FS10 The Cultural Mix of Old Quebec: the English influence

FIELD SESSION DESCRIPTION

Today, the image of Quebec is defined, for most people, by its history as the birthplace of French civilization in North America. In certain important ways, however, it is Quebec’s unique combination of French and English influences that give the city its special character. During the 18th and 19th centuries, British architecture – Palladian, Neoclassical and Gothic Revival – helped redefine the image of Quebec. The 19th century houses of Quebec’s Upper Town are very similar to the London town house in their interior floor plans. However, they retain certain characteristics of the architecture of the French regime for practical reasons, such as fire walls, and steep roofs, so that the snow will slide off easily. As you will discover, it was Lord Dufferin who saved Quebec’s fortifications from the wrecker’s ball at the end of the 19th century. Ironically, many of the most important features that create the beauty and romance of this historic French speaking city would probably not exist today had it not been for the efforts of a British Governor General. This tour will include an extensive visit of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, the first Anglican Cathedral built outside the British Isles, constructed between 1800 and 1804. Designed by British artillery officers who took their inspiration from the famous church St. Martin in the Fields, on Trafalgar Square in London, the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity is filled with exceptional monuments and stained-glass windows - made in London - and contains a very rare English chamber organ made in 1790. You will learn about restoration and conservation issues at the Cathedral and have the opportunity to examine a new exhibition space recently installed to display superb silver Communion Service, made by the Royal Goldsmiths Rundell and Bridge in 1802-1804. A Gift from King George III, this 10-piece Service displays the arms of the King and those of the Diocese of Quebec. Among the marble monuments in the church is one dedicated to the Duke of Richmond, who gave the famous ball before the Battle of Waterloo. Later, when serving as Governor-in-chief of British North America, he was bitten by a rabid fox, died of rabies and was buried beneath the sanctuary of the Cathedral at Quebec. Our tour will also include a visit of the Price Building, with its art deco décor dating from 1929.

CONTACTS

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INTERNET REFERENCES

http://www.mendeltours.com/
http://www.ville.quebec.qc.ca
http://www.cathedral.ca/
http://www.standrewsquebec.ca/

http://www.morrin.org/
http://www.dfsarch.com/
http://www.mjdarchitecte.com/
October 28, 2014
Lecture by David Mendel from 12:30pm to 13:00pm, at Grand Ballroom British and French Influences in the architecture and urban development of Quebec City. Lunch included.

Groups departure at 1:30pm in the Grand Ballroom:

1:30pm Old Quebec tour
A- Dufferin Terrace
B- Wolfe-Montcalm monument
C- Governor’s Park
D- Mont-Carmel, des Grisons, Haldimand, des Jardins and Sainte-Anne streets

2:30pm – 2:45pm
E- St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church
F- Morrin Center

3:00pm – 3:30pm
G- Price Building

3:30pm
H- The Cathedral of the Holy Trinity

4:30pm
All participants must be returned to the Fairmont Château Frontenac Hotel by 4:40pm

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