

# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Artifacts from Daily Life in Wisconsin

Fur Trade Cabin – La Baye Fur Trade  
1770-1830



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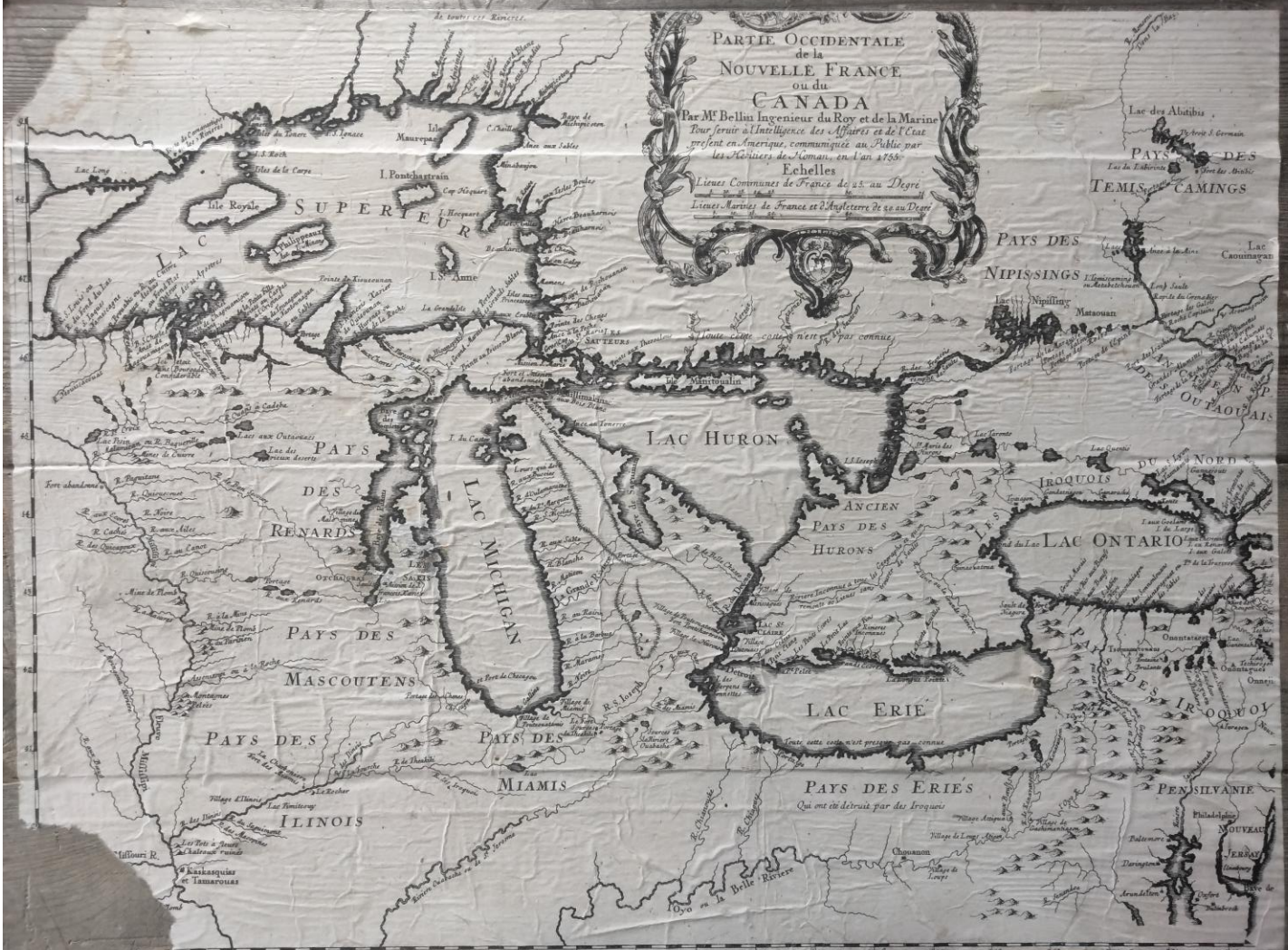


1763

**PARTIE OCCIDENTALE**  
de la  
**NOUVELLE FRANCE**  
ou du  
**CANADA**

Par M. Bellin Ingénieur du Roy et de la Marine  
D'après les cartes et les Mémoires de M. de La Roche  
Présent en Amérique, communiqués au Public par  
les Ministres de la Marine en l'An 1763

Echelles  
Lignes Continues de France de 25 au Degré  
Lignes Marines de France et d'Angleterre de 30 au Degré





## Below is information about the accompanying images which can be used as discussion prompts:

### **Beads**

1. These were beads from American Indians.
2. They were often used for bartering and trading.
3. Strings of shell beads were used as currency between American Indians and Europeans. Wampum beads are commonly white shells, darker colored ones such as purple or black were worth more.

### **Combs**

1. Combs of this period were typically made of materials such as shells, wood, or bone.
2. They could have been used to comb hair or as a trading device.
3. During this period, a large portion of people's income was being spent on personal appearance and accessories, so items like these were in popular demand. People wanted to look good and took pride in their appearance.

### **Pelt**

1. This is beaver pelt stretched on a hoop.
2. This would have been used to stretch and soften the fur so it could be used as desired.
3. Beavers were the most highly traded animal at this time. Beaver fur was used in popular tri-horn hats and other clothing items. This was a large contributor to the Wisconsin economy.

### **Map**

1. This is a picture of a map from inside the La Baye Fur Trade Cabin.
2. You can see the five great lakes.
3. The text on the map is in French. The French were the first European settlers in in Northeast Wisconsin traveling south here from Canada.

### **Medals**

1. These medals and buttons had specific and often unique cultural significance. These could have been on necklaces, sewn on garments, or been used as pins. They were functional items that were used as trade goods.
2. There is a fleur-de-lis in the bottom right, which has origins in the French coat of arms. (<https://www.britannica.com/topic/fleur-de-lis>)
3. This ornament is representative of a lily. People took pride in their appearance and wanted to look nice.