



The family of Pierre Robitaille, from father to son in the seigneurie of Gaudarville

Second Edition

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The original text of this document was written by Lorraine Robitaille Samson and first published in 1987, after many years of research.

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This document is a harmonized compilation of these components.

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Ancestral France showing the location of Artois, north of the country

The French region known today as Nord-Pas-de-Calais corresponds roughly to the territories of Artois, Picardie (Picardy), and Flandre (Flanders) between the 13th and 17th centuries.

Beginning in 1237, King Saint Louis (Louis IX), who had inherited a part of this region, entrusted it to his brother Robert, the latter taking the name of Robert 1st of Artois. Thereafter, the boundaries of the territories changed often depending on the moods of the many different leaders who succeeded one another: from England, Burgundy, the German Empire and the Spaniards who had settled in the Netherlands. It was only in 1639 that the French succeeded in regaining the stronghold of Hesdin from the Spaniards and, thus, of Artois, which was confirmed by the Treaty of the Pyrenees in 1659.

It was during this troubled period that the French couple Jean Robitaille and Martine Cormont raised four sons—Jean, Nicolas, Pierre, and Philippe—who emigrated to North America between 1642 and 1662.

This book endeavors to relate the story of these four Robitaille pioneers.

Foreword

This book tells the story of four brothers, sons of Jean Robitaille and Martine Cormont of France—Jean, Pierre, Nicolas, and Philippe—who emigrated to New France in the 17th Century. The first edition, published in 1987, was intended for my family only. In response to the many requests we received, this new edition will review and update the original text—with the assistance of René, Jean, Florent, and Henriette—and will be made available in stages to anyone interested on the website of the Robitaille Family Association Inc.

www.robitaille.org

The preamble deals with the history of this family who lived in the Pas-de-Calais region in the north of France. Chapter 1 presents the history of the first generation of Robitailles in North America: i.e., that of the four brothers, two of whom have many descendants living today. The later chapters, however, relate only to my family, that is to the descendants of Pierre. Since he left a large number of descendants, the other family branches are not included in this book.



The author Lorraine Robitaille

Spelling variants are to be noted in the names of the wives of the three brothers who married. To simplify reading and understanding, names have been standardized based on those used in notarized contracts and common usage of the period. Thus, the names used will be the following, those shown within parentheses are to be found in various documents:

- for Jean's wife, Marguerite **Buletez** (Bulté, Bultey, Burté, Bully)
- for Pierre's wife, Marie **Maufay** (Maufait, Mauffet, Moffet)
- for Philippe's wife, Madeleine **Warren** (Houarine, Grizel, Otis).

The name Robitaille¹ may come from the first name, Robert, which has given us Robin, Roby, and Robineau, amongst others; and Taille means “hamlet” or an ancient fief which was called the “taille”: “a cut of wood.” We might imagine that one of our ancestors was called Robert and lived in a place called “La Taille”. On the other hand, the “taille” was a government tax that was in use until 1789. The “taille” was also the work done by leather workers or stone masons. Perhaps our ancestor was a tax collector, or a leather worker, or a cathedral builder. Today there are Robitailles in the north of France, in the Midi and in the south, and Robitaglies in Italy, in Florence. Are we descendants of Italians, or has our name undergone changes over the years? Other research since the 1950s has dealt with the origin of our family name.

The etymology of the surname Robitaille in Europe includes several variants of the name. Compilations in France have shown that there are six branches of related families—Robitaille, Robitaillé, Robitaillie,

¹ Albert Douzt, *Dictionnaire étymologique des noms de famille et prénoms de France*, Larousse, Paris 1951

Robitaillié, Robitail, and L'hôpital—and that some of these branches are now non-existent or include fewer than 50 individuals.²

Several other hypotheses have been put forward regarding the origin of our family name: Italian³, Artesian, Basque and Breton⁴, and even Viking⁵. In North America⁶, particularly in the United States, in addition to the name Robitaille, we encounter Rabbitoy, Roberts, and several other variants of lesser importance, caused perhaps by the difficulty of pronouncing the word “Robitaille” in English.

In many occasions in this document, we indicate an age at death that may differ from the actual age that can easily be calculated from the birth and death dates. One must understand that we simply reproduce the age inscribed in the Burial Registry.

² *Les Robitailleries*, number 73, pp. 9–13.

³ *Les Robitailleries*, number 74, pp. 5–7.

⁴ *Les Robitailleries*, number 75, pp. 5–10.

⁵ *Les Robitailleries*, number 85, p. 10.

⁶ *Les Robitailleries*, number 76, pp. 6–10

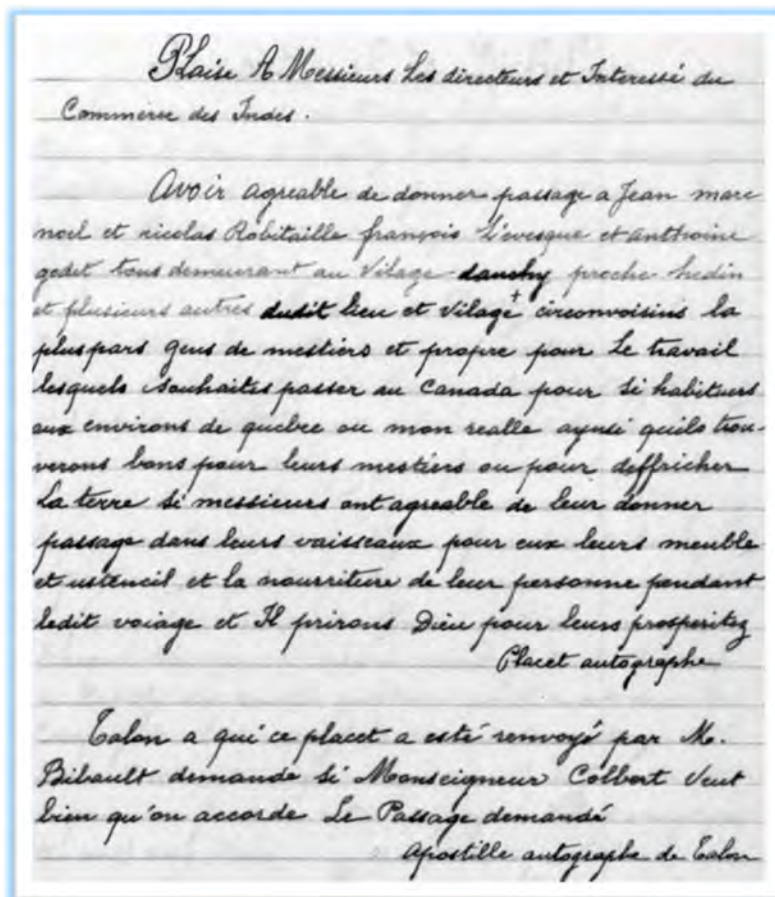
Preamble

Pierre's parents, Jean Robitaille and Martine Cormont, were married around 1640 and had at least six children baptized at the abbey church of Saint-Georges of Auchy or at Auchy-les-Moines (literally Auchy the Monks – later renamed Auchy-lès-Hesdin in 1789).

Jean was born in 1642 and, in his marriage contract, is listed as being from the parish of Auchy, in the diocese of Boulogne.

Nicolas was born around 1650.

Jean and Nicolas, in booking passage for Nouvelle-France, said that they were from Auchy, near Hesdin.



Handwritten transcript of the requisition

date this document was written, but it is classified under "Miscellaneous 17th and 18th Centuries, Vol. 86711," and we know that Jean Talon, who approved this requisition, was in France from 1668 until 1671.

François L'evesque, Antoine Godet, and the brothers, Marc and Noël Robitaille, apparently never made it to Canada because they do not appear anywhere in the registers in Nouvelle-France.

To the directors and others interested in trade with the Indies

Please be kind enough to provide passage to Jean, Marc, Noel, and Nicolas Robitaille, Francis L'evesque, and Anthony Godet—all residents of the village of Auchy, near Hesdin—and several others from that place and nearby villages, the majority of these people are tradesmen and qualified for the work they hope to undertake in Canada to become familiar with that area. They also hope that those places will be found to be good for their trades or for reclaiming the land. If you are agreeable to granting passage in your vessels for them, their tools, and food for themselves during the said voyage; and we pray that God will grant them prosperity.

Handwritten requisition

Jean Talon, to whom this requisition was forwarded by Mr. Bibault asks if Mr. Colbert wishes to grant the passage requested

Jean Talon Autograph

This requisition is in the collection of the National Library of France, Department of Manuscripts, Clairambault Collection. Unfortunately, we do not know the exact



The Abbey of Saint-Georges and Saint-Silvin, today the parish Church of Auchy-lès-Hesdin where Jean, Nicolas, and perhaps Pierre were born. (Photo: Louise Robitaille)

The story of Auchy-lès-Hesdin⁷ can be divided into two very different periods:

The first period, from the first days of its existence to the revolution of 1789, is confounded with that of its monastery. Until that date, the village was called Auchy-les-Moines.

Its foundation dates back to the year 673, when Adalscaire, Count of Hesdin, gave the land to his daughter Sicchede to build a monastery that was inhabited by nuns until 881. They then had to abandon it and flee to Belgium to escape Norman invaders who destroyed everything in their path. It was not until 1072 that the abbey was rebuilt and inhabited by Benedictine monks.

They began to reclaim the land and, little by little, life was organized around the monastery. Buildings were built, agricultural and artisanal activities were developed, and this is how the village was created. From the abbey outside the present church, which was the chapel of the monastery, only a few traces remain: the façade of the chapter house (currently a restaurant called “La Filature”), the pigeon loft in the park, and the waterfall.

This church, which suffered enormously from invasions and fires, has been restored. It is currently classified as an Historical Monument. It has been accorded the privilege of serving as the burial place for several knights and dignitaries killed in 1415 at the Battle of Agincourt, and one of the most illustrious of these is Gallois de Fougères, Provost of the Marshalls of France.

The second period, from 1789 to the present, was characterized by industrialization. The village was renamed Auchy-lès-Hesdin. The buildings of the monastery were bought in 1805 by Messrs. Say and Grivel to serve as a cotton factory. And it was in 1859 that Mr. Watine acquired it. In 1834, a violent fire destroyed most of the buildings, except the church, which explains why so few traces survived.



Baptismal font of Auchy-lès-Hesdin. (Photo Pas-de-Calais Wiki)

⁷ Brochure published by the Tourist Office of Auchy-lès-Hesdin

The Ternoise, a river where fish is abundant, calmly flows through the quiet village of Auchy-lès-Hesdin, and offers a pretty waterfall surrounded by flowers. The river then meanders through the verdant countryside that it will leave a few kilometers downstream to join the Canche River.

Pierre was born in 1651 and, in his marriage contract, indicates that he is from Saint-Georges, in the diocese of Boulogne. There is some ambiguity because there are two churches bearing the name of Saint-Georges in the area.

St. George's Church near Old Hesdin, with its Romanesque-style portal, dates back to the 13th century. It still exists as a relic of a distant past. There is also the abbey of Saint-Georges and Saint-Silvain in Auchy where Jean and Nicolas were born. However, according to an historian of Hesdin, to designate one's birthplace, it was permissible to use the name of the community or the name of the church. It is not possible to confirm Pierre's choice because no baptismal certificate is available.



*La Ternoise River of Auchy-lès-Hesdin
(Photo: Paul Robitaille of MT. USA)*



*Town hall of Auchy-lès-Hesdin
(Photo: Pas-de-Calais Wiki)*

Marc was born around 1653 and Noël around 1656, but they never came to America.

Philippe, born in 1662, mentions coming from Béalencourt, in the diocese of Boulogne. It is a small village located about five kilometers north of Auchy-lès-Hesdin.

The diocese of Boulogne-sur-mer (Boulogne by the Sea) was under the Episcopal authority of Msgr. Francis Perrochel from 1643 to 1675. This diocese was abolished during the French Revolution and assigned to the diocese of Arras.



*Church of St. Georges where Pierre was likely born
(Photo: Wiki Pas-de-Calais)*

From 1647 to 1659, Spanish troops harassed France and between 1648 and 1652, France suffered a serious economic crisis, famine, and plague. In spite of everything, the Robitaille sons most likely attended school, for Jean and Pierre knew how to write.

Old Hesdin, which was once a fortress, was for years a target for princes or invaders. It suffered many sieges and was systematically destroyed in 1553 by the Germanic emperor Charles V, who was also King of Spain. After its destruction, the residents who mostly engaged in the wool trade, regrouped some six kilometers away, and built a new agglomeration that they named Hesdin, today's city at the confluence of the Ternoise and Canche rivers.

In the beginning, it was a fortress rebuilt by Charles V to replace old Hesdin that he had destroyed. The town hall was built between 1563 and 1629. It would be saved from the ravages of the French Revolution by being used as a warehouse. The same was true of the Church of Notre-Dame, built between 1565 and 1585, which was preserved because it was first transformed into a temple of the Goddess of Reason, and then into a feed store. The city remained a stronghold until 1842 and the barracks sheltered many regiments.



*Church of Béalencourt where was born Philippe
(Photo: Wiki Pas-de-Calais)*



*Town Hall of Hesdin
(Photo: Paul Robitaille of MT)*



*The church of the old Hesdin
(Photo: Paul Robitaille of MT)*



The old stables in Hesdin
(Photo: Louise Robitaille)

The four villages associated with our ancestors—Saint-Georges, Vieil-Hesdin (Old Hesdin), Auchy-lès-Hesdin, and Béalencourt—are located within 10 km of the new Hesdin.



The old spinning and the church towers in Hesdin (Photo: Louise Robitaille)



Map of Hesdin and the surrounding area (From Internet)



*Church of Notre-Dame of Hesdin (1565) and its portal (1583)
(Photo: Paul Robitaille of MT)*

This area was once part of Lower Picardy. In 1670, these villages were part of a province of France called Artois. This territory, at the time of the Romans, belonged to Belgium and was returned to France by the Treaty of the Pyrenees in 1659. The small town of Hesdin now has little more than 2000 inhabitants. She is proud both of her historical past and of her modernity. She views herself as the cradle of a famous novelist, Father Prévost, the author of, among other novels, *Manon Lescaut*. His bust occupies a place of honor behind Notre-Dame church, on the bank of the Canche river.⁸

All that remains of the old Hesdin are a few sections of the walls of the old castle and the convent of the Black Nuns. The three-walled fortress has disappeared, as well as the town hall and its belfry, the prison, the hospital, the convents, and the chapels. Today it is a small village of fewer than 400 inhabitants located on the banks of the Canche. There is also the castle of Estruval at the end of a long lane lined with linden trees and a new church. But that no longer reflects the glorious past and her 8000 inhabitants.



*Bust of Father Prévost and the Canche River in Hesdin
(Photo: Internet)*

⁸ Aimé Gagné, personal notes *Du Pas-de-Calais aux rives du Saint-Laurent*, 1986

Chapter 1 – The first generation of Robitailles in North America: Jean, Nicolas, Philippe, and Pierre

The Reasons for Their Departure from France

What drove these four brothers to come to Canada? Given that there was twenty years age difference between Jean and Philippe, we can assume that the family of Jean Robitaille and Martine Cormont was large. Moreover, in Philippe's marriage contract, it is mentioned that his father was a laborer.⁹ In those years in France, there was a lot of poverty and unemployment. It was not possible to keep dividing small farms into smaller and smaller pieces.¹⁰

Since Jean Robitaille was a laborer, perhaps he owned a piece of land as a farmer; but, because of its size, he could not leave it to all of his children. It must also be said that France, at that time, had been seriously affected by wars and all their consequences. This was accompanied by a climate of insecurity and very high taxes to be paid. To these causes can be added the propaganda that was beginning to be circulated in France, for example by Pierre Boucher and Robert Giffard, to recruit many settlers for New France.

It was around 1667 that Jean Robitaille's sons, Jean, Nicolas, and Pierre, probably saw posters and heard the drum rolls announcing the presence of recruiters for New France in the public square. They learned that they could come to work and even obtain land on the banks of the St. Lawrence, so they applied to the French government, as indicated by an application submitted by Nicolas and Jean. They received an offer that was difficult to refuse. They were promised land that they had to clear if they wanted to stay. Otherwise, they had the option to return to their country of origin.

Jean, Nicolas, and Pierre certainly were not difficult to convince to embark for New France since they could make a better living without having to pay heavy taxes, because obtaining land in France was not possible for them. What awaited them was not as beautiful as they imagined: harsh winters, short agricultural seasons, wars with the Iroquois, and a lot of work.

Since Nicolas returned to his native country after only a few years in New France, it was probably the story of his adventures that convinced Philippe to join his two other brothers some 23 years later. While the Robitailles living in L'Ancienne-Lorette were sedentary for several generations and married their neighbors' daughters while remaining in the same village, Philippe's family, who settled in Montréal, had more of a taste for adventure.

Crossing the Atlantic

We do not know which ship the three Robitaille brothers embarked on. Two ships departed from La Rochelle in 1670: the *Hélène*, captained by André Chaviteau, and the *St. Pierre*, captained by Jean Boutin. Unfortunately, we do not have passenger lists for these crossings. The port of Honfleur was very active during these years; and, between 1668 and 1670, there were 416 departures and arrivals of ships there.

⁹ Marriage contract of Philippe Robitaille and Madeleine Warren (Marie Magne Houarine), 14 October 1693, notary Bénigne Basset, BAnQ Montréal

¹⁰ Michel Langlois, *La venue des ancêtres*, L'Ancêtre, Vol. IV, No 6, p.183

According to the application submitted by Jean and Nicolas, the Robitaille brothers brought with them their own food and furniture for the whole trip. According to the ships' logs of that time, the passengers lived in very cramped conditions during the crossing, which lasted between one and three months depending on the winds and storms. At night, grouped below decks, the travellers slept on thin mattresses. If the weather was nice, the hatches and windows remained open to allow ventilation. On board, they ate mainly biscuits, semolina (rye, oats or corn), beans, and bacon. If a passenger died, his belongings were sold at auction at the foot of the main mast.

*For the passengers nothing was organized. Daily life on board was quite monotonous. It consisted, when time permitted, of long walks on the deck, interspersed with games or chance—card games were very popular at the time—of music and singing and, for some of the more educated passengers, reading. But since the monotony of everyday life could lead to nostalgia, a disease that the doctors of the time considered to be deadly, the captain organized wrestling or climbing contests after supper.*¹¹

The Arrival

The arrival of the ships marked an important moment in the lives of the inhabitants of the colony, since it was their only contact with France. Did the three Robitaille brothers arrive in the summer or early autumn of 1670? We are not sure. One hypothesis is that they did not come here as 36-month employees or as illegal immigrants. Did they have some money? The three brothers signed a land grant contract in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville, beginning in November 1670. Jean was married three days later. He was 27 years old at the time, Pierre was 18, and Nicolas was 19 or 20. Together they built Jean's house, and thus get a roof for themselves. The Seigneur likely granted them their concession orally before the contracts were signed with the notary. Jean and Pierre remained on their concession, but Nicolas returned to France without leaving any descendants. When the three Robitaille brothers arrived, Philippe was only 7 years old and living in France with his parents. He would join them 23 years later.

The Seigneurie of Gaudarville

The Seigneurie of Gaudarville was located in Champigny, in the parish of L'Ancienne Lorette.

The Seigneurie of Gaudarville had been granted to "*Jean of Lauzon, the king's ordinary adviser on his councils of state and private, governor and lieutenant general for His Majesty in New France,*" who himself conceded it to "*Louis de Lauzon, squire, seigneur of La Citière and Gaudarville,*" on February 8, 1652. The name of the seigneurie was granted in memory of Louis' mother, Marie Gaudar (Gaudard).

Upon the death of Louis de Lauzon in 1659, his wife Marie Catherine Nau of Fossambault became the owner of the Seigneurie of Gaudarville. She married Jean-Baptiste Peuvret of Mesnu, a nobleman who owned other lands including the Mesnu fiefdom.

November 9, 1667,

Act of faith and tribute from Jean-Baptiste Peuvret, Sueur de Mesnu, tax collector of the West India Company, for the land and Seigneurie of Gaudarville, which belongs to him by the concession that was made to him and to

¹¹ André Lachance, *À l'aventure sur l'Atlantique*, Québec-Histoire, Nos. 5-6, 29

Catherine Nau, his wife, by various creditors of the estate of the late Louis de Lauzon, the first husband of the said Miss Nau.¹²

Costs and Benefits for a Colonist Settling in a Seigneurie

The land granted was not cleared. The first winter was very difficult and it could sometimes take several years before a settler's land was sufficiently cleared. Once he had established himself, he could consider finding a wife and starting a family. Courtship was brief and the young man had to declare his intention to the woman's father and mother after four visits to their daughter.

By settling in a seigneurie, the colonist accepted certain obligations: he had to build a house and live there, pay the seigneur a royalty on St. Martin's feast day (November 11), clear his land, and work on the construction of roads within the seigneurie. On the other hand, he reaped great advantages: without paying a penny, he obtained land that would belong to him in perpetuity, and the environment in which he settled would provide him with essential services: church, road, mill. The son of an inhabitant could, without costing him a penny, settle on a piece of land that exceeded in area that of most peasants in France. And he was his own boss.

The seigneur had to pay tribute to the king, produce a census, pay duties if he sold his estate; he also committed himself to building an ordinary mill. On the other hand, he reaped appreciable advantages: the annual rent, which was usually equivalent to half a day's work per arpent of land granted, the right to grind the 14th minot of any ground grain at his mill, and a tax paid to him by the censor who sells his land.¹³

Each brother's concession was approximately 3 arpents wide (1 arpent measured about 200 feet).

¹² Inventory of Concessions in fiefdom and Seigneurie times and tribute and confessions and Counts kept in the national archives, BAnQ

¹³ Allard Lionel, *L'Ancienne-Lorette*, Leméac Editions, 68-69, 1979

The Story of the Four Brothers

Story of Jean Robitaille and the first five generations

Jean Robitaille signed a Grant of Concession of Land in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville before the notary, Gilles Rageot, of Québec City, November 24, 1670.¹⁴

He completed a marriage contract before the notary, Becquet, on November 16, 1670. Jean said that he came from the parish of Auchy, in the diocese of Boulogne.¹⁵

Three days later, he married Marguerite Buletez, daughter of Pierre Buletez and Louise Pépin. Marguerite Buletez was one of the Daughters of the King (*Filles du Roi*) who were sent to New France in 1670.

“She was born in the village of Auchy in 1647. She brought with her goods worth an estimated 200 livres (approximately the annual salary for an unskilled laborer) and a grant of 50 livres from the king. Marguerite’s father was present at the signing of his daughter’s marriage contract and he resided in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville. He had emigrated to New France around 1668 with his second wife, Jeanne Charron, and daughter, Marie Anne. The Intendant, Jean Talon, was also present at the signing of Marguerite Buletez’s contract and granted her the king’s customary gift of 50 pounds. This daughter had likely not accompanied her family to Canada in 1668. She would have joined them in 1670, taking advantage of the benefits granted to the Filles du Roi. The gift she received from the king is significant in this regard.”¹⁶

We may assume that it was this amount of money that enabled Jean to build his house in L’Ancienne-Lorette. Since Pierre married five years later, he had lived with his brother and sister-in-law for a few years. And Nicolas as well, until his return to France.

Since the first chapel in L’Ancienne-Lorette was not inaugurated until November 4, 1674, Jean Robitaille must have been married in the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec and had his first two children baptized at the mission in Sillery.

Census of 1681

At the time of the 1681 census, Jean Robitaille was 38 years old and his wife was 34. He was born in 1643. He arrived and married in New France at the age of 27. They had six children by 1681; he owned 2 rifles, 5 horned animals, and 16 acres of land.¹⁷

¹⁴ Land grant from M. de Mesnu to Jean Robitaille, November 18, 1670, notary Gilles Rageot, BAnQ.

¹⁵ Marriage contract between Jean Robitaille and Marguerite Buletez (Bultez), 16 November 1670, notary Romain Becquet, BAnQ.

¹⁶ Dumas, Silvio, *Les Filles du Roi en Nouvelle-France*, historical study with biographical information, The Québec Historical Society, Book 24, First Edition (1972)

¹⁷ André Lafontaine, *Recensement annoté de la Nouvelle-France 1681*, Sherbrooke, November 1981

The family of Jean Robitaille and Marguerite Buletez

Jean-François	Baptized on April 6, 1672, at St. Joseph's Mission in Sillery. Died between the censuses of 1681 and 1716.
Madeleine	Born in L'Ancienne Lorette and baptized at St. Joseph's Mission in Sillery on November 19, 1673.
Joseph Martin	Born on August 2, 1673, and baptized on August 3, 1676, in L'Ancienne Lorette. Confirmed on April 4, 1684, in Québec City. Died before the 1716 census.
Marie Thérèse	Baptized on March 22, 1678, in L'Ancienne Lorette. Married on December 19, 1717, at Notre-Dame de Québec to Joseph Fauconnet, son of P. and Marie Marisi. Died on June 22, 1721, at Notre-Dame de Québec at the age of 42.
Marie-Marguerite	Named on March 9, 1680, in L'Ancienne Lorette. Died before the census of 1681.
Charles (sometimes referred to as Charles François)	Born and baptized on March 21, 1681, in L'Ancienne Lorette. Married on October 26, 1705 (age 24) in Neuville to Marie Louise Delisle (age 21), daughter of Louis and Louise DesGranges. Contract Notary Genaple October 19, 1705.

Of this generation, only Charles was able to pass the family name on to his descendants. We will see later that the line of transmission was very thin for the next three generations.

Jean Robitaille sells his land to his brother Pierre

In 1693 (the year of his brother Philippe's arrival), on March 23, in front of the notary Genaple, Jean Robitaille sold his land to his brother Pierre and moved to the City of Québec. He was 50 years old at the time, and it is likely that only Charles François, then 12 years old, and perhaps Marie Madeleine, who was 19 at the time, were still at home. Charles-François became a tailor in Québec City and then settled in Neuville.

Jean Robitaille died on March 23, 1715, at Notre-Dame de Québec at the age of 73. Marguerite Buletez died on June 25, 1732. She was about 85 years of age and is buried at the Notre-Dame de Québec cemetery.

Descendants of Jean Robitaille and Marguerite Buletez

Generations 2 to 4: The names of the sons who assured the transmission of the family name to later generations are shown in **bold**.

G	Husband	Children
2	<p>Charles Robitaille and Marie-Louise Delisle, married in Neuville on October 26, 1705</p> <p>Charles died at Neuville on March 11, 1727, at the age of 45 from a stroke.</p>	<p>–Marie-Charlotte, born September 10, 1706, married in Lanoraie on November 15, 1733, to Jean Baptiste Guignard, known as Dalcourt, militia captain</p> <p>–Charles François, born to Madeleine Roberge on November 27, 1708, married in Neuville on February 22, 1751, to Madeleine Roberge</p> <p>–Marie Angelique, born March 9, 1711, married in Neuville on September 23, 1748, to Charles Letartre</p> <p>–Monique, born May 5, 1713, married in Neuville on February 7, 1735, to Louis Joseph Dolbec</p> <p>–Marguerite, born on June 8, 1716, married in Neuville on October 18, 1756, to Pierre Monguar</p> <p>–Marie Louise, born on August 25, 1718, married in Neuville on February 14, 1746, to Joseph Larue</p>
3	<p>Charles-François Robitaille married Madeleine Roberge in Neuville on February 22, 1751</p> <p>Charles-Francois Robitaille died on March 8, 1798, in Neuville, at the age of 89 (master blacksmith)</p>	<p>–Charles, born May 29, 1752, died June 22, 1755, at the age of 3</p> <p>–Marie Madeleine, born November 3, 1753; married. in Neuville on November 9, 1778, to J.B. Gingras</p> <p>–Marguerite, born February 22, 1755; died February 6, 1774, at the age of 18</p> <p>–Charles, born April 15, 1757, married in Neuville on November 14, 1791, to Françoise Rognon</p> <p>–Anonymous, born and died August 15, 1759</p> <p>–Augustin, born November 1, 1760; married in Neuville on February 14, 1791, to Geneviève Bertrand</p> <p>–Marie-Anne, born December 4, 1763; married in Neuville on November 15, 1784, to Ignace Doré</p> <p>–François, born June 9, 1766, died September 20, 1766</p>
4	<p>Charles Robitaille married Françoise Rognon on November 14, 1791 in Neuville</p> <p>Charles died in L'ancienne Lorette on November 3, 1845 and was buried in the church</p>	<p>–Charles, born February 21, 1798 (His fate is still unknown)</p> <p>–Joseph¹⁸, born on May 17, 1799; married in Notre-Dame de Québec on April 26, 1820, to Catherine Bois. Their only son, Charles, seems not to have had any descendants.</p> <p>–Marie Jeanne, born November 24, 1800</p> <p>–Élizabeth, born November 18, 1802; married in Notre-Dame de Québec on November 18, 1820, to Jean Baptiste Dorval, and then on May 19, 1840, to Etienne Turcot</p> <p>–Marie Françoise, born January 7, 1804; married. in Notre-Dame de Québec on July 1, 1830, to François Xavier Piché</p> <p>–Marie Anne Anastasie, born July 23, 1805; married in Notre-Dame de Québec on January 8, 1833, to Louis Juneau</p> <p>–Marie Luce, born on October 18, 1808, and died in Québec City with the Sisters of Charity on November 13, 1888</p>

¹⁸ Vente de Jean Robitaille et Marguerite Buletez son épouse, à Pierre Robitaille et Marie Maufay son épouse, 23 mars 1693, notaire François Genaple, BANQ.

<p>Augustin Robitaille married Genevieve Bertrand on February 14, 1791, in Neuville</p> <p>Augustin died at Neuville on April 20, 1833, at the age of 72</p>	<p>–Angèle, born December 27, 1791, died December 11, 1811</p> <p>–Justine, born June 7, 1793, died August 12, 1858</p> <p>–Charles, born May 27, 1795, married in Neuville on November 19, 1822, to Luce Angers</p> <p>–Augustin, born on April 28, 1797; married in St-Augustin de Desmaures on February 3, 1824, to Cécile Quézel</p> <p>–Ursule Dorothée, born on March 21, 1799; married in Neuville on October 4, 1819, to Joachim Gingras</p> <p>–Cécile, born on April 16, 1801, married in Neuville on April 15, 1839, to Jacques Bédard</p> <p>–François-Xavier born on March 12, 1803; married in Notre-Dame de Québec on November 3, 1829, to Marie Félicité Giroux</p> <p>–Flore, born April 29, 1805; married in Québec City (St-Roch) on November 22, 1831, to Jacques Dulac known as Bonhomme</p> <p>–Reine, born July 28, 1808, died April 12, 1815</p>
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Generation 5: the three sons of Augustin Robitaille and Geneviève Bertrand

<p>Charles Robitaille <i>Luce Angers</i> Charles died on December 6, 1874, in Québec City (St.John the Baptist)</p>	<p>Augustin Robitaille <i>Cécile Quézel</i> Augustin died on October 16, 1877, in Neuville</p>	<p>François-Xavier Robitaille <i>Marie Félicité Giroux</i> Francis died on October 16, 1884, in Ham Sud</p>
<p>–Augustin (1825-1826)</p> <p>–Romuald (1826-1901)</p> <p>–Adéline Papillon</p> <p>–Charles Isidore (1828-1906)</p> <p>–Henriette Lévesque</p> <p>–François Paul (1830-1855)</p> <p>–Uldéric (1831-1915)</p> <p>–Sara Latulippe</p> <p>–Reine (1832-1834)</p> <p>–Éloïse (1834-1883)</p> <p>–Léger Grenier</p> <p>–Virginie Joséphine (1835-1858)</p> <p>–Hercule Tapin</p> <p>–Hectorine (1837-1838)</p> <p>–Marie Victoire (1838-1840)</p> <p>–Luce Geneviève (1840-1845)</p> <p>–Malvina Adeline (1842-1914)</p> <p>–Alexis Cayer</p> <p>–Peter Denys</p> <p>–Adelaïde (1843-1920)</p> <p>–Évariste Page</p> <p>–Louis Philippe (1845-1845)</p> <p>–Louis Télesphore (1847-1929)</p> <p>Marie Zoé Salomé Drolet</p>	<p>–Joseph (1825-1884)</p> <p>–Angélique Dussault</p> <p>–Rebecca (1827-1891)</p> <p>–François-Xavier Trudel</p> <p>–François-Xavier (1829-1905) Reine Trudel</p> <p>–Augustin (1831-1832)</p> <p>–Augustin (1833-1833)</p> <p>–Johnny (1834-1882)</p> <p>–Marie Léda (1835-1865)</p> <p>–Ferdinand "Cyprien"(1838-1912)</p> <p>–Émilie Whalen</p> <p>–Joseph Odile (1839-?)</p> <p>–Geo Napoléon (1841-1918) Marie Philomène Cloutier</p> <p>–Cécile (1842-1918)</p> <p>–Joseph Bélanger</p> <p>–Marie Almina (1845-1886)</p> <p>–Pierre Fiset</p> <p>–Adjutor (1849-1874)</p>	<p>–François-Xavier (1830-1885) Euphrosine St-Michel</p> <p>–Célestin (1832-)</p> <p>–Exileda Casavant</p> <p>–Marie Délina (1834-1837)</p> <p>–Charles Eusèbe (1836-1837)</p> <p>–Auréli Vitaline (1838-)</p> <p>–Adolphe Vallée</p> <p>–Marie Joséphine (1839-1899)</p> <p>–Étienne Pinard</p> <p>–Charles Hippolyte (1841-)</p> <p>–Isidore Agerilas "Silas" (1842-1929)</p> <p>–Julie Michel</p> <p>–Joseph Alphonse</p> <p>–Caroline Hamel</p> <p>–Narcisse Alfred (1845-1847)</p> <p>–Adéline Délima (1847-1931)</p> <p>–Noël Michel</p> <p>–Onésime Nault</p>

Nicolas Robitaille's story

Nicolas Robitaille signed a contract for a Concession of Land in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville in front of the notary Gilles Rageot of Québec, on November 24, 1670.¹⁹

We have no trace of Nicolas Robitaille, except on the contract for the sale of Jean Robitaille's house to his brother, Pierre, on November 23, 1693, before the notary Genaple:

"And by means of the abandonment and transfer which was made of the same quantity of adjacent land by Nicolas Robitaille to his brother, as he departed for France, by a simple agreement between them". (See Note 18)

And we find the same information in the order issued by Mr. Raudot, the Intendant, on January 18, 1710:

"The said Robitaille will have the lands surveyed the said lands and the other three which he owns: one granted to him on November 24, 1670, and the other two he acquired from Nicolas and Jean Robitaille his brothers." ²⁰

Nicolas did not stay in New France, he returned to France leaving his land to his brothers Jean and Pierre.

¹⁹ Land grant from M. de Mesnu to Nicolas Robitaille, 24 nov.1670, notary Gilles Rageot, BAnQ

²⁰ Order issued by Mr. Raudot, the intendant, who gave notice to the Sieur du Tisé and Pierre Robitaille of the agreement by them made, January 18, 1710, notary Bernard de la Rivière, BAnQ.

Philippe Robitaille's story

Philippe arrived in New France 23 years after his brothers, in 1693. He was 30 at the time.

In his marriage contract, sworn before Notary Basset in Montréal on October 14, 1693, he declared that he was "*a native of the Village of Billancourt (Béalancourt) in the said Diocese of Boulogne*" (see Note 9)

Philippe Robitaille was a cooper (a maker of wooden barrels).

He married Madeleine Warren (Houarine), the widow of Richard Labosse (Othys) "*an English woman living in the town of Annord near Boston, in New England and living in Villemarie*" (i.e., Montréal) as of October 15, 1693, at Notre-Dame de Montréal.

Madeleine Warren (Houarine), known as *Grizel* was born on February 24, 1662, in Berwick, New England, daughter of James Warren, a protestant Scot, and Margaret, an Irish Catholic. She was the third wife of Richard Otis (aka Othys), a blacksmith. He already had a large family, and she gave him two other little girls, Hanna and Christine. Richard Otis was quite old and was likely killed by Indians [*sic*]. Hanna was also killed at the age of two. Madeleine was abducted by Indians [*sic*], along with Christine, aged 3 months, and three of Richard's other children: John, Stephen, and Nathaniel. The rest of the family, including three of Richard's daughters, were rescued by a group chasing the kidnappers near the town of Conway. It is likely that Madeleine and Christine were bought from the Indians [*sic*] by some Frenchmen who brought them back to Montréal.

Grizel was baptized in the Catholic faith in Montréal on May 9, 1693. She was named Marie Madeleine after her godmother, Lady Marie Madeleine Dupont, wife of Mr. Lemoine, Squire of Maricour, and Captain of a Naval detachment. His godfather was Mr. Jacques LeBer, a merchant. Grizel worked in the service of Monsieur de Maricour, and, four months later, Marie Madeleine Otis was confirmed and, on 15 October 1693, she married Philippe Robitaille. The wedding was celebrated by Father Meriel, parish priest of Ville Marie (Montréal), in the presence of her godfather, her godmother and Mr. de Maricour. In the marriage contract, signed the previous day before the notary Basset, the future husband agrees to take Christine (Margaret) as his own daughter. Marie Madeleine Houarine (Warren) received her citizenship in May 1710. In the *Register of Re-purchased Captives*, she is called Mrs. *Grizalem*. She seems to have helped her captor-friends and also helped Father Meriel in his ministry to them. She died in Montréal on October 27, 1750, at the age of 89, after being bedridden for 9 or 10 years.

Marie Madeleine's daughter, Christine, baptized on March 15, 1689, and likely educated by the nuns, became, at the age of 18, the second wife of Louis LeBeau. The wedding was celebrated in Ville-Marie on June 14, 1707. LeBeau was 29 years old and a carpenter. He was the son of Jean LeBeau and Étienne Loré, residents of Boucherville who were the witnesses to the marriage, as were Jean Baptiste, the brother of the groom, Sieur Dominique Thaumur, master surgeon, and Philippe Robitaille, master cooper, the bride's stepfather. This marriage produced two daughters: Marie Anne and Madeleine. Christine received her citizenship at the same time as her mother, in 1710. Her husband died in February 1713.

In 1714, Captain Thomas Baker came to Canada as an interpreter for the Stoddard and Williams Company. He fell in love with Christine and tried to persuade the young widow to return to New England. The Church, the state, and her mother opposed her departure. The Church threatened to keep her children, and the

governor said that her eldest daughter should be sent to the Ursulines. Stoddard, with the spirit of New England, replied that Mrs. LeBeau could place her child where she wished "*and as long as she took care of her, no prince with justice could forcibly remove her.*" The Intendant ordered the sale of her late husband's property and wanted "*the money to be put in the hands of a guardian.*" Stoddard, who represented Christine, demanded that the money be given to her, because she was in need. He was told, however, that the king ordered that anyone willing to leave the country should have his money withdrawn and that, because Christine was a prisoner of the previous war, she could not take advantage of the terms of the Treaty of Utrecht. Her mother told her that there was no bakery in New England and that she did not know how to make bread.

Neither the Church, nor the state, nor her mother could hold her. With the governor's reluctant consent, Christine set off by boat, leaving her daughters Marie Anne, 4, and Madeleine, 2, in the care of Philippe Robitaille and Madeleine Houarine (Warren), her stepfather and mother. Christine married Thomas Baker and settled in Brookfield, where the couple's children were baptized. Her father-in-law, Philippe Robitaille, came to visit her in New England. Christine missed her two daughters whom she had had to abandon in Canada. On March 2, 1721, Thomas and Christine sent a plea to the General Court requesting permission to return to New France to look for them. Permission was granted on the condition that Thomas accompany his wife to Canada. But Christine returned from this journey without her children, for whom she had become a stranger.

Christine died on February 23, 1773, 20 years after her husband. She was buried in Pine Hill Cemetery in Dover.²¹

²¹ Emma Ellis Coleman, *New England Captives carried to Canada between 1677 and 1760 during the French and Indians wars*, Portland, Southworth Press, 1925

The family of Philippe Robitaille and Madeleine Warren

Philippe	Baptized on February 5, 1695, at Notre-Dame de Montréal. Single and engaged West on August 29, 1715. Died on December 17, 1720, at Notre-Dame de Montréal at the age of 26 (son of Philip Robitaille, master cooper, the mother's name was left blank).
Jacques	Baptized on January 29, 1697, at Notre-Dame de Montréal. Hired as a <i>Traveller West</i> from September 9, 1715, to September 9, 1728.
Jean	Born and baptized on March 10, 1699, in Notre-Dame de Montréal. Hired as <i>Traveller West</i> on May 28, 1718, and engaged West from 11 June 1720 to 9 September 1728.
Georges	Born on 18 and baptized on April 19, 1701, in Notre-Dame de Montréal (son of Philip, resident and cooper). Died on February 19, 1703, at Notre-Dame de Montréal at the age of 2.
Marguerite	Born on April 1 and baptized on April 2, 1703, in Notre-Dame de Montréal (daughter of Philippe, bourgeois). Married on April 13, 1722 (19 years old) to Jean Baptiste Biron, 20, in Notre-Dame de Montréal son of Pierre and Marie Jeanne Dumouchel.

Jacques and Jean signed commitment contracts of one year or more ^{22- 23} to go to the north woods or to Lake Erie, by canoe, and at that time there were two categories of “voyageurs” or “travellers”):

The bacon eaters so named because their received a daily ration was of bacon. They transported trade goods to Fort William and brought back to Montréal the furs collected in the North by the *winterers*.

The *winterers*, these men of the north, hired for at least one year, usually three, sometimes five. These “Jacks of all trades” were canoeists, interpreters, clerks, guides, craftsmen, explorers, hunters, fishermen, builders, and, of course, caterers. Many of them took women in trade. These *country marriages* were the source of the Métis nation.²⁴

We may assume that Philippe Robitaille's two sons belonged to the latter category of travellers.

Jacques enlisted as a *Hired Traveler of the West* from September 9, 1715, to September 9, 1728. Traces of his passage to Michillimakinac can be found on August 26, 1719, when signed a note, worth 1953 pounds, in favor of Paul Marin who deposited this document in Montréal with the notary Gaudron de

²² Contract of employment of Jacques Robitaille to Sieurs Jacques Dugré and Charles Tessier, May 28, 1708, notary Adhemar, BAnQ, Montréal

²³ Contract of employment of Jacques Robitaille's for the Sieur Jean Baptiste Forestier and Jean Quenel, September 9, 1715, notary Antoine Adhemar, BAnQ, Montréal

²⁴ National Historic Park, Lachine, Québec, The Fur Trade in Lachine, exhibition at the Pointe-à-Callière museum

Chevremont on August 11, 1736. The French Fort Michilimackinac was located in a strategic location in the strait separating Lakes Michigan and Huron.²⁵

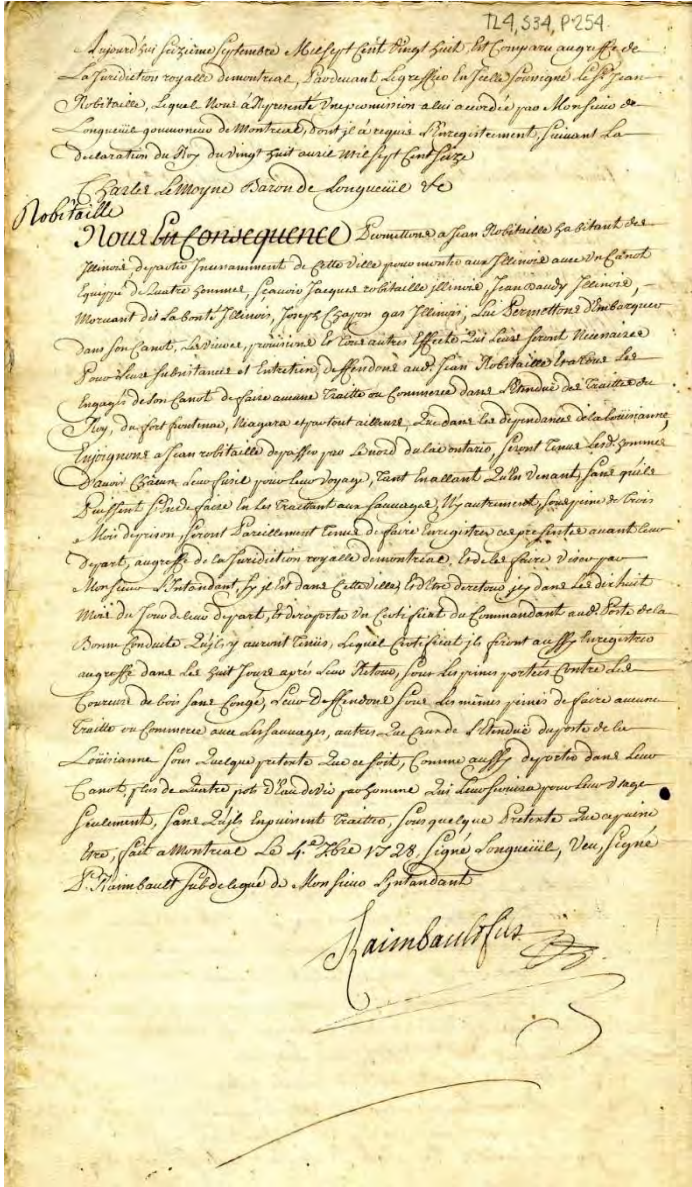
Jean also enlisted as a *Engaged Traveler West* on 28 May 1718, for a period from 11 June 1720 to 9 September 1728.

In 2020, Jean Robitaille of Québec discovered a new document dated September 16, 1728, and signed before Charles Lemoine of Longueuil, governor of Montréal, which allowed **Jean Robitaille**, a resident of Illinois, to go by canoe with four men (including **Jacques Robitaille**) to go up to Illinois. This is the last clue we have about the lives of these two explorers. Nor have we found any trace of descendants of these two sons of Philippe.

The next figure presents the original document with a handwritten transcript that provides an overview of the obligations of travellers and the strict control of the authorities over those travelling in the territory. It should be noted that the authorities of New France had introduced a permit system in 1716 to control the trade in pelts and to counter this trade with the English colonies.²⁶

²⁵ *L'Ancêtre*, No. 278, Volume 33, Spring 2007, pp.225-232

²⁶ Germain Georges-Hébert, *Les coureurs des bois, la Saga des Indiens*, Montréal ISBN 978-2-7648-0060-7



Today sixteenth September 1728 appeared at the registry of the Royal Court of Montréal, before the clerk to the undersigned, of the said **Jean Robitaille**, who presented us with a permit given to him by Mr. de Longueuil, governor of Montréal, whose registration he requested, according to the statement of the King on April 28, 1716.

Charles Lemoyne Baron de Longueuil

We therefore permit Jean Robitaille, who lives in the Illinois, to leave this town shortly to go up to Illinois with a canoe equipped with four men to see Jacques **Robitaille** Illinois, Jean Daudy Illinois, Moruant said Labonté Illinois, Joseph Chagnon, the Illinois guy, allow him to board his canoe, food, provisions and all other belongings that will be necessary for their subsistence and maintenance, defendons Jean Robitaille and all the engaged of his canoe to do no trade or trade in the extent of the treaties of the Roy, Fort Frontenac, Niagara and anywhere other than in the outbuildings of the Louisiane. Let's urge Jean Robitaille to pass through northern Lake Ontario, will be held lesd. men to take care of their guns for their journey, both in the process and by coming without them being able to dispose of the treaters to the savages, there are otherwise, on pain of three months in prison will be equally obliged to register and present before their departure, at the registry of the royal court of Montréal, and to have them targeted by the Intendant, who is in this city and back in the eighteen months of the day of their departure, and to raport a certificate of the commander position the good conduct they will have held there, which they will also register at the registry within eight days after their return, under the penalties brought against wooden runners without leave, let us defend them under the same penalties to make no treats or trade with the savages, other than those of the extended post of the Louisiane under any pretext, as to carry in their canoe more than four pots of spirits that will provide them for their journey only, without them being able to deal with it for whatever pretext it may be, made in Montréal on the 4th sept 1728, signed Longueuil, veu, signed S^r Raimbault sub-delegated of the S^r Intendant

Contract of commitment of Jacques and Jean Robitaille 1728, BANQ, Cote: TL4,S34,P254

Montréal. Registration of permission granted by Charles Lemoine de Longueuil, Governor of Montréal, to Jean Robitaille, Illinois resident, of a canoe of four men, to go up to the Illinois



Map of Louisiana and the Mississippi Course, by Guillaume De L'Isle [Paris, 1718]. <https://www.loc.gov/item/98685731/>. The Illinois country is located southwest of Lake Michigan.

Philippe Robitaille died at Notre-Dame de Montréal on October 3, 1740, at 10:30 p.m. at the age of 77 and was buried on October 5, 1740.

Madeleine Warren died on October 27, 1750, in Notre-Dame de Montréal, aged about 89 (Vve Robitaille, Philip).

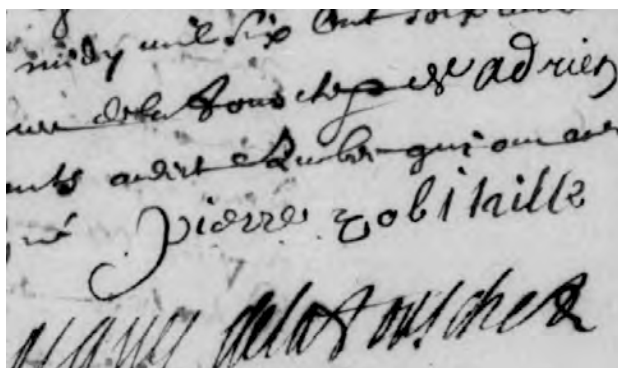
The History of Pierre Robitaille (1st generation)

Pierre Robitaille arrived in New France in 1670 at the age of 18; he was born in 1652. It was not until five years later that he married Suzanne Marie Maufay.

Two land grant contracts

1. On November 24, 1670, Pierre Robitaille signed a contract for a concession of land before the notary Gilles Rageot.²⁷

The contract stipulates that Jean Baptiste Peuvret, Seigneur of Mesnu and Gaudarville, hereby leases and concedes to Pierre Robitaille...



Pierre's signature at the bottom of the concession contract for his land in 1670.

"... three arpents of land in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville that are to be found between the Champigny Road on one side and St. Michel Creek on the other; adjoining, on one side, the property of Jean Robitaille, his brother; and, on the other side that of Jacques Fluét at the narrow end and that of Jean Larchevesque with the Champigny Road between them ..."

Translator's Note: 1 square arpent = 1.2 acres and
1 arpent = approx. 200 feet

Subject to the following conditions:

"to have, by the end of the coming winter, four arpents of trees felled and cut up on the said concession, to reside there, and to continue without ceasing to work at clearing the concession ..."

"also, the said Robitaille will be obliged to leave the said Champigny Road, one half arpent wide (about 100 feet), open to his neighbors when it might be necessary for them to make deliveries, and to maintain the road that will be deemed necessary for the convenience of the public; to assist other residents of the said Champigny Road in constructing a wagon road all along the boundary line, between the lands of the "Christian savages" [sic] of Sillery and the Seigneurie of Gaudarville, and to maintain that road in good condition, and to provide once and for all to the said landlord four full days of manual labor and the food needed for a man to be employed in helping to build another wagon road the entire length of the line of separation ..."

Translator's note: "Christian savages" is the literal translation of the French expression used in this document from the 17th century: viz., "Sauvages chrestiens". Such terminology would be considered inappropriate in a modern legal document.)

"The said tenant, and his successors, shall be required to bring or send his grain for milling to the seigneurial mill unless permitted to have them milled elsewhere by purchasing a licence to do so from the seigneurial mill."

"the said Robitaille will pay the Seigneur or his successors each year on St. Martin's feast day (November 11), 12 pounds per arpent of the total frontage and depth of the said concession, together with two live capons as a seigneurial royalty for the said concession with the first payment due on the said feast of St. Martin, 1672 ..."

²⁷ Land concession from Mesnu to Pierre Robitaille, November 24, 1670, notary Gilles Rageot, BAQ CN301,S238 Image 03Q_CN301S238P_0892.jpg and following.

2- Two years later, on March 19, 1672, in the presence of the notary Gilles Rageot, Pierre Robitaille signed a contract for a grant of Land in the Jesuits-owned Seigneurie of St. Gabriel, which was next to that of Gaudarville ²⁸. This contract concerned ...

"three arpents minus nine feet of width and thirty arpents in depth ..."

subject to the following conditions:

"the lessee promises to pay each year to the said reverend fathers at their seigneurial house in Québec on Christmas Day a royalty of one Tours sol per arpent of area as well as three good live capons and two deniers for the said concession ..."

Translator's note: one French pound, during this period, was divided into 20 sols. One sol was worth 12 deniers.
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On October 4, 1674, before noon, Pierre Robitaille abandoned 10 arpents before the notary Gilles Rageot, in the presence of Reverend Guillaume Mathieu, of the Society of Jesus (Annotation in the margin of the contract of March 19, 1672, mentioned above). This means that our ancestor probably could not settle all his debts to the Jesuits. That left him 20 arpents of land, instead of 30.

"the royalties to be paid in proportion to the remainder."

His Marriage Contract

Pierre Robitaille took time to settle down before marrying. Five years after acquiring his land in L'Ancienne-Lorette, in 1675, he married Marie Maufay, who was born in Québec City on October 13, 1661. She was, at the time of her wedding, 14 years old. Our male ancestor was born in 1652, so he was 23 years old on his wedding day. Marie Maufay was the daughter of Pierre Maufay and Marie Duval. Pierre Maufay had signed a land grant with the Jesuit fathers in 1671. Marie was confirmed by Bishop Laval in Québec City on September 22, 1669.

There is no record of Peter and Marie's marriage in the parish registers. The first chapel in L'Ancienne-Lorette was established for the Hurons in 1674. Since the settlers did not have a church of their own, the people of Côte St. Paul, Champigny and St. Ange attended this chapel. By 1676, it had become their parish church, and it was in that same year that the keeping of records of baptisms, marriages, and burials in L'Ancienne-Lorette began. Before that date, parishes in Québec City or Sillery were used. We may, therefore, conclude that the wedding celebration took place in the chapel of the Hurons: the records not yet being kept at that time (1675), there is no record of this marriage. Or perhaps they were married at the Sillery mission where the records disappeared in the fire that destroyed the church around 1680.

In any event, a marriage contract was signed before the notary Duquet ²⁹ on May 5, 1675.

²⁸ Land grant by the Jesuit Fathers to Pierre Robitaille, March 19, 1672, notary Gilles Rageot, BAnQ Cote CN301,S238 Image 03Q_CN301S238P_1327.jpg and following

²⁹ Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay's (Maufait) marriage contract, May 5, 1675, notary Pierre Duquet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S95

Marie Maufay was accompanied by her father, Pierre Maufay, a resident of Coste St. Michel, and her mother Marie Duval; their daughter, Jeanne; her brother-in-law, Simon Allain, married to Jeanne Maufay, her sister; Lord Vallon, alderman of the city, and Lady Marie Perré, his wife.

Pierre Robitaille, a resident of Champigny, declared himself to be the son of Jean Robitaille and Martine Cormont, of the parish of St. George, Diocese of Boulogne.

And, the said future spouses ...

“agree to share between them all furnitures and buildings, acquests and conquests, in accordance with the Custom of Paris...”

“The preciput will be equal and reciprocal in the amount of three hundred pounds of which it was settled between parties to be taken by the Survivor on the property of the Community...”

And Marie Maufay's parents promised to give to their daughter,

“on the eve of the wedding, a milk cow and a piglet, to dress the said daughter on her wedding day in accordance with her social condition, and to give her six chemises, six handkerchiefs, six headdresses, a blanket, a pail, a blanket, and six towels, all new...”

The contract was sworn before his lordship Le Vallon, "an alderman of this city," on May 5, 1675 in the presence of the witnesses Jean Roy and Martin Greundon.

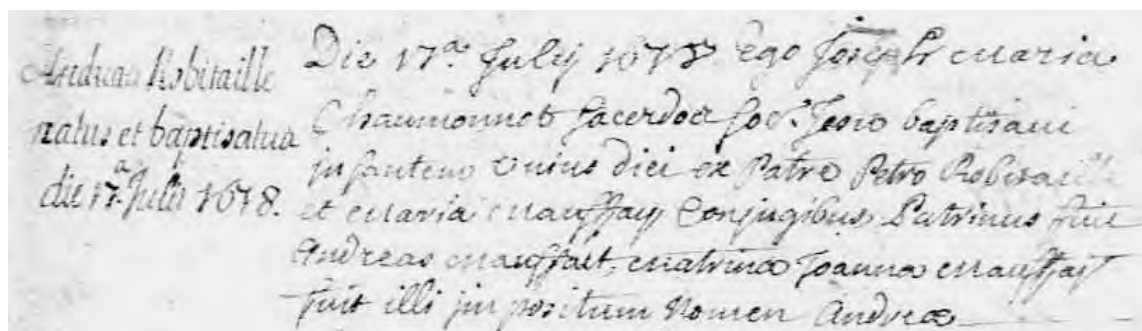
The Family of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay

Marie Maufay ensured the posterity of the Robitailles by providing a beautiful family of thirteen children to her husband, of whom five sons and two daughters would later marry.

André	<p>Born on July 17, 1678, in L'Ancienne-Lorette and baptized the same day by the missionary priest, Joseph Marie Chaumonot. Godfather, André Maufay; Godmother, Jeanne Maufay</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Married for the first time to Marguerite Hamel, daughter of Jean François and Félicité Levasseur, on January 19, 1706, in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract La Cetièrre, December 26, 1705). Marguerite died and was buried in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 26. The couple had three sons baptized in L'Ancienne-Lorette. André signed a land grant contract with Mr. de Maure in the presence of the notary, Bernard de la Rivière, on January 22, 1710. 2. Married, in his second wedding, Françoise Catherine Chevalier, the widow of Denis Masse, daughter of Étienne and Anne Prévost, and the mother of two children, aged 1 and 3, on September 11, 1713, in Ste. Foy. (Contract Chambalon on September 10, 1713). The couple had 7 children, 2 of whom died in infancy. They were baptized in L'Ancienne-Lorette. <p>André was buried on January 16, 1736, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 58.</p>
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Marie Suzanne	<p>Baptized by Nicolas Potier on August 16, 1680, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Romain Duval; Godmother: Simone Maufay Hospitalized at the Hôtel-Dieu in Québec City on April 6, 1699, for a period of 16 days. Married to Guillaume Belot, son of Blaise and Hélène Calais, on November 14, 1707, in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract La Cetièrre, October 22, 1707). The couple had 8 children. Marie Suzanne was buried on November 6, 1760, at Notre-Dame-de-Foy at the age of 80.</p>
Pierre	<p>Born on the 11th and baptized by Nicolas Potier on October 12, 1682, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Pierre Maufay; Godmother: Marie Duval Died between 1686 and 1689, a period for which parish records are missing.</p>
Charles	<p>Born on the 23rd and baptized by Pierre Chonelec on April 24, 1685, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Charles Blanverd; Godmother: Thérèse Levasseur Buried on March 7, 1711, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 26.</p>
Jean	<p>Born in 1687 in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Missing record). Married to Marguerite Meunier, the daughter of Mathurin and Madeleine Meneux, on January 26, 1717, in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Bernard de la Rivière, January 10, 1717). The couple had 11 children, including three sons and three daughters who later married. Jean was buried in L'Ancienne-Lorette on November 24, 1749, at the age of 71. Marguerite Meunier then married Antoine Ouvrard, the widower of Angélique Vézina, on July 19, 1751, in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Geneste, July 15, 1751). Antoine Ouvrard was buried on May 28, 1766, at the age of 81. Marguerite was buried in L'Ancienne-Lorette on April 18, 1774, at the age of 89.</p>
Marie-Agnès	<p>Born in 1689 in L'Ancienne-Lorette (missing record). Married in L'Ancienne-Lorette on November 4, 1715, to Eustache (Liénard) Mondor (Durbois), widower of Marie-Madeleine Maufay (daughter of André and Madeleine Desorcy) and son of Sébastien and Françoise Pelletier. He had a 5-year-old son, Eustache. Married by the parish priest Dupré after obtaining an exemption for a consanguineal marriage (Contract Chambalon, November 3, 1715). They had six children. Eustache was buried on September 26, 1749, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 60. Marie Agnès was buried on December 28, 1759, at the age of 70.</p>
François	<p>Born on October 9 and baptized by François Dupéré on October 11, 1691, at Notre-Dame de Québec. Godfather: Charles Levasseur; Godmother: Marie Geneviève Gauvereau Married to Madeleine Berthiaume on November 27, 1721, at Notre-Dame-de-Foy (Contract Dubreuil on November 26, 1721). Madeleine was born in Sillery around 1690, the daughter of Jacques and Catherine Bonhomme. She had first married Charles Danet, widower of Catherine Brassard, father of three, on November 24, 1711. She had added six children to the Danet family. She already had several children when François married her, and they had at least two more children together. Buried in Québec City on March 30, 1733, at the age of 40.</p>

Joseph	<p>Born on October 24 and baptized on October 27, 1693, in L'Ancienne-Lorette by Sébastien Rale who was martyred on 23 August 1723. Godfather: Joseph Maufay; Godmother: Marguerite Chapelot Married to Catherine Drolet, daughter of Pierre Drolet and Catherine Routier, on January 21, 1722, in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Dubreuil, January 15, 1722) The couple had 12 children. Catherine was buried on December 17, 1782, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 78. Joseph was buried on March 3, 1756, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 62.</p>
Romain	<p>Baptized on May 5, 1695, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Romain Chapeau; Godmother: Marie Catherine Routier Buried on June 1, 1695, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of one month.</p>
Romain	<p>Born and baptized by Michel Germain Decouvert on July 26, 1696, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Jean Chapeau; Godmother: Marie Charlotte Routier Married to Marie Françoise Lemarié, daughter of Charles and Françoise Sédilot on October 10, 1723, at Notre-Dame-de-Foy, (Contract Bernard de la Rivière, October 18, 1723). The couple had seven children, one of whom died in infancy. Marie Françoise was buried on April 8, 1774, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 75. Romain was buried in L'Ancienne-Lorette on December 3, 1749, at the age of 53.</p>
Louis	<p>Born on 26th and baptized by F. Poncelet on April 28, 1698, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Pierre Chapeau; Godmother: Marie Madeleine Robitaille Buried on March 8, 1703, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 5.</p>
Claude	<p>Born and baptized by F. Rousselet, missionary, on March 16, 1700, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Buried on March 12, 1703, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 3.</p>
Charlotte Catherine	<p>Born on April 17 and baptized on April 20, 1702, by P. Rageot, a missionary priest performing parochial duties. Godfather: Charles Moffet; Godmother: Catherine Moffet Burial unknown.</p>



A record from the register of L'Ancienne-Lorette of André's baptism by Father Chaumonot.

Events where Pierre Robitaille's presence was recorded

Godfather at the baptism of:

- Marie-Anne Hébert, daughter of Michel and Marie Anne Galet, residents of L'Ancienne-Lorette, June 28, 1671, at Notre-Dame de Québec;

- Marie Madeleine Robitaille, daughter of Jean and Marguerite Buletez, on November 19, 1673, at St. Joseph's Mission in Sillery (his niece);
- Pierre Gauvin, son of Jean and Anne Magnan, on June 17, 1684, at L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Marie Angélique Geli, daughter of Jean and Ursule Turbal, on January 20, 1687, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Marie-Anne Voier, daughter of Jacques and Jeanne Routier, on May 8, 1694, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Marie Rouillard, daughter of Noël and Anne Larchevesque, on November 9, 1698, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Jean Hamel, son of Jean and Anne Félicité... September 11, 1702, at Notre-Dame-de-Foy (the mother's name was not recorded);
- Marie Thérèse Droslet, daughter of Pierre and Catherine Routier, on November 22, 1700, at Notre-Dame-de-Foy;
- Pierre Robitaille, son of André and Marguerite Hamel, on May 13, 1708, at L'Ancienne-Lorette (Pierre's grandson);
- Marie Madeleine Failiant, daughter of Marie Madeleine Failiant, (natural daughter) on September 11, 1708, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Pierre Govin, son of Pierre and Anne Fiset, on October 18, 1708, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Étienne Gavin, son of Étienne and Marie Fiset, on June 19, 1710, at L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- M. Dufresne, daughter of Charles and Marie Madeleine Gauvin, on May 19, 1712, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Witness at the baptism of:

- Simon Buisson, son of Gervais and Marie Boutet, on September 2, 1677, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Jean-Baptiste Rasset, son of Jean and Jeanne Chapeau, on March 27, 1691, in St- François-de-Sales in Neuville;
- Marie Gauvin, daughter of Jean and Anne Magnan, on August 23, 1681, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Noël Hamel, son of Jean and Félicité Levasseur, on December 14, 1704, at L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- René Alin, son of Noël and Marie Anne Hamel, on July 29, 1714, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Marie Anne Alin, daughter of Pierre and Anne Racine, on October 19, 1711, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Witness at the wedding of:

- Jean Robitaille and Marguerite Buletez, November 27, 1670 at Notre-Dame de Québec (his brother);
- Étienne Gauvin and Anne Butée, May 11, 1700 in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Pierre Soulard Laverdure and Louise Prou, August 14, 1700, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Pierre Gauvin and Marie Anne Phiset, August 1st, 1707, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Eustache Léonard and Marie Maufay, November 27, 1709, at Notre-Dame-de-Foy;
- Étienne Gaingne and Marie Angélique Geli, on November 23, 1711, at L'Ancienne-Lorette (he was the bride's godfather);
- Jean Bureau and Marie Anne Lachesne, May 9, 1712, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Pierre Alin and Anne Racine on February 22, 1713, at Ste-Anne de Beaupré (he was Pierre Alin's uncle).

Witness to the burial of:

- Jean Gouin Le Bonhomme, June 7, 1706, in L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Philippe Gazelier, 68 years old, on January 14, 1709, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

The Census of 1681

At the time of the 1681 census, Pierre Robitaille was 30 years old and Marie Maufay was 18 years old. They had two children: André, 4 years old; and Marie, 1 year old.

They owned one gun, six horned animals, and 16 arpents of land ³⁰.

Business between Pierre Robitaille and Pierre Maufay

This contract makes it clear that there were good relations between the two families, and clearly shows the bravery and the courage of our ancestor. Here is a glimpse of that:

On April 4, 1683, in front of the notary Pierre Duquet ³¹, Pierre Robitaille committed to Pierre Maufay his brother-in-law, who, in 1677, had married Catherine Chapleau, resident of the Côte St. Michel, Sillery, and who described himself as a carter,

“to clear and plough one arpent of land on the said Maufay's land, during the coming summer, and, for said Robitaille, to gather and burn all the wood that he might encounter, leaving at most only twelve of the largest stumps.”

And, this:

“in return for payment of 60 pounds the said Maufay promises to pay to the said Robitaille in good notes or money, to wit, 20 pounds for farm labor on the land and the balance for work on the next feast day of St. Michael's.”

Acquisition of the land of his brothers, Jean and Nicolas

On March 23, 1693, 23 years after their arrival—also the year of their brother Philippe's arrival—before the notary Génaple, Pierre Robitaille acquired his brother Jean's land ³² ...

“consisting of a dwelling in the said Champigny consisting of approximately 100 arpents of land, 6 arpents of frontage on the said Champigny Road going up to St. Michel Creek, together with a one-storey house made of logs piled on top of each other, 27 feet long and 17 feet wide, finished with a floor and covered with straw, with a shed surrounded by a fence made of stakes and also covered with straw.”

He also acquired the concession settled by his brother, Nicolas. (Sale by Jean to Pierre, op.cit.)

“And by the final cession of a similar quantity of land left to him, with no contract or deed, by Nicolas Robitaille their brother, going back to France, by a simple agreement between them, with the approval of the said seigneur: since the said acquirers are satisfied with the simple original contract of Concession that the said Nicolas Robitaille had before the said Rageot on the 24th of November the same year 1670 ...”

Pierre Robitaille now owned three land grants in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville, and another one in the Seigneurie of St. Gabriel.

³⁰ Census of Canada made by Mr. Du Chesneau 14 November 1681. Library and Archives Canada, N^o MIKAN 2318858 (picture 52)

³¹ Minutes of Notary Pierre Duquet de la Chesnaye, April 4, 1683, BANQ Cote CN301,S95

³² Sale from Jean Robitaille to Pierre Robitaille, notary Pierre Genaple, March 23, 1693, BANQ Cote CN301,S114 Image 03Q_CN301S114P_3187.jpg

Death and succession of Pierre Maufay, father-in-law of Pierre Robitaille

Pierre Maufay, Marie's father, died in Cap St. Michel, Québec, on October 12, 1677. Under the terms of a contract issued by notary Louis Chambalon, it was not until April 22, 1694³³ that the eight Maufay brothers and sisters sold their inheritance share to Joseph Maufay, from the Côte St. Michel. The latter promised to pay Pierre Robitaille, for the part of his wife Marie Maufay, the sum of 167 pounds. Joseph Maufay probably experienced some serious financial problems, since we later learn that...

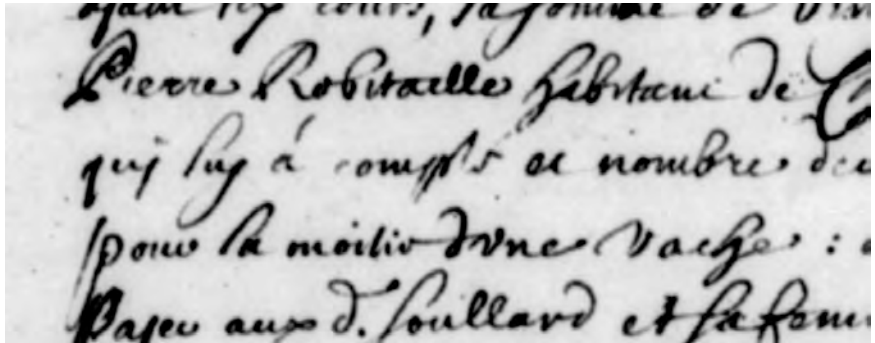
"ROBITAILLE (Pierre's wife)

On April 24, 1730, I, Marie Maufay, gave my son, Jean Robitaille, authority to carry out the auctioning of the land of Joseph Maufay who was made in Ste. Foy and awarded to Mr. Dantagnac, of which I am very pleased.

Marie Maufay"

Receipt issued by Louise Prou, wife of Pierre Soullard, to Pierre Robitaille

What happened between Pierre Robitaille and Pierre Soullard, husband of Louise Prou, a resident of Côte de Champigny? The Provost of Québec documents are missing. Our Robitaille ancestor was ordered to pay half the price of one cow. He paid the amount of 24 pounds, in card money (*monnaie de carte*), before Notary Genaple on March 7, 1702³⁴.



Pierre Robitaille authenticates his four lands

We now see that Pierre Robitaille owns four concessions:

- On November 24, 1670, from Mr. de Mesnu in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville;
- On March 19, 1672, with the Jesuit fathers, in the Seigneurie of St. Gabriel;
- On March 23, 1693, with the purchase of his brother Jean's concession in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville;
- On March 23, 1693, with the purchase of his brother Nicolas' concession in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville.

On January 18, 1710, an ordinance was issued by the Intendant Antoine Denis Raudot,³⁵ stipulating that Mr. Dutisné, Seigneur of Champigny, having on February 6, 1708, married Mrs. Anne Gauthier de Comporté, widow of Sieur Peuvret, from whom Pierre Robitaille had purchased his Concessions, asked for a survey of the lands in question, because there were problems with the boundaries...

³³ Minutes of Notary Louis Chambalon, April 22, 1694, BAnQ Cote CN301,S58

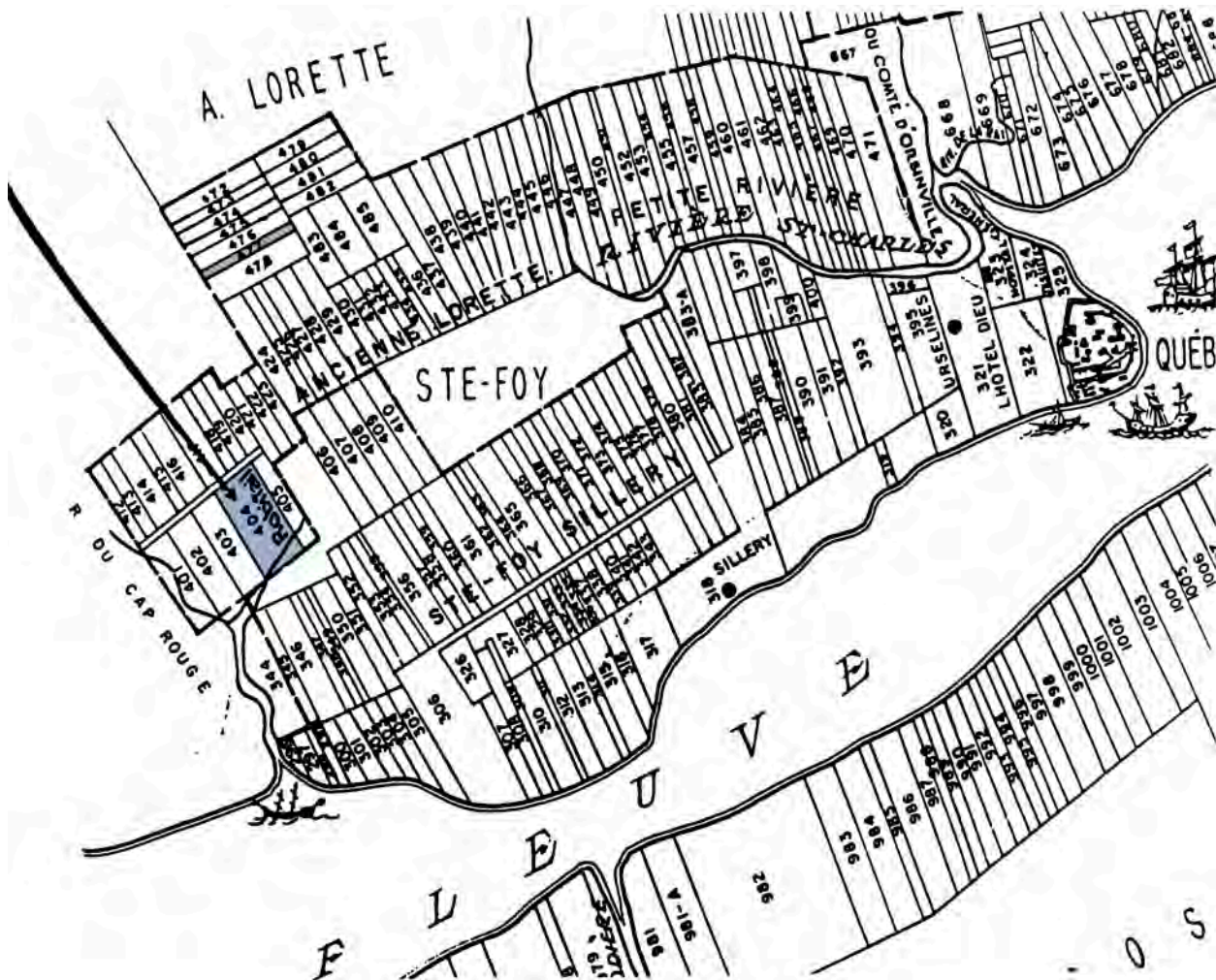
³⁴ Minutes of the notary François Genaple, BAnQ Cote CN301,S114, Image 03Q_CN301S114P_6027.jpg

³⁵ Ordinance of Intendant Raudot, January 18, 1710, BAnQ Cote E1.S1,P615

“on which they were in disagreement ... that the said Robitaille will have the said land and the other three that he owned, to wit the grant that he was accorded on November 24, 1670 and the other two that he acquired from Nicolas and Jean Robitaille, his brothers ... and as the four said lands have always paid in royalties the sum of 10 pounds and 8 capons.”

The minutes of the re-alignment of Pierre Robitaille's lands with his neighbors André Robitaille and Pierre Drolet ³⁶ were recorded on January 20, 1710, by the surveyor, Bernard de la Rivière, and those with his neighbour Pierre Drolet ³⁷ on January 21, 1710.

We see from the map of Sieur de Catalogne, drawn in 1709 ³⁸, that our ancestor had the largest land grant in L'Ancienne-Lorette.



³⁶ Minutes of chaining, Hilaire Bernard de la Rivière, January 20, 1710, BANQ Cote CA301,S56,P263

³⁷ Line and terminal minutes, Hilaire Bernard de la Rivière, January 21, 1710, BANQ Cote CA301,S56,P265

³⁸ Map of the Government of Québec lifted in the year 1709... Gédéon de Catalogne, BANQ Cote P600,S4,SS2,D192; see also the original on BNF at <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b5968946w>

Pierre Robitaille signs another land grant contract

On January 23, 1710, after settling the alignment of his lands, Pierre Robitaille signed a land grant contract before the notary Bernard de la Rivière with Sieur Charles Du Tisé³⁹, most likely in order to establish his sons. This concession consisted of 19½ arpents and the concessionaire undertook, in addition to the usual conditions of paying royalties and rent,

“... to maintain in good condition on the said concession all the paths deemed necessary for the use of the public, to become familiar with the undeveloped parts of his neighbors’ lands bit by bit, to assist the other inhabitants along the Champigny Road in constructing a road along the line of separation between the lands of the said “christian savages” (op.cit) of Sillery and the Seigneurie of Gaudarville, to maintain that road in good order, and to provide to the said seigneur, eight days of manual work and food for the worker to help make another road along the line of separation between the land of the Seigneurie or to some other part of said fiefdom deemed to be more convenient for going to the mill, when there will be one, to which the said concessionaire, and his successors, will need to transport or send his grains to be ground without allowing them to have it ground at any other mill without paying the right to moturing to the said seigneur.”

This territory was different from the concession of 20 March 1672; it was in the Seigneurie of St. Gabriel, under the control of the Jesuits.

This demonstrates the entrepreneurial spirit and courage of our ancestor. If he now possesses these four concessions, it is because he has met all his obligations to his landlords for 23 years.

“Because in the era of bulldozers and gigantic trucks, it is hard to imagine the difficulties faced by French settlers of the 17th and 18th centuries while building wagon roads through forests and swamps, and across rivers and streams. On their plots of land, they could let the stumps rot and extract them like old teeth; on the roads, they had to be uprooted with primitive instruments. There were also rocks that appeared unexpectedly and which had to be moved at all costs. Early on, they used cattle for pulling strength; quite a few years went by before they were able to get horses.”⁴⁰

On the inventory of the estate of the widow Robitaille, drawn up on April 29, 1716⁴¹, we see that she had two horses: one two years old and another, fifteen.

“Once a field was cleared, farmers would just plow and harrow and not always take the precaution of digging ditches.”

“For more than two centuries, as in most of the rural parishes of Québec, the population of L’Ancienne-Lorette was virtually self-sufficient. No doubt it was necessary to go to the city or the village to find sugar, molasses, tea, salt, some fabric, and some wine and alcoholic beverages; but the essentials were produced on the spot: firewood, food, a good deal of household linen, and clothes.”
(Allard, op.cit.)

³⁹ Minutes of the notary Hilaire Bernard de la Rivière, January 23, 1710, BANQ Cote CN301,S152

⁴⁰ Allard, Lionel, L’Ancienne-Lorette, Leméac 1979, 386 pp.

⁴¹ Inventory after death of Marie Maufay, Notary Florent de la Cetièrre, April 29, 1716, BANQ Cote CN301,S146

We know that Marie Maufay had a loom and a spinning wheel, they were listed in the inventory of her possessions dated April 29, 1716 (Inventory De La Cetière, *op.cit.*).

*"From a distance of three centuries, it is not easy to gauge the seriousness of the obstacles faced by "land makers" in a country covered with wild forests and paralyzed by endless winters. Added to the rigors of an inhospitable land was the inexperience of the French settlers. Some of the first land clearers in the territory of L'Ancienne-Lorette came directly from France, others were born in the country." (Allard, *op.cit.*).*

Pierre Robitaille was born in France, but his wife Marie Maufay was born in New France.

"Lacking a farming tradition, like all the others, they had to adapt and invent means of survival. Although they had the advantage of easily acquiring an acreage that would have been the envy of more than one Frenchman overseas, they were subject to conditions unheard of in Europe where the land had been domesticated for centuries. Their adaptation to the harshness of the country created an original breed of peasants who fit the title of 'habitant' extremely well."

*"The struggle to conquer the land was no less painful in L'Ancienne-Lorette than elsewhere in New France. The tools were rudimentary, and trees, most of which were hardwood—maple, birch, beech, elm, poplar—and deeply rooted. The trees had to be cut down, the soil had to be cleared of useless trunks, branches, stumps, and rocks. A temporary house had to be built with the newly cut logs. They had to hurry to sow seed among the stumps that were difficult to unearth. Fortunately, abundant game provided an indispensable supplement in these harsh conditions. A gun was, at that time, as necessary as an ox; and there was at least one in every house." (Allard, *op.cit.*)*

From the 1681 census, we learn that our ancestor owned a gun.

"While not the most fertile in the region, the farms of L'Ancienne Lorette were not totally lacking in advantages, plus it was close to a significant market. Some of the farms were level, but most sloped south and were easily drainable. A note in the 1851 census described the soil of part of the parish as a dry and sandy land that is easy to drain but requires a lot of fertilizer."

"After struggling hard against the forest to carve out a workable farm, the first farmers were not at the end of their troubles. They had to resign themselves to the vagaries of the seasons, the ravages of insects, and the restrictions of the metropolis. In 1672 Colbert banned the cultivation of tobacco in New France on the grounds that it was more suitable for the West Indies."

"Because of the immense forest cover that slowed the melting of snow and ice, the growing season was very short. Sometimes the sowing had to be delayed, as evidenced by a letter from Frontenac in 1673. He wrote: "I set up a meeting in Montréal for June 1st, by which date seeding should have been completed; but, the length of winter having delayed them, so I was obliged to postpone it until the 25th." (Letter from Frontenac in Frontenac, Collection des Classiques Canadiens, published by Fides). They were no less helpless against infestations of insects. "The caterpillars, ate the flax and the wheat, besides the frosts in May which did great harm." (Annals of the Ursulines, 1710). Later, it would be the grasshoppers that caused damage. Poor harvests such as those of 1737, 1738, and 1742, caused famines that were aggravated by long months without shipping, as well as the carelessness of the motherland, which had its own problems to resolve."

“It should also be added that there was no school in L’Ancienne-Lorette before the English conquest in 1763. The Jesuits did have a school to teach the Hurons French, in 1679; but we have no record of any French people attending the school. The first trace of a French school in L’Ancienne-Lorette occurred in 1788. And it was in 1884 that School No. 4 was built in Champigny.”

“It may be said, without any implicit criticism of our ancestors, that most of them could not read, write, or even sign their names. We should not forget that this was happening near the end of the 17th century and the beginning of the 18th; and that, even in France at that time, some parishes still had no schools. Teaching boiled down to catechism lessons given by priests on Sundays and feast days.” (Allard, op.cit.)

From 1676 to 1786, the records confirmed 182 Robitaille births in L’Ancienne-Lorette. And, in 1683, there were 30 families, 102 people.

Death in the family

Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay endured the deaths of four children:

- in 1695, they lost a one-month-old boy, Romain;
- in 1703, the Robitailles suffered the loss of two children: Louis and Claude, ages 3 and 5, respectively;
- and, on March 7, 1711, their son, Charles, died at the age of 26.

And this does not include the 2 children whose fate is unknown because they could not be found listed in any register after their birth: Pierre, born in 1682; and Charlotte Catherine, born in 1702.

Pierre Robitaille sells his land to his son Jean

In 1715, our ancestor was 60 years old and probably very ill, since he signed a deed of sale in favor of his son, Jean, and died 8 days later. The contract, signed, on April 30, 1715, before the notary Bernard de la Rivière ⁴² stipulates that Pierre Robitaille sold, to his son Jean...

“an inhabited property with a sizeable dwelling located in the said Seigneurie of Gaudarville, consisting of three arpents of frontage along Champigny Road, and seventeen and a half arpents in depth, etc. ... This for a price of eight hundred pounds ...”

Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay acknowledged having received from their son, Jean Robitaille,

“75 minots of wheat that was owed to them for room and board for the years 1713–15, and a fat pig that he had provided in each of the said three years to the said Robitaille and his wife, thereby satisfying the debt owed by the said Jean Robitaille, their son.”

Translator’s Note: a “minot” weighs about 30 kilograms.

⁴² Minutes of the notary Hilaire Bernard de la Rivière, April 30, 1715, BAnQ Cote CN301,S152

Death of Pierre Robitaille

Our ancestor died on May 8, 1715, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 60. His burial was presided over by Father François Dupré. He was survived by:

- his wife, Marie Maufay
- two married children:
 - André and his wife, Françoise Catherine Chevalier
 - Marie Suzanne and her husband Guillaume Bellot
- and five unmarried children:
 - Jean, 28 years old
 - Marie Agnès, 26 years old
 - François, 24 years old
 - Joseph, 22 years old
 - Romain, 19 years old

And perhaps Charlotte-Catherine of whom we have no record.

Death of Marie Maufay

Marie Maufay died at L'Ancienne-Lorette on September 21, 1730, at the age of 73. Her death is noted in the register as "*died following a stroke.*" The funeral was celebrated by the parish priest, Mathurin Jacreau.

Marie Maufay had the joy of seeing her children get married:

- André, in 1706 and 1713
- Marie-Suzanne, in 1707
- Marie-Agnès, in 1715
- Jean, in 1717
- François, in 1721
- Joseph, in 1722
- Romain, in 1723

All the children who survived her, married. It was Jean who remained on the ancestral farm. (See Second Generation, Chapter 2).

Inventory of the estate of Pierre Robitaille's widow (Marie Maufay)

On April 29, 1716, the notary De la Cetière carried out an inventory of the estate of Marie Maufay, widow of the late Pierre Robitaille (Inventory De La Cetière, *op.cit.*) in the presence of André Robitaille, the eldest of the family who was, at the same time, guardian for the minor children; of Jean Robitaille, adult child; of Guillaume Bellot, called Larose, the husband of Marie Robitaille; and of Eustache Liénard, called Mondor, the husband of Agnès Robitaille.

For Pierre Robitaille, this inexperienced young Frenchman who had arrived 46 years earlier, it is very interesting to see, according to this inventory, all the work accomplished with his wife during these years. Raising a family of 9 children, 7 of whom married; managing to clear and farm ten acres of land. Marie

Maufay had to make all the family's clothes, since she had a "*loom with its blades, a loom comb with a handle, a spinning wheel*" and they raised sheep and lambs that provided the necessary wool.

We can also see that they had three cows, five sheep, four small lambs, four bulls, two horses (mares), and three hogs. However, they also had some debts, including:

- 20 pounds to surgeon Gaspard Emery dit La Sonde;
- 133 pounds to the merchant, Pierre Eaimard;
- 40 pounds to the sisters of the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec, which probably represents Suzanne's hospitalization costs, as of April 6, 1699, for a period of 16 days;
- 40 pounds to Seigneur Pelletier of Côte St. Michel;
- 20 pounds for 20 masses ordered by the children for the repose of their father's soul.

Chapter 2 – Second Generation: Jean Robitaille – Marguerite (Marie) Meunier

Jean Robitaille, born in 1687, a lieutenant in the militia, married Marguerite (Marie) Meunier on January 26, 1717, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Marguerite Meunier was born on December 17, 1685, in Ste-Anne de Beaupré. She was the daughter of Mathurin and Marie Madeleine Meneux, who were married in Ste-Famille, Île d'Orléans, on November 22, 1684. Jean Robitaille was 30 and Marguerite Meunier, 32.

Present at the wedding were:

- Pierre Robitaille (his name appears in the parish register, even though he was deceased) and Marie Maufait, Jean's parents;
- Mathurin Meunier, Marie-Madeleine Meneux, Marguerite's parents;
- André, François, Joseph, and Romain Robitaille, Jean's brothers;
- Jean and Joseph Meunier, Marguerite's brothers;
- Jean Hamel, Charles Hamel, Jean Dubreuil, and Étienne Dubreuil, friends.

The wedding mass was celebrated by Father François Dupré.

Jean Robitaille was a lieutenant in the Militia. Here is an excerpt from an article written by the Drouin Genealogical Institute, explaining the kind of work these militia lieutenants did in the early days of the colony:

*"The Canadian militia dates back to the time of Governor Frontenac. Initially, when these reservists were scattered along the coast and were served by a missionary who travelled from post to post and were not yet separated into parishes, there was only one captain for several groups: he was known as Captain of the Coast. Later, as each group became larger, it constituted a parish; and each parish had its own **Militia Captain**.*

"It was the Militia Captain who received the governor's orders and communicated them to the people of his parish. He was also employed as a bailiff. From time to time, he had to do military exercises, which were limited to target shooting; Canadians never fought otherwise.

"The militia received no pay, but the officers, all inhabitants of the community, were recognized as bearers of the government's orders. That honor was their salary.

"The chain of militias, along the coastline, served, both in times of peace as well as in times of war as a means of communication. [...]

"The militia captain of the parish or of the coast had an assigned pew in the local church, and this practice continued until Confederation. After the surrender of the country to England, the English military authorities entrusted the militia captains with a host of duties, including those of justice of the peace. Militia officers remained high profile citizens, deemed to be employed in a variety of legal services.

“Militia captains did not allow themselves to be dominated by the English officers; they knew that the authorities were counting on them and that they had the right to public and private respect. [...]”

Marriage contract

Jean Robitaille and Marguerite Meunier signed their marriage contract in the presence of the notary, Florent De La Cetièrre,⁴³ on January 10, 1717. Present were Jean's mother, Marie Maufait, widow of the late Pierre Robitaille; André, François, and Joseph Robitaille, his brothers; Jean Guerganivet and Jacques Drollet, friends from L'Ancienne-Lorette; Mathurin Meunier, Marguerite's father; and Jean Meunier, her brother.

The marriage contract included nothing special, except the following:

“The bride-to-be will be endowed with a dowry of five hundred louis,” and the preciput will be equal and reciprocal in the amount of one hundred and fifty livres to be taken by the survivor on the property of the said future community.”

They would have 11 children, including 3 sons and 3 daughters, who married in their turn.

Translator's Note: In French civil law concerning “community property,” the surviving partner had the right to “pre-take” (le préciput) a specified sum of money or other assets of the estate prior to its division among the heirs

The family of Jean Robitaille and Marguerite Meunier:

Marguerite	(torn document) Baptized yesterday, December 1717, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Pierre (no last name); Godmother: Marie Maufait (Widow) Married to Noël Poitras, son of Joseph and Catherine Maufet, on April 22, 1743, at L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Jacques Pinguet on April 19, 1743). Noel died on March 16, 1781, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 68. Marguerite Robitaille was buried in L'Ancienne-Lorette on May 11, 1780, at the age of 64. They had 10 children, one of whom died in infancy.
Marie Catherine	Born and baptized on June 5, 1719, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Eustache Durbois; Godmother: Marie-Catherine Bonhomme Buried in L'Ancienne-Lorette, July 6, 1739, at the age. of 20.
Jean-François	Baptized on February 20, 1721, at Notre-Dame-de-Foy. Godfather: François Robitaille; Godmother: Agathe Meunier <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Married for the first time to Jeanne Vézinat, daughter of Joseph and Marie-Jeanne Garneau on February 22, 1745, in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract: Jacques Pinguet, February 8, 1745). Died on October 11, 1759, at the age of 40. They had six children, one of whom died in infancy. Married for the second time to Claire Amable Belleau, daughter of Pierre and Marie-Anne Bonneami, on April 6, 1761, at L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Geneste, March 27, 1761). Buried in L'Ancienne-Lorette on September 20, 1765, at the age of 28. They had four children, the last two of whom died in infancy.

⁴³ Minutes of Florent de La Cetièrre, BAnQ Cote CN301,S146

	<p>3. Married for the third time to Ludivine Chantal, daughter of François and Jeanne Dubeau, on November 24, 1766, in St-Augustin (Contrat Geneste November 8, 1766). Jean-François Robitaille was buried in L'Ancienne-Lorette on February 10, 1797, at the age of 76.</p>
Joseph	<p>Born and baptized on May 31, 1722, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Romain Robitaille; Godmother: Marie-Françoise Marie</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Married for the first time to Marie-Anne Voyer, daughter of Pierre and Marie-Thérèse Renaud, on June 6, 1748, at L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Geneste, May 25, 1748). They were married on the same day as his sister Marie-Louise, who married François Voyer. She died on August 25, and was buried on August 26, 1752, at the age of 30 (Source: Civil Archives) 2. Married for the second time to Josephite Moisan, daughter of Pierre and Madeleine Mathieu, on April 14, 1755, in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Marois, April 5, 1755). She died on September 6 and was buried on September 8, 1812, in Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce, at the age of 73. <p>Joseph Robitaille died on May 4, 1809, in Notre-Dame de Québec (carpenter) and was buried on May 7 in the Picotés Cemetery at the age of 87. (See 3rd Generation)</p>
Marie-Louise	<p>Born on January 17, 1724, in Notre-Dame de Foy. Godfather: Pierre Danest; Godmother: Marie Bellot</p> <p>Married to François Voyer, son of François and the late Marie-Agathe Hamel, on June 6, 1748, at L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Geneste May 25, 1748). She married on the same day as her brother, Joseph, who married Marie-Anne Voyer. François and Marie-Anne were cousins. Marie-Louise Robitaille died on April 2, 1798, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 75. They had 5 children, two of whom died in infancy.</p>
Marie-Madeleine	<p>Born on May 14 and baptized on May 15, 1726, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Joseph Robitaille; Godmother: Marie Madeleine Dufresne</p> <p>Married to Michel Robitaille, son of André and Catherine Chevalier June 30, 1751, at L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contrat Geneste June 20, 1751). They were cousins. Marie-Madeleine died on February 3, 1784, and was buried on the 4th in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 55 (or so). They had 10 children, two of whom died in infancy.</p>
Pierre	<p>Born on August 1 and baptized on August 3, 1728, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Pierre Robitaille; Godmother: Marie Bouvier</p> <p>Died on January 7, 1730, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 1½.</p>
Pierre	<p>Born on March 26 and baptized on March 27, 1730, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Pierre Bouvier; Godmother: Marie-Anne Gauvin</p> <p>Died on July 24, 1730, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 4 months.</p>
Marguerite	<p>Born and baptized on July 17, 1731, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Étienne Gauvin, Jr.; Godmother: Marguerite Gauvin, daughter of Pierre Gauvin</p> <p>Died on June 14, 1733, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 2.</p>
François	<p>Born on January 28 and baptized on January 29, 1733, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Eustache Durbois known as Mondor; Godmother: Marie Sévigny, wife of Laurent Duboc</p>

	<p>Married to Marie Félicité Moisan, daughter of Michel and Thérèse Bonhomme on February 3, 1755, at L'Ancienne-Lorette (Contract Marois, January 26, 1755). Two children baptized in L'Ancienne-Lorette and five in Notre-Dame de Québec who all died in infancy. Francis witnessed the marriage contract of his nephew, Joseph Jean Robitaille (Marie Jeanne Allain) on June 3, 1774. On November 8, 1758, they went to live in Québec City, in the St-Jean neighborhood.</p>
Françoise	<p>Born and baptized on February 26, 1734, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Jean Robitaille, first cousin; Godmother: Louise Fiset, wife of Jean Hamel Died on March 9, 1734, at L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 15 days.</p>

Debt and auction Jean Robitaille to Jacques Simon Delorme

Marie-Agnès Robitaille, Jean's sister, married Eustache Liénard, also known as Mondor and Durbois, in 1715 and the latter seems to have been in trouble with the law to the point where a property, including a dwelling, belonging to him, and located in Champigny was confiscated and auctioned by the court. At auction, the lease for this land was granted on August 2, 1740, to Jacques Simon Delorme for 25 *livres* and 10 *sols* per year.

This judgment specifies,

"We awarded the said land and dwelling with its circumstances and dependencies to the said Jacques Simon Delorme as the highest and last bidder for the price and sum of twenty-five livres, ten sols per year, to be enjoyed by him as a good family man ..."

A few days later, Jean Robitaille and M^r. Delorme appeared at the office of Notary Latour.⁴⁴ We learn that Jean and his wife had been living on this land belonging to their brother-in-law, Liénard, and that they wished to reach an agreement with the new tenant to continue living there until the following May. Jean Robitaille then signed an agreement with Seigneur Jacques Simon Delorme, a wheelwright, living on St. Louis Street in Québec City. Jean then paid "a good sum of money" for the privilege of continuing to live on the land for several more months and harvesting what he had sown, while agreeing to vacate the property in May 1741.

Agreement between Antoine Buisson and Louis Cédillot (aka Montreuil) concerning Jean Robitaille

On August 7, 1742, before the notary Boucault, Jean Robitaille agreed to pay 18 livres to Antoine Buisson and Louis Cédillot, also called Montreuil, for having cultivated the land of the minor children of the marriage of Joseph Buisson and Marie Mauffet, as well as those from Joseph Buisson's second marriage to Marie Cédillot. Antoine and Louis were the guardians of the children from the first and second marriages,

⁴⁴ Minutes of the notary, Jean de Latour, September 4, 1740, BAnQ Cote CN301,S164

respectively. The late Joseph Buisson and Marie Mauffet were, respectively, Jean Robitaille's uncle and aunt.⁴⁵

Sales Agreement between Guillaume Bellot and Jean Robitaille

On May 25, 1748, before the notary, André Geneste⁴⁶, Guillaume Bellot sold to his brother-in-law, Jean Robitaille,

"A wedge shape of land, which neither the said vendors nor the purchasers are able to determine the precise size of, located in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville, bounded on the northeast by the Cap-Rouge River, and on the southwest by the land of Pierre Govin at one end of the northwest side of the said Cap-Rouge River, to the land of Pierre Govin at one end parallel to the southern boundary.

"And, in addition to the above, for the price and total cost of thirty livres, which the said vendors have reported receiving, the said purchasers agree, prior to the acceptance of this agreement, and in addition to the present agreement, to give a sheep to the lady vendor next autumn."

Gift to his son, Joseph Jean

On the occasion of the marriage of his son Joseph Jean to Marie-Anne Voyer, marriage contract of May 25, 1748, before the notary André Geneste,⁴⁷ Jean Robitaille gave that son a piece of land. It is this son, Joseph Jean, who remained on the ancestral farm. (See 3rd Generation, in Chapter 3).

Jean Robitaille, the father, died six months later.

Death of Jean Robitaille

Jean Robitaille died at L'Ancienne-Lorette on November 23, 1749, at the age of 61.

Jean Robitaille was survived and mourned by his wife Marguerite Meunier, and their children:

- Marguerite and her husband, Noël Poitras;
- Jean-François and his wife, Marie Jeanne Vézina;
- Joseph and his wife, Marie-Anne Voyer;
- Marie-Louise and her husband, François Voyer;
- and two single children: Marie-Madeleine, 23, and François, 16.

⁴⁵ Minutes of the notary Gilbert Boucault de Godefus, August 7, 1742, BANQ Cote CN301,S36

⁴⁶ Minutes from notary André Genest, BANQ Cote CN301,S115

⁴⁷ Marriage contract insinuated at the Prevosted July 23, 1748 (<https://numerique.banq.qc.ca:443/patrimoine/details/52327/3336555>)

Inventory of the estate of the late Jean Robitaille

On the morning of August 5, 1750, the notary, André Geneste, carried out an inventory of the estate of the late Jean Robitaille.⁴⁸

Marguerite Meunier was appointed guardian of the minor children. The witnesses were Joseph Robitaille, her son; Noël Poitras, husband of her daughter, Marguerite; and François Voyer, husband of her daughter Marie-Louise.

From reading this inventory, we learn that people did not live lavish lives on the land in those days. They barely had the necessary tools, clothes, furniture, etc. However, two years after the father's death, they had a mare, two bulls, three cows, nine sheep, and two pigs. The Robitaille family lived in a 31 by 20 foot wooden house; they also had two barns, a stable, and a sheepfold. These additions were likely begun by our ancestor, Pierre.

The widow Meunier, as well as her adult and minor children, used the opportunity to agree about how to harvest the grain that was almost ready for harvesting.

Marguerite Meunier's Second Wedding

On June 30, 1751, Marie-Madeleine, daughter of the late Jean Robitaille and Marguerite Meunier, their sixth child, married her cousin, Michel Robitaille.

On the following July 19, Marguerite Meunier, the widow of Jean Robitaille, married Antoine Ouvrard, widower of Angélique Vézina, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, after having concluded a marriage contract before the notary, André Geneste, on July 15, 1751.⁴⁹

After her remarriage, the widow Marguerite moved to live on her new husband's farm. The only ones remaining on the ancestral farm were the son, Joseph, who lived there with his wife Marie-Anne Voyer and their two children. There was also François, 18, Joseph's younger brother.

Witnesses at the signing of the marriage contract:

"Antoine and Louis Ouvrard, and their children; Pierre Bussieres, her son-in-law, from Barbe Ouvrard his wife; Louis Fiset, militia officer for the Companies of St. Augustin, cousin of the said future husband, known to them as Jean Robitaille, son of Marguerite Meunier; Noel Poitras, her son-in-law from Marguerite Robitaille, his wife; the wife of François Voyé, her son-in-law from his wife, Marie-Louise; Jean Meunier, militia officer of the companies of St. Augustin, her brother; Joseph Meunier, her brother; Pierre Delages, her brother-in-law from Marie Meunier, Jean's first wife; and, Joseph Robitaille her brother-in-law ...

"The future husband endows his future wife with the customary dowry of three hundred livres.

⁴⁸ Minutes of notary André Genest, August 5, 1750, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115

⁴⁹ Minutes of notary André Genest, July 15, 1751, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115

"The right to pre-take (le préciput) shall be equal and mutual in the amount of two hundred livres from the community property to be taken by the survivor..." (See Translator's Note on a previous page).

Antoine Ouvrard died at L'Ancienne-Lorette on May 28, 1766, at the age of 81.

Agreement with Pierre Ouvrard and the sale of Marguerite Meunier's property

Following the death of Antoine Ouvrard, Marguerite Meunier signed a contract before the notary, André Geneste, on June 17, 1766, with Pierre Ouvrard, the son of her second husband, stipulating the following agreements:⁵⁰

"that the said widow would take the harvest from their land but not attempt to divide the property."

and they made arrangements for the seeding and harvesting of the current crops. At the same time, the notary proceeded to sell the widow Ouvrard's effects. The vast majority of these were purchased by the Ouvrard descendants and their related families.

Death of Marguerite Meunier

She died at L'Ancienne-Lorette on April 18, 1774, at the age of 89.

⁵⁰ Minutes of notary André Genest, June 17, 1766, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115

Chapter 3 – Third generation: Joseph Jean Robitaille – Marie Anne Voyer

Joseph Jean Robitaille married Marie Anne Voyer on June 6, 1748, in L'Ancienne-Lorette after obtaining a dispensation from the 4th to the 3rd degree of consanguinity from the bishop of Québec. Joseph Jean was 26. Marie-Anne was born in L'Ancienne-Lorette on February 12, 1729, the daughter of Pierre and Marie-Thérèse Renaud who were married in L'Ancienne-Lorette on January 11, 1712. She was 19.

Witnesses to the wedding were Pierre Voyer, her father; François and Pierre Voyer, her uncles; Jean Robitaille Sr., his father; Joseph and Romain Robitaille, his uncles; and Michel Robitaille.

Their marriage contract

The marriage contract was signed at the notary Geneste's office on May 25, 1748. Joseph Jean's father, Jean Robitaille, took the opportunity to make a gift to his son⁵¹, as follows:

"Jean Robitaille and his wife make a gift of a piece of land located in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville which is bounded on the northeast side by the Cap-Rouge River and on the other side to the southwest by the land of Pierre Govin at one end of the southwest side of the said Cap-Rouge River, which similarly borders at one end parallel to the southern boundary, and, in addition the ends of the said piece of land and beside the said piece of land facing to the northeast the creek that empties into the said Cap-Rouge River and, on the other side, to the Gaudarville road ..."

The contract also stipulates:

"The future husband gives to and endows his future wife with the customary dowry or the sum of three hundred livres of dowry" ... "and further stipulates that the right to pre-take (le préciput) shall be equal and mutual in the amount of two hundred livres from the community property to be taken by the survivor..."

Witnesses for Joseph Jean Robitaille:

"His father and mother; Jean Robitaille, his brother; Romain Robitaille, his uncle on his father's side; Guillaume Bellot, known as Larose, second captain of the said militia company, his paternal uncle, from his marriage to Marie Robitaille; Noël Poitras his brother-in-law because of his wife, Marguerite Robitaille; Eustache Léonard Durbois, his paternal uncle through Agnès Robitaille, his wife; and Jean Meunier, his maternal uncle."

Marie-Anne Voyer's witnesses:

"her father and mother; Pierre and Jacques Voyer, her brothers; Pierre Amiot, called Villeneuve, her brother-in-law through Marie Félicité Voyer; François Voyer, her paternal uncle; Nicolas Bonhomme, militia sergeant of the said. company, her cousin."

⁵¹ Marriage contract between Joseph Jean Robitaille and Marie Anne Voyer, May 25, 1748; notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CR301,P2895. (<https://numerique.banq.qc.ca:443/patrimoine/details/52327/3336555>)

The Family of Joseph Jean Robitaille and Marie-Anne Voyer

Joseph	<p>Born and baptized on August 11, 1749, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Pierre Voyer; Godmother: Marguerite Meunier, wife of Jean Robitaille Died in L'Ancienne-Lorette on March 28, 1824, at the age of 75. Married on June 6, 1774, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Marie Jeanne Alain, daughter of Ignace and Marguerite Voyer. Marie Jeanne died on August 25, 1798, at the age of 43 in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Joseph remained on the ancestral farm. (See Generation 4.)</p>
François	<p>Born and baptized on December 16, 1750, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: François Robitaille; Godmother: Marguerite Robitaille Died in L'Ange-Gardien on January 30, 1732. Married on November 25, 1783, in Notre-Dame-de-Québec, to Marie Rocheleau, known as Les-pérance, daughter of the late Basile and Marie Parent. She was the sister of Charles Bazile Rocheleau, husband of Marie Joseph Robitaille, daughter of Joseph Jean and Marie Josephthe Moisan (2nd marriage).</p>

Sharing agreement and ratification by Marie-Anne Voyer

On January 20, 1749, before the notary Geneste, a sharing agreement⁵² was reached between Joseph Robitaille, Pierre Amiot, and Jacques Voyer, son and son-in-law of Pierre Voyer, each of whom received the sum of 600 *livres*. Since Marie-Anne was a minor, there was a ratification hearing⁵³ on October 28, 1751, also before the notary Geneste, in which she stipulated to having received the sum of 400 *livres*, the other 200 to be paid by the end of the year. In addition, Jacques Voyer agreed to:

"next spring, in the month of May, boldly break ground and sow four bushels of oat seeds"

On July 15, 1752, an addendum was added to the effect that:

"Joseph Robitaille and his wife declared themselves to be well and legitimately satisfied with the plowing that the said Jacques Voyer was obliged to carry out last May."

Joseph Robitaille enlarges his domain

With the assistance of Marie-Anne Voyer's dowry, Joseph Robitaille made three transactions before the notary Geneste to enlarge his farm:

1. On September 6, 1748⁵⁴, he purchased from Jacques Boivin, "two pieces of land in Cap-Rouge de Gaudarville" ... "for the sum of one hundred and sixty *livres* that the said Joseph Robitaille paid to the said vendor before signing the present document."

⁵² Sharing agreement among Joseph Robitaille, Pierre Amiot, and Jacques Voyer, January 20, 1749, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁵³ Ratification by Marie-Anne Voyer, October 28, 1751, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁵⁴ Sale by Jacques Boivin to Joseph Robitaille, September 6, 1748, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

2. On May 24, 1749⁵⁵, Joseph Robitaille purchased from Jacques Gauvin, "*A piece of land located in the said Seigneurie of Gaudarville*" ... "for the price of four hundred fifty livres, of which the purchasers have recently paid one hundred fifty livres and the three hundred livres remaining are to be paid for in the course of the month of May 1750"
3. On October 12, 1751⁵⁶, Joseph Robitaille signed a contract for a Concession of Land with Miss de Peuvret for "*an area of twenty-four arpents of land located in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville to be taken at the end of a piece of land acquired from Jacques Gauvin, and on the other side from the land of the late Jean Robitaille, his father, bounded on the southwest by the land of Eustache Durbois Mondor.*"

Authorization of Joseph Robitaille by Marguerite Meunier

On April 28, 1751, before the surveyor Plamondon⁵⁷, Marie Marguerite Meunier, widow of Jean Robitaille, authorized her son, Joseph, to enter a contract for a piece of land at the south-west end of their land, with the agreement of his brother Jean Robitaille and his brothers-in-law: Noël Poitras, and François Voyer.

The death of Marie-Anne Voyer and the inventory of her estate

Marie-Anne Voyer died on August 25 and was buried on August 26, 1752, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 30. (Extract from the civic archives) She was survived by two sons, ages 1½ and 3. Joseph Robitaille was appointed guardian of the two minor children and proceeded with an inventory of the estate to clarify his financial situation in view of his future marriage, before the notary, Geneste, on March 24, 1755.⁵⁸ He married again three weeks later.

Joseph Robitaille owned a mare, two ewes, a lamb, and a ram. And in addition to his *7 arpents and 1 perche wide and 20 arpents deep* land concession, he lived in a 30' x 20' house equipped with a barn and a stable. In addition to the usual household belongings, this inventory included "*his late wife's belongings: dresses, petticoats, stoles, corsets, scarves, headdresses, skirts, etc.*"

In a list of her debts we read,

"François Voyer and Michel Robitaille are owed 76 livres for room and board of minors."

This indicates that his two little boys, Joseph and François, had been cared for by those two families since the death of their mother.

Joseph Jean Robitaille's Second Wedding

Joseph Jean Robitaille's second marriage was to Marie Josephthe Moisan on April 14, 1755, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. She was born on September 20, 1739, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. She was the daughter of Pierre and

⁵⁵ Sale by Jacques Gauvin to Joseph Robitaille, May 24, 1749, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁵⁶ Concession contract by Miss Peuvret to Joseph Robitaille, October 12, 1751, notary Édouard Parant, BAnQ Québec.

⁵⁷ Authorization from Marguerite Meunier to Joseph Robitaille, April 28, 1751, surveyor Antoine Plamondon Sr., BAnQ Cote CA301,S43.

⁵⁸ Inventory of the property of Joseph Jean Robitaille, March 24, 1755, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

Madeleine Mathieu, who were married in Château-Richer on January 17, 1735. Joseph Jean was then 33 years old, and Marie Josephthe was 16.

The witnesses at their wedding were François Voyer, Jean Allain, Joseph Robitaille, Pierre Moisan, François Tardif, and Antoine Ouvrard.

They would have 11 children: six boys and five girls, of whom only one boy and four girls were to marry.

His marriage contract

Before the notary Marois, on April 3, 1755⁹, they entered a marriage contract⁵⁹ where it was stipulated that:

"The father of the bride, Pierre Moisan, promises and obliges himself to give and deliver to the bride a cow during the coming month of November.

"The future husband endows the said. future wife with the customary dowry or the sum of three hundred and fifty livres of dowry... and that the right to pre-take shall be equal and mutual in the amount of two hundred livres.

"are not responsible for each other's debts incurred by either party before their marriage; that if there are such debts, they will be paid and settled by the one responsible from his or her assets without affecting the assets of the other party in any way"

The future spouses married with separation as to property, and it is probably for this reason that the notary proceeded to inventory their assets before their marriage.

Joseph Jean Robitaille's witnesses:

"Antoine Ouvrard, his father-in-law, because of Marguerite Meunier, his wife; Marguerite Meunier, his mother; Jean and François Robitaille, his brothers; Michel Robitaille, his brother-in-law because of Madeleine Robitaille, his wife; Joseph Robitaille, his paternal uncle; and Pierre Voyer, his brother-in-law."

Witnesses for Marie-Josephthe Moisan:

"Her father and mother; Pierre Moisan, her brother; Marie Madeleine Moisan, her sister; Michel Moisan, her grandfather; Michel, Guillaume and Jean Moisan, her paternal uncles; Étienne Moisan, her great uncle; Michel Moisan, her first cousin."

⁵⁹ Marriage contract between Joseph Jean Robitaille and Marie Josephthe Moisan, April 3, 1755, notary Prisque Marois BAnQ Cote CN301,S191.

Inventory of the property of Marie Josephte Moisan

On April 7, 1755, the notary Prisque Marois carried out an inventory of the estate of the future wife⁶⁰:

"at the request of Michel Moisan Sr., and Michel Moisan Jr., granddaughter and niece of the aforementioned Moisans."

The belongings of Marie-Josephte Moisan were worth a total of 268 *livres*. They included a wedding dress, dresses, stoles, petticoats, capes, canvas shirts, handkerchiefs, skirts, stockings, a pine chest, nine hens, two piglets, a ram, a cow, a sheep, and a turkey.

The Family of Joseph Jean Robitaille et Marie-Josephte Moisan

Antoine	Born and baptized on December 2, 1757, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Antoine Ouvrard; Godmother: Madeleine Mathieux Died on December 14, 1758, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 1.
Pierre	Born and baptized on February 16, 1760, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Pierre Moisan; Godmother: Marguerite Robitaille Died in Grondines on May 25, 1780, at the age of 20.
A child	Born and had lay baptism on June 7, 1761, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on June 7, 1761, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 1 day.
Marie Joseph	Born and baptized on June 27, 1762, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Pierre Moisan, grandfather; Godmother: Marguerite Robitaille, wife of Noël Poitras Marriage: Charles Bazile Rocheleau, known as Lespérance, a carpenter, living in Québec City, a native of Beauport, son of Basile Rocheleau, known as Lespérance, and Marie Parent, on July 22, 1763, at Notre-Dame-de-Québec. Contract before the notary J.A. Panet on July 20, 1783, in the home of her father and mother, on St Fabien Street. The new husband was the brother of Marie Rocheleau who would marry François Robitaille, son of Marie-Anne Voyer, Joseph Jean Robitaille's first wife. Charles Rocheleau, known as Lespérance, a carpenter during his lifetime, died on March 4, 1815, at the age of 56, buried in the Smallpox Cemetery in Notre-Dame-de-Québec. Marie Joseph Robitaille died on October 19, 1822, in Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce, at the age of 63 or 64. In fact, she was 60 years old at the time.
Marie Madeleine	Born on January 17, and baptized on January 18, 1765, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Jean Baptiste Robitaille; Godmother: Marie Madeleine Moisan Marriage: July 25, 1780, Notre-Dame-de-Québec, to Joseph Raymond Ponsant, son of Raymond and M. Varambourville. Joseph Ponsant died on February 17, 1815, at Notre-Dame-de-Québec and was buried in the Smallpox Cemetery on February 19, 1815, at the age of 62. He was a teacher. Marie-Madeleine Robitaille died on June 28, 1834, in Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce, at the age of 69.

⁶⁰ Inventory of the property of Miss Marie Joseph Moisan for what will be included in the marriage contract she made with Joseph Robitaille, widower of Marie Anne Voyé, April 7, 1755, notary Prisque Marois, BANQ Cote CN301,S191.

Marie Esther	<p>Born and baptized on April 12, 1767, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Gabriel Augustin Petitclair; Godmother: Esther Leblanc, wife of S. Bourdage Marriage: January 7, 1783, at Notre-Dame-de-Québec, to Jean Baptiste Chevalier, son of Nic René and M. Mad. Leblanc, and widower of Louise Simard. The parties having obtained a dispensation from the reading of two banns as well as from the spiritual impediment arising from her having been godmother of the child of the groom, dispensation obtained from the Bishop of Québec. Jean Baptiste Chevalier de la Durantaye, Clerk of the Court of King's Bench, died on May 12, 1813, in Notre-Dame-de-Québec and was buried in the Smallpox Cemetery on May 14, 1813, at the age of 64. Marie Esther Robitaille died on February 3 and was buried on February 6, 1852, at Notre-Dame-de-Québec, at the age of 86.</p>
Michel	<p>Born on March 7 and baptized on March 8, 1769, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: François Robitaille; Godmother: Marguerite Poitras Died March 9, 1770, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 1.</p>
Thérèse	<p>Born on February 7, and baptized on February 8, 1771, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Joseph Moisan; Godmother: Magdeleine Poitras Marriages: 1. On July 29, 1794, at Notre-Dame-de-Québec to François Desruisseaux, son of the late Charles and Marie Madeleine Duguay, son of age, innkeeper, living in the parish of Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce. François Desruisseaux died on January 25, 1810, in Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce, at the age of 45 (merchant) 2. On October 8, 1811, at Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce, to François Bonneville, son of François and M. Louise Hallé and widower of Thérèse Verreau, a militia captain. Died on May 9, 1827, at Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce at the age of 65. Buried under the first pew in the nave on the epistle side. Major of the Ste-Marie Division, Nouvelle Beauce. Among the witnesses at his funeral were the Honorable Justice Jean Thomas Taschereau, a judge of the Court of King's Bench for the District of Québec, Antoine Charles Taschereau, and Georges Louis Taschereau. Thérèse Robitaille died on May 2, 1839, and was buried on May 4 in the church, centre aisle, under pews 14, 15, and 16 in Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce, at the age of 69.</p>
Jean-Baptiste (Michel)	<p>Born and baptized on April 25, 1775, in Notre-Dame-de-Québec. Godfather: Jean-Marie Bourdage; Godmother: Marie-Charlotte Bourdage Jean Baptiste seems to have lived his life under the name of <i>Michel</i>, his deceased older brother. Marriages: 1. On February 12, 1804, in Yamachiche, to Josephe Marie Bourque, daughter of late Joseph Bourque, farmer from St. Grégoire parish, and Marie Bergeron. Josephe Marie died in Pointe-du-Lac, on June 16, 1804, only four months after her marriage. 2. On October 23, 1809, in Pointe-du-Lac, to Angèle Gauthier, daughter of Joseph Gauthier and Marie Josephe Pothier. Eleven children were born from this second marriage. Angèle died October 9, 1857, in St. Grégoire. <i>Michel</i> died on November 28, 1859, in St. Grégoire</p>
Jacques Philippe	<p>Born on April 30 and baptized on May 1, 1777, in Notre-Dame-de-Québec. Godfather: Benjamin Bourdage; Godmother: Marie-Louise Crequy, wife of Roger Lelièvre Died at the age of 22. His funeral was held on May 22, 1798, in Notre-Dame-de-Québec. He was a butcher. He drowned in the river in this city. Buried in the Smallpox Cemetery.</p>

Élisabeth	<p>Born and baptized on October 26, 1778, in Notre-Dame-de-Québec (daughter of Joseph Jean Robitaille, absent)</p> <p>Godfather: François Perche; Godmother: Marie Joseph Savard</p> <p>Died on December 28, 1783, in Notre-Dame-de-Québec, at the age of 5.</p>
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Joseph Jean Robitaille had three married sons, two from his first marriage and one from the second, and 4 married daughters from his second marriage.

The Robitaille family suffered two particularly painful bereavements: Jacques-Philippe, who died at the age of 22; and Pierre, at 20. The parents also lost Michel and Antoine, each aged 1, in addition to a one-day old.

Joseph and François, sons of the first marriage, signed as witnesses for the marriages of their four half-sisters.

A trade between Joseph Robitaille, and François Robitaille and Félicité Moisan, his brother and his sister-in-law

On November 8, 1758, before the notary Sanguinet⁶¹ from Québec City, Joseph Robitaille bought from Noël Lamothe, known as Laramée, a stone mason, living in the parish of Neuville called Pointe-aux-Trembles, "a site and a house made of stone built on it, located in the suburb of St. Jean, 35 feet wide by 100 feet deep."

On the same day⁶², Joseph Robitaille traded the aforementioned property with François Robitaille and Félicité Moisan, his brother and sister-in-law, for a concession two arpents wide and 50 arpents deep located in the parish of L'Ancienne-Lorette, Seigneurie of Belair belonging to the Jesuits Fathers of the College of Québec City.

1759: The Conquest of Québec

Our ancestor, Joseph Jean, witnessed the battles of the conquest of Québec and the start of the new regime.

"Although L'Ancienne-Lorette did not suffer as much wartime destruction, as some other villages in the diocese did, there were still movements of troops within its territory: that of Wolfe in 1759 and that of Lévis in 1760. As happened everywhere else, all able-bodied men had been called to the flag." (Allard, op.cit.).

⁶¹ Sale of a location and house by Noël Lamothe, known as Laramée, to Joseph Robitaille, November 8, 1758, notary Simon Sanguinet, BANQ Cote CN301,S251

(https://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/archives/52327/4154775?docref=-KO-hSVWSX_5wtSQbb-IWQ)

⁶² Inheritance exchange between Joseph Robitaille and François Robitaille & Félicité Moisan, his wife, November 8, 1758, notary Simon Sanguinet, BANQ Cote CN301,S251 (https://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/archives/52327/4154775?docref=FJ_LjRcSc0vKfLo-t6-U7Q)

Joseph Jean Robitaille was 37 years old, married, and had two children (from his first wife). We have no evidence that he served in the army.

"Even though no battles took place on their territory, the parishioners of L'Ancienne-Lorette suffered no less from the after-effects that the invaders left behind, to which were added the abusive demands of Bigot's men and a severe famine." (Allard, op.cit.).

Joseph Robitaille's purchases

1. On March 20, 1758, before the notary Geneste⁶³, Joseph Robitaille bought from Joseph Moisan *"a piece of land one half arpent wide and 50 arpents deep"*, that bordered his land on the northwest side, for the sum of 350 *livres* that he had already paid in cash.
2. On December 11, 1764, before the notary Geneste⁶⁴, Joseph Robitaille bought, from Eustache Liénard Mondor Durbois, his uncle, a piece of land 30 *arpents* in area, a concession that had been granted to him by Miss de Peuvret; the vendor reserved *"a plot of land of three arpents wide and three cords of wood to be taken on the said land"* for the price of 51 *piastres* for a total of 307 *livres* *"of which the vendor declares as having received twelve piastres before the present and that of 20 piastres that the said purchaser promises to furnish and deliver next year. As for the remaining 114 livres, the purchaser promises to deliver them in the course of the year 1770."* An amendment was added to the sales contract dated February 15, 1768, indicating that the payment had been made.
3. On January 8, 1765, before the notary Geneste⁶⁵ Joseph Robitaille expanded his property from the same vendor: that is, Eustache Liénard Durbois, at the same price as with the previous contract.
4. On February 22, 1774, before the notary Geneste⁶⁶, Joseph Robitaille and Pierre Moisan bought from Jean Dion and his wife Marie Louise Trudel, *"an equal portion each of a piece of land, one arpent wide and 50 arpents deep, for the price of 400 livres."*

Acknowledgment between Pierre Amiot and Joseph Robitaille of the inheritance of Marie-Anne Voyer

On June 11, 1768, before the notary Geneste⁶⁷, Joseph Robitaille acknowledged having received the entire sum owed to him from the estate of his first wife, Marie-Anne Voyer: to wit, the sum of 600 *livres* from Jacques Voyer; 400 *livres* from Pierre Amiot, father; and 200 *livres* from Pierre Amiot, jr., the latter acting in the name of his late father.

⁶³ Sale by Joseph Moisan to Joseph Robitaille, March 29, 1758, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁶⁴ Sale, by Eustache Liénard to Joseph Robitaille, son of Jean and receipt, December 11, 1764, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁶⁵ Sale by Eustache Liénard to Joseph Robitaille, January 8, 1765, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁶⁶ Sale, by Jean Dion and his wife, Marie Louise Trudel, widow of Guillaume Moisan, to Joseph Robitaille and Pierre Moisan, February 22, 1774, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁶⁷ Receipt and discharge by Joseph Robitaille for the benefit of the children and heirs of the late Pierre Amiot, known as Villeneuve, June 11, 1768, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

Joseph Jean Robitaille makes a gift to his son Joseph and moves to Québec City

On the occasion of his son Joseph's marriage to Marie-Jeanne Allain on June 3, 1774, the future spouses presented themselves to the notary Saillant⁶⁸, and Joseph Jean, took the opportunity to make a gift. It would be this son who would remain on the ancestral farm. (See Generation 4).

It was likely about this time that Joseph Jean Robitaille and his family moved to Québec City, since Jean Baptiste was baptized at the parish of Notre-Dame-de-Québec in 1775. Joseph Jean Robitaille took up the trade of carpenter. We note that, in the inventory of his assets,⁶⁹ dated March 24, 1755, he already owned several carpentry tools. And, at the time of the marriage of his son Joseph, on June 6, 1774, it is noted "*son of Joseph Robitaille and Marie-Anne Voyer, his father and mother, of this parish.*"

Commitment to the minor children of the late Pierre Moisan

Before the notary Geneste, on March 21, 1776⁷⁰, Joseph Robitaille made a commitment, in the amount of 108 *livres* in favor of Pierre Moisan, guardian of the minor children of the late Pierre Moisan and Marie Madeleine Mathieu. They were brother and sister-in-law of Joseph Moisan, wife of Joseph Robitaille.

"to relieve them immediately of their urgent needs."

In return,

"Pierre Moisan commits all his property, furniture, personal effects, now and in the future, in general and regardless of any special privilege, the land that he owns in the said Seigneurie of Belair".

This contract is a good example of the spirit of mutual aid that existed between families at that time.

Joseph Jean Robitaille purchases property in Québec City

On October 29, 1777, before Jean Antoine Panet⁷¹, Joseph Jean Robitaille bought a piece of property

"the location and the house situated in the upper city of Québec at the intersection of St. Joachim and St. Flavien Streets, were reportedly adjudicated after several auctions in the Court of Common Pleas."

from Marie Geneviève Paquet, widow of Jean Paul Duthu, surgeon, for 2410 *livres*, of which 1605 *livres* were to be paid in cash. On August 21, 1780, notary Panet signed a release in favor of Joseph Jean Robitaille. Our ancestor lived

⁶⁸ Marriage contract between Joseph Robitaille and Marie Jeanne Allain, June 3, 1774, notary Jean Antoine Saillant, BAnQ Cote CN301,S248.

⁶⁹ Inventory of the property of Joseph Jean Robitaille, March 24, 1755, mentioned above.

⁷⁰ Statement of debt by Joseph Robitaille and his wife to Pierre Moisan, guardian of the minor children of the late Pierre Moisan, March 21, 1776, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁷¹ Account and division between Marie Geneviève Paquet, widow of J.P. Duthu and their children, December 29, 1777, Québec City. Joseph Robitaille, adjudicator, bought the property sold at auction. Settlement signed by Joseph Robitaille, August 21, 1780, notary Jean Antoine Panet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S205.

on this property with his wife and nine children. This property was located close to the Smallpox Cemetery, now near Couillard and Hamel streets. See Trudel map .⁷²



... according to old plans, this reconstruction attempts to represent the civilian and military layout of the city of Québec circa 1760. The arrow points to the Cimetière des Picotés (Smallpox Cemetery).

⁷² Marcel Trudel, *An Atlas of New France*, Presses de l'Université Laval, Québec City, 1968.

Joseph Robitaille, master carpenter in Québec City

We can see, from the notarial contracts listed below that our ancestor, as early as 1754, when he still lived on his farm in L'Ancienne-Lorette, sold lumber and that he then became a master carpenter who constructed buildings. Here are some examples.⁷³

1. On March 28, 1754, before the notary Simon Sanguinet⁷⁴, he signed a contract with Joseph Delorme (master carpenter from St. Famille Street) to provide 60 pieces of hemlock, 700 feet of cedar, 8 rafters, 6 sandpits, and 2 spruce doorways, to be delivered to the lower courtyard of the palace.
2. On April 8, 1755, before the notary Claude Barolet⁷⁵, he signed a contract with Pierre Chupin (cabaret owner of the St-Jean suburb) to build a house out of hemlock of 15' x 12', with 1 door, 2 windows, and a simple plank roof, on the St-Jean main street.
3. On March 12, 1758, before the notary Jean-Claude Panet⁷⁶, was signed a contract between Joseph Robitaille and Pierre Moisan (from Lorette) to build, for Joseph Cadet (King's general munitioner) a barn measuring 50' x 22', like the one acquired by Joseph Cadet from Sieur Gauvreau, except that the roof was to be double planked; a stable 40' x 20', like that of Mr. Belleville, belonging to Joseph Cadet on land acquired from Sieur Amiot, at Petite-Rivière.
4. On March 18, 1765, before the notary François Emmanuel Moreau⁷⁷, a contract between Jean Robitaille and Joseph Robitaille (of L'Ancienne-Lorette) to construct and lay out for Louis Le Cocq (a storekeeper from Québec City) the framing of his wooden house with 3 sections, 30' x 24', with 1 door and 8 windows: 3 in the front, 3 at the rear, and 2 skylights on the gable, a 3-panel roof with 2 skylights at the front, in Ste-Foy. (Louis Le Cocq, signed as Robert Willcocks)
5. On May 10, 1777, before the notary Jean Antoine Panet,⁷⁸ a contract between Joseph Jean Robitaille (master carpenter from Québec City) and Jean François Hubert, (priest, attorney for the seminary) a new frame squared off with an axe to restore their house in La Canardière.
6. On September 7, 1780, before the notary Jacques Nicolas Pinguet⁷⁹, a contract with Joseph Robitaille (master carpenter from Québec City) to manufacture and raise, for Charles Vézina (master entrepreneur and carpenter) for the landlord Grant (Seigneur of Saint Roch) the frame of a 2-storey house 80' x 26', with skylights, in the St. Roch district.
7. On September 9, 1785, before the notary Michel Amable Berthelot d'Artigny⁸⁰, a contract between Joseph Robitaille (master carpenter), and Jean Antoine Panet (lawyer and notary) to build a cedar fence around his

⁷³ Drolet Dubé, Doris and Lacombe, Martha, *Inventory of construction contracts from the National Archives of Québec, XVIIth and XVIIIth Centuries*, History and Archaeology No. 17, National Historic Places and Parks Directorate, Parks Canada, Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. (<http://parkscanadahistory.com/series/ha/17-fra.pdf>)

⁷⁴ Contract between Joseph Robitaille and Joseph Delorme, March 28, 1754, notary Simon Sanguinet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S251. (<https://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/archives/52327/4154774?docref=EDYnsWDOMerTtBIYHvWUuA>)

⁷⁵ Contract between Joseph Robitaille and Pierre Chupin, April 8, 1755, notary Claude Barolet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S11.

⁷⁶ Contract between Joseph Robitaille and Pierre Moisan and Joseph Cadet, March 12, 1758, notary Jean Claude Panet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S207.

⁷⁷ Contract between Jean Robitaille and Joseph Robitaille and Louis LeCoq, March 18, 1765, notary François Emmanuel Moreau, BAnQ Cote CN301,S202.

⁷⁸ Contract between Joseph Robitaille and Jean François Hubert, May 10, 1777, notary, Jean Antoine Panet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S205.

⁷⁹ Contract between Joseph Robitaille and Charles Vézina for Mr. Grant, September 7, 1780, notary Jacques Nicolas Pinguet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S224. (<https://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/archives/52327/3777907?docref=KgDwLqkMfgYHi2Lz4suGRw>)

⁸⁰ Contract between Joseph Robitaille and Jean Antoine Panet, September 9, 1785, notary Michel Amable Berthelot d'Artigny, BAnQ Cote CN301,S25.

land on St. Ursule, St. Anne, and Auteuil streets.

8. On December 22, 1785, before the notary, Pierre Louis Descheneaux⁸¹, a plan and a contract between Joseph Robitaille Sr. and François Robitaille Jr. (master carpenters) to provide Adam Lymburner (a storekeeper on St. Pierre Street) with lumber to build a 67½' × 24' shed on his wharf.
9. On March 2, 1786, before the notary, Michel Amable Berthelot d'Artigny⁸², a contract between Joseph Robitaille (master carpenter) and for Jean Antoine Panet (lawyer and notary) to build a wooden shed 50' × 22', with 2 carriage porches, 2 small doors and 2 windows at the front, 1 door and 1 window at the back; 1 large hoist skylight and 1 of average size on each side, St. Anne Street, St. Ursule and Auteuil.
10. On December 29, 1787, before the notary Jacques Nicolas Pinguet⁸³, a contract between Joseph Robitaille and Charles Rocheleau (his son-in-law) (master carpenters) and François Joseph Cugnet to build, for François Joseph Cugnet, the frame to rebuild his house in masonry, 2 floors, with an attic with 2 skylights in the rear, on Des Carrières Street, as per the provided plan.

Joseph Jean Robitaille sells the rest of his properties in L'Ancienne-Lorette

Since he was now a resident of Québec City; and, since his son, Joseph, who had been married for four years, was living on the ancestral property in L'Ancienne-Lorette, our ancestor decided to sell the rest of the land that still belonged to him in that parish.

1. He signed a sales contract before the notary Geneste on May 9, 1778⁸⁴ in favor of Joseph Voyer Sr., a contract he had ratified by Marie Josephthe Moisan, his wife, *"to wit the 13 arpents of land"* that he had acquired through inheritance from his first wife, Marie-Anne Voyer.
2. On May 20, 1778, before the notary A. Panet⁸⁵, he sold to Jacques Ouvrard, known as Laperrière, a piece of land *"one arpent wide and 50 arpents deep, granted by the Jesuit Fathers"* that he had acquired *"one half by an exchange between him and François Robitaille, his brother, and the other half purchased from Louise Trudelle, widow of P. Moisan."*

Joseph Robitaille's debt to Jean-Baptiste Durocher

Before the notary Panet, on August 13, 1783⁸⁶, Joseph Jean Robitaille acknowledged his debt to Jean Baptiste Durocher (a merchant in Québec City), who sold him *"furnishings and goods to his satisfaction"* at a cost of eighteen *livres* or pounds, twelve *schellings*, five and one half *sols*. To do this he *"mortgages his property on St. Flavien Street, in the upper town of Québec City."*

⁸¹ Quote and Contract between Joseph Robitaille Sr. and François Robitaille Jr., and Adam Lymburner December 22, 1785, notary Pierre Louis Descheneaux, BAnQ Cote CN301,S83.

⁸² Contract between Joseph Robitaille and Jean Antoine Panet, March 2, 1786, notary Michel Amable Berthelot d'Artigny, BAnQ Cote CN301,S25.

⁸³ Plan and contract between Joseph Robitaille and Charles Rocheleau and François Joseph Cugnet, December 29, 1787, notary Jacques Nicolas Pinguet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S224. (<https://numerique.banq.qc.ca/patrimoine/archives/52327/3777909?docref=BI05U71SXRONt2lqng50Og>)

⁸⁴ Sale granted by Joseph Jean Robitaille, son of John, to Joseph Voyer, sr., May 9 1778, notary André Geneste, BAnQ Cote CN301,S115.

⁸⁵ Sale by Joseph Robitaille to Jacques Ouvrard, known as Laperrière, May 20, 1778, notary Jean Antoine Panet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S205

⁸⁶ Joseph Jean Robitaille's obligation to Jean-Baptiste Durocher, August 13, 1783, notary Jean Antoine Panet, BAnQ Cote CN301,S205.

Joseph Jean Robitaille sells his property in Québec City

On February 6, 1787, before the notary Pinguet⁸⁷, Joseph Jean Robitaille signed a sales contract in favour of Sieur Thomas Langlois, a merchant butcher of Québec City, consisting of *"a site on which there is a house built of stone with two floors, its circumstances and dependencies" (...)* *"located in Québec City's Upper Town with 80 ft. of frontage on St. Joachim Street, 20 ft of depth on St. Flavien Street"* for the sum of 2475 livres.

Death of Joseph Jean Robitaille

Our ancestor died on May 7, 1809 (he was listed as a carpenter in the register) at Notre-Dame-de-Québec. He was buried in the Smallpox Cemetery at the age of 87 (the register says he was 91).

This cemetery is located close to the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec, where Hamel Street is today, and the houses built nearby. It had been purchased during the smallpox epidemic of 1702. It was on the occasion of this epidemic that this cemetery was called the *"Cemetery of the Prickled,"* which name was used for a century and a half. It was not until 1861 that the bodies in this cemetery were transported to Belmont Cemetery.⁸⁸

Of the 14 children from his two marriages, only six reached adulthood and married: two boys and four girls.

This grandson of a French immigrant did not have the same love of the land as his grandfather. He preferred to move to the city and work as a carpenter, leaving the farm to his son.

Death of Marie Josephte Moisan

She spent her final days living at her daughter Thérèse's house in Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce. She died there three years after her husband, on September 6, 1812, and was buried on the 8th, at the age of 73. (The register says she was 78.)

Her son-in-law, François Bonneville, was a witness at her funeral.

Two other sisters of Thérèse also ended their days in Ste-Marie de la Nouvelle-Beauce: Marie Joseph, widow of Charles Bazile Rocheleau, known as Lesperance, who died on October 20, 1822, and Marie Madeleine, widow of Raymond Ponsant, who died on June 30, 1834.

⁸⁷ Sale by Joseph Robitaille to Thomas Langlois, February 6, 1787, notary Jacques-Nicolas Pinguet, BANQ Cote CN301,S224.

⁸⁸ Roy, Pierre-Georges, *Les cimetières de Québec*, Lévis 1941.

Chapter 4 – Fourth generation: Joseph (Jean) Robitaille – Marie-Jeanne Allain⁸⁹

Joseph Robitaille married Marie-Jeanne Allain on June 6, 1774, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, after obtaining an exemption from the 3rd degree of consanguinity to the 4th degree from the bishop of Québec. He was 25 years old. Marie-Jeanne was born on March 4, 1755, in L'Ancienne-Lorette and was the daughter of Ignace Allain and Marguerite Voyer who were married in L'Ancienne-Lorette on February 1, 1751. They were neighbors of the Robitaille family. Marie-Jeanne was 19 years old at the time of her marriage.

The witnesses at their wedding were Joseph Robitaille, the husband's father; Ignace Allain, father of the bride; Noël Poitras, and François Robitaille.

Marriage Contract

The couple appeared before the notary Saillant, on June 3, 1774, to sign a marriage contract. Joseph had, as witnesses, François Robitaille, his brother; Jean and François Robitaille, his paternal uncles; and Noël Voyer, a property owner in the town, his great-uncle.

Marie-Jeanne was represented by Charles Fiset her brother-in-law married to Marguerite Allain; Pierre Allain, her paternal uncle; Estienne Moisan, her maternal uncle; and François Voyer, her maternal uncle.

The contract stated:

The future Husband has gifted and endowed his future wife with the customary dowry, or the sum of 300 shillings...

and the father of the groom, Joseph Jean Robitaille, took the opportunity to make the following donation:

In consideration of the aforementioned forthcoming marriage and to help establish the said Joseph Jean Robitaille, future husband, the said Joseph Jean Robitaille and Marie Joseph Moisan, his wife, have by these presents ceded to the said future husband and wife (...) To wit: a piece of land three and one half arpents wide that is one half of a seven arpents by twenty-two arpents piece of land, more or less, situated in the place known as Lorette seigneurie of Gaudarville, together with one half of the house and building thereon. (...) plus a milk cow, a pig, and a sheep...

and

Ignace Allain and Marguerite Voyer gave the bride a milk cow

⁸⁹ It should be noted that, at the time, the name Alain (Alin, Alin, ...) might take any one of several forms in different documents. This was also true for many other names. Rules for standardizing spelling had yet to be established.

Their family

Joseph	Born and baptized on June 6, 1775, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Godfather: Joseph Robitaille; Godmother: Marguerite Voyer, wife of Ignace Allain Died October 1, 1777, in L'Ancienne-Lorette – 2 years old
Ignace	Born on February 20, 1777, in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Records in poor condition; impossible to confirm the exact date of birth) Died September 9, 1777, in L'Ancienne-Lorette – 4 months
Marie-Louise	Born on July 5 and baptized on July 6, 1778, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Godfather: Pierre Robitaille; Godmother: Marie-Louise Allain (Noted in the register: " <i>Boy and Girl</i> ") Marriage: June 1, 1801, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Louis Therrien, day laborer, in Québec City, son of Michel and Geneviève Hot, a farmer from the parish of St-Gervais. The witnesses at their marriage were Joseph, her father, and Pierre, her brother. She is referred to in the register as " <i>adult daughter</i> ". Died in St-Roch, Québec City, July 31, 1845 – 70 years old.
Jean-Baptiste	Born on April 29 and baptized on April 30, 1780, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Godfather: Jean-Baptiste Allain; Godmother: Josephite Robitaille <i>"Boy and Girl"</i> noted in the register
Marie-Charlotte	Born and baptized on May 24, 1781, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Godfather: François Potra; Godmother: Marie-Charlotte Alain Buried on October 23, 1795, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 14. It is noted in the record: " <i>Having never received holy communion or extreme unction due to the virulence of the disease, died on October 21.</i> "
Josette (Louise)	Born on July 2 and baptized on July 3, 1783, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Godfather: Étienne Robitail of Cap-Rouge; Godmother: Josette Alain Died March 16, 1784 in L'Ancienne-Lorette – 9 months
Pierre	Born and baptized on May 30, 1785, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Godfather: Pierre Robitail; Godmother: Marie-Therese Mora... Marriage: September 18, 1826, at L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Marie-Angélique Alin, daughter of Pierre and Marie Bealeu Died on February 10, 1868, in L'Ancienne-Lorette – 74 years old Pierre Robitaille died on August 9, 1847, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, 62 years old (See 5 th Generation)
Charles	Born on May 29 and baptized on May 30, 1787, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Godfather: Charles Robitaille; Godmother: Marie Portugal Died on December 26 and buried on December 28, 1795, in L'Ancienne-Lorette – 8 years old
Marie-Élisabeth	Born on July 9 and baptized on July 10, 1789, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Godfather: Jacques Gauvin (bachelor); Godmother: Élisabeth Portugal Marriage: February 4, 1811, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Pierre Moisan, son of Pierre and Marie Trudel Died December 18, 1853, in Québec City

Louise	Born on October 26 and baptized on October 27, 1791, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Godfather: Jean Robitaille; Godmother: Louise Robitaille Died September 28, 1864, in L'Ancienne-Lorette – 73 years old The register mentions " <i>Old maid</i> "
A child	Born on December 28, 1794, and baptized in emergency at home, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Died December 28, 1794, in L'Ancienne-Lorette – 1 day
Marguerite	Born on August 30, 1796, and baptized the next day at Notre-Dame-de-Foy Godfather: Jacques Alin, the child's uncle; Godmother: Marie Fisette Marriage: (adult daughter) On April 17, 1820, in L'Ancienne-Lorette to Gabriel Drolet, farmer, son of the late Joseph and the late Marguerite Meunier Died in L'Ancienne-Lorette on 9 July 1861 – 68 years old Marguerite Robitaille died on March 28, 1870, in L'Ancienne-Lorette 70 years old
A boy	Born and baptized at home and died immediately thereafter, on July 27, 1798, in L'Ancienne-Lorette

The Robitaille family was very distressed by their loss of 7 very young children:

- In 1777, Joseph, 2 years old and Ignatius, 4 months old, died one month apart.
- In 1784, Josette (Louise) died at the age of 9 months.
- In 1794, the Robitaille couple lost a one-day-old child.
- In 1795, two months apart, Marie-Charlotte, 14, and Charles, 8, died.
- And, in 1798, a month before the death of his mother, a boy died at birth.

Debt owed by Joseph Robitaille to Louis Barbeau

Before the notary Planté, on March 15, 1796, Joseph Jean Robitaille Jr., borrowed from Louis Barbeau, a resident of the suburb of St-Jean of that city, the sum of 200 pounds and, in order to do so, mortgaged his land in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Four years later, on February 1, 1800, a receipt for that amount was issued by the notary Planté.

Death of Marie-Jeanne Allain

Misfortune struck the Robitaille family: Marie-Jeanne Allain died on August 26, 1798, at the age of 43, one month after giving birth to her 13th child, a boy, who died immediately after her.

She was survived by the following children:

Marie-Louise	20 years old
Jean-Baptiste	18 years old
Pierre	13 years old
Élisabeth	9 years old
Louise	8 years old
Marguerite	unknown

Inventory of Joseph Robitaille's property

Joseph Robitaille was probably in a very precarious financial situation. Nine years after the death of his wife, an inventory of his assets was carried out and, according to a subsequent report, the notary proceeded to sell his furniture and goods in order to repay his numerous, accumulated debts.

On March 16, 1807, the notary Lelièvre carried out an inventory of the property of Joseph Robitaille, guardian of his three minor children: Élisabeth, Louise, and Marguerite.

This inventory listed the usual objects and utensils to be found in a home, such as jugs, pots, terrines, hutches, a spinning wheel, etc. and some farming tools such as a plow, sleds, a cart, a hay cart, etc. The family owned a few animals: five cows, two oxen, five sheep, two pigs, turkeys, chickens, and a mare.

Passive debts

The said Mr. Joseph Robitaille, according to the oath that he swore, declares that his estate owes to the persons hereinafter named

<i>to Pierre André Robitaille's widow</i>	<i>100 francs</i>	
<i>to Charlotte Flurette</i>	<i>200 pounds</i>	
<i>to Charlotte Flurette for interest on the debt</i>	<i>12 francs</i>	
<i>to Jean Robitaille</i>	<i>260 francs</i>	
<i>to Pierre Robitaille</i>	<i>124 pounds</i>	<i>and 10 cents</i>
<i>to François Gauvin, for sawing planks</i>	<i>60 francs</i>	<i>or 10 Spanish piastres</i>
<i>to Jean Baptiste Dufresne</i>	<i>48 francs</i>	<i>or 8 Spanish piastres</i>
<i>to Mr. Decheneau, parish priest of the said parish</i>	<i>48 francs</i>	<i>or 8 Spanish piastres</i>
<i>to Pierre Terrien, Québec shoemaker</i>	<i>48 francs</i>	<i>or 8 Spanish piastres</i>
<i>to Beck, the miller</i>	<i>21 pounds</i>	
<i>to Jacques Gauvin</i>	<i>9.2 pounds</i>	
<i>to Louis Gauvin</i>	<i>7.6 pounds</i>	

Active debts: nil

The said Joseph Robitaille declares, under oath, that he holds no money belonging to the said estate

Elizabeth Robitaille was left a buffet for her use

She was also left, for the use of the said minor children, a mattress, a sheet, a blanket, a bolster, 2 pillows, and a bedframe

The following articles were left to the said J. Robitaille for his use and that of his minor children:

- 20 pounds of bacon*
- 50 pounds of flour -*
- 330 planks to be used to repair the house and buildings built on the land*

Immovable property:

A piece of land located in the Parish of L'Ancienne-Lorette 6 arpents and 1 rod wide and about 15 arpents long and, at the bottom of the said depth the said land is 7 arpents wide for a total area of 66 square arpents. On the said property there is a wooden house 30 ft long by 20 ft wide - 1 barn and 1 stable together 60 ft long by 22 ft wide ...

Inventory completed in the presence of Pierre Therrien and François Chevallier, notary clerks, witnesses.

Auction proceedings

On the same day, March 16, 1807, the notary Lelièvre *"proceeded to sell to the highest and last bidder all the personal property..."* (...) *"consisting of cauldrons, pots, a lantern, belts, hatches, axes, boilers, jugs, saws, scrap, sickles, 2 sheepskins, and among the animals: 1 mare, 2 pairs of oxen, 5 cows, 1 ram, 3 sheep, 2 turkeys, 5 hens, 2 pigs, etc."*

The auctioneer was Jacques Boivin, a resident of L'Ancienne-Lorette.

The goods were sold to family members and neighbors:

Pierre Robitaille, his son, bought several items; Jacques Gauvin, Louis Therrien, Jean M. Robitaille, Jean Valin, André Robitaille, Jean Rochette, Étienne Alain, etc. for a total of 928.16 pounds which was remitted to Joseph Robitaille by the notary.

Donation

A week later, on March 23, 1807, before the notary Lelièvre, Joseph Jean Robitaille gave to Pierre, his oldest son, to his son-in-law Louis Therrien and to Marie Robitaille, his daughter, Louis' wife, the rest of *"his personal belongings consisting of household furniture, kitchen and agricultural utensils, animals, herds, and linens and the (...) property consisting of half of a piece of land located in the Parish of L'Ancienne-Lorette three and a half arpents (...) wide and sixteen arpents (...) deep,"* subject to the condition *that the donor is to be housed, kept warm, provided light, and sustained,"* and also *"that Elizabeth, Louise, and Marguerite are to be provided for until they reach the age of majority, or are provided for by marriage."*

In addition, they will have to pay these latter *"a sum of twenty-four pounds and twenty cents (...) and also give them each a spinning wheel."*

His son-in-law, Louis Therrien, already owned a piece of land that bordered on that of Joseph Robitaille.

Last Will of Joseph Robitaille

On the same day, March 23, 1807, before notary Lelièvre, Joseph Robitaille drafted his will. The executors were Pierre Robitaille, his son, and Louis Therrien, his son-in-law. He gave all of his personal property and buildings to Pierre Robitaille, Louis Therrien, and Marie Robitaille, his son, his son-in-law, and his daughter, as stipulated in the deed of donation.

Death of Joseph Robitaille

Our ancestor died on March 28, 1824, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 75. He left behind his married children:

- Marie-Louise and Louis Therrien
- Marie-Elisabeth and Pierre Moisan
- Marguerite and Gabriel Drolet

as well as two unmarried children:

- Pierre and Louise
- and perhaps also Jean-Baptiste, of whom we have no record.

Of a family of thirteen children, seven died young, four were married, including only one son: Pierre. (See 5th Generation)

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Chapter 5 – Fifth Generation: Pierre Robitaille – Angélique Alain

Sale of rights of inheritance of furniture and real estate by Louis Therrien and his wife to Pierre Robitaille

On April 2, 1811, before the notary Chevalier⁹⁰, Marie-Louise Robitaille and Louis Therrien, Pierre Robitaille's sister and brother-in-law, sold their share of the inheritance received from their father, Joseph, in accordance with the deed of gift dated March 23, 1807, before the notary Lelièvre⁹¹, consisting of "*land 3½ arpents wide by 16 arpents deep, the right half undivided of the house, barn, stable, etc. This sale is made at the expense of the said purchaser to provide a pension for Mr. Joseph Robitaille, their father and father-in-law, and to pay the amounts due to the Misses Elizabeth, Louise, and Marguerite Robitaille, sisters and sisters-in-law of the sellers, as stipulated in the deed of gift, for the price of twelve hundred pounds (Trans. Note: The French "livre" or "pound" had a value of 20 sols (cents); the said purchaser has made a down payment of eight hundred pounds, as for the remaining four hundred pounds the purchaser promises to pay two hundred pounds on the next All Saints' Day and two hundred pounds in one year, interest-free.*"

Receipt issued on August 12, 1829, before the notary Lelièvre.

Pierre Robitaille's Debt to Michel Tessier

Three weeks before his wedding, that is, on August 14, 1826, Pierre Robitaille signed an acknowledgment of a debt to Michel Tessier, a merchant, living in Faubourg St-Jean in the city of Québec, for the sum of twenty-five pounds at the office of the notary DeFoy⁹². Ignace Allain, a farmer living in L'Ancienne-Lorette, and Michel Gauvin, a master carter living in Québec, were the guarantors of that loan. By October 18, 1833, Pierre Robitaille had repaid this debt.

Marriage

Pierre Robitaille married Angélique Alain on September 18, 1826, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, after obtaining an exemption from Msgr. Panet, bishop of Québec, for second degree of consanguinity. He was 41 years old.

Angélique Alain was born on May 24, 1796, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. She was 30 years old on her wedding day. She was the daughter of Pierre Alain, a farmer, and Marie Bealeau, who were married in L'Ancienne-Lorette on February 19, 1787.

The families of the two spouses were neighbors. The couple had known one another for a long time.

⁹⁰ Registry of notary François-Xavier Chevalier, BAnQ cote: CN301,S63

⁹¹ Registry of notary Roger Lelièvre, BAnQ cote: CN301,S178

⁹² Registry of notary Charles-Maxime Defoy, BAnQ cote: CN301,S80

Witnesses at the wedding:

- Pierre Moisan, brother-in-law of the husband
- Pierre Moisan, his first cousin on his mother's side
- Gabriel Drolet
- Pierre Alain, father of the bride
- Jean Alain, her brother, and
- Jacques Gauvin, her brother-in-law

Pierre married two years after his father's death. There remained, at his father's house, his sister, Louise, who would remain with the Robitaille family. She died in 1864, 17 years after her brother, Pierre.

Also, Marie-Angélique Alain has a special clause about her in her will, as we will see later.

Marriage Contract

The bride and groom appeared before the notary, Michel Tessier, on September 7, 1826, to sign their marriage contract⁹³.

"The future spouses will be common as to property regarding all movable and immovable property (...) the said Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Allain give to the bride-to-be, their daughter, a cow and a sheep that they promise to deliver to her whenever she prefers (...) The future husband endows his future wife with the sum of six hundred pounds."

This marriage contract was to serve also as their will since they made equal bequests to one another in the event of their deaths.

They would have a family of four children, all of whom married: Pierre, Jean, Marie, and Jacques, who would constitute the sixth generation. We will now introduce each of these children and their descendants.

⁹³ Registry of notary Michel Tessier, BANQ, cote: CN301,S261 (item # 1802)

The children of Pierre Robitaille and Angélique Alain

Pierre Robitaille and Angélique Alain had four children: Pierre (born 1827), Jean (born 1830), Marie (born 1833) and Jacques (born 1837). We will now introduce them, one-by-one, and briefly discuss their respective descendants. Jean's life will be described in more detail in the next chapter since it is his lineage that we are following.

The oldest child, Pierre, eldest son of the 6th generation

Pierre was born and baptized on July 5, 1827, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Godfather: Pierre Alin, Godmother: Marie Belleau.

On Feb 25, 1851 in L'Ancienne-Lorette, he married Sophie Voyer, daughter of Louis and Louise Gauvin.

They lived on a farm in Cap-Rouge, on the bank of the river on the Domaine Road. They had ten children, of whom three sons and one daughter would marry.



Pierre Robitaille (1827-1899) and Sophie Voyer (1823-1890)

The Family of Pierre Robitaille and Sophie Voyer (7th Generation)

Pierre	<p>Born on June 21, 1852, and baptized on the same day in St-Augustin. Married on February 8, 1887, in Rivière-du-Loup to Céline Chouinard, daughter of Marc and Clémentine Day. Everyone called him "Pit." They lived in Québec City and had a summer cottage near the Québec Bridge, at Jacques Cartier Beach. Died on June 2, 1928, in St-Charles-de-Limoilou and buried in Cap-Rouge on the 5th.</p>
Jean Isidore	<p>Born and baptized on October 20, 1853, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on August 24, 1854, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 10 months.</p>
Sophie	<p>Born and baptized on March 5, 1855, in Ste-Foy. Died on July 16, 1942, and buried on July 20, 1942, in Cap-Rouge, at the age of 87. Unmarried. She had trained as a seamstress at Morgan's (later known as Hudson's Bay Co.) in Québec City and worked for many years with the Darveau family in Québec City, for a salary of \$4 per month. In 1918, at the age of 63, she went to live with the family of Louis Delisle in Cap-Rouge, where she remained until her death. Diane Moisan, wife of Louis Delisle, was her niece.</p>
Elmire	<p>Born July 20, 1856. Died on December 15, 1858, at the age of 2. Buried on the 17th in L'Ancienne-Lorette.</p>
Joseph	<p>Baptized on December 16, 1857, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Married on November 8, 1881, in Cap-Rouge, to Auxilia Hébert Couillard de Beaumont, daughter of the late Charles and the late Marie Desrochers. He was the one who stayed on his father's farm in Cap-Rouge. They had 10 children, all baptized in Cap-Rouge.</p> <p>8th generation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sophie Zélia born on August 26, 1882. Died on June 18, 1884, at the age of 1½ and buried on June 20. b. Joseph Napoléon born on September 27, 1883. He was a big 6'2" man who loved reading. He went to work in western Canada and enlisted in the army there. He died during the war on September 27, 1918.

LE SOLEIL, QUEBEC, MERCREDI 9 OCTOBRE 1918

Tué au front



Le lieutenant JOSEPH ROBITAILLE, de Cap-Rouge, tué au front le 27 septembre.— Il s'était enrôlé le 27 Septembre 1914.— Il était né le 27 septembre.— Il gagna tous ses grades sous le feu de l'ennemi. (Voir détails à la page 8).

POURQUOI LES CANADIENS COMBATTENT

Le lt. Jos. Robitaille de Cap-Rouge, est tué au front, le 27 septembre, le jour de l'anniversaire de sa naissance.— Une lettre admirable

M. J. Robitaille, de Cap-Rouge recevait récemment la triste nouvelle lui apprenant la mort au champ d'honneur de son fils le lieutenant Jos. Robitaille.

Le lt. Robitaille s'était enrôlé au début de la guerre comme simple soldat et était parti pour l'Europe le 27 septembre 1914. Il a donc été tué exactement quatre années après son départ. De plus le jour de sa mort glorieuse le lt. Robitaille atteignait sa 35ème année.

En juin 1915 il était blessé pour la première fois puis le 13 juin 1916, il recevait sa seconde blessure. Le 27 septembre de cette année il faisait le sacrifice suprême de sa vie.

Quel superbe bilan de travail.

Le lt. Robitaille reçut la médaille militaire au mois de juillet 1916 et au mois d'août de cette année, il recevait son grade de lieutenant.

Le jour même de la mort du brave lt. Robitaille son père recevait une lettre admirable, que nous publions ci-dessous et qui parle par elle-même. On verra comment un père peut être fier d'un tel fils.

Folkestone, U.S., 18.

Bien chers parents,

J'ai reçu votre lettre juste au moment de quitter Bexhill. Je suis heureux de vous savoir tous en bonne santé. Je crois comprendre que Xavier ne sera pas appelé avant décembre. Je sais que pour vous, chers parents, c'est une épreuve, surtout après les sacrifices que vous avez faits pour son éducation, mais c'est aussi une gloire que d'avoir un autre fils sous les drapeaux et combattant pour la défense du Canada.

Car comprenez-le bien: l'avenir de l'Amérique entière se joue actuellement sur les champs de bataille de l'Europe, de l'Asie et de l'Afrique.

Il fut un temps où l'on pouvait dire que les différentes parties du monde étaient indépendantes les unes des autres, mais c'est une chose du passé. Maintenant toutes les parties du monde sont solidaires les unes des autres. Avant quelques semaines, il est probable que la traversée de l'Atlantique sera effectuée par aéroplane. Vous comprenez qu'avec les sous-marins et aéroplanes pouvant voyager à des dizaines de milles de distance, aucune partie du monde, pas plus au Canada qu'ailleurs, ne peut prétendre qu'il "n'y a pas de guerre pour nous".

Le Canada jusqu'à maintenant peut s'estimer heureux d'une chose, c'est qu'il n'a pas eu de guerre chez lui.

Pour les bons anti-militaristes canadiens (qui en somme se résument à l'idée pure et simple, qu'ils ont peur de leur peau) quelques jours passés dans la zone du front leur feraient probablement changer leur doctrine et ils s'estimeraient heureux qu'il y ait eu quelqu'un pour empêcher les Allemands d'aller porter la guerre jusque chez eux.

Je viens d'être nommé lieutenant, il y a 3 ou 4 semaines. Je suis en ce moment en permission (6 jours) attendant des ordres. Je ne suis pas où j'aim, mais les lettres adressées à la 3ème Réa. finiront toujours par me parvenir, même si ce n'est qu'après la guerre.

Bonjour à tous,

JOS ROBITAILLE, Lt.

- c. Joseph, born on September 25, 1884.
Died on September 26, 1884, at the age of one day.
- d. Joseph Elzéar born on July 26, 1885.
Died on January 2, 1892, at the age of 6.
- e. Calixta born on December 15, 1886.
Died on May 1, 1890, at the age of 3.
- f. Anne Marie Antonia, born on June 24, 1888.
Died on December 2, 1893, at the age of 5.
- g. Delvina **Dianora** born on August 7, 1892.
Married on April 1, 1913, in Cap-Rouge to Henri Bertrand, son of Charles and Délima Caron.
They had 14 children, four of whom died in infancy.
Dianora Robitaille died on February 11, 1954, at the age of 61 and Henri Bertrand died on July 18, 1982, at the age of 91, both in Cap-Rouge. Henri Bertrand was a butcher in St-Agapit and later worked at the experimental farm in Cap-Rouge.
- h. **David** Joseph Hébert, born November 3, 1894.
Married on August 24, 1914, in Cap-Rouge to Emma Beaulieu, daughter of François and Marie Martel. They had 10 children, two of whom died in infancy.
David Robitaille died on September 1, 1971, at the age of 76, and Emma Beaulieu died on

	<p>October 3, 1973, at the age of 82; both are buried in Cap-Rouge. It was David who stayed on his father's farm in Cap-Rouge. He was a mechanic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Pierre Arthur, born on December 18, 1897. Died on August 23, 1898, at the age of 8 months. j. François Xavier born on August 11, 1899. Married on October 10, 1921, in the St-Sauveur Parish of Québec City, to Augustina Desrochers, daughter of Auguste and Malvina Auclair. They had six children: one son and five daughters. François Xavier Robitaille died on November 18, 1936, at the age of 37. He was an agronomist. <p>Auxilia Hébert Couillard died on August 13, 1922, at the age of 62 and was buried on the 16th.</p> <p>Joseph Robitaille died on April 8, 1946, at the age of 88. Both are buried in Cap-Rouge.</p>
Philomène	<p>Born on July 26, 1859, and baptized the same day in St-Augustin. Married on September 29, 1885, in Cap-Rouge to Lazare Moisan, the son of Pierre and Marie Gingras (L'Ancienne-Lorette).</p> <p>They lived in Cap-Rouge and had five children, all of whom were baptized in Cap-Rouge:</p> <p>8th generation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Marie Philomène Angéline, born on August 22, 1886. Married on January 12, 1909, in Cap-Rouge to Arthur Dubois, a carpenter, son of Pierre and Arthémise Roberge. They had four children. They both died on the same day of the Spanish flu: October 22, 1918, in Cap-Rouge. Many parishioners died of the Spanish flu that year. Father Pampalon walked around the parish every day, stopping in front of each house to bless the sick and to pray. b. Joseph Elzéar, born on April 26, 1888. Married to Marie-Anne Sylvain on January 12, 1914, in Québec City, at St-Roch's parish. They had six children. Marie-Anne died on January 10, 1922, at the age of 29. Elzéar Moisan married for the second time on June 25, 1923, in Québec, at St-Roch's. His second wife's name was Marie Rosalie Plamondon. He worked at a grain elevator in the port of Québec and resided in the parish of St-Roch. Elzéar Moisan died on September 11, 1970, at the age of 82. Marie Plamondon died on June 24, 1973, in Beauport, in the parish of St-Thomas de Villeneuve, at the age of 91. c. Joseph Odilon Alphonse born February 17, 1890. Died on February 9, 1901, at the age of 10. d. Marie Diane born on August 2, 1892. Married on November 22, 1910, in Cap-Rouge to Louis Delisle, son of Wilbrod and Octavie Nolin. He was a farmer, an employee of the Cap-Rouge experimental farm, an employee of the Sœurs du Bon Pasteur, and he was the parish sexton in Cap-Rouge for 11 years. They always lived in this parish where they raised 12 children, including a daughter who died at the age of 2. Louis Delisle died on March 14, 1972, at the age of 82. Diane Moisan lived in Cap-Rouge with her sons. She died on September 13, 1993, at the age of 101. e. Marie Élisabeth Albertina, born on July 7, 1894. Married on July 27, 1926, in Cap-Rouge to Antoine Delisle, an employee of the experimental farm of Cap-Rouge. They had two daughters. Élisabeth Moisan died in Cap-Rouge on October 11, 1986, at the age of 92. Antoine Delisle died in Cap-Rouge on March 1, 1988. <p>Lazare Moisan died on July 20, 1916, at the age of 77.</p> <p>Philomène Robitaille died on December 12, 1949, at the age of 90.</p>

Michel	Born on November 11, 1861, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on July 1, 1862, at the age of 8 months.
Isidore	Born on May 29, 1863, in Cap-Rouge. Died in Montréal on October 21, 1889, at the age of 26 and buried in Cap-Rouge on the 23 rd . He had learned the trade of shoemaker in Québec City and Montréal.
François-Xavier	Born September 11, 1864, in Cap-Rouge. Married on October 1, 1889, in Warwick to Zoé Desrochers, daughter of Charles and Léocadie Fréchet. They lived across the street from the church in Warwick where François-Xavier ran a grocery store. He was also a sexton. François-Xavier died on March 28, 1938, in Warwick. Zoé survived him until September 20, 1956.
Louis	Born on January 30, 1867, in Cap-Rouge. Died on December 28, 1885, at the age of 18 and buried on December 30, 1885, in Cap-Rouge.

SOPHIE VOYER died on October 24, 1890, at the age of 67.

PIERRE ROBITAILLE died on September 29, 1899, at the age of 72, both in Cap-Rouge.

The second son of the 6th generation, Jean

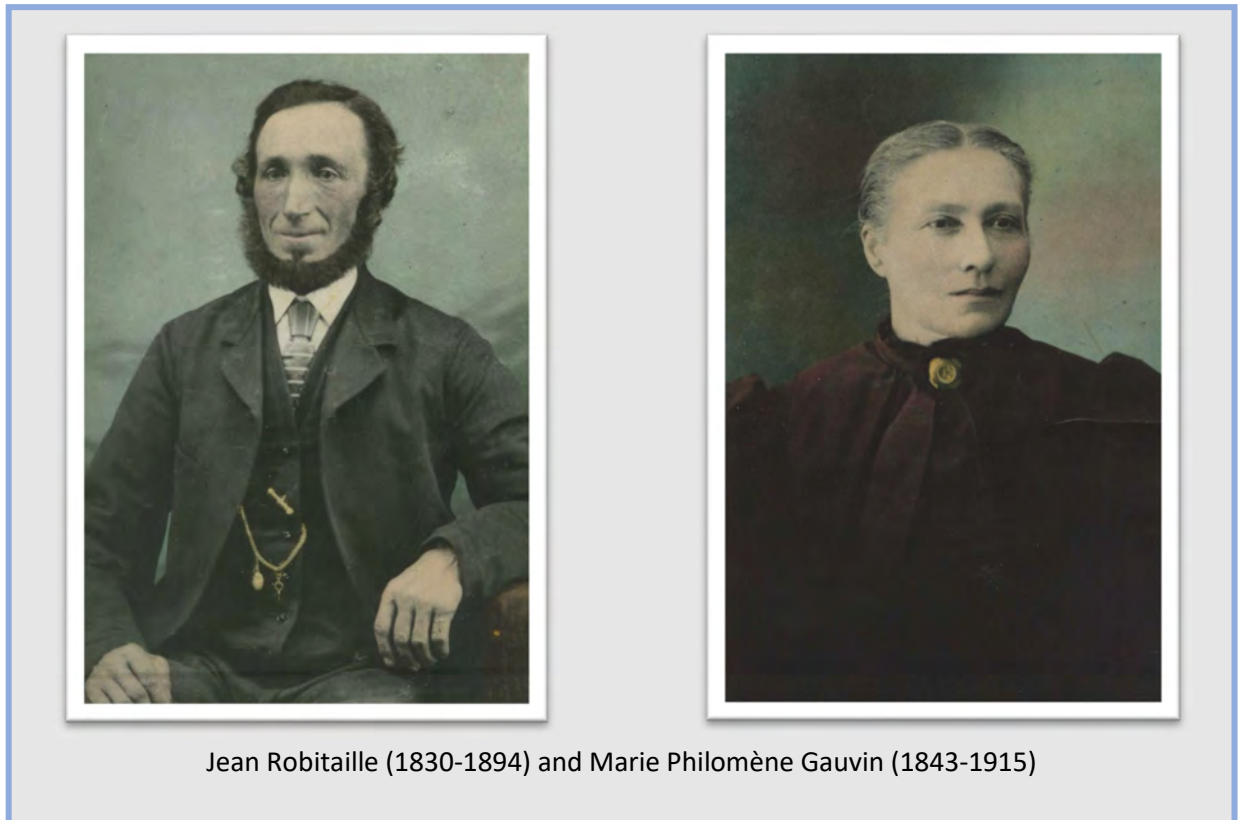
Jean was born and baptized on January 15, 1830, in L'Ancienne-Lorette

Godfather: Jean Alin, Godmother: Louise Robitaille

On February 11, 1862, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, he married Marie (Philomène) Gauvin, daughter of Jacques and Marie Drolet.

Jean Robitaille died on January 13, 1894, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 64. Philomène Gauvin died on December 1, 1915, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 72.

It was John and Philomène who remained on the ancestral farm.



Jean Robitaille (1830-1894) and Marie Philomène Gauvin (1843-1915)

We will meet them again in the next chapter (See 6th Generation).

The third child, the only girl of the 6th generation: Marie

Marie was born and baptized on October 11, 1833, at L'Ancienne-Lorette

Godfather: Pierre Moisan, Godmother: Élisabeth Robitaille

On July 18, 1865, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, she married Jean-Baptiste "Johnny" Cantin, widower of Marceline Paquet from St-Raymond de Portneuf and son of Jean-Baptiste and Angélique Plamondon.

Johnny was previously married to Marcelline Paquet on February 9, 1858, in St-Raymond de Portneuf. They had three children: a son and a daughter, who died in infancy (3 and 6 months) and Jean-Baptiste, born on November 23, 1860, who married Philomène Martel, daughter of Jean-Baptiste and Éléonore Barrette on February 21, 1887, in St-Raymond. Jean-Baptiste's first wife, Marceline Paquet, died on March 9, 1863, in St-Raymond at the age of 27. At his remarriage to Marie Robitaille, "Johnny" had with him a 2½ year old child: Jean-Baptiste.

The Family of Jean-Baptiste Cantin and Marie Robitaille: (7th generation)

David	Born on April 19, 1866, at St-Raymond de Portneuf. Married on September 9, 1890, in Cap-Rouge to Agnès Robitaille, daughter of Louis and Zoé Moisan.
Joseph	Born on September 11, 1867, in St-Raymond. Married on August 15, 1892, in St-Raymond to Albertine Barrette, minor daughter of Joseph and Sophie Robitaille.
Rosalie	Born on May 16, 1869, in St-Raymond. Married on July 13, 1896, in St-Raymond to Antoine Parent, son of Antoine and Lucie Chateauvert.
Théophile	Born on December 18, 1870, in St-Raymond. Died, January 9, 1872, in St-Raymond, at the age of 13 months.
Théophile	Born on July 8, 1872, in St-Raymond. Married on July 5, 1897, in St-Raymond to Delphine Alain, daughter of Alphonse and Léda Asselin.
Élie	Born on July 6, 1874, in St-Raymond. Married on November 22, 1898, in Ste-Foy, to Joséphine Brousseau, daughter of Désiré and Marie Côté.

Jean-Baptiste Cantin died on November 1, 1909, at the age of 78.

Marie Robitaille died on April 8, 1919, in St-Raymond de Portneuf.

The youngest of the 6th generation: Jacques

Jacques was born on January 3 and baptized on January 4, 1837, at L'Ancienne-Lorette
Godfather: Jacques Alain, Godmother: Julie Petitclerc

Deceased on November 7 and buried on November 9, 1899, in St-Augustin, at the age of 52.

Marriage: January 16, 1866, in Cap-Rouge, to Caroline Gaboury, daughter of Augustin and Marie Moisan.
Died on November 6, 1919, at L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 76.

Family of Jacques Robitaille and Caroline Gaboury (7th Generation):

Marie Louise Caroline	Born and baptized on May 14, 1867, in Cap-Rouge. Married on January 12, 1891, in St-Augustin to Pierre Joseph Drolet, a farmer, son of Thomas Drolet and Émélie Ouvrard called Laperrière.
Delphine (Joséphine)	Baptized on December 5, 1868, in St-Augustin. Married on January 29, 1894, in L'Ancienne-Lorette to Georges Matte, son of Félix and Léda Marcotte.
Philomène	Baptized on November 11, 1870, in St-Augustin. Married on June 22, 1896, in L'Ancienne-Lorette to Wilbrod Trudel, widower of Adélaïde Tardif. Died on October 30, 1905, and buried on November 2 in St-Augustin, at the age of 34.
Augustin Alfred	Baptized on June 11, 1872, in St-Augustin. Married on February 14, 1898, in L'Ancienne-Lorette to Adèle Petit-Milhomme, widow of David Cloutier.
Émile	Baptized on May 9, 1875, in St-Augustin. Died on May 28, 1875, at the age of 19 days.
Georgina (Georgianna)	Baptized on June 18, 1876, in St-Augustin. Married on May 2, 1898, in L'Ancienne-Lorette to Joseph Drolet, widower of Marie Robitaille. He was her brother-in-law since he had married Marie-Louise Caroline.
Rose-Anna	Born on March 12 and baptized on March 15, 1878, in St-Augustin. Died on February 22, 1895, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 16.

Difficult years

An excerpt from the records of the L'Ancienne-Lorette parish, shown below, clearly illustrates the difficulties these farmers faced at the time:

"1836 was a remarkable year. Due to an extraordinary drought, although the spring had been quite rainy.

1. The grains that were seeded early grew quickly and produced abundantly. The others, sown later, did not produce until mid-summer, and brought in almost nothing.

Compared to the previous year, farming still might have been quite good had there not been several extensive freezes that occurred in August. The hay crop was only about half as large as usual. Vegetable gardening production was almost nothing: no onions, no pumpkins, no cucumbers; cabbage was sufficiently abundant.

Potatoes generally did not do well, given the amount planted that failed to grow. Many remained buried under the snow, because of the early frost.

2. Food products were extremely expensive at the beginning of winter

- *Bacon sold for up to 16 to 17 cents*
- *Quartered beef from 6/9 pounds*
- *Potatoes 2/6 to 3 per "minot" (an old measure of volume)*
- *Flour rose to a price of 1/5 pounds*
- *Oats between 2/6 to 3 pounds*
- *Hay sold for up to 4/5/0 £ per 100*
- *Straw sold for up to 2/0/0 per 100*

N.B. The autumn was awfully bad due to rain, frost, and strong winds.

N.B. again: Canada's political affairs were no better than other areas.

N.B. again: There was a lot of misery among the poor in Québec, especially in St-Roch.

Th. Laberge, parish priest"

Sales by Gabriel Drolet and his wife, Marguerite Robitaille, and by Pierre Moisan and his wife, Élizabeth Robitaille, to Pierre Robitaille

On August 12, 1829, before the notary Lelièvre⁹⁴, the two sisters of Pierre Robitaille and their husbands sold their share of the inheritance they had received upon the death of their mother, Marie-Jeanne Allain, "*consisting of a one-fifth portion a piece of land 3½ arpents wide and 16 arpents deep, as well as a fifth of their half of the house, barn, stable, etc. for the sum of fifteen pounds that the sellers acknowledge they have already received.*" A release was signed that day at the notary Lelièvre's office.

Two debts owed by Pierre Robitaille

1. On October 22, 1840, before the notary Lelièvre⁹⁵, Pierre Robitaille and Angélique Alain, his wife, "*agreed that they owed to Joseph Tardif, the guardian of the Court residing in the city of Québec, the sum of seventy-five pounds (...) The debtors promise to pay the amount owing within five years (...) the debtor has mortgaged all of his property both movable and immovable (...) Witnesses: Jacques Gauvin, Gabriel Drolet, farmers from L'Ancienne-Lorette and Jean Robitaille, a merchant living in Québec City*". Release issued on December 30, 1846, by G. Petitclerc, attorney.
2. On November 9, 1840, before the notary Michel Tessier⁹⁶, Pierre Robitaille and Angélique Alain, his wife, acknowledged their debt to Augustin Bourbeau, a farmer from St-Augustin, in the amount of thirty-seven pounds, ten shillings that Bourbeau had loaned them. They agreed to repay him in four years with interest at 6% payable annually. Jacques Gauvin, who lived in Champigny and who was their neighbour, served as guarantor for the debt. Pierre Robitaille mortgaged all his movable and immovable assets.

A sale by Jacques Drolet to Pierre Robitaille

On April 9, 1841, before the notary Michel Tessier⁹⁷, Pierre Robitaille bought from Jacques Drolet, a farmer, and Rose Trudel, his wife, "*a plot of land in Champigny measuring 8 rods wide (~50 m) on the depth, located southeast of a stream (...) for the sum of twelve pounds ten shillings that the sellers acknowledge to have received from the purchaser.*" Release given to his son Jean, on April 14, 1869, before the notary Joseph Laurin.

Death of Pierre Robitaille

Pierre, the father, died at L'Ancienne-Lorette on August 11, 1847, at the age of 62. Michel Fiset, sexton, and Michel Blondeau signed as witnesses.

He left behind his wife, Angélique Alain, 51, and his 4 children:

- Pierre, 20 years old
- Jean, 17 years old
- Marie, 14 years old
- and Jacques, 10 years old

⁹⁴ Registry of notary Roger Lelièvre (Op. Cit.)

⁹⁵ Registry of notary Roger Lelièvre (Op. Cit.)

⁹⁶ Registry of notary Michel Tessier, BAnQ cote: CN301,S261 item #2747

⁹⁷ Registry of notary Michel Tessier (Op. Cit.)

Census of 1861

In the 1861 census, Joseph Oct. Laurin, a census collector, notes:

"The parish of L'ancienne-Lorette has very fertile soil, and its products are remarkable. It offers the eye a charming perspective; located between two elevations, it has the appearance of a valley watered by two beautiful small rivers, one of which is the Lorette River and the other, the St-Charles River.

L'ancienne-Lorette includes a level area well suited to horse racing where amateurs come to have fun during the summer."

The Robitaille family had, as neighbors, Jacques Gauvin and Marie Drolet; their daughter, Philomène Gauvin, would marry Jean Robitaille, the eldest of the family (See 6th Generation).

Pierre Robitaille owned 89 acres under cultivation, and 15 acres of forest; the census assessed the value of the farm at \$3,200. He also had a herd of 15 cattle, 1 horse, 9 sheep, and 3 pigs. They harvested barley, oats, potatoes, hay, clover, and other grasses, plus wool from sheep.

Last Will and Testament of Angélique Alain:

On January 19, 1852, before the notary J. Baptiste Trudelle⁹⁸, Angélique Alain, Pierre Robitaille's widow, made the following will:

I give and bequeath to Jean Robitaille, my son, who is currently living with me (and to reward him for the care and attention he has given me to this day, and also to prove to him the esteem and friendship I feel for him) all my belongings that I leave behind on the day and time of my death...

I direct him to pay and deliver to Jacques Robitaille, my youngest son, the sum of 25 pounds when he reaches the age of majority...

I wish and direct him to pay and deliver to Marie Robitaille, my daughter, the sum of 12 pounds 10 shillings when she reaches the age of majority ...

I wish and order that, as long as my daughter Marie Robitaille is not married or otherwise provided for, she continues to live with the said Jean Robitaille, my son...

and when Miss Louise Robitaille, my sister-in-law, currently living with me and my family, has reached an advanced age and since she has always rendered me and my family good and generous service, I direct and order my son Jean Robitaille to take special care of her, both in health and in illness, until the day of her death, and that he behaves toward his aunt as a good son...

This aunt, Louise, died on September 28, 1864, at the age of 73, four years before Angélique Alain.

⁹⁸ Registry of notary Jean-Baptiste Trudel, BANQ cote: CN301,S265

Death of Marie-Angélique Alain

On February 10, 1868, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, Angélique Alain was buried at the age of 74. She had died the previous day. Joseph Blondeau and Michel Drolet signed as witnesses.

She left behind four married children:

- Pierre and Sophie Voyer
- Jean and Philomène Gauvin
- Marie and Jean-Baptiste Cantin
- Jacques and Caroline Gaboury



Property of the Robitailles on the banks of the St-Michel Creek, also known as Gauvin Creek, which flowed into the Cap-Rouge River.

This house was probably built by Pierre Robitaille a few years before his death, with the help of his two eldest sons, Pierre and Jean. Pierre Robitaille (the father) died in 1847 and 15 years later his son Jean married Philomène Gauvin. They raised their families in this house, and it was also in this house that Jean Robitaille died.

It was located at the foot of their land, along the route of today's Charest Highway, between Duplessis Boulevard and Jean-Gauvin Road.



The creek provided water for the day-to-day needs of the house and farm. They also fished and caught muskrat there. They sold the pelts for 25 cents each.



People hunted in the surrounding woods. Hunting for passenger pigeons was very popular. The children would go into the fields with a large net, spread seeds on the ground to attract the birds, and when the birds arrived, they would surprise them by laying the net on top of them. The trapped pigeons were then easy to capture.

Chapter 6 – Sixth Generation: Jean Robitaille – Philomène Gauvin

Jean Robitaille married Marie (Philomène) Gauvin (no mention of the name "Philomène" in the registers) on February 11, 1862, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, after exemptions obtained from the 3rd to the 4th degree of consanguinity. He was 32.

Marie (Philomène) Gauvin was born on September 25, 1843, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, and was the daughter of Jacques Gauvin and Marie Drolet who were married in L'Ancienne-Lorette on January 26, 1836. She was 19 years old. Her parents were neighbours and the godfather and godmother of Jean Robitaille.

When Jean married in 1862, his mother, Angélique Alain, his sister, Marie, and his brother Jacques, were living on the ancestral farm. His sister, Marie, would marry in 1865 and, a year later, his brother, Jacques. His mother died in 1868, six years after his marriage.

Witnesses at their wedding:

- Pierre Robitaille, brother of the husband
- Michel Gauvin, cousin
- Simon Drolet
- Jacques Gauvin, father of the bride
- Jacques Gauvin, brother
- François Gauvin, brother

Marriage contract

The future spouses signed a marriage contract before the notary, Joseph Laurin, on February 5, 1862⁹⁹ in the presence of Jacques Gauvin and Marie Drolet, father and mother of the bride.

"The future spouses are common as to property, furniture and acquisitions, buildings..."»

"The preciput will be equal and reciprocal in the amount of 25 current louis that the survivor will take in cash, or furniture from the said community... »

They would have a family of 12 children of whom 7 boys and 1 girl would marry. We will now be introduced to each of these children of the 7th generation.

The Family of Jean Robitaille et Philomène Gauvin (7th generation):

John and Philomène had 12 children, born between 1862 and 1886. Here we will introduce them and briefly introduce their offspring.

⁹⁹ Notary Joseph Laurin's registry, BAnQ, cote: CN301. S166, item 4463

1st child Jean

Born on December 26 and baptized on December 27, 1862, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Godfather: Jacques Gauvin, Godmother: Marie Drolet

Marriage: November 20, 1888, in Ste-Foy to Florentine Légaré, daughter of Antoine and Josephte Myrand.


Marriage contract Notary H. Octave Roy, November 11, 1888 (No. 79200). She was born on March 22, 1868, in Ste-Foy.



Jean Robitaille (1862-1911) and Florentine Légaré (1868-1906)

They had 7 children (8th generation):

Marie-Anna Albertine	Born on May 15, 1890, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on October 1, 1916, at the age of 26 from tuberculosis.
Marie-Anne	Born on May 14, 1892, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on December 22, 1900, at the age of 8½.
Marie-Éva	Born on August 7, 1893, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Married on April 9, 1932, in St-Jean-Baptiste de Québec, to Théophile Robitaille, widower of Emma Barrette dit Gingras, and the son of Frédéric and Vitaline Tremblay, born in the parish of St-Jean-Baptiste in Québec City on August 24, 1883. They lived in Montréal and Théophile worked for the CNR in the East Angus shops.

	<p>Éva Robitaille died on May 19, 1971, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 78. Théophile Robitaille died on May 8, 1965, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 82.</p>
Marie-Alice	<p>Born on June 24, 1895, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on March 9, 1897, at the age of 20 months.</p>
Joseph Lucien	<p>Born on January 1, 1897, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on February 7, 1897, at the age of 1 month.</p>
Marie-Jeanne Alma	<p>Born on March 16, 1898, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on May 5, 1898, at the age of 1½ months.</p>
Ernest	<p>Born on March 8, 1905, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.</p>  <p>Ordained a priest at the Seminary of Québec, on June 17, 1934. He was a curate at St-Elzéar, St-Honoré de Shenley, St-Louis de Lotbinière, Thetford Mines, St-Marc des Carrières, Notre-Dame de Grace, and St-Malo. Father Ernest Robitaille died on December 15, 1958, at the age of 53 (leukemia).</p>

Jean Robitaille bought a piece of land at L'Ancienne-Lorette from Pierre Tardif in 1886. It was resold to the Seminary of Québec in 1911.

Jean Robitaille died at L'Ancienne-Lorette on May 10, 1911, at the age of 48. Florentine Légaré died in Ste-Foy on May 25, 1906, at the age of 38.

2nd child Isidore (Pierre)

Born on April 20, and baptized Pierre Isidore on April 21, 1864, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.
Godfather: Pierre Robitaille, Godmother: Sophie Voyer

Marriage: September 27, 1898, in L'Ancienne-Lorette to Marie-Adélaïde, also known as Diana Delisle, daughter of Augustin & Adélaïde Robitaille. She was born on May 10, 1864, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.



Isidore Robitaille (1864-1941) and Diana Delisle (1864-1945)

Family: They had one daughter (8th generation):

Marie-Anne

Born on March 26, 1900, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.
Died on December 27, 1904, at the age of 4.

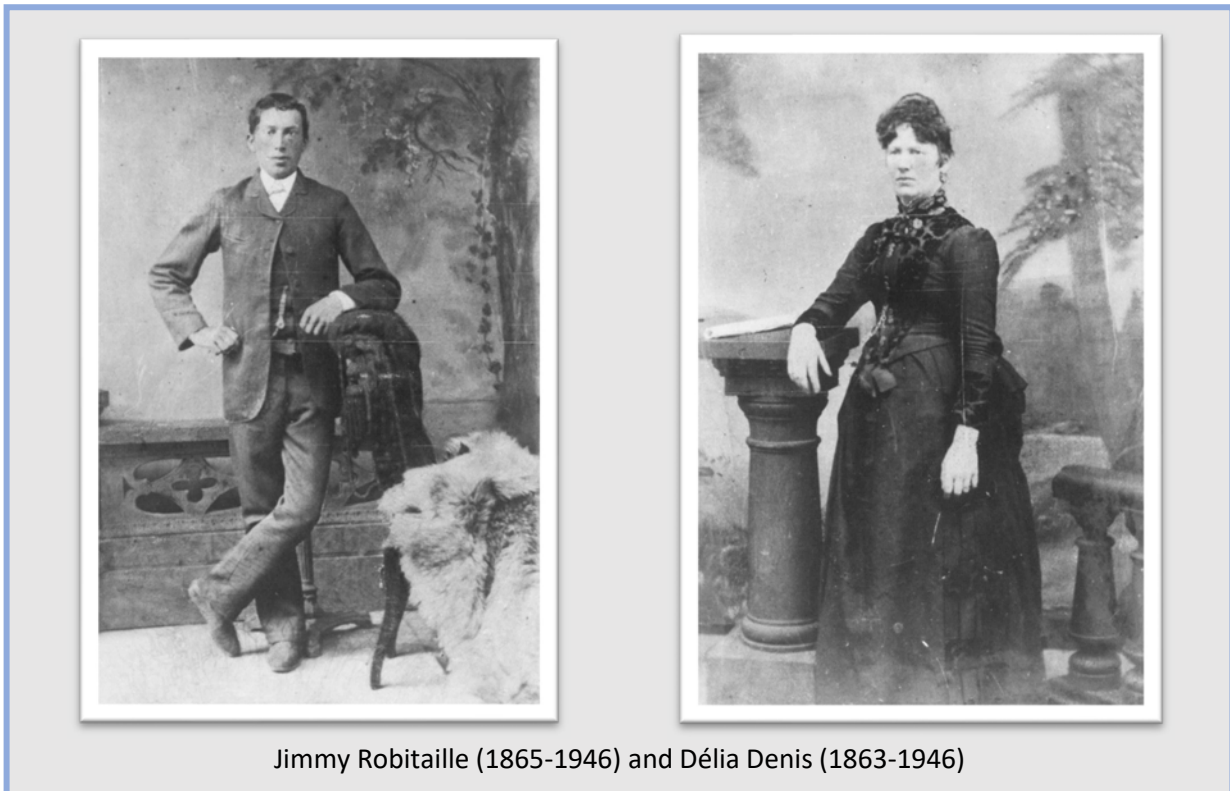
They lived in the village of L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Isidore Robitaille died in L'Ancienne-Lorette on May 29, 1941, at the age of 77. Diana Delisle died in L'Ancienne-Lorette on December 27, 1945, at the age of 81.

3rd child Jacques (Jimmy)

Born on December 27 and baptized on December 28, 1865, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.
Godfather: Jacques Robitaille, Godmother: Caroline Gaboury

Marriage: September 24, 1889, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Délia Denis, daughter of Pierre & Marie-Madeleine Drolet. Marriage contract Notary Octave Roy September 14, 1889 (No. 81556). She was born on January 8, 1863, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Jimmy Robitaille was a farmer on the Rang des Denis in Les Saules; he later worked for Marquis, a glue manufacturer.



Jimmy Robitaille (1865-1946) and Délia Denis (1863-1946)

They had 9 children (8th generation):

Marie-Anne (Anna)	<p>Born on July 31, 1890, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Married on January 9, 1912, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Charles Moreau, son of the late Olivier and the late Éva Marchildon. He was a farmer in Ste-Foy; his farm was located at the place where Moreau Avenue is today.</p> <p>They had eight children, all baptized in Ste-Foy (9th generation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1- Marie Anna. Delia Emma, born November 1, 1912. Married on February 5, 1935, in Ste-Foy to Henri Bernier son of Charles and Joséphine de la Durantaye2- Joseph Charles Ernest Omer, born May 1, 1914. Married on October 9, 1943, in Québec City, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, to Simone Tanguay,
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	<p>daughter of Arsène and Exilda Bilodeau</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3- Joseph Octave Jean-Charles, born August 13, 1915, and died July 28, 1940, in Ste-Foy, at the age of 24 4- Marie Évangeline Gilberte, born February 24, 1917. Married on June 16, 1941, in Ste-Foy, to Armand Lortie, son of Joseph and Marie Paquet (Notre-Dame du Chemin) 5- Joseph Michel Gérard, born on July 24, 1918, and died on January 24, 1970, in Ste-Foy, at the age of 51. He was an employee of the city of Ste-Foy 6- Marie Jeanne Marcelle, born on January 5, 1920. Married on June 9, 1947, in Ste-Foy, to Léo Ouellet son of Émile and Annie Pelletier (St-Jean-Baptiste) 7- Marie Antoinette Isabelle, born April 27, 1921. Married on June 5, 1948, in Ste-Foy, with Léon Delisle, son of Adélar and Desneiges Latulippe 8- Marie Ange Yvette, born July 17, 1925. Married on August 4, 1951, in Ste-Foy, to Roger Robitaille, son of Joseph and Corinne Drouin <p>Marie-Anna Robitaille died on March 17, 1927, at the age of 37. Charles Moreau died on October 31, 1961, at the age of 76, both in Ste-Foy.</p>
Marie Mathilde	<p>Born on October 6, 1891, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died May 12, 1892, at the age of 7 months.</p>
Marie Louise	<p>Born on January 4, 1893, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on May 8, 1896, at the age of 3½.</p>
Jacques Omer	<p>Born on November 19, 1894, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on November 28, 1894, at the age of 20 days.</p>
Marie Emmelie Rosa	<p>Born on March 3, 1896, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Died on April 18, 1897, at the age of 1.</p>
Isidore Octave	<p>Born on April 24, 1899, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Married on September 22, 1919, in Québec, in St. Malo Parish, to Blanche Yvonne Barrette, daughter of Odilon and Anna Simard. He was a carpenter, a coal merchant, a mechanic, and a bookbinder.</p> <p>They had 6 children, all baptized in St-Malo (9th generation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Marie Blanche Lucienne born on April 25, 1920, and died on February 25, 1943, at the age of 22. 2- Marie Fabiola born on May 6, 1921. Married on August 17, 1940, in Québec, Parish of St. Sauveur, to Rosaire Nadeau, son of Joseph and Maxime Fontaine. He died on November 21, 1980, at the age of 70 and is buried in the St. Charles Cemetery. 3- Joseph Paul Hector born on June 30, 1922. 4- Marie Clara Jeannette born November 23, 1923. Married on October 23, 1943, in Québec City, St. Sauveur Parish, to Alfred Marc Édouard Grenier, son of David and Alvina Soucy. 5- Marie Irene Anna born on September 7, 1926. Married on January 29, 1944, in Québec City, at St. Sauveur Parish, to Roland Maurice Grenier, son of David and Alvina Soucy.

	<p>6- Marie Adrienne Jeannine, born on September 1, 1931.</p> <p>Octave Robitaille died on June 12, 1932, at the age of 33, and was buried in St. Charles Cemetery.</p> <p>His children were placed in the Black Lake Orphanage. Blanche Barrette married Paul Gosselin, a mechanic, in a second marriage on October 23, 1943, in Québec City, at St. Sauveur Parish.</p> <p>She died on October 28, 1965, at the age of 66 and is buried in St. Charles Cemetery.</p>
Michel	<p>Born on January 15, 1901, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Married on September 3, 1923, in Québec, St. Malo Parish, to Valéda Hurence, daughter of Alfred and Joséphine Déry. He owned the jewelry store "Le Paradis du Bijou" and also sold furniture.</p> <p>They had 6 children (9th generation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Marie Valéda Jeannette born on February 14, 1925, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish. Married on January 3, 1949, in Québec City, Notre-Dame de la Recouvrance Parish, to Roland Breton, son of Léopold and Lucina Linteau 2- Joseph Michel Gaston born on July 11, 1926, in Québec, St. Malo Parish. Married on October 11, 1952, in Québec, Notre-Dame de la Recouvrance Parish, to Gabrielle Gagné, daughter of Victor and Mathilda Imbeault 3- Joseph Philippe Roland born on June 16, 1928, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish. Married on September 2, 1957, in Beauport, to Cécile Plourde, daughter of Joseph and Éliane Harvey 4- Joseph Octave Marcel born on November 15, 1930, in Québec, parish of Notre-Dame de la Recouvrance and died on August 26, 1931, at the age of 9 months and buried in St. Charles Cemetery 5- Marie Ghislaine Huguette born on October 28, 1935, in Québec City, Notre-Dame de la Recouvrance Parish and died on April 5, 1937, at the age of 18 months and buried in St. Charles Cemetery 6- Joseph Xavier Jean-Guy (Bill) born on October 28, 1940, in Québec, parish of Notre-Dame de la Recouvrance. Married on December 18, 1976, in the parish of St. Jérôme L'Auvergne to Danielle Labrie, daughter of Lauréat and Irma Martin. He died on July 29, 1981, at the age of 40 and is buried in St. Charles Cemetery <p>Michel Robitaille died on May 16, 1976, at the age of 75.</p> <p>Valéda Hurence died on December 12, 1976, at the age of 74.</p>
Alma	<p>Born on December 16, 1902, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Married on July 26, 1920, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish, to Xavier Auger, son of Louis and Agnès Ferland. He was a foreman at Marquis, a glue merchant.</p> <p>They had 7 children (9th generation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Marie Thérèse Alma born on May 11, 1921, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish. Married in Toronto to Daniel Chantal 2- Joseph François Xavier Roger born on December 5, 1922, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish. Died in 1979 in Montréal at the age of 57 3- Joseph Charles Roland born on January 17, 1924, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish. 4- Joseph Jules Gaston born on December 13, 1925, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish.

	<p>Married on February 8, 1958, in Québec City, Notre-Dame de Pitié Parish, to Hélène Blais, daughter of Léopold and Germaine Larose. Gaston Auger died on May 28, 1986, at the age of 60</p> <p>5- Joseph Édouard Fernand born on October 10, 1927, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish.</p> <p>6- Marie Liliane Yolande born on March 7, 1930, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish. Married in Montréal to Henri Maheux</p> <p>7- Marie Thérèse Denise Ghislaine born on April 3, 1941, in Québec City, Notre-Dame de la Recouvrance parish. Married on July 1, 1964, in Québec City, St-Eugène Parish, to André Sanfaçon, an accountant, son of Louis-Philippe and Germaine Ratté</p> <p>Xavier Auger died on January 17, 1961, at the age of 71 and is buried in St. Charles Cemetery.</p> <p>Alma died on February 15, 1995, in Vanier, near Québec City.</p>
Joseph Napoléon Adélar	<p>Born on July 14, 1905, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Married on December 9, 1929, in Québec City, St. Sauveur Parish to Marie-Ange Florida Rouleau, daughter of Valère and Elzire Émond. He was a barber.</p> <p>They had a son (9th generation):</p> <p>1- Joseph Adélar Jacques born on December 4, 1937, in Québec City, St. Sauveur Parish. He was a barber.</p> <p>Marie-Ange Florida Rouleau died on December 23, 1969, at the age of 63 and is buried in St. Charles Cemetery.</p> <p>Adélar Robitaille died on January 29, 1980, at the age of 74 and is buried in St. Charles Cemetery.</p>

Jimmy Robitaille died on December 16, 1946, in Québec, St. Malo Parish at the age of 81. Délia Denis died on February 4, 1946, in Québec City, St. Malo Parish at the age of 83.

They both died in the same year and were buried in St. Charles Cemetery.

4th child Marie (Mary)

Born on March 4 and baptized on March 5, 1868, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Godfather: Jacques Gauvin, Godmother: Catherine Robitaille, uncle and aunt of the child

Mary Robitaille lived in the village of L'Ancienne-Lorette. She died on March 19, 1955, at the age of 87.

She was unmarried.



Mary Robitaille (1868-1955)

5th child Joseph

Born June 2, 1869 (baptismal record not found).

Wedding: June 30, 1896, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Philomène Delisle, daughter of Augustin and Adélaïde Robitaille. She was born on June 20, 1867, in Champigny, L'Ancienne-Lorette. Contract Notary Octave Roy, June 28, 1896 (No. 96912). Joseph Robitaille was a farmer in Cap-Rouge.



Joseph Robitaille (1869-1905) and Philomène Delisle (1867-1951)

They had 4 children (8th generation):

Eugène	<p>Born on November 23 and baptized on November 24, 1898, in Cap-Rouge. Married on August 29, 1927, in Cap-Rouge, to Lucienne Lessard, daughter of Cyrille and Albina Bolduc. He was a farmer in Cap-Rouge and then a grocer.</p> <p>They had 6 children (9th generation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- J. Lucien Marcel was born on May 4 and baptized on May 5, 1928, in Cap-Rouge. Married on June 24, 1955, in Québec City, in the parish of St. Pascal de Baylon, to Jeannine Jacques, daughter of Henri and Annoncia Beaulieu. Two children. 2- M. Réjeanne Lorraine was born on April 27 and baptized on April 28, 1930, in Cap-Rouge. Married on June 24, 1959, in Cap-Rouge to Jean-Jacques Samson, son of Albert and Jeanne Gaumond. Two children. 3- M. Renée Rolande was born and baptized on November 29, 1932, in Cap-Rouge.
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	<p>Married on June 23, 1962, in Cap-Rouge to André Lafrance, son of Gérard and Germaine Mathieu. One child.</p> <p>4- J. Paul Eugène René was born and baptized on December 10, 1935, in Cap-Rouge. Married on September 9, 1961, in St-Michel de Sillery to Nicole Pigeon, daughter of Anastase and Yvette Lapierre. Four children.</p> <p>5- M. Thérèse Henriette was born and baptized on March 13, 1940, in Cap-Rouge.</p> <p>6- M. Gemma Louise Cécile, born on March 9 and baptized on March 11, 1942, in Québec City, St. Jean Baptiste Parish.</p> <p>Married on December 2, 1967, in Cap-Rouge to Jean Bélisle, son of Georges and Louisa Demers. Two children.</p> <p>Eugène Robitaille died on February 6, 1972, at the age of 73.</p>
<p>Marie Anne Élise</p>	<p>Born on October 6 and baptized on October 7, 1900, in Cap-Rouge. Married on May 7, 1934, in Québec City, Sacré-Cœur Parish, to Victor DeBlois, widower of Rosa Fortier, son of Napoléon and Léda Bolduc.</p> <p>They had one child (9th generation):</p> <p>1- J. Victor Marius was born on March 26, 1935, in St. Louis de Courville. Married on July 25, 1959, in St. Louis de Courville to Yvette Larouche, daughter of Albany and Florina Guay. They had two children.</p> <p>Victor DeBlois died on January 26, 1959, at the age of 85. Élise Robitaille died on March 18, 1971, at the age of 70, both in St. Louis de Courville.</p>
<p>Joseph Isidore</p>	<p>Born on December 12, 1902, and baptized on December 13 in Cap-Rouge. Died on March 9, 1903, at the age of 3 months.</p>
<p>Marie Jeanne Albertine</p>	<p>Born and baptized on November 10, 1904, in Cap-Rouge.</p> <p>Married on September 6, 1926, in Cap-Rouge to Émile Montreuil, son of Charles and Adèle Belleau of L'Ancienne-Lorette.</p> <p>They had four children (9th generation):</p> <p>1- J. Charles Roland was born on June 18 and baptized on June 19, 1927, in Québec City, Sacré-Cœur Parish. Married on June 16, 1956, in Beauport, to Jeanne d'Arc Plourde, daughter of Joseph and Éliane Harvey. She died on August 19, 1986, at the age of 53. Three children.</p> <p>2- J. Jean-Paul was born on March 13, 1929, in Québec City, Sacré-Cœur Parish. Married on June 26, 1954, in Québec, St-Fidèle Parish, to Fernande Tremblay, daughter of Eugène and Mary Pelchat. Two children.</p> <p>3- J. Rosaire was born on May 7, and baptized on May 8, 1931, in Québec City, Sacré-Cœur Parish. Married on June 18, 1955, in Château-Richer to Monique Lefrançois, daughter of Eugène and Cécile Gagnon.</p> <p>4- M. Colette was born on February 2 and baptized on February 3, 1934, in Québec City, Sacré-Cœur Parish.</p>

Émile Montreuil died on November 30, 1957, at the age of 55. Marie-Jeanne Robitaille died on September 18, 1970, at the age of 65, both in Québec City, Sacré-Cœur Parish.

Joseph Robitaille died on May 25, 1905, in Cap-Rouge at the age of 35.

Philomène Delisle died on October 10, 1951, in Cap-Rouge at the age of 84.



Philomène Delisle

6th child Marie Exilda

Born and baptized on December 5, 1871 in St. Augustin
Godfather: Charles Gauvin, the child's uncle, Godmother: Élisabeth Gagnon

Died on June 29, 1885, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 13.

7th child Michel

Born on June 8 and baptized on June 9, 1873, in L'Ancienne-Lorette
Godfather: Michel Gauvin, son of Jacques Gauvin, a farmer and the child's uncle. Godmother: Élisabeth Dorion, daughter of Noël Dorion, a farmer

Marriage: November 23, 1904, à St-Michel de Bellechasse to Alvina Bédard, daughter of Jérémie & Julie Myrand.

Alvina Bédard was a teacher. Michel Robitaille was a farmer in L'Ancienne-Lorette.



Michel Robitaille (1873-1958) and Alvina Bédard (1878-1916)

They had four children, all baptized in L'Ancienne-Lorette (8th generation):

<p>Jérémie Isidore</p>	<p>Born on January 12, 1907. Married on June 23, 1949, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Lorraine Bertrand, daughter of Lévis and Honorine Poliquin.</p> <p>Four children (9th generation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- M. Julia Alice Louise, born October 6, 1950 2- M. Thérèse Claire, born June 24, 1952 3- J. René Jacques, born January 14, 1957 4- Charles-Eugène Raynald, born October 29, 1960 <p>Jérémie Robitaille died on January 11, 1984, at the age of (almost) 77.</p>
<p>Charles-Eugène</p>	<p>Born on July 31, 1908. Died June 8, 1976, at the age of 67. Unmarried.</p>
<p>Marie-Anna</p>	<p>Born on February 10, 1910. Married on June 22, 1938, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Moïse Verret, son of Cyrille and Georgianna Bédard. They lived in Melbourne, Ontario.</p> <p>One child (9th generation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- M. Thérèse Julia, born on September 28, 1940.
<p>Julie-Joséphine (Julia)</p>	<p>Born on March 7, 1912. She was a nurse. Married on June 10, 1944, to Arthur Tessier, son of Élisée & Marie Mullens.</p> <p>Two children (9th generation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- J. Arthur Marcel, born April 28, 1945 2- J. Edgar Denis, born June 9, 1946 <p>Julia Robitaille died on September 19, 1982, at the age of 70. Arthur Tessier passed away in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on February 4, 1992, at the age of 81.</p>

Alvina Bédard died on June 9, 1916, at the age of 39. Michel Robitaille died on March 27, 1958, at the age of 84.

8th child Pierre Louis

Born and baptized on June 5, 1875, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Godfather: Pierre Robitaille, Godmother: Sophie Marie Robitaille

Mariages:

- On May 1, 1900, in L'Ancienne-Lorette to Eugénie Robitaille, daughter of Louis and Louise Delisle. She died on April 20, 1934, at the age of 69.
- On January 25, 1937, in L'Ancienne-Lorette to Marie Vézina, daughter of Louis and Émélie Blais. She died on October 19, 1961, at the age of 89.

Louis Robitaille was a farmer in Champigny and then went to live in the village of L'Ancienne-Lorette.

He died on October 20, 1954, at the age of 79.



Louis Robitaille (1875-1954) and Marie Vézina (1872-1961)

9th child Napoléon

Born and baptized on May 8, 1878, in L'Ancienne-Lorette
 Godfather: Joseph Robitaille, Godmother: Philomène Delisle

Marriage: August 14, 1918, in St-Germain de Grantham, County of Drummondville, to Anna Plante, daughter of Joseph and Marie Bergeron.

It was Napoléon who remained on the ancestral farm. His two sons also stayed on the family farm, which has since been urbanized.



Napoléon Robitaille (1878-1957) and Anna Plante (1885-1942)

Four children, all baptized in L'Ancienne-Lorette (8th generation):

Jean-Paul	Born on July 16, 1921, Died November 12, 1924, at the age of 3.
Charles Henri	Born on May 13, 1923, Married on February 18, 1950, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Rita Voyer, daughter of Laurent and Ernestine Mailloux. Five children, all baptized in L'Ancienne-Lorette (9 th generation): 1- J. Marie Richard , born January 25, 1951.

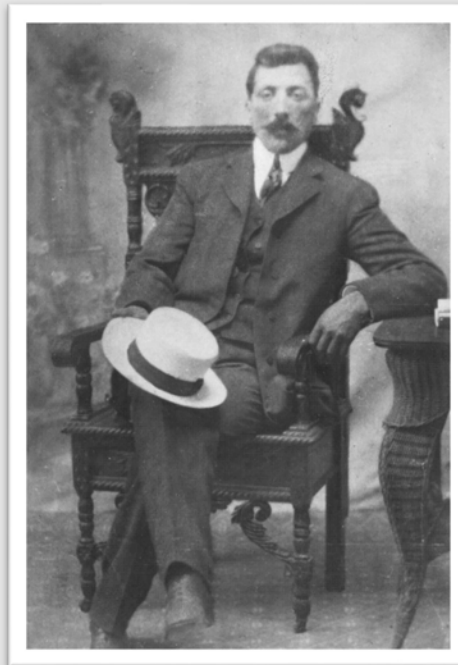
	<p>Married on May 26, 1973, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Jeannelle Malenfant, daughter of Paul and Adrienne Boulé. Three children.</p> <p>2- J. Laurent Denis, born December 11, 1954. Died accidentally on September 1, 1973, at the age of 18.</p> <p>3- Ernestine Rollande Nicole, born October 21, 1956. Married on July 26, 1980, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Daniel Ratté, son of Léon and Jeannette Ratté. Two children.</p> <p>4- Éveline Colette Lucie, born on December 21, 1957. Married on September 20, 1980, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Jacques Ratté, son of Henri and Germaine Dorval. Three children.</p> <p>5- Cécile Rita, born October 16, 1960. Died December 28, 1960, at the age of 2 months.</p> <p>Charles-Henri Robitaille died on July 14, 1983, at the age of 60.</p>
Ovila	<p>Born on October 31, 1924. Married on October 17, 1949, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Jeannette Hamel, daughter of Albert and Joséphine Plamondon.</p> <p>Three children, all baptized in L'Ancienne-Lorette (9th generation):</p> <p>1- Lorenzo Christian, born August 12, 1950. Married on September 3, 1977, in Ste-Cécile de Charlesbourg, to Jocelyne Lacasse, daughter of Lorenzo and Lucille Morneau. 1 child.</p> <p>2- Henri Claude André, born February 20, 1953</p> <p>3- Thérèse Line Johanne born on March 6, 1960</p> <p>Ovila Robitaille died on April 6, 2020, at the age of 95.</p>
Louis Jean-Paul	<p>Born on June 30, 1926 Died on August 7, 1928, at the age of 2.</p>

Anna Plante died on September 23, 1942, at the age of 57. Napoléon Robitaille died on September 19, 1957, at the age of 79, both in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

10th child Wilbrod

Born and baptized on March 19, 1880, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.
Godfather: Joseph Voyer, Godmother Marie Hamel

Died January 23, 1946, in L'Ancienne-Lorette at the age of 64. Unmarried.



Wilbrod Robitaille (1880-1946)

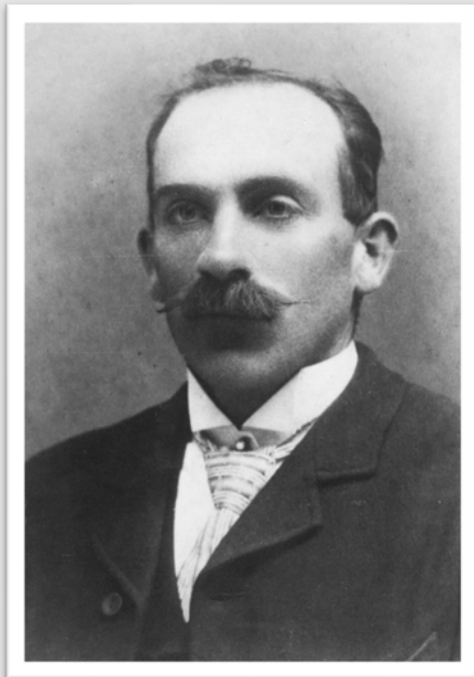
11th child Diana

Born and baptized on April 11, 1884, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

Godfather: Jean Robitaille, Godmother: Philomène Robitaille

Marriage: November 26, 1912, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Jean Paradis, son of Charles & Rose de Lima Bédard. Contract Notary: Octave Roy, November 15, 1912, (No. 142142).

He was a farmer in L'Ancienne-Lorette.



Jean Paradis (1877-1959) and Diana Robitaille (1884-1968)

Four children, all baptized in L'Ancienne-Lorette (8th generation):

Julia	<p>Born on September 30, 1913. Married on September 18, 1934, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Lucien Hamel, son of Ernest and Léonie Bédard.</p> <p>9th generation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ernest André was born on December 25, 1945, in L'Ancienne-Lorette Founder of the <i>Montréal Magnétothèque</i>. (Trans. Note: An organization now renamed <i>Vues et Voix</i> that records books on tape for the blind.)2. Jean-Claude born on July 26, 1949, in L'Ancienne-Lorette. Married on September 2, 1974 in L'Ancienne-Lorette, to Nicole Bourbeau,
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	daughter of Charles-Auguste and Gertrude Juneau. Two children.
Marie Éva	Born on March 14, 1915. Died on April 15, 1915, at the age of one month.
J. Jean-Baptiste	Born on March 14, 1915. Died September 3, 1916, at the age of 18 months. Marie Éva and Jean-Baptiste were twins.
Jean-Baptiste Isidore	Born on September 6, 1919. Married on April 27, 1957, in Loretteville, to Marthe Desjardins, daughter of Achille and Lucienne Ouellet. 9th generation: 1. Sylvie was born on June 24, 1961, in Québec City, baptized at Notre-Dame des Victoires Parish.

Jean Paradis died on May 19, 1959, at the age of 82. Diana Robitaille died on July 14, 1968, at the age of 84. Both in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

12th child Joseph Ernest Victor

Born on March 14, 1886, and baptized the next day, in L'Ancienne-Lorette.
Godfather: Isidore Robitaille, brother, Godmother: Marie Gauvin, daughter of Antoine

Died on March 30, 1888, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, at the age of 2.

Censuses

From the censuses of 1861, 1871 and 1881, we learn that Jean Robitaille's farm produced hay, clover, oats, barley, as well as other crops such as buckwheat, peas, and corn. They grew potatoes and made butter. They also used the wool from their sheep. They even mentioned that they owned muskrats.

Sale by Jacques Dufresne to Jean Robitaille

On May 9, 1856, before the notary Michel Tessier¹⁰⁰, Jean Robitaille bought from Jacques Dufresne, a farmer, and Julie Gauvin his wife, *“a piece of land in Champigny, six rods and fifteen feet wide by seven arpents deep [...] for the sum of one hundred sixty pounds that the vendors acknowledge to have received from the purchaser, whereof quit.”* This land was located at the foot of Jean Robitaille's land.

Jean Robitaille helps his brothers Pierre and Jacques

On April 25, 1876, before the notary Jos. Laurin¹⁰¹, Pierre Robitaille admitted owing to Jean, his brother, the sum of \$450 for value received. For this, he mortgaged his farm located on lots 148 and 149 in St-Félix de Cap-Rouge and bounded by the Cap-Rouge River. Receipt was acknowledged on May 1, 1891.

On April 14, 1869, before the notary Jos. Laurin¹⁰², Jean loaned the sum of twenty-five louis to his brother, Jacques. The latter mortgaged his land located in the parish of St. Augustin, *“bounded on the front by the St. Lawrence River, on the rear by the outlet of the lake, on the east and on the west side by Louis Gaboury...”*

And, on January 27, 1881, before the notary Watters¹⁰³, Jean paid, in the name of his brother Jacques, the sum of “fifty dollars, that being the fourth annual payment of a series that would end on next February 1, in accordance with the terms of a certain sale of land by Louis Gaboury and Louise Gingras, his wife, to the said Jacques Robitaille...”

Jean Robitaille's debt to Miss Hélène Gauvin

On May 6, 1887, before the notary H. Octave Roy¹⁰⁴, Jean Robitaille recognized that he owed Miss Hélène Gauvin \$450 for which he offered, as collateral, a piece of land in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville, that was part of Lot 527 in the L'Ancienne-Lorette land registry. Hélène Gauvin was his sister-in-law. Release was given on December 22, 1904.

Jean Robitaille's gift to his son Isidore

On September 1, 1892, before the notary H. Octave Roy¹⁰⁵, two years before his death,

¹⁰⁰ Registry of notary Michel Tessier, BAnQ, cote : CN301.S261, item 9211

¹⁰¹ Registry of notary Joseph Laurin, (op.cit.), item 7301

¹⁰² Registry of notary Joseph Laurin (op.cit.), item 5964

¹⁰³ Registry of notary Daniel Watters, BAnQ, cote : CN301,S334

¹⁰⁴ Registry of notary H. Octave Roy, BAnQ, cote : CN301,S474

¹⁰⁵ Registry of notary H. Octave Roy, BAnQ, cote : CN301,S474

"Jean Robitaille and his wife Philomène Gauvin donated to their son Isidore, a farmer, living with them, \$850 on the express condition that this donation of the said sum of \$850 will remain in the possession of the donors as long as the donor remains with them to have usufruct and possession..."

"the donee will have the enjoyment of this gift on the day when he leaves the home of the donors for good..."

"This donation is made to encourage the donee and to reward him for the care he has given to the donors and for the work done by the donee..."

Signed by Jean Robitaille, Marie Philomène Gauvin, Isidore Robitaille.

Jean Robitaille's Will

On January 10, 1894, before the notary H. Octave Roy¹⁰⁶, three days before his death, Jean Robitaille wrote his will, in which it was stipulated,

"I bequeath all my personal property and buildings, which I will leave behind upon my death, to my wife Marie Philomène Gauvin, in the care of the said universal legatee to pay the following sums:

› my son Isidore Robitaille	150
› his brother Joseph Robitaille	250
› his brother Louis	200
› my son Michel	250
› my daughter Philomène Robitaille	250
› her sister Diana Robitaille	250
› my sons Paul and Wilbrod	150 each, payable at the age of the respective majority of the said children.

Executor of the Will: Marie Philomène Gauvin"

And at the bottom of the document, we read:

"Given that the testator, who was required to sign, has stated that he could not sign because of his great weakness, in the presence of the notary and the witnesses who signed in the presence of the testator and in the presence of each other, after the completion of the formalities for the validity of the authentic wills."

Death of Jean Robitaille

He died on June 13, 1894, at the age of 64.

He is survived by his wife Marie Philomène Gauvin, his two married children:

- Jean and Florentine Légaré, 32 years old
- Jacques and Délia Denis, 29 years old

¹⁰⁶ Registry of notary H. Octave Roy, BAnQ, cote : CN301,S474

and eight unmarried children:

- Isidore, 30 years old
- Marie, 26 years old
- Joseph, 24 years old
- Michel, 21 years old
- Pierre Louis, 19 years old
- Napoléon, 16 years old
- Wilbrod, 14 years old
- Diana, 10 years old

Witnesses at his funeral: Joseph Voyer and Jacques Drolet

A few years after Jean Robitaille's death, his sons decided to build a new house closer to the road, on Ste-Famille Road, south of Hamel Boulevard. They would demolish the old house at the bottom, as they called it, and used the doors and windows to build the new house. It was likely for this construction that Philomène Gauvin borrowed \$600 in 1898. The whole family would move into this new building, including their mother, Philomène Gauvin, who died in that house. The large barn had been destroyed by fire. It was Napoléon who then remained on the ancestral farm.



The following photos show some aspects of leisure at that time on the farm: fishing, swimming, fighting with boxing gloves...





Marie Philomène Gauvin's debt to Elzéar Alain

On June 9, 1898, before the notary, Octave Roy¹⁰⁷, Philomène Gauvin signed a contract in which she acknowledged that she owed Elzéar Alain from L'Ancienne-Lorette the sum of \$600 to be repaid with interest at 5%. To guarantee the payment of the debt, she mortgaged a plot of land in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on the Champigny Road, known as Lot 517 in the official land registry of L'Ancienne-Lorette. Release given on November 20, 1904.

Sale by Philomène Gauvin to Michel Robitaille

On November 20, 1904, before the notary Octave Roy¹⁰⁸, Marie Philomène Gauvin sold to her son Michel:

- A piece of land located in L'Ancienne-Lorette, Champigny concession, containing 25 acres in area known as lot 517 of the official land registry of L'Ancienne-Lorette together with the house and other buildings built on it.
- A piece of land in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville 14 acres deep and 1 arpent wide known as lot 527 of the official land registry of L'Ancienne-Lorette.

"for the sum of \$1150 of which the seller admits to having already received \$700. The balance of \$450 the purchaser promises to pay to Miss Délina Gauvin, an adult resident of Québec, with interest at 5% this sum being guaranteed by the mortgage created and affecting part of Lot 527."

Sale by the sheriff against Charles-Eugène Robitaille of Lot 517, dated August 28, 1936. Balance of sale price paid.

Testament of Philomène Gauvin:

On September 25, 1913, before the notary Octave Roy¹⁰⁹, Philomène Gauvin wrote a will including some significant clauses:

"I give and bequeath to my son Napoléon Robitaille the southwestern half of the land we currently occupy, which is 3½ arpents wide on the depth that such lands can have from the square line to the north up to the lands of the Cap-Rouge. [...]"

A horse worth one hundred piastres and two cows. [...]"

In the care of my son Napoléon:

- *To pay and settle the two bequests of \$150 made to each of my daughters Marie Philomène and Diana Robitaille by the will of their father.*
- *To pay my daughter Marie Philomène another \$500, to her sister Diana wife of Jean Paradis \$250, and to her brother Louis Robitaille \$200.*

¹⁰⁷ Registry of notary H. Octave Roy, BAnQ, cote : CN301,S474

¹⁰⁸ Registry of notary H. Octave Roy, BAnQ, cote : CN301,S474

¹⁰⁹ Registry of notary H. Octave Roy, BAnQ, cote : CN301,S474

I bequeath the residue of the personal property and buildings that I leave behind upon my death to my son Wilbrod Robitaille, whom I appoint as my executor.

At the expense of the executor: To house, feed, clothe, care for, and keep with him my daughter Marie Philomène until she is provided for in marriage; but, if my daughter leaves the house to live elsewhere, he will have to pay her the sum of \$800 during the year of her departure."

Death of Marie Philomène Gauvin

She died on November 28, 1915, in L'Ancienne-Lorette and was buried on December 1, in the parish cemetery, at the age of 72.

She left her married children:

Jean and Florentine Légaré	Age 53
Isidore and Diana Delisle	Age 51
Jacques and Délia Denis	Age 50
Philomène Delisle (Joseph's widow)	
Michel and Alvina Bédard	Age 42
Louis and Marie Vézina	Age 40
Diana and Jean Paradis	Age 31

and her three unmarried children:

Marie	Age 47
Napoléon	Age 37
Wilbrod	Age 35

Witnesses present at the burial:

Jacques, Isidore, Napoléon, and Wilbrod Robitaille, his sons; and Michel Gauvin, his brother.

Have signed:	Joseph Robitaille	Napoléon Matte
	Elzéar Robitaille	J.H. Blouin
	J.B Paradis	Michel Gauvin
	Napoléon Robitaille	Louis Robitaille
	Wilbrod Robitaille	Charles Gauvin

When Philomène Gauvin died in 1915, Mary, Napoléon and Wilbrod were farming the land. They had a herd of dairy cows and Napoléon sold the milk. They had a lodger named Ovila Plante from St-Germain of Grantham, in Drummondville county, who was a taxi driver. This was how Napoléon met his future wife Anna, who happened to be the sister of Ovila Plante, and whom he married in 1918. He was the one who stayed on the farm. Mary and Wilbrod built themselves a house in the village of L'Ancienne-Lorette with wood harvested on the farm. They both remained unmarried.

Chapter 7 – Some descendants of Pierre Robitaille

Alfred-Pierre Robitaille

Alfred-P. Robitaille was born in Saint-Roch, Québec City on August 18, 1873, the son of Cyprien Robitaille, a shoemaker, and Eulalie Guay, daughter of Pierre-Étienne Guay. He studied commerce at the Saint-Roch Academy, under the De La Salle Brothers. He began his business career in January 1892. He was employed by Messrs. Proteau and Carignan, brewers, as a clerk. His dedication to his work and his interest in the business brought him to the attention of his employers who trusted him. A few years later he became head of accounting for the firm, a position he held until 1911. In 1910, with the help of Messrs. J. G. Blondeau and P. P. Roy, he conceived the idea of founding Champlain Brewery Limited, Québec, which was incorporated by letters patent on Feb. 17, 1911. From that date on, he served as secretary treasurer and manager of that company. He was not involved in public affairs, federal, provincial, or municipal. In May 1922, he was elected president of the Québec branch of the Canadian Association of Manufacturers; and, at the convention of the association held in Toronto in June 1923, he was appointed as a member of the legislative committee. He served as director of Champlain Brewery Ltd. of Québec City, and as director of Gauvreau and Beaudry Ltd. of Québec City. He was elected President of the Charlesbourg branch of the Society of French-Canadian Artisans, and President of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Charlesbourg. He was also a founding member of the Kiwanis Club of Québec City. His favorite recreational activity was maintaining his farm in Charlesbourg. He married for the first time on August 10, 1897; and, on July 23, 1912, he married Nancy Gauvreau, daughter of Dr. Louis Gauvreau. He was the father of 11 children.



In politics, he was a conservative.

Residence: Charlesbourg.

(SOURCE: "BIOGRAPHIES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES", VOL. X, ÉDITIONS BIOGRAPHIQUES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES, 1931.)

Genealogy of Alfred Pierre Robitaille

- 7th generation:
Alfred Pierre Robitaille married Alphéda Faucher,
at St-Sauveur church, Québec City, on August 10, 1897;
and then Nancy Gauvreau, in Charlesbourg, on July 23, 1912,
son of Cyprien Robitaille and Eulalie Guay.
- 6th generation:
Cyprien Robitaille married Eulalie Guay,
at St-Jean Baptiste church, Québec City, on November 18, 1872,
son of Jean Robitaille and Adélaïde Debigaré.
- 5th generation:
Jean Robitaille married Adélaïde Debigaré,
at Notre-Dame church, Québec City, on August 26, 1828,
son of Joseph Robitaille and Joseph Drolet.
- 4th generation:
Joseph Robitaille married Joseph Drolet,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on August 9, 1790,
son of François Robitaille and Angélique Chartrain.
- 3rd generation:
François Robitaille married Angélique Chartrain,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 26, 1750,
son of André Robitaille and Catherine Chevalier.
- 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Catherine Chevalier,
in Ste-Foy, on September 11, 1713,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

Amédée Robitaille

Born in the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec on December 31, 1852, son of Olivier Robitaille, physician, and Zoé Louise Dénéchaud. He was educated at the private school of M. P. Lachance, at the Québec Seminary, and at Université Laval in Québec. Admitted to the Law Society of the province of Québec on July 17, 1877. Appointed Queen's Counsel on June 22, 1899.

Married in the parish of St-Jean-Baptiste in Québec City on July 2, 1878, Zoé-Elmire-Joséphine-Almézine Peachy, daughter of Joseph Ferdinand Peachy, architect, and Joséphine Elmire Tuaut.

Practiced law in Québec City and was a member of the firm of Louis-Rodolphe Roy, among others. Lawyer for the Society of Permanent Construction of Québec and Registrar for the District of Québec, Director of the Québec and Lac St-Jean Railway and of the Péribonka Pulp Co. of Roberval. President General of the St-Jean-Baptiste Society of Québec City from 1887 to 1889. Alderman for the St-Jean Ward on the Québec City Council from 1890 to 1894. Chief organizer of the Liberal Party for the district of Québec. Elected Liberal member of the Legislative Assembly for the riding of Québec Centre in the 1897 election. Re-elected unopposed in 1900. Resigned following his cabinet appointment but re-elected by acclamation in the by-election of July 11, 1902. Secretary and registrar for the Province of Québec in the Parent cabinet from June 30, 1902, to March 23, 1905. Re-elected in 1904 (unopposed) and 1908. Resigned on his appointment as protonotary to the Superior Court of the District of Québec on December 9, 1908.



Died in Québec City on March 28, 1930, at the age of 77 years and 2 months. Buried in Ste-Foy, at the Belmont Cemetery, March 31, 1930.

(SOURCE: CAHIERS DES DIX, NO. 25, MONTRÉAL 1960.)

Genealogy of Amédée Robitaille

- 6th generation:
Amédée Robitaille married Zoé-Elmire-Joséphine-Almézine Peachy in St-Jean-Baptiste de Québec, on July 2, 1878, son of Olivier Robitaille and Zoé Louise Dénéchaud.
- 5th generation:
Olivier Robitaille married Zoé Louise Dénéchaud, at Notre-Dame de Québec, on June 4, 1844, son of Étienne Robitaille and Marie Denise Moisan.
- 4th generation:
Étienne Robitaille married Marie Denise Moisan at Notre-Dame de Québec on February 3, 1807, son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Geneviève Valin.
- 3rd generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Geneviève Valin, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on February 11, 1765, son of Joseph Robitaille and Catherine Drolet.
- 2nd generation:
Joseph Robitaille married Catherine Drolet, in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 21, 1722, son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

Cyrille Robitaille

Merchant

Mr. Cyrille Robitaille, joint owner with his brother of the firm C. Robitaille, Inc. represents a tradition. He continued the operation of a commercial enterprise of paternal foundation that had modest beginnings—beginnings are always difficult—but which soon established a reputation throughout the province, and he had many sons to whom he proposed to one day cede his rights.

Son of the late Cyrille Robitaille, knight of the order of Saint-Grégoire-le-Grand, originally from L'Ancienne-Lorette and founder of the firm, and Elmire Guay, daughter of Pierre Guay. He was born in Québec City on Jan. 9, 1877. After a commercial course at the Collège de Lauzon, in Lévis, he began his career at his father's store in 1893. The many years he worked there, his skill in the handling of employees allowed him, in 1916, to succeed his father and to take over, jointly with his brother, the management of the firm under the name of C. Robitaille, Inc. By the way, it is of interest here to include a brief historical note. Founded in 1855, originally a sewing machine store, in 1887 it became a music store, selling Edison pianos and gramophones. They added the RCA Victor brand in 1896 and Mason & Risch radios, the official radio of the Vatican.

The store was located in a superb, modern building, at 320 St-Joseph Street. The firm C. Robitaille, Inc. had no other purpose than to satisfy the desires of a clientele of cultivated tastes and growing in number every day. Mr. Cyrille Robitaille was interested in all local good works and charity. A great lover of hunting and fishing, he was a member of several "ad hoc" clubs and he participated in a variety of sports activities.

Married in 1898 to Clara Drolet, daughter of Georges Drolet, he became the head of the family business. Ten of his 17 children survived. In politics, he was a liberal.

Residence: 62, Chemin Ste-Foye, Québec City.

(SOURCE: "BIOGRAPHIES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES", VOL. X, ÉDITIONS BIOGRAPHIQUES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES, 1931.)



CYRILLE ROBITAILLE

Genealogy of Cyrille Robitaille

- 7th generation:
Cyrille Robitaille married Clara Drolet,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on May 30, 1898,
son of Cyrille Robitaille and Elmire Guay.
- 6th generation:
Cyrille Robitaille married Elmire Guay,
at St-Roch de Québec, on July 2, 1876,
son of Jean Robitaille and Adélaïde Debigaré.
- 5th generation:
Jean Robitaille married Adélaïde Debigaré,
at Notre-Dame de Québec, on August 26, 1828,
son of Joseph Robitaille and Joseph Drolet.
- 4th generation:
Joseph Robitaille married Joseph Drolet,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on August 9, 1790,
son of François Robitaille and Angélique Chartrain.
- 3rd generation:
François Robitaille married Angélique Chartrain,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 26, 1750,
son of André Robitaille and Catherine Chevalier.
- 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Catherine Chevalier,
in Ste-Foy, on September 11, 1713,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

Dollard Robitaille

Dollard Robitaille was born in Montréal on Sunday, June 26, 1904, and was baptized the same day in the church of the Saint-Enfant-Jésus by Monsignor Le Pailleur, P.A. (protonotary apostolic), the parish priest. His Excellency Paul Bruchési, Archbishop of Montréal, confirmed him in 1910.

He did classical studies at the Collège de Montréal from 1918 to 1924. He studied philosophy at the Séminaire de Philosophie from 1924 to 1926, and theology at the Grand Séminaire de Montréal from 1926 to 1930.

His Excellency Monsignor Georges Gauthier conferred minor orders on him in 1928, the subdiaconate and the diaconate in 1929, and the priesthood in 1930, on June 14.

Appointed professor at the Collège de Montréal, he taught mathematics in the upper grades during the 1930-1931 school year. The following year he went on retreat to Issy-les-Moulineaux, France. He studied in Paris from 1932 to 1934, at the Sorbonne and at the Institut Catholique, where he obtained master's degrees in arts and education.



Returning to the Collège de Montréal, he served as prefect of discipline for students in 1934 and 1935, professor of Syntax from 1935 to 1937, and professor of Method from 1937 to 1940. He taught Latin in the classical language classes from 1940 to 1943; Latin in Belles-Lettres and Rhetoric in 1943-1951; and Latin in Rhetoric and Belles-Lettres from 1951-1958. In August 1958 he was appointed principal of the Collège de Montréal.

He was professor of Latin methodology at the École Normale Secondaire from 1944 to 1954, where he completely revised the Latin grammar curriculum of the Collège and composed a book of graduated Latin exercises for the Elements of Latin class.

We also owe a debt to him for the new wing of the Collège, built at one end of the main building, between the schoolyard for children in the primary grades and that for older children. It was thanks to generous contributions from the alumni of the Collège that Father Robitaille was able to fulfil this long-held dream.

(SOURCE: MAURALT, OLIVIER, "GALERIE DE PORTRAITS DES SUPÉRIEURS DU COLLÈGE DE MONTRÉAL". CAHIERS DES DIX, NO. 25, MONTRÉAL 1960.)

Genealogy of Dollard Robitaille

- 9th generation:
Dollard Robitaille, unmarried
son of Gustave Robitaille and Marie-Louise Ouellette.
- 8th generation:
Gustave Robitaille married Marie-Louise Ouellette
at St-Enfant-Jésus de Montréal, January 13, 1902,
son of Jacques Robitaille and Angèle Hudon dit Beaulieu.
- 7th generation:
Jacques Robitaille married Angèle Hudon dit Beaulieu
at St-Thomas de Joliette, February 23, 1857,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Émérence Robillard.
- 6th generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Émérence Robillard
at Ste-Élisabeth de Joliette, on August 5, 1834,
son of Joseph Robitaille and Marie Josephe Charon dit Ducharme.
- 5th generation:
Joseph Robitaille married Marie Josephe Charon dit Ducharme
in Berthierville, January 9, 1792,
son of Joseph Robitaille and Marie-Louise Pelletier.
- 4th generation:
Joseph Robitaille married Marie-Louise Pelletier
in Lavaltrie, November 16, 1767,
son of Jean Robitaille and Marie-Marguerite Drolet.
- 3rd generation:
Jean Robitaille married Marie-Marguerite Drolet
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, November 15, 1735,
son of André Robitaille and Marguerite Hamel.
- 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Marguerite Hamel
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, January 19, 1706,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation: Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

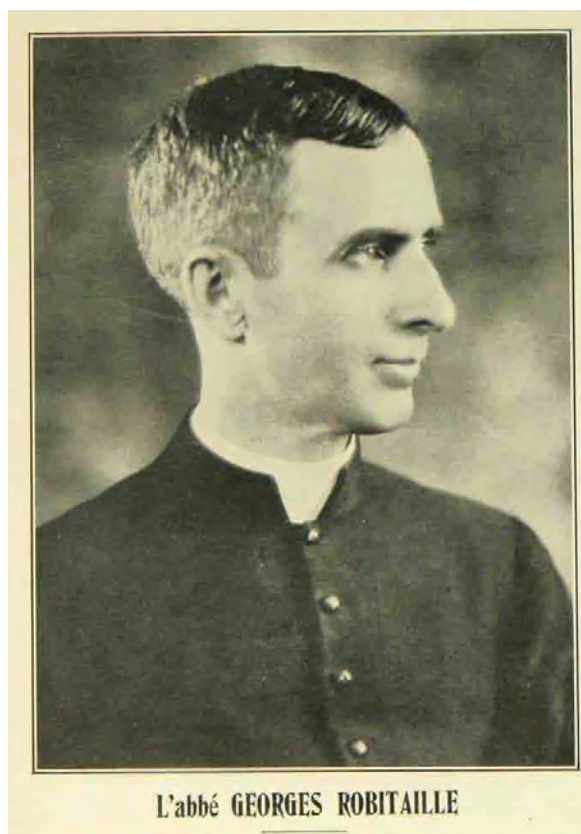
Father Georges Robitaille

Father Georges Robitaille was born in Joliette on June 13, 1883. He was baptized the next day in the parish church of the city where he was to spend most of his life. His father's name was Louis Robitaille, the first pharmacist to settle in Joliette (1872). In 1879 Louis had married Marie-Louise Breault, and their third child was baptized with the name Georges. His father, Louis, was a descendant of Narcisse Robitaille from Saint-Hyacinthe, who was a notary in Saint-Hilaire, Rouville County, and whose remains are to be found in the cemetery of Saint-Hyacinthe. Narcisse had married Catherine Johnson, a descendant—if family traditions are to be believed—of General Johnson, victor over Baron Dieskau in 1755, at the Battle of Lac Saint-Sacrement.

Georges Robitaille entered the Collège Joliette at the age of 10 in 1893. He did all the classes there from the Preparatory level and the French course until the second year of philosophy. Literature, history, and philosophy were the subjects that interested him most. His college readings—especially history readings—make clear his vast erudition.

At the age of 20, Georges Robitaille, orphaned in 1896, entered the Grand Séminaire de Montréal. He was very interested in theology. His academic success led Bishop Joseph-Alfred Archambeault to allow him to continue his studies in Rome; and, to this end, the bishop of Joliette ordained him to the priesthood in the cathedral on Friday, June 29, 1906, after three years of study at the Grand Séminaire.

At the Pontifical University for the Propagation of the Faith in Rome, Father Robitaille studied Philosophy under Cardinal Laurenti, and was awarded a doctorate in July 1907 after a year of study. In July 1909, he was awarded a second doctorate from the same university: a doctorate in theology, after two years of study under Professors Lépicier and Lauri, who subsequently became cardinals of the Catholic church.



L'abbé GEORGES ROBITAILLE

In September 1909, at the Séminaire de Joliette, Father Robitaille was entrusted with the students of Versification. He was made a full professor, with Latin and Greek as the main subjects to be taught. Four years of hard work made him familiar with Latin and Greek, and provided the background needed for him to teach French literature successfully in Belles-Lettres and Rhetoric (1913-1927). A little later, Canadian history was added. Upon his arrival at the Séminaire, Father J.-M. Roberge appointed Father Robitaille director of the Cercle Saint-Michel, a group affiliated with the ACJC (L'Association catholique de la jeunesse canadienne-française)

In 1918, he was appointed Director of Seminarians at the Séminaire de Joliette and professor of dogmatic theology.

In the meantime, the young professor investigated the arcana of history. He made a major speech on the feast of Saint-Jean-Baptiste at Sainte-Brigide in Montréal on Saturday, June 24, 1922, and the text was published in *Le Devoir* on the 26th. But once again some historians criticized him for raising issues that were not sufficiently orthodox and, soon thereafter, in journals, and particularly in the "Le Canada Français", an official publication of Université Laval de Québec, in "Enseignement Secondaire", in "Action française de Montréal," there appeared very lively articles in the fifth edition of F.-X. Garneau's "L'Histoire du Canada," in Barthélémy Joliette, and many literary studies.

At the same time, the "Revue Dominicaine" published his speech given at Saint-Thomas d'Aquin church on March 2, 1924, on the occasion of the seventh centenary of the birth of the "Angel of Schools". Some two thousand copies were quickly distributed, and this made it possible for the general public to appreciate the remarkable talent of Father Robitaille as demonstrated in this 20-page pamphlet. The author's strengths were shown in full. Obviously, the author aimed at the popularization of history and theology, and in a very personal way.

In October 1927, Bishop Guillaume Forbes appointed Father Robitaille parish priest of Saint-Alexis de Montcalm. Would the ministry of souls occupy him fully? Would he lose interest in the literary movement in our country? All his friends—especially his former students—asked themselves these questions to which the priest responded in his beautiful volume "**ÉTUDES sur GARNEAU**" (1929) the reputation of which is now certified, and whose publication forced the leaders of the day to pay attention: Bishop Camille Roy described Mr. Robitaille in his "**Handbook of Canadian Literature**" (1930), as an historian who was to be taken seriously and whose works would endure.

The "**Études sur Garneau**" represents a fine attempt at historical popularization. The first to point this out was Mr. Raymond Tanghe. This scrupulously followed method is likely to render great services to our historians. Mr. Hector Garneau himself promised to use some of the observations of historical criticism. Mr. Séraphin Marcoux admitted that the author was not only concerned with historical truth but also with literary beauty. Father Alphonse De Grandpré finely noted that perhaps, even more than the criticism, one could see through the pages of the "**Études**" the living teacher that was Father Robitaille.

A final piece by Father Robitaille gives a fairly accurate idea not only of his talent but also of his personality. This speech was delivered on June 21, 1931, on the occasion of the silver anniversary of his ordination. The text of the speech was published in L'**Action Populaire** de Joliette on June 25.

Master of Arts from Université Laval in Québec City, awarded in 1921

Residence: Saint-Alexis de Montcalm

(SOURCE: " BIOGRAPHIES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES ", VOL. X, ÉDITIONS BIOGRAPHIQUES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES, 1931.)

Canon Georges Robitaille 1883-1950

The son of Joliette's first pharmacist and grandson of a distinguished notary, Canon Georges Robitaille inherited a legacy that would exempt him from having to build the initial step of his personal ascension himself. Physically he had few advantages. But on the other hand, he possessed a fine intelligence and nurtured a healthy ambition for things of the mind. As one might expect, he attended college in his hometown. There he covered the entire area of the classical curriculum of the time. There he also contracted a singular love for Greek, if one were to judge by the epic argument that the mature man supported at a meeting of the Royal Society against one of his former students who had become a professor at the Université de Montréal.

He was destined to be a priest. In his twenties, he enrolled in the Sulpician order's Grand Séminaire de Montréal. After his ordination he went to Rome where he earned doctorates in philosophy and theology in three years. Thus honored, he returned home and became a professor at his alma mater that had trained him so well. There he taught literature.

We are quite certain that he did not miss science. Nevertheless, after 18 years of this work as a curate, he slipped into the ranks of priestly administration. He was appointed parish priest of St-Alexis de Montcalm parish. His old companions, literature and history, came with him, and they remained his hobbies whose attractions comforted him throughout his time as a pastor.

Canon Robitaille was an ardent worker who loved to investigate the secrets of the past. They were excellent companions for a parish priest who lived in a beautiful rectory, and had the leisure time, the tranquility, and all the resources that permitted him to surround himself with the patient and silent guests that were his books. I will not discuss the library that he amassed at his residence. I do know, however, that his pen produced beautiful works. One would probably not be mistaken to imagine that he preferred controversial subjects and characters. Proof of this is the amusing originality he had in wanting to partially deflate the reputation of the Marquise de Pompadour. Of his important works, "Études sur Garneau", "Washington et Jumonville", "Montcalm et ses Historiens", "Telle qu'elle fut... Marie de l'Incarnation". Bishop Camille Roy praised "his judicious treatment and abundant documentation".

All these publications earned him entry into the Royal Society of Canada. He was one of its charms and a constant target. And a hard worker. Particularly interested in this period of our history ending in 1760, at each annual session he arrived with a *follow-up*, the end of which was never foreseen. This led his colleagues to say to him, "When you will discuss the Hundred Years' War, how many centuries will you need to reach the end?"

Alas, our good canon was not even to finish his study of the Seven Years' War. Despite suffering from heart problems for quite a long time, he persisted in attending scholarly meetings. It also seems that he was not unhappy to have become the president of the French section. After all, this position was not as important as his rank as a canon of the Church. His tenacity and courage proved to be fatal to him. There is no doubt that an at-times stormy meeting in May in Kingston left him seriously fatigued, ... a fatigue which, eight days later, would strike him in his rectory of L'Épiphanie, on the eve of the Congress of the Canadian Society for the History of the Catholic Church, at which he would have, not without pride, presided.

Our friend remains the model of a priest who cultivates, in addition to within the walled garden of souls, the more open fields of literature and history. He also remains an inspiration, a model for those who need to be supported in their day-to-day labors. And, as for his colleagues, they never stopped telling the stories that he loved, the wars of words with which they teased him and the unexpected responses that they often received.

Georges Simard, O.M.I.

(SOURCE: MÉMOIRES ET COMPTES-RENDUS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DU CANADA, 3^E SÉRIE, TOME XLV, JUIN 1951.)

Genealogy of Georges Robitaille

- 8th generation:
Georges Robitaille,
son of Louis Robitaille and Marie-Louise Brault.
- 7th generation:
Louis Robitaille married Marie-Louise Brault,
at the Cathédrale de Joliette on June 23, 1879,
son of Narcisse Robitaille and Catherine Johnson.
- 6th generation:
Narcisse Robitaille married Catherine Johnson,
at St-Mathias de Rouville, on April 10, 1849,
son of Jacques Robitaille and Marie Loiselle.
- 5th generation:
Jacques Robitaille married Marie Loiselle,
at St-Charles-sur-Richelieu, on July 2, 1792,
son of Jacques Robitaille and Josette Thomelette.
- 4th generation:
Jacques Robitaille married Josette Thomelette,
at Notre-Dame de Québec, on October 20, 1767,
son of Pierre Robitaille and M. Geneviève Jourdain.
- 3rd generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Geneviève Jourdain,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 15, 1732,
son of André Robitaille and Marguerite Hamel.
- 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Marguerite Hamel,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 19, 1706,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

Josaphat Robitaille

Merchant

The proverb says, He who has seen much may remember much. Josaphat Robitaille would not be the one to deny this proverb. After leaving boarding school, rather than immediately joining the business run by his father and brother, he spent four years in various piano factories across the country and in the United States.

Son of the late Cyrille Robitaille, knight of the order of Saint-Grégoire-le-Grand, founder of the family business, and Elmire Guay, daughter of Pierre Guay, he was born in the old capital on April 30, 1880. He was educated at the Collège de Lauzon and Lévis, from which he graduated at the age of eighteen. After a period of study and observation in various factories, he joined his father's store and became a partner with the firm in 1916. This store was one of the most beautiful and modern commercial establishments in Québec City and one about which the population could be rightfully proud. Its history has been published elsewhere. Here we list a few facts about his administration. It employed a staff of forty persons at the store and about one hundred agents distributed throughout the province. Divided into three sections: Mr. J.-L. Alain was the manager of the store; Mr. J.-N. Caouette, personnel; Mr. Émile Fontaine, a well-known expert, the wholesale radio department. Certainly, the qualities of energy, probity, courtesy that characterize the outfit were not to be diminished any time soon. Its fame and popularity have long surpassed the city limits. With a keen interest in the various philanthropic works of his hometown, Mr. Robitaille was a member of the Reform Club and the Curling Club of Québec City, as well as various hunting and fishing clubs that were his favorite recreations. Has also been a member of the Cercle des Voyageurs de Commerce de Québec for a quarter of a century.



JOSAPHAT ROBITAILLE

Married on September 15, 1903, to Marie-Louise St-Jacques, daughter of Jérémie St-Jacques, they had three children.

In politics: liberal.

Residence: 1050, Chemin Ste-Foye, Québec City.

(SOURCE: "BIOGRAPHIES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES", VOL. X, ÉDITIONS BIOGRAPHIQUES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES, 1931.)

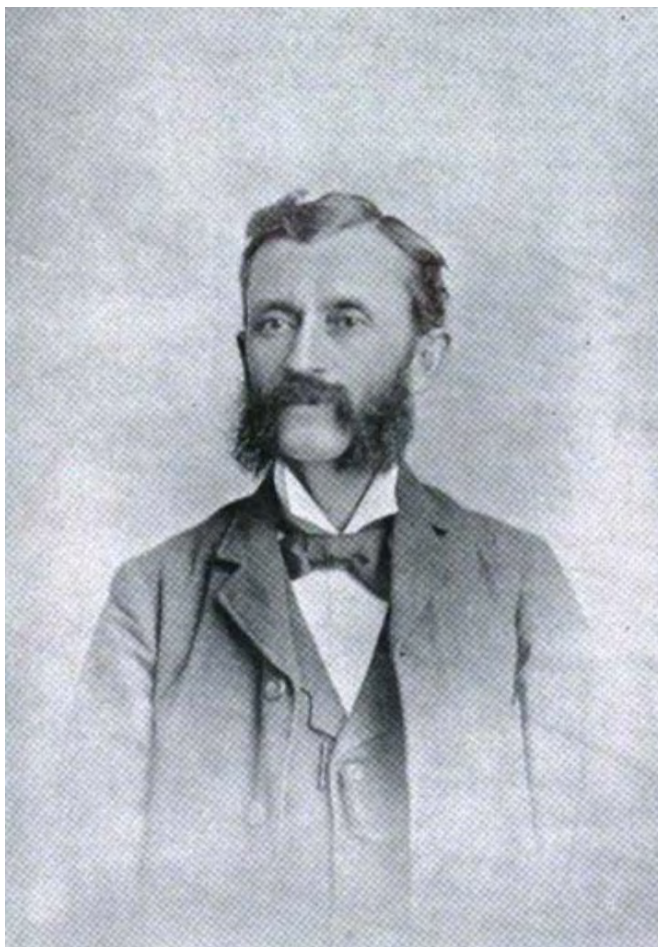
Genealogy of Josaphat Robitaille

- 7th generation:
Josaphat Robitaille married Marie-Louise St-Jacques,
in St-Eustache, on September 15, 1903,
son of Cyrille Robitaille and Elmire Guay.
- 6th generation:
Cyrille Robitaille married Elmire Guay,
at St-Roch de Québec, on February 7, 1876,
son of Jean Robitaille and Adélaïde Debigaré.
- 5th generation:
Jean Robitaille married Adélaïde Debigaré,
in Notre-Dame de Québec, on August 26, 1828,
son of Joseph Robitaille and Joseph Drolet.
- 4th generation:
Joseph Robitaille married Joseph Drolet,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on August 9, 1790,
son of François Robitaille and Angélique Chartrain.
- 3rd generation:
François Robitaille married Angélique Chartrain,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 26, 1750,
son of André Robitaille and Catherine Chevalier.
- 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Catherine Chevalier,
in Ste-Foy, on September 11, 1713,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation: Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

Louis Robitaille

(original English text from 1895)

Louis ROBITAILLE, Chemist and Druggist, Joliette, Que., was born at St. Hilaire de Rouville, June 21st, 1850. His father's name was Narcisse Robitaille, a prominent and respected notary of that city. His mother's maiden name was Catherine Johnson, a descendant of Sir Wm. Johnson. Mr. Robitaille, at the age of ten, entered St. Hyacinthe College, where he remained eight years, completing a full course, and passing an examination admitting him to the study of law. He then entered Laval University with the intention of taking the course to prepare himself for the profession of advocate, at the same time having joined the firm of Mr. Fournier, now the Hon. Judge Fournier, of the Supreme Court, to properly fit himself for his profession. Owing to ill health, however, at the end of one year, he was forced, much against his inclination, to abandon the study of law. He then entered upon a course of study of pharmacy, and in 1872, commenced business in Joliette, where he has since resided, and has, to-day, a large and lucrative trade, and as finely modelled and carefully conducted a drug business as is to be found in many of the large cities of Canada. His adaptability to his chosen profession is evidenced by the fact that he is the proprietor of many medical preparations, which are favorably known throughout the Dominion. He is in every sense of the word a business man, as well as a thoroughly qualified dispensing chemist. His superior knowledge of the highly important avocation which he follows, enables him to successfully cater to the requirements of his large trade. In religion, Mr. Robitaille is a Roman Catholic, a member of the C. M. B.A., and had the honor of occupying, for some time, the position of chancellor in this society, also of representing the same as a delegate to the Grand Convention held by the Order at Montreal, in 1891. In 1879, Mr. Robitaille was married to Miss Marie Louise Brault, of Joliette, who died in 1892. His family consists of three sons and two daughters.



(SOURCE: "THE CANADIAN ALBUM, MEN OF CANADA OR SUCCESS BY EXAMPLE IN RELIGION, PATRIOTISM, BUSINESS, LAW, MEDICINE, EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURE," REV. WM. COCHRANE, DD., VOL. IV, BRADLEY, GARRETSON & CO. BRANTFORD, ONT. 1895.)

Genealogy of Louis Robitaille

- 7th generation:
Louis Robitaille married Marie-Louise Brault,
at the Joliette Cathedral on June 23, 1879,
son of Narcisse Robitaille and Catherine Johnson.
- 6th generation:
Narcisse Robitaille married Catherine Johnson,
at St-Mathias de Rouville, on April 10, 1849,
son of Jacques Robitaille and Marie Loiselle.
- 5th generation:
Jacques Robitaille married Marie Loiselle,
in St-Charles-sur-Richelieu, on July 2, 1792,
son of Jacques Robitaille and Josette Thomelette.
- 4th generation:
Jacques Robitaille married Josette Thomelette,
at Notre-Dame de Québec, on October 20, 1767,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Geneviève Jourdain.
- 3rd generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Geneviève Jourdain,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 15, 1732,
son of André Robitaille and Marguerite Hamel.
- 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Marguerite Hamel,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 19, 1706,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

Louis-Adolphe Robitaille

(original English text from 1888)

Louis-Adolphe Robitaille, Quebec, is a well-known and much respected citizen of the ancient capital. He is a brother of Hon. Theodore Robitaille, fourth lieutenant-governor of the province of Quebec and now a senator of the Dominion and, like him, born at the family residence at Varennes, P.Q. His father, who was a notary, was descended from one of the oldest French families in Lower Canada and figured very prominently among the patriots during the insurrection of 1837-38, even to the extent of suffering imprisonment for his political opinions until after the pacification of the province. On the maternal side our subject claims descent from the Mongeaus and the Brodeurs, two more of the good Old Lower Canadian families.

He was educated at the Ste-Therese, St-Hyacinthe, and Montreal Seminaries. He was offered and accepted an appointment in the Crown Lands Department of Canada sometime around 1855. Before confederation, Mr. Robitaille was promoted and placed in charge of the Woods and Forests branch of Canada; and in this position, he was continued until confederation, when he became superintendent of Woods and Forests for the province of Quebec. He afterwards left this branch of the service for an appointment in the Railway department of Quebec province, which position he held until shortly after the transfer of the North Shore Railway and was then superannuated. Though retired from the government service, Mr. Robitaille is still active employment as secretary-treasurer of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway. He is a brother-in-law of Mr. Riopel, M.P. for Bonaventure. Having been a public officer from early life, serving under different administrations, Mr. Robitaille has never taken an active part in politics.

(SOURCE: A CYCLOPAEDIA OF CANADIAN BIOGRAPHY BEING CHIEFLY MEN OF THE TIME, ED. BY GEO. MACLEAN ROSE. TORONTO: ROSE PUBLISHING CO., 1888, P. 663.)

Genealogy of Louis-Adolphe Robitaille

- 6th generation:
Louis Adolphe Robitaille married Marie Vanier,
at Notre-Dame de Québec, on April 30, 1915,
son of Louis Adolphe Robitaille and Justine Mongeau.
- 5th generation:
Louis Adolphe Robitaille married Justine Mongeau,
in Varennes, on February 12, 1828,
son of Louis Robitaille and Marie Marthe Aubut.
- 4th generation:
Louis Robitaille married Marie Marthe Aubut,
at Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, on November 12, 1784,
son of Romain Robitaille and Josette Drolet.
- 3rd generation:
Romain Robitaille married Josette Drolet,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on April 19, 1751,
son of Romain Robitaille and Marie Françoise Lemarié.
- 2nd generation:
Romain Robitaille married Marie Françoise Lemarié,
in Ste-Foy, on October 10, 1723,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

Lucie Robitaille

*Professional Librarian & Assistant to the Director of Libraries for special projects,
UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL*

Born in Montréal, Lucie Robitaille is the daughter of Alexandre Robitaille, an insurance agent, and Alice Gervais, formerly of Joliette.

After her classical studies at the Collège Marie-Anne in Lachine, where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1947, Ms. Robitaille enrolled at the Université de Montréal and completed her bachelor's degree in library science and bibliography in the Faculty of Arts and, at the École de bibliothécaires, a bachelor's degree in library and bibliography, in 1952.

She was the winner of the Prix de la langue française in 1942, and Ms. Robitaille was awarded a scholarship in 1971, to assist in the creation and research of the Québec Ministry of Cultural Affairs.



Her career began as assistant to the curator of the Bibliothèque des Instituteurs (CECM), from 1952 to 1957. She then took over the direction of technical services at the HEC Montréal library, a position that she held until the foundation of the **Nouveau Journal** in September 1961. She was called upon to direct an important Documentation Centre, the first attempt of its kind in the French-speaking journalism world of Québec. After the newspaper's bankruptcy in 1962, Ms. Robitaille continued her career at the Université de Montréal, where she was successively chief librarian of the Faculty of Arts from 1962 to 1969, assistant director of the general and paramedical library, director of the humanities and social sciences library, and director of the private collections department. As the first incumbent in most of these positions, she proved to be an excellent pioneer. Since 1981, Ms. Robitaille has been Assistant to the Director General of Libraries for Special Projects.

Ms. Lucie Robitaille distinguished herself above all as president of the Association des femmes diplômées des universités (Montréal) from 1954 to 1956; vice-president, from 71 to 73, and of the Société des écrivains canadiens (Montréal). In 1972, she organized an impressive exhibition of books focusing on Québec novels, on the occasion of the International Year of the Book held in Montréal. In 1963, she self-published **Présence de Victor Barbeau**: a limited edition, luxury book offered in tribute to the great Québec writer. In 1979, she was a member of the Final Jury of the Grand Prix littéraire de la ville de Montréal. It was also to her that the founder of the Académie canadienne-française, Victor Barbeau, entrusted the organization of the institution's library; just as she was his close collaborator in the preparation of the **Bulletins linguistiques** and the **Cahiers**. Among all these activities, Ms. Robitaille found time to write radio scripts for Radio-Canada for more than ten years. One of them was published in a jointly authored book.

Ms. Lucie Robitaille is a member of several associations including, among others, La Société des Écrivains canadiens (Montréal); Association des Musées canadiens; Société des Musées québécois; Association internationale de bibliophilie (Paris); Association des Amis de Colette (Paris); from its founding until 1980, she was a member of the Corporation des bibliothécaires professionnels du Québec; Association des Femmes diplômées des universités (Montréal).

Her hobbies are mainly theater, cinema, and reading.

(SOURCE: BIOGRAPHIES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES, WHO'S WHO IN QUEBEC, 23RD EDITION, ÉDITIONS BIOGRAPHIQUES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES LTÉE, 2401 DE LA PROVINCE, LONGUEUIL, QC, 1983.)

Genealogy of Lucie Robitaille

- 9th generation:
Lucie Robitaille,
daughter of Alexandre Robitaille and Alice Gervais.
- 8th generation:
Alexandre Robitaille married Alice Gervais
at the Cathédrale de Joliette, on June 19, 1911,
son of Louis Robitaille and Marie-Louise Brault.
- 7th generation:
Louis Robitaille married Marie-Louise Brault,
at the Cathédrale de Joliette, on June 23, 1879,
son of Narcisse Robitaille, squire, notary, and Catherine Johnson.
- 6th generation:
Narcisse Robitaille married Catherine Johnson,
at St-Mathias de Rouville, on April 10, 1849,
son of Jacques Robitaille and Marie Loiselle.
- 5th generation:
Jacques Robitaille married Marie Loiselle,
in St-Charles-sur-Richelieu on July 2, 1792,
son of Jacques Robitaille and Josephte Thomelette.
- 4th generation:
Jacques Robitaille married Josephte Thomelette,
at Notre-Dame de Québec, on October 20, 1767,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Geneviève Jourdain.
- 3rd generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Geneviève Jourdain,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 15, 1732,
son of André Robitaille and Marguerite Hamel.
- 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Marguerite Hamel,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 19, 1706,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.

Olivier Robitaille

Born in Québec City on December 2, 1811, from the marriage of Étienne Robitaille and Marie Moisan. In the autumn of 1837, he went to Harvard University to further his medical studies, begun under Dr. Morrin. He presented his dissertation at Bowdoin University, Maine, on undulant fever (brucellosis).

Returning to Québec in 1838, he came into contact with Lord Durham's physician, Sir John Dowrat.

Married in 1844 to Louise Dénéchaud, daughter or grand-daughter of the seigneur of Berthier-en-Bas, he was also involved in politics. Elected a member of the Québec City Council in 1851, he was mayor of the capital from 1856 to 1857. In 1857, Mr. Robitaille co-founded a newspaper, **Courrier du Canada**, later illustrated by the historian Thomas Chapais. He was also the co-founder of the Caisse d'Économie de Notre-Dame de Québec and the National Bank.



In 1863 Dr. Robitaille was appointed physician to the Québec jail jointly with Dr. Pierre Olivier Tessier.

Died at Québec City on November 3, 1896.

Pius IX had appointed Dr. Robitaille knight of the Order of St. Sylvester to acknowledge the services he had rendered to the Church.

(SOURCE: BULLETIN DES RECHERCHES HISTORIQUES, NOVEMBER 1932, VOL. 38, NO. 11, PAGES 649-650)

Genealogy of Olivier Robitaille

- 5th generation:
Olivier Robitaille married Zoé Louise Dénéchaud,
at Notre-Dame de Québec, on June 4, 1844,
son of Étienne Robitaille and Marie Denise Moisan.
 - 4th generation:
Étienne Robitaille married Marie Denise Moisan,
at Notre-Dame de Québec, on February 3, 1807,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Geneviève Valin.
 - 3rd generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Geneviève Valin,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on February 11, 1765,
son of Joseph Robitaille and Catherine Drolet.
 - 2nd generation:
Joseph Robitaille married Catherine Drolet,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 21, 1722,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
 - 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.
-

Pierre Robitaille

Pierre Robitaille was born in Lorette on September 11, 1758, son of Pierre Robitaille and Geneviève Parent; ordained on October 12, 1788; 1793, appointed parish priest of Rimouski and the north coast; 1798, of Saint-Olivier de Chambly; 1807, of Saint-Philippe; 1810, of Saint-Charles and Saint-Marc de Chambly; 1812 to 1815, chaplain of the troops; 1825, parish priest of Beloeil; 1830, parish priest of Sainte-Marie de Monnoir where he died on August 27, 1834, at the age of 76, a victim of cholera, after having dealt with incredible fatigue, caring for his parishioners who had been struck down. He was a model of zeal and charity.

(SOURCE: TANGUAY, CYPRIEN MGR., "RÉPERTOIRE GÉNÉRAL DU CLERGÉ CANADIEN," PP. 152-153, MONTRÉAL, EUSÈBE SÉNÉCAL & FILS, 1893.)

Genealogy of Abbé Pierre Robitaille

- 5th generation:
Abbé Pierre Robitaille,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Geneviève Parent
- 4th generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Geneviève Parent,
in Notre-Dame de Québec, on November 7, 1757,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Geneviève Jourdain
- 3rd generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Geneviève Jourdain,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 15, 1732,
son of André Robitaille and Marguerite Hamel.
- 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Marguerite Hamel,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 19, 1706,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.

Théodore Robitaille

Robitaille, Théodore (1834-1897) doctor of medicine, politician, senator, lieutenant-governor.

Louis-Adolphe Robitaille, a notary public, had a son, Théodore, who was born in Varennes on January 29, 1834. He attended high school at Ste-Thérèse and studied medicine at Laval and McGill; in 1858 he obtained his medical degree. In 1861 he was elected to the House of Commons for Bonaventure County and sat in the House of Commons until 1879. On July 30, 1873, he was appointed to the Privy Council and assigned the portfolio of Receiver General for Canada. Appointed lieutenant-governor of the Province of Québec on Jan. 26, 1879, he refused to grant Henry Joly de Lotbinière's request for the dissolution of the legislative chamber. At the end of his term of office on Nov. 6, 1884, he was awarded a seat in the Senate on January 29, 1885, and died on Aug. 18, 1897. He was the godfather of Mr. Th. Beauchesne, head of Canadian archivists in Paris.

In November 1867, M. Robitaille married Marie-Joséphine-Charlotte-Emma, daughter of P.A. Quesnel.

(SOURCE: LEJEUNE LOUIS, "DICTIONNAIRE GÉNÉRAL DU CANADA" VOL. II, PP. 536-537, 1931.)



The Honourable Théodore Robitaille (1834-1897)

Son of Louis-Adolphe Robitaille, notary public, Théodore Robitaille was born in Varennes on January 29, 1834. He was educated at the model school in that village, in the United States, at the Séminaire de Sainte-Thérèse, and at the Universities of Laval and McGill, and was awarded his medical degree by the latter in May 1858. He represented Bonaventure County in the Legislative Assembly of Canada from 1861 to Confederation, and then in the House of Commons until 1879. A member of the Privy Council and Receiver General for Canada on Jan. 30, 1873, he resigned at the same time as his leader, Sir John-A. Macdonald, the following November 5. He resigned as a member in July 1879 and was appointed lieutenant governor of the Province of Québec. Mr. Robitaille had also represented Bonaventure County in the Legislative Assembly from 1871 to January 1874, when he had to retire, the dual representation having been forbidden by an act of Parliament.

Robitaille took office as lieutenant governor on 26 July 1879 and was sworn in by the governor general, the Earl of Dufferin. The main events of his administration were as follows: the National (Protectionist) Policy was introduced in Canada by Sir John-A. Macdonald and was the immediate cause of the establishment of a large number of factories of all kinds, giving work to the workers and raising wages, which was of great benefit to the country in general. Three premiers succeeded him in Québec during his term of office. Hon. J.-Adolphe Chapleau, October 31, 1879. He was succeeded by the Honourable J.-A. Mousseau, Secretary of State for Canada in Ottawa, July 29, 1882. M. Mousseau took the oath of office at Québec on the 31st of that month. Having been appointed a judge of the Superior Court, Mr. Mousseau was replaced by the Honourable John-Jones Ross on Jan. 23, 1884. In 1880 the Marquis de Lorne and Princess Louise founded the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, and the following year the Royal Society of Canada, which held its first sitting in Ottawa on May 25, 1882.

The British Association for the Advancement of Science met in Montréal on August 27, 1884. This was its first appearance in Canada. On Oct. 21, 1883, Bishop Smeulders arrived at Québec City as an apostolic delegate. His mission was to inquire about the difficulties that had arisen between the branches of Université Laval in Montréal and Québec City and to resolve them if possible. He left Québec City on December 29, 1884, having fulfilled his mission. Several railways were built: from Stanbridge to Saint-Guillaume in 1879; from Québec City to Sherbrooke in 1881; from Montréal to Sorel in 1882; and from Montréal to Toronto, via Ottawa and Smiths Falls, in 1884. The Protestant asylum for the insane in Verdun was opened in 1881. A tidal wave caused great damage at Québec City and in the lower part of the river in November 1884. A conflagration devastated the city of Hull on April 21, 1880, destroying 400 houses; and a similar calamity befell the Faubourg Saint-Jean in Québec City on June 8, 1881, when 542 houses were engulfed in flames; and on April 19, 1883, it was the Palace of Parliament that was reduced to ashes. In 1883, the city of Montréal inaugurated a series of winter carnivals, with ice palaces that attracted many visitors. Finally, on November 18, 1883, standard time was adopted in Canada, taking the 75th meridian west of Greenwich as its base. Mr. Robitaille's administration ended on Nov. 6, 1884. He was replaced by the Honourable L.-F.-Rodrigue Masson. On January 29, the former lieutenant governor was appointed senator.

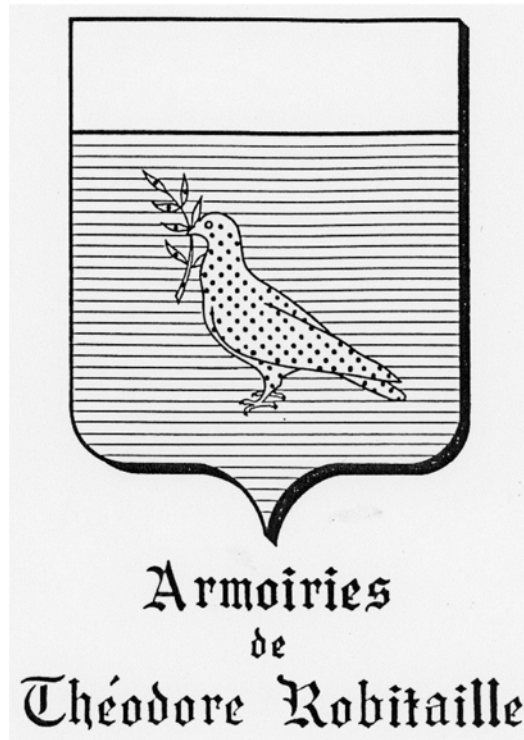
Mr. Robitaille died on 18 Aug. 1897. In November 1867 he had married Marie-Joséphine-Charlotte-Emma, daughter of Pierre-Auguste-Adolphe Quesnel, a lawyer, and Charlotte-Adélaïde de Verchères de Boucherville, and granddaughter of the Honourable Frédéric Auguste Quesnel, a member of the Executive Council of Lower Canada from 1837 to 1841, and for several years a legislative councillor under the Union.

Théodore Robitaille died in Québec City and is buried in Belmont Cemetery.

(SOURCE: AUDET, MAURALT AND MALCHELOSSE, "LES LIEUTENANTS-GOUVERNEURS DE LA PROVINCE DE QUÉBEC", CAHIER DES DIX, VOL. 27, PP. 221-222, 1962.)

Genealogy of Théodore Robitaille

- 6th generation:
Théodore Robitaille married Marie Joséphine Emma Quesnel,
at Notre-Dame de Québec, on November 6, 1867,
son of Louis Adolphe Robitaille and Justine Mongeau.
- 5th generation:
Louis Adolphe Robitaille married Justine Mongeau,
in Varennes, on February 12, 1828,
son of Louis Robitaille and Marie Marthe Aubut.
- 4th generation:
Louis Robitaille married Marie Marthe Aubut,
in Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, on November 12, 1784,
son of Romain Robitaille and Josette Drolet.
- 3rd generation:
Romain Robitaille married Josette Drolet,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on April 19, 1751,
son of Romain Robitaille and Marie Françoise Lemarié.
- 2nd generation:
Romain Robitaille married Marie Françoise Lemarié,
in Ste-Foy, October 10, 1723,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
- 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.



*D'AZUR, A LA COLOMBE D'OR TENANT
EN SON BEC UN RAMEAU D'OLIVIER DU
MÊME; AU CHEF D'ARGENT*

*Théodore's Shield
(a golden dove on a blue background holding a
golden olive branch in its beak, under a silver
heading)*

Vilmond Robitaille

The owner, since 1920, of the Montminy photography studio, so well known to all Quebecers and all the craftsmen and tourists who frequent the old capital is also the continuator of an industry of art that honors the French-Canadian race. M. Vilmond Robitaille, artist-photographer, was born in Montréal, on April 14, 1892, from the marriage of J.-D. Robitaille, watchmaker, and Alphéda Picard, daughter of the late Joseph Picard, of Québec City.

He studied his art, first with Dupras and Colas, from 1908 to 1913, then with Notman and Son, from 1913 to 1915, and finally with Montminy, in Québec City, from 1915 to 1917. It was then that he settled, at first alone, in St-Roch of Québec, from 1917 to 1919.

In 1919 he entered business with his former boss, Mr. Montminy, and the following year (1920), on the latter's death, he became the owner of this studio, whose performance spread throughout the Québec City region and farther.

On October 19, 1914, in Québec City, Mr. Vilmond Robitaille, married Miss Laurette Turgeon, daughter of the late Onésime Turgeon. Two children were born of this marriage.

Residence: 195 rue Saint-Cyrille, Québec City

(SOURCE: "BIOGRAPHIES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES", VOL. X, ÉDITIONS BIOGRAPHIQUES CANADIENNES-FRANÇAISES, 1931.)



Genealogy of Vilmond Robitaille

- 7th generation:
Vilmond Robitaille married Laurette Turgeon,
in St-Jean-Baptiste de Québec, on October 19, 1914,
son of Joseph David Robitaille and Alphéda Picard.
 - 6th generation:
Joseph David Robitaille married Alphéda Picard,
at St-Roch de Québec, on July 19, 1881,
son of Louis Robitaille and Julie Côté.
 - 5th generation:
Louis Robitaille married Julie Côté,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on July 8, 1834,
son of Joseph Robitaille and Joseph Drolet.
 - 4th generation:
Joseph Robitaille married Joseph Drolet,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on August 9, 1790,
son of François Robitaille and Angélique Chartrain.
 - 3rd generation:
François Robitaille married Angélique Chartrain,
in L'Ancienne-Lorette, on January 26, 1750,
son of André Robitaille and Catherine Chevalier.
 - 2nd generation:
André Robitaille married Catherine Chevalier,
in Ste-Foy, on September 11, 1713,
son of Pierre Robitaille and Marie Maufay.
 - 1st generation:
Pierre Robitaille married Marie Maufay.
-

Some Robitailles in the United States

Louis Robitaille, jeweler, brother of Pierre, the first Canadian priest mentioned earlier, married Louisa Monroe, a Scot, on April 21, 1789.

Louis and Louisa emigrated to the Detroit area where they have several descendants.

Other Robitailles also emigrated to the region, particularly to nearby Marinette, Wisconsin and then to Stephenson, Michigan.

Several now bear the name *Robitoy*.

(SOURCE: DENISSEN, CHRISTIAN, "GENEALOGY OF THE FRENCH FAMILIES OF THE DETROIT RIVER REGION," VOL. II, PP. 1043-1044, 1976.)

Appendix – Recognition of Perseverance

The Robitaille family settled in Lorette before it was "L'Ancienne" and its children then spread all over the continent. Yet some Robitaille descendants remained there, at home, near the roots. This feat of perseverance was highlighted.

Honouring two-hundred-year-old homes

As part of the events that marked the third centenary of the founding of Québec City, the Committee of Ancient Families, chaired by Father David Gosselin, wanted to honour the heirs of a paternal property occupied continuously for two centuries by descendants of the same lineage, by awarding them a certificate of honour and a gilded solid silver medal.

On the evening of September 2, 1908, 273 families received from the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, Sir Alphonse Pelletier, this precious insignia: a cross on whose arms is embraced a large golden wreath of maple leaves, enhanced on its obverse by an enamelled escutcheon, of green colour, and bearing the motto of the patriotic and Christian ploughman: *ense, cruce, aratro*, (by sword, cross and plough) and on its reverse the name of the decorated head of the family.

To perpetuate the memory of this gesture ever before, the same Committee published the following year the book entitled "**Golden Book of the Rural Nobility**", a faithful account of the events pertaining to this ceremony and a complete list of families who had been so decorated.

Fifty-one years later, on October 11, 1959, during the celebrations marking the 350th anniversary of the founding of Québec City, Mr. J. Albert Rioux, on behalf of the Comité des Anciennes Familles Agricoles, of which he was the president, repeating the gesture of his predecessor, presented a bronze commemorative plaque to 308 families, who since 1758 had remained owners of the paternal property. This number, although slightly higher than that of 1908, nevertheless revealed among our French Canadians a disaffection for the ancestral land. Indeed, in this short period of half a century, 119 of the 273 families decorated in 1908 had abandoned, for various reasons, the property bequeathed to them by their ancestors.

(SOURCE: GINGRAS, RAYMOND, "MÉLANGES GÉNÉALOGIQUES, CAHIER NO 1", 1975)

The Robitaille family appears on page 119 in **The Golden Book of the French-Canadian Rural Nobility** published by the Committee of the Ancients Families, Québec 1909, 141 pages, and a Bronze Plaque was awarded to Charles-Henri Robitaille, L'Ancienne-Lorette, in 1959.

Famille ROBITAILLE

Etablie à l'Ancienne-Lorette, comté de Québec, en 1661

- 1.—Jean, d'Auche, évêché de Boulogne, marié en 1670, à Marguerite Buletez.
- 2.—Jean, marié 1717, à Marguerite Meunier.
- 3.—Jean-Jos. " 1748, à Marie Anne Voyer.
- 4.—Jean-Joseph, " 1774, à Marie-Jeanne Alain.
- 5.—Pierre, " 1826, à Angélique Alain.
- 6.—Jean, " 1862, à Philomène Gauvin.
- 7.—Napoléon.

Famille ROBITAILLE

Etablie en 1669, à l'Ancienne-Lorette, comté de Québec

- 1.—Pierre, d'Auche, évêché de Boulogne, marié en 1675, à Marie Maufait.
- 2.—Joseph, marié en 1722, à Catherine Drolet.
- 3.—Pierre, " 1765, à Marie-Geneviève Valin.
- 4.—Jean, " 1^o 1802, à Marie Quentin.
2^o 1816, à Louise Alain.
- 5.—Jean, " 1828, à Agélaïde Delisle.
- 6.—Jean, " 1860, à Marie Desvarenes.
- 7.—Elzéar, " 1885, à S. J. Robitaille.

Excerpt from the Golden Book of the French-Canadian Rural Nobility - 1909

L'Ancienne-Lorette Tercentenary celebration

At the Tercentenary Festival of L'Ancienne-Lorette, in 1972, a committee was charged with identifying the families of the diocese who had occupied the ancestral land without interruption for 200 years. Seven families from L'Ancienne-Lorette were chosen, including the Robitailles, represented by Charles-Henri Robitaille.



Charles-Henri Robitaille

Epilogue

by Jean Robitaille

"When I was 14-15 years old, Ernest Robitaille, a priest who was my father's cousin, often came to play cards at my parents' house. When he lost, he would sit in the living room. I would often join him to chat with him because I knew he was researching our ancestors, and I was interested in that. That's how I got a taste for genealogy." (Lorraine Robitaille-Samson)

With this document, we intended to show that a family of Robitailles had always occupied the ancestral land granted to the brothers Pierre, Jean and Nicolas Robitaille settled in Lorette in 1670, to prove the persistence of a branch of the tree of Robitailles of America which took root in Gaudarville and which remained there with force, courage and determination.

The author, Lorraine, is a direct descendant of this special branch of the Robitailles of America. She had, in her memory box, notarized documents, photos, birth certificates, marriage contracts that were attached to this branch of Robitaille and she felt the responsibility to share them with brothers and sisters, cousins, nieces and nephews, uncles and aunts.

Of the brothers Pierre, Jean, Nicolas and Philippe, it is certainly Pierre who contributed the most to the spread of the name Robitaille in America. He and Marie Maufait had many children, thirteen are known to us including ten boys and several of these sons survived long enough to have, in turn, descendants. Because it was Pierre who bought the land from his brothers in Gaudarville, it was his descendants who inherited the ancestral land and who were able to pass it on, more or less redivided and patched up from generation to generation. An agricultural land cleared, seeded, reworked for three centuries by Robitailles, from father to son, from fathers to daughters and by daughters-in-law over the generations. Life of toil, life of misery, life of light and hope. Days passed, seasons followed one another: seeds and harvests, births, marriages and deaths.

From the family trunk rooted in Gaudarville, many have gone on adventures, sometimes just a stone's throw away, sometimes at the end of the continent and even beyond. America was populated, sprinkled with Robitailles in all directions. The name has sometimes mutated to various forms under the pen of clerics with ears unaccustomed to French sounds. It does not matter if one is now called *Robitoy* or *Rabtay* or *Robison*, there shines in all these hearts a gleam inherited from the spark of the founding brothers. Many of these great-grandchildren inevitably have the desire to understand how and by whom they got here. They will want to find their origins, for themselves, out of curiosity, or for their children, for posterity.

We had famous Robitailles; we sang their praises. There have also been less glorious ones on which the lights have gone out, but which are nevertheless part of our family.

The document that Lorraine offers us allows a glimpse at the fate of one of the countless branches of Robitailles of America, the branch that surrounds those who remained on the ancestral land: the brothers and sisters of Lorraine's father, grandfather, great-grandfather, up until 1670 when Pierre set foot in America.

While this Robitaille family farmed their land, during this succession of Robitaille farmer lives in L'Ancienne-Lorette, the large neighbouring city, Québec City, was slowly growing. The sprawling town spread from decade to decade, slowly gaining ground until it caught up with the peaceful, bucolic countryside where the Robitailles' wheat grew. Progress, modernity and finance came to upset the ancestral languor. *Move over, old chap. We have a highway coming!* The last direct line descendants who still exploited the land of the ancestors ended up agreeing to sell. The land was cut up, subdivided, sold to developers, resold as plots to newcomers; the land saw beautiful small

modern houses sprout by the hundreds. The furrows of the plough replaced by the asphalt grid of neighborhood streets.

Lorraine's work has, of course, redocumented the passing of the Robitaille land heritage from generation to generation, but its great interest has been and will remain to shed light on each of these generations. She was able to find and describe at least symbolically the fate of all the children of each of these generations.

The title that Lorraine chose to give to her document was the premise and not the conclusion. *From father to son in the seigneurie of Gaudarville*, certainly it was the journey of the successive owners of the ancestral land, but it is also, in each generation, each and every one of their children, their joys and their miseries, if we have any trace of their passage on this land. Lorraine went up the chain and then scraped the relevant documents to flesh out and support her story.

To the readers of this story, I suggest that they try the experiment. Do you know your Robitaille origins? Perhaps you can relate to the tree drawn by Lorraine? Will it connect at the fourth generation? Or up to the first? You will probably be able to start from the work that Lorraine has already done to complete your differences.

You, Robitaille, do you at least know your ancestry line? Who were your parents? Who were your father's parents? Who were the parents of your grandfather Robitaille, then your great-grandfather Robitaille and so on until the first one to set foot in America?

For each of these Robitailles, probably ten or so, will you be tempted to know their brothers and sisters? Perhaps you will then find exceptional individuals, lives too short, tremendous achievements, remarkable destinies or incredible unions? Who knows? You might as well find family ties with famous personalities!

Lorraine patiently traced the history of her Robitaille origins at a time when it was necessary to go

to an archive center to access documents, patiently transcribe the information found, consult indexes, directories, pay for printed copies of microfilmed documents, then write, retype, proof-read, recorrect and tinker to assemble a document presentable to relatives, to friends, children and family.

Technology has evolved and history has become democratized. Nowadays, you can conduct most of your research while sitting in your armchair or on the corner of your kitchen table. Information is increasingly accessible, mutual aid networks are numerous and effective. The new possibilities are multiple and accessible to those who want to take the trouble.

Your document will be called **My Robitaille Origins**. Distribute it widely and for free. It will perfect, complete the Great History of the Robitailles: a virtual work that will last beyond the centuries, forming the historical foundation for many generations to come.

When you know where you're from...



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