

Irish Catholic Churches in Bagot, Brome, Missisquoi, Shefford Counties

The Churches

Bagot County

One can find an Irish presence in a few parishes of Bagot County, especially in Upton, Acton Vale, Acton village, Bagot village.

<http://www.leslabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=C&SS=4>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_acton.html

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_les_maskoutains.html

Bagot - St-Hugues de Bagot – Saint Hugues - Organized in 1827, the first recorded Irish marriage was celebrated in 1851

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1364.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_hugues.html

Upton – Saint William or Saint-Guillaume or Saint Éphrem - First organized in 1833 as the Mission of Saint William (Saint-Guillaume) of Upton. In 1856 it became Saint Éphrem, at which time the first known Irish marriage was recorded. Earlier Irish marriages and baptisms most assuredly took place, but church documents are no longer available. See also Acton Vale or Saint Hughes as possible sources.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1409.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_upton.html

Acton Vale – Saint Andrew (Saint André-d'Acton) - Organized in 1858, the first Irish marriage was recorded in 1859.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1302.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_acton_vale.html

Bagot - Sainte-Hélène de Bagot – Sainte Hélène - Organized in 1854, the first known Irish marriage was recorded in 1865

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1363.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_sainte_helene_de_bagot.html

Bagot - Sainte-Christine de Bagot – Sainte Christine - Organized in 1886; in 1893, the first known Irish marriage was sanctified in this parish.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/788.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_sainte_christine.html

Acton - Saint-Nazaire d'Acton – Saint Nazaire - Organized in 1889, the first Irish marriage was celebrated in 1902

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1385.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_nazaire_dacton.html

Brome County

A fair number of early Brome settlers were Loyalists from the New England States and the State

of New York and a few from the Pennsylvania region and points south. As early as 1792, settlers pushed east along the Missisquoi River from Missisquoi Bay into a region that later became Brome County. Eventually, villages such as Abercorn, Bolton, Brome, Eastman, Fulford, Glen Sutton, Knowlton, Mansonville, Potton, Sutton, Vale Perkins appeared. The first Catholic parish was established in 1831 as a Mission known then as “Cantons de l’Est.” It appears that this Catholic mission was staffed by travelling missionaries and was not located in any permanent buildings.

<http://www.leslabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=C&SS=10>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_brome_missisquoi.html

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_memphremagog.html

Bolton – Saint Stephen of Bolton (Saint-Étienne-de-Bolton) - Organized in 1851, Irish families were present in the region.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1654.html>

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1653.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_etienne_de_bolton.html

Sutton – Saint Andrew-of-Sutton (Saint-André-de-Sutton) - Organized in 1858, Irish families were present in this region.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1405.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_sutton.html

Brome Lake - Knowlton – Saint Edward of Brome Lake - (Saint-Edouard-du-Lac-Brome) - Organized in 1868. Irish families were present in the region prior to 1868.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1331.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_lac_brome.html

Mansonville - Potton – Saint Cajetan of Potton (Saint-Cajétan-de-Potton) - Organized in 1872, Irish families were present in the region.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1623.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_potton.html

Bromont - Saint-François-Xavier - Organized in 1859, Irish families were present in the region prior to 1873.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1308.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_bromont.html

Adamsville – Brigham – Saint-Vincent-Ferrier – Organized in 1873; Irish were present prior to 1873.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1309.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_brigham_saint_vincent_ferrier.html

Eastman - Saint Edward of Eastman (Saint-Edouard-d'Eastman) - Organized in 1895, Irish families resided in the region at this time.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1602.html>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_eastman.html

Austin – Saint Austin - Organized in 1913. Irish families were present within this region from about 1861, when the area was known as East Bolton and Bolton.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1576.html>
https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_austin.html

Brigham – Saint Mary (Sainte-Marie-Médiatrice) - Organized in 1925. Irish families resided in the region before that.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1307.html>
https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_brigham_sainte_marie_mediatrice.html

Abercorn - Saint Simon - Organized in 1941, Irish families resided in the region at an earlier time period.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1301.html>
https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_aberncorn.html

South Bolton - Saint Thomas - Organized in 1944, Irish families were present in the region at an earlier date.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1689.html>
https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_bolton_est.html

Missisquoi County

The first immigrants arrived in Missisquoi Bay in the 1770's and 1780's, mainly from New York's upper Hudson and Mohawk River Valleys. They settled in towns such as Dunham, Stanbridge, Bedford, Pigeon Hill, Noyan, Cowansville, Philipsburg, St-Armand, Freligsburg, among others. As early as 1847, a few Irish Catholic families had settled into the county.

<http://www.leslabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=C&SS=39>
https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_brome_missisquoi.html
https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_le_haut_richelieu.html

Stanbridge – Notre Dame - Organized in 1845 and also referred to as Notre-Dame-de-Stanbridge, a year later the Irish arrived in the region.

<https://www.notredamedestanbridge.qc.ca/>
https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_notre_dame_de_stanbridge.html

Dunham - Holy Cross (Sainte Croix) - First organized in 1842, the first Irish marriage was blessed in 1851.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1313.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_dunham.html

Farnham – Saint Romuald - Organized in 1847, the first Irish marriage in 1852.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1315.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_farnham_saint_romuald.html

Bedford – Saint Damien - Organized in 1869, the Irish arrived in 1873.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1303.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_bedford.html

Saint Armand – Notre Dame of Lourdes - Organized in 1874, a year later the Irish were present.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1352.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_armand_notre_dame_de_lourdes.html

Stanbridge East – Saint Ignace - Organized in 1877, three years later the Irish were present. Same parish or second parish organized in 1952 as the parish of Sainte-Jeanne-d’Arc.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1866.html>

http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_stanbridge_east.html

Clarenceville – Saint James the Major (Saint-Jacques-le-Majeur) Organized in 1883, the Irish were present two years later - Parish no longer exists.

<https://www.townshipsarchives.ca/saint-georges-de-clarenceville-quebec>

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1362.html>

http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_georges_de_clarenceville.html

Sweetsburg (Cowansville) – Saint Rose (Sainte-Rose) - Organized in 1876; only in 1889 was the first Irish marriage performed.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1311.html>

http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_cowansville_sainte_rose_de_lima.html

Frelighsburg – Saint Francis (Saint-François) Organized in 1886, the Irish arrived six years later.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1316.html>

http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_frelighsburg.html

Shefford County

As early as 1831, Catholic Missionaries ministered within the county, baptizing, marrying and even blessing the departed ones at local cemeteries. The first permanent Irish Catholic Mission to be established in the Townships was ministered by Father Bernard O’Reilly at Roxton Falls in 1848. The establishment and staffing of this mission was soon repeated throughout various other regions of the townships and districts east and north of the townships. Granby being its hub, the county of Shefford was first settled by American, British, Scottish immigrants in the late 1790’s. The Irish settled in the region in the early 1840’s.

<http://www.leslabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=C&SS=58>

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_la_haute_yamaska.html

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_le_val_saint_francois.html

https://www.originis.ca/paroisse_mrc_acton.html

Eastern Townships Missionaries (1825 to 1853) - Catholic missionaries to the Eastern Townships referred to at the Archives nationales du Québec as Missions des Cantons-de-l’Est.

<http://www.cchahistory.ca/journal/CCHA1978/Little.pdf>

<http://www.cchahistory.ca/journal/CCHA1939-40/Walsh.html>

<http://www.cchahistory.ca/journal/CCHA1939-40/Mullins.html>

Granby - Notre Dame - Organized in 1837, Irish families were present in the region from about 1863 onward.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1319.html>

http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_granby_notre_dame.html

Stukely - Notre Dame de Bonsecours Stukely Nord - Organized in 1846, the Irish were present in the region from about 1846 or perhaps earlier. The town has since been renamed Bonsecours. Parish registers at the Archives can be found under Notre-Dame-de-Bonsecours de Stukely-Nord.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1585.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_bonsecours.html

Roxton Falls – Saint John the Baptist (Saint-Jean-Baptiste) - Organized in 1848, a few years later in 1854, the Irish had arrived

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1344.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_roxton_falls.html

Abbotsford – Saint Paul - Organized in 1855, Irish families were present in 1855 within this region.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1387.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_paul_dabbotsford.html

Sherrington – Saint Patrick - First organized as a mission in 1838, the parish opened in 1849. The Irish families were present in the region prior to 1838.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1500.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_patrice_de_sherrington.html

Milton – Saint Cecilia of Milton (Sainte-Cécile de Milton) - Organized in 1849, in 1858, the Irish had arrived.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1356.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_sainte_cecile_de_milton.html

Stukely – Sainte Anne de la Rochelle - Organized in 1857, two years later the Irish were present in the region. The town has since been renamed Ste-Anne-de-la-Rochelle.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1644.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_sainte_anne_de_la_rochelle.html

Milton – Saint Valérien de Milton – Organized in 1854, six years later the Irish had arrived in the region. The town has since been renamed St-Valérien-de-Milton.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1399.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_valerien_de_milton.html

Shefford – Saint Joachim-de Shefford - Organized in 1859, two years later the Irish were present in the region. The town has recently changed name to St-Joachim de Shefford.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1376.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_saint_joachim_de_shefford.html

Bromont – Saint Francis Xavier - Organized in 1856, in 1863 the Irish were present in the region

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1308.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_bromont.html

Granby – Saint Patrick – Organized in 1951, the Irish parish, although the Irish were present in the region since 1863. For parish registers from 1863 to 1951, see also Notre-Dame in Granby within various online search engines.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1325.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_granby_saint_patrick.html

Waterloo – Saint Bernardin - Organized in 1865, a year later the Irish had arrived.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1411.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_waterloo.html

Ely - Valcourt – Saint Joseph-d'Ely - Organized in 1854, 21 years later the Irish were present in 1875 within the region. The town is now referred to as Valcourt.

<http://www.leseglisesdemonquartier.com/1694.html>
http://www.originis.ca/paroisse_valcourt.html

The cemeteries

Bagot County – 18 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=C&SS=4>

Brome County – 83 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=C&SS=10>

Missisquoi County – 99 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=C&SS=39>

Shefford County – 55 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=C&SS=58>

Acton – Modern-day region – 13 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=M&SS=94>

Brome-Missisquoi – Modern-day region – 138 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=M&SS=8>

La Haute-Yamaska – Modern-day region – 28 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=M&SS=17>

Le Haut-Richelieu – Modern-day region – 42 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=M&SS=30>

Le Val St-François – Modern-day region – 41 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=M&SS=85>

Les Maskoutains – Modern-day region – 43 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=M&SS=37>

Memphrémagog – Modern-day region – 90 cemeteries

<http://www.lelabelle.com/Cimetieres/ListerCims.asp?MP=F3&TY=M&SS=48>

Authors, Books and Articles

These books can fill in some background on life in the Townships in those early days of settlement:

A. W. Patrick Buchanan

A.C. Buchanan – Emigration Agent Quebec City – 1800s

A.C. Buchanan, Emigration Agent in Montreal, 1800s

Annual Report on Emigration for 1850”

First Report from the Select Committee on Emigration of 1826.

<http://www.ourlibrary.ca/phpbb2/viewtopic.php?f=1&t=56>

John Donahue

Growing Up Irish in Quebec

https://www.jstor.org/stable/25513072?seq=1 - page_scan_tab_contents

Robert John Grace

The Irish in Mid-nineteenth-century Canada and the Case of Quebec: Immigration and Settlement in a Catholic City

The Irish in Quebec:

An Introduction to the Historiography, Followed by An Annotated Bibliography on the Irish in Quebec

http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/obj/s4/f2/dsk1/tape9/PQDD_0016/NQ39355.pdf

<http://gail25.tripod.com/que3.htm>

Diane Lauzon Rioux

Le Courant *Automne 2014 | 16* East-Hereford History East Hereford 1800-1926

http://societehistoirecoaticook.ca/fr/le_courant/articles/east_hereford_history

J.I. Little

Missionary Priests in Quebec's Eastern Townships: The Years of Hardship and Discontent, 1825-1853.

http://www.etc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/JETS_28_Spring_2006.pdf

<https://hssh.journals.yorku.ca/index.php/hssh/article/viewFile/40265/36450>

<http://www.cchahistory.ca/journal/CCHA1978/Little.html>

D. Aidan McQuillan

Beaurivage: The Development of an Irish Ethnic Identity in Rural Quebec: 1820-1860

<http://gail25.tripod.com/que4.htm>

<http://gail25.tripod.com/que.htm>

Gladys Mullins

English-Speaking Priests who Evangelized The Eastern Townships

<http://www.cchahistory.ca/journal/CCHA1939-40/Mullins.html>

Marianna O’Gallagher

The Irish in Quebec

Eyewitness: Grosse Isle, 1847 Paperback – 1995

Grosse Île: Gateway to Canada, 1832-1937 Paperback – 1984

<http://gail25.tripod.com/que2.htm>

<https://www.amazon.ca/Eyewitness-Grosse-Isle-Marianna-OGallagher/dp/096908059X>
https://www.amazon.com/Grosse-l%CC%82le-Gateway-Canada-1832-1937/dp/0969080530/ref=pd_sim_14_1?_encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=0969080530&pd_rd_r=112c4b55-0d9e-11e9-8d13-d5ed4d8cec35&pd_rd_w=eoQfn&pd_rd_wg=xIEWH&pf_rd_p=18bb0b78-4200-49b9-ac91-f141d61a1780&pf_rd_r=4G2NGJ6GKXV86FBWTRSB&psc=1&refRID=4G2NGJ6GKXV86FBWTRSB

T.J. Walsh

Pioneer English Catholics in the Eastern Townships

<http://www.cchahistory.ca/journal/CCHA1939-40/Walsh.html>

Repositories

BAnQ Sherbrooke – Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

http://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/entrez_archives/centres_archives/ca_estrie.html

225, rue Frontenac, bureau 401

Sherbrooke (Québec) J1H 1K1

Téléphone : 819 820-3010 ou 1 800 363-9028, option 4 puis option 6

Fax : 819 820-3146

Email : archives.sherbrooke@banq.qc.ca

BAnQ Québec – Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

http://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/entrez_archives/centres_archives/

http://www.banq.qc.ca/archives/entrez_archives/centres_archives/index.html?language_id=1

Pavillon Louis-Jacques-Casault

Campus de l'Université Laval

1055, avenue du Séminaire

Québec (Québec) G1V 5C8

Phone: 418 643-8904 or 1 800 363-9028, option 4 then option 2

Fax: 418 646-4254

Email:

Textual archives: archives.quebec@banq.qc.ca

Iconographic, audiovisual,

cartographic and architectural archives: icono.caq@banq.qc.ca

BAnQ Vieux-Montréal (Old Montreal)

535 Avenue Viger E, Montréal, QC H2L 2P3

Tel: 1 800-363-9028

Tel : 514-873-1100

<https://www.mtl.org/en/what-to-do/heritage-and-architecture/centre-d-archives-de-montreal-bibliotheque-et-archives>

<http://www.banq.qc.ca/accueil/>

BAnQ across the province

http://www.banq.qc.ca/a_propos_banq/informations_pratiques/

LAC – Library Archives Canada – Land Petitions of Lower Canada – 1764-1841

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-petitions-lower-canada-1764-1841/Pages/land-petitions-lower-canada.aspx> - a

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-petitions-lower-canada-1764-1841/Pages/land-petitions-lower-canada-volumes.aspx>

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-petitions-lower-canada-1764-1841/Pages/land-petitions-lower-canada.aspx>

ETRC – Eastern Townships Resource Centre

<http://www.etric.ca/journal/>

http://www.etric.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/JETS_28_Spring_2006.pdf

Irish Heritage Quebec

<http://www.irishheritagequebec.net/genealogy/>

<http://www.irishheritagequebec.net/>

Société d'histoire de Coaticook

http://societehistoirecoaticook.ca/fr/le_courant/articles/east_hereford_history

Ancestry.com

<http://search.ancestry.ca/search/db.aspx?dbid=61062>

<https://cms.ancestrycdn.com/media/dam/acom/PDF/Content/quebec-notarial-us.pdf>

FamilySearch.org

<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1471015>

Genealogy Quebec

<https://www.genealogiequebec.com/en/>

Find my Past

<https://www.findmypast.com/>

Genealogy Ensemble

<https://genealogyensemble.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/british-irish-scottish-loyalist-american-german-scandinavian-dutch-in-quebec2.pdf>

Quebec Family History Society

<https://qfhs.ca/>

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