

Fort Manuel

August 8, 1812 to March 5, 1813

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Fort Manuel - Final resting place of Sakakawea - A new historic site tops the list of places to see along the Standing Rock Historical Scenic Byway. The newly reconstructed Fort Manuel is located in Kenel, South Dakota, just seven miles south of the North/South Dakota border. The log outpost, constructed in 1811 by fur trader Manuel Lisa, is faithfully reproduced within one mile of the scenic byway route. Guarded by Hunkpapa Lakota people, Fort Manuel is the nearby resting place of Sakakawea, the Shoshone guide of Lewis and Clark, who died at the Fort in 1812.

For more information,
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The war of 1812 was not started, when Manuel Lisa, a Spaniard, who had become an American Citizen, started from St. Louis on May 8th, with men and supplies to start a fur trade post, located to trade with Arikara, Mandas, and Yanktonaise on the Upper Missouri. Among his passengers were Touissant Charbonneau and his Shoshone wife, Sakakawea. On the 9th of August they had arrived "at a beautiful prairie bluff with several bottoms of fine timber around." They started trade and fort. By November 19th they had hung the great door at the entrance of the fort-saluted by seven guns and those rounds of musquetry, made the four around the fort and baptized the same Manuel." On Sunday, December 20 Luttig, the factor made his entry in his journal: "This evening the wife of Charbonneau, a Snake squaw, died of a putrid fever. She was a good and the best woman in the fort, aged about 25 years she left a fine infant girl." This was the famed Sacacawea of Lewis & Clark's journey to the Pacific.

The fort was not destined for a long life. Most of the Indian were allied to the British and on March 5, 1813, attacked and burnt the Fort. Lisa dropped down the river with what he could salvage and re-established a the Old Loisel, 1802-09 post, at the Big Bend.

*These words are written on a historical marker
that once stood along highway 1806*

Visit the replica of Historical Ft Manuel the final Resting Place of Sacacawea located in the community of Kenel, South Dakota on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. Ft Manuel is open from May 1st to October 31, Monday through Sunday from 10:00 am CT to 6:00 pm CT. Adults and children 13 years and older \$6.00 and children 6 years and younger \$4.00.

For more information visit our website at
www.kenel.org.

