.  
 The inside bark of this tree dyes a good  
 purple; and it is said, varies in its shade,  
 being either darker or lighter according to  
 the month in which it is gathered.

The BEECH NUT. Though this tree  
 grows exactly like that of the same name  
 in Europe, yet it produces nuts equally  
 as good as chesnuts; on which bears,  
 martins, squirrels, partridges, turkies,  
 and many other beasts and birds feed.  
 The nut is contained, whilst growing, in  
 an outside case like that of a chesnut, but  
 not so prickly; and the coat of the inside  
 shell is also smooth like that; only its  
 form is nearly triangular. Vast quanti-  
 ties of them lie scattered about in the  
 woods, and supply with food great num-  
 bers of the creatures just mentioned. The  
 leaves, which are white, continue on the  
 trees during the whole winter. A decoc-  
 tion made of them is a certain and expe-  
 ditious cure for wounds which arise from  
 burning or scalding, as well as a restorative  
 for those members that are nipped by the  
 frost.

The PECAN NUT is somewhat of the  
 walnut kind, but rather smaller than a  
 1 i 3 walnut,

walnut, being about the size of a middling acorn, and of an oval form; the shell is easily cracked, and the kernel shaped like that of a walnut. This tree grows chiefly near the Illinois river.

The HICKORY is also of the walnut kind, and bears a fruit nearly like that tree. There are several sorts of them, which vary only in the colour of the wood. Being of a very tough nature, the wood is generally used for the handles of axes, &c. It is also very good firewood, and as it burns an excellent sugar distills from it.

## FRUIT TREES.

I need not to observe that these are all the spontaneous productions of nature, which have never received the advantages of ingrafting, transplanting, or manuring.

The Vine, the Mulberry Tree, the Crab Apple Tree, the Plum Tree, the Cherry Tree, and the Sweet Gum Tree.

The

The VINE is of three kinds; serves the same purpose; much resembles that if exposed to the sun, can be made from the bark, resembles Zant currant, and if properly prepared would be equal, in quality, to that of that country.

The MULBERRY is of three kinds, red and white, of the same size of the fruit, and grow in such a quantity of silk.

The CRAB Apple fruit that is much valued than that of the Crab.

The PLUM is of several sorts of plums in a large sort of a purple red on the reverse green, and much finer of a good flavour, esteemed by the Indians, not refined, but very good.

Poplar, the Wickopic or Suckwic, the Spruce, the Hornbeam, and the Button Wood Tree.

The OAK. There are several sorts of oaks in these parts; the black, the white, the red, the yellow, the grey, the swamp oak, and the chefnut oak: the five former vary but little in their external appearance, the shape of the leaves, and the colour of the bark being so much alike, that they are scarcely distinguishable; but the body of the tree when sawed discovers the variation, which chiefly consists in the colour of the wood, they being all very hard and proper for building. The swamp oak differs materially from the others both in the shape of the leaf, which is smaller, and in the bark, which is smother; and likewise as it grows only in a moist gravelly soil. It is esteemed the toughest of all woods, being so strong yet pliable, that it is often made use of instead of whalebone, and is equally serviceable. The chefnut oak also is greatly different from the others, particularly in the shape of the leaf, which much resembles that of the chefnut-tree, and

4 ]  
years, when they in-  
the interior colonies  
do a great deal of  
when they thus ar-  
h locust years.

### R XIX.

3, ROOTS, HERBS,  
5 &c.

7 : the same me-  
ursued in the pre-  
a given a list  
1 natives of the  
America, particu-  
7 from the pro-  
s, or, being little  
described.

### F E S.

Tree, the Maple,  
the Bals or  
r, the Elm, the  
locust Tree, the  
Poplar,

cepted, every seven years, when they infest these parts and the interior colonies in large swarms, and do a great deal of mischief. The years when they thus arrive are denominated the locust years.

## CHAPTER XIX.

*Of the TREES, SHRUBS, ROOTS, HERBS,  
FLOWERS &c.*

I SHALL here observe the same method that I have pursued in the preceding chapter, and having given a list of the trees, &c. which are natives of the interior parts of North America, particularize such only as differ from the produce of other countries, or, being little known, have not been described.

### OF TREES.

The Oak, the Pine Tree, the Maple, the Ash, the Hemlock, the Bals or White Wood, the Cedar, the Elm, the Birch, the Fir, the Locust Tree, the Poplar,

Poplar, the Wickopic or Sugar Spruce, the Hornbeam, and the Wood Tree.

The OAK. There are several oaks in these parts; the black, the red, the yellow, the grey oak, and the chestnut oak: the former vary but little in their appearance, the shape of the leaves, the colour of the bark being so much that they are scarcely distinguishable from the body of the tree when viewed; the variation, which chiefly is in the colour of the wood, is all very hard and proper for building. The swamp oak differs materially from the others both in the shape of the leaves, which is smaller, and in the bark, which is smoother; and likewise is only in a moist gravelly soil, and is esteemed the toughest of all woods, so strong yet pliable, that it is made use of instead of whale bone, and is equally serviceable. The chestnut is greatly different from the others, particularly in the shape of the leaves, which much resembles that of the chestnut.

## APPENDIX I

One of the best and most descriptive lists of trees, shrubs, roots, and herbs, and flowers compiled during the 18th century is that by the American explorer Jonathan Carver. During the French and Indian War and more particularly during the years 1766-1768, Carver had occasion to travel through numerous areas bordering the Great Lakes and the northern latitudes of the Mississippi River. He never, however, passed through the Great Meadows or southwestern Pennsylvania. Despite this fact his observations on plant life are pertinent to the present study. Much of what was growing here during the 18th century also grew elsewhere in the northern latitudes of America, thus the value of Carver's list and observations. As no other list of comparable value was discovered during the present research effort I have decided to append this paper with a full facsimile copy of Carver's list as issued in 1781.

Source: Travels Through The Interior Parts Of North America, In The Years 1766, 1767, and 1768, by Jonathan Carver, London, 3rd Ed. 1781. -- Facsimile edition by Ross & Haines, Inc. Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1956.

T R A V E L S  
THROUGH THE  
INTERIOR PARTS  
OF  
NORTH AMERICA,

IN THE  
YEARS 1766, 1767, and 1768.

By J. CARVER, Esq.

CAPTAIN OF A COMPANY OF PROVINCIAL  
TROOPS DURING THE LATE  
WAR WITH FRANCE.

ROSS & HAINES, INC.  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

1956

THE THIRD EDITION.

To which is added, SOME ACCOUNT OF THE  
AUTHOR, AND A COPIOUS INDEX.

RIVER.

*See also...*  
2. 1766 to 1768.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

---

**F**EW works have had a more rapid sale than the following; two large editions having been disposed of in two years. This induced the proprietors to print a third: but, as soon as this impression was finished, I purchased both the printed copies and the copy-right.

I have since added to the work, some Account of the Author's life, and an Index to the Travels, which are published separately, for the convenience of the purchasers of the first and second editions; on whom, I was unwilling to raise an extraordinary tax for the third edition.

JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM.

London, March 30, 1781.

and for this reason it is so denominated. It is neither so strong as the former species, or so tough as the latter, but is of a nature proper to be split into rails for fences, in which state it will endure a considerable time.

The **PINE TREE**. That species of the pine tree peculiar to this part of the continent is the white, the quality of which I need not describe, as the timber of it is so well known under the name of deals. It grows here in great plenty, to an amazing height and size, and yields an excellent turpentine, though not in such quantities as those in the northern parts of Europe.

The **MAPLE**. Of this tree there are two sorts, the hard and the soft, both of which yield a luscious juice, from which the Indians by boiling make very good sugar. The sap of the former is much richer and sweeter than the latter, but the soft produces a greater quantity. The wood of the hard maple is very beautifully veined and curled, and when wrought into cabinets, tables, gunstocks, &c. is greatly valued. That of the soft sort differs in its texture, wanting the variegated grain of the hard; it also grows

grows more strait and and is more easily split. It be distinguished from grows in meadows and the hills and up-lands shaped alike, but those are much the largest green.

The **ASH**. There this tree in these parts I shall confine my description to a low ash, which is on head branches of the tree grows to an amazing body of it is so firm a French traders who go from Louisiana to purchase them peraguays; they cavating them by fire are completed, convey duce of their trade to I they find a good market vessels and cargoes. The tree greatly resembles ash, but it might be any other tree by its outside bark being near and indented with furrows

is so denominated.  
as the former spe-  
the latter, but is of a  
split into rails for  
it will endure a con-

2. That species of  
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the quality of which  
the timber of it is so  
the name of deals. It  
nty, to an amazing  
olds an excellent tur-  
in such quantities as  
of Europe.

Of this tree there are  
and the soft, both  
ious juice, from  
boiling make very  
of the former is  
er than the latter,  
a greater quantity.  
d maple is very  
curled, and when  
tables, gunstocks,

That of the soft  
ture, wanting the  
hard; it also  
grows

grows more strait and free from branches,  
and is more easily split. It likewise may  
be distinguished from the hard, as this  
grows in meadows and low-lands, that on  
the hills and up-lands. The leaves are  
shaped alike, but those of the soft maple  
are much the largest, and of a deeper  
green.

The ASH. There are several sorts of  
this tree in these parts, but that to which  
I shall confine my description, is the yel-  
low ash, which is only found near the  
head branches of the Mississippi. This  
tree grows to an amazing height, and the  
body of it is so firm and sound, that the  
French traders who go into that country  
from Louisiana to purchase furs make of  
them periaguays; this they do by ex-  
cavating them by fire, and when they  
are completed, convey in them the pro-  
duce of their trade to New Orleans, where  
they find a good market both for their  
vessels and cargoes. The wood of this  
tree greatly resembles that of the common  
ash, but it might be distinguished from  
any other tree by its bark; the rois or  
outside bark being near eight inches thick,  
and indented with furrows more than six  
I i inches

inches deep, which make those that are arrived to a great bulk appear uncommonly rough; and by this peculiarity they may be readily known. The rind or inside bark is of the same thickness as that of other trees, but its colour is a fine bright yellow; insomuch that if it is but slightly handled, it will leave a stain on the fingers, which cannot easily be washed away; and if in the spring you peel off the bark, and touch the sap, which then rises between that and the body of the tree, it will leave so deep a tincture that it will require three or four days to wear it off. Many useful qualities belonging to this tree I doubt not will be discovered in time, besides its proving a valuable acquisition to the dyer.

The HEMLOCK TREE grows in every part of America in a greater or less degree. It is an ever-green of a very large growth, and has leaves somewhat like that of the yew; it is however quite useless, and only an incumbrance to the ground, the wood being of a very coarse grain, and full of wind-shakes or cracks.

The

The BASS or WHITE BASS tree of a middling and softest wood that dry it swims on the water. The settlements the bowls, trenchers, and smooth, and will when applied to any far from durable.

The WICKOP tree appears to be a species and is distinguished quality in the bark, and moistened with constantly becomes a mence and nature of Indians pay their exceeds pitch or any ally appropriated to tides its adhesive qual a nature, that the w through it, and its re not for a considerable

The BUTTON V largest size, and mi by its bark, which prettily mottled. T per for the use of c

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which make those that are  
 great bulk appear uncom-  
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 of the same thickness as  
 others, but its colour is a fine  
 brown, so much that if it is but  
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WICK TREE grows in  
 America in a greater or less  
 number ever-green of a very  
 hard leaves somewhat  
 leaved; it is however quite  
 an incumbrance to the  
 being of a very coarse  
 wind-shakes or cracks.

The

The BASS or WHITE WOOD is a  
 tree of a middling size, and the whitest  
 and softest wood that grows; when quite  
 dry it swims on the water like a cork: in  
 the settlements the turners make of it  
 bowls, trenchers, and dishes, which wear  
 smooth, and will last a long time; but  
 when applied to any other purpose it is  
 far from durable.

The WICKOPICK or SUCKWICK  
 appears to be a species of the white wood,  
 and is distinguished from it by a peculiar  
 quality in the bark, which when pounded  
 and moistened with a little water, in-  
 stantly becomes a matter of the consist-  
 ence and nature of size. With this the  
 Indians pay their canoes, and it greatly  
 exceeds pitch or any other material usu-  
 ally appropriated to that purpose; for be-  
 sides its adhesive quality, it is of so oily  
 a nature, that the water cannot penetrate  
 through it, and its repelling power abates  
 not for a considerable time.

The BURTON WOOD is a tree of the  
 largest size, and might be distinguished  
 by its bark, which is quite smooth and  
 prettily mottled. The wood is very pro-  
 per for the use of cabinet-makers. It is

covered with small hard burs which spring from the branches, that appear not unlike buttons, and from these I believe it receives its name.

### NUT TREES.

The Better or Oil Nut, the Walnut, the Hazle Nut, the Beech Nut, the Pecan Nut, the Chesnut, the Hickory.

The BUTTER or OIL NUT. As no mention has been made by any authors of this nut, I shall be the more particular in my account of it. The tree grows in meadows where the soil is rich and warm. The body of it seldom exceeds a yard in circumference, is full of branches, the twigs of which are short and blunt, and its leaves resemble those of the walnut. The nut has a shell like that fruit, which when ripe is more furrowed, and more easily cracked; it is also much longer and larger than a walnut, and contains a greater quantity of kernel, which is very oily, and of a rich agreeable flavour. I am persuaded that a much purer oil than that  
of

of olives might be extracted from it. The inside bark of the nut is of a purple; and it is said to be of great use, being either darker or lighter than the mouth in which it is contained.

The BEECH NUT grows exactly like the walnut in Europe, yet it is as good as chefnut to the martins, squirrels, and many other birds. The nut is contained in an outside case like that of the walnut, but not so prickly; and the shell is also smooth. The form is nearly triangular, and the seeds of them lie scattered in the woods, and supply numbers of the creatures with food. The leaves, which are white during the whole of the summer, are a good cure for wounds made of them by burning or scalding; for those members that are affected by frost.

The PECAN NUT is of the walnut kind, but re-

the size of a mid-  
an oval form; the  
ked, and the kernel  
walnut. This tree  
the Illinois river.

is also of the walnut  
fruit nearly like that  
several sorts of them,  
the colour of the  
very tough nature, the  
ed for the handles of  
also very good fire-  
has an excellent sugar

## TREES.

serve that these are all  
collections of nature,  
ved the advantages  
planting, or manur-

Mulberry Tree, the  
Plum Tree, the  
Sweet Gum Tree.

The

The VINE is very common here, and  
of three kinds; the first sort hardly de-  
serves the name of a grape; the second  
much resembles the Burgundy grape, and  
if exposed to the sun a good wine might  
be made from them. The third sort re-  
sembles Zant currants, which are so fre-  
quently used in cakes, &c. in England,  
and if proper care was taken of them,  
would be equal, if not superior, to those  
of that country.

The MULBERRY TREE is of two  
kinds, red and white, and nearly of the  
same size of those of France and Italy,  
and grow in such plenty, as to feed any  
quantity of silk worms.

The CRAB APPLE TREE bears a  
fruit that is much larger and better fla-  
voured than those of Europe.

The PLUM TREE. There are two  
sorts of plums in this country, one a  
large sort of a purple cast on one side, and  
red on the reverse, the second totally  
green, and much smaller. Both these are  
of a good flavour, and are greatly es-  
teemed by the Indians, whose taste is  
not refined, but who are satisfied with the

productions of nature in their unimproved state.

The CHERRY TREE. There are three sorts of cherries in this country; the black, the red, and the sand cherry; the two latter may with more propriety be ranked among the shrubs, as the bush that bears the sand cherries almost creeps along the ground, and the other rises not above eight or ten feet in height; however I shall give an account of them all in this place. The black cherries are about the size of a currant, and hang in clusters like grapes; the trees which bear them being very fruitful, they are generally loaded, but the fruit is not good to eat, however they give an agreeable flavour to brandy, and turn it to the colour of claret. The red cherries grow in the greatest profusion, and hang in bunches like the black sort just described; so that the bushes which bear them appear at a distance like solid bodies of red matter. Some people admire this fruit, but they partake of the nature and taste of alum, leaving a disagreeable roughness in the throat, and being very astringent. As I have already described the sand cherries, which

which greatly excels both in flavour and further description of the black cherry and works well in

The SWEET QUID AMBER extremely common the virtues of which is black and hard, and supple, that you may draw from rods of five or six; not be employed in as it warps continued with five per balm is reckoned an excellent febrifuge; in two or three days

SH

The Willow, Sassafras, the Prickly Spoon Wood, Large Poisonous Elder, Sweet Fern, the I

way up the turnpike, and an hour later we were back at Summit House, turning on to the northeast on the by-road toward Jumonville's Camp. It is the roughest sort of mountain road, the hubs of the carriage one moment

open.

A half mile or so farther on we found the rocky hillside hollow which Jumonville made his camp, and where was fired the first shot in the final struggle between French and Eng-



SITE OF FORT NECESSITY.

The hawthorn tree on the extreme left is within the earth works.

bumping trees and stumps, and the other wallowing in deep ruts which

lish for the control of the continent. The sides are hung thick with laurel

1896

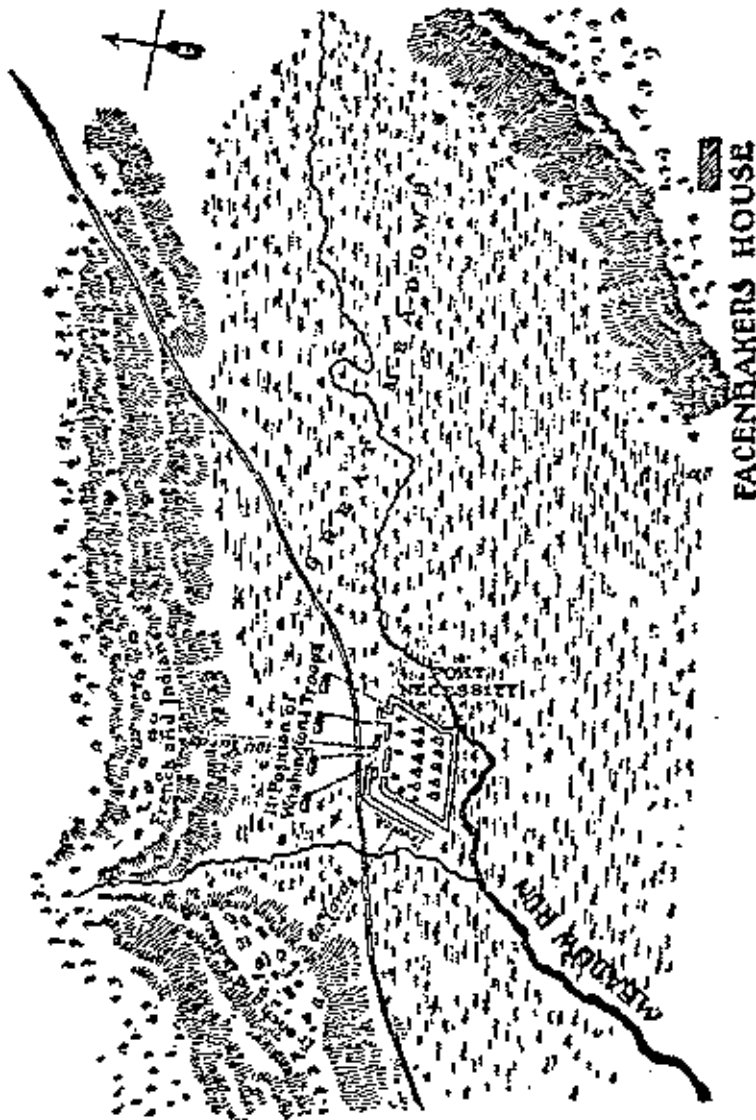
Plan of Battle at Fort Necessity.

This map accompanied the 1896 description of the meadow written by Reuben Gold Thwaites. It is basically a revised edition of the Jared Sparks map of the site circa 1830. This particular copy appeared in a reprint of Thwaites article "A Day On The Braddock Road" which is the original source of the map.

t at these have lasted unto  
hoer War affords ample

outeast, along the turn-  
the crest of a low-lying  
is : towards the Youghio-  
ounced *Yock-i-a-ga-ney*),  
aker's farm, which includes  
Fort Necessity. Descend-  
d cattle-way for three hun-  
erages upon the meadow,  
y tract of some fifty acres,  
gently-sloping hills which  
orsted, but now are for the  
ls. A small creek flowing  
ls the Youghiogheny, and  
courses through the  
and on its northern bank  
s fort.

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h grown to bushes, but  
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asin thirty-one miles to  
twenty from Cumberland.  
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PLAN OF BATTLE AT FORT NECESSITY

1901

The Great Meadow And The Site Of Fort Necessity.

The site of Fort Necessity and adjacent grounds as they looked during the visit of Archer B. Hulbert in 1901.

Location of original drawing unknown.

Source: Washington's Road, by Archer B. Hulbert, Cleveland, 1903.

See page 157.



SITE OF FORT NECESSITY

1913

Photograph of the site of Fort Necessity by John Leacock.

This view provides us with rare glimpse of how a large portion of the grounds historically known as the Mount Washington Tract looked at one particular time. Note the extent of farming activity and the orchard growing just south of the Mount Washington Tavern.

John Leacock produced a wide variety of photographs of historic properties along the Braddock Road and National Road between 1900-1915.

The original photograph is owned by the Historical Society Of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Source: Photographic Files at Fort Necessity National Battlefield.



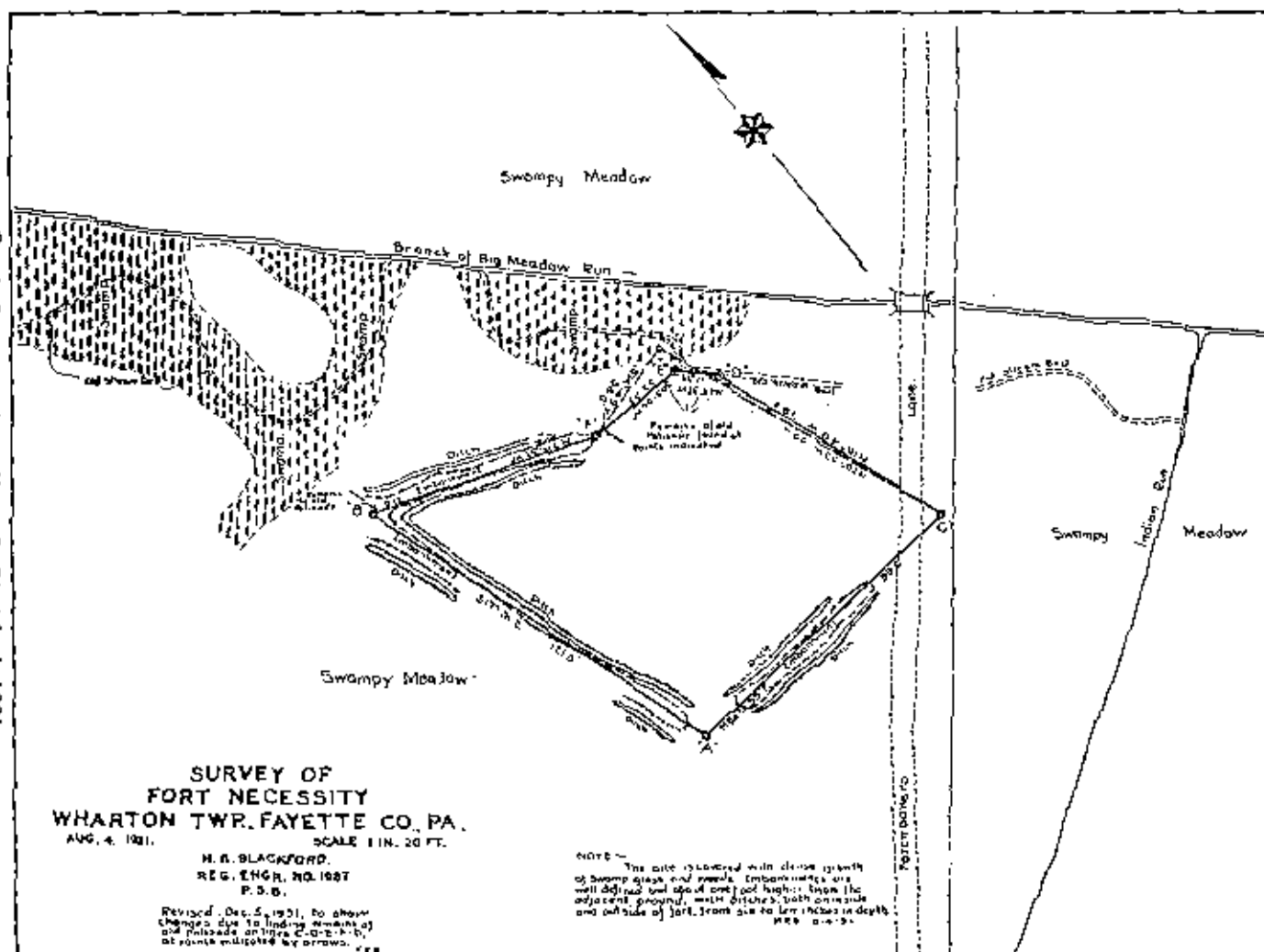
1931

"Survey Of Fort Necessity by Harry R. Blackford August 4, 1931."

Blackford conducted a series of archaeological explorations of the site in 1931 and found a number of artifacts as well as evidence of the remains of the actual fort. His survey map is reproduced here as it contains some important notations concerning the condition of the meadow in 1931.

Source: New Light On Washington's Fort Necessity, by J.C. Harrington, Richmond, 1957. See page 70.

Fig. 9. Survey made by Harry R. Blackford, 1931.



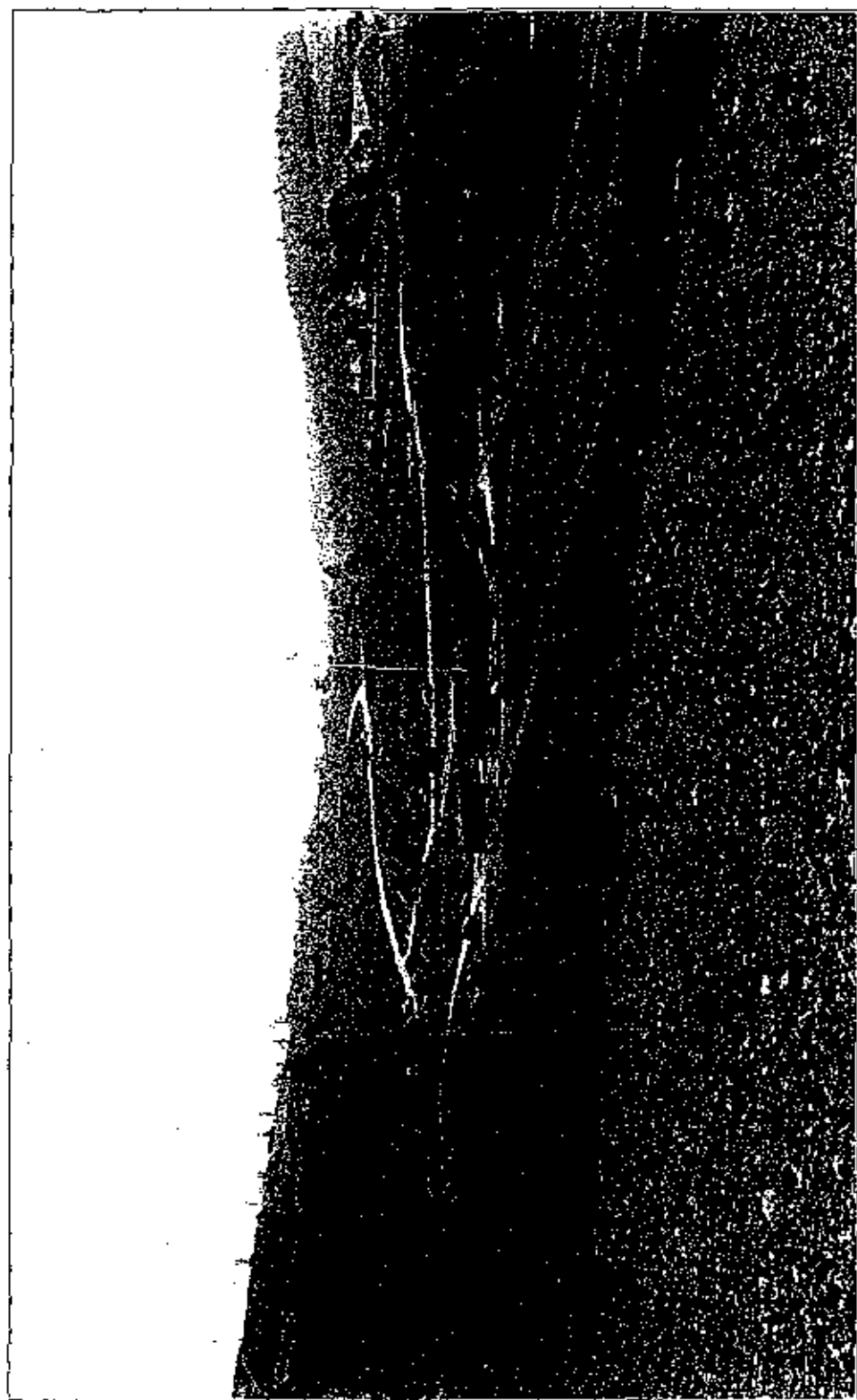
1932

Great Meadows and Fort Necessity

A photograph showing the newly reconstructed Fort Necessity. Photographer is unknown. View is orientated looking north and east.

Location of the original photograph is unknown.

Source: Fort Necessity and Historic Shrines of the Redstone Country 1732-1932, by Fort Necessity Chapter, Pennsylvania Society Of The Sons Of The American Revolution, Uniontown, 1932, page 60.



Great Meadows and Fort Necessity

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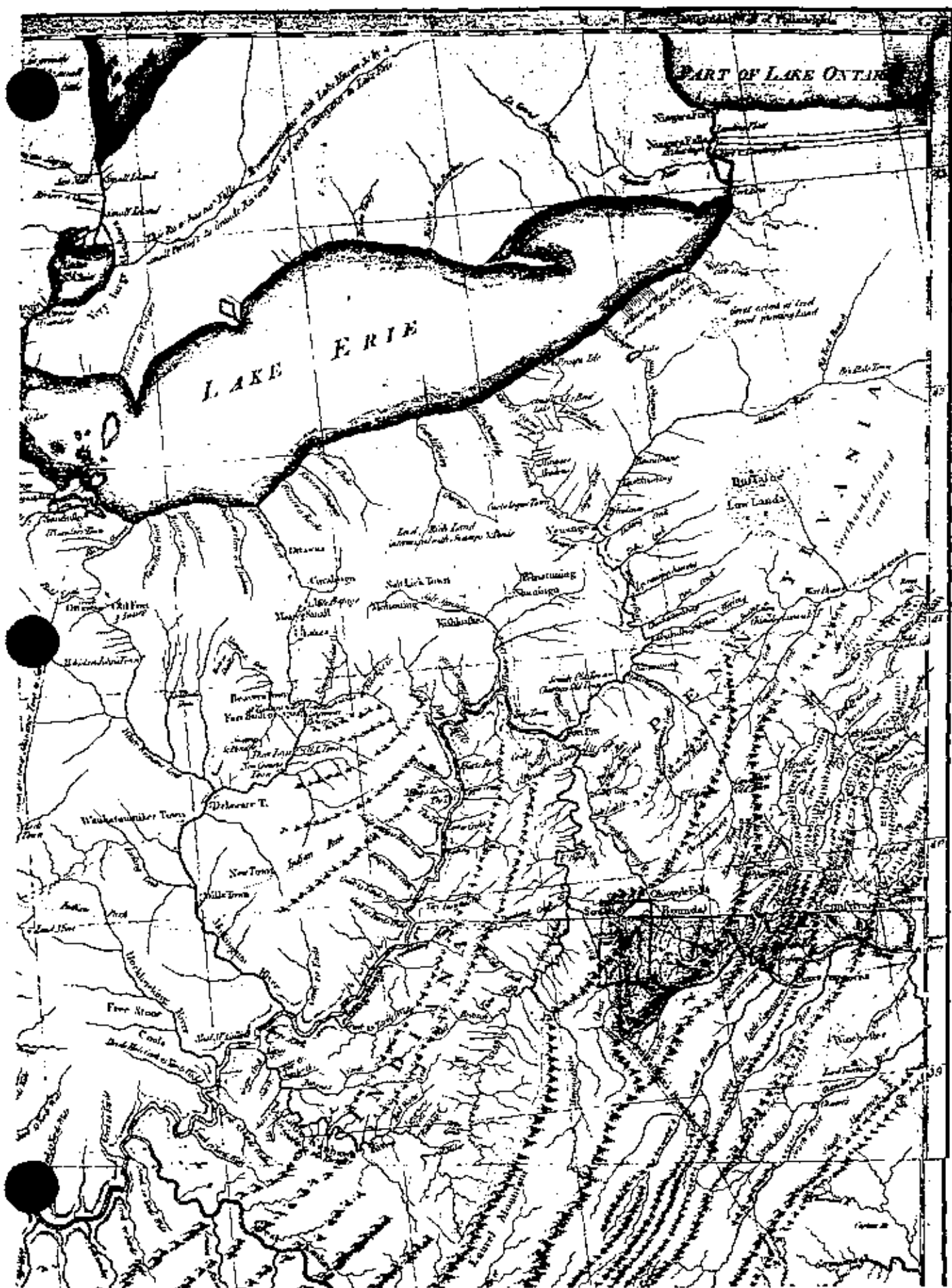
1778

"A new map of the western parts of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland and North Carolina.....By Thos. Hutchins, Captain in the 60 Regiment of Foot. London Published according to Act of Parliament..... 1778 by T. Hutchins."

This map is considered to be a good general map. When it was first issued, some surveyors challenged the accuracy of the latitudes and longitudes of certain places. George Washington was, in fact, one of those who found some fault with the map. Hutchins, however, defended himself on the basis that it was generally constructed from actual surveys made by him during the French and Indian War. I have boxed-off the area marked "Great Meadow" which is not clear on the copy provided. The meadow is not depicted by symbol or other means.

Original map in the National Archives of the United States, Washington, D.C.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 124-125.



51. Thomas Hutchins' map of the Western Country and the Ohio. 1778

1792

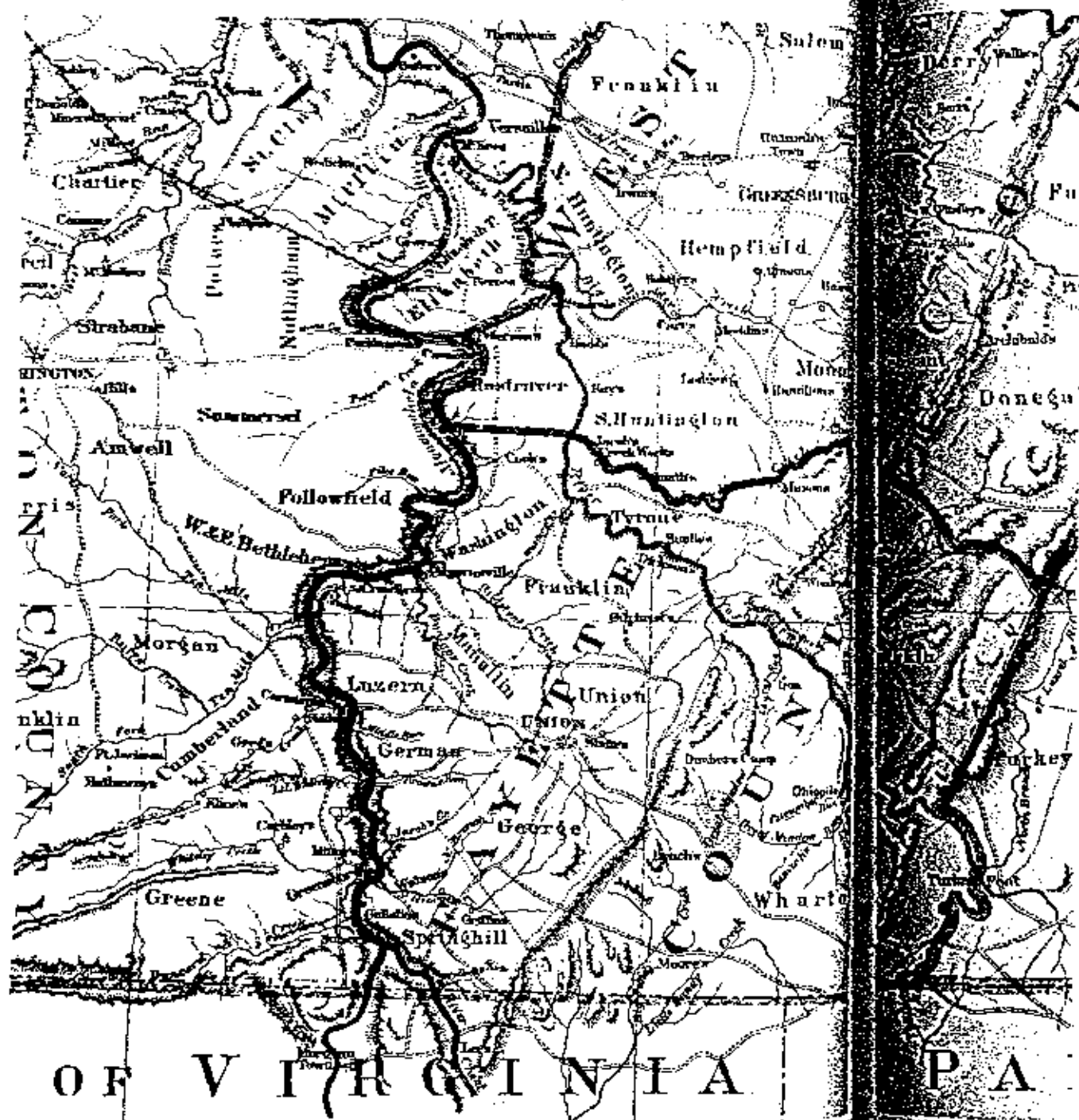
A section of Reading Howell's 1792 map of Pennsylvania showing the area traversed by George Washington in 1784.

The Great Meadow is clearly shown.

Original in the Rare Book Department University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville.

Source: The Diaries Of George Washington, ed by Donald Jackson and Dorothy Twohig, 6 Vols., Charlottesville, 1976-1979. See Volume 4 pages 34-35.

Copy taken from a facsimile in The Pennsylvania Archives 3d. Series, appendix for vols. 1-10, no date.



A section from Reading Howell's 1792 map of Pennsylvania, showing the area traversed by Washington in 1784. From a facsimile in *The Pennsylvania*

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*Archives*, 3d ser., appendix for vols. 1-10, n.d. (Rare Book Department, University of Virginia Library)

21<sup>st</sup> Dec 1816

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 $ABC = \text{abt. } 40\frac{1}{2} \text{ square pards.}$   
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50  $\square$  parcels of land in all.

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BC 559 1/2 E 10.3  
CA 580 W 6.

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CA  $\frac{1}{2}$  23 m 6 p.m.

The lines  $d \rightarrow F \rightarrow Fg$  were not  
 measured but taken by observation  
 while standing between  $e$  and  $f$ .  
 While standing between  $e$  and  $f$ .

The ambient 21 Oct. 1916

The embankment, 21 Oct. 1816 was more 3 feet above the level of the meadow land and the ditch. From one to 2 feet below the same the wood land on the S. E. side, and the ditch from one to 2 feet below the same, the wood land on the S. E. side 12 to 15 rods distant on the north, 30 to 40 rods; on the south, 50 rods or more. 12 to 15 rods distant on the north, 30 to 40 rods; on the south, 50 rods or more. and on the west a very gradual rise where the road or trail passed along, 50 or 60 rods distant. The flat land on both sides of the run clear meadow, except some swamps or clumps of alder bushes near the stream. some swamps or clumps of alder bushes near the stream.

REPRODUCED BY THE  
WESTMORELAND FACETTE BRANCH  
OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Fig. 2. Freeman Lewis survey made in 1816. Interlineation made on photo-reproduction of original map for broadside, published by Westmoreland Fayette Branch, Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, circa 1932.

1830

Map of the area of the "Battle of the Great Meadows July 3d. 1754" by Jared Sparks.

Based upon his actual survey of the grounds in 1830. This printed map first appeared in general circulation in 1837. At that time it accompanied a new biography of Washington by Sparks.

Source: New Light On Washington's Fort Necessity, by J.C. Harrington, Richmond, 1957. See page 11.

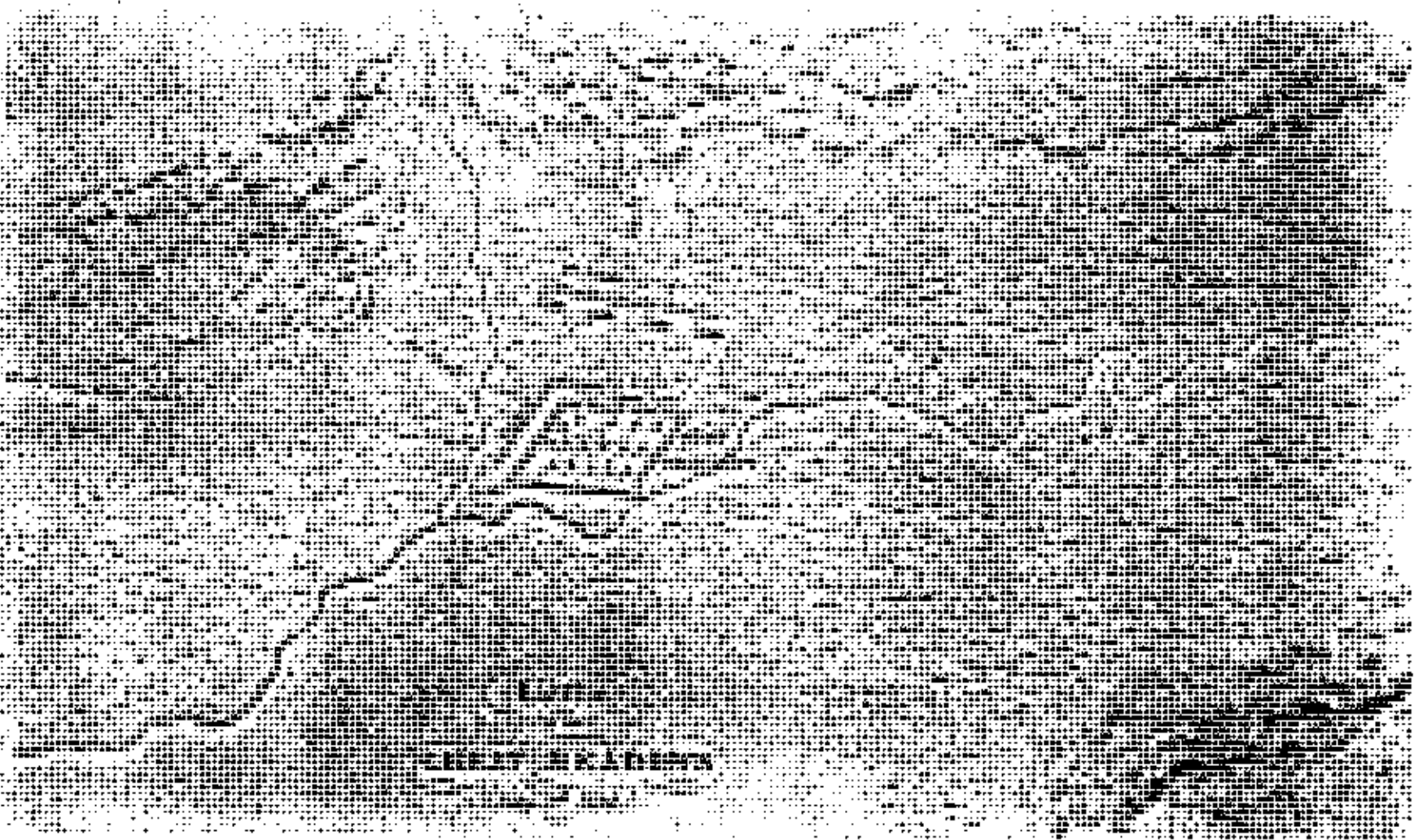


Fig. 3. Map published in Jared Sparks, *The Writings of George Washington*, 1837.



1854

"Surrender Of Fort Necessity, July 4, 1754."

An engraving of Fort Necessity and adjoining hills by David Shriver Stewart made about 1854. The depiction may represent the extent of woodland on the surrounding hills at the time that the drawing was made. The view is believed to have been drawn while the artist was standing at or near the Mount Washington Tavern.

Location of original drawing unknown.

Source: Photographic Files at Fort Necessity National Battlefield.

1854

"Fort Necessity 3D. July 1754." (The Great Meadows)

Photograph of an original oil painting by Paul Weber 1854. The artist visited the meadow and the site of Braddock's Grave in 1854. This painting is believed to be an accurate representation of how, at least, a portion of the grounds looked in 1854. As one can see, there is still an abundance of trees growing upon the slopes of the surrounding hills. Several trees have, however, taken root and have grown within the meadow. The property was still part of the estate of James Sampey at this time.

The original painting is now owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Source: Photographic Files at Fort Necessity National Battlefield.



FORT NECESSITY

3<sup>rd</sup> JULY 1754.

1890

"Site of Fort Necessity 1890."

A photograph of the field in which Fort Necessity had stood. Photographer is unknown. View is orientated looking west and north of the site of the fort.

Location of the original photograph is unknown.

Source: Fort Necessity and Historic Shrines of the Redstone Country 1732-1932, by Fort Necessity Chapter, Pennsylvania Society Of The Sons Of The American Revolution, Uniontown, 1932, page 40.

## FORT NECESSITY



Site of Fort Necessity 1890

but by information given by some Dutch in their service to their countrymen in ours we know that it amounted to above 300; and we are led to believe that it must be very considerable by their being all night burying their dead, and yet many were buried the next day, and their wounded we know was considerable, by one of our men who had been taken prisoner by them after signing the articles, as on his return told us that he saw great numbers much wounded, and carried off upon litters.

We were also told by some of their Indians in the action, that the French had an officer of distinguishable rank killed. Some considerable blow must have been received, to induce them to call for a parley, knowing, as they perfectly did, the circumstances we were in.

Colonel Washington and Captain Mackay left Mr. Clark at Winchester on the 11th last and his men were not then arrived there.

Thus have a few brave men exposed, and butchered, by the negligence of those, who, in obedience to their Sovereign's command, ought to have been with them many months before; and it is confidently certain, that had the companies from New York been as expeditious as Captain Mackay's South Carolina, our camp would have been free from the insults of the French, and our brave men still alive to serve their king and country.

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1896

The Great Meadow And Site Of Fort Necessity.

An actual depiction of the grounds by artist G.(C?)Kardnan(?).

Location of original sketch unknown.

Source: Reuben Gold Thwaites, "A Day On Braddock Road," The New England Magazine 15 New Series ( November 1896 No. 3 ), page 307.

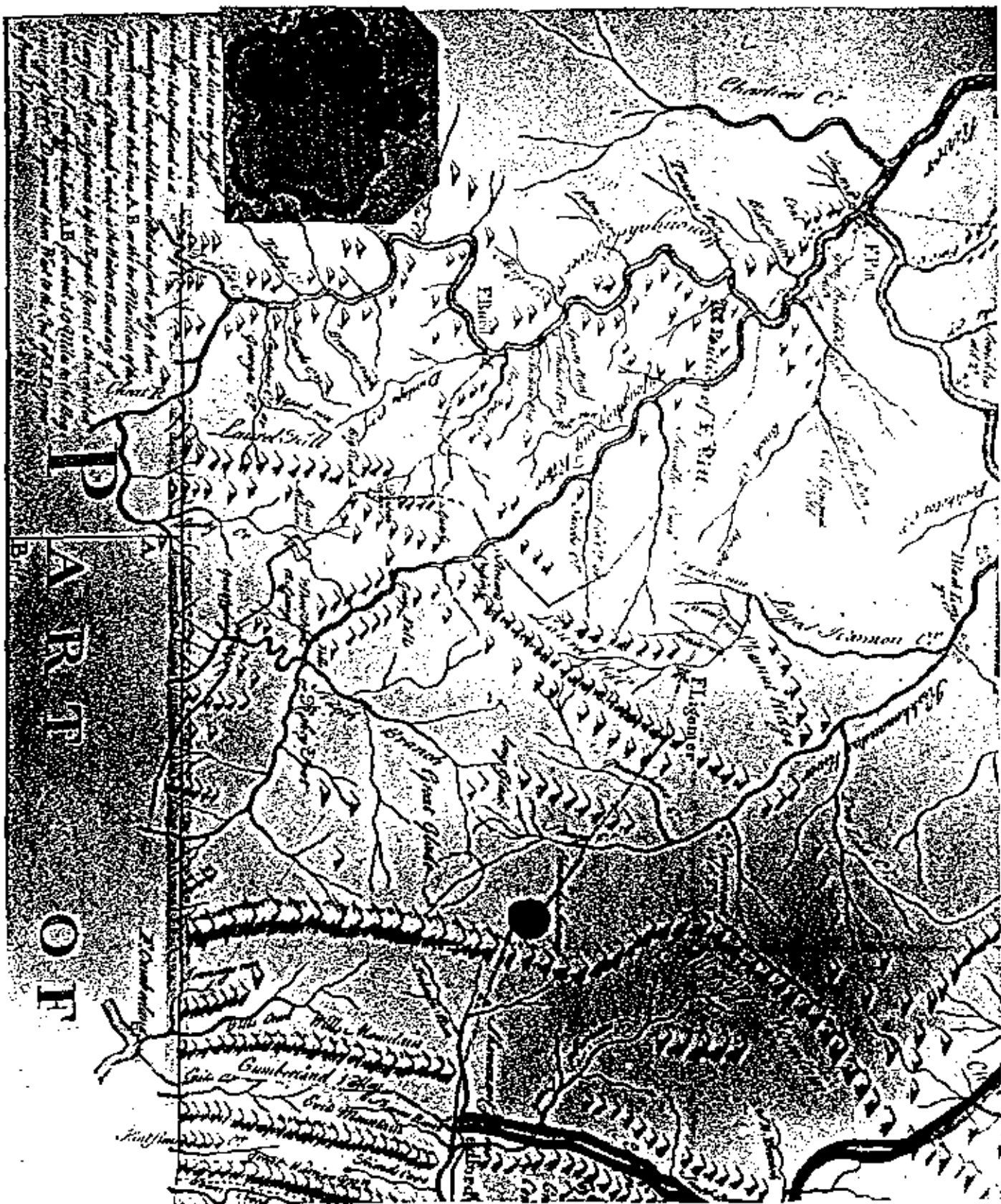
1770

Detail of a map entitled "The Province of Pennsylvania 1770."  
Drawn by master American cartographer Nicholas Scull.

The Great Meadows are depicted in the lower center of the map.

Original copy in the Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg.

Source: A photographic copy is in the Photograph Files of Fort  
Necessity National Battlefield.



1775

Detail from "A MAP OF PENNSYLVANIA," by W. Scull published in 1775.

Note the "Great Meadows" depicted near the lower left corner of this projection.

Source: From a photostatic copy at the Western Pennsylvania Historical Society Library, Pittsburgh.



1775

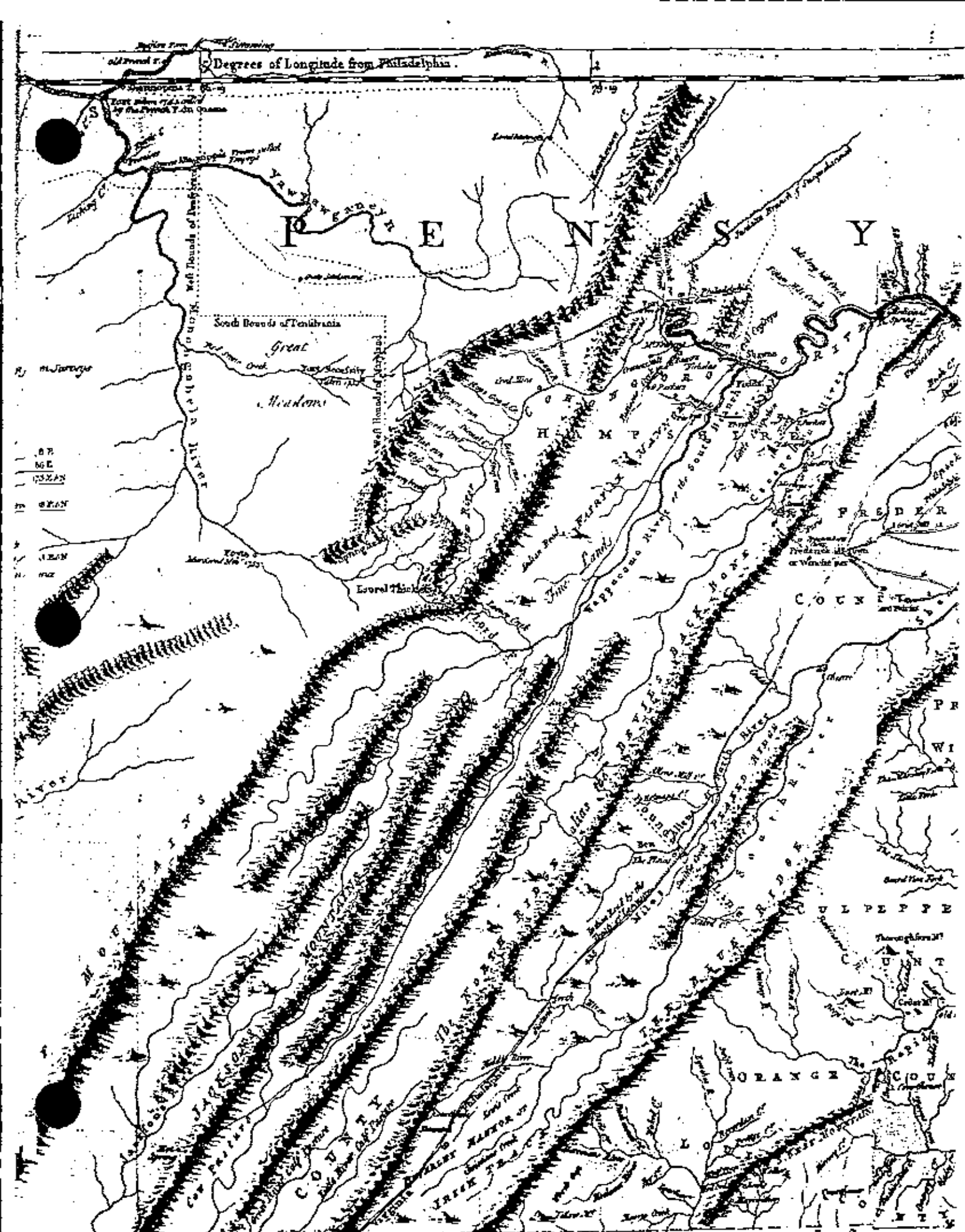
"A map of the most inhabited parts of Virginia, containing the whole province of Maryland with part of Pensilvania, New Jersey and North Carolina. Drawn by Joshua Fry & Peter Jefferson in 1775. London."

Printed map. Map originally finished in 1751 but went through many changes between then and 1755. It was one of the most widely used maps in the American Colonies until 1800. The map notes the Great Meadows, Fort Necessity, etc., but places these features on the wrong side of the ridge.

Please note that Joshua Fry would in 1754 come to lead the Virginia Provincial Regiment and be chosen to command the united colonial force assembled to deal with the French moves into the Ohio River Valley. Unfortunately, Fry would fall off a horse early in the campaign and die. George Washington would then come to command the Virginians. Peter Jefferson was the father of Thomas Jefferson our third President.

Original map in the John Work Garrett Library, The John Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 70-72.



1775

"A MAP OF PENNSYLVANIA, exhibiting not only the improved parts of that province, but also its extensive frontiers: laid down from actual surveys, and chiefly from the late map of W. Scull published in 1770....London, for R. Sayer & J. Bennett, 1775."

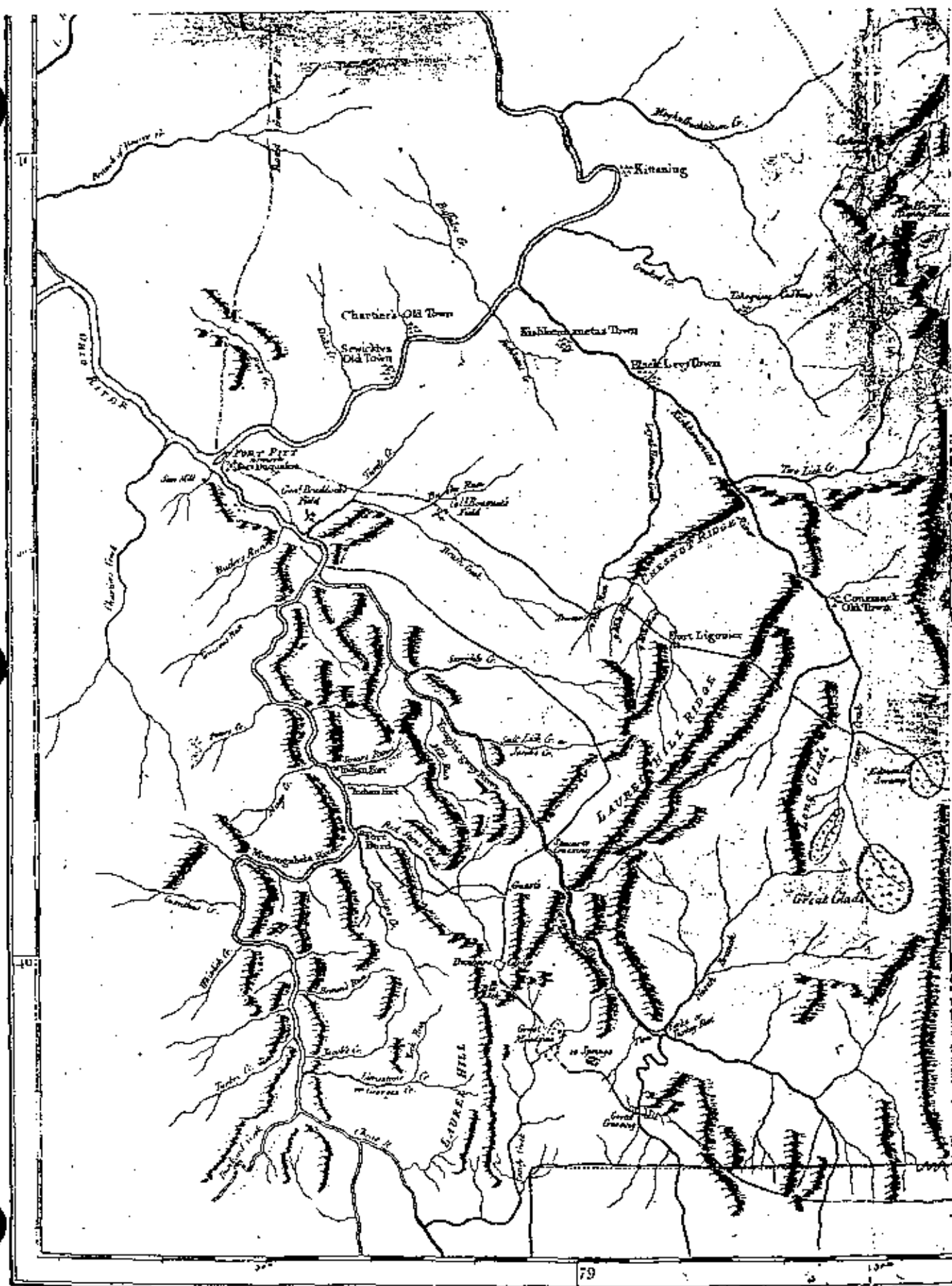
This map is considered to be the most accurate and important records of early American geography. It certainly contains one of the best depictions of the Great Meadow.

Of all of the principal contemporary maps of this part of Pennsylvania, Scull's map is considered to be the most important one produced. It was constructed from extensive surveys of the country and numerous consultations with others who had traversed the same land. The map of 1775 is actually a second improved edition of the original map made in 1770.

Nicholas Scull, the father of William, was one of the most famous of all Colonial cartographers. He had five sons: James, Peter, William, Edward, and Jasper all of whom also became cartographers of note.

An original copy is at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 122-123.



49. The frontiers of Pennsylvania laid down by Nicolas Scull. London, 1775.

1755

"The draught of Genl Braddocks route towards Fort Duquesne as deliver'd to Capt. McKeller Engineer. By Christ. Gist The 15th of Sept. 1755."

Legend number 8 and 9 note the "gt. Meadows."

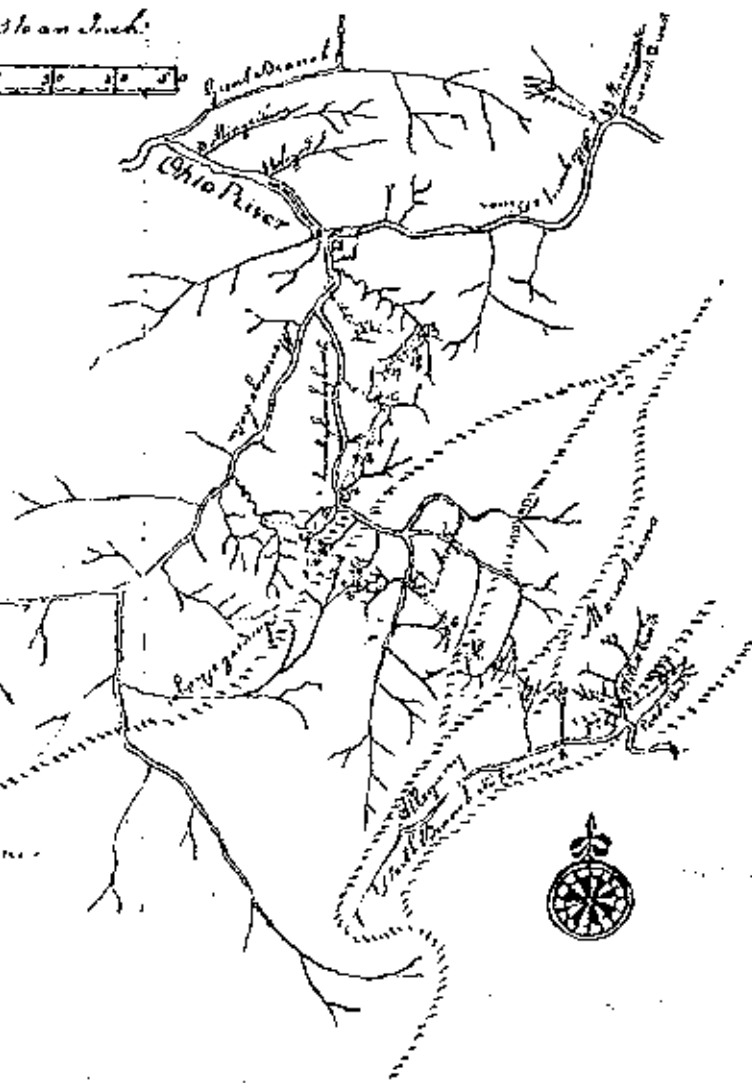
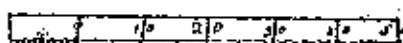
Original manuscript map in the John Carter Brown Library, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 101-102.

From Fort Cumberland Miles

1. To the first Camp 5
2. To the second Camp 5
3. To the third Camp 5
4. To the fourth Camp 5
5. To the fifth Camp 5
6. To the sixth Camp 7
7. To the seventh Camp 7
8. To the eighth Camp 7
9. To the ninth Camp 7
10. To the tenth Camp 7
11. To the eleventh Camp 7
12. To the twelfth Camp 7
13. To the thirteenth Camp 7
14. To the fourteenth Camp 7
15. To the fifteenth Camp 7
16. To the sixteenth Camp 7
17. To the seventeenth Camp 7
18. To the eighteenth Camp 7
19. To the nineteenth Camp 7
20. To the twentieth Camp 7
21. To the twenty-first Camp 7
22. To the twenty-second Camp 7
23. To the twenty-third Camp 7
24. To the twenty-fourth Camp 7
25. To the twenty-fifth Camp 7
26. To the twenty-sixth Camp 7
27. To the twenty-seventh Camp 7
28. To the twenty-eighth Camp 7
29. To the twenty-ninth Camp 7
30. To the thirtieth Camp 7

Scale of Miles 10 to an Inch



From Fort Cumberland 116 to Fort Duquesne

All the General's Camps are marked with  
Camps on the black and red lines.

The red line from 1. to 116 is the old Indian Route  
to the mouth of the stone Creek and back to

the stone Creek at 116.

The red line from 116 to 117 is the new Route  
to Fort Duquesne and back to the stone Creek

at 117. The 117 is the old Indian Route  
to the stone Creek at 116.

The Drawing of Genl. M<sup>r</sup> de la Roche is the old Indian  
Route to Fort Duquesne.

as delivered to Genl. M<sup>r</sup> de la Roche.

By J. G. Gist  
The 15th of April 1755

1755

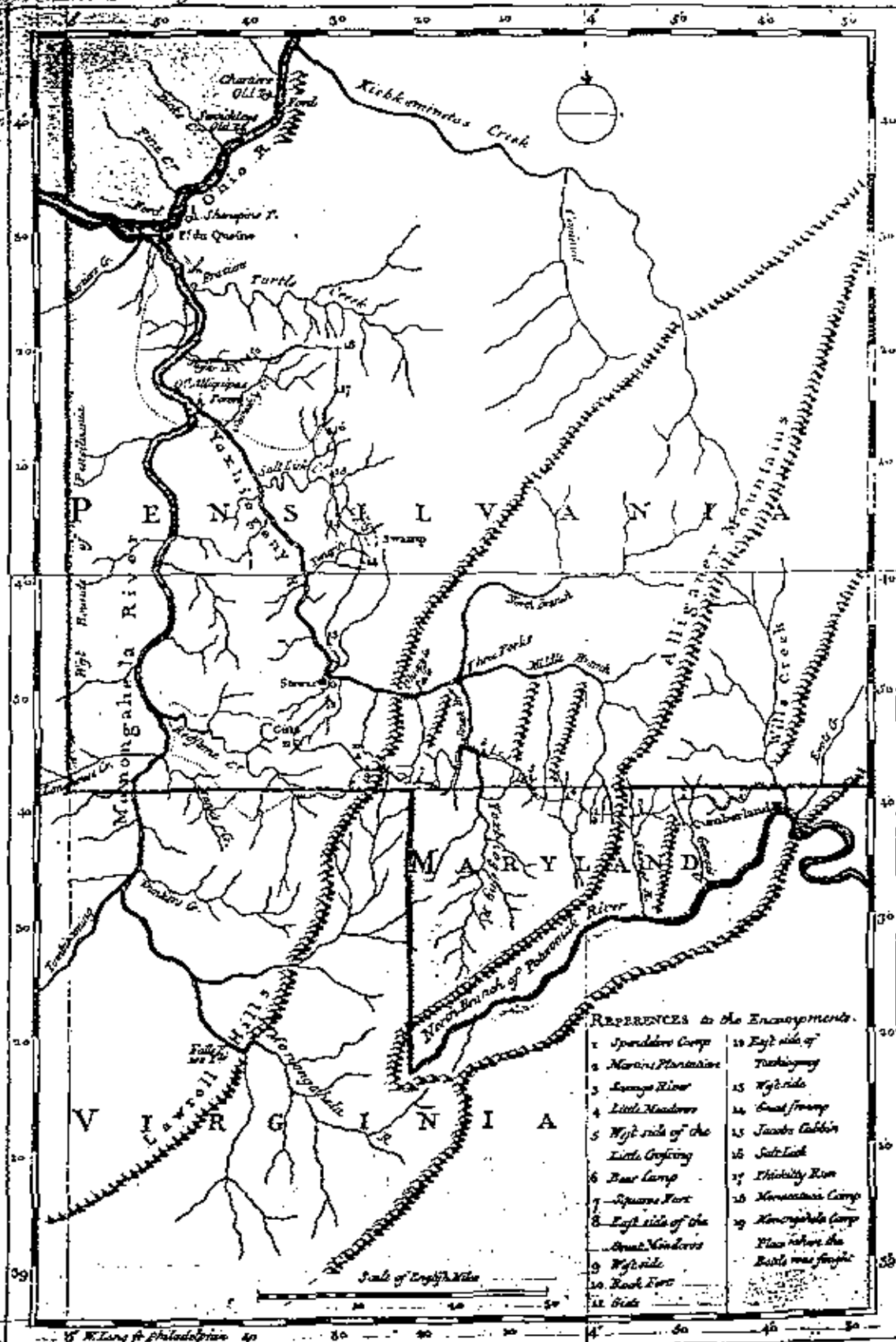
"A Map of the Country between Will's Creek & Monongahela River  
Showing the rout and Encampments of the English Army in 1755."

It [the map] is an adaptation or a highly embellished copy, probably 19th century, of an original manuscript map that accompanied the manuscript journal of Captain Robert Orme, aide to General Braddock.

The original manuscript map and journal that it accompanies is now a part of the King's Collection at the British Library [Museum], London, England.

Source: The History Of An Expedition Against Fort DuQuesne In 1755; Under Major-General Edward Braddock, by Winthrop Sargent, Philadelphia, 1855. The map first appeared in-print in this source.

*A Map of the Country between Hills Creek & Monongahela River  
Showing the Route and Encampments of the English Army in 1755.*



1758

Rough draft "Map of the Country to the West of the Susquehanna drawn by Major George Armstrong July 1758."

Depicts the Great Meadows in the lower left corner.

The original manuscript map can be found at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 103-105.



1758

Detail of "Map of the Country to the West of the Susquehanna drawn by Major George Armstrong July 1758."

Note the Great Meadows in the lower left corner.

Location of the original and source the same as the previous map.



1759

"Plan of the Youghiogheny And Monongahela Rivers By J. Shippin  
1759."

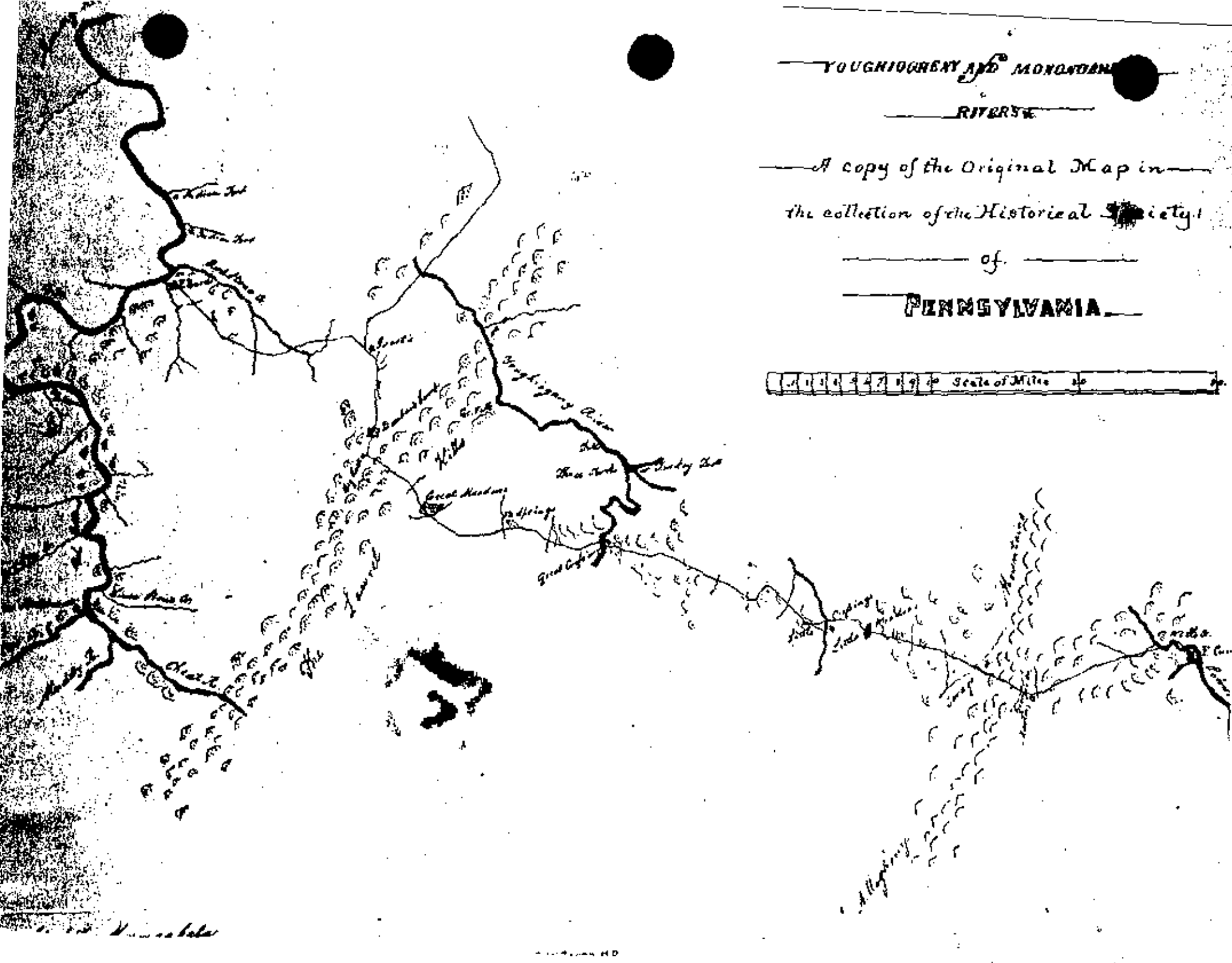
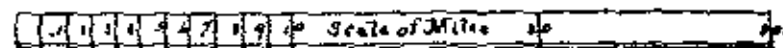
Note the Great Meadows near "The Laurel Hills." This is a copy of  
an 1894 copy of the original manuscript map.

Original drawing in the collection of the Historical Society of  
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Source: From a photographic copy now in the Photograph Files of  
Fort Necessity National Battlefield.

YOUNGHOOREY AND MONOWAN  
RIVER

—A copy of the Original Map in—  
the collection of the Historical Society.  
— of —  
—PENNSYLVANIA—



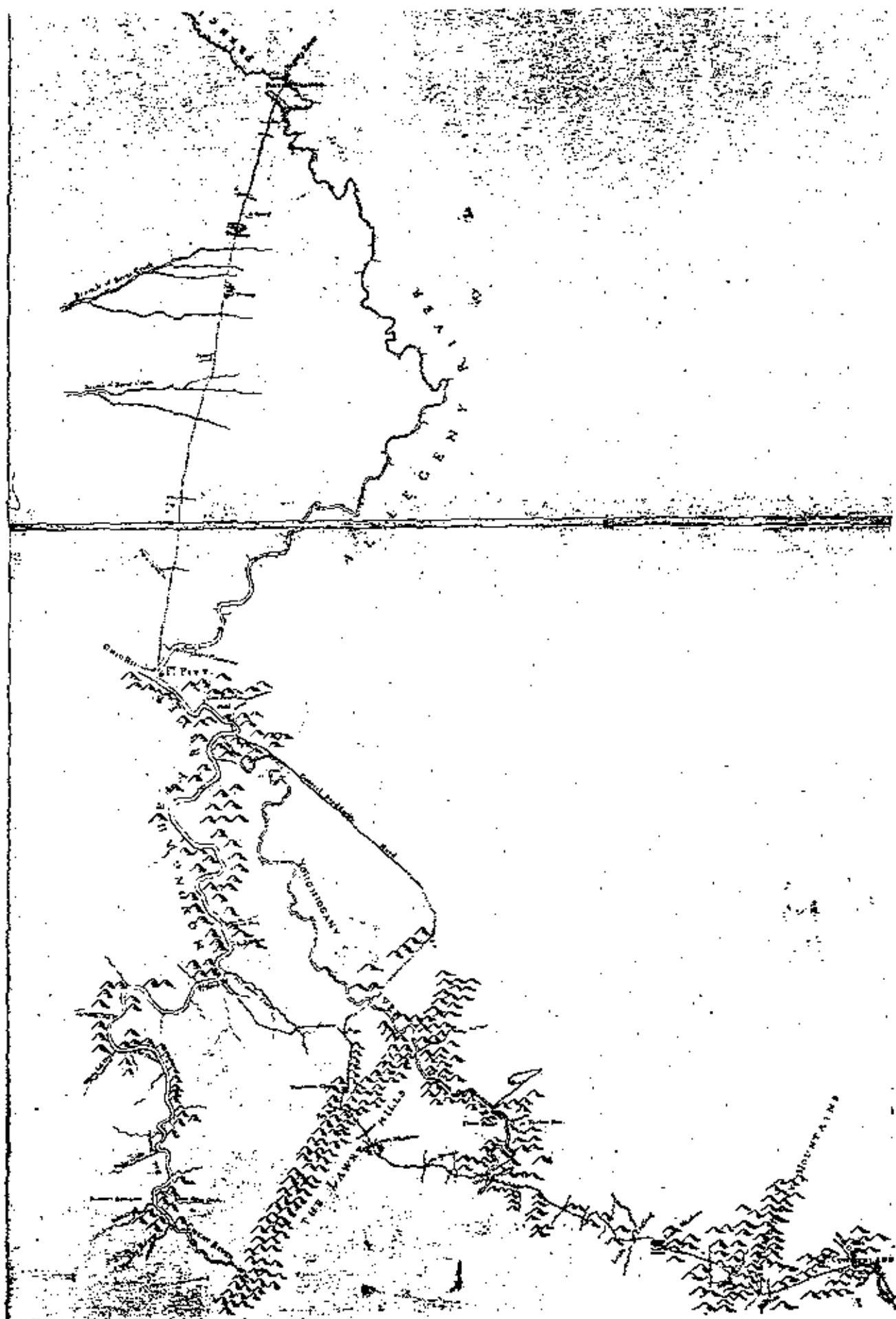
1766

A small portion of a map entitled "A colored chart of Lake Erie showing the route southward from Fort Presqu'isle, by way of Fort Le Boeuf, Fort Venango, Fort Pitt to Fort Cumberland, etc." by John Hills circa 1766.

A manuscript map that depicts the Great Meadows and Braddock's Road. John Hills would be best remembered for the maps that he drew of the mid-Atlantic Colonies during the American Revolutionary War. This map is one of his early renditions.

The original manuscript map is now in the Crown Collection, London, England.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 110-111.



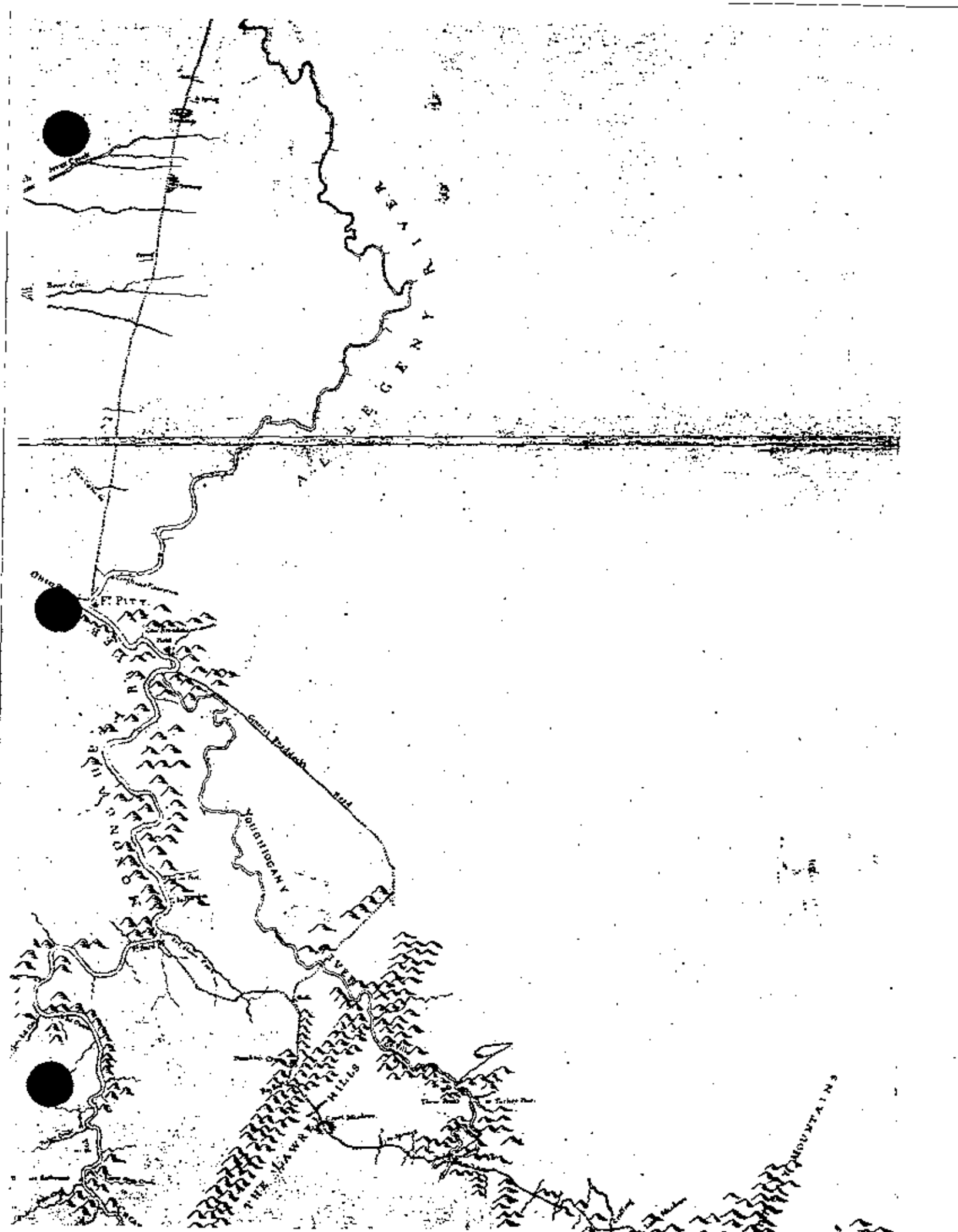
40. A map of the routes between Forts Venango, Pitt, and Cumberland. c. 1766

1766

An enlarged copy of the John Hills map of 1766 cited on the previous map.

The Great Meadows appear in the lower portion of the map.

Location of the original and source the same as on the previous map.



1766

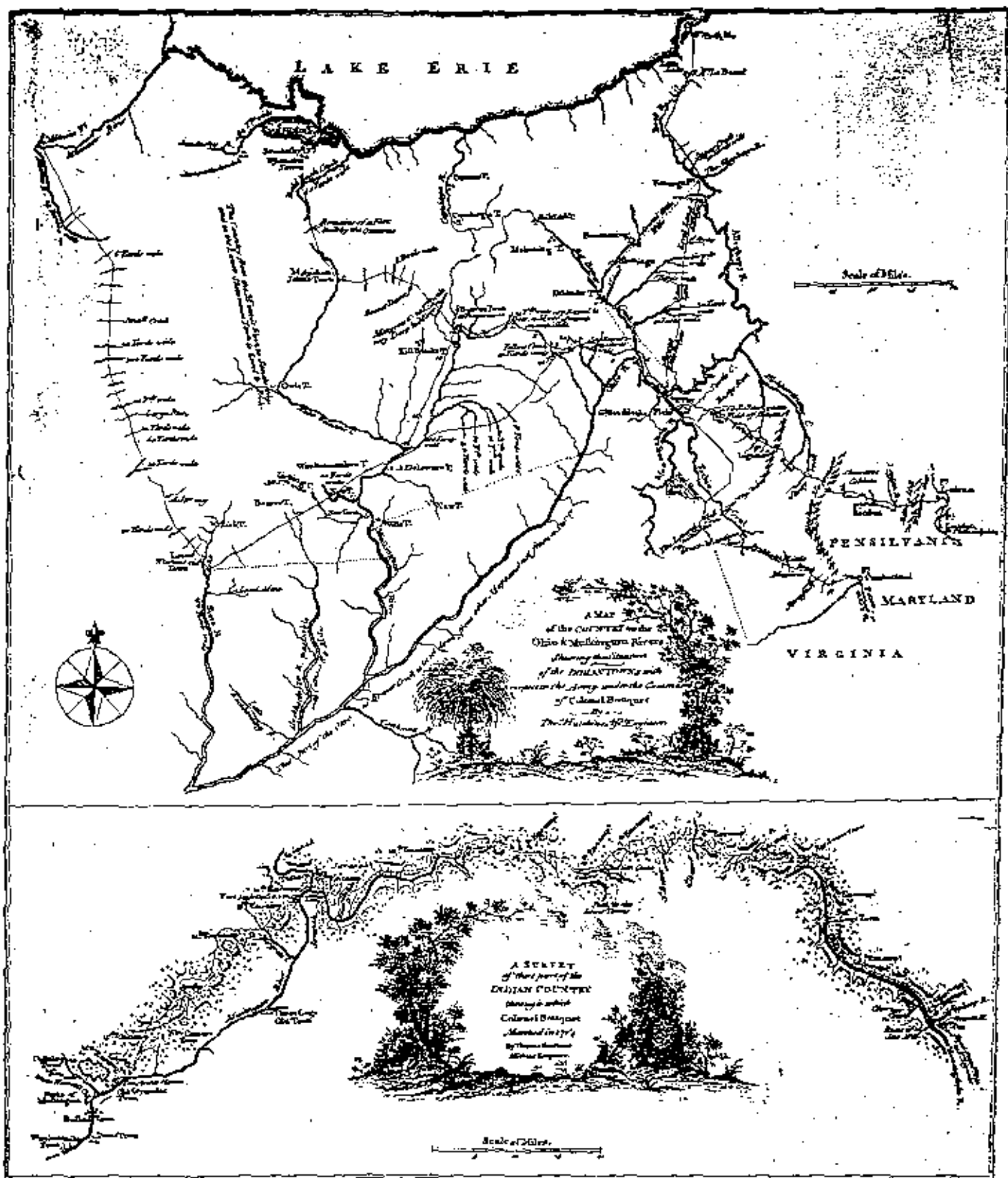
"A map of the Country on the Ohio and Muskingum Rivers.....By Thos. Hutchins Asst. Engineer, London, 1766."

This map originally appeared in a book entitled An Historical Account of the Expedition Against the Ohio Indians, by William Smith published in London 1766. This map is considered to be one of the most attractive maps on a small scale ever produced. Hutchins travelled through the territory in the capacity of explorer, trader, military man and geographer during the course of his life.

The Great Meadows is designated just above the map legend.

An original copy of this map can be seen at the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Source: Early Maps Of The Ohio Valley, by Lloyd A. Brown, Pittsburgh, 1959. See pages 116-117.



45. The printed version of Thomas Hutchins' maps of the Ohio country, 1766