

# ARTS AND CULTURE

## EXCEPTIONAL BUILDINGS

A tribute to the owners who, through hard work, time and love, have preserved the charm of the old houses of Sutton: witnesses of our history.

The built heritage inventory was started in 2014 and now includes 103 buildings and we add new ones year after year. Up to now, 17 different architectural styles are included. You will see hereafter the nine buildings that have been rated « Exceptional ». In a future article, we will be showing you buildings rated « Superior » -- there is sometimes a fine line between "Superior" and "Exceptional"!

**HORACE P. SWEET HOUSE: 282 DRAPER ROAD**



Built in 1834, this stone house is the only English colonial style cottage listed to date in the inventory of Sutton: a style appreciated by early American settlers from the 1800s. The beauty of the surrounding panoramic views and the remarkable condition of the property as well as its authenticity increase its value. Learn more about Horace Sweet by reading the interpretation panel at the South Sweet Cemetery which borders the property.

**DUFUR HOUSE: 274 DUFUR ROAD**



Here is the last settler's homestead in Sutton, dating back to the 1840s, a witness to the hard times when families settled in Glen Sutton, near Dufur Creek, to clear the steep hills, using only rudimentary tools and supplying the Leavitt mill with wood. Houses of this style are one-and-a-half storey buildings of log constructions.

**PRENTICE HOUSE: 208 NORTH SUTTON ROAD**



This Georgian cottage, recognizable by its two-and-a-half storeys and its two-sided roof, was owned by the Prentice family from 1830 to 1966. In the 1840s, the house would have hosted a pub and an inn. In 1898 Henry Prentice left Sutton to set out for the Klondike. Discover his adventures in the tour *Life in the hamlets*.

The barn was erected in 1898 by Orville D. Sweet, a widely recognized carpenter in the area for his barns with gambrel roofs, which offered more storage space for hay and other crops without increasing the height of the sidewalls. It is Orville Sweet who introduced the gambrel roof in this area, a technique that was used in European domestic architecture as early as the 16<sup>th</sup> century and since the 17<sup>th</sup> century in the United States. Over the course of his career, Sweet had built over thirty barns, mostly spread over the entire territory of Brome County.

1 : Louise Abbott, "Orville Sweet " *Héritage Sutton, History Sketchbooks*, no. 12 (May 2010) p. 28

**CHERRY'S HILL FARM: 290 MONT-ÉCHO ROAD**



This beautiful American vernacular house influenced by the English picturesque movement was named after the horse of Brigadier General Dennis C. Draper (1874-1951) which served with him in the cavalry.

Draper was a prominent figure in the Canadian army who distinguished himself brilliantly during the First World War. Discover his history in the tour called *On the Trail of the Pioneers*.

His childhood home, built around 1870, still has its slate roof and its clay brick cladding. Houses of this style are recognizable by their "L" – shape plan.

**EMERSON FARMHOUSE: 1467 DE LA VALLÉE ROAD**

Built around 1875 by Nelson P. Emerson, a prosperous farmer of Sutton Junction and a large landowner, the residence is an Italian-style villa, popularized mainly between 1870 and 1910. The residence is in an excellent state of preservation and retains its authenticity which both contribute to increase its value. Note the double and triple columns and the woodwork of the porches. Emerson benefited from the improvement of the road network and the arrival of the train, which both cross his lands. The train stop in the hamlet was first called Emerson! He also served as Sutton Junction's station master from 1875 onwards. The interpretation panel in the heart of Sutton Junction, in front of St. Aidan's Church, recalls the importance of the Emerson family in the development of the hamlet.

**TARTRE HOUSE: 63 NORTH PRINCIPALE STREET**

Built in 1905 at the entrance to the urban core of Sutton, the residence of notary Tartre was one of the several francophone Catholic families who had decided to reside north of the Main Street at that time, all around the St-André Church.

With the Queen Anne revival architecture, styles, materials, ornamentation, colours, shapes and types of doors and windows exist side by side for special effect. Notice the fish-scale shingles and the majestic turret. Read the interpretation panel to learn more about Charles-Ulric Tartre and his house.

**WYATT-DYER HOUSE: 89 SOUTH PRINCIPALE STREET**

This beautiful Italian-style villa has belonged to the Dyer family since 1905. In this style, the decor is enhanced to give more prestige to the building. Notice the slate that covers the four-sided roof, the elaborate woodwork and the windows that are located on the façade. Get to know the Dyer family on both circuits, especially *Life in the hamlets*.

**BORIGHT & SAFFORD GENERAL STORE: 15 NORTH PRINCIPALE STREET**

This Georgian cottage in clay brick has remained a retail establishment since its opening in 1861. For close to 60 years, whether alone or with associates the Borights and Saffords ran the general store: two business families who occupied important positions in the community of Sutton. The Saffords also operated a tannery selling the leather in Montreal. By the early 1900s their tannery had become one of Quebec's largest. Read the interpretation panel!

**EASTERN TOWNSHIPS BANK: 5 SOUTH PRINCIPALE STREET**

The erection of a bank in Sutton is the direct result of the economic and industrial development that followed the arrival of the train. In 1902 the Eastern Townships Bank was the first to be established. The building, built in 1912, has most of its original Beaux-Arts features: spare volumes but highly ornamental elements in the top part of the façade which recall the Antiquity style. Their grandiose appearance bears witness to the imposing presence and wealth of banks. This building is a model that was widely used among Eastern Townships Bank branches throughout the country.

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[sutton.ca/tours](http://sutton.ca/tours).