

Le Messenger

des descendants de Nicolas Perrot



Association des descendants
de
Nicolas Perrot

1595, rue Piette, Joliette (Québec), J6E 3W3

A word from the president

To underline the 400th anniversary of the French presence in America, we took part last September, together with the City of Becancour, in a commemoration of shared memory sites. Indeed, the city of Becancour had decided to rename the local community centre as «salle Nicolas Perrot» (*Nicolas Perrot Hall*) and we unveiled three display panels illustrating the life and work of our ancestor, from his departure from Darcey in Burgundy to establishing himself in Becancour where he died in 1717. The text of these three panels are presented in this edition of the *Messenger*.

In the name of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank the mayor, Maurice Richard and the Becancour city council who responded to our request and warmly received us September 21 last. I must also thank the Caisses Populaires Desjardins of Kildare and Godefroy for their financial support. A warm thank you as well to Association Quebec-France their Mauricie regional office who contributed to making this event a success.

The annual get-together which subsequently took place at the auberge Godefroy was marked by two very emotional moments : the presence of Nicolas and Madeleine Raclos and the rendition of the song *Metaminens* by Manon Vincent accompanied by Sylvie Boudreau at the piano. (*continued on page 2*)



*Standing, from left to right: Michel Godefroy (André Clement Perreault), Perrine Picoté de Belêtre, wife of Michel (Chantal Perreault), Claude Perreault, Thérèse Perrault-DeGuire, Maurice Richard, mayor of Becancour, and Margot Bolduc, vice-president of Association Quebec-France; in front, Madeleine Raclos (Suzanne Marier) and Nicolas Perrot (Donald Racine)
photo : Jean-Pierre Perreault*

volume 2, n° 3 – novembre 2008
(english version)

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NOTICE

We're always looking for old family photos, anecdotes, or picture of a descendant of Nicolas Perrot who has distinguished him/herself in some sector or other to highlight in our PORTRAIT pages and a new section to be added, entitled AMONG OURSELVES.

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A word from the president (continued)

This day closed with a quickly held General Assembly. Two persons are leaving the Board after many years of volunteer work : Nicole and Therese. On behalf of the Board, I wish to extend my thanks to them. You will be missed.

The General Assembly ratified the nomination of Chantal Perreault to the position of vice-president (2-year mandate) and of Yves Perreault to the position of secretary (one-year mandate). At the end, 3 seats on the Board were still vacant.

At the last Board meeting held in Joliette on October 15, Jean-Marie Perreault of Victoriaville was appointed to Director position no 2 (2-year mandate). Steps are underway to fill the remaining two vacant seats.

As to the next get-together of the descendants of Nicolas Perrot in 2009, this will take place in **Saint-Ambroise-de-Kildare**, in the Lanaudiere region. More details of this event will be available in the next issue of the Messenger.

Also, the Board would like to determine what facilities are available to the Association to assist in planning ahead for future annual get-togethers. Municipalities or cities interested in eventually hosting our Association should direct proposals to the Secretariat, making particular reference to :

Available meeting places (capacity, catering, other services available); an estimate of Nicolas Perrot descendants in the municipality and surrounding area); persons in the neighbourhood willing to help out with the preparations for the event.

Claude Perreault
President



photo: Chantal Perreault



*salle Nicolas-Perrot, Bécancour
photo: Chantal Perreault*



*Nicolas and Madeleine
photo: Chantal Perreault*

The original marriage contract between Nicolas and Madeleine has never been found. We know of its existence because of an entry in the greffe (*clerical record*) of notary Guillaume de LaRue of Champlain, and a note discovered in the fonds Verreau (*papers of Father H. A. Verreau, chair of History at Laval University*) in the Quebec Seminary archives. This partial transcription is reproduced here.

Séminaire du Québec, 20 juin 1951

Extrait
du contrat de mariage
de Nicolas Perrot
(Fonds Verreau, bte 18, liasse 6)
feuillet 7 (notaire LaRue, de Champlain)

1671, nov. 11

Contrat de mariage
entre

Nicolas "Perrot", fils de Fr. Perrot et de Marie Sivot, ses père
et mère, vivant et demeurant à Davray, Evesché d'Autun et honnête fille
Magdeleine Raclos, fille du Sr. Bon Raclot et d'honnête femme
Marie Viennot, son épouse, ses père et mère.

De la part du dit Perrot, Etienne Pezard La Touche, Seigneur,
et Magdeleine Mullois, son épouse, Mre Morin, curé de la paroisse,
Pierre Artault, sieur de la Tour, juge ordinaire dudit lieu, René Beaudoin.

De la part de la future épouse, le sieur Bon Raclos, Son père, honnête fille,
Françoise et Marie Raclos, ses filles, Sieur Louis Tétreau.

translation of the note : « Nicolas "Perrot", son of Francois Perrot and of Marie Sivot, his mother and father, living and residing in Davray, Bishopric of Autun, and upstanding girl Magdeleine Raclos, daughter of Sieur Bon Raclot and upstanding woman Marie Viennot, his wife, her father and mother. / On the part of said Perrot, Etienne Pezard La Touche, Seigneur, and Magdeleine Mullois, his wife, Master Morin, parish priest, Pierre Artault, Sieur de la Tour, ordinary judge of said place, Rene Beaudoin. / On the part of the future wife, Sieur Bon Raclos, her father, upstanding girl, Françoise and Marie Raclos, his daughters, Sieur Lous Tetreau. »

Note the error, "Davray" instead of Darcey, which confounded researchers for many years, making it difficult to locate the parish of origin of Nicolas. All indications are that the marriage ceremony would have taken place in Champlain. This seigneurie had been conceded to Etienne Pezard (de) La Tousche, on August 8, 1664. As it happens, there would have been a wooden chapel on that property since at least the month of October 1665, and

doubtless that is where Nicolas and Madeleine were married. But no parish register from before 1679 has survived, and construction of a stone church would not have started before 1697.

The presumed signatories

Pezard was a career military man and wasted no time in erecting a stockade around his property and the chapel, which measured, in French "feet", 55 long by 25 large (approximately 60 by 27 in English feet). The site became known as Fort La Tousche, or Fort La Tousche-Champlain. No trace of that stockade exists today because of progressive erosion of the Saint-Lawrence shoreline. It is thought that the site of the fort may be submerged in the river roughly 7 arpents (1/4 of a mile) offshore, following a straight line along Lefrançois avenue in Champlain, since this would have been the southwest boundary of the property. No archaeological dig has ever been attempted.

Master Morin would be none other than Germain Morin, the first Canadian-born priest, and the brother of Marie Morin, herself the first Canadian-born hospitaler nun of the Hôtel-Dieu of Montreal, and author of the annals of her community under the title « *Histoire simple and veritable de l'établissement des religieuses hospitalières de Ville-Marie* » (*The simple and true story of the establishment of the hospitaler nuns in Ville-Marie*). Germain was born January 14, 1642, in Quebec City, son of Noël Morin and Helene Desportes. He became a priest in 1665, was named secretary to Mgr De Laval, and from 1669, would serve as missionary priest to several parishes including Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre and Neuville.

Pierre Artault, sieur de La Tour, is a somewhat obscure individual. He may have arrived in Quebec City on September 14, 1665, either on the vessel Justice or the Saint-Sebastien, being part of the Saint-Ours company of the Carignan regiment. On June 10, 1670, in Champlain, he is witness to the marriage of his sergeant, Jacques Baby. In any case, he seems to have become Pezard's trusted companion to have earned the position of "juge ordinaire" of the seigneurie.

Rene Beaudoin had already wed Marie Raclos. Their marriage contract, dated October 12, 1671, was drawn up by Romain Becquet, royal notary and secretary to the Conseil Souverain (*Sovereign Council*) in Quebec City. It is possible that Rene and Marie could have been married in Quebec City, but more likely that they would have preferred to be wed at Champlain, surrounded by family and friends.

Marie's sisters, accompanied by their father, **Idebon** (or Ildebon) Raclos, would thus have gone upriver to Trois-Rivieres to find suitable husbands for Françoise and Madeleine among Rene's entourage. Time was of the essence since Idebon must return to Quebec City before the river freezes to take the last ship back to France. The presence of Idebon in the house of Guillaume de Larue, that November 11, 1671, seems evident judging by the phrase « *De la part de la future epouse, le sieur Bon Raclos, son pere...* ».

Louis Tetreau was wed to Noëlle Landeau whose first husband, Jean Beaudoin, brother of Rene, had died in 1662. Which meant he was brother-in-law to Rene and Marie Raclos. On September 27, 1671, Rene had bought a concession (2 arpents by 40) in the Champlain seigneurie from Louis Pinard, the local doctor. This property had previously been conceded to Louis Tetreault, on March 17, 1665. Louis had cleared the land and had sold it in 1668; this was the way he made his fortune, buying and developing new concessions.

Françoise Raclos would sign, a few weeks later, a marriage contract with Michel David, son of Claude David, drawn up by La Rue in Champlain, in Rene and Marie's house, "avant midi" (*before noon*), on December 2, 1671. As fate would have it, we have almost the complete text of this contract, which provides us with a good example of what the contract between Nicolas and Madeleine would have looked like. The text will be published in the next issue of the *Messenger*.

sources: Viger-Verreau fonds : www.mcq.org/fr/complex/craf_fonds/craf_fonds.php?idEv=w518

* Champlain seigneurie : Jean-Pierre Chartier, Fiefs and seigneurie de Champlain ,une approche géographique et chronologique de l'évolution de l'espace champlainois, Montreal, Histoire Quebec, 2005

* Carignan regiment: www.migrations.fr/Leregimentcarignan.htm

A COAT OF ARMS

for the Association of descendants of Nicolas Perrot

The last General Assembly adopted a motion to authorise the Board to take steps during 2008-2009 to petition for a specific coat of arms to be granted to the Association of Descendants of Nicolas Perrot. To further this project, here are the main steps in the process which must be undertaken with the Canadian Heraldic Authority:

Grants of armorial bearings are honours from the Canadian Crown. They provide recognition for contributions that Canadian individuals and corporate bodies make in Canada and elsewhere. All Canadian citizens or corporate bodies (municipalities, schools, societies, associations, institutions, etc.) may petition to receive a grant of armorial bearings.

Such petition must be addressed to the Chief herald of Canada stating the wish to receive armorial bearings from the Canadian Crown under the powers exercised by the Governor General.

A grant of armorial bearings, as an honour, recognizes the contribution made to the community by the petitioner. The background information is therefore an important tool for the Chief herald of Canada to assess the eligibility of the request.

On the recommendation of the Chief herald of Canada, the herald Chancellor signs a warrant authorizing a grant of armorial bearings. An invoice for the processing fee is then sent to the petitioner.

There are three main stages in the grant process:

- the creation of a written description
- the preparation of a preliminary design
- the production of the official letters patent.

Once the processing fee has been paid, the herald, a specialist in the field of emblematic design, begins work with the petitioner to determine the elements of a possible design, which must follow the rules of heraldry. After the written description of the armorial bearings has been approved by the Chief Herald of Canada, it is sent to the petitioner for acceptance.

After the written description has been approved, a contract is signed between the petitioner and one of the Authority's artists, who then prepares preliminary artwork. This preliminary design is reviewed by Fraser Herald, the Authority's principal artist, approved by the Chief Herald of Canada, and sent to the petitioner for approval.

The third stage involves the preparation of the grant document. Called letters patent, this official document includes the final artistic illustration of the armorial bearings accompanied by a legal text. It is signed by the appropriate officials, and the seal of the Canadian heraldic Authority is applied to it.

The average time required to complete a grant is 12 to 14 months after the warrant has been signed. The proposed armorial bearings must satisfy both the petitioner and the Chief herald of Canada.

For more information regarding the process and for a sample coat of arms, you may consult the web site of the Gouverneur General of Canada, heraldry page, at the following address: http://www.gg.ca/heraldry/pg/index_e.asp

Claude Perreault
President

THERESE PERRAULT-DEGUIRE

METAMINENS : the CD

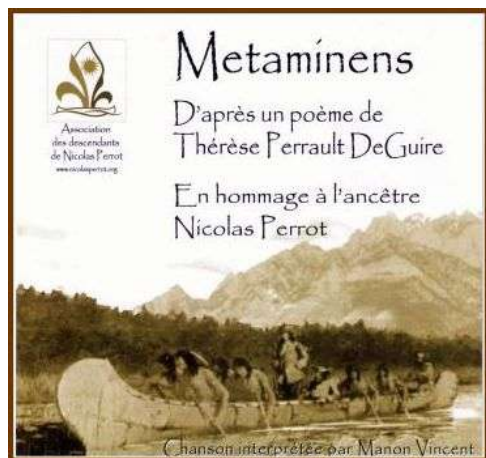


photo: Michel Perreault

In 2007, Therese Perrault DeGuire, artist and poet, had penned a hymn to the memory of our ancestor, Nicolas Perrot. This poem was recited during the 2007 get-together by Yann Perreau.

In 2008, Therese and her collaborators, Sylvie Boudreau, well-known pianist, and Manon Vincent, author-singer-songwriter, put the finishing touches on a project that has long been close to her heart. Manon adapted a few of the stanzas of the poem while retaining the essence of the wording and Sylvie added an arrangement for them. Here is the result.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the CD, please contact the Secretariat of the Association at **450-755-1552**



Tribute to a great lady

Just a note to pay tribute to a great lady, Therese Perrault-DeGuire, a close relative for whom I am full of admiration for what she has accomplished these many years.

Because she is passionate about genealogy, she has succeeded in spreading the news about this great family of ours, always with great respect for historical accuracy. Her surprising tenacity as well as her untiring involvement make her a worthy descendant in the image of Nicolas Perrot.

If the time has come for her to rest awhile, she remains an important link in this wondrous human chain.

We can be proud both of her and her accomplishments.

*With much affection,
Marguerite S. Charron*



*From left to right : Madeleine Raclos (Suzanne Marier), Nicolas Perrot (Donald Racine), Christyane Perrault-DeGuire, Thérèse Perrault-DeGuire, Claude Perreault
photo : Jean-Marie Perreault*

NICOLAS PERROT, L'INTERPRÊTE ET LE DIPLOMATE

Ayant vécu, dès son jeune âge, parmi les nations amérindiennes, Nicolas Perrot a rapidement appris leurs dialectes pour servir par la suite d'interprète.



Le calumet de Paix

Benjamin Sulte note : "Avant 1671, Perrot n'avait été qu'un coureur de bois trafiquant pour son compte, avec quelques associés, peut-être, mais sans éclat, sauf qu'il avait acquis un prestige personnel extraordinaire sur l'esprit des Indigènes et qu'il était regardé comme un interprète et un orateur de premier ordre. Évidemment plus instruit que la plupart de ceux qui se livraient à cette vie errante, doué de talents supérieurs, brave et rusé au possible, il dominait à la fois son entourage français et les peuples qui venaient en contact avec lui.

En 1670, le gouverneur de Courcelles et l'intendant Jean Talon confient à Saint-Lusson et Perrot la mission d'amener les tribus de la région des grands lacs dans le giron français. C'est dans ce cadre que le 14 juin 1671, ils prennent possession de ce territoire au nom de Louis XIV, roi de France, lors d'une cérémonie s'étant déroulée au Saut-Sainte-Marie.

En 1684, à la demande du gouverneur La Barre, Perrot rallie les nations de l'Ouest autour de lui pour ensuite aller guerroyer chez les Tsonontouans. C'est au cours de cette mission qu'il libérera la fille d'un chef Sauteux, prisonnière de la tribu des Renards.



Au printemps de 1688, il sert d'interprète lors de la signature du traité du 15 juin par lequel il obtint la neutralité des Onontagués, des Onneyouts et des Goyogois. En 1689, à la demande du roi de France, il prend possession du territoire de la Baie-des-Puants et autres territoires adjacents. En 1692, le comte de Frontenac lui demande d'aller pacifier les Indiens Miamis de Maramet. Dans une lettre adressée au ministre des Colonies et datées du 20 novembre 1690, le gouverneur Frontenac écrit: " Le sieur Perrot s'est acquis, par la longue pratique et connaissance qu'il a de l'humeur, des manières et de la langue de toutes les nations d'en haut, beaucoup de crédit par elles. "

En 1701, il joue le rôle d'interprète auprès du gouverneur de Callières et les tribus de l'Ouest, ce qui conduira à la signature de la Grande Paix de Montréal et à la pacification des Amérindiens.

A part ses allées et venues dans les cours de justice, on ne connaît pas grand'chose des dernières années de Nicolas Perrot. Benjamin Sulte écrit:

" Perrot conserva sa haute intelligence jusqu'aux derniers mois de sa vie, car il parle dans ses mémoires des événements de l'année 1716, huit ou neuf mois avant sa mort. " Raymond Douville, pour sa part, écrit : [...] jusqu'au dernier moment il pense au moyen d'établir une paix durable entre les Blancs et les tribus indiennes qu'il a fréquentées. Toute la philosophie de ses relations avec les Indiens y passe, philosophie résumée dans le dernier chapitre qui, à première vue, semble une suite de divagations, un rappel incohérent de ses souvenirs, mais qui soudainement prend un ton tragique quand on se rend compte que Perrot se hâtait de résumer toute sa pensée, sachant qu'il allait manquer de papier. [...] À cet homme qui a voulu donner tout un continent à son pays, il ne reste plus rien, pas même une feuille de papier pour continuer la relation de ses souvenirs, occupation qui est maintenant toute sa raison de vivre.

NICOLAS PERROT, LE COUREUR DE BOIS ET L'EXPLORATEUR

Nicolas Perrot dut traverser les mers au plus tard en 1660. Il a alors 17 ans et travaille pour les Jésuites. Ceux-ci ne tardent pas à l'entraîner dans leur suite, à l'instruire, à lui faire apprendre les dialectes des tribus qu'ils visitent. " Dès 1663, ajoute, Benjamin Sulte, Nicolas Perrot était parmi les Sauvages du Wisconsin, serviteur des Pères Jésuites. " Selon Claude-Charles Le Roy de la Potherie, Perrot quitte les missionnaires en 1665 et visite alors les Potéouatamis et les Renards du lac Michigan. Il troque alors des fourrures pour des fusils, permettant à ce groupe de se défendre à armes égales contre leurs ennemis. Ce troc lui vaut l'amitié du chef qui le vénère comme un dieu. En quelques mois, il raffermir les liens noués au cours des pérégrinations précédentes.

Le 12 août 1667, Nicolas Perrot constitue une société de traite des fourrures avec Toussaint Beaudry, Jean Desroches et Isaac Nafrechoux. Il explorera, par la suite, une de ses régions préférées, le Wisconsin et visitera les nations amérindiennes qu'il connaît bien et dont il a su gagner l'amitié. En 1668, il passe par les villages des Puants (Winnibago), des Potéouatamis, des Renards ou Outagamis situés dans le voisinage de la Baie-des-Puants (Green Bay). Il en profite pour faire la traite des fourrures.



Les principales tribus amérindiennes au début du 17e siècle

" Les instincts de Nicolas Perrot, précise Benjamin Sulte, le portaient vers les régions inconnues, les pays de traite, comme on disait; et bien que la classe appelée plus tard *les coureurs de bois* ne fut pas encore formée, il existait assez d'éléments de cette nature en préparation pour attirer un homme de la trempe de Perrot. " Il ajoute qu'en mai 1670, les abbés Dollier et Galinée arrivaient au Saut-Sainte-Marie, d'où les canots partaient pour se rendre à Montréal en descendant la rivière des Outaouais; Perrot et quatre compagnons français dévalaient ainsi ce cours d'eau lorsqu'ils eurent la surprise d'y rencontrer Cavalier de la Salle, qui chassait en compagnie de quelques Français et d'une douzaine d'Iroquois.



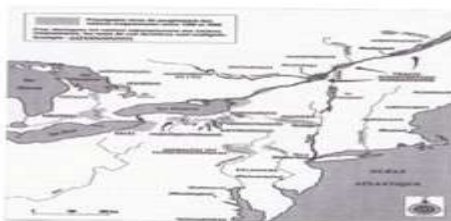
En septembre 1670, il s'associe à Jean Dupuis, Denis Masse, Pierre Poupart, Jean Guitard et Jacques Benoît pour un voyage de traite. Mais sa présence est requise à Québec par le gouverneur Daniel de Rémy de Courcelles pour y rencontrer l'intendant Jean Talon. Il fut alors décidé que le sieur Daumont de Saint-Lusson et Nicolas Perrot devront se rendre au Wisconsin pour rassembler les tribus de l'Ouest et faire une alliance solennelle avec toutes ces nations. Partis de Montréal, ils remontent l'Outaouais et parviennent chez les Amikoués ou peuple du Castor, (OJIBWAY) au nord du Lac Huron.

Ils y passent l'hiver (sur l'île Manitoulin) auprès de ces Sauvages, amis de Perrot. Le 5 mai 1671, ils arrivent au Saut-Sainte-Marie et convoquent la rencontre des chefs des tribus amérindiennes de la région. Cette cérémonie se déroulera le 14 juin 1671. Saint-Lusson et Perrot prendront officiellement possession des territoires des Grands-Lacs et des contrées de l'ouest au nom du roi de France, avec l'approbation de quatorze peuples différents venus chacun de son pays et Sulte ajoute: " Perrot signa le procès-verbal en qualité d'interprète officiel, après avoir admirablement parlé des bienfaits d'une telle entente. "

En 1672, l'intrépide aventurier qu'est Nicolas Perrot obtint un congé de traite du gouverneur Frontenac, privilège qu'il conservera jusqu'en 1683. Chaque année, Perrot remontait la rivière Outaouais pour se rendre dans la région des Grands-Lacs, y exploiter la fourrure et étendre ses connaissances auprès des tribus indigènes.

En 1684, le gouverneur Le Febvre de la Barre persuade Perrot d'aller convaincre les tribus de l'Ouest à se battre contre les Iroquois. Nicolas Perrot entreprend alors un voyage des plus périlleux. En 1685, il se rend à la Baie-des-Puants et rétablit la paix entre les Renards, les Sioux et les Sautaux en faisant libérer la fille d'un chef Sautaux, prisonnière des Renards. Avec les Puants, il explore la rive ouest du Mississippi, remonte ce fleuve, passe devant la Prairie-du-Chien et La Crosse, pour s'arrêter près du lac qui portera, plus tard, le nom de Pépin.

C'est là qu'il fait construire le fort Saint-Antoine. Puis, il rallie les diverses tribus amérindiennes contre les Tsonontouans de la nation Iroquoise. Et, au printemps de 1687, le gouverneur Denonville lui ordonne de se rendre à Niagara avec armes et bagages afin de participer à l'expédition décrétée contre les Tsonontouans. C'est au cours de cette expédition qu'il perd tous les produits de la traite des fourrures des années précédentes lorsqu'un incendie détruit la mission Saint-François-Xavier où le précieux butin avait été entreposé. Nicolas Perrot s'en trouvera ruiné.



Les tribus iroquoise de la région des Grands Lacs

Celui que les Amérindiens surnomment " Métamiens " ou " l'homme aux jambes de fer " a voyagé à travers les états actuels du Minnesota et du Wisconsin ainsi que sur le Mississippi. Au printemps de 1688, Perrot sert d'interprète au traité du 15 juin: c'est là que le chef Otreouti, dit la Grande Gueule, promet la neutralité des Onontagués, des Onneyouts et des Goyogins.

En 1689, il repart pour le Wisconsin afin d'y établir le fort Saint-Nicolas et prendre possession de la "Baie-des-Puants, du lac et des rivières des Outagamis et Mascoutens, rivière de Ouiskouche et celle de Mississippi, pays des Nadouesioux, Rivière Sainte-Croix et Saint-Pierre et autres lieux plus éloignés " avec le consentement des populations indigènes concernées, au nom de Louis XIV, roi de France, le 8 mai 1689.

En avril 1692, à la demande du gouverneur Louis de Buade, comte de Frontenac, il se rend chez les Indiens Miami de Maramet pour y faire régner la paix. Il fera plusieurs autres voyages dans l'ouest toujours pour veiller à la sauvegarde de la paix et des intérêts de la France.

En 1696, il se retire sur sa concession de Bécancour. Mais en 1701, le gouverneur Louis-Hector de Callières fait à nouveau appel à Perrot afin qu'il agisse comme interprète auprès des nations de l'ouest lors du grand rassemblement qui conduira à la signature de la Grande Paix de Montréal et à la pacification de l'Amérique.

NICOLAS PERROT, L'HOMME



La Bourgogne, en France



Darcey, dans le département de la Côte-d'Or

Originaire de Bourgogne (département de la Côte-d'Or), Nicolas Perrot serait probablement né vers 1641-1643 à Ménétreux-le-Pitois, là où son père se serait marié et aurait vécu avant de s'établir à Darcey. Il est le fils de François Perrot (né à Darcey, le 13 janvier 1616) et de Marie Sivot, lesquels se seraient mariés à Ménétreux-le-Pitois en 1642. Son père fut marchand à Ménétreux puis lieutenant de justice et procureur d'office à Darcey, à partir de 1651.

Le Père Charlevoix note : " La nécessité avait obligé Nicolas Perrot de se mettre au service des Jésuites." Il est probable que Nicolas Perrot ait passé un contrat d'engagement avec les Jésuites, avant son départ de France puisqu'à son arrivée en nouvelle-France, il avait à peine quatorze ou quinze ans, si on se fie aux chiffres des divers recensements.

Arrivé en Nouvelle-France entre 1658 et 1660, il devient interprète, après avoir séjourné parmi les tribus amérindiennes des Grands-Lacs. Au recensement de 1666, on le retrouve à Montréal où il travaille comme domestique de la veuve de Jacques Testard et en 1667, pour les Sulpiciens. Le 12 août de cette même année, il constitue une société de traite des fourrures avec Toussaint Beaudry, Jean Desroches et Isaac Nafrechoux. (Voir vitrine II)



Ménétreux le Pitois et Darcey sur la Côte-d'Or



Il habite à la rivière Saint-Michel (Bécancour). Le 2 décembre 1677, Charles Le Gardeur lui concède une terre de quatre arpents de front par 20 de profondeur dans sa seigneurie de Bécancour.

Après l'édit supprimant les congés de traite, il revient à Bécancour pour écrire ses mémoires et y finir ses jours.

Il décède à Bécancour le 13 août 1717 et y sera inhumé le lendemain, sous l'église.



La seigneurie de Bécancour (1709)



Les terres des Perrot à Bécancour (1709)

Ses enfants : François (1672-1704) épousera M.-Louise Macé
 Nicolas Perrot dit Turbal (1674- ...) épousera Marguerite Bourbeau,
 Clémence (1676-1756) épousera François Delpeccq,
 Michel Perrot dit Châteauguay (1677-1723) épousera Jeanne Beaudry,
 Françoise (1678-1744) épousera François Dufaux,
 MarieAnne (1680-1745) épousera François Bigot,
 Pierre (1682-1725) épousera Marie Champoux et M.-Anne Lescarbot,
 Madeleine (1683),
 Claude (1684-1741) épousera Marie Goulet,
 Jean-Baptiste (1688-1705),
 Jean Perrot dit Duchesne (1698-1773) épousera Marie Quintin.



PORTRAIT

Pierre Perreault

(1923 – 1988)

Mayor of Vankleek Hill, Ontario

(1971 – 1978)

Born June 21, 1923, in Vankleek Hill, he would always live on Stanley street, where he was born and raised. Son of Alexandre Perreault and Isabelle Lamoureux, he married Jane Sauve on November 12, 1942. A daughter, Therese, was born on January 25, 1944, followed by a son, Jean-Pierre, on April 19, 1945. Both children would become teachers: Therese Hoffman in L'Orignal and Jean-Pierre Perreault at the Casselman High School.

At the end of his teens, he worked for, among others, Intercity Lumber, then owned by Dr Kelly of Hawkesbury, and also in the lumber camps of Lost River and Morin Heights in Quebec province.

On August 17, 1944, he started work in Kilmar, Quebec for Canadian Refractories Ltd. He had to be hospitalised in the spring of 1948, suffering from blood poisoning in the patella, evidently a consequence of the chemical products he handled in the laboratory where he worked. When the company established a new plant in Marelan, Quebec, in 1953, Pierre Perreault was transferred to the new research lab where he did quality control of refractory products.

The union representative

1953 was also the beginning of his union career when he obtained the position of secretary-treasurer of the Magnesite Workers Union with 70% of the vote; this union was then affiliated with the Syndicat des Travailleurs Canadiens (*Canadian Workers Union*). The following year, the workers in that plant would come under the United Metal Workers, local 6213. From 1954 to 1984, he would work tirelessly to negotiate every collective agreement.

He actively supported the troubles in Murdochville in Gaspé, brandishing the union poster along with the striking miners. At that time, 1954-1955, Pierre Elliot Trudeau sided with the metalworkers. In 1961, Pierre Perreault took part in the general congress for this union held in Vancouver. Over the years, he made many such trips for the union, always accompanied by his wife.

Life in politics

Then came a long period of political involvement which would leave an imprint on life in Vankleek Hill, from 1967 to 1985, some 18 intensely felt years. Pierre Perreault was first elected in 1967 as First councilman. Already, he felt he could collect a voting majority. At that time Sidney Siversky was the reigning mayor of Vankleek Hill. Re-elected councilman for a second mandate in 1969, Pierre Perreault became mayor in 1971, supported by an imposing majority of the electorate.

There followed seven years as mayor, with a somewhat impressive set of accomplishments: reconstruction of the Vankleek Hill community centre, completion of the storm sewer connections, acquisition of a truck used for snow-plowing, opening a new dumpsite, celebrating the centenary of Vankleek Hill in 1978, enhanced by the

presence of Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau on opening day.



We should also mention a new subdivision of 154 lots, construction of affordable housing, a new plan of Vankleek Hill with proper numbering of houses, traffic lights at the central crossroads of the village... the list goes on and on. With much regret he had to leave active politics in 1978 after devoting seven years as mayor.

His diabetes was starting to give him problems. But he nevertheless promised to be back in 1980. He kept his promise, and in December 1980, he was unanimously elected councilman. Even in this role, there were several more accomplishments: moving the public library, purchase of a fire truck (1983) and an access ramp for paraplegics in front of City Hall. The irony

was that he would himself become a user of the ramp because of amputations he would endure in the following years. He had to retire from political life during the elections of 1985, definitely this time, to go through a leg amputation. So passed into memory a fertile period in the political history of Vankleek Hill.

Summing up a life

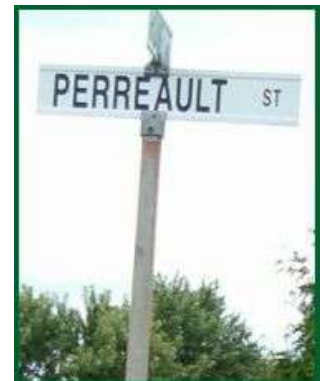
Is it not symbolic that a politician of such stature was buried on November 14, 1988, a day of municipal elections? Some five hundred persons stopped by to pay their respects to the body of Pierre Perreault between November 12 and 14, and some three hundred mourners took part in the funeral on that Monday, November 14. Why were so many people touched by this man? Firstly because Pierre Perreault had succeeded, with his well-known generosity, in garnering a large circle of friends and his many years of political activity had made him renowned and respected by many.

Pierre Perreault, one-time mayor of Vankleek Hill, had died on Friday morning, November 11, struck down by a heart attack. During his last three years, his diabetes was creating complications and they had to amputate both legs. Strengthened by inordinate courage, he still managed to get around proudly with the help of two prostheses. Since June, after his 65th birthday, he seemed to be getting healthier and he would move about jauntily. His sudden death was a shock to all who loved and respected him.

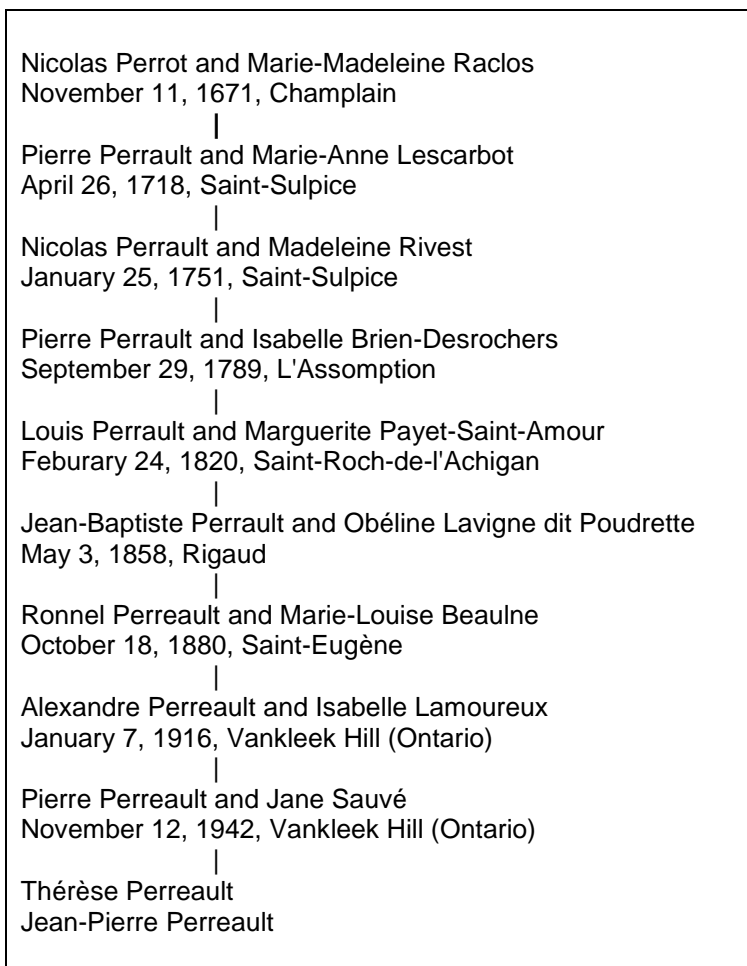


Many had come to appreciate the talents of this councillor but all who knew him were able to recognize the generosity, dignity and honesty of this remarkable man. To this day, on the edge of Vankleek Hill, a street proudly carries his name: Perreault street.

Text by Jean-Pierre Perreault



A BIT OF GENEALOGY



NEW MEMBERS

120	Perreault, Claude	Saint-Liguori
121	Pauzé, Lucille	Saint-Liguori
122	Perreault, Jean-Marie	Victoriaville
123	Paré, Yoland	Montréal
124	Filion, Isabelle	Ste-Anne-des-Plaines
125	Perreault, Richard	Warwick
126	Perreault, Douglas	Riverview (Florida)
127	Perreault, Julie	Riverview (Florida)

The newsletter editorial staff

André Clément Perreault [nicolas > claud]
Lisette David [nicolas > claud]

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Board of Directors 2008-2009

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As you'll no doubt have noticed, there are two vacant seats on the Board. All members interested in being on the Board are asked to contact Claude Perreault at **450-755-1552**, or claud.perreault43@videotron.ca

Monument in back of the church Nativité-de-la-Bienheureuse-Vierge-Marie in Becancour



photo: jean-marie perreault

**HOMMAGE
À
NICOLAS PERROT
INHUMÉ À BÉCANCOUR LE 13 NOV. 1717
PRINCIPAL INSTIGATEUR DE L'ALLIANCE
ENTRE LES NATIONS INDIENNES DE L'OUEST
ET LES FRANÇAIS**

*In homage to Nicolas Perrot / interred at
Becancour on Nov. 13, 1717 / main instigator of
the alliance / between Western Indian nations /
and the French*