Forwarders' Museum & Information Centre

The Lifeblood of Prescott

Open June to Labour Day Weekend

The Forwarders' Museum tells the story of the forwarding trade; a trade that was once vital to Prescott during the late 18th century to the mid-19th century.

Local business man, William Gilkinson, constructed the building that now houses the Forwarders' Museum in the late 1820s. The building was used as a warehouse for goods brought by boat from Montréal and ports along the Great Lakes.



Photos ©Town of Prescott

Prescott was ideally located due to its location west of raging rapids that were once part of the St. Lawrence River. These rapids were a barrier for the early navigators and settlers coming from the Old World. From Montreal, the journey took around 12 days and was a rough journey indeed. When the boats stopped in Prescott, many aboard chose to stay and from there, business in Prescott flourished.

Over the years the function of the building changed many times. The building was once used as an American Consul, a lawyer's office and a Laundromat until the Grenville Historical Society took the property over in 1970.



Today, it serves as the Forwarders' Museum and Visitor Information Centre. Staff are on hand and the public are welcome to stop in for a tour of the building during the summer months.

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