This map shows the area of New France circa 1645 colored blue. In red are the English colonies. This image is courtesy of Parks Canada.
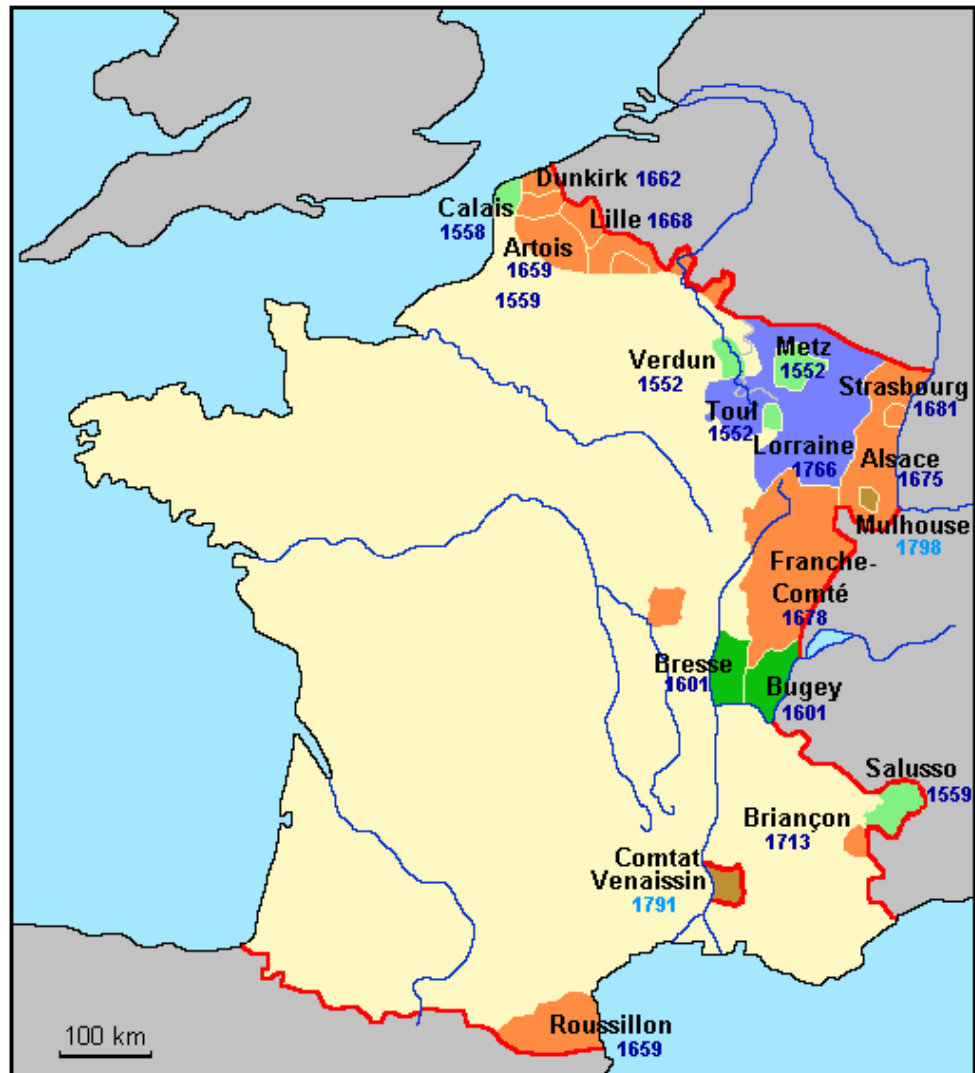
New France

This map shows the area of New France circa 1645 colored blue. In red are the English colonies. This image is courtesy of Parks Canada.

The French

This image shows the Grand Royal Coat of Arms of the Kingdom of France. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

For a long time, the French were also not unified enough to challenge Spain and Portugal in the race for North America.

FRANCE :
territory from 1552 to 1798
from Henri II to the Revolution

Henry II	
Henry IV	
Louis XIV	
Louis XV	
Revolution	

Henry II	1552: Metz, Verdun, Toul
	1558: Calais
	1559: Salusso
Henry IV	1601: Bresse, Bugey
Louis XIV	1642: Roussillon
	1659: Artois
	1662: Dunkirk
	1668: Lille
	1675: Alsace
	1678: Franche-Comté
	1681: Strasbourg
	1713: Briançon
Louis XV	1766: Lorraine
	1768: Corsica
Revolution	1791: Comtat Venaissin
	1798: Mulhouse

www.wikipedia.org
(History of France)

This map of France from 1552-1798 shows territory acquired by France during that time period. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

In 1524, however, the French sent out an Italian explorer, Giovanni da Verrazano.
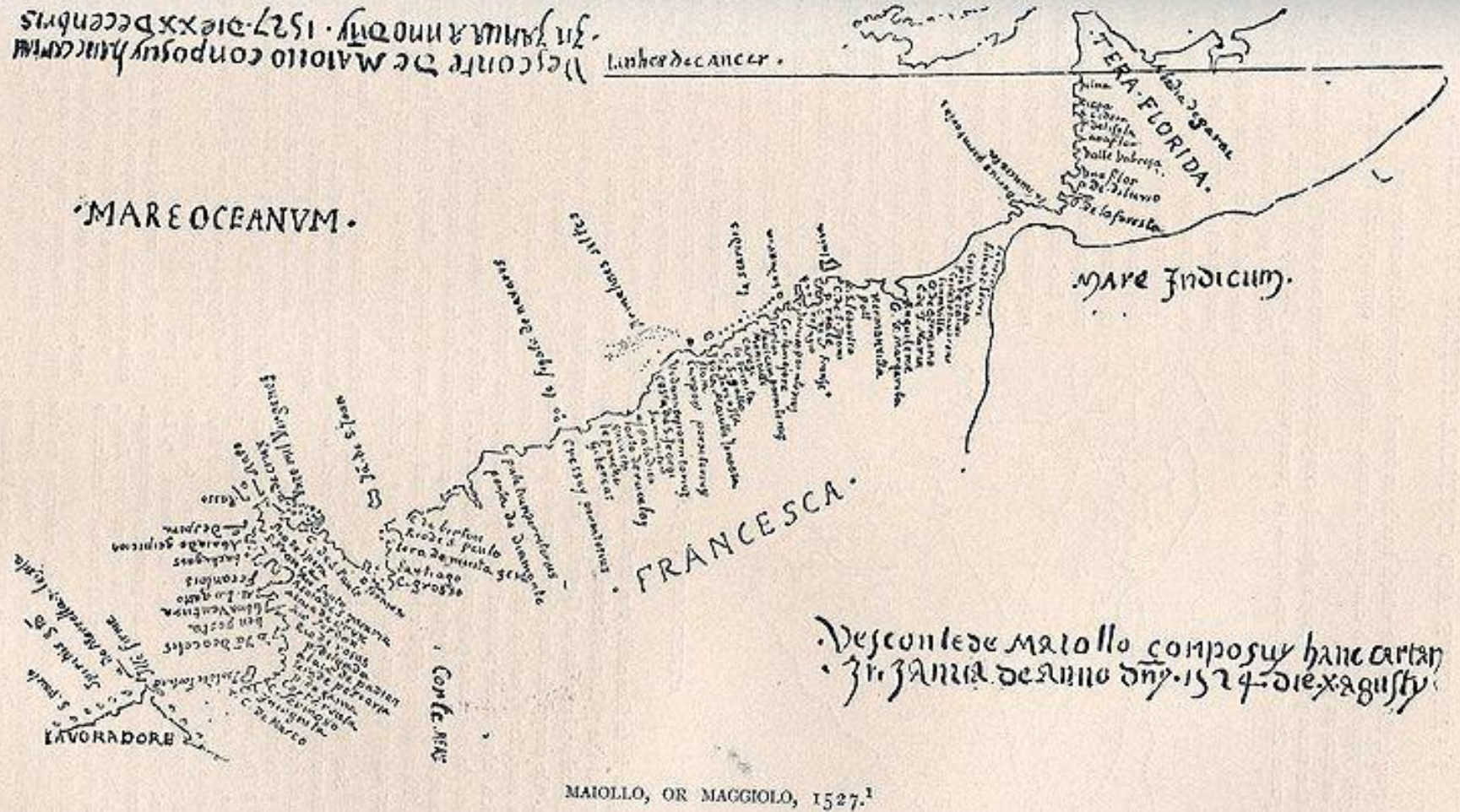

GIOVANNI DI PIER ANDREA DI   BERNARDO DA VERRAZZANO
PATRIZIO FIOR. GRAN CAPIT.   COMANDANTE IN MARE PER
IL RÈ CRISTIANISSIMO   FRANCESCO PRIMO,
E DISCOPRITORE   DELLA NUOVA FRANCIA.

Giovanni da Verrazzano (1485-1528) was an Italian explorer of North America who sailed for the government of France. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Verrazano sailed along the Atlantic Coast from North Carolina to Newfoundland.

MAIOLLO, OR MAGGIOLO, 1527.[1]

This map shows the east coast of North America with "Tera Florida" at the top and "Lavoradore" at the bottom. The information supposedly came from Giovanni da Verrazzano's voyage in 1524. This map was created in 1527 by Visconte Maggiolo. It is located in the Ambrosian Library in Milan, Italy, and is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Verrazano claimed for France, all the land by which he sailed from the Atlantic Coast to the "other ocean."
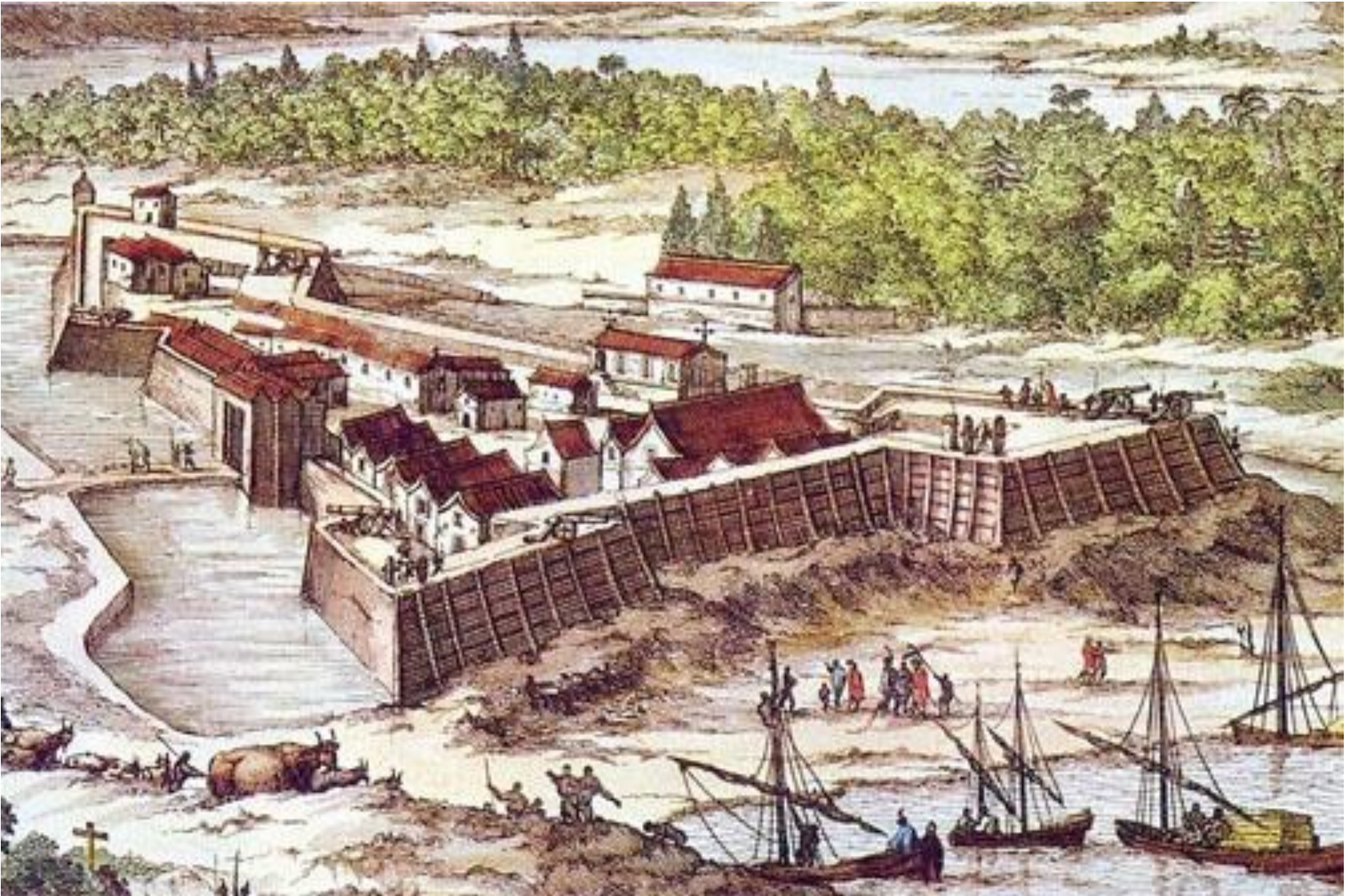

This map shows Verrazano's voyage for France in 1524. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

In 1564, the French established Fort Caroline in what is now Jacksonville, Florida.

This image shows Fort Caroline as it would have appeared circa 1564. This image is courtesy of the University of West Florida Library.

Fort Caroline was intended as a refuge for French Protestants known as the Huguenots.

This view of Fort Caroline may depict how it would have looked in 1565. This image is courtesy of the University of West Florida Library.

Fort Caroline ceased to exist in 1565 when the Spanish massacred the French "heretics."
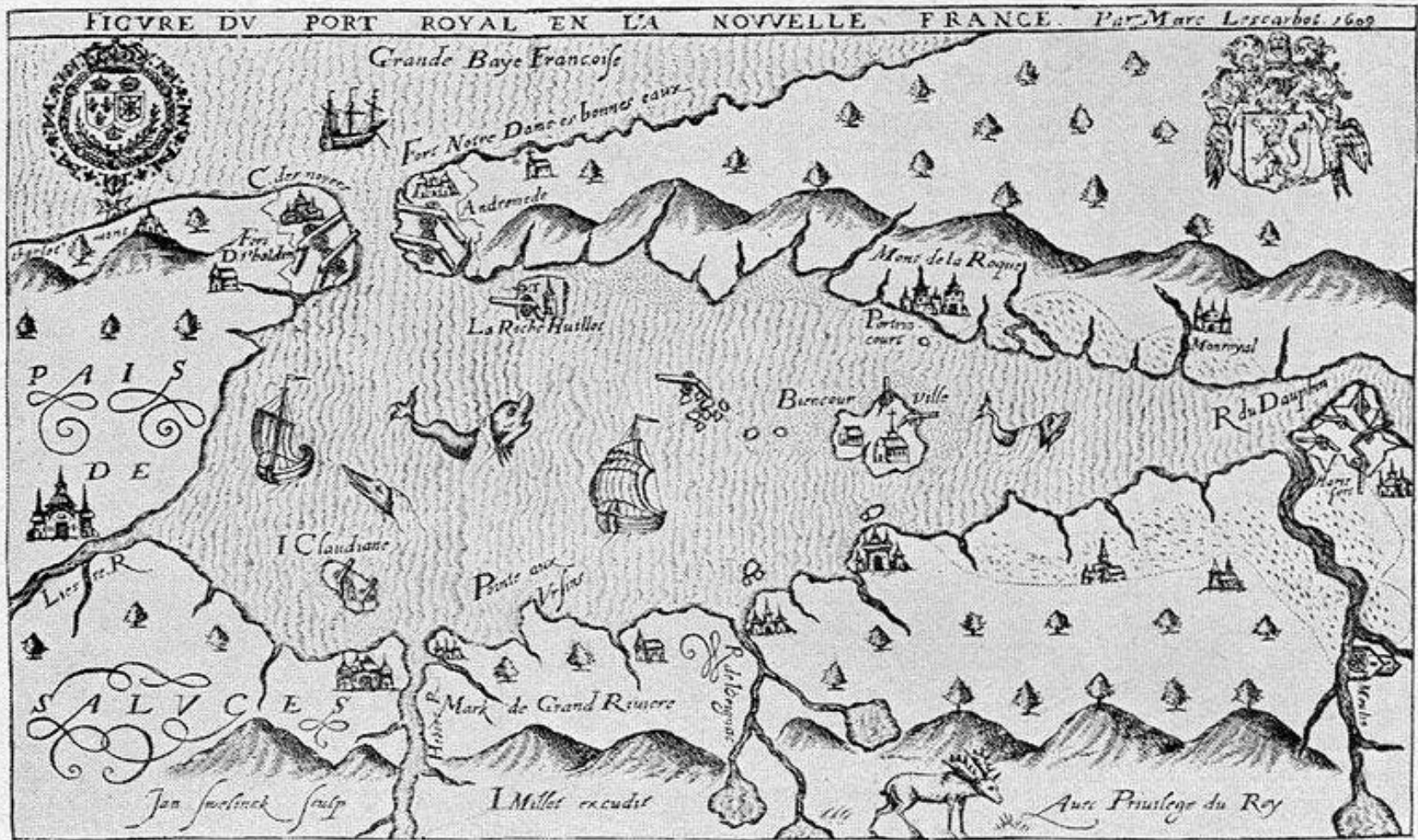

Spanish soldiers under Pedro Menendez de Aviles marched from St. Augustine, Florida to Fort Caroline near present day Jacksonville, Florida. The fort was lightly defended and the Spanish killed 130 civilians and soldiers. They spared the women and children. The fort was lightly defended because most of the French had sailed to attack the Spanish in St. Augustine. The French ships were caught in a storm and wrecked below St. Augustine. There the Spanish captured them and killed them on the beach because they were Protestants. This place is still known as Matanzas, or "slaughters" in Spanish. This image is courtesy of the National Park Service.

After several failed attempts in the 1500s, the French finally established permanent colonies in Canada.

This photograph shows a reconstructed French trading post at Tadoussac, Quebec. Tadoussac was founded in 1600 but only five of 16 men survived the first winter. This image, taken by TCY in 2007 is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

The French established the colony of Acadia on Nova Scotia in 1605.

FIGVRE DV PORT ROYAL EN L'A NOVVELLE FRANCE. Par Marc Lescarbot 1609
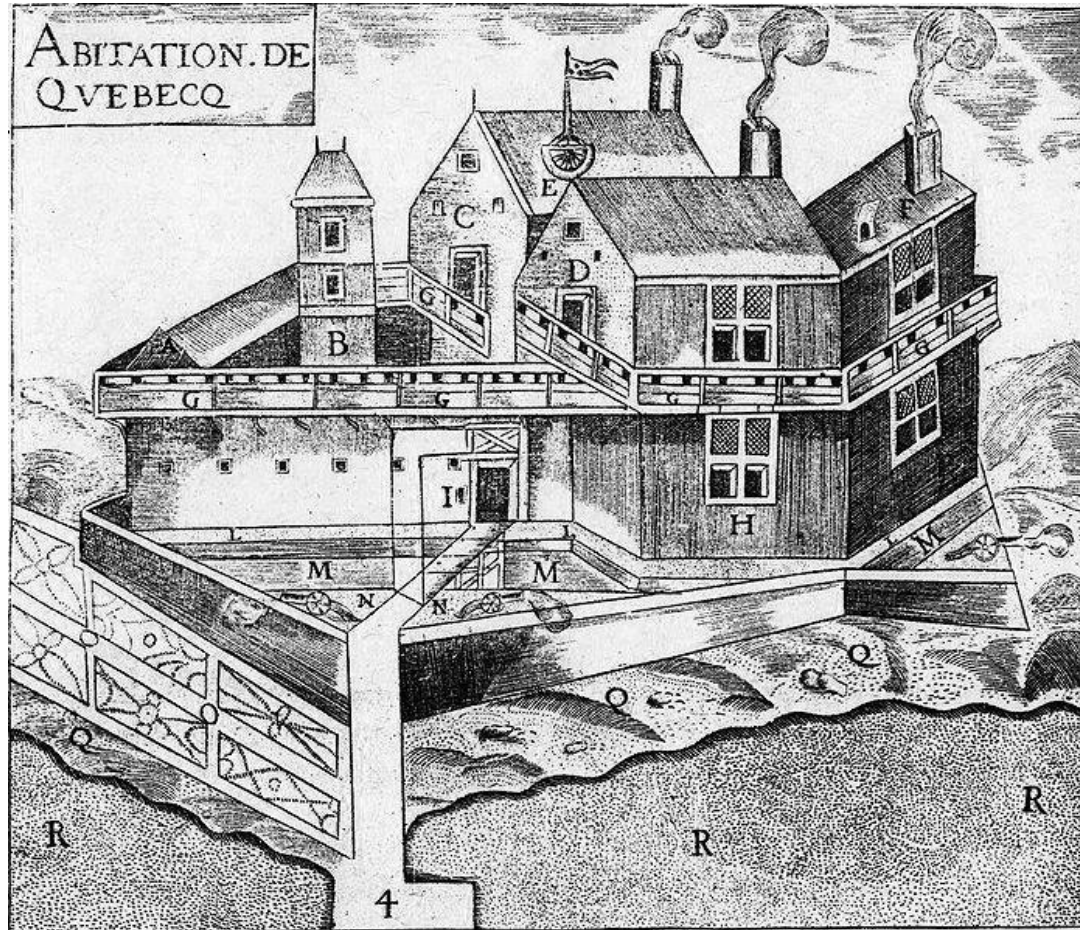
PORT ROYAL OR ANNAPOLIS BASIN, 1609

(From Lescarbot's map)

Port Royal was once the French capital of Acadia. It was founded in 1605, and was the first permanent European settlement north of St. Augustine, Florida. This image is courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Samuel De Champlain founded Quebec in 1608.

This drawing in 1608 shows the Quebec Settlement : A.—The Warehouse. B.—Pigeon-loft. C.—Detached Buildings where we keep our arms and for Lodging our Workmen. D.—Another Detached Building for the Workmen. E.—Sun-dial. F.—Another Detached Building where is the Smithy and where the Workmen are Lodged. G.—Galleries all around the Lodgings. H.—The Sieur de Champlain's Lodgings. I.—The door of the Settlement with a Draw-bridge. L Promenade around the Settlement ten feet in width to the edge of the Moat. M.—Moat the whole way around the Settlement. O.—The Sieur de Champlain's Garden. P.—The Kitchen. Q.—Space in front of the Settlement on the Shore of the River. R.—The great River St. Lawrence. This image is courtesy of The Works of Samuel de Champlain Volume 2, page 39. and was presented by Wikimedia Commons.

Quebec would become the capital of the enormous, but sparsely settled fur-trading colony known as New France.

This map shows the area of New France circa 1645 colored blue. In red are the English colonies. This image is courtesy of Parks Canada.

This map shows the area of New France circa 1645 colored blue. In red are the English colonies. This image is courtesy of Parks Canada.

LEQ: What was the name of the large fur trading area established by the French in North America?

New France

This map shows the area of New France circa 1645 colored blue. In red are the English colonies. This image is courtesy of Parks Canada.