

communiqué /press release**For immediate release****OPENING THE GATES OF 18TH-CENTURY MONTRÉAL**

Coming this Fall

Montréal, 18 June 1992 – To mark the 350th anniversary of the founding of Montréal, the CCA will mount an exhibition to explore the development of the city during the 18th century when Montréal was a fortified town. The exhibition will provide a unique opportunity to consider the building of the 18th-century military and commercial town, the nucleus from which Montréal grew.

The product of nearly fifteen years of research and the preparation of an extensive computerized database, this exhibition will present the results of an unprecedented exploration - for any city - to reconstitute and analyze social and economic activities that affect land use and the built environment. Precise, new maps based on this data will link individuals, their occupations, and the lots and buildings they owned. The exhibition will focus on three components: the fortifications of Montréal, the use of land in the town, and its architecture.

The exhibition will contain some 400 objects borrowed from museums and archives in Europe and North America. These will include a magnificent portrait bust of Marshal Vauban from the Royal Collections in Great Britain, and portraits of James Murray and the marquis de Beauharnois from the National Portrait Gallery in London and the Musée de Grenoble, respectively. Plans and architectural drawings will be assembled from such diverse sources as the Archives nationales in Paris, the Centre des Archives d'Outre-mer in Aix-en-Provence, the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa and the Archives du Séminaire de Saint-Sulpice in Montréal. Other important manuscript documents will be drawn from the Archives nationales du Québec in Québec and Montréal, while unpublished photographs and drawings will be borrowed from the collections of the McCord Museum of Canadian History, the Château Ramezay, the Archives du Séminaire de Québec, and the Royal Ontario Museum. This rich documentation has never before been assembled.

This exhibition by the Canadian Centre for Architecture was organized in collaboration with the Archives nationales du Québec with the assistance of Parks Service, Environment Canada and with the support of the Corporation des célébrations Montréal 1642-1991.

The exhibition will be at the CCA from September 2, 1992 to January 17, 1993 and will open to coincide with the International Congress of Archivists, which will be held in Montréal. An unparalleled opportunity for an examination of the historical development of Montréal as an urban centre, the exhibition will be of special interest to school groups and university students.

The Curators of the exhibition are Phyllis Lambert and Alan Stewart.

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Information: www.cca.qc.ca/press