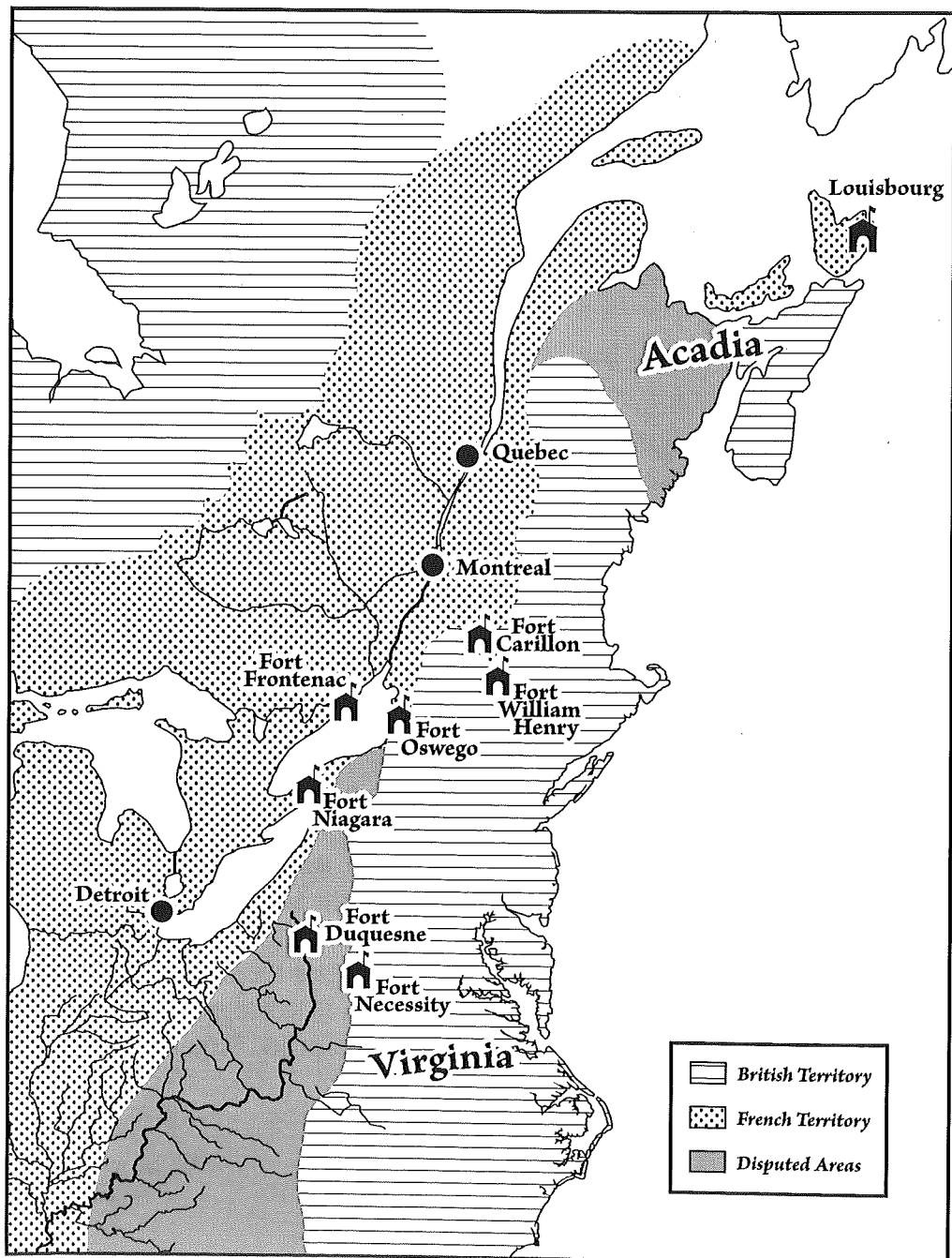


Lesson 4.3B

The Seven Years' War: Deciding the Future of Canada

Seven Years' War: Deciding the Future of Canada
North American Map, 1740-1750



Refer to the map as you read through the information on this timeline. Make sure you can identify the location of each fort.

1756

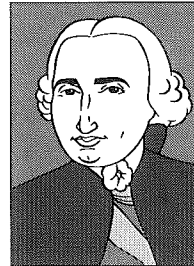
April: Marquis de Montcalm arrives in Quebec as French military commander.

May 8–9: Great Britain declares war on France. France declares war on Great Britain.

August 14: Fort Oswego is captured by the French under the leadership of Montcalm.

Marquis de Montcalm was the French commander in charge of all French troops in Canada. He developed the strategy of building forts at key locations across Canada to protect French interests. He won many small battles but his greatest success came when he led the forces that took Fort Ticonderoga in July 1758.

Montcalm



1757

June: William Pitt, the Prime Minister of Britain, takes control of the war effort for Britain.

August 8: The French, under Montcalm capture Fort William Henry.

1758

July 8: The French successfully defend Fort Carillon (Ticonderoga) on Lake Champlain against a much larger British force.

July 26: The British seize *Louisbourg* and prepare an assault on Quebec. Louisbourg's strategic location made it the target of many attacks by the British in the 1700s.

August 27: The French surrender Fort Frontenac.

November 26: The British recapture Fort Duquesne and rename it Pittsburgh after William Pitt.

1759

June 26, 1759: The British fleet arrives at Ile d'Orleans, across the river from Quebec.

September 13, 1759: The British defeat the French on the Plains of Abraham. The British capture Quebec.

The Battle of Quebec

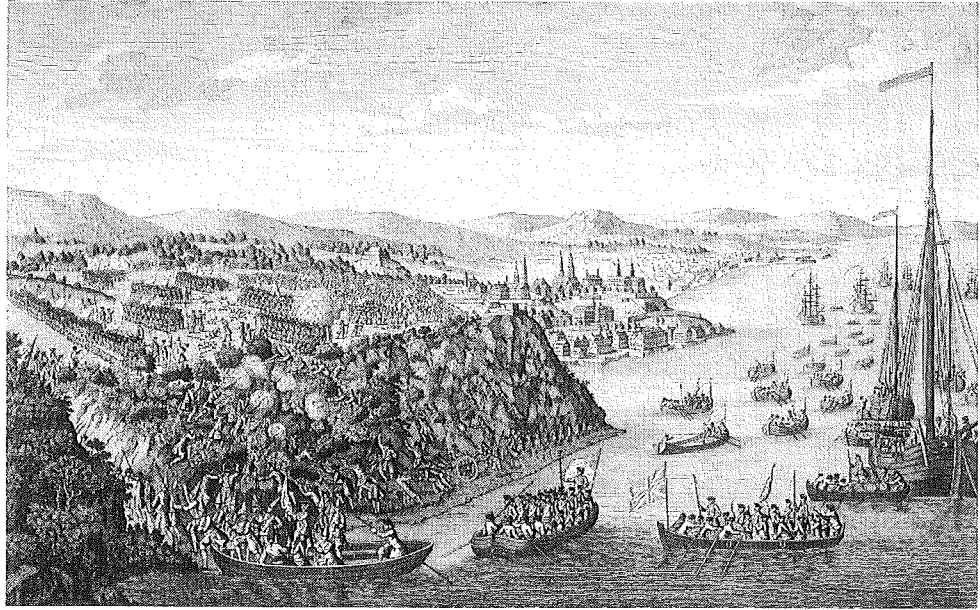
A powerful army under General James Wolfe bombarded Quebec for two months but was unable to overcome the fort that sat at the top of steep cliffs and stone walls.

Then the British found a small cove, now called Anse au Foulon, about three kilometers west of the city. Wolfe and his troops landed there, climbed the cliffs under cover of night, and arrived at the Plains of Abraham.

The French had thought their fort high on the cliff was safe but their troops were sent out from their strong position inside the fort to do battle on the Plains of Abraham. The British won the short, devastating battle that left both Montcalm and Wolfe injured and dying.

Quebec surrendered five days later.

Battle of Quebec



This picture shows the Battle of Quebec (1759) as if the whole thing happened at once. The battle begins with the ships sailing down the river and ends with the battle at the top of the picture.

Try to find these things in the picture:

- British warships sail along the St. Lawrence looking for a weak spot in the French defenses.
- British General James Wolfe spots a partially hidden cove that leads up the cliff.
- British troops scale the cliff and overpower the French guards. The remaining forces join them on the Plains of Abraham, just outside Quebec.
- British and French troops battle on the Plains of Abraham.

General James Wolfe

It was Wolfe's outstanding work in the siege and capture of the French Fortress of Louisbourg that earned him a promotion to major general and the command of the military and naval expedition against Quebec. Although he suffered from poor health, he inspired his troops. Wolfe was shot while inspecting his troops before the Battle of Quebec but he still led them to victory.

1760

May 16: French fail to recapture Quebec. The French and Canadian survivors of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham escaped to Montreal.

June–October: Louisbourg is demolished by the British.

September 8: Montreal falls to the British, led by Jeffery Amherst. Governor Vaudreuil surrenders New France to the British.

September 15: The British capture Detroit.

1763

February 10: Treaty of Paris is signed, ending the Seven Years' War. Britain is victorious and claims all of New France. France retains the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon. The signing of this treaty marked a crucial turning point in Canadian history.