

Four Family Acadian Lineage of John Fisher dit Poissant

An example of how to modify the Four Family Chart for Special Families

Hebert	Landry	Leblanc	Trahan
			Nicholas & Renee Desloges St Pierre de Montreuil-Bellay Bougueil, Anjou, France
Antoine Hebert & Genevieve Lefranc c 1648 France	Rene Landry & Marie Bernard c 1659 at Port Royal, Acadia		Guillaume & Madeleine Brun 1666 Port Royal, Acadia
Jehan Hebert & Anne Doucet C 1676 Port Royal, Acadia	Claude Landry & Catherine Thibodeau c 1684 Port Royal	Daniel & Francoise Gaudet Abt 1650 Port Royal, Acadia	Jean Charles & Marie Boudrot 1693 Port Royal, Acadia
Rene dit Groc & Marie Boudrot c1707 St Joseph, Grand Pre, Acadia In CT in 1763, Laprairie in 1768	Claude Landry & Madeline Doucet 1712 Grand Pre, Acadia	Antoine & Marie Bourgeois c 1680 Les Mines, Acadia	Jean Trahan & Marie Hebert 1720 Riviere Aux Canards, Acadia Deported: Probably in Boston in 1763
Joseph Hebert & Anne Bourg Wed 1762 in New England Blessed 17 Oct 1774 Laprairie, QC	Amant Landry & Madelaine Landry c 1753 Grand Pre, Acadia Dep. to Boston w/wife & 1 son & 4 dau.	Pierre Pinous & Francoise Landry 16 Feb 1711 St Charles des Mines, Grand Pre, Acadia In Shrewsbury, MA in 1757-1763. Died Montreal 23 Oct 1769	John Baptiste & Marie Cloatre 11 Jan 1779 Laprairie, Qc
Rene-David Hebert & Isabelle Landry 12 Feb 1787 L'Acadie, QC		Pierre H. & M. Catherine Granger 25 Oct 1784, L'Acadie, QC 1 st wed to Marie Elizabeth Hebert 13 Oct 1762 at Guilford, Conn. Blessed 1/17/1775 St Philippe, QC	John Baptiste & Josephite Terrien 30 Sep 1805 L'Acadie, Qc
Oliver Hebert & Emelie Audet 12 Sep 1826 Napierville, Qc		Joseph Leblanc & Osite Ste Marie 12 Feb 1827 Laprairie, QC	Charles Trahan & Celeste Tetreau 20 Nov 1832 St Jean-sur- Richelieu, Qc
Vital Bourassa & Emilie Hebert 1 Jul 1845 L'Acadie, QC		Medard Leblanc & Eleonore Trahan 14 Oct 1862 St Valentin, QC	
Alphonse Bourassa & Vitaline Leblanc - 29 Jan 1889 L'Acadie, Province of Quebec			
Arthur Fisher / Poissant & Marie Anna Bourassa - 13 August 1928, St Francis Xavier, Winooski, VT			
John Fisher & Kathleen C. Desany - 23 Jan 1965 Christ The King, Burlington, VT			

WHY SO MANY ACADIANS IN OUR LINEAGE ???

My Mothers Bourassa family lived for 3 generations in L'Acadie, Quebec, adjacent to the city of St Johns where my mother was born. L'Acadie was created by hundreds of Acadian exiles, about 1768, which were dispersed to the 13 British Colonies in the years 1755-1758.

The Short Version of the Acadian Tragedy

At that time, due to wars between England and France, the British colonists hated the French and also hated Catholics because they were not Puritans or Anglicans. Troops from Massachusetts loaded all the Acadians into converted cargo ships and distributed them to the 13 colonies. When they were initially loaded on the ships in Acadia there was no effort made to keep families together. This proved to be very painful to the parents and they were continually searching for their family members. Because they were on these ships for several months, and having no space to lay down, most of the elderly died before reaching the colonies. Some colonies did not want them and those ships were sent to England where they were imprisoned. Two or 3 ships sank with everyone aboard being lost at sea. The Acadians were treated very badly and their children were used as slaves by the colonists. As you can imagine, life for anyone in the 1750's was a struggle and by dumping 16,000 hated people in their towns and being told to house and feed them without any payment would be very difficult for the colonists and doubly difficult for the Acadians who were basically prisoners of war. It was a terrible time for the Acadians. Finally in about 1768 many of the Acadians were told they were free to leave and many of them walked north from Massachusetts and Connecticut and founded the town of L'Acadie in Quebec. The Bourassa families and many other Quebec families married into these Acadian families. I just finished a book about the Acadians, it is called **"A Great and Noble Scheme, The Tragic Story of the Expulsion of the French Acadians from their American Homeland"** by John Mack Faragher; about 500 pages. It was excellent.

It is about **OUR HERITAGE !!!** John Fisher

Fisher Family Acadian Heritage by James Canole 12-24-2022



Grand Pré Park in Grand Pré, Nova Scotia

Marie Bourassa Fisher...mother of the 'Fisher 14'

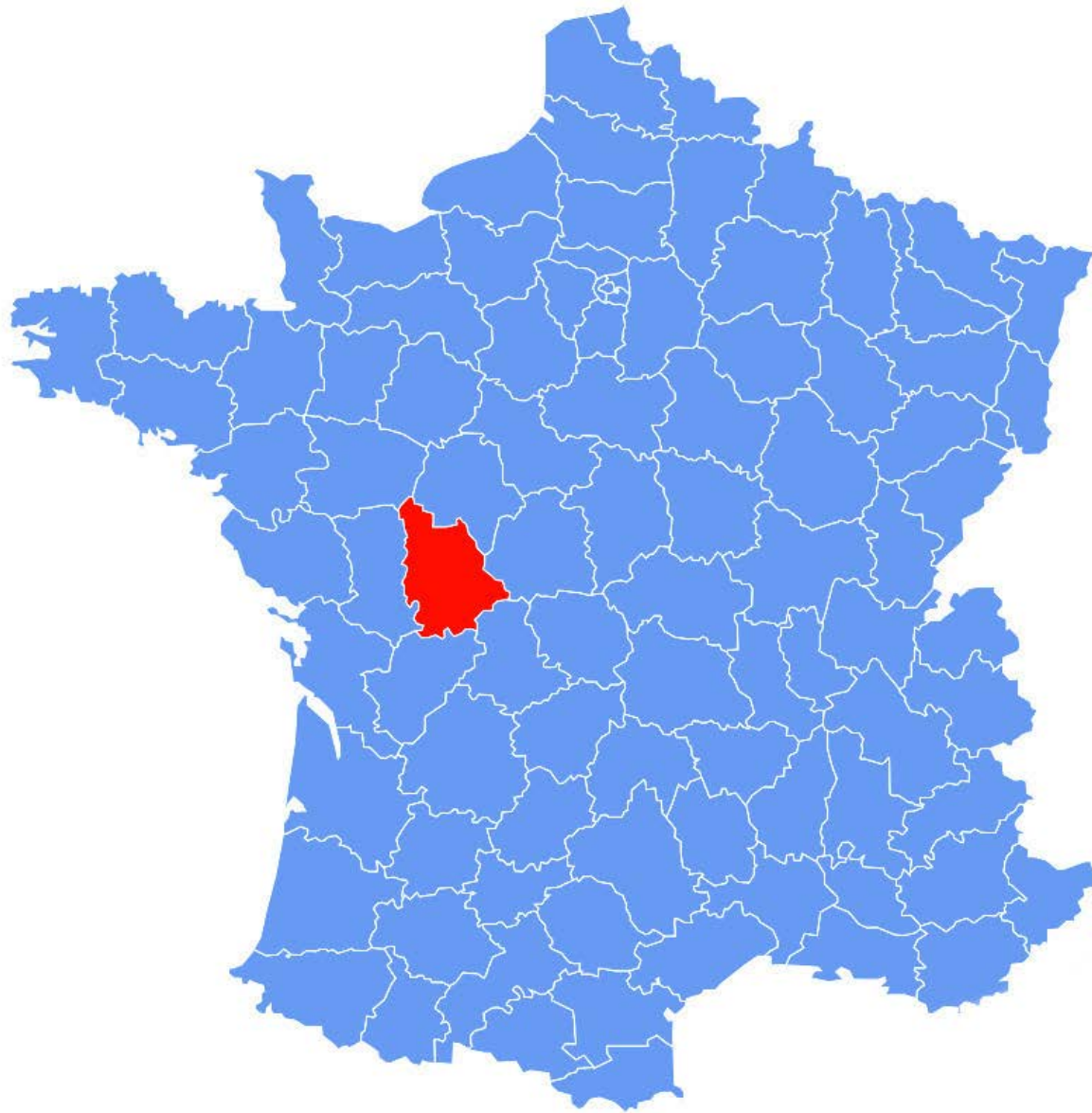
Grandmother of the 'Fisher 69' generation

Matriarch of our Fisher family in the 20th century

Her mother, Vitaline LeBlanc Bourassa, was Acadian

**The colony of Acadia existed in the 17th and 18th centuries
It was today's Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton,
plus parts of Quebec, New Brunswick and Maine**

**Here's story of our LeBlanc lineage with Acadia's rich history
Also why Acadia is known as, 'The Land of Evangéline'**



Map showing Vienne, France

The original Acadians immigrated from Vienne, France about 1604

About 1621, Daniel LeBlanc was born in Vienne

He is our first LeBlanc ancestor to immigrate to North America



Port-Royal National Historic Site of Canada
Port-Royal, Acadia today is Annapolis Port, Nova Scotia

1629-1710...Port-Royal is a settlement and capital of the French colony Acadia
About 1650...Daniel LeBlanc weds Francoise Gaudet in Port-Royal
They settled on what's now the Annapolis River about 22 miles north of Port-Royal
Daniel and Francoise are 7th-great-grandparents of the 'Fisher 69'



Families in Acadia's 1671 census

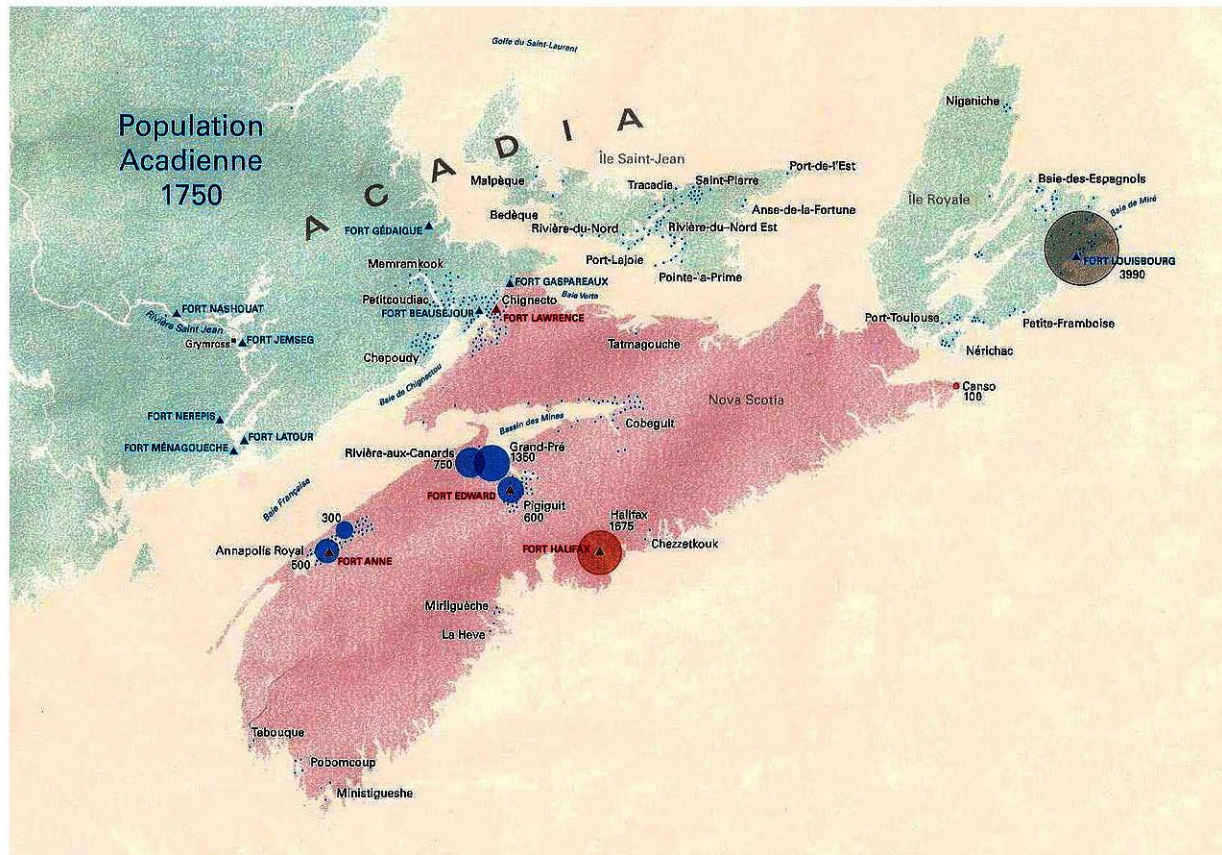
Our lineages would expand beyond LeBlanc to, at a minimum, Bourgeois, Gaudet, Hebert, Landry and Trahan

**About 1662...Antoinne LeBlanc is born to Daniel and Francoise LeBlanc
 About 1680...Antoinne weds Marie Bourgeois...they'd move to Grand Pré
 Marie is the daughter of Jacques Bourgeois and Jeanne Trahan
 Antoinne and Marie are 6th-great-grandparents of the 'Fisher 69'
 They would have 10 or 11 children**



Grand Pré today in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia

**1682...The village of Grand Pré is founded on today's Bay of Fundy
The settlers built dykes and maximized the productivity of the already fertile soil
1686...The Parish of Saint Charles des Mines in Grand Pré is established
1687...The parish builds a church and allocates land for an adjacent cemetery
Grand Pré becomes the bread basket of Acadia and epicenter of Acadian culture
1689...a son Pierre is born to Antoinne and Marie LeBlanc**



Map of Acadia by territory and population, 1750
 Red = British control Green = French control

1710...the British seize much of the French Acadian territory
French colonists told to pledge allegiance to the British Crown
1711...On February 16 Pierre LeBlanc marries Francoise Landry
Wedding held in Saint Charles des Mines Parish in Grand Pré
They are 5th-great-grandparents of the 'Fisher 69'
1736...Pierre Hilaire LeBlanc is born to Pierre and Francoise



Depiction of Acadians about to be put on ship during The Great Deportation, 1755-1762

**1755-1762...The Great Deportation occurs and the British expel about 16,000 Acadians
(Also called The Great Expulsion and The Great Dispersion)**

**Acadians expelled because of their refusal to fight for the British against the French
Acadians sent to Thirteen Colonies (then some continued south to Louisiana) and France**

**Pierre and Francoise LeBlanc were exiled to Boston
Pierre's 9 or 10 siblings were also deported to the Thirteen Colonies**



**Part of the Deportation Sculpture at Grand Pré National Historic Site
An Acadian family on the move due to the forced removal from their ancestral land in 1755
The four-piece sculpture was dedicated on September 3, 2006**

**The British burn all Acadian homes, barns and churches, plus seize all their land
British also remove the gravestones from cemeteries, including 400 at St. Charles des Mines
Several thousand Acadians died from starvation, disease or in shipwrecks during deportation**



Erected in 2010 monument marks 250th anniversary of New England Planters arrival in Nova Scotia
1759-1768...New England Planters (colonists) invited to settle on lands vacated by Great Deportation
8000 settlers of all trades accept the invitation from Nova Scotia's government to move north
1762...Pierre Hilaire LeBlanc weds Marie Hebert in Guilford, CT. They have nine children.
Pierre and Marie are 4th-great-grandparents of the 'Fisher 69'



Farming the rich soil of Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia

1764...Acadians allowed to return to Nova Scotia, but they have no claim to land they once owned

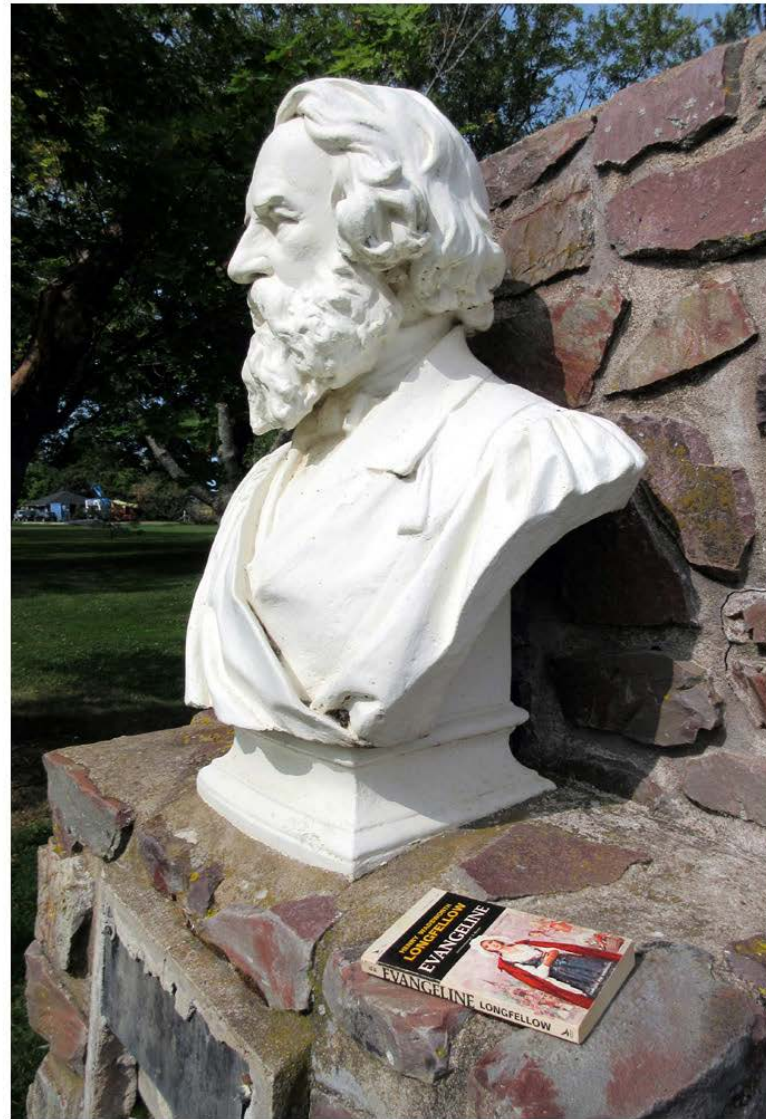
Some then go to New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec

Most of Antoine LeBlanc's 10 or 11 children go to Quebec...some go to Louisiana

1827...Joseph LeBlanc weds Osite Ste. Marie in LaPrairie, Quebec

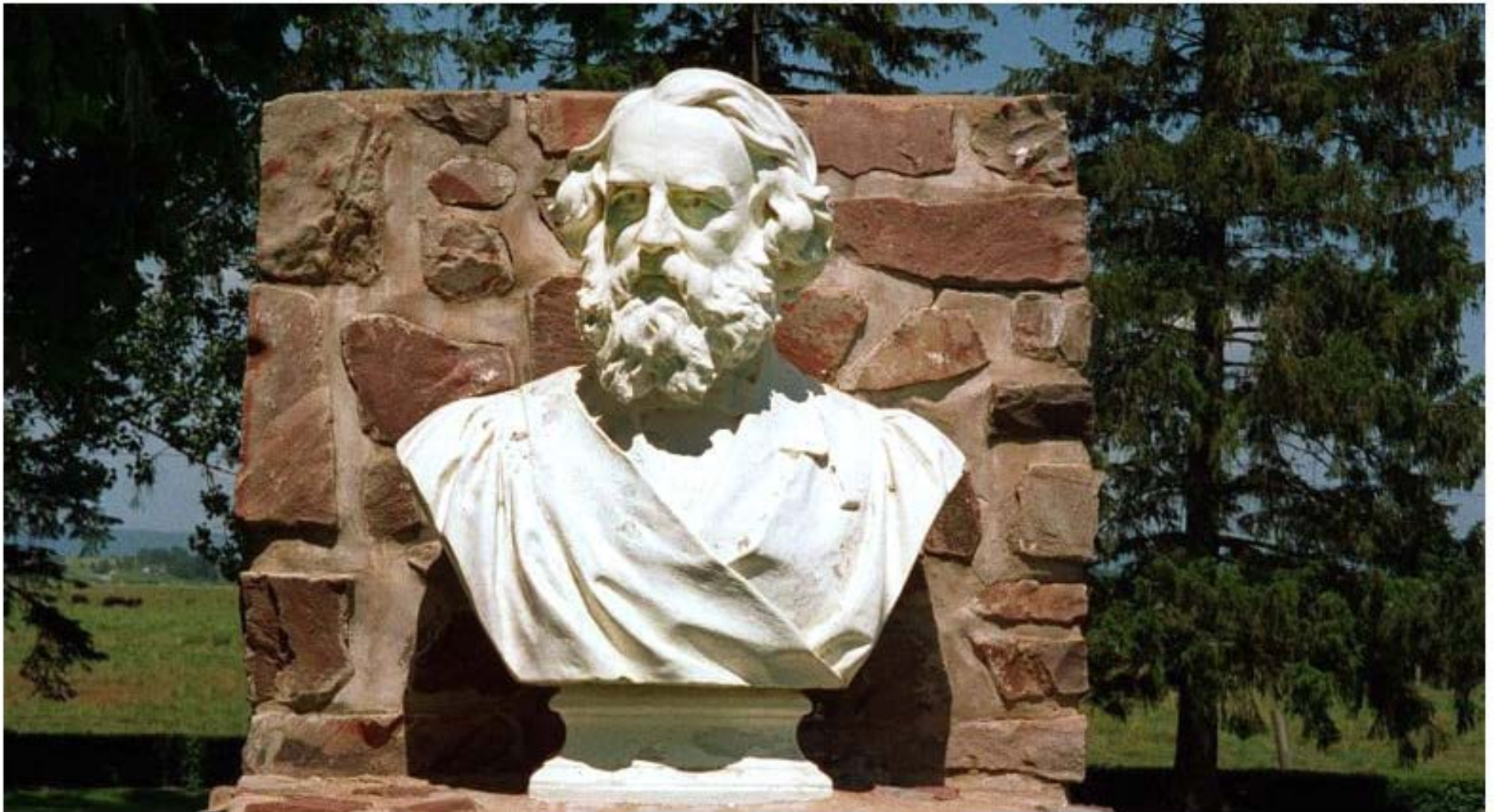
They are 3rd-great-grandparents of the 'Fisher 69'

1845...A son, Medard, is born to Joseph and Osite LeBlanc



**Longfellow and his renowned book
At Grand Pré National Historic Site**

**The story is extremely popular instantly
Book has 6 reprints in first 6 months
It is translated into dozens of languages
Required reading in many American schools**



**For Acadians everywhere, Evangéline's story brought a new sense of pride in their history
They felt Evangéline signified the perseverance of the Acadians
Tourists, especially those of Acadian descent, traveled to Grand Pré
In 1871 steamship and rail travel services opened to facilitate the journey
People were eager to see the world of Evangéline**



Grand Pré Park where the British removed 400 gravestones of Acadians buried from 1687-1755

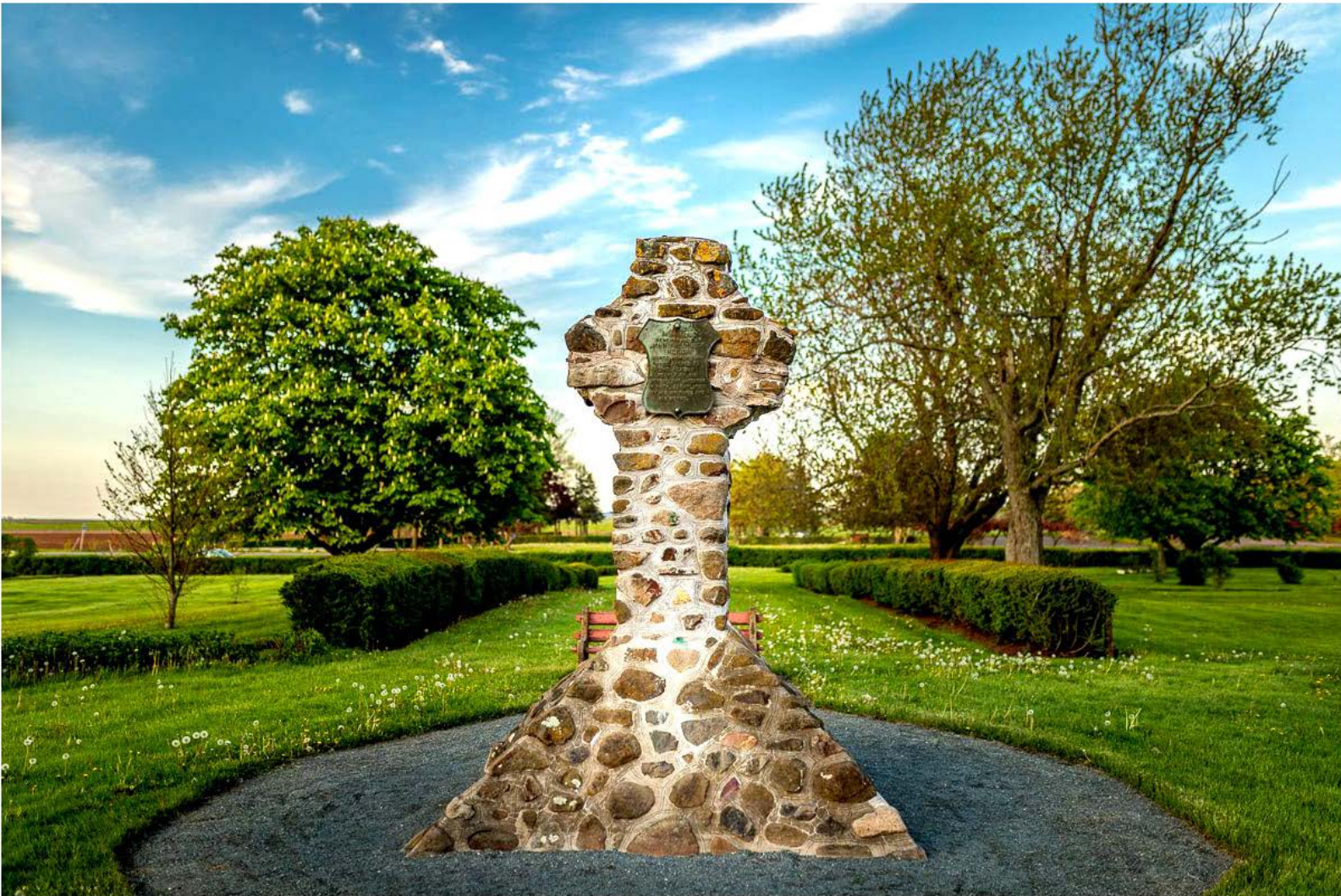
Late 1800's...Excavation crews start finding coffins buried in unmarked graves at a field in Grand Pré

1889...On January 29 Vitaline LeBlanc marries Louis Alphonse Bourassa in L'Acadie, Quebec

Vitaline and Louis are great-grandparents of the 'Fisher 69'. They would have 11 children.

1906...On November 30 daughter Marie Anna is born to Vitaline and Louis Alphonse Bourassa

Marie is the mother of the 'Fisher 14'



Stone Cross in Grand Pré Park, Grand Pré, Nova Scotia, erected in 1909

**1907...Local businessman John Herbin decides to partially right the wrong his ancestors had suffered
He purchased the 14 acre field where St. Charles des Mines church & cemetery stood over 150 years earlier
Herbin creates Grand Pré Park as a memorial to the Acadians who were expelled in The Great Deportation**

1909...Herbin erected Stone Cross in the park using stones from the ruins of Acadian foundations

Stone Cross is built to honor the 400 who were buried at the cemetery

1925...the placque is added in remembrance of John Frederick Herbin who died in 1923

1910...Vitaline and Louis Alphonse Bourassa move their family from St. Jean, Quebec to Winooski, VT



Unveiling of Evangéline statue, Grand Pré Park, July 29, 1920

**Statue depicts Evangéline's perpetual grieving for her lost homeland of Acadie
....and the loss of her beloved Gabriel**

Her voice sad and prophetic....telling the tale of her people



Monument of Evangéline, heroine of Longfellow poem, is unveiled in Grand Pré, 1920

The sculptor of Evangéline was Louis-Philippe Hebert...a Canadian partly of Acadian descent

His teenage daughter Pauline was the model for his project

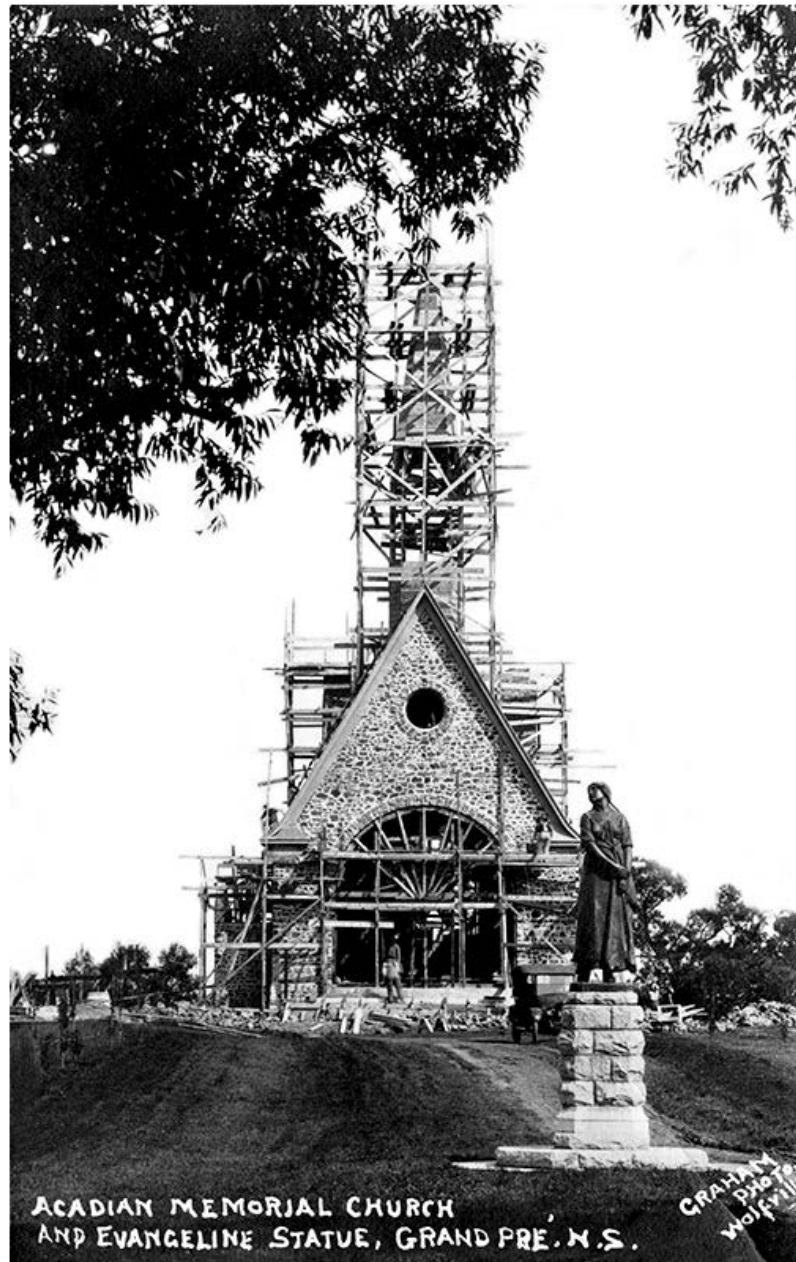
Louis-Philippe died in 1917 and his son Henri completed the work

The bronze statue was poured in France and shipped to Canada

**Louis-Philippe learned sculpting from artist and architect Napoleon Bourassa (1827-1916)
Napoleon is the brother of Vital Bourassa (1822-1915)...great-great-grandfather of 'Fisher 69'**

Napoleon also wrote a book in 1865-1866 about The Great Deportation

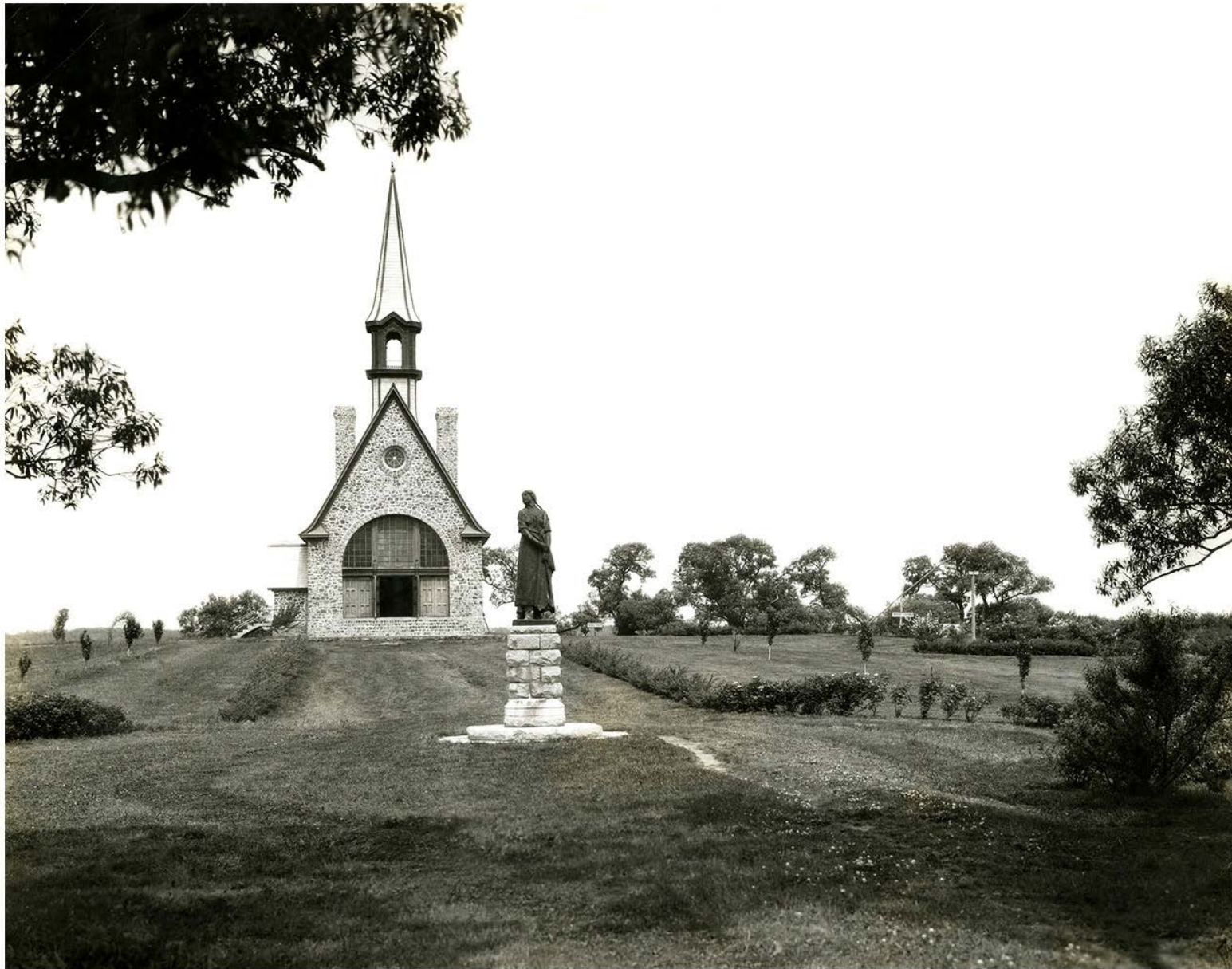
Title, "Souvenir D'un Peuple Disperse"...translation, "Remembrance of a Dispersed People"



ACADIAN MEMORIAL CHURCH
AND EVANGELINE STATUE, GRAND PRÉ, N.S.

GRAHAM
Photo
Wolfville

**Construction of Memorial Church, 1922
Grand Pré Park, Grand Pré, N.S.**
Acadians across North America contribute



Memorial Church in Grand Pré upon completion, early 1920's

**Additions soon to arrive would include Victorian gardens and the Evangéline well
Also, in a couple decades the walls of the church would be ivy-covered for a time**



Stamp issued by Canadian government in 1930

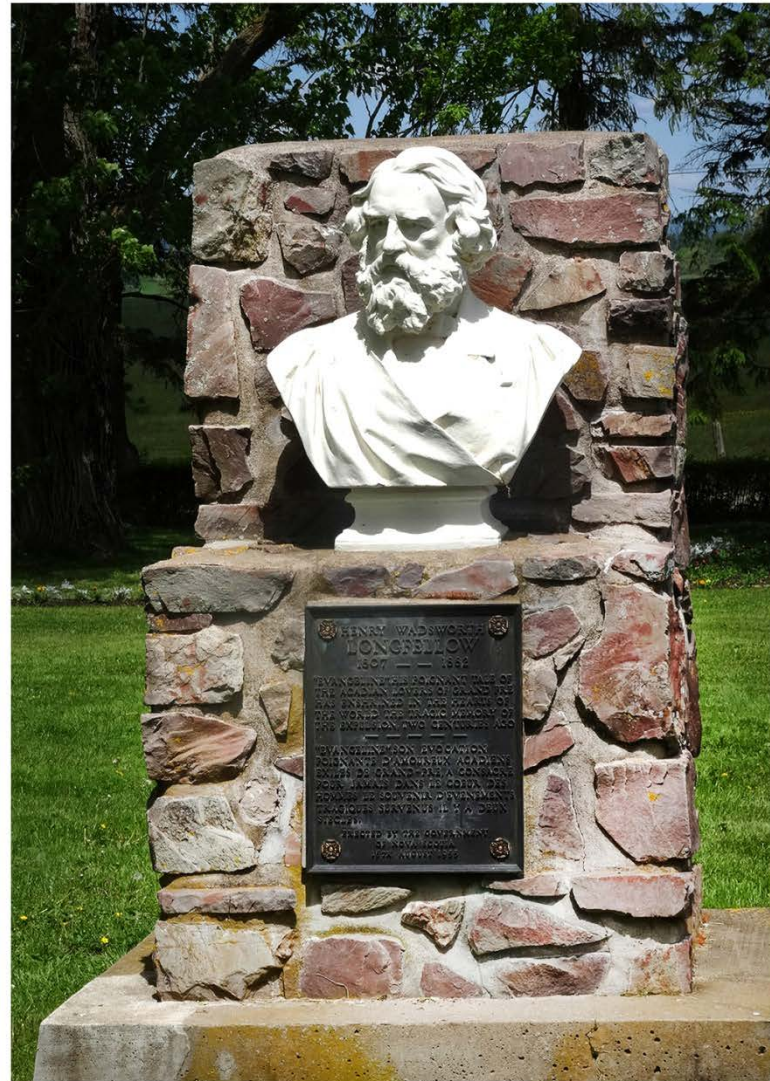
A tribute to Grand Pré Park as it honors those expelled from their homeland



Aerial photo of Grand Pré Park, c.1930's



**A mass underway in Grand Pré Park, 1955
Commemorating the bicentennial of The Great Deportation
Notice that Memorial Church is ivy-covered at this point**



**Bust of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Author of ‘Evangéline: A Tale of Acadie’
Unveiled in August 1955
On bicentennial of The Great Deportation
Plaque reads, “Evangéline, his poignant tale of the
Acadian lovers of Grand Pré, has enshrined in the
hearts of the world the tragic memory of the Expulsion
two centuries ago.”**



**The Canadian government buys Grand Pré Park, 1957
In 1982 the park is designated a National Historic Landmark**



**A family's remembrance of their LeBlanc lineage, Louisiana, 2015
This tribute is to their ancestors who lived over a span of 350 years**

**The gravestones of this family's earliest ancestors were likely destroyed centuries ago in Acadia
However, the family made sure those loved ones weren't forgotten**

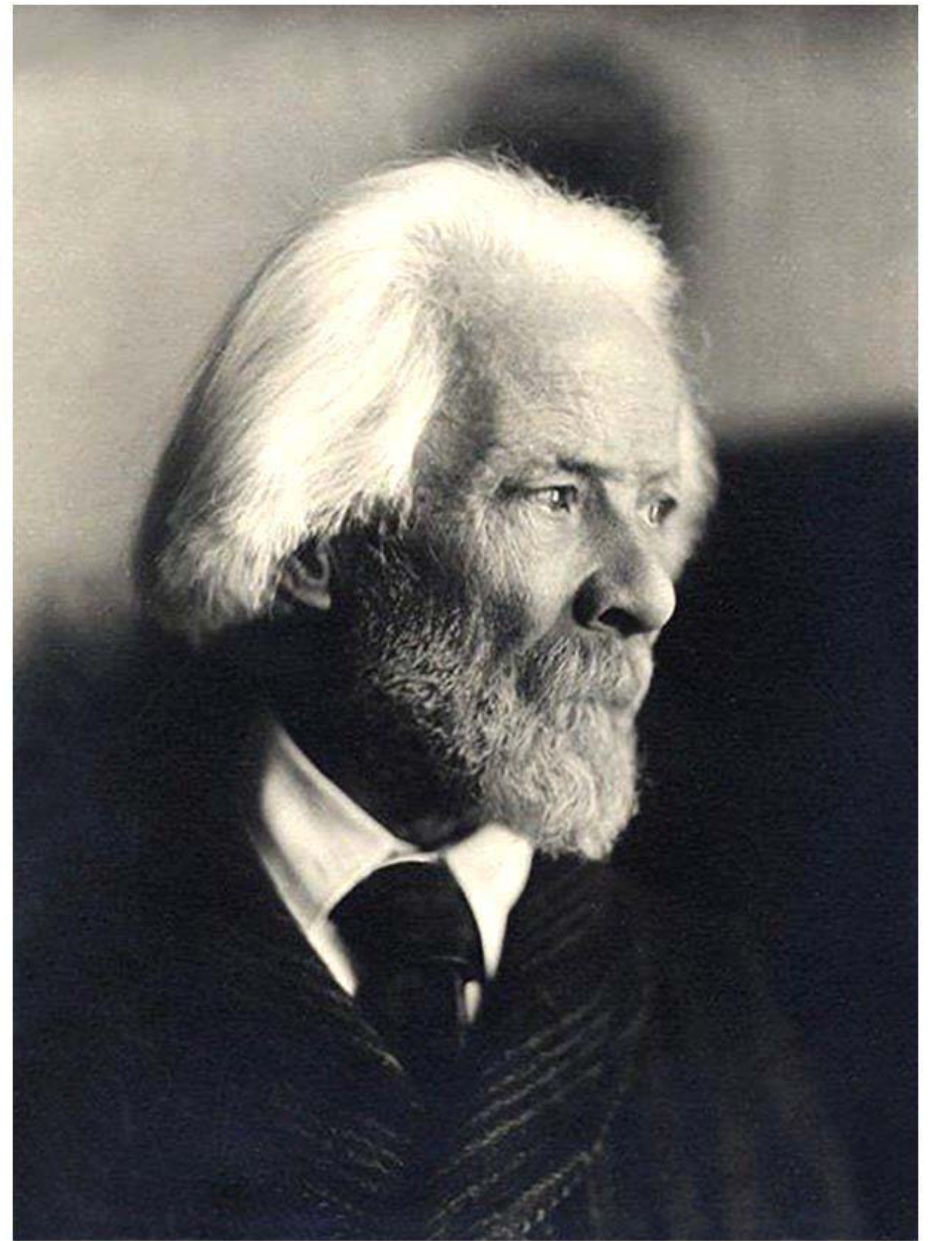
**The members of this family are our distant cousins
On the 4th stone...Daniel and Françoise (Gaudet) LeBlanc
As indicated earlier, they are 7th-great-grandparents of the 'Fisher 69'**



**It's now 2022...100 years since the church was built
Also the year this presentation was created
Jim Canole...initial member of the 'Fisher 69'**



Napoleon Bourassa (1827-1916), photo c.1860
1827...Napoleon born in L'Acadie, Quebec on Oct. 21
Sixth child of Genevieve and Francois Bourassa, Sr.
Great-great-great-uncle of the 'Fisher 69' generation
Prominent architect, painter and writer
This photo is among oldest in our family's collection



27 Aug 1916...Napoleon Bourassa dies in Montreal at age 88
He is called "The Father of Fine Arts in French Canada"
Great-great-great-uncle of the 'Fisher 69' generation