

# Using the AFGS Collection of French-Canadian Marriages - Female INDEX

This collection of French-Canadian Marriages, entitled "Répertoire Alphabétique des Mariages des Canadiens-Français", contains over 1,000,000 marriages alphabetized on the BRIDE surname. The collection is also called the "Female Drouin" or "Black Drouin."

The FEMALE Drouin Index may contain some marriages that were not included in the MALE Index.

Although these marriages might give you a good start on your research, they are secondary sources and should always be checked against a primary source. Primary sources might include, but are not limited to, parish or city hall registers and the Canadian microfilm collection owned by AFGS.

## PAGE INDEX FORMAT

The marriage index lists the Bride and Groom of the FIRST marriage on each PAGE of the French-Canadian Marriage volumes.

**The Bride Index** is listed alphabetically by Bride Last name, then by their First name. The image below represents 5 pages of marriages, listing only the first marriage of each page. It shows that Belanger brides from 'Adelaide' to 'Adeline' will be on the 'Belanger, Adelaide' page.

Bride ( last, first )	Groom ( last, first )
Beland, Olive	Michaud, Henri
Beland, Valerie	Poulin, Hilaire
<b>Belanger, Adelaide</b>	<b>Tondreau, Cyprien</b>
Belanger, Adeline	Boyer, Napoleon
Belanger, Aglaee	Ouellet, Guillaume

There may also be 'Adelaide Belanger' marriages on the previous page (Beland, Valerie), if the husband's surname is alphabetically before 'Tondreau'.

In the above example, the marriage for 'Abbie Belanger' would be on the 'Beland, Valerie' page, because the bride given name 'Abbie' is alphabetically before 'Adelaide'.

**Grooms** are listed alphabetically within the bride's given name, as shown below for the 'Marie Belanger' brides.

Bride ( last, first )	Groom ( last, first )
Belanger, Marie	Boure, Joseph
Belanger, Marie	Dessylva, Louis
<b>Belanger, Marie</b>	<b>Dion, Ignace</b>
Belanger, Marie	Gonthier, Jean
Belanger, Marie	Lacombe, Luc

If you are looking for 'Marie Belanger' that married 'Michel Dion', the marriage would be on the page where 'Dion, Ignace' is the 1st groom, because the groom given name 'Michel' is alphabetically after 'Ignace'.

However, if you look for 'Marie Belanger' that married 'Georges Dion', the marriage would be on the page where 'Dessylva, Louis' is the 1st groom, because the groom given name 'Georges' is alphabetically before 'Ignace'.

There may be the odd chance that the names are out of alphabetical order, as shown below (from MALE index) by the marriage of Julien Fortin and Genevieve Gamache, where 'Gamache' is listed between 'Morin' and 'Navers'. Be sure to check all the brides with the same given name.

fortin julias	morin	m.-adelaide	l'iglet
ignace fr.-thibeault		michel-couillard	17 janv. 1815
m.olie.		deprée m. Joe.	
"	gamache	ganay.	m.-dame qué.
julien-lavie m.			11 nov. 1652
"	navers	m.	obateau richet
jean.-olouier agnès		ja bte-gauvin m. frsn	7 fév. 1736

## HOW TO USE THE INDEX

To begin a new **Search** from anywhere in the index, click the [New Search] button at left.

You may search for a full **Surname**, enter the first few letters of a surname (to account for spelling variations), or select a surname abbreviations from the bottom list. To search for a different surname, just click the [Surname] button at left.

You may also include the first initial of the **Given Name** in the search, or select it from a list of given names once you have selected the surname.

Select any **Marriage** in the top listing to view the page that **BEGINS** with that marriage. The list at the bottom of the page provides shortcuts to Surnames or Given names to help you make a selection.

Record the marriage information you need and make sure to click the [**Citation**] button and copy it for your records.

Don't forget to check both **Part-1** and **Part-2** for the marriage record.

## READING A MARRIAGE RECORD

These volumes typically contain marriages from 1760 to 1935 and in the case of Montreal, the records often go to 1945. Each volume is divided into two sections. The front section covers 1760 to 1879 and the second section covers marriages from 1880 to 1935. These dates are not firm so you should always check both part-1 and part-2 of each volume.

The part-2 of each book contains marriages from New Brunswick that are not date sensitive. The information corresponds to the Moncton Files.

This collection contains many abbreviations for the given names of the bride and groom, as shown in the appendix on page 4.

The marriages are listed alphabetically by the last name of the bride. The first bride is always listed at the top of each new page.

BEDARD-LOUISE				
bédard	louise m.- frs-xav.-sylvain	lehoux m.-lise	hervé jos. bilodeau	st-patrice beauriv. 5 août 1925
bédard	louise marie- jos.-ritcher	marcoux alphonaine	henri walter-bouchard	st-jean des piles 22 juin 1914
bédard	louise m.- etne-bédard	noel elise	jos.-benoit-claude félicien-tessier	st-léonard portneuf 1 sept. 1913

The bride's last name is always capitalized when one surname ends and a new surname begins (as shown by AUBERT below).

aubé	zoé	lamontagne	bénonie	n.d. montreal
	joachim-vandanaigne-d.	godbois	jean-bte-montferrand	hélène 15 nov. 1859
		clémence		
AUBERT- de gaspé.	adélaïde ph.-aubert-allison	de beaujeu susanne	geo.-rené-laurse liénard jac.-phil.-ignace	st-jn-port-joli chausse-20 sept. gros de lery cath. 1832
aubert	adéline frs-dupille	dion henriette	ls-jos.-alfred chs-poitras ang.	st-roch québec 3 août 1863

If there are more than one bride with the same last name and given name, then the grooms are listed alphabetically by their last names. Therefore the marriage of 'Baril, Marie' and 'Gendron, Ferdinand' would be listed before 'Baril, Marie' and 'Hamel, Alpheé'.

baril	marie	gendron	ferdinand	st-pré les becquets
	onésime-carrier	éleonore	frs-xavier-houde	olive 18 oct. 1881
baril	marie	hamel	alphée	warwick
	dosithée-petit	marie	ambroise-meunier	odélie 5 fév. 1883

The Female Drouin Index typically contains the text of each surname and given name. There may be occasion where once a given name is listed under a specific last name, subsequent entries with the same given name may be indicated with double quote marks ("").

The first line of each marriage record lists the bride and groom, in the order shown below.

Surname and given name of bride	Surname and given name of groom	Where the marriage took place
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dumas	louise marie- ls-power m.-lse	ouellet	jos. pre-pelletier m.-modeste	ste-anne de la p. 8 fév. 1825
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In the example above the bride is 'Marie-Louise Dumas', the groom is 'Joseph Ouellet' and the place is 'Ste. Anne de la Parade'.

The second line of each marriage lists the parents of the bride and groom, and the date of marriage, in the following order:

Given name of bride's father followed by a dash	Maiden name & given name of bride's mother	Given name of groom's father followed by a dash	Maiden name & given name of groom's mother	Date of marriage
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In the above example, 'Louise Dumas' parents are 'Louis Dumas' and 'Marie-Louise Power', the groom's parents are 'Pierre Ouellet' and 'Marie-Modeste Pelletier', and the marriage took place on '8 Feb 1825'.

In some cases, multiple dashes may look confusing in a name, so just use common sense. Below, the bride's Father is 'Jean-Baptiste Demers'. The bride's Mother is 'Marie-Genevieve Demers-Dumay', since 'Baptiste' is obviously not a surname, but 'Demers' is.

demers- dumay	louise marie- jean-bte-demers-dumay m.-genevieve	mailhot- michel jos.-hamel	st-pre les becquets 14 oct. 1799
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If a bride or groom married more than once, the marriage record may list their previous spouse instead of their parents, as shown:

dumas	louise marie- vve forget-despatis	ménard jos.	ls vf lefort-benoit	montréal marg.10 sept. 1832
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The example above shows that both the bride and groom were previously married by the terms 'vve' (widow) and 'vf' (widower):

1. 'Marie-Louise Dumas' was previously married to 'Joseph Forget-Despatis'.
2. 'Louis Menard' was previously married to 'Marguerite Lefort-Benoit'.

To determine the parents of either the bride or the groom, you need to locate their first marriage.

Once you have recorded the information for a marriage and have sited the data source, you can continue to the next marriage for the bride's parents or the groom's parents.

Sometimes you will see name variations or dit names listed in the column that contains the surnames. There are a few examples of this in the five entries shown below.

AUDET				
odet	pélagie laurent-coulombe	bauché marg.	jean-bte basile-destroismaisons frse	st-frs riv. sud 6 oct. 1801
audet	perpétue abraham-quéret	fortin marie	joseph jean-audet charl.	lambton 22 aout 1854
audet- d.lapointe	perpétue vve fortier jos.	lachaine	pierre vf carrier rosalie	st-évariste forsyth 26 mai 1891
audette	phébé aug.-samosette	berthiaume isabelle	françois vf cyre isabelle	st-valentin 5 aout 1834

- 1 'AUDET' begins a new surname (capital letters in the page heading), which is the commonly accepted spelling in the Index.
2. "Odet, Pelagie" used the surname variation 'Odet' instead of 'Audet'.
3. 'Audet, Perpetue' used the commonly accepted spelling of the surname.
4. 'Audet dit Lapointe, Perpetue' included the 'dit' name of 'Lapointe'.
6. 'Audette, Phebe' used the surname variation 'Audette' instead of 'Audet'.

In **Part-2** of each book you may see numbers listed below the surname, as shown below (#s 398 and 1025). These numbers correspond to the Canadian Microfilm Number of the original record that you can obtain at AFGS.

béland 398	rose-de-lima hilaire-perron	messier parméla	georges ls-provençal rosanna	st-jude 10 aout 1926
béland	rose-de-lima jos.-moras	louise ouellet	thomas ths-ouellet mélanie	st-augustin 21 juil. 1891
béland 1025	rosalie michel-coté	genev. royer	pre clément-pepin elis.	st-chs bellech. 6 nov. 1860

The French-Canadian Marriages use various symbols and syntax within the records as shown below:

Example	Indication
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Abbreviations (like 'jos.')	Names are often abbreviated as described in the Appendix on the last page.
Ampersand (&)	An unspecified 'dit name' or name variation was used by the bride and/or her father.
Underlined text	Questionable spelling.
'8' within text	Native American text or a sound that is not easily translated to French.
Hand written text	To be an official change to a printed record, it must include a name followed by numbers that refer to the person who made the entry, and the date on which the information was entered.

If the information is in this collection of marriages, you can view and copy the original record on the AFGS microfilm. In that way you can see for yourself what is contained in the original record.

If you are unable to visit the AFGS library in person, you can request AFGS to provide the original record to you, by selecting "Microfilm Request" from the "Services" menu option on the Online Library.

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### APPENDIX

#### Common Given Name Abbreviations utilized in the Canadian Marriage Collection

Abbreviation	Full Name	Gender
a.	Anne	F
ab.	Abraham	M
ad.	Adelaide	F
ag.	Agathe	F
alex.	Alexandre	M
alf.	Alfred	M
alph.	Alphonsine	F
alph.	Alphonse	M
am.	Amanda	F
ang.	Angelique	F
ant.	Antoinette	F
ant.	Antoine	M
arch.	Archange	F
arth.	Arthemise	F
aug.	Augustin	M
barth.	Barthelemy	M
ben. or benj.	Benjamin	M
bern.	Bernadette	F
car.	Caroline	F
cath.	Catherine	F
cel.	Celanire	F
charl. or chart.	Charlotte	F
chs. or ch.	Charles	M
christ.	Christophe	M
cun.	Cunegonde	F
dom.	Domithilde	F
dom.	Dominique	M
ed. or edo.	Edouard	M
elis. or elisa.	Elisabeth	F
eliz. or eliza.	Elizabeth	F
et.	Ethiennette	F
et.	Etiennette	F
et. or etne.	Etienne	M
eug.	Eugenie	F
eug.	Eugene	M

Abbreviation	Full Name	Gender
fel.	Felicite	F
ferd.	Ferdinand	M
fred.	Frederic	M
frs. or fr.	Francois	M
frse.	Francoise	F
fr-xav. or fr-x.	Francois Xavier	M
gab.	Gabrielle	F
gab.	Gabriel	M
gen.	Genevieve	F
geo.	Georgiana	F
geo.	Georges	M
germ.	Germaine	F
gert.	Gertrude	F
greg.	Gregoire	M
gull.	Guillaume	M
hel.	Helene	F
henr.	Henriette	F
hermen.	Hermengilde	M
hyac.	Hyacinthe	M
ir.	Irenee	M
isa.	Isabelle	F
j. or jos.	Josephte	F
jacq.	Jacques	M
jacq. or jq.	Jacqueline	F
jacq. or jq.	Jacquette	F
jn.	Jean	M
jn-bte. or jn-bts.	Jean-Baptiste	M
jne.	Jeanne	F
jn-pierre or jn-pre	Jean Pierre	M
jos. or j.	Josephte	F
jos. or j.	Joseph	M
laur.	Laurent	M
leoc.	Leocadie	F
ls.	Louis	M
lse.	Louise	F

Abbreviation	Full Name	Gender
magl.	Magloire	M
marc.	Marceline	F
marg.	Marguerite	F
math.	Mathurine	F
math.	Mathilde	F
nap.	Napoleon	M
narc. or nar.	Narcisse	M
naz.	Nazaire	M
nic.	Nicole	F
nic.	Nicolas	M
oct.	Octavie	F
oct.	Octave	M
oliv.	Olivine	F
oliv.	Olivier	M
ones.	Onesime	M
ph.	Phillppe	M
phil.	Philomene	F
pr.	Pierre	M
pre.	Pierre	M
r.	Rose	F
r.a.	Rose Anna	F
r.d.l.	Rose-de-lima	F
rad.	Radegonde	F
sch. or schol.	Scholastique	F
scholast.	Scholastique	F
ser.	Seraphin	M
sus.	Susanne	F
suz.	Suzanne	F
ther.	Therese	F
ths.	Thomas	M
tous.	Toussaint	M
urs.	Ursule	F
ver. or veron.	Veronique	F
wm. or will.	William	M
x. or xav.	Xavier	M

euph.	Euphrosine	F
eust.	Eustache	M
evan. or evag.	Évangeliste	M

m.	Marie	F
mad.	Madeleine	F
mag. or magd.	Magdeleine	F

zeph.	Zephirin	M
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