Meriwether Lewis Astronomy Notebook
(C1074)

Collection Number: C1074

Collection Title: Meriwether Lewis Astronomy Notebook

Dates: 1805

Creator: Lewis, Meriwether, 1774-1809

Abstract: Set of formulae prepared by Robert Patterson of Philadelphia for Lewis to use in determining geographical locations by astronomical observation. Also includes a “sketch given us by Yallept, the principal chief of the Wollah-wollah nation,” and a drawing, probably by Lewis.

Collection Size: 1 volume, 1 roll of microfilm

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The material in this collection is in the public domain.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number Meriwether Lewis Astronomy Notebook (C1074); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The astronomy notebook was purchased by the State Historical Society of Missouri from William Clark Breckenridge in 1928.


Processed by: Processed by the State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center- Columbia
Staff, date unknown. Finding aid revised by Erin Kraus on May 26, 2020.

**Biographical Note:**

Meriwether Lewis was born on August 18, 1774, in Virginia. After the Louisianna Purchase in 1803, Lewis and William Clark were appointed by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the new land and find water routes to the west coast. They reached the Pacific Ocean in November of 1805 and returned to the east in 1806, bringing numerous animal and plant specimens with them. Lewis became governor of the new Louisiana Territory and lived in St. Louis. Lewis died by gunshot wound on his way to Washington D.C. on October 11, 1809.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following series:

Notebook

**Scope and Content Note:**

Notebook

This series includes one notebook documenting a set of formulae prepared by Robert Patterson of Philadelphia for Lewis to use in determining geographical locations by astronomical observation. Also includes a “sketch given us by Yallept, the principal chief of the Wollah-wollah nation,” and a drawing, probably by Lewis.

**Container List:**

v. 1 Astronomy Notebook, 1805

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