

Mius  
Fam

included. But very few other landmarks are given. Even by the year 1205, Montreuil was the second deanery of the Paris diocese and because of this, a new road was constructed to connect Montreuil with Paris. By the time of Martin PRÉVOST's birth, he would have grown up in a cosmopolitan community, one that had real importance within the wider jurisdiction of the diocese of Paris and the government of France.

The stained glass windows reflect the fact that, for years, this was the parish church of the royal family. Martin PRÉVOST and his sister, Jeanne, who also emigrated to Québec, were not the most famous persons to be baptized at L'Église Saint-Pierre Saint-Paul. Charles V (the Wise), King of France and his wife, Jeanne of Bourbon, were baptized here, according to Madame RICHARD's research. It is interesting to note also that this church was built just before King Louis IX built his beautiful stained glass masterpiece, Sainte-Chapelle in Paris.

Obviously, this bustling Paris suburb would be wholly foreign to Martin PRÉVOST, if he were to return to it today. In fact, only the road approaching the church in any way reflects the history of

the community even before the 20th century. But Martin PRÉVOST could return today and stand in the cool dark light of his parish church and find it the same building he left over 350 years ago. As I stood there listening to Mrs. RICHARD's descriptions, that is what occurred to me and made me feel as if I had reached back and touched the past.

There is a lesson here for the genealogist of today. Even those of us who have moved so far in time and place from our pasts can indeed return to obtain a real sense of that past. As I stood in the church, and spoke with people whose ancestors never left France, I could not help but realize that although we may not share kinship, we share a history of place that united our very different worlds and connects us through the more than 350 years that separate us from our ancestors. Even though one cannot go today to any Paris suburb and find the world of our ancestors, one can, with some care and effort, find a spot that can bring us, for a short magic moment, into the world of our ancestors. Indeed, in some way as my husband and I stood together in that church with the RICHARDS, we were, all of us, at home.

## Étoile d'Acadie

*Dans le monde entier, l'Acadie cherche ses enfants (Aurore Filodeau)*  
**Acadia seeks her children throughout the world.**

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### The Acadian Newsletter

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## Researching Mius-d'Entremont Ancestors in France

C. Melvin SURETTE, #4664

In a previous article, I had demonstrated the manner in which I had proceeded to search for one of my great-great-grandfathers in Lyon, France. In that case

there already existed some signposts for the search since the early Acadian records and researchers like Bona ARSENAULT had mentioned that city as the home city

church to honor their ancestor. The plaque reads, "*Hommage à Martin PRÉVOST baptisé ici le 4 janvier 1611, ancêtre de la plupart des PRÉVOST de l'Amérique Française. Premier pionnier de la Nouvelle-France qui épousa une Amérindienne, Marie MANITOUABESICH novembre 1644.*"

Martin PRÉVOST had made a name for himself not only as ancestor of many of the PROVOSTs who now live in the United States and Canada, but also because his marriage, recorded at Notre-Dame-de-Québec in 1644 is the first recorded marriage in New France between a Frenchman and *une femme sauvage*, both of which facts are mentioned on the plaque. I had already visited the site of his land grants on Rue Sous-le-Fort in the lower village in the old section of Québec City and in Beauport where he died at age 80 in 1691. I felt that I had a sense of where he had lived once he had arrived in New France and where he and his wife had raised their eight children. One of the children, Jean-Baptiste, had gone on to have 25 children by two wives, single handedly guaranteeing the survival of the PRÉVOST-PROVOST name in the new world. Perhaps I could now get a sense of the life Martin had left behind when he emigrated from France.

What followed was a mystery to be solved. The article I had read gave no name to the church and an attempt to find information through the Paris Tourist Bureau was fruitless. (Apparently the suburbs of Paris don't count as Parisian sites!). I finally wrote directly to the village of Montreuil in my truly atrocious French, asking for addresses of the older churches in the area. The reply that came was well beyond any expectations. There was only one old church, the Church of Saint-Peter and Saint-Paul built in the 1200s under the direction of King Louis IX (Saint Louis) for use as a parish church by the royal family living nearby in the Bois-de-Vincennes. The letter came from a Mr. and Mrs.

RICHARD, who were heading the restoration committee that was attempting to save the church.

They were not only happy to arrange to have us visit the church which was currently closed as part of the repairs, but also offered us the opportunity to join them for a traditional French meal and an introduction to Montreuil and its history. We gladly accepted and count the afternoon and evening we spent with these people among the highlights of our trip to France. Even language became no barrier. Madame RICHARD and I both found that we could understand each other's language in spite of neither being able to speak the other's language particularly well. And so we spent our time communicating as best we could and translating for our spouses so they did not feel too lost in our conversation.

Madame RICHARD had prepared for my visit by doing some preliminary research that she could share with me, including the earliest photographs available of the church and of the village area. Not only was it impressive to stand in the baptistry of the church and see the plaque to Martin PRÉVOST, but it was also enlightening to learn the elements of the history of the church and how it reflected the lives of the people of the area. The vine leaf and grape capitals on the columns in the parts of the church that date from Martin PRÉVOST's time period (an addition from 1624) reflected the region's use as the king's vineyards. At the time that Martin PRÉVOST grew up here, the overwhelming majority of the village's residents would have been involved in viticulture, the cultivation of grapes.

A photocopy of a stylized map from 1550, La Ville Cité, from the church archives shows the church's importance in the area. With the *Bastille* at the center of the map, the residence of the king and his family is shown at *Le-Bois-de-Vincennes*. The parish church, *Montreuil-sur-le-Bois* is also

for the DUON-DUHON-DEON family.

In the present case I have taken as a task the challenge of finding the village of origin of my maternal ancestor in the person of Philippe MIUS-d'ENTREMONT. Some of the early Acadian documents state clearly that he is said to have come from Normandy in France. Any attempts to find the village in the past seem to have come to naught even though Father Clarence d'ENTREMONT, who died 13 NOV 1998 and was the foremost Acadian researcher of southwest Nova Scotia, had not been able to solve that problem.

During a trip to Montreal in the Spring of 1998, I took the time at the *Salle Gagnon* to look up the *Revue Généalogique Normande* and go through every issue looking for some clue to this mystery. In Query L667 and L668 of No. 36, Oct.-Dec. 1990 issue, I found the following two requests for assistance:

L667 - "Rech. les parents protestants des 4 fils MIUS, ca de 1623 à 1627 hors de cette commune; x à l'église de St. Martin aux Buneaux. Généalogie faite à partir de 1640 (cousins de Philippe MIUS d'Entremont).

**Translation:** Researching the protestant parents of the 4 MIUS sons; born about 1623 to 1627 outside of this commune; married at the church of St. Martin aux Buneaux. The family tree is done from 1640 (cousins of Philippe MIUS d'Entremont).

L668 - "Rech. Lieu de et noms des parents de Philippe MIUS (d'Entremont) ° ca 1609, de famille protestante; petit-fils de Nicolas MIUS, traducteur de l'Amiral COLIGNY, mort avec lui à la Saint-Barthélémy, 1572, à Paris où il habitait avec sa famille. Nicolas MIUS a fait des études à l'Université d'Orléans vers 1550."

**Translation:** Researching place of birth and names of parents of Philippe MIUS (d'Entremont) born about 1609, of a protestant family; grandson of Nicolas

MIUS, translator for Admiral COLIGNY, died with him at St. Bartholomew (massacre), 1572, in Paris where he lived with his family. Nicolas MIUS studied at the University of Orleans about 1550."

The name Maurice MIUS as the person requesting the information was a key. With the request for any information about this man from folks in Pubnico, Nova Scotia I managed to get the address from Coral d'ENTREMONT, who had gotten it from Fr. Clarence d'ENTREMONT. When I wrote to him in the Spring of 1998, the letter was returned as undeliverable. At that point I got on the French internet and looked for any MIUS persons listed in the *pages blanches*, the white pages. I found many with their phone numbers.

One weekend I began to telephone various individuals on the list. Since the query in the review had indicated a possible source as St. Martin-aux-Buneaux, I began calling in that geographical area. Quickly I found out that Maurice MIUS had died a few months earlier and that, in fact, he had been a genealogical researcher interested in the family surname. I next spoke with a Pierre MIUS, the mayor of Sasseville, who is the son of Maurice and was actually running for re-election that same weekend.

Pierre told me that he did not have any documents or records and he directed me to talk with his brother, Jean, who said that he did not have any records. They both led me to an Alain MIUS of Malaunay, who appears to be the person who organized a large gathering of MIUS family members in 1977. Since he was not reachable by telephone, I wrote to Alain MIUS by overnight mail requesting any information that he could give me. He responded with a wonderful letter giving me the following information: 1, A photograph of the large family tree that he had placed on the wall for viewing at the reunion. However, the actual tree was so large that a 3 x 5 inch photograph showed the tree, but not one name was legible. I have since requested that he send me some

closeup photos of the bottom of the tree i.e. source names that I might have a better idea of where we might come together. 2. A photograph of the group that gathered for the meeting mentioned above. 3. Several pages of signatures of MIUS family members at that meeting and from old records.

He could not help me with identifying Philippe MIUS, who married Madeline HELIE-HELY around 1649 and had a child, Madeleine, in France before coming to Acadia in 1651. He did write: It is true that there are no further files other than the genealogical family tree and various small trees that were used to create the large tree. In fact, my concern at the beginning of my effort (family gathering in 1977) was to gather the MIUS family, I did not think it necessary to create files of the notebooks taken down at the departmental Archives of Rouen and in the city/town halls of Seine Maritime. All of that has been destroyed, not thinking that 20 years later we could use that as a base for renewed research. I am very sad about that, but that is the sad reality. I remember that the 8th and 9th great-great-grandfathers were fishermen at Saint-Martin-aux-Buneaux, Veulette, Sassetot-le-Malconduit, and Auberville la Manuel...."

For some reason, Maurice Mius, in his request for information above, had indicated that Philippe would be a cousin to Nicolas MIUS and that there might be some Huguenot connection. Where, oh, where did Maurice get that idea or information? My follow-up letter to Alain MIUS has gone unanswered.

With the above information from Alain MIUS, I began to order films from some of the above mentioned villages and got on the French internet to look up the name MIUS. This led me to a woman in Normandy who shares the MIUS family name in 1640: Marin MIUS. This Nadine DELAFOSSE responded immediately to my e-mail and we have set out on a journey together to find Philippe MIUS and his

connection with her MIUS line.

She and her husband, Pierre, are members of the genealogical research circle in Le Havre which meets on the first Saturday of each month. She has phoned and written to another member there who has MIUS in his family line, a Mr. Pierre GRANCHER from Le Havre, for some direction in the research. She has also contacted a Mr. Denis VATINEL, a Lutheran pastor in Royan, who is highly regarded as very knowledgeable about Huguenot French ancestry. She likewise exchanged correspondence about her search for MIUS ancestors with Gerard d'ARUNDEL, Comté d'Arundel de Condé of Rouen, who is very well informed about nobility of all levels in Normandy. Besides written and telephone contact, Mrs. DELAFOSSE has gone out of her way to visit several villages and departmental archives in Normandy.

While Nadine does that, I continue to order French films from the Mormon Library at my local Family History Center in Lynnfield, Massachusetts. At this point I have reviewed the films from Saint-Martin-aux-Buneaux (No. 1175529), Sassetot-le-Malconduit (No. 1175543), and Auberville-le-Manuel (No. 1218228). These villages are in the department of Caux near the coast of Normandy in the land of magnificent cliffs. I have also ordered films from Blainville in the same area because of a reference in one of the above of a MIUS who came from there in 1686.

In this article, I hope to share the results of patient research. From a willingness to plow through old records with old scripts in Latin and French from the mid fifteen hundreds onward has come a list of MIUS names as I met them chronologically in the records.

I began with Saint-Martin-aux-Buneaux, Film No. 1175529. The following individuals with the name of MIUS as found in the film No. 1175529 covering Saint-Martin-aux-Buneaux are listed as they are encountered chronologically.

**1. Guillaume MIUS**

9 OCT 1642, godfather for Catherine FANUEL, daughter of Marin FANUEL; 11 MAY 1643, godfather for Marguerite; 20 DEC 1647 godfather for Robert JOUSTE, son of Robert JOUSTE and Marie MIUS.

**2. Marin MIUS, m. Marie \_\_\_\_\_**

2.1 Marin **MIUS** born 3 JAN 1644; baptized 4 JAN 1644.

**3. Pierre DUBOST, m. Françoise Mius**

3.1 Magdeleine DUBOST baptized 29 MAR 1683; godparents: Jacques **Mius** and Magdeleine Dubost.

3.2 Charles DUBOST, baptized 7 MAR 1685; godparents: Charles le MOUNIER and Françoise **Mius**

**4. Jacques Mius: (may have died 17 MAR 1686); m. Magdeleine ROUSSOT.**

4.1 Magdeleine **Mius**, baptized 24 APR 1683; godparents: Guillaume **Mius**. and Magdeleine DUBOST

**5. Noel OUIN, m. Catherine Mius.**

5.1 Marie OUIN, baptized 8 DEC 1683; godparents: Guillaume REGNAUD and Marie BR\_?\_.

5.2 Catherine OUIN, baptized 16 JAN 1685; godparents: Marin **Mius** and Catherine le FAUCOUE; buried 17 JAN 1685.

5.3 Magdeleine **Mius**, baptized 1 JUN 1687; grandparents: Jean CHEVALIER and Magdeleine GANAUD.

**6. Mathieu Mius, m. Marie la \_?\_.**

6.1 Anne **MIUS**, baptized 17 APR 1684; godparents: Robert **MIUS** and Anne la \_?\_.

**7. Charles Mius, godfather 1 JAN 1685 for Guillaume JOUSTE, son of Guillaume Jouste and Françoise la \_?\_; m. Marie RABY.**

7.1 Magdeleine **MIUS**, baptized 1 FEB 1700; godparents: Jean Raby and Magdeleine **MIUS**; buried Aug. 25, 1701 before witness who made his mark: Charles **MIUS**.

7.2 Marie **MIUS** baptized OCT 1702; godparents: Guillaume **MIUS** and Marie **MIUS**.

7.3 Charles **MIUS** baptized 25 FEB 1703; godparents: Charles GOBBE and Barbe (?) HOUGUET.

**8. Guillaume MIUS:** Note: Could be the same as Guillaume MIUS at No. 1, but this is forty years later and may be a different Guillaume MIUS. Godfather 28 JAN 1686 for Marie \_?\_, daughter of Charles and Marie DANYER (?)

**9. Jacques MIUS:** Note: Could be the same as Jacques MIUS at No. 4 who in 1683 is the father of Magdeleine and the husband of Magdeleine ROUSSOT. Remember also that the godparents for his child were Guillaume MIUS and Magdeleine DUBOST. Burial 17 MAR 1686 at age of 35; Signed witnesses: Alexandre **MIUS** and mark of Pierre DUBOST.

**10. Alexandre MIUS,** witness at the burial of No. 9, Jacques MIUS.

**11. Françoise MIUS,** Note: Could be the wife of No. 3, Pierre DUBOST especially since one of the witnesses who made his mark is Pierre DUBOST. Burial 25 APR 1686. Witnesses: Signature of Alexandre **MIUS** and mark of Pierre DUBOST.

**12. Pierre MIUS m. Jeanne \_?\_.**

12.1 Guillaume **MIUS**, baptized 21 NOV 1697; godparents: Guillaume **MIUS** and Marie RABY. Note: There is a Marie RABY who married Charles **MIUS**, No. 7, and they were having children from 1700 onwards. Burial may be the one at 5 JAN 1745 with witness: Charles **MIUS**.

**13. Romain Nepveu m. Magdeleine MIUS** 17 NOV 1699. Note: Romain was 27 (born c. 1672) and Magdeleine was 22 (born c. 1677) at the time of their marriage. Romain died before 3 NOV 1742; Magdeleine died before Nov. 3, 1742. Witnesses to the marriage: Mark of Charles **MIUS**, mark of Guillaume DESVAUX, and mark of

Magdeleine **MIUS**.

13.1 Anne **NEPVEU**, m. Nicolas **SANSGRAIN**, 13 NOV 1742.

14. Marie **MIUS**, burial 26 DEC 1703 at the age of 90, thus she was born about 1613.

15. Marie **MIUS**, godmother, 12 NOV 1729, to Marie **BERTREN**; made her mark; godmother, 2 JUN 1736, to Robert **FERE**, son of Jean **FERE** and Catherine **JOURDAIN**; godmother, 19 NOV 1736, to Charles **LE PINNE**, son of Pierre **LE PINNE** and Marie **ALLAIN** (Note: different mark for Marie **MIUS** in this record.) godmother 15 OCT 1749 for Marie Catherine **FERAY**, daughter of Robert **FERAY** and Marie Anne **BUREL**; signature of Marie **MIUS**. (Note: This is not necessarily the same Marie **MIUS** for all these records, but may well be. She could also be Marie **MIUS**, born in 1702 as the daughter of No. 7, Charles **MIUS**.)

16. Martin **COTAUD** (He signed: **COT-TAUD**); m. Marguerite **MIUS**. She was buried 6 MAY 1743; died 5 MAY 1743 at the age of 55. She was born about 1688.

17. Pierre **MIUS**, died 8 MAY 1743; was buried 9 MAY 1743 at the age of 45. He was born about 1698.

18. Jean **BENOIST** died before 9 MAY 1744. M. to Marie **MIUS**. Her m#2: Simon **DANOUVRE** (?) 9 MAY 1744 with dispensation for affinity from the 3rd to 4th degree. Witnesses: Charles **MIUS**, Jean **BENOIST**, Charles **AUGER**, Jacques **ALLAIN**.

18.1 Marie **BENOIST**, m.. Charles le **DUN**, 31 JAN 1756; witnesses: Charles **MIUS**, her uncle. Note: Of interest in this record is that Marie **BENOIST**'s mother's name is given as Marie **MIEUX** in the record. However, her uncle signed as Charles **MIUS**.

19. Charles **MIUS** m. Anne **MARCHAND**

19.1 Anne **MIUS** baptized about 1723. She is a sister to Charles **MIUS**; m.

Henry **HEDOUIN** 16 JAN 1751. Note: Anne **MIUS** was buried 15 NOV 1751 at the age of 28.

20. Guillaume **CAVEL**: (I believe that this will also be spelled **CARVEL** or **CAREL**.) m. Marie **MIUS**.

20.1 Marie Angelique **CAVEL**, baptized 4 JAN 1754.

The next film from which I harvested **MIUS** family members is the film from Auberville-la-Manuel (No.1218228). The years covered are announced as 1550-1791. However, there are many gaps with as many as one hundred years missing from 1587 to 1686. Unfortunately for us, these are the most important years for the descendants of Philippe **MIUS-d'ENTREMONT** since he is estimated to have been born around 1609 and married about 1649.

The **MIUS** records will be listed here again in chronological order.

1. Guillaume **MIUS-MYUS**, father of Florentia **MIUS-MYUS**, baptized 7 DEC 1556, husband of Denise-Dionisia **MYUS**

2. Guillaume **MIUS-MYUS**, father of Nicolas **MIUS-MYUS**, 24 JAN 1558, husband of Dionisia; presence of Nicolas, Nicolas, Barbe, Marguarite **JOUNEL**

3. Guillaume **MIUS-MYUS**, father of Johannem **MYUS**, 12 OCT 1561, husband of Denise-Dyonisia; also mentioned are Johanem **MYUS**, Guillaume **CARPENTIER**, Johana **ROMMARE**.

4. Johanna **MIUS-MYUS**, 1561-62, appears to be godmother to Maria **DESVAULX**; baptized 10 JAN 1562.

5. Pierre **MIUS/MYUS**, father of Johannes-Jehan, baptized 17 MAR 1562, husband of Mariette.

6. Pierre **MIUS**, father of Maria **MIUS** baptized 3 JUL 1561, husband of Mariette;

godmother: Margerita \_\_?\_\_.

7. Guillaume **MIUS-MYUS**, father of Marie-Maria, baptized 3 JUL 1561.

8. Guillaume **MIUS-MYUS**, father of Catherine MIUS-MYUS, baptized 12 OCT 1564, husband of Denise-Dionysia.

9. Johannis-Jean **MIUS-MYUS**, 9 OCT 1565.

10. Dionysian **MIUS-MYUS**, godmother to Dionysia-Denise OREAGE-ORANGE (daughter of Guillaume/Margarite \_\_?\_\_) 14 DEC 1566.

11. Pierre **MIUS-MYUS**, father of Maria **MIUS-MYUS**, baptized 12 FEB 1566, husband of \_\_?\_\_.

12. Guillaume **MIUS-MYUS**, father of Marguerite **MIUS-MYUS**, 12 FEB 1566; husband of Dionysia.

13. Pierre **MIUS-MYUS**, October, 1567

Note: Marion **HELY**, godfather at baptism of Johanna, daughter of Petri FONDEL (?), 28 APR 1567: this name is important to the **MIUS-MYUS** family because the surname of the wife of Philippe **MIUS**, who came to Acadie in 1651, was **HELY**.

14-Perrine? **MIUS**, godmother, 28 NOV 1567.

15. Jehan **MIUS**, baptism 10 AUG 1568; godparents: Peter **MIUS**, Johanna de la CAMPAGNE.

16-Dionysia **MIUS**, godmother to Jacobus (?)BENARD, son of Guillaume and Margarite; baptized MAR 1569.

17. Pierre **MIUS-MYUS**, father of Margarita-Marguerite **MIUS-MYUS**, baptized 3 APR 1569; husband of Mariette.

18. Pierre **MIUS-MYUS**, godfather to Petrus DUFOUR, son of Petrus, baptized 23 JUL

1575.

19. Jehan-Johannes **MIUS-MYUS**, godfather, 19 SEP 1550 (the number on the page of the register is out of sequence), record for son of Guillaume **MIUS-MYUS** and Dionysia-Denise.

20. Johannes-Jehan **MIUS-MYUS**, baptized 26 FEB 1575.

21. Nicollas **MYUS**, godfather to Johanna CARPENTIER, daughter of Jacobi CARPENTIER, on 31 MAY 1580.

22. Nicollas **MIUS-MYUS**, m. Perinne GUIBAULT-GUILBOULT (?) 20 NOV 1580.

NOTE: the records appear to have changed from Latin into French by January 1582.

23. Catherine **MIUS**, 21 MAR (?) 1584, godmother to Pre\_?\_ of Jacques BELLELLE and \_?\_pre (could be Perinne).

24. Nicolet **MIUS**, godfather to Nicolet HÉBERT, baptized 25 FEB 1585, son of Thomas HÉBERT and Catherine; other godparents: Romain BELLANDONNE, Barbe BLONDEL.

25. Jeanne **MIUS**, godmother to Jeanne ST-REQUIER baptized 9 MAR 1586 (Sunday), daughter of Nicollet and Pernette.

26. Jeanne **MIUS**, daughter of Nicollas **MIUS** and Catherine, baptized 13 AUG 1586 (Saturday); godparents: Jehan MARTIN and Jeanne REGNAULT.

27. Catherine **MIUS**, marriage of Jehan MARTIN and Catherine MIUS, 15 JAN 1586

27a. Michel LEBLANC, son of Guillaume LEBLANC and Collette, baptized 12 APR 1587.

28. Nicollas **MIUS** and Jeanne **MIUS**, godparents to Jeanne MAXTOL (?), daughter of Jehan and Pernette, 21 AUG 1588 (Sunday).

Note: There are no records from 1588 to 1687.

29. Marie **MIUS-MYUS**, m. of Antoine **??** et Marie **MYUS**, 7 JAN 1687

*"Ce Jourdhuy septyesme jour de Janvier 1687 a este celebre le Mariage dantoine et de Marie MYUS de blainville par Mre .....ptre cure de la paroisse bredaville par la permission du curé de la párotsse dauberville presence de leurs parens et amis sousignés..."*

30. Anne **MIUS**, daughter of Marin **MIUS** and **??** LECREUX baptized 6 MAR 1687.

A quick list of some other MIUS names that follow in this film from Auberville can be seen below.

1. Alexandre **MIUS** and Marie SAMPIE: Marie, buried 29 MAY 1719; c. 70 years; born c. 1649. Alexandre buried 3 MAR 1725, c. 80 years old; born c. 1645. Robert MIUS, baptized 9 APR 1686; Marie MIUS, baptized 12 JUN 1690.

2. Guillaume CARPENTIER and Catherine **MIUS**, m. 10 NOV 1687.

3. Charles **MIUS** and Renée GODBOUT: Marie **MIUS**, baptized 12 JUN 1689; Anne **MIUS**, baptized 3 JAN 1697.

4. **??** ROSSIGNOL and Marie **MIUS**: Marie buried 11 APR 1696, age 80; born c. 1616.

5. Jean **MIUS-MIEUS** and Marie TIFFAY: Catherine **MIUS** baptized 16 AUG 1689. Marie **MIUS**, baptized 28 DEC 1690; Catherine **MIUS** baptized 24 SEP 1696; Pierre **MIUS** baptized 26 JAN 1699; Antoine **MIUS** baptized and buried 12 MAY 1704; Charles **MIUS** baptized 19 JUL 1705.

6. Jean DESER and Marie **MIUS** m. 3 NOV 1705.

See Jean DESER and Marie **MIUS** below. It

is interesting to compare the same names in the marriage below for 26 FEB 1715.

7. Germain SAILLON and Marie **MIUS**.

8. Romain SAILLOT and Marie **MIUS**: Marie SAILLOT, baptized 19 SEP 1688; Jean SAILLOT, baptized March 1690.

9. Adrian SAILLOT and Marie **MIUS**: Adrian buried 30 NOV 1718, c. 53 years; born c. 1665. Marie buried 5 SEP 1719, c. 58 years old; born c. 1661. **??** SAILLOT, baptized 9 APR 1689; Marie SAILLOT, baptized 14 APR 1690; Françoise SAILLOT, baptized 21 AUG 1692; Charlotte SAILLOT, baptized 4 JULY 1694; Jeanne SAILLOT, baptized 15 JAN 1697; Catherine SAILLOT, baptized 19 MAR 1698; Jean SAILLOT, baptized 22 NOV 1699; Marie SAILLOT, baptized 25 MAR 1707; died 18 DEC 1708.

10. François COQUET and Marie **MIUS**. Marie, buried 20 DEC 1698 c. 45 years old; born c. 1653; Pierre COQUET, baptized 4 NOV 1696.

11. Jean-Baptiste **MIUS** and Marie TIFFE.

12. Robert LATEURTRE and Françoise **MIUS**. Alexandre LATEURTRE, baptized 29 NOV 1702; Anne LATEURTRE, baptized 2 OCT 1705; Robert LATEURTRE baptized 2 APR 1707.

13. Renée **MIUS** died 6 APR 1707. Could have been wife of Charles MIUS, cited above.

14. Jean ORSON and Marie **MIUS**. Susanne ORSON baptized 25 MAY 1707.

15. Anthoine BERTON and Catherine **MIUS** m. 19 JAN 1710. Marie BERTON-BRETON, baptized 16 MAR 1712; Catherine BERTON-BRETON, baptized 1 OCT 1719.

16. Henry COTTARD and Marie **MIUS**. Catherine COTTARD, baptized 7 JAN 1712 and listed again in another record for 7 JAN 1713.

17. Robert **MIUS**.

18. Jean DESERT and Marie **MIUS** m. 26 FEB 1715. Jean DESERT, baptized 11 DEC 1715; Charles DESERT, baptized 11 MAY 1718; Charles DESERT baptized 13 MAY 1721; mother listed as Marie MIEUX; Marie DESERT baptized 6 JAN 1726.

19. George BOURIENNE and Marie **MIUS**. Susanne BOURIENNE baptized 7 NOV 1718.

20. Charles **MIUS** and Marie SAILLOT m. 24 NOV 1722.

Since we are particularly interested in pre-1651 records we will end the citations at this point of 1722. There are MIUS records all the way to the end of this film in 1791. There is a burial of Marie **MIEUS** wife of Pierre SOREL on 14 NOV 1791.

There is always a risk in attempting to translate old Latin and French records.

Insofar as some of my translations are off the mark, I have preferred to take the risk of putting them before you with a readiness that some of you may be able to correct them. Then we will all benefit.

The tapestry of a family is being woven from the pieces of information as they come in. So far, the significant piece, i.e. the marriage of Philippe MIUS with Madeleine HELY has not been found, nor the baptism of their first child, Madeleine before 1651, when they came to Acadie.

The fact that such an abundance of MIUS names now has been located in Normandy and that, in the parishes of Rouen, there are significant numbers of HELY-HELIE-ELIE being rounded up, should bring us closer to the goal. The genealogical cousins of Normandy have all been alerted by the indefatigable Mrs. Nadine DELAFOSSE. It will be appropriate to share her information in the next article on this subject.

## My **LEBLANC** Ancestral Search

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(For those who are online, this Odyssey may be viewed in full with art and photos on Lucie's genealogy website at: <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Pointe/6106>.)

My father was George<sup>9</sup> Charles LEBLANC (Damien<sup>8</sup>, Sylvain<sup>7</sup>, Sylvain dit Sailor<sup>6</sup>, Firmin<sup>5</sup>, Joseph-André<sup>4</sup>, Claude-André<sup>3</sup>, André<sup>2</sup>, Daniel<sup>1</sup>). He married my mother Rosanna LÉVESQUE<sup>9</sup> (Etienne<sup>8</sup>, Etienne<sup>7</sup>, Lambert<sup>6</sup>, Patrice<sup>5</sup>, Antoine<sup>4</sup> Pierre-Joachim<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Pierre<sup>1</sup>) in Lawrence, Massachusetts on 21 NOV 1920.

When I began my ancestral search, I knew that my father had been born in New Bedford, Massachusetts and that was all the information I had. My grandparents died when my father was young and I didn't even know their names.

While searching through a copy of New Bedford Birth Records that had been

donated by a member to American-Canadian Genealogical Society, I found my father's birth, including his parents names: Damien LEBLANC and Odille<sup>8</sup> DOIRON (Eustache<sup>7</sup>, Placide<sup>6</sup>, Pierre<sup>5</sup>, Pierre dit Pitre<sup>4</sup>, Pierre<sup>3</sup>, Pierre<sup>2</sup>, Jean<sup>1</sup>). What a find! What emotion filled me! In addition to my father, I found that two of his brothers had also been born in New Bedford.

For a few months, I searched for my grandfather Damien's birth place, birth date and parents. Finally, having exhausted every possible source I knew of, I wrote to Stephen WHITE, genealogist at the Centre for Acadian Studies, University of Moncton, in New Brunswick. He

graciously sent me information indicating my grandfather's birth date and parentage. I finally found Damien LEBLANC's baptismal record on the microfilm at ACGS. He had been baptized at Saint-Anselme parish church on 20 JUL 1846.

Before finding this information, I had found two marriages for my grandfather. His first marriage was to Marie-Geneviève<sup>8</sup> ARSENAULT (Thomas<sup>7</sup>, Thomas<sup>6</sup>; François<sup>5</sup>, Romain<sup>4</sup>, Joseph<sup>3</sup>, Pierre<sup>2</sup>, Pierre<sup>1</sup>) in 1865. Geneviève died in 1887 while giving birth to their 9th child. Later that year, my grandfather Damien LEBLANC married my grandmother, Odille DOIRON. They had eight children together.

Having researched and found so much information about my Acadian ancestors and heritage, my heart and spirit were filled with the desire to visit my ancestral land. This was something I had to do.

On 20 JUL 1998, I began what would be my own personal odyssey to my ancestral land. Though our Acadian ancestors had no idea what their odyssey resulting from the Deportation of 1755 would hold for them, I left on this journey with great hope that I would touch those threads of life that would connect me to who our ancestors were; what they had experienced; and how they had found new hope when all seemed lost and impossible. That's what this search was all about and I was not disappointed.

For those of you who may never be able to visit the land of our Acadian ancestors, lovingly referred to as the Land of Evangeline, I hope that in some small way, this will help you to know the proud and strong roots we have come from. What I have seen, where I have walked, all speak of the determination of a people subjected to a political power which was bent on destroying their ethnicity.

The joy of arriving in Moncton, New Brunswick was unbelievable. In the early days, Moncton was referred to as The

Bend, so named by the MicMac AmerIndians because of the bend in the Petitcodiac River. The MicMacs were the first inhabitants of Acadia having lived there for hundreds of years before the arrival of any explorers.

We headed for Grand-Pré, (a large meadow in French) Nova Scotia. At the New Brunswick, Nova Scotia border, we visited Fort Beauséjour, renamed Cumberland after the British took it over. At Fort Beauséjour, we were warmly welcomed. I was told that I would feel right at home because LEBLANCs are as numerous as SMITHs are in the United States.

During the Deportation, many Acadians were held prisoners at Grand-Pré while waiting to be deported. This was to be the first of many overwhelmingly powerful experiences of connectedness I would experience to all the LEBLANCs who had been here before me. In my research, I had learned that some of my ancestors had been held prisoners here. In particular, there was André<sup>4</sup> LEBLANC (Claude-André<sup>3</sup>, André<sup>2</sup>, Daniel<sup>1</sup>). André, a great uncle, was the brother of Joseph-André from whom I descend. André LEBLANC had been held prisoner at Fort-Beauséjour with his bride of three weeks. I have read of André's odyssey in the souvenir program on the LEBLANC families published in 1994. The ship on which André was being deported stopped near an island as was always done during the voyage. André managed to escape and at some point made his way to Louisiana for refuge at his brother's home. The brother had arrived there some time before. He had inherited the land and home of a man who had taken him in.

Louisiana was under French rule and it was a safe place to go. André later fought in the American Revolution and some years later, having found his wife and having had three children, the family made its way back to New Brunswick to rejoin the rest of the LEBLANCs. This journey took them one year on foot!