EXECUTIVE ORDER

EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING
THE GOVERNOR'S
ILLINOIS LEWIS AND CLARK BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Lewis and Clark began their historic westward expedition through the United States in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, their first camp was pitched on December 12, 1803, at a site located in the Wood River/Hartford area of Madison County at the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers; and

WHEREAS, there is a national effort underway to commemorate the bicentennial anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, one of the most ambitious and well-documented explorations of the American West; and

WHEREAS, the years 2003 and 2004 will mark the bicentennial anniversary of the Expedition's preparation and launch in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, many Illinois tourism, historical, and conservation groups are beginning preparations for events and activities to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Expedition in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to create a Commission to prepare Illinois as the official launch site and initial host of the bicentennial celebration of the Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial during the years of 2003-2004.

THEREFORE, I, George Ryan, order the following:

I. ESTABLISH

There shall be established the Governor's Illinois Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission (the Commission).

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Commission shall include, but not be limited to the following:

A. Lead the Illinois planning efforts to commemorate the significance of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to our state and national history.
B. Research and make prioritized recommendations outlining the most effective and beneficial means for the State of Illinois to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

C. Identify and pursue resources that Illinois agencies and communities will need to effectively commemorate the bicentennial.

D. Implement recommendations by working with the Governor’s Office, appropriate state and local government agencies, members of the Illinois General Assembly, and organizations that are dedicated to commemorating the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

E. Coordinate communication with the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Congressional Caucus to ensure identification of Illinois as the official start of Lewis and Clark’s Expedition and the prioritization of federal commemorative events in Illinois.

F. Coordinate the scheduling of the Illinois Lewis & Clark bicentennial activities.

III. MEMBERSHIP

A. The Commission shall consist of a Chairperson and at least 12 but not more than 30 additional members, all appointed by the Governor.

B. Members shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for expenses.

C. The Commission will be provided assistance and necessary staff support services by the Office of the Governor, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Illinois Historic Preservation and other planning agencies of state government involved in organizing the bicentennial celebration.

D. The Commission shall submit an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly each year and include a list of recommended improvements to Illinois Lewis and Clark commemorative locations.

IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Executive Order Number 4 (2001) shall be effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

GEORGE H. RYAN
Governor

March 14, 2001