



# Levasseur and Carmel families

## Web and social media capsule



### Toponymic chronicle

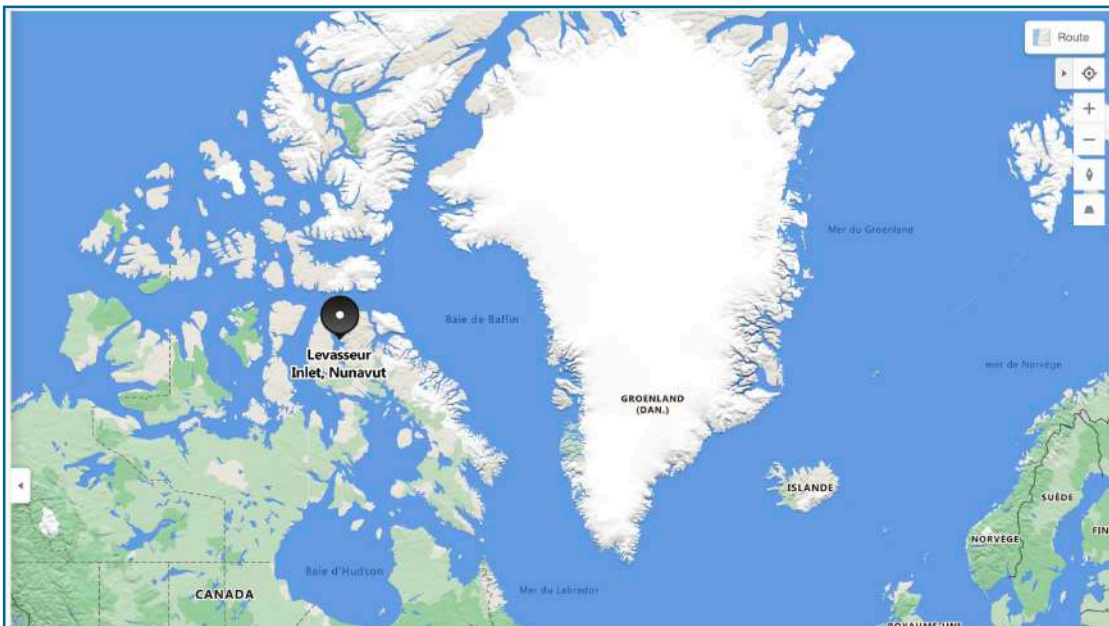
Places in Canada bearing the name "Levasseur":

Levasseur Inlet (Nunavut)

Levasseur Inlet (72°35'N 085°35'W) is a body of water in the Qikiqtaaluk region of Nunavut. It lies on the east side of the Admiralty on Baffin Island's Borden Peninsula. Levasseur Inlet was named by Captain Jules Bernier, after one of his expedition officers, Paul LeVasseur (son of Nazaire and Fedora Verner and brother of Irma LeVasseur).

« In August 1906, Captain Bernier reached Melville Island, from where he took possession of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. During his cartographic surveys, he named the places he explored after his officers or those who supported his projects. This is how the North came to include Brodeur Peninsula, Vanasse Bay, Levasseur Cove, Moffet Cove, Prud'homme Cove, etc. »<sup>(1)</sup>

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We invite you to become a member and contribute through articles, to enrich our archive center on the Levasseur and Carmel families.

**Levasseur Inlet** was named in honor of one of his officers, Paul LeVasseur. He was the brother of Dr Irma LeVasseur (Canada's first woman doctor). None of Nazaire LeVasseur and Férona Verner's children left any descendants.

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## A bit of history

Captain [Jules Bernier](#)<sup>(2)</sup> was a Quebec explorer who sailed and explored the Arctic on several occasions. His voyages took place between 1899 and 1925, covering regions from the Russian coast to Alaska's Aleutian Islands. He also studied Arctic fog, ocean currents and weather conditions in the region. During his exploration, he observed marine mammals such as seals, gray whales and white killer whales. Bernier was known for his ability to maintain strict discipline aboard his ship, while keeping crew morale high. His boundless scientific curiosity meant that he would often travel far north to explore places where few, if any, other navigators had previously set foot. His work is greatly appreciated by those who still explore the Arctic today, as he is responsible for numerous detailed maps that greatly facilitate navigation in this part of the world.

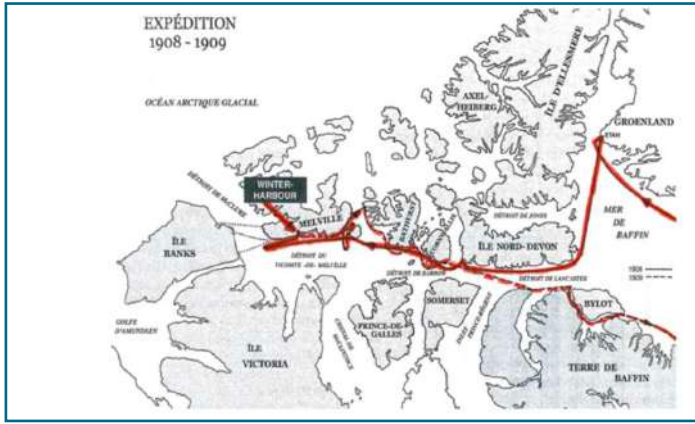
## Biography Paul LeVasseur<sup>(3)</sup>

**Paul Eugène LeVasseur** was born on September 18, 1875 in Quebec City, St-Roch, QC. He was the third child of **Nazaire LeVasseur** (born February 6, 1848) and **Fédora Venner** (born April 18, 1851). He had one sister (Irma LeVasseur born January 20, 1877) and three brothers: William Paul Émile LeVasseur (March 13, 1873), Jules Henri Gustave LeVasseur (born April 8, 1874), Fernand Calixa LeVasseur (born April 2, 1879). His three brothers died at a young age. In 1921, Paul LeVasseur is listed in the Halifax, Nova Scotia census. He was boarding with Helen Wright, age 67. She was a widow. He was 52 when his father Nazaire LeVasseur died. On May 23, 1956, he died in Quebec City, QC, at the age of 80. He was buried in Quebec City, QC (St-Charles Cemetery) on May 25, 1956.



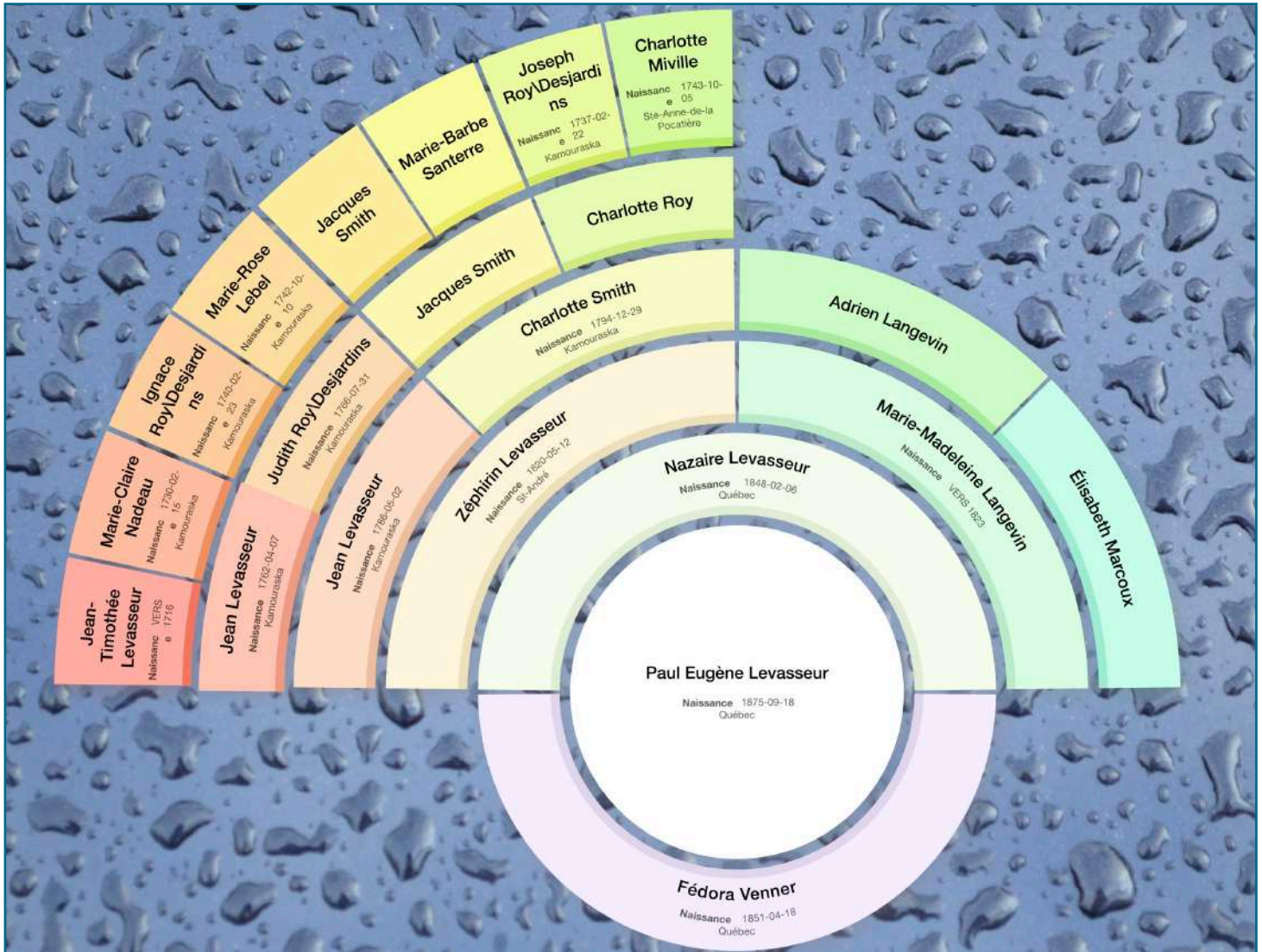
*Madeleine DesRivières and Madeleine LeVasseur near the Zéphirin LeVasseur family monument where Paul LeVasseur is buried, along with his sister, Dr. Irma LeVasseur*

*(Madeleine DesRivières was a writer and certified translator, and author of stories and biographies).*



The 1908-1909 expedition in which Paul LeVasseur participated as an officer. (Illustration: <https://crc-canada.net/nationalisme-canadien-francais/capitaine-j-e-bernier.html>)

Group of Inuit women and two crew members of the C.G.S. ARCTIC, Pond Inlet, NWT [(Mittimatalik/Tununiq), Nunavut], April 26, 1907  
Credit: Paul LeVasseur / Library and Archives Canada / PA-165743



- (1) <https://crc-canada.net/nationalisme-canadien-francais/capitaine-j-e-bernier.html>
- (2) See the Musée Maritime Bernier website: <https://www.mmq.qc.ca/>
- (3) Database - Association des LeVasseur d'Amérique inc : <https://www.levasseur.org/tng>

## Paul LeVasseur's timeline <sup>(1)</sup>

**Paul Eugène LeVasseur** was born on September 18, 1875 in Quebec City's St-Roch district. He was the third child of Nazaire LeVasseur (born February 6, 1848) and Fédora Venner <sup>2</sup> ( born April 18, 1851). He had one sister (Irma Levasseur born January 20, 1877) and three brothers: William Paul Émile LeVasseur (born March 13, 1873), Jules Henri Gustave LeVasseur (born April 8, 1874), Fernand Calixa LeVasseur (born April 2, 1879). His three brothers died in infancy. He was 52 when his father Nazaire LeVasseur died. On May 23, 1956, Paul died in Quebec City at the age of 80. He was buried in the city's Saint-Charles cemetery on May 25, 1956.

We find the following documents in the archives:

1881 [Census of Canada, Jacques-Cartier distric](#) (page 30) <sup>(3)</sup>

Family home: Zéphirin Levasseur (grandfather) and family, Nazaire (father, 33, employed), Paul (5) and Irma (4). Fédora Venner does not appear in this or subsequent censuses.

April 21, 1891 [Census of Canada, Jacques-Cartier district](#) (page 39) <sup>(4)</sup>

Family home: His grandparents Zéphirin LeVasseur, age 71, and his wife Madeleine Langevin are listed here, as are his father Nazaire LeVasseur, age 43, Paul, age 15, and Irma, age 13. In this census, Nazaire works as a gas inspector. Paul was a student at the Séminaire de Québec at the time.

1901 [Census of Canada, Saint-Roch district](#) (page 5) <sup>(5)</sup>

Family home: His father, Nazaire (age 53, employed, annual salary \$1,000), Paul (age 26, carpenter, annual income \$600), and Irma (age 24, medical doctor, annual income \$800). The family lived in the house of Nazaire's brother-in-law, Zéphirin Giasson (43, doctor), listed as "Head of Family". Zéphirin was married to Eugénie Antonia LeVasseur (43), Paul's aunt.

From 1908 to 1911 (Towards these dates)

On his father's recommendation to Captain Bernier, Paul is hired as an officer and takes part in the Captain's expeditions to the Canadian Arctic.

Décembre 22, 1915 - [Overseas enlistment certificate](#) <sup>(6)</sup>

Here we find a certificate of enlistment for the Armed Forces and his [Digitized service file - PDF format](#) <sup>(7)</sup>. This document provides us with much unpublished information. Paul is staying at the [Neptune Hill Hotel](#). Paul's father, Major Nazaire LeVasseur, [lives at 38 rue St-Louis](#) in Quebec City. Paul reports his occupation as a pianist (his parents were involved in music at the time). He states that he was previously a captain in the Armed Forces.

1921 [Census of Canada, Halifax, Nova Scotia](#) (page 3) <sup>(7)</sup>

Paul LeVasseur is enumerated in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He is staying with Helen Wright, a widow, age 67, at 1019 Barrington St., Halifax (8). He is most likely an employee of the Canadian Navy at this time.

(1) Several archival details were taken from the [ancestry.ca](https://www.ancestry.ca) site

(2) See an excerpt from Pauline Gill's novel about Fédora (Phédora) Venner : <https://excerpts.numilog.com/books/9782764405314.pdf>

(3) [https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl\\_1881.pdf](https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl_1881.pdf)

(4) [https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl\\_1891.pdf](https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl_1891.pdf)

(5) [https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl\\_1901.pdf](https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl_1901.pdf)

(6) [https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl\\_1915.pdf](https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl_1915.pdf)

(7) [https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl\\_1921.pdf](https://www.levasseur.org/capsules/annexes/202401/pl_1921.pdf)

(8) <https://maps.app.goo.gl/uG7adps5fCNzx4Ni9>