

James Robertson commission

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Mathews, George, 1739-1812.
Title:	James Robertson commission
Dates:	1794
Extent:	0.05 cubic feet (1 folder)
Identification:	MS 0663

Biographical/Historical Note

George Mathews (1739-1812) was born to Ann Archer and John Mathews of Augusta County, Virginia. As an adult, he joined his brother, Sampson, in a business partnership that included land speculation as well as agricultural and mercantile components. Mathews became an Augusta Parish magistrate and high sheriff. During the Revolutionary War, he served first as captain of Virginia militia during the Battle of Point Pleasant, 1774, and then as a colonel of the 9th Virginia Regiment in 1777. His regiment was captured at the Battle of Germantown, Pennsylvania, including Matthews. He was a prisoner of war until 1781. After his release, he served in the Georgia and South Carolina Continental army. Mathews moved to Georgia with his wife, Anne Polly Paul, and their eight children after the war, purchasing property in Wilkes County. He became a Wilkes County justice and a commissioner of the town of Washington. He was elected as governor for 1787-1788. In 1787 he also served as a member of the constitutional convention created with the purpose of ratifying the federal constitution. In 1788 Mathews was elected a member of the House of Representatives. After a few failed political campaigns, he was re-elected as governor in 1793. During Mathew's second term as president, he practiced the policy of granting extensive tracts of land in Glynn, McIntosh, Montgomery, Washington, Effingham, Franklin, and Liberty counties; this was known as the Pine Barren Speculation. In 1795, he signed the Yazoo land act. This questionable act deeply affected his political life. He spent his remaining years trying to regain the political stature and respect he had previously enjoyed. Mathew's died in Augusta, Georgia.

No biographical information is available on James Robertson.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of a commission of James Robertson as captain of a volunteer company of artillery in the Chatham County Militia, 1794. The commission is signed by George Mathews (1739-1812), Governor of Georgia.

Index Terms

Commissions (permissions)
Georgia. Militia.
Mathews, George, 1739-1812.
Robertson, James.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Unknown.

Preferred Citation

[item identification], James Robertson commission, MS 663, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

Acquisition Information

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

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Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2012 Documenting Democracy grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Container List

Item 1: Commission of James Robertson as captain of a volunteer company of artillery in the Chatham County regiment of Militia, 1794 August 26 (1.0 p.)

Signed by George Mathews, Governor.