

French Colonization

Agenda & Objectives

Today we're going to learn about:

- Where and how the French colonized North America
- What life was like in New France

Objectives:

- Examine the motivations of French colonization
- Describe life in New France

Where

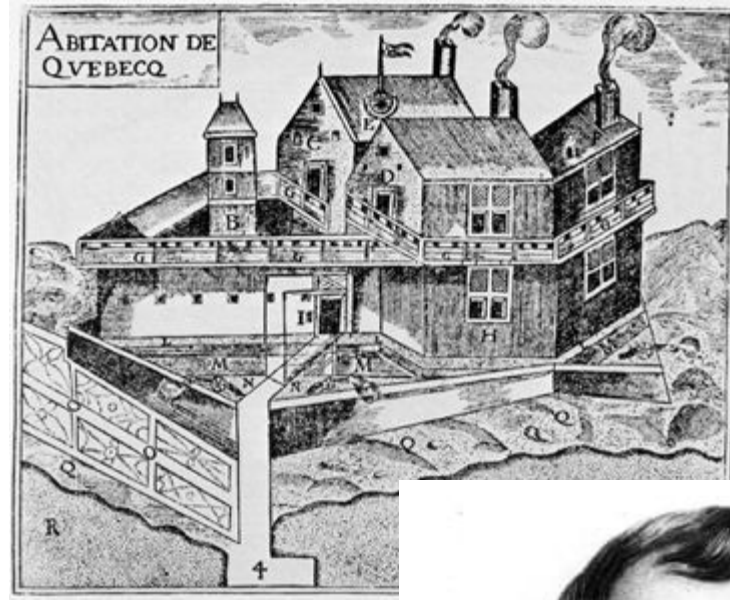
French largely colonized the **St. Lawrence** river, eventually leading all the way down to Louisiana!



When

The first successful colony
was established by Samuel
de Champlain in 1608.

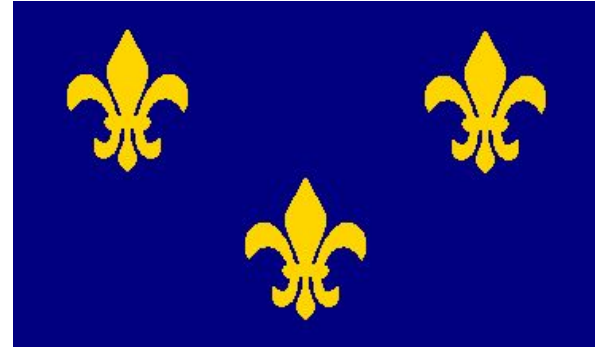
This colony is Quebec City!



Why

The French really came for the three Fs:

- Fish
- Fur
- Friends

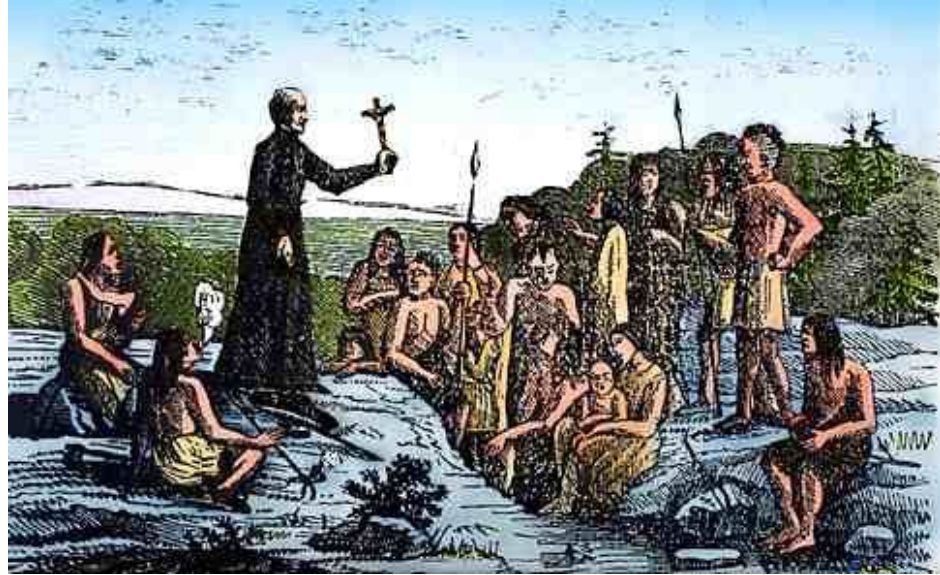


The French were really only here to make a quick buck through trade.

Why

Like all other colonizers, they wanted to **convert** the Natives to Christianity.

French priests called Jesuits tried this with **limited** success at first.



Who and how

The French needed people to settle in North America and had a **hard** time attracting people.

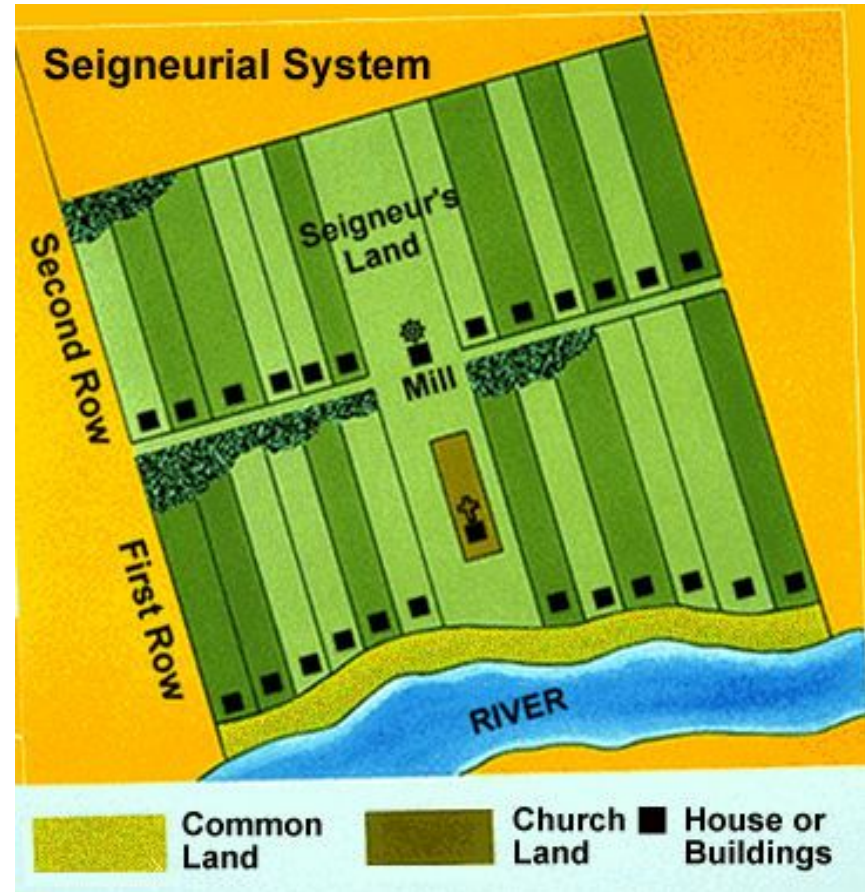
To attract people, they set up the “seigneurial system”, where people could get **free land**!



Seigneurial System

In the seigneurial system, a seigneur (a **landlord**) would get people to settle and farm near a river, called “habitants”.

Habitants had to clear the land and farm, giving some of their crops to the seigneur as rent.





Effects for Indigenous Peoples

All that farming required a lot of land.

However, it still wasn't as bad as the English.

Generally speaking, Indigenous people liked the French more because they realized they were **not** interested in taking as much land as the English.

Effects for Indigenous Peoples

In fact, the French were very interested in making **allies** with the Natives.

Champlain first entered New France into a war between Algonquin, Montagnais, and other Algonquian speaking groups against the **Iroquois**.

For nearly **100 years**, there would be on and off warfare for all the parties involved.

Great Peace of Montreal

In 1701, the warring stopped with the Great Peace of Montreal.

Here is the speech given by the Governor (leader) of New France ->

“It is with extreme joy that I see all my children assembled here now, you Hurons, Sable Odawas, Kiskakons, Sinago Odawas, [Odawas] nation of the Fork, [Ojibwas], Potawatomis, Sauks, Puants [...] Abenakis, and you the Iroquois nations; having one and all place your interests in my hands that I can have you all live in tranquility, I therefore today ratify the peace agreement that we have made...

Great Peace of Montreal

“As I am determined that there be no more talk of the attacks made during the war, and I gather up again all your hatchets, and all your other instruments of war, which I place with mine in a pit so deep that no one can take them back to disturb the tranquility that I have re-established among my children, and I recommend to you when you meet to treat each other as brothers, and make arrangements for the hunt together so that there will be no quarrels among you I attach my words to the collars I will give to each one of your nations so that the elders may have them carried out by their young people, I invite you to smoke, and to eat meat and broth that I have prepared for you so that I have like a good father the satisfaction of seeing all my children united.”

What strikes you about this passage?

Big idea

Like all nations, France had a unique way of colonizing.

France only came to North America to **trade** with Indigenous people here. This made them more liked by Indigenous peoples.

Largely the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and French were characterized by **cooperation** opposed to conflict.