

In Mortagne-au-Perche (France), in 2022, a statue in memory of Pierre Boucher (1622-1717), pioneer of French Canada

Pierre Boucher in books



For those who would like to know more about Pierre Boucher, several works are available at the médiathèque of Mortagne and in the Musée de l'émigration française au Canada (Muséales de Tourouvre), including :

- ***Histoire naturelle et véritable des mœurs et productions du Pays de la Nouvelle-France, dite le Canada***, 1664, by Pierre Boucher, re-edited by société historique des Îles-Percées, 1967.
- ***Messire Pierre Boucher***, by sœur Estelle Mitchell, s.g.m., 1980.
- ***Perche et Canada quatre siècles d'histoire, Epopée en Nouvelle-France***, by Michel Ganivet, president of the Perche-Canada Association, éditions Amis du Perche, 2016.
- ***Perche et Canada quatre siècles d'histoire, Le grand retour***, par Michel Ganivet, Amis du Perche éditions, 2017.

Launch of an appeal for donations



Statue of Pierre Boucher in front of the Boucherville Town Hall

Pierre Boucher was born in Mortagne-au-Perche (Orne, France) and baptized on the 1st of August, 1622.

The son of a carpenter from the paroisse Notre-Dame leaves for New France with his whole family in 1635, following the emigration movement of Le Perche inhabitants initiated the previous year by Robert Giffard. Pierre Boucher is 13 years old. He is first noticed by Jesuits.

He accompanies them on evangelical missions with indigenous peoples, whose languages he learns. In 1646, having joined the military as an interpreter for the government of New France, he is put in charge of the trading post of Trois-Rivières, a new city which he defends with energy against Iroquois attacks, especially in 1653 after a memorable siege.

Pierre Boucher marries Jeanne Crevier, from Rouen, in 1652. Fifteen children are born from this union.

Films (sur Youtube)



Image from film **Pierre Boucher, seigneur en Nouvelle-France** tourné avec les comédiens de Au cœur du Perche.

The film **Pierre Boucher, seigneur en Nouvelle-France**, produced by the Perche-Canada association and directed by APO Productions (video workshop of the Amis du Perche de l'Orne) in 2011, is now available on the Amis du Perche video channel (in four episodes).

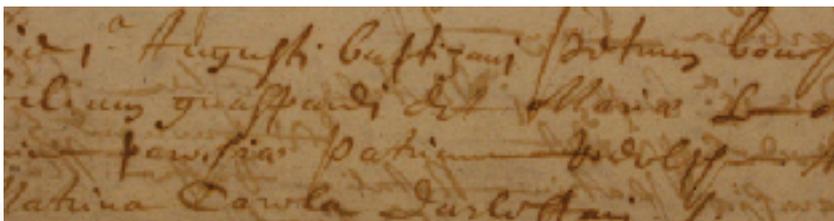
Websites

perche-canada.net, website of Perche-Canada association

perche-quebec.com, website of Jean-François Loiseau, genealogist, administrator of Perche-Canada association.



Statue of Pierre Boucher in front of Boucherville town hall.



Parish register of Mortagne (municipal archives): baptism certificate by Pierre Boucher of August 1, 1622.

In 1667, he founds Boucherville, near Montreal

In 1660, having become governor of Trois-Rivières, Pierre Boucher is sent, as an ambassador, to meet Louis XIV and Colbert. This visit results in the decision to send over the regiment of Carignan-Salière, which saves the struggling New France. Back with new settlers, and soon followed by the remarkable daughters of the King, Pierre Boucher develops his concession of Cap-de-la-Madeleine, before deciding to found a new settlement, in 1667, south of Montreal. He names it Boucherville. Surrounded by his family and his taxpayers, he spends the second half of his life conquering, and fighting against the Iroquois incursions. Pierre Boucher de Boucherville dies in 1717, at the age of 95, having been given a peerage. With descendants in Canada, North America, Mauritius and France, his legacy honours both Québec and Le Perche.

Appeal for donations

In 1922, for the 300th anniversary of his birth, a statue of Pierre Boucher was created by the sculptor Alfred Laliberté, and erected in front of the Québec parliament. In 2017, for 300th anniversary of Pierre Boucher's death, the digital acquisition of the sculptor's work by the town of Boucherville allowed the erection of a copy, now in front of the Town Hall. The same digital file was sent to the town of Mortagne-au-Perche and will allow, in 2022, the year of the 400th anniversary of Pierre Boucher's birth, to erect another copy, in the town where he was born. This statue would contribute, like those of Jules Chaplain and Alain, to emphasize the rich heritage of Mortagne-au-Perche and the Orne Department.

The project that is wished for, by the association Perche-Canada and the descendants of the family in Boucherville, is of 46.000 euros before tax.

Our gratitude goes to all who will help finance this beautiful project, which will further unite the towns of Québec, Boucherville, and Mortagne-au-Perche.