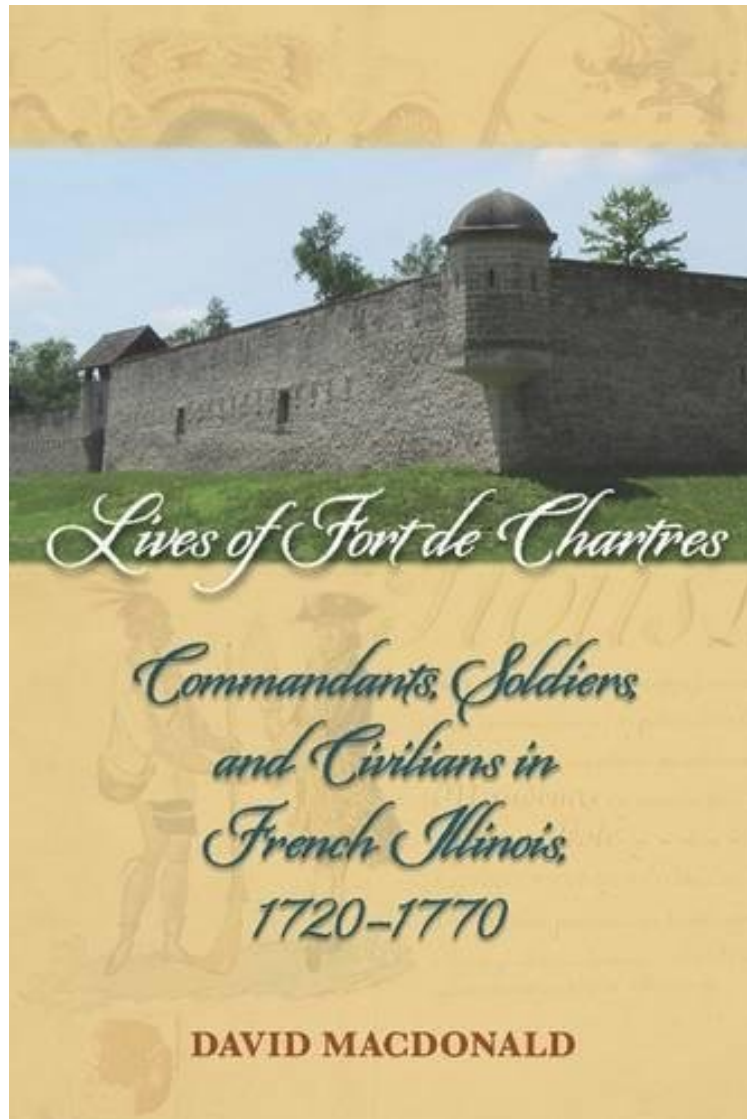


[Get free] Lives of Fort de Chartres: Commandants, Soldiers, and Civilians in French Illinois, 1720-1770

Lives of Fort de Chartres: Commandants, Soldiers, and Civilians in French Illinois, 1720-1770

David MacDonald

audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#445183 in Books 2016-02-24Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .80 x 6.00l, .0 #File Name: 0809334607282 pages | File size: 24.Mb

David MacDonald : Lives of Fort de Chartres: Commandants, Soldiers, and Civilians in French Illinois, 1720-1770 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lives of Fort de Chartres: Commandants, Soldiers, and Civilians in French Illinois, 1720-1770:

Fort de Chartres, built in 1719-1720 in the heart of what would become the American Midwest, embodied French colonial power for half a century. *Lives of Fort de Chartres*, by David MacDonald, details the French colonial experience in Illinois from 1720 to 1770 through vivid depictions of the places, people, and events around the fort and its neighboring villages. In the first section, MacDonald explores the fascinating history of French Illinois and the role of Fort de Chartres in this history, focusing on native peoples, settlers, slaves, soldiers, villages, trade routes, military administration, and the decline of French rule in Illinois. The second section profiles the fort's twelve distinctive and often colorful commandants, who also served as administrative heads of French Illinois. These men's strong personalities served them well when dealing simultaneously with troops, civilians, and Indians and their multifaceted cultures. In the third section, MacDonald presents ten thought-provoking biographies of people whose lives intersected with Fort de Chartres in various ways, from a Kaskaskia Indian woman known as the Mother of French Illinois to an ill-fated chicken thief and a European aristocrat. Subjects treated in the book include French-Native American relations, the fur trade, early Illinois agriculture, and tensions among different religious orders. Together, the biographies and historical narrative in the volume illuminate the challenges that shaped the French colonies in America. The site of Fort de Chartres, recognized as a National Historic Landmark in 1966, still exists today as a testament to the ways in which French, British, Spanish, and American histories have intertwined. Both informative and entertaining, *Lives of Fort de Chartres* contributes to a more complete understanding of the French colonial experience in the Midwest and portrays a vital and vigorous community well worth our appreciation.

Full of sweeping research injected with wit, MacDonald's *Lives of Fort de Chartres* is a wonderful incursion into Illinois French roots. This concise, engaging work, with its innumerable comments, insights, and notes regarding sources and past research, will provide eager scholars and students with a rich and valuable starting point to research the state's colonial past. Joseph Gagn, historian and creator of *Electronic New France* "There is a lot to like in *Lives of Fort de Chartres*. The research is detailed, and the author provides one of the few works to clearly spell out the evolution of colonial politics in the Illinois Country and Louisiana. Popular audiences will find the biographies entertaining and engaging. Academic readers will appreciate the insights into the political rivalries and personalities." *Missouri Historical* "I was especially pleased to see MacDonald's use of an article from 1982 by Carl A. Brasseaux and M.K. LeBlanc to support the argument that Governor Kerlerec's series of alliances with various Indian nations, including the Choctaws and the Cherokees, from 1760 to 1762 "provided organization and inspiration for Pontiac's uprising" in 1763. Other interpretations based primarily on British sources, as the author points out later in the paragraph, attribute to the uprising "primarily to Indian frustration with British policies and behavior" (page 112)."-- Jay Gitlin, Yale University