THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

Incorporated 1969 under Missouri General Not-For-Profit Corporation Act IRS Exemption Certificate No. 501(C)(3)—Identification No. 51-0187715

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ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The purpose of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc., is to stimulate public interest in matters relating to the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the contributions to American history made by the Expedition members, and events of time and place concerning the expedition which are of historical import to our nation. The Foundation recognizes the value of tourist-oriented programs, and supports activities which enhance the enjoyment and understanding of the Lewis and Clark story. The scope of the activities of the Foundation is broad and diverse, and includes involvement in pursuits which, in the judgment of the directors, are of historical worth or contemporary social value, and commensurate with the heritage of Lewis and Clark. The activities of the National Foundation are intended to complement and supplement those of state and local Lewis and Clark interest groups. The Foundation may appropriately recognize and honor individuals or groups for contributions, achievement in the broad field of Lewis and Clark historical research, writing, or deeds which promote the general purpose and scope of activities of the Foundation. Membership in the organization comprises a broad spectrum of Lewis and Clark enthusiasts including Federal, State, and local government officials, historians, scholars and others of wide-ranging Lewis and Clark interests. Officers of the Foundation are elected from the membership. The annual meeting of the Foundation is traditionally held during August, the birth month of both Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The meeting place is rotated among the states, and tours generally are arranged to visit sites in the area of the annual meeting which have historic association with the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JIM FAZIO

OUR FOUNDATION—MORE THAN A CLUB

I was warned that as President of our Foundation I would spend a lot of evenings and Saturday mornings chained to my desk shuffling paper. I found it to be all too true, as I do today looking out at a clear, sunny sky and the first spring warmth of the year. Time is so precious.

While still a vice president of the Foundation I wrestled with the question—Is this really worth it? Instead of serving as an officer of the Foundation, should I be spending the time on my profession or my family? Not being a ‘joiner’ by nature, I could never understand people going to stamp club meetings or getting worked up over the politics of Garden Club administration. I concluded early on that I simply wouldn’t do that with the time allocated to me in life. And I still won’t. But I have also concluded that the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation is more than a club. It is an opportunity for service to the nation I love and for promoting values that I believe are essential to the survival of our way of life. The study of history, and the preservation of sites related to it, are far more important

(Continued on page 30)

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. is open to the general public. Information and an application are available by sending a request to: Membership Secretary; Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.; P.O. Box 3434; Great Falls, MT 59403.

We Proceeded On, the quarterly magazine of the Foundation, is mailed to current members during the months of February, May, August, and November.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES*

General: $20.00 (3 years: $55.00)
Sustaining: $30.00
Supporting: $60.00
Contributing: $150.00

* For foreign memberships add: $5/year in Canada; $10/year in Europe; and $15/year in Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

2 WE PROCEEDED ON — MAY 1993
From the Editor’s Desk

The Idaho chapter sent me a calendar of upcoming events and it is a fine example of what I have been asking for so that we can run a calendar of events. Note, if you would, that the calendar lists the date, the event and the location along with where to write for more information. Also note that the events are listed far enough in advance so that you can make arrangements to attend if you so desire. The calendar is on page 11.

Bob Gatten has put another piece into the puzzle of the life of William Clark. His description of what he has discovered begins on page 6. Jim Large takes a close look at the intriguing events surrounding the Louisiana Purchase and its relationship to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Joe Hill brings us up to date on the upcoming annual meeting and we take a look at the Cahokia Mounds.

Whoever said we don’t have variety in WPO?

One of the truly great leaders of the Foundation, Dr. E.G. “Frenchy” Chuinard, has passed on. His passing leaves us with a gap of huge proportions in our ranks. We will miss Frenchy and Hazel Bain, Dick Clifton and Dr. Fred Shelton. They all contributed in their own way to the success of our “long, thin museum” that stretches from the east to the west coast of our country.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Erickson:

Upon traveling in recent years with my wife the plains, canyons, and deserts of the West, and having read a couple of books (Dayton Duncan’s Out West and James Ronda’s superb and revelatory Lewis and Clark Among the Indians) that hooked me on the subject, I became a Lewis and Clark aficionado, reading voraciously among the numerous titles available on different aspects (geographical, medical, scientific, etc.) of that excellent expedition, joining the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, and, when able, making pilgrimages to the significant sites and points of interest along the Trail. It is this latter activity that has inspired me to write to regale you and the readers of your journal with the general observation that seemingly all Lewis and Clark monuments are ugly. (The cover of the February 1993 issue of We Proceeded On is a case in point.)

In most instances, these monuments have been erected by localities, the residents of which having been motivated to recognize the role in local history played by the Corps of Discovery; the tastes in monumental architecture prevailing in the time of construction of the monuments (and the limitations on funding) dictate that we who view them decades later must be faced with such aesthetically hideous tributes to Lewis and Clark as the tawdry art deco mural-in-relief standing above Council Bluffs, the institutional stonehenge at Site #1 (again, see your Feb. cover), or various styles of goofy signage and statuary along the length of the Trail.

Recently, I drove a portion of the Natchez Trace Parkway in Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee. Although I had a larger interest in seeing the Trace itself, my ultimate goal was to complete a pilgrimage to the gravesite of Meriwether Lewis in southcentral Tennessee. To anyone who has never driven the Natchez Trace, I recommend it highly, as it is indeed a parkway in the finest sense, a beautifully graded roadway of peach-colored asphalt with a scrupulously maintained shoulder of close-cropped grass. The parkway car-

(LETTERS—Continued on page 30)

ON THE COVER—Equinox sunrise at Woodhenge-Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site (see article page 6 and 20).

Photo courtesy Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site
ARE YOU READY TO RETURN TO THE BEGINNING
IN 1993?

LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION SITE #1

BY M. JOSEPH HILL
GENERAL CHAIRMAN, 1993 MEETING

In the November 1992 issue of WPO, we promised more about the 1993 Annual Meeting and followed through in the February issue with detailed registration materials. Since February, registration requests have been arriving daily in our mailbox, and things are falling into place. Don’t delay. Send in your registration now. Are you ready?

Preparations for next August are in fine shape, but that doesn’t mean there are no hurdles ahead. Dedicated work by our volunteers makes everything look better and better by the hour. Of course, all of the work is not the kind which shows up as a dazzling program event but it is just as important to success. One example is the work of Treasurer Lucille Rich in finding her way through the maze of bureaucracy to obtain non-profit sales tax exemption in Illinois and in Missouri. A second example is the work of Gwen Dake, Brian Galloway, the village of Hartford, and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency in preparation to make undeveloped Site #1 a beautiful spot for the groundbreaking ceremonies in August. Even the Governor of Illinois, Jim Edgar, is lending a hand by declaring the month of May 1993 as Lewis and Clark month in Illinois. Now that planning funds have been approved, the National Park Service is working on the Site #1 development plan which should be ready by August and which will fit nicely with Lewis and Clark month and the groundbreaking ceremonies at the site. If contracted work goes as planned the State of Illinois will have completed the new roadway at Site #1 from the Highway #3 entrance to the L&C monument at river’s edge, a distance of about 3/4 mile. It appears as though site development is making progress through a happy coincidence of events which will enhance our Annual Meeting and will give another boost to the Interpretive Center project.

Don’t forget to make plans to stay overnight on Saturday, July 31, 1993. The stay-over should significantly reduce travel cost and you will be able to enjoy the get-acquainted mixer on Saturday evening. A good rest on Saturday night will be useful preparation for the very full program during the rest of the week. Take advantage of the airport-hotel shuttle service which will cut your cost by about $50 to $60.

At Lewis and Clark College, playwrights, actors, producers, and consultants are busily creating the very special theatre production “Bitterroot” which highlights Lewis and Clark history. We are honored guests for dinner and theatre on Sunday evening, August 1, at Lewis and Clark College where the play will be presented in the Anne Whitney Olin Theatre. The theatre production promises to be a highlight of our Annual Meeting.

On Monday morning, August 2, immediately after brunch, Frances Stadler weaves a story about life in “St. Louis in 1804.” Shortly after that it is only a 10-minute bus ride to the City of the Sun at Cahokia Mounds. Cahokia Mounds has been designated a World Heritage Site along with other famous sites like the Pyramids of Egypt, the Taj Mahal in India, and the City of Rome, Italy. The Mounds is a first class educational experience. Bring your colonial era clothing with you to wear on Monday evening to the French Dinner. Colonial dress is optional but it would be a nice touch to have most folks dressed in period clothing for a colonial evening. Geoffrey Seitz and His Friends will fiddle some dancing tunes and call the dances after dinner at the Gateway Convention Center. As a palate treat, George Arnold’s French menu selec-
tion looks enticing and he promises satisfaction. 

Tuesday, August 3 will not be an idle day. After ceremonies at William Clark’s grave in Bellefontaine Cemetery, you can expect a variety of activities in the city of St. Charles, Missouri. We plan to have three clustered interest points in St. Charles so that walking to any or all will be easy. The first is the Lewis & Clark Museum operated by Trail member Mimi Jackson. The second is historic Newbill-McElhinney House which we will tour and then sit down for a nice snack. The third is the Lewis & Clark keelboat replica display.

But you won’t have a lot of time to dally because the barge to Site #1 weighs anchor at 12:45 p.m. This unusual trip down the Missouri River will feature Andre’s sack lunch, Duffy’s Music, and the demonstrations of the Spanish Militia de San Carlos. Arrival at Site #1 is about 4:30 p.m. where a welcoming committee will await with grub. We have a brand new shovel for groundbreaking at the intended location of the Site #1 Interpretive Center. Wear comfortable clothes for this day and bring along your mosquito repellent. We intend to leave the site before nightfall but heavy snows and runoff from wet weather this winter could affect insect population. Mosquito population hasn’t changed much since 1804.

Variety is again the watchword on Wednesday morning as we leave by bus to the St. Louis Arch, the Gateway to the West. You have a choice of the tram to the top, the new Omni Vision Theatre or the Lewis and Clark Museum. Time may not permit all options depending upon the crowds. After luncheon on the Lt. Robert E. Lee anchored on the Mississippi River, you will have a choice of viewing the Western Collection at the St. Louis Art Museum or the Lewis and Clark artifacts and lectures at the Missouri Historical Society (Jefferson Memorial) in Forest Park.

Upon returning from Forest Park, you will have ample time to dress for the banquet that night. The evening will begin with a cocktail hour at 6:00 p.m. followed by a sumptuous dinner served about 7:00 p.m. Soft tones of hammered dulcimers, an instrument popular in 1804, will accompany the cocktail hour and dinner. The Banquet speaker will be Dr. Robert Archibald, Director of the Missouri Historical Museum and an expert on the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

The Annual Meeting officially ends with the Banquet on Wednesday evening. But there is more. On Thursday, August 5, we have planned an optional trip to colonial French sites in southern Illinois and southern Missouri and on Friday, August 6, the destination is Lincoln Land near Springfield, Illinois. Both the optional trips are all day affairs concluding with dinner at an interesting restaurant.

Look in your February issue of WPO for complete registration information for the events described.

Planning for all events of the week-long program is on track, and we promise a rousing welcome when you ...

RETURN TO THE BEGINNING IN 1993
A Discovery in Virginia ...

THE BIRTHPLACE OF WILLIAM CLARK

BY ROBERT E. GATIEN, JR.

THE FAMILY

The year 1749 was a happy one for members of the Clark and Rogers families of King and Queen County, Virginia, for in that year John Clark married his second cousin, Ann Rogers. The young couple lived for a short time in the eastern part of that county and then later in that year moved west to Albemarle County. There they began a new life on a plot of 410 acres on the Rivanna River which John had inherited from his father, Jonathan, when the latter died in April of 1734. They built a cabin near a spring and farmed the land that was still on the "wild frontier" and too far from the more populous tidewater area to yield much profit from their tobacco. Here two children were born: Jonathan (August 1, 1750) and George Rogers (November 19, 1752).

In 1754 the Clarks moved east to occupy a farm in Caroline County that John had inherited from his father's brother (a bachelor also named John Clark). While living on this land, John and Ann Clark had eight more children: Ann (July 14, 1755), John (September 15, 1757), Richard (July 6, 1760), Edmund (September 25, 1762), Lucy (September 15, 1765), Elizabeth (February 10, 1768), William (August 1, 1770), and Frances (January 19, 1773). The family lived on their farm in Caroline County for 30 years. During that time, son Jonathan Clark served with distinction in the Revolutionary War, George Rogers Clark gained fame as the leader of forces that secured the Old Northwest for the young nation, and Edmund served and rose to the rank of Captain. Ann married Owen Gwathmey on October 25, 1773. Son John Clark served in the Revolutionary War, was captured at the battle of Germantown, contracted tuberculosis during imprisonment on a British prison ship near Long Island, New York, and died at the Clark farm on October 29, 1783. He was buried on the family farm on November 2, 1783. Richard was killed by Indians along the Little Wabash River in present Illinois in February or March of 1785.

On October 30, 1784, John and Ann Clark, along with the children still living at home (Lucy, Elizabeth, William, and Frances), heeded the advice of George Rogers Clark about the bounties of Kentucky and began their migration to that new frontier. They spent the winter in Pittsburgh and arrived in Louisville in March of 1785. They moved into their new home, called Mulberry Hill, which had been built for them by their sons, Jonathan and George Rogers, on Beargrass Creek. Ann Rogers Clark died there on December 24, 1798, and was followed in death by John Clark on July 30, 1799. A portion of the original acreage is now George Rogers Clark Park, and the graves of John and Ann Rogers Clark are memorialized with stone tablets.

THE CLARK FARM

I have visited Meriwether Lewis' birthplace near Charlottesville, Virginia, and have seen his grave along the Natchez Trace in Tennessee. Both are well-marked historic sites. I have also been to William Clark's grave in the Bellefontaine Cemetery near St. Louis, Missouri. Finding the site of Clark's birth has proven to be more difficult. The long passage of time since the Clark family migrated to Kentucky in 1784-85 has resulted in a fading of knowledge about the location of the Clark farm in Caroline County, Virginia. In addition, a fire at the Caroline County Court House in Bowling Green in 1864 destroyed most of the local records.

One of the first clues that I found to the possible location of the Clark farm was the existence of two land grants in Caroline County, one of 207 acres to a John Clark in 1730 and the other of 277 acres to George Wilson and a John Clark in 1735. This (or either of these) John Clark(s) could not
have been William's father because he (William's father, John) was born in 1724 and was thus too young in 1730 or 1735 to be the recipient of land from the Crown. However, this (or one of these) John Clark(s) could have been the bachelor uncle of William's father who willed his Caroline County land to William's father.

A 1729 survey of the 207 acres is on file in the Circuit Clerk's Office of the Caroline County Court House. Furthermore, the grants for the 207 acre and the 277 acre plots are on file in the Virginia State Archives in Richmond. The survey and both land grants use the "metes and bounds" method of delineating property lines, describing the boundary markers almost entirely as specific trees then standing. Thus, matching the land described in the two grants to current maps has proven difficult. However, there is one intriguing reference in the 1735 grant that might be of current relevance. The grant states that the 277 acre plot lies in both Caroline and Spotsylvania Counties near the main "Ridge Road." A map of trade routes between 1730 and 1781 shows Ridge Road running between Caroline and Spotsylvania Counties parallel to and about four miles north of the North Anna River. Current maps indicate that Virginia Highway 738 follows the same path as the old Ridge Road. This area, near the intersection of the boundary between Caroline and Spotsylvania Counties and Ridge Road/Highway 738, is identical to that listed in old Clark family records which describe the land where the Clarks settled in 1754 as being in southwestern Caroline County near the Spotsylvania County line about one mile from the old County Line Meeting House and four miles north of Anderson's Bridge and Mill on the North Anna River.

After the Clarks moved to Kentucky in 1784-85, the land was owned by a family named Dabney and they by a family named Whitney. Other owners included a Scotsman named Swinton and William W. Hancock. The property was purchased in 1896 by Samuel J. Humphries, and after his death in 1925 it was owned by his son, M. Terrell Humphries. The latter Humphries sold the land in 1942 to the Virginia Defense Relocation Corporation which rented it to farmers displaced by the formation of U.S. Army Fort A.P. Hill in Caroline County. In the early 1950s, the property was purchased by its current owner, Temple Harrison.

The site where the old farm house stood is in the Spotsylvania County portion of the original Clark land, about three miles from the village of Partlow and one mile from Ridge Road/Highway 738. The farm house was of frame construction, 42 feet long, 24 feet wide, and 14 feet tall, and had three dormer windows on the south side and two on the north side. The first and second floors had three main rooms each; in addition, there was a porch on the east end of the first floor which was converted to a shed in later years. A central chimney ran through the center of the house and served three fireplaces on the first floor, one on the second floor, and one in the cellar; the chimney was very large, measuring 44 feet around the base in the cellar. The house was shaded by catalpa and mulberry trees. In 1902, W.H. Maddox of Partlow took a photograph of the house, and sent it to Eva Emery Dye. Dye used material about the house sent to her by Samuel J. Humphries in her 1902 book, The Conquest. In addition, Dye sent the photograph of the Clark house and other unused material to Olin Wheeler, who published the photo in his 1904 book on the Lewis and Clark trail. (See Figure 1.)

THE DISCOVERY

In July of 1992, my wife, Florence, and I decided to go to Caroline and Spotsylvania Counties to see the area in question firsthand. At that time, we knew nothing of the sequence of ownership noted above nor the name of the current owner of the property. We drove along Highway 738 between Chilesburg (in Caroline County) and Partlow (in Spotsylvania County) and talked with shop owners and local residents. In no case had anyone heard of the old Clark farm, and most had no knowledge of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. We visited the Spotsylvania County Museum and the Spotsylvania County Clerk's Office, both in Spotsylvania Court House, with no success. We searched the books and records at the Central Rappahannock Regional Library in Fredericksburg and visited the Caroline County Court House in Bowling Green. In each case, we found some helpful information but nothing that would confirm the exact location of the Clark farm.

On the following day, we returned to the area surrounding the point where Highway 738 crosses the border between Caroline and Spotsylvania Counties. We struck up a conversation with Joe Durrette; as we told him the story of our search for the Clark farm, a glimmer appeared in his eyes.
The Clark home as it appeared in 1902. The photo was published in 1904 on page 38 of The Trail of Lewis and Clark by Olin Wheeler.

Map of portions of Spotsylvania, Caroline, Hanover, and Louisa Counties of Virginia, showing Virginia Highways 738 and 669, and the approximate location of Clark's birthplace, the property now owned by Temple and Jenny Harrison. Copyright by ADC The Map People. Used with permission.
It seems that on weekends, he helps a local resident with some chores; she had told him that her brother-in-law lived on the old Clark property, and Joe had remembered it because his mother had been a Clark. The brother-in-law lived a few miles away, and Joe was willing to drive us there.

Thus, with our hopes rising, Florence and I followed Joe’s pickup down Highway 738, onto Highway 669, and down the lane across the property of Temple and Jenny Harrison (Figure 2). We came to a modern house with majestic, ancient catalpa trees framing the front yard. Joe, Florence, and I were received with great hospitality by Temple and Jenny Harrison, who told us the story of their land, which they believed had once been the Clark property (Figures 3 and 4).

Temple Harrison had purchased the farm in the early 1950s and in 1956-57 had torn down the old farm house because it was in such a poor state of repair. He remembered the house as having one main story with dormer windows on the floor above, and recognized it from the photo published by Wheeler in 1904. Temple said that the original framing of the house had been handhewn. He remembered the terrible time he had in removing the foundation stones and the huge triangular base of the chimney. Temple showed us the location of an old ice house, old timbers he had removed when he demolished the house, and bricks he had removed from the fireplaces and central chimney (Figure 5). Neither Temple nor Jenny was aware of the location of the grave of William’s brother John or that of William’s paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Wilson Clark.

Temple Harrison permitted me to remove one of the timbers that he had discarded when he demolished the old house. In order to confirm that the timber was from a tree cut and used in the construction of the house prior to or during the years that the Clarks lived there, I sent two sections from the timber to the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, Virginia. Dr. Tom Yanosky conducted a dendrochronological study of the wood. His analysis revealed that the wood is from a white oak or chestnut oak, that the tree was about 75 years old when felled, and that the tree was cut no earlier than 1743 and no later than the mid-to late-1740s. Thus, the house where William Clark was born on 1 August 1770 was constructed about 10 years prior to the time that his parents moved to the farm in 1754.
THE FUTURE

I plan to continue to collect data about the farm where William Clark was born. I am working with the Department of Historic Resources of the Commonwealth of Virginia with the goal of erecting a Historical Highway Marker near the property. Additional details will be forthcoming.

This article is dedicated to my mother, Elizabeth Thompson Gatten, who stimulated my interest in Lewis and Clark, and to James Alexander Thom who suggested to me that the Clark farm was located on old Ridge Road near the boundary between Caroline and Spotsylvania Counties. I am also greatly indebted to Miss Holmberg of the Filson Club for supplying much helpful information about the Clark family; to Ray Campbell, Jr., Clerk of Circuit Court of Caroline County, who kindly helped us search the records in his care; to Joe Durrette for leading us to the old Clark property; to Temple and Jenny Harrison for their hospitality and openness in telling us about their land and the old Clark house; and to Ruth Frick for sending me material from the Eva Emery Dye Collection of the Oregon State Historical Society.

-FOOTNOTES-

1Draper Manuscripts 1J37, 7J111, 7J145, 10J27, 34J9, State Historical Society of Wisconsin.
5Draper Mss. 7J111.
6Draper Mss. 7J145, 7J148, 7J150, 7J152, 34J9. Some accounts state that the Clarks moved from Albemarle to Caroline County in 1757 and that Ann and possibly John were thus born in Albemarle: Draper Mss. 7J152, 10J163; English, Conquest of the Country, p. 31; Thurston, "Some Recent Finds," p. 22; Reuben Gold Thwaites, "William Clark: Soldier, Explorer, Statesman," Missouri Historical Society Collections 2 (1906): 3.
7Draper Mss. 7J111.
10Draper Mss. 7J112, 10J28, 10J164-165, 34J9(1).
14Draper Mss. 7J111, 10J27, 34J9.
17Survey Book, Caroline County, 1729-1762, Caroline County Court House, Bowling Green, Virginia. The original copy of this survey book was removed from the Caroline County Court House, apparently by a man named Hainferro, sometime between 1762 and 1821, and used to record deeds in Campbell County, Kentucky, in 1821; thus it escaped the Caroline County Court House fire of 1864. See Lewis Beckner, "Caroline County Survey Book," William and Mary Quarterly Series 1, 19 (1911): 168-173. A photostatic copy of the survey book was sent from the Campbell County Clerk's office to the Caroline County Court House in the 1920s; see Wingfield, A History of Caroline County, p. 81. The original copy of the survey book is now apparently lost, as neither the Campbell County Clerk's Office nor the Kentucky Historical Society can locate it.
19Campbell, A History, p. 360.
20Draper Mss. 7J147, 7J151, 10J106(1), 10J115(1).
22Draper Mss. 7J147, 7J151, 10J115(2), and 12J106b. Deed books in Spotsylvania and Caroline Counties show that William Whitton sold the land to Mary and Fleming Hancock in 1856. Subsequent owners and dates of acquisition are: Thomas D. Smith, 1860; Nathaniel Hancock, 1862; William T. Massey, 1868; John Struthers, 1873; Jane Payne, 1875; James Donman, 1880; Hayes Chandler, 1880; and Louis Carlton, 1880.
The following letter was sent to Foundation President Jim Fazio. It outlines a matter of potential concern for Foundation members.

Dear Mr. Fazio:

I am writing to you about a matter that may be of some concern to the foundation before the annual meeting in August. On a recent trip to New York I noticed an item in the Talk of the Town column of the New Yorker for March 1 (pp. 35-36). After almost 190 years, the New York Historical Society is closing its doors due to lack of funds, and may have to break up and sell off its collections.

Those collections include the original watercolor painting of Meriwether Lewis in the ermine tippet given to him by Cameahwait. I am sure that many members will be concerned if this item should disappear into the chambers of a private collector within a few months, or go to a public or university collection less competent to preserve or display it properly—or even more remote from our access than New York.

In this time of limited resources by all sorts of institutions, I am at a loss to suggest what might be done. But I think some committees of the Foundation, or perhaps the whole readership of WPO, may appreciate getting full information about this matter as soon as possible. Certainly members on the East Coast may have better access to information than those of us who live in the West—or across a border in Canada! I happen to know that the New York Historical Society is badly understaffed from my prolonged efforts to secure a copy of this picture to illustrate my forthcoming book; without diligent effort, it may be hard to get reliable information in the months ahead. But it certainly matters to try.

Albert Furtwangler
Professor of English
Mount Allison University
Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada

What’s Happening

JUNE 5 . . . . National Trails Day Event
Salmon, Idaho

JULY 10/13-16 . . . . Lolo Trail Campout
Idaho

JULY 16-18 . . . . . . . . . . . . . Take Pride in America Project
Lolo Trail, Idaho

For more information:
Idaho Chapter, LCTHF, Inc.
Box 96
Boise, ID 83701
his year marks the 190th anniversary of the U.S. purchase of Louisiana from France in 1803. The story of how President Thomas Jefferson peacefully acquired this huge territory will be told again and again in the decade ahead, leading to a bicentennial celebration of the event in 2003.

That will coincide with the start of a bicentennial observance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to the Pacific Ocean, which crossed much of Jefferson's new acreage along the way. Indeed, the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expedition are firmly linked in time, in territory and on the same page of many history books. Jefferson bought Louisiana, and then sent Lewis and Clark to explore it—so the story often goes.

As these dual 200th anniversaries approach, it will be helpful to remember that they in fact had separate origins. One event didn't flow from the other; the Purchase didn't really trigger the expedition. The President and Congress had agreed to send explorers to the Western Sea before Louisiana's 'For Sale' sign went up. These two
landmarks of America’s western expansion grew independently from two separate policies being pursued at the same time by Jefferson toward the grabby governments of Europe. The parallel diplomatic tracks even carried risks of self-contradiction, and the Americans got away with it only by some artful bluffing and sheer good luck.

All that, however, muddies the simpler screenplay preferred by many march-of-emprise historians. In 1896, just before emerging onto the national political scene, Theodore Roosevelt twinned the Purchase and Expedition in a connected one-two sequence at the conclusion of his multi-volume study, *The Winning of the West*. "The actual title to the new territory had been acquired by the United States Government," wrote Roosevelt. "It remained to explore the territory thus newly added to the national domain. The government did not yet know exactly what it had acquired, for the land was not only unmapped but unexplored." That required a series of exploratory expeditions and "the first of these," said the future President, was led by Lewis and Clark.

In 1992, a magazine writer draped the same historical record in the Pentagonish jargon of armed conquest. After sketching the diplomatic track leading to the purchase of Louisiana, John F. Murphy Jr. then presented the Lewis and Clark trip as a hardnosed military follow-up. Murphy wrote "there was only one way that Jefferson could assert national claims to the land: by force of arms. To do this, he turned to the U.S. Army." Yes, Lewis and Clark were to talk trade with the Indians and explore the new geography, Murphy conceded, "but Jefferson also hoped to assert the United States’ ownership of Louisiana, by use of military force if necessary."12

In portraying Lewis and Clark as Rambo-style conquistadores, Murphy’s article gave no hint that their trip had been planned in early 1803 without much regard to real estate ownership. It had little to do with what Jefferson considered a separate problem: U.S. export rights at the port of New Orleans, which he was laboring to resolve by diplomacy, not armed force.

On April 6, 1803, the Théâtre Français in Paris staged a performance of *Hamlet*. Among the arriving dignitaries was Lucien Bonaparte, a younger brother of the man who was making himself dictator of post-revolutionary France. While still in the theater lobby Lucien was intercepted by another brother, Joseph Bonaparte, who said he had startling news: Napoleon intends to sell Louisiana to the Americans.

Lucien stood "stupefied" with disbelief, as he recalled in his memoirs. The two brothers agreed to try the next morning to talk Napoleon out of it. They hoped the First Consul would stick to his plan to put a permanent French colonial stamp on Louisiana, an ill-defined swath of North America that had become a mere trading card handed around by the diplomats of Europe. Frenchmen had originally settled New Orleans and the west bank of the Mississippi River stretching northward. France gave the territory to Spain in 1762. In October, 1800, France got it back in the secret treaty of San Ildefonso. Napoleon intended to send an army of occupation to Louisiana once a slave revolt had been quelled in his shaky Caribbean colony of Haiti. Now, according to Joseph Bonaparte, Napoleon was having second thoughts.

On April 7, recalled Lucien, "I went to the Tuileries, where I was without delay led to the First Consul’s apartments, who at the moment was taking a bath." Joseph soon joined his brothers for a bizarre bathroom argument on foreign policy. Napoleon confirmed that he had decided to sell Louisiana to the Americans. Joseph warned that he personally would urge Napoleon’s puppet legislature to block the sale. Wrote Lucien: "At these words Napoleon, rising so as to show half his body out of the water opaque and frothy with cologne, cried sternly: ‘You will not need to play the orator, for I repeat to you that this debate will not take place ... the plan ... will be ratified and executed by me—by me alone, do you understand’?" Joseph got soaked by Napoleon’s tub-thrashing and went away. The dictator ended his bath but continued the discussion with Lucien, expressing at one point his regret at the military situation in Haiti.

The rebels (and yellow fever) were chewing up the army that Napoleon had planned to send later to Louisiana. The extent of this reversal was still unappreciated by the American government in Washington, which saw only the evil prospect of Napoleon’s tough legions sitting astride New Orleans and the Mississippi itself. Jefferson was confronted with the actual possibility of war with
his old French friends over New Orleans. That, in turn, could drive the Americans to seek a once-unthinkable alliance with Great Britain. On April 18, 1802, the President had written to Robert Livingston, his minister in Paris, that if France actually occupied New Orleans, “from that moment we must marry ourselves to the British fleet and nation.”

Spanish bureaucrats still ran Louisiana, pending any arrival of a French occupation force. In October, 1802, Spain’s commandant at New Orleans effectively closed that port to Europe-bound American farm exports coming down the Mississippi by barge. The resulting furor dominated American politics for months. Hawkish Federalists in Congress demanded that American troops seize New Orleans before Napoleon could fortify it. Jefferson countered by naming James Monroe as a special envoy armed with authority to buy New Orleans peacefully. Monroe arrived at Le Havre on April 1, 1803, on his way to join Livingston in Paris. Livingston already had been warning Napoleon’s advisers to give up New Orleans or face a U.S.-British alliance. Charles Tallyrand, the French foreign minister, had shown no sign of listening.

That’s how matters stood on Easter Sunday, April 10, three days after the debate in Napoleon’s bathroom. Now, the First Consul discussed his decision to abandon Louisiana with several ministers, including Treasury Minister Francois Barbe-Marbois. Napoleon wanted to prevent Louisiana from becoming a battleground in a new war he expected with the British (the war would start just a month later). Any British hope of seizing Louisiana would be blocked by deeding the entire territory to the Americans. According to Barbe-Marbois, the dictator declared: “They are asking me for but a single city in Louisiana, but I already regard the whole colony as lost, and it seems to me that in the hands of this rising power it will be more useful to the politics and even to the commerce of France than if I attempt to keep it.”

The next morning, April 11, Napoleon put Barbe-Marbois in charge of the sale. The Treasury Minister had been a French diplomat in Philadelphia during the American Revolution. There he had acquired an American wife, receiving warm wedding congratulations from George Washington himself. He spoke good English. “Do not even await the arrival of Mr. Monroe,” Napoleon told him. “Have an interview this very day with Mr. Livingston.”

Oddly enough, it was the previously tight-lipped Tallyrand who later that day spilled the beans to Livingston. “M. Tallyrand asked me this day, when pressing the subject, whether we wished to have the whole of Louisiana,” reported the American minister in a letter to his boss in Washington, Secretary of State James Madison. Livingston described his first reaction: “I told him no; that our wishes extended only to New Orleans and the Floridas ...”

Two days later, on April 13, Monroe arrived in Paris. The President’s special envoy and Livingston decided to take the Louisiana offer seriously. That evening Barbe-Marbois finally got on the case by launching a near-parody of 19th century diplomacy. “While he [Monroe] and several other gentlemen were at dinner with me,” Livingston reported to Madison, “I observed the Minister of the Treasury walking in my garden.” Barbe-Marbois was invited inside to have coffee with the group, but he soon took Livingston into the next room. Come to my place before 11 o’clock tonight, the Frenchman said. Livingston got rid of his guests, including Monroe, and went to see Barbe-Marbois in private. There, the talk soon turned to the French offer of Louisiana.

Afterward, the American went straight home to his desk to begin writing a midnight report to the secretary of state: “Thus, sir, you see a negotiation is fairly opened.” He concluded that “we shall do all we can to cheapen the purchase; but my present sentiment is that we shall buy.” All that remained was agreement on the price, finally set at $15 million. The Louisiana transfer treaty, dated April 30, 1803, was signed in Paris on May 2 by Monroe, Livingston and Barbe-Marbois.

Pressuring France with the threat of a British alliance was what Jefferson was doing with one hand in the spring of 1803. With the other, he was aiming a blow at the commercial interests of that very same erstwhile ally, Great Britain. Specifically, the President was honing final plans to send an American trade mission along the course of the Missouri River, over the fabulous Stony Mountains and thence to the shores of the Pacific Ocean. The delegation was to make friends with Indian tribes found along the way and urge them to trade their
furs for the good things of life in the packs of American merchants who were to follow. This scouting party was to find a river-based route by which the western furs could be floated back to the United States. The President's explicit hope was to deny this huge interior market to British traders operating out of Canada.

Jefferson's plan had been forming since the summer of 1802, when he read the account of an overland journey to Canada's Pacific coast by Alexander Mackenzie, a fur trading partner of the British North West Company. Mackenzie sounded a plea for the King's help in another nation carried on in a high latitude. "Great supplies of furs & peltry to the trade of another nation carried on in a high latitude." Those furs had to be transported eastward to Montreal from the frozen Canadian interior, a route he said would be no match for the more southerly Missouri. He said a small Army detachment sent up the Missouri to find a U.S.-dominated transcontinental river route could "have conferences with the natives" on trade prospects, including agreement on places where goods could be exchanged.

Jefferson openly revealed the party's Pacific destination to the envoys of Britain, Spain and France. The message to Congress was kept secret, however, because it specified Britain as the main target of Jefferson's plan. That knowledge in London and Paris might have embarrassed the separate line of American diplomacy being pursued in the New Orleans matter.

Surviving pre-Purchase documents don't really explain how Jefferson expected an American-run trade network to prosper in French-owned Upper Louisiana. He most likely felt that the French, like the Spanish before them, would be slow to send the trappings of government to that vast land of nomadic Indians and wild animals. If British traders could poach on Napoleon's empty estate, why not the Americans?

Congress approved the President's proposal on January 22. As planning progressed the mission's anti-British tilt became more explicit. It was important for the exploring party to identify strategic places in Upper Louisiana "for the purpose of preventing effectually the occupying of any part of the Missouri country by G.B.," Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin advised Jefferson in April.

The President picked his private secretary, Army Captain Meriwether Lewis, to lead the expedition and in April let Lewis review a draft copy of his not-yet-issued instructions. These spelled out how Jefferson thought American traders could use a transcontinental cargo route to outmaneuver the British competition. Lewis was to find out whether furs from the Oregon country could be "collected" at a trading post perched on the Continental Divide, and then funneled eastward down the Missouri to the United States.

On June 9, Livingston's initial report of Napoleon's Louisiana offer reached Washington. Lewis was still in Philadelphia buying equipment for his trip. He learned the startling news on his return to the capital on June 17.

Only then was a connection voiced between Lewis's already-authorized mission and the potential Louisiana Purchase. On June 19 Lewis invited William Clark in Louisville to join him as expedition co-commander. Transmitting the Paris bulletin he had just heard himself, Lewis told Clark: "You must know in the first place that very sanguine expectations are at this time formed by our Government that the whole of that immense country watered by the Mississippi and its tributary streams, Missouri inclusive, will be the property of the U. States in less than 12 Months from this date."

The next day, June 20, Jefferson formally signed Lewis's instructions without yet knowing whether a deal had been made in Paris. He therefore made no changes in the draft written in April, when it was assumed that France would hold title to the Louisiana portion of Lewis's route—that is, the whole stretch of the Missouri. This late-June uncertainty about ownership made no difference to the President: the trip was on, no matter whose flag flew over Louisiana.

Not until July 3 did Jefferson receive official word of the Louisiana treaty's April 30 signing. He immediately leaked the good tidings to the National Intelligencer newspaper for publication the next day. Thus Lewis left Washington for the west on July 5 against a political and diplomatic background that had changed drastically from the first of the year. The new treaty silenced the cries of Federalist hawks for a preemptive invasion of New Orleans. There would be no war with France.
and hence no more need to butter up Britain as a prospective ally. Lewis and Clark could march confidently across American soil clear to the crest of the Rockies.

Writing seven years after the explorers' return, Jefferson himself made a careful distinction between the parallel tracks of the Expedition and the Purchase, and how they finally related to each other. The ex-president first described his early-1803 plan to send an exploring party up the Missouri "to prepare the way" for American traders. "While these things were going on here," Jefferson said, American negotiators in Paris signed the treaty to buy Louisiana. He noted: "This information, received about the first day of July, increased infinitely the interest we felt in the expedition, and lessened the apprehensions of interruption from other powers."15

The Purchase did trigger a couple of last-minute changes in how the expedition was conducted:

- Expedition size. In the early planning Jefferson wanted the trip to be made by about a dozen soldiers keeping a low profile through foreign-owned territory. Even before reaching their Illinois jump-off point, Lewis and Clark realized a bigger force would be needed to muscle their bulky keelboat up the Missouri, and to deter any attack by the river tribes. U.S. ownership of the Missouri route removed diplomatic inhibitions on the size of the unit, which numbered some 45 men on departure in May, 1804. The "permanent" party leaving North Dakota for the Pacific a year later included 33 people, more than twice the size first contemplated.

- Assertions of sovereignty. On January 22, 1804, Jefferson wrote Lewis in Illinois a letter updating his instructions in light of the Purchase. Now, instead of making polite feelers to the Indians about future trade, Lewis was authorized "to propose to them in direct terms the institution of commerce with them." Also, the natives should be told the identity of the latest of their revolving-door absentee landlords. Lewis was to say that "their late fathers the Spaniards" were leaving, and "that henceforward we become their fathers and friends."16

What's more remarkable is how little impact the
big real estate deal had on the actual execution of the trip. In the fall of 1803 Jefferson did order U.S. troops to stand ready to seize New Orleans in case of last-minute Spanish or French sabotage of a transfer ceremony there on December 20, but Lewis and Clark were kept totally out of that loop. Nor were the explorers given the added duty of checking out the boundaries of the new U.S. acquisition. On November 16, 1803 (after the Senate had ratified the treaty) Jefferson reminded Lewis that he must stick to his “single” objective of finding a water route across the west. The President said exploring Louisiana’s territorial extent was a job to be done by others, and “will be attempted distinctly from your mission.”

Even Lewis’s impromptu reconnaissance of the Marias River on the way home in 1806 was motivated not by the Louisiana Treaty, but by an earlier one with Britain. That agreement placed part of the U.S.-Canadian boundary on a line running from the Lake of the Woods to the head of the Mississippi River. The Americans hoped that line would run straight west of the lake. However, the Mississippi doesn’t originate nearly as far north as the lake’s northern tip, shown on contemporary maps as 49°37′ north latitude. Lewis therefore thought it was “of the highest national importance as it respects our treaty 1783 with Great Britain” to find another river reaching the same latitude as the Lake of the Woods. He hoped the Marias, a northern tributary of the Missouri in modern Montana, would extend as high as 50°, but his 1806 investigation showed that it didn’t.

Helping to retain the Expedition’s post-Purchase focus on the western Indian trade was Jefferson’s briefly-held concept of how the American government should manage its vast new tract of Upper Louisiana. The President had a fleeting hope that Indian tribes east of the Mississippi would abandon their wild hunter-gatherer ways and assimilate into white culture as good Jeffersonian yeoman farmers. Those natives who refused would be moved across the river to a sort of nomadic hunter’s ghetto on the northern plains of Louisiana. White settlers in fact would be kept out of that part of the new U.S. acquisition, where only private merchants would be permitted to operate from a string of trading posts. In a December, 1804, message to Congress the President said exclusive U.S. trading rights west of the Mississippi obtained by the Purchase would advance “the

policy of governing those Indians by commerce rather than by arms.”

That Louisiana lockup plan hardly fits a march-of-empire screenplay, but it squared exactly with the western trade promotion assignment given to Lewis and Clark. In fact, Jefferson’s explorers were so intent on laying the foundation for peaceful trade that they declined a chance to expel British interlopers from the new U.S. territory. On November 19, 1804, the Americans were still building their winter fort near the Mandan villages in modern North Dakota when seven North West Company traders showed up. Over the years these Canadian merchants had become a functional part of the Northern Plains trade network, which at that point Lewis and Clark saw no need to disrupt. Word soon reached the captains that some of the North Westers were bad-mouthing the Americans and planning to give British medals and flags to the Indians. The American officers braced Francois-Antoine Larocque: you can stay here for “trade alone;” no medals, no flags, no question­ing U.S. sovereignty. Clark reported that the Indians, too, were warned that they would “incur the displeasure of their Great American Father” if they accepted any British national symbols.

After coming home from the Pacific, Lewis recommended that the government take a harder line against British traders in Upper Louisiana. They should be thrown out entirely, he said, thus opening the way for American merchants “to become the successful rivals of the Northwest company in the more distant parts of the continent.” By that he probably meant Oregon, which then had no absentee sovereign. Lewis also came back convinced that the west-to-east flow of furs originally contemplated by Jefferson should be reversed. The President, remember, had imagined that a trading post on the Continental Divide could collect furs from Oregon and the Rockies and ship them eastward via the Missouri River. Having seen that country for himself, Lewis thought it would make more sense to gather furs from the Great Plains and Rockies and ship them west down the Columbia and thence to China.

Right there was the germ of John Jacob Astor’s later plan to establish an interior-fed trading port at the mouth of the Columbia. Astor put his plan into gear in 1810 for a permanent American presence in Oregon. Also by then Americans were spilling into Louisiana to farm—not just sell brass
### PARALLEL TRACKS
### OF AMERICAN POLICY, 1802-1804

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<th>LEWIS AND CLARK</th>
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<td><strong>1803—Jan. 18:</strong> Jefferson asks Congress to authorize Pacific expedition.</td>
<td>Oct. 1: Spain cedes Louisiana to France in Treaty of San Ildefonso, but keeps temporary control.</td>
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<td><strong>Feb. 22:</strong> Congress passes $2,500 appropriation for Pacific expedition.</td>
<td>Oct. 18: Spanish commandant closes New Orleans to American barge cargoes.</td>
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<td><strong>Feb. 28:</strong> Jefferson signs appropriation into law.</td>
<td>Jan. 11: Jefferson names Monroe as special envoy to buy New Orleans from France.</td>
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<td><strong>April 27:</strong> By mail Jefferson lets Lewis in Philadelphia review a draft of the expedition instructions.</td>
<td>March 9: Monroe sails for France.</td>
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<td><strong>June 17:</strong> Lewis returns to Washington.</td>
<td>April 10: Napoleon tells his ministers he plans to sell Louisiana to the U.S.</td>
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<td><strong>June 19:</strong> Lewis asks Clark to join expedition, hints of Louisiana's acquisition.</td>
<td>April 11: Tallyrand broaches Louisiana proposal to U.S. minister Livingston.</td>
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<td><strong>July 5:</strong> Lewis leaves for Pittsburgh and the West.</td>
<td>May 2: Louisiana treaty signed in Paris.</td>
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<td><strong>Oct. 27:</strong> Clark joins Lewis near Louisville, Kentucky.</td>
<td>June 9: Livingston's report of the initial Louisiana offer reaches Washington.</td>
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<td><strong>Dec. 12:</strong> Lewis and Clark arrive at Camp Dubois, Illinois.</td>
<td>July 3: Jefferson gets word of the treaty's signing.</td>
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| **May 14:** Expedition leaves Camp Dubois for the Pacific. | Nov. 30: Spain formally transfers Louisiana to France at New Orleans ceremony. |
| **March 10:** France transfers Upper Louisiana to U.S. in St. Louis ceremony witnessed by Lewis and Clark. | Dec. 20: France transfers Lower Louisiana to U.S. at New Orleans ceremony. |
kettles to the Indians. The rush of settlers swamped Jefferson's idea of an Indians-only trading preserve.

So, finally, in the second decade of the 19th century, the march of empire truly began, at last justifying history's trumpets of continental conquest. The century's first decade was too soon. Then, the U.S. government was mainly interested in a commercial contest to contain British expansion in North America, and the Lewis and Clark expedition grew out of that. Napoleon's surprise invasion of Louisiana had separate roots in European intrigue and America's critical need to export crops through New Orleans.

Thomas Jefferson managed to keep these two screenplays separate in his own mind. Celebrants of the two impending bicentennials will best honor his statecraft by trying to do the same.

-FOOTNOTES-
5Hosmer, The History of the Louisiana Purchase, pp. 133-5.
9Jefferson's threat of an alliance with Britain was mainly a bluff, a "strategic feint" to scare Napoleon, in the opinion of Robert W. Tucker and David C. Hendrickson in their Empire of Liberty: The Statecraft of Thomas Jefferson. (Oxford University Press, New York, 1990) p. 114.
15Jefferson's "Life of Captain Lewis," accompanying Nicholas Biddle, History of the Expedition under the Command of Captains Lewis and Clark. (A.C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1903 reprint of the 1814 ed.) Vol. 1, pp. 544. Lewis speculated at Fort Mandan that the White Earth River in modern North Dakota, according to Indian reports, might satisfy the British treaty by reaching the Lake of the Woods' latitude; Gary Moulton, ed., The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. (University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 1987) Vol. 3, p. 363. The Milk River, joining the Missouri in modern Montana, actually comes closest to meeting Lewis' hopes, looping as high as 49°9', N. latitude. The question of a substitute river was made moot by a new 1818 treaty with Britain running the U.S.-Canadian boundary westward from the Lake of the Woods at 49° N, which also was considered by Madison to be the northern limit of Louisiana at the time of the Purchase.
16"Upper Louisiana" at the time was considered to extend northward from the Arkansas River, which joins the Mississippi at 34° N. latitude.
19Lewis urged the ejection of British traders in an essay on Upper Louisiana thought by Jackson to have been written in August, 1807; Letters, Vol. 2, p. 708. Lewis' views on the westward flow of furs from the interior to the Columbia were contained in his first homecoming report to Jefferson in September, 1806; Jackson, Letters, Vol. 1, p. 321.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR ... Arlen J. Large of Washington, D.C., is a former foundation president (1983-84), a frequent contributor to WPO, a retired science correspondent of the Wall Street Journal, and continues to travel the world pursuing his many scientific interests. He certainly ranks among the top Lewis and Clark authorities in the nation, and he serves on the editorial board of WPO.
Cahokia Mounds, named a world heritage site in 1982, attracts tourists from around the globe. The ancient Indian city, which can be seen along Interstate 55 and 70, west of Collinsville, Illinois, covers thousands of acres and took nearly 250 years to build. Originally, there were more than 100 separate mounds.

Here, at the boundary of Madison and St. Clair counties in southwestern Illinois, the rich river valley where the Missouri, the Illinois and the Mississippi rivers come together, lies the place which served as the focal point, the trade center, the cultural center of the largest group of prehistoric Indians in this country (900-1200 A.D.).

Some say Cahokia Mounds was a city, “a prehistoric metropolis with a large population and ranks of dwellings ranging across the American Bottom.” Others say it may have been a kind of ceremonial center, a place where prehistoric people congregated on special occasions or at certain times of the year. However, at its height, it bore numerous signs of urbanism, including Monks Mound, the largest completely earthen mound built by historic peoples in the New World. One hundred feet high, it is the largest man-built earthen mound in North America.

Of the 14 sites in the United States on the World Heritage List, Cahokia Mounds is the only one not a national park.
The original name of Cahokia Mounds is unknown. The original name of the Indians who built the mounds, even their language, remains unknown. In the late 1600s, the French learned the name Cahokia from more recent Indians of the Illini nation. But, like the dinosaur and the passenger pigeon, the Indians who built Cahokia passed out of existence.

According to the guidebook published by The Cahokia Mounds Museum Society, “The mounds gave the Mississipians the one thing the American Bottom did not provide—hills rising sharply above the plain, high places where the elite could live and worship and bury their dead. The mounds also provided definition points for the limits of the city, limits set by a plan of surprisingly geometrical outline.”

Most of the mounds were flat-topped. Atop one of these was a ceremonial structure which could have served as a temple, or a priest’s home. Other mounds were round and conical, others elongated.

An interesting archaeological discovery was that of a burial in Mound 72, 40 meters long and 30 meters wide. In it was buried an important Indian chief, laid out on a blanket of 10,000 mother-of-pearl beads. His grave was surrounded by several groups of sacrificial burials and baskets filled with mica and more than 700 arrowheads. These treasures of stone attested to the importance of the man, as did many sacrificial burials.

Someone thought the chief could take everything with him when he died, including maidens and warriors. One of the mass graves contained 54 so-called virgin females, ages 18 to 21, all buried at the same time. In another multiple burial in the same mound, four males, 17 to 21, were found, arms interlocked as though to protect their chief, but with their hands and heads cut off.

As prehistoric sites go, Cahokia is not old. The Koster site, 60 miles north, gives evidence of human occupancy 9,000 years ago, and other Illinois sites were occupied more than 12,000 years ago.

But at Cahokia archaeologists found evidence showing there was exact science; for example, the Woodhenge system of astronomical observatory circles. Named for its English counterpart, Stonehenge, Woodhenge is believed to have been used as an astronomical observatory, or sun calendar, for determining the solstices and equinoxes.

It was archaeologist Warren Wittry who discovered by accident in 1961 what he called Woodhenge, “one of the most outstanding accomplishments of the prehistoric Cahokians.”

After a summer of intense excavation, Wittry was studying excavation maps when he observed large oval-shaped pits which seemed to be arranged in a circle. He determined these pits once held wooden posts of red cedar which lined up with the rising sun at certain times of the year, serving as a calendar much like Stonehenge in England.

### CAHOKIA MOUNDS INTERPRETIVE CENTER

The $8.2 million, 33,000-square-foot Cahokia Mounds Interpretive Center uses state-of-the-art design concepts and technologies to present one of the most complete and fascinating stories of a vanished Native American civilization.

The new center, completed in 1989, is ten times larger than the original museum, built in the 1920s.

A 15-minute audio-visual presentation in the Orientation Theater, entitled “City of the Sun,” explains urban life at Cahokia. In the Exhibit Gallery, a panoramic, mirrored exhibit surrounds the visitor with one of the city’s neighborhoods.

Exhibit islands explain the government, social organization, agriculture, city planning, and other facets of daily life in prehistoric Cahokia. Simulations of actual excavations are displayed. The Interpretive Center is the setting for various events throughout the year, including films, lectures and recreations of Indian ceremonies. The Museum Shop offers an extensive selection of books, jewelry and reproductions.

When Cahokia Mounds was designated a United Nations World Heritage Site, it was formally recognized as an irreplaceable property of international significance. Cahokia Mounds belongs to an elite group of cultural and natural landmarks of mankind. Administered by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Cahokia Mounds is the only World Heritage Site overseen by a state agency.

Other World Heritage sites include: The City of Rome, Italy; The Great Wall of China; the Pyramids in Egypt, and the Taj Mahal in India.
A couple from Colorado check out Woodhenge.

He and other archaeologists discovered four more poles, estimated to have been built in the same place over a period of 200 years (900-1100 A.D.).

While portions of two of the circles had been lost to modern construction, or lie under Collinsville Road, enough post pits (40) were found to establish four overlapping patter of arcs, representing possible circles some 400 feet in diameter, three of them with center points from which observations could have been made of the sun at the spring and fall equinoxes and the summer and winter solstices. One of the circles had been carbon dated 1045 A.D., another 1000 A.D.

In restoring Woodhenge in 1985, 40 cedar poles were used according to the patterns archaeologists discovered when they were studying the route of a possible new highway. Located about 3,000 feet due west of Monks Mound, Woodhenge, in its spare grandeur, is intact, except for eight poles, and at the turn of each season a crowd gathers at the site to observe the solstice or equinox sunrise.

Observations conducted during these solstice and equinox sunrises proved the new posts to be correctly positioned and aligned.*

*Money for restoration of Woodhenge was provided by George R. Arnold and his wife, Mildred. Arnold is president of The Lewis and Clark Society of America, which is hosting this year's national convention in Collinsville, Illinois.

Ft. Mandan Project Needs Support, Paper Says

“Plans for expansion at the Fort Mandan historical site provide a golden opportunity for all of us in North Dakota,” read an editorial in The Leader-News in North Dakota in 1991.

“The potential for the area is great as visitors to the site will surely grow upon the completion of the visitors/interpretive center. Economically, we all will benefit from the growth of Fort Mandan,” the editorial by Editor Joe Froelich read.

Editor’s Note: It still needs support today.
WHEREAS, in December 1803, the State of Illinois was chosen by Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as the staging platform and launching pad for their epoch-making expedition from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean, which was ordered by President Thomas Jefferson; and

WHEREAS, through the winter of 1803-1804, Camp Dubois was established on the soil of our state at the junction of the River Wood and the Mississippi River, to quarter and protect their men and equipment and prepare them for the perilous journey ahead; and

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois, from Fort Meigs on the Ohio River, north to Fort Kasaskia, Cahokia, and Camp Dubois, supplied Captains Lewis and Clark with many of the exceptional soldiers, boatmen, hunters, guides, and interpreters whose courage and devotion made the journey possible and also supplied them with materials and logistical support essential to their corps' survival across thousands of miles of uncharted wilderness; and

WHEREAS, Illinois' brave pioneers and frontier settlers provided the captains and their men with the hard-won harvest of their fields, livestock, tools, hospitality, warm friendship, and encouragement; and

WHEREAS, at the River Wood in Illinois, Captains Lewis and Clark forged their band of explorers into a dedicated, disciplined military unit, risking their lives to carry out their mission. The expedition was deemed critical to the future security and prosperity of the United States; and

WHEREAS, we should feel honored that Illinoisans helped launch one of the greatest explorations in history, opening the American West and building the power of our nation;

THEREFORE, I, Jim Edgar, Governor of the State of Illinois, proclaim May 1993 as Lewis and Clark Month in Illinois, to commemorate the extraordinary achievements and contributions of Illinois' frontier citizens.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this EIGHTEENTH day of FEBRUARY in the Year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred ninety-three, and of the State of Illinois, the one hundred and SEVENTY-FIFTH

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE

MAY 1993 — WE PROCEEDED ON 23
Doctor Eldon George (Frenchy) Chuinard

BY MARTIN PLAMONDON II

Frenchy Chuinard was born December 9, 1904 in Kelso, Washington. He graduated from Kelso High School in what was a rather unique coincidence of circumstances. Graduating with him were Hazel Bain, a longtime member of our committee who died two weeks before Frenchy. Also graduating in that same class was another honored member of our foundation, Mitch Doumit, who died several years before Hazel and Frenchy. Each of these three people served terms as president of the National Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Hazel being the first woman to do so. Frenchy attended the University of Puget Sound, and the University of Oregon Medical School in Portland. While at the University of Puget Sound, he met and married Fritzi Goff of Tacoma, Washington. They both loved nature and spent many weekends hiking on the Olympic Peninsula. Things were tough for them in those days and Frenchy said it was better to die of starvation hiking those trails than back in Tacoma in their small apartment.

After finishing school, Frenchy entered medical practice as an orthopedic surgeon with Dr. Richard Dillehunt and Dr. Les Lucas. All three served as chief surgeons at the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Portland, Oregon, and became well known worldwide as pioneers in the field. Frenchy wrote several dozen medical articles and originated three specific orthopedic procedures. He received many medical honors from various groups during his life and served in many organizational positions over the years. He retired from medical practice at age 76.

Frenchy became interested in Lewis and Clark when he was ten years of age. He was a member of the committee which helped establish the modern trail route and was one of the founding fathers of the National Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. He served as the foundation's second president. He had a large collection of Lewis and Clark related literature which he donated to Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon. Frenchy was a long time chairman of the Oregon Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee. He was instrumental in efforts that established the interpretive sign at Kelly Point Park, the William Clark commemorative memorial at the University of Portland, both in Portland, Oregon, and the Lewis and Clark Nature Trail in the west.
State of Oregon 1993 Thomas Jefferson Honored Citizen Posthumous Award

Eldon George Chuinard, M.D.
December 9, 1904-February 9, 1993

Oregonians for nearly 60 years were favored by the boundless energies of an adopted citizen. Dr. E.G. “Frenchy” Chuinard, a Washingtonian by birth, devoted his life’s work to orthopedic surgery. His enduring passion was his life-long study of Thomas Jefferson’s “age of enlightenment,” specifically Jefferson’s vision for a continental America. Growing up along the Lewis and Clark trail, the young Chuinard had as his role models Jefferson’s explorers who documented for posterity the remarkable historical legacy transcribed in the Lewis and Clark Journals.

In the field of orthopedics, Dr. Chuinard became an internationally acclaimed Oregonian, recognized for originating three specific orthopedic procedures. His professional writings, published in prestigious medical journals, gained him worldwide honors by his peers.

Dr. Chuinard nurtured for nearly three quarters of a century, a resolute commitment to preserve the integrity of Lewis and Clark Expedition history. His sustained interest in, and research of, archival records culminated in the writing of his book, Only One Man Died: The Medical Aspects of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Dr. Chuinard was a founder and past president of the national Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. An unpaid volunteer, he served under six Oregon Governors as Chairman, Oregon Lewis and Clark Trail Advisory Committee, charged with the mission of identifying and marking sites and geographic features of Jefferson’s “durable kind” in Oregon, noted by the explorers.

For his sincerity of purpose in pursuit of his life’s work in medicine, together with his contributions toward a better public understanding and appreciation of Thomas Jefferson’s sponsorship of the first comprehensive documentation of Oregon’s geography, natural resources and native Americans along the Columbia River, Oregon proudly honors the worth of Dr. Chuinard’s lasting imprint upon the fabric of our state’s treasured heritage.

Barbara Roberts Governor

One of the disappointments of Frenchy’s life was his inability to convince the State of Oregon to build a Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in the Columbia River Gorge. Frenchy had great admiration for Meriwether Lewis and shared with Lewis an enthusiasm and impatience for his project that sometimes put people off. If there were disappointments, there were also achievements. Frenchy was able to write and have published a book on the medical aspects of the Lewis and Clark Expedition called, “Only One Man Died.” Frenchy saw it go into its third printing. After his retirement from medical practice Frenchy made a number of trips around the United States and to Europe and Asia teaching the practice of orthopedic surgery. With advancing age and poor health Frenchy was no longer able to maintain the beautiful flower gardens as he had always done and, finally, unable to maintain their home, Frenchy and Fritz moved from Portland to Lacey, Washington, where they could be cared for by their family. Frenchy suffered a number of strokes before dying at age 88, Tuesday, February 9, 1993.

This author remembers Frenchy as a man who had great compassion and love for his fellow man. Many times during the years since we first met I have encountered people who remembered Dr. Frenchy as the man who took their crippled bodies in childhood and gave them normal lives. Whenever we met Frenchy always asked about the health of my wife and then the children followed by the question, “How’s the book coming?” He asked me to write a proposal for a grant to finish...
my work on the Lewis and Clark maps and hand carried it to various agencies looking for money to finance the project. That is the kind of man Frenchy was, kindly, interested, enthusiastic, full of life. It is with some sadness that this author recalls the final months leading up to the 1992 Annual Meeting of the national foundation in Vancouver, Washington. Frenchy sent me a number of letters with suggestions about things that might be added to the meeting. Unfortunately, his memory must have been failing him. His words were so confused that I and others could not understand exactly what he was talking about. Frustrated, Frenchy wrote me apologizing, fearing he might damage our friendship. Frenchy is a man that I, along with many others, will sorely miss.

HAZEL BAIN

BY MARTIN PLAMONDON, II

Hazel Bain was born Hazel Williams July 14, 1905, at the town of Kelso, Washington. Hazel graduated from Kelso High School in 1923, along with other Lewis and Clark devotees, Dr. Eldon (Frenchy) Chuinard and attorney Mitchel Doumit. All three of these people would eventually become presidents of the National Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

Hazel began college at Western Washington University but a job in the real estate division of Long-Bell Lumber Co. took all of her time. She worked fourteen years for Long-Bell. In 1930, Hazel married Fred H. Bain of North Dakota. She continued working for Long-Bell for a time but quit when the children came; two daughters and one son. Fred Bain passed away in 1951, leaving Hazel with three small children to raise and put through school. She did this by working for the Longview School District until her retirement in 1971.

Hazel also found time for community work, including Soroptimist International of Longview, president of the Pioneer '23 Club and member of Longview Ladies of the Elks. She was director of the Cowlitz County Historical Society and member of the Washington State Historical Society, the American Legion Auxiliary, and the First Presbyterian Church of Kelso.

It is not known when Hazel's interest in Lewis and Clark began but we do know that Governor Daniel Evans appointed her to the Washington Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee in 1973. The same year she joined the National Lewis and Clark Heritage Foundation. In 1975, Hazel was successful in efforts to have the owners of Longview's historic Monticello Hotel rename one of its banquet rooms to honor Lewis and Clark. The room was properly redecorated, and dedicated March 1, 1975. In 1976, Hazel was serving as secretary of the State Committee and accepted the position of membership secretary of the National Foundation. In 1978, she was active helping the Washington committee put on the 10th Annual Meeting for the foundation.

The following year, 1979, the National Foundation awarded Hazel the Distinguished Service Award, but Hazel was already at work on new projects. After much effort at the legislative level Hazel was able to put together a ceremony for July 6, 1980, whereby the great cantilever bridge crossing the Columbia River at Longview, Washington, was formally named the Lewis and Clark Bridge. The following year saw Hazel elected to vice president of the National Foundation and in 1983, she moved up to the position of president. She was the fourteenth president and the first woman to serve in that capacity. As president, Hazel brought the foundation to her home state, to Pasco, Washington, for the Fifteenth Annual Meeting.

Hazel Bain
The years saw Hazel move to the position of treasurer in the Washington committee where at every meeting she faithfully reported the few cents of interest that accrued each quarter. The years also saw Hazel's health fail as she suffered a number of small strokes. When the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting was held in Vancouver, Washington in 1992, Hazel was quite frail. She had been attending the state committee meetings with the aid of Ralph Rudeen or family members. So it was when she came down to Vancouver for the Saturday night Get Acquainted Social.

The many strokes had left Hazel susceptible to falls and she fractured her hip in December, 1992. Her recovery was looking very well until she developed pneumonia. Hazel died peacefully January 22, 1993.

Hazel was our grand lady in the Washington committee. Generosity, concern, compassion, and humor came easily to her.

One spring Hazel attended a regular quarterly meeting of the State Committee held that quarter in Walla Walla, Washington. In the confusion of leaving home Hazel forgot her luggage. Hazel was quite amused when she showed up in Idaho without a change of clothes and the story circulated the committee.

Hazel was late arriving at the meeting on the second day. When asked why she was so late, Hazel replied that she could not decide what to wear.

In Hazel's honor, the members of the Washington Committee made a generous donation to the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center soon to be built in Stevenson, Washington. The tribute was a measure of the feelings of the committee members for a very dear friend.

RICHARD J. CLIFTON

Richard J. "Dick" Clifton, 57, a resident of Olympia since 1963, died of cancer, Wednesday, March 24, 1993, in his home.

He was born Dec. 9, 1935 to George and Cecelia (Drebick) Clifton, in Shelton, where he was graduated from high school in 1955. He earned a B.A. degree from Pacific Lutheran University in 1959 with a major in art and a minor in history.

He was married to Ann Johnson on Aug. 28, 1960 in Chinook.

Clifton served 22 years in the National Guard and Army Reserve. He was transferred as a major to the retired Reserve in 1984.

He was an exhibit designer and then supervisor of Interpretive Services for Washington State Parks for 31 years. He retired in September 1991 to pursue his artwork, which included handcut serigraphs and silk-screen prints.

Clifton was a member of the Highway Heritage Study Task Force, the Washington Heritage Caucus and the Northwest Visual Art Center at Freighthouse Square in Tacoma. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Capital City Marathon.

Clifton worked on designing and building three Lewis and Clark related interpretive centers in Washington and his artwork was an important part of each center. He also designed the Washington Lewis and Clark Trail Committee letterhead.

His most recent contribution was the serigraph of Cape Disappointment that he developed for the foundation's annual meeting in Vancouver last year.

His physical and visual contributions will long be remembered by foundation members.

DR. FRED SHELTON

The following obituary was sent to WPO by William Ralph Elliot of Sherman, Texas, who noted that Dr. Shelton was a devoted member of the Foundation. "I do not remember him missing a meeting," Elliot said. "He usually persuaded someone or more from here to join him at the meeting."

Dr. Shelton remembered the Foundation in his will.

Dr. Fred William Shelton, 77-year-old retired ear, nose and throat physician of Sherman, Texas, died November 4, 1992 at Wilson N. Jones Hospital.

Dr. Shelton was born in North Little Rock, Arkansas, a son of Fred Edward and Edna Lea Wolfe Shelton. He was a 1933 graduate of North Little Rock High School. He graduated from Little Rock Junior College with an associate's degree in 1936, received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Arkansas School of Medicine in 1938, and his doctor's of medicine degree in 1940.
He interned at Santa Rosa Hospital in San Antonio from 1940-1941 and was a resident at John Sealy Hospital University of Texas Medical Branch from 1941 to 1944. He was an instructor at John Sealy Hospital in the Otolaryngology Department from 1944 to 1949.

In 1949 he moved to Sherman and opened his practice in the Essin Clinic and became a staff member of Wilson N. Jones Hospital.

He was a member of the Grayson County Medical Society, Texas Medical Association, American Medical Association, Dallas Academy of Otolaryngology, Texas Otolaryngology Association and American Academy of Otolaryngology. He was certified as a diplomate of the American Board of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery.

The following Lewis and Clark artifacts will be on display at Monticello through December 31, 1993 in honor of the 250th anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's birth.

1. Mandan buffalo robe
2. Tobacco pouch, attributed to the Sack/Fox
3. Eagle bone whistle, attributed to the Mandan
4. Knife sheath, attributed to the Chippewa/Ojibwa
5. Cradle, attributed to the Crow
6. Spoon, attributed to the Northwest Coast
7. Gourd rattle, attributed to the Menominee
8. Warrior's badge of rattlesnake skin, attributed to the Osage
9. Indian peace medal
10. Elk antlers
11. Big horn sheep (a replacement for the lost original)
12. Arrowsmith map of the United States
13. Indian peace medal

“PIONEERING LINGUISTS” by Dr. Criswell now available, $22.50 postpaid. Headwaters Chapter, Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Box 577, Bozeman, MT 59715. A must for those interested in natural history.

LEWIS & CLARK FELLOW & MEMORIAL Donors

Donors to the Lewis & Clark Fellow program

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Dr. E.G. Chuinard
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Expedition Collection Awaits Discovery in Federal Way, Washington

BY BRAD BRABERG

Thanks to Ilene Marckx, local history buffs won't have to travel far to read about one of this nation's greatest journeys.

Marckx combined two of her missions—the community of Federal Way and the Lewis and Clark expedition—when she donated a 70-volume collection of expedition books to the Federal Way Regional Library.

Marckx, a lifelong devotee of Lewis and Clark, decided it was time her collection found a safer home where more people could enjoy it.

"I couldn't possibly sell it," said Marckx, 82. "That would be unthinkable."

The donation was marked by a small ceremony at the library. Among the group was George Tweney, a fellow Lewis and Clark buff and rare book dealer who helped Marckx obtain writings of the two explorers and scholarly examinations of their journey.

"Some of them are quite rare," said Tweney, a Burien resident. "I appraised the collection for her. It's a pretty valuable collection. It doesn't have everything, nor does it have the really great rarities, but nobody can afford the great rarities anymore."

Marckx wouldn't reveal her collection's total value, but Tweney pointed out the value of its two crown jewels: "The Field Notes of Captain William Clark" and "Original Journals of Lewis and Clark."

Her copy of "The Field Notes of Captain William Clark" is one of only 1,200 printed.

"In the early 1960s they discovered a whole bunch of Captain Clark's original writings in an old attic in St. Paul. It [Marckx's book] is the first publication of Captain Clark's field notes that were found in that attic.

"In that condition you'd have trouble finding it for $400," said Tweney.

Her other prize is the seven-volume "Original Journals of Lewis and Clark." Released in 1904, these books marked the first time the journals were published unedited "exactly as the captains wrote them, with all the misspellings and everything else," said Tweney.

"You'd have trouble finding that for $750."

Bill Gates, a Federal Way resident and member of the King County Library Board, pointed out it wasn't the first time the community has benefited from the Marckx family.

"The Marckx family has been doing things for Federal Way for years and years, especially libraries," said Gates. "Some 40 years ago the Marckxes helped start the first library in Federal Way."

He also noted how Ilene and her late husband, Francis, donated the first land for what is now West Hylebos Wetlands State Park.

Dee DuBois, assistant managing librarian, said the collection will be shelved together in the reference section.

"It might grow," she said. "It might lead someone else to make a donation to us. It's an area where there's a lot of interest from students."

Three such students from Sacajawea Junior High, Fiona Otway, Gane Bourgeois and Andre Ebaugh, were at the library with their teacher, Rosalie Luce, to take part in the donation.

Marckx quizzed them about their interest in Lewis and Clark, who trekked from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean and back again in a trip that lasted from 1804 to 1806.

"I liked that this group of people set out in the wilderness not knowing what they were going to find or who they were going to meet," said Ebaugh.

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TO: ARTISTS AND AUTHORS OF LEWIS AND CLARK RELATED ITEMS

IF YOU WISH TO DISPLAY YOUR BOOKS OR ITEMS AT THE 25TH ANNUAL MEETING AT HOLIDAY INN IN COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS, AUGUST 1-4, 1993—PLEASE CONTACT WINNIE GEORGE, 7312 PARKVIEW DRIVE #2, ST. LOUIS, MO 63109—phone 314-351-6593.

MAY 1993
LETTERS—continued from page 3)

ries a speed limit of 50 mph, brooking no intersections with mere mortal highways but passing haughtily over them on concrete bridges of an attractive, low-profile design; the parkway itself may only be approached slowly and quietly, via discreetly placed on-ramps.

Along the length of the parkway as it passes through beautiful forests are lovely picnic sites, rest areas, and innumerable points of historic interest. The roadway parallels the original trace, which may be seen like some dirt logging road wending its way through the woods. The Natchez Trace Parkway must rank as one of America’s great public works projects.

However, the brief side-trip from the parkway to the gravesite of Lewis brought me face-to-face with another sorry example of how ugly are Lewis and Clark monuments. The truncated column of stone looks like a piece of weathered concrete stolen from a freeway overpass support and stands atop a pile of rough-hewn, yellowish stones. The lopped-off column itself, supposedly representative of the sadly abbreviated career of Lewis, wasn’t even fashioned from a single piece of stone; a very visible seam across the column about three-quarters of the way up, at which the color and consistency of the stones change. The only thing that makes the sad, even tawdry, monument interesting is its very antiquity, for, as Coues tells us, it dates from 1848.

As the nation’s various and slightly ridiculous Lewis & Clark monuments aren’t likely to be replaced, perhaps the only way we may enhance their crippled ability to adequately memorialize the achievements of the two captains is to begin to promote the monuments’ intrinsic interest as the historical artifacts, relics of another age, that they themselves have become. Without this added dimension, their datedness and ugliness simply serve to undercut and even overturn the very tribute that they purport to make. The achievements of Lewis and Clark deserve better.

Sincerely,
Matthew F. Watters
Santa Barbara, CA 93160

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
(continued from page 2)

than mere amusement.

I still get angry when I think of a statement in the Forest Service’s official guidelines for management of the Lolo Trail. It states that the trail route and remaining evidence of the original trail will be protected from physical disturbance “to the extent possible without prohibiting other forest management” (read, logging). In a nutshell, this reflects the relative value of history and historic preservation in the minds of many people, including some administrators of our national forests. This thing is o.k., as long as it doesn’t interfere with anything else.

I once asked my students (most of them resource recreation majors in a college of forestry) why historic preservation is important. They came up with 13 good reasons ranging from the economic value of tourism dollars to preserving a sense of heritage and a common bond among our citizens. But the reason I liked best was that historic preservation and the study of history give us a chance to point out and pass along to young people the basic values that have built this nation.

Rather than a recreation trail that might interfere with logging jobs, I think of the Lewis & Clark trail route as Bob Doerk described it in a recent letter to Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy: “a long, thin museum stretching from the doorstep of Monticello to the mouth of the Columbia River.” At this museum I see an excellent opportunity to instill an appreciation for values that are rapidly getting lost in the world today.

A recent survey by the Washington Post found that only 54 percent of college students who were polled said being honest and trustworthy were essential values to them. The study concluded that America’s kids are learning that cheaters often prosper and honesty is not necessarily the best policy. Add to this the mindless lust for violence portrayed nightly on television, the braggadocio of sports personalities, and our penchant for handouts, law suits and riches through a lottery ticket.
Doerk’s long, thin museum gives us an opportunity to look at and discuss a different set of values—integrity, personal courage, perseverance, physical fitness, fairness, humility, risk, respect for lawful authority, intelligent problem solving and many more that you can name. It exhibits unparalleled lessons in leadership and organization that are as valuable to a budding entrepreneur today as they were to the success of the expedition. Bill Sherman saw the light in this when he counseled someone who was facing the task of organizing an annual meeting—“Take a lesson from the expedition: Mr. Jefferson had a grand concept. Next he found the right person to carry it out. Then he gave him a clear mission statement. Lewis immediately began to do his homework, gathering the skills, supplies and the framework he would need to accomplish the mission.”

These valuable lessons can be taught through interpretation along the trail, through materials provided to teachers, through the mass media such as the forthcoming Ken Burns series, and through the myriad Bicentennial activities that are already shaping up.

So, to me, the work of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation is important work. It is relevant to our times and we can use it to advantage to help make this country a better place to live. Our work to protect the historic environment of the trail route is especially important, for there is no means more powerful for interpreting Lewis & Clark history than right out there where so much of it took place.

Your help, your dollars, your hours as a volunteer, all contribute to this good cause. It keeps alive the great Corps of Discovery and it makes all of us a part of it.

Again quoting Bob Doerk, this time from a letter to members of our Trail Coordination Committee, here is the essence of both the trail environment and our role as a Foundation in interpreting its history: “Crisp, cold air ... no wind, and clear skies ... I went to a funeral yesterday and the burial took place at Hillside Cemetery just outside Cascade, Montana. It is a hillside and overlooks Charlie Russell’s square butte. A herd of mule deer were feeding in a field just below the cemetery and as far as one could see in any direction, it was still and silent and empty—void of human habitation. The country must have looked much like that when Lewis and Clark came through, and it all left me with the impression that life is transitory, individually, but the species carry on. That is what we are doing with the marvel of the expedition—carrying on its spirit!”

Shelby, Montana School
Grateful for Experts

The Lewis & Clark Interpretive Association has some very generous individuals—generous with their time and knowledge.

The middle school in Shelby is currently working on an interdisciplinary curriculum unit based on the Lewis and Clark expedition. This unit is involving the entire staff and all students. In an effort to build a knowledge base, we began a search for someone who is an expert on Lewis and Clark. Instead of one expert, we found eight: Ella Mae Howard, Margaret Adams, Mike Labriola, Mike Lamphier, John Toenyes, Bob Doerk, Jack Smith and Wayne Phillips. These folks took a day, Jan. 29, out of their busy schedules to come to Shelby to share their knowledge and insights about the Lewis and Clark Expedition with us. They have an abundance of knowledge and enthusiasm to share. We are very grateful to them for coming to the Shelby Middle School.

Charles M. Topley
Shelby principal

“ONLY ONE MAN DIED,” the medical aspects of the Lewis & Clark Expedition by historian Dr. E.G. Chuinard, paperback, $19.00 postpaid. Don Nell, Box 577, Bozeman, MT 59715.
William Clark / [15 Jan 1804]
River a Dubois

Dear Major [brother-in-law William Croghan]

... It is hourly expected that the American's will take possession of the other side of the Mississippi. All the Inhabitents appear anxious except the people of St. Louis, who are engaged in the Indian Trade which they are doubtfull will be divided, amongst those whom will trade on the best terms. ...

April the 8th 1804
Camp River Dubois

Honored Parents: I now embrace this opportunity of writing to you once more to let you know where I am and where I am going. I am well thank God and in high Spirits. I am now on an expedition to the westward, with Capt Lewis and Capt Clark, who are appointed by the President of the united States to go on an Expedition through the interior parts of North America. We are to ascend the Missouri River with a boat as far as it is navigable and then go by land, to the western ocean, if nothing prevents. This party consists of 25 picked men of the armey and country likewise and I am so happy as to be one of them picked men from the armey and I and all the party are if we live to return to receive our discharge when ever we return again to the united Stated if we choose it ... we expect to be gone 18 months or two years, we are to receive a great reward for this expedition 15 dollars a month and at least 400 ackers of first rate land and if we make great discoveries as we expect the united States has promised to make us great rewards, more than we are promised ...

I have received no letters since Betseys yet but will write next winter if I have a chance.

Yours &c
John Ordway Segt.