



Father Ambroise's Silver beaker

Note : Amable Antoine Rouillard is the son of Jean Rouillard and **Jeanne Levasseur** and grand-son of **Pierre Levasseur** and **Jeanne Chanverlange**. He was born in Quebec City on March 28, 1693. He joined the religious order of the Récolets 1718 and was ordained to the priesthood in the Quebec General Hospital Chapel on September 18, 1723. He served in many localities and from 1759 to 1761 at Retigouche. He drowned in 1768. A search on Internet informs us that he has served on a war frigate, le Michault in 1760

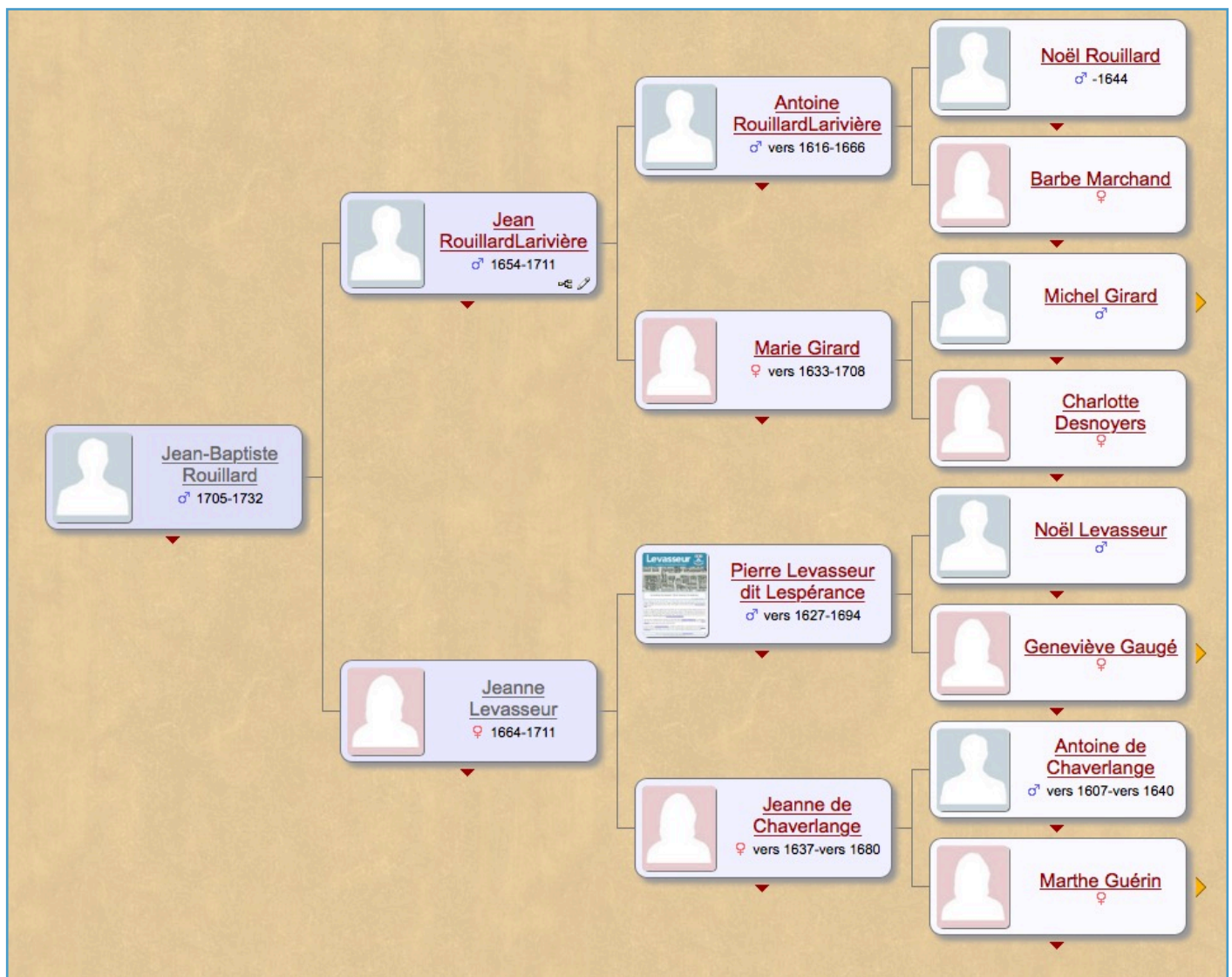
Photo : Built around 1810 in the Grève-Rioux, in the old seigniory of Trois-Pistoles, the Manor Rioux-Belzile



Amable Ambroise Robillard, a father with the Recollet order, well known as Father Ambroise, ministered various parishes and missions in towns along the Lower Saint Laurent from 1727 to 1768. He always resided with Lord Rioux in Trois Pistoles. On his last visit to carry out his priestly functions, there was an artist of portraits. Lord Rioux and other inhabitants of Trois Pistoles convinced Father Ambroise that he should have his picture painted. Since it would please his parishioners, he agreed. In those days the portrait was a large painting of the individual not small photos like those taken today. Following completion, the portrait was exhibited in the Rioux residence for the inhabitants of Trois Pistoles. All were impressed by the portrait of Father Ambroise. It was an exact copy of the Father in his robe

with his prayer book. Father Ambrose's comment about the painting, after the painter was gone, was that he looked like a drowned man in that portrait. His mission completed, Father Ambroise was on his way to Rimouski when he told Lord Rioux: "My kind lord, would you be kind enough to give me an old tin beaker for my trip, since I have unfortunately misplaced the one I had ?" "My dear father", said Lord Rioux while taking a silver beaker on the table, "do me the favor of accepting this one in memory of me". "Ah but I cannot do that. Just give me, I beg you a simple tin beaker". "Father do not refuse me this small gift for I would be very saddened if you did". My dear Mister Rioux I will accept only if I could eventually give it back to you someday, and what if I were to loose it". "Well my dear Father take it and upon your death I am sure it will be returned to my family". "Should you loose it, do not be concerned, God will get back to me". "let it be" said Father Ambroise and may God gratify you and your family for all your kindness and generosity to your humble servant. Father Ambroise left in a canoe with two men. The Rioux family and neighbors accompanied him to the shore from where he departed for Rimouski. All were sad to see him go. It was like a funeral. In the area of Pointe-A-La-Cive the canoe overturned and one of the men with Father Ambroise drowned. The other hung on to the canoe and managed to save himself. The next day, while doing her cleaning, Mme Rioux noticed on the table the Silver beaker that her husband had given Father Ambroise. It was on the same table where it had been taken by Lord Rioux to give to the kind Father. The good Father was dead but he had said upon looking at his portrait that he looked like a drowned man. He was a big lost but there is a Saint in heaven. As you can well imagined the silver beaker is well worth its weigh in gold and it is kept as a relict.

cf. Jean-Charles Taché, "Le gobelet d'argent du père Ambroise" «Le bulletin de Recherches historiques, Québec (1898) IV: 52-54.



Historical Note: The seigneurie of Trois-Pistoles is granted to Charles Denys de Vitré January 6, 1687 by Governor Denonville. It offers the possibility of developing fisheries, in particular cod and porpoise hunting, which attracts De Vitré to the seigneurie and there is no colonization effort. At the time of its concession, its territory measured two leagues abreast on the St. Lawrence River by two leagues deep inland and also included the Trois-Pistoles River and the surrounding islands.

In 1724, the parishioners of the lordship saw the arrival of the father recollet **Ambroise Rouillard** who for nearly thirty years, except for the period from 1735 to 1745, acts as a traveling missionary and serves the inhabitants of Île-Verte, Trois-Pistoles and Rimouski. In addition to being the "attentive, faithful and devoted pastor" of the Bas-Saint-Laurent citizens, the missionary also helps families by drafting the notarial deeds of certain marriages and estates.

Source : Wikipedia

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 of 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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