

Bibeau Family Genealogy

François Bibeau, born in 1642 near La Rochelle, France, is my 7th great-grandfather. His 2nd great-granddaughter, Josette Bibeau, married Prisque Felix Peloquin, my 3rd great-grandfather. François Bibeau was a voyageur who was with Nicolas Perrot and the small group of explorers who on June 4, 1761 claimed for King Louis XIV Lake Superior and all lands adjacent to it. Al Dahlquist, also a descendant of François Bibeau, has shared his extensive research on the Bibeau family with me, and I present his text below. Part One details the life of François Bibeau. Part Two focuses on the families in Minnesota of Louis and Paul Bibeau, grandsons of François Bibeau. Part Three deals with the descendancy of the son of François Bibeau, Pierre Bibeau, who married Marie Renée Madeleine Parenteau,

Bibeau Family Genealogy

by Al Dahlquist

Part one – in France and Quebec

We have traced the origin of our Bibeau family to the hamlet of Hure which is within the parish of Notre-Dame de LaGord, a short distance north of La Rochelle France. The earliest information found on the family to date is in 1630.

Many of the early travelers to New France (Quebec) traded their services as a laborer in exchange for passage, room and board, and wages. They accomplished this by signing a contract before a notary in France, which usually was for the term of three to five years. Thus on 10 April 1656 in front of notary Savin at La Rochelle, Francois Bibault, a farmer, living at La Fond near La Rochelle hired out to Arnaud Pere for a period of three years as a laborer in New France (Quebec). We can assume that Francois boarded ship not long after and sailed across the Atlantic to New France.

Francois Bibeau in New France (Quebec)

Francois Bibeau owned large parcels of land in several locations in Quebec over the years. He did not seem to be attracted to farming other than for the needs of his own family. He preferred adventure, and adventure he found. Francois was a voyageur. A voyageur was a person who traveled by canoe back and forth between Montreal and the wilderness lands to the west (Indian territories). A voyageur transported goods to the wilderness to be traded for furs from the Coureur du Bois (woods runners or trappers) and the clerks who were in charge of the fur trade posts. A closer look is needed of early notary records to clarify if Francois ever spent a winter in the wilderness either as a trapper or trader, I believe I have seen reports that he did, but it is yet to be proven.

It is known that when Nicolas Perrot and Louis Jolliet took possession of Sault Ste. Marie and all lands to the seas that Francois was in attendance. (witness next excerpts from the Jesuit Relations).

We having made, in virtue of our commission, our first landing at the village or hamlet of Ste Mary of the Falls, the place where the Reverend Jesuit fathers are making their mission and the Indian nations called Achipoés, Malamechs, Noquets and others do actually reside; we caused the greatest portion possible of the other neighboring Tribes to be assembled there, who attended to the number of fourteen Nations.

To wit; the Achipoés, the Malamechs and the Noquets, inhabiting the said place of Ste Mary of the Sault; and the Banabeouiks and Makomiteks; the Poulx teattemis, Oumalominis, Sassassaoua, Cottons, inhabiting the bay called *des Puants*, and who have undertaken to make it known to their

neighbors who are the Illinois, Mascouttins, Outtougamis and other Tribes; the Christinos, Assinipoals, Aumoussennires, Outaouois, Bouscouttons, Niscaks and Masquikoukioeks, all inhabitants of the Northern Country and near neighbors of the Sea, who undertook to tell and communicate it to their neighbors who are said to be very numerous, inhabiting even the sea coast; To whom in presence of the Reverend Fathers of the Company of Jesus and of all the French hereafter mentioned, we have caused to be read our said Commission and had it interpreted in their language by Sieur Nicolas Perrot, his Majesty's interpreter in that part, so that they may not be ignorant of it; afterwards causing a Cross to be prepared in order that the fruits of Christianity be produced there, and near it a Cedar pole to which we have affixed the arms of France, saying three times in a loud voice and with public outcry, that: In the name of the Most High, Most Mighty and Most Redoubtable Monarch Louis, the xivth of the name, Most Christian King of France and Navarre, we take possession of the said place of Ste Mary of the Falls as well as of Lakes Huron and Supérieur, the Island of Caientoton and of all other Countries, rivers, lakes and tributaries, contiguous and adjacent thereunto, as well discovered as to be discovered, which are bounded on the one side by the Northern and Western Seas and on the other side by the South Sea including all its length or breadth; Raising at each of the said three times a sod of earth whilst crying *Vive le Roy* (long live the king), and making the whole of the assembly as well French as Indians repeat the same; declaring to the aforesaid Nations that hence forward as from this moment they were dependent on his Majesty, subject to be controlled by his laws and to follow his customs, promising them all protection and succor on his part against the incursion or invasion of their enemies, declaring unto all other Potentates, Princes and Sovereigns, States and Republics, to them and their subjects, that they cannot or ought not seize on, or settle in, any places in said Country, except with the good pleasure of his said most Christian Majesty and of him who will govern the Country in his behalf, on pain of incurring his hatred and the effects of his arms; and in order that no one plead cause of ignorance, we have attached to the back the Arms of France thus much of the present our Minute of the taking possession, Signed by us and the under named persons who were all present.

Among those signing (less than twenty Frenchmen) was Francois Bibeau.

To date over 7,000 descendants of Francois who were born with the name Bibeau and its various spellings that now exist are connected to his genealogy. There are probably about another 3,000 yet to be connected to his tree.

Francois died somewhere between September of 1708 and 1711 at an age of about 80 years, which is a remarkable age at that time and also considering his trips to the wilderness which no doubt were very hard on the body.

The Bibeau families from Quebec to Minnesota

Part two

In all about twenty different Bibeau families settled in Minnesota from 1847 up to the 1870's. All had one thing in common, they were all descendants of Francois who had left France in 1656.

In this the 2nd part we will cover the families of **the brothers Louis & Paul Bibeau**.

Francois Bibeau, the immigrant, having fulfilled his obligation to Arnaud Pere was able to then move about on his own and of course to take a wife. On 29 October 1665 Francois signed a marriage contract with **Jeanne De Merrine**, for whatever reason this contract was annulled on 17 January 1666 (both contracts being written by Latouche the notary at Cap-de-la-Madeleine).

Francois Bibeau second attempt at marriage was a success, on 17 August 1671 at the church of Notre Dame in Quebec City, he married **Jeanne Chalifour**. To this marriage one known child was

born, a daughter, who grew to adulthood and married. Jeanne Chalifour died probably sometime in 1679.

Francois Bibeau next would marry **Louise Esnard** on 17 November 1682 at Trois-Rivieres (3 Rivers). To this marriage nine children were born including **Nicolas** who was the 4th born.

Nicolas Bibeau married **Marguerite Pelletier** on 1 February 1717 at St-Pierre in Sorel. To this marriage 11 children were born including **Joseph** who was the 5th born.

Joseph Bibeau married **Marie Anne Boissel** on 27 October 1749 at St-Francois-du-Lac. To this marriage 12 children were born including **Joseph Alexis** who was the 6th born.

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Joseph Alexis Bibeau married **Marie Anne Desrosiers** on 7 February 1780 at St-Pierre in Sorel. To this marriage 12 children were born including our Minnesota immigrants,

Their 1st born was a daughter **Marguerite Marianne Bibeau**, she married **Louis Vandal**, and their son **Clement Vandal** moved to Mendota to found that family in MN.

Their 4th born was a son **Pierre Bibeau**, who married and had a son **Dennis** who founded a family in Rice County MN.

Their 10th born was a son **Hypolite Bibeau** (known to us as **Paul**), **Paul** married **Veronique Hus** (Hus also known as **Millet**) on 21 September 1824 at St-Pierre in Sorel.

Their 11th born was a daughter **Marie Josette Bibeau**, she married **Prisque Felix Peloquin**, a son and a daughter of theirs moved to Little Canada.

Their 12th and final child was **Louis Bibeau** who 1st married **Charlotte L'Archeveque/Laroche** on 28 July 1829 at St-Pierre in Sorel. Following the death of **Charlotte**, **Louis** married **Lucie Rabouin** on 24 February 1835 at St-Antoine in Louiseville.

The brothers Paul and Louis Bibeau of Little Canada Minnesota

Previously we have shown the links to the Province of Quebec and earlier to France. We will now present but a small glimpse at the large family these two brothers have given to our area.

Paul Bibeau and Veronique Hus/Millet pulled up stakes and left the security of their home in Quebec and ventured to the wilderness of Minnesota. At the time there were few people in Minnesota, the population being about 5,000 in 1850, and most of those had arrived from 1848 through the time of the census in mid 1850. The good land (it had to border water for farming) in Quebec was all used up, having been divided over and over again as it passed from one generation to the next, and remember families were very large. According to his Declaration of Intention which was filed 3 July 1848, **Paul Bibeau** (Bebaux) arrived in the U.S. on 29 August 1847 at Detroit. His declaration date was 29 November 1847 before H. Jackson, j.p., Wisconsin Territory. By this declaration we know that **Paul** and his family arrived in MN sometime between 29 August 1847 and 3 July 1848.

Their 1st born was **Catherine Bibeau**, she married **Joseph Denis Plouff** on 16 September 1845 at St-Pierre in Sorel, they had at least 3 children, and following the death of Joseph Denis, Catherine married **Noel St-Martin** around 1858 in Minnesota, and they had at least 5 children.

The 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, 11th & 14th born all died within 18 months of their birth. The 3rd & 9th born (both sons & unmarried) died at age 25 years & 22 years respectively, neither married.

The 7th born was **Desanges Bibeau**, she married **Louis Abraham Lambert** on 10 July 1848 in St Paul. They had at least 16 children.

The 10th born was **Marie Bibeau** who married her 1st cousin **Clement Vandal** on 25 October 1852 in Little Canada. They had at least 13 children.

The 12th born was **Charles B. Bibeau** who married **Jeanne** (aka Emily & Lucy) **Clewett** on 20 April 1863 in Little Canada. They had at least 12 children.

The 13th born was **David Bibeau** who married **Lucy Delonais** on 20 April 1863 in Little Canada (11 children), and following the death of Lucy, David married **Marie Anna Labonne** on 21 November 1882 at St Vincent de Paul in Osseo, Minnesota, and they had another 11 children.

The 15th born was **Christine Bibeau** who married **Charles Lavallee** on 11 November 1861 in Little Canada, and they had at least 6 children.

The 16th and final child was **Prudence Bibeau** who married **Joseph Therrien** on 12 January 1863 in Little Canada, and they had 9 children.

To the best of my knowledge all of the male Bibeau descendants of Paul & Veronique use the spelling of Bibeau.

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Louis Bibeau, brother of Paul (Hypolite) arrived in the U.S. on the 9th of July 1848 according to his naturalization papers which he filed on 17 August 1850 in Ramsey County, Minnesota. He no doubt arrived in Minnesota around that date. There is no mention of his point of entry to the U.S.

Louis Bibeau and his first wife **Charlotte L'Archeveque/Laroche** had 3 children, the 2nd & 3rd died at or near birth.

Their 1st child was **Louis Bibeau**, he married **Sophie Baudette** 31 July 1855 in Little Canada. Soon after their marriage Louis and Sophie moved to Dayton, Hennepin County, Minnesota where they raised 11 children.

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Following the death of Charlotte, Louis married **Lucie Rabouin** on 24 February 1835 at St-Antoine, Louiseville.

Their 1st child was **Louise** (aka **Lucy**) **Bibeau**, she married **Joseph Theroux** on 19 October 1852 in Little Canada, and following the death of Joseph, she married **Peter Belland** on 28 July 1857 in Little Canada.

Their 2nd child was **Pierre Francois Bibeau**, he married **Josephine Sophie Dupre** on 4 February 1862 in Little Canada, and following the death of Josephine, he married **Sophie Louise Cardinal** on 25 January 1865 at St Genevieve in Centerville. Pierre had at least 20 children.

Their 3rd child was **Julia Bibeau**, she married **Noel Leroux/Menard** on 28 April 1861 in Little Canada, and following the death of Noel, she married **Louis Paul** on 3 May 1874 in Little Canada.

Their 4th child was **Clara Bibeau**, she married **Basil Theroux/Plessis** on 11 November 1862 in Little Canada.

Their 5th child was **Joseph Lawrence Bibeau**, he married **Marie Rosilda Elise Labore/Labarre** on 25 June 1878 in Little Canada. They established their family in Polk County Wisconsin.

Their 6th child was **Marie Edwidge Bibeau**, she married **Henry Belland** on 23 May 1859 in Little Canada.

Their 7th child was **Sophie Bibeau**, she married **Alexis Cardinal**, on 11 November 1862 in Little Canada. They established their family in Centerville.

Their 8th child was a son **Joseph Bibeau**, who was born in 1845 in Canada. No records have been found on him to show that he grew to adulthood.

Their 9th child was **Anthony Bibeau**, he married **Josephine Langlois** on 23 January 1871 in Little Canada.

Their 10th child was **Alexis Bibeau**, he married **Philomene Belland** on 6 November 1882 in Little Canada.

Their 11th child was **Paul Bibeau**, whose baptism is listed in the records of St Paul's Cathedral. No other record has been found on him. Since another child was named Paul 7 years after the birth of this one, it is assumed this Paul died at a young age.

Their 12th child was **Catherine Bibeau**, she married **Oliver Leroux/Menard** on 1 July 1873 in Little Canada.

Their 13th child was **Catherine Christine Bibeau**, she married **Rene Flibotte** on 15 April 1872 at St Louis Church in St Paul. They established their family in Georgetown, WI.

Their 14th child was **Emerance Louise Bibeau**, she married **Leon (Louis?) Langlois** on 29 May 1876 in Little Canada. They established their family in Georgetown, Wisconsin.

Their 15th and final child was **Paul Bibeau**. Apparently Paul never married and lived in Minneapolis.

The male Bibeau descendants of Louis use the following spellings: Bibeau, Bibo, Bebeau, and Bebo.

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This concludes Part 2 of the Bibeau families. Part 3 will focus on the other (little known) early Bibeau family in the Little Canada area.

The Bibeau families from Quebec to Minnesota

Part three

I will begin this third and final part from the marriage of **Francois Bibeau** to **Louise Esnard**. Of their nine children the 1st born was a son Pierre.

Pierre Bibeau married **Marie Renee Madeleine Parenteau** on 28 November 1706 at St-Francois-du-Lac. To this marriage 7 children were born including **Francois Xavier** who was the 2nd born.

Francois Xavier Bibeau 1st married **Marie Angelique Chevalier** who bore him 6 children before her demise. **Francois Xavier Bibeau** took for his 2nd wife **Marie Agathe Chapdelaine/Lariviere** on 19 May 1749 at St-Francois-du-Lac. To this marriage 10 children were born including **Antoine Francois** who was the 2nd born.

Antoine Francois Bibeau married **Marguerite Gagniere** on 4 October 1779 at St-Michel-d'Yamaska. To this marriage 6 children were born including **Jean Baptiste** who was the 5th born.

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Jean Baptiste Bibeau married **Therese Laroche** on 5 November 1810 at St-Michel-d'Yamaska. To this marriage at least 13 children were born including many early settlers to the Little Canada area.

Their 1st born was a daughter **Luce Bibeau**, she married **Louis Allard** on 14 February 1832 at St-Francois-du-Lac.

Their 2nd born was a son **Michael** who appeared in various records as Bibeau, Bibault and Bebault. Michael settled in Trempeleau County Wisconsin (across from Winona, MN) in the mid 1840's. He married a two time widow **Elisabeth Reed** who was the daughter of trader **James Reed** and a **Chippewa woman**. Their family is rather confusing but all male descendants found to date go by the name **Bebault** in Minnesota & Wisconsin.

Their 3rd child was a son **Flavien Bibeau**, he died at age 1 year.

Their 4th child was a son **Leandre Bibeau** who married **Marie Angelique Lavigne** on 1 June 1841 at St-David-d'Yamaska. To this marriage 9 children were born, including the 3rd and 4th children both daughters whose baptism records are found in the records of the Cathedral of St Paul in October 1850 and August 1851. Their 2nd born was a son Joseph who died at Pittsburgh Landing during the Civil War. Sometime following the baptism of their daughter in 1851, Leandre moved his family south near his brother Michel and by 1856 to an area just west of Winona. As far as can be told at this time all of Leandre's descendants (and there are many) go by the surnames of **Bebo & Beabeau** and can be found in nearly if not all states west of the Mississippi River.

Their 5th child was a daughter **Marie Eulalie Bibeau** who married **Noel Cadron** on 10 October 1842 at St-Michel-d'Yamaska.

Their 6th child was a daughter **Henrietta Bibeau** who married **Jean Baptiste Morrissette** in 1837 at Trois-Rivieres. Jean had first married **Francoise Letendre** who had 9 children. The 2nd marriage to Henrietta produced another 12 children, and both families account for a very large number of Morrissettes in our area.

Their 7th child was a daughter **Marie Zoe Bibeau** who married **Joseph Isaac Morrissette** on 27 January 1845 at St-Francois-du-Lac. Joseph was the son of Jean Baptiste above and his first wife

Francoise Letendre. They had only 3 children when Zoe died in St Paul or Little Canada. Following the death of Zoe, Joseph Isaac married Marguerite Garceau with whom he had another ten children.

Their 8th child was a son **Esdras Bibeau** who moved to the area of Manchester New Hampshire where he married twice and had a daughter and a son. Apparently this line ended with his son who did not marry.

Their 9th child was a daughter **Adele Bibeau** who married **Peter Courchesne** on 3 September 1849 at the Cathedral in St Paul. They had at least two children, and probably more.

Their 10th child was a son **Charles Baptiste Bibeau**. In March of 1849 Charles moved to the Manchester NH area near his brother Esdras, the two were employed as brickmakers. The next time we find Charles is when he filed his naturalization papers in Ramsey County on the 5th of May 1856. On 19 January 1857 at St John's in Little Canada Charles married **Marie Jeanne Vadnais**. Marie's father John Vadnais who settled at Lake Vadnais in 1846 had a brick yard. The question is – did that brick yard attract Charles to that location, or is Charles the one who brought his knowledge of brick making to the area and fall in love with the daughter of John? Apparently the portion of the Vadnais property that contained the brick yard was later sold to Paul Bibeau (distant cousin of Charles) who is said to have had a brick yard (more research is needed on this). Charles and Marie had 13 children, however, there have been very few males who have continued the line. Charles and Marie soon moved their family to the Centerville area. Those Bibeau descendants that there are all go by the name of Bibeau.

The 11th child was a daughter **Eulalie Bibeau** who married **Pierre Cadron** on 16 January 1854 at St-Michel-d'Yamaska.

The 12th child was a son **Jean Baptiste Bibeau**. I have found no other information on Jean Baptiste. This could be the same person as Charles Baptiste (#10) whom I have not been able to find a baptism record.

The 13th and final child was a daughter **Clarisse Bibeau** who married **Joseph Paul** on 4 July 1859, the marriage is recorded in the records of the Odanak Protestant church and at the Catholic parish of St-Thomas in Pierreville.