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The Super "88" Holiday Scenicoupe is one of two new body styles offered by Oldsmobile in 1959. The Oldsmobile has been completely restyled, with more glass area, passenger and luggage space and a host of engineering and accessory advancements. Steering is easier. There are new Air-Scoop brakes on all four wheels. Two new engines will mean greater operating economy. The windshield, with up to 570 square inches more glass, cuts deep into the roofline to give an unhindered view of overhanging traffic signals. The wide, heat-resistant band across the top of the tinted rear window reduces heat penetration by about 84 per cent. Sculptured twin booms sweep full length along the body, highlighting Oldsmobile's unique two-tone styling for 1959.

Commemorate de Puisaye

On Sunday, October 12, 1958, commencing at 2 p.m., ceremonies in connection with the unveiling of an historical plaque to commemorate the de Puisaye Settlement will be held on the grounds of St. John's Anglican Church, Yonge St., Jefferson.

This plaque is one of a series being erected throughout the province by the Archaeological and Historical Sites Board of Ontario which functions under the Department of Travel and Publicity. Sunday's ceremony is being sponsored by the York Pioneer and Historical Society whose president, Mr. A. G. Clarry, will act as master of ceremonies. The Hon. Dr. William J. Dunlop, Minister of Education, will represent the Ontario government and Prof. J. M. S. Careless, of the University of Toronto will speak on behalf of the Archaeological and Historic Sites Board. Others who are expected to take part in this ceremony are M. Jules Beauroy, Consul-General of France; Mr. A. Alexander MacKenzie, M.P.P. (York North); Mr. Fred Armstrong, Warden of York County; and Mr. W. L. Clark, Reeve of Markham Township. The plaque will be dedicated by the Rev. D. H. C. Michell, rector of St. John's Church.

Joseph Genevieve Comte de Puisaye (1755-1827) was born at Mortagne-en-Perche, France. He joined the army at the age of 18 and, after serving with the Conti Regiment and the Dragoons, ob-

tained a commission in the Swiss Guards. In the convention of the Estates-General, he was the representative of the nobles of La Perche, but at first espoused the popular side, advocating reforms and supporting some of the demands of the lower classes. Later, he raised forces to protect the King against the revolutionaries. In 1792 he led Royalists forces in Brittany.

Later, he fled to England where he organized a military corps of emigres. In 1795 he was one of the leaders in the unsuccessful Royalists expedition which was landed by the British fleet at Quiberon Bay in an attempt to regain control of France.

Giving up hope for a Royalist victory in his native land, de Puisaye conceived the idea of a French settlement in Canada. As originally planned, the settlers were to form a part of a quasi-military force consisting of two battalions. This force would divide its time between military services and clearing the land. It was evidently understood that the private soldiers of the corps would spend some of their labour on the property of the officers. This plan did not materialize. However, the Duke of Portland wrote to Peter Russell, Administrator of Upper Canada, that free grants of land were to be made according to military rank in the same manner as to the American Loyalists. Free passage over the Atlantic was provided and certain tools, clothing and rations were to be distributed.

Accordingly, a group of some forty French Royalists and their servants arrived in Canada in the fall of 1798. The idea of a French military colony even though it consisted of Royalists evidently caused a certain amount of uneasiness among the colony's administrators. The lands along Yonge Street to which the emigres were assigned were therefore purposely selected so that the settlement was a considerable distance away from both the French Canadian centres of population in Lower Canada and along the Detroit River.

The lots granted were largely in the present townships of Markham and Vaughan, south of Bond Lake and north of Richmond Hill, and extended back about one and one-quarter miles on each side of Yonge Street. This settlement became known as "Windham" after the Rt. Hon. William Windham, British Minister of War.

Among the largest land holders in addition to de Puisaye were de Chalus, D'Allegre, Marseuil, Quetton St. George, Farcy, Renault, Sejeant, Fouchard, Feuron, Langel, Bugle and Marchand. De Puisaye himself did not settle in Windham but bought property near Niagara-on-the-Lake where he erected a house which still exists. In the fall of 1799 it was reported that considerable land had been cleared at Windham and about 18 houses were in the process of erection. It was hoped that 25 buildings would be completed by the following spring.

However, it soon became apparent that these members of the noblesse were unprepared for the life of pioneer farmers. Nothing in their past experience fitted them for the rigours involved in clearing land and struggling with nature to produce the first crops on virgin soil. Servants were difficult to hire and retain in a colony where it was so easy for an able-bodied emigrant to obtain his own land. One of the Royalists, in a letter written in 1799, illustrates the general disillusionment:

"You are fully aware that, in this country, the man brought up and inured to the labors of the field is assured of obtaining his subsistence by his labours; that the rich man who brings capital may even, by paid labor, find means of support in agriculture; but he who has neither strength nor money, if he borrow to clear the land, certain of never repaying, has no other prospect than that of losing his time, his liberty, his family, and his property. When the Count de Puisaye proposed to me to come with him to Canada, he told me that there would be military corps in which I should command the gentlemen emigrants who were to come there; that the Royalists who would arrive to form it would labor in common for the officers as for themselves; and he required from me only a letter of request to be his authority in applying to the Minister. But the military corps in which I should have found a salary, those peasants of Brittany whose arms were to assist me were but a chimerical hope; it is only here I have obtained proof of this. This deception places me, with my family, in the most heartrending situation."

Within three or four years

SCARBORO: An application for a church site by the Wexford Unit of the Toronto Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses was turned down by Scarboro Township Council last week because of a lack of parking facilities. The council stated that they believed in freedom of worship but that the by-laws must be adhered to.

AURORA: The Aurora Figure Skating Club has announced that Miss Patricia M. Barringer, who earlier in the year performed at the Aurora Carnival, has been engaged as the new club professional.

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