

The Tanguay Family France to Canada then to the American state of Maine and on to Long Island

Originally, the Tanguay last name was borne by a noble Breton family from the house of Du Chatel. Tanguay II (1368-1458), son of Hervé Du Chatel, marshal of Guyenne and provost of Paris, did a lot for his homeland, as much by his political talents as by his bravery. Charles VII overwhelmed him with presents. Tanguay translates to "man of reflection". It was, and still is, spelled and pronounced TANGUY in France.

Our Canadian Ancestor Jean Tanguay said he was from Ploudiry, today the principal town in the canton of Landerneau, arrondissement of Brest, department of Finistère, in Basse-Bretagne. A researcher will find the birthplace of his ancestor to the northwest of Sizun, and to the south of the Elorn River which empties into the harbor of Brest. Ploudiry is part of the diocese of Saint-Pol-de-Léon. This is the western most area of France. Located three hours from Paris, this is one of the most rugged regions with spectacular coastlines. The area was once a Celtic Duchy for 1,000 years before its annexation to France in 1532.

Jean Tanguay, son of Yves Tanguay and Marguerite Ascaral or Ardgralle, was born May 13, 1662. He was more than 25 years old when he decided to settle in New France, since known as Canada.

The first mention of Jean Tanguay in Canadian national history was in his marriage contract signed before Etienne Jacob (notary public), at the house of the Vendeen ancestor Jean Brochu and Nicole Saulnier, on 24 January 1692. The bride Marie Brochu was born in the parish of Saint-Jean on the Ile d'Orleans, Quebec Province on 13 July 1675, about two kilometers from the present church. Her baptismal act still exists in the registries of Sainte-Famille where her godfather Martin Poisson and her godmother Marie de Lacour, wife of Gabriel Roger, are mentioned.

The future couple was committed to have community property, according to the coutume de Paris. Jean offered his beloved the "customary prefixed" dowry of 300 livres; father-in-law Brochu and his wife promised to give Marie and Jean "the sum of three hundred livres which they constituted as a dowry...of which amount... would be included the wedding clothes for the said future bride". The bride and groom agreed to a preciput of 100 livres to be taken from "the said estate from the last ready money for the said survivor... the future bride will be free to renounce the said future community"; an additional protection granted to the wife in case her husband died laden with debt. Attending this important civil ceremony were the brothers Jean and Mathurin Brochu, their sister Anne, Martin Poisson and Marguerite Prevost, Gabriel Thibierge, militia captain, and his wife Anne Perrault, Jacques Bidet dit Desrouselles, all relatives and friends of the bride.

On 6 February 1692, the missionary Erbery married them in the church of Saint-Jean (ile d'Orleans) in the presence of the bride's father and several parishioners, among them Gabriel Thibierge, Georges Plante, Jacques Bidet, Nicolas Guillemette and Robert Tourneroche.

Jean Brochu and Nicole Saulnier "have promised and promise to give and do give to the said future couple a homestead located and situated in the seigneurie of La Durantaye consisting of three arpents of frontal land" from a larger concession. Additionally, they are "obliged to feed, house and shelter the said couple for a period of two years during which time the said future couple will be entitled to work to their profit, in addition to allowing them to build".

It is possible to conclude that Jean Tanguay was accustomed to the work to be carried out at the Brochu home; perhaps they had been his protectors for a year or two already. Thus, Jean became owner of a property almost owed to him due to his own work. Where was this land of hope awarded to Jean Tanguay? For now, it is difficult to give details. Olivier Morel received from Jean Talon, on 29 October 1672, the seigneurie of La Durantaye. The seigneur developed it slowly because of his military obligations. On 3 August 1691, Jean Brochu received two concessions from Olivier Morel. One of them "consisting of three arpents of frontal land" was given to Jean Tanguay. According to Leon Roy, Jean Tanguay occupied land number 10 on the first range at Saint-Vallier. (today in the county of Bellechasse, Qc).

Jean Tanguay and his wife moved in 1694 to La Durantaye, to the part of the territory which would one day become Saint-Vallier. Their first child was born on the Ile d'Orleans. He was also buried there on 28 February 1693, when he was six days old. The names of Jean and Marie appeared in the registries of Saint-Michel de La Durantaye, Beaumont and Saint-Vallier with the successive births of their children.

On 27 January 1705, father-in-law Jean Brochu died at Saint-Jean on the island. On 14 October 1709, Nicole Saulnier, mother of Marie Brochu, gave her son Jean all the property from her community property, with certain conditions. On 20 August 1710, Marie Brochu ratified the exchange made by her husband Jean Tanguay with Jean Brochu, her brother, concerning the successive rights related to a Brochu property at La durantaye.

Jean Tanguay's good years continued until 1744. On Thursday, 24 August, the parish was in mourning. As for Marie Brochu, she was also buried at Saint-Vallier, (Bellechasse, Qc), on 7 February 1753, at the age of 77, surrounded by the children and grandchildren.

The Tanguay Family

Jacques, Jean-Baptiste, Marie-Anne, Jacques, Isabelle, Elisabeth, Jean-Francois, Rene, Andre, Marie, Anne-Francoise and Marie-Francoise were the twelve children in the second generation of the Canadian Tanguay family, born to **Jean Tanguay** and Marie Nicole Brochu.

1. Jean and Marie Nicole Tanguay's fourth child, **Jacques Tanguay**, was born April 23, 1701 in La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada. On February 28, 1729 in Ste. Francois-de-la-Riviere-de Sud, Montmagny County, Quebec Province, Canada he married Genevieve Mercier. The daughter of Jacques Pascal Mercier and Marie Madeline Boucher, she was born May 18, 1712 in Notre Dam de l' Assumption de Berthier, Quebec Province, Canada. They had six children; **Jacques Joseph Tanguay**, Marie Genevieve Tanguay, Marie Anne Genevieve Tanguay, Jacques Paschal Tanguay, Jean Baptiste Tanguay and Marie Josette Tanguay.
2. Jacques and Marie Genevieve Tanguay's first child, **Jacques Joseph Tanguay**, was born March 3, 1730 in St. Vallier, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada. On January 22, 1761 in St Francois, Isle D'Orleans, Montmorency County, Quebec Province, Canada he married Marie Theresa Morin. The daughter of Antoine Morin and Marguerite Dagneau, she was born in 1738 in Quebec Province Canada. They had two children: **Pierre Noel Tanguay** and Jacques Tanguay.
3. Jacques and Marie Theresa Tanguay's first child, **Pierre Noel Tanguay**, was born August 24, 1765 in St. Vallier, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada. On February 6, 1789 in St. Vallier, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada he married Madeleine Roy. The daughter of Augustin Roy and Marie Angelique Clement-LaBonte, she was born April 16, 1765 in St. Vallier, La

Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada. They had four children: **Pierre Noel Tanguay**, Simon Tanguay, Marguerite Tanguay and Jean Baptiste Tanguay.

4. Pierre and Marie Angelique Tanguay's first child, **Pierre Noel Tanguay**, was born April 5, 1793 in St Francois-de-la-Riviere-du-Sud, Montmagny County, Quebec Province, Canada. On February 12, 1816 in St. Vallier, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada he married Marie Agathe Fortier. The daughter of Francois Fortier and Marie Madeleine Picard Destroismaisoms, she was born in 1782 in St Francois-de-la-Riviere-du-Sud, Montmagny County, Quebec Province, Canada. They would have 6 children: Adelaide Tanguay, Delina Tanguay, Dorothree Tanguay, Marcelline Tanguay, **Simon Tanguay** and Georges Tanguay.
5. Pierre and Marie Madeleine Tanguay's fifth child, **Simon Tanguay**, was born June 7, 1817 in St. Vallier, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada. On January 11, 1842 in St. Gervais, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada he married Henriette Bolduc. The daughter of Pierre Bolduc and Marie Ann Richard, she was born December 13, 1820 in St. Gervais, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada. They had two children; Desire Tanguay and Napoleon Tanguay.

Simon Tanguay would later marry Marie Anne Dion on July 7, 1846 in St. Gervais, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada. The daughter of Eloi Dion and Angele Leblanc, she was born about 1827 in Quebec Province, Canada. They would have sixteen children: Phillias Tanguay, Ludger Tanguay, **Ubald Tanguay**, Elzear Mathius Tanguay, Demerise Tanguay, Misael Tanguay, Omer Tanguay, Onesime Tanguay, Theodore Tanguay, Delima Tanguay, Ameralise Tanguay, Aurelie Tanguay, Naziance Tanguay, Marie Amanda Tanguay, Hermengilde Tanguay and Philbert Tanguay.

- 5.1. Simon and Marie Anne Tanguay's fifth child, **Ubald Tanguay**, was born April 21, 1850 in St. Vallier, La Bellechasse County, Quebec Province, Canada. on February 22, 1876 in St. Justine, Dorchester County, Quebec Province, Canada he married Delvina Renaud. The daughter of Joseph Renaud and Marie Collet, she was born about 1856. They would have nine children: Marie Rose Aimee Tanguay, Aime Joseph Tanguay, Marie Anna Albertine Tanguay, Marie Filia Tanguay, **Alfred Leo Tanguay**, Ophelia Amangelis Tanguay, Davila Joseph Jean Tanguay, Albert Arsene Tanguay and Almeria Amanada Tanguay.

- 5.1.1. Ubald and Delvina Tanguay's fifth child, **Alfred Leo Tanguay**, was born December 06, 1883 in Saint Justine, Dorchester County, Quebec Province, Canada. In 1902 Ubald immigrated across the Canadian border to the United States and took up residence in the state of Maine. On August 14, 1907 in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine he married Matilda Vassar. The daughter of Thomas Vassar and Liese Peltier, she was born February 07, 1889 in Old Town, Penobscot County, Maine. Alfred died May 4, 1965 in Houlton, Aroostook County, Maine. Matilda died October 15, 1955 in Eagle Lake, Aroostook County, Maine. They had five children: Lovola Mae Tanguay, Vassar Alfred Tanguay, Sylvia Germaine Tanguay, Aldeen Thorona Tanguay and **Donoto Verald Tanguay**.

- 5.1.1.1. Alfred and Matilda Tanguay's first child, Lovola Tanguay, was born June 29, 1908 in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine. On November 26, 1937 in Aroostook County, Maine, she married Robert Thompson. the son of Wilfred Thompson and Mabel Parker, he was born August 26, 1910 in Presque Isle, Aroostook County, Maine. Lovola died September 1, 1995 in Portland, Cumberland County, Maine. Robert died June 12, 2002 in Saint Augustine, St

- Johns County, Florida. Lovola and Robert had two children: Nancy Ann Thompson and Mary Jane Thompson.
- 5.1.1.1.1. Nancy Ann Thompson married Stephen Hathaway Willis and had daughters Jennifer Willis and Rebecca Willis.
- 5.1.1.1.2. Mary Jane Thompson married Daniel Lee Hesford and had children Deborah Ellen Hesford and William Robert Hesford.
- 5.1.1.2. Alfred and Matilda Tanguay's second child, Vassar Alfred Tanguay, was born May 24, 1910 in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine. On December 28, 1938 in Aroostook County, Maine he married Nina May Daggett. The daughter of Perley and Marnie Daggett, she was born May 06, 1917 in Eagle Lake, Aroostook County, Maine. Vassar died June 16, 1970 in Fish Lake, Aroostook County, Maine. They had two children: Lavola Ann Tanguay and Vassar Leo Tanguay
- 5.1.1.2.1. Lavola Ann Tanguay married Reno Landry.
- 5.1.1.2.2. Vassar Leo Tanguay married Peggy Bennett and had children Todd Bennett Tanguay and Leo Curtis Tanguay.
- 5.1.1.3. Alfred and Matilda Tanguay's third child, Sylvia Germaine Tanguay, was born November 25, 1911 in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine. On July 6, 1938 in Aroostook County, Maine she married George Charles McKenney. The son of George and Almeda McKenney, he was born May 27, 1912 in Fort Fairfield, Aroostook County, Maine. Sylvia died February 08, 2002 in Brandenton, Manatee County, Florida. Charles died November 24, 1966 in Wilton, Fairfield County, Connecticut. Theirs was a childless marriage.
- 5.1.1.4. Alfred and Matilda Tanguay's fourth child, Aldeen Thorona Tanguay, was born July 12, 1914 in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine. In 1933 in Aroostook County, Maine she married Dana Ralph Mc Nally. The son of William Parker McNally and Catherine Nadeau, he was born November 12, 1912 in Ashland, Aroostook County, Maine. Dana died in August 1980 in Presque Isle, Aroostook County, Maine. They had a daughter Janice McNally.
- 5.1.1.4.1. Janice McNally married Robert Fields and had children Linda Fields, Lisa fields and Michael Fields.
- 5.1.1.5. Alfred and Matilda Tanguay's fifth child, **Donoto Vernald Tanguay**, was born Jun 22, 1916 in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine. On April 19, 1939 in Presque, Aroostook County, Maine he married Alta Beryl Mary Currier. The daughter of Charles Currier and Mary Margaret Crawford, she was born January 10, 1908 in Mapleton, Aroostook County, Maine. Donoto died May 18, 1975 in Manhattan, New York. Alta died December 21, 1983 in Hempstead, Nassau County, Long Island, New York. They had three children: Brenda Mary Tanguay, Martha Jean Tanguay and Donna Jane Tanguay.

5.1.1.5.1. Brenda Mary Tanguay married Joseph Mazzeo and had a son Brian Mazzeo.

5.1.1.5.2. **Martha Jean Tanguay** married **Donald Lee Purfeerst** (the author). Theirs was a childless marriage but to this union Donald brought three children from a previous marriage: Bradley Allen Purfeerst, Sheryl Monique Purfeerst and Sheila Rene Purfeerst.

5.1.1.5.3. Donna Jane Tanguay first married Alfred Thomas Richards and had a daughter Donnalyn Richards.

Donna Jane Tanguay later married Richard Robert Austin, Sr. To this union he brought three children from a previous marriage: Donna Jean Austin, Richard Robert Austin, Jr. and Gregory Alan Austin.

Martha Jean Tanguay, the 7X Great-Granddaughter of French immigrant Jean Tanguay (1662-1744) is the spouse of Donald Lee Purfeerst which thus reflects the Author's interest in the Tanguay family genealogy.



Donoto & Alta (Currier) Tanguay Family – 1948



Donald & Martha (Tanguay) Purfeerst - 1981



Brenda (Tanguay) Mazzeo – 1997



Richard & Donna (Tanguay) Austin Family - 1999

LEFT TO RIGHT:

BACK ROW:

- * Gregory Alan Austin (holding daughter Marissa Annamarie Austin)
- * Richard Robert Austin, Jr., holding one of the twin son's, Matthew Richard Austin
- * Harold Henry Wilson
- * Donna Jean (Austin) Wilson
- * Lauren Jean Wilson

CENTER ROW:

- * Carmina Catherine (Santorelli) Austin
- * Faith Maureen (Galo) Austin
- * Chris Delmedico
- * Donnalyn (Richards)Delmedico
- * Caitlin Rose Wilson
- * Richard Stephen Wilson

FRONT ROW:

- * Francesca Nicole Austin
- * Richard and Faith Austin's other twin son, Thomas Anthony
- * Richard Robert Austin
- * Donna Jane (Tanguay)Austin

Not shown is another set of twins for Richard and Faith Austin: 3 month old Nicholas Galo Austin and Steven Andrew Austin.