

*Commandants of Michilimackinac of Michilimackinac during the French Regime*  
Compiled by Diane Wolford Sheppard

**Sources:**

Brian Leigh Dunnigan, *A Picturesque Situation, Mackinac before Photography 1615 – 1860* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press. 2008)

Timothy J. Kent, *Rendezvous at the Straits Fur Trade and Military Activities at Fort de Buade and Fort Michilimackinac, 1669-1781* (Ossineke, Michigan: Silver Fox Enterprises, 2004)

University of Toronto and Université Laval, *Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online*, (<http://www.biographi.ca/index-e.html>), hereafter *DCB*

Please refer to the 17<sup>th</sup> Century Timelines on the History of New France page on the FCHSM website for more details on the history of Michilimackinac during this period:  
[http://www.habitanteritage.org/french-canadian\\_resources/history\\_of\\_new\\_france](http://www.habitanteritage.org/french-canadian_resources/history_of_new_france)

**Daniel Greysolon, *sieur Du Lhut***

1683

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/greysolon\\_dulhut\\_daniel\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/greysolon_dulhut_daniel_2E.html)

**Olivier Morel, *sieur de LaDurantaye***

1683 – 1690

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/morel\\_de\\_la\\_durantaye\\_olivier\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/morel_de_la_durantaye_olivier_2E.html)

**François Boisguillot**

August 1683 to May 1684 during the absence of Morel de LaDurantaye

*Messieur* Juchereau (probably **Charles Juchereau de St. Denis**)

Spring/summer 1687, during the absence of Morel de LaDurantaye

Biography in the *DCB*: does not mention the possibility that he was a temporary *commandant*

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/juchereau\\_de\\_saint\\_denys\\_charles\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/juchereau_de_saint_denys_charles_2E.html)

**Louis Laporte de Louvigny**

8 April 1690 (date of appointment) to 16 September 1694 (date given a leave of absence)

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/la\\_porte\\_de\\_louvigny\\_louis\\_de\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/la_porte_de_louvigny_louis_de_2E.html)

**Antoine Lamothe de Cadillac**

16 September 1694 (date of appointment) to 20 August 1697 (date he returned to New France in compliance with Louis XIV's 1696 edict)

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/laumet\\_antoine\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/laumet_antoine_2E.html)

**Alphonse Tonty**

1697 – 1698 – although Louis XIV's 28 April 1697 order would have permitted Michilimackinac and Fort St. Joseph to remain open with a military garrison, the officers and soldiers were prohibited from trading. Based on meetings with a group of officers, Frontenac ultimately believed that the officers could not exist without the added income from trading. In spite of this, he appointed Tonty as *commandant* of Michilimackinac. He left Montreal with 25–30 traders, and a cargo of trade goods worth approximately 35,000 *livres*. The understanding was that Tonty would receive 50 per cent of the profit realized in their sale.

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/tonty\\_alphonse\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/tonty_alphonse_2E.html)

Michilimackinac as a fort or post was closed from 1698 until 1712

**Constant LeMarchand, *sieur de Lignery***

1712 – *circa* 1719 – After war broke out with the Fox in Detroit in May 1712, Philippe Rigaud de Vaudreuil sent Constant LeMarchand, *sieur de Lignery*, at the head of a small party to take possession of Michilimackinac.

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/le\\_marchand\\_de\\_lignery\\_constant\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/le_marchand_de_lignery_constant_2E.html)

**Louis Laporte, *sieur de Louvigny***

1716 – Although not a *commandant* at Michilimackinac, Laporte de Louvigny successfully commanded the expedition of 400 traders and 400 Native Americans against the Fox

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/la\\_porte\\_de\\_louvigny\\_louis\\_de\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/la_porte_de_louvigny_louis_de_2E.html)

**Louis Léonard, *sieur de Beaujeu***

1719 – 1722

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/lienard\\_de\\_baujeu\\_louis\\_3E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/lienard_de_baujeu_louis_3E.html)

**Constant LeMarchand, *sieur de Lignery***

1722 – 1728

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/le\\_marchand\\_de\\_lignery\\_constant\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/le_marchand_de_lignery_constant_2E.html)

**Jacques Charles Renaud, *sieur Dubuisson***

October 1729 – Fall 1730

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/renaud\\_dubuisson\\_jacques\\_charles\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/renaud_dubuisson_jacques_charles_2E.html)

**Jacques Testard, *sieur de Montigny***

1730 – 1733

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/testard\\_de\\_montigny\\_jacques\\_2E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/testard_de_montigny_jacques_2E.html)

**Jean Baptiste René Legardeur, *sieur de Repentigny***

1733 – 1734

**Pierre Joseph Céleron, *sieur de Blainville***

1734 – 1742; he was absent from the fort in 1737 and 1739-1740 when he commanded the campaign against the Chickasaw.

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/celoron\\_de\\_blainville\\_pierre\\_joseph\\_3E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/celoron_de_blainville_pierre_joseph_3E.html) - states that he assumed command in 1738.

**Jean Baptiste Jarret, *sieur de Verchères***

1737 – temporary *commandant* during the absence of Céleron

1742 – 1747 *commandant*

**Jacques Legardeur, *sieur de Saint-Pierre***

1747 to 26 July 1749

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/legardeur\\_de\\_saint\\_pierre\\_jacques\\_3E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/legardeur_de_saint_pierre_jacques_3E.html)

**François Lefebvre, *sieur Duplessis Faber***

26 July 1749 – 1756 (some of the dates in his biography conflict with those for Louis Joseph Léonard de Beaujeu and de Villemode)

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/lefebvre\\_duplessis\\_faber\\_francois\\_3E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/lefebvre_duplessis_faber_francois_3E.html)

**Louis Joseph Léonard, *sieur* de Beaujeu and de Villemode**

July 1753 – October 1753

May 1754

1757 to Fall 1759

Biography in the *DCB*:

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/lienard\\_de\\_beaujeu\\_de\\_villemonde\\_louis\\_5E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/lienard_de_beaujeu_de_villemonde_louis_5E.html)

**Charles Mouet de Langlade**

Fall 1759 to September 1761

Biography in the *DCB*: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mouet\\_de\\_langlade\\_charles\\_michel\\_4E.html](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mouet_de_langlade_charles_michel_4E.html)