



Levasseur and Carmel families

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From Trois-Pistoles to Saint-Ulric (part 2)

François-Xavier Levasseur (Husband of Adèle Ouellet)
Descendant of the ancestor Laurent Levasseur

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François-Xavier Levasseur was born on February 14, 1877, in Saint-Ulric, in the Lower St. Lawrence region, to Clément Levasseur and Élise Gagné (see this article). In 1903, at the age of 26, he married Adèle Ouellet, then 19 years old. Eleven children were born from their union over a period of eighteen years, forming a large family deeply rooted in the region. Their descendants included Joseph-Antoine, Blanche-Augustine (who died in infancy), Marie-Louise-Antoinette, Joseph-Albert-Julien, Joseph-Philippe-Adrien, Marie-Ange Adrienne, Marie-Anna-Augustine, Rosaire-Antonio, Marie-Anne, Georges-Arthur-François, and Marguerite-Marie-Juliette, several of whom went on to start families of their own in the following decades.

On October 30, 1923, François-Xavier died prematurely at the age of 46 following a lung disease. He was buried in Saint-Ulric after receiving the last rites in the presence of his family members. His death left Adèle a widow at the age of 39, with ten children to care for, ranging in age from a few months to eighteen years old. The family was also struck by the loss of François's parents in the following weeks, adding to the shock of this difficult period.

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Adèle Ouellet, François Levasseur,
Jeannine Gauthier, Maria Thibault

In his will, François bequeathed all his property to his wife, whom he appointed as his sole heir and executor, entrusting her with the responsibility of his funeral and the administration of his estate. The censuses from 1911 to 1931 show the evolution of the household: first a young family with a few children and relatives living at home, then a household with nine children in 1921. In 1931, Adèle appears as the owner of a farm and a wooden house, while several sons are listed as farmhands.

In terms of land, François-Xavier first received a plot from his father in 1902, which he sold in 1911 to purchase, with the help of his father-in-law Alfred Ouellet, a property on the fourth range line of Saint-Ulric. After his death, Adèle inherited half of the property and took over its management. In 1958, she passed the farm on to her son Adrien, who later transferred it to his brother Francis, allowing the land to remain in the family. A widow and mother of ten children, Adèle continued to farm in a context of limited rights for women and virtually non-existent social assistance. Thanks to her determination, she weathered economic crises and the war years, providing for her family's livelihood and education. She died in 1967 at the age of 83, leaving behind the image of a pioneer and a strong-willed woman, whose legacy and values live on through her descendants.



On June 30, 1954, from left to right, the parents of the author of this text, François Levasseur (son of François-Xavier) and Jeannine Gauthier, then Adrien Levasseur (brother of François) and Rose-Anna D'Astous.

(Original black and white photo, colored with the help of A.I.)

Birth and marriage

François-Xavier Levasseur was born on February 14, 1877, in **Saint-Ulric**, in the Lower St. Lawrence region. At the time of his birth, his parents, **Clément Levasseur** and **Élise Gagné**, were 34 and 27 years old, respectively.

On August 10, 1903, in St-Ulric, at the age of 26, **François-Xavier** married 19-year-old Adèle Ouellet. Eleven children were born from this union over a period of eighteen years, forming a large family with strong roots in the region.

Descendants:

1. Joseph-Antoine Levasseur

Born on November 24, 1905.

2. Blanche-Augustine Levasseur

Born on June 1, 1907 — Died on October 2, 1908 (16 months old).

3. Marie-Louise Antoinette Levasseur

Born on December 24, 1909.
Married Paul Bernier on June 10, 1931.

4. Joseph-Albert-Julien Levasseur

Born on May 27, 1911.
Married Germaine Charrette on September 3, 1947.

5. Joseph-Philippe-Adrien Levasseur

Born on October 31, 1912.
Married Rose-Anna D'Astous on May 15, 1954.

6. Marie-Ange Adrienne Levasseur

Born on August 15, 1914.
Married André-Albert Durette on May 5, 1948.

7. Marie-Anna-Augustine Levasseur

Born on May 15, 1916.
Married Louis Ouellet on July 15, 1936.

8. Rosaire-Antonio Levasseur

Born on October 1, 1917.
Married Madeleine Slater on January 5, 1944.

9. Marie-Anne Levasseur

Born on September 1, 1919.
Married Leopold Gauthier on July 24, 1940.



André Durette and
Adrienne Levasseur
(1948)



Marie-Anne
Levasseur

10. Georges-Arthur-François Levasseur

Born on January 21, 1921.

Married Jeannine Gauthier on June 30, 1954.

11. Marguerite-Marie-Juliette Levasseur

Born on June 24, 1923.

Married Jean-Baptiste Duret on July 10, 1944.



François
Levasseur
(1921-2011),
Son of
François-
Xavier

Death and succession

In a sad twist of fate, on October 30, 1923, **François-Xavier Levasseur** died in Saint-Ulric at the age of 46 following a lung disease (information reported by family members).

He received the sacraments of the Eucharist and Extreme Unction in the presence of his brothers **André** and **Georges**, as well as his sisters-in-law **Hélène** and **Caroline**. He was buried on November 2, 1923, in the Saint-Ulric cemetery.

He was survived by his wife Adèle, aged 39, and ten children, aged between four months and eighteen years. Within two months, the family also suffered the loss of his parents:

- **Clément Levasseur** died on November 21, 1923
- **Élise Gagné** died on December 25, 1923.

Last Will and Testament of François-Xavier Levasseur

In his will, **François-Xavier** entrusted his wife with the execution of his last wishes ([follow this link](#)):

I commend my soul to God.

I order first and foremost that my legitimate debts be paid, if any remain after my death.

I bequeath all the property I leave upon my death, of whatever nature and origin, without reservation, to my wife, Mrs. Adèle Ouellet, of the same place, whom I appoint as my sole heir, naming her as my executor, entrusting her with the care of my funeral, services, and masses, which I wish to have for the value and offering of one hundred dollars, services and burial not included.

I revoke any wills or codicils I may have made prior to this one.

The family in the censuses (1911–1931). See the last page to access these digitized documents.

1911 Census

The family has three children: **Antoine**, **Antoinette**, and **Albert**. **François'** sister-in-law, **Hélène Ouellet**, aged 16, also lives in the household. Adèle's parents, **Alfred Ouellet** (1854–1922) and **Apolline Ouellet** (1857–1933), also reside in the parish of Saint-Ulric.

1921 Census

François is 43 years old and **Adèle** is 35. Nine children, all minors, are listed in the household.

1931 Census

Adèle is listed as **Mrs. François Levasseur**. She owns a farm and a wooden house estimated at \$600, with six bedrooms. The family does not own a radio.

The sons **Antoine**, **Adrien**, and **Albert Levasseur** are listed as farmhands..

Canadian electoral lists (1935–1953). ⁽¹⁾ See the last page to access these digitized documents.

The electoral lists allow us to follow the evolution of the household and agricultural activities:

1940

- Mrs. François Levasseur, widow, St-Ulric
- Antoine Levasseur, farmer (2), St-Ulric
- Albert Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Adrien Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Rosaire Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Adrienne Levasseur, adult daughter, St-Ulric

1945

- Mrs. François Levasseur, St-Ulric
- Antoine Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Albert Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Adrien Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Francis Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Adrienne Levasseur, adult daughter, St-Ulric



Rosaire Levasseur

1949

- Mrs. François Levasseur, widow, St-Ulric
- Adrien Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Francis Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Antoine Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric

1953

- Mrs. François Levasseur, widow, farmer, St-Ulric
- Adrien Levasseur, adult son, St-Ulric
- Francis Levasseur, farmer, St-Ulric
- Antoine Levasseur, adult son, St-Ulric

For the years 1957, 1958, and 1965, **Adèle** is no longer listed on the electoral rolls.

Properties and land transactions. [See the last page to access these digitized documents.](#)

From the age of 14, François worked as a farm laborer on the fourth range line of Saint-Ulric.

1902 — Paternal donation

On July 29, 1902, **Clément Levasseur** donated to his son a piece of land located on the seventh range of the parish of Saint-Ulric, measuring three acres frontage by twenty acres depth (lots nos. 7a and 7b), including the household, furniture, animals, vehicles, and agricultural tools.

1911 — Sale and acquisition

On February 9, 1911, **François** sold this land to **Hypolite Levasseur**, along with the buildings, outbuildings, a black horse, a cow, sheep, chickens, and agricultural equipment.

On the same day, at the notary's office, **Alfred Ouellet**, his father-in-law, sold him a piece of land located on the fourth range line of the township of Matane, with buildings and outbuildings. He also transferred to him the animals, fodder, vehicles, and agricultural tools.

However, Alfred retained half of the grain harvest, potatoes, a winter crop, and a one-year-old heifer. **François** also agreed to provide the wood needed to build a house for his brother-in-law **Joseph Ouellet**, with the sawing costs to be shared.

1923 — Estate

On November 17, 1923, **Adèle Ouellet**, widow, declared that her husband owned half of a property located on the fourth range line of Saint-Ulric, Rivière-Blanche. She was appointed sole heir under the legal community of property regime.

1928 — Receipts

On February 8, 1928, **Hypolite Levasseur** obtained a receipt for the 1911 deed of sale..

On August 11, 1928, **Apolline Ouellet** acknowledged full payment for the sale between her husband **Alfred** and **François**.

1958–1968 — Transmission familiale

On May 21, 1958, Adèle sold the farm to her son **Adrien Levasseur** to ensure its continued family tie. On October 7, 1968, Adrien transferred the property to his brother **François (known as Francis) Levasseur**.

Today, the ancestral home and the land on Fourth Range Line have remained in the Levasseur family.

Adèle's life after 1923



Following the death of her husband, **Adèle** chose to raise her ten children alone and continue running the family farm ⁽³⁾. In 1920's Quebec, government assistance was virtually non-existent. The founding of the Union catholique des cultivateurs (UCC) ⁽⁴⁾ in 1924 marked the beginning of support based on mutual aid and agricultural cooperatives.

Without running water or electricity, and in a context of non-mechanized agriculture, the work was demanding. The whole family participated in the tasks: preparing the soil, planting cereals and potatoes, haymaking, raising and caring for animals, and producing butter and milk. Despite economic crises, falling agricultural prices, and the hardships of World

War II, Adèle managed to provide for her family while fully assuming her role as a mother and farmer.

After selling the farm to her son Adrien, she retired. **Adèle Ouellet** passed away on October 20, 1967, at the age of 83, and was buried in Saint-Ulric.

Legacy

A pioneer and strong-minded woman, sole owner of a farm for over 35 years, Adèle provided for and educated her ten children in a demanding social and economic context.

Through her determination and courage, her values live on through her descendants.

Notes

- (1) Electoral rolls list people of voting age and their occupations.
- (2) The term cultivator is used in historical documents; the term farmer is a modern equivalent encompassing both crop and livestock farming.
- (3) Women's access to property was limited by the Civil Code of Quebec, as married women were under the guardianship of their husbands. Today, approximately 5% of Quebec farms are owned exclusively by women (La Terre de chez nous, "Femmes de terre / Femmes de tête," December 3, 2025, p. C05).



- 4) UCC: Union catholique des cultivateurs (Catholic Farmers' Union), predecessor of the UPA (Union des producteurs agricoles).

Historical documents

François Xavier Levasseur and Adèle Ouellet

These links lead to digitized documents (sources) in PDF or JPG format.

Click on [these highlighted](#) links to access them.

1. [Birth certificate of François-Xavier Levasseur](#)
2. [Marriage certificate of François Levasseur and Adèle Ouellet](#)
3. [Death certificate of François Levasseur](#)
4. [Birth certificate of Adèle Ouellet](#)
5. [Death certificate of Adèle Ouellet](#)
6. [Obituary card of Adèle Ouellet](#)
7. [Family tree of François Levasseur and Adèle Ouellet](#)
8. [Census records 1901, 1911, 1921 and 1931](#)
9. [Birth certificate of Alfred Ouellet](#)
10. [Marriage certificate of Alfred Ouellet](#)
11. [Birth certificate of Apolline Ouellet](#)
12. [Death certificate of Alfred Ouellet](#)
13. [Death certificate of Apolline Ouellet](#)
14. [Canadian voter lists, 1935 to 1980](#)
15. [Transcript of deed of sale from Alfred Ouellet to François Levasseur \(17911\)](#)
16. [Transcript of François Levasseur's will by Lynda Levasseur \(24479\)](#)
17. [Descendants of François Levasseur and Adèle Ouellet](#)
18. Table of land transactions from 1873 to 1980. List of digitized deeds
 - a. [Deed 3020: donation between Clément and François Levasseur](#)
 - b. [Deed 5720: sale between François Levasseur and Hypolite Levasseur](#)
 - c. [Deed 10906: Declaration by Dame Adèle Ouellet](#)
 - d. [Deed 10907: Another declaration by Dame Adèle Ouellet](#)
 - e. [Deed 13142: Receipt from Dame Adèle Ouellet to Hypolite Levasseur](#)
 - f. [Deed 13512: Receipt from Apolline Ouellet to Adèle Ouellet](#)
 - g. [Deed 17911: Deed of sale from Alfred Ouellet to François Levasseur.](#)
 - h. [Deed 24479: Will of François Levasseur.](#)
19. [Table of godparents of the children of François Levasseur and Adèle Ouellet.](#)
20. Tombstone of François Levasseur and Adèle Ouellet (2 tombstones [1](#) and [2](#))
21. Photographs from Lynda Levasseur's private collection:
 - a. [Adèle Ouellet, Francis Levasseur, Jeannine Gauthier and Maria Thibault](#) (the one and only photo of Adèle) picture taken at my parents' wedding in 1954.
 - b. At the center of the photo: [Albert Levasseur and Germaine Charrette](#)
 - c. [Albert Levasseur and Rose-Anna D'astous](#)
 - d. [Rosaire Levasseur](#)

We invite readers to consult this recent publication on the Levasseur generation that preceded that of François-Xavier and Adèle Ouellet: https://levasseur.org/capsules/20251201_en.pdf