



Jefferson stands tall in Paris

A 10-foot-tall bronze statue of Thomas Jefferson was unveiled in Paris on July 4, the 230th anniversary of American independence.

The statue of Jefferson is the first to stand in France, where he served as U.S. minister from 1785 to 1789. It is located on the banks of the Seine in Paris' Seventh Arrondissement, facing the Hôtel de Salm, a building that Jefferson admired and was one of his inspirations for the redesign of Monticello. The building now houses the Museum of the Legion of Honor.

French sculptor Jean Cardot's statue depicts Jefferson holding a quill pen in his right hand and a drawing of Monticello in his left.

The statue was donated to the city of Paris by the Florence Gould Foundation, an American organization dedicated to French-American cultural exchange, and art dealer Guy Wildenstein.

Paris Mayor Bertrand Delanoë and U.S. Ambassador to France Craig Stapleton were among the dignitaries on hand for the unveiling.

The Thomas Jefferson Foundation was represented at the event by a delegation that included Board of Trustees Vice Chairman and Treasurer Alice W. Handy, Trustee Howard P. Milstein, and Gilder Curator and Vice President for Museum Programs Susan R. Stein.



Courtesy of Philippe and Nathalie de Gouberville

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