



Foundation Moving Ahead with Plans for Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

The Thomas Jefferson Foundation will recognize the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and President Jefferson's stewardship of the Corps of Discovery with a ceremonial event on the grounds of Monticello, a major exhibition in the house, and a number of other activities and programs.

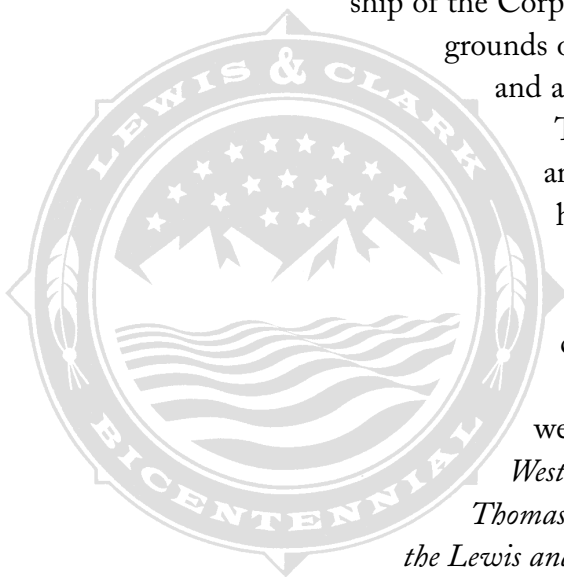
The Commencement of the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration, to be held at Monticello on Jan. 18, 2003, will launch the nationwide observance of the 200th anniversary of the historic trek across the continent.

That same week, *Framing the West at Monticello:*

Thomas Jefferson and the Lewis and Clark

Expedition, a major exhibition re-creating the "Indian Hall" that Jefferson established in the Entrance Hall of the house, will be opened to the public, and *Jefferson's West: A Lewis and Clark Exposition*, a five-day festival of programs and activities, will be held at Monticello and nearby sites.

"The Lewis and Clark Expedition was a manifestation of Jefferson's vision, and we are excited by the opportunity to play a major role in marking the bicentennial and in educating the public about its lasting significance," said Daniel P. Jordan, president of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation.



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MONTICELLO



Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Plans

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Commencement event

The Commencement of the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration on Jan. 18, 2003, at Monticello will be the first in a series of 10 “signature events” designated by the National Council of the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial that will take place across the country through 2006. The date marks the 200th anniversary of Jefferson’s confidential message to Congress requesting funds for an expedition to the Pacific.

The event on the West Lawn of Jefferson’s house will feature formal ceremonies, speakers, and music. Dignitaries representing the U.S. government, states associated with the Lewis and Clark Expedition, various federal and state agencies, and Native American tribes, nations, and confederations will be among those invited to attend.

Independence National Historical Park



**William
Clark**

“Because Jefferson was the intellectual force behind the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and because Monticello served as a training base and as ‘mission control’ for the expedition in the field, it is highly appropriate that the commemoration of the Lewis and Clark bicentennial begin at Jefferson’s westward-looking mountaintop home,” said Kat Imhoff, Monticello’s chief operating officer and coordinator of its Lewis and Clark programs.

‘Framing the West at Monticello’

During the week of the inaugural event, the exhibition *Framing the West at Monticello: Thomas Jefferson and the Lewis and Clark Expedition* will open to the public.

The exhibition will approximate the appearance of Monticello’s Entrance Hall circa 1807-09, when Jefferson displayed natural history specimens and Native American art objects sent by the Corps of Discovery alongside other items reflecting his encyclopedic interests.

Framing the West at Monticello will include items from Monticello’s permanent collections, pieces on loan from



Independence National Historical Park

**Meriwether
Lewis**

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other institutions, and historically accurate re-creations of objects that have been lost over time, including reproductions of Indian artifacts made by Native American artists using traditional methods and natural materials. The exhibition will remain in place through December 2003.

“Our installation will highlight the contributions of Jefferson’s stewardship of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and its tangible products to the diffusion of knowledge about the North American continent,” said Elizabeth Chew, Monticello’s associate curator for collections and curator of the exhibition. “Both a hall of wonders and a crucible for scientific and ethnographic investigation, Jefferson’s ‘Indian Hall’ represented a transition between the ‘curiosity cabinet’ and the modern museum.”

In addition to the items in the Entrance Hall, Lewis and Clark-related objects will be placed in other rooms of Monticello throughout 2003, and guided tours of the house will emphasize Jefferson’s vital role in the expedition.

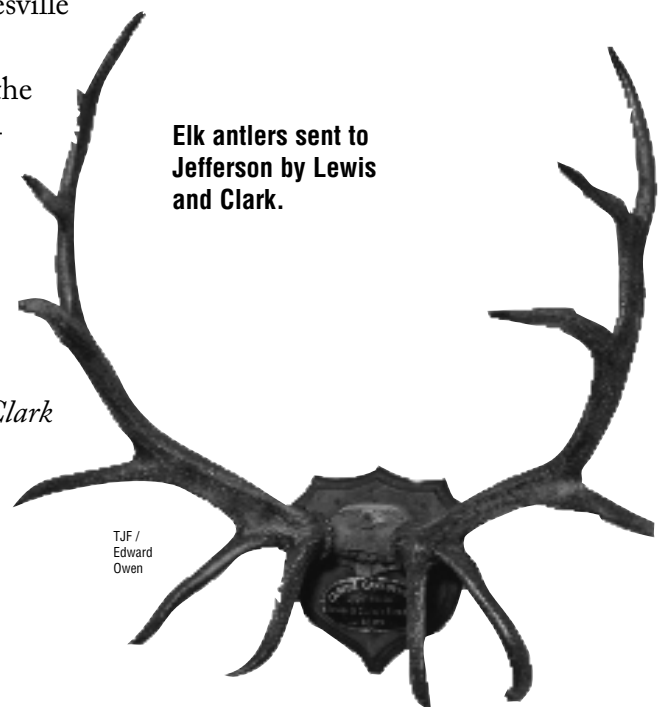
‘Jefferson’s West: A Lewis and Clark Exposition’

The ceremonial event on Jan. 18, 2003, will be the highlight of *Jefferson’s West: A Lewis and Clark Exposition*, a five-day festival of lectures, discussions, performances, screenings, exhibitions, school programs, and other activities to be held at Monticello, the University of Virginia, and other venues in Charlottesville and Albemarle County.

The exposition will be coordinated by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation in conjunction with local, state, and national institutions and organizations.

‘Jefferson’s America poster exhibition’

The Thomas Jefferson Foundation is developing *Jefferson’s America: Lewis and Clark and Western Exploration*, a poster exhibition focusing on various aspects of the



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expedition. The poster sets will be distributed to approximately 10,000 schools, libraries, and other educational institutions across the country during the summer and fall of 2002.

The 15-poster display is being designed by the Washington, D.C., firm of Gallagher and Associates in conjunction with Monticello's Education Department.

Scholarly activities

The International Center for Jefferson Studies will conduct a symposium on Jefferson and the Louisiana Purchase in May 2003 and a scholarly conference on Jefferson, science, and the Lewis and Clark Expedition in September 2003.

The ICJS also will be involved with other Lewis and Clark-related activities, at Monticello and elsewhere, throughout the bicentennial years, including evening lecture programs in 2002 and 2003.

Educational programs

During 2002 and 2003, the Monticello Education Department's Study Tours of Monticello for students in grades 2-12 will

include an emphasis on Jefferson and the Lewis and Clark Expedition, as will the International Center for Jefferson Studies' seminars for teachers.

Monticello also is collaborating with Colonial Williamsburg on an "electronic field trip" focusing on Jefferson and Lewis and Clark that will be telecast in March 2003.

Publications

The Thomas Jefferson Foundation has published *Jefferson's West: A Journey with Lewis and Clark* by noted Western historian James P. Ronda of the University of Tulsa.

The 80-page illustrated book, part of the Monticello Monograph Series, contrasts the expectations Jefferson had for the Corps of



**Monticello's
Entrance Hall**

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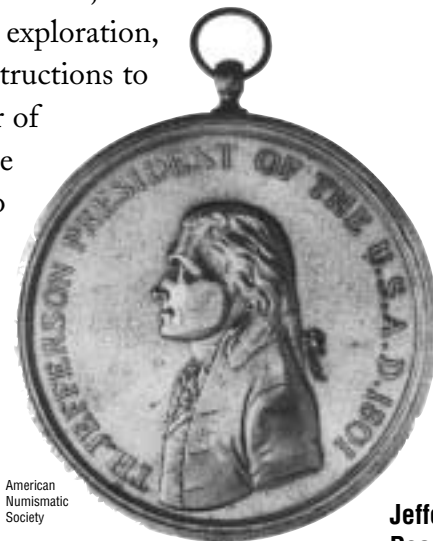
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Discovery with what Lewis and Clark actually experienced on their trek.

Web site

A number of pages devoted to Jefferson and Lewis and Clark have been added to Monticello's Web site – www.monticello.org.

Among the features on these illustrated pages are an essay on Jefferson's long fascination with the American West, a chronology of his involvement with Western exploration, the texts of his letter to Congress and his instructions to Meriwether Lewis, a bibliography, a calendar of events, and links to other relevant sites on the Internet. Additional features will be added to the site as the bicentennial draws nearer.



American
Numismatic
Society

**Jefferson Indian
Peace Medal**

COMMENTS? newsletter@monticello.org