A special trade, a special man

Richard Chabot
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Greetings to all, to begin I would like to thank those who took some of their time to give us their comments on the contents and the presentation of the first number of our newsletter "Les Chabotteries". The team is enchanted by the favourable comments they did receive and they thank you for all your comments.

Initially, we would like to know your opinion on the song that Paul-Henri Lachance which he sang at our first gathering in Neuville. Could this melody become the melody song of our Association? The answer belongs to you and any other suggestions are welcome.

Another important file remain pending, this is the one on our coat of arms. On our annual assembly in Neuville, this subject is still ongoing and there was a specific proposal and I believe this is the time now to have a look at it so we can carry on with this file. For my part, I am available to join a work team and to share the information that I did receive while I was on a two days workshop. This formation was given by Mrs. Claire Boudreau, doctor in history and Associate searcher appointed to the Ottawa University, Heralds of Arms of Canada and director of the Heraldic Authority of Canada. If you are interested in this subject, do not hesitate to express yourself. In this objective we want to get in touch with all the members and possibly get some to join and be involved with our team who is presently studying to see if this is worthy of a web site. Furthermore to be a promotional tool, it would be a way to complete the hard work of our newsletters. We do know that this review is published every 3 months; the web site would allow us to get in touch at all times with the Chabot families all over the world. Where are we with the new member folder? Good news!! We have outnumbered our objective for our first year. Up to now, we have 187 regular members and the year is not over yet!

Before I let you go, I would like you to think about our next annual general assembly suggestions as to where and when? We will wait for your input patiently. I did make a few ideas to a few people and will wait for them to reply. We will talk about it again later...

Thank and see you later,

Claude Chabot

Our newborn is in good condition (newsletters) we can see a few colors and he is very healthy. Like all the parents, we are proud of it and it is the nicest that we have ever seen. I have to underline the splendid work of infography of our colleague Lucie Chabot who had to learn the trade very quickly. Well done Lucie!

In this number, our president Claude Chabot and Diane Chabot-Pard of Montreal have met for us Richard Chabot of Montreal who is sharing with us his passion for the old clock, objects of our roots.

To continue into our genealogy, we will talk about Michel Chabot’s family, Mathurin’s elder. We will unmark him from Michel Chabot dit Lamarre and we will have a look at some tragically circumstances and mysterious drowning with his two sons.

In addition, we received as gift a DVD containing a data bank of extremely invaluable information.

Elsewhere, we already pick some information relating to the stay of Mathurin at Chateau-Richer between 1660 until 1665, period where he was related to Toussaint Toupin by lease.
Also, the Association would like especially thank two of our members for this precious gift.

First, Josette Drouin (40) had in her belonging a suitcase full of attorney archives who was handwritten by Me Marcel Hubert Chabot, the work was done a century ago (1907-1908). What a work!

All of those who have tried to decipher of such handwritten documents will understand the value of this contribution.

Second, Marcel Chabot (96) who too them and reproduced them into digital form.

This is a good example of the importance to preserve documents in regards to our past. Today, we are able to benefit from this work that certain people made to preserve our roots. It is very important to know where we come from to understand who we are.

Do not forget to tell us your family’s story. We are waiting to hear them and we are very interested by them.

Good reading to all,

André Goggin

(Chabotte by his mother, Florence)

Happy Birthday to:

- Lionel Chabot of Victoriaville on May 10th 75 yrs
- Roland Chabot of Lac Beauport on May 24th 75 yrs
- Paul-Henri Lachance of Île d’Orléans on June 3rd 77 yrs
- Clément Chabot of Sainte-Foy on June 28th 78 yrs
- Renée Chabot of Québec on March 11th 79 yrs
- Gérard Chabot of Granby on March 19th 80 yrs
- Julien Chabot of Montréal-Nord on June 3rd 80 yrs
- René Chabot of Florida on June 21th 83 yrs
- Henri-Louis Chabot of St-Jacques de Béauce on June 28th 84 yrs

Good luck Annie!

We will introduce you Annie Depatie-Chabot of Gatineau de Compostelle route, in Spain, one of the most important Christian pilgrimages known in the world.

This young lady is 29 years old and has decided to take up the challenge for ArthroAction to support the research program for the arthritis society of Canada and to look forward and support the persons who has this disease. In Canada, 4 millions persons suffer from arthritis, this is representing 1 person over 6, she is saying.

She wishes to accumulate funds by doing this walk, which is a little bit more than 300km in 13 days and thus be able to return 8,500$ at the Arthritis Society.

The tour, which will be held from May 3 to May 19, 2008, is register within the framework of the ArthroAction program.

On her return, Annie will share with us her impressions of this great adventure.

We wish her a very nice trip and hope that her goal to raise money for Arthritis will be successful and that her expedition at St-Jacques will be wonderful.
Richard Chabot, watch maker who travels through time

Son of the banker Georges-Édouard Chabot and Laurette Desautels

Richard Chabot (180) is into the watchmaker’s confraternity which will disappear in the near future. In his early sixties, Dali pinch, the man is living his passion many years already. He fixes watch, clocks, musical boxes, gramophone and some pieces which have a few time centuries.

Through the years, he has obtained for his store some fabulous tools, lathes, millings, pliers, cutters and punches of the masters of this art of the 17e, 18e and 19e Century.

I am fixing some unique piece which are coming from museums, antiquarians and collectors from here, from the States and even from Europe.

As he points to a magnificent grandfather clock sculptured in oak that is advising the time. This is my oldest clock, he said, it came from Belgium and is more then 300 years. Over there, on the top of the shelf, a lantern clock it was made between the Renaissance and the end of the XVIIIe Century. This model is younger dating 1745.

Richard Chabot always had the passion for clocks and watches. At the end of his course as watchmakers, he did repair in series plenty of watches in jewelleries store. This wasn’t really what he wanted to do.

Long time ago, the watchmakers were building complete watches. They were going right into the mechanic system to measure the time. This is what I wanted to do. I have read books on watchmakers’ stories all about the gears, technics and which metal they used to make clock. During Expo 67, I had the opportunity to meet the greatest watchmakers who came from all around the world.

La montre de Molière (Moliere Watch)
His nickname is « l’horloger du Vieux-Montreal », when his store was located on St-Paul Street and was decorated with some old tools.

While he is talking about himself, Richard Chabot open a display unit full of watches on a shelf near some splendid musical boxes which he has also repaired. During the French revolution age, the watchmakers built the first musical boxes, juke boxes and gramophone ancestors, those also invented and fine tuning by watchmakers!

He handed over to me a Louis XIV watch dated 1680. Louis XIV and Moliere had an identical watch model. Also he said that all the old watches in the store are working properly.

This watchmaker’s master has two sons and they have decided not to follow their father’s step, but Richard is not giving up. Maybe while giving some conferences or when he is invited for some exposures, he will meet the person who will be interested to carry on and that will take his place.

Nota: Text was published on July 30, 2007 in the daily news “24 Heures”, it was made by the journalist René-Pierre Beaudry. We were able to reproduce his article with the newspaper approbation.
The family of Michel Chabot

Michel Chabot was baptized on December 31, 1662 at Chateau-Richer. His birth date was left blank in the parish registry, which is very unusual. He drowned on August 6, 1726 with two of his sons, Augustin and Pierre, while crossing from Beauport to the Isle of Orleans. He is 63 years of age. His funeral is August 13, 1726. His death is also registered at St-Pierre where he lived.

He marries Angelique Plante, the daughter of Jean Plante and Marie Boucher on January 23, 1690 at Chateau - Richer. Angelique was born January 9, 1673 at Chateau-Richer, and will pass away November 14, 1745 at St-Pierre, Isle of Orleans, at the age of 55.

They will have 15 children who, except for Marguerite, were all born at St-Pierre.

**Angelique** was born February 17, 1691. She dies at the age of 3 on March 18, 1694 at St-Pierre.

**Marguerite** was born at St-Laurent on February 5, 1692. She will enter the novitiate on August 15, 1713, and will make her profession as a nun under the name Mère de St-Pierre, on February 5, 1715 at the nuns of l'Hôtel Dieu. She will pass away November 14, 1745 at St-Pierre, Isle of Orleans, at the age of 55.

**Elizabeth** was born March 21, 1693. She will not marry, and dies April 11, 1752 at St-Pierre at the age of 59. She would have raised the children of her brother François.

**Ursule** was born and baptized May 11, 1694. She died on the 8 and was buried the 9 of October, 1736 at St-Pierre at the age of 42. She lived with her mother.

**André** was born and baptized November 29, 1695. We do not know his date of death. He will marry Catherine Boulard, also known as Cambray, on March 11, 1719 at Rivière-des-Prairies. They will have 8 children. Catherine is the daughter of François Boulard, also known as Cambray, and Françoise Lauzon. She was born June 18, 1701 at Montreal, and died at Rivière-des-Prairies on June 22, 1744 at the age of 43.

**Michel** was born April 14, 1697, and baptized the 16. He will live but a year. Burial is the 22 of August 1698 at St-Pierre.

**Michel** was born October 2, 1698. He will die at the age of 62 on April 6, 1761 at St-Vincent-de-Paul (burial April 7). He will marry his first wife Madelaine Coron on November 6, 1724 at St-François-de-Salles, Île Jésus. The couple would have 9 children. She is the daughter of François Coron and Marie Cyr. She was born May 11, 1703 at St-François-de-Sales, Île Jesus, and died at the same location on April 20, 1737 at 33 years of age. Michel will remarry a year later on August 26, 1738 at St-François-de-Sales (Île-Jésus) to the widow, Catherine Lamoureux who already had seven children, and would give him two others. The bride is the daughter of Adrien Lamoureux, and of Denise Véronneau, also known as Denis. She was born December 19, 1701 at Boucherville, and died January 29, 1785 at St-Martin.

**Nicolas** was born the 22 and baptized the 26 of September 1700. He dies a month later on October 20, 1700 at St-Pierre.

**Pierre** was born and baptized March 16, 1702. He would drown at the age of 24 on August 6, 1726 with his father and young brother Augustin, between Beauport and the Isle of Orleans. The burial is registered on August 11, 1726 at St-Jean, I.O. and also at the parish of St. Pierre.

**François** was born March 27, 1704. He will die April 22, 1785 at St. Pierre at the advanced age of 81. Burial was at the same place on April 23, 1785. He will marry the widow Ursule Ferland who already has 7 children. The couple will have 5 children. The bride is the daughter of François Ferland and of Jeanne Françoise Millouer. She was born March 29, 1695 at St-Pierre, and will die at the age of 47 on June 29, 1742 at St-Pierre. Burial is June 30, 1742.

**Marie-Charlotte** was born and baptized on July 31, 1706. She dies on October 15, 1729 (burial the next day) at l'Hôpital Général de Quebec at age 23. The child might have been an “imbecile” (according to the Dictionaire généalogique des familles du Québec, by René Jetté).
Jean-Baptiste was born the 15 and baptized the 16 of March, 1708. He will marry Geneviève Isabelle on September 12, 1734 at Montmagny. The bride is the daughter of Louis Isabelle and Marie Barbe Proulx. She was born on July 4, 1710 at Montmagny. We do not know when Jean-Baptiste will die, but this will happen before October 20, 1744, the date of the second marriage of Geneviève. We know of one child born of this union.

Augustin was born January 3, 1711. He will drown with his father and brother Pierre on August 6, 1726. His body was never found. His funeral is on August 11, 1726. The death certificate will also be registered in the Parish of St-Paul (now St-Laurent). He was 15 years of age.

Joseph was born and baptized March 18, 1712. He will die on December 13, 1763 the age of 51 at St-Pierre. His burial is December 15, 1763. He was a Major in the militia of the Isle of Orleans. He puts the ring on the finger of Ursule Crépeau on November 22, 1734 at St-Pierre. The marriage will produce 12 children. The parents of the spouse are Maurice Crépeau and Marie Audet, also known as Lapointe. Ursule was born on August 9, 1716 at St-Pierre, and will die at the age of 72 on October 25, 1788 at St-Pierre (burial October 27, 1788).

Marie-Genevieve was born the 25 and baptized the 26 of November, 1713. Her burial will be registered on August 10, 1788 at l’Hôpital Général de Quebec. She was 74 years old.

A common error
Many Chabot genealogies brought to our attention indicate that Michel Chabot (son of Mathurin) first married Thérèse Legardeur before marrying again to Angélique Plante. It is an error propagated by Cyprien Tanguay in his Dictionaire généalogique. The aforesaid Michel Chabot who married Thérèse Legardeur is Michel Chabot, also known as Lamarre (no relation to Mathurin Chabot); this is another Chabot who arrived in New France and settled there. The confusion is amplified by the fact that Michel Chabot would have lived in the Isle of Orleans near Mathurin. This Michel Chabot, also known as Lamarre, was more of the age of Mathurin than of his son Michel.

The drownings of Michel Chabot and his sons Pierre and Augustin
In examining the religious records, we notice certain mysteries. First, we notice that the burial records of Pierre at St-Laurent indicate that Michel and his sons drowned on August 6, 1726 while crossing from Beauport to the Isle of Orleans. We can suppose that they were returning to St-Pierre, where they lived. Maybe they crossed toward Ste-Pétronille? The burials at St-Laurent of Michel (August13), and Pierre (August 10) tell us that the bodies of Michel and Pierre were found on the shore by the people of St-Pierre (we can believe that this means the shore of the St-Laurent) and that they were buried at St-Laurent. His brothers, Jean, and Antoine Chabot parish priest of Ste-Anne were present at the funeral of Michel. We note these two deaths in the registry of St-Pierre where they lived.

In the parish records of St-Jean (at that time called St-Jean-Baptiste) it is mentioned that the body of Augustin drifted between I’ Île Madame and I’ Île St-Laurent (as the island was named at that time) and was not able to be recovered. As it was Sunday, the 11 of August, the funerals were held after vespers in the presence of many parishioners, as vespers were a religious obligation.

It is surprising that the bodies of Michel and Pierre were recovered at St-Laurent if they were making their way to St-Pierre. Those who are a little familiar with the island know that St-Pierre is to the north of the island, and that St-Laurent is to the south, approximately on the other side. It was necessary to have a strong ascending tide pushing the bodies towards Québec, and that they descend with the current afterwards. We can infer that they were going in the direction of Ste-Pétronile instead, as it possessed an easier place to land by canoe, even though it was more risky. We notice that there were still between 4 and 7 days before the bodies were found. As Jean Pelletier of St-Pierre assisted in both discoveries, we can believe that the surroundings were tenaciously searched in the belief that they might still be alive.

The case of Augustin is also amazing. If his body was seen between the Isle of Orleins and I’Île Madame, and was not able to be recovered, was it because the current at the end of the island, to the east, was rather strong? Why was the funeral of Augustin held at St-Jean (in the center of the island, to the south) rather than at St-François, which is at the eastern end of the island, and which existed then? As there was no urgency because the drowned man was not able to be recovered, the funeral could have been held at St-Pierre, in the presence of his family. Odd! Thus, no member of his family was present at the ceremony.

Andre Goggin
Interview with Gaétan Chabot

Our host, Gaétan Chabot (37) will join the collaborator team. He wrote for his family an extraordinary work on our first ancestors’ genealogy, all especially about Mathurin Chabot. He will share regularly with us his research.

AG – Can you talk about yourself?

GC – I am born in Ville St-Pierre (today joined with Lachine). This is where I went for my primary school. For my high school, I went to College de Montreal, and afterwards to Seminaire de Philosophie de Montréal and finally to Montreal University where I obtained my law diploma. My spouse and my two kids were all born also in Ville St-Pierre.

AG – You did work as lawyer?

GC - Like most lawyers of my time, I was generalist. I did practice the corporative right mostly, the right of the workers and the matrimonial right.

AG – Does your parents are coming from Ville St-Pierre?

GC – My father Josaphat was born in Lefaivre in Ontario and my mother at St-Germain-de-Grantham, near Drummondville.

AG – Why did your grandmother left Ontario to get establish in Ville St-Pierre?

GC – After the early death of her husband Emilien, around 1906, at 39 years old, my grandmother Melina Leger dit Parisien first moved to Chelmsford, Ontario and then Hawkesbury, Ontario. Around 1915 or 1916, she did hear that a new enterprise was establishing them in Ville St-Pierre, The Canadian Car, just started and they were looking for manpower. This company was making railroad wagons and they were starting in Europe. My grandmother sent the oldest of his children, Adelard, who was able to speak and understood English very well, he got a job as foreman. Adelard manage to move all the family into a house in Ville St-Pierre known as “the company block” today gone.

AG – You were many Chabot in Ville St-Pierre?

GC- Yes, on a population of approximately 7,000 persons, we could have been about fifty.

AG – What brought you to do genealogy?

GC – I always had the intention of doing some while I was working, but I never had the time. I got involved when I retired. With a computer, some floppy disks, and beginning of three genealogies one done by Institut Drouin, the second one done by Cecile Chabot of Quebec poetess, and the last one by father Honorius Chabot, and after a few summery research, I did prepared my first Chabot’s genealogy. Then, I put this aside to do my mother’s side genealogy (the Acadian Bourque family). Then I came back to my Chabot family and decided to expand to include all Chabot names. I liked to do my research at the “Société Généalogique de Montréal”. I have enjoyed also working at “la sale Gagnon of the Montreal Library”. I wanted to put more info about the individual not only name to make it more interesting. Over all, I must have spent approximately ten years.

AG – You got interested of the origins of your ancestor Mathurin.

GC – Yes. That will be one of the subjects that we will talk about into a future newsletter “Les Chabotteries”. In conclusion, ended up that Mathurin was baptized in Chevrette, a little chapel of Nalliers in France.

AG – You have also made some discoveries on the house that Mathurin did owned on Sault-au-Matelot street in the lower part of Quebec City and that some did considered was like his first residence in New France. You do conclude, after a good research, that Mathurin became owner only in 1689, only a few years after his involvement in 1660.

GC – That will be also another subject. This research was very interesting. This showed at what time that Mathurin owned and the difficulties that he met. I have done my research in the archived of “Séminiare de Québec”. I took notes of the quarrel between the Governor Frontenac and Monsignor Laval and how Monsignor of St-Vallier gave judge-
ment that Mathurin had to spend 400 pounds in payments by instalments.

AG – You have consulted notaries’ acts?

GC – Yes, this is interesting, but not that easy to read it. There are a lot of notaries’ acts in Longueil. There is also some in “La Salle Gagnon”. Today, all those papers are located into “La grande Bibliothèque de Montréal”. It is difficult for us to get at for the beginner and for them it doesn’t means very much.

AG – Upon our first Chabot general meeting in Neuville last fall, they were very few descendants of Joseph, son of Mathurin. Did your work find this line?

GC – Not a lot, but in this line, I got interested by Captain Chabot, for his important participation for the defence of Quebec against the American invasions at the end of December 1775. We attribute to this captain, the death of General Montgomery, events that put an end to this American Invasion.

AG – Will you be doing an ameliorated version of your book?

GC - My book has never been published. I have made seven copies for my family and a few copies for my interested friends. I would like to do some appendix to be able to reply to some questions that I still am looking for am looking for the answers. I do less research in Montreal, because the parking is more difficult and I do travel by subway and by bus.

AG – What subject do you have for this publication?

GC – I will talk to you about the root of the patronymic “Chabot” in France.

AG – Thanks a lot for welcoming us into your home and we will be waiting with impatience for your article.

Andre Goggin

The patronymic (surname) «Chabot»

The information contained in this text is extracted from an unpublished volume by Gaetan Chabot. Our thanks to this valuable collaborator for allowing us to use the results of his research.

What is the origin of the family name or surname Chabot? Let us not be too modest when we affirm with pride that its origins go back to the year 1040. Indeed, a complete genealogy of a line of nobles and famous Chabot was found by our colleague.

Actually, in France, in the same region where Mathurin was born, St-Hilaire-de-Nalliers in Poitou, we can still find about 300 Chabot who spell their last names in different ways such as Chabeau, Chabau, Chabod, Royan-Chabot, and finally, Chabot. Our author believes that these variations might be used to avoid the “botte” pronunciation. We must also stress that there exist numerous Chabot in other regions of France.

What does the name Chabot signify? Where does this name come from? From many sources. First, from the name of a fish, the chabot, a small fish of 4 to 6 inches, easy identifiable by its large, flattened head that gives it the shape of a club. Another origin is possible; in France chabot is also used for a branch cutting detached from a vine-stock for the purpose of planting. It is also believed that the name Chabot might have originated from a settlement whose origin derives from caput, or from the Arabic “schabot”, which is also the name of a fish.

As opposed to several other Quebecois patronyms, the orthography of our family name has not changed since the arrival of our first ancestors on Canadian ground.

None of the descendants of Mathurin has used nicknames, which was a very common practice in the XVII century. It is different in the case of the other Chabot, Michel Chabot, who adopted the name of Michel Chabot also known as Lamarre.

So here is a short overview of our family name; it will always be possible to know more about this by communicating with the author, who, please be assured, will be happy to give you information.

Gaetan Chabot

in collaboration with Jean-Louis Chabot
Les Chabotteries
Vol. 1 No 2  March 2008

Mathurin Chabot signs a lease at Château-Richer in 1660

This text is an analysis of the lease signed on October 23, 1660, for the duration of five years, between Mathurin and Toussaint Toupin, also known as Dussault, as well as an analysis of the discharge receipt given at the end of the lease on July 14, 1665.

What do we retain of this analysis?
◊ This is the first official document that we have received that clearly indicates the presence of Mathurin in New France. The historian Marcel Trudel mentions that in 1657 he had been witness (to notarial or religious acts), but the name is misspelled and he does not give his source, which is unlike what he usually does. For want of being able to retrace this source, we remind ourselves that he probably arrived during the summer of 1660, and that this contract is proof of his intention to settle in New France.
◊ As this time in our history, the immigrants in New France, not being part of the nobility or the bourgeoisie (merchants, members of the administration, the military, or the religious), generally paid their own passage by promising to work in the service of a seigneur (noble), or of a religious community for a period of 36 months (Exceptionally 60 months). In turn, the seigneur or the community promised, for the duration of the contract, to furnish provisions and lodging to the person hired.
◊ Some others who were less needy (the father of Mathurin was a petit-bourgeois, or member of the lower middle class), spent funds from their own pockets to pay for the crossing which cost about 200 to 300 livres, which corresponds to a year’s salary. At their arrival, these immigrants looked for employment with a bourgeois or a noble. It is probably in this manner that Mathurin signed the lease with Toussaint. One did not come here as a tourist to see the Amerindians!
◊ Toussaint Toupin, also known as Dusseault, had been granted land at Château-Richer at the place called Sault-à-la-Puce, or Flea’s Leap, thus his nickname Dussault. The word “sault” corresponds today to a torrent or a cascade. This bourgeois, a social climber, knows where to place his feet. He first marries the sister of Pierre Boucher, the governor of Trois-Rivières, and then he weds the niece of Jean Bourdon, attorney general and chief engineer of New France. At the census of 1666, he declares himself as Shipmaster (bourgeoisie), while Mathurin declares himself as serger (craftsman). Small sailboats served to transport merchandise on the St. Lawrence River as ships staid off the harbour because of the absence of docks, and because of the risk of running aground. No doubt that this bourgeois has need of a man who is trustworthy to develop his land grant. As a man occupied with such commercial activity, it was to his advantage to associate himself with someone and to share the profits by leasing his land to him under contract.
◊ The bail a ferme, or farm lease is the most usual form, one by which the tenant pays payment -in-kind, and also pays rent to the seigneur (see the definitions in the prior issue), the sum of which is determined by the owner of the grant. The bail à métayage or tenant’s lease, is also called a lease at equal shares as it is a lease by which each one draws out half of the profits, the landlord who furnishes the land, animals, and equipment, and the lease-holder who supplies the labour.
◊ The word farmer, as used in the XVI Century, referred to the landlord by virtue of the farm lease. Through the centuries, the word farmer has come to be synonymous with cultivator. The lease-holder is not necessarily someone who only works the land. It could also pertain to any commerce. Thus, one could be a farmer without having to smell the animals.
◊ At that time, it was a survival economy. One cleared the land, sowed the seeds, and saw the produce harvested. One bartered surplus with neighbours. Transportation by the means of small boats (in the absence of roads) made bringing agricultural products to market in the City of Québec difficult. As Mathurin produced serge and Toupin navigated, we can believe that their association was advantageous to both of them.
◊ deciphering the part of the lease that was relative to detailed conditions. It is so badly written, says he.
◊ In the margins, and not appearing on the original lease document, Marcel Hubert Chabot speaks of a farm lease. This is possibly an error in interpretation of the lease. We have patiently tried to re-transcribe the part of the lease that was concerned with the conditions.
The analysis of the lease contract signed in 1660 is arduous, as the royal notary Audouart had a handwriting that was very difficult to read. We are indebted to Marcel Hubert Chabot who recopied these records in the course of the years 1907-1908. Although he has much experience, and has a certain talent for old texts, he gave up Without being able to decode everything, we can only notice the number of times or the detailed manner of what was shared half-and-half, which would indicate a bail à métayage or tenant's lease, rather than a farm lease.

◊ The discharge receipt, signed before notary Duquet on July 14, 1665, three months before the termination of the lease (a sign of trust) indicates to us that at its expiration, Mathurin returns: the furniture, utensils and “other things belonging to the farm” while he keeps half of the grain and the livestock. This makes us believe that the tenant’s lease should be the preferred version, and not the farm lease.

Par André Goggin

2. Marcel Trudel, Mythes et réalités dans l’histoire du Québec, tome 2, Les Éditions Hurtubise, HMH 2001, p.54
3. Ville de Québec, Toponymie des noms de rues de la Ville de Québec. Toussaint Toupin a une rue à son nom
4. Ville de Québec, idem
What else can we say!

It is during this visit to an extraordinary site that Diane and I made a trip into time and history. We would like to thank Richard Chabot for his warm welcome and for the time he shared with us.

Claude Chabot & Diane Chabot