



# Montréal, l'avenir du passé : Methodology Demo

---

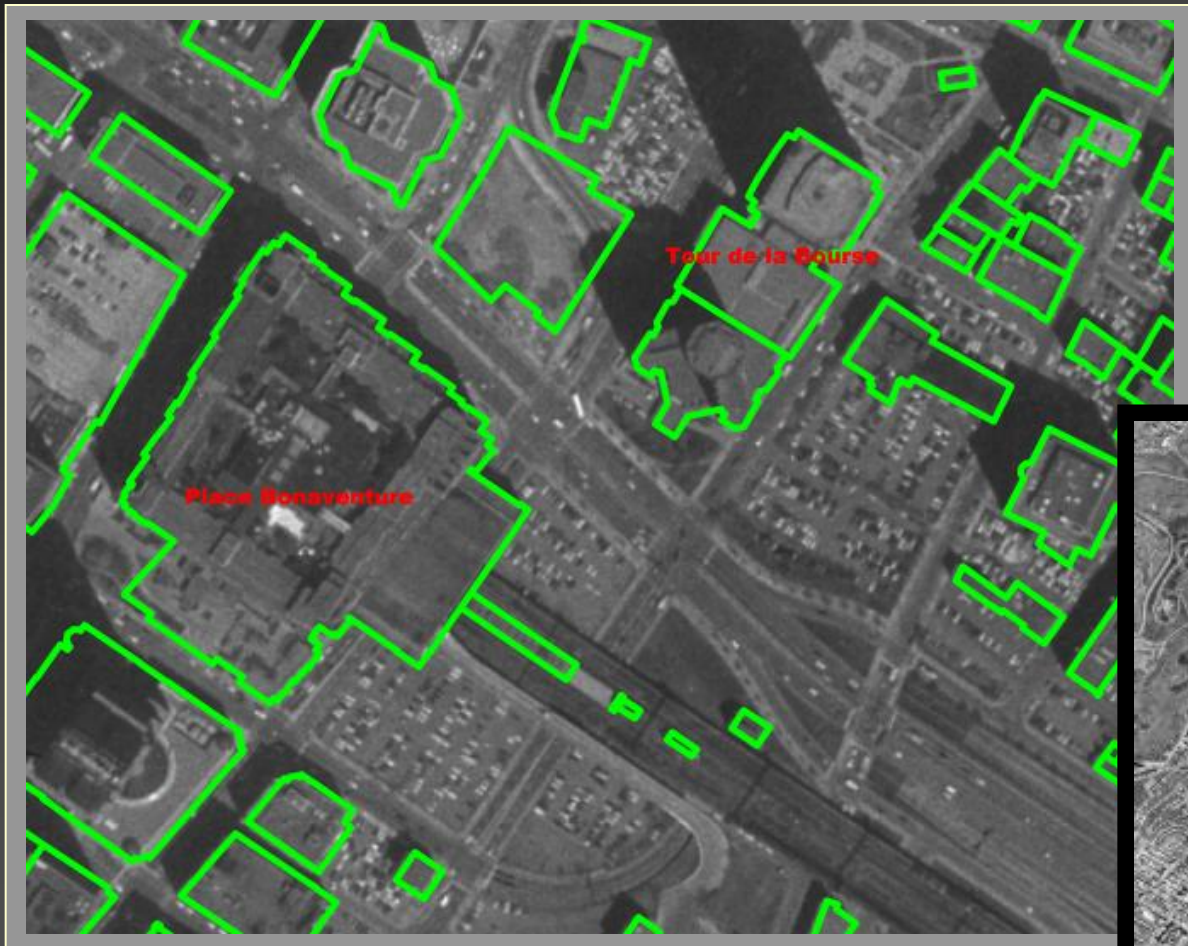
Rosa Orlandini, Kevin Henry,  
Robert Sweeny, and  
Jason Gilliland

# Challenges

---

- 1) To rectify historic maps of Montreal to a modern standard, with accuracy and efficiency
  - 2) To establish method for vectorizing cadastral layers from the historic maps
-

# Study Area : Downtown Montreal

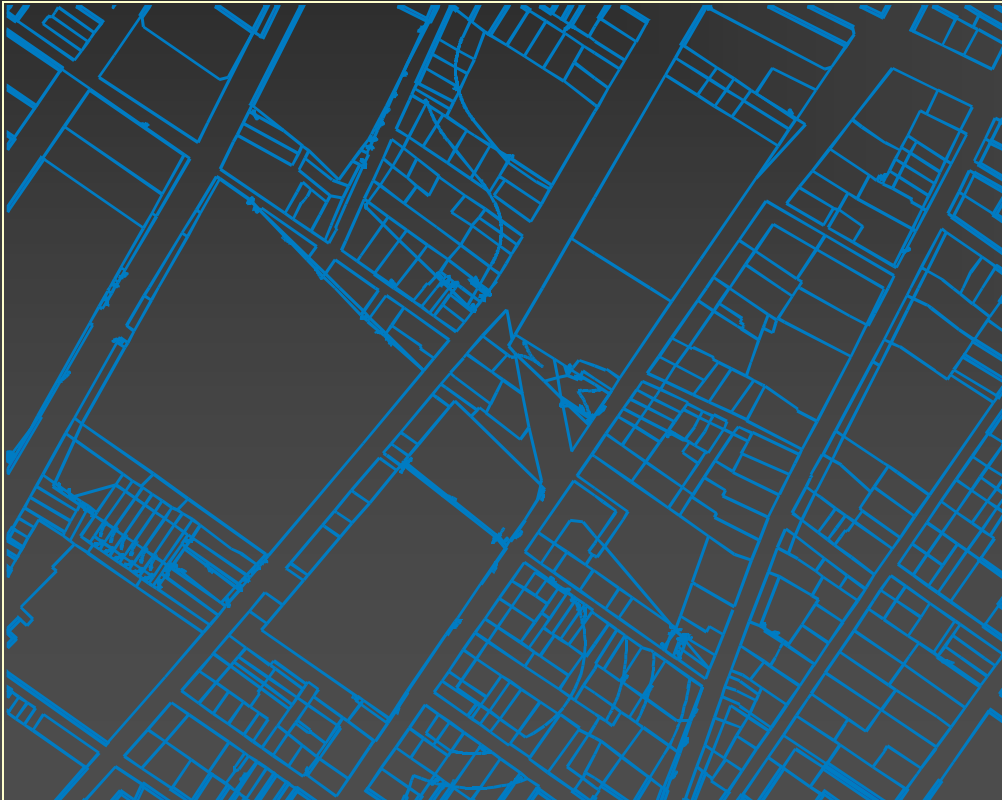






# Data and Maps

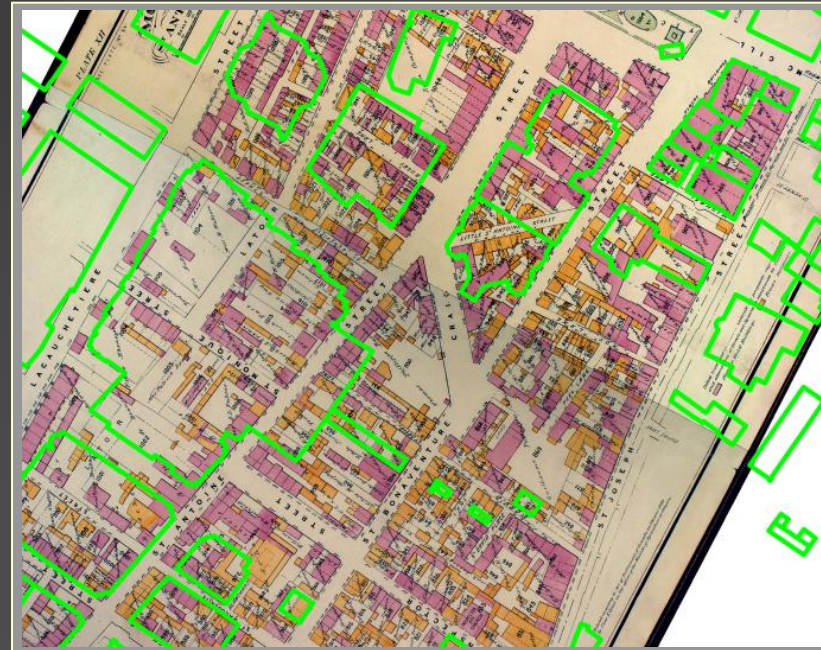
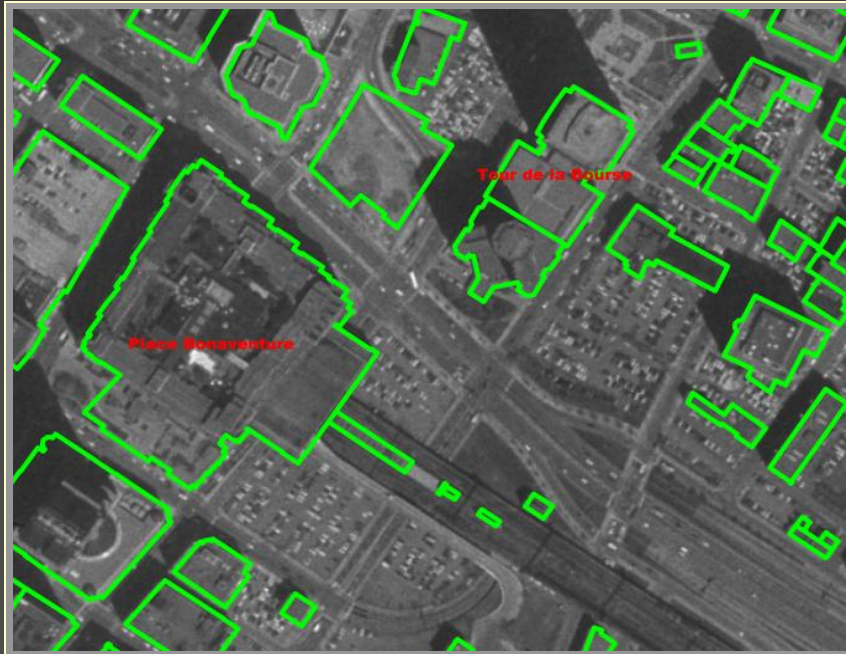
## Cadastral Layer 2000



# 1. Rectification of Historic Maps

## Example : Montreal 1880

Problem: So few buildings of 1880 exist today, what will we use as control points?





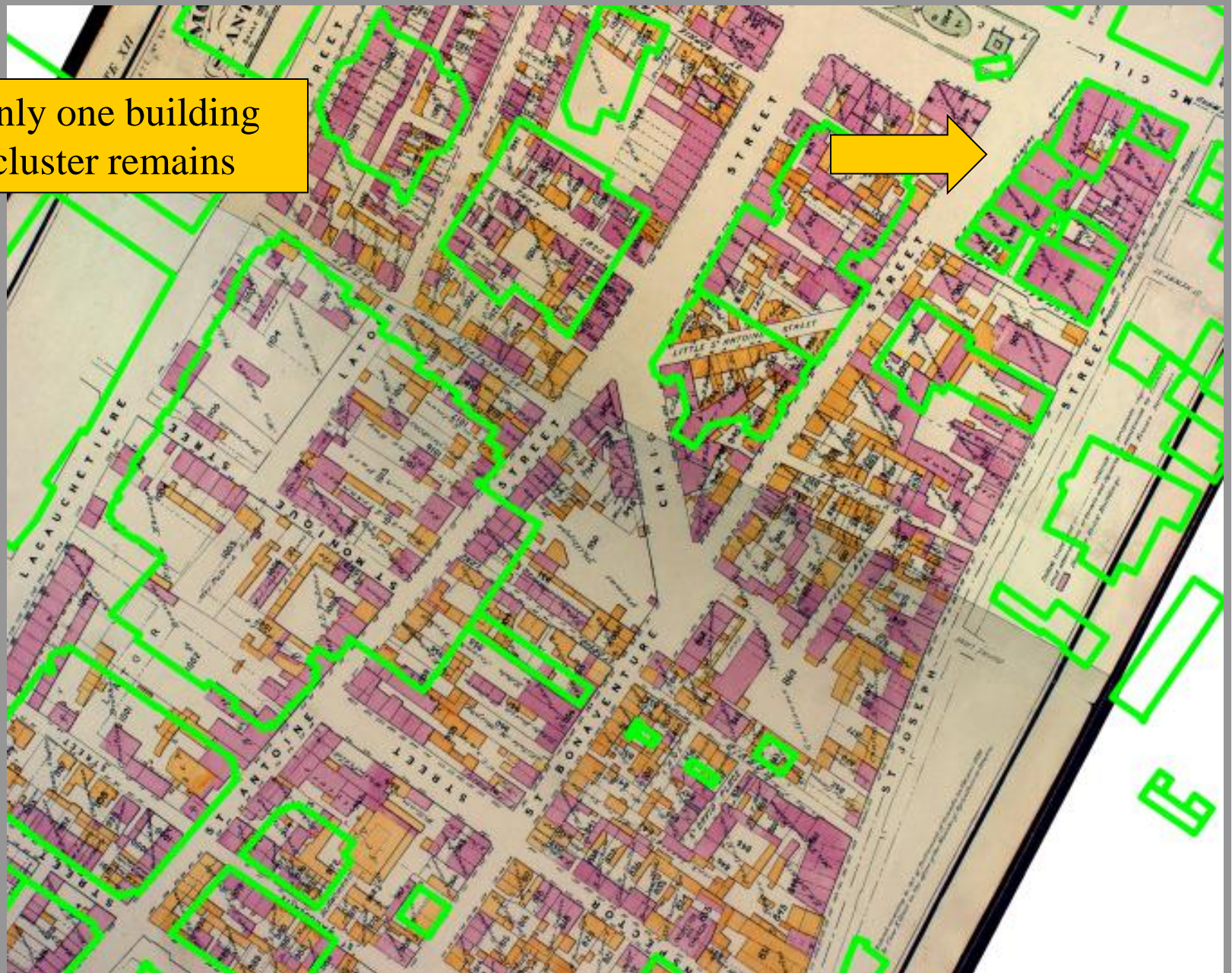
An aerial photograph of a city area, likely in France, showing a dense urban layout. Numerous buildings are outlined in bright green, highlighting their footprints. Two specific locations are labeled in red text: 'Tour de la Bourse' in the upper right and 'Place Bonaventure' in the lower left. The image shows a mix of building types, including large institutional or commercial structures and smaller residential blocks. A railway line or major road runs diagonally through the lower portion of the frame.

Tour de la Bourse

Place Bonaventure



Only one building  
cluster remains

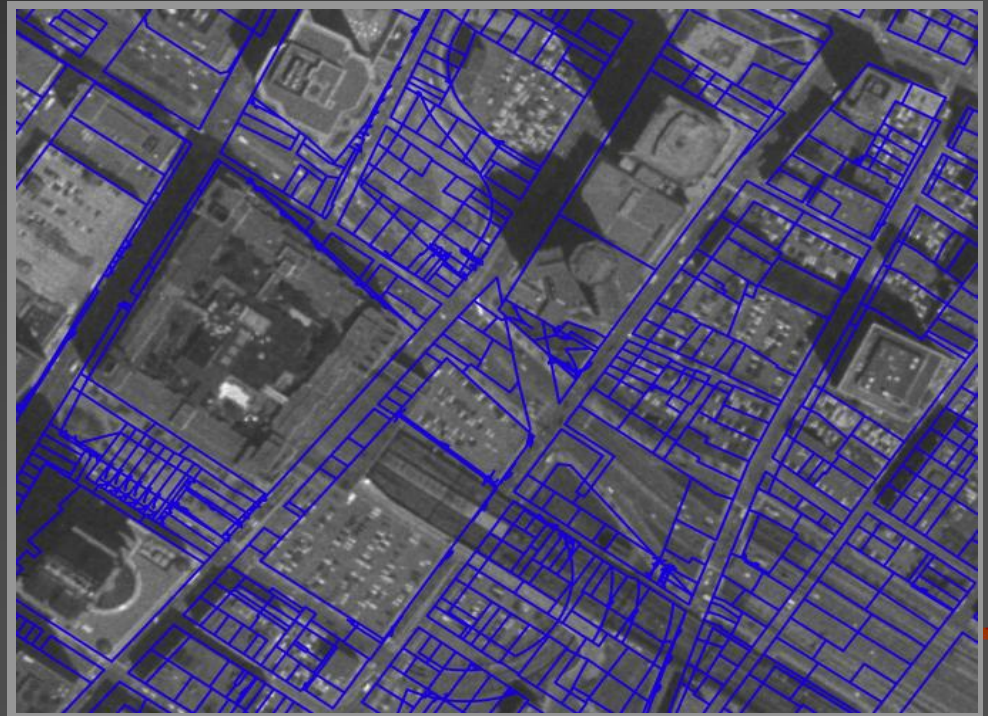




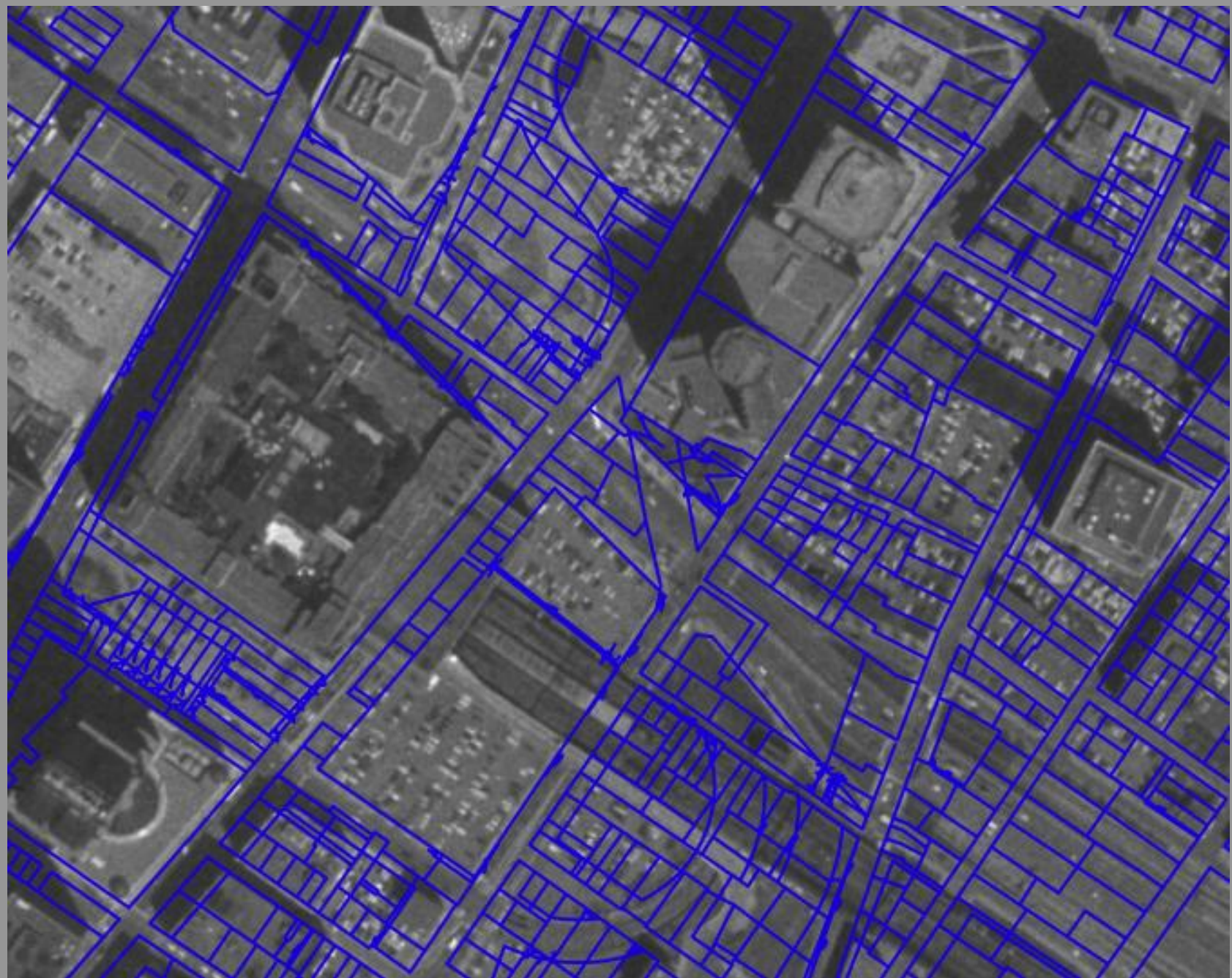
# Rectification of Historic Maps

“The most persistent lines on the landscape are the imaginary ones”

Modern cadastral layer  
superimposed on aerial  
photograph



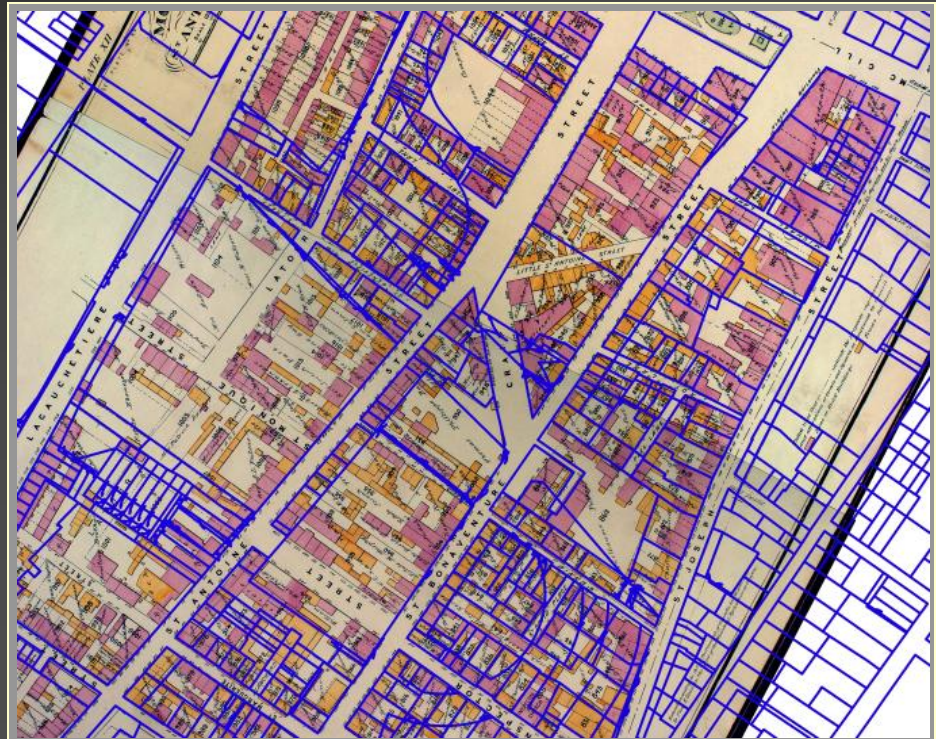




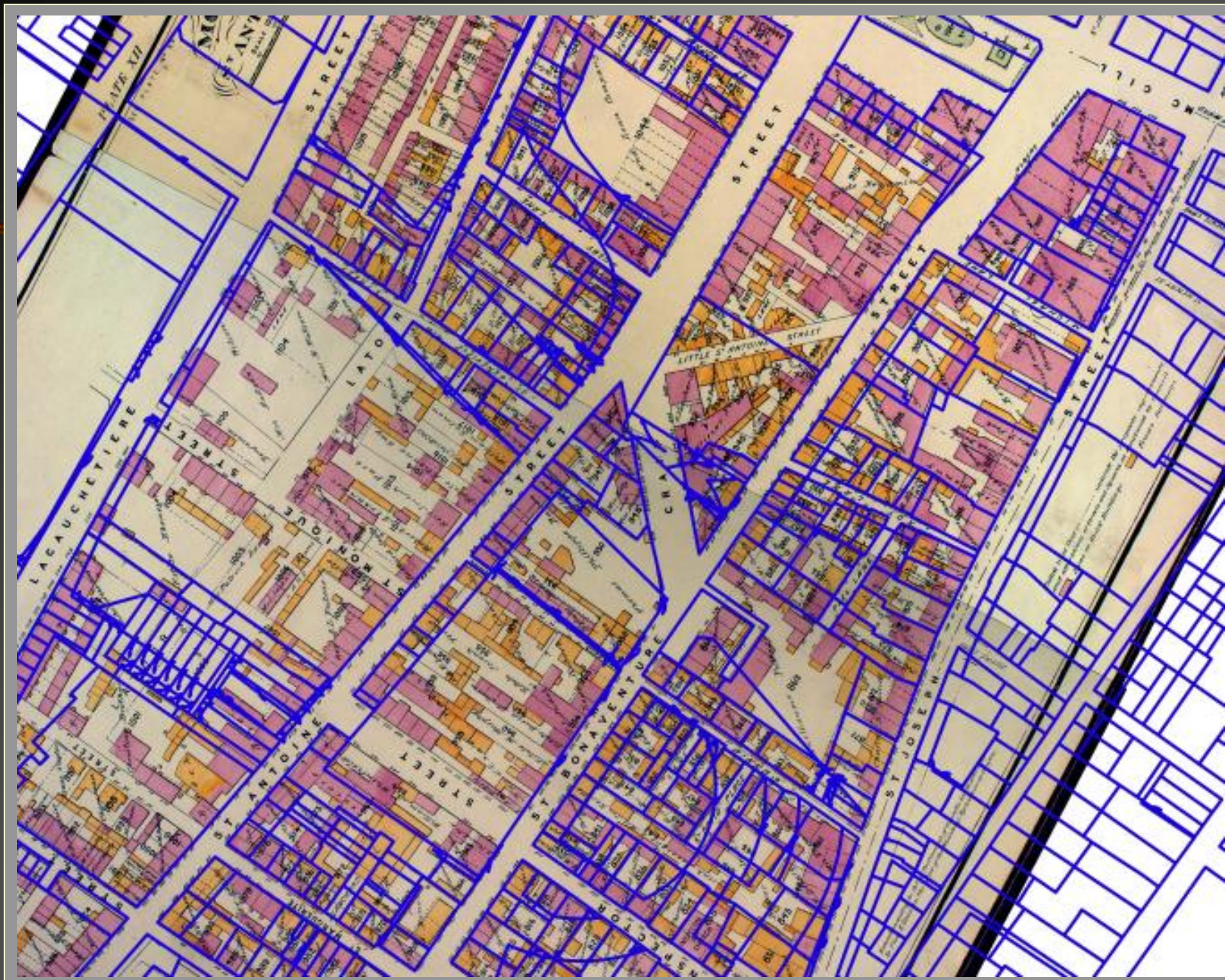


# Rectification of Historic Maps

Solution: To use the 2000 cadastral layer to rectify the 1880 Goad Atlas maps









## 2. Creation of the 1880 cadastral layer

---

### Problem

- Today's cadastral layer is too complicated due to recent subdivisions and consolidations
  - The Goad 1880 map is too complicated to autovectorize the lot boundaries
-

# Creation of the 1880 cadastral layer

## Solution:

- The Bibliothèque nationale du Québec provided the original cadastral surveys from the 1870s.







# Creation of the 1880 cadastral layer

---

## Procedure

- The simplicity of the maps allows autovectorization using ArcInfo





# Creation of the 1880 cadastral layer

---

## Procedure

- **The simplicity of the maps allows autovectorization to be performed using ArcInfo**
  - Cadastral lines are cleaned and are “proofed” by consulting the Goad maps and the 1880 tax roll
-







# Creation of the 1880 cadastral layer

---

## Procedure

- The simplicity of the maps allows autovectorization to be performed using ArcInfo
  - Cadastral lines are cleaned and the lots are “proofed” by consulting the Goad maps and the 1880 tax roll
  - Polygons are created from the arc layer to form the cadastral lots for 1880
-





# Conclusion

---

Lot lines have been used to solve two important problems :

- Rectify images of historic maps
  - Recreate the 19<sup>th</sup>-century cadastre as a vector layer
-

# Now what?

The new layers can be integrated with the image

- cadastral line
- buildings







# Acknowledgements

---

GEOIDE  
MAP Project Members  
&  
City of Montreal  
Bibliothèque Nationale du Québec