

Glossary

Agape—term meaning “brotherly love”.

Antoine Grill—established first bank/credit union in Valdese. Investor in Waldensian Hosiery Mill.

Barba—a term meaning “uncle”, the name for Waldensian ministers.

Barthelemy Soulier—one of first pastors in Valdese. Responsible for building first church and helping Waldenses reorganize their land purchase to make it more affordable and for individual families.

Bocce (Boccie, boccia)—an ancient form of bowling.

Carlo Alberto I of Sardinia—Liberal Italian ruler who granted the Waldensians Civil Rights on February 17, 1848.

Chanforan—Waldensians met here with Reformation leaders in 1532.

Couffia (couf, couffe, couff)—traditional head wear of Waldensian women.

Courenta—A Waldensian folk dance.

Dr. Charles Albert Tron—pastor and leader of the first group of 29 Waldensians to establish Valdese. Came with several groups after that first time.

Duke Victor Amadeus II of Savoy—cousin of Louis XIV who sent Waldensians into exile to Switzerland after massacres of thousands of them.

Edict of Nantes—The Edict gave civil rights and freedom of conscience to French Huguenots and other religious groups. Revocation of those rights came during reigns of French kings Louis XIII and Louis XIV.

Glorious Return—The re-entry of the Waldensians from Switzerland to their homeland in 1689. The journey took 10 days.

Ghiesa de la Tana—Church of the Cave.

Gov. Elias Carr—NC governor. Assisted November 23, 1893, Waldensian group to pass through immigration successfully. Visited Valdese several times in coming years.

Henri Arnaud—leader of the Waldensians. He led them from Switzerland back to their homeland. Known as the Glorious Return.

Jean Bounous—Came from Northern Italy along with Louis Richard to select land in NC. He felt the land in NC was good and would grow many crops. Sent back message to Italy telling people there that the land was good.

Jean Leger—chief pastor of the Waldensians in 1680s who was condemned to death but fled to Leyden, The Netherlands, where he wrote a history of the Waldensians in 1684.

Jean Pierre Rostan—established Waldensian Baking Company in 1915.

John and Francis Garrou—along with Antoine Grill started the Waldensian Hosiery Mill in 1901.

John Charles Beckwith—built and improved parish schools in Waldensian Valleys at his own expense, sending young ladies to learn to be teachers; providing secondary education opportunities for some.

John Long—first bridegroom and first mayor of Valdese.

Joshua Janavel—Minister and author of “The Instructions”, a Waldensian guide to guerilla warfare.

King Louis XIV (14th) of France—known as the French “Sun King”; revoked the Edict of Nantes taking away civil liberties of Waldenses; made Duke Victor Amadeus of Savoy declare war on the Waldensians.

Louis Richard—came with Jean Bounous from Northern Italy to look at land in NC. Upon seeing Burke land, Richard thought it too hilly, rocky, and forested for use.

Lyons, France—Home of Peter Waldo.

Marvin F. Scaife—President of the Morganton Land and Development Company. Friend and supporter of the Waldensians.

Patois—Language of the Waldensians, a variety of Occitan, a dialect found in the south of France.

Peter Waldo—Merchant of Lyons, France credited with founding the Waldensian movement in the 1180s.

Pierre Robert Olivetan—translated the Bible into French for the Waldensians in 1535.

Sautisa (soutisso, sautisso)—a spicy sausage.

Savoy—French province under leadership of Duke Victor Amadeus II (modern day Italy).

Sibaud—site where Waldensians pledged loyalty to each other and their faith to the death.

Torre Pellice—Italian capital of the Waldensians.

Valdese, NC—largest settlement of Waldensians in North America.

Valdese—Italian word for Waldensian.

Vaudois—French word for Waldensian.

Waldensian—English word for Valdese and Vaudois.

William of Orange—Protestant leader/ruler of England who provided the Waldensians with military aid in 1689.