

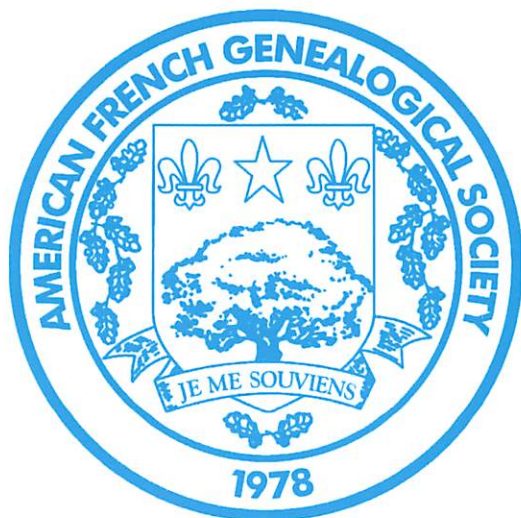
Je Me Souviens

A Publication of the
American French Genealogical Society

Our 30th Year

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AMERICAN-FRENCH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

78 Earle Street
Woonsocket, Rhode Island

CORRESPONDENCE

Written correspondence should be mailed to P.O. Box 830, Woonsocket, RI 02895-0870. The library telephone number is (401) 765-6141. Our fax number is (401) 597-6290. An answering machine will take messages when the library is not open. The Society can be reached by E-mail at AFGS@afgs.org. E-mail to the Editor of JMS should be addressed to JMSEditor@AFGS.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Individual: \$35.00 (\$45.00 Canada); family: \$35.00 (\$45.00 Canada) + \$10.00 ea. add'l. member; institutions: \$27.00 (\$30.00 Canada), life: \$600.00 (\$800.00 Canada)
Make checks payable to the AFGS in U.S. funds.
Non-U.S. residents must use postal money orders or credit cards.

LIBRARY

Our library is open for research on Mondays from 11 AM to 4 PM, Tuesdays from 1 PM to 9 PM, and every Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM. The library is closed on designated holidays; there are no Saturday sessions in June, July and August.

RESEARCH

The Society does undertake research for a fee. Please see our research policy elsewhere in this issue.

ARTICLES

Original manuscripts are welcomed. Please see our authors' guide elsewhere in this issue.

ADVERTISING

Rates for camera-ready copy are \$50 for a full page, \$25.00 for a half -page and \$12.50 for a quarter-page. The Society assumes no responsibility for the quality of products or performance of services advertised in *Je Me Souviens*. The Society reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems inappropriate.
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President's Message

By Janice Burkhart

Fall is upon us once again and it won't be long before we will be gathering with friends and family to celebrate Thanksgiving. It does not seem possible that it is that time of the year already but it is!

This year AFGS has a lot to be thankful for. First and foremost of course is the wonderful building that we can now call home. There are so many possibilities available with the wonderful spaces that the new building affords us. Secondly, we must be thankful for the tremendous generosity of our members who made the purchase of the building possible in the first place. We have no mortgage and so far, we have been able to pay for all of the repairs without a loan or a mortgage. This is no small feat. Of course we still have major projects that we want to complete and they will require that we raise more funds, but we can be very proud of the work thus far accomplished. Thirdly, we are thankful for the volunteers who have come forward to donate their time and expertise to AFGS. I have found that not only do we have a very talented membership, but we also have members who are willing to put a little muscle into our projects. Cleaning the yard, painting and cleaning the new kitchen, moving and assembling book shelves, all kinds of jobs. Last but not least we are thankful for all of the members who continue to renew their memberships and remain a part of the AFGS family. We share the same goals, culture and in many instances, the same families. This year as I sit at my Thanksgiving table I will think of all of you and wish each of you a wonderful year to come.

It is not too early to begin planning a trip to the library for this summer. The welcome mat is out and we are ready to welcome you home.

Jan Burkhart
AFGS President

From the Editor's Desk

By Shellee Morehead

Happily, this issue of *Je Me Souviens* has a one feature that has been missing in the last few issues: an index. At the end of this issue you will find the name index for Autumn 2007, Spring 2008, and Autumn 2008. We hope that you find this resource helpful in locating articles of interest and connecting you to information relevant to your research.

Additionally, our writing contest for the year 2008 is now closed, and winners will be announced in the spring. That means that a new contest is starting now, and you should get your work polished up and submitted for review in the next spring issue of JMS. Remember, we should all work towards sharing our research with our member community to enhance everyone's knowledge and appreciation of all things French, French-Canadian and Acadian.

One new policy that I am implementing is to establish concrete deadlines for submissions; people always work better when they have an end in sight, or a deadline to meet. I propose that articles for the Spring issue of JMS should arrive in the editor's inbox (remember, electronic submissions please) by March 1, 2009. Autumn articles will be due September 1, 2009. That allows our editors time to polish them up, and get the issue into print in good time. And if you need help with computers, just call our offices and we can get you going or make other arrangements.

Our 2000 strong membership is an excellent source of information, expertise and resources, but we all have to reach out and share. Send your queries, stories and genealogies to help fulfill the mission of JMS: To disseminate genealogical and historical information of value to its members and to the general public.

Author's Guidelines

Je Me Souviens publishes articles of interest to members of the American- French Genealogical Society and people of French-Canadian descent. Articles dealing with history and genealogy are of primary interest, although articles on related topics will be considered. Especially desirable are articles dealing with sources and techniques, i.e. "how-to guides," related to specifics of French-Canadian research.

All manuscripts must be well-documented (i.e. with sources) and well-written material on French-Canadian or Acadian history, genealogy, culture or folklore, but not necessarily limited to these areas. However, there **MUST** be a French-Canadian connection to what you submit. They can be of any length, though we reserve the right to break down long articles into 2 or more parts.

We prefer a clear, direct conversational style. A bibliography is desirable, and documentation is necessary for genealogical and historical submissions. Please use endnotes, rather than footnotes. All articles should be single-spaced and left-justified. Please do not use bold, italics or underlining for headings.

All submissions must be in electronic form. Any word processing file will be accepted but we prefer .txt, .doc, and .rtf files. All illustrations and photos should be submitted as JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) files. You may also submit printed black-and white photographs for publication. These photographs should be labeled with the submitter's name and contact information and the caption for the photo, preferably on the back. We are not responsible for loss or damage to originals and they may not be returned.

Authors are responsible for the accuracy of all materials submitted. All material published in *Je Me Souviens* is copyrighted and becomes the property of the AFGS and *Je Me Souviens*. All material submitted for publication must be original. Previously published material, except that which is in the public domain, will be accepted only if it is submitted by the author and is accompanied by a signed release from the previous publisher. Should there be any editorial changes or suggestions, the

editors will contact you for approval prior to publication. These suggested items would contain anything that might enhance your work.

Articles that promote a specific product or service, or whose subject matter is inappropriate, will be rejected. Submissions received that do not fit these guidelines will be returned to the author.

All published articles are entered into our “Annual Writer’s Contest.” There will be cash prizes for the three best articles, which will be awarded during our annual Volunteer Recognition Event in the spring. An independent panel of judges from our membership will read and evaluate each article in *Je Me Souviens*. The AFGS board of directors will determine the amounts to be awarded. Suggested are prizes of \$100, \$75 and \$50 and/or certificates of Honorable Mention. The winning articles also will be posted on our Society’s website.

Deadlines for submissions for the Spring edition will be due the first of March, and submissions for the Autumn edition will be due the first of September. If submissions are received after these dates, they will be addressed in the following issue.

Members' Corner

Members' Corner is a section whose purpose is to provide a conduit by which our members may contact each other for the purpose of exchanging information. This is a service provided for members only at no cost on a space-available basis. You may submit short items (one paragraph) in the following categories:

Work in Progress - If you are involved in an unusual project or are researching a specific subject or surname, you may use Members' Corner to announce this fact. Members able to help are encouraged to contact you.

Books Wanted - If you are searching for a book or books to aid you in your research, you may advertise your need here. Please include as much information as possible about the books, i.e. title, author, publisher, publication date, etc.

Books for Sale - We will accept items for used books that you wish to sell, or for books you have personally authored. Be sure to include the name of the book and your asking price. Book dealers may not use this space. Book dealers are encouraged to purchase advertising space in this journal. Rates are published on the inside front cover.

Cousin Search - If you have a living relative with whom you have lost contact, you may use this space to help in your search. Include the person's full name and last known address, along with any other pertinent information.

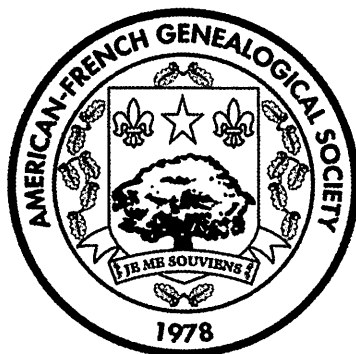
All submissions to Members' Corner must include your name, address, phone number and email address. Deadlines are 15 December for the Spring issue, and 15 June for the Fall issue. Keep in mind that this is a semiannual publication. Where time is important, items should be sent to AFGnews.

Please email all submissions as attachments to Editor@AFGS.org.

AFGS Mission Statement

The mission of the American-French Genealogical Society is:

- To collect, preserve and publish genealogical, historical and biographical matter relating to Americans of French and French-Canadian descent.
- To play an active part in the preservation of French-Canadian heritage and culture in the United States.
- To establish and maintain a reference library and research center for the benefit of its members.
- To disseminate information of value to its members by way of a regularly published journal and other appropriate means.
- To disseminate genealogical and historical information to the general public, using appropriate means.



The Fur Trader

JOSEPH HENRY ROBIDOUX

August 10, 1783 - May 26, 1868

By Clyde Rabidoux

Reprinted excerpt of Beaver Tales with the permission of the author
Clyde Rabideau

[Editor's note: This is the final segment in this series]

John James Audubon

John James Audubon, the famous naturalist, visited the area in 1843 and noted the following in his journal on May 5, 1843. Audubon was on his "last great adventure" to the western regions when he made this entry in his journal:

"At half-past twelve we reached the Blacksnake Hills settlement, and it was delightful to see this truly beautiful site for a town or city, as will be no doubt some fifty years hence. The hills are 200 feet above the level of the river, and slope down quietly into the beautiful prairie

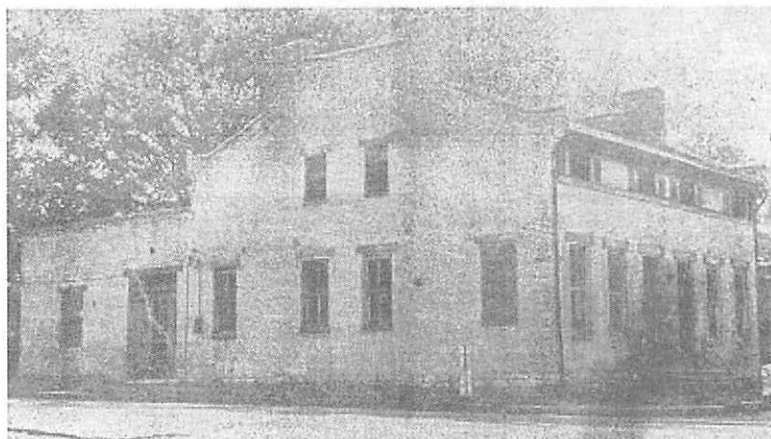
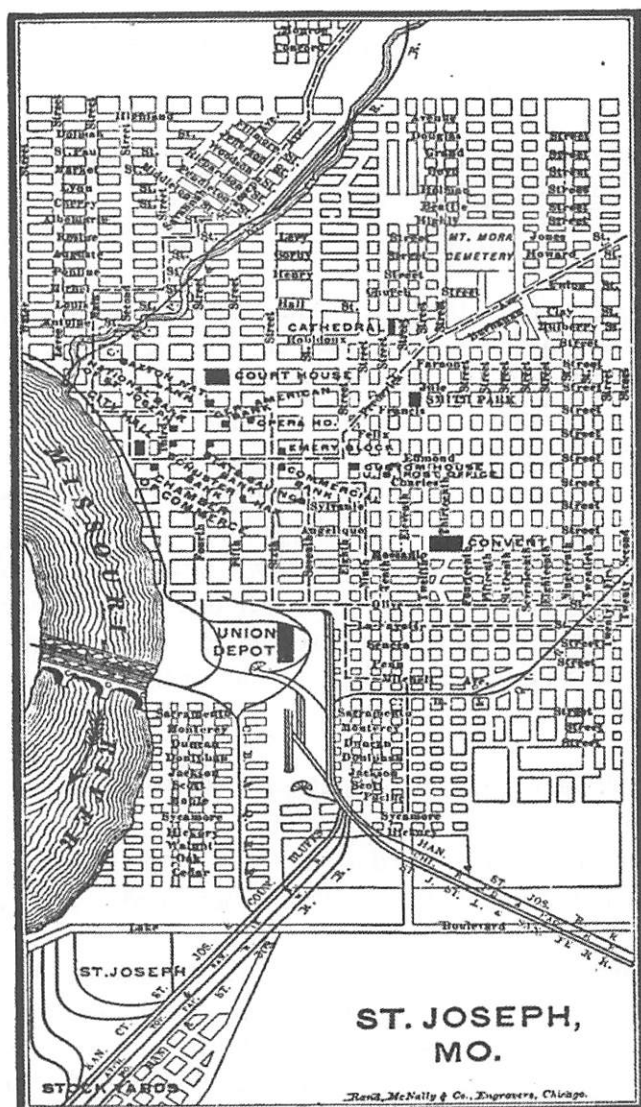


Photo courtesy St. Joseph Museum Graphic

House on 2 and Michel Street built by Joseph for his daughter,
Sylvania and her husband, Francis Beauvais



Courtesy Memorial to the Robidoux Brothers
 Map of St. Joseph, Missouri as laid out by F. W. Smith in
 accordance with Joseph's instructions

that extends over some thousands of acres, of the richest land imaginable.”

Audubon died in 1851 at the age of 66 having never achieved his dream of reaching the Pacific Ocean.

St. Joseph, Missouri

After obtaining the title to the land in May 1843, Joseph set about laying out the original town. The population of Blacksnake Hills was about 200 and it had the best trading post in the region. At the time, the area was covered with hemp fields that needed to be harvested. The surveying took place immediately after the harvest. Contrary to speculation, the naming of the town was not a joke but a religious recognition of Joseph's patron saint. The town was called St. Joseph and the streets were named for his sons and daughters. It was very common for the French both in New France and the United States to name towns after saints. Most towns in New France are so named. Another name consideration for the town was Robidoux, put forth in a proposal by Simon Kemper.

Joseph next took the proposed map of St. Joseph to St. Louis where he made it official before the clerk of the Court of Common Pleas. He had the map lithographed and returned to St. Joseph with it. His declaration of proprietor and certificate of acknowledgement read as follows:

“I, Joseph Robidoux, of the County of Buchanan, of the State of Missouri, do hereby declare that I am proprietor and owner of a certain town, St. Joseph, located upon the southwest fractional quarter section 8, township 57, range 35, west of the fifth Principal meridian; that I have laid off this same into lots and blocks, bounded by streets and alleys and a levee or landing on the front; which streets and alleys are of the width set forth upon this plot and the lots and blocks are of the dimensions and numbers as are indicated upon said plot; the course of said streets and the extent of said lots, blocks and town are correctly set forth upon this plot of the same which were by authority and under my direction; and I do hereby give, grant, allot and convey for public uses all streets and alleys, by the names and of the width and extent that sets forth upon said lots; and, I hereby declare this dedication to be made by

me this 26th day of July 1843, to be binding, upon me and my heirs and assigns forever."

CERTIFICATE OF PROPRIETOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

State of Missouri,)

)ss

County of St. Louis)

"Be it remembered that on this 26th day of July in the year Eighteen Hundred and Forty Three, before me the undersigned, Clerk of the Saint Louis Court of Common Pleas, within and for said county, came Joseph Robidoux who is personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the above Plot as having executed the said Plot, and who acknowledged to me that he executed said Plot for the purpose therein mentioned. In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affix the Seal of the said Court at office in the city of Saint Louis and State aforesaid the Twenty-Sixth day of July, Eighteen Hundred and Forty Three."

(seal)

NATHANIEL PASCHALL

Clerk

BY STEPHEN D. BARLOW, Deputy Clerk

Note: The above mentioned Plot of the Town of St. Joseph, was deposited in my office on the 3rd day of July, A. D. 1843.

William Fowler, Recorder

Copy of the original deed:

"Be it remembered that on this third day of August in the year of our Lord Eighteen Hundred and Forty three, Joseph Robidoux, deposited in the office of the Recorder of Buchanan County, a plot of the town of St. Joseph, of which he, the said Joseph Robidoux, is proprietor, upon which plot are the following notes, descriptions, references, and endorsements, to wit, Town, South West Quarter (fractional) of section 8, township 57, north of base line Range 35, west of 5th Pt. Mn. containing 154 and 24/100 acres. Description of corners-No 1 corner, limestone 20 inches long, 16 inches wide, 5 inches thick, 8 inches in the ground. No witness tree. Second corner-Limestone 18 inches long, 10

inches wide, 4 inches thick, 8 inches in the ground from which elm (300 N. 56 1/4 E. (443). Third corner-Black Oak (7) S. 58; W. 125. No other witness tree. Fourth corner-Limestone 20 inches long, 17 inches wide, 5 inches thick, 8 inches in the ground. No other witness tree. Variation 10 east. References-Streets are running due north and south and due east and west. Levee 185 feet wide. Water street 101 feet wide. Levee street 80 feet wide. First Street 60 feet wide, Fourth Street 60 feet wide. Fifth street 60 feet wide. Sixth street 60 feet wide. Cross Street except, Jules and Edmond streets, are 50 feet wide. Alleys 20 feet wide. Blocks, except 1, 5, 6, 25, 26, 44, 46, and 56 to 65 are 240 by 300 feet. Alley 25 feet wide runs through each block. Lots in regular blocks are 40 feet front by 140 feet deep to an alley. Lots 7 to 12 in blocks 56 to 65 are 40 feet front by 100 feet deep. Scale 160 feet to the inch. The west half of block 31 is noted Market Square. The southwest quarter of block 50 as a donation for a public church. The northwest quarter of block 38 as a donation for a public school, and the south quarter of block 38 as a donation for a Catholic Church."

Buchanan County Census

The Buchanan county records indicate that there were 1,598 taxpayers in the county on June 5, 1843. There were 263 slaves listed. Joseph had one slave valued at \$50, 10 horses and mules valued at \$180 and 10 cattle valued at \$125. His distillery was valued at \$500 and mills at \$2,000. Once the establishment of the town was official, Joseph began selling lots. Inside lots sold for \$100 and corner lots for \$150. Joseph's son, Jules, built the first frame dwelling and storehouse in St Joseph in 1843. By the fall of the year, other merchants began to open businesses and the growth of the town began.

Robidoux Row

Joseph began building what is known as "Robidoux Row" in the 1840s to accommodate the needs of the travelers and newcomers to St. Joseph. It was the first temporary housing in St. Joseph and consisted of seven connected apartments on the north side of his new town. The buildings were not completed until the late 1850s. Joseph moved into a unit in the eastern section of the building after his wife's death in 1857 and lived there until he died in 1868. Four units of the original building have been restored and serve as headquarters of the St. Joseph Historical Society. It is maintained by the historical

society and open to the public.



Courtesy St Joseph Museum Graphic

Courtesy St Joseph Museum Graphic

Robidoux Row which is now restored and used by the St. Joseph Historical Society.

Steam Mill

In 1844, Joseph brought a steam mill up the Missouri River from St. Louis and erected it in St. Joseph to meet the needs of the residents. The boiler exploded and wrecked the mill soon after. The engineer, a black man, was killed in the explosion.

Antoine Returns

Joseph's brother, Antoine, returned to St. Joseph in late 1844. He had been operating trading posts in Utah and Colorado. While he was enroute to St. Joseph, his forts were attacked and burned by the Ute Indians. He had earlier suffered a severe financial loss of about 400 mules and horses during a terrible blizzard. Antoine remained in St. Joseph for about a year and then joined General Kearny as an interpreter.

On September 26, 1845, the village of St. Joseph was incorporated with Joseph as president of the board of trustees. The village had its own newspaper, The Gazette, and the growth of St.

Joseph continued. Hemp was being grown on plantations outside of the village and commerce flourished.

County Seat

The following year, 1846, St. Joseph became the Buchanan County seat, which insured the importance of the village. The first courthouse was completed on land donated by Joseph. Jules, Joseph's son, took over some of his father's businesses as Joseph was now 63 and his eyesight was failing as his father's did before him.



Courtesy of St. Joseph Museum
Graphic

Benjamin Harding

Benjamin Harding sent letters to Joseph that are very revealing during that period.

One of the agents that worked for Joseph was Benjamin Harding who was born in Otsego County, New York on November 25, 1816. He was a scholarly and very conscientious person who often chastised Joseph about his trading practices. Below are some of the letters that Benjamin Harding wrote to Joseph from the Great Nemaha Agency located 40 miles northwest of St. Joseph. They give the reader an insight into how Joseph conducted his trade with the Indians and his response for assistance from his Indian wife and offspring:

April 30, 1847,

Yours of the 26th inst. was received day before yesterday. A committee of the Iowas consisting of nearly the whole tribe waited on me three or four days ago and begged hard for goods on credit which I positively refused, when they pretended to get very angry. I do not trust them at all except for blankets etc, to bury their dead, which they must have. With the lard and bacon, please send me a bed rope.

May 22, 1847,

Yours written day before yesterday was handed me this morning and right glad I was to find you again reiterating the request respecting the credit to the Iowas. Since it has in a manner relieved us from rather an unpleasant dilemma. White Cloud and She Mon Ya were here yesterday but expressed very little disposition to go hunting. They objected to taking the hoes because they said they could not divide them without causing dissention in the tribe in consequence of the small number.

May 24, 1847,

The Ioways started yesterday to visit the Mississippi Sacs and I understand they intend to spend a month or more visiting the Sacs and Caws. Consequently there is no probability of their hunting buffaloes this year although they said they were going with the purpose of getting horses to hunt with.

June 1, 1847,

Your favor by J. B. Roy was duly received in which you state that you rely positively on the promise of Maj. Harvey and the Indians to pay your debt, and I am very confident you will not be deceived. However you may rest assured that I will do all that lies in my power for your interest.

October 13, 1847,

Dr. Sir,

You had hardly got out of sight before White Cloud [Chief of the Ioways and Joseph's son-in-law] came to beg for 2 kegs of powder on credit for hunting. He says that he is going to see you and wished me to write to you.

October 23, 1847,

..I have just received yours by Indian Robidoux.

[Joseph's son born in Council Bluffs by an Otoe woman].

Some of the things wanted I have not got, but what I have I will give them.

October 29, 1847,

Dear Sir,

I have given Indian Robidoux a camp kettle according to order.

January 13, 1848,

Mr. Robidoux

Dear Sir,

Yours by the Indian on January 3 was received this morning. I have shown it to Maj. Rucker who says that he is not angry with you but thinks he has not been treated right respecting his lot.

March 8, 1848,

Mesourquot is here begging me for credit to the Omahas. I have refused him but he appeals to you.

March 8, 1848,

Dr. Sir,

White Cloud sent your letter to me by Robert three days ago, who stated that the Iowa's were expecting each of them a blanket, etc, on credit. I told him that you had written and he has not called since and I hope he will not on that errand again.

March 28, 1848,

Yours by Joseph Junior [Joseph's son, Joseph E.] was received this day. I received by Mr. Billings the flour and bacon which you sent also the plates. But the 25-lbs. lead and my box of which you speak I did not receive. I wish you to inform me whether they were actually sent.

March 29, 1848,

...I do not know but I have done wrong today in letting Joseph Robidoux have the following articles for his daughter.....He requested me to state the fact to you and said he would make it right with you.

April 6, 1848,

...White Cloud] has told me several times that you promised to send him a box of pipes, and finally wishes me to write to you on the subject and now wants some filling for them.

May 8, 1848,

...Your family came here two or three days ago expecting to find you. I have let them have a little bacon & flour but told them I should not give them any more without your order.

June 18, 1848,

...White Cloud started on the buffalo hunt three days ago. I gave him the things, which you directed me to...

The amount of goods given to White Cloud is 10.70. The Ioways drove my cow off yesterday and I expect feasted on her last night.

July 17, 1848,

Dear Sir,

Indian Robidoux has been here and brought me the following goods. He said he wanted to see you but his horse's feet were tender and he was afraid of making them sore by going down.

July 19, 1848,

Mary [Joseph's daughter born in Council Bluffs by an Otoe woman and wife of Chief White Cloud] tells me that you want her to go down to get some things. She wishes me to say to you she cannot go down on account of the sickness of one of her children, but will send a young man down today. I think that is all she wishes me to say.

August 10, 1848,

...Our Ioways have had a very lovely time today. A civil war proclaimed among them. Wolf's son (Sam) has killed the son of Capt. John today. Pon ye cooch (Me sour quot's son) had vowed a revenge, but he says he will act the brave by waiting till all are sober. I understand the relatives on both sides are to have a fight tomorrow, but I think their courage will fail them when they get sober.

The husband of Joe Robidoux's old squaw [Na-Ka-Ta-Mee, 1st wife of Indian Robidoux] has been stabbed to day in three places.

August 18, 1848,

...I understand Robidoux [Joseph's son born in Council Bluffs] has killed his brother-in-law by cutting his head with an axe. The news was brought down by some Ottoes who say Robidoux has run off among the Ottoes.

September 6, 1848

Dr, Sir,

I have this day sent an Indian to Mr. Storys.

[This is Major Stephen Story who married the widow of Joseph's son, Farron Antoine Robidoux, in 1846. Harding mentions him several times in his letters]

October 5, 1848,

Dr. Sir,

Bricknell requests me to write a letter to you for him. He says your squaw [The mother of Joseph and Mary that were born in Council bluffs] is very sick, wants something nourishing, and wishes you to send her some chicken.

October 7, 1848,

...Your squaw is some better, her mother has come and says they do not want Mr. Irvin to doctor her.

November 1, 1848,

...Your squaw is getting better. She wants some hooks & eyes for a dress.

November 5, 1848,

Dr. Sir,

Bricknell wishes me to inform you that your squaw talks of starting to the Nemahaw on Wednesday if you do not come up sooner and she wants a quantity of provisions.

The amount of the order, which you gave her when here she sent to her mother and now her sister, has come back for more.

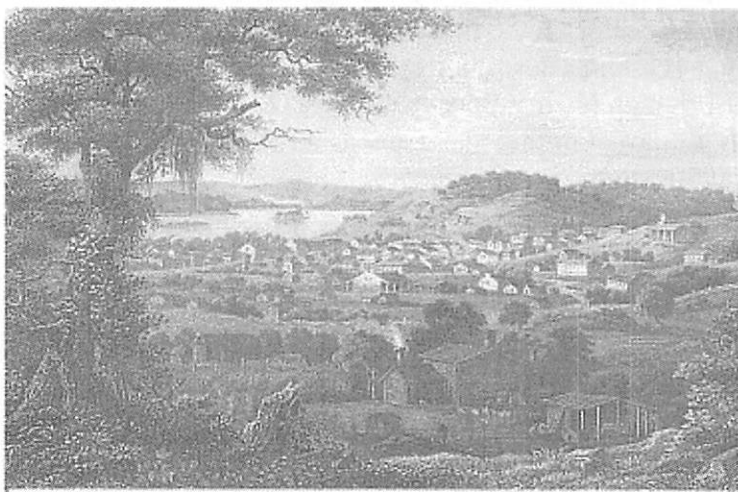
Benjamin Harding left his employment with Joseph under amicable circumstances and purchased a farm in Doniphan County, Kansas. He operated his own trading post with the Indians in Wathena, Kansas and is credited with being the founder of Wathena. He went on to become a Senator on the first Free State legislature for the Kansas Territory, a schoolmaster, soldier, farmer, real-estate dealer, and public official. Although his main occupation was being a farmer, he also served as a railroad station agent and as director of the Kansas State Historical Society.

Rudolph Kurtz

Rudolph Friederich Kurtz described St. Joseph in 1848 as follows:

"Throughout the entire summer bourgeois or the head of firms, clerks, and other engages or employees of the different fur companies crowded the streets and public houses of the town. St. Joseph is for them now what St. Louis was earlier - their rendezvous. Here all the staple commodities are supplied from St. Louis, but horses are bought up for the purpose of selling them to the Indians on the upper Missouri and on the Platte or Nebraska. Their packs of buffalo hides ...are reshipped on the steamers, the empty mackinaw boats sold and their crews discharged. These people are called Mountaineers, a name associated with many dangerous adventures, much painful endurance, but also with much romance and pleasure. The Mountaineers like best to dress themselves in clothes made of tanned deerskin embroidered and fringed. One recognizes them, therefore, at sight; knows who they are and whence they come. They are stared at as though they were bears...

Since gold has been discovered in California and lands have been granted on the part of the United States Government to settlers in Oregon, fur traders are in the background in St. Joseph. Now thousands



Courtesy of St. Joseph Museum

St. Joseph, Missouri became a flourishing town on the Missouri River.

upon thousands of gold seekers and immigrants en route to Oregon throng the taverns and streets in spring. The coming of the Monsignors is no longer an interesting event...In the summer of 1848, however, they were still the heroes of the day and took great delight in their triumph."

The Robidoux are Everywhere

During the late 1840s and early 1850s, Joseph had his brother, Francois, and Francois' sons, Antoine and Joseph Silko, operating a trading post next to Fort Laramie, Wyoming, and then in Scotts Bluff, Nebraska. There were other members of the family there on many occasions, including some of Joseph's brothers and his son, Joseph E. Silko, Silicon, Sylvester or Joseph Silko, son of Francois, who married a Sioux woman, Mary, widow of the warrior Bull Eagle. They had at least three children born in Laramie and Scotts Bluff during the period 1850 to 1866. The sons are the ancestors of the present day Rosebud Sioux Roubidoux.

Rascals and Cheats

On May 24, 1849, Bruce Holland, acting chief for the American Fur Company at Fort Laramie, wrote to his boss, Andrew Drips, that arriving immigrants were being intercepted by a "*Mr. Robidoux who, in the interest of bolstering his business, warned the immigrants against Fort Laramie traders as 'all damned rascals and cheats'.*" The Robidoux trading post in the Fort Laramie area was eventually moved to the Scotts Bluff area when Fort Laramie became an Army post. In addition, the move was to take advantage of the travelers on the Oregon Trail. According to his descendants, Joseph Silko was killed by a kick in the head from a mule and buried at Horse Creek, which is next to Scotts Bluff, Nebraska.

Justice of the Peace

In 1850, Joseph built a home at 411 Edmond Street. The house was the most modern in the city and several of Joseph's children moved into it. The floors were all hardwood and the walls were double thickness with many rooms in the house. Part of the house was used as an office by Julius, Joseph's son, and this is where he performed over 400 marriages as Justice of the Peace. The house was also used for a short time by the Sixteenth Illinois Regiment when the Civil War broke out.

Skylarking

It was a quiet Sunday evening, the 8th of September 1850, and Joseph's youngest son, Charles, who was nineteen years old, wandered around town with several of his friends. They amused themselves with pranks, as most youngsters are prone to do. About eleven o'clock, he and his friend, Charles Summerville, and an Edgar boy, were hanging out on Main street in front of merchant Duncan McDonald's business.

Charles kept pulling at a hitching post belonging to Mr. McDonald until the post became loose. He then pulled the post from the ground and put it on his shoulder. He started to carry it across the street in the direction of the Edgar House.

A Shot Rang Out

A window of Duncan McDonald's store opened and a gunshot rang out. Charles dropped to the ground fatally wounded. His friends,

Summerville and the Edgar boy, got to him in time to hear him say that, "I am shot", and he died. Friends and bystanders took his body to his brother's residence on Main Street where his mother was staying. His brother, Julius, and his wife were in St. Louis buying the fall stock of goods and were not at home. When the news about the shooting spread the next morning, the whole town was excited and talked about the shooting. News was sent to his father, who in disbelief and panic-stricken, immediately went to Julius' home where Charles' body had been taken.

Joseph in a Rage

Joseph went to the store of Duncan McDonald with a rope in his hand. He was determined to bust open the door and hang the murderer on the spot. Joseph asked the people who had gathered there to help him but his friends restrained him from breaking into the store.

There were three people in the store at the time of the shooting, Duncan McDonald, his brother, and T. A. Beaubre. Duncan McDonald eventually came out of the store and told the people assembled that he did the shooting and that his brother and Beaubre had nothing to do with it. He gave himself up.

The Trial

An inquest was held on the death of Charles Robidoux. Duncan McDonald was held on bail and was guarded by his friends out of fear of violence from Joseph or his friends. Joseph retained the best attorneys in the county to prosecute the case against McDonald. The trial continued from court to court and finally a change of venue was granted to take the case to Savannah, Andrew County, Missouri. The jury subsequently acquitted Duncan McDonald after the main witness in the case left the country.

McDonald went unpunished by the courts for his crime but paid for it in other ways. He always maintained that he had shot randomly and had accidentally shot Charles. He had been an intimate friend of Joseph before the shooting and was willing to make any reparations that the family desired. The cost of the trial and lawyers left him penniless so he sold his goods and left town. According to some, he drank himself to death.

Vote For Fremont

Joseph went to the polls in 1856 and cast his vote for John C. Fremont for President of the United States. He had met Fremont on the trails and trusted him. It was the only vote cast in St. Joseph for Fremont and only Joseph would have dared vote for him. Votes were not secret at the time.

Loss of Eyesight

Joseph's eyesight was failing and his life became less active. When his wife of 44 years, Angelique, died on January 17, 1857, Joseph, now 73, moved into "Robidoux Row" where he would eventually die.

First Railroad

Several prominent citizens had been lobbying for a railroad to reach the Missouri River. In 1858, Joseph and twelve other prominent citizens from Missouri incorporated to form the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad Company. The railroad was completed on February 13, 1859. Joseph drove the last spike [a golden one] and the many people present for the occasion, cheered. The first passenger train from the east arrived on February 14, 1859. On February 22, 1859, a special train carrying many dignitaries arrived in St. Joseph and was met by Joseph. Abraham Lincoln also visited St. Joseph in 1859 while running for President.



Photo by Author, 2000

Joseph's bed in the room of Robidoux Row where he died.

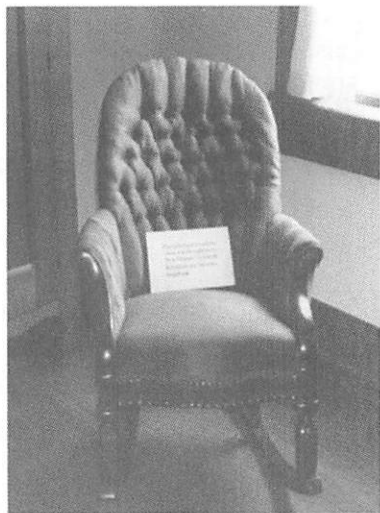


Photo by Author, 2000

Chair purchased in New Orleans
by Joseph for his wife. It is now
located in Robidoux Row in St.
Joseph, Missouri.

Pony Express

On April 3, 1860, Joseph took his granddaughter, Ella Amanda Robidoux, who was seven years old at the time, to see the first Pony Express rider in history leave from St. Joseph, Missouri. The ferryboat was waiting at Robidoux Landing to take the pony and rider across the Missouri River to the Kansas border. The Pony Express ran from St. Joseph to Sacramento, California and only lasted 16 months. It was out of business by October 1861. Their help-wanted advertisements asked for young, skinny, wiry fellows, who were not over 18, orphans preferred. They had to be an expert rider and willing to risk death every day. The youngest rider was only 10 years old. Buffalo Bill Cody was also a rider.

Another Marriage

In December 1860 at the age of 75, Joseph married again. Although no record of the marriage can be found in St. Joseph, the following article was in the December 11, 1860 issue of the Liberty Tribune in Liberty, Clay County, Missouri:

"In St. Joseph the other day, the old voyager, Mr. Joseph Robidoux, was married to Miss Mary Green, a young and handsome lady."

Appearing on the same page as this announcement was the news that both Oregon and California had cast their electoral votes for Abraham Lincoln while Missouri had cast its vote for Douglas and Johnson. A meeting in Washington of all Senators from slaveholding states without reference to political party was being held to discuss the political state of the country.

Wubidoux

In his later years, Joseph would sit on his chair holding his cane in his right hand. Bartlett Boder's father, Louis, born in St. Joseph in 1848, would walk by Joseph each day when he was a child, shouting the name "*Wubidoux*". This was the only name for Joseph that the boy knew. Joseph reportedly brandished his cane in a mock threatening fashion each time.



**Painting by J. V. D. Patch courtesy of the River Bluff Regional
Library, St. Joseph, Missouri**
Joseph as he looked in the latter part of his life.

Guilty Conscience

In February of 1863, a member of the Catholic Church in St. Joseph confessed to his priest that he had defrauded Joseph of money some time ago and wanted to make amends. After being admonished by the priest, he gave the priest \$300 which was returned to Joseph. Joseph had no idea who the money was from but was grateful for its return.

Death of The City

Article in the St. Joseph Morning Herald

The founder of St. Joseph, Missouri, our earliest settler is gone. We regret, this morning, Wednesday, May 27, 1868, to receive the death news of Joseph Robidoux, the founder of the city of St. Joseph. The queen city and metropolis of the northwest, the center of American progress, enterprise and commerce, the market place of the garden of the world (with centuries into oblivion) increasing, enlarging and exerting powerful influence, will stand a glorious monument of the spirit of perseverance, forethought and enterprise of Joseph Robidoux. He was born in St. Louis on August 10, 1783. His father was Joseph Robidoux and his mother, Catherine Rollet Robidoux, both Canadian French.

He first visited this locality in the year 1799. This was then Indian country. The wigwams of the savages occupied this site, where now the schools, churches, factories, stores, warehouses, and marks of 30,000 enterprising people stand. The clangor of manufacturing and the rush of business enterprises are heard today.

Sixty-eight years ago Joseph Robidoux heard the war hoops and savage yells of the red man and his family. All the way from St. Charles northward was unexplored country, the hunting ground for the tribes of the Indians.

It took such an indomitable spirit as Joseph Robidoux possessed to carry civilization and commerce into this far region, 565 miles from the young city of St. Louis; but he did it, surmounting numerous difficulties and obstacles. Joseph Robidoux made this Indian trading post a point of interest for several years. When he was near this point on one of his earliest trips up the river, a tree fell across his boat and sank

it, with all of his stock of goods and groceries. It was the task for Joseph Robidoux to make the rest of his way back to St. Louis.

His connection with the American Fur Company made it necessary for Joseph Robidoux to locate at this point in 1803. For thirty years he remained amongst the Indians and as an enterprising trader gained their confidence as well as that of the company he represented and became an ardent admirer of the spot.

His seemingly prophetic foresight located here the great city we are becoming. In 1836 the Platte Purchase, the title of the garden of the world passed from the Sac, Iowa and Fox Indians to the Government of the United States, and in the year 1843 he pre-empted about two and a half miles square and proceeded to lay out what is called the original town of St. Joseph.

The richness of the country surrounding St. Joseph and its convenience on the great highways of the country soon attracted immigration and in 1845 a town charter was granted by the legislature. The next year it was created a county seat of Buchanan County. In 1845, he was president of the Board of Trustees, the population not being more than six hundred. The growth of the town was for years steady and gradual. The discovery of gold in California gave a fresh impetus to the town. It was then that the importance of the location manifested itself. St. Joseph was then made the great starting point of overland routes for the vast tide of immigration to the Pacific Coast.

Many who saw wealth in abundance in St. Joseph gave up the idea of migrating to the gold fields. In 1851 the growth of the city and its importance called for a city charter. The population reached nearly 2,500. It then constituted the wards, with Thomas Mills as first mayor. Since that time, St. Joseph, as a manufacturing commercial railroad center has taken a leading position. The property within the corporate limits was worth half a million with a line of thirty thousand population.

The original town, now the business portion of the city, comprises sixty-five blocks, twelve of which are fractional. The whole blocks were each 240 feet deep by 300 feet deep. Each lot was 40 by 140. The streets running north and south from the river were named

Water Street, Levee Street, Main or First Street, Second Street, and up to Sixth Street. The streets running at right angles commenced parallel to the north line named after members of Joseph Robidoux's family, Louis, Isidore, Robidoux, Farron, Jules, Francis, Felix, Edmond, Charles, Sylvanie, Angelique, Messanie, and so on. Joseph Robidoux has since made two additions to the city, and several other additions, which were called Robidoux. The first and second addition had the prosperity of his pet enterprise at heart, more than the aggrandizement of money, by the demand for the exorbitant prices for the lots. Mr. Joseph Robidoux did all his generous soul could do to encourage immigration. He gave away hundreds of lots to the poor settlers, the school committees, and religious institutions never called on Joseph Robidoux in vain for a spot to settle on. To strangers, as well as to the members of his family, Joseph Robidoux was more than magnificent. In this way his valuable property was passed away until his death, of the vast domain he once owned, he owned but one lot worth perhaps fifteen hundred dollars.

Joseph Robidoux was a man of excellent habits, a good Christian, a tender parent and affectionate husband, a generous friend, and in his last days he could boast of never having done a person a wrong. He retained his senses unimpaired to the very last and though of a peculiar exclusive and solitary disposition for the past halfcentury, he was conversable and intelligent.

For two weeks previous to his death, he felt weak, the result of over four score years of active life. No one imagined, although they thought the end was not far off, that death was so near. He was around town in the morning as usual and in the afternoon he thought he would go and have a rest and at half past one the next morning he died as a baby. His pure spirit passed into the hands of the Creator who will no doubt amply reward him for the vast good he has done in his life. He died without a struggle.

Joseph Robidoux leaves a large enterprising family behind. He leaves one sister, Mrs. Pelagie Saucier, living in St. Joseph, and he leaves four sons, Joseph E. Robidoux, Julius C Robidoux, Felix Robidoux, Edmond Robidoux, all in St. Joseph, and one daughter, Mrs. F. A. Beauvais, residing in St. Louis. He leaves an interesting family of twenty-eight grandchildren. His remains will be taken from the

residence of Julius C. Robidoux on Edmond Street, between Fourth and Fifth Streets, at 2:30 this afternoon and conveyed to the Mount Calvary cemetery, where it will be interred with honors due to the founder of St. Joseph.

PROCLAMATION

Joseph Robidoux, the founder of the city of St. Joseph, is dead. As a tribute of respect to the memory of Joseph Robidoux, whose name is inseparably connected with the city of St. Joseph as its founder, it is hereby requested that the citizens of St. Joseph close their business houses from two o'clock until five o'clock on Thursday, the 28th day of May, 1868, during the funeral service. The members of the City Council and officers of the city government are requested and all orders and citizens are invited to attend the funeral which will take place from the residence of Julius C. Robidoux on Edmond Street between Fourth and Fifth Street at two o'clock, May 28th, 1868.

George Hall
Mayor

TO OUR CITIZENS

Death of Joseph Robidoux

Let due respect be paid to the memory of Joseph Robidoux the founder of St. Joseph.

We call attention to our readers to the proclamation of Mayor Hall, requesting our citizens to close their business houses this afternoon during the funeral services of the late Joseph Robidoux. We trust that there will be a general compliance with the proclamation, that all business will be suspended from two to five o'clock, and all the lodges and orders and the citizens generally will attend the funeral. It is the duty of every citizen to comply with the request of the Mayor as a suitable tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased founder and patron.

A Son Remembers

Julius, the oldest son of Joseph & Angelique (Vaudry) Robidoux left the following description of his father in his journal. He wrote this part of the journal in the 1870s:

"Scarcely more than fifty years ago there might have been seen passing up the Missouri River from St. Louis, then but a Village Camp, a gentleman of keen perception, of great foresight and of generous impulses, a man, who desired to labor for mankind, rather than himself. One of those bright ornaments of our Grace, whose whole heart and soul was engaged in the grand object of benefiting his fellows. He had traveled much. He was familiar with the whole western country. He had seen the Missouri far up in the mountains, even to its very source. He had followed the banks of the mighty Mississippi from the delta to where it terminates in an insignificant lake. He had been all over what are now the great states of Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. He had seen the flags of France and Spain disappear from that portion of the continent which was destined to be ours and rejoiced at it. The promptings of his great heart impelled him in the idea that it was his duty to assist in the development of the great west. So, after trading with the Indians for some years, he like the patriarchs of old, determined to build a city and thus bear an enduring monument to his memory. He visited many places to select a suitable one. Amongst others, the place where the city of Chicago now stands, and never was his keen perception satisfied, until his practical eye rested on the fertile soil, the beautiful prairies, the fine timber lands, and the magnificent water course of north western Missouri. There he beheld a country now called the Platte Purchase, which thirty five years ago was the home of the Indians, and the buffalo, but which is now covered with beautiful farms, prosperous towns, thriving villages, and great and growing cities, and the richness of the soil, of which excels the famed Valley of the Nile. Here he at once saw, that God and nature marked our place for a great city. Here he built a city.

Need I tell any western man that I allude to that hardy pioneer and grand old Patriarch of the west, Joseph Robidoux? Need I say to any man that has been in the great state of Missouri, that the city, whose foundations were laid by him, is the one bearing his name? The great Queen City of the Missouri Valley, St. Joseph.

The old man has been gathered to his fathers, but he has left a monument as enduring as time, and as eternal, as the everlasting hills. A monument in the shape of the bright, beautiful, prosperous and

energetic city of St. Joseph with her twenty five thousand people, who for energy, enterprise, intelligence and determination to win in the mighty struggle of life cannot be excelled anywhere on this continent.



Photo courtesy of Becky Loechelt

Julius (Jules) Caesar Robidoux, 1st child of Joseph and Angelique (Vaudry) Robidoux, born on August 14, 1814. He maintained a journal that related many of his father's accomplishments. He left the description of his father that is shown here.

THE FATHER OF ST JOSEPH

The Funeral Significant Civic Turnout

Long before two o'clock yesterday the citizens and friends of the late Joseph Robidoux commenced gathering around the residence of Julius C. Robidoux on Edmond Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets. Carriages, buggies, horses and pedestrians thronged up the entire block until the procession was formed. The hearse was a new and magnificent one and one of the richest we have seen and all appointments were in keeping. Everybody was arrayed in mourning and bore the aspect of sorrow they felt at losing the father of this young city, the now queen city of the northwest.

From two o'clock all the stores and places of business were closed and draped in mourning. Everything tended to show the vast regard entertained by the community for one who did so much for the progress of this city.

At three p. m. the procession formed; Captain Thomas J. Rafferty, grand marshal, leading. Then came the fire brigade under the superintendence of Foreman Symmons. Next came the undertaker in the carriage. Then came a closed carriage, the oldest settler, as William Fowler, Simon Kemper, Governor Robert M. Stewart, E. W. Welch, R. S. Carter, and Judge Charles Scribe. Next came the hearse accompanied by four of the grandsons of the deceased, Julius Jr., Thomas, Napoleon and Louis.

Next came the immediate relatives and friends of the deceased in carriages. Then followed the old settlers, delegations from the Odd Fellows, Freemasons, Good Templers, Hibernians (without their regalia), Young Men's Christian Association, and Father Matthews Association of Citizens. Many ladies of the most respectable families graced the carriages along the line of the procession.

There was recorded from the house, some eighty-five vehicles and fifty horsemen, while hundreds of pedestrians testified their respect to the mortal remains of Joseph Robidoux, which is highly creditable to the appreciation of our citizens, unmindful of anything that has been done for the prosperity of our great city.

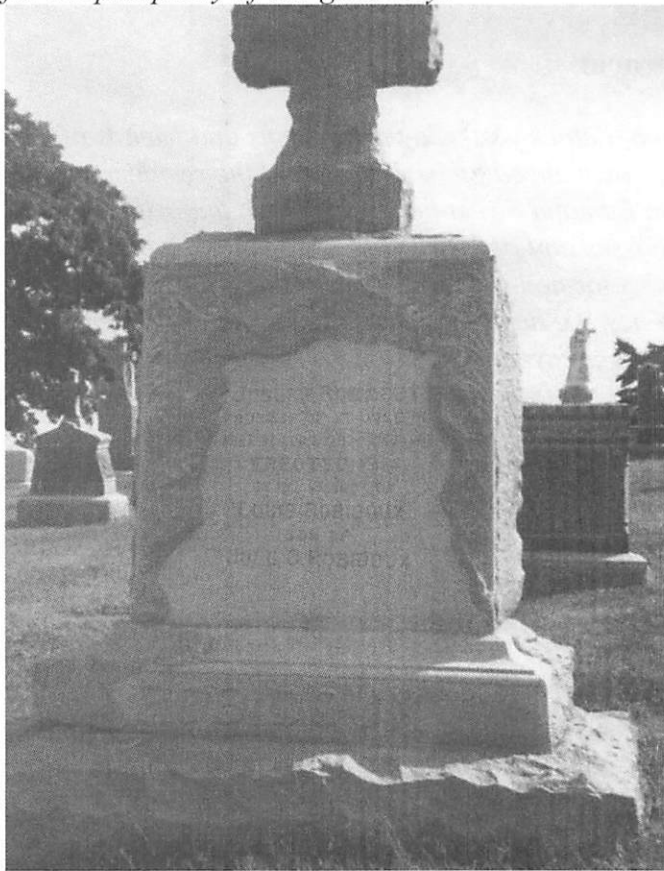


Photo by Author, 2000

Monument for Joseph erected by his son, Louis and his wife, Orral Messmore. It is in the Mount Olivet Cemetery on Lovers Lane in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Hotel Robidoux

In 1908, a magnificent hotel was built in St. Joseph and named Hotel Robidoux in honor of Joseph Robidoux. Many more businesses in St. Joseph use the name of Robidoux in honor of the founder of the city.

Bodies Moved

On August 15, 1908, the bodies of Joseph, his son, Julius, and his grandson, Napoleon, were moved from Calvary Cemetery to the new Catholic cemetery, Mount Olivet, on Lovers Lane. Other members of Joseph's family are also buried there. At the time, there was some controversy on whether Joseph's body was actually found. However, Joseph's grandson, Louis, and Louis' wife, Orral, were there and identified the bodies in question. Louis recognized the body of his brother, Napoleon, by his prominent teeth, his father, Julius, by his Roman nose, and his grandfather, Joseph, by his having one tooth and long hair.

Monument Erected

A large monument was erected in Mount Olivet Cemetery in his honor by his grandson, Louis, in 1914. It was Louis' wish that the lot be closed against any more internments and provisions made with the diocese of St. Joseph for perpetual care, in memory of Joseph. The monument made of Vermont select gray granite was designed by Louis' wife, Orral Messmore Robidoux.

[This concludes our 3-part article reprinted with permission by Clyde Rabidoux]

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Michel Gamelin: Surgeon and Fur Trader

By Paul Vilmur

Introduction

This is an account of my 8th great-grandfather, Michel Gamelin, the first of my ancestors to emigrate to New France. He would be called an entrepreneur today and it appears that the pursuit of a better life led him to greatly scale back his trade as a surgeon and give up the ownership of extensive land holdings in order to concentrate his efforts in the more lucrative fur trade. Most of the details of his land dealings and problems with the Sovereign Council are taken from Reference [2] which is written in French.

Michel GAMELIN (Sieur de LaFontaine)

Michel GAMELIN was born about 1640 in St. Saturnin parish in the diocese of Blois, province of Orleanais, department of Loir et Cher. [1] Today you will find the city of Blois on the Loire River about 35 miles Southwest of Orléans. Not much is known about his life in France except that his father, a wine merchant, was also named Michel and his mother was Françoise BELANGER. It is estimated that Michel GAMELIN arrived in Canada in the Three Rivers (Trois Rivières) area around 1660. His trade was surgeon. In his marriage contract in 1661 he called himself a master surgeon. At this time doctors and surgeons were entirely different occupations. Doctors were more formally educated and treated all diseases. Surgeons were considered craftsmen and belonged to a trade guild. They handled operations, that were pretty much limited to bleeding, lancing and amputations and other functions such as the cleaning and bandaging of wounds, the setting of bones and the dispensing of medicine.

The Marriage

On November 16, 1661, Michel and Marguerite CREVIER signed a contract of marriage (Notary Séverin AMEAU) at Three Rivers at the home of his father-in-law where he was staying. The actual wedding

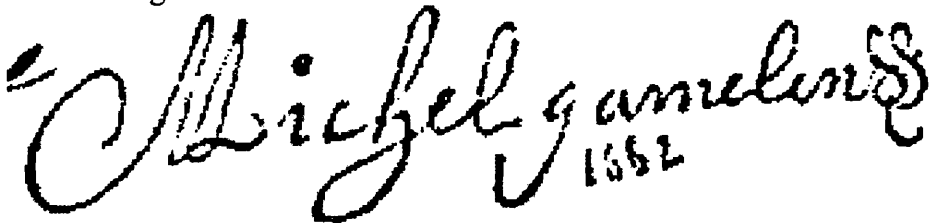
record has not been found. This was Marguerite's second marriage. Her first marriage to Jacques FOURNIER on May 14, 1657 at Three Rivers was annulled in 1659 [3]. Marguerite may have been only 12 years old at the time of her first marriage. Marguerite was born at St. Sauvier parish, LaRochele France in 1645. Marguerite's father, Christophe first came to Canada before 1640 but returned to France where Marguerite was born. He returned with his family to Three Rivers around 1651.

Michel and Marguerite had 4 sons and 2 daughters between 1664 and 1674. All children survived to adulthood. The first three sons and both daughters married. The last son, Michel Jr., became a voyageur, traveling to the Western forts on the Great Lakes.

First Land Holding

On August 15, 1662, Michel received a land grant at Cap de la Madeleine that consisted of a strip of land 384 feet wide by 7,680 feet deep fronting on the North bank of the St. Lawrence River. On March 31, 1664 he contracted with Etienne LAFOND to have a house built on this land. Etienne was also a direct descendant on the VILMUR side of the family. Cap de la Madeleine is on the opposite side of the St. Maurice River from the village of Three Rivers.

Michel's signature from 1662:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michel Gamelin" with the year "1662" written below the name.

Trouble with the Law

In the period 1662 to 1667, Michel was engaged in two areas of business at Cap de la Madeleine.

1) He was involved in the fur trading business with his brother-in-law Nicolas GASTINEAU and with Jean LEMOINE. Michel's son Ignace would marry Marguerite, the daughter of Jean LEMOINE. He also practiced as a surgeon on occasion but since there was little money in this he did not pursue this trade as was evidenced in 1663 when he turned down an offer to act as surgeon to the garrison at Three Rivers.

The offer was made because the current surgeon Louis PINARD complained about his wages. In any case, PINARD kept his job. From 1670 to 1674 Michel occasionally provided surgical services for the Hôtel-Dieu de Montréal.

2) Michel was also involved with GASTINEAU and LEMOINE in making beer and possibly whiskey from wheat grown in the area. He mainly used these beverages to trade with the Indians for furs. His cabins, one on the Île Saint-Ignace, the other at the mouth of the Rivière Sainte-Anne, were frequently the setting for incidents in which Indians and squaws indulged too freely in beer, while GAMELIN easily wheedled their furs from them since he spoke the language of the natives of the region fluently. Because alcohol caused the Indians to become unruly resulting in both property damage and personal injuries, a law was passed against giving alcohol to the Indians.

In spite of this Michel continued to trade beer and hard liquor with the Indians for furs. This resulted in an investigation from January 30 to February 3, 1665 during which time witness testimony accused Michel of giving beer to the Indians. Other than condemning the practice, nothing much was done that time by the authorities. But starting in January 1667, hearings were held before the Sovereign Council that again considered the matter. This time dozens of witnesses testified against Michel claiming that he was selling beer and hard liquor to the Indians from his cabin. To defend himself, Michel had two of his employees, Jean BONNEAU and Jean MOUFFLET testify that there was no hard liquor in the cabin. The Council disregarded this testimony and ruled on June 30, 1667 that hard liquor was indeed sold from Michel GAMELIN's cabin and ruled "*GAMELAIN is fined two hundred livres, GASTINEAU and LEMOYNE with a hundred and fifty, BERTAUT, MOUFFLET and BONNEAU with each one fifty livres, along with payment of their fines the saids GAMELAIN, GASTINEAU, LEMOYNE, BERTAUT, MOUFFLET and BONNEAU will be constrained by imprisonment of their persons, and in the event of insolvency of the saids BERTAUT, MOUFFLET and BONNEAU, the said Conseil ordered and orders that they be imprisoned for a month, and that during the last fifteen days they will be exposed on a wooden horse each day one hour in public view, with a sign which will be attached to them saying: these 'to have traded brandy to the Indians'*"[2].

A New Seigneur

Notwithstanding his problems with the law, by late 1666, Michel had been named by Jacques LA FERTÉ the first Seigneur (Landlord) of Sainte-Anne a parcel of land of over 1,300 acres on the East side of the Sainte Anne River some 20 miles East of Three Rivers. This land parcel was part of a much bigger land concession given in 1636 by King Louis XIII of France to Jacques LA FERTÉ, abbé at St. Madeleine de Chateaudun in France. LA FERTÉ called this land area along the St. Lawrence between the St. Maurice and La Chevrotière rivers the Seigneurie de la Madeleine.

As a large land owner Michel GAMELIN was called by an honorific title, Sieur de LaFontaine. Between 1667 and 1670 he granted concessions to at least 25 lots in his land holding of varying size. The average lot was about 470 feet wide by about 1 mile deep. As the seigneur he would have his own lot in the land grant. This was on the Ile St. Ignace on the West side of his land separated from the Eastern portion by the St. Ignace Channel. The lot was approximately 1300 feet by 2000 feet. Around the summer of 1668, he had the Seignourial manor built on this land. (See the map at the end of this article).

Sale of His Seigneurie

Apparently because of preoccupation with his fur trade business, on September 29, 1670, Michel divided his Ste-Anne landholding and sold the West portion to Thomas DE LANAUGUERÉ and the East portion to Esmond DE SUÈVE, two officers in the Carignan Regiment, all for 2700 livres (about \$21,300 today based on gold at \$800/oz). But Michel stayed active in the affairs of this Seigneurie. In 1673, he had 2 other lots surveyed that he owned on the Ile St. Ignace in the St. Ann River possibly with the intention of selling them. He also was an arbitration judge for the Seigneurie of St. Anne. In 1674, he arbitrated a dispute between the Seigneur of Sainte Anne West, Thomas DE LANAUGUERÉ, and his tenants over money owed.

The Death of Michel and Re-marriage of His Widow

Michel remained in the Three Rivers area but died young. One unconfirmed source has his date of death on April 30, 1675. The consensus is that he died between 1675 and 1677 at Cap de la Madeleine

leaving wife Marguerite with six young children with ages from about 4 years to 13 years old [4]. Initially, Marguerite and children went to live with her mother, Jeanne ENARD, in Three Rivers. We know from the census of 1681 that the family was now somewhat scattered. Marguerite's mother had moved to Montreal, with whom Marguerite's children Marguerite and Jean-Baptiste were staying. It is thought that Marguerite and her children Ignace, Pierre, and Michel were living with her sister Jeanne's family in Boucherville, not far from Montréal. (Jeanne's husband, Pierre BOUCHER, founded Boucherville). Daughter, Françoise, was living at St. François du Lac with her Uncle Jean CREVIER's family (Jean was the Seigneur of St. François). The widow Marguerite CREVIER married François RENO dit LACHAPELLE in August of 1683 at Boucherville. They moved back to Three Rivers where they had three more children, 2 daughters and a son between 1684 and 1687.

Marguerite's brother, Jean CREVIER, who was a fur merchant, purchased the Seigneurie of St. François du Lac on August 8, 1676 from Pierre BOUCHER (his brother-in-law). This Seigneurie was about 25 miles West of Three Rivers and is situated on the West side of the St. Francis River that feeds northwest into the St. Lawrence River. Jean received an augmentation to his holding on October 8, 1678 [4]. He now had a land area on both sides of the St. Francis River that covered about 40 square miles. It was probably due to this brother that the GAMELIN/RENOU family relocated to the St. François River in the Seigneurie of St. François du Lac sometime in the late 1680's. Unfortunately, they moved just as the Iroquois were again harassing the settlers in the region. Marguerite's brother, Jean CREVIER, was kidnapped by the Iroquois in early August 1693 and taken to a village near what is now Albany, New York. It is thought that her husband François RENO helped to negotiate a ransom. In any case, Major Peter SCHUYLER the commander of Fort Albany ransomed Jean in late August of 1693 for 50 "louis" (the "louis" was a small gold coin worth 24 "livres" so the total ransom was about \$9,300 in today's money). It turned out that Jean had been tortured and he died from his wounds soon after at Fort Albany [4].

Two of Michel's sons, Pierre and Jean Baptiste, married at St. François du Lac. Jean-Baptiste died in 1703 at age 33 and left an infant son and

daughter. The daughter Marie-Claude married Guillaume CARTIER, a distant relation of Jacques CARTIER (1491-1557) the first French explorer of Canada in the years 1534, 1535-1536, and 1541-1542. Jean-Baptiste's widow, Marguerite MAUGRAS, remarried in 1705 to Louis VERONNEAU. Michel's first-born son, Ignace, stayed in Montréal where he became a successful merchant and licensed fur dealer. The youngest son, Michel Jr., who left Montréal in 1694 for the Western forts, did not marry.

Marguerite died in Montréal on June 7, 1707, possibly while she was visiting her son, Ignace. The rest of the family had remained at St. François du Lac. Her husband François RENOU dit LACHAPELLE died at St. François du Lac after May 9, 1714 [4].

2. Raymond Douville, *Les Premiers Seigneurs et Colons de Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade*, Collection "L'Histoire Régionale", Editions du Bien Public, Trois-Rivières 1946. Copy obtained from Quintin Publications, www.quintinpublications.com

3. According to Armand Demers editor of Tanguay's book "Searching through the old records of New France", the marriage was annulled in 1659 for non-consummation.

4. René Jetté, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec*, University of Montréal Press 1983.



Researching Ancestral Roots in France

by Jeanne M. Gendreau Carley

It never occurred to me to look for my ancestors' records and visit their villages when we first went to France in 1973. I hadn't even begun researching my family history until the early 80's. After moving to London, my first visit to Paris was a business trip with my husband that fall. We stayed at a famous hotel, the Scribe, and enjoyed a romantic dinner cruise on the River Seine. We loved people watching from sidewalk cafes and even practiced a little French though we simply couldn't remember the word *confiture* (jam) for our *croissants*. After spending hours walking the famous boulevards and narrow alleys, I hobbled with blistered bare feet across the busy Boulevard des Capucines to buy some comfortable but beautiful silver sandals at Bally's.

In the following years when we lived in the English countryside, we made many auto trips across the Channel (no Chunnel then) to France *en famille* where in the words of our three children, "we were dragged through all the museums, cathedrals and chateaux of Europe." (Many years later, our youngest daughter, having read *Gone With the Wind* in the Uffizi Museum, was able to identify most of the slides in her college art history class, to her classmates' surprise). We often picnicked, selecting choice *pâtés*, cheeses and delectable pastries in the shops, slept in what we called "minus four-star places", and endured many "interesting encounters" with the French people. At least, our children always claimed they were happy we came to England so we could go to France: they loved the food, the scenery and especially, the sunny weather. They even had fun mimicking the French, especially a Burgundian drunk, singing silly songs about *escargots* and even criticizing their father's French pronunciation. Overall, it was a wonderful learning experience for us.

On one memorable occasion, as we were en route to the ferry back to England, we stopped for dinner at Rambouillet, northwest of Paris, and inadvertently locked ourselves out of our car. Then began a nearly futile attempt to open it, beginning with my husband's vain attempt to get a coat-hanger from the nearby chateau-hotel (I never did learn the word for coat hanger *en français*). The hotel clerk finally dragged out a large coat rack, but we never did get the requested hanger. We finally ended up spending the night there in a gorgeous room the size of a large ballroom overlooking a dreamy pond with swans. Here we were ensconced in Versailles-type luxury where Rousseau spent his holidays writing. For us, however, it was far from charming with our adolescents fighting over a single bed and our oldest daughter refusing to sleep alone in the "maid's room" upstairs. They probably would have preferred Motel 6!

But it was only in the 80's when we returned to France *sans enfants* that I began to look for villages and towns associated with my ancestors -- from the orphans of Paris and *les filles du roi* of La Rochelle to the soldiers of the Carignan Regiment and the youthful farmers of Perche. I had started my search in Québec, beginning with letters to archives, then traipsing through graveyards and pursuing the volumes of Tanguay and Jetté. After combining many sightseeing trips to France with genealogical pursuits, I have found, with the help of minutely detailed Michelin maps, many of the villages in which my ancestors once lived. And in some cases we discovered the actual neighborhoods and parishes in Paris.

In the beautiful historic city of La Rochelle on the west coast where the shops are arcaded and the ancient towers of St. Nicolas and the Tower de la Chaine (14th century) overlook the harbor filled with pleasure boats, there is much for the family historian to see. This is the port from where many of my ancestors, including Pierre GENDREAU (Gerge & Jeanne COULON), a mason, and his future wife, Jeanne GARNIER, (Sebastian and Marie ROUX)) departed in the mid-17th century, leaving their nearby homes in St. Denis on Ile d'Oléron. From here, one can take a boat to visit the nearby islands of Ré and Oléron where some of our ancestors once lived. They all left from here to build new lives in New France. But the streets of La Rochelle paved with Canadian stones

as part of their ships' ballast still remain, a reminder of the ties with the New World.

Our first stop was at the Musée du Nouveau Monde, a museum of art and history housed in a lovely *grande maison*. This lovely museum was full of paintings of the old city in former eras and of numerous ships that had sailed the seas to Québec, to Africa and to the Caribbean, some obviously part of the slave trade. Founded in the 10th century on a rocky base in the middle of a swamp, the city grew as a Protestant merchant power, based on the salt and wine trade, but was nearly destroyed in 1629 by Richelieu's policy of "unification" or starving and killing the Huguenots. Later in the 18th century, sugar from the Antilles, triangular trade and furs from Canada brought back wealth to the shipowners of La Rochelle. This surge of trade also brought with it an intellectual renaissance. We purchased a book, *Mémoire d'Un Port*, (16th-18th centuries), which includes photos of paintings and objects shown in the museum.-- a wonderful *souvenir* of the ships our ancestors sailed with scenes of life in the ancient port city.

My husband told the museum receptionist that my GENDREAU family had once lived in the Saintonge-Aunis region and she immediately handed us a book, written by a Canadian author listing all the citizens who left for Québec. There they were, Pierre and Jeanne, still single and each leaving at different times on different ships. Did they know each other in St. Denis? Eventually they were to meet in Québec and marry in 1665 only after Jeanne had been widowed twice and was left with two sons. Pierre also disappeared (his cause of death is unknown) when Jeanne was expecting their sixth child and she re-married once more after his death. There were several other emigrants from La Rochelle and its environs in my family database, some of them former Huguenots who converted to the Catholic faith in order to enter New France.

Next, we visited the regional archives (Les Archives Départementales de la Charente-Maritime, its current name) where they handed me the parish book of St. Denis, Oléron, including Pierre Gendreau's baptism record of January 29, 1633 and those of his younger siblings. Naturally greedy for more information, I requested an earlier book for his parents' marriage, but was told, I was holding the oldest book there. The archivists were very helpful and are obviously accustomed to helping

Canadians and Americans search for their ancestors' records – they are very patient with their researchers' imperfect French. And you are definitely not intimidated here. (A few years later, my twin sister came with me to La Rochelle and naturally, I was eager to show her the ancient record book of our ancestor. Unfortunately, the parish book was not available for viewing anymore, but films made by the Mormons were available. The archivist was so accommodating that he made several copies of Pierre's baptismal record for us, refusing any fees. He also brought out many books to peruse, but we didn't have time to check more ancestral records. We left very happy, indeed.)

A few days earlier, we had visited Denis, Oléron at the tip of the island with its lighthouse and the 15th century Romanesque church (only the façade is original as the rest was restored later like most island churches once destroyed by the Revolution). We noted the priest's name engraved in stone, the same one who baptized Pierre. From our visit, we learned that the island, once occupied by the Romans, was home to the GENDREAU and GENDRON families (probably related as they are pronounced nearly the same), the GARNIER, and the COULON families. And many of these families are still living here or in La Rochelle today. Our eldest daughter (fluent in French) and her family, who live in Basel, Switzerland, was delighted to meet some Gendreaus two summers ago and they exchanged their histories and stories over dinner – the highlight of their holiday. This area is known for its delicious Marennes oysters as well as mussels, snails and eels, so when there, I indulged in an oyster dish, one of my favorite seafoods.

Oléron resembles Cape Cod somewhat because of its elongated shape with its sandy beaches, scenic villages, tourism and summer homes. Most older homes are one-story, red roofed white stucco structures built with an outside stone staircase and a garden well. While there, we enjoyed seeing a local museum of folk arts and traditions of the people of Oléron. It was named for Eleanor of Aquitaine who once ruled this part of France. On view are collections of family life such as furniture, holiday and working clothes, kitchen and copper utensils. A sample room displays a canopied four-poster bed in the living room-kitchen. Life-size women models wear regional costumes with splendid coiffes, the famed balloon (wedding coiffe or headdress) and the small everyday coif, and a series of dolls are attired in peasant dress. The working life

exhibit shows old and current island trades, such as winery apparatus, salt production from the marshes, model ships, and fishing gear. There are also vestiges of the New Stone Age: silex, (silica) polished ax, and arrowheads.

In La Rochelle, we visited the wax museum where we saw *les filles du roi* models prepare for their long sea voyage to Québec. We envisioned their arduous journey and wondered how these young women must have felt leaving their homeland forever. We climbed the stone towers of the harbor and looked out to view what they would have seen in the 1650's. Afterwards, we found a room at one of the small hotels, and set out to find the area where many of our female ancestors had lived -- St. Nicolas parish. When we asked the hotel clerk about the Church of St. Nicolas, she gave us a rather blank look and replied, "there isn't any." Strange, I mused, as the French usually don't remove their old buildings, especially churches. (I recalled seeing a remnant of the old church in Rouen whose courtyard witnessed the burning of Ste. Jeanne d'Arc).

We walked around the area, but then left to eat at one of the many delicious seafood restaurants. As we drove past an old -Romanesque style building, the St. Nicolas Hotel, something leapt in my brain. After parking, I ran into the lobby and asked a friendly young man, "Was this ever a church?" And he said, "Why yes, here's a card with all the information." Indeed, the natives had saved the ancient façade of the church and merely added a hotel to its back! We had found St. Nicolas, after all, where so many of our ancestors were baptized and attended Mass.

We had another favorable experience looking for ancestral records in the ancient Perche province, now re-named Orne, southwest of Paris, and not far from Chartres. After looking at churches and graveyards in the county seat of Mortagne and nearby Loise, we decided to find a B&B in the area. My guidebook led us to a farmhouse *gîte* in the tiny hamlet of Autueil where the enthusiastic Canadian recruiter of colonists, Robert GIFFARD, had lived. (An *apothicaire* and *médecin* of nearby Tourouvre, he and the brothers, Jean and Noel JUCHEREAU recruited more than 250 pioneers from Perche, of which 89 came from Tourouvre and its surrounding parishes). Also of interest in the hamlet is an 11th-century restored church as well as many other ancient churches and historic

chateaux and *manoirs* in the area. The famed Trappist Abbey is located nearby and a few other museums reflect the folk life and rural traditions of the Percherons.

Fortunately, our *gite* hostess was an English teacher so I questioned her about the immigrants to Canada. My mention of the three GAGNON brothers, brought a hearty laugh, "I see so many GAGNONS from all over, even a bishop came here!" she said. The farmyard was noisy with honking geese and ducks and typical barnyard smells. But we had a lively chat and then a good rest in a rustic modernized building though we had to duck our heads when we went to the bath. And the morning breakfast came with flies!

The Perche countryside just south of Normandy was pretty and serene with rolling green hills and fruit orchards. We drove around to the many small villages where so many of my ancestors were born: BOULAY, ROULEAU, GIRARD, ROUSSIN, LOIGNAN, COTE, PELLETIER, GUYON LEFORT, BOUCHER, PARADIS, DROUET, LOYSEAU, CLOUTIER and more. At Tourouvre, bombed by the Allies during WWII, we found La Musée de l'Histoire de l'Emigration Percheronne au Canada. at Place St. Laurent. An exhibit shows a room from Hotel du Cheval Blanc where the young *engagés* signed their contracts of engagement for New France. Most of these pioneers were single who became indentured workers for two to five years to pay for their ocean passage. Their contracts with salaries and other personal information are listed in a catalog with pictures. On display are a series of tableaux with photos and text explanation and the motivations of the inhabitants. There are several antique artifacts used by natives of this period: wooden *cuillères à sabots* (shoes), *marmites* (soup kettles) etc.

Most important to the visiting genealogist, the museum keeps copies of the parish records. To our amazement, when we mentioned a family name, a young woman reached into the file and pulled out either a copy of a baptism record, a marriage record, or census records and other civil acts. There they are waiting and ready for the researcher. I couldn't believe such efficiency in the country. A library there holds history books and articles on the immigration to New France for more reference. Obviously many Canadian and Americans have been to Perche seeking their ancestral roots. L'Eglise Aubin (15th-17th centuries) is another

place of interest in Tourouvre where a stained-glass window has been dedicated to commemorate the emigrants; it shows the departure of Julien Mercier, one of the Percherons who emigrated. Nearly four centuries later, the French people of Perche and La Rochelle have not forgotten the Québécois!

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Fitting Sam into the Family Tree

By George H. Buteau

Genealogical research is detective work and fitting ancestors into the family tree is like doing a jigsaw puzzle. We amateur genealogists often have one or more “pieces” that need to go into that family tree puzzle but we just can’t seem to find where it fits. Such was the case with Samuel A. Buteau ...until recently.

Somewhere in the mid-1990s, a friend mentioned that he had seen a large Buteau tombstone while visiting a relative’s grave in Mountain View cemetery in Oakland, CA. Not long after, I drove through the cemetery and was able to locate the grave marker in Plot 52a, grave 10 which had the following information:

Samuel H. Buteau M.D.

Jan 4, 1864

October 29, 1926

S.A. Buteau M.D.

1820-1896

Helen A. Buteau

1834-1919

The Mountain View Cemetery record books provided the following account of the three occupants of the Buteau burial plot:

S.A. Buteau. Died August 21, 1896 in Oakland, CA age 75 years, 8 months & 8 days (therefore born around December 13, 1820) birthplace: Canada. Cause of death: cystitis.

Helen A. Buteau. Died April 10, 1919 in Oakland age 84 years, 5 months and 6 days. Cause of death: Following operation for gallstone.

Samuel H. Buteau. Born in Missouri. Died in Oakland October 29, 1926 age 62 years, 9 months and 25 days. Cause of death: arteriosclerosis and fibrous myocarditis.

I was intrigued by the sudden discovery of this Buteau family who had lived nearby in Oakland, CA as recently as three quarters of a century ago and who, it would seem, left no descendents in the area carrying the Buteau surname. It was clear that the elder Samuel came from Canada, most probably the Province of Québec. I assumed that Helen was his wife and Samuel H. Buteau his son. The family obviously was in Missouri in 1864 where Samuel H. was born. Armed with this information, I began to search for more information about this family and where they might fit into the Buteau family tree.

Next was a trip to the Oakland public library and research in the newspaper archives. In the Oakland Enquirer of Saturday evening, August 22, 1896 I found the following death announcement for Samuel A. Buteau:

DIED

BUTEAU - In this city, August 21, 1896, Dr. Samuel A. Buteau, a native of Canada aged 75 years, 8 months and 8 days.

Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral tomorrow (Sunday) August 23 at 2 o'clock p.m. from his late residence, 1453 Filbert St. Interment private in Mountain View cemetery.

In the Oakland Tribune of August 24, 1896, I found the following funeral notice written in the quaint newspaper style common a century ago:

“A sorrowing concourse of friends gathered yesterday around the bier of the late Dr. Samuel A. Buteau to pay their last tribute to his memory. The pretty parlors in the Filbert street cottage were decked with flowers sent as last sad offerings and Rev. Dr. Curry, a friend from boyhood of the deceased, conducted the services. Through life the roads traversed by the clergyman and Dr. Buteau ran side by side

and from his own observations was enabled to vividly depict the sterling qualities of the dead friend.

Those who were chosen for pall bearing were also friends of the deceased in his life time. They were Messrs. W.W. Wheeler, L. Goff, H. Hawkins, Mackay, Yates of Berkeley and Lamb of San Francisco.”

The Oakland Tribune of April 11, 1919 contained the following funeral announcement for Samuel’s widow, Helen:

“Mrs. Buteau’s Funeral to Be Held Saturday

Funeral services for Mrs. Helen Ann Buteau, mother of Dr. S.H. Buteau, will be conducted at the family home, 370 Thirty-fifth street tomorrow afternoon by Rev. Frank Silsley, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. The service will be private. Mrs. Buteau had been ill about two weeks and a few days ago underwent an operation at Merritt hospital. She died yesterday. She was born in Vermont, 84 years ago, and had been a resident of California for about 50 years, the greater part of which time was spent in Oakland. Surviving besides Dr. Buteau are the following children: F.H. Buteau of Oakland, Mrs. Mary Emma Mount and Mrs. D.R. Adams of Fresno and Mrs. J.W. Lundy of San Francisco.”

This article provided several more clues to pursue. It identified Vermont as the birthplace of Samuel A. Buteau’s widow which could have also been where they married. It was clear that the family had arrived in California from Missouri sometime around 1869. It also definitely identified Samuel H. Buteau as the son and identified his three sisters. However, since the article failed to mention that Helen was the widow of Dr. Samuel A. Buteau, I wondered whether they had been separated or divorced.

I found the Oakland City Directory of 1889-1890 while researching in the LDS Family History Library in Oakland, CA. The listings in it indicated that Samuel and Helen had separated. She was listed as Mrs. Helen A. Buteau, artist living at 551 20th while S.A. Buteau, physician & surgeon was living with his son, Samuel H. Buteau, student at 527 Jones. Samuel was not listed in the 1892-1893 Oakland City Directory

but Mrs. Helen A. Buteau, artist was living with her daughter, Miss Helen S. Buteau. Samuel H. Buteau was now a physician and surgeon.

The United States Census recorded on September 27, 1860 in Shawnee Township, Cape Girardeau County, MO listed Saml. A. Buteau, age 39, physician, born in France, his wife Helen, age 25, born in Vermont and their two children Mary E. age 6 and Francis H., infant. The family owned their house valued at \$1000 and property valued at \$300. The birth of Samuel in France was somewhat questionable to me but represented a distinct possibility in contrast to his death and burial records that said he was born in Canada.

When I searched the Vital Records of Vermont while visiting the AFGS library, I was able to find a marriage for S.A. Buteau and Helen A. Hawkins in Townshend, VT performed June 26, 1852 by S.P. Giddings, Minister. On August 10, 1857, an unnamed Buteau child was born to Helen and Samuel Buteau in Thetford, VT. Samuel's birthplace was listed as France and his occupation was listed as French Teacher.

I now knew that Samuel A. Buteau married Helen in Vermont in 1852. At least one child was born in Vermont. At some point they moved to Cape Girardeau, MO where one or two additional children were born. Around 1869, the family ended up in California.

I could not find the Samuel A. Buteau family in the 1870 census but in the U.S. census of 1880, they were living in Alvarado, Alameda County, CA. At that time, the family consisted of S.A. Buteau, 59, physician; Helen A., 45; Frank, 22; Samuel A. 16; Minnie, 13; and Helen, 8. Samuel's birthplace was listed as Canada but his parents were both listed as having been born in France.

While searching the internet a few years later, I found the listing of a book published in 1892 by The Lewis Publishing Co. titled "The Bay of San Francisco: the Metropolis of the Pacific Coast and its Suburban Cities--a History". In it was a section about Samuel Hawkins Buteau. I located a copy of the book in the Berkeley, CA public library. The following, about Samuel A. Buteau, father of Samuel H. Buteau, was contained in that book:

“The father, a native of Canada, was educated for the medical profession at Castleton, Vermont, and was a teacher of languages in a college in Vermont, was graduated from the Castleton Medical College, practiced in Vermont for about ten years and was there married in 1852, his wife being a native of that State, of New England descent for some generations. She was also a teacher in the same institution, moved to Missouri and owned a cotton plantation farther south, a general store at Cape Girardeau, and also practiced his profession in 1856, and was well established and prosperous when the civil war interfered with his interests. He moved with his family to California in 1869, after the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad. After a short time at Napa, he settled at Centerville, Alameda County, and practiced his profession about sixteen years. In 1886 he retired from practice ... (Samuel H. Buteau’s) Grandfather Samuel Aubert, Sr., lived to be over ninety, dying in Montréal, being connected for many years with the Department of Fishery.”

I now had sufficient information to try to locate where Samuel A. Buteau fit into the Buteau family tree. It seemed certain that he was originally from the Province of Québec. According to the historical piece about his son, Samuel Hawkins Buteau, it appeared that his father, Samuel A. Buteau, was a native of Montréal. There began a long unsuccessful search for his birth.

With the advent of the internet I began to find information about the S.A. Buteau family. I found the following on the internet about Helen Hawkins Buteau, artist:

http://www.askart.com/askart/b/helen_ann_hawkins_buteau/helen_ann_hawkins_buteau.aspx

“Born in Vermont on Nov. 4, 1834. By 1869 Helen had married S. A. Buteau and settled in Oakland where her husband was a prominent physician. She ferried daily to San Francisco to study with Virgil Williams at the School of Design. Under his guidance, she became a skilled painter of still lifes and anecdotal genre. Many of her paintings were lost in the earthquake and fire of 1906, making any extant paintings rare. Mrs. Buteau died in Oakland, CA on April 10, 1919. Source: Edan Hughes, *“Artists in California, 1786-1940”*

Samuel A. Buteau and Helen Ann Hawkins Buteau had six children, two boys and four girls: Mary Emma Buteau (1854); Francis Horatio (Frank) Buteau (1857); Samuel Hawkins Buteau (1864); Miriam (Minnie) Buteau (1866); Annie T. Buteau (1867); and Helen S. Buteau (1872).

The following was written about Frank Buteau in "California and Californians: Volume 3"

Found at: <http://www.familyhistory.com/db.asp?dbid=3335>

"Mr. Frank H. Buteau was born at Thetford, Vermont, in 1857 and was a child when his parents came west and settled at Centerville, California. There he attended public schools, and at the age of fifteen removed to Oakland, where he began an apprenticeship at the trade of painter, acquiring a very thorough knowledge of the decorator's art. He gave up his trade to go into the commission business with his brother-in-law, Mr. Mount, and they were together for a number of years. After their business was sold Mr. Frank H. Buteau became associated with the Sherry Brothers of San Francisco, dealers in dairy products. For eighteen years he gave to that firm the best of his talent and capabilities, and the organization felt a large measure of gratitude to him for his splendid work.

He married at Oakland in 1893 Miss Ada Coe, of that city, who survives him and still occupies the old home in Oakland. Of their marriage there were two children. The son, Dr. Aubert R. Buteau, was a successful dentist engaged in practice at Oakland. He died as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident in July, 1925. He was unmarried. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Buteau is Clarisse, wife of Dr. Charles K. Small, of Oakland, California.

Mr. Buteau passed away at his home at 3859 West Street in Oakland, March 29, 1931, at the age of seventy-three. He was a member of the Woodmen of the World. His chief hobby and pastime was gardening and he always grew beautiful flowers around his home. He was passionately fond of music in all its branches."

The following was written about Samuel H. Buteau in:
Past and Present of Alameda County California, Vol. II
Published in Chicago by The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company 1914
Transcribed by Linda Jackson 5/24/2008, Pages 50-53

“Dr. S. H. Buteau, a leading surgeon of the Bay cities and prominently known by reason of his important achievements in medical circles of the state, was born in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, January 4, 1864. At the age of seven he was brought to California by his parents and acquired his education in the public and high schools of Oakland. His first work was teaching, and in this he spent eight years. Deciding to enter the field of medicine he matriculated at the Cooper Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1889. He soon took up the practice of his profession, but not being content with the field of study which he had covered he has since spent much time abroad in post-graduate work, visiting Vienna, Edinburgh and the many centers noted for expert physicians and surgeons.

Dr. Buteau has always kept in close touch with the most advanced medical thought and his prominence and distinction as an able surgeon is reflected in his extensive practice and important professional connections. He is a trustee of the Merritt estate and was one of the builders of the Samuel Merritt Hospital, which has an endowment of one million dollars and is one of the leading hospitals in the west. Dr. Buteau specializes in surgery and has attained an enviable reputation in this field, not only because he has performed a number of difficult operations most successfully but also by virtue of the fact that through his own investigation and research he has been able to give to the surgical world a most important operation. He is a member of the state board of medical examiners and is in close touch with the work of the various medical associations. In 1904 he served the Oakland board of health. His memberships include the American Association of Surgeons and the American Association of Gynecologists and Obstetricians. He was a popular lecturer in the Cooper Medical College, in which he was once a student, and has contributed many valuable articles to the foremost medical journals.

Dr. Buteau wedded Miss Alice Buswell, a native of Oakland, and they have two daughters, Alice and Helen. The Doctor is well known in the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in the lodge, chapter and commandery. His personal characteristics have gained for him

the warm regard and friendship of many, while in professional circles he has gained that eminence which comes only in recognition of merit and ability.”

Sometime between 1914, when the above article was written, and 1920, Samuel H. Buteau and his wife Alice Buswell Buteau divorced. In 1925, he married Agnes Eugenie Johnson. He died a little more than a year later on October 29, 1926. Following is part of a longer article that appeared in the October 29, 1926 Oakland Tribune:

“DR. S. H. BUTEAU DIES IN HIS SLEEP

Oakland Physician Succumbs at Hospital After Heart Attack at Office

Stricken with a heart attack at his office yesterday afternoon, Dr. Samuel H. Buteau, one of the leading physicians and surgeons of the Eastbay district, died at Merritt Hospital at 2:45 o'clock this morning. In the building, where for years he had ministered to sick and suffering thousands, helping them in their fight back to health, death came to him peacefully as he slept.

Dr. Buteau had not complained of feeling ill prior to the attack which took him away. He was in his office and about to leave for the day at 4 o'clock when he felt the attack coming on. He went into the adjoining office of Dr. J. C. S. Ackerly, who ministered to him.

Two hours later Dr. Mark L. Emerson took him to Merritt Hospital and he was resting comfortably before going into the sleep from which he never awakened. Mrs. Buteau, bride of little more than a year, was with him at the hospital and conversed with him for some time before he fell asleep. She was at his bed when death came.

...

Dr. Buteau had been a resident of Oakland for about 40 years. He came here from Missouri and has been prominent in the medical fraternity and also in the civic affairs.

...

He was president of the Merritt Hospital Association and executive head of the institution up to the time of his death. It was in his work

here that Dr. Buteau put forth his greatest efforts, spending countless hours of the day and night bringing the afflicted of Oakland back to health.

...

Dr. Buteau is survived by his widow, Mrs. Agnes Buteau, 370 Thirty-fifth street; two daughters by a former marriage, Mrs. Frank M. Ogden, 1831 Ninety-sixth avenue, and Mrs. Raymond Shock of Birmingham, Mich.; a brother, Frank H. Buteau, 3559 West street, and three sisters, Mrs. M. E. Mount, 327 Thirty-fourth street; Mrs. J. W. Lundy of San Francisco, and Mrs. D. R. Adams of Fresno."

Since Frank Buteau's son died unmarried and Samuel H. Buteau had no sons, no descendants of Samuel A. Buteau and Helen Hawkins Buteau carried the Buteau surname forward.

In 2008 I subscribed to Ancestry.ca and obtained access to the Drouin Collection of French-Canadian parish registers of the Province of Québec. One of the first searches that I made was for Samuel Aubert Buteau. Imagine my surprise and delight when I found the following baptismal record in the cathedral parish of Notre Dame de Québec (translated from French):

"The thirteenth of December one thousand eight hundred twenty by us priest vicar of Québec signed below have baptized Aubert Samuel born today of the legitimate marriage of Sieur Jean François Buteau merchant and Dame Catherine Migneron of this town, Godfather was Pierre Pelletier, Godmother Dame Elizabeth Pelletier Manseau who both along with the father signed with us.

Signed: Elizabeth Pelletier Manseau, Pierre Pelletier, Buteau, L. Lefebvre, priest"

Samuel A. Buteau's father was not named Samuel Aubert, Sr. as was written in a biography about his son, Samuel H. Buteau, but was François Buteau. It is clear that Samuel Buteau's father did live a long life but not well into his 90s as one biographical sketch said. Furthermore, he was a resident of Québec City, not Montréal and was not with the Department of Fishery. This was confirmation of one of my firm beliefs that in genealogical research, one must always question

information such as second or third-hand biographical sketches. Finding original sources to confirm such information is a necessity.

I found the following on an internet website about Samuel A. Buteau's father, François Buteau, which I translated from French:

<http://www.ourroots.ca/e/page.aspx?id=691955>

Les petites choses de notre histoire. Septième série

Roy, Pierre-Georges; Lévis: [s.n.], 1919; pp. 255-257.

“François Buteau was born in Berthier-en-bas on February 16, 1789, of the marriage of André Buteau and Brigitte Brisson. Mr. Buteau, the father, had a large family and with the small income his land provided could not dream of providing a commercial education for his sons.

Also, François Buteau, after having learned how to read and to write well in the parish school, decided to earn his living in Québec. Working on the land did not appeal to him. Moreover, his father had other sons to help and there could be no talk of François Buteau earning his living in Berthier-en-bas.

Mr. Buteau, on his arrival in Québec, found employment with a trader in the lower city. The wages were moderate, and there was no lack of hard work. But the training was more advantageous to him than high wages. The English, it should frankly be recognized, have methods of trade superior to ours. We spent time to learn them and especially to adopt them. Mr. Buteau took from his apprenticeship with the English trader lessons which helped him later to acquire his fortune.

After a few years of service with his patron, Mr. Buteau felt that he was strong enough to spread his wings and fly on his own. He had a few thousand dollars to start his own business. But the important English merchants of Québec had seen him at work. They knew his honesty, his passion for work, his business sense, and they did not hesitate to provide him goods on credit.

Mr. Buteau had established his business in the lower-city. Year by year, his business increased and at the end of twenty years he had become one of the most important merchants of the capital city. He had built several warehouses on a quay which belonged to him and which had taken his name. Several schooners that he had built transported his goods in what were called the Islands.

In short, Mr. Buteau had become the most visible French Canadian trader in Québec and only a few of the English traders exceeded him.

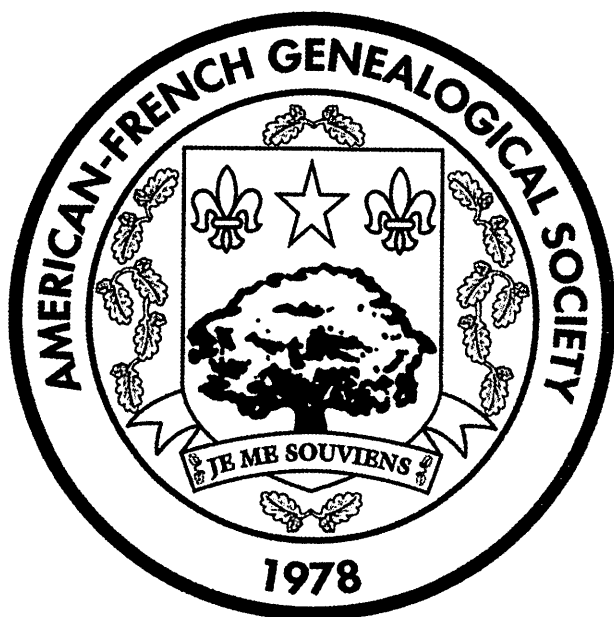
But, as they often say, history repeats itself. After the days of prosperity come the days of sadness. Mr. Buteau perhaps forgot. An unprecedented commercial crisis, too much confidence in less than good friends, too risky business transactions, etc, were the causes of his ruin. Banks existed at that time but hesitated to help their customers through crises. In April 1844, Mr. Buteau had the misfortune to see the sheriff of Québec sell at auction all the important properties that a quarter century of hard work had enabled him to acquire. In a few hours, fifteen houses that Mr. Buteau owned in the commercial district of Québec passed to others. The quay Buteau that he had built himself and that he was so proud of was also taken from him.

Already rather old, Mr. Buteau could not think of restarting his life. He withdrew to Saint-Michel de Bellechasse where there remained a small property. Friends had pity on his distress and obtained, after much effort, a small government position.

Mr. Buteau died in Saint-Michel de Bellechasse on July 28, 1872, at 83 years of age."

Samuel Aubert Buteau was the sixth of twelve children of François Buteau and Catherine Migneron. Eight siblings died as children. There was one other surviving brother, Philippe Buteau, who appears not to have ever married. Samuel A. Buteau, signing as S.A. Buteau, was a witness at two of his sisters' weddings in Notre Dame Cathedral in Québec City in 1846 and 1848. It was most likely after the 1848 marriage of his sister Caroline that Samuel left Canada for Vermont.

Samuel A. Buteau and my great-great-grandfather, Henry T. Buteau were 4th cousins who were only about a year or two apart in age. They most probably never knew each other since one lived in the city of Québec while the other in the city of Sorel. Samuel came alone to the U.S.A. settling first in Vermont most likely not long after 1848. My ancestor came with his wife and seven children probably early in the 1850s settling first in Slatersville, RI before moving on to Baltic, CT (see: *Je Me Souviens*, Winter, 1989, pages 15-20). Samuel has no descendants living today who carry the Buteau surname while Henry T. Buteau's living descendants named Buteau number in the dozens.



Recommended Beginning Genealogical Bookshelf for Acadian and French-Canadian Research

By George L. Findlen, CG

As soon as people are bitten by the genealogy bug, they want to go out and buy books on how to do it. The nine titles that follow are my list of what a person who wants to become serious about doing French-Canadian research should purchase. All but one of the following titles are currently in print or available on a CD. All prices are in 2008 dollars.

Two of the following are handbooks that describe record sources and locations. They tell researchers what resources are available and where to find them. Three are genealogical dictionaries that help researchers push a line back to its beginnings. Although expensive enough to make a beginner wonder if either will be worth the cost, these three enable those who think they may want to get serious to thumb the works and decide for themselves that they are useful reference works worth having at home. Four of the following are how-to books that explain to researchers how to use the most common resources and help researchers jump over the two most common stumbling blocks in French-Canadian research—place names and name changes.

I must acknowledge two individuals who advised me, Joy Reisinger, CG, and James L. Hansen, FASG. Joy edited the *Lost in Canada?* newsletter for fifteen years and has written the chapter on “The Essential Library” for *Professional Genealogy*, ed. Elizabeth Shown Mills (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2001), 60-82. Jim is the genealogy reference librarian at the Wisconsin Historical Society Library, which houses one of the five largest genealogy library collections in the United States and one of the largest Canadian history and genealogy collections outside of Canada. In addition to serving on the editorial board of *Professional Genealogy* (and on the boards of

several national organizations), his personal research includes a number of studies of French-Canadians who migrated westward and southward. I have carefully considered suggestions from both of these experts in the following list.

Geographical Handbooks

The first task of a researcher is to learn what resources are available and how to find them. In Canada, the provinces with the most French-Canadians and Acadians are Québec and three of the four Maritime Provinces (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island) with New Brunswick having the largest percentage of its population that is Acadian and French-Canadian (about 35%). To learn what resources are available in Canada, I recommend two books.

1. Sherry Irvine and Dave Obee, *Finding Your Canadian Ancestors, a Beginner's Guide* (Provo, UT: Ancestry Publishing, 2007).

This publication has long been needed. There are chapters on basic types of records (vital, cemetery, probate, military, land, newspapers), on special populations (aboriginals, Acadians, loyalists), and the country's main repository, the Library and Archives of Canada. Each province's chapter is preceded by a crisp line map, material on geography (finding localities), core resources (censuses, civil registrations, cemetery records, church records, land records, probate files, newspapers), and ends with a useful list of web sites, a bibliography for in-depth research, and a list of addresses of key resource repositories. Appendices on research fundamentals, hazards to avoid, and the internet are written to help researchers beginning their research in Canada. Although written for the beginner, this is clearly a core resource for all who wish to track an ancestor in Canada. It is available from the Ancestry Store, http://store.ancestry.com/Theme_AncestryStore/Default.aspxhttp://store.ancestry.com/Theme_AncestryStore/Default.aspx, for \$20.00.

2. Terrence M. Punch and George F. Sanborn, *Genealogist's Handbook for Atlantic Canada Research*, 2nd ed. (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1997) is my second recommended purchase. Out of print in 2008; used copies available through

Amazon.com, <http://www.amazon.com/>, <http://www.amazon.com/>, price variable.

Although French-Canadians can be found in all of Canada's provinces, the greatest French-Canadian population outside of Québec is in the Canadian Maritime provinces. Within those four Atlantic provinces, New Brunswick has the largest Francophone population (about 35% of its total population), the majority of which are Acadian. In Punch and Sanborn's book, each province has a section on historical overview, major repositories, vital records, census records, land records, probate records, church records, cemetery records, immigration, newspapers, societies and libraries, and a bibliography. For each type of record, the authors supply the repository with address where they can be found and the format in which researchers will find them. Detail (years covered by a given record type for a given place) is strong throughout. The chapter on Acadians was written by Stephen White, the world's leading Acadian genealogist. Since the greatest number of Acadian descendants, as of 2006, is found in the Canadian Maritimes, Québec, and Louisiana, this book is an essential for Acadian research.

NOTE: the best handbook for Louisiana Acadian research is currently (July 2006) out of print. It is Timothy Hébert's, *Acadian – Cajun Genealogy, Step by Step* (Lafayette, LA: Center for Louisiana Studies, 1993).

The book is well thought through, describing record sources by major time period and locale. Researchers tracking Acadians who resettled in Louisiana will spend many frustrating hours if they do not read and re-read this well-organized "where to find everything" book available in larger genealogy libraries.

Genealogical Dictionaries

One reference work made possible by microfilmed parish registers and the position of the Catholic Church in Canada's early history is the genealogical dictionary. The data in Catholic parish registers permits individuals to construct family trees back to the immigrant ancestor. The following three are the most respected.

3. Stephen A. White, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles Acadiennes: Première partie, 1636 à 1714* (Moncton, NB: Centre d'Études Acadiennes, Université de Moncton, 1999). (Out of print in 2008.)

This two-volume set is the most scholarly and most comprehensive genealogical dictionary of Acadian families published thus far. It is also the only genealogical dictionary of Acadians that includes sources and references to key periodical literature. The present work includes individuals who married or lived in Acadia between 1636 and 1714. A future set, not yet published, will include all Acadians born prior to the deportation of 1755 who married prior to 1 January 1781. The two-volume set should not be acquired without also acquiring Stephen A. White, *English Supplement to the Dictionnaire généalogique des familles Acadiennes, Part I, 1636 to 1714* (Moncton, NB: Centre d'Études Acadiennes, Université de Moncton, 2000). The supplement is a translation into English of all introductory matter and of all notes for individuals. Although the multi-volume dictionaries by Bona Arsenault and Adrien Bergeron, neither of which are listed here, include more names and extend into the mid-nineteenth century for some surnames and lines, neither of those works are all-inclusive, neither lists sources, and both contain significant errors. White's scholarship is impeccable. If you purchase only one genealogical dictionary, and if you know you are an Acadian, buy White's set.

4. René Jetté, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec des origines à 1730* (Montréal: les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1983. Available from Global Genealogy, <http://globalgenealogy.com/countries/canada/quebec/resources/601001.htm>, for \$300CAN.

This basic work should always be purchased with the 38-page "Corrections et Additions (1996)," also available from the University of Montréal Press and currently shipped with new purchases of the *DGFQ*. The 1175-page genealogical dictionary includes all individuals known to have been born in or lived in Québec between 1620 and 1730, listing each vital record (baptism, marriage, burial) recorded in a parish register or notarial document. Villages and notaries are named for each event, permitting researchers to look at and photocopy the original document

on microfilm at a major research center. Although written in French, the genealogical data is laid out in a manner that those who speak no French can access easily the information they seek. Although Tanguay's earlier seven-volume work carries families through to 1760, Jetté's work benefited from the advent of the personal computer, enabling him to construct families whose surname was spelled in several ways, locate and merge duplicates, and benefit from the very large PRDH (Programme de Recherche en Démographie Historique [Research Program in Historical Demography]) database at the University of Montréal. It is thus both more complete and more accurate for the years it covers. Once researchers get an ancestral line back to 1730, this work permits them to push the line back to its beginnings in New France. The dictionary does not include Acadians. If you purchase only one genealogical dictionary, and if you know you are a French-Canadian, buy Jetté's volume.

5. Cyprien Tanguay, *Dictionnaire genealogique des familles canadiennes depuis la fondation de la colonie jusqu'a nos jours* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1967. The work is now available on-line at the National Library and Archives of Québec at <http://bibnum2.banq.qc.ca/bna/dicoGenealogie/index.html>. The Genealogical Publishing Company one-volume reprint (now out of print) of the original seven-volume 1871-1890 work contains entries for marriages which occurred after 1763, some in French Louisiana. This work should always be used with the two-volume set of corrections by Joseph-Arthur Leboeuf, *Complément au dictionnaire généalogique Tanguay* (Montréal: Société Généalogique Canadienne-Française, 1977). Both works are available on a CD (along with two other works by Mgr. Tanguay), *La Collection Tanguay* (Milton, ON: Global Heritage Press, 2001). The first major French-Canadian genealogical dictionary, begun fully a century before personal computers were available, it is still a basic. Those using this resource should confirm all information taken from it by examining microfilmed parish registers. Available from Global Genealogy, <http://globalgenealogy.com/countries/canada/quebec/resources/101cd001.htm>, for \$40CAN.

Resource Tools

Doing French-Canadian genealogy is not only a matter of learning what resources to turn to. It is also in knowing how to use them. I consider two resource tools and two “how-to” books essential for those who want to become skilled.

6. René Jetté and Micheline Lécuyer, *Répertoire des noms de famille du Québec des origines à 1825* (Montréal: Institut Généalogique J. L. Et Associés, 1988). Purchase directly from the Institut Généalogique J. L., <http://www.institutgenealogiquejl.com/>. Price is \$35US.

A major stumbling block for those beginning French-Canadian research is what appears to be the quicksand of name variations, the “dit name” among them. What Jetté and his colleague Lécuyer have done is construct two lists. One goes from the patronymic or root surname to all its variations, giving the year that the variant first shows up in an official record; the second goes from each variant to its root name. Best yet, it includes records created up to 1825. When researchers cannot locate a known descendant, this little book tells them what alternative surname(s) to look under. No one who does French-Canadian genealogical research should be without this book.

7. Jeanne Sauve White, *Guide to Québec Catholic Parishes and Published Parish Marriage Records* (Baltimore: Clearfield, 1993). Price is \$48 at Amazon, <http://www.amazon.com/>.

This delightful little book is valuable primarily because of its index of parish names. The index tells researchers what (former) county in which to find the parish, many of which are also the name of the village. The balance of the book is a list, by county, of each parish within that county; for each parish, the year its register began is given along with a code for the group that has published an abstract of that parish’s marriages. In addition, the main county entry lists the year that each subsequent daughter parish was separated from the original mother parish of the county, thereby enabling researchers to calculate when to change parishes to locate records for an ancestral family. Both beginners and experienced French-Canadian researchers quickly get lost in the plethora of parish and village names, and this little book helps all

researchers to get and keep their bearings. When researchers cannot locate an ancestor, the missing person may well be in the records of neighboring parishes, and White's little book enables researchers to identify those parishes quickly.

8. Douglas J. Miller, *Miller's Manual: A Research Guide to the Major French-Canadian Genealogical Resources—What They are and How to Use Them* (Pawtucket, RI: Quintin Publications, 1997). Price \$20 at Quintin, <http://www.quintinpublications.com/>.

Tanguay, Drouin, Jetté, Loiselle, and PRDH are names that quickly get bandied about. Douglas Miller's book patiently and clearly explains, in detail, how each of the resources created by these names are organized and how to use each. All people beginning French-Canadian genealogy should own this how-to book and refer to it until they are fully conversant with the structure of each of the basic print, microfiche, and microfilm resources they will turn to over and over again.

9. Patricia Keeney Geyh, et al., *French-Canadian Sources: A Guide for Genealogists* (Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry, 2002). Price \$40 from Ancestry Store, http://store.ancestry.com/Theme_AncestryStore/Default.aspx.

Each ethnic area has its own unique resources, and French-Canadian research is no exception.. Patricia Geyh and friends, members of the French-Canadian / Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin, have looked at each resource and problem area and have written a book that I think of as a basic text for the area. It lists what records are available and tells researchers where to find them. If customers will commit to only one purchase, this is the book to buy.

For French-Canadian and Acadian genealogists, there are always more books they can purchase. However, researchers will always find themselves turning to these nine titles as they push one line or another back to its beginnings in Québec or Acadia.

American-French Genealogical Society Publications

July 2008

- Titles with an asterisk (*) will be printed by request. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery

BAPTISM REPERTOIRES

Baptisms of Notre Dame de Lourdes Church (1874 - 2001), Fall River, Massachusetts

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 3 volumes, 1644 Pages. \$90.00

Baptisms of Precious Blood Catholic Church (1870 - 1995), Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 1662 Pages, 3 Volumes. \$ 65.00

Baptisms of Ste Anne Catholic Church (1869 - 1996), Fall River, Massachusetts.

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 2291 Pages, 4 Volumes. \$ 125.00

Baptisms of Blessed Sacrament Church (1892 - 1995), Fall River, Massachusetts.

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 378 Pages. \$45.00

Baptisms of First Universalist Church (1834 - 1998), Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 83 Pages. \$10.00

Baptisms of Holy Family Church (1902 - 1991), Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 716 Pages. \$40.00

Baptisms of Notre Dame Catholic Church (1873 - 1988), Central Falls, Rhode Island.

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 1244 Pages, 2 Volumes. \$ 65.00

*Baptisms of St Cecilia Catholic Church (1910 - 1988), Pawtucket, Rhode Island.**

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 466 Pages. \$ 40.00

BAPTISM REPERTOIRES

*Baptisms of St James Catholic Church (1860 - 1991), Manville,
Rhode Island.*

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 706 Pages. \$ 45.00

*Baptisms of St John the Baptist Church (1884 - 1988), Pawtucket,
Rhode Island*

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 765 Pages. \$45.00

*Baptisms of St John the Baptist Catholic Church (1873 - 1989), West
Warwick,
Rhode Island.*

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 1260 Pages, 2 Volumes. \$ 65.00

Baptisms of St Joseph Church (1872 - 1920), Ashton, Rhode Island.

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 227 Pages. \$30.00

Baptisms of St Joseph Church (1905 - 1986), Attleboro, Massachusetts.

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 367 Pages. \$35.00

*Baptisms of St Joseph Church (1872 - 1990), North Grosvenorsdale,
Connecticut.*

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 2 Volumes, 770 Pages. \$50.00

*Baptisms of St Joseph Catholic Church (1893 - 1991), Pascoag, Rhode
Island.*

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 349 Pages. \$ 40.00

*Baptisms of St Mary of the Visitation Church (1866 - 2003), Putnam,
Connecticut*

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 2 Volumes, 1084 pages. \$95.00

*Baptisms of St Matthew's Church (1906 - 1988), Central Falls, Rhode
Island.*

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 592 Pages. \$38.00

Baptisms of St Paul's Church (1852 - 1991), Blackstone, Massachusetts.

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 2 Volumes, 805 Pages. \$70.00

BAPTISM REPERTOIRES

Baptisms of St Roch's Church (1899 - 1982), Fall River, Massachusetts.
A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 489 Pages. \$45.00

Baptisms of St Stephen Catholic Church (1880 - 1986), Attleboro, Massachusetts.

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 317 Pages. \$ 30.00

Births of Peterboro, New Hampshire (1887 - 1951).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 454 Pages. \$35.00

Births of Swansea, Massachusetts (1879 - 1973).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 359 Pages. \$35.00

MARRIAGE REPERTOIRES (FROM CHURCH RECORDS)

Marriages of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church (1892 - 1995), Fall River, Massachusetts

* A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 204 Pages. \$35.00

Marriages of First Universalist Church (1834 - 1998), Woonsocket, Rhode Island

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 269 Pages. \$20.00

Marriages of Holy Family Catholic Church (1902 - 1987), Woonsocket, Rhode Island

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Marriages of Notre Dame Catholic Church (1873 - 1988), Central Falls, Rhode Island

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Woonsocket, Rhode Island*

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*Marriages of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Church (1953 –
1986), Woonsocket, Rhode Island*

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 142 Pages. \$20.00

*Marriages of Precious Blood Catholic Church (1870 – 1995),
Woonsocket, Rhode Island*

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 976 Pages, 2 Volumes. \$65.00

*Marriages of Sacred Heart Catholic Church (1904 – 1990), North
Attleboro, Massachusetts*

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 241 Pages. \$40.00

*Marriages of St Agatha Catholic Church (1953 – 1986), Woonsocket,
Rhode Island*

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 119 Pages. \$20.00

*Marriages of St Ambrose Catholic Church (1905 – 1986), Albion, Rhode
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*Marriages of Ste Anne Catholic Church (1869 – 1996), Fall River,
Massachusetts*

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 1284 Pages, 2 Volumes \$75.00

*Marriages of Ste Anne Catholic Church (1890 – 1986), Woonsocket,
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*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 480 Pages. \$40.00

MARRIAGE REPERTOIRES (FROM CHURCH RECORDS)

Marriages of St Anthony's Church (1903 - 2003), Burlington, Vermont.

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 210 Pages. \$ 45.00

Marriages of Ste Cecilia's Church (1910 - 1986), Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

A.F.G.S. Edition, Soft Bound, 398 Pages. \$35.00

Marriages of St Jacques Catholic Church (1904 - 1989), Taunton, Massachusetts

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 288 Pages. \$35.00

Marriages of St Jean the Baptist Catholic Church (1901 - 1996), Fall River, Massachusetts

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 300 Pages. \$40.00

Marriages of St John the Baptist Catholic Church (1884 - 1988), Pawtucket, Rhode Island

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 496 Pages. \$55.00

Marriages of St John the Baptist Church (1873 - 1980), West Warwick, Rhode Island.

A.F.G.S. Edition, Soft Bound, 2 Volumes, 622 Pages. \$50.00

Marriages of St John the Evangelist Church (1872 - 1986), Slatersville, Rhode Island.

A.F.G.S. Edition, Soft Bound, 310 Pages. \$28.50

Marriages of St Joseph Church (1872 - 1986), Ashton, Rhode Island.

A.F.G.S. Edition, Soft Bound, 246 Pages. \$24.00

Marriages of St Joseph Church (1905 - 1986), Attleboro, Massachusetts.

A.F.G.S. Edition, Soft Bound, 232 Pages. \$22.50

Marriages of St Joseph Catholic Church (1872 - 1990), N. Grosvenorsdale, Connecticut

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 484 Pages. \$55.00

MARRIAGE REPERTOIRES (FROM CHURCH RECORDS)

Marriages of St Joseph Catholic Church (1875 – 1989), Natick, Rhode Island

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 410 Pages. \$45.00

Marriages of St Joseph Catholic Church (1893 – 1990), Pascoag, Rhode Island

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 276 Pages. \$40.00

Marriages of St Joseph Catholic Church (1929 – 1980), Woonsocket, Rhode Island

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 248 Pages. \$25.00

Marriages of St Lawrence Catholic Church (1907 – 1970), Centredale, Rhode Island

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 101 Pages. \$20.00

Marriages of St Louis Catholic Church (1902 – 1987), Woonsocket, Rhode Island

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 343 Pages \$40.00

Marriages of St Mary of the Visitation Church (1866 - 2003), Putnam, Connecticut

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 2 volumes, 808 pages. \$85.00

Marriages of St Matthew's Church (1906 - 1988), Central Falls, Rhode Island.

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 466 Pages. \$40.00

Marriages of St Matthew Catholic Church (1888 – 1986), Fall River, Massachusetts

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 310 Pages \$30.00

Marriages of St Paul's Church (1852 - 1995), Blackstone, Massachusetts.

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 356 Pages. \$30.00

MARRIAGE REPERTOIRES (FROM CHURCH RECORDS)

Marriages of St Roch's Church (1899 - 1982), Fall River, Massachusetts.

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 286 Pages. \$35.00

Marriages of St Stephen's Church (1880 - 1986), Attleboro, Massachusetts.

A.F.G.S Edition, Soft Bound, 225 Pages. \$19.95

Marriages of St Theresa Catholic Church (1929 - 1987), Blackstone, Massachusetts

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 132 Pages \$20.00

Marriages of St Theresa Church (1923 - 1986), Nasonville, Rhode Island.

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 65 Pages. \$20.00

Marriages of Blackstone, Massachusetts (1845 - 1995).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 2 Volumes, 989 Pages. \$35.00

Marriages of Douglas, Massachusetts (1844 - 1905)

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 261 Pages. \$30.00

Marriages of Grafton, Massachusetts (1843 - 1905).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 532 Pages. \$35.00

Marriages of Hopedale, Massachusetts (1886 - 1905).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 57 Pages. \$20.00

Marriages of Mendon, Massachusetts (1844 - 1905).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 97 Pages. \$20.00

Marriages of Millbury, Massachusetts (1844 - 1905)

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 511 pages \$35.00

Franco American Marriages of New Bedford, Massachusetts (1865 - 1920)

*A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 478 Pages. \$45.00

MARRIAGE REPERTOIRES (FROM CIVIL RECORDS)

Marriages of Northbridge, Massachusetts (1844 - 1905)

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 450 pages \$35.00

Marriages of North Brookfield, Massachusetts (1844 - 1910)

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 415 pages \$30.00

Marriages of Norton, Massachusetts (1850 - 1950)

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Marriages of Peterboro, New Hampshire (1887-1948).

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Marriages of Upton, Massachusetts (1844 - 1905).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 180 Pages. \$20.00

Marriages of Uxbridge, Massachusetts (1844 - 1905).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 430 Pages. \$30.00

Marriages of West Brookfield, Massachusetts (1860 - 1910).

A.F.G.S. Edition, GBC Bound, 159 Pages. \$25.00

Les Mariages des Iles de Madeleines, PQ., (1794-1900). By Rev Dennis M. Boudreau. Completely revised. Includes all marriages of the islands as well as many others from areas where Madelinot families settled, extending some lines beyond 1900. Complete listing of Madelinot Boudreaus from 1794-1980.

A.F.G.S. Edition, Soft Bound, 326 Pages. \$21.00

FUNERAL HOME REPERTOIRES

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Conrad Bartholomy and Marie Blanche Antoinette Chapdelaine married on 8 June 1940 at St. Ann Church in Woonsocket, R.I. On the left is Isidore Bartholomy, uncle of the groom, and on the right is William Chapdelaine, father of the bride.