

A land unknown to the Ancients has just been discovered in our time. Another world, quite distinct from our own is apparent: it is bigger than Europe, than Africa and almost bigger than Asia if we study the length, breadth and width carefully. (...) All this land or new world that we have described is a whole unit. But it is joined neither to Asia nor to Africa, of this we are certain.

EXTRACT FROM THE TALE OF THE VOYAGE OF THE DAUPHINE IN 1524, IN WHICH GIOVANNI VERRAZANO GIVES AN ACCOUNT OF HIS EXPEDITION TO NORTH AMERICA TO FRANÇOIS 1ST.

Villes et Pays d'art et d'histoire
Discovery tour



Listen to the Story of Dieppe and Canada, their 500 years of shared history

For almost 500 years the history of Canada was intricately intertwined with that of Dieppe, steeping our streets and monuments in memories that we now invite you to discover during this tour...

The Henry IV Quay I

At this time Dieppe was a town bustling with activity. Riches and products from all over the world were pouring into the port at the summit of its success and the Ango family was directly involved with the town's rapid progress.

In 1508 a certain Thomas Aubert who was a pilot for the Dieppe ship-owner Jehan Ango left on a reconnaissance trip to the coast of Newfoundland and brought back the first Indians to Normandy. Jehan Ango's son (1480-1551) who succeeded his father and who was also called Jehan Ango, invited bankers to finance commercial journeys and exploratory missions in his search, like that of most of his contemporaries, for a northern passage to the Pacific ocean and to Asia. Thus it was that in 1524 the Florentine Verrazano brothers, navigating under the impelling influence of the powerful and audacious Ango, returned to Dieppe having explored the American coast for six months from North Carolina to the present day Canada. This territory they christened "New France". Although they had not discovered a new route to Asia they did leave one of the earliest maps of this region.



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Similarly, from the end of the 15th century and throughout the 16th century, the Newfoundland fishing grounds attracted a large number of Breton and Norman sailors who progressively established regular contact with the indigenous population. The bartering activity which developed introduced a new source of wealth to the Europeans, that of animal furs. Henry IV tried to supervise this trade through the creation of monopolies bestowed upon fur trading and processing companies. In exchange these companies were to promise to establish colonies to guarantee the defence of the territory and to convert the American Indians. After several unsuccessful attempts, including that of Pierre Chauvin de Tonneut, the French succeeded in setting up trading posts at the Indian fur suppliers' assembly points, such as Tadoussac. As time went on the increasing demand for marmot skins for hats, which were very popular in Europe, made fur trading the main economy of the territory. However, it also produced dangerous

overexploitation of the animal and led to numerous fratricidal struggles between the Indian tribes.

Discovering Canada through our streets and our squares...

In 1966 a A stone dedicated to Giovanni Verrazano was erected opposite the Chamber of Commerce. This was offered by the town of Carrare, the birthplace of the navigator who discovered the site of New York and Canada. The stone is now in the François Mitterrand Park. The park B in front of the Town Hall is dedicated to the shipowner Jehan Ango, whose power and wealth are still evident in the Ango Manor at Varengeville and in the chapel that he created in the choir of Saint-Jacques church. C His Dieppe dwelling was a palace entirely built in wood and sculpted and named after one of his ships "la Pensée" (Thought); situated on the quayside it naturally attracted great I admiration. Ango's statue also decorates the front of Dieppe Chamber of Commerce, D alongside that of Pierre Desceliers, founder of the Dieppe School of Cartography in the 16th century. At the top of the fixed masts in the Dieppe

Marina one can read the names of the most famous Dieppe navigators **E** including that of Bontemps, the Dieppe captain and corsaire. From 1632 onwards he was the captain of numerous expeditions which transported missionaries, colonies and supplies and he also became famous for capturing several English vessels during their attempts to blockade the French traffic.

Quai Henri IV **2**



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Organised departure of colonies for New France began seriously in the 1620s and, as was often the case for trading companies, was based on three-year contracts. The “Cent-Associés” (one hundred associates) Company, founded by Richelieu in 1627 was made up for the most part by Normandy traders. The company was given the role of contract organiser and chose Dieppe as its major port for embarkation. La Rochelle usurped Dieppe’s place in 1640.

The sea-crossing and the housing of colonies were financed by the Company in return for which the colonists pledged to work in order to ensure the survival of the colony. The recruits were mainly soldiers,

artisans, missionaries, domestic workers and so on but once established it was not rare for people to change jobs in the hope of climbing the social ladder, making money and even obtaining a title. However, living conditions were particularly difficult and colonists often returned after three years which jeopardised the colony’s chances of survival. For this reason, in 1663, the Monarchy revoked the monopoly



* *Départ des Mères de Dieppe* * - 1962 - Jules Therrien.
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enjoyed by the Cents-Associés Company and assumed control of New France. It introduced a voluntary settlement policy from La Rochelle and from Normandy. New colonies were sent out and young female orphans, “les filles du Roy”, (the King’s girls) were recruited in convents to marry the men and incite them to start families. This contributed to the demographic development of the young province.

In 1617, Louis Hébert, an apothecary, was the first colonist to leave via Dieppe to settle in New France as a cultivator. He was the father of a long line of descendants which made him one of “The Fathers of Canada”. Numerous natives of Dieppe followed to found families in New France, such

as the Bonhomme, Brunel, Carpentier, Hébert, Hamel, Lemoine, LeRoy families.

In 1641, the three brothers Lemoyne from Dieppe arrived. Charles was at the head of a long and famous heritage. His bravery and his role in New France led to his being promoted to the rank of baron, the first baron of the territory.

Saint Jacques Church **3** the Chapel of the Candian Martyrs

In 1951 the Chapel of the Drowned on the left of the choir in Saint Jacques Church was dedicated to the Candian martyr saints, Antoine Daniel and Jean de la Lande, two missionaries from Dieppe. Their departure for New France in the 17th century was part of the missionary effort of France at this time and for which the conversion of the ‘savages’ was yet another motivation.

The Jesuits played the preponderant role in this conversion process. Their mission was to evangelise the American Indian population and also to provide spiritual assistance to the young colony for its successful development and to prepare the foundations of teaching establishments and of a hospital. They took part in missions of exploration that they described in great detail.

In Dieppe the Jesuits set up a transition house for future

missionaries near to the Corn Market. It was from here in 1632 that Antoine Daniel, one of three sons of the Daniel family (a family of notaries) embarked as a missionary. However, in 1648, while he was giving mass, his village was attacked by Iroquois Indians. He died riddled with arrows before being thrown into the flames of his burning chapel. Similarly two years later, Jean de la Lande, a Dieppe native, working with the Jesuits and



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carrying a message of peace to the Iroquois, was hacked to death by these latter.

The two missionaries were canonised by the Pope in 1930 and chosen as the patron saints of the parish of West Dieppe in 2002.

The chapel dedicated to them is decorated with stained glass windows commemorating their martyrdom while inscriptions evoke the memory of those people who left Dieppe to settle in Canada.

The Augustin nuns of Dieppe and the foundation of the Hôtel Dieu in Quebec

Rue Irénée Bourgois 4 Rue de l'ancien Hôtel-dieu

In the early 17th century Dieppe was the site of the foundation of several convents and monasteries during the era of the resurgence of Catholicism. The Ursuline convent and the Hôtel-Dieu were erected between the southern walls of the city and the rue d'Ecosse and the old flint house in the l'ancien rue de l'ancien Hôtel-dieu is today the only



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remaining vestige. In 1962 a plaque commemorating the departure of the nuns for New France was placed at no. 8 rue Irénée Bourgois by the "Friends of Old Dieppe Association".

The task on the ground was in fact difficult and their needs were many. The Jesuit Superior in Canada, Paul le Jeune, appealed to benefactors to finance the voyage for women missionaries and the foundation of establishments. Thus it was that

in 1639 three Augustin nuns (nurses) from Dieppe and escorted by the Dieppe captain Bontemps arrived in Quebec to found the first hospital in North America. They were also accompanied by three Ursuline nuns, one of whom was from Dieppe, sister Cécile de Sainte Croix. When they arrived they were given the responsibility of establishing an Ursuline convent for the education of young French and American Indian girls. Today the conditions in the colony and of the sea voyage are well known thanks to the correspondence of Cécile de Sainte Croix with the mother convent in Dieppe.

This correspondence is conserved in the town's archives "Fonds Ancien de la Ville".

Rue de la Barre, n°4 5

In the 18th century the dispensary of the Féret apothecary was at n° 4, rue de la Barre, Jacques Tranquillan Féret was as famous for his collection of curiosities as he was for his pharmaceutical products.

From 1733 to 1752 the Augustin nuns of Quebec corresponded with him and then with his son for the expedition from France of pharmaceutical preparations for the hospital. At their request he also sent out various objects made in Dieppe such as syringes and ivory crucifixes, in return for which they sent him exotic products

The Augustin nuns and the Féret Apothecary

and natural curiosities to add to his personal collection.
In the letters which are housed in the municipal archives the nuns repeatedly congratulate him on the quality of his products and the care he took in their expedition.

The Féret dispensary was later taken over by the Cassel pharmacy whose sign is today exhibited in the Castle Museum. Another shop now occupies the premises.



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The Choir of the Saint-Rémy Church The Chapel of the Virgin 6

In 1827 the remains of Sir Aymar de Chastes were transferred from the old Minimes Chapel in the rue Victor Hugo to the Chapel of the Virgin in the Saint-Rémy Church. Aymar de Chastes was Governor of Dieppe from 1583 and was named Viceroy of New France in 1603 by Henry IV.

After the Dieppe shipowner Pierre Chauvin de Tonnehuit's failed attempt to establish colonies in Canada Henry IV asked Aymar de Chastes to create a new trading company and to organise a new expedition to be led by François du Pont Gravé accompanied by Samuel de Champlain, a marine geographer from Brouage and Pierre Chauvin de la Pierre, a member of the Dieppe bourgeoisie.



Tomb of Aymar de Chastes - Chapel of the Virgin - Saint-Remy Church
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The expedition to the Ile Sainte-Croix terminated with the conclusion of a first alliance with the Indian tribes which proved to be a determining factor in the development of the colony. Champlain brought back precious maps of the areas explored along the Saint-Laurent river. He also participated in the subsequent expeditions in the company of Pierre Chauvin de la Pierre and was responsible for the founding of

Quebec, the first permanent French establishment in Canada.

Discovering Canada through our streets...

Jehan Ango and Aymar de Chastes both occupied the Dieppe castle, the former as Captain and the second as Governor. This is why the Aymar de Chastes Road **F** leads to the Castle-Museum. Samuel Champlain Road **G** however is in Neuville-les-Dieppe on the Eastern cliff..

The Castle Esplanade 7

In 1930 the town of Montreal inaugurated a bronze statue of Jean Vauquelin (1728-1772)



© B.L. - Château-Musée

the French naval officer who was born in Dieppe. The statue, erected opposite the Jacques Cartier Square in Montreal was the work of the Dieppe sculptor Eugène Benet. A replica of this statue was offered to the town of Dieppe by the Canadian government in the same year as a symbol of courage, heroism and resistance. It was erected on the Castle esplanade before being destroyed by the Germans in 1942. Jean Vauquelin fought alongside the

Canadians in their struggle against the English who progressively took over the French territory. He was renowned for his bravery which was illustrated during the siege of Louisbourg 1758 when, as captain of the Aréthuse, he broke through the blockade to hurry back to France to fetch reinforcements. His heroic capitulation while trying to recapture Quebec in 1760 earned him his freedom and everlasting fame. Neither would the colony in New France have survived without the reprovisioning carried out by Captain Guillaume of Caen, his nephew and Captain Daniel in the 1620s. The Lemoyne family, who founded a long dynasty in Canada were equally fierce defenders of French America.

Discovering Canada through our streets...

The Vauquelin Road takes you from the Poissonerie Square to the National Square.

Canada Square 8



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Operation Jubilee : the 19th August 1942 raid

Canada Square was inaugurated in 1924 at the foot of the castle and was embellished three years later by a monument commemorating on each one of its facets the different events and characters from its shared history with Canada.

After the 19th August 1942 raid it became a memorial open to the skies. Finally, all through the 20th century, pilgrimages and commemorations were regularly organised to celebrate the close relationship between Dieppe and Canada. Since the year 2000 a charter of friendship has existed between the two towns of Dieppe in Normandy and Dieppe in New Brunswick.

Dieppe Beach 9

On August 19th 1942 an allied raid named 'Operation Jubilee' took place on the Dieppe and surrounding beaches. The plan was to organise landings at five different points (Berneval, Puys, Dieppe, Pourville and Varengeville). The operation was an almost total disaster. The assault troops counted some 6000 men, 5000 of whom were Canadian; 1200 men lost their lives. However, lessons were learned for the June 1944 landing.

A detailed account of the raid is available.

Sites of interest:

- The Canadian cemetery at the Vertus where the victims of the raid are buried **H**
- The 19th August 1942 memorial, **I** housed in the old Dieppe theatre, which strives to perpetuate the memory

of the event through a permanent exhibition created by the Jubilee Association (telephone 02 35 84 80 67 or 02 32 14 40 60 for information).

The Dieppe General Hospital Hall 10

In 1948, a generous contribution was made by the Canada France committee to the radiology department of the Dieppe Hospital which, up until the 20th century, was run by the Augustin community.

In 1952 the hospital chapel received the six stained glass windows made by Pierre Le Trividic in commemoration of the departure of the Augustin nuns in 1639, the Canadian soldier of the Liberation and the heroes buried in the Vertus cemetery. When the chapel was demolished in 1991 these windows were on show in the Saint-Jacques church before being re-erected in the hospital hall.

Dieppe – Canada Friendship



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Opening hours :
From Monday to Friday :
From 9.00 to 12.30 a.m and from 2.00 to 5.30 p.m



Listen to the Story of **Dieppe**, Town of History and of Art
accompanied by a Ministry of Culture approved guide and lecturer.

Our guides will welcome you and, as they know all the different facets of Dieppe, will help you, for example, to read and understand the scales of maps, of squares and the development of the town from one quarter to another. They are at your disposition for all information.

An audioguide for the ancient town centre is also available.

This leaflet has been produced by the Heritage Activity Service.

The service offers year-round activities for Dieppe inhabitants, school children and tourists. It is at your disposition for suggestions and projects.

If You are in a Group

Dieppe Town of History and of Art (Dieppe Ville d'Art et d'Histoire)
offers guided visits about the history of Canada in Dieppe
or about the 19th August 1942 raid on a year-round basis.
Visits should be reserved.



Vitruvius La Trévis - photographie © L.M. - service Communication



Vitruvius La Trévis - photographie © L.M. - service Communication

Dieppe has been a member of **National Network** of Towns
and Regions of Art and of History since 1985.

The Department of Architecture and Heritage at the Ministry of Culture and Communication attributes the Towns and Regions of Art and of History label to local collectivities that bring their heritage to life. The label guarantees the competence of the guides and lecturers, of the heritage leaders and the quality of their activity. The towns and regions display their heritage in all its diversity from ancient remains to the architecture of the 20th century. Today, a network of 130 towns and regions all over France offer their skills and knowledge for your education and information.

Nearby,

**... are the towns of Fécamp, Le Havre, Rouen, Elbeuf ,
and the Pays d'Auge region all of which carry the label
of Towns and Regions of Art and of History.**