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MONTICELLO

SPRING 2014

www.monticello.org

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 1

Pope Francis to Receive Monticello Historic Seeds

On March 27, 2014, President Obama met with Pope Francis at the Vatican. The president presented the pope with a gift that the White House press pool reported as “a custom-made seed chest featuring a variety of fruit and vegetable seeds used in the White House Garden...in keeping with the spirit of the gift, Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello will donate seeds that will yield several tons of produce to a charity of Pope Francis’ choosing.” Monticello President Leslie Greene Bowman stated, “We were honored to be part of this historic moment.”

