

# Lewis & Clark's Missouri

## MAKING MISSOURI HOME

PART 8 OF A SERIES OF EIGHT NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION FEATURES

**T**HE CORPS REACHED PRESENT-DAY MISSOURI on September 9, 1806, and traveling with the river's current, made a speedy return to St. Louis two weeks later. Lewis immediately wrote to President Jefferson with the news of their return: "Sir, It is with pleasure that I announce to you the safe arrival of myself and party at 12 o'clock today at this place with our papers and baggage."

During the next few weeks there was a lot of work to complete, including reports to write and finances to settle. They held a public sale of the equipment and extra supplies from the expedition. As part of their pay for participating in the expedition, the men each received land warrants from the U.S. government entitling them to 320 acres of land.

The party disbanded and the men went their separate ways. While the men had lived in many other states prior to the expedition, upon their return, several chose to make the Missouri territory their new home. George Drouillard, who had joined the expedition in the Cape Girardeau region, returned there. John Ordway, originally from New Hampshire, purchased land on Tywappity Bottom, south of Cape Girardeau. George Shannon, the youngest member of the expedition, age 18 when the expedition started, was originally from Kentucky. He eventually settled in Missouri and became a state senator and a judge. John Colter, also from Kentucky, stayed out West and is given credit for exploring the area that is now Yellowstone National Park. He eventually returned and settled in Missouri, across the Missouri River from La Charette.

Lewis and Clark, too, made Missouri their new home. President Jefferson appointed Meriwether Lewis governor of Upper Louisiana Territory. In March of 1808 he moved to St. Louis. Clark also received an appointment. The President put him in charge of the Louisiana Territory's militia and Indian affairs. He, too, moved to the city with his bride, Julia. Outliving Lewis by many years, Clark eventually became governor of the Missouri Territory in 1813.

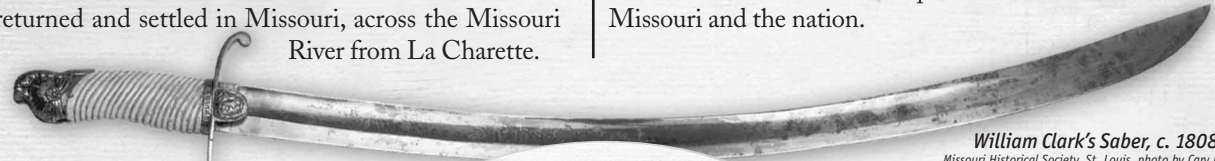
First as Indian agent and then as governor, Clark was directly responsible for acquiring thousands of square miles of land in Missouri and the rest of the Louisiana Territory by treaty. He played a key role in encouraging Indian movement westward as Missouri moved closer to statehood. His home in St. Louis contained a room full of treasures collected on the expedition and gifts he received visiting Indian

leaders. He named his first child Meriwether Lewis Clark.

The Lewis and Clark expedition was a brief event in Missouri's history. But it's a story that remains popular — so popular that Lewis and Clark are represented on the official Missouri state quarter. Today you can read Lewis and Clark's descriptions of the Missouri landscape they traveled through, of the animals that used to inhabit the land, and of the people from many cultures who called Missouri home. While it is a story of great adventure and courage, it also is one of meeting new people and trying to understand them. The observations that Lewis and Clark made during their journey and the decisions they made afterward directly contributed to the future development of both the state of Missouri and the nation.

No.	Names	Rank	Commencement of Service, with statement as to how long	Ending of term as to how long at the expiration of Service	Stones Paid for	Amount of Pay Received
1	John Ordway	stoppage	1st January 1804	16th October 1806	30 10	266 66%
2	Nathaniel Pryor	ditto	20th October 1803	10th October 1806	30 20 33 8	273 50%
3	Charles Floyd	ditto	1st August 1803	20th August 1806	20 20 23 8	86 88%
4	Patsack Gaps	ditto	1st January 1804	16th October 1806	30 10	243 66%
5	William Brantley	Private	20th October 1803	16th October 1806	30 10	243 66%
7	John Colter	Co.	1st January 1804	ditto	30 20	178 20%
8	Pierre Gaultier	Co.	16th October 1803	20	30 10	166 66%
9	Joseph Feakes	Co.	16th May 1804	20	28 25	179 20%
10	Robert Feakes	Co.	1st August 1803	20	38 20	207 66%
11	Robert Henson	Co.	1st August 1803	20	38 20	194 66%
12	George Drouillard	Co.	1st August 1803	20	38 20	116 66%

Detail of Corps of Expedition Roster  
Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library



William Clark's Saber, c. 1808  
Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, photo by Cary Horton

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our state's early history with the  
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*Lewis & Clark's Missouri*,  
a touring exhibition organized by the  
Missouri Historical Society, visit  
[www.lewisandclarkexhibit.org](http://www.lewisandclarkexhibit.org).

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