

ANOUSLAMALTING.ORG

100 % COMMUNITY
PROJECT ON THE
CANADA MALTING SITE

À NOUS
LA MALTING!

À NOUS LA MALTING!:

A PROJECT BY THE COMMUNITY, FOR THE COMMUNITY



Our À nous la Malting! Collective is a group of citizens and community organizations in Saint-Henri advocating that the Canada Malting site be reserved for community development purposes. The site is the last vacant factory on the Lachine Canal in Saint-Henri that has not been demolished or converted (generally into condos). We are developing a 100% community-based project for the site, driven by the needs and the direct participation of the Saint-Henri community.

The Collective was formed following the Community Planning Process (Opération populaire en aménagement- OPA) organized by the CDC Solidarité Saint-Henri (Saint-Henri's Community Development Corporation). The following issues affecting the western part of the neighbourhood were identified by residents during this process:

- Lack of services and of local shops
- Lack of affordable housing
- Traffic problems
- Lack of community gardens
- Lack of access to affordable food
- Rapid gentrification of the neighbourhood

The CDC Solidarité Saint-Henri organized a participatory workshop in 2017 and residents proposed a number of project ideas to meet these challenges. Despite the diversity of these ideas, there was one common principle everyone agreed with: **the Canada Malting site belongs to Saint-Henri residents and must be devoted to community use.**



Des logements pour nous à la Malting!

Assemblée Publique

À nous la Malting!

jeudi 10 mai
18h30-21h
au CEDA
2515 Delisle

POPIR pour info : 514-935-4649



mardi
3 déc
18h00

**MARCHÉ
DE LANTERNES**

contre les condos sur
la **Canada Malting**

A HISTORY OF THE À NOUS LA MALTING! COLLECTIVE

2013 : Neighbourhood organizations and more than 2000 residents succeed in their opposition to a 700 condominium development project for the Malting.

2014 : The CDC Solidarité Saint-Henri (CDC SSH) organizes a Community Planning Operation (Opération populaire en aménagement - OPA) to determine the priorities and needs of the western part of the neighbourhood, which includes the Canada Malting site.

2017 : As a result of the OPA, the CDC SSH organizes a Community Planning Workshop for the Canada Malting site. Over 40 people participated in discussions on the following topics: social housing, heritage preservation, new employment areas, local businesses and services. The À Nous la Malting! Collective was founded by participants in this workshop.

2018 : The Collective obtains the support of elected representatives from the three levels of government.

2019 : The Collective obtains financial aid from Centraide and the Sud-Ouest borough to develop a 100% community-based business plan for the site.



J'habite Saint-Henri et pour la Malting je rêve à :



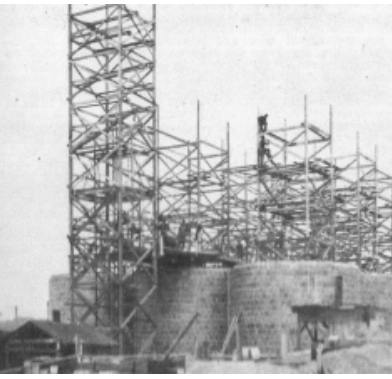
THE CANADA MALTING SITE: OUR INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

The Canada Malting is the old factory on the banks of the Lachine Canal, on Saint-Ambroise Street, near Saint-Rémi street. The building is a Saint-Henri neighbourhood icon and a proud symbol of our working-class history. The Canada Malting Company, founded in 1900, settled there in 1902 to build its first malt-producing factory. The Saint-Henri malthouse is the first, oldest, and only remaining malthouse in Quebec. Its silos were built of terracotta tiles, which was innovative for the times, though transitional with respect to the construction of grain silos.

When the Lachine Canal closed in 1970, the Canada Malting Company left to settle around the Peel Basin; in 1980, it sold the site to Quonta Holdings Ltd, which used the silos to store soy and corn. The site was finally abandoned in 1989, when the Canadian National Railway (CNR) stopped using the area railway lines.

Today, the lot still belongs to Quonta Holdings Ltd. Seriously damaged by 30 years of neglect and abandon, the building is in a state of advanced disrepair. Once the site is set aside for the community, our Collective proposes to consolidate and rehabilitate the structures that can be preserved and to secure the premises.

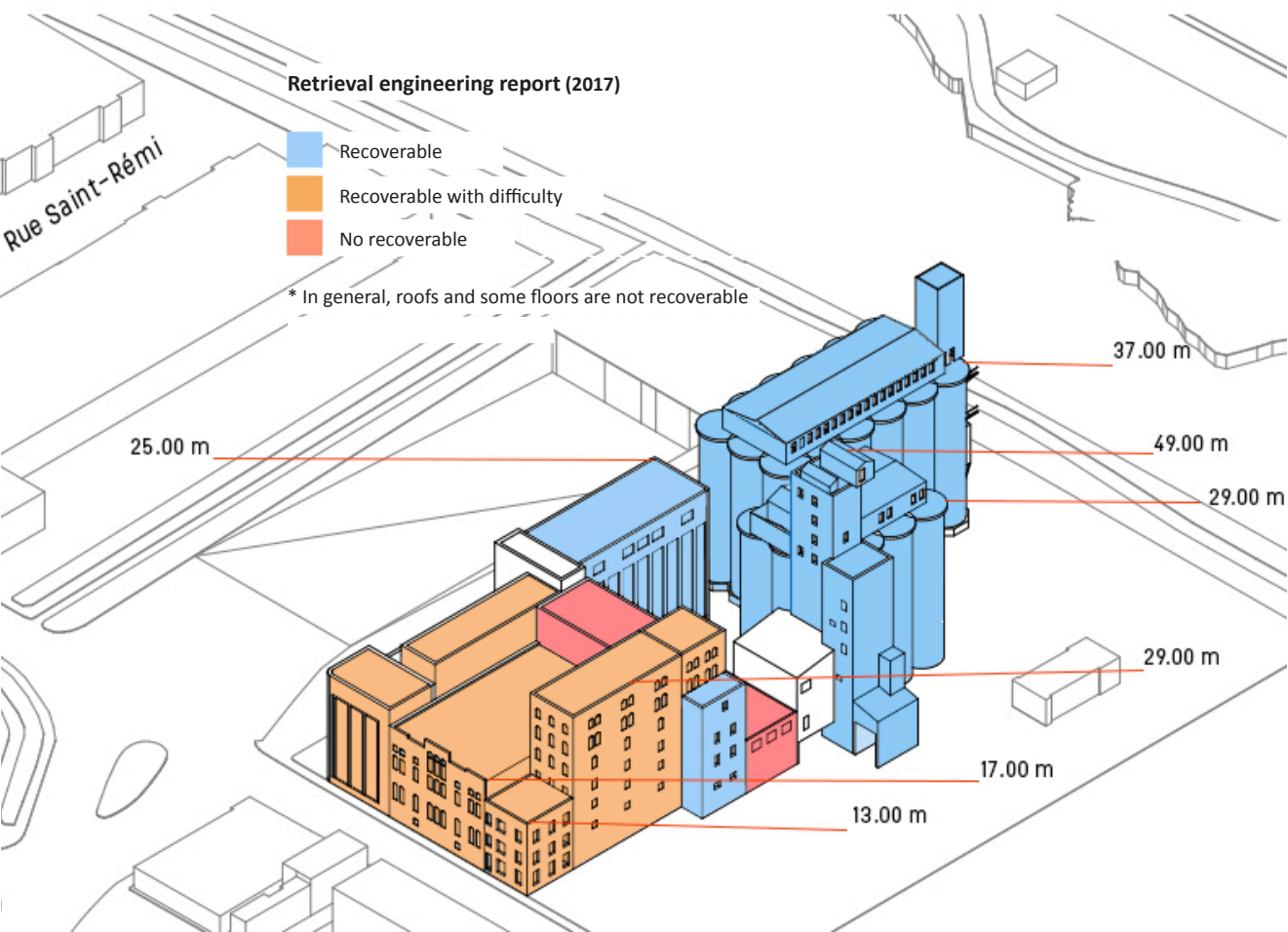
At this time, the lot is in an industrial zone. In other words, property developers are not permitted to build residential properties without the borough changing zoning laws. Such a change requires public consultations and the approval of neighbourhood residents- we have the power to block its conversion into luxury condominiums!



CONDITION OF THE BUILDINGS AND THE SITE

Some of the buildings are potentially recoverable, including the terracotta silos—the last of their kind in Canada (built in 1905), the concrete silos (built in 1931), and the façade of certain buildings. However, a large part of the floors and roofs are beyond repair and represent a danger for users. We'll need to demolish, rebuild or convert parts of the site.

Its heritage value, its ruined condition, and the level of contamination of the soil make this a complex site to develop, but with enormous potential to meet the needs of the community.



OUR PROJECT

We are developing a 100% community-based project through concerted action and citizen involvement. It is guided by the following five founding values, formally adopted by the collective on January 18 and April 29, 2018 :

INCLUSION

The project aims to promote diversity and to pay particular attention to those who are living with all types of systemic social exclusion.

ANTI-POVERTY

The project fights inequalities by creating a dignified environment and living space, particularly for those living in poverty.

EMPOWERMENT

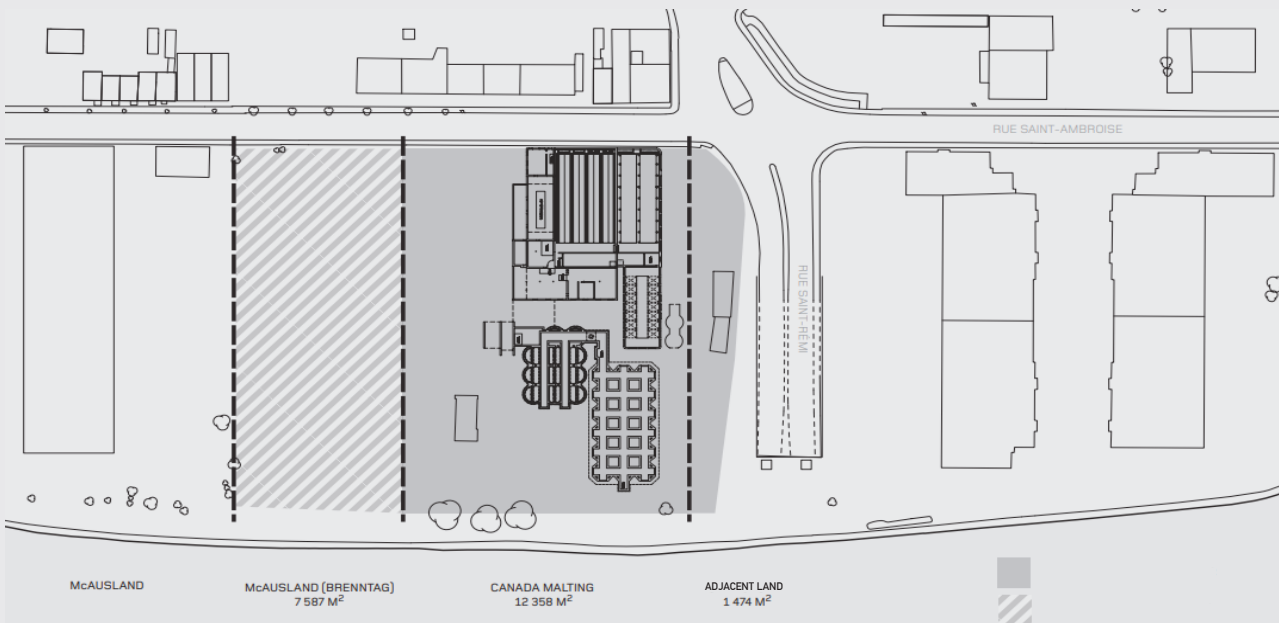
The project reclaims the community's power to act and to make decisions about the development of their neighbourhood, especially for people made vulnerable by gentrification.

DECOLONIZATION

The project recognizes that it is on unceded indigenous territory and acts accordingly.

SUSTAINABILITY

The project aims to contribute to a healthy environment and better quality of life for present and future generations through economic and social development.



A MULTIFACETED VISION

We firmly believe that each element of the project must meet needs expressed by those most affected by gentrification in Saint-Henri. Through working committees, participatory design workshops and public consultations, we use a wide, concerted and inclusive approach that enlists the direct participation of members of the community to develop various aspects of the project. Together, we are developing a 100% community-based plan, with a detailed budget, which we expect to present to the neighbourhood in February 2020. Projects included in our development plan seek:

- **To ensure the conservation of the Saint-Henri architectural landscape and the promotion of its working-class heritage;**
- **To build ecological and sustainable social housing (housing cooperatives/NPOs);**
- **To establish local services and shops.**

Several committees and external resource people are working on different elements of the project :

- **local food production**
- **housing**
- **governance**
- **finance**
- **heritage committee**
- **mobilization committee**



