

Billy Townsend

What is the history of Fort King George?

Fort King George was built in 1721, predates Georgia because Georgia was established in 1733 by Oglethorpe but it was just an outpost a warning area a burglar alarm to keep to warn the Carolinians that the bad guys are coming and that's all it was down is this desolate area that we think of as our Georgia. It had a wonderful history of course it's on the Altamaha River, which leads back into what was some of the finest cypress and pine timbers in the world and the out posts after Georgia was founded became the port Darien? Which was the largest timber port in the world for years and there they built some of the earliest steam power saw mills and there ruins are still on the grounds there. The earliest steam powered saw mills in the world and some of the saws were dealing with huge trees, you know ten or twelve feet in diameter and the size of the bend saws there are amazing there is one that is um at the museum and it's like a foot thick and I don't know maybe 20feet in diameter. That is a big bend saw. And then later on they dealt with smaller trees after they had cut all the huge trees. And started with circular saws with huge timber production out of the Altamaha Basin and the story is all told at Fort King George, military, civilian and industrial.