Energy, Mines and Resources Canada — Énergie, Mines et Ressources Canada

THE NATIONAL ATLAS OF CANADA 5th EDITION

CANADA

EXPLORATION 1497-1650

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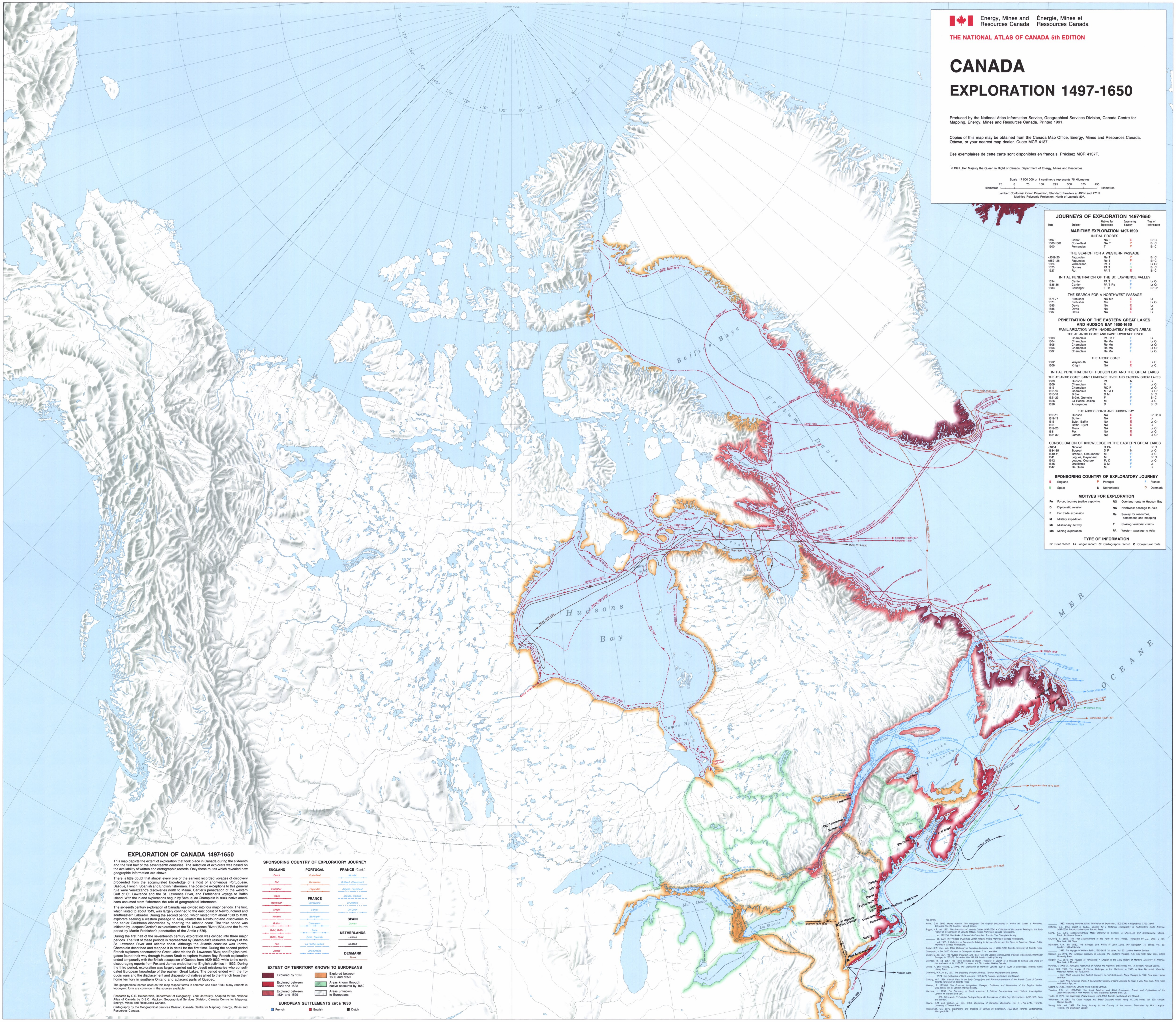
Scale 1:7 500 000 or 1 centimetre represents 75 kilometres

kilometres 75 0 75 150 225 300 375 450 kilometres

Lambert Conformal Conic Projection, Standard Parallels at 49°N and 77°N.
Modified Polyconic Projection, North of Latitude 80°.



JOURNEYS OF EXPLORATION 1497-1650

Date	Explorer	Motives for Exploration	Sponsoring Country	Type of Information
MARITIME EXPLORATION 1497-1599				
INITIAL PROBES				
1497	Cabot	NA T	E	Br C
1500-1501	Corte-Real	NA T	P	Br C
1500	Fernandes	T	P	Br C
THE SEARCH FOR A WESTERN PASSAGE				
c1519-20	Fagundes	Re T	P	Br C
c1521-26	Fagundes	Re T	P	Br C
1524	Verrazzano	PA T	F	Lr Cr
1525	Gomes	PA T	S	Br Cr
1527	Rut	PA T	E	Br C
INITIAL PENETRATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY				
1534	Cartier	PA T	F	Lr Cr
1535-36	Cartier	PA T Re	F	Lr Cr
1583	Bellenger	F Re	F	Br Cr
THE SEARCH FOR A NORTHWEST PASSAGE				
1576-77	Frobisher	NA Mn	E	Lr
1578	Frobisher	Mn	E	Lr Cr
1585	Davis	NA	E	Lr
1586	Davis	NA	E	Lr
1587	Davis	NA	E	Lr
PENETRATION OF THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES AND HUDSON BAY 1600-1650				
FAMILIARIZATION WITH INADEQUATELY KNOWN AREAS				
THE ATLANTIC COAST AND SAINT LAWRENCE RIVER				
1603	Champlain	PA Re F	F	Lr
1604	Champlain	Re Mn	F	Lr Cr
1605	Champlain	Re Mn	F	Lr Cr
1606	Champlain	Re Mn	F	Lr Cr
1607	Champlain	Re Mn	F	Lr Cr
THE ARCTIC COAST				
1602	Waymouth	NA	E	Lr C
1606	Knight	NA	E	Lr C
INITIAL PENETRATION OF HUDSON BAY AND THE GREAT LAKES				
THE ATLANTIC COAST, SAINT LAWRENCE RIVER AND EASTERN GREAT LAKES				
1609	Hudson	PA	N	Lr
1609	Champlain	M	F	Lr Cr
1613	Champlain	RO F	F	Lr Cr
1615-16	Champlain	M PA F	F	Lr Cr
1615-18	Brûlé	D M	F	Br C
1621-23	Brûlé, Grenolle	F	F	Br C
1626	La Roche Daillon	Mi	F	Lr C
1628	Anonymous	D	F	Br Cr
THE ARCTIC COAST AND HUDSON BAY				
1610-11	Hudson	NA	E	Br Cr C
1612-13	Button	NA	E	Lr
1615	Bylot, Baffin	NA	E	Lr Cr
1616	Baffin, Bylot	NA	E	Lr
1619-20	Munk	NA	D	Lr Cr
1631	Fox	NA	E	Lr Cr
1631-32	James	NA	E	Lr Cr
CONSOLIDATION OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE EASTERN GREAT LAKES				
c1634	Nicollet	D PA	F	Br C
1634-35	Bogeart	D F	N	Lr Cr
1640-41	Brébeuf, Chaumonot	Mi	F	Lr C
1641	Jogues, Raymbaut	Mi	F	Br C
1642	Jogues, Couture	Fo D	F	Lr Cr
1646	Druillettes	D Mi	F	Lr
1647	De Quen	Mi	F	Lr

SPONSORING COUNTRY OF EXPLORATORY JOURNEY

E England; P Portugal; F France; S Spain; N Netherlands; D Denmark

MOTIVES FOR EXPLORATION

- Fo Forced journey (native captivity)
- D Diplomatic mission
- F Fur trade expansion
- M Military expedition
- Mi Missionary activity
- Mn Mining exploration
- RO Overland route to Hudson Bay
- NA Northwest passage to Asia
- Re Survey for resources, settlement and mapping
- T Staking territorial claims
- PA Western passage to Asia

TYPE OF INFORMATION

Br Brief record; Lr Longer record; Cr Cartographic record; C Conjectural route

EXPLORATION OF CANADA 1497-1650

This map depicts the extent of exploration that took place in Canada during the sixteenth and the first half of the seventeenth centuries. The selection of explorers was based on the availability of written and cartographic records. Only those routes which revealed new geographic information are shown.

There is little doubt that almost every one of the earliest recorded voyages of discovery proceeded from the accumulated knowledge of a host of anonymous Portuguese, Basque, French, Spanish and English fishermen. The possible exceptions to this general rule were Verrazzano's discoveries north to Maine, Cartier's penetration of the western Gulf of St. Lawrence and the St. Lawrence River, and Frobisher's voyage to Baffin Island. With the inland explorations begun by Samuel de Champlain in 1603, native americans assumed from fishermen the role of geographical informants.

The sixteenth century exploration of Canada was divided into four major periods. The first, which lasted to about 1519, was largely confined to the east coast of Newfoundland and southeastern Labrador. During the second period, which lasted from about 1519 to 1533, explorers seeking a western passage to Asia, related the Newfoundland discoveries to the earlier Caribbean discoveries by charting the Atlantic coast. The third period was initiated by Jacques Cartier's explorations of the St. Lawrence River (1534) and the fourth period by Martin Frobisher's penetration of the Arctic (1576).

During the first half of the seventeenth century exploration was divided into three major periods. The first of these periods is represented by Champlain's resource surveys of the St. Lawrence River and Atlantic coast. Although the Atlantic coastline was known, Champlain described and mapped it in detail for the first time. During the second period French explorers penetrated the Great Lakes via the St. Lawrence River, and English navigators found their way through Hudson Strait to explore Hudson Bay. French exploration ended temporarily with the British occupation of Québec from 1629-1632, while to the north, discouraging reports from Fox and James ended further English activities in 1632. During the third period, exploration was largely carried out by Jesuit missionaries who consolidated European knowledge of the eastern Great Lakes. The period ended with the Iroquois wars and the displacement and dispersion of natives allied to the French from their home territory in southern Ontario and adjacent parts of Quebec.

The geographical names used on this map respect forms in common use circa 1630. Many variants in toponymic form are common in the sources available.

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Cartography by the Geographical Services Division, Canada Centre for Mapping, Energy, Mines and Resources Canada.

SPONSORING COUNTRY OF EXPLORATORY JOURNEY

- **ENGLAND**: Cabot; Rut; Frobisher; Davis; Waymouth; Knight; Hudson; Button; Bylot, Baffin; Baffin, Bylot; Fox; James
- **PORTUGAL**: Corte-Real; Fernandes; Fagundes
- **FRANCE**: Verrazzano; Cartier; Bellenger; Champlain; Brûlé; Brûlé, Grenolle; La Roche Daillon; Anonymous
- **FRANCE (Cont.)**: Nicollet; Brébeuf, Chaumonot; Jogues, Raymbaut; Jogues, Couture; Druillettes; De Quen
- **SPAIN**: Gomes
- **NETHERLANDS**: Hudson; Bogeart
- **DENMARK**: Munk

EXTENT OF TERRITORY KNOWN TO EUROPEANS

- Explored by 1519
- Explored between 1520 and 1533
- Explored between 1534 and 1599
- Explored between 1600 and 1650
- Areas known through native accounts by 1650
- Areas unknown to Europeans

EUROPEAN SETTLEMENTS circa 1630

French; English; Dutch

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