

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was planned and prepared in the east. Although Meriwether Lewis travelled the Ohio River from its beginning in Pittsburgh, Pa. to its mouth in Cairo, Ill., it was not the waterway it is today. Shallow stretches and riffles often divided a sparsely settled landscape. There are many sites along the river and beyond travelled by the explorers that we can actually see and visit today. The following are among the best.

Eastern Legacy: The Lewis & Clark Expedition Begins...

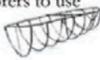


1 Harpers Ferry, West Virginia:

Meriwether Lewis arrived in Harpers Ferry (Virginia) March 16th 1803 to secure supplies vital to the expedition's survival, such as rifles and extra rifle parts. He also oversaw the construction of the iron frame boat. Lewis left April 18th but returned July 7th to gather his supplies. He departed for Pittsburgh, Pa., the following day. GPS: 39°19'0"N - 77°45'23"W



Lower Armory Grounds: See a replica of the iron frame boat where it was produced for Meriwether Lewis. The unusual design was developed for the explorers to use in the unknown west with the uncertain river conditions.



Meriwether Lewis Exhibit: Located in the Lower Town, it explores how the Harpers Ferry Armory supplied the expedition for success and survival.

14 Wheeling, West Virginia:

Lewis and Clark state historical marker: Located at the corner of 14th and Main Streets, it notes Lewis' arrival September 7th. While here he "wrote to the President, purchased a [red] pirogue and hired a man to work her." His men "were much fatigued" and he concluded they needed rest, an opportunity to wash their clothes and exchange flour for baked bread. Lewis "dined with Colo. Rodney and his suit" walked down to his boat and ate watermelon. He reported, "the people began to top their corn and collect their fodder." Departing on the 9th, Lewis and his men encountered a powerful cold rain that came down in torrents. Boats were bailed "frequently during the course of the night..." GPS: 40°3'43" N - 80°43'59" W



Riverfront Interpretive Panel:

Located at the riverfront near Water St., the panel explains Lewis' visit to the Wheeling area where he received the goods brought overland on the Braddock Trace. GPS: 40°4'3"N - 80°43'29"W

15 Grave Creek Indian Mound, Moundsville, West Virginia:

On September 10th Lewis described "a remarkable artificial mound of earth called by the people in this neighbourhood the Indian grave." Located "on the east bank of the Ohio 12 miles below Wheeling and about 700 paces from the river" he described the mound in detail noting "a regular cone 310 yards in circumference at its base & 65 feet high terminating in a blunt point whose diameter is 30 feet." He noted "a white oak tree whose girth is 13 1/2 feet, from the aged appearance of this tree I think its age might reasonably be calculated at 300 years..." The large mound is adjacent to the Archaeological Complex at 801 Jefferson Avenue. GPS: 39°55'0"N - 80°44'39"W



2 Ft. Necessity National Battlefield:

Braddock's Trace: It was a major road in 1803 for Lewis to use to travel to Pittsburgh and to transport goods to Wheeling, Virginia (now West Virginia). It was a road during a significant period of our history and dates back to the French and Indian War. GPS: 39°48'46"N - 79°35'23"W



Braddock's Grave: British General Braddock was mortally wounded during a battle in the French and Indian War and was buried on the trace named for him. GPS: 39°49'55"N - 79°36'2"W



Friendship Hill: It was the home of Secretary of the Treasury, Albert Gallatin. This Swiss immigrant was responsible for developing financial support for the Lewis and Clark expedition. GPS: 39°46'32"N - 79°55'51"W



Elizabeth, Pennsylvania: Located on the Monongahela River, the Walker Boat Yard constructed seaworthy boats, and many historians believe that the keelboat and perhaps other smaller vessels were built here for the journey.

4 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania:

Lewis began recording August 30th 1803 in his journal at this point of his departure to the West. "Left Pittsburgh this day at 11 o'clock with a party of 11 hands 7 of which are soldiers, a pilot and three young men on trial they having proposed to go with me throughout the voyage."



Brunot Island: Located just 3 miles below Pittsburgh, Lewis stopped to show his air gun to "some of the gentlemen present." He fired it successfully 7 times "with pretty good success" when he allowed "Mr. Blaze Cenas being unacquainted with the management of the gun to suffer her to discharge herself accidentally the ball passed through the hat of a woman about 40 yards distant cutting her temple..." With blood gushing from her temple, they thought she was dead but learned the wound was neither fatal nor dangerous.

Ohio River Trail: Located in the Pittsburgh area, this river trail has portions of the trail marked following the river that Lewis would have traveled on his way to the West in 1803.

16 Marietta, Ohio:

A marker on the levee notes the arrival of Lewis and his 13 men On September 13, 1803 when they reached the oldest settlement in Ohio, Marietta, at the mouth of the Muskingum River. Lewis wrote in his journal that "this evening was visited by Colo. Green [one of the founders of Marietta and a director of the Ohio Company] Postmaster at this place he appears to be much of a gentleman and an excellent republican." GPS: 39°25'0"N - 81°27'0"W



17 Ravenswood, West Virginia:

Located at Washington Western Lands Park along the Ohio River is a USGS Lewis and Clark marker denoting this site where Lewis and his men passed. Near here, they stopped to dry out their goods as rains continued to plague them at that time of year. GPS: 38°56'39" N - 81°45'33" W



18 Point Pleasant, West Virginia:

Riverfront Park: On September 14th Lewis and his men camped on the NW shore in this area. He recorded that he "saw many squirrels this day swimming the river from N.W. to S.E. caught several by means of my dog..." GPS: 38°50'34" N - 82°8'23" W



Tu-Endie-Wei Point Pleasant Battle Monument State Park:

Located at 1 Main Street overlooking the river, it is the site of a decisive battle led by Chief Cornstalk in 1774. The name of the park is a Wyandotte word meaning "point between two waters." Lewis passed this point in 1803 where the Kanawha and Ohio rivers meet. GPS: 38°50'28" N - 82°8'33" W



Ft. Randolph: Under the command of Ft. Pitt along with Ft. Fincastle (Wheeling), the fort was established in 1776. William Clark's older brother, George Rogers Clark, stopped here on his way to Vincennes in 1778. The site is located along Route 2. GPS: 38°50'1" N - 82°7'43" W



Legionville: (located at Baden, Pennsylvania) William Clark reportedly received his military training at this location established by Anthony Wayne. GPS: 40°37'30" N - 80°13'34" W

6 Logstown: (near Ambridge, Pennsylvania)

At this village of Shawnee, Delaware, Iroquois, and other Indians established before 1748, Lewis noted in his journal on September 2nd 1803 the rich land here. He had to engage a horse and an ox for \$1 to pull their boats over the riffles much to his disdain. GPS: 40°37'37" N - 80°13'46" W



7 Beaver Creek [River], Pennsylvania:

Lewis described "the water so low and clear that we see a great number of Fish of different kinds, the Stergeon, Bass, Cat fish, pike, &c." in this area. GPS: 40°41'52" N - 80°17'12" W (Beaver River) GPS: 40°41'58" N - 80°17'24" W (Rochester)



8 Ft. McIntosh, Pennsylvania:

Lewis anchored off Ft. McIntosh (built in 1778) where he discharged "one of my hands." The modern town of Beaver, Pa. now stands on the approximate site. GPS: 40°41'29" N - 80°18'13" W



9 Georgetown, Pennsylvania:

On September 4th Lewis recorded, "purchase a canoe compleat with two paddles and two poles for which I gave 11\$" but found the canoe leaky and unsafe without repairs. About a mile further downstream they camped, repaired canoes, dried out and oiled articles they had brought with them. GPS: 40°38'37" N - 80°30'4" W



10 Point of Beginning, Pennsylvania:

Lewis describes in detail this location in his journal where "the line which divides the States of Virginia [now West Virginia] and Pennsylvania; this line is made visible from the timber having been felled about sixty feet in width, the young timber has sprung up but has not yet attained the height of the other that it can with ease be traced with the eye a considerable distance..." GPS: 40°38'29" N - 80°31'5" W



19 Huntington, West Virginia:

This river town is where the "river runs West" making a turn west along the southern border of the Northwest Territory. Ohio to the North had just been carved out of that mostly unsettled territory in 1803. A USGS Lewis and Clark geodetic marker commemorates the passage of the expedition past this point at Riverfront Park at the foot of 10th Street. GPS: 38°25'37" N - 82°26'41" W



20 Vanceburg, Kentucky:

This quiet river town overlooks the river traveled by Lewis and his men. In 2003 a Cottonwood tree was planted and a plaque installed to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the expedition passing this point on Front St. near Veterans Memorial Park. Another sign along the way is located on Shelton Dr., just off the AA Highway. GPS: 38°36'10" N - 83°19'1" W



21 Maysville, Kentucky:

Expedition member John Colter was from Maysville. After the expedition, he went on to explore what became our first park, Yellowstone National Park. The marker is located at the foot of Limestone St. (at Limestone Landing). GPS: 38°51'43" N - 45°44'03" W



22 Augusta, Kentucky:

Several structures overlooking the river were here at the time of Lewis' journey past this village. Today a small ferry transports people and cars across the river to Ohio (statehood in 1803). GPS: 38°46'28" N - 84°0'33" W



23 Big Bone Lick, Kentucky:

President Jefferson asked Meriwether Lewis to explore this area known for its wealth of large bones and fossils. At that time, it was unknown if Lewis and Clark might find descendants of these massive animals still living in the unexplored West. On the return of the expedition, Clark conducted a major dig in 1807 at the request of the President. The park is located along State Rt. 338 (also known as Beaver Rd). GPS: 37°46'37" N - 83°40'50" W



11 Sewickley, Pennsylvania

On September 1, 1803, Meriwether Lewis reached Woollery's Trap at Sewickley. This treacherous swift chute on the Ohio River was described by the explorer as "impracticable to get over" as he had to hire a team of oxen to assist. Captain Ulerly, who owned land along that stretch of river, devised a system to help struggling keelboats to pass through the area at low water and charged a price as it suited him for his services. Known as Ulerly's Trap, it became corrupted to Woollery's Trap.



12 Ft. Steuben, Steubenville, Ohio:

On September 6, 1803, Lewis recorded in his journal that they had reached Steubenville. They managed to hoist the sail and run two miles before the wind became too strong and they were forced to furl the sails. Striking a riffle, Lewis was "obliged again" to hire a team of oxen to pull them down river where they camped about a mile and a half downstream. A USGS Lewis and Clark geodetic marker at Ft. Steuben, 120 S. 3rd St., commemorates their adventures here. GPS: 40°21'31" N - 80°36'49" W



13 Wellsburg, West Virginia:

On September 7th Lewis described passing "Charles town" (now Wellsburg). He recorded thermometer readings and foggy conditions in his journal as he often did while traveling down the Ohio River. He noted a "handsom wooden bridge" and a village "containing about forty houses."

Bust of Patrick Gass:

After the expedition returned in 1806, expedition member Patrick Gass eventually settled in Wellsburg, wrote a book about the expedition, and lived to the age of 99. Bust is located near the river at 6th and Main Streets. GPS: 40°16'9" N - 80°36'50" W



Gravesite of Patrick Gass:

This expedition member was buried here in the Brooke Cemetery. Roads are narrow with sharp curves and impassible during winter months. It is located off Rt. 2, east on 23rd St. GPS: 40°17'15" N - 80°36'19" W



Brooke County Museum: Located at 704 Charles St., Wellsburg, West Virginia, it contains exhibits about the Lewis and Clark Commemoration here in 2003.

24 Clarksville, Indiana:

Ashland Park: Below, the Falls of the Ohio was a series of rapids and a treacherous area to navigate in 1803. Pilots helped move vessels through the channels around the fossil beds on the river bottom. It was in this area that Lewis and Clark continued to recruit, swear in the men, and prepare for the journey west. The site is always open. GPS: 38°16'13" N - 85°45'17" W (park entrance) GPS: 38°16'26" N - 85°45'33" W (river overlook)



Falls of the Ohio Interpretive Center:

Located within the Falls of the Ohio State Park and National Wildlife Conservation Area, the center overlooks the Ohio River rapids and fossil beds. The center chronicles the site's unique natural and cultural history including a multi-media experience about Lewis, Clark, and the men from the Falls area who were a part of the expedition.



In front of the center is a statue of Lewis and Clark commemorating their meeting as the two men continued to recruit and prepare for the journey west.

The center is open Monday-Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 pm. The park grounds are open 7:00 am - 11:00 pm GPS 38°16'35.5"N-85°45'48.5"W

Clarksville Bicentennial Park:

Interpretive signs near the riverfront explain the importance of the expedition in the area. A replica of the keelboat provides children an opportunity to play explorer at the site. The site is open daily year round. GPS: 38°17'12" N - 85°46'10" W



Mill Creek:

The site located along the river at Clarksville Bicentennial Park is the point of departure for Lewis and Clark on their journey west. It is open daily year round. GPS: 38°17'23" N - 85°46'48" W



Clark Cabin:

Near Mill Creek was the site of the Clark Cabin, home of George Rogers Clark whose younger brother William Clark lived there at the time of the expedition. Departing on October 26, 1803, Lewis and Clark had recruited nine men from the area for the expedition. GPS 38°17'13"N-85°46'33.8"W



25. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages a system of locks and dams along the 981-mile Ohio River. This system did not exist when Meriwether Lewis dragged and pulled his boats over stretches of low water in the Fall of 1803. Lewis arrived at the treacherous Falls of the Ohio on October 14, 1803 where William Clark joined him for the journey west. Here the two captains made preparations, recruited and trained personnel, and departed on October 26, 1803 for Ft. Massac.



• **Locust Grove:** On their return, Lewis and Clark visited Locust Grove, the home of William Clark's sister, Lucy Croghan, for a family celebration on November 8, 1806.

The home, located at 561 Blankenbaker Lane, Louisville, Kentucky, is restored with typical furnishings of the time and a few original items once owned by Clark family members.

26. Leavenworth, Indiana:

Located at the Overlook Restaurant bluff, along the Ohio River Scenic Byway (IN-62), is a 20 mile panoramic view of the beautiful Ohio River that Lewis and Clark traveled on their journey to the West.



• **Crawford County Tourism Visitor Center:** Located at 6225 E. Industrial Lane in Leavenworth, Indiana the visitor center has exhibits about Lewis and Clark and the 200th anniversary commemoration in 2003.

27. Alton, Indiana: Here boaters can access the Ohio River at the launch ramp and follow in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark on the water. Large blue catfish (like the ones Lewis and Clark encountered further downstream) and other fish are abundant in this area. Take the Fredonia and Alton Rd. off of the Ohio River Scenic Byway (IN 62) to reach the launch ramp site.

GPS: 38°7'22" N - 87°35'41.1"W

28. Henderson, Kentucky: John James Audubon, friend of William Clark, made his home in the area and painted some of the magnificent wildlife paintings that document the flora and fauna of our country. This river community existed at the time Lewis and Clark continued down the Ohio River in November 1803.



29. Paducah, Kentucky: The river history of the Ohio is intertwined with William Clark who surveyed the town years later after he and Lewis passed through this area on their journey. Several notable sites are:

• **1905 William Clark Market House Museum:** Located at 200 Broadway, several items once belonging to the Clark family are on display. In 1827, General William Clark purchased 37,000 acres of land including the site where Paducah is now.



• **National Quilt Museum:** Located at 215 Jefferson St., Paducah, Ky. life-size statues of figures from the Lewis and Clark expedition are displayed.

• **Floodwall Murals:** Two panels of Paducah's Wall to Wall Dafford murals painted on the city's floodwall commemorate the Lewis and Clark expedition passing this point and Clark surveying the town.



• **Paducah's Riverfront:** Lewis and Clark's journey passed the confluence of the Ohio and Tennessee rivers in 1803.



GPS: 37°05'17.8"N - 88°35'39"W

30. Ft. Massac, Illinois: On November 11, 1803, the Lewis and Clark Expedition stopped at the fort on its way west. During this time, Ft. Massac was the largest U.S. military outpost. While here, Lewis hired the local woodsman, George Drouillard, the son of a French father and a Shawnee mother, as an interpreter. On November 13th, the Corps of Discovery left the fort. Drouillard became a premier hunter, scout, and interpreter for the expedition.



31. Cairo, Illinois: The explorers spent 6 days here practicing surveying and exploring the area before they departed for the unknown and unmapped territory of the Louisiana Purchase.



• **Historic Customs House:** Located at 1400 Washington St., it houses an excellent exhibit about Lewis and Clark and their experiences in the area. One of the finest collections of period surveying equipment is on display at this site.

• **Markers commemorating the participation of York, Clark's slave, and Seaman, the Newfoundland dog, are prominently displayed in front of the building.**

• **Ft. Defiance (now Ft. Defiance State Park):** The fort was located at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Arriving on November 14th, Lewis and Clark spent 6 days here while Lewis taught Clark how to use the navigational and surveying equipment. To their surprise, the men of the expedition caught a 128 lb. blue catfish. The 3rd Principal Meridian begins at the mouth of the Ohio and is crucial to astronomical observations.



• **Cairo Library:** Located at 1609 Washington Ave., in Cairo, see the extensive collection of books about the Lewis and Clark expedition.

32. Ft. Southwest Point: The fort was located to the south at Kingston, Tennessee overlooking the Clinch, Tennessee, and Emory rivers. There Lewis recruited 4 soldiers who could meet the rigorous physical requirements necessary for members of the expedition.



33. Corporal Richard Warfington: From Louisburg, North Carolina, he was recruited by Lewis from this area. He accompanied the expedition as far as the Mandan Nation. He commanded the detachment charged with returning the keelboat and scientific specimens to St. Louis while the remainder of the party continued west. A plaque about Warfington is located in Joyner Park at 224 W. River Rd. where the trail provides an overlook of the Tar River. Hours of operation for the park are sunrise to sunset.



34. Williamsburg, Virginia The Secretary's Office, completed in 1748 on East Duke of Gloucester St. near the Capitol building in Colonial Williamsburg Va., held the public papers of the Virginia colony. Included in those papers were the land records of the families of the explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and other members of the expedition. Thomas Jefferson, while second Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, removed the public records to safety in 1780 during the Revolutionary War.

35. Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center: The Center teaches skills of exploration and tells the local and national stories of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Original and replica artifacts as well as expedition-related group activities and challenges help set people within the journey. There are full-sized replicas of the keelboat and pirogues, as well as trails meandering by the historic Rivanna River. More information is available at lewisandclarkvirginia.org [1490 Darden Tow Park, Charlottesville, Va.]



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Locks and Dams on the Ohio River

- 1. Emsworth Locks and Dam Pool:** The explorer, Meriwether Lewis, and his men departed Pittsburgh on August 31, 1803, stopping at Brunot Island, and navigating past McKees Rocks.
- 2. Dashields Locks and Dam Pool:** September 1, 1803 Lewis described navigating Little Horsetail Riffle and Woollery's Trap as thick fog impeded his journey.
- 3. Cumberland Locks and Dam Pool:** September 4, 1803 Departing Georgetown after dealing with a leaky canoe and thick fog, they passed the marked state line between Pennsylvania and Virginia (now West Virginia), Mill Creek, and Little Beaver Creek.
- 4. Pike Island Locks and Dam Pool:** September 5-7, 1803 After camping on Brown's Island [near Weirton, West Virginia], they passed by the small town of Steubenville, a Mingo Indian Village, Charlestown [now Wellsburg, West Virginia].
- 5. Hannibal Locks and Dam pool:** September 7-10, 1803 Lewis acquired the red pirogue at Wheeling and picked up shipped supplies. After leaving Wheeling, the men spent the night near Riley on the Ohio side in Belmont County where a hard rain lasted all night. The next day Lewis described in his journal in detail the Indian mound at Moundsville. After departure, they camped near Sunfish Creek in the Clarington, Ohio area after passing over some "bad riffles." The next day began their journey through the Longreach.
- 6. Willow Island Locks and Dam Pool:** September 11, 1803 Lewis continued past the Sistersville area and through the Longreach now bordered in part by Wayne National Forest.
- 7. Belleville Locks and Dam Pool:** September 12-15, 1803 Dragging their boat along the gravel channel bottom at the lower end of the Longreach, they camped in the Wilson's Island area nine miles above Marietta, Ohio. On arriving at Marietta, Lewis recorded his observations and problems with his crew. After departure, they camped north of Belpre. Continuing on, they passed the mouth of the Little Kanawha and he described the settlement in the Parkersburg area, camping near Lee Creek after departure.
- 8. Racine Locks and Dam Pool:** September 15-18, 1803 In the Little Forked Run area, they encountered several riffles requiring lifting the boats over them. Continuing to record temperature reading of water and air, and passing through thick fog, Lewis navigated through the riffle at Buffington Island camping at Ravenswood, West Virginia the next day. Lewis and his men passed through the treacherous Letart Falls with its four-foot descent.
- 9. Greenup Locks and Dam:** Lewis did not make entries in his journal for several weeks. At Huntington, West Virginia the Ohio River makes a sharp turn West as the expedition continued on it journey.
- 10. Meldahl Locks and Dam Pool:** Lewis recruited John Colter at Maysville, Kentucky to join him on the expedition. The crew camped in the Cincinnati/Covington area for several days and Meriwether Lewis journeyed to Big Bone Lick to collect fossil specimens for the President.
- 11. McAlpine Locks and Dam Pool:** Meriwether Lewis and William Clark joined forces at the Falls of the Ohio as the expedition now moved in earnest West on October 26, 1803.

Sign Symbols:

1. Sign symbol designates a site located on the route followed by Lewis and Clark and their men. The symbol may also mark a site related to the expedition that houses original artifacts, journals, documents, or sites crucial to the planning of the expedition.
2. Sign symbol designates a site related to the life events of Lewis and Clark and the members of the expedition prior to and subsequent to the journey west. Museums or visitor centers with significant exhibits about the journey may also be marked with the sign symbol.



The explorers continued west after departing the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Much is written to guide you further west in the footsteps of this first of the great expeditions. Lewis and Clark and most of the members of the expedition returned east in 1806 and continued with their lives and their contributions to this nation. This peaceful military mission established a baseline of scientific information still referred to today. Their journals and the majority of the plant specimens they collected are housed in Philadelphia. What a journey!

