FIELD SESSION DESCRIPTION

This field session begins with a walking tour of the Old City which will reveal a fascinating mix of architectural influences which characterize this historic city which first served as capital of New France and then capital of British North America. We will view French merchant’s houses in the lower town, before visiting the first Catholic Cathedral built North of Mexico, and the first Anglican Cathedral built outside the British Isles. We will also see the magnificent courtyard of the Seminary, before beginning a more extensive visit of the Ursuline Convent. One of the oldest institutions in Québec, the Ursuline Convent continues today in the educational role for which it was first established, housing one of the finest girls’ schools in the city. The Ursuline nuns, who came to Quebec in 1639 to educate Amerindian girls and French girls in the settlement, established their convent and school on their site in the upper town in 1642. Buildings from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries are arranged around enclosed courtyards and a portion of the nun’s extensive gardens have survived, offering a green haven in the heart of the Old City. The Ursuline school offers its students an exceptional cultural environment. During your tour of this historic convent you will have the opportunity to learn about recent restoration work and visit the Ursuline Museum with its collections, which include exceptional altar frontals dating from the 17th and 18th centuries, embroidered with silver and gold threads and the finest silks. A highlight of our visit will be the Ursuline Chapel which contains the oldest sculptural ensemble which has survived since the French regime, dating from the 1720s and 30s, as well paintings from France that came to Canada after the French Revolution.

CONTACTS

Marie Legroulx, Mendel Tours guide
Christine Cheyrou, manager of Musée des Ursulines de Québec
Mathieu Drouin, education leader, L’école des Ursulines de Québec
Francis Fortin, architect, Lafond Côté Architectes
Claude Payer, restorer at Centre de conservation du Québec

INTERNET REFERENCES

http://www.mendeltours.com/
http://www.ville.quebec.qc.ca
http://www.museedesursulines.com/
http://www.lafondcote.com/fr/index.php

SCHEDULE AND MAP

www.mjdarchitecte.com
October 27, 2014
Meet at 12:15pm at the main entrance of Fairmont Château Frontenac Hotel

12:30pm  Old Quebec tour  
A- Dufferin Terrace  
B- Cote de la Montagne  
C- Place-Royale  
D- Funicular  
E- Notre-Dame-de-Québec Basilica-Cathedral

2:15pm  
F- The Ursuline Monastery

3:45pm  
G- The Ursuline Chapel

4:30pm  
All participants must be returned to the Fairmont Château Frontenac Hotel by 4:40 pm:  
Opening Session and Keynote Speaker at 5:00 pm at Frontenac Room.