

A Short History of My Neighbourhood

Part 4
Marguerite Bourgeoys

Marguerite Bourgeoys

- Born at Troyes in France in 1620, she arrived in Ville-Marie in 1653 and died in our country in 1700.
- She opened the first school in the city in 1658, in a former stable.
- Foundress of the Congregation de Notre-Dame de Montréal which played a very important role in the land.
- She believed in everyone's right to an education: rich or poor, white or Amerindian.



From CND's Web site

The Filles du Roy

- The King sent young orphaned girls to the new country.
- They were called the *Filles du Roy* (King's Daughters).
- They were taught housekeeping and how to live in the new land.
- Marguerite Bourgeoys oversaw finding husbands for them.



From the CND's Web site

The Saint Gabriel House



From the CND's Web site

- Built by François Le Ber and bought in 1668 by his neighbour, Marguerite Bourgeoys.
- Once known as Providence Workhouse, it was the centre of a vast farmland from 1698 to 1960.
- Today it houses a museum, **La Maison Saint-Gabriel**,
- Where you can visit exhibits and see how things were done in the olden days.