

Summer Teachers Institute, 2010  
 Library of Congress,  
 Manuscript Division  
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 202/707-1094

**Exercise: George Washington’s Diary  
 Guide to Online Primary Sources**

**I. Primary Sources Available Online at the Library of Congress**

American Memory: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>

Exhibitions: <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/>

Geography and Map Division (G & M): <http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/>

Manuscript Division (Mss): <http://www.loc.gov/rr/mss/>

Prints and Photographs Division (P & P): <http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/pphome.html>

Rare Books and Special Collections: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/rarebook/>

Teachers Page: <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/>

<b>Division</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Website</b>
American Memory	<b>Exhibition:</b> “George Washington, Surveyor and Mapmaker”	<a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gwmaps.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gwmaps.html</a>
Mss	<b>George Washington Papers Online</b> George Washington Papers, 1741-1799	<a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwhome.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwhome.html</a>
Mss	<b>George Washington Papers Online - Diaries, Introduction</b> <i>Diaries of George Washington</i> , Introduction	<a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwintro.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwintro.html</a>
Rare Books	<b>George Washington Diary, 1762</b> This diary is in the Rare Books and Special Collections Division. You can see it on a PDF	<a href="http://lcweb2.loc.gov/service/rbc/rbc0001/2009/2009kislak0886/2009kislak0886.pdf">http://lcweb2.loc.gov/service/rbc/rbc0001/2009/2009kislak0886/2009kislak0886.pdf</a>

Mss	<b>George Washington Papers Online - Diaries</b> <i>The Diaries of George Washington</i> , ed. Donald Jackson and Dorothy Twohig, (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1979). This is the published edition of Washington's diaries. The New England Tour is in Volume V. Images of the manuscript volumes of the diaries—the original diaries in Washington's own hand—are also available on this website (although this volume is not, since it is owned by the Detroit Public Library).	<a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwseries.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gwhtml/gwseries.html</a>
Various	<b>George Washington - Resources for Teachers Online at the Library of Congress</b>	“George Washington: A Resource Guide” <a href="http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/presidents/washington">http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/presidents/washington</a>  George Washington Teachers Page <a href="http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/connections/george-washington/">http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/connections/george-washington/</a>
G & M	<b>Maps</b> The American Revolution and its Era: Maps and Charts of North America and the West Indies, 1750-1789	<a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/armhtml/armhome.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/armhtml/armhome.html</a>
G & M	<b>Maps</b> Panoramic Maps, 1847-1929	<a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pmhtml/panhome.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pmhtml/panhome.html</a>
G & M	<b>Maps</b> Railroad Maps, 1828-1900	<a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/rrhtml/rrhome.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/rrhtml/rrhome.html</a>

General Collection	<p><b>Newspapers</b>  Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century (Onsite Only): The Library of Congress has a large selection of historical newspaper databases, but since they are subscription databases, you can only use them onsite. Public and university libraries near you may also have these databases or others like them. The newspapers listed in the exercise are from “America’s Historical Newspapers.”</p>	<p><a href="http://www.loc.gov/rr/ElectronicResources/">http://www.loc.gov/rr/ElectronicResources/</a>  Under “Select Databases by Subject or Format” choose Newspapers (Historical).</p>
General Collection	<p><b>Newspapers - Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries</b> “Chronicling America,” at the Library of Congress includes newspapers, 1880-1922. These are too late for the George Washington Diaries, but you might want to try them for another project.</p>	<p><a href="http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/">http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/</a></p>
P & P	<p><b>Prints and Photographs</b>  List of Collections</p>	<p><a href="http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/coll/collguid.html">http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/coll/collguid.html</a></p>
P & P	<p><b>Prints and Photographs</b>  Online Catalog. A new version of the P and P online catalog will debut March, 2010.</p>	<p>Old P and P Catalog: <a href="http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/catalog.html">http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/catalog.html</a>  New P and P Catalog: <a href="http://www.loc.gov/pictures">www.loc.gov/pictures</a></p>
General Collection	<p><b>Travel Journals</b>  “American Notes: Travels in America, 1750-1920.” Compare Washington’s observations with those of other travelers. Brissot de Warville’s <i>New Travels in the United States of America Performed in 1788</i> is here.</p>	<p><a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/lhtnhtml/lhtnhome.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/lhtnhtml/lhtnhome.html</a></p>

## II. Online Primary Sources Outside the Library of Congress

You can use these websites to enhance your students' experience of Washington's diaries. Some of them, such as the census browser and the mapping websites, make it possible to document change in the places Washington visited in 1789 by comparing them to what they were like in different eras, including today.

Description	Website
<p><b>Books and Magazines, Nineteenth Century, Online</b> Because nineteenth-century books are most likely to be out of copyright, the full texts of many of them are available online. Some good sources for them are: Google Books and the Internet Archive, both of which are working with the Library of Congress to digitize out-of-copyright books.</p>	<p>Google Books: <a href="http://www.google.com/books">www.google.com/books</a> Internet Archive: <a href="http://www.archive.org">www.archive.org</a></p>
<p><b>Census - Historical Census Browser</b> The Historical Census Browser, created at the University of Virginia, allows you to compile tables and maps of information drawn from the United States Census, 1790 -1960. The first census was in 1790, one year after Washington's New England tour. Census data has evolved over time to reflect important social changes. The earliest censuses, for example, recorded only the names of heads of household, and included slaves as household members.</p>	<p>Historical Census Browser: <a href="http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/">http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/</a></p>
<p><b>Currency Converter</b> To calculate what eighteenth-century money would be worth today.</p>	<p>Eric Nye, "Pounds to Dollars, Historical Conversion of Currency," <a href="http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/numimage/Currency.htm">http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/numimage/Currency.htm</a></p>

### Maps

To see what Washington's tour would look like if you traveled his route today, try looking at an online mapping website such as Yahoo Maps, MapQuest, or Google Maps. You could also try Google Earth. You could even try contemporary websites of New England transit systems and commuter trains. Calculate distances, rail fares, fuel costs, food, and lodging, and look at satellite images of the landscape to compare Washington's experience with today's.

Google Earth: [www.google.com/earth](http://www.google.com/earth)  
Google Maps: [www.google.com/maps](http://www.google.com/maps)  
Mapquest: [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)  
Yahoo Maps: [www.maps.yahoo.com](http://www.maps.yahoo.com)

*The Papers of George Washington Digital Edition*. ed. Theodore J. Crackel, et al. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, Rotunda, 2007-.

The published edition of George Washington's papers. It is only available through subscription at research libraries, including onsite at the Library of Congress. However the Mount Vernon Guest Edition includes the same documents as the Rotunda edition, but without the scholarly annotations.

George Washington Papers, Rotunda Edition:  
<http://gwpapers.virginia.edu/digitaledition.html?mode=menu>

Mount Vernon Guest Edition:  
<http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu:8080/pgwde/dflt.xqy?mode=menu&keys=menu-info-home-public>  
Or link to at the bottom of the Mount Vernon website,  
[http://www.mountvernon.org/learn/meet\\_george/index.cfm](http://www.mountvernon.org/learn/meet_george/index.cfm)  
Click on Papers of George Washington Digital Edition at the very bottom of the page.