



# *Le Mercien*

*La voix des Mercier d'Amérique*

[www.famillesmercier.org](http://www.famillesmercier.org)



Credit : Société des traversiers du Québec

*Welcome to Lévis for the annual general assembly of the AMAN  
on September 13 at the Hotel Loiselère.*

## *Honour roll - Governors of A.M.A.N.*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>Admission</b>
Ernest Mercier *	Founding President of the A.M.A.N.		1999
Pierre-Paul Mercier *	Administration	Saint-Lambert, QC	2000
Alain Mercier	Communications	Québec City, QC	2000
Charles Mercier	Engineering	Québec City, QC	2000
Christine Mercier	Teaching	Québec City, QC	2000
Louis Mercier	Actuary	Saint-Bruno, QC	2000
Pierre Mercier	Engineering	Saint-Bruno, QC	2000
Suzanne Mercier	Commerce	Montréal, QC	2000
Lucienne M.-Croteau *	Teaching	Bonnyville, AB	2001
Ralph Mercier		Québec City (Charbesbourg), QC	2012

(\*) décédé

## *Board of Directors for 2013-2014 and services of A.M.A.N.*

### **Executive**

<b>President:</b>	Jean Mercier (1524), St-Jérôme, tel.: (450) 432-3223	Email: « jean.mercier6@videotron.ca »
<b>Vice-Pres:</b>	Germain Nappert (1480), Boisbriand, tel.: (450) 437-1220	Email: « nappert@videotron.ca »
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jean Mercier (1), Québec, tel.: (418) 688-3092	Email: « jean_mercier@sympatico.ca »
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Suzanne Mercier (1126), St-Damien, tel.: (418) 789-2976	Email: « smercier2002@hotmail.ca »

### **Administrators**

<b>Archivist:</b>	Gilmond Mercier (28), Sainte-Sabine, tel.: (418) 383-3441	Email: « gilmondm@sogetel.net »
	Jacques Mercier (341), St-Georges, tel.: (418) 228-5426	Email: « studiocimai@gmail.com »
	Laurent Mercier (1520), St-Hubert, tel.: (450) 678 5054	Email: « laurentmercier@ymail.com »

### **Services**

<b>Archives, Web site and Facebook :</b>	Gilmond Mercier (28)
<b>Webmaster :</b>	Pascal Mercier (1568) Email: « pmercier@ubeo.ca »
<b>Le Mercien :</b>	Jean Mercier (1)
<b>Genealogy :</b>	Benoît Mercier (222) Email: « benoitbmercier@hotmail.com »
<b>Translation :</b>	Louis Bibeau, Jane Buskirk
<b>Accounting verification :</b>	

## *Membership dues*

<b>Annually :</b>	<b>25 \$</b>
<b>Life membership, 65 years and older :</b>	<b>250 \$</b>
<b>Life membership, less than 65 years of age :</b>	<b>400 \$</b>
<b>Governor :</b>	<b>1 000 \$</b>

*Those amounts are in U.S. currency for U.S. residents and in euros for European residents.*

This newsletter is named after the kingdom of Mercia which existed from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> centuries. It was one of the seven original kingdoms constituting England. The inhabitants of that territory must have been called Merciens (or Mercien in French).

We are proud to perpetuate that name today.

A.M.A.N. is a member of the  
Fédération des familles souches du Québec

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# The Word of the President

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*By Jean Mercier (1524), president*

**G**reetings to all,  
Our next gathering for the general assembly will be held in Lévis, at the Oiselière Hotel, on next September 13th. You will find herein all the necessary documents and information for the assembly and for your reservations at the hotel.

We very much count on the presence of the members of the region of Quebec. This year, our general assembly is very important. We will have to discuss and find new means to balance our financial budget so that it remains positive.

1. The number of members is diminishing
2. The members who registered at the beginning of our Association as members for life are in a losing situation due to the fact that interest rates are too low.
3. The printing costs for our Newsletter as well as the shipping costs are increasing continuously.

Your Board of Governors is seriously studying new approaches which will be discussed at our general assembly. An increase in membership fees..., cutting in the number of Newsletters published per year..., eliminating the English version of our Newsletter...,? Maybe the members who have paid for a life membership at a lower cost could make a voluntary contribution? All this to say that your presence is important. The members of your Board

of Governors consecrate a lot of time and money to your association. Their only salary is your presence at the activities. **I am thus looking forward to meet you on September 13 in Lévis.**



Benoît and Laurent are doing a tremendous job of research on the **MERCIER** in order to make available a dictionary of information. To date we have reached a total of 76 000 **MERCIER** with information on their dates of Birth, Marriage and Death. If you have personal information on the Mercier of your family or region, it is still time to forward it to us in order to increase our Data Bank. Our objective is to publish a dictionary in the coming year.

**AMAN is dear to your heart, then let us all meet on September 13 in Lévis.**

Jean Mercier 1524  
President

# Lévis : Yesterday and today

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The City of Lévis, officially founded in 1861, takes its roots from the first village on the South-Shore of Quebec City called Saint-Joseph-de-la-Pointe-de-Lévy, situated in the eastern section of the Seigneurie de Lauzon.

**Louis Carrier** (1816-1874) became the first Mayor of Lévis in 1861. Afterwards, he was re-elected by acclamation every two years until 1870, the year when he definitely left politics. Louis and his brother Antoine were owners of a store at the corner of Saint-Georges and Saint-Antoine.



Source : Ville de Lévis

**François Gaston de Lévis** (1719-1787).

In 1748, King Louis XV makes him a Chevalier of Saint-Louis. He is then known under the name of Chevalier of Lévis.



In April 1756, he is named Brigadier and Commander-in-second of the French Army of Canada. It is in vain that he wins the battle of Ste-Foy in 1760. In 1783, he becomes Maréchal of France.

On June 19 2013, a monument is erected in his honour on the Terrasse-de-Lévis.

Source : Ville de Lévis



**Guillaume Couture** (1618-1701), an unknown hero of New-France, has his monument situated in Old-Lauzon. Carpenter Guillaume Couture is first and foremost a «coureur des bois». In 1645, he is the interpreter at the signing of the first Peace Treaty between the French and the Iroquois.

On May 15 1647, he is rewarded by the Governor of New-France who gives him a piece of land in the Seigneurie deLauzon where he is considered to be the first 'colon'. In 1663, he discovers Lake Mistassini.

In 1690, as Captain of the Militia, he pushes back the troops of Admiral William Phipps at Pointe-Lévy.

Source : Ville de Lévis



The **Alphonse-Desjardins House**, place of the first Credit-Union of North America is classified as a historical monument in 1983. The Desjardins Movement, started in 1900, carries the name of its founder. He marries Dorimène Roy-Desjardins on September 2 1879 in the church of Saint-Pierre-de-Sorel. The members who will participate in the annual assembly of the Association of the Mercier of North America which will be held on September 13 2014 will have the opportunity of visiting this historical residence decorated in a 1906 Victorian decor. With the help of photos, maps and testimonies, we discover how Alphonse and Dorimène succeeded in establishing their audacious project.

Napoléon **Mercier** founded in 1891 the **Scies Mercier Inc.** It is one of the oldest manufacturers of sawing equipment in North America. Initially installed in a building built in 1880, the company produces round saws, small saws, hand saws etc... Today, the Scies Mercier Inc. occupies a modern facility and fabricates tools for industrial saw-mills for wood, metals and the food industry.



The Société des traversiers of Quebec (ferry services) has revealed the architectural plans for the **future fluvial station of Lévis**. This modern two-story structure made of glass and wood will be built at the end of the mobile ferry foot-bridge. Each year, more than two million passengers use the ferry.

The new station will have a first floor, a hall of entry, administrative offices for the Quebec-Lévis Ferry services, a ticket counter and a restaurant.

# The Manège Militaire (Armoury) of Lévis

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The Manège Militaire de Lévis built in 1911 is a building of romane architectural inspiration. It is the home of the Régiment de la Chaudière Museum. This museum is consecrated to the memory of one of the most ancient Canadian military units. The Régiment de la Chaudière distinguished itself on the European Front in 1944-1945 by being the only French-Canadian Unit to be present during the troop landings in Normandy on June 6 1944. Those who will participate in the general assembly of the Association of the Mercier of North America will be fortunate to visit an exposition on the beach landing in Normandy and to hear and see video recordings of veterans who participated in that landing some 70 years ago.



Captain **Louis Mercier** dit Lajoie (1847-1907) of Sainte-Justine, previously the County of Dorchester, today the County of Bellechasse, is considered as one of the founders of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Dorchester and Beauce which would become in the 1930s the Régiment de la Chaudière. It appears that he attended a military school in Quebec. Having obtained his grades, he formed a company of militia in Sainte-Justine. At the entry to the museum of the Régiment de la Chaudière, one can see a mosaic where figure the pictures of all the founders of the Régiment of Dorchester and Beauce.

Source: Manège militaire de Lévis

# A View of Lévis from the City of Quebec



The Old-Lévis, as seen above, proudly faces the city of Quebec separated only by the Saint Lawrence River. The city of Lévis has a present population of over 140 000 inhabitants. It is under the leadership of the parish priest Joseph-David Déziel that the city took the name of Lévis. His statue is erected in front of the church of Notre-Dame-de-la-Victoire-de-Lévis as seen below.



On November 20 1851, the Vicar General Charles-Félix Cazeau blessed the new church and the very same day, parish priest Joseph-David Déziel celebrated the first mass. This church is the biggest of its time on American soil after that of Notre-Dame-de-Montreal. The proclamation was signed on September 28 1852 by Lord Elgin, Governor General of Canada.

This church is classified as a historical monument since 2003. Its neo-classical architecture, its rich interior decoration and its Mitchell Grand Organ make it very appealing to the visitors.

Sources: Mercier et Cie, éditeur



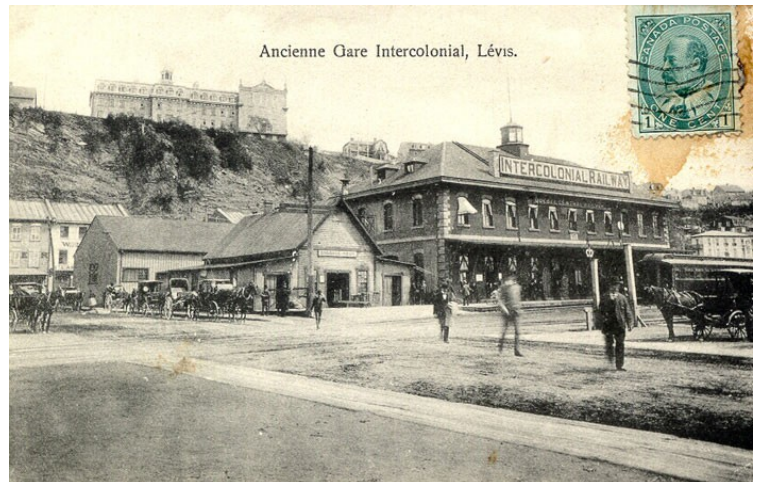
The **Marina de Lévis**, with its magnificent view of the Quebec Bridge and the Pierre-Laporte Bridge in the background.

Source : Ville de Lévis

The **Terrasse de Lévis**, inaugurated in 1939 by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth (mother of Queen Elizabeth II) offers a panoramic view of the ramparts of Quebec City, Chateau Frontenac, the Quebec and Pierre-Laporte Bridges, the Laurentian Mountains up to Mont Sainte-Anne and Île d'Orléans.



The **Old-Lévis Train Station** built in 1864 served in the course of time as a terminal for the Grand-Trunk, the Intercolonial and the Quebec Central Railways. It is then recognized as an important link between the Maritimes and Western Canada. The City of Lévis is serviced by the railways before the City of Quebec. The train station is renovated and modernised in 1986 to accommodate the passenger services of VIA Rail. The building's railway vocation ends on October 24 1998 when the last train 'Océan' leaves the station of Lévis. It is then that important work is done to take away all railway equipment and rails from the whole railroad system, paving the way to develop a bicycle trail, the '*Parcours des Anses*' which rapidly becomes the most frequented recreational area of the region. This development brought a new vocation to the old railway station. Since, the building becomes a center that serves as the terminal for the Quebec-Lévis ferry, the Lévis Tourist Bureau and the Bicycle Renting agency.





# Industries in Lévis

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## The Jean-Gaulin Refinery (Ultramar) of Lévis

The **Jean-Gaulin Refinery of Lévis**, open in 1971, processes foreign crude oil from over-seas carried by tankers to its deep-water port on the Saint Lawrence River. The 500 employees of the most important refinery of Eastern Canada contribute to

the production of 265 000 barrels a day (41.5 million litres). With a storage capacity of 8.7 million barrels of crude oil, intermediate and refined products, the refinery can also store liquefied petroleum gas. If the Enbridge Oil Company project is realised, the oil arriving from the West Canadian oil sands would secure the actual jobs and create more than one hundred new posts.



## The Maritime Shipyard of Lévis

**Chantier Davie Canada Inc.** is the biggest maritime shipyard in Canada. It was founded in 1829 by Captain Allison Davie. From one generation to the next, the workers have succeeded in an effective transition from sail ships to steamships, from wooden ships to steel ships, adopting new technologies to satisfy new needs.



In 1916 and 1917, the shipyard participates in the towing and the installation of the central truss of the Pont de Québec. During the Second World War, the company contributes to the construction and the maintenance of corvettes (little warships) used to patrol and accompany convoys on the Saint Lawrence River and on the Atlantic Ocean.

Later on, the shipyard meets with some success but also faces some critical periods. At a certain time, there is even fear for its survival. Today, the shipyard is booming with activity occupying some 750 workers. With the construction of two boats for the Société des traversiers du Québec, it is anticipated that the work-

force could increase to 1200 employees in 2014.

# Activities for the Annual General Assembly of the Mercier of North America

## Program for the day - September 13 2014

<b>The Place:</b>	<b>Hotel l'Oiselière 165 A, President Kennedy Road Lévis, QC. G6V 6E2</b>
<b>9:00 to 9.45hrs</b>	Reception, registration, meeting old friends, genealogical research, within amusical ambiance. Promotional articles available. (Juice, coffee, pastries)
<b>9.45 to 11:00hrs</b>	General Assembly (See Order of the day)
<b>11:00 to 11:45hrs</b>	Conference by Mr. Claude Genest on <i>Lévis and its History.</i>
<b>11:45 to 13:15hrs</b>	Dinner
<b>13:30 to 15:00hrs</b>	A choice between 2 guided visits: We will have the opportunity to visit a home filled with history, where the great cooperative movement started: <b>The residence of Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins</b> and also <b>The Museum of the Regiment of La Chaudière/ Manège militaire (Armoury) de Lévis.</b>
<b>15:00 to 16:00hrs</b>	Friendship toast, Attendance Price, Special Draws. Cost: 55. \$/person, all included – Dinner, guided visits and Friendship toast.

# *Annual General Assembly of AMAN*

The members of the Association of the Mercier of North America Inc. Are summoned to the 30<sup>th</sup> annual general assembly. It will be held at the Hotel Oiselière of Lévis on 13 September 2014.

## **Order of the Day**

- 30.01** Opening of the assembly, word of welcome, program for the day and recording those present.
- 30.02** Lecture and adoption of the Order of the Day.
- 30.03** Lecture and adoption of the minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> assembly.
- 30.04** The President's report.
- 30.05** The Treasurer's report.
- 30.06** The nomination of an auditor.
- 30.07** The ratification of the acts of the Board of Governors.
- 30.08** Election of the Board of Governors.
- 30.09** Discussion of various matters, and distribution of Life Membership Certificates.
- 30.10** Lifting of the assembly.

Jean Mercier, secretary

# Welcome to our new members!

NO	NAME	EXPIRATION	ADDRESS
1602	Anne Mercier	2015	Dollard-des-Ormeaux
1603	Mario Mercier	2015	Thetford-Mines
1604	Sandra Anne Mercier-Maroney	2015	Lakebay, É.U.
1605	Louise Mercier	2015	Granby
1606	Émile Mercier	2015	Québec
1607	Sylvie Mercier	2015	St-Basile-le-Grand
1608	Chantal Mercier	2015	Chambly

## Thank you to members who have renewed their membership

1498	Paul J. Mercier	2014
2050	Réal Mercier	2015
704	Josette Mercier	2015
628	Marcel Mercier	2015
1588	Yolande Mercier Audet	2015
578	Émilia Mercier	2015

## Additional Information Concerning the Annual Assembly

**How to get there :** via Autoroute 20, Exit 325 North. Hotel is clearly visible from the road.

	Accomodation			
	without breakfast		with breakfast	
Room	regular	superior	regular	superior
Single	109\$	119\$	119\$	129\$
Double	109\$	119\$	129\$	139\$

Service costs included in the breakfast option

Cost plus taxes

# Where Has Gone the «Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier»?

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## How can the Municipality of Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan so easily sweep away 150 years of history?

In 2007, the administrators of the Municipality of Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan wanted to eliminate the name of «**Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier**» and replace it by the Armand-Majeau Road, but the protest organised by the descendants of the Mercier interrupted the procedure. Ironically, seven years later, after the November elections, signs indicate new road names **without the authorisation of the Commission de Toponymie du Québec**.

Agnès Mercier Henri and her brother Michel take up the battle of 2007 and form a committee for the preservation of the «**Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier**» with the help of Lise Gauthier and Lise St-André. To date, a petition has been signed by more than 1400 citizens who approve «maintaining as is» the name of a road more than centenary.

Why should the administrators of the Municipality of Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan be so cold hearted and sweep away an historical name that exists for more than 150 years while they showed themselves to be sensitive to the preservation of our heritage during the procedures for the transformation of the old convent of Saint-Roch, which became the Municipal Offices?

The **Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier** was named in honor of Joseph Mercier dit Lajoie (1813-1884). It is more than a simple line in the Achigan landscape. It is the continuation and the tradition left by first class public servants, Joseph being a school commissioner and a mayor, which gives honor to the builders of

yesterday. It is a road which serves as a memory lane and symbolizes equally the achievements of the pioneers of the Mercier family in Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan.

## Request made to Mister Mayor Georges Locas and the municipal councillors of Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan

Dear administrators of this beautiful municipality, we ask you to annul your decision of December last and follow the second recommendation made by the Commission de Toponymie du Québec which recognizes the great historical value of the name «**Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier**».

We quote an extract of the letter of March 4 2014 addressed to the General Director of the Municipality: the Commission de Toponymie du Québec proposes two possibilities to reduce the number of names which presently designate four roads that are in one continuous line and preserves the historical name.

1. **Attribute the name Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier to the three roads actually designated under the names Marchand Road, Docteur-Wilfrid-LocatSud Road and Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier and maintain the toponyme Armand-Majeau Road in the industrial section.**
2. **Attribute the name Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier to the four roads actually designated under the names Marchand Road, Docteur-Wilfrid-LocatSud Road, Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier and Armand-Majeau Road.**

Finally, we wish to thank all the people who have supported us by signing the petition and we hope that the City Council will recognize the name «**Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier**» accepted since 1864.

Without prejudice,

## **THE MERCIER FAMILY**

*Reference: You can read the history of the Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier, author Jean-René Thuot, Parcours de bâtisseurs à Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan, 2006, p. 140 as well as an article published in the Bulletin black-on-white of the municipality in December 2007, pp. 22-26.*

### **The Battle of My Mother Agnès Mercier Henri**

On last April 8, I was attending the funeral of my cousin Claude Mercier, Mayor of the Municipality of Saint-Roch-Ouest. Deeply touched by the vibrant homage addressed to him by his spouse Monique and his relatives, the idea came to me, as Mother's Day approaches, to give homage to my mother while she is still alive and to support her in her fight for the preservation of the road name «**Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier**».

My mother, 81 years old, always overflows with energy. She raised 7 children while being at the same time administrator of an agricultural farm. She is the grand-mother of 17 grandchildren and 11 times great-grandmother. Voluntarily and for more than 25 years, she has been involved in the community as an organizer of dances for people of all ages. Family values are important to her and everyone recognizes that she is the center around which revolves the Mercier family.

Dearest Mother, I take this opportunity of Mother's Day to render you this homage publically:

Mother, You are a strong woman, an example of tenacity. You have never fallen in the face of trials, you who became a first time mother on the very day of the funeral of your father Téléphore Mercier. You leave us with a precious heritage, that of not giving up when faced with the first hurdle. You are my Olympic champion.

In the name of all the members of your large family and of the descendants of the Mercier lineage, we wish us all that we will have you with us in good health for a long time. I hope that we and the future generations will be able to circulate again on the **Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier** which will remind us of your heart's line and of your pride.

Tremendous thanks, mother, for this courage and this determination which honors your ancestors, artisans and pioneers.

Happy Mother's Day, Maman!

**FRANCINE HENRI**

Happy Birthday to all the mothers with a heart!



# *In Memoriam*

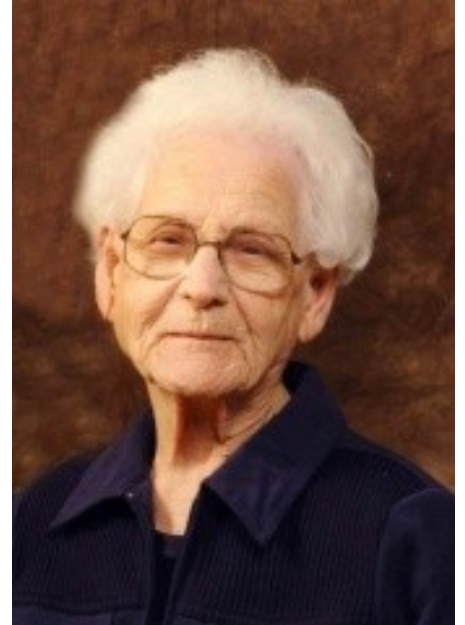
*We offer our sincere condolences to the bereaved families*

## **Mercier Lussier, Blanche**

**1914 - 2014**

CSSS Val St-François - Pav. St. Louis, April 11, 2014, at the age of 100 years, died Mrs Blanche Mercier, wife in 1<sup>st</sup> wedding of the late Emile Lussier and 2<sup>nd</sup> wedding of the late Maurice Elias, residing in Windsor.

Mrs Blanche Mercier left to mourn her daughter, Denise (Richard L'Étoile), her sons, Conrad (Carmen Guyon), Richard (Susan Johnson), Marcel (Céline Allard). She was the mother of the late Jeanne. Her grandchildren, Nathalie, Valerie, Daniel Kim, Simon, Melanie Martin, Karine, Eliane, Julie-Anne, great-grandchildren, Jules, Alice, Elizabeth, Amanda, Benjamin, Dylan, Noah, Virginia, Vincent, Leonie and Émile-Olivier and several brothers and sisters, step-brother and sisters, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends that are already gone.




Blanche Mercier-Lussier was the great aunt of Laurent who is on the Board of Directors.



## **Joseph-Émile Mercier has left us**

Hes daughter Anne sent us the following information: Mr. Joseph-Emile Mercier, member of the Aman, died September 29, 2013 He was the husband of Denise Lamarre.. He was born June 11, 1923 in St. Alexandre de Kamouraska. His father, Joseph Thomas, married in St Epiphanius, Viger, March 24, 1920, Marie-Louise Bérubé. He was of the lineage of Julien Mercier and Marie Poulin, Quebec January 18, 1654.

# Let's encourage our sponsors!



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