

## Mr. Aitken

### Washington State History

- Lewis & Clark Expedition



## Louisiana Purchase

- In 1803, President Jefferson bought the *Louisiana Purchase* from France.

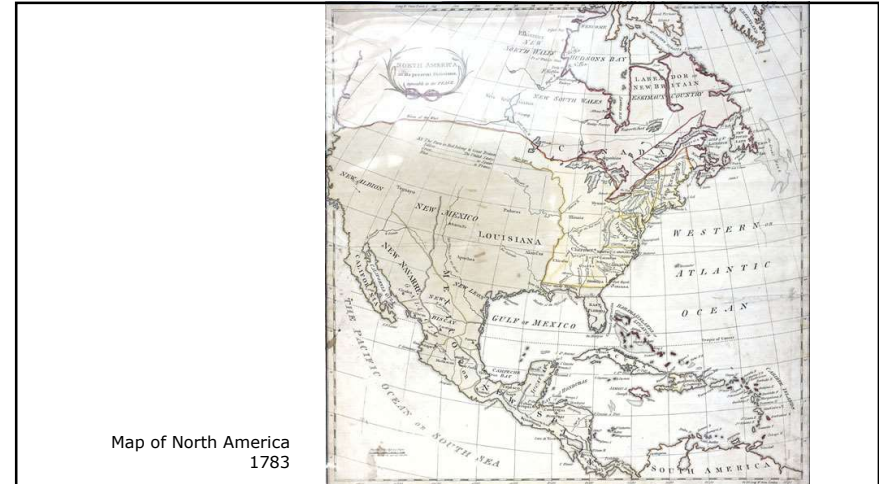
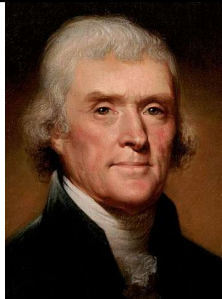
## Louisiana Purchase

- Napoleon was involved in a very costly war in Europe.
- Not very interested in American colonies.
- Needed cash for his wars.



## Louisiana Purchase

- Thomas Jefferson bought the land for \$15 million (less than 3¢ an acre).
- The Louisiana Purchase roughly doubled the size of the U.S. at that time.



Map of North America  
1783

## Louisiana Purchase

- Jefferson did not know exactly what he bought.
- No accurate maps.
- Still hoped for route to a *Northwest Passage*.



French Map  
1762

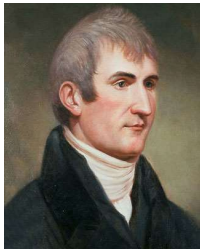


Map of the Pacific  
1776



French Map  
1789

## Lewis & Clark



Meriwether Lewis



William Clark

## Lewis & Clark

- Lewis was an army captain, and Jefferson's secretary. Jefferson hired Lewis to lead the expedition.
- Clark was also an army captain, and Lewis's close friend. Lewis chose Clark to be 2<sup>nd</sup> in command.



## Expedition Goals

- Primary Goals:
  - Explore and Map the Louisiana Purchase.
  - Find a water route to the Pacific (the "*Northwest Passage*").
  - Establish claim to territory before England or other Europeans try to claim it.

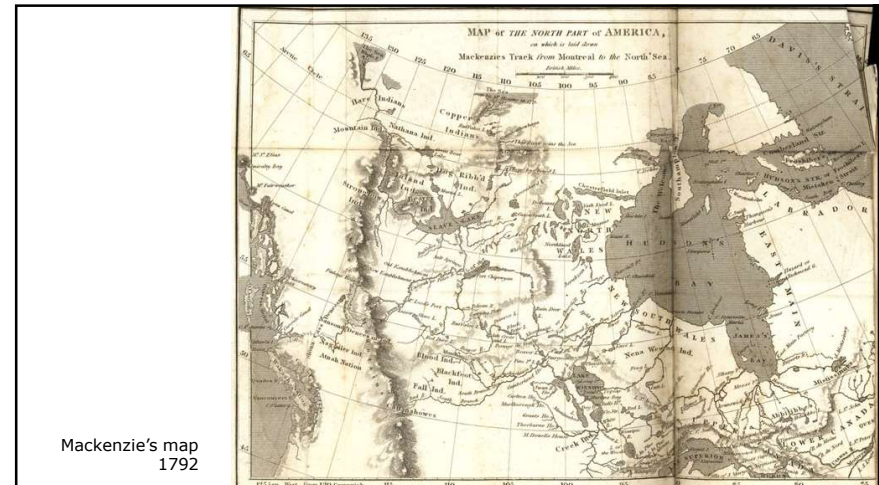
## Expedition Goals

- Secondary Goals:
  - Study plants, animals, and geography.
  - Establish trade with Indian tribes, and sovereignty over them.

## Alexander Mackenzie



- Scottish explorer.
- First to cross the continent (north of Mexico) in Canada, 1792-1793 (12 years before the Lewis & Clark expedition).
- Lewis & Clark had copies of his maps.



Mackenzie's map  
1792



## Departure

- May 14, 1804
- Left St. Louis, Missouri.
- Started with 31 men.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Winter



- Followed Missouri upriver, using boats.
- Built Fort Mandan in central North Dakota.

## Sacagawea

- Shoshone woman.
- Captured as a child by another tribe.
- Married to French trapper Toussaint Charbonneau.
- Gave birth to a baby boy at Ft. Mandan. She was 16 years old.

## Sacagawea



- Lewis & Clark hired Charbonneau, mostly because Sacagawea spoke several tribal languages.
- She continued with them the rest of the expedition.

## Sacagawea

- She acted as interpreter and diplomat.
- Her presence in the group signaled peaceful intent to many tribes.
- She was critical to many negotiations. They probably would not have succeeded without her.

## York



- York was a slave of Clark's father.
- Clark and York were boyhood companions.
- When Clark's father died, Clark inherited York, and kept him as a slave.

## York

- York participated fully as an equal expedition member.
- Never referred to as a slave in any journals.
- Nevertheless, York was a slave, had no choice to go or not, and was unpaid.

## Sacagawea Reunited

- Once the expedition left the MO River, they met a Shoshone tribe.
- Shoshone chief was Sacagawea's brother. They had not seen each other since she was taken as a girl.
- He gave them horses to continue their journey across the mountains.



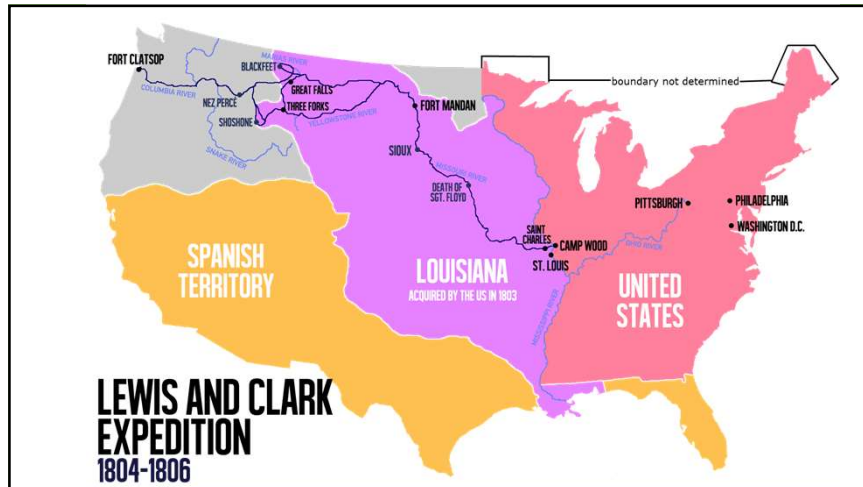
## Nez Perce

- Expedition was exhausted and out of food after crossing the Rockies.
- Nez Perce gave them food, and directions on how to get to the Pacific by river.
- Helped them build boats. Kept horses until their return trip.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Winter



- ▶ Built Fort Clatsop.
- ▶ Near mouth of Columbia River, south side.



## Return

- Return journey was much faster.
- Reached St. Louis on September 23, 1806.

## Indian Interactions

- Peaceful, with one exception.
- Established trade.
- Indians often helped the expedition succeed, giving directions, helping get food, trading horses, helping build boats.

## Indian Peace Medals



- Given to tribal chiefs as a sign of peace and trade, but also to establish sovereignty.
- Described Jefferson as the "Great Father" of the U.S.
- Journals often described Indians as savages or children.



### **Accomplishments**

- Created more than 140 maps.
- Made peaceful contact with more than 70 Indian tribes.
- Recorded more than 200 new plant and animal species, and collected samples.

### **Accomplishments**

- Largely ended speculation of a Northwest Passage.
- Laid claim to Oregon Territory for the U.S. (beyond the Louisiana Purchase)