

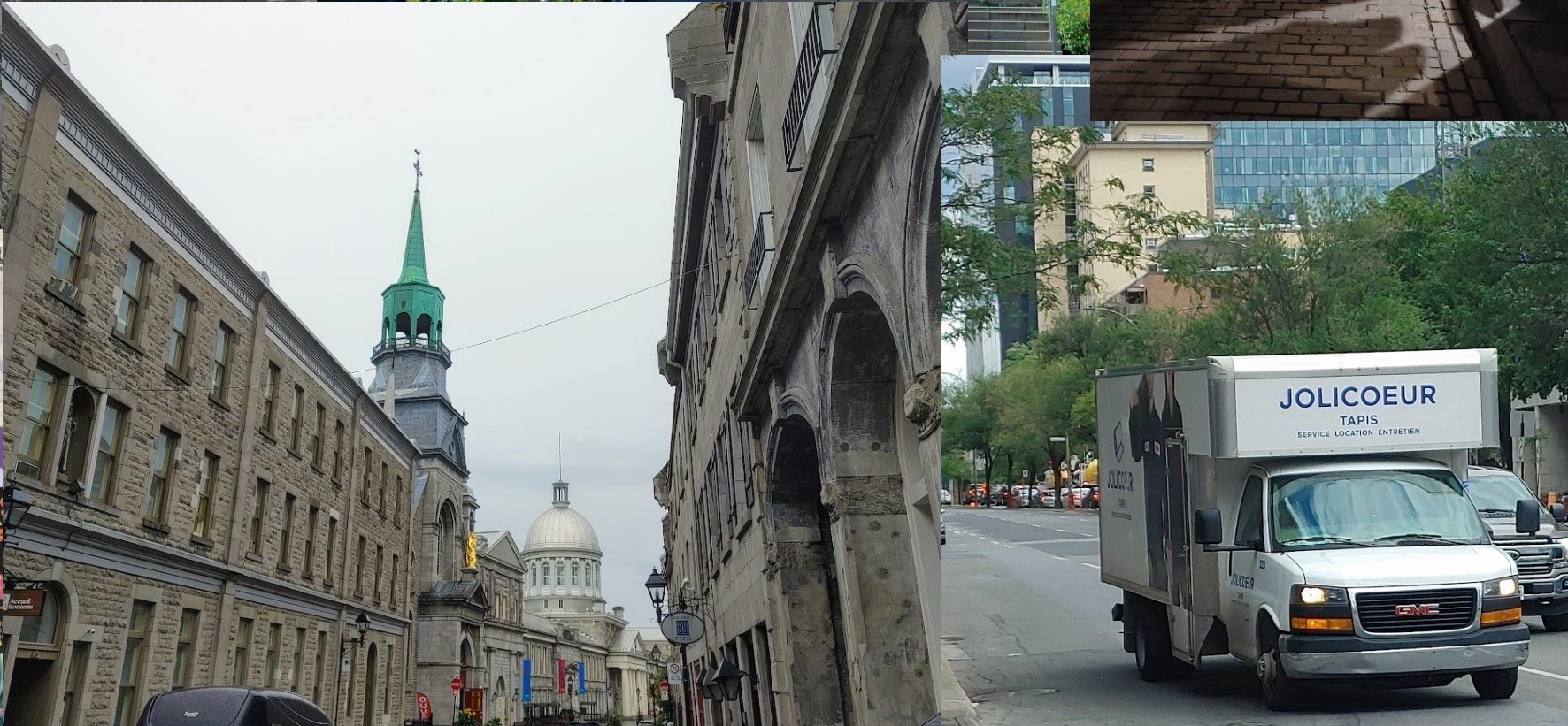
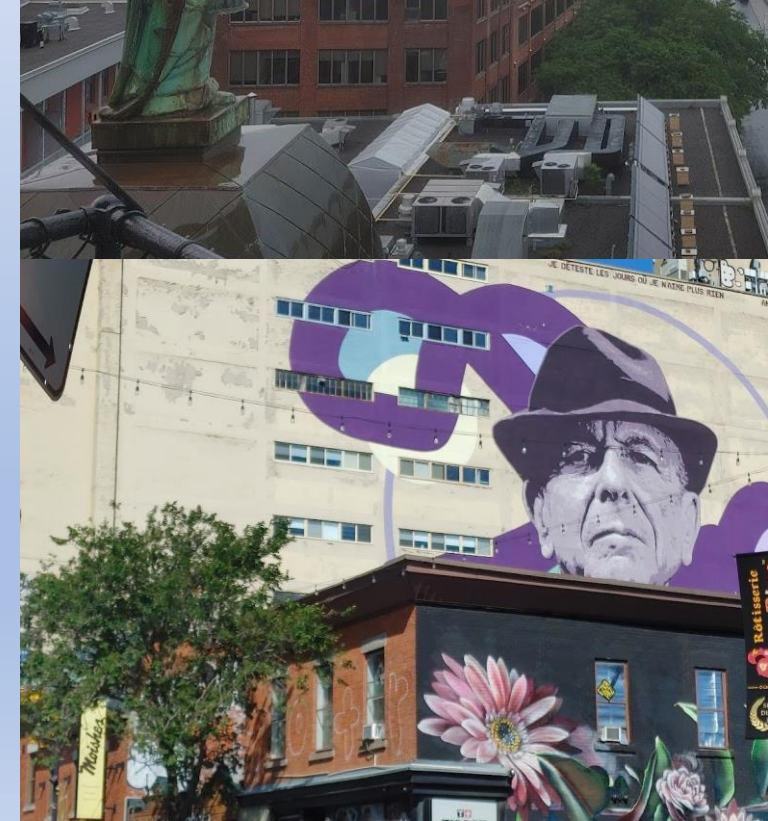
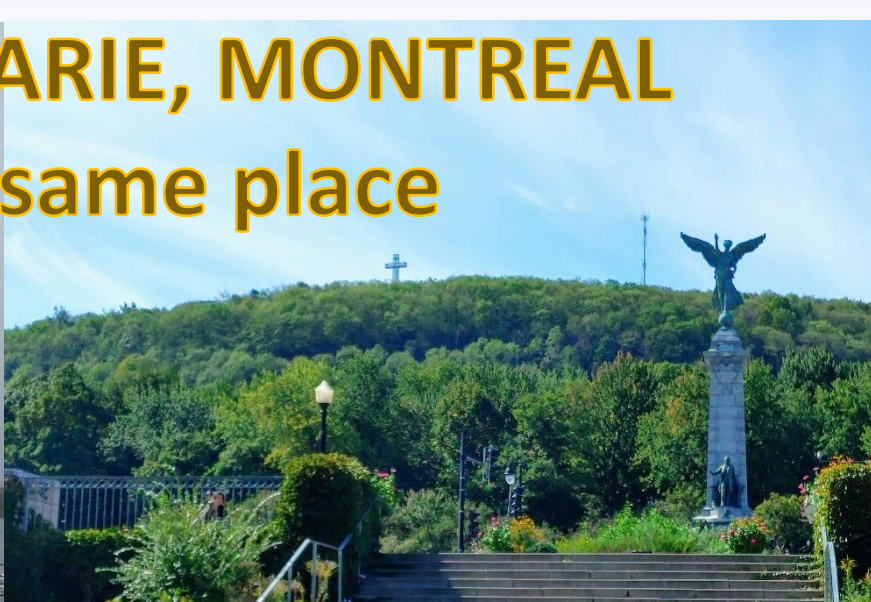
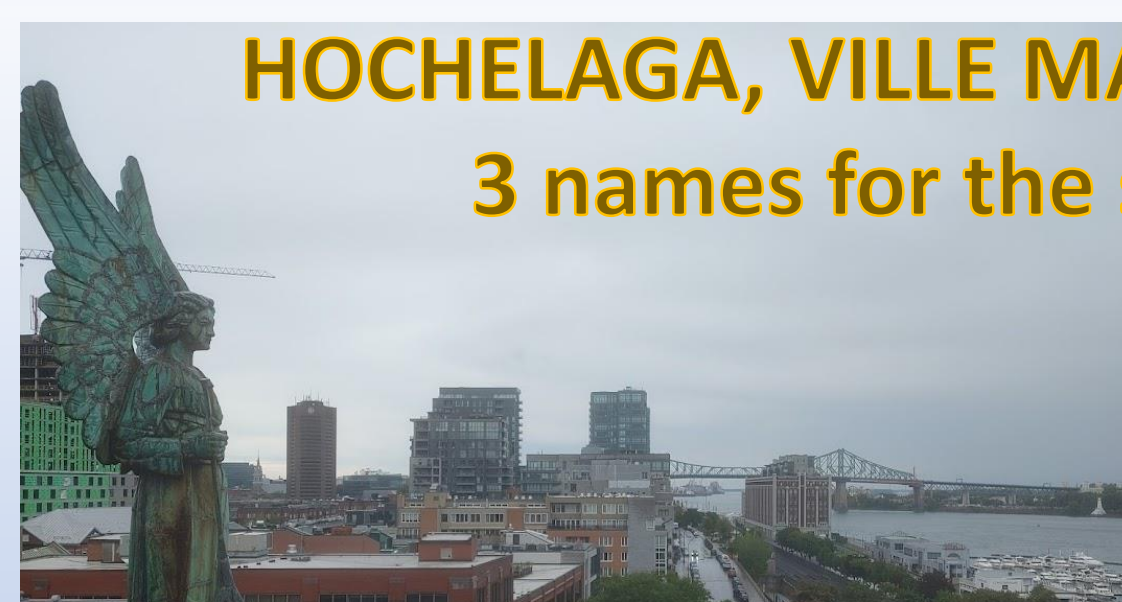


**CHEMINS DU VILLE DE MONTREAL**  
**September 2021**

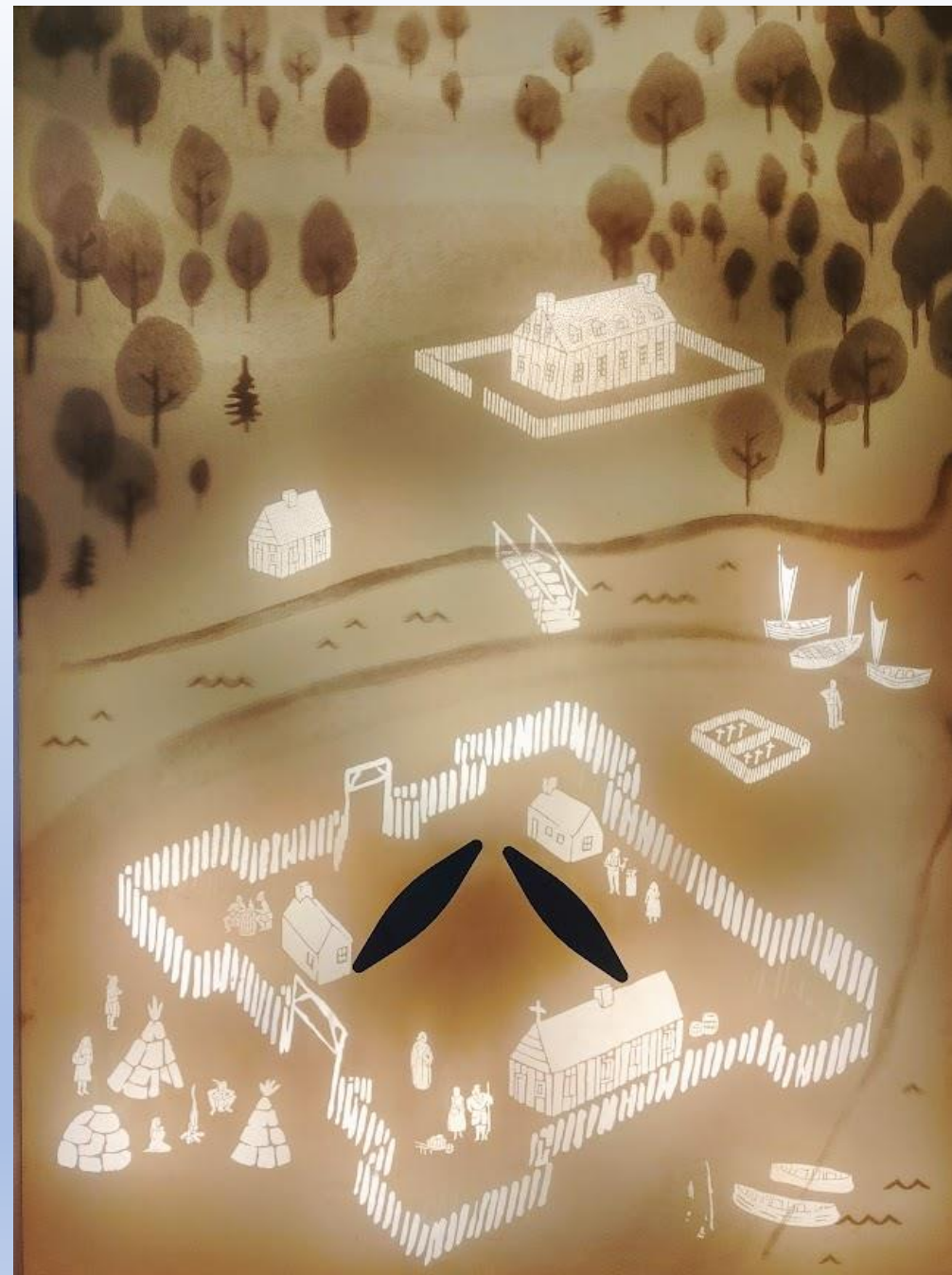
**Footsteps** to historical sites, museums and libraries in **Old Montreal** (Vieux Montreal), Quebec.  
**Footsteps** to **Notre Dame Basilica** where many of my ancestors were baptized or married in the former church buildings on this site.

# HOCHELAGA, VILLE MARIE, MONTREAL

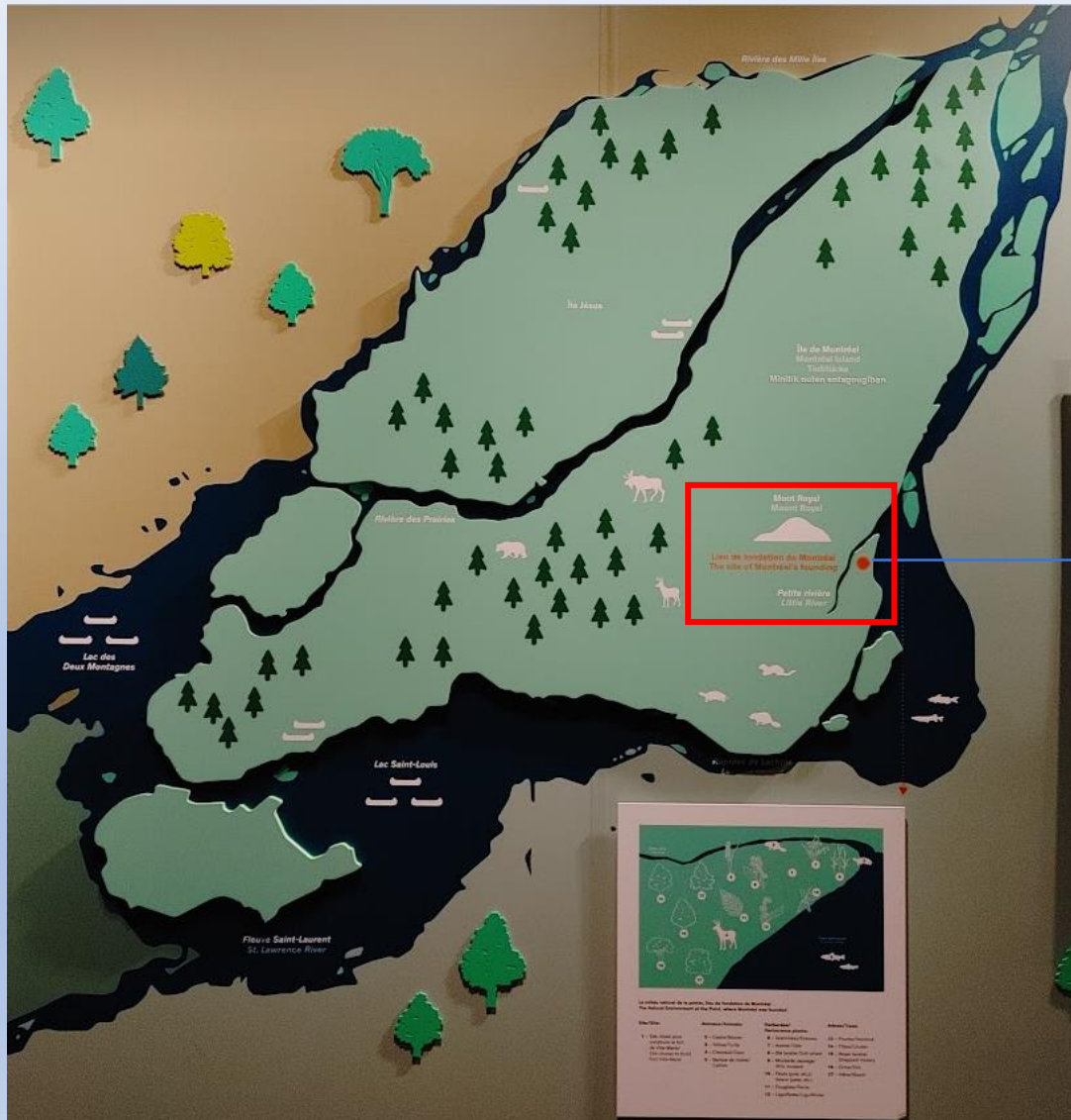
3 names for the same place



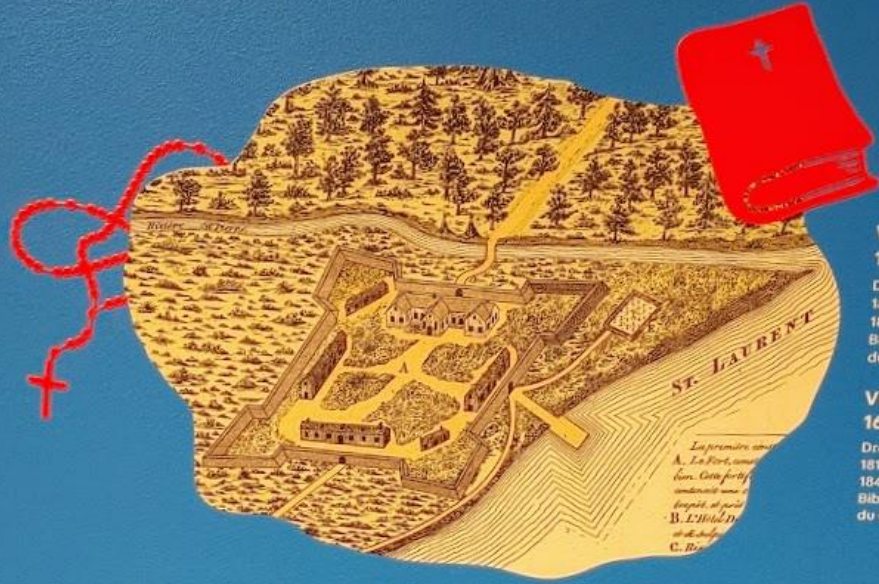
**Pointe-à-Callière Museum**  
Located on the site of the original Fort Ville-Marie



# THE SITE OF MONTREAL'S FOUNDING -BETWEEN THE LITTLE (PETITE) RIVER and the SAINT LAWRENCE RIVER



# THE FOUNDING OF MONTREAL: MAY 17, 1642



## Ville-Marie et son cimetière, 1643-1654

Dessin de Morin, P.-L. (Pierre-Louis), 1811-1886, Beaugrand, H. (Honoré), 1848-1906, éd. Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

## Ville-Marie and its cemetery, 1643-1654

Drawing by Morin, P.-L. (Pierre-Louis), 1811-1886, Beaugrand, H. (Honoré), 1848-1906, éd. Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

## Fondation de Montréal The Founding of Montréal

Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve and Jeanne Mance founded Ville-Marie in 1642. Accompanied by some fifty settlers, they were pursuing the ideal of a group of French Catholic benefactors: to convert Indigenous peoples to Christianity, particularly the nomadic Anicinapek people.

Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve and Jeanne Mance founded Ville-Marie in 1642. Accompanied by some 50 settlers, they were pursuing the ideal of a group of French Catholic benefactors: to convert Indigenous peoples to Christianity, particularly the nomadic Anicinapek people.

À voir : Ici a été fondée Montréal  
Pavillon C - Fort de Ville-Marie

See: *Where Montréal Began*  
Pavillon C - Fort Ville-Marie

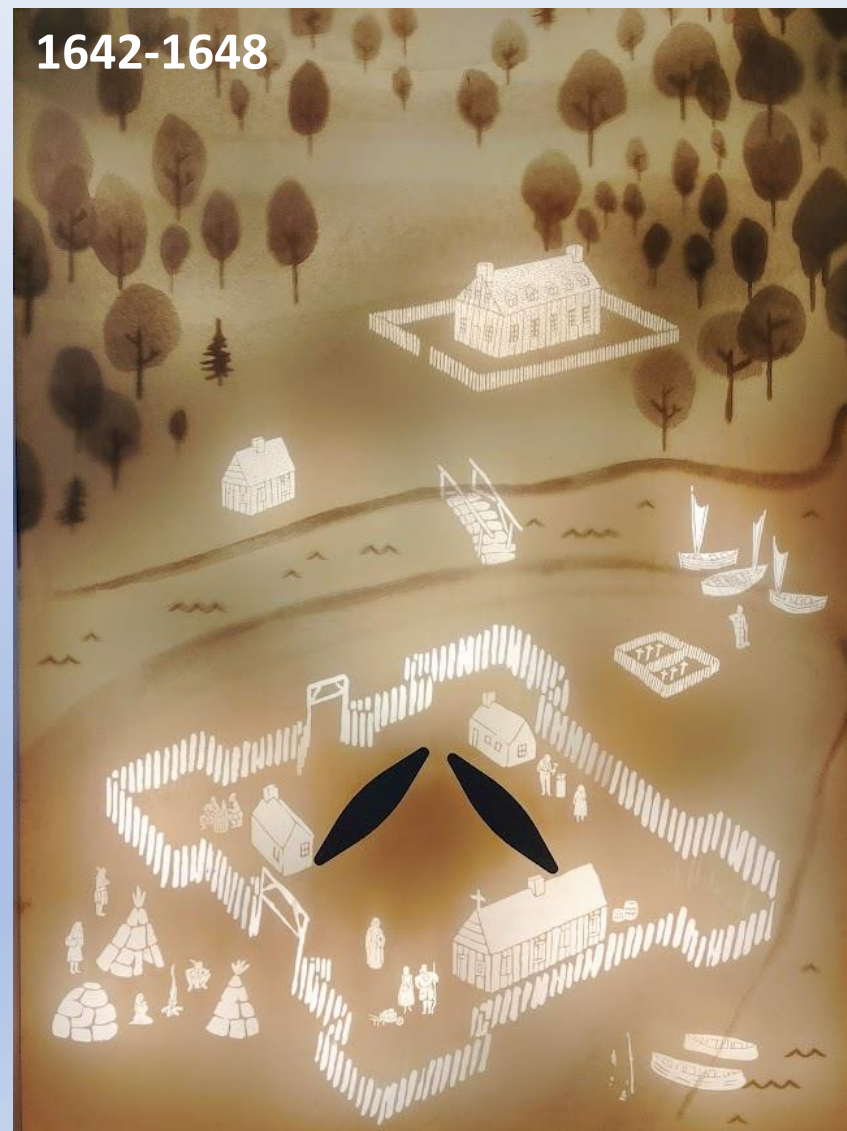


This is a very moving exhibit: "Where Montréal Began" in the Pointe-à-Callière Museum.

## VILLE MARIE 1642 to 1672: Within 30 years Montreal was established.

My ancestress Jeanne Loisel was one of the first white girls born (1649) in the settlement. Her father (Louis Loisel) had arrived in Montreal prior to 1648 when he was married, the wedding was attended by Maisonneuve-governor of the Island.

1642-1648



1642-1648

### A fragile settlement called Ville-Marie

No sooner had they arrived, but the Montréalistes understood that converting their Indigenous allies to Christianity would not be easy. And although their initial tents were replaced by a fort with four bastions, the mission was shaken by Iroquois attacks.

A new approach was required: bring in French settlers. Maisonneuve returned to France and gained permission to attract colonists by offering them land. Pierre Gadoys was the first to be given property outside the fort, in 1648, on the other side of the Little River—where Jeanne Mance's hospital already stood.

1649-1672

### Montréal puts down lasting roots

Even though other plots of land were granted starting in 1649, very few French settlers were willing to come to Montréal. Life here continued to be precarious. Would the little colony survive?

Jeanne Mance took the bold step of giving Maisonneuve funds intended for the hospital to allow him to bring back new colonists as soon as possible. Her daring paid off: some 100 people stepped ashore in 1653, including Marguerite Bourgeoys, who opened Ville-Marie's first school in 1658. This "Grande Recrue" was followed by another wave of 91 recruits in 1659. Then Louis XIV sent support: the *Filles du roi*, or "King's daughters," in 1663, to find husbands and raise families, and the Carignan-Salières Regiment, in 1665, to keep the peace.

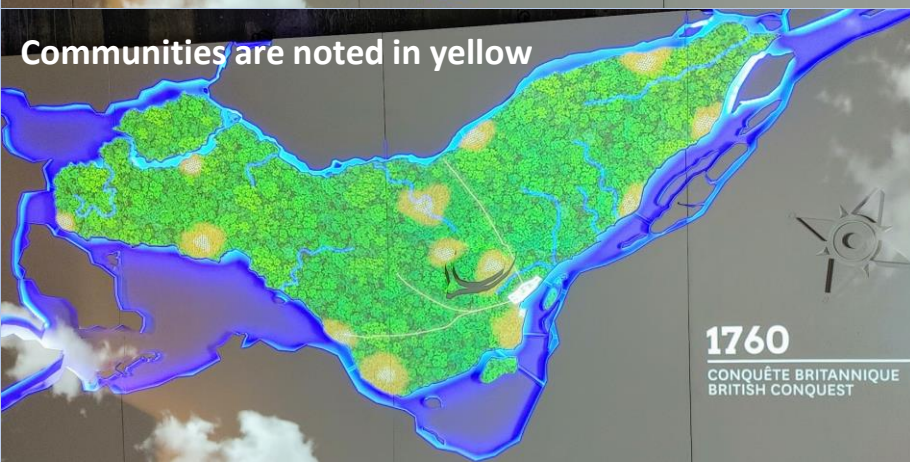
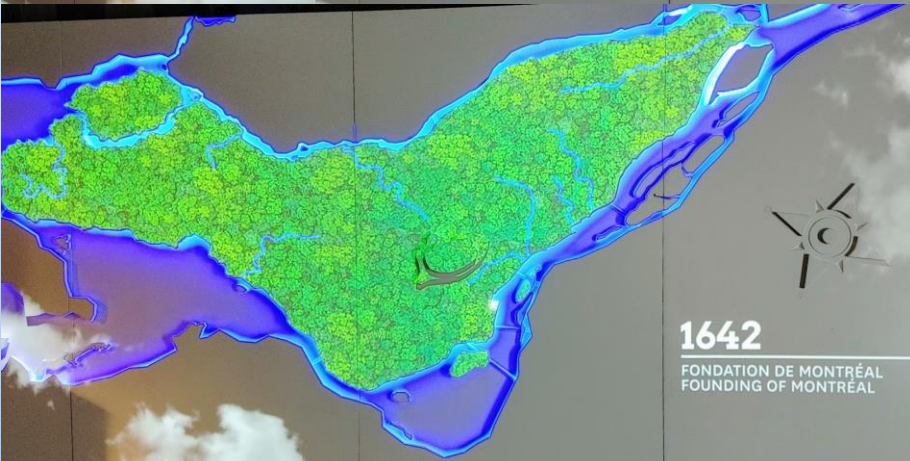
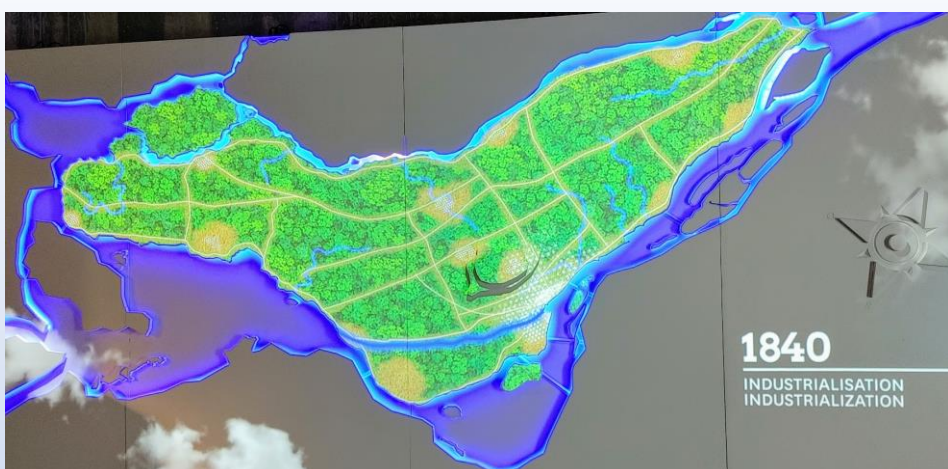
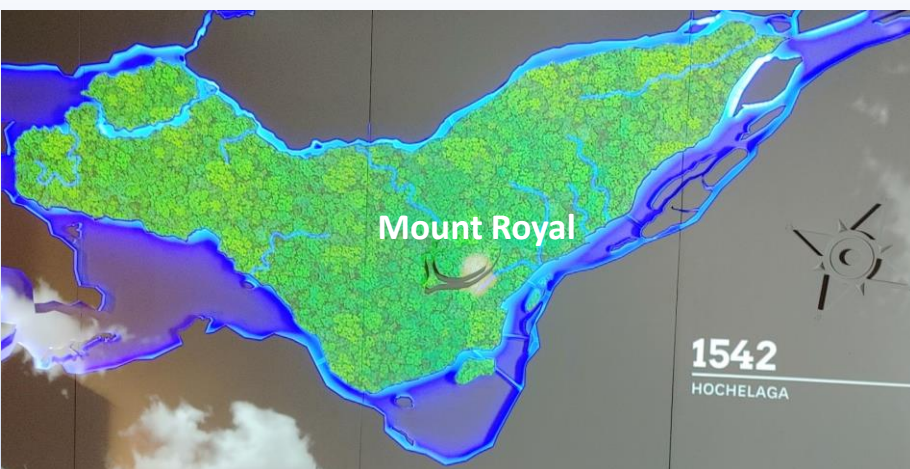
More and more families were building homes on the other side of the Little River. In 1672, the Sulpicians, seigneurs of the island since 1663, laid out the streets of today's Old Montréal and began work on the first Notre-Dame church.

1649-1672



# ÎLE DE MONTRÉAL

This display presents the changes to Montreal over more than 400 years. **The growth of Montreal since 1900 is particularly striking.** Most of my direct ancestors moved from Montreal prior to this date. Only the Timm lineage (of my paternal Grandmother) includes some ancestors living in Montreal after 1900.



This image of Montreal around 1685 enables us to imagine the town and its immediate surroundings at the time



Notre Dame

## EXPANSION

Montréal mainly grows along Notre-Dame and *Saint-Paul streets*, in what is known today as Old Montréal. Prosperous homes were stone, while poorer ones were wood. Little by little, farms and parishes are founded beyond the **Montréal's fortifications**.

Montréal, vers 1685.

Montréal, circa 1685.

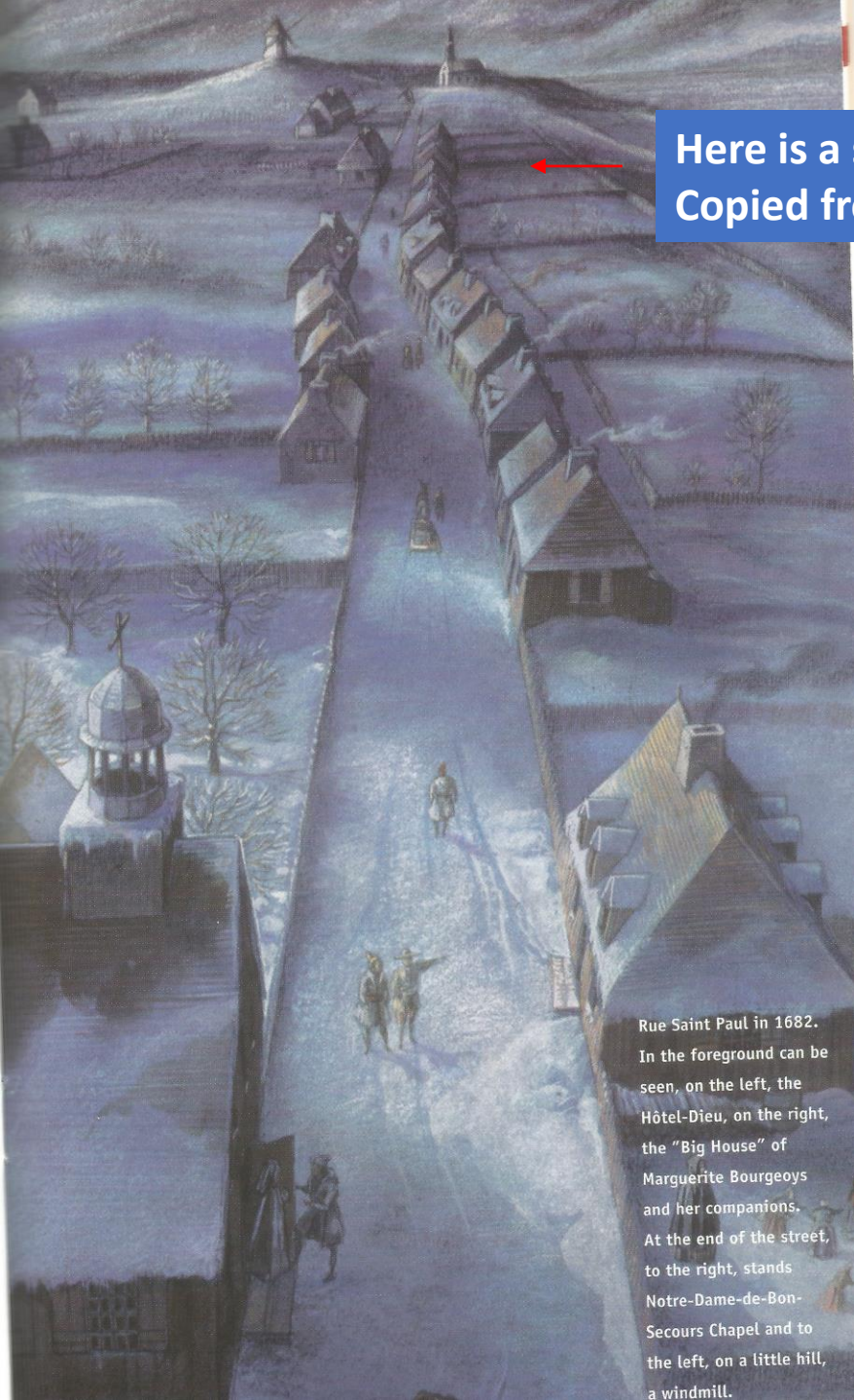
© Montréal 1685 hiver, Francis Back, Raphaëlle Back et Félix Back

Montréal 1685 hiver, Francis Back, Raphaëlle Back and Félix Back



# IMAGES OF MONTREAL 1682 and 1685

Here is a snapshot of the village along St Paul Street.  
Copied from the booklet "In the footsteps of Marguerite Bourgeoys".



Rue Saint Paul in 1682. In the foreground can be seen, on the left, the Hôtel-Dieu, on the right, the "Big House" of Marguerite Bourgeoys and her companions. At the end of the street, to the right, stands Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours Chapel and to the left, on a little hill, a windmill.

Here is another image of Montreal during the early years of settlement. This image is from the Marguerite Bourgeois Museum.



1685

La ville au loin. Un campement amérindien installé momentanément, le temps de quelques échanges de biens à la foire aux fourrures.

JUNE 1685

What would you have seen from this window?

The village in the distance. A temporary Amerindian camp, set up to exchange goods in the fur market.

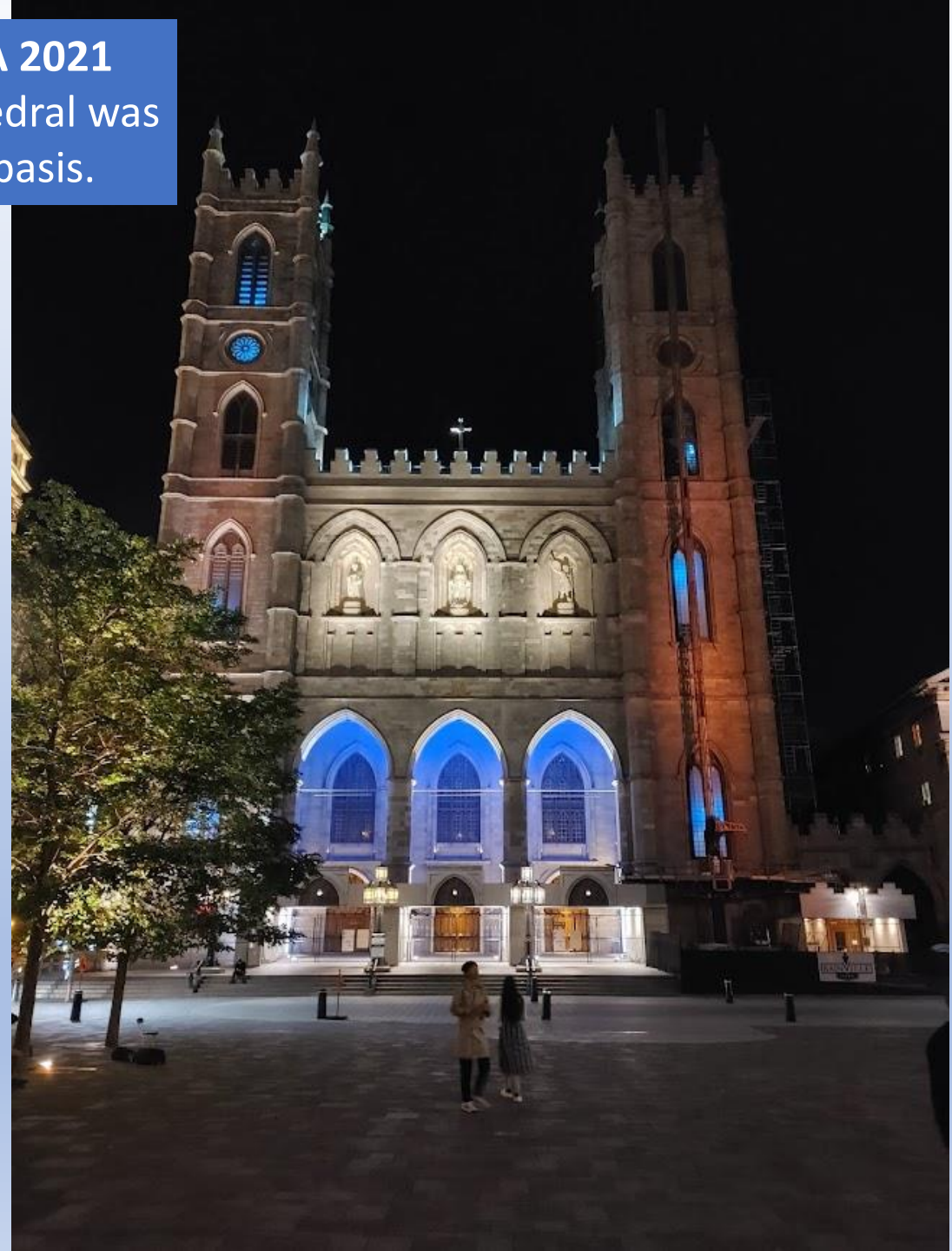
# THE PIONEER MONUMENT OF MONTREAL

This Obelisk is located very close to the Pointe-à-Callière Museum. It has plaques honoring the founders of Montreal and the early settlers (see below).

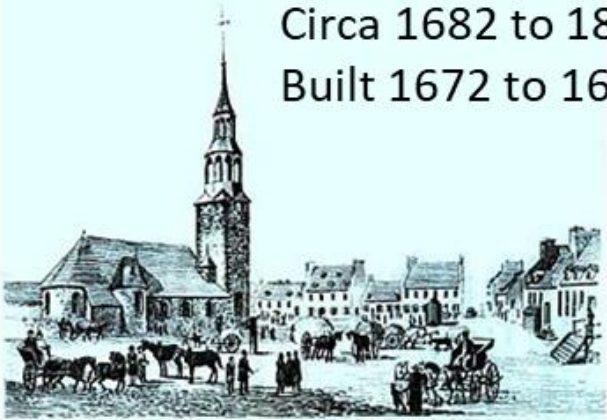


## NOTRE-DAME BASILICA 2021

Due to COVID the cathedral was only open on a limited basis.



## Notre-Dame Church



Circa 1682 to 1830

Built 1672 to 1682

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Notre-Dame\\_Church\\_\(Montreal\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Notre-Dame_Church_(Montreal))

Accessed August 2021.



The Notre-Dame Church circa 1828, with the present-day basilica being built behind it.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Notre-Dame\\_Basilica\\_\(Montreal\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Notre-Dame_Basilica_(Montreal)) Accessed 30 September 2021

## NOTRE DAME CHURCH HISTORY

From 1642 to 1657, Ville Marie was a Jesuit mission and the chapel in the fort was used for public worship until the construction of the chapel of the Hotel-Dieu. In 1657, the Sulpicians arrived in Montreal to establish a parish. The cornerstone of the first Notre-Dame church was laid 1672 and the parish was created in 1678, but the church was not ready for worshippers until 1683. Source: In the Footsteps of Marguerite Bourgeoys in Montreal, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Marguerite Bourgeoys Museum, page 12.

## NOTRE-DAME and my Family History

Here is a preliminary list of the ancestral events that took place here:

24/07/1649 Baptism Jeanne Loisel my 8<sup>th</sup> ggm

23/11/1666 Wedding Jean Beauchamp my 8<sup>th</sup> ggf + Jeanne Loisel

24/02/1668 Wedding Pierre Barbary dit Grandmaison + Marie Lebrun

In-laws to my Forefather Pierre Jamme dit Carrier

16/08/1669 Baptism firstborn Jean Beauchamp and Jeanne Loisel died at birth

11/09/1670 Baptism Marie Francoise Beauchamp 2<sup>nd</sup> child

23/11/1671 Wedding my Forefather Guillaume Labelle + Anne Charbonneau and my Forefather Pierre Payette dit St Amour to Louise Tessier

03/11/1672 Baptism Francoise Beauchamp -3<sup>rd</sup> child

01/10/1689 Wedding Antoine Pilon + Marie Anne Brunet my 8<sup>th</sup> ggm

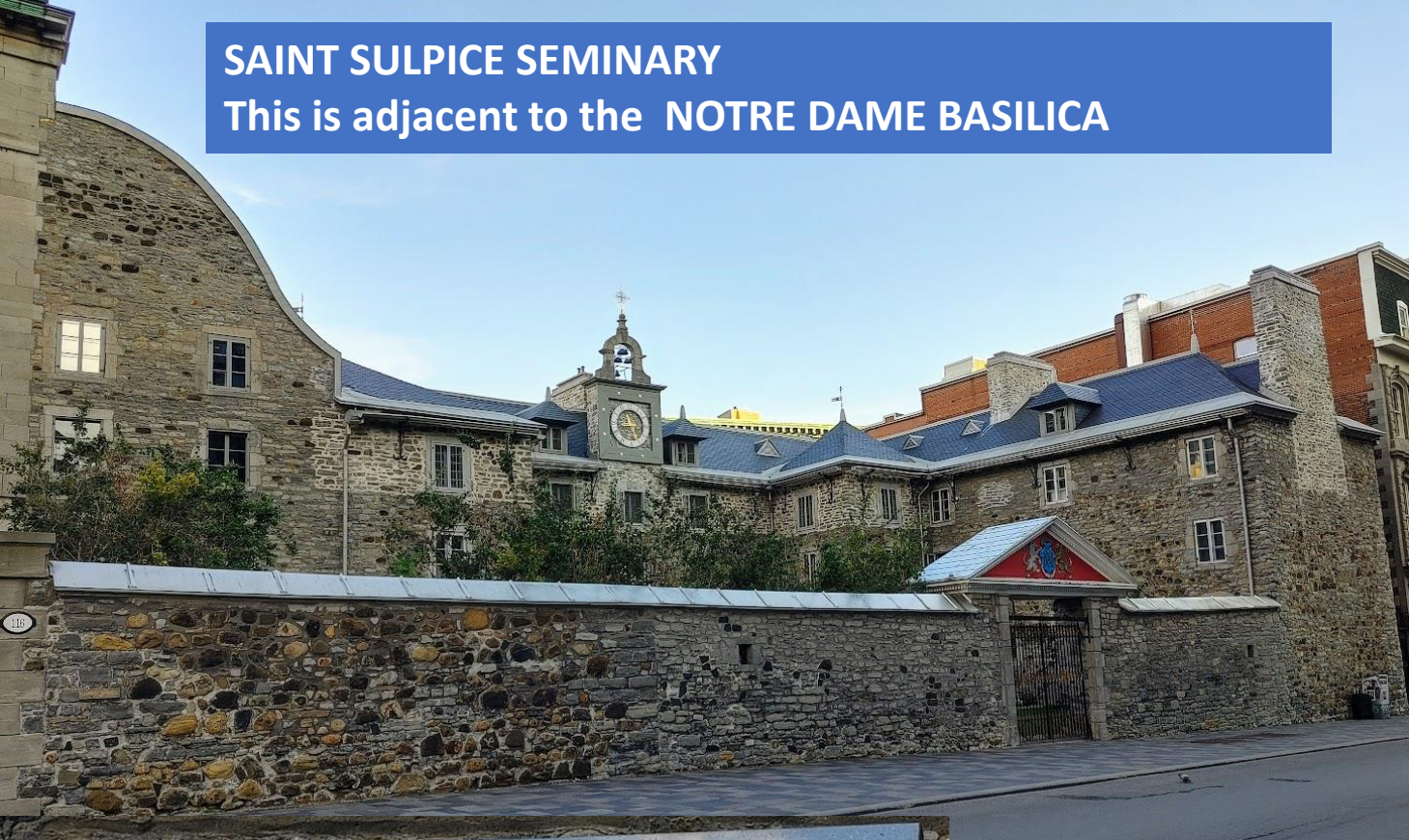
09/12/1689 Baptism Jean Marie Pilon my 7<sup>th</sup> ggm

25/10/1700 Wedding Francois Meloche my 6<sup>th</sup> ggf + Marie Mouflet

31/08/1701 Baptism Pierre Meloche first born son of Francois and Marie

## SAINT SULPICE SEMINARY

This is adjacent to the NOTRE DAME BASILICA



LE SEMINAIRE DE ST SULPICE  
FONDE A PARIS PAR MR JEAN JACQUES OLIER  
1641  
ETABLI A VILLE MARIE 1657  
MR GABRIEL DE QUEYLUS SUPERIEUR  
SEIGNEURS DE L'ILE DE MONTREAL 1663

Jacques Beauchamp (older brother to Jean Beauchamp my 8<sup>th</sup> ggf) was a carpenter. He was recruited by Gabriel Souart, a Sulpician superior to assist with the construction of the Sulpician residences and seminary.

# Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours Chapel

The museum is on the left (brown door)



## SIDE VIEW



## In the footsteps of Marguerite Bourgeoys in Montreal

SITE HISTORIQUE  
MARGUERITE  
BOURGOYS



MUSÉE  
CHAPELLE  
ARCHÉOLOGIE

**Marguerite Bourgeoys,  
figure incontournable de l'histoire  
québécoise et canadienne**

Musée  
Voûte du 18<sup>e</sup> siècle  
Site archéologique  
Tour d'observation  
Boutique  
Forfait famille

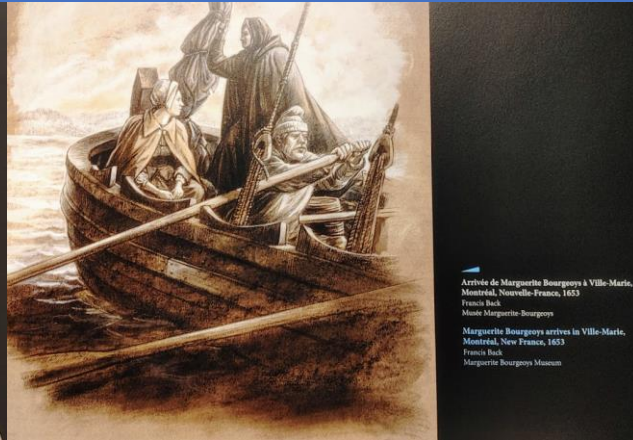
Discover our collections

**Marguerite Bourgeoys,  
key figure in Quebec and Canadian history**

Museum  
18<sup>th</sup> century vault  
Archaeological site  
Observation tower  
Boutique  
Family package

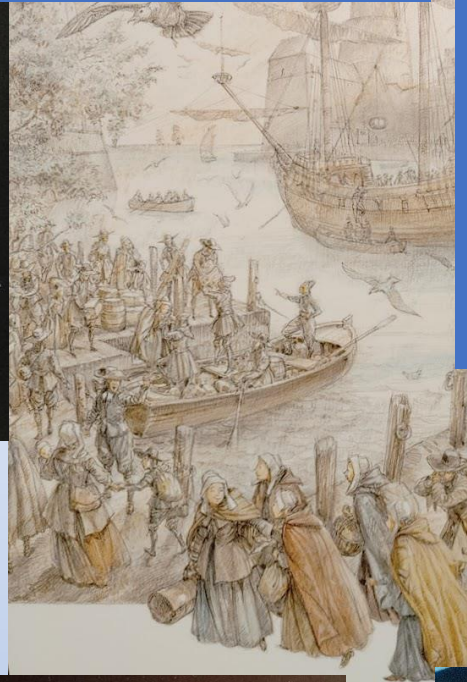


## In the footsteps of Marguerite Bourgeoys in Montreal



Arrivée de Marguerite Bourgeoys à Ville-Marie, Montréal, Nouvelle-France, 1653  
Francis Back  
Musée Marguerite-Bourgeoys  
Marguerite Bourgeoys arrives in Ville-Marie, Montréal, New France, 1653  
Francis Back  
Marguerite Bourgeoys Museum

Marguerite Bourgeoys sailed across the Atlantic several times



In 1659 the Saint-André brought Marguerite Bourgeoys, other sisters and priests, plus soldiers, engaged farmers and tradesmen and several families from La Rochelle to Montreal. Although it is believed that almost 200 passengers made this journey—only 120 have been identified. It is likely that Jacques Beauchamp and his wife were on board, it also possible that Jean Beauchamp my 8<sup>th</sup> ggf sailed together with his older brother.

Marguerite Bourgeoys and her companions board the *Saint-André*, in La Rochelle, France, June 29, 1659

Francis Back  
Congrégation de Notre-Dame archives  
© Raphaele and Félix Back

Three of Marguerite's first companions – Catherine Crolo, Edmée Chastel and Marie Raisin – were from Troyes, while Anne Hioux was from Paris. The Congrégation de Notre-Dame that they created on this journey to New France continues to pursue its educational and social mission today.

## La Congrégation de Notre-Dame en quelques chiffres

- 1659: 5 sœurs, dont Marguerite Bourgeoys
- 1698: plus de 30 sœurs
- 1830: 80 sœurs
- 1870: 440 sœurs
- 1900: 1 226 sœurs
- 1961: 3 710 sœurs

Aujourd'hui, elles sont environ 700 sœurs, qui peuvent compter sur le soutien de 1 000 personnes associées pour leurs œuvres. De nombreux autres collaborateurs et collaboratrices participent également à leurs divers projets.

## The Congrégation de Notre-Dame in a few figures

- 1659: 5 sisters, including Marguerite Bourgeoys
- 1698: over 30 sisters
- 1830: 80 sisters
- 1870: 440 sisters
- 1900: 1,226 sisters
- 1961: 3,710 sisters

Today the Congregation numbers about 700 sisters, who can count on the support of 1,000 Associates in their work, along with many other contributors who take part in their various endeavours.



## Supporting the Filles du Roy

My ancestral research to date has found ties to 9 Filles du Roy

Fall 1663

Marguerite was excited to welcome a group of young women dispatched from France, under the auspices of King Louis XIV, with the intention of starting families in Montréal. She and her fellow members of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame housed these *Filles du Roy*, or “King’s wards,” teaching the new arrivals about colonial life and their roles as women in a new land. Marguerite, dubbed the “mother of the colony,” helped them get settled by giving them the tools they needed to adapt to this new environment and raise strong families. She saw them as the little town’s future.

## Ouvrir une première école

Le 30 avril 1658

Marguerite accueille avec bonheur les quelques enfants d'âge scolaire qui la rejoignent ce matin dans sa nouvelle école. Ils sont déjà venus l'aider à nettoyer cette ancienne étable et profitent maintenant de la première école publique gratuite à Montréal. Marguerite a fait installer une cheminée pour leur confort, elle-même habitera au grenier. La mission éducative de la pionnière se concrétise enfin. Elle anime la classe tout en poursuivant son enseignement auprès des femmes de la colonie pour les outiller à gagner leur vie. Le travail ne manque pas. Elle aura besoin de renfort, qu'elle ira chercher en France.

## Opening the first school

April 30, 1658

Marguerite was delighted to welcome the few school-age children who came to her new school that morning. They had already helped her clean out the former stable, and could now attend Montréal's first free public school. Marguerite had a fireplace installed, for their comfort, and she herself lived in the loft. Now she could finally fulfil her education mission. She served as schoolmistress while continuing to teach the colony's women and training them to earn a living. There was no shortage of work! She needed companions to assist her, and soon set out for France to bring them back.

My ancestress Jeanne Loisel was one of Marguerite's first students

« Quatre ans après mon arrivée, Monsieur de Maisonneuve me voulut donner une étable de pierre pour faire une maison pour loger celle qui y ferait l'école. »

“Four years after my arrival, M. de Maisonneuve decided to give me a stone stable to make into a house to lodge the person who would teach there.”

Marguerite Bourgeoys

# In the footsteps of Marguerite Bourgeoys in Montreal



**Marguerite Bourgeoys' stable-school in 1658**  
Francis Back  
Congrégation de Notre-Dame archives  
© Raphaëlle and Félix Back  
Marguerite's school was located near today's rue Saint-Paul, on rue Saint-Dizier, not far from here. It no longer exists, but the Congrégation de Notre-Dame continues its educational work. A plaque marks the site of Montréal's first school.



The names of some of the first children to frequent this school have come down to us: **Jeanne Loisel**, Jean Desroches, Charlotte Chauvin, Leger Hebert, Mathurine Juillet, Marie Lucault, Francois Prudhomme, Paul Tessier.  
Source: In the Footsteps of Marguerite Bourgeoys in Montreal, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Marguerite Bourgeoys Museum, page 7.

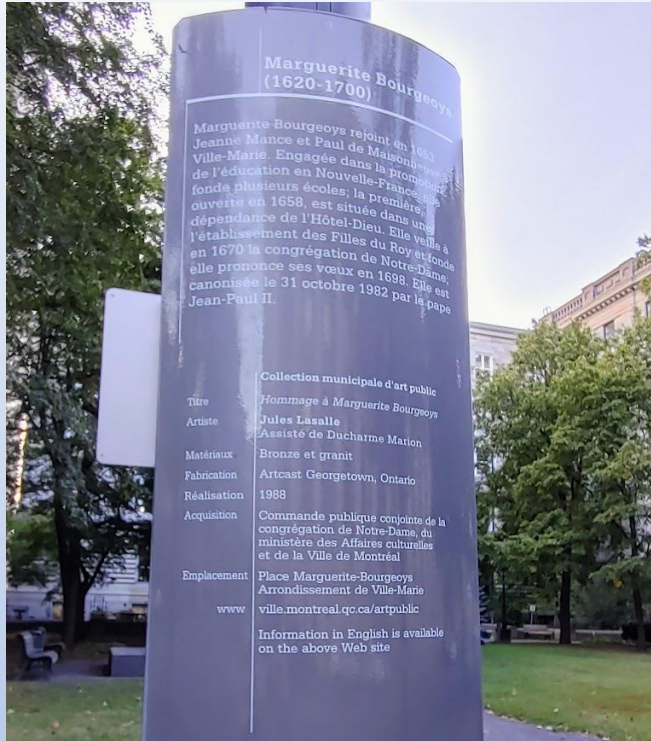


Here is the **plaque** that commemorates the actual site of Montreal's first stable school established by Marguerite Bourgeoys, along with pictures of the site location.





# In the footsteps of Marguerite Bourgeoys in Montreal



A small park in old Montreal with a life-like statue pays homage to Marguerite.





Historic Site and Museum of Montreal

LES HÔTES DE CET ÉDIFICE

1705	FAMILLE DE RAMEZAY	1745
1745	COMPAGNIE DES INDES	1764
1764	GOUVENEURS DU CANADA	1849
1775	ARMEE DES ÉTATS-UNIS	1776
1838	CONSEIL SPÉCIAL (CANADA)	1841
1849-1855	COURS DE JUSTICE	1889-1893
1856	MINISTÈRE D'INSTRUCTION PUBLIQUE	1867
1856	ÉCOLE NORMALE	1878
1884	UNIVERSITÉ	1889
1895	SOCIÉTÉ D'ARCHÉOLOGIE (MUSÉE)	


 LE CHÂTEAU RAMEZAY  
 CHÂTEAU RAMEZAY

Musée - Museum    Jardin - Garden



The Chateau Ramsay has an amazing number of exhibits –starting with this Indigenous model to mock-ups of life in the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries in New France. A lot of these mock-ups were for upper class –not the most relevant to my ancestry.

**MODEL OF ST. LAWRENCE IROQUOIAN VILLAGE (CIRCA 1500-1550)**  
Michel Cadieux – archeofact.ca  
1995

**THE IROQUOIANS**

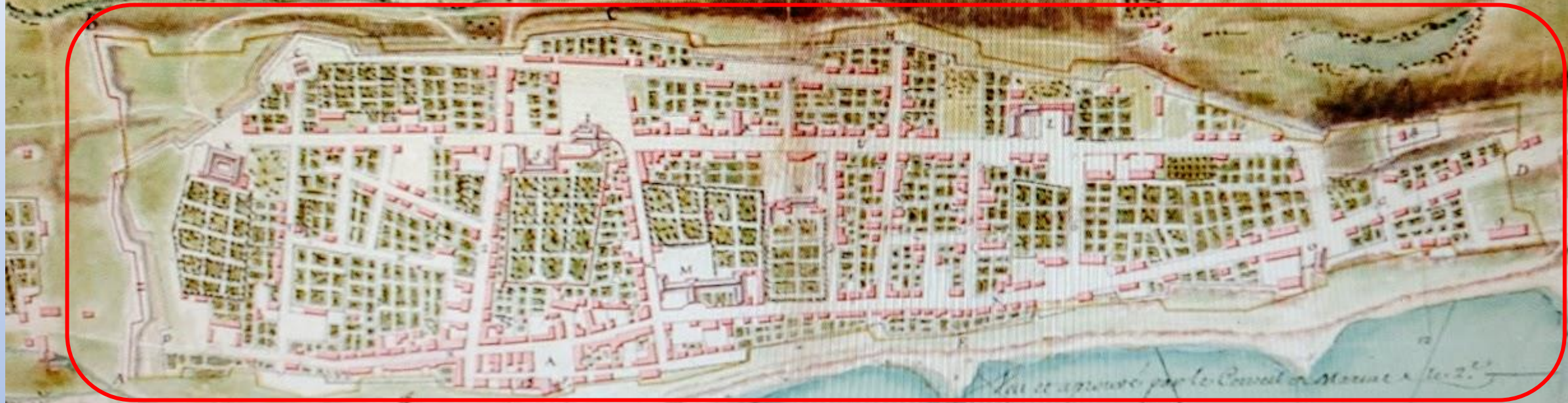
The fertile lowlands of the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes were occupied by groups of semi-sedentary Iroquoians dependent on the cultivation of corn, squash and beans. They lived in villages which they moved from one place to another every 10 to 15 years, and which were surrounded by wooden palisades. The villages comprised up to 50 long-houses, each lodging a few dozen individuals under the leadership of a mother or her daughters. Some Iroquoian tribes, particularly the Iroquois and Huron, had sophisticated political structures which when grouped together formed a great confederacy of tens of thousands of individuals.

**THE ALGONQUIANS**

Small groups of patriarchal nomads belonging to the Algonquian language groups hunted and gathered foodstuffs over a great expanse of hilly woodland. These groups gathered along the waterways in summer to engage in diplomatic and commercial exchanges. Their way of life dictated that their possessions be utilitarian and easily portable. During the 17th century, the Montagnais were trading partners of the French around Québec and Tadoussac.

This map image shows the extent of the fortified wall of Montreal, initially a wooden palisade then later built of stone in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Location of the fortified wall of Montreal –it was not military grade but served to define the town’s boundaries.



Location of the original fort –today the Point Calliere Museum stands on this spot

*Map approved by the Council of Montreal in 1672  
by the  
J. de Bourdon  
Lieutenant de la Ville  
Remy  
Le Moyne*

*route des Barques, ou Canal.*

HERE IS A MOCK-UP THAT I FOUND INTERESTING



## The hearth: focal point of the home

The hearth, which provided heat for the home and where meals were cooked, was the focal point of 18<sup>th</sup> century life. In early Montreal homes, beds were even placed near the hearth so that family members could be warmer. The kitchen was the common area and centre of all domestic activity in the house. It was where the cooking was done, where infants were rocked in their cradles, where everyone gathered in the evening and where a parent might stay up late to keep an eye on the sleeping family.



During my visit to Montreal, I spent some time at the BAnQ Grande Bibliothèque. I obtained a pass to access the Parchemin database and consulted various reference books.



I also spent a few hours at the BAnQ Vieux-Montréal one afternoon.



St Paul Street



St Paul Street



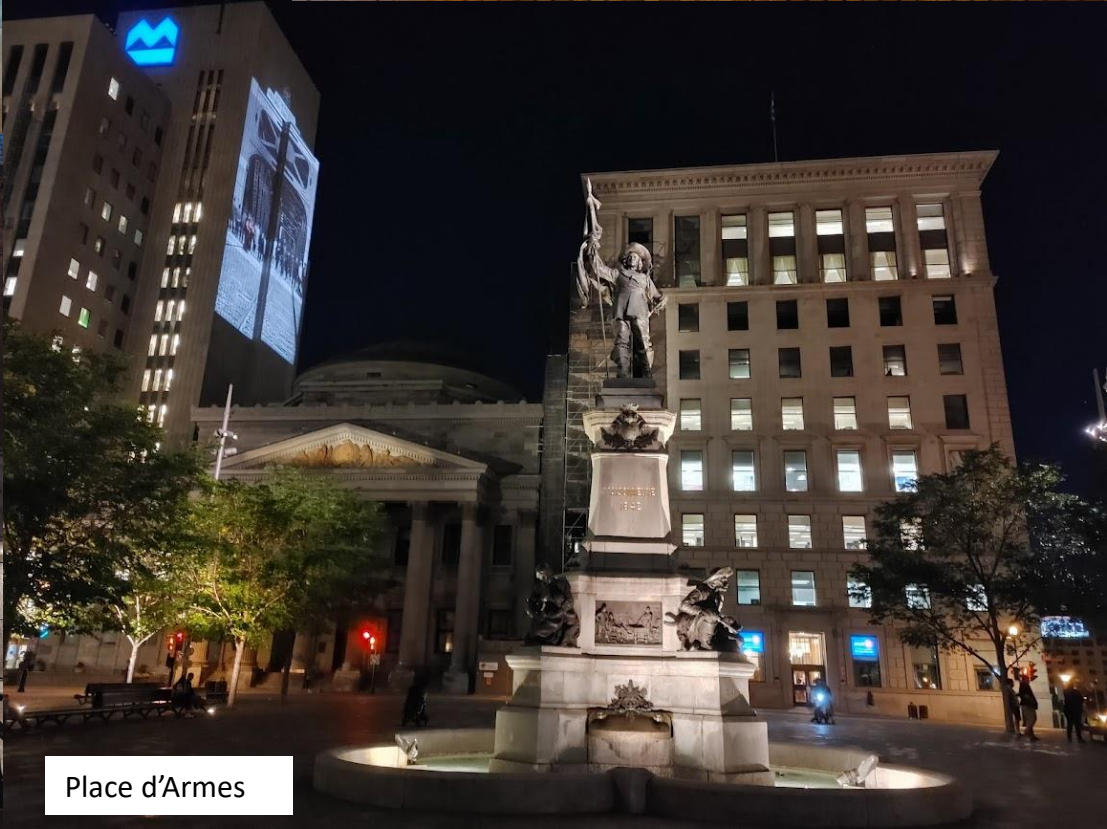
St Vincent Street



Saint Catherine Street



Notre-Dame



Place d'Armes