

Chapter 2 Additional Materials

Box 2.1 *Examination of a Witch*, by T.H. Matteson 1853

Trial of George Jacobs of Salem for witchcraft, Essex Institute, Salem, Mass. Matteson, Tompkins Harrison, 1813-1884.

Credit: Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, [LC-USZ62-94432].

This image depicts one of the most infamous episodes in American colonial history, the Salem Witchcraft Trials of 1692. These stemmed from a number of complex factors, but in her book *In the Devil's Snare*, Mary Beth Norton argues that regional war played a crucial role. At the time, Salem resided in the northeast corner of Massachusetts colony, and refugees from the French and native attacks in 1690–91 flooded the region. The anxiety created by the war and the needs of displaced settlers interacted with other worries that then expressed themselves in accusation of witchcraft and the subsequent trials.



Box 2.2 Drawings of French Troupes de la Marines by Michel Pétard

Sergeant and soldier of the Compagnies franches de la Marine of New France, between 1716 and 1730, reconstruction by Michel Pétard

<https://www.tfcg.ca/the-compagnies-franches-de-la-marine>

Units of French troupes de la marines were originally created in the seventeenth century to serve on naval vessels, similar to the origins of U.S. marines. But they were also used in French colonies. Starting in 1683 and until the surrender of Montreal in 1760, New France had at least a few hundred, and sometimes close to 2,000, troupes de la marines at any given time. While these soldiers were trained to employ conventional tactics and used to garrison forts, they could also fight unconventionally, and some often accompanied native warriors and Canadian militia on raids of English colonial settlements in the wars of 1689–1763. Troupes de la marines were distinct from troupes de terre, French regular soldiers who fought in conventional European conflict, some of whom were dispatched to New France during the French and Indian War.

Box 2.3 Fort Mose

In the 1730s, authorities in Saint Augustine declared that any slave who successfully fled to Spanish Florida would be granted freedom, subject to service in the colony's militia (and conversion to Catholicism). The Spanish also built Fort Mose just north of Saint Augustine, the first community in North America specifically for free African-Americans (which was destroyed in 1740 by a British raid). Efforts by slaves to reach Spanish Florida from South Carolina helped produce one of the few slave revolts in American history, the Stono Rebellion of September 1739, which ultimately involved more than 60 slaves and the deaths of about 20 white colonists. The War of Jenkins' Ear erupted the following month, and rumors of the impending conflict may have encouraged some slaves to risk the journey to Florida.

Box 2.4 Guerilla Conflict in Acadia during the French and Indian War

In 1755, British forces captured two forts blocking access to the Acadian peninsula—today better known as Nova Scotia—from the American mainland. But hostilities did not cease for many years. The majority of Nova Scotia's population was French Catholic, and friendly with the local indigenous peoples called the Micmac. Since acquiring the province in the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht, British authorities had attempted to compel them to take an oath of allegiance, which had regularly been rejected. But when the Acadians again refused in the summer of 1755, British and colonial soldiers began to deport them to colonies further south and to discourage any attempt to return, destroying their dwelling and fields. Thousands of Acadians were expelled in this manner, but most fled to nearby French territories such as (what is today called) New Brunswick or Cape Breton Island, or sheltered with the Micmac. Up until 1758, when the British recaptured the Louisbourg fortress, Acadians and Micmac maintained a guerrilla resistance in Nova Scotia. In the years that followed, the Micmac established peace with the British. A few Acadians remained in the province, but the vast majority had either fled or been forcibly expelled.

Short Bibliography

Faragher, John Mack. *A Great and Noble Scheme: The Tragic Story of the Expulsion of the French Acadians from their American Homeland*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2005.

Plank, Geoffrey. *An Unsettled Conquest: The British Campaign Against the Peoples of Acadia*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001.