

Lesson Overview: At the Chimney Point State Historic Site, maps are incorporated into some of the exhibits. This activity introduces students to the use and analysis of historic and modern maps, and primary documents to obtain valuable information. This activity will familiarize students with geographic features relating to Lake Champlain that have been recorded and demonstrate the challenges involved with using primary documents and historic maps.

Vermont Standards: This activity addresses the following standards: 6.4 Historical Connections, 6.5 Being a Historian, and 6.7 Geographical Knowledge

Background: Historians use many primary documents to gather valuable information about the past from the people who were there or living at that time. When using historic maps and personal journals, there can be difficulties. Poor handwriting and spellings can make them hard to decipher. Over the years some place names have changed. In this activity another challenge is that different groups living in the Lake Champlain Valley used different languages. Many location names are Native American or an incorporation of Native and French languages. The French gave names to some locations and the British named others.

Procedure: Divide students into groups of 2- 4, giving each group two historic maps and one modern map (the Vermont State map is suitable for the area just north of the border and down Lake Champlain). Magnifying glasses may be helpful for paper maps, if the writing is difficult to read. Give each student the map worksheet (page 3 of this activity), Franquet's journal (pages 5 and 6), worksheets with questions (pages 4 and 7 of this activity), and graphic organizer (page 8).

Suggested Source for Historic Maps The Library of Congress website has many excellent historic maps. They can be projected on a screen, used on classroom computers (try the enlarging feature!), or printed out. Here are three possible historic maps to use for this activity.

<http://www.loc.gov/item/gm71000607>

Brasier, William. *A survey of Lake Champlain, from Crown Point to Windmill Point, and from thence to St. Johns.* 1762.

<http://www.loc.gov/item/73691803>

Collins, John. *A survey of Lake Champlain including Crown Point and St. John's on which is fixed the line of forty five degrees north lattit. terminating the boundarys betwe[e]n the provinces of Quebec and New York agre[e]able to his Majesty's proclamation done by order and instruction of the Honourable James Murray, esqr., Governor of the Province of Quebec and the Honourable His Majestys Council.* 1765.

<http://www.loc.gov/item/77690484>

A Map of the British and French settlements in North America. London: J. Hinton, 1755.

Direct groups to study each map closely and discuss similarities/differences between each one. Groups should then answer questions in Part A of the worksheet (page 3 of this activity).

When students have completed Part A, read aloud directions for Part B and instruct groups to read Franquet's journal (pages 5 & 6 of this activity). Then re-read it and mark on historic maps 1 and 2 the underlined locations as they follow the voyage from Fort St. Jean (Canada) to Fort St. Frédéric (New York). Tell them some locations may only appear on one map.

When students have finished marking out Franquet's voyage, have each group look at the modern map, trying to find locations similar to the ones on the historic maps and mentioned in the journal. Have students complete Part C. As a class, have each group report out their responses to Part C.

Connections: Ask students why place names on both maps are close to the lakeshore or focus on other waterways? What is the focus of the modern map; what features does the modern map have that the historic ones don't have? The last few questions in PART C can lead into a great in-depth discussion on the accuracy needed in research and translation of primary documents, and the potential difficulties involved in working with original documents.

Extension Activity: Have students write a journal entry or letter from the perspective of a soldier traveling with Colonel Franquet or a settler farming on the land nearby.

PART A- Map Comparison

Directions: With your group members, look closely at each of the three maps. Discuss their appearances: How are they similar/ different? What is the map of and what does it show? Work as a group to complete the graphic organizer sheet and answer the questions below.

1. What unique features does each of the maps have? In this table, mark Yes or No (Y or N) for each map and feature. Write in additional features in the "Other" row.

	<u>Map 1</u>	<u>Map 2</u>	<u>Map 3</u>
Compass			
Legend (Key)			
Notations			
Scale			
Handwritten			
Other:			

2. Fill out the separate Graphic Organizer sheet
3. What geographical features are labeled on the maps? Why do you think these features are so important?

Map 1-

Map 2-

Map 3-

4. Why do you think these maps were drawn? What evidence on the map suggests why they were drawn?

Map 1-

Map 2-

Map 3-

PART B- COLONEL FRANQUET'S VOYAGE

Directions: In August 1752 the French Government Inspector of Fortifications, Colonel Franquet, traveled south on Lake Champlain from Fort St. Jean (Canada) to Fort St. Frédéric, located in modern day Crown Point, New York. His trip to Fort St. Frédéric took three days. Colonel Franquet kept a journal during his voyage, describing many stops and geographical features on his trip down the lake. The journal was written in French, but was translated into English in 1977.

Read through the excerpts from Colonel Franquet's journal, following him to Fort St. Frédéric using the two historic maps, Map 1 and Map 2. Within the journal there are numerous place names that are underlined. Find these underlined place names on the maps and mark with a highlighter or marker. (NOTE: Some place names appear on only one map). It will be very important to work as a group. Finding some of these places can be very difficult. You may need to use a magnifying glass if you can't see the small writing. Good luck!

VOYAGES ET MÉMOIRES SUR LE CANADA PAR FRANQUET*

August 1752

The 10th

About Fort St. Jean and the route to Fort St. Frederic the 10th, 11th, and 12th of August.

... we left the fort saluted by the same honors as I had received when I came, and between five and six o'clock in the morning we boarded the same kind of boat as the one which had been given me at Quebec for my trip.

We went farther along the western shores, passed the mouth of the Bleury River, having passed on the left the four small islands the south river, and stopped at Point Boileau to eat; Point Boileau is located across from the large island called Isle aux Noix.

We saw on the same side of the river Madame de Croisy's dwelling, situated between Langevin Island and the big Isle aux Têtes, and on the other side of the mouth of the LaColle River, we went into the channel between the above mentioned lands and Isles aux Têtes...

...we dined and went to bed in a huge tent supplied to me at Montreal. All night long we experienced the most dreadful storm, with torrents of rain and terrifying thunder and lightning.

The 11th

We got up early and embarked.

Going along about midway of the river we saw on the west bank Pine Point and on the east some ruins of houses destroyed by the war, and Algonquin Point on which there is a Windmill for grinding wheat, and adjoining that a bay named after the same as the point.

After this we sailed at random on the west shore following the route marked on the map; we saw Isle La Motte in the left located at north point and on the right the big and little Chazy Rivers, and the cove or rather the bay between these two rivers.

That on one of the western points of Isle La Motte you may see traces of an old French fort.

Farther on, keeping to the same course, we saw the pointes a la nazarde, and on returning on the left we saw the big island of Contre Coeur, then we crossed the bay with the huge rock and sailed quite near a very high headland.

This bay and headland we passed and went across Peru (Pesou?) Bay, which is about 3 leagues inland; we also went by the point of a small island of the same name. From there we landed on Canoe Point situated at about the same altitude as the Four Winds Island.

* *Voyages and Memoirs about Canada by Franquet*. Quebec: A. Cote & Company, General Printing. 1889

The 12th

We embarked at 4 A.M. in quite calm weather, sailed along the west bank, saw the mouth of the Bouquet River and on the other side the islands of Woinouctic and Rodziou, passed by the point of the said river and from there arrived at Split Rock so called because of the crevasse which crosses it.

About opposite here was Peni Island, Three Island Bay, and little Otter Creek; then we crossed the little bay of St. Martin. Further along, leaving at the left the mouth of the big river named for this last [Big Otter Creek], the islands of Sabrevoix [Isle aux boiteaux (buttons)?] we sailed in our rickety boat and at the right saw a large cove named for this bay and still farther on the left we passed the slate islands and finally got to Fort St. Frederic.

PART C- Group Questions

Directions: Using the highlighted place names from Map 1 and Map 2, try to find where some of these locations are or would be on the modern map, Map 3. Answer the questions below. Be ready to share your answers and thoughts with the entire class.

1. What was the most challenging part of this activity for your group?
2. How many place names could you find on all three maps? On two maps? On only one map?
3. Have you visited any of the places that you looked for on the maps? Which ones?
4. What is the biggest difference between the modern map (Map 3) and the historic maps (Map 1 and Map 2)?
5. Why is it important for historians to be able to match place names from journals with historic maps?
6. What might happen if a historian is unable to read the handwriting on the map or in the journal? What if the journal was not translated well into English? How would this change what we know?

	Year created or published	Cartographer (Map Maker)	Location produced or published	Language(s) of Place-names	What Geographical features are labeled & Why they are important	List 2 things in the map that you think are important.
MAP 1 <u>Title:</u>						1. 2.
MAP 2 <u>Title:</u>						1. 2.
MAP 3 <u>Title:</u>						1. 2.

