



City of Dieppe, New Brunswick

## Urban development spurs heritage awareness

- Drive to develop a city centre spurs heritage awareness
- Photographic exhibition celebrates community legacy



*Léger Home, Acadie St, City of Dieppe*

### Building a city centre with heritage awareness

*"Many of our citizens were surprised to see how many historic places there are in the community." Diane Caron-Bélanger, President, Heritage and Language Committee, City of Dieppe*

The City of Dieppe is one of New Brunswick's fastest growing municipalities with nearly half of its 18,000 residents below the age of 35. The City developed from a settlement of twenty-three Acadian families in the early 1700s to a modern municipality of many neighbourhoods with no defined community centre.

However, population growth and rapid urban development brought about a focus on developing a city centre that would reflect the City's unique character as the largest Acadian urban area in New Brunswick. As part of an urban revitalization plan, the City of Dieppe undertook an assessment of its historic resources, including historic places associated with some of its founding families.

Through HPI, a municipal register of local historic places was established. An exhibition of photographs of many of the local historic places and associated artefacts was presented at Dieppe City Hall in February 2007. The exhibition focused attention on the contributions of property-owners some of whom are descendants of Dieppe's founding families. The exhibition also helped to raise awareness of the legacy of local historic places. This helps ensure that the past will be part of the community's identity and development focus into the future.

The popularity of the exhibition has led to it being featured at the Musée acadien de l'Université de Moncton throughout the summer of 2007 where it will be available to visitors from other regions.

### **Tools used for this project**

- Start-up funds from New Brunswick's Department of Wellness, Culture and Sport through the Historic Places Initiative (HPI) to establish a municipal register of local historic places
- Volunteer support by the Heritage and Language Committee, City of Dieppe

### **The Project by the Numbers**

- Department of Wellness, Culture and Sport through the Historic Places Initiative (HPI) provided \$32,000 to establish a municipal register of local historic places
- Mounting and framing costs for the exhibition of photographs of historic places

### **Urban Identity Built on the Past**

- Establishment of a municipal register of local historic places
- Production of a walking map featuring historic places for distribution to residents and tourists <http://www.dieppe.ca/doc/download/Patrimoine1.pdf>.
- Development of community pride in local historic places

### **Web Links**

<http://www.gnb.ca/0131/historicplaces/NBHP/index-E.asp>

<http://www.historicplaces.ca/>



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