

Early Expansion of the United States

Northwest Ordinance

- Land Ordinance Act
- 1785 - allowed the government to survey the land
- Passed by Congress under the Articles of Confederation
- Established how states could join the U.S.
- Mandated that land be reserved for public use

Louisiana Purchase

- Purchased from France
- Went against Jefferson's view of the role of the President
- Purchase included all land from the Mississippi to the Rockies

Lewis and Clark

- Investigated new territories for the U.S.
- Established contact with Native Americans
- Placed claims to the Pacific Northwest

Missouri Compromise

- 1820 - 1821
- Allowed new states to enter the Union as slave or free states
- Maintained the balance in the federal government between free and slave states

Mexican/American War

- Fought between 1846-1848
- Began with the fight over Texas
- The U.S. took a significant amount of land from the Mexican people

GOLD!

- Discovered in California
- Millions traveled west to find their fortune
- The U.S. now has a presence on both coasts
- California becomes a state in 1850

Oregon

- Promise of fertile land drives migration
- Oregon becomes a state in 1859