

Module 5 Lesson 3

Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit (1515-1603)
Aymar de Chaste (1514 -1603)
François Gravé de Pont (1554 -1629)

Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit (1515-1603)



Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit was born in **Dieppe, Normandy** as the son of a wealthy merchant.

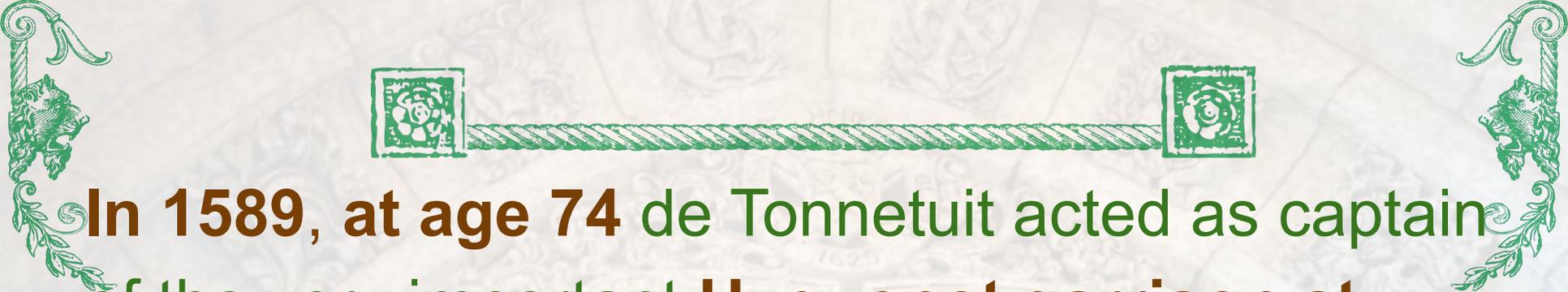
He became a naval officer and a military captain who was appointed **Lieutenant of New France** by **Henry IV**.



De Tonnetuit was a Protestant who gave distinguished service to the King in the **Wars against the Catholic League**, and held a position of *'gentleman of the court'* while **King Henry IV** lived.



As a senior Huguenot, 38 years older than **King Henry IV**, it's possible they fought in the Wars of Religion from **1562 to 1598**.



In **1589**, at age **74** de Tonnetuit acted as captain of the very important **Huguenot garrison at Honfleur**.

That same year **Henry III** was assassinated and **Henry of Navarre became Henry IV of France**.

Note: Aymar de Chaste, Pierre du Gua de Mons and Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit, all served at Honfleur.



In **1596**, even at **81 years old**, he was still interested in maritime and commercial trade.

He owned 4 vessels: the **Don De Dieu**, **Espérance**, **Bon Espoir**, and **St Jean**.



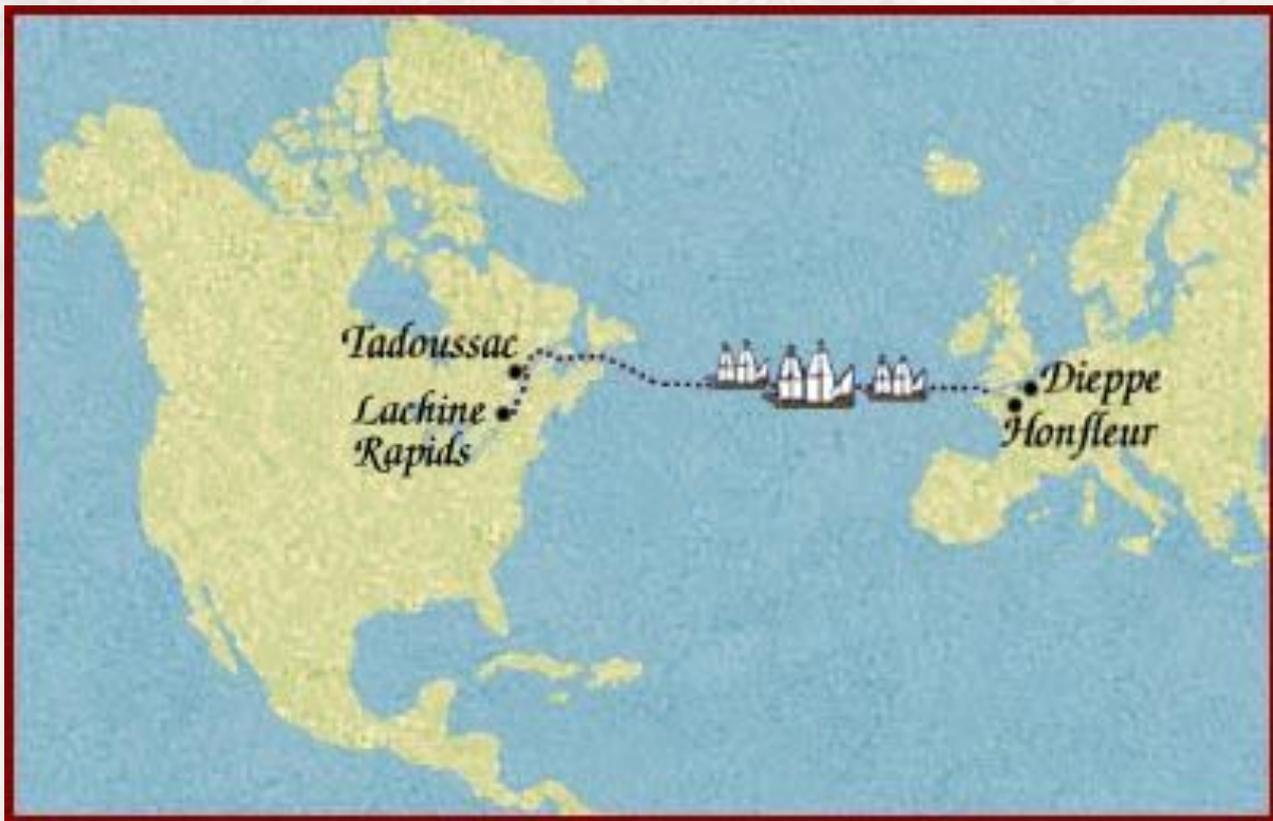
These ships had been engaged in cod fishing and fur trading in the **Grand Banks off Newfoundland and Nova Scotia in Canada.**

François Gravé du Pont, who traded at the **St Lawrence** port, encouraged **de Tonnetuit** to apply for a ten-year fur trading monopoly in New France.



In 1599, de Tonnetuit and François Gravé Du Pont (another Huguenot) together received a fur trading monopoly from the King to settle New France.

In the Spring of 1600 Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit embarked at Honfleur with some colonists and his 4 ships.



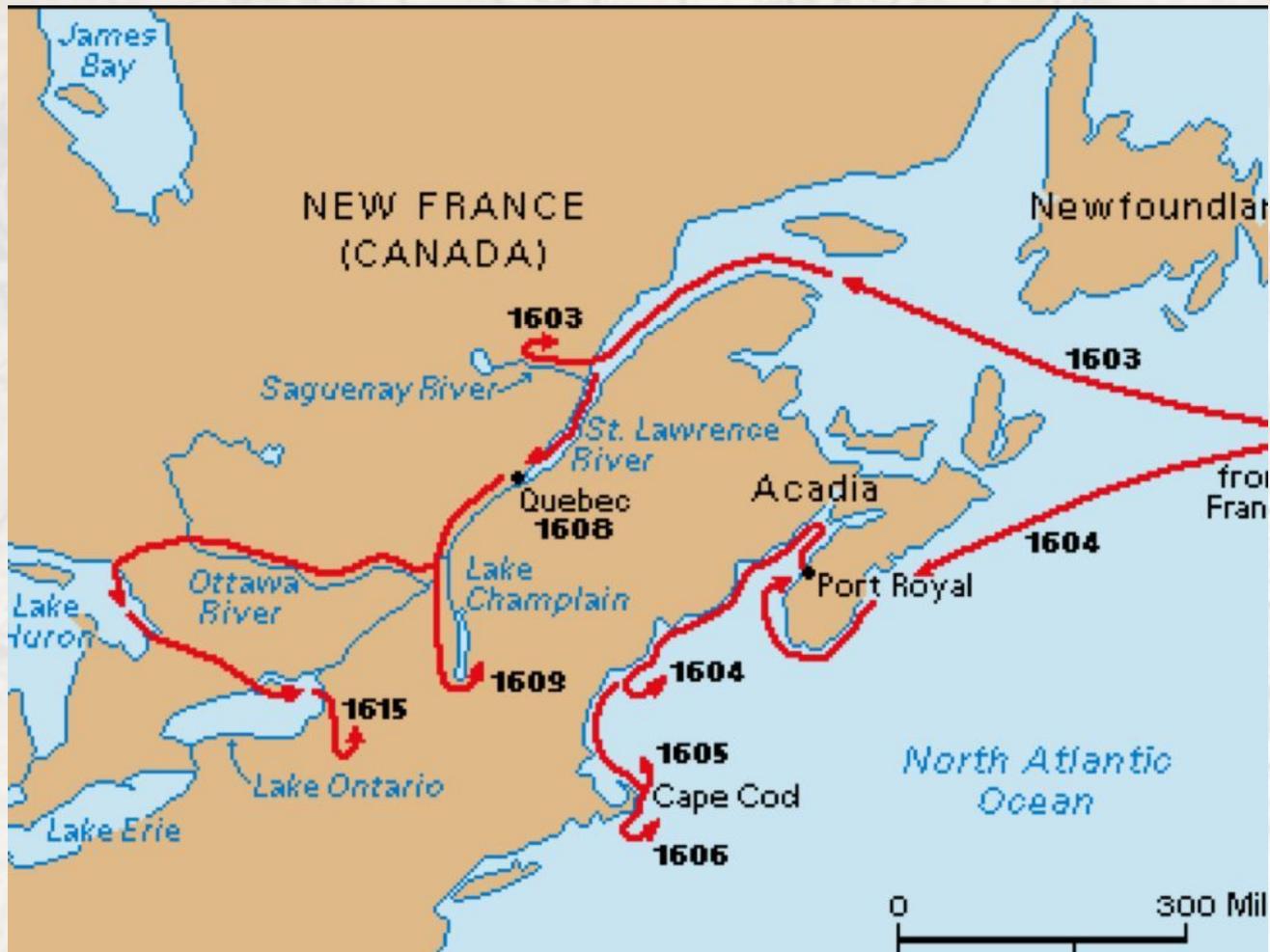


These were the **Don De Dieu, Espérance, Bon Espoir,** and **St. Jean.**

With him were **Lieutenant François Gravé Du Pont,** his fur trading partner, and **Pierre Du Gua de Monts,** would-be colonists.



They landed at **Tadoussac**, and built a fort there.
For **50 years**, Tadoussac had been the chosen
destination for fur traders, and **Basque and
Norman whalers**.





It was strategically located, with a deep harbour at the juncture of the **Saguenay River** in Quebec and the north shore of the St. Lawrence.

Later, de Tonnetuit became its founder.

There was fierce competition for fur trading with the **Montannais** natives who summered there.



Note: The Tadoussac fort is now the oldest standing structure in Canada. Since it has been designated a World Heritage sight, it is a major tourist attraction.

By the fall of 1600, Pierre Chauvin left for France with a cargo of beaver and other pelts, leaving 16 men to 'man the fort'.

Only **5 men survived** the harsh winter with the help of native kindness and hospitality.



In 1601, Pierre Chauvin sent only the **Espérance** back to Tadoussac, but he never returned. **He died in 1603.**

One of the negative outcomes of the natives' interaction with the Europeans was the exchange of ammunition.



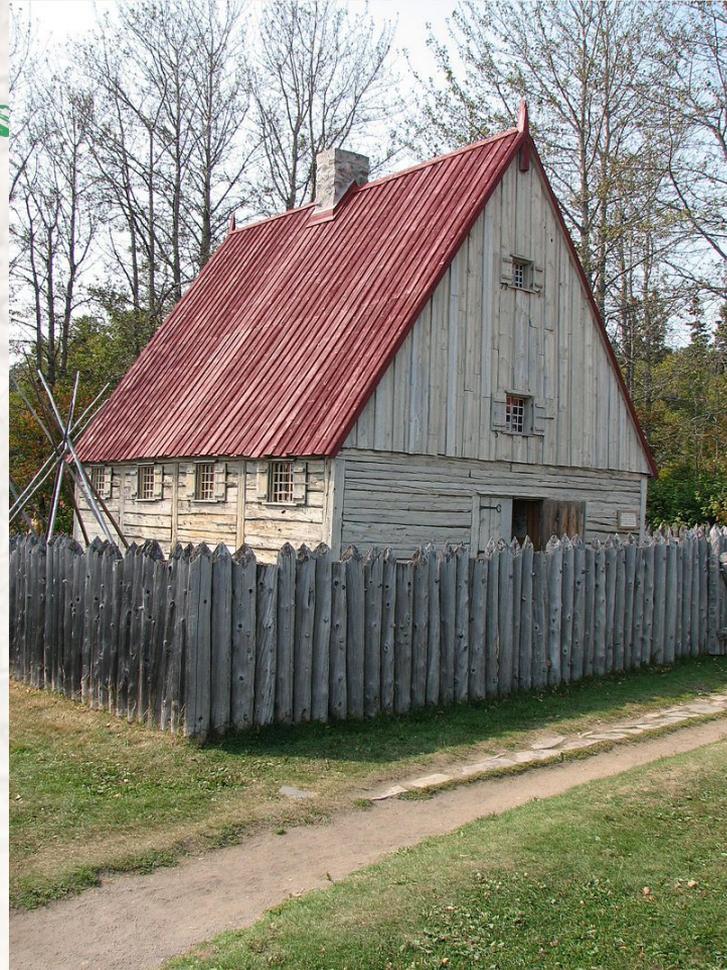
The **Montannais (Innu)**, using their newly-acquired weapons against their enemies, the **Iroquois**, caused enough damage that brought them reprisals and retaliation.

The **Iroquois** decimated that tribe, causing **the Innu to retreat to areas closer to the Hudson Bay.**



When **Champlain visited Tadoussac in 1603**, he described the building as being *25' long by 18' wide by 8' tall, with wooden siding and a fireplace in the middle of the structure.*

There was a palisade surrounding it with a ditch to make entry difficult.





In **1603**, when **Tonnetuit** passed away at **88** years old, **Admiral Du Chaste** inherited the fur trading monopoly.

Aymar de Chaste (1514 -1603)



Admiral Aymar de Chaste was the Governor of Dieppe. He was a moderate Catholic who supported Henry IV in the war against the Catholic League.

Henry lived in the outskirts of Dieppe while he battled against the League at Arques.



The story is told about how **de Chaste helped Henry to win the battle of Arques** by disguising his soldiers as sailors who wanted to sell their fish within the city walls.

Their weapons were hidden under their clothes.



Admiral de Chaste was commissioned by Henry IV to lead an expedition to **Acadia and New France**.

He was given the title of **Viceroy of Canada** in **February 1602**, and later, **Lieutenant Governor of New France**.



With de Chaste were other noblemen and officers of Henry's court.

These included **Pierre Du Gua Sieur de Mons** and **François Gravé Du Pont**.



Samuel de Champlain was sent along as an observer and cartographer.

Aymar de Chaste's stint of service in New France would end with his death in 1603.

François Gravé Du Pont (1554 -1629)



François Gravé Du Pont was a nobleman, a soldier, and a captain in the navy.

From around **1580** (around the age of **26**) he became one of the earliest fur traders in New France



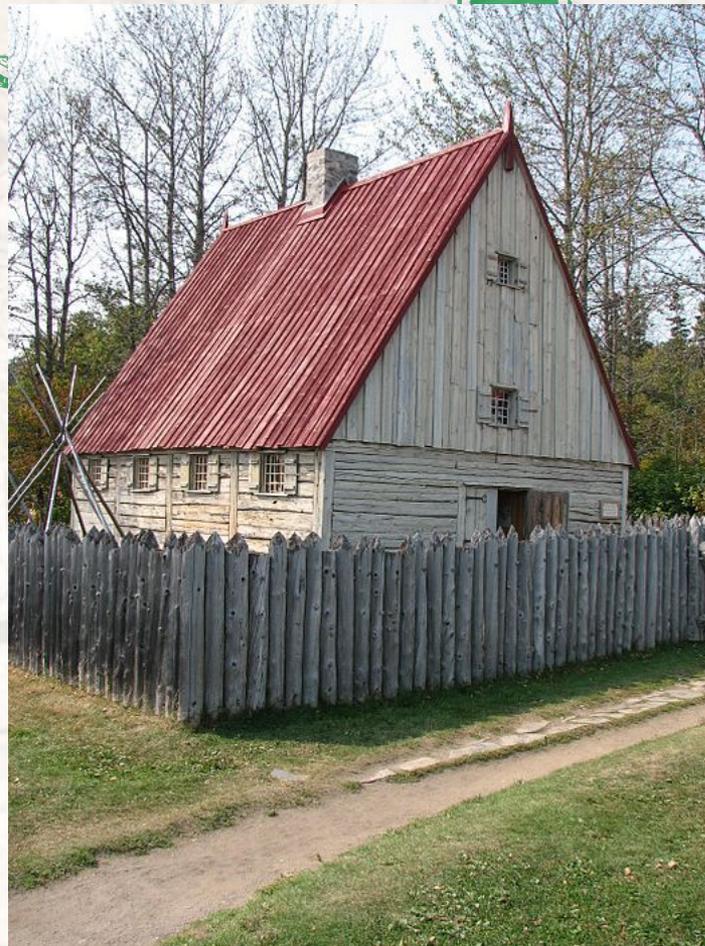
In **1599**, he traded for furs at **Trois Rivieres** when he was **45 years old**.

In **1600**, he changed residence from **St Malo** to **Honfleur** and helped **Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit** to receive a fur trading monopoly from **King Henry IV**.



In the **Spring of 1600**, **François Gravé Du Pont** accompanied his fur trading partner, **Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit**, to establish a fur trading post at Tadoussac.

This trading post is ***the longest surviving building*** in Canada.



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They left **Honfleur** with some colonists in **de Tonnetuit's 4 ships: Don De Dieu; Espérance; Bon Espoir, and St Jean.**

With them was **Pierre Du Gua de Monts**, who would later become an influential colonist.



Francois Gravé du Pont wanted to explore the St. Lawrence further but **Chauvin de Tonnetuit** did not.

The Innu summered in the Tadoussac area.

François Gravé met with 2 chiefs at that time - **Begourat and Anadabijou.**

He became allies with them against the Iroquois.



In 1603, **Gravé du Pont** returned to France with **2 Innu Natives (Montagnais)**.

Later he returned to the Tadoussac area with them, and **Samuel de Champlain**, in the role of observer.



François Gravé Du Pont and **Samuel de Champlain** went exploring the **St. Lawrence** as far as the **St Louis Falls**.

When **Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit** passed away in **1603**, **Aymar de Chaste** was given charge of the new fur trading monopoly.



François Gravé Du Pont continued trading furs in **de Chaste's** service until **1604**.

When **de Chaste** passed away, he joined the service of **Pierre Du Gua de Mons**, who held the fur trading monopoly for **Acadia**.



In **1604**, as deputy for **Pierre Du Gua de Mons**, he sailed with **67** other men to the **Bay of Fundy** for exploration and settlement.

With **Champlain**, they spent 6 weeks exploring the coast and looking for a safe place to settle.



They found that an island on the west side of the **Bay of Fundy, on the St. Croix River**, appeared to be a safe place from raiding parties.



François Gravé du Pont and Pierre de Biencourt de Poutrincourt, another leader in du Gua's expedition, sailed back to France before winter of 1604.



in **1605**, **Gravé du Pont** returned to the St. Croix River with 2 relief ships of men and supplies.

Eventually, they moved the settlement to **Port Royal**. Built new structures with the dismantled materials.



Francois Gravé du Pont was entrusted with command of the colony in **1605/1606**.

Du Gua had to return to France to protect his monopoly and continue to raise funds to keep the colony going.



In **1608**, 2 ships sailed from France to **new settlements in New France**, which was Du Gua's new monopoly.

These ships commissioned by **du Gua de Monts**, represented an indefatigable effort at sustained colonization of **New France**.



One ship, the **Levrier**, left on **April 5th** -
commandeered by **François Gravé du Pont** to trade
at the settlement of **Tadoussac**.

On **April 13th**, **Samuel de Champlain**
commandeered the **Don de Dieu** to set up another
colony at **Quebec City**.



That same year, while trying to stave off the incursions of Basque fur traders, he was wounded on behalf of **du Gua** who held the monopoly.

Samuel de Champlain returned to Tadoussac on **June 3rd 1608.**

Tadoussac was also the main trading post used by all the other European countries.



Champlain soon learnt that there had been a musket and cannon fight in which **François Gravé**, had been terribly wounded.

François Gravé had attempted to impose his trading monopoly on the other **Basque and Spanish** traders.



Champlain negotiated a truce with the aggressors and **François Gravé** agreed to share the **Innu** fur trade with the other traders.

He returned to France in the fall of **1608**, taking the accomplices in a plot against Champlain's leadership in Quebec, returning every year until **1618**.



One of the settlers who had been with the colony in Acadia, **Jean Duval**-a locksmith, had incited 4 other accomplices in a plot to kill Champlain and hand over the colony to Basque and Spanish traders.



The plot was revealed and a court was constituted of **Champlain, du Pont, Captain Testu** and and the surgeon **Bonnerme**.

The accomplices were tried and sentenced to hang.



The ringleader, **Jean Duval** was beheaded on the spot, with his head elevated on a spear at a prominent place at the fort.

The other accomplices were taken back to France by **Grave du Pont**, for **Du Gua** to deal out *'their greater justice'*.



François Gravé continued to return to Tadoussac from **1608 to 1629**.

1629 marked the end of the **Siege of La Rochelle** under **Louis XIII** during the **French and British War**.



In **1619**, an effort was made to have Grave du Pont replace **Champlain** in Quebec, but in **1620**, Champlain returned from France with documents identifying him as the **Viceroy of the colony of New France**.



In **1621**, the monopoly rested with the **de Caen Brothers** but Gravé du Pont appeared to trade *on behalf of Pierre Du Gua de Monts*. His ship was temporarily seized but then returned to him.

In **1622/1623**, he spent the winter in Quebec with Champlain.



He returned to France in **1624**, returning to Quebec again for the winter of **1625/1626** and again in **1627**.

De Caen's company was merged by the **King (Louis XIII)** with the former associates so **Gravé du Pont** entered their service.



He worked continuously for the **De Caens** until **1629**, even though he suffered from gout.

Because **Grave du Pont** had a long relationship with the natives he was considered to be indispensable to the **de Caens**.



He eventually set sail with the Jesuits to Tadoussac and then to England. Nothing more is heard about him.

It is said that François Gravé was liked by many and popular with the Native community. It is also said that he showed 'unwavering friendship to Champlain'



He was also helpful to the **Récollets**, willing to help with exploration when his mission was just to engage in trade, and a generally likeable person.

His boundless energy was praised by many.