THE LIFE AND TIMES OF DANIEL BOONE



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During the later part of America's Revolutionary War, Daniel Boone was once-again involved with an incident at the "Blue Licks." This time it was a battle—the last of the war (which occurred about ten months after the British defeat at Yorktown). An overwhelming force of about 1000 men overpowered and defeated around 180 Kentuckians.

This illustration depicts "Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Boone rallying his men for an attack against the British Loyalist Indians and Canadian Loyalists in the Battle of Blue Licks." The image was included in a 1919 book called *Indian History For Young Folks* by Francis Samuel Drake (at page 328). The stand-alone image is online via the Library of Congress.

Boone lost another son, Israel, during this fighting. To save himself from a similar fate, Boone was forced to leave Israel's body behind.

During his lifetime, Daniel Boone was a famous American. Even so, much about him—and his exploits—was undocumented in primary sources. (There are many secondary sources and volumes of literature about him and his times, however, including significant materials at the Library of Congress.)

It is surprising, in fact, how little documented material about Boone is available, particularly when one considers the amount of sources which exist for other famous Americans of the time.

We do know some facts about his history, however, including the following (although not all of these are totally clear):

- Daniel Boone's mother, Sarah Morgan Boone, was <u>apparently from</u> a prominent Welsh family. Her <u>ancestral home</u> is now in disrepair.
- Sarah Morgan's ancestral roots allegedly extend back to the Pencoed (PEN-koyd) castle, located in a village called <u>Llandevaud</u> (in South Wales).
- The wilderness area that was extensively explored by Daniel Boone is now part of the <u>"Sheltowee Trace,"</u> a 269-mile multiple use National Recreation Trail.
- <u>The Adventures of Colonel Daniel Boone</u>—John Filson's account of the <u>frontiersman</u>—was published on Daniel Boone's 50th birthday.
- In an effort to keep Daniel Boone's memory alive in America, 358 "Boone Trail Highway Markers" were made. They have been placed throughout the United States.
- Many stories about Daniel Boone are myths—part of the <u>legend</u> that has flourished over so many years. For example, Boone never wore a <u>"coonskin" cap</u>. He was a Quaker, and he wore the type of <u>felt hat</u> which Quakers wore.

An interesting story has been written about Daniel's lifelong friend, <u>Michael Stoner</u>. As that story underscores, life was very difficult for colonials during the early days of <u>Kentucky's exploration</u>.

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-LIFE-AND-TIMES-OF-DANIEL-BOONE-Daniel-Boone

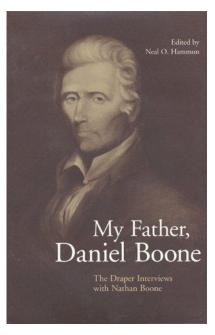
Media Stream



Ancestral Home of Boone's Mother

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. PD View this asset at:

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My Father, Daniel Boone

Image of book cover, online courtesy Amazon. PD View this asset at:

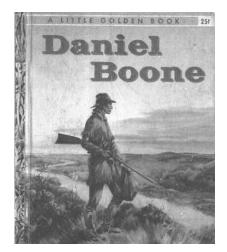
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Daniel Boone - Coonskin Cap

Image of racoon-skin cap, online courtesy Wikimedia Commons. View this asset at:

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Daniel Boone - Felt Hat

Drawing of Daniel Boone, wearing felt hat, on the cover of a "Little Golden Book" by Irwin Shapiro (1956). Image online, courtesy BooneSociety.org.

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