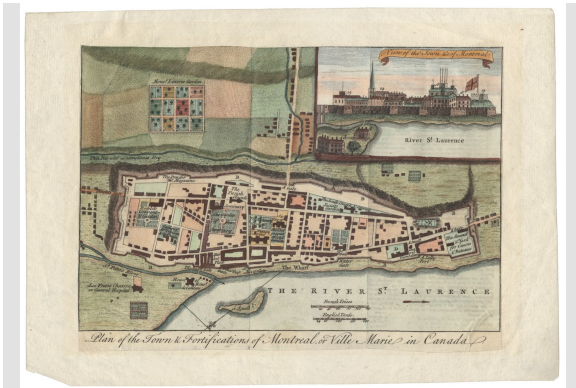


Plan

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Collections / From the Conquest to the founding of Canada / plan



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Plan of the city and fortifications of Montreal, 1760. Source: London Magazine; Kershaw 1097. In January 1758, a plan of Montreal and its fortifications was published in London. Based on information from an English spy previously present in the city, it became known as the spy-plan. It was of no use to the military, as Montreal surrendered without a fight in September 1760. New versions with additions were published in the following years.

Accession Number 2009.30

Date 1760

Materials ink, paper

Measurements 22 x 31 cm

Historical context

This plan, produced in 1760, represents the city of Montreal, or Ville-Marie, as it may have appeared at the time. It clearly shows the location of the city's major buildings, such as the former Notre-Dame church, the Récollets convent and Château Callière, which disappeared after the surrender of Montreal and New France to the British Empire. You can also see the port, fortifications and surrounding fields. Another image at top right shows the city skyline from the river. This plan is the colored version of a copperplate engraving, printed in black and white, which originally appeared in the October 1760 issue of London Magazine. First published in 1732, The London Magazine is one of Britain's oldest periodicals, and at the time published, in addition to poetry, political essays and culinary recipes, plans of famous battles and maps of various locations. The publication of this plan in October 1760, just one month after the surrender of Montreal on September 8, 1760, coincided with the end of the British Empire's Conquest of New France. The plan was accompanied by an account of the fighting and a detailed prose description of the city and its surroundings.

On display