

## Louisiana Purchase

- France regained the Louisiana Territory in 1800; they controlled New Orleans, scaring then-Pres. Thomas Jefferson
- Future President James Monroe tried to purchase New Orleans; after a failed try, France shockingly sold New Orleans and 530 million acres of land from the Mississippi River to the Rockies! (1803)
- The U.S. DOUBLED in size thanks to this purchase
- Jefferson sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in 1804 to explore this “new” territory; they traveled from St. Louis (this is why its called the “Gateway City” or “Gateway to the West”) to the Pacific Ocean and back nearly two years later
- Lewis and Clark’s goals were to find different plants and animals for Jefferson (including a famous prairie dog) and a direct route to the Pacific Ocean
- They encountered the Rocky Mountains and other rough terrain; plus, they befriended Sacagawea, who helped them survive and travel to present-day Oregon
- They did not find a direct route to the Pacific, but did bring back interesting plants and animals (and a knowledge of the Western terrain)
- Clark drew up maps that helped future pioneers travel out West

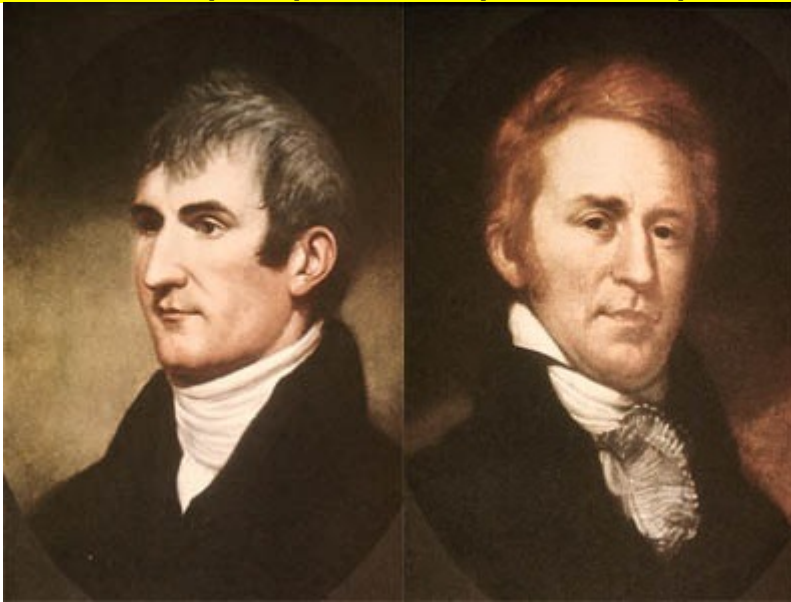


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