



Government of Canada

The National Battlefields
Commission

Gouvernement du Canada

Commission des champs
de bataille nationaux



Information sheet

Brown Basin

2009 Summer Activities

Student Masterworks

Realized with the collaboration of the Commission scolaire de la Beauce-Etchemin

One hundred and forty reproductions of New France historical objects from 1608 to 1759 are on display. These brilliant works meticulously created by 175 award-winning students were selected among the remarkable achievements of some 800 secondary level students from five different schools.

This stimulating pedagogical activity has been in place for the past 8 years in a number of schools of the Commission scolaire de la Beauce-Etchemin, and was initiated by Messrs. Christian and Jean-Pierre Lagueux, who are jointly responsible for the school board's social activities. Both teach at the Polyvalente Bélanger and have a keen interest in Québec's and Canada's history.

Several objectives are connected with this activity: develop the students' interest in the New France era and make them aware of how complex it was for our forebears to handcraft everyday objects with the means they had at their disposal; explain the logic behind the objects used by our ancestors, their usefulness and relevance, the materials used, the symbolism, colours and legends surrounding them; give students a taste for history through a constructive activity; allow them to share their new knowledge and achievements with their peers and with the public; let them experience a new integrating project that is both amusing and motivating.

Each student makes the most of his or her individual skills: sculpture, pottery, ceramics, drawing, painting, calligraphy, garment making, sewing, etc. The reproduction has to be as accurate a representation of the object as possible while avoiding anachronisms and using materials similar to what was available at the time. An explanatory text produced by the students will help them present their objects and inform the public during the exhibition. The schools are invited to join this initiative. A way of putting history at their fingertips, a way students really enjoy!





Between River and Cliff

Follow Brown Basin's evolution through the years:

Anse-des-Mères (17th and 18th centuries)

The St. Lawrence River and Cap Diamant are key elements in understanding the development of the Brown Basin sector. These geographical features have helped shape the face and use of the site over the years.

The Golden Age of Shipyards (19th century)

After Québec and its economy passed into British hands, the English undertook to develop commercial activities in Lower Town, acquiring several strategic sites near the water. At the same time, international political developments created favourable conditions for business.

Cap-Blanc and Brown Basin (20th and nowadays' centuries)

By the mid-19th century, the traditional maritime activities that characterized Québec had begun to decline. In 1847, England abolished the preferential tariffs to support the timber trade in the St. Lawrence Valley and Québec. The number of sailing ships carrying squared timbers dropped from around 1,000 in 1860 to half that number a decade later, and continued to drop even more sharply as the end of the century approached.

Québec 1759-1760,

Battlefield Between Two Empires

This multimedia exhibition honors the 250th anniversary of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham (September 13, 1759) and the Battle of Sainte-Foy (April 28, 1760). Step by step you will learn about the small details and the great history of these three historic buildings that once stood on the Plains of Abraham.

The British built Murray's Blockhouse at the tip of Cap Diamant in winter 1759-1760 in anticipation of the French counterattack after the Battle of the Plains of Abraham.

The Dumont Mill was located near the current location of the Des Braves Monument now stands. It was around this area that the troops of the Chevalier de Lévis clashed with James Murray's soldiers at the Battle of Sainte-Foy in the spring of 1760.

Martello Tower 3 once stood very close to the current Grand Théâtre de Québec. It was one of four such towers built after 1808 to protect against a possible American invasion of Québec City.

Complete your tour by visiting our movie theater. Through spectacular

250 YEARS
BATTLES OF THE PLAINS OF ABRAHAM
1759 – 1760

images taken from the series *Canada: A People's History*, relive the emotions, exploits, and adventures of the 360 days that changed the history of North America.

Clear the Deck for Action!

Duration: 45 minutes. Animation presented in the afternoon.

A friendly French quartermaster relates his experiences during the siege of Québec and describes the great naval events that took place on the river during this period.

The crossing was far from easy. Listen to his story to learn so many details about the seafaring life and the work of the sailors.

Also, during this famous summer of 1759, so many naval events took place around this location! From the arrival of the vessels to the British landing, from the fire ship episode to the resupplying by waterways and attempts at naval attacks and landing.

Will you be worthy of the French Navy? Let's see if you're ready for action...



Address: 615 E Champlain Blvd, Québec City
(at the foot of the Cap Blanc stairs)

Opening hours: from June 24 to September 7, 2009
Everyday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Languages: English and French

Entrance fee: free

Collaboration:



www.theplainsofabraham.ca



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