Three Forks, Montana. The area to the left shows the course of the Madison coming from the south southwest to join with the Jefferson. At this point the Gallatin comes from the left, or south, to unite with the combined Jefferson and Madison to form the Missouri. Northwest view. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, June, 1958. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.

Three Forks. View of the Gallatin River from a point several hundred yards southwest of its junction with the Madison River. Southwest view. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, June, 1958. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.

View of Jefferson River from a point about 7 miles southwest of Three Forks. The explorers ascended the stream after leaving Three Forks. Northwest view. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, June, 1958. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.

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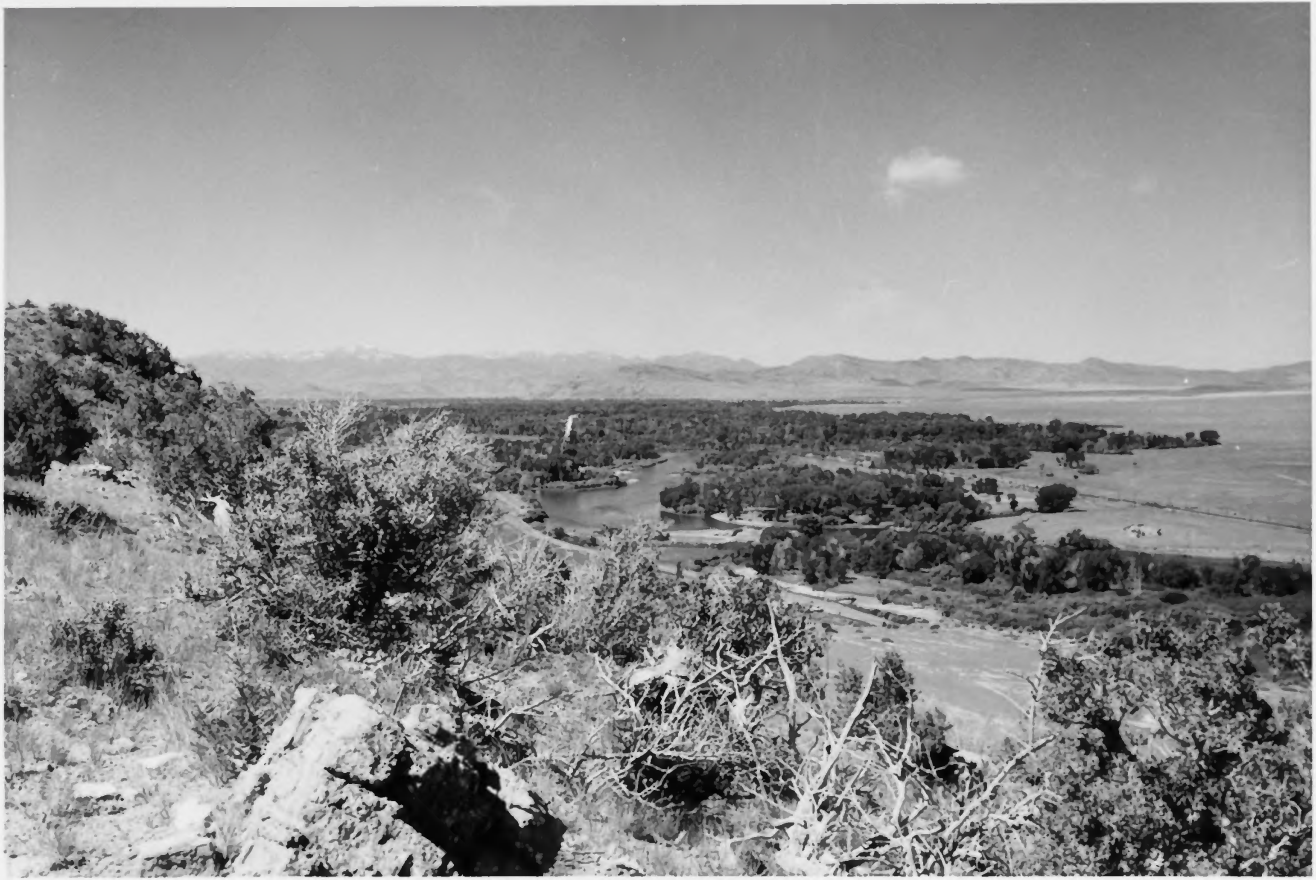
View of Three Forks, Montana, showing combined Jefferson and Madison Rivers before their junction with the Gallatin to form the Missouri. The junction of the Jefferson and Madison is a short distance above. Northeast view. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, June, 1958. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.



At Three Forks, the Gallatin, Madison, and Jefferson Rivers form the Missouri River. Lewis and Clark spent July 27 to 29, 1805, here before beginning their ascent of the Jefferson on the right. Sergeant Ordway described the area in this vicinity as follows: ". . . we arived at the three forks of the Missourie, which is in open view of the high Mountains covered in some places with Snow." Northeast view. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, June, 1958. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.