



MERIWETHER  
LEWIS





PRESENTATION OF THE BUST OF

*Meriwether Lewis*

To

The Commonwealth of Virginia

By

Family and Friends Across America

The Locust Hill Graveyard Foundation

The Home Front Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

In Cooperation with

The Office of Clerk of the House of Delegates

THE OLD HALL OF THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
STATE CAPITOL  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

August 18, 2008

2:00 p.m.

### *The Locust Hill Graveyard Foundation*

Locust Hill, near Ivy, Virginia, is the birthplace (August 18, 1774) and plantation home of Meriwether Lewis. Upon his death in 1809, Meriwether Lewis' mother, Lucy Thornton Meriwether Lewis Marks, inherited Locust Hill. She established the graveyard in 1810. Fifty burials are recorded in the graveyard, including Lucy Marks. Meriwether Lewis' remains were not relocated from the Natchez Trace near Hohenwald, Tennessee to Locust Hill but his brother, Reuben Lewis, and his sister, Jane Lewis Anderson, are buried there.

The Locust Hill Graveyard Foundation was formed in 1993 to preserve and maintain the graveyard for the educational benefit and enjoyment of visitors. Many of the Foundation's members are Lewis descendants. While the Foundation's main goal is to care for the graveyard, it also engages in special projects related to the Lewis family such as this project to place a bust of Meriwether Lewis in the Old Hall of the Virginia House of Delegates.

### *The Home Front Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation*

The Home Front Chapter in Charlottesville, Virginia is one of 36 chapters of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation whose mission is to stimulate public appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition's contributions to America's heritage and to support education, research, development and preservation of the Lewis and Clark experience. The Foundation provides national leadership to preserve the Lewis and Clark Trail and its stories, while its chapters provide education, outreach and trail stewardship across the country.

The Home Front Chapter hosted the 1995 and 2007 national meetings of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation in Charlottesville and co-hosted the 1999 meeting of the Board of the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council. In addition, the Chapter helped launch The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial with major support of "Jefferson's West" at the University of Virginia and at Monticello. "Jefferson's West" was the first of 15 "Signature Events" nationwide, which highlighted the bicentennial observance of the famous Expedition.



*Bust of Meriwether Lewis*

*John A. Lanzalotti, M.D., Sculptor*

*After the Physiognotrace of Meriwether Lewis by Charles B. J. F. de Saint-Mémin done in  
1803 shortly before the Lewis and Clark Expedition.*

## Those Whose Generosity Made This Project Possible

### *Benefactor*

Dr. Alden Scott Anderson, Jr.  
An Anonymous Donor  
The Locust Hill Graveyard Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Page Henley, Jr.

### *Patron*

Arnett and Associates--Premier Speakers  
Dominion  
William D. Barker  
Colonel and Mrs. Thomas C. McSwain, Jr.

### *Sponsor*

Dr. William Morris Anderson  
Charlotte Ward Baldwin  
Mr. and Mrs. Howell Lewis Bowen  
Chapter III, Colonial Dames of America  
Heritage Memorials, Inc.  
Home Front Chapter, Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation  
Eugene Crosby Gamble, Jr. for Crosby & Demetrius  
Margaret Mosteller Gamble in memory of Eugene Crosby Gamble  
The Grasty family in memory of Catherine Lewis Grasty  
The Meriwether Society  
Katherine Gamble Rhodes for Sterling, Zachary, Brandon, & Ian  
Professor and Mrs. James E. Starrs  
Anne R. Tufts  
Family of Annie Laurie Anderson Vanstone

### *Friends*

BB&T  
Guy Meriwether Benson  
Mr. and Mrs. C. Wilson McNeely, III  
Kristin Bunker McSwain  
Reverend and Mrs. M. Anderson Sale in memory of George L. Gordon, Jr.  
George C. Stuckey  
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### *Donors*

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*Donors (continued)*

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L. Meriwether Major and Louise M. Mauck  
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*Gifts*

William G. Anderson  
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Helen Markwell  
Jane Lewis Rectenwald  
Frances Wilson Smyth  
Richard Weaver  
Judge and Mrs. J. Harvie Wilkinson

*Special Recognition*

Richard A. Cheatham  
His research on how to honor Meriwether Lewis “at home” in Virginia was the  
genesis of this project.

## Program

The Honorable H. Morgan Griffith  
Majority Leader of the House of Delegates, Presiding

“Hail Columbia” ..... Unofficial National Anthem in  
Meriwether Lewis’ Time

Welcome..... The Honorable H. Morgan Griffith

Invocation..... Reverend Meriwether Anderson Sale  
Great, Great, Great, Great Nephew  
of Meriwether Lewis

Presentation of the Bust ..... Colonel (Ret.) Thomas C. McSwain, Jr.  
Great, Great, Great, Great Nephew  
of Meriwether Lewis and President of  
the Locust Hill Graveyard  
Foundation

Mrs. Anne R. Tufts  
President of the Home Front  
Chapter, Lewis and Clark Trail  
Heritage Foundation

Unveiling of Bust..... Dr. William Morris Anderson  
Dr. Alden Scott Anderson, Jr.  
Great, Great, Great Nephews of  
Meriwether Lewis

Acceptance of the Bust ..... The Honorable Timothy M. Kaine  
Governor of Virginia

Recognition of John A. Lanzalotti ..... The Honorable H. Morgan Griffith

Introduction of Thomas Jefferson ..... The Honorable H. Morgan Griffith

Tribute to Meriwether Lewis ..... President Thomas Jefferson  
Portrayed by Mr. William D.  
“Bill” Barker

Benediction ..... Reverend Meriwether Anderson Sale

“Yankee Doodle” ..... Popular Song in Meriwether Lewis’ Time

Tours of the Capitol Available

MONTICELLO, August 18, 1813

“ . . . Meriwether Lewis, late Governor of Louisiana, . . . was remarkable even in infancy for enterprise, boldness, and discretion. When only eight years of age he habitually went out, in the dead of night, alone with his dogs, into the forest to hunt the raccoon and opossum, which, seeking their food in the night, can then only be taken. In this exercise, no season or circumstance could obstruct his purpose—plunging through the winter’s snows and frozen streams in pursuit of his object. At thirteen he was put to the Latin school, and continued at that until eighteen, when he returned to his mother, and entered on the cares of his farm; having, as well as a younger brother, been left by his father with a competency for all the correct and comfortable purposes of temperate life. His talent for observation, which had led him to an accurate knowledge of the plants and animals of his own country, would have distinguished him as a farmer; but at the age of twenty, yielding to the ardor of youth and a passion for more dazzling pursuits, he engaged as a volunteer in the body of militia which were called out by General Washington, on occasion of the discontents produced by the excise taxes in the western parts of the United States; and from that situation he was removed to the regular service as a lieutenant in the line. At twenty-three he was promoted to a captaincy; and, always attracting the first attention where punctuality and fidelity were requisite, he was appointed paymaster to his regiment. . . .

In 1803, the act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes being about to expire, some modifications of it were recommended to Congress by a confidential message of January 18, and an extension of its views to the Indians on the Missouri. In order to prepare the way, the message proposed the sending an exploring party to trace the Missouri to its source, to cross the Highlands, and follow the best water communication which offered itself from thence to the Pacific ocean. Congress approved the proposition, and voted a sum of money for carrying it into execution. Captain Lewis, who had then been near two years with me as private secretary, immediately renewed his solicitations to have the direction of the party. I had now had opportunities of knowing him intimately. Of courage undaunted; possessing a firmness and perseverance of purpose which nothing but impossibilities could divert from its direction; careful as a father of those committed to his charge, yet steady in the maintenance of order and discipline; intimate with the Indian character, customs, and principles; habituated to the hunting life; guarded, by exact observation of the vegetables and animals of his own country, against losing time in the description of objects already possessed; honest, disinterested, liberal, of sound understanding, and a fidelity to truth so scrupulous that whatever he should report would be as certain as if seen by ourselves; with all these qualifications, as if selected and implanted by nature in one body for this express purpose, I could have no hesitation in confiding the enterprise to him. . . .”

TH JEFFERSON

*Acts of Assembly text below taken from 1932, allowing for the display of Meriwether Lewis' memorial bust in the Old Hall of the House of Delegates.*

CHAP. 174.—An ACT to authorize the Governor under certain conditions to receive gifts of busts or other memorials of certain great Virginians to be placed in the Old Hall of the House of Delegates in the Capitol, in such a manner as not to interfere with the utility of said hall as a place of meeting. [ HB 298 ]

Approved March 22, 1932

Whereas, the statues of Robert E. Lee and Henry Clay and the busts of John Marshall, Matthew Fontaine Maury, Fitzhugh Lee and J. E. B. Stuart are now in the Old Hall of the House of Delegates, in the Capitol; now, therefore,

1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia, That the Governor, by and with the approval of the Art Commission, may receive gifts of busts or other memorials of the following great Virginians, to be placed in the Old Hall of the House of Delegates in the Capitol in such a manner as not to interfere with the utility of said hall as a place of meeting: Patrick Henry, George Mason, Stonewall Jackson, George Rogers Clark, George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Cyrus H. McCormick, Edmund Pendleton, Joseph E. Johnston, Sam Houston, Meriwether Lewis and Andrew Lewis.

2. The Governor shall not receive gifts of other busts and memorials to be placed in said hall except and until the same be approved by a committee, consisting of the Governor, the State Librarian, and the president of the Virginia Historical Society, who shall pass on the fitness of the subject of the memorial from a historical standpoint, but no bust or memorial shall be placed in said hall to any Virginian who reached distinction after the close of the War Between the States.





