

**A0897**

**Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809) Collection, circa 1784–1960**

2 boxes, 1 oversize folder, 2 microfilm reels

**REPOSITORY**

Missouri Historical Society Archives

P.O. Box 11940

St. Louis, MO 63112-0040

314-746-4510

[archives@mohistory.org](mailto:archives@mohistory.org)

**RESTRICTIONS**

The Missouri Historical Society asks researchers to assist in the preservation of the collection by using either the microfilm or the published versions of documents at all times. Many documents relating to the Lewis & Clark Expedition were published in the following source:

Donald Jackson, ed. *Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with Related Documents, 1783-1854*. Second Edition. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1978.

Permission to access the original documents in the Meriwether Lewis Collection must be obtained from a member of the archives staff. All copy orders will be filled from the microfilm unless photographic reproductions are requested.

The Missouri Historical Society cannot grant permission to publish or exhibit any reproductions in this collection, the originals of which are not held in trust by the society.

**MICROFILM**

The microfilm of the Meriwether Lewis Collection was produced from the *Save America's Treasures* grant program of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Park Service.

**ACQUISITION NOTE**

Many of the documents came from Dr. Meriwether Lewis Anderson in 1936 but the provenance of others items is uncertain. Also in 1936, Charles Gilmer Gray donated the letter of Meriwether Lewis to Dr. John Thornton Gilmer, dated 18 June 1801.

The items in the **Corps of Discovery Series** appear to have been gathered from a variety of sources and were probably part of the Lewis & Clark Papers that were divided into the Meriwether Lewis Papers and the William Clark Papers sometime between 1950 and 1980.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Meriwether Lewis was born August 18, 1774, to William and Lucy Meriwether Lewis in Albemarle County, Virginia. William died when Meriwether was five years old and Lucy remarried and moved to Georgia. Lewis received most of his formal education in Virginia and by age eighteen was in charge of Locust Hill, the family plantation in Albemarle County.

Lewis volunteered for the militia during the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794. He enlisted in the Regular Army in May 1795, entering at the rank of ensign. From 1795 to 1800, he served on the western frontier. During this time one of his assignments placed him in a rifle company commanded by William Clark, also a native of Albemarle County, Virginia. In 1800, Lewis was promoted to the rank of captain.

Thomas Jefferson, a family friend from Virginia, asked Lewis to serve as his private secretary, or aide-de-camp, after his presidential inauguration. Jefferson allowed him to retain his military commission, and Lewis moved into the White House in April 1801 as the president's personal assistant. He assisted Jefferson in planning the expedition to explore the Louisiana Purchase, the newly acquired land west of the Mississippi River. The president placed Lewis in charge of the journey, and Lewis chose William Clark to serve with him. The two men and their party left St. Louis in 1804 and returned in September 1806.

In 1807 Jefferson nominated Lewis to serve as governor of Upper Louisiana. However, Lewis did not arrive in St. Louis to take his post until 1808. His administration was marred by fighting with his territorial secretary, Frederick Bates, and by financial woes. In 1809, Lewis set out for Washington, D.C., to discuss the affairs of his official post. While camping at Grinder's Stand, near Nashville, the traveling party heard shots in the night and found Lewis dying. Meriwether Lewis died October 11, 1809.

#### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Meriwether Lewis Collection is an artificial, or subject-based, collection gathered to record the Lewis and Clark Expedition. During the re-processing of the Meriwether Lewis Collection in 1999, several items were removed from the collection, and returned to the archival collection in which they originally belonged. (Please consult the separation record at the end of this finding aid.) The collection is arranged in three series: **Original Documents Series**, **Reproductions/Clippings Series**, and **Corps of Discovery Series**.

The **Original Documents Series** spans from circa 1784 to 1841, and is arranged in chronological order. It contains letters written to and from Meriwether Lewis, including several letters concerning family affairs that Lewis wrote to his mother, Lucy Marks, in both Georgia and Virginia. Correspondence with Frederick Bates and Michel Amoureaux discusses the expedition and various affairs in St. Louis. The correspondence of Reuben Lewis, dated after Meriwether Lewis's death in 1809, discusses affairs of Meriwether's estate and the disposition of his possessions. This series also contains three small bound volumes that belonged to Meriwether Lewis: a notebook dated 1796 that documents a journey in Ohio; a receipt book, dated 1798 to 1800, in the hand of Lewis that contains signatures or marks of soldiers of the American Revolution; and a personal account book dated 1807-1809.

The **Reproductions/Clippings Series** spans from 1666 to 1960 and is arranged in chronological order. It contains photographs, negative photostats, and typed transcriptions of original documents that are *not* held in the Missouri Historical Society Archives. The only original items in this series are newsclippings or articles about Meriwether Lewis, the Lewis family, or the Lewis & Clark Expedition.

The Corps of Discovery was the name by which the Lewis & Clark Expedition was originally known. The **Corps of Discovery Series** contains original documents, reproductions/typescripts, and articles relating to members of the expedition other than Meriwether Lewis or William Clark. This series dates from 1804 to 1948, and is arranged in chronological order.

**The following abbreviations have been used in this inventory:**

- AD Autographed Document unsigned (an unsigned document in the hand of the author)
- ADS Autographed Document Signed (a document entirely in the hand of and signed by the author)
- ALS Autographed Letter Signed (a letter entirely in the hand of and signed by the author)
- AN Autographed Note unsigned (an unsigned brief or informal letter or message, often fragmentary, in the hand of the author)
- ANS Autographed Note Signed (a brief or informal letter or message, often fragmentary, entirely in the hand of and signed by the author)
- DS Document Signed (a document, handwritten or printed, not written by or blank spaces filled in by the author)

## **FOLDER LIST**

### **Box 1: Original Documents Series**

- Folder 1 circa 1784–1791
- Folder 2 1792-1794
- Folder 3 1795
- Folder 4 Notebook, 1796
- Folder 5 1797
- Folder 6 Receipt book, 1798-1800
- Folder 7 1801–March 1807
- Folder 8 Personal account book, April 1807–1809
- Folder 9 April–November 1807
- Folder 10 1808
- Folder 11 1809
- Folder 12 1810-1812
- Folder 13 1814-1818
- Folder 14 1820-1841

### **Box 2: Reproductions/Clippings Series and Corps of Discovery Series**

- Folder 1 Reproductions, 1666-1803
- Folder 2 Reproductions, 1806–May 1808
- Folder 3 Reproductions, June 1808
- Folder 4 Reproductions, July 1808–October 1809
- Folder 5 Reproductions, post-1809–circa 1901
- Folder 6 Reproductions/clippings, 1902-1928
- Folder 7 Reproductions/clippings, 1929-1936
- Folder 8 Reproductions/clippings, 1937-1960
- Folder 9 Corps of Discovery, 1804-1902
- Folder 10 Corps of Discovery, 1807
- Folder 11 Corps of Discovery, 1808
- Folder 12 Corps of Discovery, 1809-1810
- Folder 13 Corps of Discovery, 1811-1817
- Folder 14 Corps of Discovery, 1818
- Folder 15 Corps of Discovery, 1826-1835
- Folder 16 Corps of Discovery, 1832-1948

## **MICROFILM LIST**

- Reel 1 contains Box 1
- Reel 2 contains Box 2

## DOCUMENT INVENTORY

### Original Documents Series

#### Box 1

#### Folder 1

- circa 1784 Verso of handbill lists property entered by John Lewis, 4466 acres of land on five treasury warrants; and John Marks, 2600 acres on five treasury warrants. Describes location of properties [Lexington, Virginia?]. (2 pages)
- circa 1784 Handbill [from above], Joseph Hudson and Co. [Lexington, Virginia?]. Opening next door to Scott and Co.'s Store "A very extensive assortment of merchandise Will be sold cheap for cash." Lists articles for sale. (2 pages)
- 1789 May 12 ALS Meriwether Lewis to "Moste Loving Mother" Mrs. Lucy Marks, Wilks County, Georgia. "What Language can express the Anxiety I feel to be with you when I sit down to write but it is now a thing impossible." He says Mrs. Mecray is on her way to "Caintuc." He informs her of the health of all her relations and that he has reason to think that Cousin Thomas Meriwether is married. (2 pages, transcript included)
- circa 1791 ALS Meriwether Lewis, Cloverfields, Virginia, to Mist. Lucy Marks, the care of J.T. Gilmore, Georgia. States that he met with no accident on the road and arrived at Uncle Gilmer's the day before Christmas. He discusses various family members, business prospects and the smallpox epidemic in Richmond "which rages with great violence." He hopes that Reuben is at school and, though he is not at the moment, he and Robert Lewis have applied to Mr. Maury who could not take them until the next spring, and to Mr. Waddle who has no school at present and is not willing to take them. If Uncle Lewis cannot prevail upon Mr. Waddle to take them, they will go to Mr. Williamson, a Scotchman, who teaches within about ten miles of Cloverfields. They have been waiting for three weeks. (3 pages, transcript included)
- [1791] Mar 7 ALS Meriwether Lewis to Reuben Lewis, Wilks County, Georgia. He is sorry it is out of his power to come and see him by reason of being at school. He was at Parson Maury's until after Christmas, and then fully expected to stay six months longer at least, if not another year "but Cousin William D. Meriwether said that he did not think it worth while as I had got well acquainted with the English Grammar, and mite learn Geography at home." He will stay at Uncle Gilmer's and go to school in order to get acquainted with figures. (2 pages, transcript included)
- 1791 Oct 16 ALS Meriwether Lewis to Mrs. Lucy Marks, Wilks County, Georgia. He has received a letter from Uncle John Gilmer about his mother's welfare and brother's assiduity and attention at school. His fall vacation was to see his sister and the rest of his relatives "below the little mountains" at Hanover. Mr. Anderson has left Richmond, has discontinued the business of William Anderson & Co., is again living at Hanover and has declared himself a

candidate in the next Hanover election. Lewis will be unable to escort his mother to Virginia sooner than eighteen months or two years. Mr. Hastings, who has his father's power of attorney, is not handling affairs in a satisfactory manner. He tells her that the matter deserves her most serious and immediate consideration. "It is currently reported here that you are Mrs. Harvey." (3 pages, transcript included)

**Folder 2**

1792 Apr 19

ALS Meriwether Lewis, The Roundabout, to Mrs. Lucy Marks. States that sister, Mr. Anderson and the children are well. Due to his mother's desire to see his sister and the fact that Mr. Anderson is unable to leave, Lewis had decided to leave school and make preparations for setting out immediately. He will try to set out by 12 May, as a carriage is promised by the first of May but he has yet to purchase horses and collect some money. In the event that he cannot collect sufficient cash on the land, he will dispose of his tobacco for cash. (2 pages, transcript included)

1794 Oct 4

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Headquarters, Winchester, to Mrs. Lucy Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. He says, "We shall this day draw all our accoutrements and receive our first lesson. We have mountains of beef and oceans of whiskey and I feel myself able to share it [with the] hartiest fellow in camp." (2 pages)

1794 Oct 13

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Headquarters, Winchester, to Mrs. Lucy Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. Lewis says, "this much may be necessary for your information . . . , that if I possess willingness, I am still blessed with a sufficiency of bodily strength and activity to support the glorious cause of Liberty, and my Country." Accounts from Fort Cumberland report that the heads of the insurgents have retired and left their followers. Most have returned to their homes but the remainder seem determined and it is not probable the campaign will be shortened. (3 pages, transcript included)

1794 Nov 24

ALS Meriwether Lewis, McFarlin's Farm, Pennsylvania, to his mother. He has for some time been an ensign in the militia but has been appointed to the same command in the volunteer service for six months and must now make some new arrangement for his business. He wishes Rubin to amuse himself with useful books and finish his last year next spring and summer. Mr. Carrell has agreed to undertake Meriwether Lewis's business for 20 pounds a year and may be displaced at any time that his mother or Cousin William Meriwether think Rubin is adequate to the task. At the expiration of six months, he expects to go to Kentucky and wants papers and information concerning the lands in that country together with sufficiency of money to pay the taxes. "I am quite delighted with a soldier's life . . ." (3 pages, transcript included)

1794 Dec 7

ALS Meriwether Lewis to his mother, Mrs. Lucy Marks, Locust Hill, Albemarle County, Virginia. Mr. Johnson is on his return to Virginia and Lewis asked him to pay a call and give her news of his situation. He mentions

again his intention of visiting Kentucky and his need of money to secure his mother's land, as he understands that the law of that state makes them vacant provided the taxes are not discharged by a certain date. Recommends entrusting Johnson with the money, if it can be procured on the interest of the certificates. Is in perfect health and constantly employed in building huts to "secure us from the clemency of the approaching season." "Remember me to all the girls of the neighborhood as well as my relations and acquaintances . . ." (2 pages, transcript included)

1794 Dec 24 ALS Meriwether Lewis, McFarlin's farm, Pennsylvania, to his mother, Lucy Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. Lewis can vouch for his being a more confined overseer than when at Ivy Creek, having been constantly confined to the department. The situation of the soldiers is truly deplorable, exposed to the inclemency of the winter. He will preside on Christmas day at a small board furnished with a little stewed beef but has procured a quart of rum for a Christmas dram. Asks his mother to send him by Mr. Johnson four shirts and a piece of nankeen, as he has had the misfortune to have a good part of his linen borrowed, with some other of his best clothes, and is not able to replace them due to high prices. (2 pages, transcript included)

### **Folder 3**

1795 Apr 6 ALS Meriwether Lewis, Garrison, McFarlings, to his mother Mrs. Lucy Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. He is sorry to learn that his absence is causing his mother uneasiness and assures her that he will not undertake any enterprise more dangerous than being on Ivy Creek. He finds an opening for acquiring lands and will see to his mother's land in Kentucky. "The Insergiants are the same at heat they ever were, and I can see no honour or profit to be gained by living at the expence of the publick without rendering any service. . . . Remember me to all the girls, and tell them that I shall bring an Insergiant Girl to se[e] them next fall bearing the title of Mrs. Lewis." (3 pages, transcript included)

1795 May 22 ALS Meriwether Lewis, Pittsburgh, to his mother, Citizen Lucy Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. Has received his brother's letter and his mother's kind entreaty to return "yet notwithstanding all, so violently opposed is my governing passion for rambling, to the wishes of all my friends that I am led intentionally to err and then have vanity enough to hope for forgiveness. I do not know how to account for this Quixottic disposition of mine in any other manner or its being affected by any other cause than that of having inherited it in right of the Meriwether Family and it therefore more immediately calls on your charity to forgive those errors into which it may at any time lead me." Promises to see her in the fall. He has sent money by Mr. Puryear to discharge the taxes of the land already secured and also to defray the expenses of the 4,000 acres. He has joined the Federal Army. (3 pages, transcript included)

1795 Nov 23 ALS Meriwether Lewis, Headquarters, Greenville, to his mother, Mrs. Lucy Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. He expects to march to the northwest a few miles where he will spend the winter at one of the recently built garrisons. Has found his return this fall impractical and wishes to have the estate divided without delay, gives directions as to what is to be done. He hopes that his house may ever afford a hearty welcome to the daughters of Mr. Peter Marks. "The general idea is that the army is the school of debauchery but believe me it has ever proven the school of experience and prudence . . ." (3 pages, transcript included)

**Folder 4**

1796 Apr 11–  
Nov 21

**Volume 1:** Notebook of Meriwether Lewis covering journey in Ohio. (51 pages, transcript included)

**Folder 5**

1797 May 2

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Charlottesville, Virginia, to his cousin, Mr. Nicholas Johnson, Wilks County, Georgia. He has received leave of absence from the army for the purpose of settling his domestic concerns. His mother is in compliance with his wish and that of the legatees. He has determined to bring the Negroes belonging to the estate to Virginia. A wagon and gun[?] with two horses will be necessary and Lewis proposes sending two of his own by his overseer who will take charge. He will set out for Kentucky to settle some land matters for the children and himself and will go to Georgia before he joins the army again. (2 pages, transcript included)

1797 June 14

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Col. Crocket's, to his mother, Mrs. Lucy Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. He has been continually employed in the securing of the Miller Creek [Kentucky?] lands and has accomplished it. The land is entered and surveyed in the name of John Marks, and not in that of Rubin Lewis as they supposed. Has secured two thousand six hundred acres. From the estimated price of lands, it is worth 20 pounds an acre. "I am much more pleased with this country than I supposed I should." (2 pages)

1797 July 24

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Shelby Ville, Kentucky, to his mother, Mrs. Lucy Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. He has been detained longer than he expected when he left Ivy Creek but hopes to reach Frankfort the next day. At Frankfort he will complete all business in the state and the next day set out for Georgia. Everything has succeeded nearly to his wish with respect to the children. He found it impracticable to enter into the division of the Sciota lands as it would require too much time. (2 pages)



**Folder 6**

1798 Jan–  
1800 May

**Volume 2:** Receipt book in hand of Meriwether Lewis, containing signatures or marks of soldiers of the American Revolution, Charlottesville, Virginia. (58 pages, typed index attached to flyleaf)

**Folder 7**

1801 Feb 18

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Manchester, to Col. Nathaniel Massie, Lexington, Kentucky. Discusses the survey of land on Brush Creek that Massie had conducted but there is a problem with the fees and he cannot obtain the plats from Mr. Anderson's office. Writes at length about what the problem may be and how to resolve it. (3 pages, mounted in paper)

1801 June 18

ALS Meriwether Lewis, City of Washington, to Dr. John Thornton Gilmer, Elbert Court House, Georgia. Letter of introduction for Dr. Ewell, a young gentleman who has expressed his intention of visiting the State of Georgia to possibly make some part of it his permanent residence. "I feel my situation in the President's family an extremely pleasant one. I very little expected that I possessed the confidence of Mr. Jefferson in so far as to have produced on his part, a voluntary offer of the office of his private secretary—however nothing is extraordinary in these days of revolution and reform." (2 pages, transcript included)

1803 July 2

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Washington, to his mother, Mrs. Lucy Marks, Charlottesville, Virginia. In two days he will set out for the Western Country. His absence will probably be fifteen to eighteen months. The nature of the expedition is by no means dangerous. The route will be through tribes of Indians who are friendly to the United States, therefore, he considers the chances of life just as much in his favor on this trip as he would conceive them to be were he to remain at home for the same length of time. The charge of the expedition is honorable to him as it is important to his country. He feels perfectly prepared for its fatigues and does not doubt his ability to survive the journey. "I go with the most perfect preconception in my own mind of returning safe and hope therefore that you will not suffer yourself to indulge any anxiety for my safety." He discusses family matters and finances. In a postscript he says that he is sending by Mr. Jefferson the patents belonging to P. & J. Marks for the Brush Creek lands. (3 pages)

1805 Mar 31

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Fort Mandan, 1609 miles above the entrance of the Missouri, to his mother, Mrs. Lucy Marks, Charlottesville, Virginia. He and his friend and companion Capt. Clark have decided, on account of the approach of winter, the low state of the water and the known scarcity of timber, to fortify themselves and remain for the winter near the Mandans, Minetares and Ahwabharways who are "the most friendly and well disposed savages we have yet met with." Having completed shelters and fortifications, they called the settlement Fort Mandan in honor of their friendly neighbors. They have

experienced more difficulty from the navigation of the Missouri than danger from Indians. He discusses at length the trip so far including the difficulties of navigation, the vegetation and game, the land they have passed through and the spirit of the party. He also writes that "I request . . . you will give yourself no uneasiness with respect to my fate, for I assure you that I feel myself perfectly as safe as I should do in Albemarle; and the only difference between 3 or 4 thousand miles and 130, is that I cannot have the pleasure of seeing you as often . . ." (4 pages) **Oversize.**

1807 Mar 3 ADS William Clark to J. B. Lepage, receipt for Meriwether Lewis. (1 page)

**Folder 8**

1807 Apr 4–  
1809 Sept 27

**Volume 3:** Personal account book, Meriwether Lewis. (75 pages, partial transcript included)

**Folder 9**

1807 Apr 5

ALS Frederick Bates, St. Louis, to Meriwether Lewis, Washington, D.C. He is writing at Lewis's request to report on the state of affairs in St. Louis and says that Lewis has "a fair opportunity of establishing his lasting reputation in Louisiana, by composing the unhappy divisions of her citizens."

1807 Apr 7

ALS Frederick Bates, St. Louis, to Meriwether Lewis, Washington, D.C. Discusses government affairs and says that Lewis's appointment as governor has been communicated to several people in St. Louis. He hopes to have a good working relationship with Lewis and will report frequently.

1807 May 31

ALS Mel. Amoureux, New Madrid, to Meriwether Lewis, governor of Louisiana Territory, St. Louis. He has seen the prospectus of Lewis's work and would like to be listed as a subscriber. Some of his neighbors and fellow farmers have also expressed a wish to become subscribers and are merely waiting Lewis's reply. Also wishes to express his satisfaction in common with all the Louisianans of the choice of Lewis to govern the territory. (2 pages)

1807 July 14

Receipt of John James Barralet to Governor Lewis for \$40.00 payment for two drawings of waterfalls. (1 page)

1807 Oct 28

ALS Meriwether Lewis, Ivy Creek, to William Woods. Deliver to William Woods, on his order, one complete copy *Lewis & Clark's Tour*, together with one copy of their large map of a part of North America. (2 pages)

[1807] Nov 29

ALS Reuben Lewis, Col. Hancock's, near Fincastle, to Miss Mary G. Marks, Albemarle County, Charlottesville Post Office. He talks about meeting Miss Lillissed[?] Brackenridge, one of the most beautiful women he has ever seen both as to form and features, but unfortunately for his Excellency [Meriwether Lewis] she left the neighborhood two days after our arrival so that he was

disappointed in his design of addressing her. He discusses the reasons for her departure and notes that Julia Clark (not by name but as General Clark's intended) is a handsome woman. They are in good health, will leave the next day and will make another stop before reaching Kentucky. He wants to hear if anything turns up in her situation as he feels extremely interested in anything that concerns her future happiness. (3 pages)

**Folder 10**

- 1808 Fragment, "No. 33, March Term 1808." (1 page)
- 1808 Feb 15 ALS Meriwether Lewis, Louisville, to Mrs. Lucy Marks, near Charlottesville, Virginia. Lewis has been traveling the state looking for land belonging to him and Mary and John Marks (theirs appears to be secure but his own claims are in doubt). He will probably lose the greater part of his claim on Brush Creek. Reuben Lewis, in a flat-bottomed boat with Lewis's baggage and carriage, accompanied by Major Hughes, Mr. Cox and Mr. Pernia have set out for St. Louis. They will descend the Ohio River 220 miles, then travel 165 miles by land. He discusses the health and welfare of family members, including Reuben, Nicholas and Robert Lewis. He expects to start the next day for St. Louis via Vincennes and Cahokia. (2 pages, transcript included)
- 1808 June 2 ALS Meriwether Lewis, St. Louis, to Col. Thomas Hunt, Fort Belle Fontain. "The bearers here of a Frenchman and a Molatto wait on you with six horses which I would thank you to direct your blacksmith to shoe. These horses are intended for the expedition I am sending out to discover saltpetre caverns. The horses of Mr. Shannon and Mr. Lewis McFarlane I would also thank you to have shod for them these men find their own horses &c and go on this expedition as volunteers." (1 page)
- 1808 July 7 *New York Herald* newspaper clipping of a letter from Meriwether Lewis to William H. Harrison, governor of Territory of Indiana, dated 26 May. The letter refers to events surrounding the uprising of the Osage, Osage chief The White Hair, allowing the Indians in his territory to attack the Osage, etc. (1 page, pasted on paper)
- 1808 July 15 ALS Meriwether Lewis, St. Louis, to Col. Thomas Hunt, Belle Fontain. He is urging Hunt to dispatch Capt. Clemson's company as early as possible to the Fire Prairie and feels that when the secretary at war has received his communication he will approve the move as well as the site selected for the factory and fort. He discusses troop movements including General Clark's movement by land to Fire Prairie, possible intentions of the Indians, supply needs, plans to fortify and prepare themselves for the onset of winter as the Indians. (3 pages)
- [1808] Oct 3 AN (in the hand of Meriwether Lewis) to Judge Lucas. Will call on the judge as soon as a council with the Iowa is over. (1 page)

1808 Nov 28 ADS D. Delauney. Copy of General Orders to the territorial militia by Meriwether Lewis, governor. Translation certified by M.P. Leduc. (7 pages, in French, translation included)

1808 Dec 1 ALS Meriwether Lewis, St. Louis, to Mrs. Lucy Marks, near Charlottesville, Virginia. Writes that his life is still one continuous press of business. John Marks and Edmund Anderson have not written to him. He is anxious for news from Marks and about Mary's marital situation. He hopes to induce Mr. More [Moore] to remove to Louisiana. He discusses his land purchases near St. Louis, his plans to sell some of the Ivy Creek property and that he has "selected for your residence . . . the most healthy part of the country." (3 pages, transcript included)

### **Folder 11**

1809 May 15 DS Meriwether Lewis, St. Louis, to the secretary of war, order to pay Peter Chouteau \$440. (1 page) (Catalog description in same folder indicates that it was in payment of ammunition, tobacco and paint furnished to Major Chouteau for conveying a Mandan chief to his village.)

[1809 Aug] ANS M. Lewis, "my letters to be returned to the city of Washington" and a list of protested bills. (2 pages) (Note: Identical entries appear in his personal account book under August 1809.)

1809 Aug 19 DS Meriwether Lewis, deed to William C. Carr. For a parcel of land "situated on the hill, back of the town of St. Louis." (3 pages) **Oversize**. (accession number: 70-0070)

1809 Aug 24 DS Meriwether Lewis, promise to pay Dr. Anthony Saugrain for medicine. (1 page)

1809 Sept 16 ALS Meriwether Lewis, Chickasaw Bluffs, to James Madison, president of the United States. Alludes to the poor condition of his health and the fear of his papers falling into the hands of the British for which reason he changed his route to Washington and goes by land via Tennessee. (It was on this trip that Lewis died 11 October 1809.) (3 pages, original [first page torn] and transcript included)

1809 Oct 12 ALS Pierre Chouteau, Fort Mandanne, to Reuben Lewis. Confirms his appointment as "Sub-agent for the Indians department of this upper Country," by orders of Governor Lewis. (1 page)

### **Folder 12**

1810 Jan 5 ALS William D. Meriwether, Richmond, to John Marks, Albemarle, Virginia. He has received a letter from Mr. Coles in Washington announcing the arrival of Meriwether Lewis's trunks and papers. They have found a will dated the 11th of September which leaves everything to his mother and supposes that it

is not his last will. His private papers will be sent to Mr. Jefferson, and then to William at Albemarle. William goes on to say his watch and other things of value General Clark or Mr. Coles will take to Albemarle with them, everything relating to the expedition is put in the hands of General Clark.” Has an order on the treasurer for the interest on John Marks’s warrant and will send the money when desired. (2 pages)

- [1810] Apr 21 ALS Reuben Lewis, 3 Forks of the Missouri, to His Excellency Meriwether Lewis, governor of the Territory of Louisiana. He has written General Clark on the subject of their situation with trade and prospects in this country. “The heterogenous particles of which our Company are formed, some French, some Spaniards, some Americans, some Gentlemen . . ., some men hired, & some upon shares altogether forms such different interest and opinions that I fear we shall not do so well as we . . . should.” He believes the situation between the Blackfeet and the British makes the Columbia the best prospect but they should sell out if the prospects of the company do not get better by June. Mr. Champlain tells him that the martin abounds in the mountains dividing the waters of the Spanish River, or what is supposed to be the Rio del Nord. Beaver also abound but in areas of perpetual snow. He would like to get a copy of Meriwether’s travels through that country. (3 pages) (Date determined by a researcher, Fred R. Gowens, in 1989.)
- 1810 Aug 8 ADS M.P. Leduc, St. Louis, to Samuel Solomon, Sherred G. Levaine (Levane) and Louis Brazeaux. Appointment as appraisers of Lewis estate, with inventory. (4 pages)
- 1812 Jan 21 ADS R. Wash, D. Delauny and A. McNair, judges of the Orphan’s Court for St. Louis. Report of the administrators of the Meriwether Lewis estate. (3 pages)
- 1812 Oct 10 DS J.C. Garnier, petition for sale of land in Territory of Louisiana brought by Edward Hempstead, Esq., administrator of Meriwether Lewis estate. (3 pages)
- 1812 circa Dec “List of demands against the estate of Meriwether Lewis.” (1 page)

### **Folder 13**

- 1814 June 4 AD Estate of Meriwether Lewis in account with Edward Hempstead. Lists estate’s transactions and Hempstead’s administrator fees. (1 page)
- 1814 June 14 ADS George Wilson, A. McNair and J. McKnight. Auditors report on the settlement of the Meriwether Lewis estate. (4 pages, transcript included)
- 1814 July 23 DS Sales of lands of Meriwether Lewis by Edward Hempstead, administrator. Lists purchasers and describes property. (2 pages)

- 1814 Nov 8 DS Louis Labeaume to Edward Hempstead, administrator. Receipt for \$90 paid from the Meriwether Lewis estate. (1 page)
- 1816 Sept 29 ALS Reuben Lewis, Fort Osage, to Mrs. Lucy Marks, Albemarle County, Virginia. Writes of his position as contractor's agent. He believes that dealing in Indian goods will make him "from 800 to 1000 dollars per year." If not, he will not stay there. Also writes of his health and a cut he recently received from an axe, as well as his newfound pleasure of female society, resulting from his friend Mr. Sibley's recent marriage. Hopes that his letter is received before his mother sets out for Georgia, and would like news of Albemarle. "Set some of them to writing me a long letter about anything or nothing whatever comes uppermost." (2 pages)
- 1818 June 14 Indenture for land from August & Cerre Chouteau to Gabriel Paul. (accession number: 60-0122) **Oversize**
- Folder 14**
- 1820 April 3 ALS Richard Searcy, Cadron, to Maj. Reuben Lewis, Cherokee Agency, Arkansas River. He discusses financial matters between himself, Reuben and Governor Clark. He wants to build a courthouse and talks at length about the importance of having a courthouse in the town, land speculation, the need for a government agent there and the possibility of Reuben coming by Davidsonville [Arkansas] on his way to Virginia. He then writes "Confidential" and discusses the politics of dividing Lawrence County, which he fears will prove fatal to the town. (3 pages)
- 1820 June 10 ALS S. Pleasonton, Treasury Department, Fifth Auditor's Office, to Reuben Lewis, Cherokee agent at Arkansas. "I have received your Report of the depredations committed by the Cherokee Nation of Indians, on the property of citizens of the United States residing on the River Arkansas, in which you estimate the amount of damages at four hundred and twenty five dollars. The Report together with all the accompanying vouchers, I have referred to William Lee, Esquire, the second Auditor of the Treasury, to whom the settlement of your account is properly referable." (1 page)
- 1829 Oct 8 ALS Alex Pope, register, Land Office, Cahaba, to Reuben Lewis, Charlottesville, Albemarle County, Virginia. He writes concerning land granted to Meriwether Lewis per Act of Congress in 1807. Title is being given to William Moore of Madison County based on a power of attorney given to Richard Searcy. He needs an assignment signed by Reuben because it will be easier than to attempt to get them from Searcy who is in Batesville, Arkansas Territory, "the mails in that direction being so uncertain." (3 pages)
- 1835 Dec 3 ALS Thomas W. Gilmer, Charles Carter, Thomas W. Maury, David Anderson and William Woods to Mrs. Lucy Marks, Albemarle. "In communicating the accompanying proceedings of a meeting of our fellow citizens, we hope you

will allow us to mingle our sympathies with those of a mother, while we would render great tribute of affection and honor to your son, the mother of Meriwether Lewis can best appreciate the loss which his country sustained in his premature death . . .” They believe it is their duty to collect facts about the history of Meriwether Lewis for the interest of the public. They request that his family communicate such incidents as may serve to illustrate the strong traits of his character, as well as his habits and personality in his early life, “and any incident which may serve to shew forth the man as he was.” (2 pages)

1841 Feb 18 ALS William Meriwether to Reuben Lewis, Ivy Creek, Albemarle. His letter states that he has papers in his possession that may assist Reuben in “establishing your claim.” The letter contains copies of an autographed letter signed William Lewis, Page’s, to Lucy [Lewis], dated 21 June 1776, regarding his military service and a document signed Thomas Porter, dated 17 July 1776, certifying that Capt. Nicholas Lewis, Lt. William Lewis and Ensign John Henderson “have drawn no rations from me but what they have paid for.” (2 pages)

**Reproductions/Clippings Series**

**Box 2**

**Folder 1**

- 1666-1725 Lewis, Warner and Waller family crests. Four photographs.
- 1777 Mar 20 Commission of John Marks as captain, 10th Virginia Regiment. Photograph mounted on board.
- 1781 Feb 15 Resignation of Captain John Marks signed by William Davies. Photograph mounted on board. (transcript included)
- 1791 Dec 21 Will of John Marks, step-father of Meriwether Lewis. (2 pages, typescript only)
- 1801 Feb 18 Manuscript dealer’s catalog description for a letter from Meriwether Lewis Manchester to Col. Nathaniel Massie of Lexington, Kentucky, being offered for sale in 1951. (1 page, typescript) (enclosure, 26 June 1951). Includes correspondence from donor who requested typescript from dealer, 26 June 1951 and 6 November 1952. (3 pages)
- 1802 Apr 15 Commission of Meriwether Lewis as captain, U.S. Army. Photograph.
- 1801 Apr 30 Typescript of document signed by Meriwether Lewis, power of attorney to Reuben Lewis. (1 page, copy typescript)
- 1803 Apr 15 Letter signed Meriwether Lewis to Gen. William Irvine. (1 page) Manuscript dealer’s catalog description, photocopy of original letter, and transcript. (4 pages total)

**Folder 2**

- 1806 Dec 22 Letter of Meriwether Lewis, captain, 1st U.S. Regiment Infantry, to General Henry Dearborn, secretary of war. Photocopy and brief description. (2 pages)
- 1807 Jan 14 Part of Joel Barlow's Tribute to Meriwether Lewis and John Quincy Adams' Parody, Washington D.C. (1 page, transcript only)
- 1807 Mar 3 Notes, information, and correspondence of donor, Stella Michel, dated 1953, regarding the lands warranted to Lewis and Clark under the act of March 3, 1807. (7 pages, photostats)
- 1807 Mar 6,  
1826 Nov 30 Land Office Warrant No. 1 issued to Meriwether Lewis for lands west of the Mississippi River, signed by secretary of war, with receiver's note dated 1826 on verso. (2 pages, negative photostats)
- 1808 Apr 20,  
1808 Aug 20 Proclamations creating the District of Arkansas and prohibiting settlement beyond a named boundary by Meriwether Lewis, governor of Louisiana Territory (from Department of State, B.R.L. #3449). (photocopies, 4 pages and transcripts, 9 pages)
- 1808 May 30 Letter of Meriwether Lewis to Lieut. Whitlock, paymaster. Handwritten copy (by donor with note dated May 27, 1930, on verso) and partial transcript. (2 pages)

**Folder 3**

- 1808 June DS Meriwether Lewis, John B.C. Lucas, Otho Shrader; laws passed by the governor and judges of the Territory of Louisiana. (21 pages) Photostats and brief description.

**Folder 4**

- 1808 July 8 DS Meriwether Lewis, appointment of Peter Provenchere as judge and notary public, District of St. Louis. (2 pages) Photostats.
- 1808 Aug 8,  
1811 Aug 9 Letter of Meriwether Lewis (1808) to Col. Thomas Hunt, Belle Fountain. Letter of Gov. William H. Harrison (1811) to Col. D. Bissell. Transcripts (3 pages) (Originals in Bissell Manuscripts, St. Louis Mercantile Library.)
- 1808 Sept 30 Appointments to civil offices by Meriwether Lewis, April 1–September 30, 1808. Photostats (2 pages) and transcript (3 pages)
- 1808 Sept 30 Appointments to militia offices by Meriwether Lewis, April 1–September 30, 1808. Photostats (2 pages) and transcript (3 pages)



- 1809 May 13 Typescript copy of indenture made between Rene Jussome and Meriwether Lewis, engaging and bonding his son, Toussaint Jussome, to Lewis. (1 page)
- 1809 Aug 16 Letter of Meriwether Lewis to Edward Bates regarding fugitive. (2 pages, photocopy) (Original in Edward Bates Papers, Virginia Historical Society.)
- 1809 Aug 25 Document signed by Meriwether Lewis regarding Land Warrant No. 2 issued to William Clark. (2 pages) (from Charles Hamilton Auction Catalog description)
- 1809 Sept 11 Will of Meriwether Lewis, bequeathing his estate to Lucy Marks. Probated at Albemarle County, Virginia. (1 page) Validated transcript from Albemarle County clerk.
- 1809 Oct 18 Letter of John Braham to Maj. Amos Stoddard announcing death of Meriwether Lewis. (2 pages) Typescript only.
- Folder 5**
- post-1809 Correction on the death of Meriwether Lewis. (3 pages) Undated typescript.
- post-1809 Account of the death of Meriwether Lewis. (6 pages) Undated typescript.
- 1811-1814 Account of the estate of Meriwether Lewis with E. Hempstead, administrator. (1 page, typescript only)
- 1812 Jan Letter written by Alexander Wilson on 28 May 1811, which appeared in *The Portfolio*, Vol. VII, No. 1, entitled "Particulars of the Death of Capt. Lewis." (13 pages) Typescript with note from donor.
- 1812 Jan 12 Letter of John Hastings Marks, Ivy Creek, to Reuben Lewis. (3 pages) Photostat of typescript.
- 1894 Feb "The Death of Capt. Meriwether Lewis" by Verne S. Pease. From the *Southern Magazine*, Louisville, Kentucky. (17 pages) Typescript.
- circa 1900 "The Death of Captain Meriwether Lewis" by Verne S. Pease. From *Chaperone Magazine*, (8 pages).
- circa 1901 Handbill, "An Historical Spot," describing the home-place of William Clark. (1 page)
- Folder 6**
- 1902 Letter of A.W. Warner, Jr., to the librarian, Missouri Historical Society, on the death of Meriwether Lewis. (1 page)

- 1904 Paper read by Charles P. Pettus before the Missouri Historical Society meeting on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. (3 pages, typed)
- 1904 Apr Article in *The Cosmopolitan* titled "The Lewis and Clark Centennial." (3 pages)
- 1906 Paper titled "Animals New to Lewis and Clark," read before the Missouri Historical Society by James Newton Baskitt. (30 pages, handwritten)
- 1906 Apr 21 Clippings: "Return of Lewis and Clark Expedition," and "Sacagawea—The Bird Woman of the Lewis and Clark Expedition," both by Hon. A.L. Van Osdel. (11 pages)
- 1906 Sept 22 Printed program of the Civic League of St. Louis and the Missouri Historical Society for the dedication of tablet to William Clark. (4 pages)
- 1927 Feb 20 *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper clipping titled "Romance of Missouri," by Robertus Love. (3 pages)
- 1928 June 29 *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper clipping titled "150th Anniversary of Clark Expedition Being Celebrated." (1 page)
- Folder 7**
- 1929 Aug 29 *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper clipping titled "Head of Meriwether Lewis Society to Talk." (1 page)
- 1929 Sept Clipping: "Tour of Lewis and Clark Trail." (1 page)
- 1929 Sept 3 *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper clipping titled "Urges Appropriate Honors to Louisiana Purchase Pioneers." (1 page)
- 1929 Sept 3 Clipping: "Famed Explorer's Murder a Century Ago Still Baffles." (1 page)
- 1931 Feb 20 *St. Louis Star* newspaper clipping titled "Northwest Reveres Indian Girl Who Guided Lewis and Clark to Pacific," by Harry T. Brundidge. (3 pages)
- 1931 Oct *National Republic* article titled "American Trail Blazers," by Franklin F. Korell. (3 printed pages)
- 1936 Aug 19 *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper clipping titled "Meriwether Lewis' Rare Papers Left to Historical Society." (1 page)
- 1936 Aug 24 *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* newspaper clipping titled "The Meriwether Lewis Collection." (1 page)

1936 Nov 27      Typescript address titled “Meriwether Lewis, His Work and His Place in American History,” read by Lee Meriwether at the Missouri Historical Society. (24 pages)

**Folder 8**

1937 Dec 26      *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper clipping regarding the Wulff-Heinrichs wedding. (Wulff was a descendant of Meriwether Lewis).

1939 Oct 6        Obituary of the granddaughter of Sacagawea, and interview with genealogy. (3 pages, transcript)

1946 Mar 9        Description of Meriwether Lewis by Francis Walker Gilmer. (1 page, typescript)

1946 Apr 1        Sketch and description of Locust Hill house. (3 pages, typescript)

1950 Oct 15        Speech made by Irving Dilliard at dedication of Lewis and Clark campsite marker, Wood River, Illinois. (6 pages, typescript)

1954 June 30      News release from U.S. Office of the Postmaster concerning Lewis & Clark commemorative three-cent stamp. (2 pages)

1960 Jan 17      *New York Times* newspaper clipping titled “The Old Natchez Trace Goes Modern,” by Henry N. Ferguson. Printed brochure for Meriwether Lewis National Monument. (2 items)

no date            Sketch of the Martin, Warner and Lewis families. (48 pages, typescript)

no date            Note on Chief Big White or Shehaka. (1 page, typescript)

no date            Photo postcard of Lewis-Clark Hotel, Lewiston, Idaho.

**Corps of Discovery Series**

**Folder 9**

1804, 1902        Letters relating to Sergeant John Ordway. Typescripts of letters and note from donor, 1902. (6 pages, total)

**Folder 10**

1807 Mar 7        DS Joseph Whitehouse to Peter Smith. (2 pages, original)

1807 Mar 9        ADS William Christy, order to take George Drouillard. (2 pages, original)

1807 Mar 14      DS John Potts to Hunt and Henkinson to pay Thomas Whitley. (2 pages, original)

- 1807 May 20 ADS Rene Jussome, St. Louis, witnessed by Charles Gratiot and Pierre Chouteau. (1 page, in French, original and translation included)
- 1807 Sept 22 Order to hold Joseph Whitehouse for the November term, Court of Common Pleas, for his failure to pay Manuel Lisa. (2 pages, original)
- 1807 Nov 15 Letter of John Ordway from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to brother Stephen in New Hampshire. (2 pages, typescript)
- 1807 Nov 16 DS Joseph Whitehouse and Elijah Smith. Bond to Sheriff Conner to appear in court. (2 pages, original)
- 1807 Nov 26 Order to arrest Joseph Whitehouse if debt has not been paid by March 7, 1808. (1 page, original)

**Folder 11**

- 1808-1810 Copies of manuscripts related to John Potts. (4 pages, typescripts)
- 1808 Feb 13 ADS Vincent Carrico, summons to Joseph Whitehouse, who owes Peter Smith \$44.59. (2 pages, original)
- 1808 Mar 29 Writ of execution on Joseph Whitehouse for failure to pay Peter Smith. (2 pages, original)
- 1808 May 12 ADS William Christy, order to take Robert Frazer. (2 pages, original)
- 1808 July 6 DS John Potts, Peter Wyzer. Note of Potts and Wyzer promising to pay Manuel Lisa. (2 pages, original in French, translation included)

**Folder 12**

- 1809 May 20 DS Robert Frazer, Jonas Seely, John B.C. Lucas, acknowledgment of debt to U.S.A., in hand of Lucas. (2 pages, original)
- 1809 Nov 20 Manuscript by George Shannon on "Disinterested Benevolence." (8 pages, original)
- 1809 Dec 30 Manuscript by George Shannon on "Dreaming." (10 pages, original)
- 1810 Aug 11 DS Charles Sanguinet, Patrick Lee, A. McNair and Rufus Easton, administrator. Inventory of the goods, chattels, etc. of John Potts, deceased. (2 pages, original)
- 1810 Sept 3 DS John Graham, attorney. Case of Meriwether Lewis estate. (1 page, typescript)
- 1810 Oct 4 DS John Colter to Jacob Philipson, receipted bill. (2 pages, original)

1810 Nov 11 Newspaper clipping. Notice of sale of Land Warrant No. 22, given to John Potts, by Rufus Easton, administrator of Potts's estate. (1 page, original)

1810 Dec 12 DS John Colter to John G. Comegys, promissory note. (2 pages, original)

**Folder 13**

1811 May 28 DS John Colter, receipt to E. Hempstead. (2 pages, original)

1813 Dec 4 Inventory of the property of John Colter, deceased. (2 pages, original)

1815 Feb 1 DS James Browne, receipt for \$30.00 owed by estate of John Colter. (2 pages, original)

1816 Sept 12 Estate of Thomas P. Howard, deceased. (1 page, in French, typescript and translation included)

1817 Feb 11 DS Genevieve Howard, her mark. Will render account of her administration of her husband's estate. (2 pages, original)

**Folder 14**

1818 Feb 4 DS William Christy. Acknowledges receipt of Theodore Hunt, recorder, of power of attorney from Ordway heirs to Richard Waters. (1 page, original)

1818 Feb 5 DS Elizabeth Ordway, John Ordway, Hannah Ordway. Petition for land relief in New Madrid County, Missouri, by the heirs of John Ordway, James Brady attorney. (3 pages, original)

1818 Feb 20 DS Robert McCoy and Enoch Ligget, justice of the peace (New Madrid County, Missouri) declaring Elizabeth, John, and Hannah Ordway the true heirs of John Ordway, deceased. (1 page, original)

1818 Feb 20 DS Richard H. Waters. Record of land transfer from Robert Masters to John Ordway. (1 page, original)

**Folder 15**

1826-1827 Four letters concerning Nathaniel Pryor's service on the expedition. (8 pages, typescripts)

1826-1835 Miscellaneous notes and manuscripts on Nathaniel Pryor. (12 pages, typescripts)

post-1826 Typescript notes & copies of manuscripts, Nathaniel Pryor. (11 pages, typescripts)

**Folder 16**

- 1832 July 13      ADS John Collins to Daniel Smith, promissory note. (2 pages, original)
- 1839 Aug 25      ALS Joshua Pilcher to T. Hartley Crawford regarding Toussaint Charboneau's [Charboneau] pay. (3 pages, negative photostat)
- circa 1900      Judge Walter B. Douglas's handwritten notes on the estate of John Colter. (9 pages, original)
- 1904              Complimentary season pass issued to Judge Walter B. Douglas for the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition, Portland, Oregon. (2 items, original)
- 1917              Three letters signed and four typescript letters regarding a copy of signature of Nathaniel Pryor. (7 pages, originals and typescripts)
- 1948 Jan 18      Letter to John Bakeless by Earle R. Forrest about Patrick Gass. (3 pages, typescript)

**Separation Record**

<b>Description of material separated</b>	<b>Disposition</b>	<b>Date</b>
1803 June 19, ALS Meriwether Lewis to William Clark	William Clark Papers	January 1998
1804 May 2, ALS Meriwether Lewis to William Clark	William Clark Papers	January 1998
1804 May 16, ALS Meriwether Lewis to Amos Stoddard	Amos Stoddard Papers	January 1998
1804 May 21, ALS William Clark to Maj. Croghan	William Clark Papers	January 1998
1807 Mar 11, ALS Meriwether Lewis to William Clark	William Clark Papers	January 1998
1807 Apr, Fragment of ALS Frederick Bates to M. Lewis. See Bates Family Papers, Letterbook, Volume 2, pp. 7-12 for sender's copy.	Bates Family Papers	January 1998
1807, Prospectus of Lewis and Clark's Tour to the Pacific Ocean through the Interior of the Continent of North America	William Clark Papers	March 2001
1807 June 3, Printed document, Philadelphia. Subscription list form for publishing Lewis and Clark's map of North America	William Clark Papers	March 2001
1807 May 7, United States vs. Robert Westcott	Missouri Supreme Court Minute Books, Volume 1, 1805-1808, p. 139	January 1998
1809 Nov 12, ALS Bryan & Schlatter to P. Chouteau	Chouteau Family Collection	January 1998
1809 Dec 6, ALS Nancy Bates, James Abbott, J.W. Bates to Frederick Bates	Bates Family Papers	January 1998
1809 Sept 22, ADS Meriwether Lewis to Amos Stoddard	Amos Stoddard Papers	January 1998
1809 Sept 28, ALS James Howes to Frederick Bates	Bates Family Papers	January 1998