

THE INGENIUM CENTRE – LOCOMOTIVE MOVE MEDIA GUIDE

About the CP 1201

Canadian Pacific (CP) 1201 is one of the largest artifacts in Ingenium's collection, weighing 185 metric tons.

It was built in 1944 by workers in the CP Angus Shops in Montreal. Because of its unique status as the last steam locomotive made in the CP shops, it was saved from the cutting torch when the railways converted from steam to diesel-electric.

The museum acquired the CP 1201 in 1967 as a Canadian-built example of a very successful, late-era steam locomotive design. In 1985, operated by staff and volunteers, it steamed across Canada to celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of the driving of the last spike of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Craigellachie, BC. The crew then moved the locomotive to the coast where, the following year, it was part of a major steam technology demonstration event that coincided with Expo 86.

This year marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of the building of CP 1201.

About the Governor General's rail cars: Sleeping car no. 4, Dining car no. 3

Built in 1927 to transport the vice regal representatives on their travels, the Governor General's rail cars were also used for the royal visits of:

- King George VI and Queen Elizabeth (1939)
- Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip (1951)
- Princess Margaret (1958)
- Queen Elizabeth (1959)

Acquired by the Canada Science and Technology Museum in 1967, these rail cars are fine examples of the well-equipped private passenger cars built and used by many high-ranking business and government officials to travel across the continent, back before air transport was viable.

For the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977, the museum arranged for the cars — pulled by the CP 1201 — to take Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip on a trip from Ottawa, Ontario to Wakefield, Quebec.

Sleeping car no. 4

When produced in 1927, this car was car no. 1.

The interior of the car still has some elements that reflect Lady Willingdon's taste; her favourite colour, mauve, can be seen in the bathrooms. The original tapestry was also mauve.

The panels are made of mission oak and birch. The walls of the sitting room are finished in birch. Most of the furniture is original, but a desk went missing during the renovation in 1977.

Behind the sitting area, the car is divided into bedroom suites. The first belonged to the Governor General, or to male dignitaries. It has a large closet for military uniforms.

The second suite was used by the female passengers, the GG's wife, the Queen, or wives of other officials. It consists of a bedroom, a dressing room, and a bathroom. The bathrooms were furnished with metal holders for water bottles.

The two next bedrooms belonged to the ladies-in-waiting, and the last compartment was occupied by a Royal guard.

Dining car no. 3

Made in 1927, finished in mission oak and birch, floor made of quarter sawn oak, tiled and carpeted.

Compartments: Lounge Room, followed by a 12-seat dining room, kitchen and pantry; two bedrooms: one for a steward and the other for His/Her Majesty's secretary; a sitting room and an office. At the very end of the car there is a heater on the left and lockers on the right.

Media Contact

Christine Clouthier
Ingenium – Canada's Museums of Science and Innovation
cclouthier@ingeniumcanada.org
613-410-5943