

Postcards

Postcard

<https://collections.pacmusee.qc.ca/en/objects/postcard-2013-030-010-072/>

Collections / postcard



CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 license

Color postcard.

Accession Number 2013.30.10.072

Fabricant / Éditeur Metropolis Post Card Co.

Artiste / Auteur Unknown

Medium and Support ink, cardboard

Technique industrial process

Historical context

This postcard features an image of the Royal Bank building. It reads: “The Royal Bank of Canada by Illumination/Montreal, Canada La Banque Royale du Canada”.

In 1907, Royal Bank moved its head office from Halifax to 221 rue Saint-Jacques in Montreal. This street was nicknamed the “Wall Street” of Canada. The new location quickly became too small, and the order for a new building was placed with the specialized York and Sawyer agency. The firm joined forces with architect S. G. Davenport to design the tallest building in the British Empire (22 storeys), between 1926 and 1928. In 1924, the city amended its by-laws to restrict construction to a maximum of 10 storeys. Twenty storeys were now permitted, provided a pyramid shape was respected.

The prestigious 28,576-square-foot building boasts all the modern comforts of the time: rest rooms, smoking room, meeting rooms, infirmary, cafeteria, 9 elevators, etc. The building boasts the very latest in vault security and technology, including telegraph and telephone. In 1962, Royal Bank moved its head office to Place Ville-Marie.