

**Janice Gendreau oral histories with Saint John River Valley (Me. and N.B.)
residents**

MCC-00062

Finding Aid

**Prepared by Kim Raymond; revised by Kathryn Donahue, August 2013
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine**

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Janice Gendreau oral histories with Saint John River Valley (Me. and N.B.) residents

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Collection Title: Janice Gendreau oral histories with Saint John River Valley (Me. and N.B.) residents

Citation: Janice Gendreau oral histories with Saint John River Valley (Me. and N.B.) residents, MCC-00062, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

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Provenance: Submitted for a course with Roger Paradis at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in Spring 1982. Brought to the Acadian Archives/Archive acadiennes by Prof. Paradis in March 1991.

Date Range: 1982

Physical Characteristics/Condition: 3 C-60 audio cassettes containing oral history interviews with older residents of the St. John Valley and submitted for a course at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in Spring 1982.

Access: There are no restrictions on this collection

Prepared by: Kim Raymond, June 2003

Biographical information:

Marie Dechaine Gervais was born on August 9, 1908. On May 8, 1922, she married Ligerie Gervais. They raised sixteen children: Alphie, Ned, Wilmad(?), Alfreda, Therese, Josephel, Gerard, Alcide, Rita, Corinne, Reginald, Lecinde(?), Cecile, Janine, Edward, and Lionel. Marie died on May 6, 1982, in St. David, Maine.

Anna Gagnon, the daughter of Euclide and Flavie Cormier Gagnon was born on November 7, 1909, in Keegan (now Van Buren), Maine. She married Joseph A. Cyr of St. David (born November 9, 1910) on June 17, 1946. Joseph died on April 26, 1982. Anna died November 21, 1987.

Janice Gendreau is the great-granddaughter of Edith and Joseph Gendreau.

No biographical information on Edith and Joseph Gendreau is available.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection consists of oral history interviews conducted in 1982 with a number of St. John Valley residents: Marie Gervais, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cyr, Edith and Joseph Gendreau. They were submitted for a course at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in Spring 1982.

Marie Gervais discusses her family and reminiscences, including work, school, and games. They discuss recipes for making soap and butter, gardening, the sucrerie, making wine, buckwheat, and slaughtering pigs. Gervais describes marrying at the age of 15 and her children. She also tells a story about a store in St. Agatha.

Mrs. Joe Cyr shares reminiscences of growing up in Van Buren, including school, family, and work. She and Joe Cyr discuss farming and planting seeds for food. He tells stories of a man getting sick and the remedies that were used and of selling chickens. They discuss the recipe for butter, skiing, music, and school. The interview also includes some piano music.

The interviews with Edith and Joseph Gendreau are difficult to decipher due to poor tape quality.

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Order and Arrangement: Three C-60 audio cassettes.