

New France (1608 - 1763)

Tracing French Canadian Ancestors
In the 17th & 18th Centuries

Time Line for French in N. A.

- 1534 - Jacques Cartier planted Cross in the Gaspé Peninsula
- 1535 - Cartier sailed up the St. Lawrence
- 1608 - Samuel de Champlain built trading post - now Québec City
- 1663 - Colony named New France
- 1759 - British defeated French on Plains of Abraham - end of 7-years War
- 1763 - Treaty of Paris gave New France to Great Britain

Time line, continued

- 1774 - British, faced with unrest, passed the Québec Act
 - ▶ Allowed French to keep feudal system, language, religion, laws and social customs
 - ▶ Colony of New France stretched from Atlantic to Lake Superior
- Ca. 1784, after Revolution, divided in two:
 - ▶ English speaking area formed Upper Canada
 - ▶ Present Québec formed Lower Canada
- 1837 - two revolts/rebellions quelled by Brits
 - ▶ Parliamentary Government established
 - ▶ Québec became Canada East ("CE")

Time line, continued 2

- 1867 - Québec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Ontario joined into Dominion of Canada
- At one time, high birth rate in Québec was described as *la revanche du berceau!*
 - (The revenge of the cradle)

The Carignan Regiment

Soldats du Carignan

- 1660 - habitants asked help from King to fight Iroquois Indians
- 1665 - June to Sep., 1200 soldiers arrived, headed by Lt. Gen. Alexandre de Pouville, the Marquis de Tracy
- Set up forts on Richelieu River
- Over 400 stayed in Quebec for promise of land - many founded families

The King's Daughters

Les Filles du Roi

- Before 1660 - Girls came looking for husbands
 - ▶ Paid own way by contract of indenture
 - ▶ “Filles des marier” (marriageable daughters)
- 1663 - King directed recruitment of young women for “peopling of the colony”
 - ▶ Government provided dowry, trousseau, supplies, and passage
- 852 girls arrived 1663 - 1673
- In 1671, nearly 700 children born by them

Genealogical References

- *In search of your Canadian Roots* - Baxter
 - ▶ In English
 - ▶ Covers all of Canada
 - ▶ Chapter on Québec
- *Our French-Canadian Ancestors* - Laforest
 - ▶ In English - translated from French volumes (18) by Lebel
 - ▶ At least 8 volumes - list original emigrants
 - ▶ Each volume covers about 2 dozen families
 - ▶ Vol. 1 contains background, maps, etc.

More References

- *Genealogy of the French Families of the Detroit River Region* - Denissen
 - ▶ In English - 2 Vol. - 1701-1936
 - ▶ Up to at least 9 generations
- *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec des origines à 1730* - René Jetté
 - ▶ In French - 1 Vol. (3 inches thick)
- *Dictionnaire Généalogique des Familles Canadiennes* - L'abbé Cyprien Tanguay
 - ▶ In French - 7 Vol.
 - ▶ Vol. 1 = A-Z; Vol. 2-7 = A-Z

Still more References

- *Your Ancient Canadian Family Ties* - Reginald L. Oliver
 - ▶ In English - 1 Vol
 - ▶ Lists man and wife and their parents (if known)
- *French-Canadian Surnames; Aliases adulterations and Anglicizations* - R. J. Quintin
 - ▶ In English - Just listings - each way
- *Research and Translation Guide* - Cormier
 - ▶ In English - invaluable