



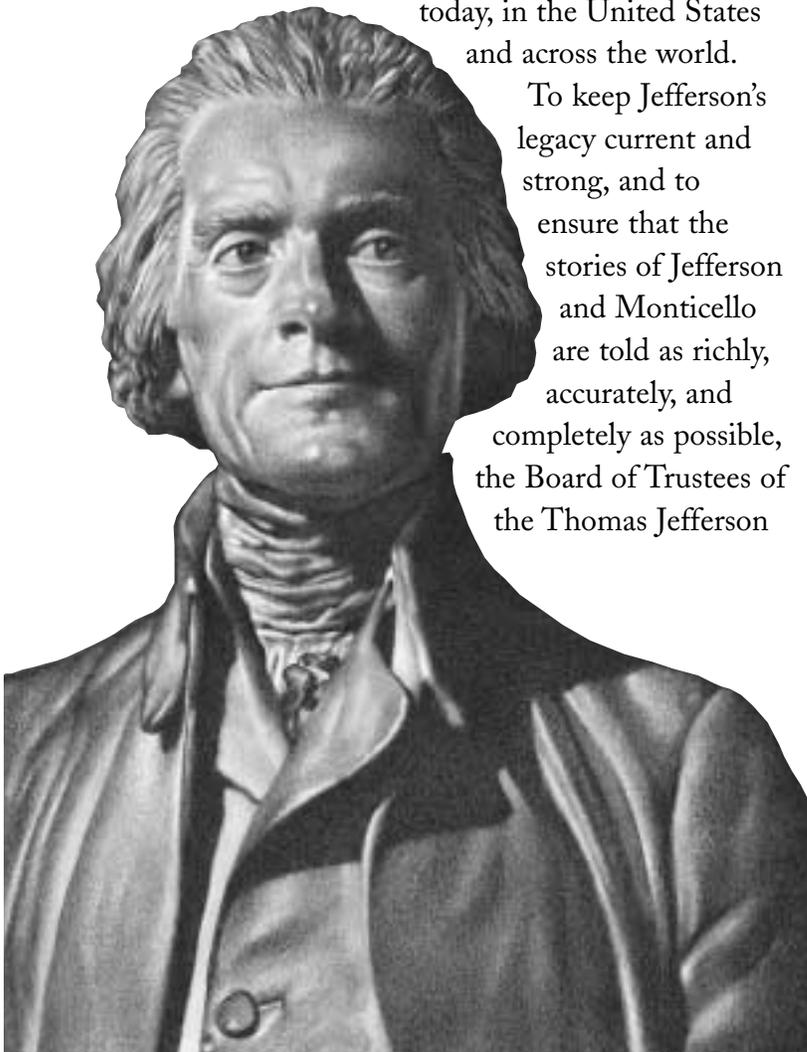
“Jefferson Lives” Campaign Initiated

On July 4, 1826, as America celebrated the 50th anniversary of its independence, Thomas Jefferson lay dying at Monticello. The country’s third president and the principal author of the Declaration of Independence passed away at 12:50 that afternoon. Remarkably, later that same day in Quincy, Mass., another Founding Father, John Adams, uttered his final words: “Thomas Jefferson still survives.”

It was a prophetic statement, for in countless ways, Thomas Jefferson still lives. His ideas about democracy, liberty, and the illimitable freedom of the human mind remain immensely powerful today, in the United States and across the world.

To keep Jefferson’s legacy current and strong, and to ensure that the stories of Jefferson and Monticello are told as richly, accurately, and completely as possible, the Board of Trustees of the Thomas Jefferson

Portrait of Thomas Jefferson by Tim O’Kane, based on Jean-Antoine Houdon’s bust of Jefferson.



This Issue’s Other Stories

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MONTICELLO



Jefferson Lives Campaign

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Memorial Foundation has established *Jefferson Lives: A Campaign for Monticello in the Twenty-first Century*. The goal of the campaign, the most ambitious initiative in the Foundation's 77-year history, is to raise \$100 million by April 2005.

Commitments and gifts from trustees and other donors reached \$45 million before the public announcement of the campaign on June 9, and the total soon reached \$50 million.

"The ideals and values of Thomas Jefferson are at the heart of American democracy and the principal reason for the ascendancy of the United States," noted Thomas A. Saunders III, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees and chairman of the *Jefferson Lives* campaign. "It is incumbent upon all of us, who cherish our freedom and strive to assure individual liberty for all people, to preserve Thomas Jefferson's legacy."

The trustees have made a commitment to achieving the goals set forth in the Foundation's fully researched and documented Master Plan, the objective of which is to dramatically advance Monticello's core mission of preservation and education. Funds raised in the campaign will be used in three main areas: further restoring the house and plantation grounds so that Monticello will look much more like it did during Jefferson's lifetime; building a new Monticello Gateway and Jefferson History Center and creating new systems and programs to serve better the hundreds of thousands of people who visit Monticello each year; and expanding the Foundation's outreach of scholarship and education.

Restoring Jefferson's Monticello

As an architectural masterpiece and a symbol of the Jeffersonian legacy, Monticello is world-renowned. It is the only home in the United States on the United Nations' World Heritage List, which includes such treasures as the Pyramids of Egypt and the Great Wall of China. The Foundation has restored the house and grounds extensively since 1923 and has received several prestigious awards for these efforts. Major projects have included assuring the structural stability of the house, installing a modern climate-control system,

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Jefferson Lives Campaign

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restoring the house's complex roof, rebuilding the terraces and Venetian porches, and re-creating Jefferson's gardens, orchards, and vineyards.

Much significant preservation work remains. A cornerstone of the Foundation's plan for Monticello in the new century is to remove all modern buildings from the mountaintop in order to recreate more faithfully Jefferson's world there after his retirement from the presidency in 1809. Several of the plantation's fields will be restored so visitors can better appreciate Jefferson's lifelong interests in agriculture. The Foundation will seek to acquire additional Jefferson artifacts for its collection, to make the interior of the house even more like it was in Jefferson's time. Rooms on the second and third floors of the house currently used for offices and storage will be restored and reinterpreted as family bedrooms. Long-vanished landscape features will be reintroduced, and Jefferson's elaborate system of trails will be reinstated.

The Foundation also will restore Monticello's dependencies and

documented structures on Mulberry Row. These areas are "crossroads" of the plantation, where Jefferson and his family interacted on a daily basis with the enslaved African-Americans and paid laborers who lived and worked on the mountaintop. This restoration work will allow visitors to understand better the complex and dynamic worlds of slavery and domestic life at Monticello.

All of the Foundation's planned restoration projects will make a visible and lasting difference to the appearance of the mountaintop and



Collection of Willie Thomas

African-American life on Mulberry Row painted by Nathaniel K. Gibbs.

Mountainside sections of the new Saunders-Monticello Trail are carried on a raised wooden boardwalk.



Whitney Espich

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will dramatically enhance the visitor's experience. These efforts are vital to the Foundation's goal of understanding Jefferson, presenting Monticello as a working plantation, and of telling the story of what life was like for all who lived and worked there.

The removal of modern additions from the mountaintop and of the Foundation departments now based in the house will be made possible by construction of an administrative complex lower on the property, in the area currently occupied by the Ticket Office, Shuttle Station and parking lots.

Enriching the Monticello Experience

The Foundation strives to make certain that each of its 530,000 annual visitors leaves Monticello with a meaningful understanding of Jefferson, his multifaceted world, and his legacy. The planned Monticello Gateway and Jefferson History Center will provide a host of new amenities and educational opportunities to enrich greatly the experience of Monticello's visitors.

This 95,000-square-foot complex, to be located on non-historic property along Route 20 opposite the current Monticello Visitors Center, will include a theater, restaurant, museum, retail shops and guest-service facilities to give visitors the tools they need for an enjoyable learning experience. To simplify the visit to Monticello, functions now carried out at widely scattered locations will be brought together in one place.

The new center will also serve as a transition point to the 18th century, introducing visitors to Jefferson's world even before they reach the mountaintop. New and expanded permanent and special exhibitions will broaden the scope of what visitors can learn about Jefferson and his era. An auditorium and space for weekend programs will allow the Foundation to expand both adult and family-oriented activities, such as lectures and workshops. A state-of-the-art education center will increase classroom space to fulfill the overwhelming demand for the



Staples & Charles

Artist's rendering of the interior of the proposed Monticello Gateway and Jefferson History Center.

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Jefferson Lives Campaign

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Foundation's school programs and will include a resource center for teachers. Children and families will be able to use new multi-media facilities with interactive exhibits. A "discovery room" where young can touch and use objects related to Jefferson, play games, and work with crafts will allow children to explore Jefferson's world.

The Monticello Gateway and Jefferson History Center is crucial to fulfilling the Foundation's educational mission and to making every minute of the visitor's experience both meaningful and enjoyable.

The Gateway complex will be linked to the mountaintop by the Thomas Jefferson Parkway, a linear park along Route 53 that will include Kemper Park, Saunders-Monticello Trail and Saunders Bridge, a stone-arch span providing pedestrian and vehicular traffic with safer access to the grounds.

Researching Jefferson's World and Legacy

Several of Jefferson's greatest qualities and passions – his intellectual curiosity, his eloquent writings, his belief in human progress, and his commitment to education and lifelong learning – come together at Monticello's International Center for Jefferson Studies.

Located at Kenwood on historic property adjacent to Monticello, the ICJS is the scholarly embodiment of the Foundation's ambition to broaden understanding of Jefferson and his remarkable times. Created in 1994 in cooperation with the University of Virginia, the Center has to date granted fellowships to more than 40 scholars from 13 countries, organized 12 on-site and international conferences, and published 10 books.

Architect's computer rendering of the Jefferson Library now under construction at Kenwood.



Eric Field / Monticello

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Jefferson Lives Campaign

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The ICJS is also home to one of the Foundation's most significant and far-reaching undertakings, *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson: Retirement Series*. This new effort, a complement to Princeton University's continuing effort to publish all known Jefferson and related documents through 1808, will focus on the years 1809 to 1826. The publication of these writings is essential to our understanding of American history and the founding of our nation. With the Foundation's commitment to editing the *Retirement Series*, the remaining volumes of Jefferson's papers will be available nearly twice as fast, with electronic texts available even before the printed editions. The Foundation estimates that it will take more than 25 years to publish the series in 23 volumes.

In support of its worldwide scholarly efforts, the Foundation has begun construction of a 15,500-square-foot, technologically sophisticated Jefferson Library on the grounds of Kenwood. The nation's first free-standing presidential library devoted to a Founding Father, it will contain open and closed stacks for more than 28,000 volumes, reading and study spaces for up to 30 scholars, conference rooms, offices for an expanded staff, plus an electronic infrastructure to ensure that its resources and databases are available across the globe.

Ongoing programs at the ICJS target all levels of interest. They include lectures, internships, college-level courses offered in collaboration with UVa, an award-winning Web site, an archaeological survey of Jefferson's land, and the Getting Word project, which is collecting the oral histories of the descendants of Monticello slaves. The Center's teacher seminars have been attended by educators from every state and nine foreign countries.

In expanding the Center's programs and facilities, the Foundation hopes to aid everyone who wants to learn more about Jefferson and his times, from scholars in residence to visiting schoolchildren.



In naming Jefferson the "man of the millennium," author and columnist George Will wrote, "Jeffersonianism is what free men believe." Through its well-defined goals of enhancing the Monticello mountaintop and supporting this uniquely rich historic precinct with

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three distinct campuses to advance both knowledge and understanding of Jefferson and his times, *Jefferson Lives: A Campaign for Monticello in the Twenty-first Century* can help ensure that Jeffersonian ideas and ideals continue to provide a beacon in the new millennium.

COMMENTS? newsletter@monticello.org