Just down the road from Monticello, the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies (ICJS) and the Jefferson Library have together become the epicenter of the multidisciplinary study of Thomas Jefferson and his world.

Since 2002, the Jefferson Library has helped support the ICJS mission, collecting and providing access to information about all aspects of Jefferson’s life, times and legacy. The 15,000-square-foot, technologically sophisticated library houses Monticello’s unique research collection, which has grown dramatically during the past two decades. From the beginning, these efforts were led by founding Fiske and Marie Kimball Librarian Emeritus Jack Robertson, a position funded by the trustees of the Jane Tarleton Smith Moore estate.

“Jack has been the unmistakable face and driving force behind the library from its conception, having played a key role in its vision and design,” says Monticello librarian Endrina Tay. “Under his leadership, the library has established itself as the premier repository of Jefferson research in the United States and around the world.”

One key initiative established by Robertson was the library’s launch of the Thomas Jefferson Portal, an online catalog that provides domestic and international students and scholars with access to more than 482 million records and over 10 million full-text titles.

A LIBRARIAN’S LEGACY

Thomas Jefferson at Monticello: Architecture, Landscape, Collections, Books, Food and Wine

Edited by Leslie Greene Bowman and Charlotte Moss; photography by Miguel Flores-Vianna

This visually stunning volume explores Monticello, both house and plantation, with texts that present a current assessment of Jefferson’s cultural contributions to his noteworthy home and the fledgling country. This book is a necessary addition to the libraries of those who love historical architecture and landscape design, art and cultural history.

The Illimitable Freedom of the Human Mind

By Andrew O’Shaughnessy, Saunders Director of the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello

Jefferson regarded the founding of the University of Virginia as one of his greatest achievements. In his examination of the founding of UVA, O’Shaughnessy reveals underappreciated elements of Jefferson’s character and abilities, through which he aimed to encourage progress and extend happiness among a greater number of people.

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