

Heritage Detective's Notebook

Case File: The Secrets of Pointe-Claire's Past

Assigned to Detective: _____

Agency: _____

Clearance Level: TOP SECRET

Phase 1: Opening the Case - Basic Training

Welcome, Detective. You have been recruited by the Heritage Detective Agency for a mission of vital importance. Hidden in plain sight, the old buildings of our town are like time capsules, holding secrets of the past. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to investigate these structures, decode their stories, and report your findings.

But first, every good detective needs basic training. Complete these three missions to prepare for your field assignment.

Training Mission 01: Establish Your Timeline

To understand the past, you need to know where you stand in it. A timeline is a detective's most important tool for cracking cases.

On the Master Timeline in Appendix A, mark the following key events. Use the code numbers provided.

1. **Your Birth Year:** (Mark it with a star ★)
 2. **A Parent's Birth Year:** (Mark with a P)
 3. **The First Land Grant on the Seigneurie of Pointe-Claire:** 1674
 4. **Cartographer Samuel de Champlain records the point and Lac St-Louis:** 1613
 5. **The British Conquest:** 1760
 6. **The transcontinental railway was completed:** 1855
 7. **Confederation (Canada becomes a country):** 1867
 8. **First Caisse Populaire Founded:** 1900
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Training Mission 02: Initial Intelligence Gathering

Good detectives start by assessing what they already know. Answer these questions to build your initial case file.

Intel Question #1: In your own words, what is "architecture"?

Field Sighting: List any "buildings of interest" (old buildings) you already know in our town.

Hypothesis: What do you think is the oldest house in town? How old do you guess it is?

Historical Context: In your own words, what was "New France"?

Training Mission 03: Learn the Lingo (Detective's Glossary)

To describe your findings like a pro, you need to know the official terms. Use a dictionary or team discussion to define these key architectural clues.

1. Foundation: The base that a house is built on.

Your Definition:

2. Façade: The front face of a building.

Your Definition:

3. Gable: The triangular upper part of a wall at the end of a ridged roof.

Your Definition:

4. Dormer: A window that projects vertically from a sloping roof.

Your Definition:

5. Eaves: The part of a roof that meets or overhangs the walls of a building.

Your Definition:

6. Cornice: The decorative molding that crowns a building or wall.

Your Definition:

7. Turret: A small tower on a building.

Your Definition:

8. Ornamentation: The decorative details added to a building to make it beautiful.

Your Definition:

Phase 2: On Location - The Investigation

Training is complete. It's time to go into the field. For each "Building of Interest," you will create a new Case File. Use your eyes, ears, and your team to gather all the clues.

CASE FILE #001: The Pointe Claire Windmill



1. TIMELINE CLUE

- **Year Built:** 1710
- Place the letter **A** on your Master Timeline (Appendix A) to mark this date.

2. THE MOTIVE (Original Purpose)

- What was this building first used for? (Check one)
 - **Residential:** A place where people lived.
 - **Commercial:** A place for business (shop, bank).
 - **Public:** A government building, school, or library.
 - **Religious:** A church or place of worship.
 - **Other / Industrial:** (e.g., mill, factory, farm building)

3. ARCHITECTURAL PROFILE (The M.O.)

- Use the **Field Identification Guide (Appendix B)** to identify the architectural style.
 - **Style:** _____
- Describe the building in your own words (What's your first impression?).

4. DISTINCTIVE MARKS (Key Features)

- **Roof Shape:** (Draw it!)
- **Main Material:** (e.g., Wood, Brick, Stone) _____
- **Windows:** (e.g., Pointed, Rectangular, Small panes) _____
- **Special Details:** (e.g., Big porch, tower, fancy trim) _____

5. INTERROGATION NOTES (Questions for the Guide)

- **Question 1:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____
- **Question 2:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____

6. TOP SECRET INTEL (Did You Know?)

Built with thick fieldstone walls and equipped with loopholes for muskets, the windmill was also a fortified structure.

CASE FILE #002: The Convent of the Congregation of Notre Dame



1. TIMELINE CLUE

- **Year Built:** 1868
- Place the letter **B** on your Master Timeline (Appendix A) to mark this date.

2. THE MOTIVE (Original Purpose)

- What was this building first used for? (Check one)
 - **Residential:** A place where people lived.
 - **Commercial:** A place for business (shop, bank).
 - **Public:** A government building, school, or library.
 - **Religious:** A church or place of worship.
 - **Other / Industrial:** (e.g., mill, factory, farm building)

3. ARCHITECTURAL PROFILE (The M.O.)

- Use the **Field Identification Guide (Appendix B)** to identify the architectural style.
 - **Style:** _____
- Describe the building in your own words (What's your first impression?).

4. DISTINCTIVE MARKS (Key Features)

- **Roof Shape:** (Draw it!)
- **Main Material:** (e.g., Wood, Brick, Stone) _____
- **Windows:** (e.g., Pointed, Rectangular, Small panes) _____
- **Special Details:** (e.g., Big porch, tower, fancy trim) _____

5. INTERROGATION NOTES (Questions for the Guide)

- **Question 1:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____
- **Question 2:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____

6. TOP SECRET INTEL (Did You Know?)

For nearly a century, the building served as a renowned boarding school. In 1962, two large perpendicular wings were added to the original building core to better meet the needs of the Congregation.

CASE FILE #003: The Presbytery of Saint-Joachim Parish



1. TIMELINE CLUE

- **Year Built:** 1848
- Place the letter **C** on your Master Timeline (Appendix A) to mark this date.

2. THE MOTIVE (Original Purpose)

- What was this building first used for? (Check one)
 - **Residential:** A place where people lived.
 - **Commercial:** A place for business (shop, bank).
 - **Public:** A government building, school, or library.
 - **Religious:** A church or place of worship.
 - **Other / Industrial:** (e.g., mill, factory, farm building)

3. ARCHITECTURAL PROFILE (The M.O.)

- Use the **Field Identification Guide (Appendix B)** to identify the architectural style.
 - **Style:** _____

- Describe the building in your own words (What's your first impression?).

4. DISTINCTIVE MARKS (Key Features)

- **Roof Shape:** (Draw it!)
- **Main Material:** (e.g., Wood, Brick, Stone) _____
- **Windows:** (e.g., Pointed, Rectangular, Small panes) _____
- **Special Details:** (e.g., Big porch, tower, fancy trim) _____

5. INTERROGATION NOTES (Questions for the Guide)

- **Question 1:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____
- **Question 2:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____

6. TOP SECRET INTEL (Did You Know?)

The Presbytery was originally built in a classic Quebecois style. In 1912 a second storey was added, topped with pyramid-shaped dormer windows and decorative finials, a style reminiscent of French châteaux.

CASE FILE #004: The Church of Saint-Joachim-de-la-Pointe-Claire parish



1. TIMELINE CLUE

- **Year Built:** 1882
- Place the letter **D** on your Master Timeline (Appendix A) to mark this date.

2. THE MOTIVE (Original Purpose)

- What was this building first used for? (Check one)
 - **Residential:** A place where people lived.
 - **Commercial:** A place for business (shop, bank).
 - **Public:** A government building, school, or library.
 - **Religious:** A church or place of worship.
 - **Other / Industrial:** (e.g., mill, factory, farm building)

3. ARCHITECTURAL PROFILE (The M.O.)

- Use the **Field Identification Guide (Appendix B)** to identify the architectural style.
 - **Style:** _____
- Describe the building in your own words (What's your first impression?).

4. DISTINCTIVE MARKS (Key Features)

- **Roof Shape:** (Draw it!)
- **Main Material:** (e.g., Wood, Brick, Stone) _____
- **Windows:** (e.g., Pointed, Rectangular, Small panes) _____
- **Special Details:** (e.g., Big porch, tower, fancy trim) _____

5. INTERROGATION NOTES (Questions for the Guide)

- **Question 1:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____
- **Question 2:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____

6. TOP SECRET INTEL (Did You Know?)

On Easter Sunday, April 17, 1881 the nearly finished structure burned to the ground. The community resolved to rebuild immediately, constructed on the same site and using stones salvaged from the ruins, the new church followed the architect's original plans to the letter.

CASE FILE #005: DETECTIVE'S CHOICE

Your Target: Choose any local building, monument, or landmark that catches your eye. You are the lead detective on this case.

1. TIMELINE CLUE

- **Year Built:**
- Place the letter **E** on your Master Timeline (Appendix A) to mark this date.

2. THE MOTIVE (Original Purpose)

- What was this building first used for? (Check one)
 - **Residential:** A place where people lived.
 - **Commercial:** A place for business (shop, bank).
 - **Public:** A government building, school, or library.
 - **Religious:** A church or place of worship.
 - **Other / Industrial:** (e.g., mill, factory, farm building)

3. ARCHITECTURAL PROFILE (The M.O.)

- Use the **Field Identification Guide (Appendix B)** to identify the architectural style.
 - **Style:** _____
- Describe the building in your own words (What's your first impression?).

4. DISTINCTIVE MARKS (Key Features)

- **Roof Shape:** (Draw it!)
- **Main Material:** (e.g., Wood, Brick, Stone) _____
- **Windows:** (e.g., Pointed, Rectangular, Small panes) _____
- **Special Details:** (e.g., Big porch, tower, fancy trim) _____

5. INTERROGATION NOTES (Questions for the Guide)

- **Question 1:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____
- **Question 2:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____

6. TOP SECRET INTEL (Did You Know?)

CASE FILE #006: DETECTIVE'S CHOICE

Your Target: Choose any local building, monument, or landmark that catches your eye. You are the lead detective on this case.

1. TIMELINE CLUE

- **Year Built:**
- Place the letter **F** on your Master Timeline (Appendix A) to mark this date.

2. THE MOTIVE (Original Purpose)

- What was this building first used for? (Check one)
 - **Residential:** A place where people lived.
 - **Commercial:** A place for business (shop, bank).
 - **Public:** A government building, school, or library.
 - **Religious:** A church or place of worship.
 - **Other / Industrial:** (e.g., mill, factory, farm building)

3. ARCHITECTURAL PROFILE (The M.O.)

- Use the **Field Identification Guide (Appendix B)** to identify the architectural style.
 - **Style:** _____
- Describe the building in your own words (What's your first impression?).

4. DISTINCTIVE MARKS (Key Features)

- **Roof Shape:** (Draw it!)
- **Main Material:** (e.g., Wood, Brick, Stone) _____
- **Windows:** (e.g., Pointed, Rectangular, Small panes) _____
- **Special Details:** (e.g., Big porch, tower, fancy trim) _____

5. INTERROGATION NOTES (Questions for the Guide)

- **Question 1:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____
- **Question 2:** _____
 - **Answer:** _____

6. TOP SECRET INTEL (Did You Know?)

Phase 3: Closing the Case - The Final Report

Your fieldwork is complete. Now it's time to analyze your evidence and present your findings at the final "Press Conference." Use this section to prepare your report and evaluate your mission.

Mission Debrief: Self-Assessment

Rate your own performance as a detective. (Circle one for each statement)

- **Before the mission, I prepared well for my role.**
 - Definitely | Mostly | Somewhat | Not really
- **During the investigation, I listened carefully to the guide.**
 - Definitely | Mostly | Somewhat | Not really
- **I was a positive and helpful member of my Detective Agency.**
 - Definitely | Mostly | Somewhat | Not really
- **I completed all the tasks for my assigned role.**
 - Definitely | Mostly | Somewhat | Not really
- **During the final report, I listened respectfully to other agencies.**
 - Definitely | Mostly | Somewhat | Not really

Agency Review: Peer Feedback

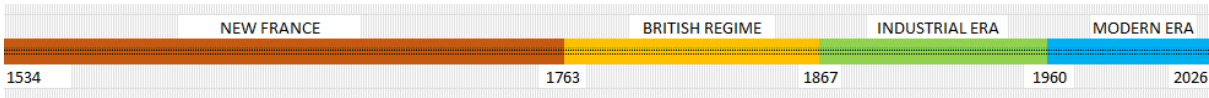
When another Detective Agency gives their report, use this form to give them constructive feedback.

Presenting Agency: _____

What was one thing their presentation did really well?

What is one question you still have for their team?

Appendix A: Master Timeline



Key to Events & Buildings:

Events







- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____

Buildings

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. _____
- F. _____

Appendix B: Field Identification Guide - Architectural Styles

Use this guide to identify the suspects. Look for the key identifying features.

Visual Evidence	Codename / Style	Identifying Features (Clues)	Era
	The Pioneer (French Influence)	Very steep roof. Small windows, not always lined up. Close to the ground	17th-18th C.
	The Habitant (Quebecois)	Overhanging eaves create a front porch. Symmetrical windows and doors. Built on a stone foundation.	1760-1880
	The Statesman (Neoclassical)	Perfectly symmetrical and balanced. Fan-shaped window over the main door. Columns and formal decorations.	1820-1860
	The Storybook (Gothic Revival)	Pointed windows and gables. Ornate, "gingerbread" trim. Often has vertical wood siding.	1850-1875
	The Parisian (Second Empire)	Signature "Mansard" roof (double slope). Dormer windows pop out of the roof. Looks formal and grand.	1860-1900
	The Main Street (Boomtown)	Simple box shape with a tall, flat front. Hides a simple, sloped roof. Looks bigger than it is from the front.	1880-1910



The Dollhouse (Queen Anne Revival)

Looks different from every angle. Turrets, towers, and bay windows. Mix of different materials and textures.

1885-1900



The Château (Châteauesque)

Rectangular in plan, flanked by massive towers. Steeply pitched pavilion roofs. Rusticated stone and very little ornamentation.

1885-1930



The Craftsman (Craftsman Bungalow)

Low-pitched roof with wide overhangs. Large front porch with thick columns. Looks solid, cozy, and handmade.

1910-1950