

The two brothers Maxime and Louis Guindon

Guindon family members are found almost everywhere in the Petite-Nation district, from Plaisance (south) to Duhamel (north). The vast majority of them are Maxime or Louis Guindon's descendants.

Maxime and Louis, two brothers, son of Joseph and Françoise Brayer, farmers, were from Saint-Hermas in the country of Deux-Montagnes. They also had two other brothers: Pierre, who remained at Saint-Hermas and Joseph who came later to live with his brother Maxime.

Louis Guindon and Maxime Guindon settled on nearby lands in Valençay rank near Ripon. Louis Guindon would be arrived first, in 1840, while his brother Maxime came to settle in 1860.

Louis Guindon

The land where Louis Guindon has settled in Valençay, located opposite the current restaurant Bak-Ku, is currently inhabited by Gérard Guindon, Adélarde's son, grand-son of Joseph and great-grand-son of Louis. This is the fourth generation living on the same land.

Coming from the parish of Saint-Hermas where he was born, Louis Guindon has made the boat trip to Montebello with his wife Henriette Ménard.

Like all pioneers of Petite-Nation, he had to work hard, to cut trees, pulling stumps, clearing, building his own house. But hard labor didn't scare this burly man, considered a giant at a time when it was said that most people were usually shorter. He was actually 6 feet 3 inches tall.

From father to son, he was told that Louis Guindon hands were immense, so much so that he could easily get to the bottom of a bucket ten inches in diameter.

To earn some income, he took a fairly common way in the Valençay and Ripon area : he sewed potash by burning hardwood cut on his land. To go sell it, he carried it on his back, walking to Montebello, following a path he knew well, crossing once the Petite-Nation river, in Portage, the only place where it was possible to cross the river. A large pine tree cut down at that location would have been the first bridge of the North Petite-Nation river.

Maxime Guindon

Maxime Guindon, born in Saint-Hermas January 21, 1813, married Zoe Chaloux, born in Rivière-du-Febvre February 18, 1935, daughter of Benjamin and Josephte Chaloux Savaria.

Before setting on the land next to Louis Guindon's farm, in road 6 in Valençay, they had a son, Pierre, born March 31, 1858.

On the death of her husband Joseph Guindon, Maxime's mother, Françoise Brayer, will move in with her son after selling her land in Saint-Sauveur-des-Monts. In 1871, she made a will in favor of his son Maxime with whom she lived until her death September 12, 1885.

A few years later, in 1896, Maxime's brother, Joseph, who stayed in Saint-Hermas, will also live with Maxime after the death of his wife Hedwidge Hébert in Saint-Sauveur-des-Monts. Widowed and childless, he sold his property in Saint-Sauveur and made his will in favor of his nephew Moïse Guindon, Maxime's son, with whom he will remain until his death on Feb. 2, 1901.

Maxime Guindon died July 13, 1905, at the age of 72 years; his wife, Zoé Chaloux will follow on February 12, 1912, at 77 years old.

Louis Guindon and Henriette Ménard: Children

1. **Joseph**
2. **Camille**
3. **Éléonore**
4. **Desneiges**
5. **Malvina**
6. **Léa**
7. **Louis**

1. **Joseph**

Joseph Guindon, the eldest son, takes over from his father, Louis Guindon as a farmer.

"Jos" Guindon was a big man with a big white beard, today remembered by his grandchildren. He loved music and animated the evenings with his violin sounds, performing jigs, 'reel' and rigodons.

He married Marie Guénette and they had thirteen children. Upon arrival of the twelfth child, the Department of Colonization of that time, with the aim of encouraging birth, gave a land to the deserving family.

Thus, at the birth of his son Casimir, Joseph Guindon has benefited from a wooded lot in the Black Mountains of Ripon, where he will, every year, cut his firewood.

Children of Joseph Guindon and Marie Guénette:

- **Camille**
 - Married Anna Brazeau, a farmer in St. Sixte: they had five daughters.
- **Adélard**
 - He married Julia Seguin Septembre 2 1929. He lived on the Guénette farm in Valençay. Later, he will purchase the family farm from his brother Casimir.
Adélard had nine children. His son Gérard will take over the farm from his father (original farm of Louis Guindon).
- **Josaphat**
 - He married Eva Deschamps in Saint-André-Avellin October 29, 1906.

At fourteen, Josaphat was placed at Aldéric Carrière, a blacksmith of Saint-André-Avellin, to learn the trade. His salary then was \$ 1 per month, fed, housed.

- At eighteen, he will work in the yards but quickly returned to blacksmith work, taking advantage of the teaching of several masters in Ripon, Thurso, Rockland, Sarsfield, Papineauville, Pointe-au-Chêne, Notre Dame de-la-Salette, Fassett. At the latter place, he decided to buy forging equipments to open his own shop. Then he bought Plaisance blacksmith shop owned by a man named Joannette.

His experiences gained previously, especially in Rockland where Mr. Bertrand had agreed to deliver him the secrets of the trade, will be greatly helpful in his work.

- He had seven children and taught his art to his son Emilien who will replace him as a blacksmith in Plaisance.

- **Napoléon**

Napoleon married a lady named Chartrand and moved to Alberta, following the footsteps of his brother Honoré.

- **Honoré**

Honoré left for Falher in Alberta in the 1920s after marrying Rosanna Rochon from Ripon. Browsing about fifty miles a day, it took him many weeks to reach Edmonton.

Honoré, when he was young, had the reputation of being an athlete. When he worked cutting wood far away on his father's farm, he returned home for lunch running, crossing the mile in five minutes.

He died at age 52 without being able to come back to visit his hometown, but his family, as well as his nephews and nieces continue to maintain contact with the Guindon family in the East of Canada..

- **Casimir**

Casimir married Florida Bélisle. First, he stayed on his father's farm but he eventually sold the farm to his brother Adélar, deciding instead to work as a labor.

- **Rose-Alba**

Rose-Alba married Alexandre Despatie and had several children. She lived in Plaisance, where her husband was a carpenter, then she lived in Montebello with her daughter Yvonne and finally in Montreal

- **Pétronille**

Petronilla married Doris Bertrand and had seventeen children. They lived in the St. Louis road (Saint-André-Avellin) before leaving for Montreal.

- **Cédule**

Cédulie married Godfroy Dallaire and lived in the parish of Saint Sixte, rank Valençay where she had twelve children.

➤ **Maria**

Maria and her husband Georges Seguin from Ripon lived in Noëlville in Ontario. They had twelve children.

➤ **Anna**

Anna, wife of Franck Picard, had four children. They first lived in Chapleau and then in Sudbury, Ontario.

➤ **Donalda**

Donalda married Ernest Roy and they lived in Montreal where they worked as market gardeners. They had five children.

➤ **Valéda**

Valéda, who married Olivier Aubry, first lived in Saint-Sixte, then in Thurso and finally in Ripon. They had fourteen children.

2. **Camille**

Camille Guindon, the second son of Louis Guindon, lived much of his life on a farm in Saint Sixte in Gore rank. One day, however, he decided to sell his land to buy another one in Plaisance.

It is said of Camille Guindon that he has had a peaceful and happy retirement with his wife Mélassie Dépastie he had married in Saint-André-Avellin July 27, 1885.

They were provided with a horse carriage, which allowed them to visit regularly Alexandre Despatie, Mélassie's brother.

Children of Guindon and Camille Mélassie Despatie:

➤ **Roméo,**

Born on June 26 1886, he married Éva Laflamme on the February 7 1910 in Plaisance.

➤ **Aurèle,**

➤ Born January 19, 1890, he married Oda Bourbonnais August 20 1917. He will succeed his father Camille on the farm (Plaisance) and allow his father to live a happy retirement.

➤ Today, 90 years old, Aurèle still lives in Plaisance.

➤ **Omer,**

➤ **Églantine,**

She married Michel Girard.

➤ **Alix Florentine,**

Born June 3 1888.

- **Albertine,**
Born January 9 1892, died at the age of 7 months.

3. **Éléonore**
Daughter of Louis Guindon, wife of Denis Robitaille. They remained at Saint Sixte and had not children.
4. **Desneiges**
Daughter of Louis Guindon, she became the wife of André Lepage. They will stay at St. Sixte.
5. **Malvina**
Daughter of Louis Guindon, she married a shoemaker, Pierre Forget dit Despatie in Saint-André-Avellin, June 16, 1873.
6. **Léa**
Daughter of Louis Guindon, she died at 14 years November 5 1877.
7. **Louis**
Son of Louis Guindon, he died at the age of 1 year Dec. 13, 1866.

Maxime Guindon and Zoé Chaloux: Children

1. **Pierre**
 2. **Marie-Zoé**
 3. **Moïse**
 4. **Honoré Joseph Xavier**
-
1. **Pierre**
Pierre Guindon, Maxime's son, was born March 31, 1858 in Saint-Hermas, before the departure of his parents for Valençay.
In 1881 he will marry his first wife Eloise Labrosse who will not give him a child.
In 1886, he married Caroline Fortier, Pierre Fortier and Marie Labrie,s daughter.
They had a daughter, Eglantine, who will marry Arthur Saint-Denis in 1907.
In a third mariage, Pierre Guindon married Délima Aubry with whom he had another daughter, Dolores, future wife of Philip Senecal.
 2. **Marie-Zoé**
Marie-Zoé was born in Valençay on November 21 1861.
 3. **Moïse**
Maxime Guindon's second son, Moïse was born in Valençay on August 6, 1865.
He will relay his father on the farm.

Excellent farmer, skilled carpenter, the man is said to love working. Valençay was then a small village with a general store, a cheese dairy and a blacksmith shop.

Avid reader of the newspaper, Moïse Guindon followed politics with interest. He would learned a lot by himself reading regularly

When he left to work on the construction of the railway in Calgary, his fellow employees, mostly Quebeckers, greatly appreciated the service he rendered them by writing for them letters, receiving a cent for each letter.

On July 18, 1893, Moïse Guindon married Philomène Imbeau, Jacques Mantha said Imbeau and Lucie Dumoulin's daughter. They had five children.

Children of Moses Guindon and Philomena Imbeau:

- Albert:
Albert, born April 25, 1894, succeeded to his father on the farm and married Marie-Josephite Chevrier August 14, 1916 in Chénéville. They will have twelve children.
 - Germaine (April 26 1917)
 - Alberte (September 6 1918)
 - Jean-Marc (December 14 1919)
 - Solange (July 3 1921)
 - Odette (February 28 1923)
 - Agathe (October 1 1924)
 - Suzanne (May 14 1927)
 - Adéodat (February 16 1929)
 - Aline (June 23 1932)
 - Guy (February 15 1934) Guy is still farmer on the paternal farm.
 - Henri-Paul (November 25 1935)
 - Céline (August 11 1937).

- Joseph:
Joseph, born May 15, 1897, Moïse Guindon,s second son, married Jeanne Sabourin in Ripon. They lived enAbitibi. They had two children:
 - Vincent.
 - Paul-Albert.

- Laurenza:
Laurenza, Moïses Guindon's daughter, born April 28, 1899, married Romeo Desjardins. They went to live in Témiscamingue where they had five children:
 - Thérèse.
 - Marthe.
 - Huguette.
 - Pierrette.
 - Jean.

- Romelda:

Romelda, Moïse Guindon' daughter, born August 15, 1901, married Aimé Deschamps and they lived in Gatineau. They had seven children:

- Thérèse.
- Germaine.
- Rolland.
- Marie-Paule.
- Raoul.
- Claude.
- Gisèle.

- Dolorès:

Dolores, Moïse Guindon, born April 14, 1908. She married Philippe Chartrand in Saint-André-Avellin. They had seven children

- Colombe.
- Paul.
- Angela.
- Fernand.
- Marthe.
- Raymonde.
- Jean-Yves.

Moïse Guindon died March 6, 1954 at the age of 88 years and his wife, Philomene Imbeau dit Mantha, died October 11, 1961 to 87 years.

4. Honoré Joseph Xavier

Born in Ripon April 10, 1868, Honoré Joseph Xavier, Moïse Guindon's youngest son, died in 1890; he was single.

Texte tiré du Mémorial de La Petite-Nation, Nos vieilles familles, fascicule B, par Marie Vaillancourt, produit par les Éditions de la Petite-Nation, 1980, Saint-André-Avellin.

Traduit en anglais par Bernard Guindon et Monique Quevillon.