

## **Making Invisible History Visible**

Cataloguing Queer Spaces in Montreal



## By Noah Powers

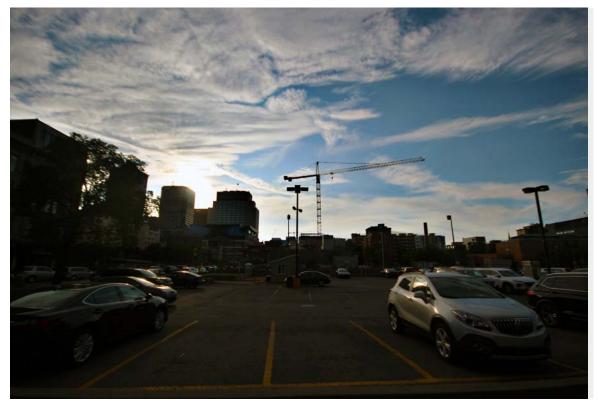
Social Connectedness Fellow 2019
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www.socialconnectedness.org
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1. Champ-de-Mars Park158 Saint-Antoine Street E.One of the first cruising grounds in Montreal, dating to the mid-1800s.



2. Champ-de-Mars Park



**3.** The former location of Moise Tellier's Apple and Cake Shop 10 Saint-Antoine Street W.

Moise Tellier's Shop was one of the first recorded gay establishments in North America. The original building was demolished as part of the construction of the 720 Highway.



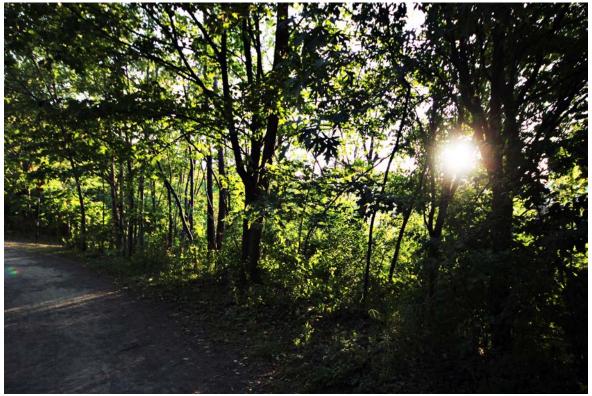
**4. Dominion/Dorchester Square Park** 2903 Peel Street

An old cruising ground in Montreal's original downtown Gay Village.



5. Dominion Square Tavern1243 Metcalfe Street

Across from the Dorchester Square cruising grounds, this bar was one of the first gay venues in Montreal's downtown Gay Village.



6. Mount Royal Park cruising trails
Back paths off of Camillien-Houde Way
An active cruising site, dating back to the 1800s, that was subject to tree clearings as part of Mayor Jean Drapeau's "public morality" program.

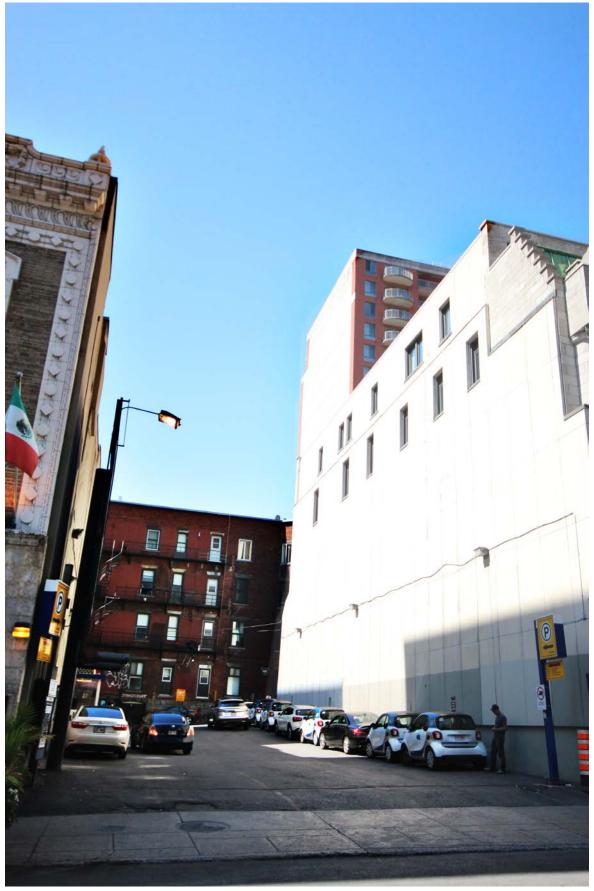


7. Mount Royal Park cruising trails



**8. The former location of the Down Beat Club** 1420 Peel Street

The former location of the first gay bar in Montreal to legally allow men to dance with other men, in 1969.



**9. The former location of PJ's Bar** 1422 Peel Street

The former location of PJ's Bar which was closed and later demolished due to Mayor Jean Drapeau's "public morality" program.



**10. The former location of the Limelight disco** 1254 Stanley Street

The former location of the Limelight Disco, a gay disco and the largest disco after Studio 54 in New York City, and the former location of Bud's Lounge, a gay cruising bar.



**11. The former location of the Sex Garage warehouse party and raid** 494 de la Gauchetière Street W.

The former location of a warehouse that hosted the Sex Garage party, raided in 1990. Subsequent protests led to the creation of the first Pride parade in Montreal.



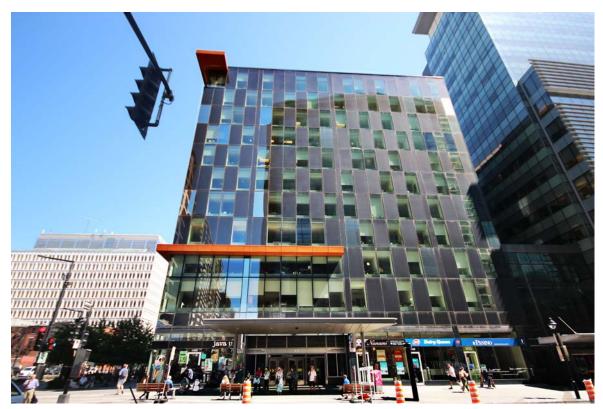
**12. The former location of Truxx and Mystique** 1428 Stanley Street

The former location of the leather-cruising bars Truxx and Mystique, raided in October 1977. Afterwards, protests led Quebec to become the second jurisdiction in the world to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.



**13. The former location of Babyface's Disco** 1235 René-Lévesque Boulevard W.

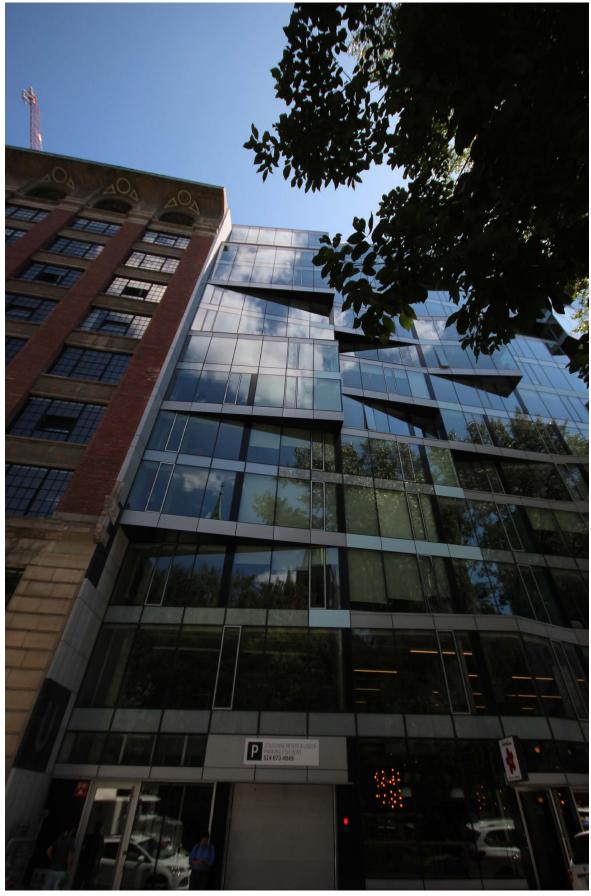
The former location of the first lesbian only night club in Montreal.



14. The former location of the Stork Club

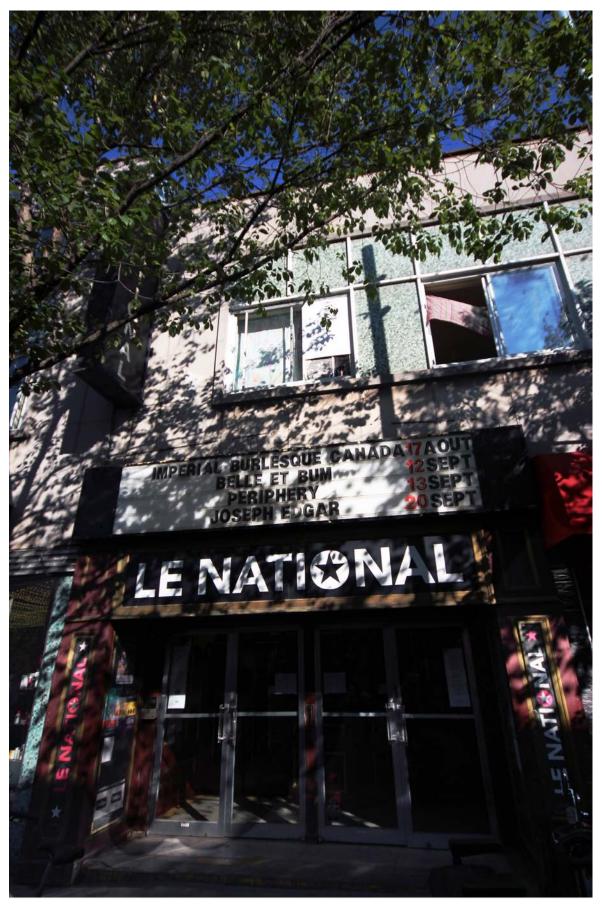
1445 Guy Street

The former location of one of the earliest gay bars in Montreal's downtown Gay Village.



**15. The former location of Sauna le 456** 456 de la Gauchetière Street W.

The former location of the Neptune Sauna, where three patrons died when the sauna was firebombed in 1975. The sauna was later raided in 1976 and closed shortly afterwards. Sauna le 456 later opened in the same building and closed permanently in 2011.



**16. The former Cinéma du Village** 1220 Sainte-Catherine Street W.

The former location of the Cinéma du Village, the namesake for Montreal's Gay Village.



17. Taverne Normandie

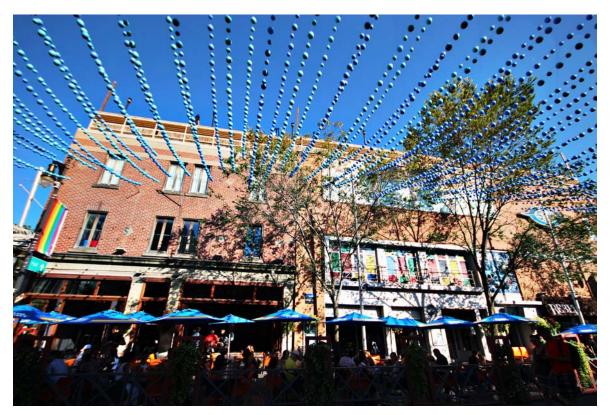
1295 Amherst Street

One of the oldest existing gay bars in Montreal's current Gay Village, established in 1981.

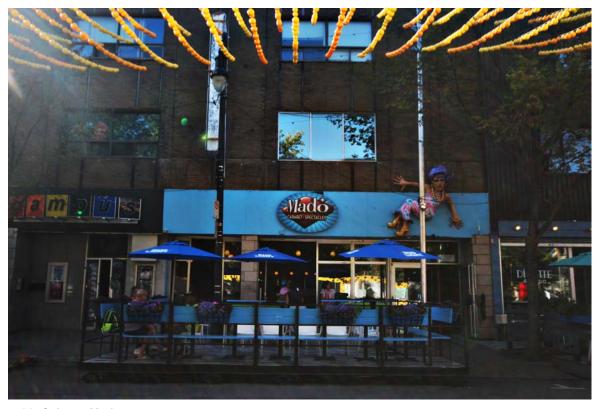


**18. Beaudry Metro Station** 1251 Sainte-Catherine Street E.

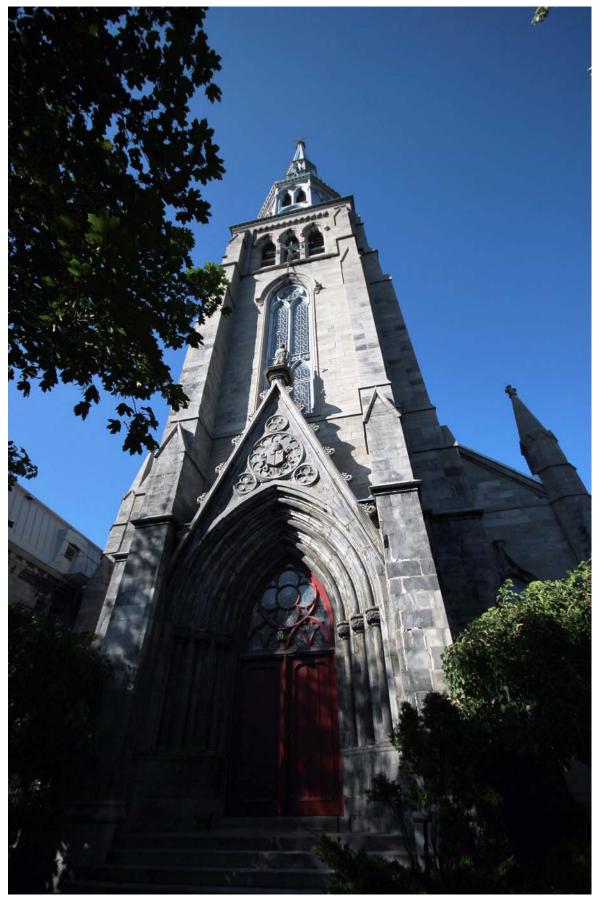
The main metro station serving Montreal's Gay Village that played an essential role in the Village's early development.



**19. Sky Complex**1488 Sainte-Catherine Street E.
One of the last remaining queer clubs in Montreal's Gay Village.



20. Cabaret Mado1115 Sainte-Catherine Street E.A historic drag bar in Montreal's Gay Village and home stage for drag legend, Mado.



21. Saint-Pierre-Apôtre Church 1201 Visitation Street

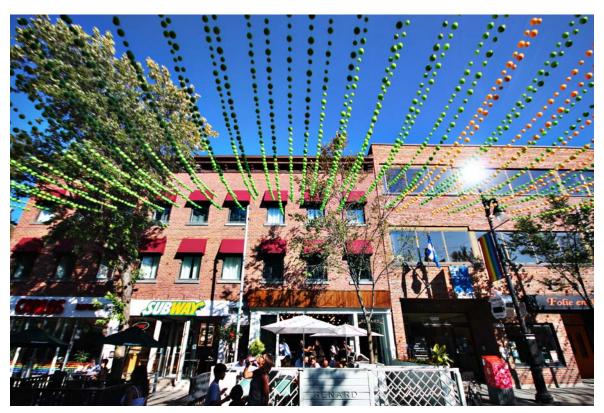
The only church in the world dedicated to those who have died of HIV/AIDS.



22. Park of Hope
1294 Panet Street
A park dedicated to those who have died of HIV/AIDS, central to the development of ACT UP Montreal.



23. Club Unity1171 Sainte-Catherine Street E.One of the last remaining queer clubs in Montreal's Gay Village.

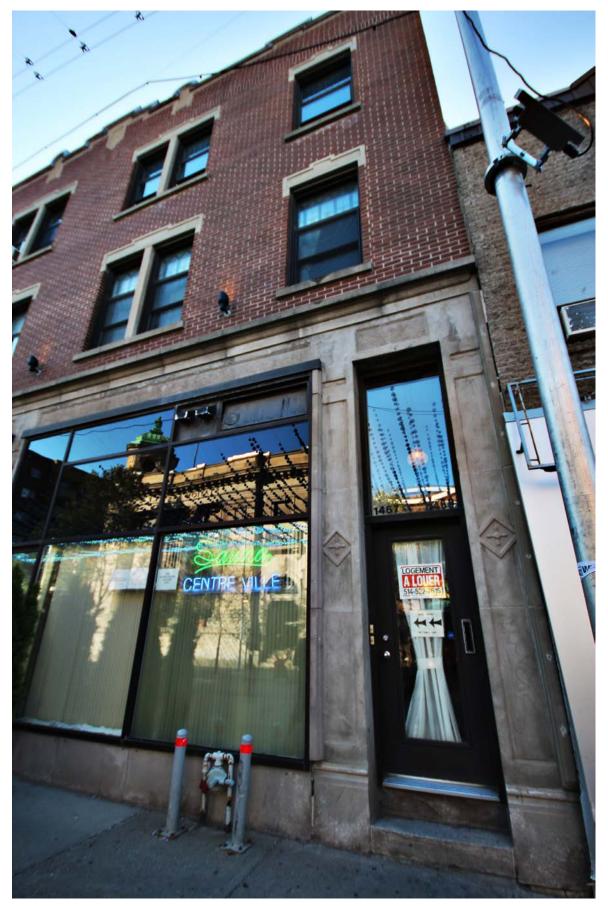


**24. Bar Renard** 1272 Sainte-Catherine Street E. A gentrified queer bar in Montreal's Gay Village.

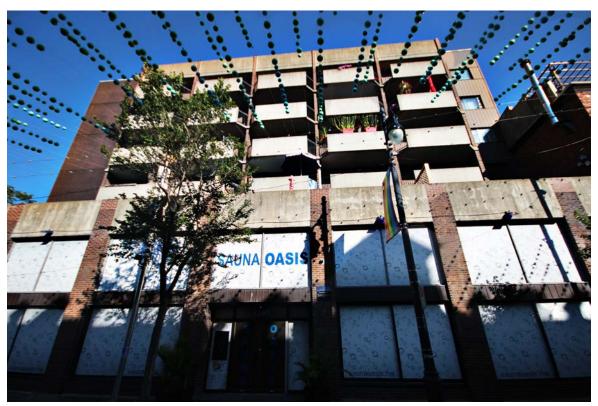


**25. Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Montreal (CCGLM)** 2075 Plessis Street

Montreal's main 2SLGBTQ+-focused community centre, established in 1993.



**26.** Sauna Centre-Ville 1465 Sainte-Catherine Street E.
One of the last remaining bathhouses in Montreal's Gay Village.



27. Sauna Oasis1390 Sainte-Catherine Street E.One of the last remaining bathhouses in Montreal's Gay Village.



**28. Sauna G.I. Joe**1166 Sainte-Catherine Street E.
One of the last remaining bathhouses in Montreal's Gay Village.



29. Bain Colonial Bath3963 Coloniale AvenueThe oldest bathhouse in Montreal, opened in 1914 in the city's Plateau neighbourhood.

## **Glossary**



A map indicating the location of the sites photographed for this journal. Red = original site no longer exists. Orange = building/site still exists, but use has changed. Green = site exists and is queer.

**Title page:** The main street of Montreal's Gay Village.

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