Future for Religious Heritage Halle, Germany 31 October 2014

Rural Religious Heritage in Quebec (Canada): Realities, Issues and Potential Solution

Édith Prégent Université du Québec à Montréal Chaire de recherche du Canada en patrimoine urbain ESG UQÀM Musée régional de Vaudreuil-Soulanges

CHAIRE

de recherche du Canada en patrimoine urbain

ESG UQAM





Saint Clet Church, Saint Clet Photo: Chaire de recherche du Canada en patrimoine urbain ESG UQÀM

- Quebec's history and territorial development are intimately related to the Catholic's parishes.
- In many cases, the parish existed many years before the legal foundation of the municipality.
- It's the reason why the name of rural's municipalities are often the same of the church.
- This explain why for many decades, the citizen were more attached to the parish than the municipality.

- In Quebec, churches used for public worship are private property (parish council, trustees, and dioceses).
- When no longer used as a place of worship, the church building must be sold (Quebec's Factories Act).
- The building must not only find a new calling, but also a new owner.
- The heritage institution lacks both the financial means and the desire to retain them; it does not know what to do with the 324 churches classified as historical monument that will soon be without purpose or proprietor.
- This confirms the necessity of reconsidering their purpose and appropriation by the community, beyond worship or heritage.
- In villages, many municipalities purchase the building (their sole monument) and transform it to a community or cultural centre.

Quebec's churches: a few statistics*

Current Status	Other regions of Quebec	%	Montreal	%	Total (2013)
Churches used as places of worship (including those sold to another denomination)	1 782	60,2	412	13,9	2 194
Converted Churches	452	15,3	66	2,2	518
Churches for sale	53	1,8	17	0,6	70
Total churches (excluding those demolished)	2 287	77,2	495	16,7	2 782
Demolished churches	115	3,9	64	2,2	179
Total	2 402	81,1	559	18,9	2 961

113 Churches were acquired by their municipality (predominantly rural) 104 converted churches remain a part-time place of worship

^{*} Chaire de recherche du Canada en patrimoine urbain ESG UQÀM

Très Saint Rédempteur Church, Très Saint Rédempteur





ACTUALITÉ

e centaine de Rédempteurois à la séance de conseil municipal

Buerre de clochers... pour une église!

Hardl, près de 100 chapma de haim Ridrepuus ste namet à la séance de less necesif ranadalpsi, scopmo sur Tachre, de l'égles et du prodystes de l'érdesti. Les respeits se nons vite échardiés. En citroyen a même mic expelse; de la saille.

MELANDE MELOCHE-HOLUBOWSKI

and the part of the Secretary and the control of th

LA pressure, anotype, espelo quest robresdana notarant plan de 8000 5 zi trant probre 20 000 8 se salmonamo é lo Managadot. - Cay Stelon se provincios



CETTRES DES CITOYONS

Date latest operates dute le mont-capitat une se firete dell'organisme dei Mémorat réligious; Duces comes Jose

De nort 1981, Name André Disagnossit a pas de less e, combina le manue Effe todo no parte resuldar litro- en menar por quelques autreins que reconquières, les quilse locaci es proviere les titus los des

Line (self-pers) - Line (self-pe



requestion its le Frincipes Torenzière il) e Larkgois annère. - Vive Laux reliante pare. al la risgimati. C'are removati rival. Qui l'a sènate l'O. Jainest et M. Gaermani. - alternir.

and the same of th

According to the control of the cont

prenden protes see haddentalos, aco

 The teaching place particle of the control of men-endparaments: » (is not pur sexus nees vocadad zero bio thursens. Prox. tive an a



Très-Saint-Rédempteur

Référendum abrogé, l'église sera achetée 🧶



anuade le reglement promettant un relitendant sur l'achar de l'eglise et du presbyttre de cene lacultir. La Municipalité penernit en finaliser l'acquissi-

effet becommitten Davidsommer eithau Marine sen drownski le totale de sene many poor pandido el mis. Ave. Uma-Make Cacleal yes always. Five Every rise reconcer for more benefit about a more row

delin may be hitteness obsestors diametri dell'ori di delle di mieritori. Uni oprandio on pardeni los dine-Hangain irris (pilmin contest

present is creen meneral a dental or or in projec, recipion to project at

WELDCHE-ROLDBOWSKI rotter Douge have the one between separate perfect or present descriptions of the contract of the contract

Property in consent severations and service englisserer proventient an referendent nome. Temperature des habitunes inliggens

Le presentitor Manu-Yannin decembra new de Dale, di un vierne la linea de Dévogace : un rémant total despectes, mais avant le du réferencies. Mais faresse s'opé como si. Est que le résource e du liste alors après. committee that the receiver, Windows, II risk steam will Charl emergel v.

> POURQUOI CE REVIREMENTY This observes not no view do not be returned

out. - Propper or overcoord a dynamic Backet Quester. La referendam agest its (Mesoclastope, is sensit when to pute these

to village! -Le consoil reconstyted cretament to retraffee

predicts, as ollabout

De son che, le more Laborde sotare que con sonorem représentate ann andrées. Moral elegants the allow upon turner net wereaster 14m, m, a la devenire sensor, more more

Le sugan e de ever manda do ronnos. Instruct crots que la Fabrique assur.

Le parte l'abred primer le convergion de la convergion de control production de la convergion de comme agrés plans sits.

To parte l'abred primer de la convergion de la control parte de la convergion de la comme agrés plans sits.

To parte l'abred par les confessions, la Velvière a mangrante, per la Venezignité. Mars la adfant de la collection de la collec

Par afferent le insite ou constitue seu cer-This delivers is received in contracting processing the specific contraction and confidence contracting and co

PAS-STARGENT

POLIFIES REPARATIONS

recording upon the left participality to a paint from

irado etecuario a hervenia en fan. Elle desta recoura a fan salveniam none Drumos los proposicione et regit en reproject. Cit. So student M. des uniferentieres en version-granife Sella 60 % dans surfies.

Occurrence of at his female management

CONTIANCE PERIDUE

se thiers lines per or revenuents, × ft re-

non-liveau. Materials, ir sie plas

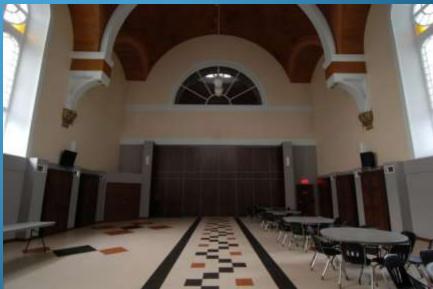
Continue Laborate conflicts one a los cites - mendantes identions, et d'agress conserve

Saint Anicet Church, Saint Anicet









Sainte Jeanne de Chantal Church, Notre Dame de l'Île Perrot







- A strategy is needed as to how the civil society can acquire the church buildings.
- A "Churches Plan" is a region-based recovery strategy implemented by the local players and supported by experts.
- This group becomes the heritage community as defined by the article 2-b of the Faro Convention (2011):

"A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations".

• The "Churches Plan" in four points:

Analyse the development potential of the church sites for cultural or community use (partnership between the owners, the parties, and the experts).

- Plan the future of the churches by regionally hierarchizing them according to their heritage values.
- Evaluate potential development (in terms of heritage and usage) in accordance with cultural and social needs.
- The regional strategic planning is guided by the local heritage community.

Thank you

