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JEFFERSON MAKES A DEAL



This map, by Ernst A. Benutzer, depicts the area (in green) which France sold to the United States (and is known as the Louisiana Purchase). License: CC BY SA-3.0

The <u>agreement</u> between France and America - whereby the U.S. would purchase a major French tract of land known, today, as "The Louisiana Purchase - was signed <u>by Bonaparte</u> himself. (The links take you to <u>the original</u> documents).

The deal <u>cost</u> the United States \$15 million to nearly <u>double</u> in size. It was one of the best deals an American president ever made.

Not everyone agreed with Jefferson's desire to expand (including <u>his 1805 plan</u> to buy West Florida from Spain). Why did America need more land? And ... not everyone agreed with the purchase price. Why spend so much?

Others supported the President's plan of expansion. Gen. Horatio Gates told the President:

Let the Land rejoice, for you have bought Louisiana for a Song.

Soon Napoleon had more money to fund *his* quest for territory - nearer his own country of France - and the United States was free to explore its new, <u>mostly unmapped</u> and unknown land. (The link takes you to the actual map the expedition used. Lewis, it is believed, made notes to the map later, as he received information from trappers and Native Americans.)

St. Louis was the scene as France <u>transferred</u> ownership of the "Upper Louisiana" territory to the United States on March 9, 1804.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/JEFFERSON-MAKES-A-DEAL-Sacajawea

See Learning Tasks for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/JEFFERSON-MAKES-A-DEAL-Sacajawea

Media Stream



<u>Agreement to Purchase the Louisiana Territories</u> Image online courtesy, U.S. National Archives. PD View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Agreement-to-Purchase-the-Louisiana-Territories













Louisiana Territory - Map Locator

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