

Chapter 5

Speaking for Herself? Acadiennes Communicating Identity in Eighteenth-Century île Royale

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Questions for Critical Reading

1. What do these correspondences reveal about the gender and social class structures of this period?
2. Read the well-known historical poem “Evangeline” by Longfellow. How is the study by Jonah a “counter narrative” to this famous representation of Acadia?
3. How did these women’s individual identities and backgrounds change the way they were represented?
4. Jonah uses the original French text in her article. Does this aid in your understanding of the text, or inhibit it?

List of Primary Sources

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http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2231683&rec_nbr_list=2231683
- “Memorial presented by His Majesty’s Commissaries of His Most Christian...” 1751.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2487134&rec_nbr_list=2487134
- “Sauvage Acadienne.” Beau, Henri. Drawing. N.d.
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- “Femme Acadienne.” Grasset de Saint-Sauveur, Jacques. Print. C. 1795.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2937174&rec_nbr_list=2937174

- “Plan de Louisbourg.” Beaurain, Jean de. Map. 1765
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3715436&rec_nbr_list=3715436
- “Plan of the Siege of Louisbourg in 1758.” Map. 1758.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=4133556&rec_nbr_list=4133556
- “Homme Acadien.” Grasset de Saint-Sauveur, Jacques. Print. 1796-1804.
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- “Femme Acadienne.” Grasset de Saint-Sauveur, Jacques. Print. 1796-1804.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3025429&rec_nbr_list=3025429
- “Scene at Acadian Home, Cabot Trail” Photograph. C. 1940-1941.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3265744&rec_nbr_list=3265744
- “Acadian Lady Spinning wool.” Photograph. 1938.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3353840&rec_nbr_list=3353840
- “Acadian Church with the Statue of Evangeline.” Boyd, John. Photograph. N.d.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3194985&rec_nbr_list=3194985

Suggested Videos and Websites

- Fortress Louisbourg
www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca
- Evangeline: A Tale of Acadie by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
www.bartleby.com/42/791.html
- The Acadians
www.cbc.ca/acadian/index.html
- Virtual Museum of New France
www.historymuseum.ca/virtual-museum-of-new-france/