

For the records

French forts of North America

Many North Americans can trace their ancestry back to French settlers arriving in the 17th century. Early settlements often depended on forts, where Catholic priests administered the sacraments and kept records of baptism, confirmation, marriage, and burial. If you have early French colonial ancestors, researching the forts can lead to your ancestors place of origin and the church records that provide valuable genealogical information.

A brief history of New France

New France was a massive geographic entity spanning the central and northern parts of the North American continent.

The French claim to the area originated with the voyages of explorer Jacques Cartier. Cartier attempted to establish settlements but harsh winters, hostile native inhabitants, and a lack of supplies caused them to fail.

Although Tadoussac and Port-Royal were established in 1600 and 1605 respectively, New France is generally considered to date from 1608, when Samuel de Champlain's established Québec. Settlements followed at Trois-Rivières in 1634 and Montréal in 1642. This area along the lower St.

Lawrence River became the most populated part of New France and served as the base for exploration and settlement to the west and south.

Prior to the introduction of modern transportation, travel by water was easier and faster than overland travel. Our ancestors viewed rivers and lakes not as barriers to cross but as great highways. Conversely, although railroads and automobiles make mountain ranges easily traversable, they were huge barriers to migration by our forebears. While the Appalachian Mountains and the fall line posed significant barriers to westward expansion from the English Colonies, the French explorers and traders experienced no such problem. Lying north of the Appalachians, the St. Lawrence River provided an easy access to the Great Lakes and the interior of North America. With some short portages, they were able to access tribu-

taries of the Mississippi River and further opened the central part of the continent to French explorers, traders, and ultimately settlers.

In 1673, Father Jacques Marquette and fur trader Louis Joliet were the first to travel such a route down the Mississippi. They turned around at the Arkansas River because they feared capture by the Spanish but traveled far enough south to prove the river went to the Gulf of Mexico. Explorer René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle followed in 1682, following the



Plan of Fort de Pentagouet (present-day Castine, Maine) in 1670.

Source: Wikimedia - <https://bit.ly/3mkUaIX>

river all the way to its mouth. He claimed the land for France, naming it “Louisiana” in honor of French King Louis XIV.

In 1735 and the years following, Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, sieur de La Vérendrye and his sons traveled through the Great Lakes and then explored overland to the west and north, becoming the first Europeans to visit areas now known as Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming. This established a French claim to most of the interior of the North American continent.

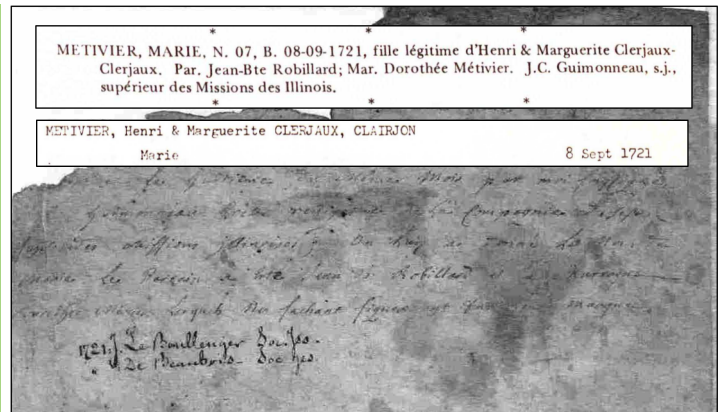
Trappers and traders typically followed the explorer’s footsteps. High demand and high prices in Europe made the fur trade a lucrative business. Many Native American groups were happy to barter them for European goods, such as iron cooking pots, guns, and cloth.

To facilitate these exchanges, the French settlers established small forts, usually with fewer than 200 inhabitants, near existing Native American settlements. They typically also included a priest to support the needs of the French inhabitants and to act as a missionary among the native population. To supply the trade goods, regular trails and water routes between the forts and the St. Lawrence Settlements were established. Many of these trails have evolved into our modern highways.

Similarly, these early settlements often became the nucleus of a present-day city or town. A few examples include Fort de l’Assomption (Memphis, Tennessee), Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) Fort Pontchartrain (Detroit, Michigan), Fort Rouge (Winnipeg, Manitoba), and Fort Rouillé (Toronto, Ontario). Obviously, they did not all evolve into large cities. Many smaller communities, such as Castine, Maine (Fort Pentagoet), Epes, Alabama (Fort de Tombecbé), and Red Deer, Alberta (Fort La Biche) can also trace their history to early French forts.

A sample of available records

Churches at these forts, like the Catholic Church everywhere, maintained records of baptisms, marriages, and funerals. Although some records undoubtedly fell victim to fire, flood, warfare, and the ravages of time, most of them survived, at least partially.



Figures 1, 3 & 4 | The original baptismal record for Marie Métivier digitized on FamilySearch (Fig. 1) the transcription from *La population des forts français d’Amérique...* (Fig. 3), and the index entry in *Church Records of Sainte Anne Mission and Church, Fort Chartres, Illinois* (Fig. 4)

<p>VOLUME 1</p> <p>Fort Saint-Jean, Fort Saint-Frédéric, Fort de la Présentation (de la Galette), Fort Frontenac, Fort de la Presqu’Isle du Lac Érié, Fort Duquesne (Assomption de la Bienheureuse Vierge Marie [Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary], Fort Michilimakinac, Fort de la Rivière Saint Joseph des Illinois (Miamis), Cahokia (Sainte-Famille [Holy Family])</p>
<p>VOLUME 2</p> <p>Fort de Vincennes (Ouabache [Wabash]), Kaskaskia, General Census of the Illinois [Territory], Kaskaskia Census, Fort de Chartres, Fort de Chartres Census, Prairie-du-Rocher (Saint-Joseph), Prarie-du-Rocher Census, Saint-Philippe (La Visitation), Saint-Philippe Census, Poste des Natchez (Fort Rosalie), Census of the people who were killed in the massacre by the Natchez Indians from 1 November 1729 to 1 August 1730 at the Natchez Post, Census of the people killed in the massacre by the Natchez Indians from 1 November 1729 to 1 August 1730 at the Yazoo Post</p>
<p>VOLUME 3</p> <p>Fort Pontchartrain de Detroit</p>

Figure 2 | Table of forts covered in *La population des forts français d’Amérique...*

Consider, for example the case of Fort de Chartres in Randolph County, Illinois. The parish church, Ste. Anne, kept records beginning in 1721, continuing until 1840. In 1840, the parish merged with St. Joseph of Prairie du Rocher and the records transferred there. St. Joseph Parish is now part of the Diocese of Belleville, Illinois. [FamilySearch](https://www.familysearch.org) <<https://www.familysearch.org>> digitized and made the records of the entire diocese publically available.

Looking at the records online, we can find the baptism record of Marie Métivier on 8 Sept. 1721 (Fig. 1). Most people would consider even finding this individual record among the

Place	Jurisdiction	Parish	Microfilm Number
Arkansas Post	Arkansas	<i>La Visitation de Saint-Philippe-des Arkansas (catholique), Birth, Marriage, Death, 1744, 1761-65</i>	Microfilm C-2899
Fort de-Chartres	Illinois	<i>Ste-Anne Fort-de-Chartres, Birth, Marriage, Death 1743-1791</i>	Microfilm C2899
Kaskaskia	Illinois	<i>Notre-Dame de l'Immaculée-Conception de Kaskias, Birth, Marriage, Death 1695-1834</i>	Microfilm C-2899
Prairie du Rocher	Illinois	<i>St-Joseph de la Prairie-du-Rocher (catholique), Birth, Marriage, Death, 1761-99</i>	Microfilm C-2899
Vincennes	Indiana	<i>Ouabache (Wabash), St-Francois-Zavier dit Poste de Vincennes (catholic), Birth, 1749-86, Marriage, 1749-86, Death. 1750-86</i>	Microfilm C-2986
Iberville	Louisiana	<i>St-Gabriel (catholique), Birth, Marriage Deth 1773-1850</i>	Microfilm C2899-2900
St. Martinville	Louisiana	<i>St-Martin-de-Atakapas and Pointe Coupee, Birth, Marriage, Death 1756-1794</i>	Microfilm C2900
Fort Miscilimackinac (St. Ignace)	Michigan	<i>Ste-Anne (catholique), Birth, Marriage, Death 1695-1799</i>	Microfilm C-2900
Fort Pontchartrain [Detroit]	Michigan	<i>Fort Ponchartrain (catholique), Birth, Marriage, Death 1704-1800</i>	Microfilm C-2893-2894
Pointe-de-Montréal	Michigan	<i>L'Assomption de la Pointe-de-Montréal, Birth, Marriage, Death, 1761-83</i>	Microfilm C-2894-2895
Sandwich	Michigan	<i>L'Assomption de D étroit (catholique) Birth, Marriage, Death, 1781-99</i>	Microfilm C-2895
Trois-Rivieres	Quebec	<i>Immaculée-Conception (catholique), Birth, 1635-1763, Marriage, 1657-77, 1699-1763, Death, 1634-1763</i>	Microfilm C-2921-2923
Trois-Rivieres	Québec	<i>Protestant Garrison, Birth, Marriage, Death 1768-86, 1790-92</i>	Microfilm C-2923
Rivière-du-Chêne	Québec	<i>St. Eustache, Birth Marriage, Death, 1846-1850</i>	Microfilm 2913
Vaudreuil	Quebec	<i>St-Michel (catholic) Birth, Marriage, Death 1782-1835</i>	Microfilm C-2923-2924
Saint-André-d'Argenteuil	Québec	<i>Saint-André-d'Argenteuil (catholique), Birth, Marriage, Death 1833-50</i>	Microfilm C-2904
Saint-André-d'Argenteuil	Québec	<i>St. Andrew's East, Birth, Marriage, Death 1812-49 (partial)</i>	Microfilm C-2904
Sault-au-Récollet	Québec	<i>Visitation Parish Birth, Marriage, Death, 1823-1850</i>	Microfilm C-2921
Fort do Sault Saint-Louis [Kahnawake]	Québec	<i>St-Jochim (Mission du Sault-Saint-Louis, Birth Marriage and Death 1727-28, 1735-1849</i>	Microfilm C-2890
Laval	Québec	<i>St. Rose (catholique) Birth, Marriage, Death 1796-1850</i>	Microfilm C-2915-2917
Montreal	Québec	<i>Notre-Dame (catholique), Birth, Marriage, Death 1642-4728</i>	Microfilm C-2895-2904
Québec	Québec	<i>Garrison [Québec], Birth, Marriage, Death 1721-1800, 1817-26 (partial)</i>	Microfilm C-2899
Québec	Québec	<i>Notre-Dame de Québec (catholique), Birth, Marriage, Death 1621-1737 (partial)</i>	Microfilm C-2896
Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines	Québec	<i>Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines (catholique) Birth, Marriage, Death 1788-1850</i>	Microfilm C-2913-2915

Figure 5 | Parish registers available on microfilm in the History & Genealogy Department.

other baptisms challenging, particularly if you are not familiar with the writing style and language. Fortunately, other tools can help with finding and interpreting these records.

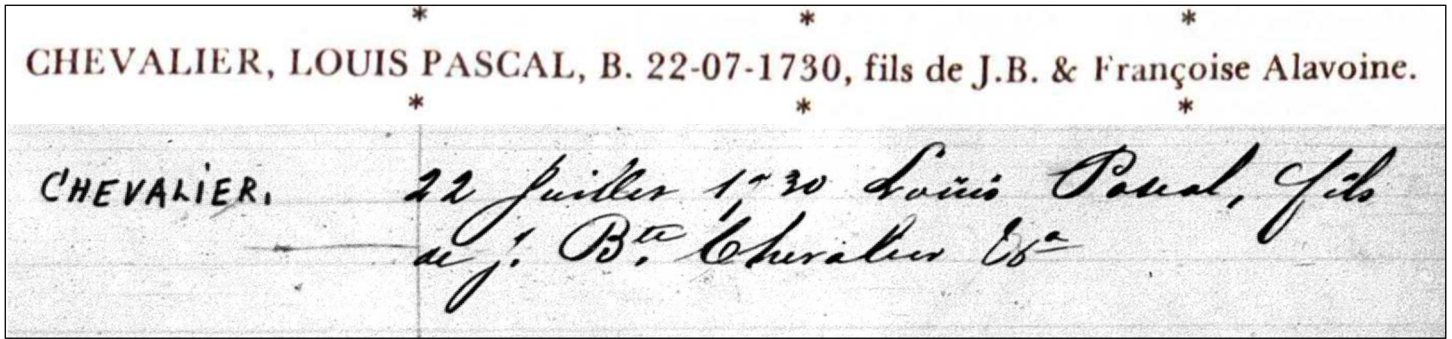
Marthe Faribault–Beaugard wrote a two–volume series, *La population des forts français d'Amérique (XVIIIe siècle): répertoire des baptêmes, mariages et sépultures célébrés dans les forts et les établissements français en Amérique du Nord au XVIIIe siècle*. The author intended to write additional volumes but died before they were completed. Her daughter published a third volume from her mother’s notes. (For a table of the forts covered in each of the volumes, see Fig. 2.)

The table mentioned above indicates the records for Fort de Chartres are located in the second volume. On page 237, we learn that J.C. Guimonneau, S.J., (a Jesuit priest), superior over the Missions of the Illinois, baptized, Marie Metivier, the legitimate daughter of Henri Metivier and Marguerite Clerjoux–Clerjoux on 8 Sept. 1721. The sponsors were Jean–Bte Robillard and Mar. Dorothee Metiver (Fig. 3).

Additional print resources may exist for some of these forts. For example, History & Genealogy has the book, *Church Records of Sainte Anne Mission and Church, Fort Chartres, Illinois*. As you might guess from the title, the book indexes the records for births and marriages at the church. Unlike Faribault–Beaugard’s book, this index does not include Native Americans or enslaved African Americans.

Marie Metivier’s entry is found on page four of the baptism index. According to the index, she was baptized 8 Sept. 1721, the daughter of Henri Metivier and Marguerite Clerjoux, Clairjon. While lacking the details of Faribault–Beaugard, this index might be enough to help a researcher find the original record (Fig. 4).

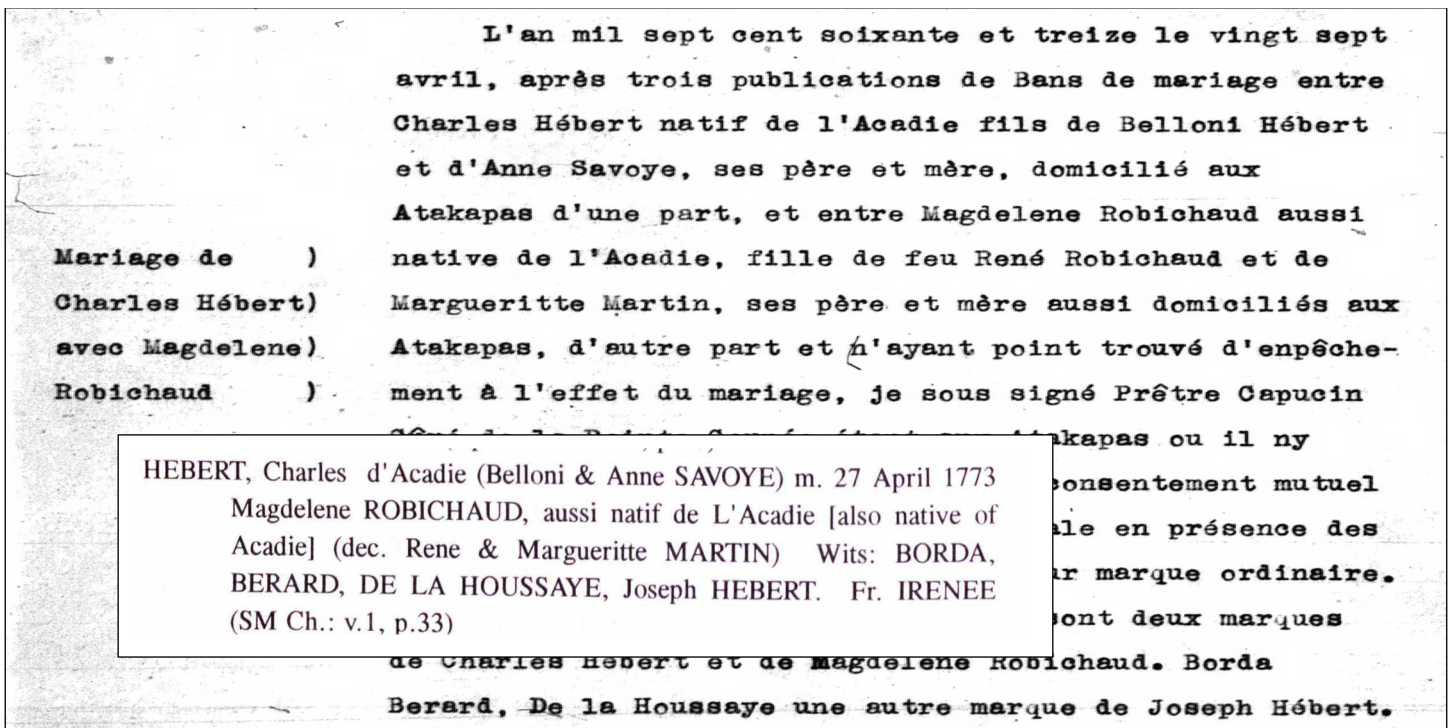
History & Genealogy has the microfilm set, “Parish Registers Available at the Public Archives of Canada” (now known as the National Library and Archives of Canada), that provides records from the French Forts and early settlements. The initial usefulness of this record set is not apparent at first glance,



Figures 6 & 7 | Baptismal record for Louis Pascal Chevalier as transcribed in *La population des forts français d'Amérique...* (Fig. 6) and the same record on microfilm from the Public Archives of Canada (Fig 7).

but it contains a treasure trove of original and transcribed records from French North America. FamilySearch digitized some of these records, and Faribault–Beauregard transcribed a selection, but neither of these sources is complete. Unfortunately, History & Genealogy has only a partial set of these microfilms (see Fig. 5 for a list of holdings). The National Library and Archives of Canada no longer makes its microfilm collection available through interlibrary loan, so to view records not held by History & Genealogy, it will be necessary to make a visit to Ottawa.

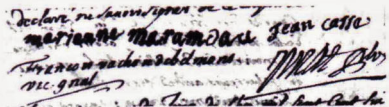
Let us consider a couple of examples. If we search in Faribault–Beauregard’s first volume in the records of Mission St–Ignace De Michilmackinac Paroisse Ste–Ann, 1725 à 1821, we will find a baptism record for Louis Pascal Chevalier on 22 July 1730 (Fig. 6). “Parish Registers Available at the Public Archives of Canada” includes the same record. Although handwritten, it is unclear if it is a copy of the original or a transcript. In either case, we have the opportunity to see an earlier version than the one in print (Fig. 7).



Figures 8 & 9 | Marriage record for Charles Herbert and Magdelene Robichaud as transcribed in *Southwest Louisiana Records* (Fig. 8, inset) and the same record on microfilm from the Public Archives of Canada (Fig 9).

The Dupuis dit Beaugard – Maranda Family:

Antoine Dupuis dit Beaugard, son of Guillaume Beaugard and Jeanne Lecompte, was from Roquebrune, Auch, Gascogne, France. He married **Marie Anne Maranda/Marandeu**, daughter of Étienne Maranda and Marie Le Saint, 9 June 1706 in Montréal [Jetté, p. 391 – Dupuis dit Beaugard]. The following people witnessed their marriage: Guillaume Lasere dit Laformé, chapelier; Michel Dizier dit Sanscartier, soldier in de Bergères Company [Raymond Blaise, sieur de Bergères/des Bergères]; Jean Casse dit Saint-Aubin, soldier in d'Aloigny Company [Charles Henri d'Aloigny, marquis de LaGroix]; and Jean Baptiste Quenneville, bedeau [Drouin Collection, M, Montréal, Basilique Notre-Dame, 1705-1712, Image 72; PRDH, #47923 – Dupuis-Maranda Marriage].



Signatures at the marriage of Antoine Dupuis and Marie Anne Maranda

Marie Anne Maranda was born and baptized 2 October 1675 in Québec [Jetté, p. 761]. Her godparents were Jean Belamy and Anne Baugé, wife of Guillaume Corruble [Lafrance]. Antoine Dupuis dit Beaugard and Marie Anne Maranda had five children, but none of them survived to marry. Marie Anne Maranda died 7 January 1730 and was buried the following day in Montréal. Antoine Dupuis' death and burial record is in PRDH, #9873 – Dupuis – Maranda Family and Couple Views – d and baptized in 1709].

Antoine Dupuis and Marie Anne Maranda's children who were born in Detroit:

- Antoine Dupuis dit Beaugard** was born and baptized 21 June 1707 in Detroit. His godparents were François Fafard dit Delorme, interpreter, and Marianne Gallie [Ste. Anne du Détroit, Image 11]. Antoine Dupuis dit Beaugard died in Detroit [PRDH, #9873 – Dupuis – Maranda Family and Couple Views].

- Joseph Dupuis dit Beaugard** was born and baptized 31 January 1708 in Detroit. His godparents were Michel Dizier dit Sanscartier and Marie Renée Toupin dite Du Détroit, Image 26]. His death date and location are not known.

- Marie Anne Dupuis dite Beaugard** was born and baptized 13 March 1709 in Detroit. Her godparents were Antoine Magnan dit Lespérance, voyageur, and Parent [Ste. Anne du Détroit, Image 30]. Marie Anne Dupuis was buried in Detroit [PRDH, #9873 – Dupuis – Maranda Family and Couple Views].

On 11 September 1706, Marie Anne Maranda was godmother to Jean-Baptiste Maranda in Detroit [Ste. Anne du Détroit, Image 7].

Figures 10–12 | Record for the Antoine Dupuis dit Beaugard and Marie-Anne Maranda family transcribed in *Southwest Louisian Records* (Fig. 10, left). Other transcriptions (below) are from *Genealogy of the French families of the Detroit River Region*, (Fig. 11) and *La population des forts français d'Amérique...* (Fig. 12).

- ANTHONY¹DUPUIS dit BEAUGARD** b 1676 son of William Dupuis and Jean Lecompte who r parish of Roquebrune diocese of Auch Gascogne, France m 9 Jun 1706 Montréal **MARY ANN MARANDA**, b 2 Oct 1675 Québec bur 8 Jan 1730 Montréal dau of Stephen Maranda and Mary Le Saint. Anthony took his bride on a wedding tour to Detroit. He was in Detroit in Sep 1706 and remained there until 1711
Children:
 - Anthony²Dupuis dit Beaugard** b 21 Jun 1707 Detroit m 1st 1736 Mary Joseph Cottu, b 1716 dau of Francis Cottu de la Valtrie and Louisa Le Seige, m 2nd Jane Margaret Plouf b 26 Mar 1704 Montréal dau of Francis Plouf and Catherine Lebon
 - Joseph** b 31 Jan 1709 Detroit
 - Mary Ann** b 13 Mar 1710 Detroit bur 10 Oct 1723 Montréal
 - Joseph** b 6 Jul 1712 St François Isle Jésus bur 16 Apr 1714 Montréal
 - Dominic** b 17 May 1714 Montréal bur there 10 May 1715

Dupuis-Beaugard, Antoine. b: 21-06-1707, n: ce jour, fils de Antoine & Marianne Marendeau. P: François Suzart dit Delorme; M.: Marianne Gallien, femme du nommé Lajeunesse. Prêtre: f. Dominique Delamarche, miss. récollet Signatures: f. Dominique Delamarche missionnaire récollet. *Fort Pontchartrain. Ste-Anne*

includes a marriage record for Charles Hebert, native of Acadia (son of Belloni Hebert and Anne Savoie) to Magdelene Robichaud native of Acadia, daughter of René Robichaud and Marguerite Martin on 27 April 1773 (Fig. 8). The “Parish Registers Available at the Public Archives of Canada” microfilm set includes the same record as a typed transcription, but it contains details not included in the first volume (Fig. 9).

Next, we will look at another set of records, this time from the Detroit area, formerly known as Fort Pontchartrain. In this case, we have access to three separate print sources. First, we will consider *Le Détroit du Lac Érié: 1701–1710*. A look at the volumes indicates they include a timeline of Fort Pontchartrain, the register of the fort, information about voyageurs, military men, clergy and Indians, contracts, family information, land records, census records, and the history of Canada, the United States, Michigan, and the Detroit River region.

The register includes information about the Family of Antoine Dupuis dit Beaugard and his wife, Maria–Anne Maranda/Marandeu. The information includes baptism records for their three children, Antoine, Joseph, and Marie–Anne. It also provides information about the couple’s marriage, names their parents, and identifies their ancestral towns in France. It also provides information about land grants, and children they sponsored in baptism (Fig. 10).

Genealogy of the French families of the Detroit River Region, Revision, 1701–1936 provides similar information about the family, but adds the names and baptismal information for two other children, a second son also named Joseph and another son, Dominic, both born after the family left Detroit in 1711 (Fig. 11). Finally, Faribault–Beaugard’s third volume provides baptismal information for the three children born in Detroit (Fig. 12).

Map of French Forts in North America

History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library has many other sources for researching the French Forts and other French Settlements in North America. Rather than attempt to discuss them all here, the staff created an [online map](https://bit.ly/3mfsWEk) <<https://bit.ly/3mfsWEk>> showing the locations (sometimes approximate) of the known forts and the resources available for researching their histories or inhabitants. The map is a work in progress and will be updated as new materials are identified in the collection or newly acquired. Resources of a general nature, such as secondary sources for Québec research, or resources on the Acadians were not included. The map also does not include collections that cover a wide geographic area, such as the Kaskaskia Manuscripts. Likewise, records featured on general genealogical websites, such as Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, and FindMyPast.com were omitted from the map. Researchers should consult these resources as a matter of course.

Locations on the map were identified using Léa Normadeau-Jones' *French forts in New France... (North America)*, Marthe Faribault-Beauregard's *La population des forts français d'Amérique (XVIIIe siècle): répertoire des baptêmes, mariages et sépultures célébrés dans les forts et les établissements français en Amérique du Nord au XVIIIe siècle*, and the web site, [North American Forts](https://bit.ly/2ZISkKZ) <<https://bit.ly/2ZISkKZ>>.

The importance of the French exploration and settlement of the North American Continent cannot be overstated. Many of these early forts became the nucleus of our modern cities and towns, and the paths between them have become our modern highways. The French were great record keepers. As their descendants, many of us have a treasure trove of documents to use in our search for information about our ancestors and their lives.

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Faribault-Beauregard, Marthe. *La population des forts français d'Amérique (XVIIIe siècle): répertoire des baptêmes, mariages et sépultures célébrés dans les forts et les établissements français en Amérique du Nord au XVIIIe siècle*, 3 vols. Montréal: Bergeron, 1982. R 973 B383P and circulating copy

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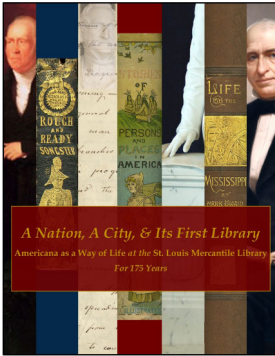
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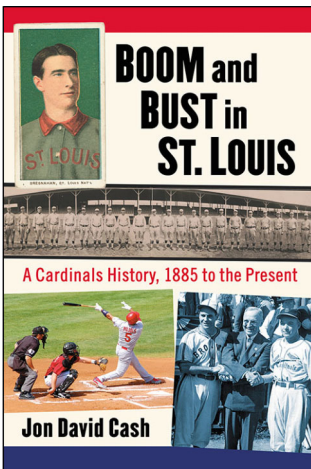
Payette, Phil, and Pete Payette. North American Forts—American Forts Network. Accessed October 1, 2021. <https://www.northamericanforts.com/index.html>.

NEW Books



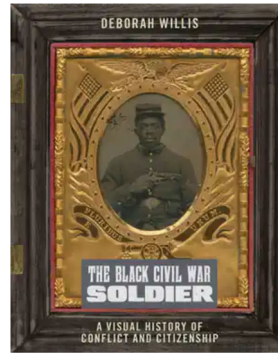
JOHN HOOVER
A Nation, A City, & Its First Library: Americana as a Way of Life at the St. Louis Mercantile Library for 175 Years
 St. Louis Mercantile Library Association
 R 977.865 H789N and circulating copy

This catalogue and its accompanying exhibition look at the events, the men and women, and the collections of the Mercantile in a cohesive way; often national events, Library leaders and patrons, and the collections preserved here are closely linked. This is the story of how Americana became forged at the core and in the heart of a great institution.—*Publisher*



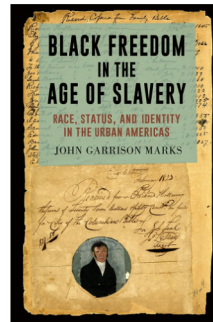
JOHN DAVID CASH
Boom and Bust in St. Louis: A Cardinals History, 1885 to Present
 McFarland
 R 796.357 C338B and circulating copy

The St. Louis Cardinals, despite winning more World Series than any Major League franchise except for the New York Yankees, have seen their share of dry spells when they were shut out of the postseason. Like the American economy, the Cardinals have seen their fortunes cycle through prolonged ups and downs, with booms in 1885–1888, 1926–1946, 1964–1968, 1982–1987 and 1996–2011, and busts in 1889–1925, 1947–1963, 1969–1981 and 1988–1995. Drawing on years of research, this book chronicles the Cardinals’ periods of success and failure and explains the reasons behind them.



DEBORAH WILLIS
The Black Civil War soldier : a visual history of conflict and citizenship
 New York University
 R 973.7415 W734B and circulating copy

Though both the Union and Confederate armies excluded African American men from their initial calls to arms, many of the men who eventually served were black. Simultaneously, photography culture blossomed, marking the Civil War as the first conflict to be extensively documented through photographs. In *The Black Civil War Soldier*, Deb Willis explores the crucial role of photography in (re)telling and shaping African American narratives of the Civil War, pulling from a dynamic visual archive that has largely gone unacknowledged.—*Publisher*



JOHN GARRISON MARKS
Black Freedom in the Age of Slavery
 University of South Carolina, 2020
 R 973.0496 M346B

Prior to the abolition of slavery, thousands of African-descended people in the Americas lived in freedom. Their efforts to navigate daily life and negotiate the boundaries of racial difference challenged the foundations of white authority—and linked the Americas together. John Garrison Marks examines how these individuals built lives in freedom for themselves and their families in two of the Atlantic World's most important urban centers: Cartagena, along the Caribbean coast of modern-day Colombia, and Charleston, in the low country of North America's Atlantic coast. —*Publisher*

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[View of a list of recent additions to the collections online <https://bit.ly/3uw6ryl>](https://bit.ly/3uw6ryl).

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Classes

Classes are free and open to the public. Registration is required. [Register online](https://bit.ly/3jJ8bxq) <<https://bit.ly/3jJ8bxq>>
Classes will be conducted by Zoom.

Wednesday, October 13, 6:30 p.m.

Finding Ancestors in U.S. Census Records

Census records are a basic and essential source for genealogical research in the U.S. Learn how to search census records effectively using Ancestry Library Edition and other electronic databases. | [Register](https://bit.ly/3DbefJn) <<https://bit.ly/3DbefJn>>

Wednesday, October 27, 6:30 p.m.

Digital Archiving and Preservation Basics

Learn how to care for and protect digital files and photos. Library staff will share techniques for saving and preserving your digital memories. | [Register](https://bit.ly/3Da9jEv) <<https://bit.ly/3Da9jEv>>

Wednesday, November 10, 6:30 p.m.

First Landowners: Federal Land Records, Family Maps, and HistoryGeo.com

The availability of map publications for the federal land states has transformed how we find the first landowner. Learn about these genealogical resources and how to use them for cluster and collateral research. | [Register](https://bit.ly/3DaxnXN) <<https://bit.ly/3DaxnXN>>

PastPorts is published by History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library, located on Tier 5 of Library Headquarters.

[Current and past issues can be downloaded from the web](http://www.slcl.org/pastports) <<http://www.slcl.org/pastports>>.

Contact us:

History & Genealogy
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St. Louis, MO 63131

314-994-3300
genealogy@slcl.org
www.slcl.org/genealogy

History & Genealogy services

The following H&G services are free and available to researchers who are unable to visit the library.

Lookup service

H&G can provide photocopies, prints, or digital scans of many library materials from indexed sources or when given a specific citation:

- Up to 30 pages from one book or one article from a journal issue. Staff can also photocopy or scan tables of contents and index pages.
- Microfilmed records—A list of microfilm available in the H&G collection can be [viewed online](https://bit.ly/3jrqw3j) <<https://bit.ly/3jrqw3j>>.
- Print outs from database records if patrons cannot access the database at home.

Please use the [online lookup request form](https://bit.ly/2UQXJKE) <<https://bit.ly/2UQXJKE>> to submit requests.

Print collection

More than 27,000 books in the collection can be checked out. The entire collection is included in the library's [online catalog](http://webpac.slcl.org) <<http://webpac.slcl.org>>. Books with call numbers that do not begin with "R" are available to check out. Patrons can request books online or by calling 314-994-3300.

Research guidance

H&G staff members can provide research assistance by phone.

Book-a-Genealogist

Researchers encountering brick-walls or who would like assistance in developing a plan to achieve specific research goals can schedule a phone consultation with an H&G staff member. Requests can be made using the online [Book-a-Genealogist form](https://bit.ly/3fQbB0r) <<https://bit.ly/3fQbB0r>>.

Database access

Many library databases can be used at home by St. Louis County Library card holders living in the metropolitan area. The Ancestry Library Edition database, normally restricted to in-library use, can be accessed remotely on a temporary basis. [View the list of genealogical databases on the library's website](https://bit.ly/37GRBtF) <<https://bit.ly/37GRBtF>>.

For more information, please contact the History & Genealogy Department at 314-994-3300 or genealogy@slcl.org.

Events

Meetings are free and open to the public. Registration is required.

Saturday, Oct. 9 | 10:00 a.m.

St. Louis Genealogical Society General Membership Meeting

St. Louis History Through Maps

In its earliest days, St. Louis fit roughly where the Arch grounds are today. Follow the city's growth from a small village to a modern metropolis, focusing on maps as documents of change. Emily Jaycox, speaker. | [Register](https://bit.ly/3t3Fodo) <https://bit.ly/3t3Fodo>

Tuesday, Oct. 26 | 7:00 p.m.

StLGS Irish Special Interest Group

Placing an Irish Ancestor into StLGS's First Families

Bernard/Barney/Brian King was an Irish immigrant who came to Missouri as a child with his parents during the infamous potato famine. Careful research led to placing him in St. Louis before the Civil War and recognizing him in the First Families program. You can honor your early ancestors by enrolling them in a lineage society with knowledge of the process. Kay Weber, speaker. | [Register](https://bit.ly/3il05gP) <https://bit.ly/3il05gP>

Saturday, Nov. 13 | 10:00 a.m.

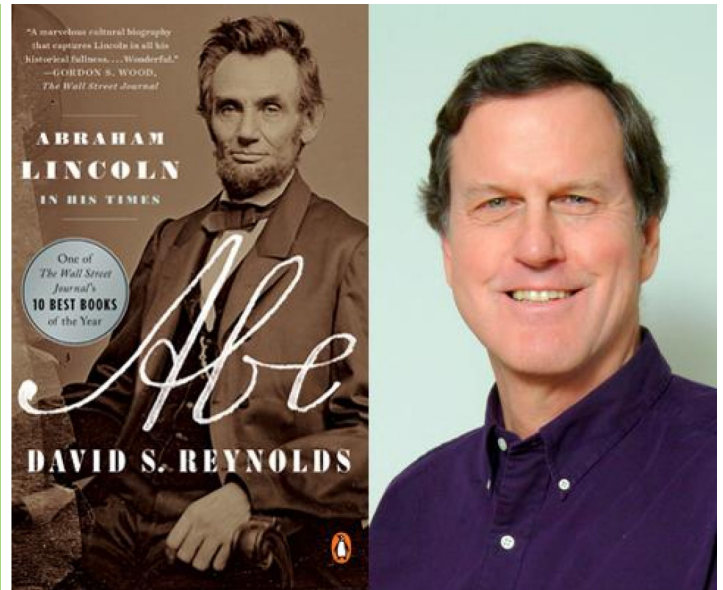
St. Louis Genealogical Society General Membership Meeting

Valley Pioneers: Using the John Dabney Shane Collection

John Dabney Shane conducted interviews in the Ohio River Valley during the early nineteenth century. Discover the value of this under-utilized resource. Dan Lilienkamp, speaker. | *Registration for this meeting will open soon.*

LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSING

- **Thursday, Nov. 25** | Thanksgiving Day
- **Friday, Nov. 26** | Day after Thanksgiving
- **Friday, Dec. 24** | Christmas Eve
- **Saturday, Dec. 25** | Christmas Day



DAVID S. REYNOLDS

Abe: Abraham Lincoln in His Times

In conversation with renowned Historian HW Brands

From one of the great historians of nineteenth-century America, "Abe" is a revelatory biography that brings Lincoln to life within his turbulent age. From New England Puritan stock on his father's side and Virginia Cavalier gentry on his mother's, Lincoln was linked by blood to the central conflict of the age. As a politician, he moved too slowly for some and too swiftly for many, but he always pushed toward justice while keeping the whole nation in mind. "Abe" culminates, of course, in the Civil War, the defining test of Lincoln and his beloved country. Reynolds shows us the extraordinary range of cultural knowledge Lincoln drew from as he shaped a vision of true union.

Video premier: October 18, 2021 | 7:00 p.m. on
www.facebook.com/STLCoLibrary

