

MAISON ALPHONSE-DESJARDINS PAST AND PRESENT OCCUPANTS

Built in 1883, Maison Alphonse-Desjardins was occupied by Desjardins family members until 1939, over half a century. It was then home to several renters until it was converted first into an interpretive center and then a museum.

Upon Alphonse Desjardins's death in 1920, the house became the property of his wife Dorimène who lived in it until she died in 1932. She in turn left it to Albertine Desjardins, the seventh of the couple's 10 children, an unmarried woman of 40 years of age. For a few years, she shared the home with the Lucien Labrecque family who rented the first floor. In 1938, Albertine left the home to Union régionale de Québec des caisses populaires Desjardins in exchange for a lifetime annuity. From 1939 to 1944, it was rented out to the L.-N. Huart family, and then to their daughter Bérangère until 1981, at which time Union régionale became Fédération des caisses populaires Desjardins de Québec (FCPDQ) and reclaimed the house.

The last transfer of ownership took place in 1981 during Desjardins Week, when FCPDQ donated the house to Société historique Alphonse-Desjardins, founded only 2 years earlier.

In November 1982, after renovations made through financial contributions from various Desjardins Group components, Maison Alphonse-Desjardins was officially opened to the public. For the last 30 years it has been open daily to visitors who come to learn about the fascinating story of Alphonse and Dorimène Desjardins.

