

*AMERICAN CANADIAN
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY*



Leaders in French Canadian,
Franco American,
and Acadian Genealogy

Welcome

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Presenters:
Jim Gaudet

A Little History on French Canadian Emigration

How extensive was the emigration?

- Between 1840 and 1930 roughly 900,000 French Canadians left Canada to emigrate to the United States. By French Canadians, it is understood that they came from Québec Province.
- According to the 1980 American Census, 13.6 million people claimed to have French Ancestors.
- In the 2000 US Census, approximately 9 million people claim "French" ancestry
- In that same census in New England however, four states reported at least 10% of their population as having "French" or "French Canadian" ancestry: ME (14%), NH (10%), RI (11%) and VT (15%)

Causes of French Canadian emigration to the United States

- Logically, the French-Canadian would be the least likely to emigrate.
 - Culture, rural society, strong family ties, language, religion.
- What 'pushed' them out of French Canada?
 - For some, life had simply become miserable.

Push Factors

- Between 1784 and 1844 Quebec's population increased by 400% while its agricultural acreage increased only by 275%.
- Farmers had to seek farming land in the Laurentians, the Lake St-John area and other areas where the land was not as fertile, the access to market not as good and the growing season was shorter.
- For many, farming was unprofitable and they had no money to invest back into their farms.

Push Summary

Poverty, overpopulation, debt and infertile soils pushed French Canadians off of their land. There simply were not any alternatives available in Québec province to improve the farmer's plight.

Pull Factors

- Farmers who left their land were naturally attracted to the factories of the United States, particularly the textile factories.
- Factory jobs were a dream come true for many emigrants.
- First real contact with electricity, running water and a steady paycheck.

Where did they go?

- In the early years, emigrants tended to head for the northern parts of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.
- Because of increased industrialization and the growth of railroads , emigration shifted to Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.
- Erie Canal project in NY, Papineau Rebellion circa 1835-1838

Distribution of French-Canadians in the NE States

	ME FC pop % Dist.	NH FC pop % Dist.	VT FC pop % Dist.	MA FC pop % Dist.	RI FC pop % Dist.	CT FC pop % Dist.
1860	7,490 20	1,780 4.7	16,580 44.3	7,780 20.8	1,810 5.0	1,980 5.3
1880	29,000 13.9	26,200 12.6	33,500 16.1	81,000 38.9	19,800 9.5	18,500 8.9
1900	58,583 11.3	74,598 14.4	41,286 8.0	250,024 48.1	56,382 10.9	37,914 7.3
1930	99,765 13.4	101,324 13.6	46,956 6.4	336,871 45.3	91,173 12.3	67,130 9.0

Emigration Patterns

- Emigration of a family usually started with a couple of its members who would 'check out' the situation in a given town
- Family members, cousins, uncles and aunts would usually follow.
- On return to Canada, their perceived wealth would attract others to New England

Our Society - ACGS



- Who are we?
- What do we do?
- What do we have?
- How can we help you?

ACGS Library



Who are we?

- ACGS is an entirely volunteer organization
- Founded in 1973 – celebrating our 36th year!
- Located at 4 Elm Street, Manchester NH
- www.acgs.org

Common Genealogical Uses



- NEHGS family lines of Obama, Hilary and McCain
- Ancestry.com did the “Heir to George Washington’s throne” story

Reasons for Family History

- Religious (the LDS movement)
- Medical (OMIM, genetic pre-dispositions)
- Historical
- Cultural
- Personal

Family Histories

- Who is this person?
- How are they related to me?
- What was life like for him/her in 18.., 17..?
- Something to pass on for generations



What do we do?

- Mandates from charter
1. Preserve
 2. Collect
 3. Disseminate/Publish
 4. Education and training

Library

- A great place to visit
- Open:
 1. Wednesdays 9am-9pm;
 2. Fridays 9am – 6pm;
 3. Saturdays 9am-4pm;
 4. 1st & 3rd Sundays, 1pm-5pm
- Other times by appointment

Library Holdings

- *Births, marriages & deaths of Quebec, Maritime Provinces, Ontario, New England, NY and some mid-West states*
- *Drouin indices (“blue” and “red”)*
- *Acadian resources*
- *Female drouin, Loiselle index*

Library holdings (cont.)

- Obituary collection
- Family files, genealogies
- NH & MA Vital records
- PRDH, Dictionnaire Genealogique
- DROUIN (digital)
- NEHGS Databases
- BMS2000 Database
- Ancestry
- LaFrance

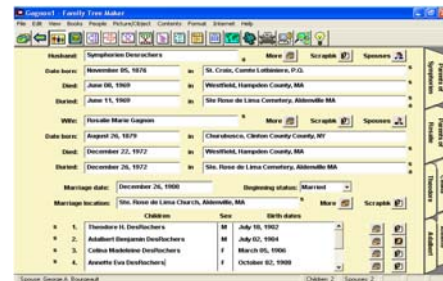
Some items of note

- For French-Canadian, Acadian or Franco-American genealogy...
- Church records were thorough, but many missing
- Consider the Acadian's "*Grand Derangement*"

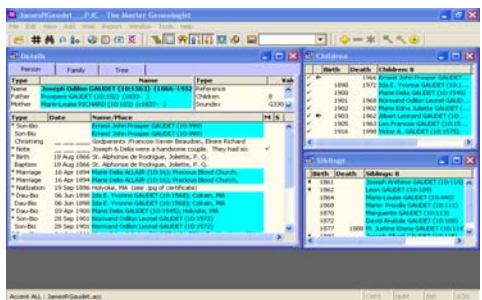
Genealogy Software

- Efficiently collects, organizes and publishes your family information – including photos, source information, etc.
- Includes, but is not limited to:
 1. Family Tree Maker ®
 2. The Master Genealogist ®
 3. Brother's Keeper ®
 4. Personal Ancestry File ®
 5. Legacy ®

Example....



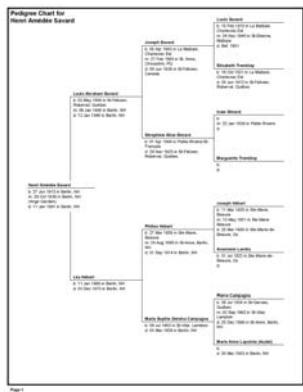
Another example...



The "old-fashioned" way

- Four- or Five-generation charts
- Family Group records
- Fan Charts
- 10-, 12- and 15- generation charts

4 Generation Chart example

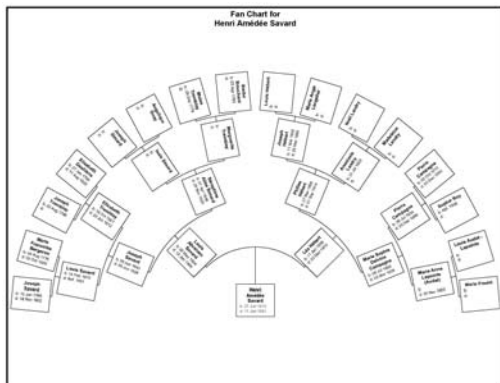


Family Group Sheet example

The family group sheet is titled 'Family Group Sheet for Henri Amelide Gaudet'. It is a form with fields for the names and birth dates of the parents, their marriage date and location, and a list of their children with their birth dates. The form is filled out with the following information:

Name	Birth	Marriage	Children
Henri Amelide Gaudet	17 Jun 1844 in Paris, Fr	18 Jun 1864 in St. Maurice Church, Paris, Fr	Joseph Gaudet (1864-1916), Marie-Anne Gaudet (1848-1916)
Marie-Anne Gaudet	18 Jun 1848 in Paris, Fr		
Joseph Gaudet	17 Jun 1864 in St. Maurice Church, Paris, Fr		
Marie-Anne Gaudet	18 Jun 1848 in Paris, Fr		

Fan Chart



French Canadian records

- Served as official civil record until early 1900's
- Reasons for meticulous record-keeping:
 1. Religious
 2. Socio-political

Digital Drouin



- Primary source documents
- Some 20 millions records
- Closest most of us will ever get to seeing or having 350+ year old records!

AMERICAN-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Leaders in French Canadian, Franco American and Acadian Genealogy

Home About Library Research Membership Brian Catalog Events

ACOS Catalog

The ACOS has a wealth of reference material for sale in our catalog as well as Information Sheets that provide a quick tutorial on various genealogy subjects. Please select a catalog version below for viewing.

[Click here to order any of the publications listed in our catalog.](#)

For visitors with Slower Connections (Modem, Dial-up)	Click here to view the online version of the ACOS Catalog Click here to post the Adobe PDF version of the ACOS Catalog
For visitors with High-Speed Connections (Cable, DSL, T1, etc.)	Some documents on this web site are available in Portable Document Format (PDF). You will need Acrobat Reader to view these documents. You can learn more about the Acrobat Reader here.

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Publications

- Over 150 repertoires
- Over 30 CDs
- A-C Genealogist
- Approx. 50 other assorted publications
- Publications team

How a Repertoire Gets Done

- Permission to copy registers/records
- Copy registers/records
- Data entry and translation of records
- Proofing, proofing, proofing!!!
- Printing: Quality hardcover, easy to read
- Sale: Good value, can be shipped

Sample Repertory

ANNOTT, Thomas J Jr Res: Troy NY Thomas J & Allison O'Connor 28 Sep 1913 St Joseph Troy NY WITNESSES Martin J Donovan & spouse	12 Jul 1940	GALLAGHER, Rosemary F Res: Troy NY William & Rose Weisbachster 22 Feb 1920 St Lawrence Troy NY
ANNOTT, Andrew E Res: Troy NY Andrew & Mary Gray 1884 St Joseph Troy NY WITNESSES Timothy Callahan & Margaret Lohan	21 Apr 1919	LADD, Nora M Res: Troy NY John & Mary Skelton 1886 St Mary Troy NY
ANNOTT, Nancy L Res: Troy NY John E & Elizabeth Wells WITNESSES Jeff Mabey & Deborah Koenig	30 Jan 1981	ROOKE, Dennis J Res: Troy NY William J & Josephine Tilly
ARIEL, Laura Res: Troy NY David & Mary Swart 23 Feb 1957 St Mary Troy NY WITNESSES John Hough Jr & Maria Montwill Validation of Marriage	23 Feb 1957	HARRIS, Benjamin Res: Troy NY Benjamin Sr & Ellen Stanton 01 Sep 1881 St Michael Archangel Troy NY
ARNTSON, Patrick WITNESSES John Murphy & Mary Ann Walsh Names of the parents are not given	11 Aug 1981	COE, Anna
ARMON, Sandra Res: Troy NY Leo & Marge Foley	07 Oct 1977	ARMON, Robert Res: Troy NY Felix & Christina Esposito 04 Sep 1949 St Anthony of Padua Troy NY

Other Services

- Research Department
- Membership
- Conferences
- Library
- Speakers' Bureau
- American-Canadian Genealogist

More Services/Affiliations

- Monthly TMG ® Users' Group meeting
- Gaelic language class at library
- N.E.R.G.C. affiliation and 2009 & 2013 conference

Research Department

- Conducts research & translation services
- Fee-based
- Long distance vs. the brick wall
- Provides revenue for ACGS

Membership

- Largest revenue source for society
- Maintains database
- Key to mailing for *A-C Genealogist*
- Some 2000 active members in US, Canada and overseas

Conferences

- Mandated by charter
- Spring & Fall sessions
- Usually three topics or speakers
- Annual meeting follows Fall session

The American-Canadian Genealogist

- Trimester publication
- Extremely high quality
- Well known authors
- All members get copies
- Offered electronically now
- Labor & time intensive
- Greatest ACGS expense*

Our Newsletter



- *In this issue....*
 1. Spring educational offerings;
 2. Save the Date;
 3. Volunteer spotlight;
 4. Now on the shelves;
 5. Maple Stars and stripes;
 6. "We listened";
 7. Tree of Life
 8. So much more!

Our website: www.acgs.org



Unique Aspects of FC Genealogy

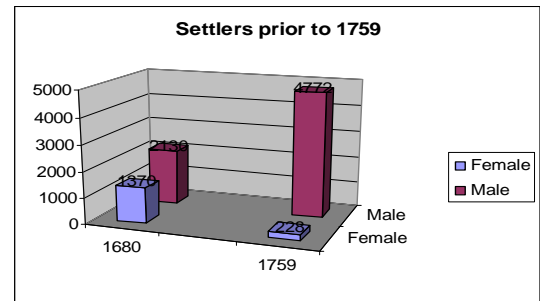
- Population History
- Immigration
- Names
- Culture & Language
- Strategies
- Acadians

Population History

- Small, unrepresentative sample of the French population
- Limited immigration period
- 8500 contributing ancestors but only 1600 women
- Founding nucleus of current 6.5 million French Canadians

45

...and 2+million In US with French Canadian Ancestry



Genealogy & Medicine

- 28 Medelian genetic disorders
- 22 with unusually high incidence
- None are prevalent in France
- Most have made their presence known in the Northeast US.

Patterns of immigration

Pre 1840

- Northern New York, Vermont, Aroostook ME
- Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin

1840-60

- Central MA & RI: Blackstone Valley
- East Ct: Quinebaug Valley
- ME: Augusta/Waterville: Kennebec Valley

Patterns

1860-1880

- NH & MA: Merrimack Valley
- Fall River/New Bedford MA
- Eastern RI: Providence County
- ME: Lewiston/Auburn Biddeford/Sanford
- Decrease in No. NY, VT & CT.

Patterns

- 1880-1900
 - Two thirds in valleys and in Mass or NH
 - 50% were in Mass
 - Increase in permanent migration with easier access to Canada
 - Largest number of immigrants

Nelson Dupry	Mooers, Clinton, NY	abt 1833	Canada
Nelson Flam	Chazy, Clinton, NY	abt 1836	Canada
Nelson Franklin	Ausable, Clinton, NY	abt 1840	Canada
Nelson Galena	Ausable, Clinton, NY	abt 1845	Canada
Nelson Gay	Ausable, Clinton, NY	abt 1825	Canada
Nelson Grimshaw	Clinton, Clinton, NY	abt 1821	Canada
Nelson P Guyette	Ausable, Clinton, NY	abt 1846	Canada
Nelson King	Ausable, Clinton, NY	abt 1815	Canada
Nelson Laporte	Beekmantown, Clinton, NY	abt 1814	Canada
Nelson Leganard	Champlain, Clinton, NY	abt 1826	New York
Nelson Legua	Chazy, Clinton, NY	abt 1831	Canada

Anglicization by “botching” or homonym

- Occurs primarily prior to 1860
 - French ou becomes u; Boudreau/Budrow
 - French au becomes o; Perrault /Pero
 - French l becomes e: Thibault/Tebo
 - Paquet becomes Pocket

Anglicization by intention or synonym

- Occurred throughout immigration
- Roy/King; Laroche/Stone; Laroque/Rock
- Can appear anglicized in a census and in French in church records
- Sources for surnames, rarely for first.

Anglicizations

- Arpin/Harper
- Berthiaume/Barcomb
- Lussier/Lucia
- Guertin/Yatta

The first name dilemma

- Literally translated: Pierre/Peter, Etienne/Stephen, Narcisse/Nelson,
- Sounds like: Apolline/Pauline/Polly, Damase/Thomas, Philomene/Minnie
- Be suspect of Joseph; what happens to Symphorien, Celestin, Eusebe & Cyprien?
- ...and of Marie: what happens to Phélonise, Arzelie, and Zénaïde?

“Dit” Names In Canada

- Means “to say”, also referred to as a “nickname”
- Most military had a dit name, usually an attribute
- Reflected skill, physical characteristic, where one lived and temperament as well!
- Look in reps for their common dit names

Cultural Aspects

In Canada - Illegitimacy

- No last name in Baptismal or marriage records; are listed as "anonyme", "inconnu" or "illégitime"
- Parents are "inconnu", godparents are suspect.
- Men will take a last name for their children.

And Consanguinity

- Jetté refers to "Enfant Naturel" and often names the father. Beyond that, if you can solve it, it will only be by inference.
- Taking the surname of a godparent is always a clue! -Women will often be without a surname in baptisms of her children
- Degree is always noted on marriage records
- Direct result of population history

...but I can't read french

Roadblocks crossing the border

- No parents are listed on the marriage or there is no marriage!
- Working "sideways"
 - Look for baptisms of children & godparents
 - Others with same last name in the area
 - Work on the spouse as well
 - Utilize the census records on both sides

BALTHAZAR			
Adelaide(min)	Joseph & Ange Hall	COOP	30-06-1845
Emery (min)	Joseph & Ange Hall	COOP	13-11-1845
BARBE			
Antoine	T: John Genier & MargretMcGrath	ICKE	23-06-1859
Théophile(25)	Joseph & Marie Lessard	COOP	08-10-1853
Joseph	T: Narcisse Ryan & Laura ...	ICKE	20-11-1859
BARBER			
Libby	T: A. Lapalme & Ls Carter	CADY	14-10-1878
BARBIN			
M. Isabelle	Jean Bte & Isabelle Giroux	SPFL	30-09-1856
BARCOME			
Jean	T: Henry & Olive Tremblay	CHUR	16-07-1880
BARIL			
Louis	T: J.B. Bari & Cyriac Bari	ROUS	31-01-1874
Eliza	T: J.B. Bari & Cyriac Bari	ROUS	31-01-1874
Joseph (21)	J.B. & Geneviève Brulé	COOP	25-09-1852
Jeanne	T: C. Lemaire & E. Archambault	ROUS	24-01-1874
Marcelline	T: Cyriac Baril & M. Collopy	ROUS	06-03-1878
Julie	T: J.B. Baril & W. Decardonnets	ROUS	30-11-1871
F. Vincent	T: A. Laramée & Paul Houle	ELLE	05-02-1871
Sophie	...	ROUS	28-02-1872
Véronique	Joseph & Véronique Dumas	COOP	02-04-1849
Joseph	T: Cyriac Brulé & Pi. Brodeur	CHAM	27-05-1877
Léon (23)	J.B. & Geneviève Brulé	SJKE	11-02-1861
DOWELLE, Charles(mi-			
LABELLE, Angèle(min-			
BADGER, Mary			
FRANCOEUR, Henriette			
RYAN, Amanda			
CARTER, Frank			
TREMBLAY, Georges			
RICHARD, Elisabeth			
BARI, Eliza			
BARIL, Louis			
BOURDON, Marie (19)			
COUTURE, Jules			
DAIGNAULT, Thomas			
DECARDONNETS, André			
HOULE, Esélie			
LANDRY, Alexis			
LEMIEUX, Alexis			
MIRON, Emma			
PHILION, Amaranthe			

Assessing the Value of Records

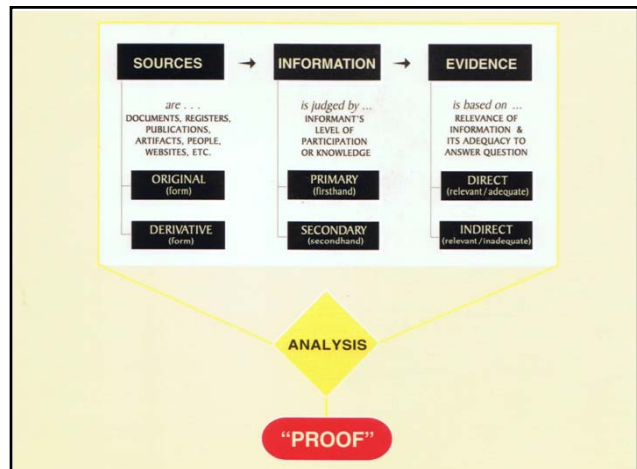
- The basic genealogical rules apply
- Original Sources (THE records)
- Derivative Sources(reps)
- Vital records
- Verbal information
 - Primary
 - Secondary

Evidence Analysis

A Research Process Map®

Basic Principle:

SOURCES provide INFORMATION
from which we select EVIDENCE for ANALYSIS.
A sound conclusion may then be considered "PROOF."



I can't find them in Quebec

Other provinces populated by French Canadians

- North & south sides of Ottawa River in Ontario from Montreal region
- Northern New Brunswick and along the coast from Rimouski, Gaspé & Bonaventure
- Few but some in Western provinces of Alberta & Saskatchewan

Acadians

- If you find an Acadian name in Quebec or the Madawaska region, you most likely can trace them.
- If they were deported to the states or other countries, a knowledgeable researcher is your best shot.

Acadians in Quebec

Primary centers

- Charlevoix/Saguenay region
- Yamachiche
- One town in Bellechasse (I'll find it)
- Nicolet and along the Richelieu river
- All of far eastern Quebec; Cote du Nord, Gaspé, Bonaventure, Rimouski.

Cemetery Record sample

BURIALS				Lot No. 11	Section 8
DATE	AGE	NAME	SEX	Dimensions 1914	
7/23/1866		Renée Dupuis	F	3	4
8/20/1863		Georges Kishewling	M		
				3	4
12/28/1852		Joseph Million, Buried	M		
17/ 1870		Maria, Child of Renée Dupuis, Buried	F	3	4
				3	4
12/24/1858		J. B. Allard	M		
11/27/1851		Marie, Child of J. B. Allard	F	3	4
11/27/1855		Renée, Child of J. B. Allard	F		
11/ 1871		Maria, Child of J. B. Allard	F	3	4
1/28/1877		Maria, Child of J. B. Allard	F		
11/21/1868		Maria Allard	F	3	4

3	4	X	X
3	4	X	X

Marriage Record sample

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
CITY OF LOWELL
Office of City Clerk, 100 WEST ST., LOWELL, MA 01850

CERTIFICATE OF RECORD OF MARRIAGE

GROOM	BRIDE
Name: <u>Scott Burgeson</u>	Name: <u>Christina Bennett</u>
Sex: <u>Male</u>	Sex: <u>Female</u>
Age: <u>31</u>	Age: <u>24</u>
Color: <u>White</u>	Color: <u>White</u>
Religion: <u>None</u>	Religion: <u>None</u>
Place of Birth: <u>Lowell, Mass.</u>	Place of Birth: <u>Lowell, Mass.</u>
Place of Marriage: <u>Lowell, Mass.</u>	Place of Marriage: <u>Lowell, Mass.</u>

Witnessed and Solemnized at the City of Lowell, Massachusetts, on the 14th day of April, 1988, by the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace, in and for said City of Lowell, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 207C, Section 24B of the Acts of 1978, as amended, and in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 207C, Section 24B of the Acts of 1978, as amended, and in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 207C, Section 24B of the Acts of 1978, as amended.

WITNESSED the seal of the City of Lowell

[Signature] CITY CLERK

Other Sources of Information



- Census records
- Church/parish records
- **Courts**
- Land offices
- Newspaper files
- Military records

Other Family Sources of Information

- Bibles
- Oral histories
- Photographs
- Scrapbooks
- Funeral cards

Other Sources of Information

- Census records
- Pension records
- Gravestones
- **Military records**
- Cemetery records
- Newspaper archives

Other Sources of Information



Family Associations & Reunions



Putting Names to Pictures

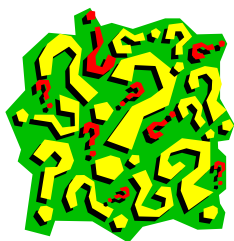
- More than just a name
- Something to hand on or down



Other Area Resources

- Manchester Historical Association -research room
- Millyard Museum
- Manchester City Library (NH Room and newspapers)
- NH Historical Society – Concord
- NH State Library – Concord
- NH Vital Records – Concord
- Pollard Memorial Library – Lowell, MA
- Mogan Center – UMass Lowell campus
- Family History Center – Nashua NH
- NARA – Waltham MA
- NEHGS – Boston MA

Questions?



The End ("Tout Fini")

