

### 3.7 Different Traditions and Needs: What's Built Where?

Let's say you are visiting the Museum of Civilization, a short trip from Ottawa. You see houses of Canada's native peoples. Later you look at a lumber camp and then walk past an oil derrick and a fishing village. You soon see how people's needs and traditions, as well as their locations, have led them to build different kinds of structures.

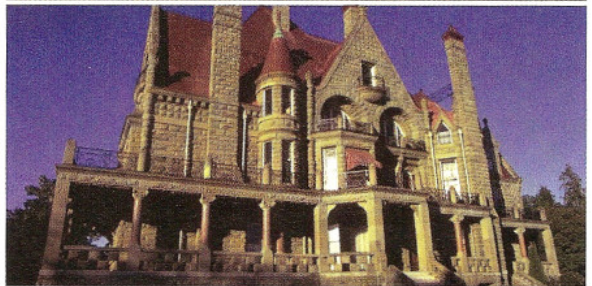
**The Atlantic Region** Lighthouses dot the coast in this region because of the importance of fishing. Lighthouses help sailors determine their position on the ocean. They also guide ships, letting them know that land is near or warning them about dangerous rocks. Canada still has about 275 lighthouses in operation. The powerful light at the top of each lighthouse continues to flash. But there are new tools as well—radar beams, radio links, cellular phones, and even, perhaps, a helicopter and helipad atop a lighthouse.

**The Core Region** Many buildings here combine French and British influences. The Parliament Buildings in Ottawa were built in the Gothic revival style of architecture, which French and British settlers brought from western Europe. These large stone buildings have tall, pointed windows, pointed arches, and carved ornaments. Another example of the Gothic revival style is the Château Frontenac, a famous hotel in Quebec City.

**The Prairie Region** Farms cover the southern part of this region, with the typical farm sitting on hundreds of acres of land. Beside the barn is a silo, a tall, round structure used for storing grain. Farmers in this rural region usually grow spring wheat. This crop is planted in spring and harvested in late summer and grows well in climates with harsh winters. Farmers here also grow barley, another grain crop, and usually raise livestock as well.

**The Pacific Region** British influence is strong here. In the mid-1800s, Victoria—named for ruling Queen Victoria—became the first city in British Columbia and eventually its capital. Located off the mainland, on Vancouver Island, Victoria is known as the most British of Canadian cities. Some buildings there look almost like castles.

**The Northern Region** This region has long, cold winters. In the past, some Inuit made winter igloos from snow blocks. The word *igloo* translates to “house.” Igloos can also be made of other materials, such as sod, stone, or wood. Today, most Inuit have houses made from kits. Such a house is put together from sections made in factories. Inuit live in widely scattered villages along the Arctic Ocean or Hudson Bay.



#### A Variety of Building Styles

Each region of Canada has its own styles of buildings. Sometimes these styles grow out of the needs of the people living there. Sometimes they reflect ideas that settlers brought with them from Europe about what buildings should look like.