

## **1652 - 2002**

### **Sainte-Pétronille Recalls**

Éléonore de Grandmaison, born in Clamecy, France, was likely the first European to settle on the île d'Orléans, in 1648, with François de Chavigny de Berchereau and the first of their six children. The following year, her husband was given a rear-fief of 40 arpents across the breadth of the western tip of the island.

Having become a widow in 1651, Éléonore de Grandmaison took Jacques Gourdeau as her third husband on August 13, 1652. The marriage - the first to be celebrated on île d'Orléans, was performed par Father Chaumonot. At that point, the fief of the first seigneuress in New France passed into the hands of Jacques Gourdeau and took the name Beaulieu. Four children were born of this union.

On the occasion of the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this marriage, a plaque was unveiled on August 11, 2002, by the Association mondiale des descendants d'Éléonore de Grandmaison (AMDEG) and by the Sainte-Pétronille town council. At the same time, a heritage walking tour was inaugurated in the heart of the village - starting here. It describes the first buildings in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the development of the tip of the island, which gave rise in 1870 and 1874 to the parish of Sainte-Pétronille-de-Beaulieu and to the village of Beaulieu. The latter has been called the village of Sainte-Pétronille since 1980.