

Montrealers know and recognize this steel and concrete complex, but few among us are aware of its original function. When it was in operation, the Silo handled vast shipments of grain arriving from the West through its system of bucket elevators. The loads would be transported to the top of the elevators where the grain was calibrated, weighed and sorted before being stored in one of the cylindrical or square-shaped silos. When it came time for shipping, with the assistance of gravity, the grain would travel through the bucket elevators, only to work its way once more through the silo to be examined and weighed again before being shipped to its final destination, either by train or by boat.

The name of Pointe-du-Moulin isn't recent: as far back as the late 17th century, grain and flour mills were present in this area. Today, Mill Street serves as a reminder of this era.

SILOS # 1-2-3-4-5

If there is a Silo #5, it must be because there were 4 other such grain elevators.

- # 1 : At the end of St-Lawrence Boulevard (Built in 1902; Demolished in 1983)
- # 2 : Behind Bonsecours Market (Built in 1910-1912; Demolished in 1978)
- # 3 : On Notre-Dame East near Bourbonnière (Built in 1924; Partly demolished; Unused)
- # 4 : At the end of Viau Street. (Built in 1963; Still in service and managed by the Montreal Port Authority)
- # 5 : At the end of McGill Street. (Built between 1903 and 1959; Closed in 1995; Acquired by CLC in 2010)

SILO #5 BY THE NUMBERS

- 135000 m³ total capacity; 10 to 16 storeys high; 400 m long
- The Pointe-du-Moulin jetty is 850 m long, which is roughly the distance between Peel and Bleury
- 5-million bushel capacity (150 million litres, or roughly 30 olympic-sized pools)
- Any object dropped from the top of the silo would take about 3 seconds to hit the ground

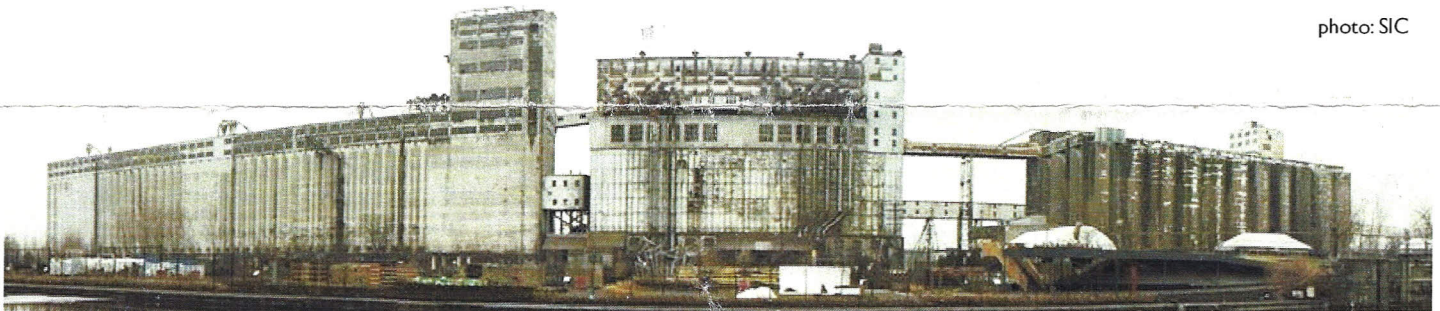


photo: SIC

Annex B1 (concrete)
 Construction: 1957-1959
 14 m wide x 186 m long
 42 m high, 66 m for the Western section
 Engineer: Clarence Decatur Howe

Elevator B (steel)
 Construction: 1903-1906
 22 m wide x 77 m long
 40 m high
 Engineer: John S. Metcalf

Annexes 1 and 2 (concrete)
 Construction: 1913 and 1924
 46 m wide x 87 m long
 50m high
 Engineer: John S. Metcalf

Heritage Montreal is proud to renew its partnership with the **Canada Lands Company** to present this visit of the Pointe-du-Moulin and Silo #5.



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