

SOUVENIR



Rondeau Heights Public School,

DISTRICT NO. 120,

DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON.

1909-1910

Floyd Watson, Teacher.

SCHOOL BOARD,

I. H. Rice, W. L. Lerville, Isadore Rondeau,  
George Rondeau, Clerk.

## PUPILS.

1st GRADE,

Donnie Lerville

Enoline Lerville

Zella Ranville

2nd GRADE.

Wallace Rondeau

Walter Rondeau

3rd GRADE.

Tommy Acusta

Clara Rondeau

4th GRADE.

Evalyne Rondeau

Francis Rondeau

## ALEXANDRE DUMONT

### Father and Son?

Few family legends are more in conflict than those of the Gueret-Dumonts of Douglas County, OR. The present material may lay bare some issues but add one or two more.

The legend, as reported by Harriet Duncan Munnick, has Alexander Dumont from Three Rivers Canada trapping in the South Umpqua area in the 1820s with one Joseph? Xavier? Lavadour--both with Pend d'Oreille wives. (1) Munnick concluded the date was much too early inasmuch as Dumont had declared he was an American half-breed, born in Green Bay, Wisconsin in 1815, (2) moving to Oregon in 1836. (2) The picture is further blurred by the death record of Andrew Dumont, son of Alexander, from information supplied by Andrew's son, Sam, in 1922. This named Alexander's birthplace as St. Louis, Michigan. (3) The 1870 Oregon Federal census lists Alexander, age 58, indicating possible birth in 1812.

The St. Louis, MI information does not hold since the town had no existence before 1859; before that time the area was known as Pine River. (4) It is curious, however, that a mixed-blood family, the Gruets, settled in the St. Louis area. The similarity of names may have led a researcher astray. The town of St. Louis is but a few miles south of the Isabella Chippewa Reservation. There is no relationship established between the two families even though the original Gruet, Joseph, father of Jacques (James), and our Alexander Gueret both served out of Michillmackinac (Mackinaw) in the Old Northwest.

One Alexandre Dumont of La Noraye (Lanoraie) in the judicial district of Trois-Rivières was an engagé for the firm of Rocheblave and Porlier, well known at Mackinaw, to go to the "sud des Pays d'en Haut." Although his residence was at Lanoraie, Alexandre was baptized at nearby St. Sulpice on September 13, 1779---not unusual given the French-Canadian custom of baptism as soon as possible after birth. His contract was drawn before the Notary Louis Chaboillez March 12, 1803. (5) The citation translates the "southern part of the Upper Country". In the early days Upper Country could refer to any place upriver from Montreal beyond Ste. Anne de Bellevue--- --Bout de l'île (Isle's End). In the fur trade the southern part would often mean below Mackinaw---north of there gave rise to the term "homme

du Nord". The northerner considered himself above the relatively easier assignments and recruits whom they termed the "mangeurs de lard" or pork belly (salt pork) weaklings. Rocheblave and Porlier was active in the Lac du Flambeau and headwaters of the Mississippi region.

Nothing is known of Dumont's activities in the region. In 1803 Wisconsin was part of Indiana Territory becoming part of Illinois Territory before the 1810 federal census. The census for Indiana 1800 is lost as well as the 1810 Illinois Territory for St. Clair County which would have included Green Bay. By 1820 Green Bay, Brown County, was part of Michigan Territory. Neither the 1820 or the 1830 Michigan federal census has any listing for Gueret or Dumont. Wisconsin did not become a territory until 1836.

Is there any way to establish Alexandre Gueret-Dumont, 1803 engagé, at Green Bay? Fortunately, in 1857 an elderly long time resident of the area, Augustin Grignon, dictated his recollections to Lyman Copeland Draper, head of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and placed Alexandre Dumont at Green Bay before and after the War of 1812.(6)

The 1803 engagé, Alexandre Dumont II, was the son of Alexandre Gueret "dit" Dumont who married Marie-Brigitte Aubin-Paradis February 9, 1778 at Lanoraie. Our subject, Alexander III, born in 1812 or 1815 was the father of Alexander IV, baptized July 23, 1839 at Colville, WA by Father Modeste Demers. The father's name was given as Louis and the mother as Josette Finlay---most subsequent references to the couple identify the male spouse as Alexandre. In 1803 Alexandre II was 24, the 20s were the most usual ages for recruiting engagés. Still, one François Victor Malhoit who captained at Lac du Flambeau in 1804-5 entered the fur trade at 15 as an articulated clerk.

There is no record of Alexandre's return to Quebec evidenced by a marriage there. The Pacific Northwest historical records refer to the wife of Alexander, Josette Finlay, sometimes as metisse Cree or Spokane or Pendd'Oreille. Alexandre, a  $\frac{1}{2}$  blood, identified his mother as Sauteau or Salteaux, a branch of the Ojibways, the latter sometimes corrupted to Chippewa. The Sautaux were numerous around the Sault Ste. Marie area.

The report of Alexandre Dumont (III?) trapping and trading in the Milo (Umpqua country) region in 1828 (7) would have a youth of 13 teamed with a partner, Joseph Lavadour, some 24 years his senior. If Dumont was

born in 1812 rather than 1815 he would have been 16. There have been reports of strapping boys in their mid-teens working at the fur trade.

A plausible explanation might be Alexandre III was old enough to accompany his father, Alexander, then 49, as a partner with Lavadour. about 37. There is support for this in the DAR record for Lavadour Cemetery (8) affirming that one Alexander Dumont, about 112 years, was known to have been buried there. It is not likely the deceased was 112 but if the first burial was a grandson, Auguste, buried in 1868, Alexandre II would then be 89. The Lavadour Cemetery Alexandre would not be our subject Alexandre III since the pair went to the Colville country for their last years while Lavadour went to the Umatilla.

Was Alexandre II part of Malhoit's group at Lac du Flambeau in 1804-5? No mention is made of him in Malhoit's journal. One Alexis Duma was engaged to go there in 1807 from Mackinaw. There is nothing to indicate this was Alexandre Dumont; however the records of engagements for the West compiled by the Archivist of Quebec has no listing for any Alexis. The Dumas were another family which gave members to the trade.

If the Gueret-Dumont family group moved to the Pacific Northwest some explanation might be needed. A possible might be the War of 1812. In a letter from M. Irwin, U. S. Factor, to Colonel John Bowyer, Indian Agent, July 24, 1817 a list was submitted of British subjects at Green Bay, hostile to the United States. Alexandre Dumont is not on this list. The military was seeking a site at Green Bay to locate a fort. Irwin reported the area was "Mongrel French" and destitute although it was a relatively prosperous community before the conflict. (10)

*George Thomas Brown*

George Thomas Brown  
St. Paul Mission Historical Society

G. Brown  
2809 E. 19th St. Apt. F.  
Vancouver, WA 98661-4635  
1-360-695-7940

Alexander Dumont <sup>married</sup> or Gurette.

Josette Hinlay

- 1 Margaret - George Rondeau
  - 2 David & Sarah Jack } Margaret Starkawar } <sup>no</sup> children
  - 3 Joe Josephine & Thrambeau
  - 4 Andrew & Margaret Norwest } Sam, Grace John <sup>Sophia</sup> Effie
  - 5 Cecil & Peter Johnson } Johnnie other boy } <sup>2 girls one</sup> <sup>no</sup> children
  - 6 Gus died young
  - 7 Jane Paul Gilbeaugh no children
  - 8 Millie Frank Ma Kay & Dave ~~Ma~~
  - 9 Frank
  - 10 Jake ~~no children~~
  - 11 Lenore or Lee & Abraham Gilbeaugh
  - 2 Charley & Josephine Rainville } <sup>Abc, Sophia, Bessie</sup> <sup>rose, Effie, Grover</sup> <sup>Ella, Nellie, Charles</sup>
- ↳ moved to Montana & was adopted & enrolled on the Flathead Reservation.

Information from Amaryllis Freeman  
Nov. 1974

Research: by Mrs. J. Gerald Bacon, Rt2 Box 1030, Roseburg  
January 19, 1975

From: Oregon Historical Society [from early church records]

From: MSS File No. 501

RONDEAU FAMILY:

Rondeau, Genéviève 1st married Charles Lafantaisie 3 May 1853

Children: Baptiste Baptized - 12 March 1855 Buried 30 April 1856

Adelard " 1 Oct 1857 " 5 March 1877

Eliza " 9 Jan 1859 " 17 Dec 1879

Jacques " 25 June 1861 " 22 Jan 1863

married: 2nd Edouard La Flamme, a widower, 14 May 1866  
(after death of Charles Lafantaisie)

Children: Emilie Baptized - 9 March 1868 Buried 5 November 1868

Apolline " 16 Sept. 1869

Edouard " 22 Feb. 1871

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Rondeau, George married Marguerite Dumont 13 June 1853  
Buried- 29 July 1869

Children: (from Mission Records)

1- Francois Baptized 17 April 1854 Buried 31 May 1869

2- Cecile " 21 Oct. 1855 " 23 Nov 1863

3- Josephine " 29 Mar 1857 " 30 May 1857

4- Joseph " 12 Mar 1858 [1st Comunion 1 Aug 1869]

5- Catherine " 11 Aug 1861 " 14 Aug 1863

6- George Benjamin " 22 Jan 1863

7- Alexandre " 30 Apr 1865

8- Marcel " 5 May 1867

9- Edward Albert " 11 May 1869

From: Oregon Statesman:

George Rondeau, Administration of Estate of J. B. Rondeau  
17 December 1860 - 25 February 1861  
14 October to 28 October 1861

See: Abernethy V.S. Rondeau, Charles  
18 October 1853 2:3  
11 April 1854 2:5

From: Mrs. J. Gerald Bacon  
Research: from Douglas County Court House Records

RONDEAU: Probate Court Vault 23

Rondeau Heirs: Book 2 1/2 pages 194-198-237  
Rondeau, Joseph: Book 2 1/2 pages 371-372-374  
Book 3 pages 101-145

Probate Court Vault 23:

Minor Heirs: George B., Alexander, Marcelle (over 14 years of age)

Guardian: Joseph Chamberlain

There was also a Joseph and Margarette Rondeau.

Margaret Chamberlain named as Mother of children

Brothers of said minors listed as: Frances and Joseph

Stated these children were the orphans of George Rondeau, late  
of Marion County Oregon (deceased) 1869.

Children: ages from 12 to 17

George B. Rondeau - age given as 17  
Alexander Rondeau - age given as 14  
Marcelle Rondeau - age given as 12

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Vault 23: Estate of Regis Picard

Administrator appointed: Frances Rondeau

Regis Picard died 5 February 1883, left no widow.

Heirs:   Julienne Challifou   - 27 years  
         Josephine Gangrow   - 25  
         Isidor Picar         23  
         George Picar         21  
         Pauline Rondeau      - 19 , wife of Frances Rondeau  
         Louis Picar         17  
         Prosper Picar        15  
         Chis Picar          11  
         Eva Picar            4  
         Andrew Picar         2

Left no will:

[see Albert Pelland interview, he states he died going to a dance  
in Coles Valley at the Pitchett residence]



From: Mrs. J. Gerald Bacon  
Research from Douglas County Court House

Vault 10: Probate Court.

Exvais Plante

Administrator: J.V. Bradley

Claims filed from: Z Pelland, John G. Tipton, G.W. Kimball,  
S. Sutherlin, George R. Sacy, J.C. Fullerton,  
Wm. Bradley, Joseph Bourgau, Wm. M. Dillard,  
George B. Rondeau, Francis Rondeau, A.E. Smith.

Proff of Heirship - 10 October 1884

Nephew: George Rondeau children: Francis, Marcelle, George B. and  
Alexander. Gaurdian of Rondeau Heirs was Joseph  
Chamberlain.

Also Jane LaFamnie, deceaced; formerly Rondeau, a niece  
her children: Edward and Pauline.

Appraisers were: John Tipton, Dolphus Smith, Joseph Bourjou.

Published- Plaindealer 19 April 1884 and 17 May 1884

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Dumont Family ....

Margaret Dumont's death certificate.

State reg. # 198

Local reg. # 139

County : Douglas  
State : Oregon  
City : Roseburg County Hospital  
Name : Margaret DuMont  
Town : Days Creek, Oregon  
Sex : Female  
Color : White ("Grandma had more Indian in her than Grandma ever did." Note from Miss M. Dumont.)  
Marital status : Widowed  
Husband : Andrew Dumont  
Date of birth : 12-18-1857  
Age : 77 years, 9 months, 8 days.  
Trade : Housewife  
Business : Own home  
Birthplace : Oakland, Oregon  
Father : Louis Chintell  
Father's birthplace : Salem, Oregon  
Mother : Cecil Norris ( Cecile Norez )  
Mother's birthplace : Umatilla Reservation, Oregon  
Informant : Grace DuMont, Days Creek, Oregon  
Burial : Days Creek, Oregon  
Date : 9-28-1935  
Undertaker : Douglas Funeral Home, Inc. Roseburg, Ore.  
Filed : 10-9-1935  
Date of death : 9-26-1935

Registrar : Charles B. Wade

(c)

1740  
51

Dumont Family ....

Andrew Dumont's death certificate =

State reg. 117

Local reg. 13

Place of death : Douglas County, Oregon  
Village : Days Creek  
Name : ANDREW Du MONT  
Sex : Male  
Color or race : Indian  
Marital status : Married  
Wife : Margaret Dumont  
Date of birth :  
Age : 72 years  
Occupation : Laborer  
Birthplace : Eugene, Oregon  
Father : Alexander Dumont  
Father's birthplace : St. Louis, Michigan  
Mother's maiden name : Finley  
Mother's birthplace : Montana  
Filed : 6-2-22  
Registrar : C.F. Sowers  
Informant : Sam Dumont, Days Creek, Oregon  
Date of death : 6-2-22 (Friday)  
Place of burial : Days Creek, Oregon  
Date of burial : 6-3-22  
Undertaker : G.E. Aikins, Riddle, Ore.

Dumont Family .....

U.S. Census, 1870

Inhabitants in Canyonville Precinct, County of Douglas, State of Oregon,  
enumerated on the 8 day of June, 1870.

No. of Visitation

9

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>OCCUPATION</u>
Dumore, Alexander	58	M	I	Michigan	Farmer
" Rosetta (Josette)	50	F	I	Montana Terr.	Housewife
" David	29	M	I	Washington Terr.	Miner
" Joseph	24	M	I	Washington Terr.	Miner
" Andrew °	20	M	I	Oregon	Farm laborer
" York	16	M	I	Oregon	Farm laborer
" Yananase	19	F	I	Oregon	
" Francois	15	M	I	Oregon	
" Charles	7	M	I		

Note =

° Andrew Dumont, grandfather of Miss Margaret Dumont, (who supplied  
this transcript).

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