

# Hallinan Genealogy

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## RESEARCH REPORT

Research Report | Proof Summary | Summary of Findings

<b>Case Title</b>	Evaluation of Family Tradition Regarding Donalda (Lareau) Cayer
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### Research Question

Who were the parents of Donalda Lareau, wife of Joseph Cayer, married 6 June 1931 in Lachine, Quebec, Canada?

### Background Information

Donalda (Lareau) Cayer was born 26 May 1910, in Lachine, Quebec, Canada to Nazaire Lareau and Rosamonde Noiseux.<sup>1</sup> At first glance this answers the research question presented, however, family lore clouds the basic facts regarding this presumption. The family of Donalda (Lareau) Cayer had passed down the story that she was adopted and had lived in an orphanage prior to her marriage to Joseph Wilfrid Cayer on 6 June 1931, in Lachine, Quebec.<sup>2</sup>

### Findings

The Roman Catholic parish records of Saints-Anges-Gardiens in Lachine, Quebec, Canada, document Donalda Lareau was baptized on 28 May 1910.<sup>3</sup> The baptismal entry appears to state that Donalda was born “le vingt-six dernier,” (translated to “the 26<sup>th</sup> last month”) although the handwriting is somewhat difficult to interpret. This is supported by later records in which Donalda herself reported a birth date of 26 May 1910.<sup>4</sup> The entry states the parents as Nazaire Lareau and Rosamonde Noiseux, with the sponsors being Alfred Forget and Ildegonde Noiseux, who was Rosamonde Noiseux’s twin sister.<sup>5</sup> The entry was revised at a later date to document the marriage of Donalda Lareau to Joseph Cayer.

Rosamonde and Ildegonde Noiseux were twins born in Dunham, Quebec on 18 November 1886 to Prudent Noiseux and Domithilde Robert.<sup>6</sup> The Noiseux family were shown residing in Dunham in the 1891, 1901 Censuses of Canada, and Rosamonde was a member of the Ste Croix Parish of Dunham when she married Jean Baptiste Nazaire Lareau on 5 July 1909.<sup>7</sup>

Jean Baptiste Nazaire Lareau was born 24 January 1883 to Guillaume Lareau and Onesime Dubuc, in Missisquoi, Dunham, Quebec.<sup>8</sup> Prior to his marriage in 1909 to Rosamonde Noiseux in Montreal, he does not appear in Canada’s 1901 census.

The family appears in the 1911 Census of Canada in the 162 Jacques-Cartier District, Lachine, Quebec, the Nazaire Laroe Household was made up of Nazaire Laroe born January 1884 head, Rosa his wife born November 1887, and Donalda, incorrectly listed as their son, born in May 1910.<sup>9</sup> The uniqueness of the names of

the father and the daughter, combined with the date of birth of Nazaire, make this a strong likelihood that this is the Lareau family.

The remainder of the decade saw the family expand to add the birth of an additional three children, only two of whom survived infancy. Joseph Isaie Henri Lareau, was born on 3 April 1912, baptized on 7 April 1912.<sup>10</sup> Joseph Louis Dedace Lareau, born 26 February 1915, baptized 28 February 1915.<sup>11</sup> He died on 2 June 1916 and was buried on 4 June 1916, the burial entry was recorded in the Saints-Anges-Gardien parish register.<sup>12</sup> The final child born was Marie Alice Lareau born on 24 November 1916 and baptized on 26 November 1916.<sup>13</sup>

As the decade came to a close World War I was ending and a global influenza pandemic was developing, Canada was hit extremely hard and it left a deep mark on nearly every province and community. Roughly one in six Canadians became infected, estimates placed death tolls between 50,000 and 55,000 people, with deaths often occurring within days of symptoms appearing, it heavily targeted healthy adults aged 20-40. In the parish register of Saints-Anges-Gardiens in Lachine, Quebec, on 12 October 1918, the unnamed infant child of Nazaire Lareau and Rosamonde Noiseux was buried.<sup>14</sup> Three days later, 15 October 1918, Rosamonde Noiseux died and was buried on 18 October 1918.<sup>15</sup> Two months later Rosamonde's mother, Domathile (Robert) Noiseux, died in Dunham, Quebec. While no cause of death was identified, the clustered losses occurred during the height of the 1918 influenza pandemic in Canada and may reflect the broader family disruption experienced during that period.<sup>16</sup>

While no probate, will, or guardianship records are found for the estate of Rosamonde (Noiseux) Lareau, the next record of the family is found in the 1921 Census of Canada. In the Amadee Noiseux household, Donaldal Lareau and her siblings Henri and Alice are enumerated as part of the household in Missisquoi, Dunham Township, Quebec.<sup>17</sup> This location is the same location that the Noiseux family was residing in the 1901 census.<sup>18</sup>

Nazaire Lareau remarried 14 October 1926 to Claire Houle, daughter of Delphis Houle and Marie Hermine Suave, in Montreal.<sup>19</sup> <sup>20</sup> They had a daughter, Marie Claire Jaqueline Lareau, born on 12 August 1927, her sponsors were Donaldal Lareau and Henri Lareau, her half-siblings.<sup>21</sup> Unfortunately, Claire (Houle) Lareau died the same day their daughter was born, possibly during or shortly after childbirth.<sup>22</sup> By 1931, Marie Claire Lareau resided in the household of her maternal grandmother.<sup>23</sup> This is a pattern that was repeated from the death of his first wife when Nazaire's children were living with his late wife's family.

#### Lareau Family Placement Pattern

Event	Date	Evidence	Household / Placement Outcome	Significance
Death of Rosamonde Noiseux.	October 1918	Parish Burial Records.	Donaldal, Henri, and Alice Lareau later appear in Amadee Noiseux Household (1921).	Maternal-family caregiving pattern established.
Donaldal Lareau with maternal relatives.	1921	Census, Dunham.	Residing with maternal family.	Supports kin placement rather than adoption or orphanage.
Death of Claire Houle.	August 1927	Parish Burial Records.	Marie Claire Lareau later appears in Hermina Houle household (1931).	Pattern repeated following maternal death.
Marie Claire Lareau with maternal grandmother	1931	Census, Hochelaga	Residing with maternal family.	Reinforces recurring family response pattern.

Table 1. [Lareau Family Placement Pattern.]

The placement of children within maternal family networks following the deaths of Rosamonde Noiseux and Claire Houle suggests a recurring family response pattern. This pattern provides context for later oral traditions that Donalda was adopted or raised outside the parental household. (See Table 1).

The Nazaire Lareau household in the 1931 census included his children Henri and Alice.<sup>24</sup> Nazaire Lareau was listed as the nearest relative to Joseph Guy Real Cayer on the 1945 U.S. Immigration documentation, his mother is Donalda Cayer and his grandfather is Nazaire Lareau both of whom share the same address in Lachine, Quebec.<sup>25</sup>

### **Conclusion**

Evidence establishes Donalda (Lareau) Cayer as the daughter of Jean Baptiste Nazaire Lareau and Rosamonde Noiseux. Parish registers, census records, and later family associations consistently support this relationship. Documentary evidence supporting formal adoption was not located. Instead, the evidence suggests family disruption following the deaths within the Lareau household in 1918 and subsequent placement of Donalda and her siblings within the maternal family network. Similar placement patterns following the later death of Claire Houle provide additional context for family traditions that Donalda had been adopted or raised outside the parental household.

### **Recommendations for Further Research**

1. Additional time to be allocated for guardianship and probate records relating to the minor children of Nazaire Lareau and Rosamonde Noiseux to determine whether legal placement records exist.
2. Continued research into Henri and Alice Lareau after the 1931 census.
3. Expansion of research into Marie Claire Lareau to evaluate later relationships with her half-siblings.

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Baptismal Registers, baptism of Donalda Lareau, 28 May 1910; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1091/records/9564194> ; viewed 20 Dec 2025), Image 10 of 86.
- <sup>2</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Marriage Registers, marriage of Joseph Cayer and Donalda Cayer, 6 June 1931; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1091/records/14419639> : viewed 20 December 2025), Image 372 of 561.
- <sup>3</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens Parish (Lachine, Q.C.) Baptismal Registers, baptism of Donalda Lareau, 28 May 1910.
- <sup>4</sup> "United States, Social Security Numerical Identification Files (NUMIDENT), 1936-2007", *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:6KMS-TPPY> : viewed 26 April 2025), Entry for Donalda Cayer.
- <sup>5</sup> Ste-Croix (Dunham, Quebec), Baptismal Registers, baptism of Ildegonde and Rosamonde Noiseux, 18 November 1886; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p\\_02621066](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p_02621066) : viewed 20 December 2025), Image 13 of 15.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>7</sup> Ste-Croix (Dunham, Quebec), Marriage Registers, Marriage of Jean Baptiste Nazaire Lareau and Rosamonde Noiseux, 5 July 1909; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p\\_02621329](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p_02621329) : viewed 20 December 2025), Image 6 of 11.
- <sup>8</sup> Ste-Croix (Dunham, Quebec), Baptismal Registers, baptism of Jean Baptiste Nazaire Lareau, 3 February 1883; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* (viewed 20 December 2025), Image 13 of 15. ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p\\_02621001](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p_02621001) : Viewed 20 December 2025), Image 3 of 19.
- <sup>9</sup> 1911 census of Canada, district 162: Jacques-Cartier, Cite de Lachine, ED 5, page 8, dwelling 45, family 41, Nazaire Laroe; imaged, "Canada Census, 1911," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-9987-GN93> : accessed 26 December 2025), Image 127 of 1255; Image Group Number: 007526676.
- <sup>10</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Baptismal Registers, baptism of Joseph Isaie Henri Lareau, 7 April 1912; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p\\_1116B0692](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p_1116B0692) : viewed 20 Dec 2025), Image 70 of 177.
- <sup>11</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Baptismal Registers, baptism of Joseph Louis Dedace Lareau, 28 February 1915; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p\\_1116B0933](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p_1116B0933) : viewed 7 May 2026), Image 134 of 310.
- <sup>12</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Burial Registers, burial of Didace Lareau, 4 June 1916; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p\\_1116B1281](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p_1116B1281) : viewed 7 May 2026), Image 172 of 262.
- <sup>13</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Baptismal Registers, baptism of Mary Alice Lareau, 26 November 1916; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p\\_1116B1182](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p_1116B1182) : viewed 20 Dec 2025), Image 73 of 262.
- <sup>14</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Burial Registers, burial of Anonyme Lareau, 12 October 1918; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p\\_1117B0094](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p_1117B0094) :viewed 7 May 2026), Image 276 of 481.
- <sup>15</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Burial Registers, burial of Rose Emma Noiseux, 15 October 1918; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1091/records/12260182> : viewed 27 December 2025), Image 279 of 481.
- <sup>16</sup> Ste-Croix (Dunham, Quebec), Burial Registers, burial of Domithilde Robert, 31 December 1918; digital image, "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p\\_02621446](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p_02621446) : viewed 20 December 2025), Image 15 of 16.
- <sup>17</sup> 1921 Census of Canada, Township of Dunham, Missisquoi, Quebec, population schedule, enumeration district (ED) 184, sub-district 2, page 9, dwelling 91, family 95, Amedee Noiseux household; imaged, "1921 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8991/images/1921\\_129-E003088758](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8991/images/1921_129-E003088758) : viewed 20 December 2025), Image 10 of 23.

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- <sup>18</sup> 1901 Census of Canada, Township of Dunham, Missisquoi, Quebec, population schedule, enumeration district (ED) 170, sub-district 4, page 1, dwelling 11, family 1, Prudent Noiseux household; imaged, “1901 Census of Canada,” *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8826/images/z000151336> : viewed 30 April 2026), Image 44 of 64.
- <sup>19</sup> St-Stanislas-De-Kostka (Montreal, Quebec), Marriage Registers, marriage of Nazaire Lareau and Claire Houle, 14 October 1926; digital image, “Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968,” *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p\\_1147a1506](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d13p_1147a1506) : viewed 7 May 2026), Image 122 of 150.
- <sup>20</sup> Nazaire Lareau and Claire Houle, *Marriage, LaFrance, GenealogyQuebec.com, Drouin Genealogical Institute*, ([https://www.genealogiequebec.com/en/lafrance\\_mariages/9408853](https://www.genealogiequebec.com/en/lafrance_mariages/9408853) : accessed on 19 May 2026).
- <sup>21</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Baptismal Registers, baptism of Marie Claire Jacqueline Lareau, 13 August 1927; digital image, “Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968,” *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p\\_1117B0870](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p_1117B0870) : viewed 7 May 2026), Image 124 of 581.
- <sup>22</sup> Saints-Anges-Gardiens (Lachine, Quebec), Burial Registers, burial of Clara Houle, 15 August 1927; digital image, “Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968,” *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p\\_1117B1161](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1091/images/d1p_1117B1161) : viewed 20 May 2026), Image 415 of 581.
- <sup>23</sup> 1931 Census of Canada, Electoral District of Hochelaga, Montreal, Quebec, population schedule, enumeration district (ED) 65, page 10, dwelling 36, family 105, Hermina Houle household; imaged, “1931 Census of Canada,” *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8991/images/1921\\_129-E003088758](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8991/images/1921_129-E003088758) : viewed 20 May 2026), Image 11 of 21.
- <sup>24</sup> 1931 Census of Canada, Electoral District of Jacques Cartier 81A, Lachine, Quebec, population schedule, enumeration district (ED) 20, page 18, dwelling 116, family 170, Nazaire Lareau household; imaged, “1931 Census of Canada,” *Ancestry* ([https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/62640/images/1931\\_81a-e011610062](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/62640/images/1931_81a-e011610062) : viewed 20 May 2026), Image 19 of 30.
- <sup>25</sup> “Vermont, Franklin, St. Albans, Canadian Border Crossings, 1895-1954,” database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-9981-83S7> : accessed 31 January 2026), (M1463) Soundex Index to Entries into the St. Albans, Vermont, District through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic Ports, 1924-1952 > Roll 19, C600 J.O.-C625 Jane > image 270 of 8059; citing NARA microfilm publications M1461, M1463, M1464, and M1465 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).