

The Lewis & Clark Trail

American Landscapes

by Richard Mack

The Lewis & Clark Trail AMERICAN LANDSCAPES

In 2001 I read in the newspaper about the upcoming Lewis & Clark 200th anniversary of the expedition. It was predicted that 40 million folks would travel the trail over the four years of the anniversary celebrations. That inspired me to look into the possibility of a book on the trail. I decided to be in the same locations as the expedition was at the same time of year as they were. This would give the reader a better sense for being there with the expedition. I would also put quotes from their journals with relevant images.

Then the planning started and finally the first trip done in the winter of 2002 to Double Ditch, North Dakota. The snow flew and I was happily at work. I spent the next two and a half years following the trail with maps and journals. I decided to specifically shoot in such a way that modern man would be minimized in the images.

The Lewis & Clark Expedition—also known as the Corps of Discovery—is regarded as one of the epic stories in American history. The trail stretches across a diverse landscape, starting in St. Louis and following the Missouri River through the woodlands of the Midwest and onto the Great Plains before crossing Montana, entering the Bitterroot Mountains in Idaho, and gliding down the Clearwater, Snake, and Columbia rivers to the Pacific Ocean. Seeing it by car, on foot and from the air was a daunting task and a rewarding one. There were places I could stand and read from the journals entries of Lewis and Clark and what they talked about lay within my view. It was very thrilling.

Half way through shooting this book I acquired my first Canon digital camera in the Canon 1Ds. Yet the quality of the film, Fujichrome Velvia, seemed superior and certainly looked different. I finished the book with film. Yet since then have turned to the digital world.

I also lived in fear of someone else doing the trail the way I did – being in the same place at the same time of year. No one did. So far this is the only book like with this theme. One hopes on a project this size that you have told the story well enough and brought your vision to the story and that folks will enjoy the body of work. Now I hope you enjoy the images in this folio.

Richard Mack
2012



List of Prints

Twilight, Missouri River, North Dakota

Ceremonial Lodge, On-A-Slant, North Dakota

Ceiling, Ceremonial Lodge, On-A-Slant, North Dakota

Prairie & River, Huff, North Dakota

Sunrise, Big Hole River, Montana

Missouri Breaks, Montana

Pelican Point, Montana

Lemhi Pass, Montana

East Fork Bitterroot River, Montana

Rock Detail, Lochsa River, Idaho

Sunrise, Lolo Pass, Idaho

Sunrise, Pacific Ocean, Oregon

Folio

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This Folio is

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The twelve images in this folio were printed on Epson Hot Press Bright Fine Art Paper using Epson Ultrachrome archival pigment inks to the exacting standards of the photographers. Each folio is produced to archival, museum standards.

The text is Mrs. Eaves Roman Lining. Folio layout and design completed in November 2012.



Twilight, Missouri River, Double Ditch, North Dakota

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