

Pauline Carmel makes us discover her genealogy

by: Pauline Carmel

One hundred fifty years of history, one hundred fifty-nine years of hope, of struggle, of courage, of love, at all ages. The **Church of the Ange-Gardien de Rouville** was built in 1856. It was a wooden chapel that was subsequently enlarged due to the increased population of the parish. It was officially inaugurated on October 2, 1859, feasts of Holy guardian Angels.

The Interior was finished in 1910. The first president of the factory was Pierre Mercure, great-grandfather of my mother Flore Mercure. The sacristy, first chapel, is embellished with several sculptures given by parishioners and generous donors.

All the Carmels were baptized, confirmed, married and had their funeral celebrations in this church.

Who are you? Who am I?



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Pauline Carmel's genealogy

As a result of the famous Radio-Canada show named "who are you?" and a meeting with Mr. Marcel Fournier, historian, author, lecturer and genealogist Emeritus, I decided to supplement the information available to me concerning my ancestors.



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One of my cousins, Jeannine Carmel, had graciously provided research on the Carmel family and she had discovered that our ancestors were: Levasseur. Why Levasseur, when our family name is: Carmel?

I therefore launched an appeal to Mr. Gilles Carmel, Ms. Joceline Levasseur, The Levasseur Association of America, La Société d'Histoire et de Généalogie des Quatre Lieux and Mr. Guy McNicoll, an ancestral detective, who all assisted me in my research.

There are 3 lineages of Carmel: that of Pierre Levasseur (I), ours, a second strain, the Daudelin-Carmel, the children born of Pierre Levasseur (IV) and a third lineage, the Carmels from France whose ancestor is Michel Carmel....



Pauline Carmel's Paternal Ancestry

Pierre Levasseur dit Lespérance	October 25, 1655 Québec, QC	Jeanne Chaverlange
Pierre Levasseur	March 18, 1696 Québec, QC	Anne Ménage
Pierre Jacques Levasseur dit Carmel	November 28, 1744 Montréal, QC	Jeanne Lupien dite Baron
Pierre Levasseur dit Carmel	May, 28 1770 Boucherville, QC	Marguerite Lacoste dite Languedoc
Pierre Levasseur dit Carmel	February, 101794 Boucherville, QC	Charlotte Girard
Jean-Baptiste Levasseur dit Carmel	October 6, 1823 La Prairie, QC	Josette Moquin
Louis Carmel	October, 30 1854 St-Philippe, Laprairie	Anatalie Hébert
Louis Carmel	April 24, 1882 Ange-Gardien, Rouville	Marie-Hélèna Brosseau
Ludger Carmel	September 28, 1908 Adamsville, Brome, QC	Léa Labelle
Rénald Carmel	May 7,1934 Ange-Gardien, Rouville	Flore Mercure
Pauline Carmel	September 21, 1963 Ange-Gardien, Rouville	Marcel Benoît
	July 27, 1989 Longueuil, QC	André La Rochelle

1st generation

Who is Pierre Levasseur dit Lespérance ?

Pierre Levasseur (I) dit Lespérance would be among the first to arrive to New France. His brother Jean and his sister Jeanne also came to New-France. Pierre was the son of Noël Levasseur and Geneviève Gauge of the parish Saint-Leu and Saint-Gilles, in Paris. He would be born circa 1627. His actual arrival date in New France is unknown. We know, however, that he was present in Quebec City in 1654, because he is recorded as being the Godfather of his nephew, Pierre Drolet. Pierre married Jeanne Chaverlange de Bourges (France) on October 25, 1655, in Quebec City. Pierre and his wife Jeanne had seven children, four girls and three boys. In 1657, land was granted to Pierre Levasseur dit l'Lespérance at the île d ' Orléans. In 1659, he was granted land in the upper town of Québec, near the Chateau and the Fort, Saint-Louis. He is registered as being a master builder.

Pierre and his brother Jean are the founders of the brotherhood: **The carpenters of Madam Sainte-Anne**. Brotherhoods, at the time, were organized to regroup workers who had similar crafts. Many carpenters and masons came to Quebec at the beginning of colonization. They were required to build new buildings. Some of them had already belonged to the brotherhood Sainte-Anne in Paris. It was therefore understandable that they would regroup under a similar association in New-France.

Among Pierre and Jeanne de Chaverlange's sons, only Pierre will have children.

2th generation

Pierre Levasseur (II) was born on 30 April 1661 in Quebec and died March 2, 1731, at the age of 69. He married twice: his first marriage, on November 28,1686, was with Madeleine Chapeau and his second marriage with Anne Ménage on March 18, 1696 in the Notre-Dame Church of Québec. Anne Ménage was born November 7, 1676, at Petite Rivière (Saint-Charles) in Québec and she was 19 when she married Pierre II.

Who is Anne Ménage ? She is Pierre Ménage and Anne LeBlanc's daughter. Anne Leblanc was a King's daughter and part of a group of 15 girls who come in New-France. She arrived in Quebec City on August 3, 1672, after some fifty-five days at sea. She was17 years old. So Anne LeBlanc is Pierre Levasseur's (II) stepmother. Pierre Levasseur and Anne Ménage were granted a waiver of the three banns usually required, and also, because it was during lent. Pierre is a widower, aged 35 years and is a carpenter. He and his wife live on Mont-Carmel Street in Quebec. The Carmel nickname was given to the Levasseur descendants who lived on Carmel Street and was eventually adopted as a family name.

Today the home would be located under the Château Frontenac, on Mount Carmel Street, West of Carrières street and facing the Governor's garden. The residence was close to the Fort and Château Saint-Louis

The nicknames are ubiquitous in the genealogical history of Quebecers of French descent, since it was introduced to the country by immigrants themselves, mainly by soldiers who had received a nickname during their engagement in the colonial troops. These nicknames refer to a geographical location, a physical characteristic, quality or a defect. In many cases, the surname of origin is replaced by the nickname, which renders difficult the identification of an individual. Such is the case of many soldiers of the Carignan-Salières regiments who arrived in the country in 1665.

Pierre Levasseur (II) and Anne Ménage had 16 children They are: Marie-Anne, Marie-Jeanne, François, Anne, **Pierre Jacques Levasseur Carmel (III)**, Barthélemy, Marie-Anne (2), François Louis Borgia, François Ignace, Augustin, Etienne, Denis-Joseph, Marie-Anne Thérèse, Marie Madeleine, Jean Baptiste, François Didace. Only nine attained adulthood.

3rd generation

Of my descendants, we will talk about **Pierre Jacques dit Carmel Levasseur (III**), the 5th child of Pierre Levasseur (II) and Anne Ménage. Pierre Jacques was a master carpenter like his father, as well as merchant and sculptor. In turn, he transmitted the secrets of his trade to several of his sons.

He was born on November 19, 1703 in Quebec and died February 27, 1779 in Boucherville. He married four times. He married his first wife, Marie-Anne Bénard in Boucherville; the couple had no children. In a second marriage, he married on February 26, 1732, Marie-Anne Papin. Three children were born from this union. In a third marriage, he married Jeanne Lupien\Baron on November 28, 1744, at the Notre-Dame church in Montreal. Pierre Jacques established himself in Boucherville. As sculptor, in 1723, he was awarded a contract to decorate the new Church. Pierre Levasseur dit Carmel for the sum of 1 400 pounds, sculpted an altarpiece covered by a type of canopy or Imperial cover according to the Corinthian order. Then in 1729, he was asked to build the communion railing, for the price of 140 pounds.

Pierre Jacques and Jeanne Lupien\Baron had 5 children: Antoine Levasseur 1745-1828, Charlotte Levasseur\Carmel 1746-1781, Pierre Levasseur\Carmel 1747-1788, Marie-Angélique Levasseur\Carmel 1748-1748, Alexis Levasseur\Carmel 1749-1804.

4th generation

Pierre Levasseur dit Carmel (IV), the second son of Pierre Levasseur and Jeanne Lupien\Baron, was born on September 17, 1747 in Boucherville. He married, Marguerite Lacoste\Languedoc on May 28, 1770 in Boucherville. Of their union 12 children were born. He died on December 28, 1788 at Boucherville, at the age of 41.

5th generation

Pierre Levasseur said Carmel (V), first son of Pierre Levasseur dit Carmel and Marguerite Lacoste\Languedoc, was born April 23, 1771 in Boucherville. He married, on 10 February 1794, Charlotte Girard and they had 9 children. He died January 10, 1840 in Boucherville at the age of 68.

6th generation

Jean Baptiste Levasseur said Carmel, son of Pierre Levasseur\Carmel and Charlotte Girard, was born on January 15, 1798 at Boucherville. On his second marriage with Josette Moquin on October 6, 1823 in Laprairie 6 children were born: Marie - Josephte Levasseur in 1824, Salomée Levasseur\Carmel 1825, Carmel Jean-Baptiste 1827-1854, Louis Carmel 1828-1896, Peter Carmel (born Pierre Vasseur) 1830-1882, Marguerite Levasseur 1833-1869.

7th generation

Louis Carmel, son of Jean-Baptiste Levasseur and Charlotte Girard, was born March 16, 1828, Saint-Athanase, Iberville. On October 30, 1854, he married Anatalie Hébert. The couple had 13 children: Délima Carmel 1855-1882, Odile Carmel 1856, Nathalie Carmel 1858-1860, Louis Napoleon Carmel 1860-1937, Eugénie Carmel 1861, Mélanise Carmel 1863, Mélanie Carmel 1864-1933, Apolline Carmel 1864, Lumina Carmel 1866, anonymous Carmel 1868-1868, Eulalie Carmel 1869-1909, Xiste Carmel 1870-1941, Adolphe Carmel 1873-1873. Louis Carmel died on June 7, 1896, at the Ange-Gardien de Rouville at the age of 68



8th generation

Louis Napoléon Carmel, my great-grandfather, was born on May 30, 1860 in Ange-Gardien and died August 15, 1937, at the age of 77. He married Marie - Helena Brosseau April 24, 1882 in Ange-Gardien, Rouville County.

They had 13 children:

Ida Laura Carmel 1883, Marie-Isole Carmel 1885-1885, **Ludger Carmel 1886-1936**, Ogilvie Carmel 1888-1891, Henri Carmel 1890-1892, Hervé Agenor Carmel 1891-1921, Gilbert Honoré Carmel 1893, Eudore Carmel 1895-1964, Armand Césaire Carmel 1897-1950, Louis René Albani Carmel 1900-1900, Adélard Carmel 1903-1971, 1905-1905, Roland Carmel 1906-1928.

Louis Napoléon Carmel was the first Carmel to really settle in l'Ange-Gardien in 1880. From this marriage, seven boys only will survive: Ludger, Hervé Agenor, Gilbert, Eudore, Armand Césaire, Adélard, and Rolland. Louis is farmer, machinist and a carpenter. It is self-sufficient and works hard to raise his family. He purchased a farm on the Casimir concession. He built a beautiful stone house. Marie-Helena is the perfect woman of her time. The vegetable garden, the hen house and kitchen occupy her time. Music gives her several moments of happiness and joy to minimize the hardships of life at that time.

The music in this family was the main source of entertainment. All the boys played the violin and other musical instruments and brightened the lives

of neighbours at various gatherings. Marie-Helena enjoyed seeing and hearing her husband with their seven playing music together.



9th generation

Ludger Edmond Carmel, my grandfather, was born October 15, 1886 in Ange-Gardien and accidentally died on October 8, 1936 in Ange-Gardien on the Casimir concession. He married Lea Labelle on September 28, 1908, in Adamsville, Brome. The children of this union were: René Carmel 1909-1909, Carmel Renald 1910-1966, Léonide Carmel 1912-1986, Rose de Lima Beatrice, Carmel 1917-1918, Blanche Gertrude Carmel 1922, Jeanne Yvette Ernestine Carmel 1924-1924, Alice Carmel 1926 still alive, Donat Maurice Carmel 1929-1929, Roland Carmel 1931-1997.

10th generation

Renald Carmel, my father, was born on October 30, 1910 in Ange-Gardien and died July 19, 1966, in l'Ange-Gardien. He married Flore Mercure on May 7, 1934. She was born on November 1, 1906. She was the daughter of Hubert Mercure and Rose-Alma Robert, a famous family of 17 children, 11 boys and 6 girls.

Ludger Edmond Carmel (1886-1936) and Léa Labelle.

Flore, my mother, being the second eldest daughter,



Rénald and Flore had 5 children: Jacqueline, Jacques, Pauline, Louise and Diane.

inherited the drudgery of the kitchen. It was not uncommon to cook 5 cakes and 15 pies on Saturday for the weekend visitors. My parents dated during 5 years prior to getting married. During that time they saved enough money to buy a farm. Rénald was a businessman, jovial, loving music and gatherings with families and friends. He did not care for farm work. He spent a lot of time doing small jobs to supplement his income.

My mother is the one who did the work on the farm. Rénald preferred to meet with political figures and had hope to become mayor or councillor but with his lack of education (only 3 years of schooling) his chances were not very good. He, however, became

Chairman of the school Board in 1961, following the annexation of the Canrobert School Board with that of Ange-Gardien.



Roland Carmel and with the 2 violins his 2 brothers, Rénald and Léonide.

My mother worked as a seamstress to earn more money for the family. She loved to see the ladies of the parish wearing the clothes she had made for them. She made her own wedding dress, those of her bridesmaid and the flower girl. She was a redhead, and the dresses she made were very pale green.

Rénald loved playing the violin with his brother Léonide. He began at the age of four. Starting with the Christmas festivities to the Mardi Gras Reels and square dances were common in our household.

At one time, there were four farms on the Casimir Concession owned by the Carmels. They were the farms of Ludger, Eudore, Adélard and Renald. It was therefore convenient to assist one another and spend good times together. I am regularly in contact with Alice Carmel, my father's sisters, aged 89 year old and she has a lot of family information and photos.

I now have my family history and more than 300 photos of all the descendants of Ludger Edmond Carmel. It is for me a passion to write all these stories and pass them on to my children, cousins, cousins, nieces and nephews and grandchildren.

I also hope that this information will interest the readers of your newsletter LEVASSEUR



Alice Carmel Guertin, Ludger Carmel's daughter (aged 89 ans)

Pauline Carmel, March 26, 2015.

References :

Levasseur Newsletter vol 24 no 3 et vol 26 no 4, text by Huguette Levasseur.

The ALA Database (www.levasseur.org)

<u>Dictionnaire généalogique des descendants de Jean et Pierre Levasseur</u>, 1645-2008. Saint-Charles-Borromée, Québec, Association des Levasseur d'Amérique, 2008, 652 p.

La petite Histoire de L'Ange-Gardien, Azilda Marchand.

Carmel family photos



Eudore, Roland, Louis, the father, Ludger, Marie-Hélèna, the mother, Armand, Adélard Carmel.



Eudore Carmel on the accordeon and Armand Carmel at the violon.

L'ASSOCIATION DES LEVASSEUR



The Association, Levasseur d'Amérique Inc. is a non-profit organization, founded in 1988, in accordance to a federal charter. Its goals are:

- To join together and unite a large number of Levasseur and other descendants who have adopted the patronymic Borgia, Carmel, Carmell, Vasseur, Vassor, Vasser.
- To promote, develop and diffuse historical genealogical knowledge about the Levasseur families with Internet, an electronic Newsletter published three times per year also the publication of genealogical dictionaries.
- To maintain and update, on an ongoing basis, the genealogical data base available to members at all times on the Internet.
- To make available to members a family photo album and the Newsletters that the Association has published since 1988.
- To honor the memory of our forefathers and their descendants by way of monuments, plaques or symbolic gestures that commemorate historic events that are chronicle the Levasseur family.
- To gather all documents related to the Levasseur family for the purpose of constructing archives that will constitute the heritage or our Association and that will provide a source of information for historians and genealogists.

We would appreciate if you could send us family related documents that would add to our data base of archives and also enable us to continue the publication of the Levasseur Newsletter three times per year. The participation of the Levasseurs and members of their families is essential to allow us to pursue our mission. Send us your photos and texts for the next publication of the Newsletter. You can download them very easily with this new tool and by providing a brief description of the photo or text that is being sent. Following receipt of your documents, a copy of all information to be published in the Newsletter will be sent to you for approval prior to final publication.

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Other Levasseur Association Web sites:

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