

Historical Marker - S520B - Lake St. Clair (Lac Sainte Claire) (Marker ID#:S520B)



Front - Title/Description

Lake St. Clair (Lac Sainte Claire)

French explorers discovered and named Lake Saint Clair on August 12, 1679. Among the party of thirty-four men were voyageur René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle and Roman Catholic friar Father Louis Hennepin. Aboard the Griffon, the first sailing vessel on the Upper Lakes, the group sailed from the Niagara Falls area on August 7, 1679, and entered the Detroit River on August 11. They reached Lake Saint Clair the following day and named it Lac Sainte Claire in honor of Sainte Claire of Assisi whose feast day fell at that time. It was Sainte Claire who established the order of Franciscan nuns, the Order of the Poor Claires. Government officials and map makers later changed the spelling to the present form of Saint Clair. This led to some confusion as to the true origin of the name of the lake.

Significant Date:

Native People and the French (< 1760)

Registry Year: 1979 **Erected Date:** 1979

Marker Location

Address: 11 Mile Rd at Jefferson

City: St. Clair Shores

State: MI **ZipCode:**

County: Macomb

Township: Roseville

Lat: 42.49563500 / **Long:** -82.88701700

Web URL:

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