

I' A R B R E C R O C H E

1853, puts it twenty-five miles southwest of Mackinaw. Where was l'Arbre Croche? Puzzling as these varied locations have been to historians, it will be shown that all were correct.

Beauharnois kept faith with the red settlers, sending the French from Mackinaw to aid them. By degrees the entire shore-line down to Little Traverse Bay was cleared for tillage and dotted with villages. The whole was blanketed under the generic term of l'Arbre Croche.

In 1742 came Joseph Ainse, "a master carpenter." He built a church near the principal village and by the crooked tree, where Cross Village now is. Here the abstract became the concrete name, and here was located "Le Registre de Nouveau Mackinac."



The mission, its farms and lands, was the nucleus and center of all. Neither seats nor floor had the log church; since it did not last so very long, perhaps it was not well builded. The French Jesuits were so eager to save souls that they neglected to glorify God, in the sense