

Hello,

I am not a public speaker, or a historian, or a speaker of La Belle Langue, so I apologize in advance for mostly reading this report, and ask for forgiveness my bad pronunciation.

My interest in Cadillac grew out of the discovery that one of my direct ancestors had been with him in Detroit, and the revelation that 5 more were there as well, for a total of 6. If you have ancestors who were born in Les Pays Enconnu or Les Pays en Haut, you may want to look at the various lists that have been made of the inhabitants of Fort Pontchartrain Detroit between 1701 and 1710.

## Slide 2

Here are the results of my first Google search for the “Cadillac Expedition.” Yes, this is the Cadillac for whom the car company was named. If you want to look up information on the Sieur de Cadillac, I advise you to watch out for sources written by a marketing department.



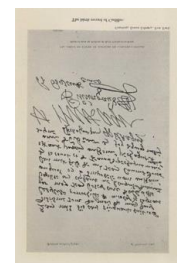
History, what we think we know about our past, is a thing in flux, as each generation looks at the records with fresh perspective and new knowledge. Early researchers treated Cadillac with reverence; later work is more realistic.

Instead of a heroic figure, he is now seen as an ambitious opportunist who invented his name and noble rank, manipulated his superiors and made every effort to enrich himself.

## Slide 3 - Dates

Antoine Laumet, aka Cadillac, was born at Les Laumets, near Caumont (department of Tarn-et-Garonne), on 5 March 1658, to Jean Laumet, and his wife, Jeanne Pechagut. They were thoroughly middle class. Jean was a lawyer who at one time was a judge, and Jeanne was the daughter of a merchant family.

ANTOINE DE LA MOTHE, SIEUR DE CADILLAC, NÉE ANTOINE LAUMET DAYS	
• March 5, 1658	Birth of Antoine Laumet. Parents: Jean Laumet, Avocat (Attorney), and Jeanne Pechagut, in France.
• 1683	Age 25, Antoine arrived in Port-Royal, Acadie (Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia)
• June 25, 1687	Age 29, Antoine de Lamothe et de Launay, écuyer, sieur de Cadillac, married Marie Theresse Guyon, niece of Francois Guyon, in Quebec (Notre Dame de Quebec).
• October 16, 1730	Death of Antoine de Lamothe, sieur de Cadillac, age 72, in Castelsarrasin, France.
• Alternate spellings: Anthoine; de Lamotte, Lamothe.	



## Slide 4 Parish register record of his birth:

Cadillac died at Castelsarrasin, in France, 15 Oct. 1730 at the age of 72.

## Slide 5

If you spot Toulouse in the Southernmost blue region, Midi-Pyrenees, you will be able to place yourself in the next map.



While Cadillac covered thousands of miles in his lifetime, once he returned to France, he settled down for the last seven years of his life very close to his birthplace.

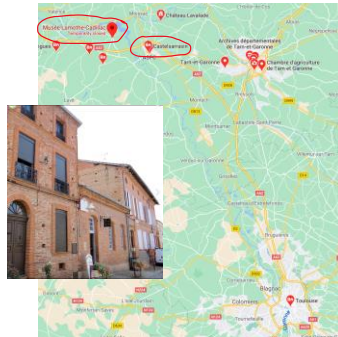
## Slide 6

Cadillac's natal home and birthplace is in Saint-Nicolas-de-la-Grave, a commune in the Tarn-et-Garonne department in the Occitanie region in southern France.

You can follow the Garonne River from Toulouse to both Cadillac's birth place and the place, Castelsarrasin, where he died.

He was born in the small building, now the Musee Lamothe-Cadillac.

I was not able to find Cadillac's home in Castelsarrasin.



Not much is known about Antoine's early years, but one thing that is unanimously agreed upon among the sources is that he received a good education, probably at a Jesuit school.

## Slide 7

### A Cast of Characters

1687 – 1703 Alexander des Friches de MENEVAL: Governor of Acadia.

#### Governors General of Nouveaux France

1685 – 1689: Jacques-René de Brisay, de DENONVILLE  
1689 – 1698: Louis de Buade de FRONTENAC; 2<sup>nd</sup> appointment.  
1699 – 1703: Louis-Hector de CALLIÈRES  
1703 – 1725: Philippe de Rigaud de VAUDREUIL et de Cavagnial

#### In France

Louis PHÉLYPEAUX, comte de Pontchartrain  
1689 – 1699: Controller-General of Finances,  
1690 – 1699: Secretary of State of the Maison du Roi, Secretary of State for the Navy.  
Jerome PHÉLYPEAUX, comte de Pontchartrain, (son of Louis)  
1689 – 1715: Secretary of State of the Maison du Roi, Secretary of State for the Navy.  
Louis PHÉLYPEAUX, marquis de La Vrillière, (cousin of Jerome)  
1715 – 1725: Acting Secretary of State of the Maison du Roi, Secretary of State for the Navy.  
Jean-Frédéric PHÉLYPEAUX, Count of Maurepas, (son of Jerome)  
1725 – 1715: Secretary of State of the Maison du Roi, Secretary of State for the Navy.

These are some of the people who had to contend with Antoine Laumet aka the sieur de Cadillac:

## Slide 8

And of course,

Louis XIV,  
le Roi Soleil

King of France, 1643–1715

Louis' heir was his 5-year-old great-grandson, Louis, Duke of Anjou.

Louis's nephew Philip II, Duke of Orleans, became regent.



Louis 14. A major micromanager

## Slide 9



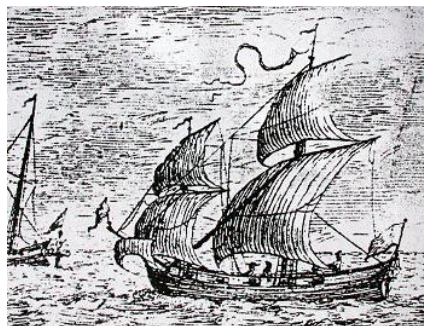
Now we move across the ocean. France controlled an enormous swath of territory during Cadillac's lifetime. The colony was expected to support itself, and the ties to all this territory were based mainly on the fur trade.

Cadillac arrived in Port-Royal, Acadia, (Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia) in 1683. He was 25 years old. There is no known record of his journey on any ship, the implication being that maybe he just got aboard and talked his way into passage.

W.J. Eccles says that he may have spent several years in the English colonies before he set foot in Port Royal, which would help explain his familiarity with the English territories. There is no question that Cadillac was eager to make a name for himself in Port Royal.

Although he claimed to have a commission in the French army, over the years he told at least three contradictory stories about his military career, first claiming to have been an infantry captain, then a lieutenant in the Regiment Clairambault, and much later, a humble cadet in an entirely different regiment.

*Rieuse*, a 26-gun **oar-**assisted *frégate légère* (1674–1698).



## Slide 10

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coat of arms, in different forms has been present on Cadillac automobiles since they began manufacturing.

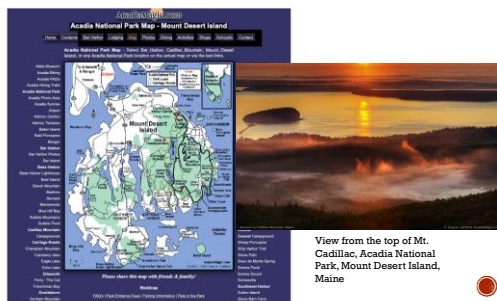
Joining this large Guyon family with their mobility, connections, and familiarity with life in the new world, was an invaluable resource for an ambitious man. Incidentally, His new wife's mother was Elizabeth Boucher, a granddaughter of Marin Boucher with his first wife, Julienne Baril Barry.



**Slides 14**

That same year, a new governor of Acadia was appointed. Meneval, given a mission to encourage colonization and agriculture and prevent the English from trading and fishing in Acadia, arrived in October. The history of Acadia up to then was a series of wars and battles that switched the colony back and forth between English and French forces, and even between opposing Frenchmen. Cadillac asked for a job as a notary, and Meneval said no. Cadillac had made a trading arrangement with two officials, the chief commissary and the commandant of the Port-Royal garrison. It was forbidden for these men to profit from trade. When Meneval found out, he enforced the law. Cadillac rarely ever accepted defeat. He and his partners attempted to turn the clergy against the new governor. When that had no effect, they turned to the local populace and tried to persuade them to stop paying the tithe to the church.

Meneval, vastly unprepared and unsupported, found many things amiss in Port Royal, so he wrote to his superiors in France, beseeching aid, complaining about many deficiencies and problem personnel. He wrote "This Cadillac, who is the most uncooperative person in the world, is a scatter-brain who has been driven out of France for who knows what crimes." There were so many complaints and requests in the letters of Meneval, this assessment, even when corroborated by a clerk, did not make a dent in Cadillac's progress.



**Slide 14**

His skills at navigation and charting, and his knowledge of the New England coast were noticed in Montreal and Quebec.

In 1688 Cadillac requested a grant of land from the Governor of Nouveau France. Governor general Denonville granted this on July 23, 1688. Louis XIV confirmed it on 24 May 1689. The

grant consisted of 25 square miles on the Douaguek (DOO-a-gek) River, now the Union River in Maine. It included the entire island and part of the coast to the north.

Mount Desert Island is now part of Acadia National Park. There's a great view from the top of Mount Cadillac.

Frontenac avec les amérindiens. Aquarelle par Charles William Jefferys.



### Slide 16

Louis de Buade de Frontenac replaced Denonville as Governor General in 1689. It was Frontenac's second appointment as Governor of Nouveau France. He may have recognized something of himself when he met the sieur de Cadillac – here's an excerpt from W.J. Eccles' article on Britannica online.

### Slide 17

“Frontenac had great personal charm and much influence at court, but he was also egoistic and unscrupulous, as well as extravagant; by 1663 his debts amounted to more than 350,000 livres. In 1669 he took service as lieutenant general with the Venetian forces defending Crete against the Turks, but he had not been on the island long before he was dismissed from his post for intriguing against his superior officers. “

Frontenac assigned Cadillac to the L'Embuscade, a frigate whose task was to explore and map the coast of New England, but the ship encountered strong headwinds and returned to France. Cadillac made his way to Paris, where he made the acquaintance of the Secretary of State for the Navy, and future Secretary of State of the Maison du Roi, Louis Phelypeaux comte de Pont-chartrain. The Secretary was impressed and appointed Cadillac an officer of marine troops.



King William III of England



William Phips

By Thomas Childs  
[http://www.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:William\\_Phips.jpg](http://www.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:William_Phips.jpg)  
pg - additional provenance available here. Public Domain,  
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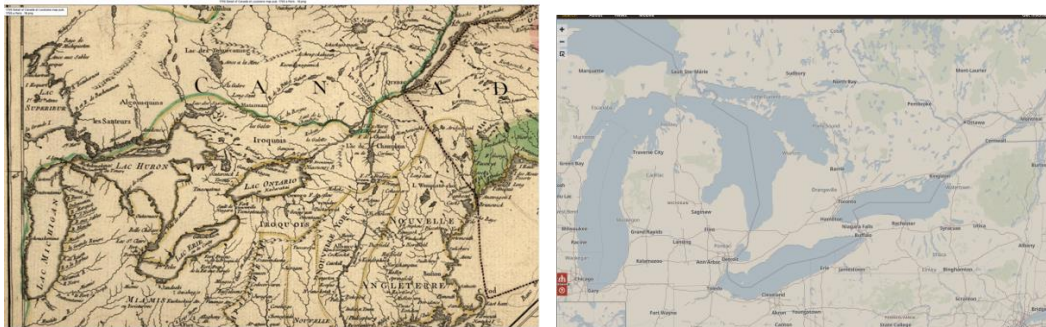
In May of 1689 the King of England declared war on France, and what had been a back and forth of incursions between the French and English settlers took on the weight of a real war. This was the Nine Year's War in Europe, or King William's War in the North American Colonies.

In May of 1690, Boston sent William Phips with 7 ships, 78 cannon, and 736 men against the Acadian settlements. Port Royal was in disarray, with only half of its palisade finished and about 70 soldiers, and none of its cannons placed. The English captured Port Royal without a fight, pillaged and burned the countryside, and took captives, including Governor Meneval and Cadillac's wife and children. They were freed after a few months as part of a prisoner exchange and the family was reunited.

Finding devastation in Port Royal and the surrounding territory on his return, Cadillac loaded his family onto a ship bound for Quebec. Ironically, their voyage to Quebec was interrupted by an English Privateer who relieved them of their remaining property. Everything Cadillac had accumulated in Acadie was gone; his land grant was worthless to him. He started over in Montreal.

Frontenac sent Cadillac on an expedition to map the New England coast with a cartographer. Cadillac traveled back to France twice to deliver the results of this work to Secretary of State [Pontchartrain](#). Cadillac received a promotion to Lieutenant Commander.

**Slides 19 and 20**



In 1694, Cadillac was given the command of all stations of the Pays d'En Haut, or The Upper Country. This was an enormous amount of territory with many competing tribes, scattered missions, and trading posts, with couriers de bois scattered over huge distances. The command post for all this territory was Fort de Buade, at Michilimackinac, at the straits between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. The fur trade was going strong, with many tribal nations coordinating with a far-flung network of couriers-de-bois.

**Slide 21**

The five tribes of the Iroquois Confederacy were Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, and, after 1715, the Tuscarora.

This Map shows them primarily located in New York. # 20 in the list. By 1700, they had greatly expanded their territory.

**GREAT LAKES TRIBES**  
CIRCA 1600

1. Stoney Dakota	6. Potawatomi	11. Kickapoo	16. Neutral
2. Menominee	7. Sauk	12. Shawnee	17. Delaware
3. Inyap	8. Miami	13. Delaware	18. Allegany
4. Ho-Chunk	9. Fox	14. Ottawa	19. Huron
5. Shawnee	10. Miami	15. Seneca	20. Iroquois

Mississauga Public Museum, <http://www.mpm.ca/content/view/full/107>

Cadillac was soon embroiled in trading and scandal. He had no problem using brandy in support of the fur trade, and he had no compunctions about using his power to rip off the courriers de bois. Life in Michilimakinac grew more chaotic and dangerous as disputes among the tribes were provoked by drunken behavior. Letters from the Jesuits began to fly to Quebec and France, complaining about Cadillac's behavior. It was clearly in defiance of a Royal decree forbidding the use of alcohol in trade with the natives.

A lawsuit was initiated against Cadillac for abuse of power. It became a point of contention in a power struggle between Governor Frontenac and the Intendant, Champigny. Although they held parallel positions at the peak of different areas of responsibility, Frontenac thought that as the representative of the King, he should prevail. This lawsuit ended in a draw between the governor and the intendant, and left Cadillac free to continue as Frontenac's man.

Meanwhile, the fur harvest was so successful that it produced a glut on the European market. Only two years after Cadillac's appointment in 1696, the king, in response to the low prices, and provoked by all the argument from Nouveaux France, ordered all trading posts to immediately close, and for all courriers-de-bois to return to Montreal. Cadillac returned to Montreal. A year later with a fortune in furs.

## Slide 22



The English were building forts in a string along the southern banks of the St. Lawrence river, and encroaching on the French from the north and west, descending from Hudson's Bay. Their allies, the Iroquois, wanted to preserve their contracts with the Dutch and English, and establish a monopoly on the fur trade. They threatened to either extinguish whole tribes, as they did to the Mohicans, or become trading partners.

Cadillac conceived a strategic plan to block the English and their Iroquois partners by building a fort on the straits between Lake Huron and Lake Erie.

He pitched this idea to Frontenac and others in Montreal and was sent to France in 1697 to present his case to Secretary Pontchartrain. After Cadillac returned to Nouveau France contrary voices from people in Quebec and Montreal made their case to the Secretary, arguing that Cadillac's fort would group all the western tribes together and be ripe for feuds among them.



Further, the Iroquois would find them handy to entice or coerce into trade partnerships which would lead to trade with the English.

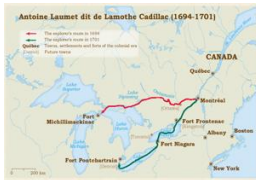
It was two years more before Pontchartrain decided to approve the plan, during which time Cadillac returned to France to reinforce his arguments, and another year before the king authorized it. Cadillac was given command of the project to build a fort at the straits in 1700.

While this royal decision was marinating, Governor Frontenac died in November of 1698. He was replaced by Callière, who although he didn't like the Cadillac's fort, did not object.

Cadillac wasted no time. He returned to Nouveau France and set about gathering men and supplies, and on June 5, 1701, set out from Trois Rivieres with 100 men, split between 50 soldiers and 50 farmers, which was half the number he had requested. Two priests went along, Recollet Father Delhalle to serve the French, and a Jesuit as missionary to the natives.

Anna McCracken writes: "The boats were large vessels, for canoes, about 26 feet long with a beam of about 6 feet, and the astounding capacity for nearly two tons each."

### Slide 23



As they traveled natives joined them, many from Michilimackinac. They were welcome, as the route to Detroit that had been chosen to avoid the Iroquois, required over 30 portages on their route. By the time they reached the straits, on July 24<sup>th</sup>, the French had gained about 200 natives from different tribes.

Three things occurred in rapid succession that summer of 1701: Cadillac set out to found Fort Pontchartrain; The Iroquois and English signed the Nanfan treaty; The French and 39 native tribes, including the Iroquois, signed La Grande Paix de Montreal, a major peace treaty that was celebrated with great joy in Montreal.

### Slide 24



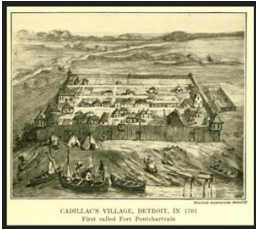
Fort Pontchartrain is at the red dot, right in the middle of the Iroquois Gift to the King of England as described in the Nanfan Treaty of July 19, 1701, signed at Albany, New York. Through this treaty, the Iroquois Confederation handed over the title to lands they claimed as their hunting ground. It was an enormous area of land. Their territory had greatly increased from 1600.



### Slide 25

La Grande Paix de Montreal was concluded between July 21 and August 7 of 1701 amid great celebration in Montreal. It was a peace treaty between the French and 39 native tribes, including the Iroquois Confederation, who seem to be covering all the bases.

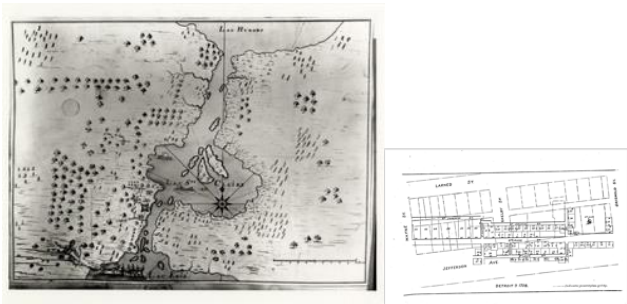
### Slide 26



At Fort Ponchartrain, the palisades were erected, and the various tribal members set up encampments around the perimeter. Cadillac welcomed them as added protection to the new fort, and partners in the fur trade. He was particularly interested in coaxing them away from Michilimackinac. He regarded the Jesuits there as both competitors and enemies.

St. Anne's Church was the first building to rise inside the palisade, followed by residences. The original palisades surrounded an arpent of land, the French equivalent of an acre, 192 feet squared.

### Slide 27



This slide shows a map that has been attributed to Cadillac himself. The tiny square on the straits just below Lac Ste Claire is Fort Ponchartrain.

Cadillac's wife joined him in 1702. Other wives followed, and the community grew. Cadillac enjoyed absolute authority in Fort Ponchartrain and was soon in conflict with the company that had financed his project and expected funds to be forthcoming. In 1704, Cadillac won his dispute with the Company in Montreal and became the sole authority in Fort Ponchartrain.

In 1703, (Vo-Dry-ee) Vaudreuil was appointed to replace the deceased Governor General Callière. The new governor general thought that the extended trading system should consist of

garrisoned posts and individual trading licenses, a plan that would deprive Cadillac of his absolute power over Fort Pontchartrain.

Cadillac set about to undermine Vaudreuil by gaining the support of the governor of Montreal, and the attorney general of the Conseil Supérieur, both of whom stood to profit along with Cadillac. An influence campaign began at once, with Cadillac and his friends accusing Governor General of plotting to destroy Detroit in order to promote his own trading operation in Michilimackinac.

(“Vo-dryee”) Vaudreuil argued back that if Cadillac succeeded with his plan for Detroit, he would answer to no-one and be free to trade with anyone, including the Iroquois and the English. Detroit had already made a deal to ship furs south down the Mississippi to Louisiana, thereby depriving Canada of profits.

The pace of decision making in France turned glacial. Secretary of State Pontchartrain, faced with the possibility that he and his father before him, had made an error in their high regard and long support for the sieur de Cadillac, remained undecided.

Slides 28 and 29



Back in Fort Ponchartrain, in 1703, natives burned the church and several residences, including Cadillac’s house. Disputes among the tribes simmered and flared up continuously. Without a doubt, the brandy flowing freely didn’t help.

In 1707, a shooting war erupted between the Miamis and Ottawas. The Ottawas’ chief was Le Pesant, an 80-year-old man (aka “The Heavy” or “The Bear”). The Ottawas received information that the Miamis were planning to attack their village, so spurred on by Le Pesant, they ambushed and killed 8 Miami chiefs. Father Delhalle attempted to mediate, and as he returned to the fort, he and a French soldier were caught in crossfire at the gates of Fort Pontchartrain.

Governor general (“Vo-dryee”) Vaudreuil wanted Le Pesant to pay the ultimate price, and he delegated this ultimate resolution onto Cadillac.

Detroit was surrounded by native villages, invited and welcomed by Cadillac. First he sentenced Le Pesant to death. The Ottawas pleaded for their chief’s life and several offered themselves up in his place.

Somehow, Le Pesant escaped in the night by climbing over the palisade walls. Never one to miss an opportunity, Cadillac pardoned him in return for a promise that all the Ottawas who remained in Michilimackinac would move to Detroit.

Not everyone was happy with this resolution, and a year later, the Miamis attacked the fort as revenge for the failure to execute Le Pesant.

The death of Father Delhalle finally brought the Secretary Pontchartrain to a decision. In Nov. 1707, he sent his assistant, d'Aigremont, to Nouveaux France to investigate and determine the truth about the dispute between Cadillac v. Governor general (“Vo-dryee”) Vaudreuil.

A year later, d'Aigremont sent his report to the Secretary of State.

Detroit was not tidy and well managed. Cadillac gouged natives and courriers de bois alike with prices 10 times higher than in Quebec. There was not a thriving community, only 62 French settlers besides the military garrison, and everybody despised Cadillac.

Pontchartrain decided on a lateral arabesque, and named Cadillac Governor of Louisiana on 5 May 1710, and ordered him to depart Detroit and report there immediately.

Cadillac left Fort Ponchartrain, but he did not go to Louisiana. In 1711 he returned to France, where Secretary Pontchartrain used him to convince financier Antoine Crozat to invest in the colony of Louisiana, thereby saving the French treasury from a huge expense. Cadillac thought this deal would give him the prime authority in Louisiana where he and his family finally arrived in 1713. What followed echoed his Canadian experience. Added to these were the constant demands by Financier Crozat, just like that annoying Company in Montreal, to produce profits.

Cadillac was recalled to France on 3 Mar 1716. Of course, he and his family didn't leave Louisiana until summer the following year. Almost immediately on arrival in Paris, he and his son, Joseph, were locked up in the Bastille for a period of 6 months. Cadillac spent the next few years trying to regain funds and lands from his career in Canada and Louisiana. Eventually the French government relented and paid his wages for the time in Louisiana.

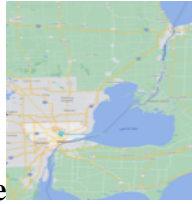
Cadillac purchased the governorship of Castelsarrasin, in 1723, very close to his childhood home, and retired into obscurity, where he died on October 16, 1730, at the age of 72.

## NEXT SLIDE



There are no contemporaneous pictures of Cadillac, but he was said to have a prodigious nose, and the natives called him The Hawk.

When I think of Cadillac the Hawk, and his nose, Cyrano de Bergerac (1619 – 1655) comes to mind.



### Next Slide

Fort Ponchartrain remained under French control until 1760, when the English took over after the defeat at Montreal

While you can almost always find your French-Canadian ancestors thanks to the wonderful Drouin collection and databases like the PRDH, all based on meticulously kept parish records, it can be hard to flesh out their lives beyond the basic facts, especially if you are not able to read French. In the case of Fort Ponchartrain, thanks to Clarence Monroe Burton and the Detroit Public Library there is a wealth of material in English about the people of early Detroit, including lists of men and women who worked and lived in Fort Ponchartrain during the nine years of Cadillac's command there.

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## NOTES

I became interested in Cadillac and Detroit because six of my direct ancestors were with Cadillac in Fort Ponchartrain, the birthplace of the city of Detroit.

**Francois Fafard Delorme** received one of the first land grants in Fort Ponchartrain de Detroit. He died 7 January, 1734, Ste Anne de Detroit.

His wife, **Marie Madeleine Jobin**, died 29 Jan 1711, Ste Anne de Detroit.

Their daughter, **Marie Madeline Fafard Delorme**, who married 7 Jan 1711 in Ste Anne de Detroit, and

Her spouse, **Prudent Robert Fontaine**, whose father was in the Carignan regiment.

**Andre Bombardier**, and his wife, **Marguerite Demers Dumais** were in Fort Ponchartrain in 1707, along with three of their sons,

**Cadillac’s family:** Like most French-Canadian families of their time, Antoine and Marie Therese had a large family. There is a discrepancy between the family records of PRDH and other sources I have read about the exact number of children. Wikipedia lists 13 children but PRDH only 7, which includes the lost three. The first two became nuns, one girl grew up to marry in France, and Joseph, who worked for his father in Louisiana looking for mines, joined his dad in the Bastille, and went on to have his own life in Europe. No North American descendants exist to my knowledge.

The **Beaver Wars**, also known as the **Iroquois Wars** or the **French and Iroquois Wars** (**French:** *Guerres franco-iroquoises*), encompass a series of conflicts fought intermittently during the 17th century in North America. They were battles for economic dominance throughout the [Saint Lawrence River](#) valley in Canada and the lower [Great Lakes](#) region which pitted the [Iroquois](#) against the northern [Algonquians](#) and the Algonquians' French allies. From medieval

times, Europeans had obtained furs from Russia and Scandinavia. American pelts came on the European market during the 16th century, decades before the French, English, and Dutch established permanent settlements and trading posts on the continent. [Basque](#) fishermen chasing cod off Newfoundland's [Grand Banks](#) bartered with local Indigenous peoples for [beaver](#) robes to help fend off the Atlantic chill. By virtue of their location, the tribes wielded considerable influence in European–Indian relations from the early seventeenth century onwards.

The five tribes of the Iroquois Confederacy: Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas, and after 1715, the Tuscarora.

The Tribes supporting the French 1701 - 1710

**Reign of Louis XIV (14):** B. 5 September 1638, D. 1 September 1715

Reigned 14 May 1643 – 1715. His mother, Anne of Austria, eldest daughter of King [Philip III of Spain](#) and his wife [Margaret of Austria](#), was regent 1643 – 1661, when Louis was 23. He reigned so long, his immediate heirs all predeceased him. He was succeeded by his 5-year-old great-grandson, [Louis, Duke of Anjou](#). Louis XIV's nephew, [Philip II, Duke of Orléans](#) acted as regent.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis\\_XIV](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_XIV)

**The Nine Years' War** (1688–1697), often called the **War of the Grand Alliance** or the **War of the League of Augsburg**,<sup>[3]</sup> was a conflict between [France](#) and a European coalition which mainly included the [Holy Roman Empire](#) (led by the [Habsburg Monarchy](#)), the [Dutch Republic](#), [England](#), [Spain](#), [Savoy](#) and [Portugal](#). It was fought in Europe and the surrounding seas, in North America, and in India. It is sometimes considered the first [global war](#). The conflict encompassed the [Williamite war in Ireland](#) and [Jacobite risings](#) in Scotland, where [William III](#) and [James II](#) struggled for control of England and Ireland, and a campaign in colonial North America between French and English settlers and their respective Indigenous allies, today called [King William's War](#) by Americans.

**King William's War:** The European war was reflected in North America, where it was known as [King William's War](#), though the North American contest was very different in meaning and scale. The European war declaration arrived amid [long-running tensions](#) over control of the [fur trade](#), economically vital to both French and English colonies, and influence over the [Iroquois](#), who controlled much of that trade.<sup>[119]</sup> The French were determined to hold the St. Lawrence country and to extend their power over the vast basin of the [Mississippi](#).<sup>[120]</sup> Moreover, [Hudson Bay](#) was a focal point of dispute between the Protestant English and Catholic French colonists, both of whom claimed a share of its territory and trade. Although important to the colonists, the North American theatre of the Nine Years' War was of secondary importance to European statesmen. Despite numerical superiority, the English colonists suffered repeated defeats as [New France](#) effectively organised its French regulars, local militiamen and [Indian](#) allies (notably the [Algonquins](#) and [Abenakis](#)), to attack frontier settlements.<sup>[121]</sup> Almost all resources sent to the

colonies by England were to defend the [English West Indies](#), the "crown jewels" of the empire.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

Friction over Indian relations worsened in 1688 with French incursions against the Iroquois in upstate New York, and with Indian raids against smaller settlements in [Maine](#).<sup>[122]</sup> The Governor General of New France, [Louis de Buade de Frontenac](#), capitalising on disorganisation in New York and New England following the collapse of the [Dominion of New England](#),<sup>[123]</sup> expanded the war with a series of raids on the northern borders of the English settlements: first was the destruction of [Dover, New Hampshire](#), in July 1689; followed by [Pemaquid](#), Maine, in August.<sup>[124]</sup> In February 1690 [Schenectady](#) in [New York](#) was attacked; massacres at [Salmon Falls](#) and [Casco Bay](#) followed. In response, on 1 May 1690 at the [Albany](#) Conference, colonial representatives elected to invade [French Canada](#). In August a land force commanded by Colonel Winthrop set off for [Montreal](#), while a naval force, commanded by the future governor of [Massachusetts](#), [Sir William Phips](#) (who earlier on 11 May had [seized the capital](#) of French [Acadia](#), [Port Royal](#)), set sail for [Quebec](#) via the [Saint Lawrence River](#). They were repulsed in [Battle of Quebec](#) and the expedition on the St Lawrence failed, while the French retook Port Royal.<sup>[121]</sup>

The war dragged on for several years longer in a series of desultory sallies and frontier raids: neither the leaders in England nor France thought of weakening their position in Europe for the sake of a knock-out blow in North America.<sup>[125]</sup> By the terms of the Treaty of Ryswick, the boundaries and outposts of New France, New England, and New York remained substantially unchanged. In [Newfoundland](#) and Hudson's Bay French influence now predominated but William III, who had made the interests of the Bay Company a cause of war in North America, was not prepared to hazard his European policy for the sake of their pursuit. The [Five Nations](#), abandoned by their English allies, were obliged to open separate negotiations, and by [the treaty of 1701](#) they agreed to remain neutral in any future Anglo-French conflicts.<sup>[126]</sup>

**Jacques-René de Brisay de Denonville, Marquis de Denonville** (10 December 1637 – 22 September 1710) was [Governor General of New France](#) from 1 August 1685 to

to 1689 and was a key figure in the [Beaver Wars](#).

Replacing [Joseph Antoine de LaBarre](#) in 1685, he arrived in New France on 1 August 1685.<sup>[1]</sup> Denonville set out to make [King Louis XIV](#) proud. The [Iroquois](#) Confederacy had been a nuisance for half a century, hampering New France's efforts to establish itself as a profitable [colony](#). ... He requested to be recalled to France due to sickness



**From Wikipedia Cadillac Article:** Cadillac was introduced to the governor [Louis de Buade de Frontenac](#) in Quebec, who sent him on an exploratory mission along the coasts of New England, aboard the [frigate L'Embuscade \(The Ambush\)](#). Strong head winds forced the ship to return to France.<sup>[6]</sup>

**Louis de Buade, Comte de Frontenac et de Palluau** : B. 22 May 1622, D. 28 November 1698. A [French](#) soldier, [courtier](#), and [Governor General of New France](#) from 7 April 1672 to 1682 and from 1689 to his death in 1698. He established a number of forts on the [Great Lakes](#) and engaged in a series of battles against the [English](#) and the [Iroquois](#).<sup>[1]</sup> Frontenac was born in [Saint-Germain-en-Laye](#), France, the son of Henri de Buade, colonel in the regiment of Navarre, and Anne Phélypeaux, daughter of [Raymond Phélypeaux](#).

Frontenac, however, was offered the position of governor-general of New France which deferred his debts until the end of his governorship. Frontenac was appointed governor and lieutenant general of New France, Acadia, the island of Newfoundland on 7 April 1672 and arrived in Quebec on the 7 September that same year.

*As the representative of the King, Frontenac thought his power should be supreme in Nouvelle France, and so overstepped his bounds,*

Troubles ensued between the governor and the [Sovereign Council](#), over its expansion and over the [corvées](#) required to build the new forts.<sup>[2]</sup> In particular, despite the opposition of bishop [François de Laval](#), he supported selling [brandy](#) to the First Nations, which Laval considered a [mortal sin](#). The king and his minister had to listen to and adjudicate upon the appeals from the contending parties until one incident tried their patience.<sup>[2]</sup> After the adolescent son of Duchesneau was verbally abused on the street by a follower of Frontenac, Frontenac physically assaulted him with his cane when he deemed his explanation unacceptable and, after negotiation between himself, the intendant and the bishop, an officer of Frontenac detained and imprisoned Duchesneau's son.<sup>[13]</sup> Under the king's edict of 1679, it was forbidden for a governor to arbitrarily imprison any subjects.<sup>[14]</sup> Following a deliberation in Versailles, both governor and intendant were recalled to France in the year 1682.<sup>[2]</sup>

During Frontenac's first administration many improvements had been made in the country. The defenses had been strengthened, a fort was built at Cataraqui (now [Kingston, Ontario](#)), bearing the governor's name, and conditions of peace had been fairly maintained between the Iroquois on the one hand and the French and their allies, the Ottawas and the Hurons, on the other.<sup>[2]</sup> Frontenac made his way to [Cataraqui](#) to build his post that would facilitate trading with the Iroquois Confederacy. Even though Frontenac was disobeying Colbert's policies, he was able to continuously act in such a way because he represented the king. Throughout his first term, Frontenac was engaging in the fur trade to increase his own fortune and those of his associates. According to [La Salle](#), in his personal memoir, Frontenac was also trying to secure a monopoly over a large part of the fur trade.<sup>[15]</sup> The progress of events during the next few years proved that the recall of the governor had been ill-timed. The Iroquois were assuming a threatening attitude towards the inhabitants, and Frontenac's successor, La Barre, was quite incapable of leading an army against such foes. At the end of a year, La Barre was replaced by the [Marquis de](#)

[Denonville](#), a man of ability and courage, who, though he showed some vigour in marching against the western Iroquois tribes, angered rather than intimidated them, and the [massacre of Lachine](#) on 5 August 1689 must be regarded as one of the unhappy results of his administrations.<sup>[2]</sup>

## French ship *Embuscade*

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French\\_ship\\_Embuscade](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_ship_Embuscade)  
[Jump to navigation](#)[Jump to search](#)

Several ships of the [French Navy](#) have borne the name ***Embuscade***:

- *Embuscade* (1670), renamed *Dangereux* in 1677, then restored to *Embuscade* later in 1677. Re-classed as fireship 1677 and sold in 1688.
- *Embuscade* (1704), captured in May 1707 by the Royal Navy.
- *Embuscade* (1745), captured in 1746 and renamed HMS *Ambuscade*. She was sold at [Deptford](#) in 1762.
- *Embuscade* (1789), a frigate captured in 1799, later renamed HMS *Seine* when the previous *Ambuscade* was recaptured in 1803. She was broken up in 1813.
- *Embuscade* (1798), HMS *Ambuscade* captured by the French corvette *Bayonnaise* in 1798 and renamed *Embuscade*. She was recaptured by the British in 1803 and broken up in 1810.
- *Embuscade* (1865), a floating battery stricken in 1885.

*“Embuscade* (built in 1670), renamed *Dangereux* in 1677, then restored to *Embuscade* later in 1677. Re-classed as a fireship in 1677 and sold in 1688.” **To whom? Was the ship captured by the British in 1704 a new ship or did the name fly from the sold ship to a different ship in 1677?**

The five tribes of the Iroquois Confederacy: Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas, and after 1715, the Tuscarora.

**David Paul Hardcastle:**

**The Indians who took the most active part in the fur trade in the opening years of the seventeenth century were members of three great confederations of tribes known to the French as the Montaignais, Algonquins, and Hurons.**

The Montaignais and Algonquins belonged to the Algonquian family of aborigines, as did the Ottawas who later in the century were to become the primary supplier of furs to the French.

Members of this family of Indians all had certain similarities of language and life style in common. Of fundamental importance was this family's reliance on hunting as a means of livelihood. Being hunters, the Montaignais and Algonquins, as well as the Ottawas, did not develop the high level of social organization that more sedentary habits require. Their highest effective form of government was the band, although their mobile habits of living made even this form less important than the family group, which called no specific locale home, but wandered instead from place to place in search of game, carrying with them as they went everything they owned.

The primitive social organization of these tribes made them unreliable partners in the French commercial enterprise.

The Hurons, in actuality a confederation of six tribes, were members of the Iroquoian family of aborigines and lived in half a dozen relatively permanent villages clustered near Georgian Bay. Not only did the Hurons live in the center of one of the most prolific beaver areas in North America, their higher form of social organization made them more dependable commercial partners. Consequently, the French early fastened their hopes for commercial gain on the Hurons.

As French fur traders and explorers made their way among the tribes to the north of the St. Lawrence-Lake Erie axis, they found to exist a state of perpetual hostility between these aborigines and those to the south. Those to the south were members of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Iroquois Confederacy inhabited the territory south of Lake Ontario and the upper reaches of the St. Lawrence in what is today New York state. Composed of five tribes-- six after the inclusion of the Tuscarora in 1712--the Confederacy counted the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas as members. All of the members of these tribes lived in the famous longhouses, each dwelling the home of an entire matrilinear joint-family.

