

Joseph Arcand (1795-1863) and Marie Vestro dit Jannot (b. 1805)

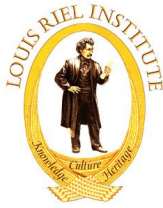
Joseph and Marie Arcand were the parents and grandparents of numerous offspring who fought alongside Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Joseph was the son of Alexis Arcand and Genevieve Pichet. Joseph Arcand, married Marie Vestro dit Gesson dit Jannot on 29 Feb 1832, in St. Boniface. She was the daughter of Francois Vestro dit Gesson and Louise Descoteau (Descoste). She died on October 24, 1855 at St. Francois, Xavier. Joseph died on November 30, 1863, at Baie St. Paul.

Children:

- Pierrette Arcand, b. 1826, Red River Settlement, Manitoba. She married Joseph Adam, b. 1 Mar 1825, Red River Settlement.
- Genevieve Arcand, b. 1832, St. Francois, Xavier, Red River.
- Therese Arcand, b. 25 Jan 1832, St. Vital, Red River Settlement. She married Jean Baptiste Lafond (b. 1832) in 1852, in St. Boniface, Red River. Therese died on July 4, 1884. Their son Jean Baptiste “Tchehasaso” Lafond (1853-1916) was also involved in the 1885 Resistance. He later became Chief of Muskeg Lake Band from 1900 to 1914.
- Joseph Arcand, b. 3 Mar 1833, Red River Settlement. He married Josephthe McKay, 8 Jan 1861, in St. Francois, Xavier. Josephthe (b. 1848) was the daughter of Ignace McKay (b. 1808) and Josephthe Bercier (b. 1818). His brothers married Josephthe’s sisters Annie McKay Marguerite McKay. Joseph was employed as an HBC Middleman from 1855 to 1859 and is shown as a Freeman in Red River in 1859. They lived at White Horse Plain until moving to St. Laurent on the South Saskatchewan in 1881. He was active fighting in the 1885 Resistance.
- Marie Arcand, b. 1834. She married James Swain, 13 February 1851, in St. Francois, Xavier. Her husband and her brothers were all involved in the 1885 Resistance. Louis and Marguerite Riel were living with them at St. Peter’s Mission in 1884 and they accompanied Riel to Batoche. James Swain’s brother John Swain was killed in the fighting at Batoche.
- Alexandre “La Biche” Arcand, born October 17, 1838 in St. Francois Xavier. He married Marguerite McKay (b. 1836) on 23 February, 1859 in St. Francois Xavier. She was the daughter of Ignace McKay and Josephthe Bercier. Alexandre was employed as a HBC Middleman from 1857 to 1881. Alexandre was active in the 1885 Resistance.
- Jean Baptiste Arcand, b. 20 Dec 1840. He married Nancy Anne McKay (b. 16 Oct 1843), before 1862, She was the daughter of Ignace McKay and Josephthe Bercier. Baptiste was employed as an HBC Middleman from 1864 to 1866 and a Freeman employee from 1866 to 1868. Jean Baptiste was active in the 1885 Resistance. Their son Jean Napoleon Arcand (b. 1867) was also active in the Resistance.
- Francois Regis Arcand, was born on December 20, 1840. He married Philomene Bedard. Francois was employed as an HBC Middleman from 1864 to 1867.

Francois was active in the 1885 Resistance. Their son Jean Baptiste Arcand (b. 1840) was also active in the 1885 Resistance.



Compiled by Lawrence Barkwell
Coordinator of Metis Heritage and History Research
Louis Riel Institute