

The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Signature Event Collection

Name of Creator: Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Staff, Barb Kubik, Dick Smith

Inclusive Dates: 2003-2006

Extent: 2 linear feet

Collection Number: AR016 (AR2008-01; AR 2008-04; AR 2008-05; AR2008-06(AR 018); AR2008-10 old numbers)

Name and Location of Repository:

William P. Sherman Library and Archives Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Great Falls, MT

Access Restrictions:

The collection is open for use and housed at the LCTHF Head Office in Great Falls, Montana.

Language:

The contents of the collection are primarily English language documents.

Collection Processed by/Dates: Dick Smith, 2008. Shelly Kath, 2016. Della Yeager, 2019.

Finding Aid Prepared By:

Dick Smith, 2008. Typed by Jessica Godfrey, 2008. Revised by Shelly Kath, 2016. Revised and updated by Della Yeager, 2019.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Twelve signature events were held throughout the United States during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration from 2003-2005. The "Jefferson's West" event was held on January 14-15, 2003 at Monticello in Charlottesville, Virginia. This event inaugurated the Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and President Thomas Jefferson's stewardship of the Corps of Discovery. The date of the Monticello event, January 18, 2003 marks the 200th anniversary of Jefferson's confidential letter to Congress requesting funds for an expedition to the Pacific.

The next event was Falls of the Ohio October 24-26, 2003 in Louisville, Kentucky and Clarksville, Indiana. The event commemorates the site where Lewis joined Clark and the expedition party set out for the Missouri River.

In spring 2004 the Three Flags Ceremony and Expedition Departure was held in St Louis, Missouri to observe the 200th anniversary of the transfer of Louisiana Territory from Spain and France to the United States. The second part of the event will commemorate the Corps of Discovery's departure from its winter encampment at Camp River DuBois on May 14, 1804 to explore the newly acquired Louisiana Territory.

The fourth signature, A Journey Fourth, event occurred July 3-4, 2004 in Atchison and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. This event commemorates the first Independence Day celebrated in the American West. On July 4, 1804, the expedition celebrated the 28th birthday of the Declaration of Independence by firing its swivel cannon and enjoying an extra ration of whiskey.

The Tribal Council event, July 30-August 3, 2004 in Omaha Nebraska celebrated the 200th anniversary of the expedition's first meeting with the West's Native People. The fifth bicentennial event, Circle of Cultures, Time of Renewal and Exchange, took place in late fall 2004 at Bismarck, North Dakota. The goal of this event was to renew the bonds of friendship and cooperation forged by the Corps of Discovery during the winter of 1804-05. Circle of Cultures showcased the place Lewis and Clark wintered and the thriving centuries old trading mecca of the Northern Plains. Discovering the Big Sky, July 3-4, 2005, held in Great Falls and Fort Benton, MT commemorates the Corps of Discovery's second Independence Day in the West and the end of the tortuous portage around the great falls of the Missouri.

In the fall of 2005, the Destination-the Pacific event took place on the Lower Columbia, Oregon and Washington. To coincide with the 200th anniversary of the Corps of Discovery's historic arrival at the Pacific Ocean, the Lower Columbia region hosted a national observance of the Corps' Fort Clatsop sojourn.

On July 25, 2006, the Clark on the Yellowstone near Pompey's Pillar, Billings, MT event centered on Clark's journey down the Yellowstone and the inscription of his name on Pompey's Pillar, the only remaining physical evidence of the Lewis and Clark Expedition appearing on the trail.

August 17-20, 2006, New Town, ND hosted the Home of Sakakawea event to mark the anniversary of the Corps of Discovery's joyful return to the Knife River Villages. The Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nations invite America to gather with the tribes who observed or encountered the Expedition in an event offering Native American perspectives.

Scope and Contents:

This collection is comprised of materials collected by attendees of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Signature Events, it includes most of the fifteen signature events. For information on the "Explore the Big Sky" event see AR 2008-01. For information on the Annual Convention of the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial see AR 2008-05. For information on the "Clark on the Yellowstone" signature event see AR 2008-06 and AR 018. For information on the "Heart of America: A Journey Fourth" signature event see AR 2008-10.

One "brass survey cap" was removed from the collection and placed with the other brass caps from the Bicentennial.

Arrangement:

The papers are arranged in series by signature event and contained in eight document boxes. The collection contains ephemera, correspondence, and items collected by participants during the event.

The first series is the Jefferson's West signature event which is comprised of five boxes.

The second series is the Falls of the Ohio signature Event contained in one box of materials.

The third series contains various signature events without enough documents to take up a box and is comprised of two boxes.

Acquisition Date:

October 1, 2007

Acquisition Source:

These materials were gathered by members of the board of directors, staff and volunteers who attended the events and brought to the William P. Sherman Library and Archives in Great Falls, Montana

Processing Note:

The Bicentennial Signature Events collection processing and finding aid creation was funded through a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, Omaha, Nebraska.

Related Materials:

AR 002 Confluence of Cultures Symposium Collection.

AR 006 Robert E. Gatten, Jr. National Bicentennial Council Papers.

AR 012 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Eastern Legacy and Bicentennial Records.

AR 013 Phil Scriver Papers re: Explore the Big Sky Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Signature Event.

AR 015 Bureau of Land Management Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Records.

AR 016 Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Signature Events Collection.

AR 017 National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Annual Convention Collection.

AR 020 Heart of America: A Journey Fourth Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Signature Event Records.

AR 023 Circle of Tribal Advisors for the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Records.

AR 024 Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Materials Compiled by Hal Stearns, Jr.

AR 026 National Council for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Records.

AR 033 Corps II, Tent of Many Voices Traveling Exhibit Records

AR 035 Missouri Lewis and Clark Commission Materials Compiled by Gerald Lee.

Separated Materials: One brass survey cap placed with other brass caps.

Restrictions on Use:

LCTHF does not own copyright to all the materials in the collection. In some instances, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners. No more than 25 percent of any folder may be copied.

Preferred Citation:

Item description and date. *Bicentennial Signature Events*. AR 016. Box and Folder numbers. William P. Sherman Library and Archives, Great Falls, MT.

Subject Terms:

Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Signature Event

Jefferson's West

Falls of the Ohio

Three Flags Ceremony

Expedition's Departure: Camp River Dubois
Preparations Complete, The Expedition Faces West
Heart of America: A Journey Fourth
First Tribal Council
Oceti Sakowin Experience: Remembering and Educating
Circle of Cultures, Time of Renewal and Exchange
Explore the Big Sky
Destination: The Pacific
Among the Nimiipuu
Clark on the Yellowstone
Reunion at the Home of Sakajawea
Confluence with Destiny: The Return of Lewis and Clark

Container List

The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Signature Event Collection

AR016

Box Listing:

Series 1: The “Jefferson’s West” Event (5 boxes)

Box 1

- Folder 1: Jefferson’s West, January 14-19, 2003
- Folder 2: Jefferson’s West Planning, 2000-2003
- Folder 3: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan. 9- Jan. 11, 2003
- Folder 4: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan, 12, 2003
- Folder 5: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan. 13, 2003
- Folder 6: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan. 14, 2003

Box 2

- Folder 1: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan. 15-17, 2003
- Folder 2: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan. 18, 2003
- Folder 3: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan. 19, 2003
- Folder 4: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan. 20-21, 2003
- Folder 5: Jefferson’s West Newspapers, Jan. 22- Mar. 7, 2003
- Folder 6: L&C Bicentennial Bag

Box 3

Newspaper Clippings need to be photocopied

Box 4

Newspaper Clippings need to be photocopied

Box 5

Newspaper Clippings need to be photocopied

Series 2: The “Falls of the Ohio” Signature Event (1 Box)

Box 6

- Folder 1: Falls of the Ohio Event Packets
- Folder 2: Falls of the Ohio Event Packets
- Folder 3: Falls of the Ohio Ephemera
- Folder 4: Correspondence Falls of the Ohio
- Folder 5: Non-Archival Newsprint Materials, Falls of the Ohio
- Folder 6: Soft Materials Falls of the Ohio

Series 3: Signature Events

Box 7

- Folder 1: Three Flags Signature Event

Folder 2: Illinois L&C Bicentennial Events
Folder 3: L&C the Expedition Faces West Signature Event
Folder 4: One Trail, Many Journeys Signature Event, MO
Folder 5: Heart of America a Journey Fourth, MO
Folder 6: A Journey Fourth, KS
Newspaper clippings need to be copied

Box 8

Folder 1: Oceti Sakowin Experience
Folder 2: South Dakota Tourism Packet
Folder 3: Kids Publications/ Spirit Mount, South Dakota Tourism
Folder 4: South Dakota Tourism Slides
Folder 5: Circle of Cultures
Folder 6: North Dakota Bicentennial Planning
Folder 7: North Dakota Tourism Packet
Folder 8: North Dakota L&C Bicentennial Foundation
Folder 9: Explore the Big Sky Event
Folder 10: Clark on the Yellowstone