



OCPM - Projet Immobilier Domaine Franciscans - Groupe Prével

'Continuity of Time - An époque gone by..'

*'There may be times, when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but
there never must be a time when we fail to protest' - Elie Wiesel*

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Introduction

*'A man without ethics is a wild beast loosed upon this world'
- Albert Camus*

The '*The Role of Ethics* - Paradoxically speaking, I have always questioned the role of '*ethics*' in relation to everyday life, and even more so in relation to some of the recent developments in the Montreal landscape in the last century.

An accrued and astute look at the outcome of the Old Port and the evolution of the downtown landscape shows clearly that there is *something methodically amiss* between *the varied governmental bodies* and that even '*Historical Protection Boards*' have a way giving in at the last minute and 'close their eyes' as City Officials *unethically* make development decisions. Furthermore, the City Officials and Clergy turn the story around and make claims that the varied investors are somehow ironically enough 'Mafia' linked.

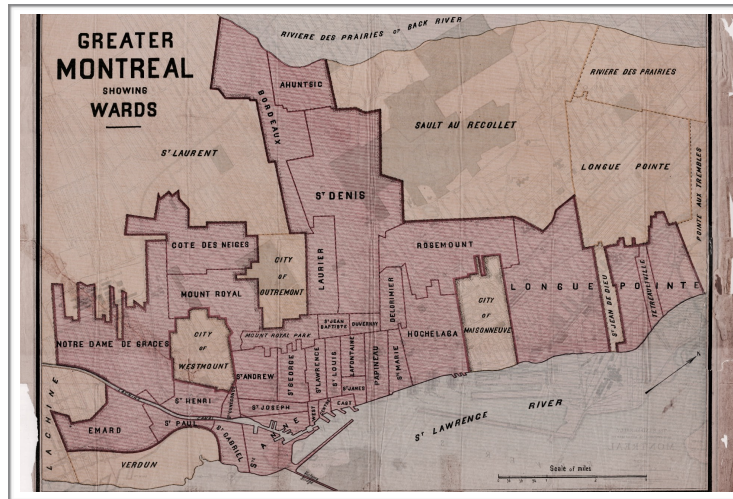
'I beg to differ' as 'certainly' I know 'something' is amiss, as I was in the 'great fire' in the Library of the Parliament in Ottawa while investigating archival information.

Much can be said about the disarray of archival information and more so for the state of confusion in Quebec, prior to Confederation. Montreal had been chosen as the new seat of government of Upper and Lower Canada in 1840. ¹

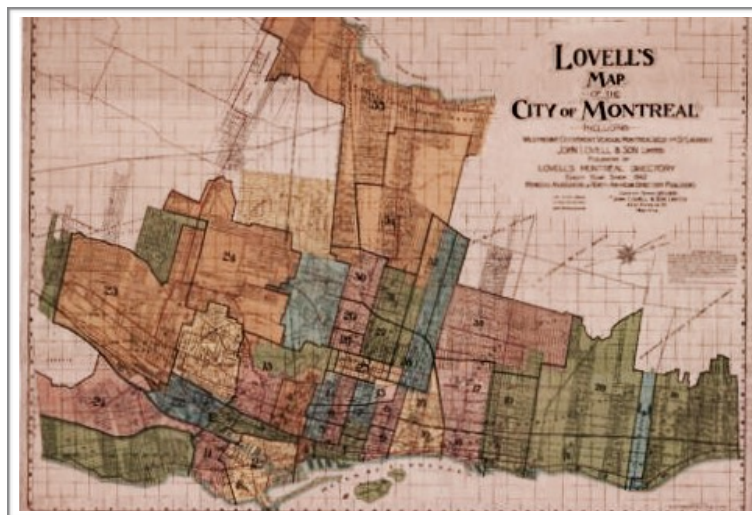
One might inquire if part of the confusion is due to more than one broker selling lots of land from abroad. The 'disgraceful exit' of the English after the burning of the Parliament building in the Old Port in 1849 and varied other incidents, including removing nuns from the convents and executing them, and burning records and deeds of sale, are not of the highest regard.

¹ The Quebec History Encyclopedia

The archival records in the Archives of the of Montreal, clearly show that there is truly something amiss at the turn of the Century in the territory of where the City of West-mount begins. Today, it borders Atwater Ave., but at the turn of the Century it extended towards Tupper.



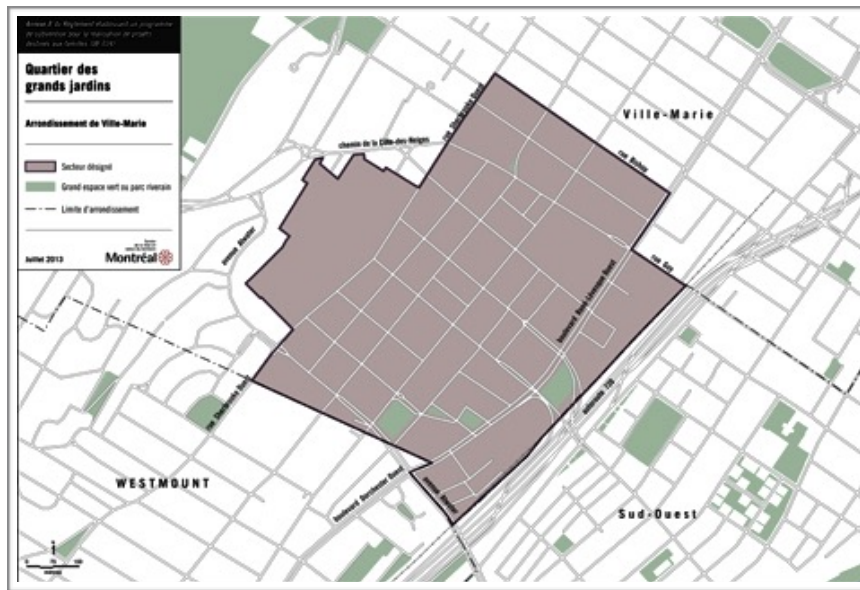
Could there be a better explanation; that Cabot Square could of been intended as the original Dominion Square when negotiations were ever so precarious between the French and English even after the proposed protection of the French language



in the Constitutional Act. (Fig 1 & 2) ²

² City of Montreal - Archives / Lovell's Directory #P148 - 1920

Whatever the intention, the proposed project of Group Prevail is authentically subject to scrutiny in view of the recent fire in detailed in a article *Montreal Gazette* 02-05-2010 and one may wonder why in fact it never received the proper Heritage protection.



Bordering the newly defined PPU - Quartier des Grands Jardins, Dorchester St once was lined with stately homes with great gardens, in days gone by. Was or had there been the one intention at one point of a panoramic Boulevard leading into the City of West-mount. One might never know...³

The Franciscan site which was at one point in history an Apple Orchard ..the lands were rented out to another congregationswho kept a small hobby farm.

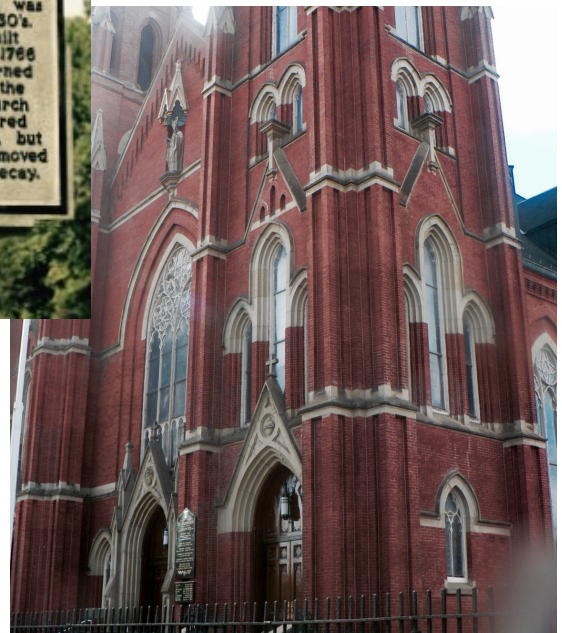
³ Ville de Montréal - PPU / Quartier des Grands Jardins

.... *He died a good Christian ..*

Question; - Can this notion of '*ethics*' and '*transcendence of time*' be of relevance in today's modern world...??!

Is there a sense of '*Architectural Integrity*' and '*Architectural Continuity*' to reflect this notion of '*transcendence of time*'... ??!

And finally, does anyone even care ...who works in the different Municipal committeesor is even educatedregarding Architectural & Urban priorities in making 'ethical decisions'



Franciscans in Montreal - in 1615 the Franciscans arrived in Canada. Sometimes known as the *Recollects*, they arrived in Canada as missionaries. In 1689 after the capture of Quebec by the English, they returned and set up various missions in Quebec, Three Rivers and Montreal. ⁴

Could there have been conflicts between the different missions in the Old Port ...??!

An analysis of archival information regarding the design of different churches in the Old Port might indicate as much ...⁵



⁴ Quebec History Encyclopedia

⁵ Images - Montréal en Histoire

Conclusion

... To err is human, to forgive, divine
Alexander Pope



In view of my '*preliminary analysis*' and experiences relating to '*the recollection of the past*'.....

In view subsequently of the '*unethical burning of archival information*' or questionable acquisition of deeds and lots of land

In view of the clearly *undefined principles* relating to the *percentage* of *Municipal Lands* dedicated to *Green Spaces* or rather lack of.....

My favour is in preserving the *Franciscan Site* as a *Green Space*, with the *reflection of 'notion'* of the *conserving of the Memory of the Apple hobby farm* ...

With the planting of varied *fruit trees*...*Apple trees* ..*Cranberry trees* .. *Pear trees* as a temporary measure to recapture the memory of the past ...

I am for the project in itself ... but in view of the *unethical transactions* ...

Wish that the project be placed elsewhere

