

James J. Holmberg

Native of Louisville.

Received BA in history and MA in American history from the University of Louisville.

Joined the staff of The Filson Historical Society in 1982.

Presently serves as the Curator of Special Collections.

Writes and lectures on the Lewis and Clark Expedition, with special focus on William Clark and York. In addition to numerous articles, Jim Holmberg wrote the epilogue for the revised edition (2000) of Robert Betts's *In Search of York: The Slave who went to the Pacific with Lewis and Clark* and edited *Dear Brother: Letters of William Clark to Jonathan Clark* (2002). In 2003 the University Press of Kentucky published *Into the Wilderness: The Lewis and Clark Expedition*, the latest addition to the Kentucky Humanities Council's New Books for New Readers series (targeting adult literacy, English as Second Language, and upper elementary level students), and in 2005 edited the journal of expedition member Charles Floyd, the only member of the Corps of Discovery to die on the journey. That work is entitled *Exploring With Lewis and Clark: The 1804 Journal of Charles Floyd*, published by the University of Oklahoma Press. This summer *By His Own Hand?: The Mysterious Death of Meriwether Lewis*, also by the University of Oklahoma Press, will be published. This work examines the murder v. suicide arguments regarding Lewis's tragic 1809 death. Holmberg has contributed the case for Lewis's death being by suicide.

Holmberg has served, and serves on, national, state, and local boards of Lewis and Clark organizations, including as chair of the Kentucky Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission.

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