

FRENCH EMIGRANTS

They Were Not All Huguenots, Nobles, or from Alsace-Lorraine

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WEBINAR CONTENT

Waves and Wavelets of French Emigration

- Early Anti-Semitism and the Wars of Religion - 1394-1598
- End of Toleration - 1685-approximately 1750
- Early Colonial Emigration 1600s-1700s
- Acadian Diaspora - from 1763
- French Revolution and Revolutionary Wars 1789-1799
 - Emigrés 1789-1800
 - Fleeing the Terror - 1793-1796
 - Fleeing the Restoration - 1814
- Haitian Revolution Refugees - 1791-1809
- Economic Crisis of the 1840s and the Revolution of 1848
 - Workers' Convoys to Algeria
 - Gardes mobiles and Lingotiers to California 1850-1856
- Franco-Prussian War and Paris Commune 1871-1872
 - Communards to New Caledonia
 - Alsace-Lorraine Refugees 1872
- Empresario Colonization
 - Mexico - 1830s
 - Castroville - 1842-1865
- Young Men Avoiding Military Service
- Recruitment of Skilled Workers 1880s
 - Coal Miners
 - Watchmakers
 - Farmers and shepherders
- French in Australia
 - Victorian Gold Rush 1850s-1860s
 - Sponsored Passages 1960s
- French in Russia
- Twentieth Century Emigration
 - World War I Widows
 - World War II Spouses

ADDITIONAL READING
and
LINKS TO BLOG POSTS
that contain
RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES and RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- Early Anti-Semitism and the Wars of Religion - 1394-1598
 - Suggested Blog posts:
 - **[French Geography Before and After the Revolution - Provinces and Departments](#)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2011/07/french-geography-before-and-after-the-revolution.html>
 - **[French Jewish Genealogy - Ancien régime Geography Is Important](#)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2022/09/french-jewish-genealogy-ancien-r%C3%A9gime-geography-is-important.html>
 - **[Jewish Genealogy in Alsace and Lorraine](#)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/04/jewish-genealogy-in-alsace-and-lorraine.html>
- End of Toleration - 1685-approximately 1750
 - Suggested Reading:
 - Lougé, Carolyn Chappell. *Facing the Revocation: Huguenot Families, Faith, and the King's Will*. Oxford University Press. 2016.
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **[Archives d'Etat de Genève - A Guest Post](#)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2014/10/archives-detat-de-gen%C3%A8ve-a-guest-post.html>
 - **[Five Hundred Years of Protestantism - A Guest Post](#)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2017/11/five-hundred-years-of-protestantism-a-guest-post.html>
 - **[Book Review : The Huguenots](#)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/10/book-review-the-huguenots.html>
 - **[International Museum of the Reformation in Geneva - A Guest Post](#)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2014/10/international-museum-of-the-reformation-in-geneva-a-guest-post.html>
 - **[Protestant and Huguenot Research - The TT Series](#)**

- <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2019/09/protestant-and-huguenot-research-the-tt-series.html>
 - **Huguenot Genealogy - A Bit of Background**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2009/11/huguenot-genealogy-a-bit-of-background.html>
 - **Huguenot Genealogy - Documenting in Secret**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2009/11/huguenot-genealogy-documenting-in-secret.html>
 - **Huguenot Genealogy - Where To Look**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2009/11/huguenot-genealogy-what-is-in-the-archives.html>
 - **L'Abjuration - One Huguenot's Forced Conversion**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2009/11/a-sample-huguenots-forced-conversion.html>
 - **Huguenot Genealogy in English**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2009/11/huguenot-genealogy-in-britain.html>
 - **Huguenot Genealogy - The Protestant Registers**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/10/huguenot-genealogy-the-protestant-registers.html>
 - **For Researchers of Huguenots - FamilySearch Adds Scans From the SHPF**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2017/04/for-researchers-of-huguenots-familysearch-adds-scans-from-the-shpf.html>
 - **Huguenot Genealogy - More Recommended Sites**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/01/huguenot-genealogy-more-recommended-sites.html>
 - **Huguenot Genealogy - Finding Protestants in Notarial Records**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2015/04/huguenot-genealogy-finding-protestants-in-notarial-records.html>
- Early Colonial Emigration 1600s-1700s
 - Suggested Reading:
 - Landry, Y. (2006). "Les Français passés au Canada avant 1760 : le regard de l'émigrant". *Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française*, Vol. 59, no. 4.

- Weber, Hanry. *La Compagnie française des Indes (1604-1874)*. Paris : Arthur Rousseau, 1904.
- Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **Understanding Overseas France for Genealogy**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/08/understanding-overseas-france.html>
 - **DOM-TOM Genealogical Research**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/08/dom-tom-genealogical-research.html>
 - **Wallis-et-Futuna, a DOM-TOM Research Example**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/08/wallis-et-futuna-a-dom-tom-research-example.html>
 - **BNPM - La Banque Numérique des Patrimoines Martiniquais**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/11/bnpm-la-banque-num%C3%A9rique-des-patrimoines-martiniquais.html>
 - **Good Reads - History of the French In India**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2012/09/history-of-the-french-in-india.html>
 - **Update - The Archives nationales d'outre-mer**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/03/update-the-archives-nationales-doutremer-anom-pt-more-etats-civils-online.html>
 - **Did Your Ancestor Sign an Employment Contract, (contrat d'engagement), to Go to Louisiana?**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/08/did-your-ancestor-sign-an-employment-contract-contrat-dengagement-to-go-to-louisiana.html>
 - **Researching an Ancestor in the Carignan Regiment**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2014/11/researching-an-ancestor-in-the-carignan-regiment.html>
 - **Guest Post - Research in France on a Carignan Soldier, Part 1**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2015/01/guest-post-.html>
 - **Guest Post - Research in France on a Carignan Soldier, Part 2**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2015/01/guest-post-research-in-france-on-a-carignan-soldier-part-2.html>
 - **French West Indies Research - Les Antilles français**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2021/03/french-west-indies-research-les-antilles-français.html>
 - **Online! - The Contracts of the Engagés Leaving La Rochelle for Canada and Elsewhere**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2024/03/the-contracts-of-the-engagés-leaving-la-rochelle-for-canada.html>

- Acadian Diaspora - from 1763
 - Suggested Reading:
 - Le Blant Robert. "Les études historiques sur la colonie française d'Acadie, 1603-1713". *Revue d'histoire des colonies*, Vol. 35, no. 122, 1948.
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **La Rochelle Municipal Archives - More Refugee and Deportee Lists**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2016/05/la-rochelle-municipal-archives-more-refugee-and-deportee-lists.html>
 - **The Municipal Archives of La Rochelle**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/11/the-municipal-archives-of-la-rochelle.html>
- American Revolution
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **French Military Explained - Early 18th Century**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/04/french-military-explained-early-18th-century.html>
 - **The French Expeditionary Force -- l'Expédition Particulière**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/03/the-french-expeditionary-force.html>
 - **The 2112 French Who Died in the American Revolution**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2015/04/the-2112-french-who-died-in-the-american-revolution.html>
- French Revolution and Revolutionary Wars 1789-1799
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **Towns Renamed During the French Revolution**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2017/11/towns-renamed-during-the-french-revolution.html>
 - **A Bit of Geography and How Your Ancestors Travelled Around France**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2017/07/a-bit-of-geography-and-how-your-ancestors-travelled-around-france.html>
 - Emigrés 1789-1800
 - Suggested Reading:
 - Carpenter, Kirsty. *Refugees of the French Revolution : Émigrés in London, 1789–1802*. London: MacMillan. 1999.
 - Kenny, Laurence J. "The Gallipolis Colony." *The Catholic Historical Review*. Vol. 4, No. 4. Jan., 1919.
 - Moreau-Zanelli, Jocelyne. *Gallipolis : Histoire d'un mirage américain au XVIIIe siècle*. Paris : Harmattan, 2000.
 - Suggested Blog Posts:

- **Further to Gallipolis and "The French 500" - a Guest Post**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2019/09/further-to-the-french-500-a-guest-post.html>
- **Was Your Ancestor a "Lady in Waiting to the Queen"?**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2024/01/was-your-ancestor-a-lady-in-waiting-to-the-queen.html>
- **Researching French Emigré Ancestors in the Archives Nationales**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2019/11/researching-french-emigré-ancestors-in-the-archives-nationales.html>
- **Ancestors Among the French Nobility**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2011/10/ancestors-among-the-french-nobility.html>
- **The Cabinet des Titres**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/01/the-cabinet-des-titres-.html>
- **Bourgeois de Paris in the Eighteenth Century**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2012/03/bourgeois-de-paris-in-the-eighteenth-century.html>
- Haitian Revolution Refugees - 1791-1809
 - Suggested Reading:
 - Gillikin, M. W.(2014). *Saint Dominguan Refugees in Charleston, South Carolina, 1791-1822: Assimilation and Accommodation in a Slave Society*. (Doctoral dissertation). <http://scholarcommons.sc.edu/etd/3040>.
 - Gomez, Alejandro. *Le syndrome de Saint-Domingue. Perceptions et représentations de la Révolution haïtienne dans le Monde atlantique, 1790-1886*. Histoire. Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), 2010. Français. tel-00555007v2. <https://tel.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-00555007v2>
 - Hébrard, Jean. "Esclavage et dépendance dans les archives paroissiales et notariales des sociétés esclavagistes en transition.", *Esclavages & Post-esclavages*, Vol. 1, 2019. <http://journals.openedition.org/slaveries/550>.
- Economic Crisis of the 1840s and the Revolution of 1848
 - Suggested Reading:

- Chalmers, Claudine. "Françoise, Lucienne, Rosalie - French Women-Adventurers in the Early Days of the California Gold Rush." *California History*. Vol. 78, no. 3. Fall, 1999.
- Morddel, Anne. "The California Immigrants of the Garde Mobile." *The California Nugget*. Vol. XIII, no. 2. Fall 2021.
- Rohrbough, Malcolm J.. *Rush to Gold: The French and the California Gold Rush, 1848-1854*. Yale University Press. 2013.
- Wright, Doris Marion. "The Making of Cosmopolitan California: An Analysis of Immigration, 1848-1870." *California Historical Society Quarterly*, Vol. 19, No. 4, Dec., 1940. There are quite a few good articles on this subject by this author.
- Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **[The Men of the Gardes Mobiles Who Joined the California Gold Rush](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2021/12/the-men-of-the-gardes-mobiles-who-joined-the-california-gold-rush.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2021/12/the-men-of-the-gardes-mobiles-who-joined-the-california-gold-rush.html>
 - **[The Revolutions of 1848 and Your Immigrant Ancestor](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2019/04/the-revolutions-of-1848.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2019/04/the-revolutions-of-1848.html>
 - **[The Workers' Convoys to Algeria](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/10/the-workers-convoys-to-algeria.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/10/the-workers-convoys-to-algeria.html>
 - **[The Archives of French Algeria](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2009/07/the-archives-of-french-algeria.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2009/07/the-archives-of-french-algeria.html>
- Franco-Prussian War and Paris Commune 1871-1872
 - Suggested Reading:
 - Goepfert, Anne-Sophie. *L'Emigration Alsacienne au XIXe Siecle : un Dossier du Service Educatif des Archives Départementales du Haut-Rhin*. 2007. Departmental Archives of Haut-Rhin. <https://archives.haut-rhin.fr/Education/p42/L-emigration-alsacienne-au-XIXe-siecle>.
 - Wahl Alfred. "A propos de l'option des Alsaciens-Lorrains en 1871-1872." *Annales de démographie historique*, 1971.
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **[Have You An Ancestor Who Was In the Paris Commune?](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/03/have-you-an-ancestor-who-was-in-the-paris-commune.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/03/have-you-an-ancestor-who-was-in-the-paris-commune.html>
 - **[The Paris Commune 150 Years Later](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2021/03/the-paris-commune-150-years-later.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2021/03/the-paris-commune-150-years-later.html>
 - **[Post by Hot Air Balloon During the Siege of Paris](#)**

- <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2016/03/post-by-balloon-during-the-paris-commune.html>
 - **The Journey from Alsace to the Port of Le Havre**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2022/10/the-journey-from-alsace-to-the-port-of-le-havre.html>
 - **Optants Updates**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/06/optants-updates-.html>
 - **Do You Dare to Try to Research Your Alsace Ancestors Online - in French?**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2022/05/do-you-dare-to-try-to-research-your-alsace-ancestors-online-in-french.html>
 - **A Boost to Alsace Research**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2018/01/a-boost-to-alsace-research.html>
 - **Upper Alsace and an Index to the Census of 1836**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/04/upper-alsace-and-an-index-to-the-census-of-1836.html>
 - **Alsace-Lorraine Genealogy Basics**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/07/alsacelorraine-genealogy-basics.html>
- Empresario Colonization
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **French Immigrants to Mexico**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2012/01/french-immigrants-to-mexico.html>
- Young Men Avoiding Military Service
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **Immigrants Evading French Military Service in the 1800s - Who Can Blame Them?**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2016/06/immigrants-evading-french-military-service-in-the-1800s-who-can-blame-them.html>
 - **Did Your Ancestor Take Another's Place in the Army?**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2016/11/did-your-ancestor-take-anothers-place-in-the-army.html>
- Recruitment of Skilled Workers 1880s
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **Was Your French Ancestor a Cagot?**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2016/10/was-your-french-ancestor-a-cagot.html>
 - **Guest Post - Au revoir Monsieur! Part 1**

- <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/11/guest-post-au-revoir-monsieur.html>
 - **Guest Post - Au Revoir Monsieur! Part 2**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/11/guest-post-au-revoir-monsieur-part-2.html>
 - **Guest Post - Au revoir Monsieur! - Part 3**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/11/guest-post-au-revoir-monsieur-part-3.html>
 - **A Database of Basque Emigrants to Argentina**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2010/12/a-database-of-basque-emigrants-to-argentina.html>
- French in Australia
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **Guest Post - A Frenchman in Australia, part 1**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/12/guest-post-a-frenchman-in-australia-part-1.html>
 - **Guest Post - A Frenchman in Australia, part 2**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/12/guest-post-a-frenchman-in-australia-part-2.html>
 - **Guest Post - A Frenchman in Australia, part 3**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/12/guest-post-a-frenchman-in-australia-part-3.html>
 - **Guest Post - A Frenchman in Australia, part 4**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2020/12/guest-post-a-frenchman-in-australia-part-4.html>
 - **The French in Australia**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2019/10/the-french-in-australia.html>
- Twentieth Century Emigration
 - Suggested Blog Posts:
 - **Why WWI War Widows Had to Emigrate**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2017/09/why-war-widows-had-to-emigrate.html>
 - **Dossier de Réintégration - Genealogical Joy from a Widow's Struggles**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2017/09/dossier-de-reintegration-genealogical-joy-from-a-widows-struggles.html>

FURTHER READING on FRENCH EMIGRATION GENERALLY

Blancpain, Marc. "Les Français à L'étranger: I." *Revue des Deux Mondes (1829-1971)*, (15 MARS 1959), pp. 239-252. Published by: Revue des Deux Mondes
Stable URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/44597834>.

Chatelain Abel. "Recherches et enquêtes démogéographiques : les migrations françaises vers le Nouveau Monde aux XIXe et XXe siècles." *Annales. Economies, sociétés, civilisations*. 2^e année, N. 1, 1947. pp. 53-70; https://www.persee.fr/doc/ahess_0395-2649_1947_num_2_1_3260.

Fohlen Claude. "Perspectives historiques sur l'immigration française aux États-Unis." *Revue européenne des migrations internationales*, vol. 6, n°1, 1990.

Hollingsworth T.H. "Historical studies of migration." *Annales de démographie historique*, 1970.

Moreau, M.C.. *Les Prêtres français émigré aux Etats-unis*. Paris : Charles Douniol, 1856.

FURTHER BLOG POSTS on FRENCH EMIGRATION GENERALLY

- **[Was Your French Ancestor Actually French?](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2011/07/was-your-french-ancestor-actually-french.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2011/07/was-your-french-ancestor-actually-french.html>
- **[Few French Emigrants](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/05/few-french-emigrants.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2013/05/few-french-emigrants.html>
- **[Cattle and Emigration](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2012/08/cattle-and-emigration.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2012/08/cattle-and-emigration.html>
- **[Emigrant Visas From Bordeaux](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2014/06/emigrant-visas-from-bordeaux.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2014/06/emigrant-visas-from-bordeaux.html>
- **[Documenting a Journey Across the Atlantic - From Both Sides](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2011/05/documenting-a-journey-across-the-atlantic-from-both-sides.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2011/05/documenting-a-journey-across-the-atlantic-from-both-sides.html>
- **[More Letters Home to France](https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2019/07/more-letters-home-to-france.html)**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2019/07/more-letters-home-to-france.html>
- **[Celebrate! Le Havre Departing Passenger Lists Are Online!](#)**

- <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2016/07/celebrate-le-havre-departing-passenger-lists-are-online.html>
- **In the Archives diplomatiques - The Overseas Census**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2012/11/in-the-archives-diplomatiques-the-overseas-census.html>
- **How Your French Immigrant Ancestor Remained French**
 - <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/2021/04/how-your-french-immigrant-ancestor-remained-french.html>

TAKING YOUR RESEARCH FURTHER

- The individual research pages on **Family Search** (<https://www.familysearch.org/fr/wiki/France>) are excellent for when you are just beginning to research a French emigrant. (In English)
- The websites of the various **Departmental Archives**, especially those of Haut-Rhin and Bas-Rhin, have very good essays on researching emigrants from their regions. (In French) (Links to them all are in the left-hand column of **The French Genealogy Blog** : <https://french-genealogy.typepad.com/genealogie/>)
- The website of the **Archives nationales** (<https://www.siv.archives-nationales.culture.gouv.fr/siv/accueil/saisieDemande.action>) has a number of superb articles introducing archival series that relate to emigration and explaining how to research. (In French)
- **Geneawiki, l'encyclopédie de la généalogie** (<https://fr.geneawiki.com/wiki/Accueil>) is a superb source of information on archives and genealogical research for all of France. (In French)
- **FranceGenWeb** (<https://www.francegenweb.org/indexall.php>) is a bit more in the style of the early days of the Internet and is awkward to use, but has quite a lot of information.
- Consider joining and reading the publications of a specific French **genealogy group or association and/or a relevant local history association**. The articles published by members are often very helpful. A list of all such associations in France can be found on the website of the **Fédération Française de Généalogie**. (<https://genefede.eu/associations-federees.html>)