Le Paris de Proust

Lecture 7

Mme de Sévigné’s Paris mansion is now one of the two mansions combined to form the Musée Carnavalet, the museum of the city of Paris. The mansion that was to become hers, the Hôtel Carnavalet, was built in the mid-sixteenth century and, nearly a century later, was substantially remodeled by the famous French architect François Mansart. Mme de Sévigné lived in the Hôtel Carnavalet from 1677 until her death in 1696.

You will find at the Musée Carnavalet a reconstruction of Proust’s famous cork-lined bedroom with some of his furniture and accoutrements. The fake notebooks on the stand by his bed are from our documentary film Marcel Proust: A Writer’s Life.