

Colonization

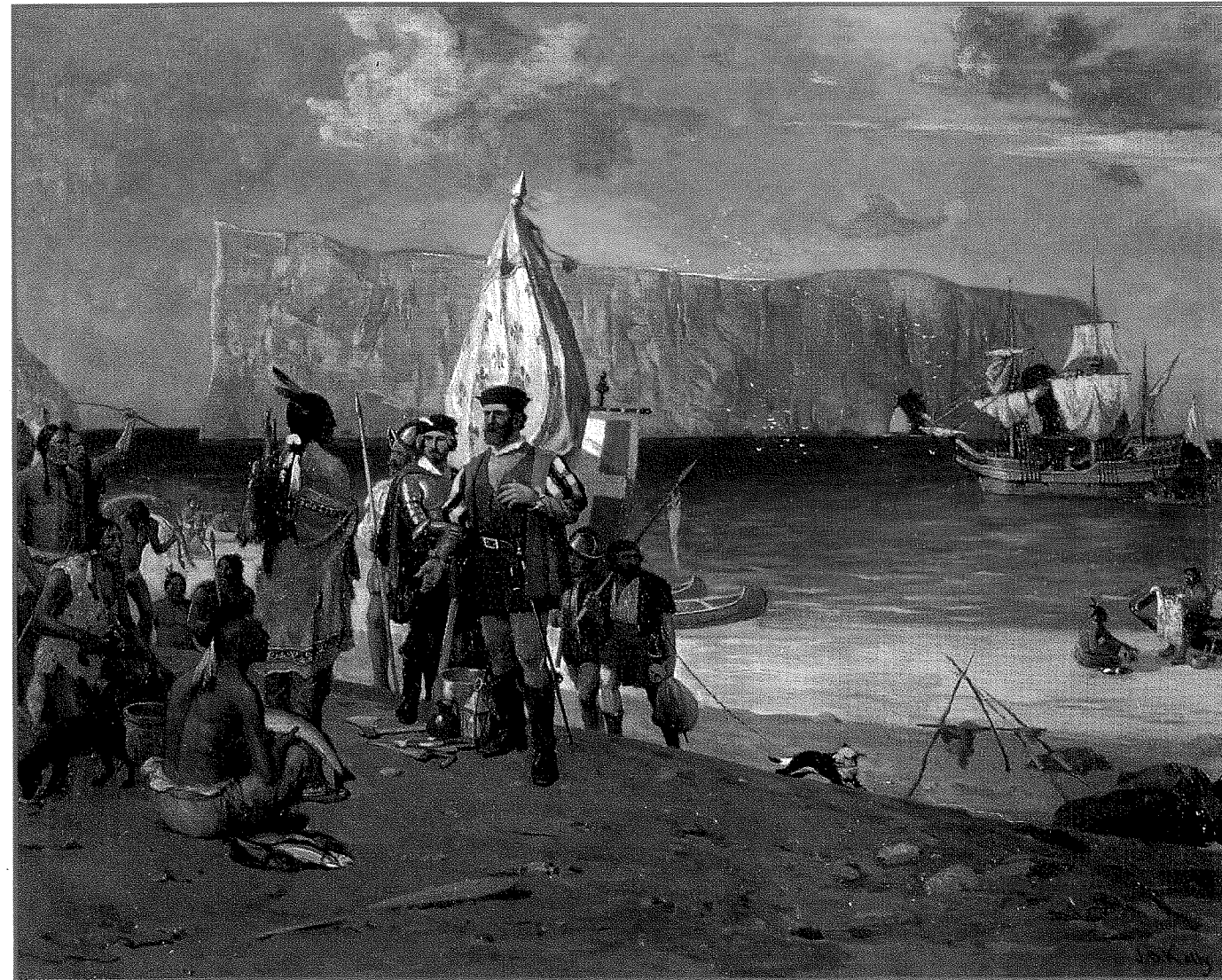
Claiming Lands

As lands in the Americas were explored, European rulers claimed ownership over them. This was usually done by planting a huge cross and/or flag of the explorer's home country into the earth of the land being claimed. This claim was recognized by other European countries.

By claiming these lands the European rulers believed they also had the right to control all the trade in the area. This was known as a monopoly. Their control also extended beyond the land and its resources, and included its people. In the Americas, the Europeans claimed the land and extended their control over the people, even though the Native peoples had been living there for thousands of years.

Jacques Cartier

Jacques Cartier was a French mariner who was commissioned by the king of France to search for a short route to the Far East. He reached the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1534 and placed a cross on the Gaspé Peninsula that read "Long live the King of France," thus claiming French control in North America. Cartier made a second voyage to North America in 1535 and sailed as far west as present-day Montreal. He returned again in 1541 to establish a permanent French settlement as part of France's colonization process. The settlement failed. Cartier was treated with kindness and hospitality by the Native people he met upon arrival in the New World.



Discovery of Canada, by J.D. Kelly. Cartier is shown bartering with the Native people. Percé Rock is in the background. To claim the land for France, Cartier had a huge cross erected on the Gaspé Peninsula.

Settling and Controlling Lands

To control the newly claimed lands, colonization was essential. Colonization involves one country (historically called the mother country) bringing another separate region under its direct control. This was often accomplished by establishing permanent settlements in the new region. These new settlements were expected to develop the region's resources and supply the European country with inexpensive raw materials or products. Colonies were also expected to provide a market for manufactured products. The raw materials were shipped to the European country to be manufactured and then were shipped back to the colony to be sold at a much higher price. Thus colonies were an important part of the European trading theory of mercantilism.

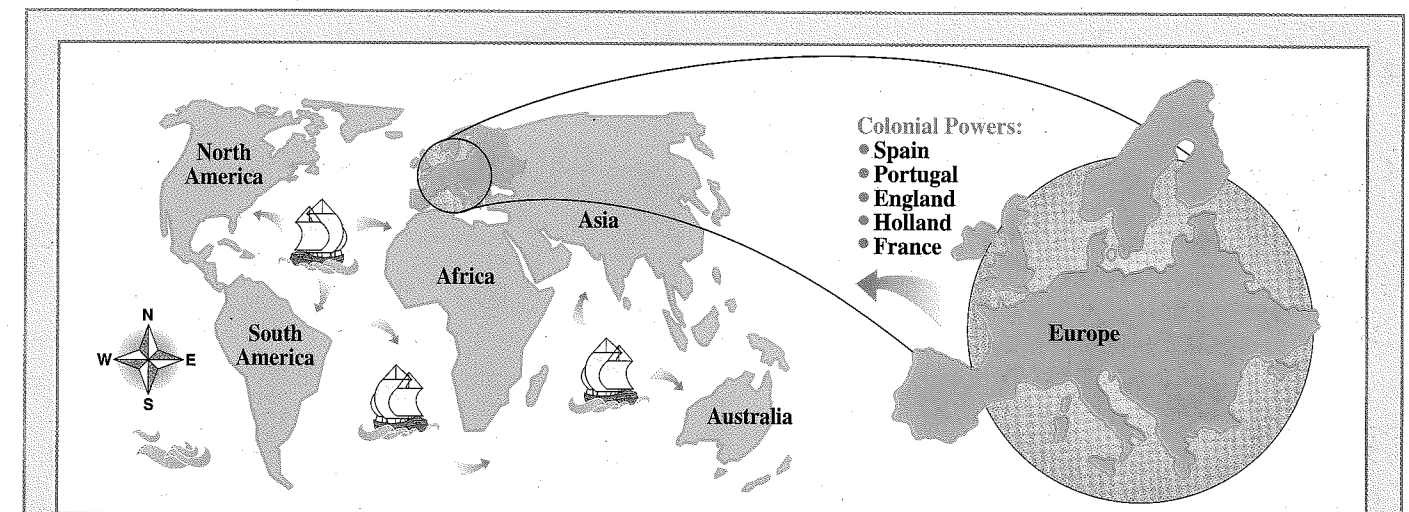
The French and the English were impressed with the Spanish success at colonization in Central and South America. They too longed to become wealthy and thus began to colonize the area of North America they had claimed.

Early colonization attempts were slowed by the fact that, unlike the Spanish colonies, North America did not immediately yield precious metals and jewels. The first prosperous industry in North America was the fishing industry. Later the fur trade became an important industry. Although these two industries supplied important raw materials, they did not necessarily require permanent settlements. The prospering fishing industry and developing fur trade in North America made many Europeans recognize that these lands were a source of potential wealth.

In European societies, wealth and power were tied to the ownership of land. Since only the aristocrats or nobility could own land, it became a mark of social status. Many settlers moved to the new colonies because land was plentiful and inexpensive. As landowners, the settlers gained status. The colonists believed so strongly in their right to hold their own land (private property) and in the agricultural way of life that these two beliefs became an important basis of Canadian society.

For Your Notebook

1. Why would colonization be essential to maintaining authority over newly claimed lands?



Colonization

Settling and controlling other lands

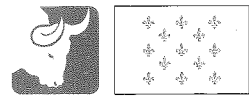
Places That Were Colonized:

- had lands that Europeans needed to explore before they could establish colonies
- provided raw materials and cheap labour needed to produce raw materials and get them to ports from where they could be shipped to Europe
- bought finished goods manufactured in the European countries

Countries in Europe:

- established numerous colonies in North America, Africa, Asia, and Australia
- had direct influence over the running of the colonies and decided on the types of government for them
- believed that the colonies should be patterned after the mother country
- manufactured finished goods from raw materials

French Colonization



Prior to the 1660s, France had done very little colonization when compared with other European nations.

France had been too busy with European wars to concentrate on colonization. Also, the French mercantile economy was directed by the state (the French government) with the leadership provided by the king and his ministers. Since the money that funded colonization and expansion came from the aristocracy and the Roman Catholic Church, developments were slow and cautious.

The French government granted trading monopolies to trading companies that promised to invest a portion of their profits in colonization. But these merchants were not interested in colonization. Thus, few settlers immigrated to New France before the French government took over the colony in the 1660s.

Rule by Trading Companies

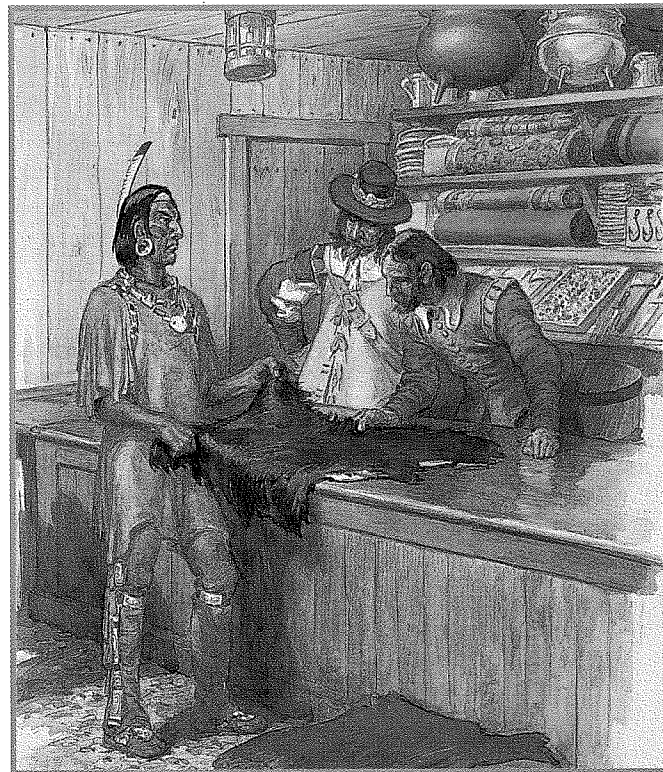
Trading companies controlled and managed the French fur trade in North America. These companies played an important role in mercantilism. The traders were the merchants who obtained the raw materials (furs) from the Native peoples, and shipped them to France to be processed and sold for higher prices. They also sold or traded European manufactured goods with the Native tribes.

That part of North America known as New France was not colonized until the early 1600s because France had been too involved in European wars to concentrate on North America. During a lull between wars, the French king realized that colonies were necessary to protect the riches of the fur trade from other European powers. Mercantilism would not work without colonies. Between 1603 and 1645, the French state granted trading monopolies to individuals and companies. Each of these was supposed to help in the colonization of New France.

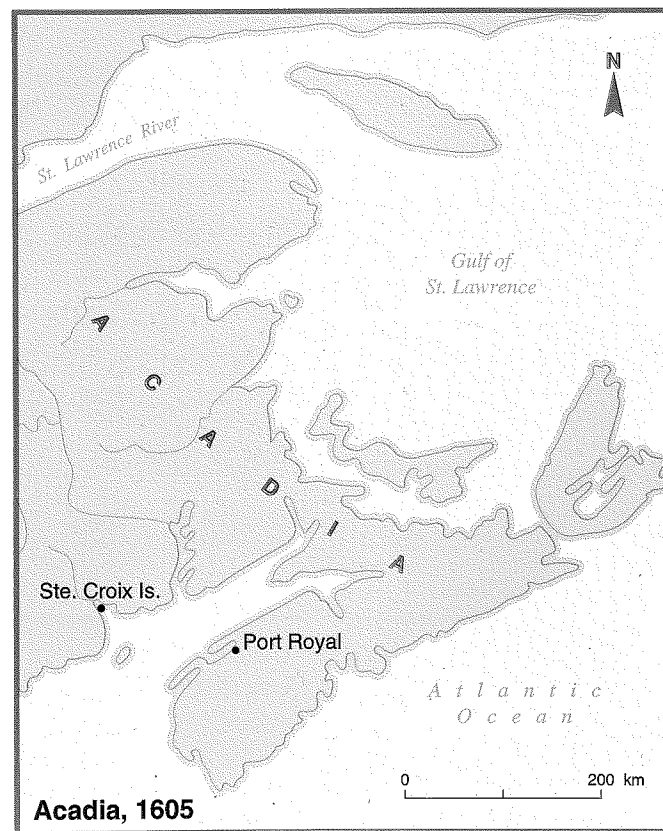
Pierre Du Gua de Monts

Settlement At Port Royal

In 1603, Pierre Du Gua de Monts was granted a monopoly on the fur trade in Canada. His goal was to protect his land from illegal fur traders by establishing a permanent settlement near the mouth of the St. Lawrence River. In 1604, de Monts and his mapmaker-manager, Samuel de Champlain, established a French settlement on Ste. Croix Island in Acadia. This settlement was moved to Port Royal in 1605. Unfortunately, Port Royal was poorly located. The settlement did not keep other French fur traders from establishing trading posts and trading for furs.



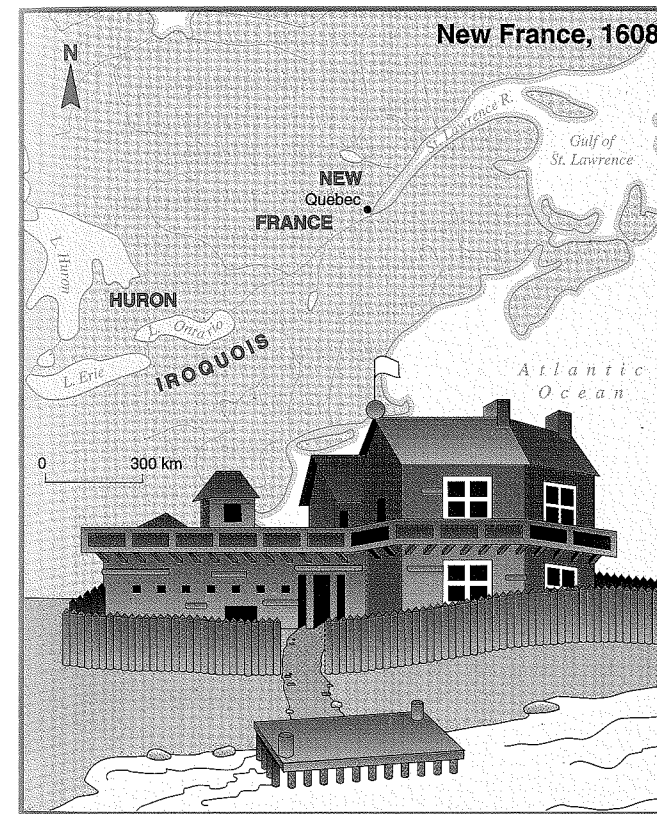
In the Trading Room. A Native person has brought furs to the French at a trading post to trade for European goods.



Champlain at Quebec

In 1608, Champlain convinced de Monts to let him try to establish a settlement in the St. Lawrence valley, where there was better access to the Native peoples and the furs. Champlain went to New France as the leader of the 1608 expedition and established a habitation at Quebec. The habitation was built like a miniature European fortress. Champlain formed **alliances** with the Huron against the Iroquois in hopes of expanding the fur trade.

After 1608, the fur trade in New France grew rapidly in the hands of the trading companies. The population of New France, however, did not grow. The trading companies were interested in profits, not in settlement. Champlain realized that control of New France depended on expanding the French population. The English and Dutch were competing with the French for land and furs.* Champlain continued to seek political and financial support from France. Several company structures were tried over the years to encourage the settlement necessary to maintain control of New France and the fur trade.



The habitation built by Champlain and his men in 1608 served as both living and working space.

Alliance—union formed between nations or groups of people based on an agreement that benefits both groups

*The English and French were not the only European powers active in the New World; the Dutch also were involved in mercantile and colonial activity here. See the map on page 31 for the extent of the Dutch territory.

Habitant—farmer in New France, and later in Quebec



Samuel de Champlain (1567–1635)

Samuel de Champlain was called the “Father of New France” because of the efforts he made to establish permanent settlements there. The settlements he helped to found included Ste. Croix Island, Port Royal, and Quebec City.

Champlain believed that it was part of his duty to bring Christianity to the First People. This caused him to act sometimes as a missionary for the Roman Catholic Church.

Champlain was a navigator and mapmaker by trade, and some of his maps are accurate even by today's standards.

Hélène Boullée (1598–1654)

Born and raised in Paris, Hélène Boullée married Samuel de Champlain when she was 12 and he was 40. She moved to New France with him in 1620, when she was 22, and stayed there until 1624. Then she returned to France and entered a convent, where she remained for the rest of her life.

Company of 100 Associates

In 1627 the French government granted the Company of 100 Associates a monopoly on the fur trade in New France. In return, the Company was supposed to bring 4000 French Catholics to settle in New France over the next 15 years. The Company allowed the settlers to trade for furs directly with the Native peoples if they sold the furs only to the Company. By 1663, due to the war in Europe between England and France, the Company of 100 Associates had gone out of business.

Company of Habitants

In 1645 the Company of 100 Associates allowed the Company of Habitants to take over the monopoly on the fur trade in New France. The Company asked the **habitants** to cover the costs of administering the colony and settlements. Control of the fur trade was left in the hands of officials appointed by France.

The Fur Trade and the Native Peoples

The settlement of New France was essential for control of the fur trade. The fur trade helped France remain wealthy and powerful. A fashion trend in Europe made furs very popular. Felt hats (made from beaver pelts) were considered a status symbol. The tremendous demand for beaver meant that fur merchants could make large profits.

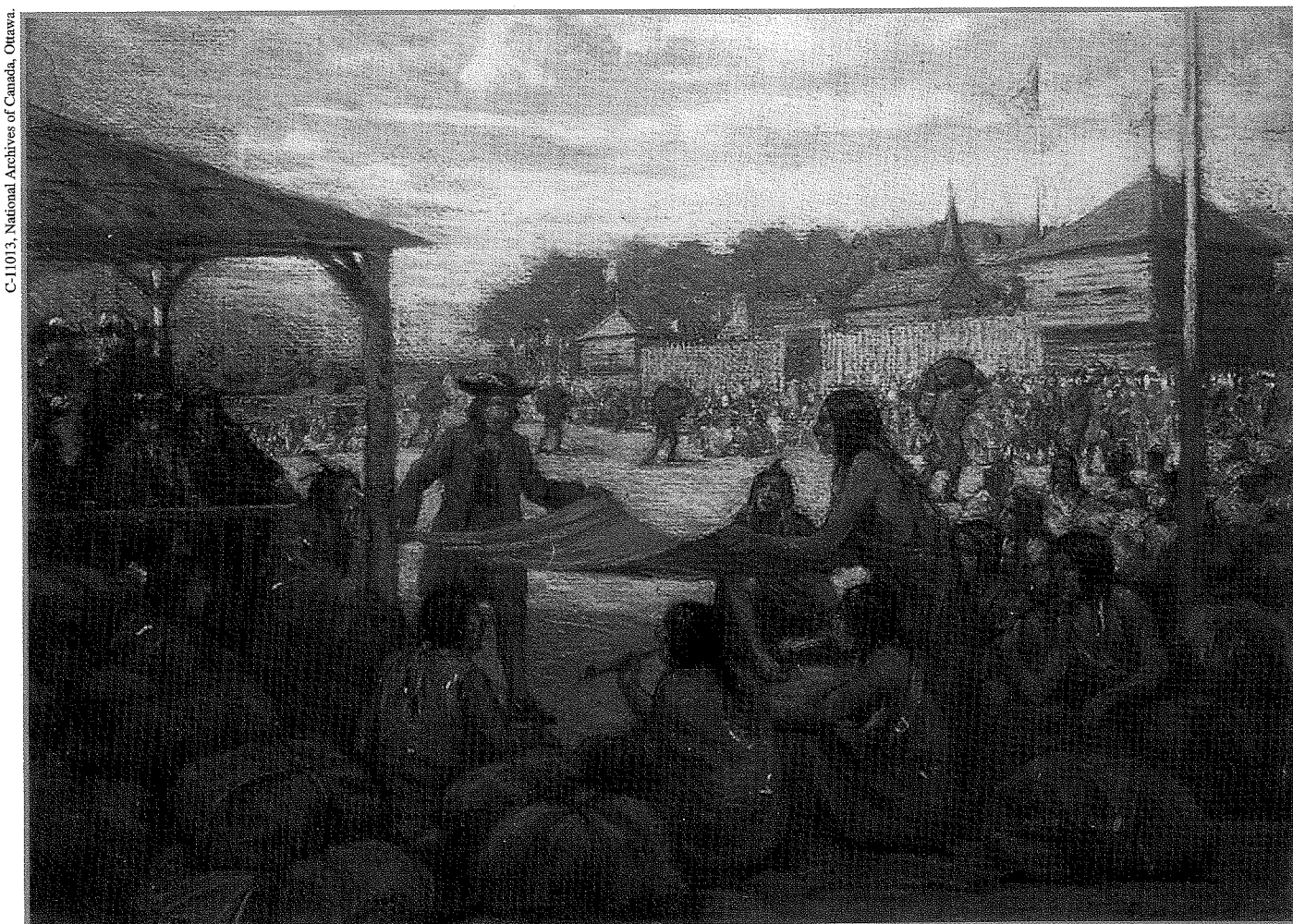
Numerous Native tribes lived in the territory claimed by France. The Algonkian people lived in the eastern woodlands (see map, page 8). They included such people as the Algonquin, Ottawa, Micmac, and Montagnais. Also living in the eastern woodlands were the Huron people—a farming group.

Long before Europeans came to North America, the Huron had established an efficient trading network among the various tribes. Champlain, and later other Frenchmen, established alliances with the Huron and became part of this long-established trading system. Furs were traded for manu-

factured European goods, which were in turn traded for furs from tribes in the interior. Thus, furs from the interior finally reached the French through the Huron go-betweens.

The Iroquois tribes and the Huron had few disputes with each other before the arrival of Europeans and the fur trade. Competition for furs and alliances with different European powers strained relations between the two groups and made them enemies. Alliances with the local Native tribes were essential for the Europeans. The Native peoples supplied the Europeans with furs, food, and canoes; acted as guides and interpreters; and often saved their lives. Champlain formed alliances with the Algonquin and the Huron because they were a large group of established traders.

When Champlain allied with the Huron to invade the territory of their Iroquois enemies, a political alliance was formed. The French and Huron sided together against the English, Dutch, and Iroquois. The French needed the Huron to be their military allies to help fight the Iroquois, if the situation arose, as long as the English and French were enemies.



The Fur Fair. In the early days of the fur trade, the Native peoples came to Montreal each summer to trade their furs. The French and the Native peoples provided goods and services that were relatively equal in value to each other's needs.

The *Coueurs de bois* ("runners of the woods")



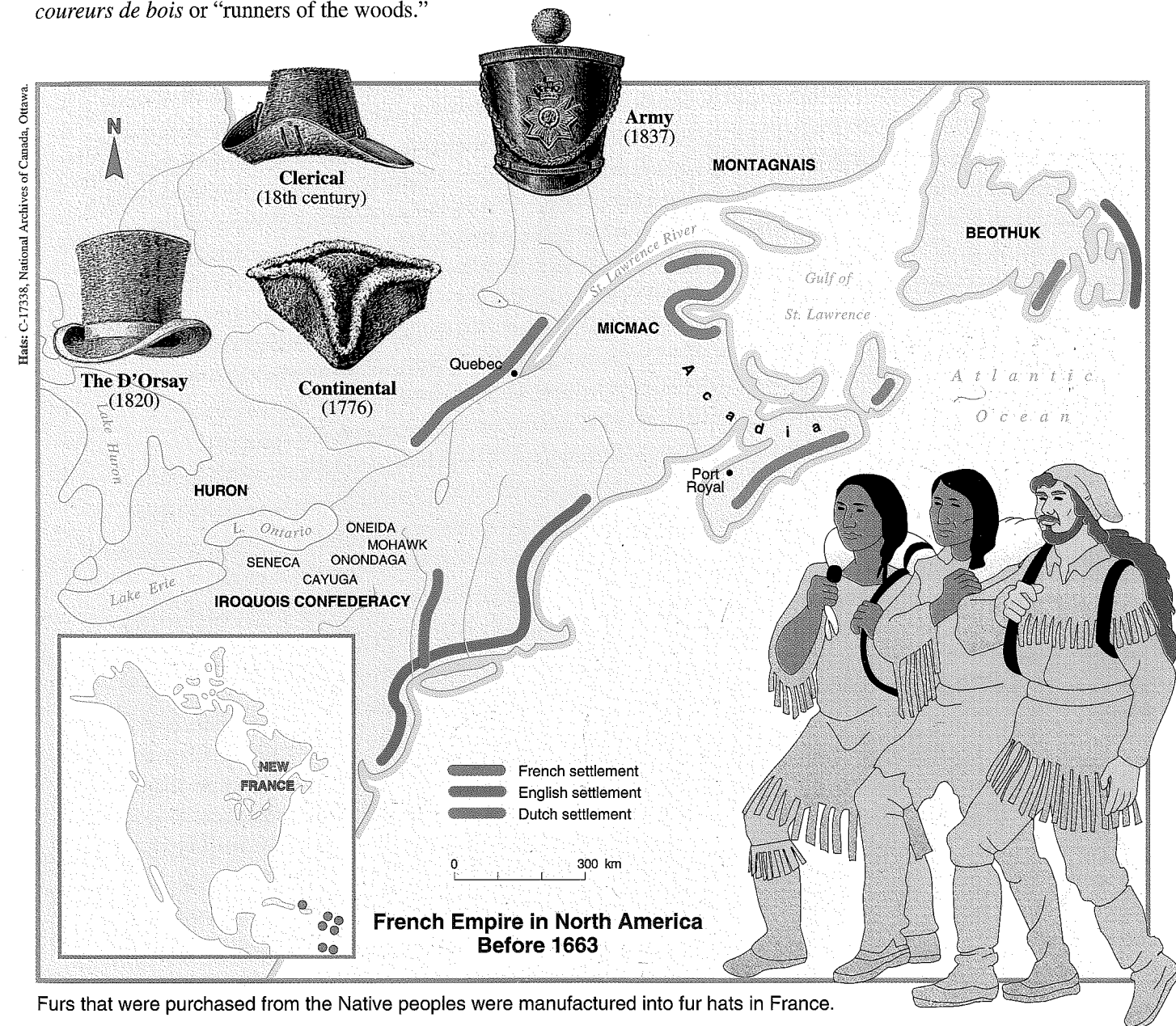
One of the reasons the Native peoples were essential to the fur trade was because they brought furs from the interior regions to the French trading posts of Quebec, Trois Rivières, and Montreal. The French could also obtain furs by going into the interior regions themselves. During times of hostilities, the safer method was to have the Native peoples bring furs to the French, but high profits could be made by Frenchmen who were willing to venture into the interior rivers and lakes and bring back beaver pelts themselves. During peaceful times, more and more young men of New France were attracted to the high profits and adventure in the fur trade.

These energetic and daring adventurers became expert canoeists and shrewd businessmen. They were known as *coureurs de bois* or "runners of the woods."

Native trading between bands was customarily done through family contacts. To become part of this family trading system, the French left young men to live with a band during the winter. These young men adapted easily to the Native way of living, often married Native women and became part of their bands. Friendships and trust were thus established between the Native bands and the French traders.

These family ties were useful in future trading sessions. Soon the French had set up elaborate trading alliances with numerous Algonquin and Huron tribes. Later the French used these trading alliances to establish political alliances against the English.

The *coureurs de bois* expanded the fur trade and explored farther and farther into the interior of the country. They did a great deal to extend French control (power) over an increasingly large amount of inland territory.



Furs that were purchased from the Native peoples were manufactured into fur hats in France.

The Catholic Church

(Prior to 1663)

Champlain believed that it was partly his responsibility to spread the Roman Catholic religion in New France. As a result, he encouraged the Jesuits—a group of Catholic missionary priests—to come to North America to convert the Native peoples to Christianity. The French king and his ministers believed that New France would be a stronger colony if everyone were Roman Catholic. In 1627, Cardinal Richelieu, a powerful church and state leader, declared that only Catholics could **emigrate** from France to New France.

While the trading companies controlled New France, the main **institution** in the colony was the Roman Catholic Church. The Church concerned itself with the religious life of the colony as well as establishing schools and hospitals. The Jesuits played a leading role in these developments.

The Jesuits

The Jesuits, who first arrived in New France in 1625, were called the “Black Robes” by the Native peoples. They established a college for the sons of settlers at Quebec in 1635, and established hospitals and convents by bringing groups of nuns to New France.

The Jesuits built permanent mission churches and schools for the Huron in Huronia between 1639 and 1649. Huronia is the name of the entire area where the Huron people lived. The Jesuit headquarters were located in the mission of Ste. Marie in Huronia. This mission contained a chapel, a hospital, a bakery, a carpentry shop, and a blacksmith shop. The Jesuits at this mission also planted crops and imported livestock from France. The mission of Ste. Marie in Huronia has been reconstructed. Refer to page 33 for photographic views.

The Jesuits had considerable political influence in New France. Beginning in 1647, the Superior of the Jesuits was one of the three main members of the Superior Council, which administered the colony. François Laval, a Jesuit, was appointed the first Bishop of New France in 1659.

The Jesuits left written records of early life in New France in the *Jesuit Relations*, annual reports that they sent home to Paris.

Montreal

In 1642, Paul de Maisonneuve, backed by the Notre-Dame Society of Montreal, founded a Catholic settlement which became the modern-day city of Montreal.

Emigrate—leave one's own country or region to settle in another
Institution—organization or society established for some public or social purpose. Examples include the church, the family, and educational systems.

Women Who Came to New France for God and Church

The Jesuit priests were not the only people who came to New France to spread the Roman Catholic faith. Other religious men and women also came to establish religious settlements. Many religious women, including the Ursuline Nuns, named after Saint Ursula, came to New France. These women made important contributions to the early settlement in New France:

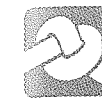
- Marie Guyart, or Marie de l'Incarnation, came to Quebec in 1639 with other Ursuline Nuns. The nuns founded a convent and school for girls. Marie's letters home to France are important descriptions of life in New France.
- Jeanne Mance came to Montreal in 1642. She established a hospital there and spent more than 30 years nursing the sick and wounded.
- Marie de la Peltrie was a rich French woman who went to Quebec in 1639 and helped found the Ursuline convent and school. In 1642, she went to Montreal and helped Paul de Maisonneuve establish a Catholic settlement there.



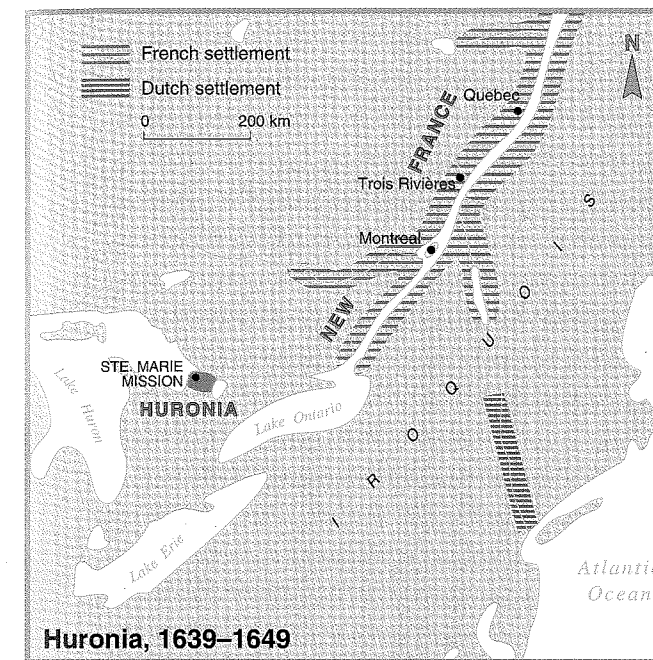
Marguerite Bourgeoys (1620–1700)

Marguerite Bourgeoys arrived in New France in 1653. She set up a school and cared for the poor and the sick. When young French women started to arrive in the colony, she gave them a home and helped them to find suitable husbands.

Huronia



Huronia was the name given to the entire area where the Huron people lived. Between 1639 and 1649, the Jesuits built permanent mission churches and schools in Huronia.



The Huron people were farmers and traders. Their alliance with the French had brought them new materials and technology, but it had also brought them into contact with many European diseases, especially smallpox and measles. From 1634 to 1640, more than 12 000 Huron—nearly half the population—died of these diseases.

The disease problem was compounded by hostilities between the Huron and the Iroquois. In the late 1640s, the Iroquois attacked the fur **brigades** of the French and the Huron. The Iroquois traded with the Dutch, who supplied them with guns. The French did not supply their allies, the Huron, with many guns because the laws in New France forbade it. The French supplied guns only to those Huron who had converted to Catholicism. Consequently, the Huron, who were already weakened by disease, were at a double disadvantage compared to the Iroquois.

In 1648–1649, the Iroquois began attacking and destroying Huron settlements. By 1649, only the mission at Ste. Marie was left. The Jesuits and the remaining Huron decided to retreat and burned the mission themselves before the Iroquois arrived. Finally, in March 1649, 1000 Iroquois warriors descended on Huronia. The combination of disease, death, and war completely destroyed Huronia. The remaining Huron—numbering

Brigade—group of canoes, carts, or dogsleds carrying trade goods and supplies to and from inland posts

approximately 500—retreated, only to starve during the following winter.

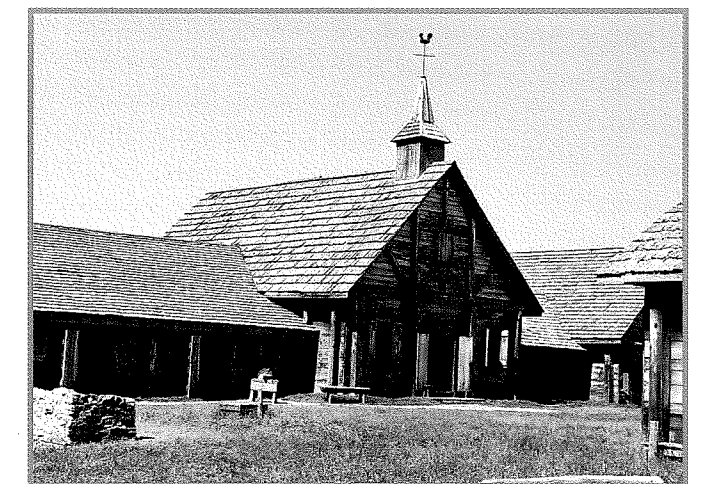
The French were left without Native trading partners. The French tried to find another tribe that would take over the role of the Huron. In the end, they had to venture out into the continent themselves to obtain furs. This move led to the expansion of the French fur trading empire.

After 1650, the Catholic Church turned much of its attention to the needs of the French people in the settlement.

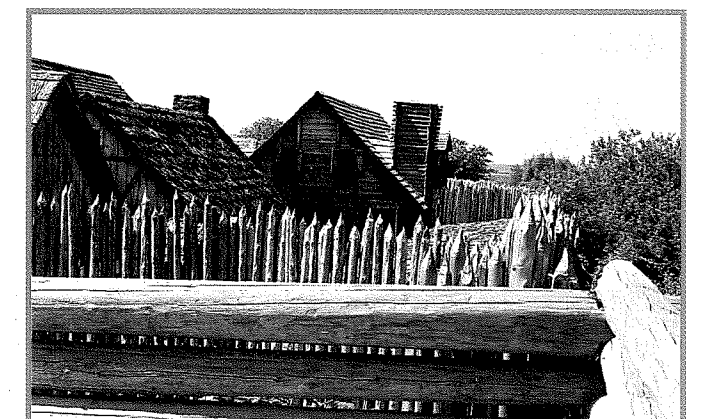
Different Points of View

Historians debate the reasons behind the Iroquois attacks on Huronia. Some historians believe that the Iroquois attacked because they wanted to control the fur trade. Others say that the Iroquois were uninterested in the fur trade, since they did not step in as traders for the French. This group believes that the Iroquois simply wanted to destroy the Huron. Still others argue that it was the fatal European diseases that led to the weakening of the Huron nation.

Canada Revisited



The chapel has been reconstructed at Ste. Marie Among the Hurons.



This is a palisade around the reconstructed Huronia mission.

Acadia

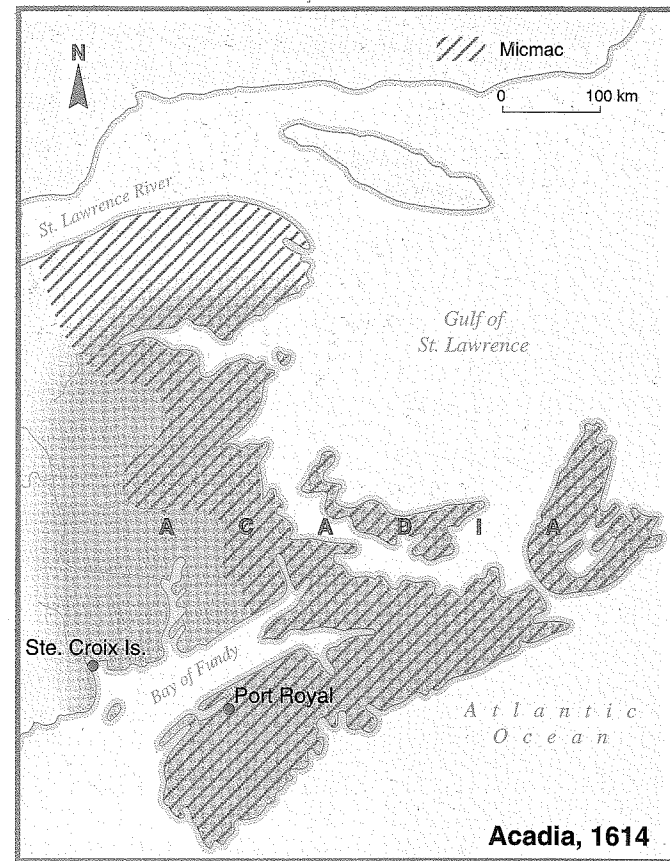
The Importance of Acadia

Quebec, Montreal, and Trois Rivières were important settlements in New France because they were profitable fur trading centres. The fur trade was the main source of wealth for France.

Acadia was also a French colony.* The earliest French settlement attempts took place in Acadia. De Monts and Champlain settled at Ste. Croix and Port Royal before moving to the richer fur areas along the St. Lawrence. French settlement in Acadia continued around the Bay of Fundy.

Struggle for Control

Although Acadia was not important to the French as a major supplier of furs, its location made it crucial. The English and the French were competing for the rich fish and fur resources in the region. Control of Acadia gave a nation power in North America. It is no wonder that the French and the English, who were competing with each other for power in the New World, also fought for possession of the colony of Acadia.

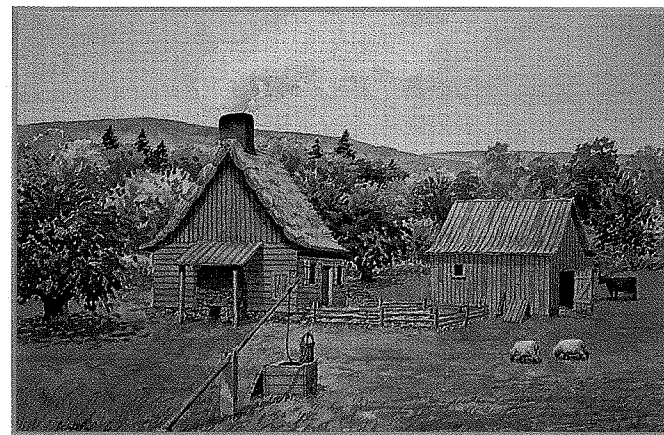


*Acadia included present day Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and parts of New Brunswick and Quebec.

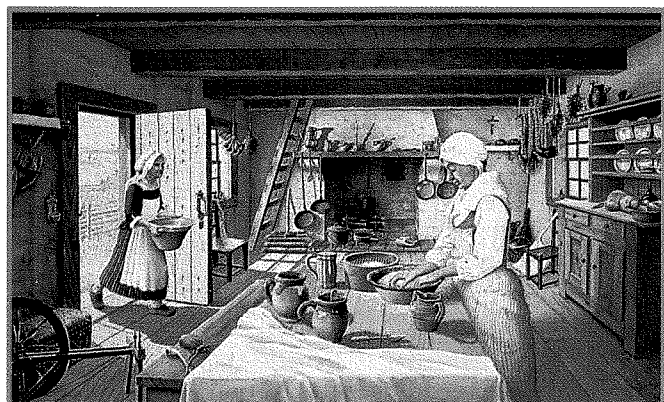
A brief examination of Acadian history between 1614 and 1655 illustrates the struggle for control or power.

- 1614—Because the English feared that the French planned to expand south into the English colonies, they burned Port Royal. Only a handful of French settlers remained. No new settlers arrived until 1623.
- 1621—The English attempted to establish a Scottish settlement in Acadia. It failed after a few years.
- 1632—Acadia was officially returned to the French as part of a peace settlement of a European war between France and England.
- 1654—The English attacked Port Royal again and captured all French settlements around the Bay of Fundy. The English retained control over the southern part of Acadia, while the French controlled northern Acadia.
- 1655—The Treaty of Westminster returned French forts in Acadia to the French.

Acadian Way of Life



It was not until the 1630s that the first women and families settled in Acadia and large houses such as this were built.



Inside, the whitewashed walls provided a pleasing and warm atmosphere, as did the huge fireplace. Furniture was homemade, as was the clothing the people wore. Since families were large, usually with about nine children, there were always lots of helpers, both indoors and in the fields.

French settlers managed to establish homes and farms in spite of the conflict between the French and the English. Since the land was fertile, farming became the basis of the Acadian way of life. In Acadia there were trees to provide lumber for the building of homes, furniture, barns, mills, and boats. Any leftover crops could be traded for manufactured goods such as woven fabrics, tools, and molasses.

Top Right: Trading. Very few French ships came to Acadia to trade, so the Acadians traded with people from the Thirteen Colonies—wheat and furs for manufactured goods.



Above: Repairing a Dyke. The Acadians reclaimed low, marshy lands from the sea. Dykes were built of earth covered with sod. The dykes held back the water so the fields could be dried out and used for farming.



Right: Acadians Cutting Saltmarsh Hay. Each Acadian family had a vegetable garden, fruit orchards, fields of wheat, hay, and livestock. Hay was cut and dried to feed livestock during the winter.



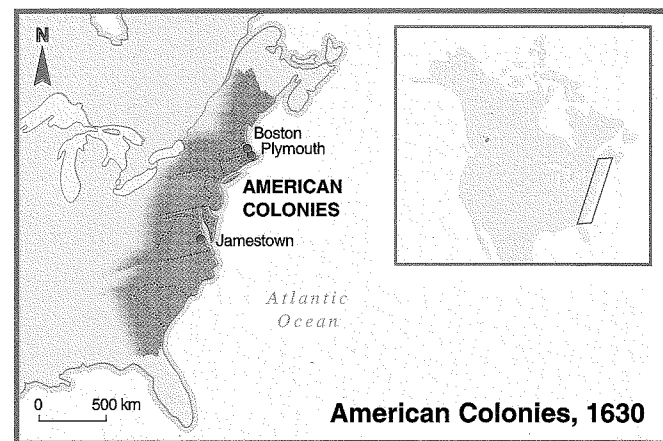
Above: The Micmac lived in Acadia for centuries before the Acadians settled in this area. This painting, titled *Micmac Indians*, shows use of the local environment.

British Colonization

The American Colonies

In the early 1600s, England began to establish colonies in the area now known as the northeastern United States. The English mercantile system differed from France's because the English merchants, not the state, directed the economy. English individuals or groups who applied to the king or queen for charters were interested in profit. The charters allowed them to create settlements in the hope of increasing their profits. The merchants became wealthy and the state became more powerful. This approach allowed the state to remain free of responsibility for the new settlements. It also provided the state with a new source of revenue from taxes, which could be placed on any of the colony's exports.

The first successful English colony was established at Jamestown in 1607. A trading company, the Virginia Company of London, sponsored the colony. The company



Below: This is a group of singing townfolk at the reconstructed Plymouth Colony.



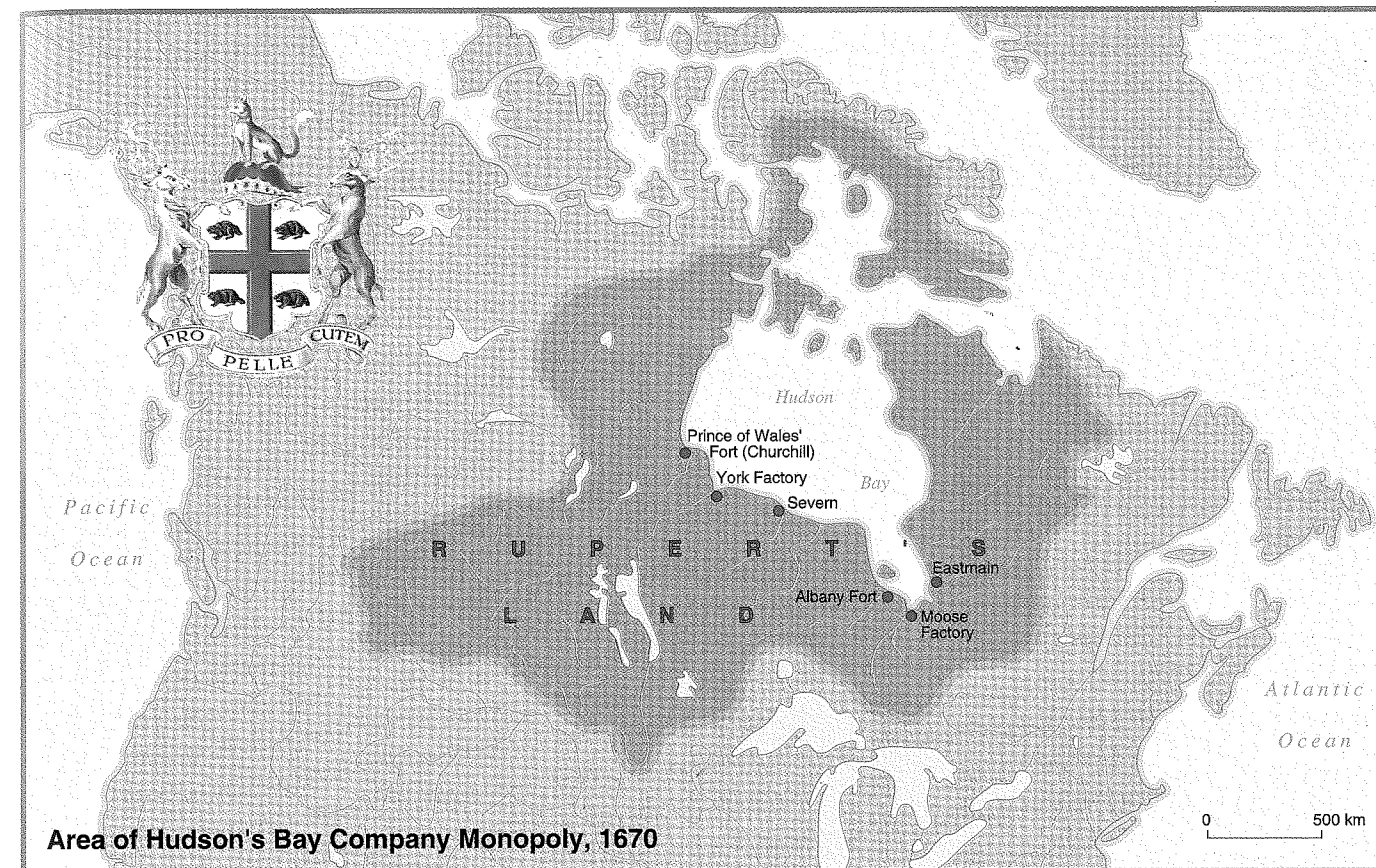
This young man at the reconstructed colony of Plymouth is bringing in hay to provide food and bedding for his animals.

had originally expected the settlers to copy the Spanish and find gold and silver to make themselves and the company rich. This did not happen and the settlers nearly starved to death. Only the development of tobacco as a cash crop saved the colony and made it a financial success.

Other English colonies were begun along the east coast of North America. Plymouth Colony was established in 1620 by a group of people who wished to find religious freedom in North America. This colony grew quickly and became prosperous. In 1630, the colony of Boston was established.

The English settlements quickly developed into 13 separate colonies that stretched southward down the Atlantic Coast of North America. These settlements became known as the Thirteen Colonies. They were settled by the English, Irish, Scottish, German, and Dutch. By 1770, the population of the Thirteen Colonies stood at approximately 2 100 000. Fishing, farming, and fur trading were the most profitable industries in the colonies.

The Hudson's Bay Company



Like the French, the English were very interested in gaining wealth from the fur trade in North America. The Hudson's Bay Company proved to be the most lasting of all of the fur trading institutions. Surprisingly enough, considering French and English rivalry and conflict, the Hudson's Bay Company was formed on the advice of two French fur traders, Pierre-Esprit Radisson and Chouart des Groseilliers. These two had tried to persuade the French that the best way to develop the fur trade was to set up trading posts on Hudson Bay. This way, all of the Native peoples whose river systems fed into the Bay could bring in their furs by canoe. The French were not interested—in fact, the French governor fined Radisson and Groseilliers for illegal fur trading—so they presented their idea to the English. The English saw this as a way to increase their power and influence in North America, and to make profits from the fur trade.

The Hudson's Bay Company was formed by a group of English investors. These men persuaded King Charles II of England that huge profits could be made by developing the fur trade in the northern part of North America. They asked for a charter and exclusive trading rights on a large tract of land, which would be controlled by the Company.

The king agreed, and on May 2, 1670, he granted a charter to "The Governor and Company of Adventurers Trading Into Hudson's Bay." The charter was granted in the name of Prince Rupert, the king's cousin. As a result, the Hudson's Bay Company land became known as Rupert's Land. The charter gave the investors a monopoly over the trade in all the territory whose rivers drained into Hudson Bay.

Although the Europeans acted as if the land were uninhabited, there were many tribes who made their homes in Rupert's Land. The Company did not talk to the Native peoples about taking over their lands, or consider how this might affect them.

The Hudson's Bay Company forts were erected at the mouths of the main rivers flowing into Hudson Bay. Native peoples acting as go-betweens brought furs by canoe to the forts for trading. These furs were exchanged for European goods and were in turn traded for more furs from the Native peoples. The Company was dependent on the Native peoples for their interior trade.

Through the fur trade both the Native peoples and Europeans got goods that they could not produce themselves.