

Bust

L'honorable L.A. Taschereau

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The bust portrait of Louis-Alexandre Taschereau rests on a small pedestal. He is wearing a jacket, shirt and tie. His hair is combed to one side. The bust is covered with a dark green patina. The portrait is a true likeness of the sitter, based on the photograph of Taschereau taken around 1930, when he was Premier of Quebec and about 63 years old.

Accession Number 2022.17.54

Artiste / Auteur Gratton, Joseph-Olindo

Materials paint, plaster

Historical context

Olindo Gratton's bust represents Louis-Alexandre Taschereau (1867-1952), born in 1867 in Quebec City. The bust is dated August 23, 1931, the eve of the general election, which he won by a large majority over Camillien Houde. Taschereau studied at the Séminaire de Québec and Université Laval. He was admitted to the Quebec Bar in 1889. A lawyer and Quebec politician in the Liberal government, he was also a journalist with Action libérale and president and vice-president of the Banque d'économie de Québec. Starting in 1900, he was elected eleven times in the riding of Montmorency. From 1920 to 1936, he was Premier of Quebec. During the economic crisis of the 1930s, he created the first unemployment law. During his tenure, he founded fine arts schools in Quebec City in 1922, and in Montreal in 1923, as well as subsidizing scientific and literary works. Taschereau enjoyed a long political career, serving as Premier for 16 years and as a Member of Parliament for over 35. He died in Quebec City on July 6, 1952.

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