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The Canadian Heritage of Quebec Over 50 years actively preserving Canadian heritage in Quebec

Past presidents: C. Robin Molson (1985-2005), C.J.G. Molson (1959-1985)

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Message from the President, John W. Molson Ing. PhD.



Dear Members.

It is our pleasure to provide this Special Edition Newsletter with an update on our restoration projects in 2011 and 2012, during which period CHQ invested nearly \$1M to preserve its properties, including the following restoration projects:

- The Hurtubise House in Westmount
- The Domaine Pointe-de-Saint-Vallier
- The Les Éboulements Mill

In addition, one of our partners the Greenwood Centre for Living History (in Hudson), carried out a special project on our Greenwood House. In the following pages, you will find all the details.

We take this opportunity to emphasize, once again, the outstanding quality of work completed by the architects, engineers, archaeologists and curators who collaborated on these projects. We also thank all our wonderful partners and volunteers for their involvement in these projects. A special thanks to the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec (MCC) and the City of Montreal for their financial support which was very much appreciated in the realization of some of these projects.

Finally, our sincere thanks to all of you, our members and friends, for your support and donations which are a very important contribution to the realization of our mission dedicated to the preservation of Quebec's heritage.

Best regards from all of us at CHQ.



Greenwood main entrance restored

The Canadian Heritage of Quebec: over 50 years of expertise in heritage conservation in Quebec

Since its founding in 1960, The Canadian Heritage of Quebec (CHQ) has favoured a professional approach in its interventions in order to preserve and maintain the integrity, the authenticity and the spirit of each of its properties. Also, CHQ promotes collaboration with professionals specializing in heritage restoration to better guide and implement its projects.

CHQ adopts a step-by-step approach. Prior to any intervention, for example, extensive studies are done to make the best choices in restoration work. This means more time and money, but ensures preservation of historical information and maintains building integrity and spirit.

Partnership with the community is another important aspect of CHQ's approach. CHQ collaborates with government and municipal institutions which support our conservation work by their expertise and/or financial support. For over 50 years, Canadian Heritage of Québec has preserved, maintained and implemented restoration projects on many unique heritage sites in Quebec. Its activities are mainly funded by donations from foundations and the public as well as from revenues generated through its summer operations.

Greenwood, Hudson

The grand and gracious entrance hall at Greenwood was created in the early 1900s by architect David Jerome Spence for Del Shepherd and his wife Vicky McCallum. By 2012, in need of new lighting, wallpaper and fresh paint, this hall became the focus of an ambitious restoration project.

With funding in place and board approval, preparations got underway. Family photographs revealed how the entrance looked when new, and how it had changed over the years. We sourced suitable wallpaper and traditional paint colours, and decided to uncover the till-now boarded-up hall fireplace.

The ceiling and staircase were repaired and repainted, and the floor was refinished. Lighting was added, drawing new attention to unique family portraits, handsome antique furniture, and of course, the staircase itself. The newly revealed fireplace added a welcoming touch to the room.

With the completion of this major project, Greenwood members are delighted with the new brightness that highlights the family treasures on display and showcases the central staircase in all its beauty.

We invite you to visit the website of the Greenwood Centre for Living History: www.greenwood-centre-hudson.org

Hurtubise House, Westmount Phase II of the Restoration Project

Phase II of the restoration project began in August 2011 and was completed in late summer 2012. Planning work required preliminary comprehensive studies to effectively coordinate the entire project. Based on these studies conducted by CHQ in collaboration with the Centre de conservation du Québec and Mr. François Varin, architect, it was decided to preserve the finishes of the entire ground floor and to establish specific conservation guidelines which include respecting the physical integrity of the house and applying minimal and reversible intervention. This project, funded mostly by CHQ, received financial support from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec (MCC) and the City of Montreal.



Hurtubise House June 2011 - Before the restoration

CHQ and architects DMA coordinated the project which required hiring several professionals specializing in restoration: masons, curators and archaeologists. CHQ also benefited from the expertise of an architect of the MCC, as well as a structural engineer, a mechanical engineer and two conservation experts. Throughout the work, special attention was paid to the protection of interior finishes and building security.

Outside the house, the work consisted of repairing cracks in the west stone wall as well as restoring the front galleries, its support structures and stairs. Archaeological excavations were also necessary which led to the discovery of an old well.



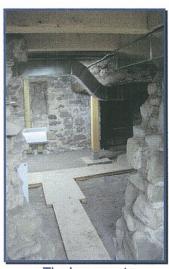
Hurtubise House June 2012 - After the restoration



The kitchen on the ground floor

On the ground floor, interior finishes (plaster and woodwork) of the walls, floors and ceilings have been restored. The restoration work was done carefully to preserve the traces of time. The curator used only a dry sponge for cleaning. Cracks on the walls were also filled and remain visible. Previously, tapestry dating from around 1900 had been removed, revealing the location of an old armoire (cupboard) inserted in the wall.

In the kitchen, we proceeded to clean the different layers of flooring to revitalize the floor. We also cut much of the damaged parts which allowed us to discover a very old carpet, another remnant of the past. Plexiglas and a carpet now protect parts of these coatings for the benefit of visitors.



The basement



The attic

To preserve and capture the spirit of the house, modern elements were removed from the ground floor. The floor structure has been solidified through the basement and the former floor openings (registers) are now again used for the heating and ventilation system. In the basement, the humidity was reduced by covering the ground with plastic sheeting and stone dust. A new heating system (thermo pump) with ducts has also been installed.

On the second floor, the kitchen and bathroom have been upgraded. This work is reversible so as to preserve the integrity of the house. The electrical system has also been upgraded and a new lighting system, installed throughout the house, reveals the vestiges and treasures of this magnificent property built in 1739.

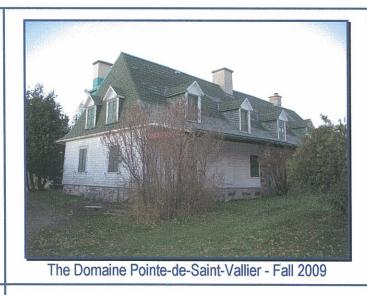
The Domaine Pointe-de-Saint-Vallier

The restoration of the Domaine Pointe-de-Saint-Vallier began in 2011 and ended last fall. This project involved the restoration of the exterior of the building and the structure supporting the ground floor. The restoration concept, developed by architect François Varin, was based on historical research on the Manor and its site.

This project was completely funded by CHQ and was managed and carried out in collaboration with Mr. Varin and the support of volunteers of the Corporation du Domaine Pointe-de-Saint-Vallier. We invite you to visit their website: (www.domainepointedesaintvallier.com).

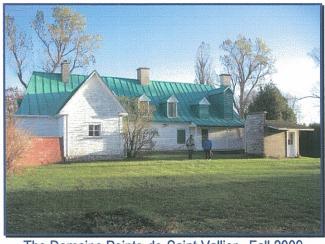


- 1. The roof was restored with a combination composed mainly of "tôle à la canadienne" and " tôle à baguettes" for flatter parts including the roof of the gallery. Thus, the house will be better protected against strong winds from the river and from water infiltration. The roofs of several other houses located in the area were also built in the past according to this mixed model.
- 2. The badly damaged front porch floor, made of cement, was completely rebuilt in wood and decorated according to its original state in 1950. Having gone through various changes over the decades, this model seemed the most appropriate. Finally, the exterior of the Manor has been repainted, and the plaster of the three chimneys redone.





The Domaine Pointe-de-Saint-Vallier - Fall 2012



The Domaine Pointe-de-Saint-Vallier - Fall 2009



The Domaine Pointe-de-Saint-Vallier - Fall 2012

The work done inside the Manor included consolidation of the ground floor structure from the basement. Many original columns supporting the floor were made of badly stacked concrete blocks that could have compromised its stability. Repairs included strengthening the floor structure beneath the entire Manor with cement bases and solid wood columns, requiring a tremendous amount of time and energy.

The ground floor kitchen and bathroom were improved and retrofitted for the benefit of visitors without affecting their integrity. The electrical system and plumbing have also been improved. Finally, this project has led to several interesting new discoveries. See our four pictures below.



September 2011



Joists with Jupiter Key



Decorative small dog



Monogram



Window on frame-wall

Les Éboulements Mill

During the summer of 2012, CHQ proceeded with the restoration of the front roof, dormers and wall of the *Les Éboulements* Mill. The two side walls were also restored and the chimney has been limed. In 2009, the rear (south) part of the roof was restored and in both cases, white cedar shingles were used.

Once again, we called upon the expertise of Mr. François Varin, architect, with whom we jointly planned and supervised the project. This restoration project was funded by CHQ and the MCC.

Once the project was completed, the mill looked more refreshed than changed. This is indeed the objective of all our restoration projects which aims to maintain the integrity of heritage buildings. The roof ladder was also restored.

The general contractor selected following a call for tenders, lives in Les Éboulements. He worked with a professional in carpentry and masonry in accordance with traditional techniques. Mr. Jean-Guy Tremblay, our miller, a descendant of the original family, was also closely involved in this project for his knowledge and expertise. Mr. Tremblay has ensured the maintenance and good operation of the mill for more than 25 years.

During all stages of the project, CHQ used the best available knowledge and restoration techniques.

For example, to maximize the life of the shingles, in accordance with best practices, a matrix of wooden battens was mounted under the shingle roof and dormers. In addition, a special "support" was placed on top of the roof and dormers. Along the eaves, an opening was protected against insects by a wire netting. This system allows natural ventilation from the bottom to the top under the shingles and will prevent their deterioration. A sealant was also applied on the shingles.



Support for the roof ridge and dormers

Activities and properties of the CHQ

These restoration projects were completed to ensure the sustainability of these wonderful heritage buildings which, we hope, you will enjoy visiting. For more information on the properties and activities of CHQ, please visit our website: www.hcq-chq.org You will also be able to visit the websites of our partners. Once again, we thank all our members and donors for their generous support and commitment to the work of CHQ and its mission.



Les Éboulements Mill - Before restoration



Les Éboulements Mill - After restoration



Using battens to provide ventilation under shingles



Roof ridge

Financing future projects of the CHQ

As indicated in our previous newsletter, CHQ conducted an audit in 2012 on the Sir John A. Macdonald House in Rivière-du-Loup and on the Percé buildings. As a result, new restoration projects will soon be put forward in order to preserve these heritage properties. This is why your donations are greatly appreciated and very important to CHQ's mission. You can send donations to the address listed below or contact us. CHQ will issue official donation receipts for income tax purposes (108075292 RR0001).