

**Washington, Jefferson,  
Madison, Monroe,  
Jackson, and Polk  
Presidencies**

# 1. George Washington (1789 - 1797)

- Created a cabinet of advisors
  1. Secretary of War - Henry Knox
  2. Secretary of the Treasury - Alexander Hamilton
  3. Secretary of State - Thomas Jefferson
- **Judiciary Act of 1789** - created Supreme Court and federal circuit and district courts
- **Adopted Hamilton's Financial Plan** - pay off states' and national debt, create a Bank of the United States, protective tariff (tax) on foreign goods, and excise tax on whiskey.
- **Neutrality Proclamation of 1793** - the US would not get involved in the the fighting between the French and the British.
- **Farewell Address (1796)** - warned against the creation of political parties and foreign alliances.

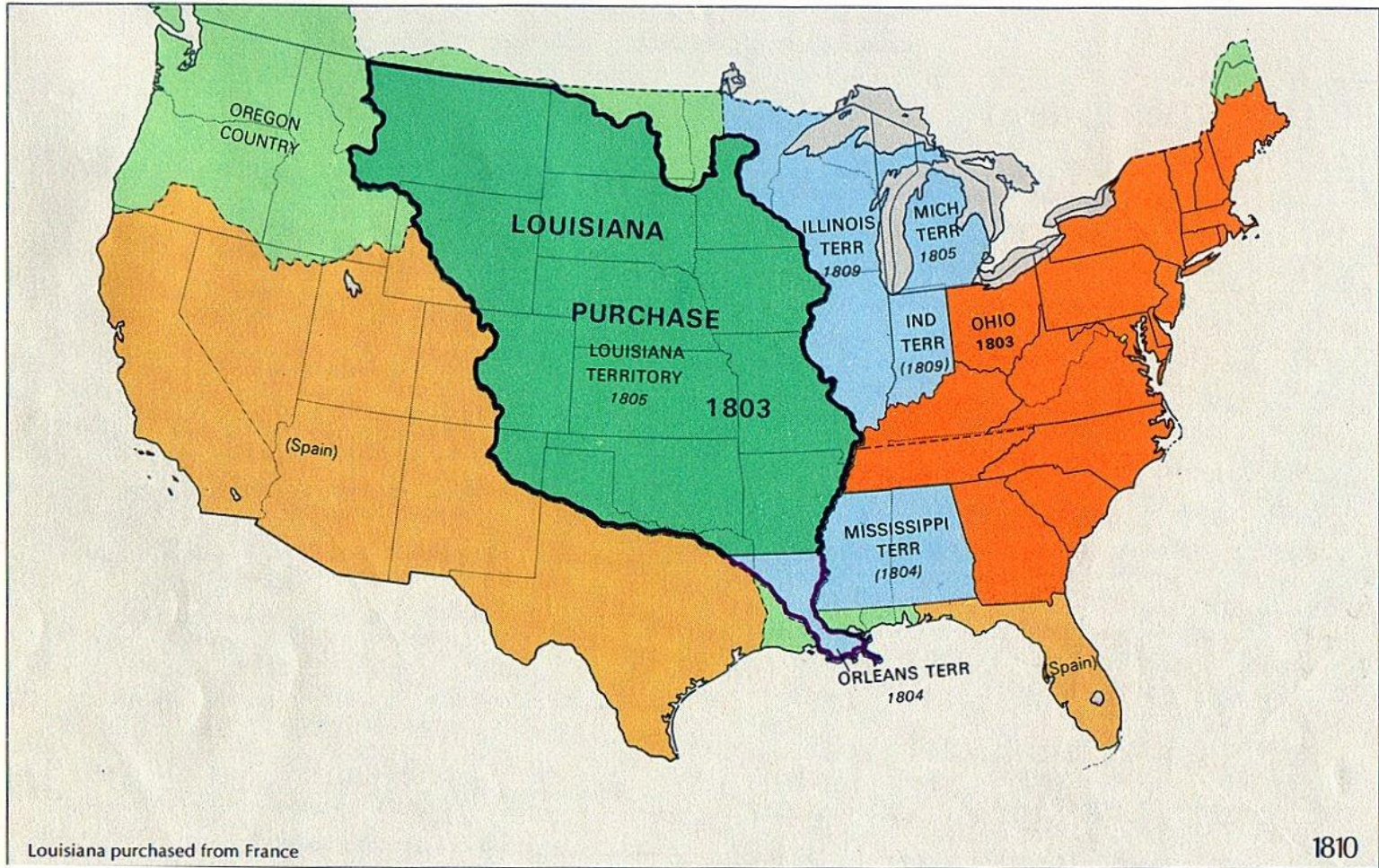
**Lansdowne  
Portrait - Gilbert  
Stuart (1796)**

**National  
Portrait Gallery**



### 3. Thomas Jefferson (1801 -1809) - Democratic-Republican

- **Marbury v. Madison (1803)** - the Supreme Court established the precedent of judicial review (the SC can rule the constitutionality of laws.)
- **Louisiana Purchase (1803)** -
  - Jefferson buys the Louisiana Territory from France for \$15 million.
  - Doubled the size of the US - 3 cents an acre
  - Jefferson felt guilty because he believed in a strict interpretation of the law and didn't think the Constitution gave him the power to buy territory.
  - Sent **Lewis and Clark** to explore the territory (1804 - 1806) who brought back valuable scientific and Native-American information and showed that transcontinental travel was possible.



Louisiana purchased from France

## 4. James Madison (1809 - 1817) - Democratic-Republican

### War of 1812 (US v. Great Britain)

#### *Causes -*

1. **Impressment** - the British were capturing Americans at sea and impressing or drafting them into the British navy.
2. The British were **arming Native-Americans** in support of their ongoing battles against American settlers.
3. War Hawks (Congressmen from the South and the West) convinced Madison to declare war.

- The British burned down the Capitol
- Most important battle was the **Battle of New Orleans (1815)** General Andrew Jackson defeated the British but the battle actually took place after the peace agreement had been signed.

#### *Effects*

1. **Treaty of Ghent (1814)** declared armistice (no boundaries changed)
2. End of the Federalist Party who opposed the war
3. Growth of American manufacturing because of elimination of trade with Britain.
4. Affirmed the status of the US as a free and independent nation (rise of nationalism)



## 5. James Monroe (1817 - 1825) - Democratic-Republican

- In 1815, Portugal and Spain defeated the French who had invaded their countries in 1807 - they both wanted to reclaim their former colonies in Latin America.
- Russia had holdings in Alaska.
- **Monroe Doctrine (1823)** - warning to European powers not to interfere with the affairs in the Western Hemisphere. In return, the US would not get involved in European affairs. Isolationism would last until the end of the century.
- **Missouri Compromise (1821)** - Maine was admitted as a free state and Missouri as a slave state. Any new states above the 36° 30' line would be free and any below would be slave.





## 7. Andrew Jackson (1829 - 1837) - Democrat

- Said he represented the “common man”
- Mass democracy - most states eased property requirements for voting. Voter turnout tripled in the election of 1828. (Jacksonian democracy)
- **Spoils System** - Jackson hired political supporters to replace the supporters of the previous administration - many of those hired were not qualified.
- **Nullification Crisis** - the Tariff of 1828 only benefited manufacturers. The South opposed tariffs because they hurt farmers. South Carolina threatened to nullify the tariff (cancel.) Jackson demanded that Congress pass the Force Bill allowing him to send troops to SC. The Compromise Tariff of 1833 was passed which lowered the tariff over the next 10 years.
- Disliked the **Second Bank of the United States** because he said it only represented the interest of the wealthy - he withdrew federal money. BUS had been declared constitutional under *McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)*

- **Indian Removal (1830)** - encouraged by Jackson, Congress provided funds to remove Native-American to the West.
- The Cherokee refused to move and fought the governments in the courts.
- The Cherokee had Americanized - they had adopted a Constitution, became farmers, dressed in western style clothes, converted to Christianity, some even owned slaves.
- ***Worcester v. Georgia (1832)*** - the SC ruled that the state of Georgia could not regulate the Cherokee Nation.
- Jackson refused to abide by ruling.
- **Trail of Tears (1838)** - Cherokee were sent on an 800-mile journey to the Indian Territory (present day Oklahoma.) 4,000 of the 15,000 died.

BORN TO COMMAND.

OF VETO MEMORY.



HAD I BEEN CONSULTED.

KING ANDREW THE FIRST.

# 11. James K. Polk (1845 - 1849) - Democrat

- **Texas Revolution** - Americans had been allowed to move to Texas by the Mexican government but they had to Mexicanize and could not bring slaves.
- Americans rebelled and gained independence in 1836.
- Wanted to be admitted to the US but it would upset the balance of free to slave states.
- Finally admitted as a slave state in 1845.

## **Mexican - American War (1846 - 1848)**

**Causes - Manifest Destiny** - belief that God had destined the US to expand to the Pacific Ocean.

Details -

1. The US was prepared to pay \$10 million for California but Mexico refused.
2. American soldiers crossed the Nueces River, which Mexico claimed was the border and American soldiers were killed
3. Polk asked for a declaration of war.

## **Effects**

1. The US won - **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** - Mexico agreed to the Rio Grande as the border and the US got present day California, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, most of Arizona, and parts of Colorado for \$15 million.
2. Intensified issues of sectionalism over slavery - the issue became if the new states would be free or slave?



**Territory ceded by Mexico to U.S., 1848**

**Gadsden Purchase, 1853**

**Claim waived by Texas, 1850**

**REPUBLIC OF TEXAS (1836-1845)**

**UNITED STATES**

**MEXICO**

