

337 POPE, JOHN

Publisher

Richmond

Self-published author of travelogue (1792) issued by Richmond press of John Dixon Jr. (141).

Pope was a merchant-planter from Prince William County who published an account of his travels in 1790 and 1791 down the Mississippi River valley and through the Cherokee and Creek territories of the Old Southeast.

Pope was a trustee of the corporation council of Dumfries in 1786 who then represented the town and its environs intermittently in the General Assembly between 1787 and 1798, evidently as a Federalist. His southern journey came in the wake of the large migration of Virginians to the areas of northeast Georgia and the Floridas in the late 1780s. From his own removal to the Broad River Valley of Georgia later, it appears that this trip was essentially a fact-finding mission that he shared with his contemporaries via this imprint. It also appears that Pope thought that the popularity of such a work could help him provide support for his three youngest children, for whose benefit he published his travelogue.

Whether *A Tour Through the Southern and Western Territories of the United States of North America* was profitable or not is unknown. But his travels clearly shaped his life; by 1800 he was a full-time resident of Wilkes County, Georgia, formed from a tract of land ceded by the Creeks and Cherokees in 1773. He died there in August 1802, having suffered the death of two of his intended beneficiaries, but having also added three more children to his family, leaving a wife and five offspring to preside over his new Georgia plantation.

Personal Data

Born:	In	1749	Westmoreland County, Virginia.
Married	ca.	1779	Margaret Hunter @ Prince William Cty., Virginia.
Died:	Aug. 14	1802	Clarke's Creek, Wilkes County, Georgia.
Children:	Amelia (d. by 1792); Elizabeth Chapman (1781-1802); John Hunter (1782-1860); Alexander D. (1786-1864); Lucinda C. (d. by 1802); Anne (d. by 1802); George Chapman (1791-1804); William Henry (1794-1867) Thomas Jefferson (1797-1802).		

Sources: Imprint (Evans 24705); biographical data from *William & Mary Quarterly* (1904); genealogical data from Pope family charts posted on USGenWeb.com and Ancestry.com (January 2013).