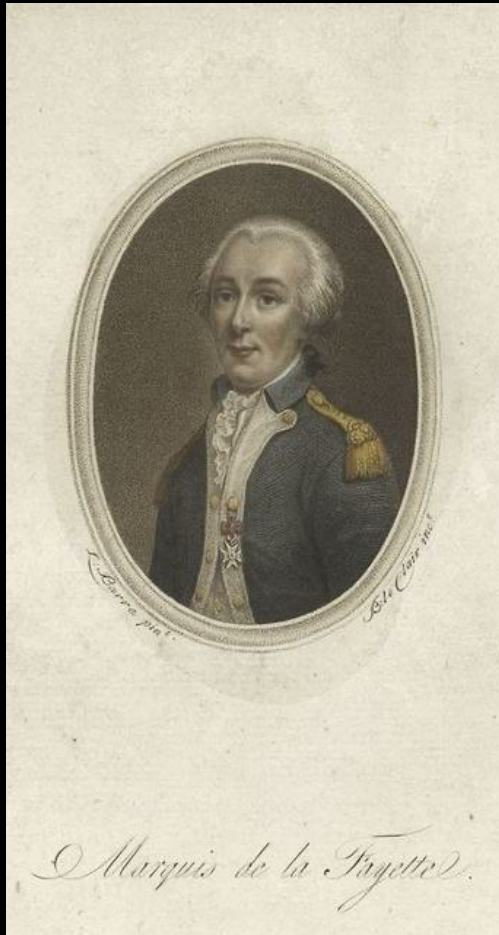


Marquis de la Fayette



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Outline

1757–1777: Noble Genesis

1777–1782: American Odyssey

1782–1792: Revolution at Home

1792–1799: The Terror & Chaos

1800–1834: The Enduring Flame



1757–1777

Noble Genesis: The Formative Years

- Born September 6, 1757
- Château de Chavaniac
- Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert du Motier de La Fayette



Château de Chavaniac

Gilbert's Residence (1757-1768)

Originally built in the 14th Century

Rebuilt/modified in 1920 by U.S.
industrialist John C. Moffat



Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert du Motier de la Fayette

- **Religious, Familial, Noble Lineage**

- One of the oldest and most distinguished families in Auvergne Province, France
- One of la Fayette's early ancestors, Gilbert de la Fayette III, a Marshal of France, was a companion-at-arms of Joan of Arc's army during the Siege of Orléans in 1429
- Count -> **Marquis** -> Duke (highest)
- Inherited the noble title **Marquis** when his father died in 1759

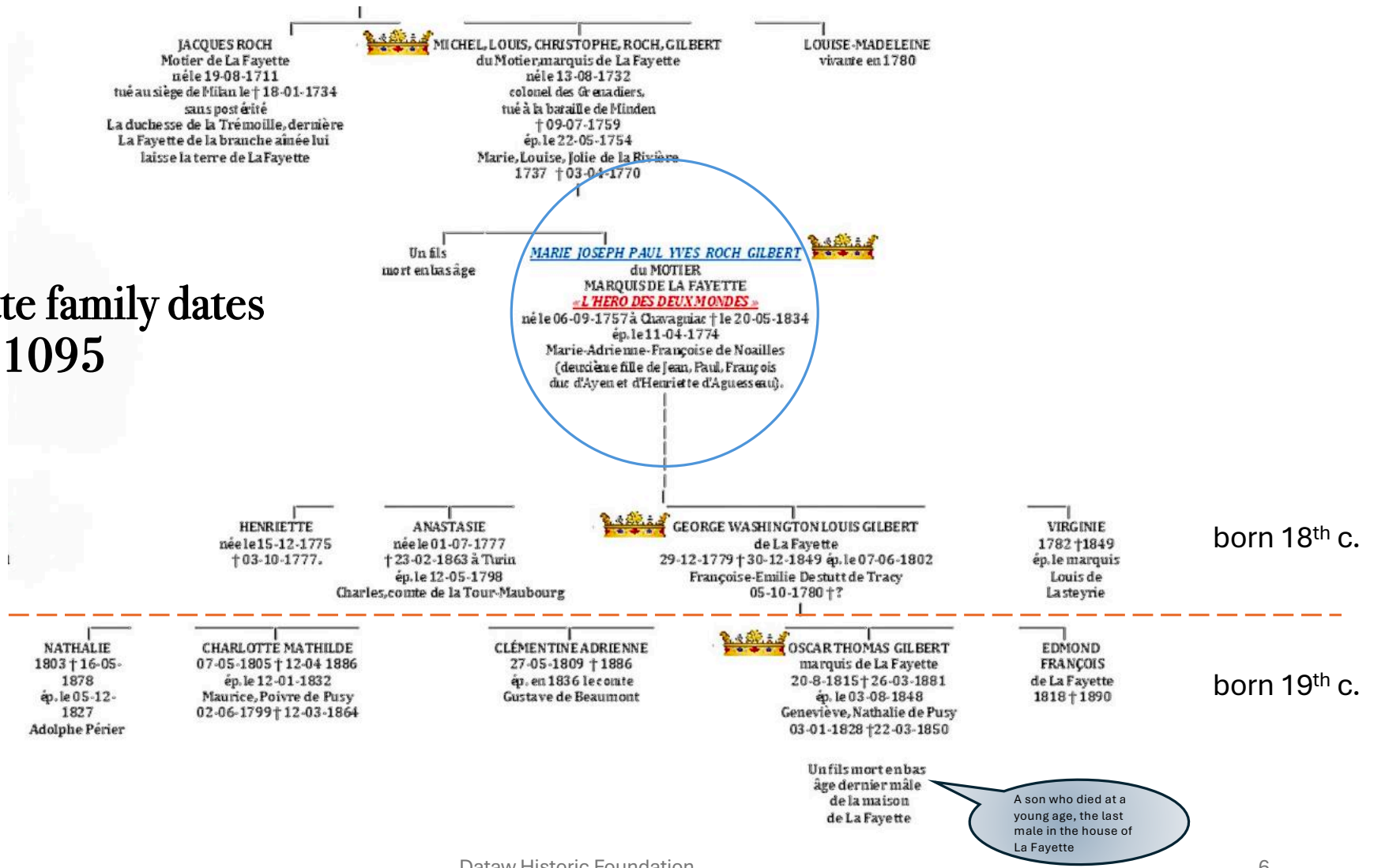
- **His name evolved**

- Birth-> *Gilbert du Motier de la Fayette*
- Inherited -> *Marquis de la Fayette*
- In America -> *Marquis de Lafayette* or just *Lafayette*

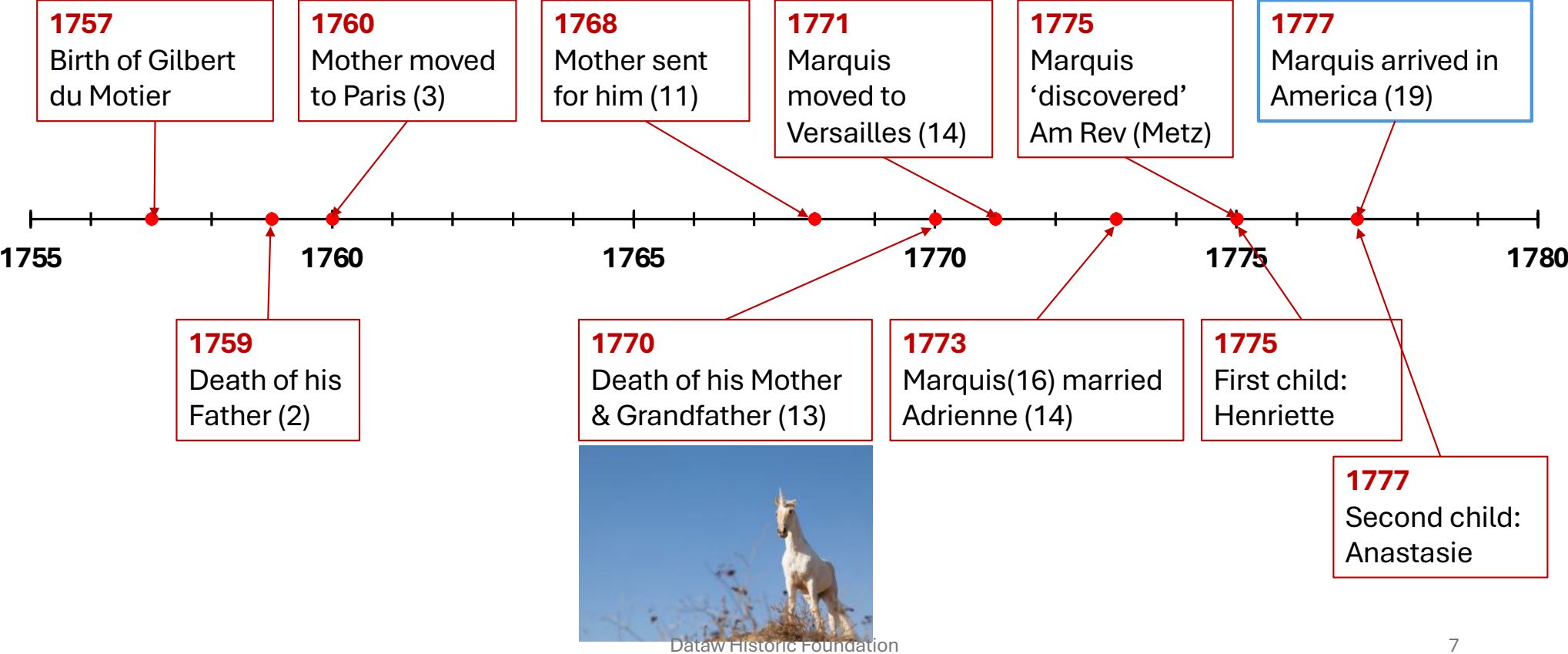
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la Fayette family dates back to 1095



1757–1777: Noble Genesis: The Formative Years



The Rare Unicorn

1768 joined his mother in her apartments in Luxembourg Palace

1770 Jolie (mother) dies along with his grandfather

The Rare Unicorn

1771 Moved to Versailles; Duke Jean-Paul-François de Noailles

1773 Married Adrienne de Noailles (1759-1807) he is 16, and she is 14





Marquis de Lafayette
circa 1773

This portrait might have been painted to commemorate his presentation at the French royal court at Versailles

Lafayette's Motivations

1. Military Aspirations: Reforms within the French Army thwarted his soldier ambition.
2. Ideological Influence: Lafayette was inspired by liberty, equality, and human freedom.
3. Enlightenment Ideals: As a member of the Freemasons, he endorsed Enlightenment ideals.
4. Diplomatic Engagement: Lafayette's involvement in the American Revolution offered a chance to enhance Franco-American relations.

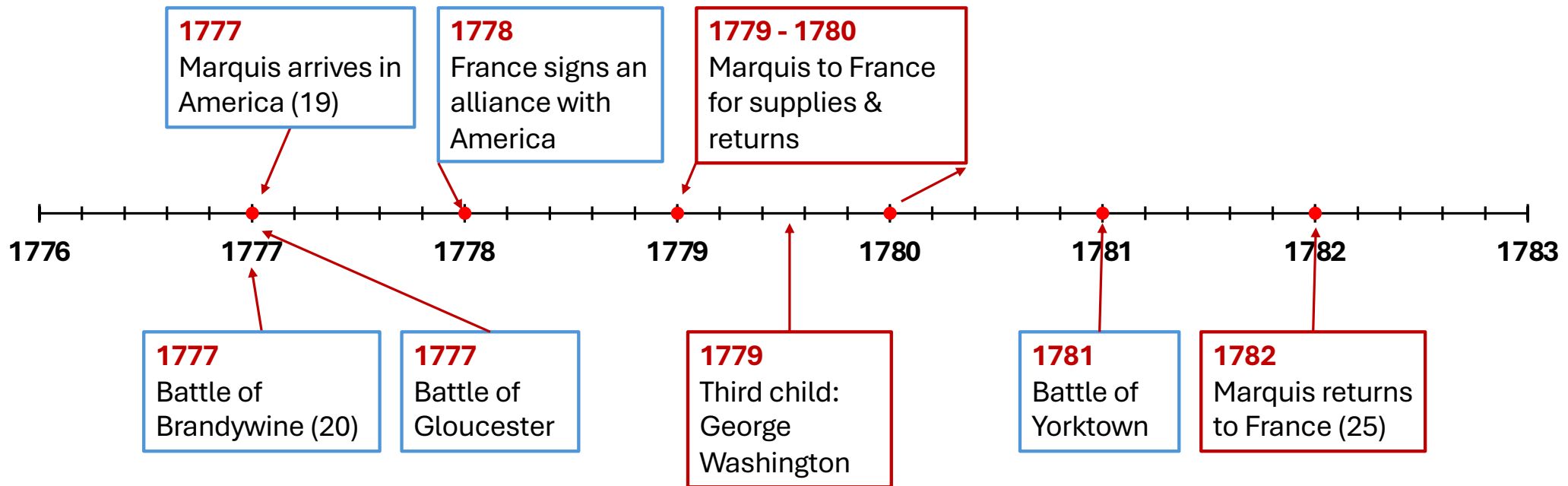
Lafayette's Covert Mission to Aid the American Revolution

- 1775 – Dinner at Metz – First he hears of American Revolution
- 1776 – Lafayette met **Silas Deane** in Paris and ‘secured’ a commission as a Major General in the Continental Army
- His departure plans were exposed when he informed his father-in-law
- February 1777 – His in-laws sent him on vacation to London, where he met King George III
- King Louis XVI forbade French officers from supporting the American rebels, naming Lafayette specifically
- Lafayette purchased his ship, La Victoire, to transport himself and other officers to America
- April 26, 1777 – Set sail for America

1777–1782: American Odyssey Begins

- June 13, 1777, *La Victoire* lands near Georgetown, SC
 - To avoid British warships
 - Welcome, and who are you?
 - Walked to Charleston
 - Lafayette et al. traveled overland to Philadelphia by horse
- July 27, 1777, arrives in Philadelphia.
 - July 31, 1777, he presented himself to the Continental Congress; his commission was approved
- Aug 1777, meets General George Washington
 - He met General Washington at a dinner party
 - Lafayette, “I am here to learn, not teach.”

1777–1782: American Odyssey



Battle of Brandywine Sep 1777

- British Gen Howe planned to attack Philly from the west
 - GW moved to stop him at Brandywine Creek
 - Sent MG Lafayette to protect the right flank
 - Marquis shot in the leg
 - Ordered to fall back to bridge at Chester
 - In the end, Philly fell to the British, but the Marquis fought and commanded valiantly
 - Gen GW paid him an honor in public and with Congress.

- The legend of the Marquis de Lafayette in America started at Brandywine

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Battle of Brandywine	
Part of the American Revolutionary War	
 <p>Hessian map of the Philadelphia campaign</p>	
Date	September 11, 1777
Location	Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania 39°52′19″N 75°35′24″W﻿ / ﻿39.87194°N 75.58999°W﻿ / 39.87194; -75.58999
Result	British victory ^[1]
Belligerents	
 Great Britain	 United States
 Hesse-Kassel	
Commanders and leaders	
 William Howe	 George Washington
 Charles Cornwallis	 Marquis de Lafayette (WIA)
 Wilhelm Knyphausen	 Nathanael Greene
	 Alexander Hamilton
	 John Sullivan
	 William Alexander
	 Adam Stephen
	 Anthony Wayne
	 Casimir Pulaski
Strength	
15,500 ^[2]	14,600 ^[2]
Casualties and losses	
93 killed	250 killed
488 wounded	600 wounded
6 missing ^[3]	14 captured ^[3]

The Battle of Gloucester

Nov 1777

- Marquis de Lafayette's first battlefield command

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Battle of Gloucester	
Part of the American Revolutionary War	
Date	November 25, 1777
Location	Gloucester City, New Jersey
Result	American victory
Belligerents	
 United States	 Great Britain
	•  Hesse-Kassel
Commanders and leaders	
 Marquis de Lafayette	 Lord Cornwallis
 Armand de La Rouërie	
 Colonel Richard Butler	
Strength	
350 regulars and militia	400 jägers
Casualties and losses	
1 killed	20 killed
5 wounded	20 wounded
	20 captured
V · T · E	Philadelphia campaign [show]
	1777–1778 15

The Battle of Yorktown Sep-Oct 1781

- Marquis de Lafayette's...

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Siege of Yorktown	
Part of the Yorktown campaign of the American Revolutionary War	
	
<p><i>Surrender of Lord Cornwallis</i>, an 1820 portrait by John Trumbull depicting the British surrendering to Benjamin Lincoln flanked by French (left) and Continental Army troops</p>	
Date	September 28 – October 19, 1781 (3 weeks)
Location	Gloucester and Yorktown, Virginia 37°13′51″N 76°30′09″W﻿ / ﻿37.231°N 76.502°W﻿ / 37.231; -76.502
Result	Franco-American victory
Belligerents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> United States France 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Britain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loyalists Hesse-Kassel^[a] Ansbach-Bayreuth
Commanders and leaders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> George Washington Benjamin Lincoln Henry Knox Alexander Hamilton Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben Thomas Nelson Moses Hazen Henry Dearborn Marquis de Lafayette Comte de Rochambeau Comte d'Aboville Marquis de Choisy Comte de Grasse Comté de Deux-Ponts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charles Cornwallis ☞ Charles O'Hara ☞ Banastre Tarleton (WIA)^[1] ☞ Robert Abercromby ☞ Thomas Dundas ☞ Thomas Symonds ☞ Matthias von Fuchs ☞ August Voit von Salzburg ☞ Johann von Seybothen ☞
	16

1782–1785

Revolution at Home

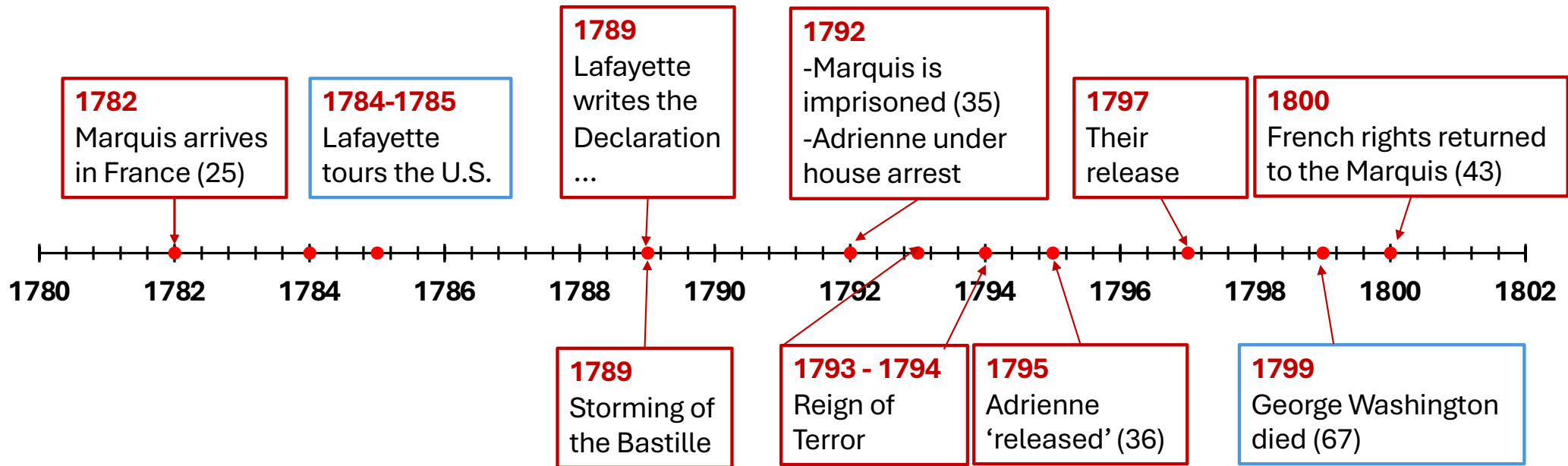
- Calm Before the Storm (Terror)
 - Adrienne collapses in Lafayette's arms
 - New home in Paris (Tuileries Gardens)
 - Promoted in the Army
 - Col John Laurens dies in Combahee River battle
 - Lafayette called back to duty in America; negotiated peace
 - Famine in Chavaniac
- December 1, 1784 last visit with George Washington



1785–1792 Revolution at Home

- Member of the Assembly of Notables and the Estates General.
- Author of the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizens
 - Thomas Jefferson
- July 14, 1789 - Storming of the Bastille
 - Lafayette send key to Washington
- Commander of the National Guard
- 1792 Massacres in Paris begin
- Adrienne & children flee to Château de Chavaniac
 - Under house arrest
- Lafayette flees France to Austrian Netherlands

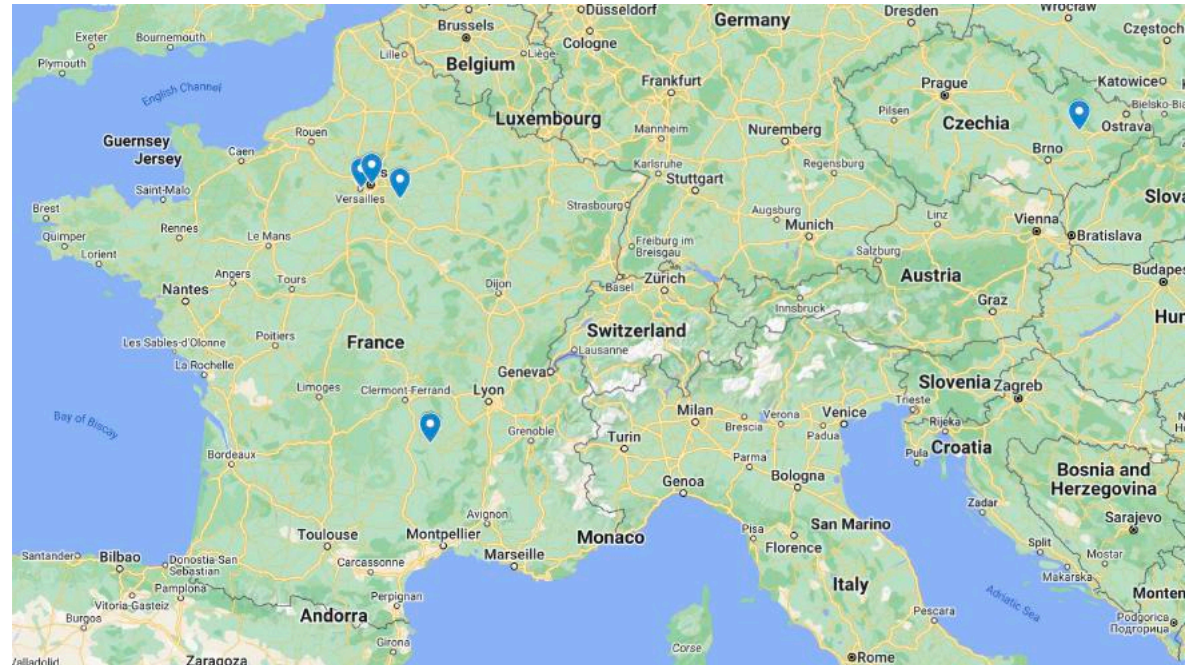
Marquis de La Fayette in the French Revolution(s) 1782-1800



1793–1799: The Terror & Chaos

• Challenges and Exile

- Attempts to save Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette
- Forced into exile and imprisonment



Prisoners of Olmutz, Austria

Marquis de la Fayette (Gilbert)

- 1792 Imprisoned In Austria
- 1795 Family joins him
 - Olmutz, Austria
- 1797 Released
 - Napoleon

Marquise de la Fayette (Adrienne) & children

- 1792 House Arrest
 - Château de Chavaniac
- 1794 Prison
 - Paris
- 1795 House Arrest or Prison?
 - Joins her husband in Olmutz
 - Sends son to America
- 1797 Release
 - Family moves to Netherlands?
 - Son returns from America

1800–1834: The Enduring Flame

- Settles at his estate at La Grange
- Battle of Waterloo
- Greek Revolution
- Our Nation's Guest

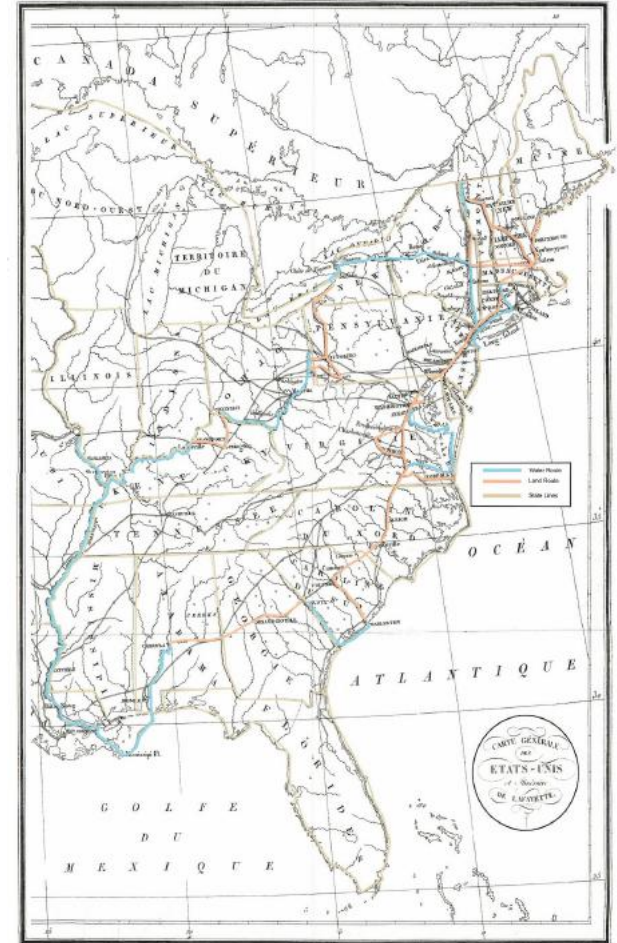
Lafayette as our Nation's Guest



Lafayette as our Nation's Guest

Aug 1824 –
Sep 1825

- Lafayette's grand tour of the United States
- Commemorated the 50th anniversary of the American Revolution
- Lafayette visited all 24 states of the Union at that time, including South Carolina



Lafayette as our Nation's Guest

- “Franklin, the wisest man of the age, pronounced you the most distinguished he ever knew
- Washington, the illustrious hero of the new world, honored you with friendship the most sincere and with confidence the most unlimited...”
- Mayor of Albany Ambrose Spencer’s

Conclusion & Legacy - America

- "Hero of Two Worlds" moniker
- Maryland granted him honorary citizenship in 1784, and Congress reaffirmed it in 2002, cementing his place as one of America's greatest allies in the fight for independence
- Influence on U.S.-France relations
- Cities, parks, monuments, people around our country were named in his honor



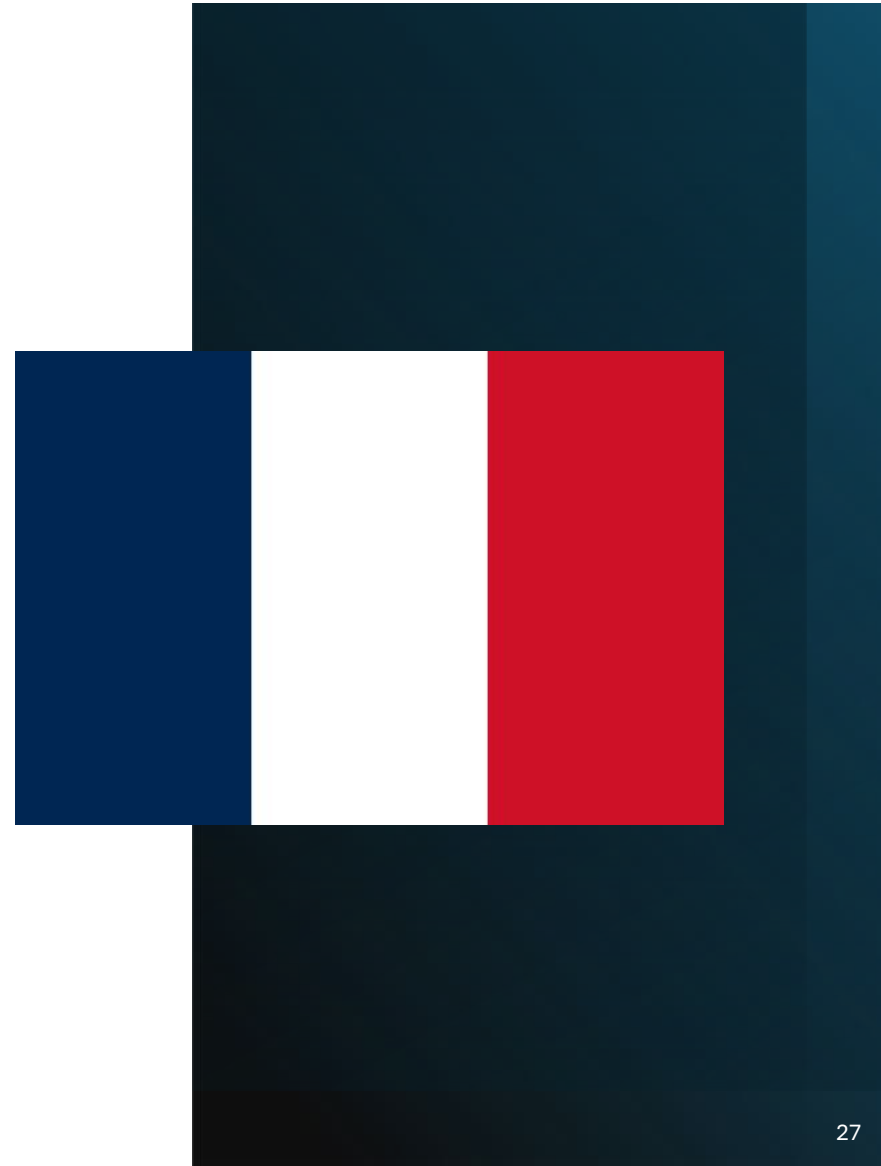
Conclusion & Legacy- French



Significant role in shaping modern French democracy



Influence on the French flag design



Conclusion - The Hero of Two Worlds

- **American Revolutionary War Hero:** Lafayette played a crucial role in the war, serving as a major general in the Continental Army and contributing to several important victories.
- **Symbol of Franco-American Friendship:** He became a symbol of the enduring friendship between France and the United States, helping to secure French support for the American cause.
- **Champion of Liberty and Democracy:** Lafayette was a strong advocate for democratic ideals and human rights, promoting these values in both America, France and across Europe.
- **Key Figure in the French Revolution:** He played a significant role in the early stages of the French Revolution, drafting *the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen* and commanding the National Guard.
- **Lifelong Commitment to Freedom:** Throughout his life, Lafayette continued to support liberal causes and fight for individual rights, earning him the nickname "The Hero of Two Worlds."



In Memoriam

His famous, though unverified quote—

“I would never have drawn my sword in the cause of America if I could have conceived that thereby I was founding a land of slavery”

—reflects his deep regret over the institution’s persistence

Marquis de la Fayette died on May 20, 1834 at age 76



The Marquis' Family

- Marquis de la Fayette (1757 – 1834)
- Adrienne de Noailles (1759-1807)
- Married in 1773
 1. Henriette (December 15, 1775 - October 3, 1777): died young.
 2. Anastasie Louise Pauline (July 1, 1777 - February 24, 1863): eldest surviving daughter.
 3. Georges Washington Louis Gilbert de La Fayette (December 24, 1779 - November 29, 1849): only son, named after our President Washington.
 4. Marie Antoinette Virginie (September 17, 1782 - July 23, 1849): youngest daughter.