

# FOREST FACTS & FIGURES

## Trees Stand Silent Witness To Lewis And Clark

(NAPSA)—Thanks to a world leader in planting trees for historic restoration, it is now possible to commemorate Lewis and Clark's Expedition by planting the offspring of the trees that witnessed their journey.

Two centuries ago, Thomas Jefferson sent Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, and the Corps of Discovery to explore the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase.

From 2003 to 2006, the Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition, the citizens' conservation group, American Forests, will recognize these historic trees in ceremonies and will also grow the offspring of those that have served as "silent witnesses" to the Corps' legendary journey.

Citizens, historians, and foresters who nominated the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Trees researched archival information such as journals and maps.

American Forests' Historic Tree Nursery in Jacksonville, Florida will make the trees available to the public in 2003. Many are already available, while others are still growing but will be available soon.

The trees include:

- The Wood's Landing Oregon White Oak from Vancouver, WA. According to the journals of the Expedition, local Native Americans roasted acorns for a snack, while other tribes dried and ground the acorn centers into flour.

- The Lewis and Clark Osage Orange from Philadelphia, PA. The Osage Orange trees in the churchyard at St. Peter's Episco-



**An effort is under way to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Expedition by planting historic trees—many of which are available to the public now. Pictured above, "The Old Oak" in Ponca State Park, Nebraska.**

pal Church in Philadelphia are believed to be first and second generation Osage Orange grown from seeds or cuttings collected by Lewis and Clark; and

- The Old Oak from Ponca State Park, Nebraska. This bur oak on a ridge overlooking a Corps' campground has been bored and shown to be about 350 years old.

The organization, whose mission is to identify, preserve and protect trees with an American heritage is launching several major national programs to encourage the public to buy and plant trees. The effort contributes to the environment and commemorates heroic and historic periods in American life.

To learn more, including placing orders, visit [www.historictrees.org](http://www.historictrees.org) or call 800-320-TREE (8733).