

Independence National Historical Park



William Blount


Meriwether Lewis



Meriwether Lewis

b. 8/18/1774, Albemarle, VA

d. 10/11/1809, Grinder's Stand, TN

William Clark

b. 8/1/1770, Caroline, VA

d. 9/1/1838, St. Louis

President Jefferson wanted to find an all-water route to the Pacific Ocean. He chose Capt. Lewis to find it. Lewis came to Philadelphia to buy supplies and to study. Some believed they might find animals as big as dinosaurs! Lewis, Clark and the Corps of Discovery, including Sacagewea and her baby, traveled 8000 miles by foot and boat. To survive the long journey, each man ate ten pounds of meat (40 Quarter Pounders) a day. There was no all-water route, but the trip opened the west.

"Ocian in view! O! the joy."

William Clark, 11/7/1805, Pacific Ocean

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