



Land Records Syllabus

By Tracey Arial

A presentation outlining tools for investigating land owners and tenants in five historic registration systems: French manors seigneurial (1626-1978), British crown (1763-1867), Jesuit (1800-1831), township (1792-1838), and public (1862-1992). When the public system went digital in 1992, an additional 850,000 properties got registered.

Glossary

Cadastre: land registration

Censitaire: tenants

Cens: rent paid by habitants, could be produce or money

Concessions: land grants

Demesne: land farmed by a manor lord or his employees, not rented out

l'Index des immeubles: property history, including all the transactions carried out on a lot, but also about building rights. Every lot has a property sheet and real estate file with all buildings.

Foncier: property rolls

Propres: Items legally owned by a man and women when they married that would not be jointly owned after marriage

Seigneuries: manors

Seigneur: lord

Socage: rent in the form of farming, money, military service, or religious service. Stable and inheritable. The British brought “free and common socage” or freehold to Canada in 1774, but only for unowned lands. Free and common socage eliminates military and religious service.

Titre: title deed



Primary Sources in Canada

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ)

Concession Title Registries: Registre des titres de concession, de ratification et des autres actes représentés par les seigneurs des fiefs et les propriétaires d'emplacements à Monsieur Michel Bégon, intendant en Nouvelle-France, en conformité de ses ordonnances des 24 décembre 1722, 24 mai 1724 et 14 janvier 1725 (vers 1723-1725), volume 1, f. 98-101.

Fonds Syndicat national du rachat des rentes seigneuriales, 1676-1978, Cote : E39, Id 283317.

[Gaspé Land Commission — names of claimants, 1819-1825](#)

[Lower Canada Land Petitions](#), 1764-1841

Municipalities

Brome Lake: <https://ville.lac-brome.qc.ca/residents/taxes-and-property-assessment/>

Charlevoix: <https://mrccharlevoixest.ca/role-evaluation-matrice-graphique/>

Montreal: <https://servicesenligne2.ville.montreal.qc.ca/sel/evalweb/index>

Quebec: https://www.ville.quebec.qc.ca/citoyens/taxes_evaluation/evaluation_fonciere/index.aspx

Official Cadastral Plan, Energy and Natural Resources Quebec

Infolot: <https://appli.mern.gouv.qc.ca/Infolot/CarteInteractive/Bureau?g=7f40cd82-9148-4849-8070-e7b129829e81>

[Plan cadastral officiel - Information foncière \(gouv.qc.ca\)](#)

Select "Building index "l'index des immeubles", then enter the land division; the name of the cadastre; the lot number and the secondary designation, if applicable.

<https://www.registrefoncier.gouv.qc.ca/Sirf/>

Drouin Institute

[PRDH Database](#), index and images. (\$)

Library and Archives Canada

Seigneurie grants, reports on grants, notarial records, farming layouts, etc.



<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/exploration-settlement/new-france-new-horizons/Pages/settlement.aspx?wbdisable=true>

Parks Canada

History elibrary, <http://parkscanadahistory.com/>

Primary Sources in the United States

Ancestry

[Quebec, Canada, Notarial Records, 1637-1935](#), index and images (\$)

[Quebec Notarial Records \(Drouin Collection\), 1647-1942](#), index and images (\$)

Family Search

List of lands [granted by the crown](#) in the province of Québec from 1763 to December 31st, 1890

[Quebec notarial records : COLLECTION RECORD, 1800-1920](#)

Secondary Sources

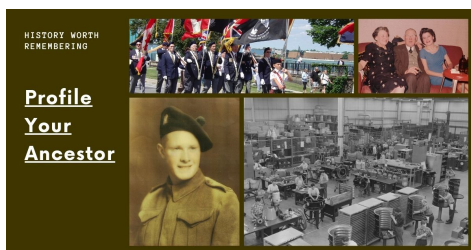
Academic papers

Borealia. “Beyond the ‘System’: The Enduring Legacy of Seigneurial Property,” October 9, 2018. <https://earlycanadianhistory.ca/2018/10/09/beyond-the-system-the-enduring-legacy-of-seigneurial-property/>.

Riddell, W. R. “The Slave in Upper Canada.” *The Journal of Negro History* 4, no. 4 (1919): 372–95. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2713447>.

Roy, F & E Genovese (2012) From parcels to global cadastre: challenges and issues of the post-cadastral reform in Quebec, *Survey Review*, 44:326, 181-188, DOI: [10.1179/1752270611Y.0000000028](https://doi.org/10.1179/1752270611Y.0000000028).

Trudel, Marcel. “The Seigneurial Regime.” *Canadian Historical Association Booklet* 6 (n.d.).



Books

Harwood, Robert Unwin, Philippe-Joseph Aubert de Gaspé, Siegneurial system of New France, World Heritage Encyclopedia,

http://self.gutenberg.org/articles/eng/seigneurial_system_of_new_france

Jugements et délibérations du Conseil Souverain de la Nouvelle-France. Volume 1. Québec: Gouvernement du Québec, 1932.

Mathieu, Jacques, and Alain Laberge. L'Occupation des terres dans la vallée du Saint-Laurent: aveux et dénombrements, 1723–1745 (Occupation of the St. Lawrence River Valley: Oaths of Allegiance and Censuses, 1723–1745). Sillery, Québec, Canada: Éditions du Septentrion, 1991. (Family History Library [book 971.4 R2m](#).) Text in French.

Roy Pierre Georges et Antoine Roy, *Inventaire de Greffes des Notaires du Régime Français*, Volumes I and II, 1943.

Websites

Sieigneurie de Beaupré: <http://www.seigneuriedebeauvre.ca/>

<https://www.canadianmysteries.ca/sites/angelique/archives/governmentdocument/2249en.html>

French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan (FCHSM), <https://habitantheritage.org/index.php>

Genealogy Ensemble: <https://genealogyensemble.com/>

Tracey's website: <https://profileyourancestor.ca> or <https://traceyarial.com/blog/genealogist/> (particularly stories: [Joseph Dufour's farm](https://traceyarial.com/blog/anne-josephe-gourdine/), <https://traceyarial.com/blog/anne-josephe-gourdine/>, and <https://traceyarial.com/blog/scoundrels-wife/> and <https://traceyarial.com/blog/the-kings-daughters/>)