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SOLVING AN  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
MYSTERY

HIGHLIGHTS OF AN  
UNFORGETTABLE  
WEEKEND

CELEBRATING  
THE HOLIDAYS AT  
MONTICELLO

# MONTICELLO

The Magazine

## SPANNING *the* GLOBE

Monticello's  
International  
Influence



# ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

## International Outreach at Monticello

### Eastern Exposure

In 2012, a Chinese diplomat visiting Monticello inspired us to consider sending an exhibition about Thomas Jefferson to China and to introduce audiences to Jefferson's role in founding America, his vast intellect and curiosity, and his global engagement.

With the endorsement of both Chinese and American governments, a team from Monticello has been working closely with colleagues at the National Library of China to present one of the first exhibitions on American history to be mounted in the People's Republic of China. The exhibition is planned for a three-month run next year in the National Library of China in Beijing. There, a rich mix of authentic objects, artworks, portraits, film, media-based interactive exhibits and architectural models will be displayed.

A William Stone copy of the Declaration of Independence – specifically requested by our Chinese colleagues – anchors the opening section. Visitors will move through thematic zones that explore Jefferson's



An early rendering of the virtual reality experience that brings visitors to the exhibition into Jefferson's Cabinet, his private office.

wide-ranging contributions – from writing the Declaration of Independence and building the nation to serving as the nation's third president and founding the University of Virginia. The exhibition will feature his home and plantation at Monticello, as well as his extensive library, including several of his 17 books on Chinese subjects. Another highlight will be a virtual reality experience of Jefferson's study, the Cabinet.

*Thomas Jefferson: Inventing America* is an opportunity to foster people-to-people engagement between China and the United States, to increase cultural understanding and to enhance ties between the two nations. As the world shrinks, engaging a global audience in dialogue on Jefferson's ideals becomes ever more important.

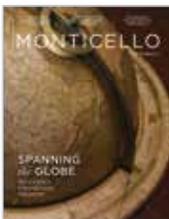
### A Global Search

To picture the world apart from Monticello, Thomas Jefferson owned hundreds of maps, most of which were among the collection he sold to Congress in the now legendary 1815 sale.

Among the items he retained were a pair of 18-inch-in-diameter "New British Globes," made by one of the top globe makers of the time, the family firm of William and Thomas M. Bardin, and sold by W. & S. Jones in London. They arrived at Monticello in 1807.

Cornelia Randolph's annotated floor plan of Monticello locates Jefferson's globes in the Cabinet, under the book ledges – near his reading and writing arrangement so that they could be easily consulted. After Jefferson's death, his grandson Thomas Jefferson Randolph purchased the globes at the 1827 dispersal sale for \$66. Their whereabouts are unknown, if they survive.

Richard Gilder Senior Curator Susan Stein searched for the missing globes or an identical pair for 25 years – at auction and in the marketplace on two continents – and finally found a pair in exceptionally fine condition meeting the exacting criteria. The Foundation purchased them from the George Glazer Gallery in New York in 2017, 190 years after the original pair were sold at the dispersal sale (*see detail of terrestrial globe on cover*). The purchase was underwritten by a generous gift from the family of Grady and Lori Durham, who supported the restoration and furnishing of the Cabinet.



After a 25-year search by Curator Susan Stein, Monticello purchased a pair of globes similar to the ones Jefferson used in his Cabinet.

## Bringing Jefferson to a Global Audience

Through a network of scholars, teachers and resources, Monticello engages a global audience in a dialogue about Jefferson's ideas and establishes relationships with people from around the world. Monticello's scholars take an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Jefferson and his legacy by supporting a wide range of inquiry and programs in the Charlottesville area and abroad. From organizing academic conferences around the world to restoring and preserving Monticello, our scholars are passionate about uncovering insights into Jefferson's world.

The primary focus of these efforts is Monticello's Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies (established in 1994) and its Jefferson Library (opened in 1992), the first freestanding research facility dedicated to the study of a founding father. The center is designed to be proactive, serving as a nerve center of Jefferson scholarship and teaching and as a clearinghouse for Jefferson research. It seeks an active role in the ongoing study of Thomas Jefferson internationally by supporting a wide range of inquiry; by building a network of scholars, teachers and resources; by helping define new areas of investigation; and by promoting the application of new technologies to Jefferson scholarship.



A gathering in the Robert H. and Clarice Smith Reading Room at the Jefferson Library

## A Journey of Understanding

Inasmuch as slavery can be comprehended, exploring its origins in Ghana is a good start. Traveling in the opposite direction of a story more than 400 years old, 56 people from Charlottesville, Virginia, embarked on just such a journey. Monticello staff members joined the delegation.

The Assin Manso River and Elmina and Cape Coast castles were essential to the transatlantic slave trade.

It was crucial for the delegation to visit these sites, as Ghana was the main transit hub for the estimated 15 million enslaved Africans taken to the Americas.

"When you consider that slavery is a crime against humanity, then it becomes really important to come back to the roots of that and try to understand how it all began," said Leslie Greene Bowman, president of Monticello.

Spending nine days in Ghana, also visiting Winneba – one of four sister cities to Charlottesville – and contemplating the weight of these landmarks was a visceral and emotional odyssey that won't soon be forgotten.

"The human suffering is so emotionally impactful at Cape Coast – it's almost impossible to visit without feeling the power of their struggle," said Brandon Dillard, manager of special programs at Monticello. "For decades we've been working to bring the stories of enslaved people out of the shadows; recognizing the emotional impact of their struggle is key."

Monticello staff members and a delegation of Charlottesville residents departed for Ghana in May 2018.



Dave Norris



The Mammones



Scenes from the opening of *Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello: Paradox of Liberty* at the African American Museum in Dallas



## Paradox Comes to Texas

Dallas residents explored the lives and legacies of Monticello's enslaved community through the traveling exhibition *Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello: Paradox of Liberty*, which opened at the African American Museum (AAM) in Dallas on September 22, 2018.

Opening for the first time since a four-city tour concluded in Philadelphia in 2015, *Paradox* has never been seen in the Southwest. Original to the exhibition in Dallas as well are features from Monticello's recently opened *Life of Sally Hemings* exhibit.

"We're thrilled to be the first museum this far west and this far south to host this remarkable exhibition," said AAM president Dr. Harry Robinson. The exhibition features some 300 objects, artifacts, letters and photographs representing the almost 400 men, women and children Jefferson enslaved at Monticello, as well as

their descendants. "Our hope is that folks who see this exhibition will learn not only about how the enslaved and their descendants lived but also about the resilience and strength of African Americans," Robinson added.

Many of Monticello's enslaved people were skilled craftsmen, and their descendants became important contributors to American society. Some served in the Civil War, others became civil rights and women's rights activists, church founders, politicians and educators. One of the most famous descendants was publisher and civil rights activist William Monroe Trotter. A formidable proponent of equal rights, Trotter was a founder of the Niagara Movement, precursor to the NAACP. Equally accomplished cousins were Coralee Franklin Cook, a founder of the National Association of Colored Women and a leading suffragist, and Frederick Madison Roberts, a

### Monticello Conferences and Symposia

Academic conferences constitute a major vehicle for engaging a global audience in Jefferson's ideas. The following are just a few highlights from recent years.

#### Sydney, Australia

*The Impact of the Declaration of Independence*  
2010

#### Moscow, Russia

*Idealism, Statecraft, and Foreign Policy in Jeffersonian America and Russia of Alexander I*  
2011

#### Budapest, Hungary

*Legacies of Founding: The Heritage of Early American Democracy in Contemporary Times*  
2007

#### Havana, Cuba

*Jefferson and Cuba*  
2010

publisher and the first black member of the California legislative assembly.

“This is an essential American story,” said Monticello President Leslie Greene Bowman. “We’ve spent decades researching the lives of Monticello’s enslaved community, and *Getting Word*, our oral history project about descendants of Monticello’s enslaved community, is among the largest record of its kind outside of the WPA slave narratives. We’re proud to share our expansive work with the city of Dallas,” she added.

Opening in conjunction with the State Fair of Texas at Fair Park, where the Dallas museum is located, the exhibition attracted thousands. “Texas is a big state,” said Dallas city councilman Kevin Felder, who helped bring the exhibition to his state. “There’s a great deal of interest in learning about people who have been left out of American history.”

*Paradox* premiered in 2012 in partnership with the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture four years before the museum opened in 2016. The National Museum of American History hosted the exhibition while NMAAHC’s building was still in the planning stages. During its initial tour, which included the Atlanta History Center, Philadelphia’s National Constitution Center and St. Louis’ Missouri History Museum, the exhibition was seen by more than 1.4 million people.

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the show will also travel to Detroit’s Charles H. Wright Museum and to Richmond’s Black History Museum & Cultural Center of Virginia. Monticello staff are considering museums around the country as future exhibition sites.



## Fostering Global Leadership

The Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders was welcomed again to Monticello this past July. The flagship program of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), the fellowship empowers young people through academic coursework, leadership training and networking. This select group of 23 young professionals from countries across sub-Saharan Africa observed Monticello’s Independence Day and Naturalization Ceremony on the West Lawn, toured the House and Mulberry Row, and engaged in a full day of discussions on the essentials of civic and political freedoms in a democracy.

These young African leaders have established records of accomplishment in promoting innovation and positive impact in their organizations, institutions, communities and countries. Monticello has participated in this six-week program since its inception in 2014. YALI is sponsored by the U.S. State Department and hosted in this region by the Presidential Precinct.

“Thomas Jefferson is ‘a Citizen of the World and the friend of universal peace and happiness.’”

— Benjamin Rush, July 26, 1796 (to James Currie)



### Portugal

*Federalism in the Age of Jefferson*  
2013

### Milan, Italy

*Thomas Jefferson: Local and Global*  
2015

### Galway, Connemara and Dublin, Ireland

*Ireland, America and Empire in the Age of Jefferson*  
2017

### Beijing, China

*Democracy, Republicanism and State Building in the Age of Jefferson*  
2012

### Rabat, Morocco

*Natural Rights in the Post-Revolutionary Arab World*  
2014

### Hong Kong

*Propaganda, Persuasion, and the Press in the American Revolution*  
2016

### Santiago, Chile

*Independence, Revolts and the Early Americas*  
2018