



CNRS-MARCOM-SNR QUÉBEC 2008

The 8th MARCOM Historical Conference will be held in Quebec City, 06-09 August 2008, to commemorate both the 400th anniversary of the city's founding and the location there of Naval Reserve Headquarters. To make the most of this professional development opportunity in one of Canada's most historic and dynamic settings, the Canadian Navy Heritage Team is joining with the prestigious Canadian Nautical Research Society and the Society for Nautical Research, to explore the complimentary themes of "Four Centuries of North Atlantic Crossings" and "The Naval Reserve in Canada". Besides the scholarly sessions, a number of conference-related activities are being arranged. Truly, this is one conference you will not want to miss.

Conference Programme

A preliminary conference programme is posted on both the Navy (<http://www.navy.forces.gc.ca>) and CNRS (<http://www.cnrs-scrn.org>) websites. It offers a fascinating blend of topics by established and emerging scholars on themes such as early charts and navigation of the North Atlantic, seventeenth-century naval rivalry and early colonization, naval operations during the siege of Quebec in 1759, commercial and naval shipbuilding in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and transatlantic steamship service. The papers on the Naval Reserve cover its history as a proud national institution, from its roots in Newfoundland as well as Canada, through the Second World War and its postwar re-organization, to surveys of the modern Total Force and the naval presence in Québec. The general sequence of events, with approximate timings, is as follows:

- Wednesday 06 August – you should plan your arrival for early afternoon, to allow time to check-in before joining a walking tour of the maritime aspects of Quebec's Lower Town. This will terminate at the Musée navale with the opening reception. Dinner on your own.
- Thursday 07 August – sessions all day. Optional evening dinner cruise on the St Lawrence River, offering a spectacular tour from Cape Diamond to Île d'Orléans.
- Friday 08 August – sessions all day. The conference banquet will be held in the Naval Reserve Quarters overlooking the St Lawrence River.

Note that both the walking tour on Wednesday afternoon and the Thursday evening dinner cruises are optional excursions and must be booked separately on the registration form. If a spouse or partner accompanies you, please be sure to book an additional spot for them (same for the Friday evening banquet).

Conference Venue

The conference sessions will be held in the superb facilities of the award-winning Auberge Saint-Antoine, an historic and archaeological site in its own right located in the heart of the old port – see the hotel web-site (www.saint-antoine.com) for an appreciation of what is in store for us.

A couple of conference-related activities will be hosted at the Pointe-à-Carcy Naval Reserve Establishment (DWAN: http://navreshq.mil.ca/PAC/index_e.asp), within easy walking distance of the Auberge, including the opening reception at the Musée navale de Québec and the conference banquet.

Translation

Speakers will deliver their papers in their native tongue (ie, English and French), and professional simultaneous translation service will be provided within the conference auditorium, at no additional cost. The optional walking tour will be available in both languages.

Accommodation

Since the conference occurs during the summer training period, there is limited accommodation at the Pointe-à-Carcy Residence. However, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Auberge Saint-Antoine. **Reservations must be made by 26 May 2008**, by calling toll-free 1-888-692-2211 (the hotel staff are fully bilingual) – mention “Canadian Nautical Research Society”.

For a variety of other options in the Quebec City region, according to taste and budget, check <http://www.bedandbreakfast.com/quebec-city-quebec.html> or the official Quebec City tourism site: <http://www.quebecregion.com/e/>.

Optional Activities:

1. Walking Tour, Wednesday 6 August

Discover Historic Quebec with Architectural Historian David Mendel / \$30 per person

- 15:00 – Talk in the Auditorium of the Auberge St. Antoine, “Quebec: World Heritage City”. This 40-minute presentation, which provides a colourful and stimulating introduction to the city’s dramatic history, is richly illustrated with historic maps, illustrations and photographs.
- 16:00 – Tour of the Lower Town, “The Changing Port over Four Centuries” – Quebec dominates the strategic location where the St. Lawrence River becomes narrow enough to be controlled by cannon-fire. In this tour we will discuss how Quebec’s Lower Town was adapted to meet the changing needs of the growing port.

2. Dinner Cruise, Thursday 7 August

Departing from the Croisières Coudrier dock in the Quebec Basin at 19:30, this three-hour cruise will follow the Quebec City waterfront from the base of the Plains of Abraham, past the historic waterfront (including the NAVRES facilities), across to the Lévis shipyards and to the Ile d’Orléans. The evening dusk timing often provides stunning views of the old city backlit by the sunset. Included in the \$70 per person cost is a four-course meal, with cash bar.

Registration

The registration form is included as the last page of this document. The registration fee has been assessed solely on the basis of cost-recovery and allows a number of options depending upon daily availability, personal desire to participate in optional excursions (walking tour and dinner cruise), and to allow spouses / partners to attend the banquet. Please complete it carefully, and return with payment in Canadian dollars to the organizer (mailing addresses identified on the form and below). Regrettably, there is no on-line registration.

Note that the conference auditorium at the Auberge has a maximum capacity of 85 and that some other activities also are restricted (eg, the dinner cruise boat carries a maximum of 100 persons, and the Naval Reserve Dining Hall seats 130). Conference speakers, session chairs and their spouses / partners have priority, and thereafter it is on a first-come, first-served basis. On that point, because some of our various contracts allow for early-booking discounts, a premium has to be charged on bookings after end-June 2008.

