

**Emma Yvonne Fournier and Anne Fournier Deschaine collection, 1991-1992**

**MCC-00270**

**Finding Aid**

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Revised by Anne Chamberland, July 2009  
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes  
University of Maine at Fort Kent  
Fort Kent, Maine**

**Title:** Emma Yvonne Fournier and Anne Fournier Deschaine collection

**Creator/Collector:** Fournier, Emma Yvonne; Deschaine, Anne Fournier

**Collection number:** MCC-00270

**Shelf list number:** AA-270, AJ-270, UM-270

**Dates:** 1991-1992

**Extent:** 1 folder, 1 audio cassette (.10 cubic feet)

**Provenance:** Material was acquired from Emma Yvonne Fournier and Anne Fournier Deschaine, 1992, 1993.

**Language:** French and English.

**Conservation notes:** None.

**Access restrictions:** No restrictions on access.

**Physical restrictions:** None.

**Technical restrictions:** An audio cassette player is required to access a portion of this collection.

**Copyright:** Copyright has not been assigned to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes

**Citation:** Emma Yvonne Fournier and Anne Fournier Deschaine collection, MCC-00270, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent

**Separated materials:** None.

**Related materials:** Not applicable.

**Location of originals:** Not applicable.

**Location of copies:** Not applicable.

**Published in:** Not applicable.

***Biographical information:***

**Anne Fournier Deschaine** was born 7 August 1929 in St-Basile, New Brunswick. She is the daughter of Aimé Fournier and Olive Clavette. Her father was a lumberjack for the Fraser company for many years.

Anne married Réginald Deschaine in 1950 and had 6 children. Anne has made a career with her special talent as an organist. For 24 years she played at Sunday services and other events for the church in St. David, Maine and played for 16 years at the church in Madawaska. She is now retired and living in Madawaska where she enjoys reading and playing the piano everyday for her enjoyment.

Anne mentioned that the song they recorded “Le premier clocher” came about when the parish was celebrating the bicentennial and a competition was on for finding a song to commemorate this special event. They didn’t win the competition but they thought that the words to the song were so meaningful and expressive that Anne decided to put music to the words and got the Saint-Basile Choir to perform the song. They (Anne and her sister Emma Yvonne) eventually brought a copy of their recording to the Archives.

**Emma Yvonne Fournier** is Anne Fournier Deschaine’s sister. Emma Yvonne was born 8 July 1922 in Saint-Basile, New Brunswick and is the daughter of Aimé Fournier and Olive Clavette. Emma Yvonne has a Bachelor degree in Education and taught for 14 years as her third career.

***Scope and content:***

This collection consists of materials pertaining to "Le Premier Clocher" ("The First Steeple"), a commemorative hymn written for Saint-Basile parish's bicentennial celebrations in 1992. Emma Yvonne Fournier wrote the lyrics, while Anne F. Deschaine wrote the music. Included are photocopies of sheet music for "Le Premier Clocher" in the following variations: solo melody and piano accompaniment and lyrics in French; four-part chorale arrangement and lyrics in French; music and lyrics in French; and an English translation with music and lyrics. An audio cassette recorded at Studio Madouess in Iroquois, NB on April 6, 1992, containing the song is included. The performers are Michèle Lévesque, Diane Albert, sopranos; Camille Roy, Gilles Lévesque, Richard Albert, tenors; Adrienne Roy, Marielle Levesque, altos; and Conrad Soucy and Arthur Cyr, bass. Also contained in the collection are a poem, "Saint-Basile," written by Emma Yvonne Fournier about "Le Premier Clocher" in 1992, in both manuscript and typescript forms; a program from the March 19, 1992 Feast of St. Joseph mass celebration at St. Joseph convent in Saint-Basile, New Brunswick; and a program from the July 5, 1992 bicentennial mass celebration in Saint-Basile.

***Description:*** The song “Le premier clocher” describes why our ancestors came to settle in the Madawaska region and why they decided to build a church.

***Inventory:***

Folder 1:

- Item 1: "Le Premier Clocher," French lyrics and melody.
- Items 2-3: "Le Premier Clocher," English translation and melody (2 copies).
- Item 4: "Le Premier Clocher," solo melody and piano accompaniment.
- Item 5: "Le Premier Clocher," four-part chorale arrangement and piano accompaniment.
- Item 6: "Saint-Basile." Poem by Emma Yvonne Fournier, Saint-Basile de Madawaska. November 1992. Manuscript.
- Item 7: "Saint-Basile." Poem by Emma Yvonne Fournier, Saint-Basile de Madawaska. November 1992. Typescript.
- Item 8: Program. "Le Premier Clocher." Premiere presentation, "Fête Saint Joseph, 1992 à la chapelle de l'hôtel-dieu."
- Item 9: Program. "200 ans de foi, c'est la fête!" Bicentennial mass, Saint-Basile, July 5, 1992.
- Item 10: Audio cassette, "Le Premier Clocher." Recorded at Studio Madouess, Iroquois, NB. April 6, 1992.

***Order and arrangement:*** The content of the audiocassette was transferred on a gold archival compact disc for preservation with label number MCC-00270 AJ-270 and placed in our collection room.

A copy of the audiocassette was made on a white label compact disc (with permission from the Fournier sisters) for patron use located in the stack section of the Archives with label number ACADIAN A-V CDisc F778pr.