

## *Acadian Historical Timelines in the Canadian Maritimes:*

**1604** French settlers under Pierre du Gua de Monts and Samuel de Champlain settle an island in St. Croix River.

**1605** Settlement moves to Port Royal.

**1606** L'Order de Bon Temps founded by Samuel de Champlain. Arrival of Marc Lescarbot, renowned for his diaries describing life in Acadia.

**1607** De Monts monopoly canceled.

**1610** Poutrincourt comes to Acadia.

**1613** English from Jamestown, Virginia attack, beginning the struggle between French and English for control of Acadia.

**1621** English change name to Nova Scotia.

**1632** French settlers under Isaac de Razilly settle at La Héve.

**1635** French focus for settlement switches from La Héve back to Port Royal.

**1640** 1st dykes built. Charles La Tour and Menou d'Aulnay fight for control of Acadia.

**1654** British, led by Robert Sedgewick from Boston, capture Port Royal, La Have and a fort at the mouth of the Saint John River.

**1667** Treaty of Breda under which England gave Acadia back to France, although it was not until 1670 that the actual exchange of control took place.

**1671** 1st official census registers Acadian population of more than than 400.

**1672** Village Beaubassin founded by Jacques Bourgeois near present-day Amherst, Nova Scotia.

**1680** Grand-Pré founded by Pierre Melanson.

**1690** English begin repeated attacks on Port Royal.

**1709** Birth of Charles Lawrence, the career soldier who ordered the expulsion of the Acadians in 1755. He was appointed Lieutenant- Governor of Nova Scotia in 1754.

**1710** Final surrender of Acadia to the English Acadian population rises from 2500 to 8000 over next 39 years.

**1713** Treaty of Utrecht; Birth of Edward Cornwallis, Governor of Nova Scotia from

**1749-1752.** Cornwallis founded Halifax in an effort to strengthen the British position.

**1724** Mi'kmaq attack English at Fort Anne, but the English suspect Acadian involvement.

**1729** Acadians sign conditional Oath of Allegiance under Governor Richard Phillips, who fails to inform Britain of this oath which does not require Acadians to bear arms for the English.

**1745** Capture of Louisbourg by the English.

**1748** Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle.

**1749** Halifax established as British capital of Nova Scotia.

**1755** Siege of Fort Beauséjour in June. In July Acadian representatives refuse to sign Oath of Allegiance. Deportation begins in August, first at Fort Cumberland (formerly Beauséjour), then Grand-Pré and later Annapolis Royal.

**1764** Acadians permitted to return to Nova Scotia.

**1766** Acadians return to Pubnico.

**1768** Acadians re-settle at Clare.

**1782** Acadians re-settle at Cheticamp.

**1789** Nova Scotia Acadians regain the right to vote.

**1810** New Brunswick Acadians win the right to vote.

**1829** Roman Catholics given political rights in the Maritimes, allowing them to vote and run for political office.

**1830** Prince Edward Island Acadians win right to vote.

**1836** 1st Acadian elected to Nova Scotia Legislative Assembly.

**1847** Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem, "Evangeline" published.

**1859** 1st French-language study of Acadians undertaken by Edme Rameau of France.

**1864** College Saint Joseph established in Memramcook, New Brunswick.

**1867** Le Moniteur Acadien, French-language newspaper in the Maritimes, established.

**1881** First National Acadian Convention held in Memramcook, New Brunswick. Our Lady of Assumption chosen as Patron Saint of Acadians.

**1884** National Acadian Convention held in Miscouche, Prince Edward Island at which national flag and anthem are chosen.

1885 Pascal Poirer, Acadian lawyer appointed senator for New Brunswick.

**1890** College Sainte-Anne established in Church Point, Nova Scotia.

**1905** St. Mary's Church built.

**1917** First Acadian Premier of Canadian province with Aubin-Edmond Arsenault elected Premier of Prince Edward Island; Fort Anne becomes a National Historic Site.

**1928** Fortress Louisbourg becomes a National Historic Site.

**1939** Port Royal Habitation is reconstructed as a National Historic Site

**1945** Joseph-Alphonse Bernard of Prince Edward Island becomes the first Acadian Lieutenant-Governor.

**1961** Grand-Pré becomes a National Historic Site.

1963 Université de Moncton established.

**1968** Centre d'études acadiennes established at Université de Moncton.

**1971** La Sangouine, world-renowned novel by Antoine Maillet, published.

**1973** Centre acadien established at College Sainte-Anne.

**1977** College Sainte-Anne becomes Université Saint-Anne.

**1979** Pelagie-La-Charrette wins French literary award for the story of a woman's ten-year trek back to Acadia after the expulsion.

**1994** Congrès Mondial Acadien held in Moncton, New Brunswick.

**1999** Congrès Mondial Acadien held in Acadie du Sud, Louisiana.

**2004** Congrès Mondial Acadien held in Nova Scotia.

**2009** Congrès Mondial Acadien held in Caraquet, New Brunswick.

*Sources for the above-noted timeline include:*

- a) Acadia. The Canadian Encyclopedia Plus, CD-ROM. McClelland & Stewart, 1996.
- b) Griffiths, Naomi. The Acadians: Creation of a People. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 1973.
- c) Moody, Barry M. The Acadians. Toronto, Ontario: Grolier Ltd., 1981.
- d) Quinpool, John. First Things in Acadia. Halifax: First Things Publishers, 1936.
- e) Ross, Sally & Alphonse Deveau. The Acadians: Past and Present. Halifax: Nimbus Publishing, 1992.

## *Cajun Historical Timelines in Louisiana:*

**1604** La Cadie, later called Acadie, is founded by the French in Nova Scotia.

**1682** Robert Cavalier de La Salle claims Louisiana for France.

**1699** First permanent French settlement in Louisiana established in Biloxi.

**1713** Acadie is ceded to Britain under the terms of the Treaty of Utrecht.

**1714** City of Natchitoches is founded.

**1718** City of New Orleans is founded.

**1719** First shiploads of African slaves arrive in New Orleans.

**1755** Le Grand Dérangement begins and thousands of Acadians are deported.

**1756** Poste des Attakapas is founded in south central Louisiana.

**1762** France cedes Louisiana to Spain.

**1764** First documented arrival of Acadians in Louisiana.

**1765** Acadians settle at Poste des Attakapas.

**1776** United States of America declares independence from Britain.

**1785** Final Acadian migrations: Seven shiploads of almost 1,600 arrive in New Orleans from France.

**1789** French Revolution brings waves of French immigrants to Louisiana.

**1791** Slave revolt in Haiti brings more than 10,000 Creoles of French, African, and mixed descent to Louisiana.

**1800** Spain cedes Louisiana to France.

**1803** Napoleon Bonaparte sells Louisiana to U.S. for \$15-million.

**1809** Arrival of 5700 Francophone refugees fleeing revolution in Haiti.

**1812** Louisiana acquires U.S. statehood.

**1836** Vermillionville, later named Lafayette, is incorporated.

**1847** Longfellow publishes *Evangeline* through which the world first hears about the Acadian diaspora.

**1861** Civil War begins.

**1882** Railroad crosses Louisiana prairie, bringing more settlers and increasing the area's contact with the outside world.

**1901** Oil is discovered in Louisiana near Jennings.

**1905** Thousands die in Yellow Fever epidemic.

**1906** Plaquemine Lock completed, allowing continuous navigation between Mississippi River and Atchafalaya Basin.

**1914** World War I begins.

**1916** Suppression of the French language in schools by the State Board of Education; "Les enfants sont punis quand ils parlent français".

**1921** New Louisiana Constitution adopted, officially instituting the end of any public education in French, stating that "The general exercises in the public schools shall be conducted in the English language".

**1927** President Coolidge visits a Louisiana ravaged by flooding.

**1928** Louisiana Governor Huey P. Long begins extensive road-paving project. Joe Falcon and Cléoma Breaux make first recording of a Cajun song, *Allons à Lafayette*.

**1929** Stock market crash, beginning of Depression.

**1941** World War II begins, many young Cajun men serve as interpreters in Europe.

**1947** First offshore oil well in the Gulf of Mexico.

**1955** Acadian Bicentennial.

**1968** Conseil pour le Développement du Français en Louisiane is created.

**1971** Edwin Edwards takes his Oath of office in French and English, becoming Louisiana's only French-speaking governor of the 20th Century.

**1974** Flag of Acadiana officially adopted by the Louisiana State Legislature First Hommage à la musique acadienne, later to become part of Festivals Acadiens.

**1976** Publication of *Lâche pas la patate* by Revon Reed, first book in Cajun French.

**1980's** Cajun music and food gain international recognition; c'est cool d'être Cadien.

**1981** 1st French immersion program in Louisiana started at La Belle Aire school in East Baton Rouge Parish.

**1983** Calcasieu Parish begins an immersion program.

**1989** Assumption and St. Martin Parishes introduce immersion programs.

**1990** Census reports 668,271 Acadians/Cajuns residing in the U.S.; 61 percent are Louisiana residents.

**1991** Louisiana State Legislature designates St. Martinville as the home of "The World Memorial to All Acadian Refugees Who Ended Their Exile in Louisiana".

**1992** Lafayette Parish begins an immersion program.

**1994** Acadia Parish opens an immersion program; the University of Southwestern Louisiana begins the first Doctoral program in Francophone Studies in North America.

**1995** Consortium of Immersion Schools created.

**1996** Orleans Parish begins an immersion program; immersion programs in Lafayette and Assumption parishes are greatly expanded.

**1998** East Baton Rouge Parish reintroduces immersion.

**1999** Entire state participates in FrancoFête, a year-long celebration of the tricentennial of the founding of the first French settlement in Louisiana; the second Congrès Mondial Acadien held in Louisiana in August, reuniting from all over the world the descendants of those deported from Acadia in 1755.

Source: The above-noted was reproduced from "Le Petit Guide", published by the Conseil pour le Développement du Français n Louisiane, 1999.