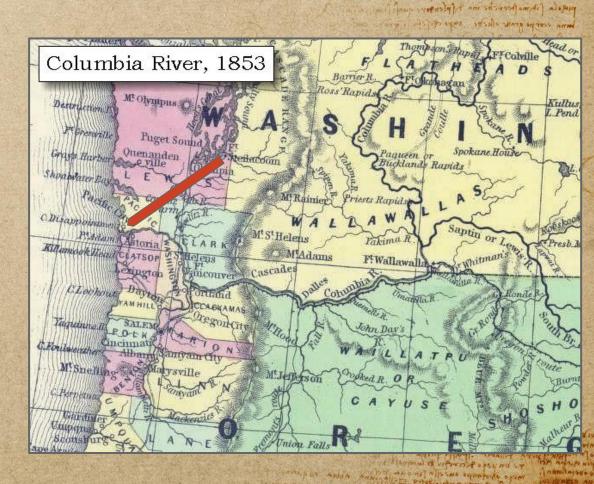


LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL AND STATE HISTORICAL PARK IS LOCATED IN WASHINGTON AND OREGON IN THE VICINITY OF THE MOUTH OF THE COLUMBIA

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#### AT THE PARK YOU WILL FIND

## Fort Clatsop

Fort built by Corps of Discovery to ride out the winter in 1805.





### AT THE PARK YOU WILL FIND

## **Dismal Nitch**

Last campsite of the Corps of Discovery before reaching the coast in 1805.

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### HISTORICAL CONTEXT

# Corp of Discovery Expedition

Also known as the Lewis and Clark Expedition, a group commissioned by president Thomas Jefferson to explore and map the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase from May 1804 to September 1806.



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#### LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

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The Expedition made up of mostly U.S. Army volunteers led by Captain Lewis and Lieutenant Clark. The primary reason for President Jefferson to commission the was to find a practical westward route by water to the Pacific Ocean. The only casualty during the expedition was Captain floyd on August 20, 1804 as Charles Floyd, who died of appendicitis.



#### THE PARKS IMPORTANCE

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The Lewis and Clark National and State Historical Park marks the most westward point of the Corp of Discovery Expedition and where they camped for the winter of 1805. Also, it is where the Columbia river enters the Pacific Ocean, leading the team to discover a (partial) waterway route through the new territory for the purpose of commerce.

## PERTINENT FACTS AND GROUNDBREAKING FEATS

The perception of the frontier was that of a wild and untamed wilderness filled with mystery, danger and wonder.

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- 1. Thomas Jefferson believed there to be wooly mammoths, giant land sloths, and other ancient creatures and tribal civilizations living in the wilderness frontier.
- 2. Although no such creatures were found, Meriwether Lewis documented and observed 122 animal and 178 plant species previously unknown to the scientific world.

The famous party-member, Sacagawea, acted as guide and participated diplomatically in the expedition by taming relations with the Shoshone tribe, enabling the westward expansion. The reports of the group dynamics indicate all party-members, including the slave attendant to William Clark, and Sacagawea, engaged in group decisions, including voting on camp locations. This is likely the first recorded instance in American history of women and African Americans' inclusion in a form of suffrage.

These facts remain important today because they shaped public opinion and captured the imagination of 19th century Americans.

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