

# Levasseur



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<https://www.levasseur.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/associationlevasseur>



## The Levasseur Elm tree has been part of downtown Matane for more than 130 years

Searches : Jean-Pierre Levasseur

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"This elm was planted in 1888 by Mr. Hector Levasseur <sup>(1)</sup>, then ten years old, with the help of Mr. Elzéar Métivier, a handy-man employed by Mr. Louis-Joseph Levasseur, a merchant, father of Hector, mayor of Matane for three separate terms (1889 to 1891, 1895 to 1897 1907 to 1910) and founding president of the Matane Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. L.J. Levasseur had planted it near his general store, along with many others, including some on the west side of Edouard VIII Street, now Desjardins Avenue. In the 1930s, several were stricken by Dutch- Elm disease and had to be destroyed.

In 1958, the existing bridge over the Matane River was built and, to allow access, three houses were expropriated on the river side: that of Mr. Hector Levasseur and two others belonging to the Price Brothers" <sup>(2)</sup>

## Louis-Joseph Levasseur (3): A businessman engaged in his business community

Louis-Joseph Levasseur was born in Rimouski on May 23, 1850. Before becoming a merchant in 1872, he had worked as a clerk at Price Brothers. It was in the same year that he married Aglaé Paradis, a young girl from Kamouraska, in Matane. They had fourteen children, six of whom died in infancy. The other eight, five girls and three boys are the source of many offspring (5).

Mr. Levasseur was actively involved in the Matane Community. He was mayor of Matane from 1889 to 1891, 1896 to 1897 and from 1907 to 1910. He played an important role in the establishment of the railway to Matane. He was also involved with the municipal board and the school board.

The General Store Levasseur was located in front of the bridge that spans the Matane River. It carried all kinds of goods, its location was conducive to trade, the clientele was large and there were good deals. In the early years, the family lived on the second floor. In 1906, Louis-Joseph built a large house east of his store that is still in existence today. His daughter Hermance, married to Arthur Desjardins, inherited the store and their daughter Michèle inherited it after them

When he died, the house was entrusted to the Alzheimer Society. They transformed it into a refuge for people afflicted with this terrible disease. The furniture of the Levasseur-Desjardins home was donated to the Matane Hospital Foundation. They, in turn, sold it for \$30,000 to the Society of History and Genealogy of Matane following a fundraiser with the people of Matane. The furniture is currently stored in the basement of the City's Pavilion and the Matane Society of History and Genealogy manages an exhibit of this furniture in a room that serves as a museum.

The site formerly occupied by the Levasseur General Store is now occupied by a beautiful brick building built by the Provincial Bank which sold it when it merged with the Canadian National Bank.

Louis-Joseph Levasseur became a very wealthy man and donated \$35,000 plus a piano to each of his daughters for their wedding and a house to each of his boys. He died on July 27, 1928, eight years after his wife, but his name is still in our memory and shares Matane's history.

Donald Lévesque (4)

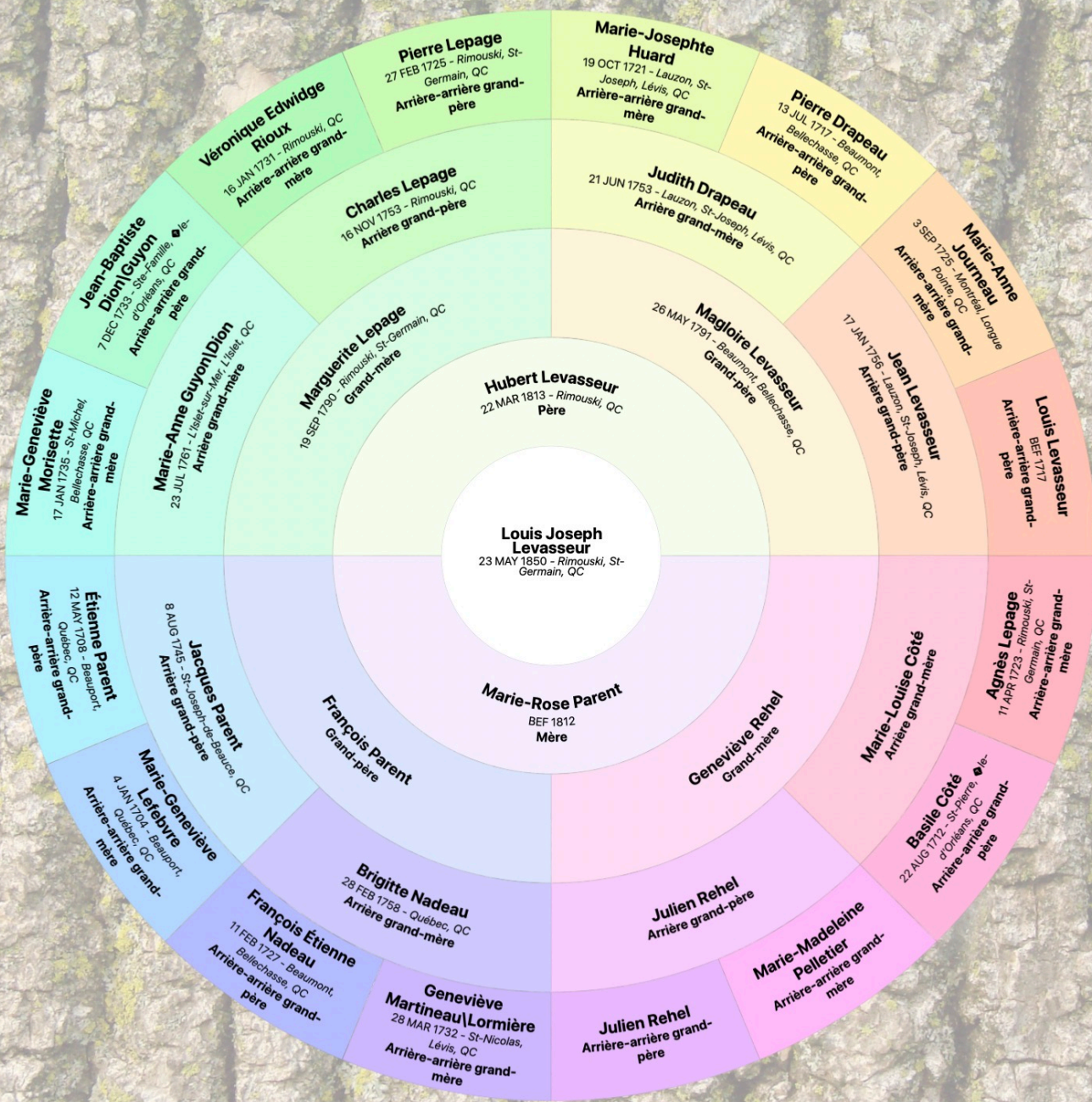
<https://shgmatane.org>



The above text is a translated version taken from a text inscribed on a plaque located in downtown Matane that tells the story of the Levasseur Elm tree..

PHOTO : RADIO-CANADA / JEAN-FRANÇOIS DESCHÊNES

## Genealogical spread of Louis-Joseph Levasseur (5)



The date mentioned on this fan shaped spread is the date of the person's birth.

### Notes et références :

- (1) Hector Levasseur was born on November 10, 1878. He married Claudia McKinnon on October 20, 1902 and his second marriage was with Adélaïde Gagnon on September 22, 1919, in Cap-Chat, Qc.
- (2) The Price Brothers and Company was a Quebec lumber and paper manufacturer.
- (3) Louis-Joseph Levasseur is a descendant of Laurent Levasseur (Marie Marchand).
- (4) Source : Société d'histoire et de généalogie de Matane. Article published April 24, 2012. <https://shgmatane.org/233/louis-joseph-levasseur/nouvelle.html>
- (5) Descendants of Louis-Joseph Levasseur number approximately 182 persons in the 6 generations that follow. In addition to Levasseur one finds; some Beaulieu, Bilodeau, Blouin, Bourque, Bérubé, Caron, Couillard, Côté, Dufresne, Gagné, Gauthier, Gilbert, Malenfant, Martin, Murphy, Roy et Tardif.

# 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.*

Join our team of volunteers, contact us !!

Web site : [www.levasseur.org](http://www.levasseur.org) - [webmaster@levasseur.org](mailto:webmaster@levasseur.org)

Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/associationlevasseur>

Other Levasseur Association Web sites:

[irma.levasseur.org](http://irma.levasseur.org)  
[militaires.levasseur.org](http://militaires.levasseur.org)  
[carmel.levasseur.org](http://carmel.levasseur.org)  
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