

Press release

Discovery Tour and Archaeology Month at Marguerite-Bourgeoys Museum

(Montreal, August 1, 2015) - All summer long, the Marguerite-Bourgeoys Museum invites you to enjoy an intriguing adventure as you explore the Bon-Secours site and its history and secrets. The special 30-minute tour will explain the techniques archaeologists traditionally use, but will focus especially on the new technologies available to them that allow them to learn as much as possible from the site they are investigating.

Archaeological digs were initially conducted on the Bon-Secours site in 1996-1997, unearthing the structure of Montréal's very first pilgrimage chapel, built at the urging of Marguerite Bourgeoys in 1678. Highly valuable remains from the French, British and Native periods were also found at that time. Although those first digs were very productive, they remained incomplete. The lack of time and resources made it impossible to explore the nave of the old chapel. Historians and archaeologists were naturally curious about what might lie beneath the surface.

In February 2015, archaeologists began excavating the Bon-Secours site once again, with the firm intention of solving some mysteries. Their work added considerably to our knowledge and understanding of the site and its past.

Have you ever heard of laserometry and remote sensing by ground-penetrating radar? Would you like to know more? Then don't miss the 2015 discovery tour. It's perfect for archaeology and history buffs!

Ground penetrating radar (GPR) equipment helps show you what's underground. GPR systems work by sending a tiny pulse of energy into a material via an antenna. An integrated computer records the strength and time required for the return of any reflected signals.



At the Marguerite Bourgeoys Museum
June 2 to August 30 : Tuesday to Sunday afternoons
September and October : Saturday and Sunday afternoons

This project was carried out under the Agreement on the cultural development of Montréal.

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Archaeology Month



During the [Archaeology Month](#), the Marguerite-Bourgeoys Museum is presenting **Artifacts under investigation**. Using a notebook, young and old will have to uncover the mystery of some of the artifacts found on the Bon-Secours site during the archaeological digs of February 2015.

This activity is on Saturdays and Sundays, between 1:00 P.M. and 5:00 P.M. Reservations are not required. General admission fees apply and access to the Museum and the Discovery Tour are included.

The Marguerite-Bourgeoys Museum is located in the hearth of Old Montreal, 400 St. Paul St. East (Metro Champ-de-Mars). Info : 514-282-8670 – www.marguerite-bourgeoys.com

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