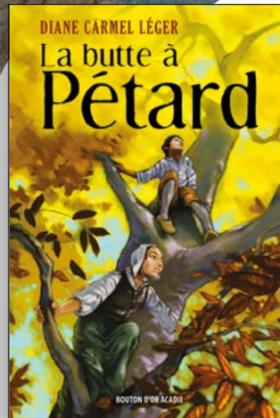


Books for Young Readers: From New Brunswick to Louisiana



La butte à pétard Diane Carmel Léger

During the great deportation of 1755, a number of families from Butte à Pétard, recently renamed Saint-Joseph-de-Memramcook in New Brunswick, were forced to hide in the forest to escape from the English. Separated from their parents, Prémélia and Fidèle found themselves on the run with their grandfather, who was nicknamed Pétard. Accompanied by the widow Rosalie and the Mi'kmaq Kitpou, they would have to face the challenges of a life in exile that would last eight years.

The two children and their grandfather joined a group of families that gathered to head toward the Ruisseau Vaseux stream. At the edge of the woods, Jacques à Pétard's children turned back for a last look at their home. The sad Acadians walked single file in the twilight and the whispers of their prayers permeated the forest. (p. 20)

Éditions Bouton d'or d'Acadie, teen fiction, 124 pages, 2015. 978-2-89682-064-1. Ages 11 and up.

Also available in digital format, and in a boxed set containing the trilogy *La butte à Pétard*.

Highlights:

- This novel is the first volume in a trilogy that also includes *Retour à la butte à Pétard* and *Échos de la butte à Pétard*;
- It contains many expressions specific to Acadian speech;
- The narrative features Aboriginal legends that add a fantastical element to the novel.

Further Reading



Le départ de Julie by Marie-France Comeau, illustrations by Réjean Roy

Julie is a woman of the land who lives a humble life, respecting Mother Nature and the Virgin Mary. Every morning, she does her laundry and hangs her bright white sheets in the sun. But she is seen by an ant and one day, the whole colony is swarming over Julie's clean sheets. Julie and her daughter must then leave, but to go where?

Éditions Bouton d'or d'Acadie, illustrated book, 24 pages, 2009. 978-2-92351-850-3. All ages. Also available in digital format.

Histoire des Acadiennes et Acadiens de la Louisiane (The History of the Acadians of Louisiana)

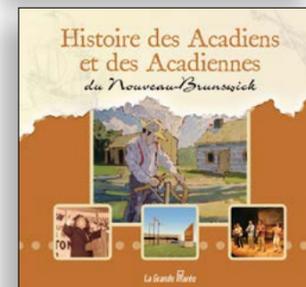
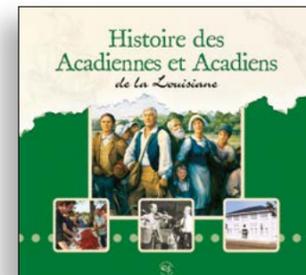
by Zachary Richard, Sylvain Godin and Maurice Basque

Histoire des Acadiens et des Acadiennes du Nouveau-Brunswick by Sylvain Godin and Maurice Basque

These two comprehensive educational books examine the establishment and development of francophone Acadian communities in Louisiana and New Brunswick. They cover a long period in the history of the Acadians, from their arrival to the building of the economic and cultural infrastructures of these societies. These two books include writing exercises that encourage research and the development of critical thinking skills in young readers.

Histoire des Acadiennes et Acadiens de la Louisiane, Éditions La Grande Marée, essay, 142 pages, 2012. 978-1-93575-418-3. Ages 8 to 12.

Histoire des Acadiens et des Acadiennes du Nouveau-Brunswick, Éditions La Grande Marée, essay, 160 pages, 2007. 978-2-34972-245-4. Ages 8 to 12.



RECF



Acadians have a rich history that reflects a strong identity, despite the scattering of their people that was decreed by the English during the period of deportation (1755-1763) known as the “Grand Dérangement” or Great Upheaval. Acadia had been a French colony since 1604 and the French discovery of the New World. French families settled mainly in the regions that are today New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Acadia flourished and at the beginning of the 18th

century reached a population of approximately 14,000 people who mainly worked the land and lived in harmony with the Aboriginal peoples.

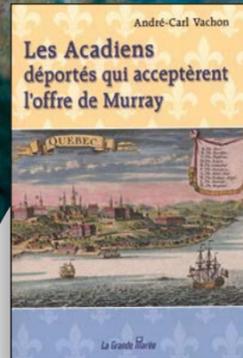
However, on the other side of the Atlantic, tensions between France and England were intensifying, which affected relations between the French colony of Acadia and the English colonies. In 1713, France and England signed the Treaty of Utrecht and Acadia became an English territory. England wanted the Acadians to swear an oath of allegiance to the British Crown, which would commit them to fighting alongside the English if war were to break out. Since the Acadians refused to swear an oath of allegiance, the English decided to eradicate the Acadians by depriving them of their weapons and their boats; the Acadians had to leave the territory.

The Expulsion of the Acadians

The expulsion began in 1755 and would last until the Treaty of Paris, which put an end to the dispersal in 1763. From a population of 14,000 Acadians, approximately 8,000 were deported south and exiled; they were scattered from the north shore of the St. Lawrence River to Louisiana. In 1764, England allowed the Acadians to return and settle again in former Acadian territory, on the condition that they sign an oath of allegiance to the British Crown. Now few in number, the Acadians settled in the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Louisiana. Despite the dispersal of the Acadians, the Acadian identity remains alive and well, and many books tell their story.

Our Books, Your History

Presented by the Regroupement des éditeurs canadiens-français (RECF), the project “Our Books, Your History” showcases a catalogue of books reflecting the original voices of French-Canadian authors. Works by these authors touch on all periods of Canada's history, from the earliest settlements to the World Wars of the 20th century, and take many forms, from children's picture books to documentary volumes and scholarly anthologies.



Les Acadiens déportés qui acceptèrent l'offre de Murray, Éditions La Grande Marée, essay, 319 pages, 2016. 978-2-34972-340-6

La déportation des Acadiens et leur arrivée au Québec 1755-1775, Éditions La Grande Marée, essay, 250 pages, 2014. 978-2-34972-314-7 Also available in digital format.

Les Acadiens déportés qui acceptèrent l'offre de Murray André-Carl Vachon

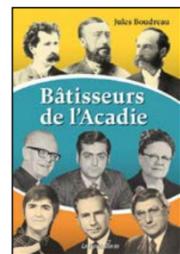
In this essay, author André-Carl Vachon begins with the proclamation by Governor James Murray who, in the wake of the deportation, gave away land in the Province of Quebec free to immigrants. This book is a follow up to La déportation des Acadiens et leur arrivée au Québec 1755-1775. These two books help us to understand the history of Acadia, from its establishment to the settling of the Acadians in Quebec.

It was 1754... Charles Lawrence, the lieutenant-governor of Nova Scotia, assisted by William Shirley, the governor of Massachusetts, established a plan to end the francophone presence in French Acadia (New Brunswick). They even came to the conclusion that "the Acadians have no rights to their property, unless they swear an absolute and unconditional oath of allegiance". (p. 6)

Highlights:

- The books are organized systematically, with summaries, key dates, suggestions for further reading and an index of proper names;
- The first volume won the 2015 Prix Acadie-Québec and Percy W. Foy awards.

Further Reading



Bâtisseurs de l'Acadie by Jules Boudreau

Bâtisseurs de l'Acadie is presented in the form of a multiple biography that introduces different Acadian historical figures, pioneers who formed and defended Acadia. This book is a collection of the author's columns that appeared in the daily newspaper L'Acadie Nouvelle in 2012 and 2013.

Éditions La Grande Marée, biography, 224 pages, 2014. 978-2-34972-301-7

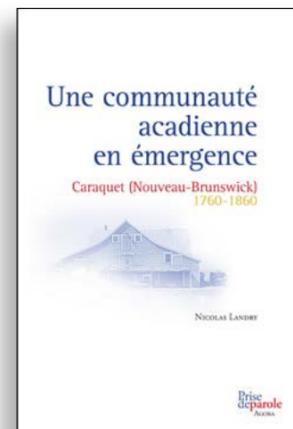
Une communauté acadienne en émergence. Caraquet (Nouveau-Brunswick) 1760-1860 Nicolas Landry

After the deportation, Caraquet, one of the oldest Acadian parishes in New Brunswick, saw the return of many Acadian families. From then on, two francophone communities shared the same space, one having experienced the deportation and the other not, resulting in conflict. This book is an in-depth study of the historical, demographic and economic issues affecting the two communities.

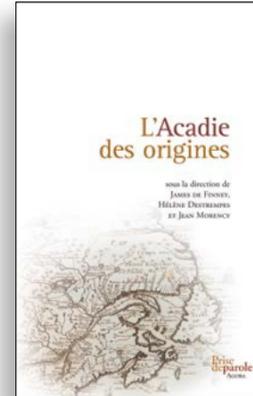
The Acadians rebuilt a new society [...]. In time, they established religious, educational, political and economic institutions. To a large extent, Caraquet's identity is shaped by its affiliation with a maritime and economic zone that incorporates Newfoundland, Labrador, New England, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and eastern Quebec. (p. 8)

Highlights:

- Includes photographs of Caraquet's pioneers and objects from daily life, as well as many tables;
- A comprehensive study that remains accessible to everyone since its themes are specific and concrete.



Éditions Prise de parole, essay, 192 pages, 2009. 978-2-89423-245-3 Also available in digital format.



Éditions Prise de parole, essay, 170 pages, 2011. 978-2-89423-255-2 Also available in digital format.

L'Acadie des origines : mythes et figurations d'un parcours littéraire et historique Edited by James De Finney, Hélène Destrempe and Jean Morency

From the period before the deportation through to its contemporary construction, this study examines the representations and the collective imagination of a mythical and mythologized Acadia. From a historical and literary perspective, it explores various aspects of this population, which is distinguished by the uniqueness of its language and the structure of its environment. Eleven experts analyze representations of this constantly evolving society that blends imagination and reality.

The objective of this book is to identify and analyze [the] various manifestations [textual and cartographic] in light of the study of collective representations and the place that these representations occupy in the process of the emergence of collective imaginations. (p. 5)

Highlights:

- The strength of this book lies mainly in its literary treatment of myths and in its academic structure;
- Presents period maps that trace the evolution of the territory and of place names.

Further Reading



Prudent by Georgette LeBlanc

With this collection, Georgette LeBlanc uses poetry to illustrate the mutiny by 232 Acadians on board the ship Pembroke bound for Virginia. Through the eyes of the figure of Prudent Robichaud, known as "the Elder", poetic narration and the protagonist's speeches combine to make this an unusual book with a message.

Éditions Perce-Neige, poetry, 128 pages, 2013. 978-2-89691-125-7.

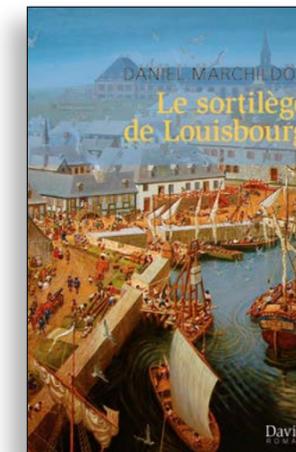
Le sortilège de Louisbourg Daniel Marchildon

Four years after the French regained the fortress of Louisbourg on Île Royale, the young soldier Mathurin Le Mordant arrives in the town in the midst of the rebuilding and falls instantly under the spell of Josette Guion. Betrayals, power struggles and love play havoc with the characters in this historical novel. The British presence having left its mark on them, these men and women attempt to start over despite the difficult living conditions that they have to cope with.

It still felt like wartime, even though they were at peace. On the quay at the fortress of Louisbourg, English soldiers and civilians were running in all directions. [...] In the middle of all the commotion, a baby barely three months old squirmed under the blankets at the bottom of a basket that had just been deposited on the ground. (p. 15)

Highlights:

- This novel is strongly inspired by real people who lived in Louisbourg;
- The text contains extracts from *L'aménagement linguistique dans le monde*, incorporating fact into fiction;
- At the end of the book references are provided for the period documents cited in the text.



Éditions David, novel, 328 pages, 2014. 978-2-89597-386-7 Also available in digital format.

Where to find the books

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