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Because of Covid 19 Restrictions and border closures our 2021 events are being evaluated on a month to month basis.

For the most current information go to our website.



www.fort1749.org

Fort La Présentation Association Acquires the Original Site of Fort de La Présentation!

The Fort La Présentation Association of Ogdensburg, NY has acquired the Thomas Duffy property on Van Rensselaer Point which includes the actual site of the fort, Association President Barbara O'Keefe has announced. This is an addition to the 25 acres the Fort currently owns on Van Rensselaer Point.

The Association's purchase of the Duffy property is significant according to Mrs. O'Keefe. "The Fort La Présentation Association's mission to help preserve, research and interpret the rich history of the City of Ogdensburg and St. Lawrence River Valley," she said. "Previous Archeological excavations undertaken on the site by the New York State Museum had uncovered the ruins of the fortification and numerous artifacts from the 18th century French and English occupation of the site," she said.



"We are absolutely thrilled that Mr. Duffy has provided us with such a once in a lifetime opportunity to help preserve Ogdensburg's rich history,"
said Mrs. O'Keefe.

In addition to selling the land, Duffy gave the Association title to archeological artifacts that had been recovered in previous digs on the property. The artifacts are currently being curated by the State Museum and SUNY Potsdam.



Fall Trek to Massawepie

By Fed Hanss



Eventually, some re-enactors will want to test their mettle in the woods or on the water. Re-enactors typically camp in well-manicured state or provincial parks with access to water, firewood and lots of modern amenities.

But can a group of reenactors spend a weekend deep in the Adirondacks without many of these modern creature comforts?

A small group representing the Fort La Présentation Association and Forsyth's Rifles decided to test their skills in the backwoods of the Adirondacks last September. Members of the intrepid band included: Dana Denhoff, P.J. Miller, Amanda Paige-Miller, Fed Hanss, Renee Lashbrook and Josh Bennett. The group pitched a primitive 18th century camp on the shores of Deer Pond near Tupper Lake. Fall weather in the Adirondacks can change rapidly. Luckily the group was treated to bright blue skies and mild temperatures.

The goal of the trek was to try and come as close to using the resources, tools and equipment that our ancestors would have had on hand on a similar fall scout or hunting trip. The first order of business was to setup camp, bring in enough firewood to keep a campfire going through the weekend and kindle a fire. Luckily, the site had waterfront access and an incredible supply of dead, dry firewood on the ground. Dana was able to get a roaring fire going with one or two strikes of his flint and steel that burned until the group broke up the following day.

The friends spent Saturday getting caught up with one another after months of being separated by COVID-19. Amanda did a little trout fishing – without success. The band made a short hike to the Massawepie Mire, at 900+ acres, the largest bog in New York State. Fall colors were just beginning to turn the woods red and yellow, but the bog had turned a ruddy red color broken-up by cotton grass, pitcher plants and blueberry bushes.

Saturday night featured a pot-luck supper, the hit being P.J.'s French-Canadian tourtiere, a savory meat pie. The friends sat around the campfire until late in the evening sharing stories of previous events and of course national politics (half of us supported New France and the other half the colonies of the British Empire). As the fire died, owls and coyote calls echoed across the pond's ridges.

After brewing and enjoying a gallon of campfire coffee, the band broke camp and headed back to their homes. It was a bittersweet farewell given the uncertainty of when they would be able to gather again around the fire. One thing was certain, the friends agreed to gather again next September for the last scout of the season.



Have a favorite 1700- 1800's historical trekking experience? Send us your story!



Tourtière: A French-Canadian Meat Pie

Tourtière, also known as pork pie or meat pie, is a combination of ground meat, onions, spices, and herbs baked in a traditional pie-crust.

Author* Instructions
<https://growagoodlife.com/tourtiere/>



Ingredients

Pastry
 2 cups unbleached all purpose flour
 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
 2/3 cup butter or lard
 6-7 tablespoons cold water
 Filling
 1 pound ground pork
 1 pound ground beef
 1 small onion finely chopped
 1 clove garlic finely minced
 2 large potatoes
 1/2 teaspoon Bells poultry seasoning or your favorite poultry seasoning
 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
 1/8 teaspoon pepper
 1 egg scrambled for glazing

Searching For Abbe Piquet

By David Austin

PICQUET, FRANÇOIS, priest, Sulpician, and missionary;
 Born 4 Dec. 1708 in Bourg-en-Bresse, France.

Abbe Piquet took training at the Séminaire de Saint-Sulpice in Paris, where he was ordained priest on 10 April 1734. That summer he arrived in Montreal (Que.) and served in the parish ministry there until 1739, at the same time learning Indian languages and customs. From 1739 to 1749 he lived at the Sulpician mission of Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes (Oka, Que.), which had been founded in 1721.

Okay, but what is a Sulpician (səl'piSHən)?

“Sulpicians: a member of a congregation of secular Roman Catholic diocesan priests founded in 1641-1642 by Jean-Jacques Olier at the parish of Saint-Sulpice in Paris mainly to train candidates for holy orders.”²

2nd question who/what is a diocesan priest?

A Catholic, Anglican or Eastern Orthodox priest who *commits them-self to a certain geographical area* and is ordained into the service of the citizens of a diocese, a church administrative region.³

Next up “*commits them-self to a certain geographical area*” where would that have been?

Oka is a small village on the northern bank of the [Ottawa River](#) (*Rivière des Outaouais* in French), northwest of [Montreal](#), Quebec, Canada. Located in the [Lower Laurentians](#) on [Lake of Two Mountains](#), where the Ottawa has its confluence with the [St. Lawrence River](#), the town has a main thoroughfare that is now part of [Quebec Route 344](#). It's located 50 km (30 miles) northwest of Montreal.

This area was colonized by French settlers as a mission to First Nations in 1721 by brothers of the [Sulpician Order](#) branch of the [Roman Catholic Church](#). Traditional owners are [Mohawk](#) (Kanienkaha), [Algonquin](#), and [Nipissing](#), who had a village known as [Kanesatake](#), now a reserve within the boundaries of Oka.⁴

On 1 June 1749, with 25 Frenchmen and four Indians, he founded the post of LaPrésentation (Oswegatchie, now Ogdensburg, N.Y.). By autumn Picquet had built a stockaded fort, with a redoubt and living quarters sheltering some 300 Iroquois, Hurons, and other Indians.⁵

1,5. http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/picquet_francois_4E.html

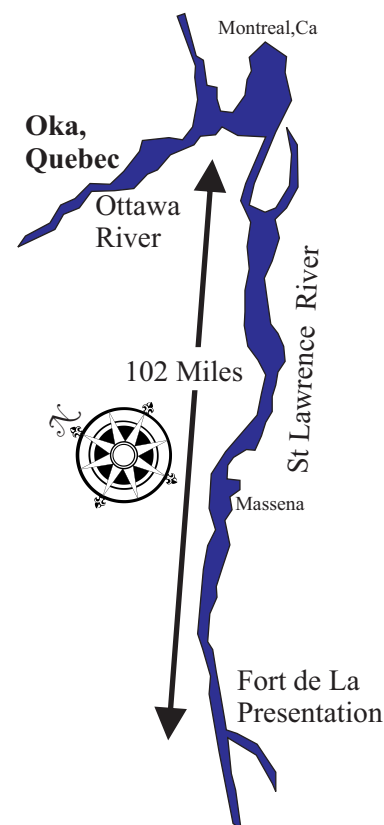
2. <http://www.stmarys.edu/seminary/welcome-to-st-marys>

3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secular_clergy#

4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oka,_Quebec



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Author's Note:

One of the *best* parts of being involved with history is all the new side journeys we discover along the way.

D. Austin

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This watercolor shows Fort La Présentation exactly as it was on Aug. 16, 1760, when six British row galleys attacked the French ship L'Outaouaise (the Ottawa) near the fort. It was painted by Thomas Davies, who occupied one of the galleys during the battle.