

**Cyr Plantation Historical Society digital image collection
(A project of the Maine Acadian Heritage Council)**

MCC-00454

Finding Aid

**Prepared by
Anne Chamberland and Lila Albert
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine**

Title: Cyr Plantation Historical Society digital image collection

Creator/Collector: Frances LeVasseur

Collection number: MCC-00454

Digital collection

Dates: 1929-1970

Extent: 1 album (0.5 cubic feet)

Provenance: Material was acquired from Frances LeVasseur of the Cyr Plantation Hist. Soc.

Language: English

Conservation notes: None.

Access restrictions: No restrictions on access.

Physical restrictions: None.

Technical restrictions: A visit to the Acadian Archives at UMFK is recommended to access the digital files.

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: Cyr Plantation Historical Society digital image collection, MCC-00454, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent

Separated materials: Not applicable.

Related materials: Not applicable

Location of originals: Not applicable.

Location of copies: Not applicable.

Published in: Not applicable.

Biographical information: Frances A. LeVasseur, daughter of Isidore and Mattie Madore Dumond, was born in Cyr Plantation on August 3, 1930. She attended grammar school in the one-room schoolhouse located near Leon Rossignol's homestead. She graduated from Sacred Heart High School in June 1948. She married Alphy L. LeVasseur, son of Benjamin and Alma Bouchard. Her enthusiasm for the preservation of the valleys' history, culture, and genealogy was enhanced when it was discovered that 1970 marked Cyr Plantation's Centennial. With

friends and neighbors, the little Red School House on US 1 was converted to Cyr Plantation Centennial Headquarters. Artifacts, pictures, and tools were collected and displayed for tourists to visit. Many of Fran's photos are currently displayed in the little Red Schoolhouse.

She was president of a newly formed organization, L'Heritage Vivant – Our Living Heritage which is the Acadian Village today. All the events that went on are compiled on video-photo albums, *Cyr Plantation, 1870-1970: photography by Fran*.

Fran moved to Old Town in 1991 but her heart remained with the people and the culture of the St. John Valley. She continued to initiate the importance of heritage preservation through enlarged laminated photos depicting past events. Her latest endeavors were a two-volume set filled with Bangor Daily News articles of when she was a news correspondent titled *La P'tite Bangor 1971-1973*.

Frances LeVasseur died on October 3, 2000 in Lewiston, Maine.

Historical information: Governor Brann Schoolhouse is located one mile south of Van Buren, Maine. Built in 1934 and named for then-governor Louis J. Brann, the building has been restored to its original condition (except for a modern furnace) with the original paint scheme, hard wood floors, and a "two holer." The school closed in the 1950s. The Town of Cyr Plantation (population 117) now uses the building for a polling station and for their annual town meetings. Cyr Plantation, named after the numerous Cyr's who lived in the vicinity, was organized as a plantation in 1870. In 1879, the settlement was principally on the stagecoach-line from Caribou to Van Buren (Maine), known as Caribou Road. Throughout the century, there were people living on rear lots of the Cyr Plantation. At one time, two sawmills and a starch factory were in operation. Today Cyr Plantation is a full township with an area of approximately 6.5 square miles. The township with its reddish soil, yields good crops of wheat, oats, buckwheat, and its famous potatoes!¹

Scope and content: This collection consists of 71 black and white and color photographs depicting the people, their culture, the buildings, and farms of the Cyr Plantation from 1929 to 1970. This is a digital image collection and a project through the Maine Acadian Heritage Council.

Inventory:

ALBUM 1

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Photo 1 | "Le Chemin de Ste. Marie" B&W Photo – no date 18 x 13 cm |
| Photo 2 | "The Little Red School House" B&W Photo – 1970 17.5 x 12.5 cm |
| Photo 3 | Girl by wood stove and yarn spinning wheel "Levasseur Photo, filed 1970" B&W Photo – 1970 17.5 x 12.5 cm |
| Photo 4 | Three men at table "1970 Selectmen Cyr Plt." B&W Photo – 1970 17.5 x 12.5 cm |
| Photo 5 | Two women at table, group in background "1970 Board members Fran. L & Mar. L" B&W Photo – 1970 17.5 x 12.5 cm |

¹ <https://www.nps.gov/maac/planyourvisit/brannschool.htm>

- Photo 6 Group of women at table; list “Left to right, sitting – Mrs. ? Parent, Mrs. Carl Richard, wife of a liquor inspector from Fort Fairfield, Maine, Mrs. Gilbert LeBrun ‘Anita’, hostess for a tea ? for Mrs. Sumner Sewall, wife of Governor Sumner Sewall, Mrs. Harry McMarcus ‘Amatte’, Mrs. Angelo Morneault, Mrs. William J Cyr, Mrs. Don Violette ‘Jane’, Mrs. Albert, Dr. Albert’s wife; left to right, standing – Mrs. Cecile LeBrun Jr, Mrs. Clifford Gagnon ‘Cecile’, Mrs. John Cyr ‘Anna’, Mrs. Abel Martin, Mrs. Camille Michaud, Mrs. Parent, Dr. Parent’s wife, Mrs. David Martin, Mrs. Richards, Dr. Richards wife, Mrs. Tess Guild, Mrs. Clifford Plourde ‘Janet’, Mrs. Wilfred Sirois” B&W Photo – no date 25.5 x 15.5 cm
- Photo 7 “Guy Ouellette’s Farm” B&W Photo – no date 25.5 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 8 Piglets nursing “Guy Ouellette’s pigs” B&W Photo – no date 20.25 x 25.5 cm
- Photo 9 Man and boy on tractor “Guy & Nathan ‘son’ Ouellette Farming” B&W Photo – no date 25.5 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 10 Cows in a field “Guy Ouellette’s Cattle” B&W Photo – no date 20.25 x 25.5 cm
- Photo 11 “1970 Centennial Wedding Couple, Mr. O’Neil and Jacqueline LaPlante LeClerc” “Levasseur Photo” B&W Photo – 1970 20 x 25 cm
- Photo 12 Class photo “School #1 Dans la cote chez Pierre Parent; In the ? of Pierre Parent” “Rosaire Vaillancourt, Gordon Lajoie, Nestor V, Vinal V, Herby V, Donald Cyr, Hermel V, Nathan Cyr, Norman D Ouellette, Vernon Cyr, Gerard V, Wilbur Cyr... C ...C” B&W Photo – no date 25 x 19 cm
- Photo 13 Class photo “School #2 1929-30” “Lilly C, Marquerite L, Jeanne D, Claire D, Percy C, Lorette C, Agathe C, Louis D, Gerard L, Germaine D, Rita C, Artheline O, Ulric L, Fidele C, Robert O, Aristide L, Yvonne O, Martin O, & Leda Pelletier, Teacher” B&W Photo – 1929-30 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 14 Class photo “School #3 1930: Reno Roy, Don L Aurel, Addis L, Joseph L, Marius L, Morin, Agathe O, Mrs. Gertrude T Cyr, teacher, Ludwina D, Geraldine L, Leo Morin” B&W Photo – 1930 20.25 x 25 cm
- Photo 15 Class photo “School #4 1942 ?” “Students are from the families, Onezime Ouellette, Hilaire Duplessis, Neil & Albert LaPointe, Benjamin Duplessis, Omer Dumont and Bruno Gagnon’s. 22 children on picture.” B&W Photo – 1942 20.25 x 25 cm
- Photo 16 Class photo “School #4 1940s” “Roger Gagnon, Leo James Soucy, Ann Ouellette, Cleo LaPointe, Gerard Dumond, ? Martin, Henry & Armand Dumont, Angelo Duplessis, Cesaire Duplessis, ? Martin, Adrienne & Albert Gagnon, Pauline Dumont, Conrad Ouellette, Claude Dumont, Lorette Duplesis, Richard Duplissis, Claire Gagnon, Percy Ouellette, Aurore Gagnon, Geraldine Dumont, Anita Deplessis, Agathe Gagnon, Hedwidge Gagnon. 26 students.” B&W Photo – 1940s 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 17 Class photo “School #5 1943-44” “Virginia Rossignol, Percy Rossignol, Eugene Rossignol, Donald Dumond, Philip Rossignol, Stacy Dumond, Leo James ‘Joe’ Dumond, Verna Dumond, Jacqueline Dumond, Frances Dumond” B&W Photo – 1943-44 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 18 Class photo “Deveau, Ouellette, Madore, Desjardins, Cormier 1940” “Aurel D, Rodney M, Russel O, Jason M, Jacqueline O, Joan O, Ernie C, Conde D, Albert D, Victor C, Carlene O, Rachel O, Lorraine O, Christine O, Gerald O, Raymond O,

- Harold O, Donald D, Violet O, Velma M, Norman PO, Beatrice & Muriel D,
Teacher was Florence Fongemie” B&W Photo – 1940 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 19 Children in classroom B&W Photo – no date 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 20 Children and teacher outside Gov. Brann School (est. 1934) B&W Photo – no date
25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 21 Women and children with horse-drawn wagon B&W Photo – no date 25 x 20.25
cm
- Photo 22 Group at the Little Red School House “1970 Centennial Gathering Before
Attending Centennial Mass at St. Bruno’s” B&W Photo – 1970 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 23 Woman in Acadian style clothing spinning yarn “Les travaux du bon vieux
temps...! Dit Lucie L.” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 24 Woman in Acadian style clothing spinning yarn “Lucie LaPlante 1970” B&W
Photo – 1970 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 25 Two women in Acadian style clothing doing laundry “Levasseur Photo 1970”
B&W Photo – 1970 25 x 20 cm
- Photo 26 Centennial display room “Levasseur Photo 1970” B&W Photo – 1970 25 x 20.25
- Photo 27 Women in Acadian style clothing “Bienvenue au Centenaire de Cyr Plantation!”
“Simonne Vaillancourt, Lucie LaPlante, Marcella Lajoie, Pauline Ouellette, Leda
Lajoie, Anita Deveau and Frances Levasseur, Chairperson” “Levasseur Photo
1970” B&W Photo – 1970 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 28 Centennial display room “Levasseur Photo 1970” B&W Photo – 1970 25 x 20.25
cm
- Photo 29 Women in Acadian style clothing with kitchen items “Levasseur Photo 1970”
B&W Photo – 1970 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 30 Centennial display room “Levasseur Photo 1970” B&W Photo – 1970 25.5 x
20.25 cm
- Photo 31 Two women in Acadian style clothing holding “Centennial Baby” banner over
mother and infant “Gisele Lajoie, Bebe Centenaire.” “Mrs. Norman (Maxine
Ouellette) Lajoie, mother, Lucie LaPlante & Frances Levasseur, Centennial
Officers” “Levasseur Photo 1970” B&W Photo – 1970 25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 32 Group serving themselves food “Bean Hole Supper, Opening of the Centennial.
Held at the Deveau’s Farm Yard.” “1970 Levasseur Photo” B&W Photo – 1970
25.5 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 33 Man at desk “1970 Alicide LaPiere” B&W Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 34 Five women in Acadian style clothing “1970 Cyr Plt. Cent.” B&W Photo – 1970
20.25 x 25.25 cm
- Photo 35 Group photo, two women in Acadian style clothing “1970” “Pendant que les
Enfants s’amuse...” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 36 Centennial display room “1970 Cyr Plt. Cent.” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25
cm
- Photo 37 Group touring Centennial display room “1970 Cyr Plt. Cent.” Color Photo – 1970
25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 38 Two women in Acadian style clothing at yarn spinning wheel and woodstove
“1970 France, Simone & Lucie” “Le fille es s’aire amantie” “What Ole Time was
all About: Simmone V, Frances D, & Lucie LaPlante, aux travaux de bon vieux
temps...” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm

- Photo 39 Women and girls doing laundry “1970” “On Travaille Toutes Ensemble...! We all Work Together...” “Lynn Vaillancourt, Linda Lajoie, Jennie Levasseur, Lisa Vaillancourt, Susan Vaillancourt, Michelle LaPlante et Lucie LaPlante” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 40 Group of boys playing with Centennial display pieces “1970 Cyr Plt.” “Ralph Gagnon, Patrick Vaillancourt, Tim Ouellette, Clement and Daniel Deveau, David LaPlante, Steve Madore, Philip Lajoie” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 41 Children on pony-ride “1970” “‘We’re enjoying ourselves...’ says Patricia, Patrick and Cathy Dumond” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 42 Children on pony-ride “1970 Cyr Plt. Cent.” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 43 Women in Acadian style clothing holding blanket and water jug Color Photo – 1970 25.5 x 20.5 cm
- Photo 44 Woman in Acadian style clothing, children on pony-ride “1970” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 45 Performers singing, playing instruments “1970” “La Chancon du Centenaire de Cyr Plantation par: Lucie LaPlante, Frances Levasseur and Tina Lagasse” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 46 Band playing instruments on stage “1970” “La Musique du bon Vieux Temps ... A la Barn Dance...” “Mrs. Eglantine Lagasse, Paul Emile Martin, Armand Michaud and Harold Webber” Color Photo – 1970 25.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 47 Cyr Plantation Color Photo – no date 25.5 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 48 Women on truck “Picture taken in 1976. Bicent. Parade” “Aunt Cecile & Mrs. Parent, teachers” Color Photo – 1976 30.5 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 49 Two women and two girls in horse-drawn wagon in front of the Little Red School House B&W Photo – 1970 30 x 20 cm
- Photo 50 Man and woman in horse-drawn wagon B&W Photo – 1970 30 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 51 Snowbanks, school building in background “School #1 Cyr Plt. by Vaillancourt & Cyr” B&W Photo – no date 30 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 52 Group of women in Acadian style clothing in front of the Little Red School House “Cyr Plt. Cent.” Color Photo – 1970 20.25 x 20.25 cm
- Photo 53 Cyr Plantation “Belonie Michaud” B&W Photo – no date 15.5 x 25 cm
- Photo 54 Class Photo “School #1 ... 1940s” “Roger Gagnon, Leo James Soucy, Ann Ouellette, Cleo Lapointe, Gerard Umont, Angelo Duplisis, Cesaire Dueplexis, ? Martin, Adrienne & Albert Gagnon, Pauline Dumont, Conrad Ouellette, Claude Dumont, Lorette Duplexis, Richard Duplexis, Claire Gagnon, Percy Ouellette, Aurore Gagnon, Geraldine Dumont, Annette Ouellette, Anita Duplexis, Agathe & Hedwidge Gagnon, Mrs. Grace Lapointe, teacher” B&W Photo – 1940s 35.5 x 28 cm
- Photo 55 “Cyr Plantation School #1” “Dans la Cote Chez Pierre Parent...” B&W Photo – no date 35.5 x 28 cm
- Photo 56 Frances Levasseur Color Photo – no date 15 x 20.5 cm
- Photo 57 Man standing by bus Color Photo – no date 18 x 12.5 cm
- Photo 58 Frances Levasseur biography Color Photo – no date 40 x 27 cm
- Photo 59 Seven photos, Cyr Plt. Centennial celebration Barn Dance – 1970 28 x 43 cm; L to R, photo 1 – Chuck Wagon Color Photo 12.25 x 8.75 cm; photo 2 – man and

- woman dancing Color Photo 12 x 8.75 cm; photo 3 – priest and woman dancing Color Photo 11.5 x 7.5 cm; photo 4 – people on dance floor B&W Photo 11.5 x 7.5 cm; photo 5 – five women in Acadian style clothing B&W Photo 7.5 x 11.25 cm; photo 6 – man and woman sitting B&W Photo 11.25 x 7.5 cm; photo 7 – group at Chuck Wagon B&W Photo 11.25 x 7.5 cm
- Photo 60 Eight photos, Cyr Plt. Centennial celebration Barn Dance – 1970 28 x 43 cm; L to R, photo 1 – women cooking “Mary, Simonne & Omerine, our barn dance cooks” B&W Photo 11.5 x 8.25 cm; photo 2 – women in Acadian style clothing cooking “Mary & Lucie faithfully at work...” B&W Photo 11.5 x 8.5 cm; photo 3 – Chuck Wagon B&W Photo 11.5 x 7.5 cm; photo 4 – group talking “Welcome to Our Barn Dance...” B&W Photo 12.5 x 9 cm; photo 5 – band playing instruments on stage “Tina Lagasse, Bertrand St. Pierre, Paul Emile Martin, Armand Michaud & Harold Webber” Color Photo 17.5 x 13 cm; photo 6 – “Stacy, Doris T Frances, Ernest C & Lucile L” Color Photo 7.5 x 12 cm; photo 7 – couples dancing Color Photo 11.5 x 7.5 cm; photo 8 – group photo “Entertainers...” B&W Photo 11.5 x 8 cm
- Photo 61 Nine photos, Cyr Plt. Centennial celebration Barn Dance – 1970 28 x 43 cm; L to R, photo 1 – sign “Cyr Plantation Centennial 1870-1970 Barn Dance, Saturday, August 15, 1970 at Don Dumond’s Farm, time: 8pm to 1am, Donations: \$1.00 Door Prizes” B&W Photo 9 x 5.5 cm; photo 2 – barn exterior Color Photo 12 x 8.5 cm; photo 3 – people dancing B&W photo 11.5 x 7.5 cm; photo 4 – people dancing B&W photo 11.25 x 7.5 cm; photo 5 – man and woman B&W Photo 7.5 x 11.5 cm; photo 6 – couples dancing B&W Photo 7.5 x 11.5 cm; photo 7 – mallet game B&W Photo 7.5 x 11.5 cm; photo 8 – people dancing B&W Photo 11.5 x 7.5 cm; photo 9 – Chuck Wagon B&W Photo 11.5 x 7.5 cm
- Photo 62 Six photos, Cyr Plt. Centennial celebration “Senior” B&W Photos - 1970 28 x 43 cm; L to R, photo 1 – senior citizens getting off bus 8.25 x 6.5 cm; photo 2 – senior citizens at the Little Red School House 8 x 6.5 cm; photo 3 – senior citizens in Centennial display room 11.5 x 7.5 cm; photo 4 – senior citizens in Centennial display room 12.5 x 8.75 cm; photo 5 – senior citizens in Centennial display room 12.5 x 8.75 cm; photo 6 – senior citizens on bus 12.25 x 8.75
- Photo 63 Seven photos, Cyr Plt. Centennial celebration “Gisele Lajoie and Oldest” B&W Photos – 1970 28 x 43 cm; photo 1 – woman and infant 12.5 x 8.5 cm; photo 2 – woman and infant with two women dressed in Acadian style clothing 12.25 x 8.75 cm; photo 3 – two women in Acadian style clothing presenting Centennial Baby banner to mother and infant 12.5 x 8.75 cm; photo 4 – infant 7.25 x 11 cm; photo 5 – elderly woman in chair “Mrs. Laura Lapierre Jacques. DA: Joseph & Marquerite Cyr Lapierre” 8 x 12 cm; photo 6 – elderly man with rake “Mr. Bruno Gagnon, 79, s/o Noel & ? Madore” 7.5 x 9 cm; photo 7 – elderly man in chair “Mr. Onezime a Magloire Ouellette, 85, great-grandfather to our Centennial Baby Gisele Lajoie, DA: Norman & Maxine Ouellette Lajoie” 7.75 x 12.5 cm
- Photo 64 Five photos, “Centennial Wedding” – 1970 28 x 43 cm; L to R, photo 1 – couple in horse-drawn wagon “Mr. & Mrs. O’Neil & Jacqueline LaPlante LeClerc” B&W Photo 9.5 x 8 cm; photo 2 – couple in horse-drawn wagon B&W Photo 9 x 7.25 cm; photo 3 – couple in horse-drawn wagon Color Photo 11.5 x 7.5 cm; photo 4 – couple in horse-drawn wagon B&W Photo 9.5 x 7.25 cm; photo 5 – couple in

- horse-drawn wagon B&W Photo 7.25 x 9.5 cm
- Photo 65 Eight photos, Cyr Plt. Centennial celebration B&W Photos – 1970 28 x 43 cm; L to R, photo 1 – building and sign “Cyr Plantation Centennial Headquarters 1870-1970” 13.5 x 7.75 cm; photo 2 – women in Acadian style clothing in front of the Little Red School House “Welcome...!” 9.5 x 8 cm; photo 3 – woman and girl in Acadian style clothing “Welcome Michelle to our Centennial” 10 x 8 cm; photo 4 – woman and girl in Acadian style clothing at Centennial display “This is part of our culture...” 8.5 x 8 cm; photo 5 – girl in Acadian style clothing at spinning wheel “Michelle Dumont, our little Evangeline” 10 x 8 cm; photo 6 – women in Acadian style clothing doing laundry ““Those were some days’ says Marcella & Aleda Lajoie” 11.5 x 8 cm; photo 7 – women in Acadian style clothing at table “There own tea party...” 7.5 x 8 cm; photo 8 – Centennial display room “The good ‘ole’ ways of life...” 9.5 x 8 cm
- Photo 66 Eight photos, Cyr Plt. Centennial celebration B&W Photos – 1970 28 x 43 cm; L to R, photo 1 – couple in horse-drawn wagon “Our Centennial couple” 9.5 x 8 cm; photo 2 – three women in horse-drawn wagon “Our Committee” 9.5 x 8.5 cm; photo 3 – women in Acadian style clothing “Welcome ladies of Cyr Plantation” 11.5 x 8 cm; photo 4 – women in Acadian style clothing in Centennial display room “Enjoy your tour...” 11.5 x 8 cm; photo 5 – two women, one man in Centennial display room “Marlene St. Pierre & Marjorie Levasseur” 11.5 x 8 cm; photo 6 – Centennial display room “Lucie at the old Victrola...” 11.5 x 8 cm; photo 7 – four women in Centennial display room “Mrs. Catherine (Cormier) Sirois & granddaughters” 12.5 x 9 cm; photo 8 – four girls in Acadian style clothing at spinning wheel “Rachel, Linda, Sandra & Theresa... Admires...” 12.5 x 9 cm
- Photo 67 Three photos, Cyr Plt. Centennial celebration B&W Photos – 1970 28 x 43 cm; L to R, photo 1 – Centennial display room 15.5 x 10.5 cm; photo 2 – girl in Centennial display room “Patti Dumond” 15.5 x 10 cm; photo 3 – people in Centennial display room 15.5 x 10 cm
- Photo 68 “La Chanson du Centenaire de Cyr Plantation, composée par: Mme. Lucie Laplante, Mme. Eglantine Lagasse, Mme. Frances Levasseur. Tiré de Cyr Plantation Centennial 1870-1970” B&W Photo – 1970 28 x 43 cm
- Photo 69 Portrait of Harry Hammond Color Photo – no date 21 x 27.5 cm
- Photo 70 SJV Times article “Remembering a Legend: Country doctor Harry Hamond” by Wilfred Doucette – no date 15 x 28.5 cm
- Photo 71 “Mr. & Mrs. Andre Cyr” “reprinted by Frances Levasseur, 1996, Andre Cyr & Modeste Violette” B&W Photo – no date 35.5 x 28 cm

Processing action:

Order and arrangement: