

Sample of the Holy Land

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Small wooden box containing various fragments from different stations of Christ's Passion in Jerusalem and from Jerusalem's holy sites.

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Materials fiber, ink, paper, stone, wax, wood

Measurements 9,6 x 27,2 x 18 cm

Historical context

This wooden box, a pilgrimage souvenir, contains samples of earth and other holy places in Jerusalem that echo the Passion of Christ. It belonged to the Sisters of Sainte-Anne (S.S.A.). The S.S.A. congregation was founded by Marie-Anne Blondin, a schoolteacher from Vaudreuil, in the mid-19th century. The Sisters of Sainte-Anne are a religious congregation of women teachers and hospitallers of pontifical right. The motherhouse is located in Lachine, on a huge plot of over 63,600 m².

Jerusalem is a holy city for Christians. It is the site of Christ's crucifixion, burial and resurrection. What is known as the "Passion of the Christ" is in fact the events surrounding Jesus' death, such as the 14 Stations of the Cross.

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Photo by Louis-Etienne Dore