

C Lewis and Clark Trail Committee of Missouri, Records, 1964-1977  
3922 2.6 linear feet

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## INTRODUCTION

The Lewis and Clark Trail Committee of Missouri, Records, 1964-1977, contain correspondence, meeting minutes, maps, newspaper clippings, and newsletters related to marking the route of the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806. A portion of the materials relate to the Lewis and Clark Trail Commission established by Congress in October 1964.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The Lewis and Clark Trail Committee of Missouri, Records were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Dr. Carl H. Chapman on 12 March 1969 (Accession No. 613). Additions to the records were made by Dr. Chapman on 10 July 1975 (Accession No. 1153) and on 28 April 1976 (Accession No. 2002). The final additions were made by an unknown donor on 7 April 1983 (SHS Accession No. 2468) and by Virginia Botts on 16 November 1983 (SHS Accession No. 2515).

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

In October 1964 Public Law 88-630 created, for a period of five years, the Lewis and Clark Trail Commission. The commission's purpose was to identify, mark, and make available to the public the route which Meriweather Lewis and William Clark followed from St. Louis, Missouri, to the Pacific Ocean during their journey of 1804 through 1806. In addition the commission's tasks included increasing public awareness of the historical significance of the exploration of the Louisiana Purchase territory and encouraging long-range conservation initiatives of the area's natural resources.

Legislation required that membership on the commission total twenty-seven. Of this membership, ten members served from the states which fell along the trail: Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. In 1966 Public Law 89-475 added Illinois to the list of states comprising the trail. The commission directed the governors of the eleven states to appoint state Lewis and Clark Trail Committees.

In December 1965 Governor Warren E. Hearnes appointed thirteen men to the Lewis and Clark Trail Committee of Missouri. James L. Miller of Washington, Missouri, served as chairman of the state committee and William Clark Adreon of St. Louis, great-great grandson of William Clark, was named honorary chairman. Carl Chapman of Columbia, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Missouri, served as the committee's first secretary. The committee's goal was to coordinate the development of the trail in the state.

In order to facilitate this assignment, Governor Hearnes, at the request of the committee, asked the county courts of the twenty-five counties bordering the Missouri River to appoint three-member County Advisory Committees. These county groups assisted in identifying the route in their areas and in marking historical sites and points of interest along the trail.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Lewis and Clark Trail Committee of Missouri, Records, 1964-1977, reflect the activities of the committee in its effort to develop the trail in Missouri and in its relationships with the Lewis and Clark Trail Commission and the County Advisory Committees. Most of the materials in the collection were collected by Carl H. Chapman who served as the committee's secretary, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Evaluation of Sites and Points of Interest, and as chairman of the subcommittee on determining the route of the trail in Missouri. The collection is arranged into four series: **National, State, Correspondence, and News.**

The **National** series is arranged alphabetically by type of material. It contains legislation, papers/speeches, and meeting minutes related to the Lewis and Clark Trail Commission established by Congress in October 1964. Missouri sent representatives to commission meetings who shared progress reports, collected distributed materials, and gave reports of the proceedings to their colleagues on the Missouri committee.

The **State** series is arranged alphabetically by type of material. Located here are minutes from assorted state meetings from 1966 to 1971, materials related to the route of the trail, the creation of a Missouri brochure, and the sites to be marked along the trail. There are oversize maps of the trail in Missouri located in this series.

Appearing at the end of the **State** series are materials relating to the Subcommittee on Evaluation of Historic Sites and Points of Interest. It worked closely with the twenty-five county committees to identify sites and points of interest to be marked along the trail and to be described in Missouri's brochure. There are folders for each county containing correspondence and informational literature from residents and from County Advisory Committee members about the Lewis and Clark expedition through their areas.

The **Correspondence** series is arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent. Most of the correspondence is that of Carl H. Chapman and copies forwarded to him by other state committee members. However, there are also letters regarding the Boone County Lewis and Clark Trail Committee which were collected by Virginia Botts. The letters relate to matters undertaken by the county committee and are from residents of Missouri, state committee members, and from commission members.

The **News** series is arranged alphabetically by type of material and holds newspaper clippings, news releases, newsletters, postcards, radio scripts for Boone County publicity, and miscellaneous brochures and maps.

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- f. 2 Brochure -- Development of the Lewis and Clark Park, 24 May 1965
- f. 3 Brochure -- The Lewis and Clark Trail, n.d.
- f. 4 Creation of Commission -- Public Laws 88-630, 89-475, 6 October 1964
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  - f. 6 3rd Commission meeting, Portland, Oregon, 14 February 1966
  - f. 7 Pre-meeting event, Yellowstone River Boat Float, 8-10 July 1966
  - f. 8-9 4th Commission meeting, Billings, Montana, 9-12 July 1966
  - f. 10 5th Commission meeting, Leavenworth, Kansas, 3-4 October 1966

- f. 11 6th Commission meeting, Sioux City, Iowa and Omaha, Nebraska, 29 April-1 May 1967
- f. 12 Pre-meeting event, Field trip, Lewiston, Idaho, 11-13 August 1967
- f. 13-14 7th Commission meeting, Lewiston, Idaho, 13-14 August 1967
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- f. 19 News releases, Department of the Interior and Commission, January 1966-August 1967
- f. 20 Policy statement on trail marker, July 1967
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- f. 22 Proposal, "The Lewis and Clark Trail: A Proposal for Development," c. November 1964
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