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*The British Columbia Heritage Trust has provided financial assistance to this project to support conservation of four heritage resources, gain further knowledge and increase public understanding of the complete history of British Columbia.*

## INTRODUCTION

The goal of this project has been to identify the most significant heritage resources within the boundaries of the District of Maple Ridge. This project adds to the scope of several previous inventories that date back over almost twenty years, expanding on their scope, and adding newly identified resources. The inventory methodology involved a number of sequential steps.

### *Identification of Potential Sites*

There were several available inventory lists, including field work undertaken in the 1970s for the Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings, the Port Haney Heritage Inventory, 1986, and the Maple Ridge Inventory List, 1991. All previously identified sites were consolidated, and any other resources that were identified through research or suggested by the Heritage Advisory Committee were added to this list. A public nomination was undertaken, whereby the community at large was invited to submit addresses and information for consideration. This process resulted in several hundred sites being listed.

### *Broadly-Based Historical Research*

Existing historical information was surveyed for relevant data regarding settlement patterns and background on specific persons and buildings. The publication "*Maple Ridge: A History of Settlement*" was the most useful source. Other pertinent research sources were also identified at this point. The general history of the area was traced, and major transportation routes identified.

### *Field Survey*

All of the identified sites were surveyed; to ensure that significant resources had not been missed, early transportation routes in all the areas were examined. Many of the previously-identified resources were found to be altered or demolished. Those resources chosen for further study were photographed, and an inventory form was filled out that gave a physical, structural and contextual description, and a visual survey of condition and integrity.

*Focussed Research*

The resources identified in the field survey were then more fully researched, to identify their historical importance to the community. Municipal and archival records were examined, that allowed for consistent and accurate identification. The most useful records were those held in the collection of the Maple Ridge Museum, and the archival records held by the District of Maple Ridge, especially the Tax Assessment Rolls, which date back to 1875. Other research sources that were consulted included relevant B.C. Directories from 1882, the previous research conducted for the Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings, historic photographs and maps located in the Provincial Archives of B.C., the Vancouver Public Library Historical Photographs Division, and the City of Vancouver Archives. All of the information from these listed sources was then combined to provide the historic background for each listed building.

Much additional historical information of general interest was also unearthed during this process, and many sites were rechecked. A comprehensive picture of the District's heritage of Port Haney was thus amassed. The completed inventory forms were then assembled as an inventory master book for further reference purposes.

*Final Evaluation*

The inventoried structures were then assessed as to their overall relative importance to the area. Issues of architectural, historical and contextual merit were assessed for each site. A final evaluation was then undertaken, based on established evaluation criteria. Through this process 95 historic buildings were identified; in addition, 5 historic cemeteries, 14 landscape features and three historic objects were also identified.

Construction dates given in this inventory are considered known if they are accurate to within one year; other dates are listed as circa. Names given to buildings are generally the earliest one that can be determined, or in the case of most residences, the name of the first owner. It is hoped that the owners of these buildings will find this historical information to be a source of pride, and help them in the

## THE HERITAGE RESOURCES OF MAPLE RIDGE

### *Introduction*

process of the preservation and restoration of these important structures. We wish everyone concerned the best of luck in the future stages that will follow this inventory.

Throughout this project, respect was shown for the rights of individual property owners. Anyone wishing to view these buildings should be conscious of each owner's privacy, and should not cross the bounds of private property.



Two potential heritage resources lost during the course of this project. Above: A large mature Maple tree on Lougheed Highway, west of 203rd Street; cut down in 1997. Left: The 1907 Holt Residence, 'Gristlehurst', 12530 241 Street; demolished in 1998.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

The historic resources included as part of this report have been consistently evaluated according to the following criteria:

### ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

1. **STYLE/TYPE:** a building's style representative of the District's significant development periods; or a building type associated with a significant industrial, institutional, commercial or transportation activity.

*Excellent*

- An excellent example of a style or type, or
- One of few surviving and very good examples of a style or type, or
- One of the earliest, very good examples of a style or type

*Very Good*

- A very good example of a style or type, or
- A good example of a style or type that is notably early or rare.

*Good*

- A good example of a style or type that is common.

*Fair/Poor*

- An average example of a style or type that remains common.

2. **DESIGN:** A building's notable or special attributes of an aesthetic or functional nature. These may include massing, proportion, materials, detail, fenestration, ornamentation, artwork, or functional layout.

*Excellent*

- A design that is outstanding in comparison with other examples.

*Very Good*

- A design which is equal to several others of recognizable superior or special quality.

*Good*

- A design which incorporates several special or aesthetic features.

*Fair/Poor*

- A design of no special significance or quality beyond stylistic considerations.

*Evaluation Criteria*

3. CONSTRUCTION: A building's unique or uncommon building materials, or its historically early or innovative method of construction.

*Excellent*

- One of the earliest known uses of an important or special material or method, or
- A now rare and out-of-use material or method.

*Very Good*

- One of the earliest known surviving uses of an important or special material or method, or
- A notable or out-of-use material or method of which several examples survive.

*Good*

- An out-of-use material or method which is typical of a period and still commonly found.

*Fair/Poor*

- An example of no particular significance, or
- An example of typical construction techniques.

4. DESIGNER/BUILDER: A building's architect, designer, engineer and/or builder who has made a significant contribution to the District, province or nation.

*Excellent*

- Those who were responsible for establishing or advancing a style, design or construction method that was significant and influential.

*Very Good*

- Those whose works are of considerable importance to building and development.

*Good*

- Those whose works are of some importance to building and development.

*Fair/Poor*

- Of unknown or little significance.

**CULTURAL HISTORY**

**1. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION:** A building's direct association with a person, group, institution, event or activity that is of historical significance to the District, province or nation.

*Excellent*

- Closely connected with a person, etc. of considerable importance.

*Very Good*

- Closely connected with a person, etc. of moderate importance.

*Good*

- Closely connected with a person, etc. of some importance, or of moderate importance on a local area or neighbourhood level.

*Fair/Poor*

- Minor historical association only, or
- Unknown historical association.

**2. HISTORICAL PATTERN:** A building's association with broad patterns of local area history, including development and settlement patterns, early or important transportation routes, ecological or geographic change, significant landforms, or social, political or economic trends. In urban settings, a buildings recognition of street pattern and infrastructure.

*Excellent*

- A building that can be directly linked to the establishment of an historical pattern of District-wide importance.

*Very Good*

- A building that can be directly linked to the establishment of an historical pattern of local area or neighbourhood importance, or
- A building that can be linked to the establishment of an historical pattern, and is one of the earliest surviving examples.

*Good*

- A building that provides strong evidence of an historical pattern of some importance.

*Fair/Poor*

- A building of no discernible association with a recognizable historical pattern, or
- An unknown association with a recognizable pattern.

**CONTEXT**

1. **LANDSCAPE/SITE:** An intact historical landscape or landscape features associated with an existing building; or a notable historical relationship between a building's site and its immediate environment, including original native trees and topographical features; or a notable use of landscaping in conjunction with an existing building.

*Excellent*

- A setting comprised of numerous, significant landscape features which are directly related to the building's style, design and history, or
- A notable and intact historical relationship between a building's site and the street, waterfront, view or other geographic features which were part of the building's original function or environment.

*Very Good*

- A landscape which includes several dominant features which are directly related to the building's style, design, or history, or
- An altered, but still strongly apparent, historical relationship between the site and its immediate surroundings.

*Good*

- A landscape which includes one or two important features which are directly related to the building's style, design, or history, or
- An altered, but still recognizable, historical relationship between the site and its immediate surroundings.

*Fair/Poor*

- No significant and recognizable landscape features or building/site relationship.

2. **NEIGHBOURHOOD:** A building's continuity and compatibility with adjacent buildings and visual contribution to a group of similar buildings.

*Excellent*

- A building that is an important part of a visually prominent and notable group of buildings of similar style, type or age, in an area of compatible use.

*Very Good*

- A building which forms part of a contiguous group of similar style, type or age in an area of compatible use, or
- A building with other inventoried addresses adjacent.



*Good*

- A building which is part of a contiguous group of similar style, type or age in an area of incompatible use, or
- A building which is not part of a contiguous group of similar style, type or age, but is in an area of compatible use.

*Fair/Poor*

- A building which is not part of a group of buildings of similar style, type or age, and is in an area of incompatible use.

**3. VISUAL/SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE:** A building's importance as a landmark structure; or its symbolic value to the District or a local area or neighbourhood.

*Excellent*

- A landmark building of District-wide importance, or
- A building of significant symbolic value to the District.

*Very Good*

- A major visual landmark or a building of significant symbolic value to a local area or neighbourhood.

*Good*

- A visual landmark or building of symbolic significance to its immediate surroundings.

*Fair/Poor*

- A building of little or no landmark or symbolic significance, or
- A building which is not particularly prominent.

**INTEGRITY**

A measure of the impact of changes to the building on the appreciation of its style, design, construction or character.

*Excellent*

- A building with no detracting alterations, or
- Alterations of a minor nature only, or
- Alterations which may be considered minor.

*Very Good*

- A building with one or more minor alterations, the effect of which is recognizable but does not significantly detract from the style, design, construction or character.

*Good*

- A building with a major alteration and/or a combination of several minor alterations, the effect of which detracts from the style, design, construction or character.

*Fair*

- A building with several major alterations, the effect of which detracts from the style, design, construction or character.

*Poor*

- A building with major alterations which greatly detract from the

Other types of historic resources have been evaluated with similar criteria, adjusted to fit each category.



Above: Halkomen Mat Shelters.  
M.R.M. & A., p. 1625

## HISTORY OF THE KATZIE PEOPLE

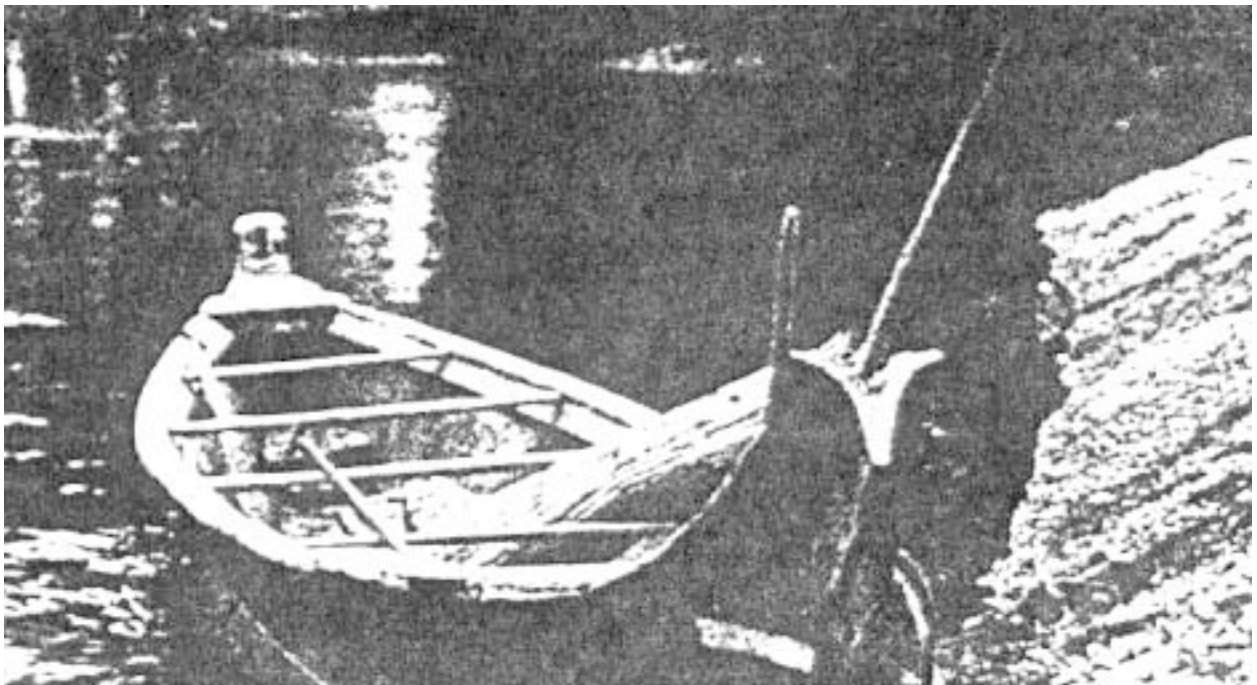
*The following history of their nation has been provided by the Katzie people.*

Long before the emergence of any other human community in the Lower Fraser region, the Creator placed five communities, each with its own chief, at different locations on the land. Those locations are now known as Pitt Lake, Sheridan Hill, Port Hammond, Point Roberts and Point Grey. The Katzie people are the direct descendants of these first people; the people that came to be known as the Katzie people descend primarily from Oe'lecten and his people, created at the south shore of Pitt Lake, and Swaneset and his people, created at Sheridan Hill.

During these first days after the arrival of human beings, there were few trees, and although there were clams and mussels in the rivers and along the seashore, there was no wind and there were no birds, land animals, sturgeon, salmon, oolichan or sea lions. But the Creator gave these first five leaders gifts and powers to bequeath to those that followed after them. When he placed Swaneset on the earth, the Creator provided the sun and the moon. For Oe'lecten, the Creator provided the seasons and the rainbow.

Oe'lecten was then granted a wife, and their children became the sturgeon and a white bird that can only be seen by Oe'lecten's descendants. Oe'lecten's people first settled in villages at Fox Creek, Widgeon Creek at the southwest corner of Pitt Lake, a village occupied until recently, presently known as Katzie I.R. 4.

Swaneset, honouring the Creator's instructions to finish making the territory surrounding the place he had been set down on earth, reshaped the land in order to make it abundant in berry and root crops. Standing on the peak of Sheridan Hill, which was once the highest mountain in the territory,



By this time, the descendants of the first people had multiplied and flourished, and their descendants were establishing villages throughout the land (early accounts describe as many as 12 Katzie “tribes” that gathered in 12 separate villages throughout what is now the Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge area). Swaneset encountered some of these villages in his travels downriver, during his journey to the island in the sea where he married his second wife. This woman was the daughter of a chief whose people were different from all other people on the earth. These were sockeye people. Swaneset brought his new wife back to Katzie, and in securing this relationship through marriage to the sockeye people, Swaneset assured Katzie people an abundance of sockeye for the coming generations, and since that time Katzie people have fished sockeye and other salmon species from a variety of fishing stations and seasonal villages along the Fraser, Pitt, and Alouette Rivers.

In the words of Peter Pierre, Khaals, the Great Transformer, came to the world “to finish Swaneset’s work.” Much of Khaals’ work involves the separation of people from animals, and the creation of new species from animals.

At the mouth of the Pitt River, Khaals encounters a warrior. For his boastfulness, the warrior is turned to stone. Hearing the entreaties of the villagers the warrior was there to protect, Khaals spares the people. The mouth of the Pitt River is known to the Katzie people for its important fishing sites, which are used to this day. Several important archaeological sites are situated around the mouth of the Pitt River, and surface artifacts are routinely discovered along the riverbank.

From the Pitt, Khaals travelled up the Alouette, where he encounters a one-legged man fishing for steelhead salmon. At the close of this encounter, Khaals turns the man to stone; the “stone man” is still present, at the place now known as Davis Pool, traditionally regarded by Katzie people as a significant ceremonial site.

From the Alouette River, Khaals turns back towards the Pitt River and encounters some of ‘Swaneset’s people’ on the on the meadows near Sheridan Hill, and turns then into suckerfish. All around the Sheridan Hill area, and the ‘Pitt Polder’ area, and around the mouth of Pitt Lake, Khaals encounters more people, and changes each in turn into various animals for the use and benefit of the Katzie People.

Khaals visits the ancestral village site first established by Oe’lectan, in the immediate vicinity of what is now Grant Narrows Regional Park, and finds Oe’lectan is still the chief there.

Khaals tells Oe’lectan, “I have travelled all through this country creating animals and fish for your use,” and sets about explaining to Oe’lectan the proper ways of harvesting these resources (Khaals specifically identifies the fish resources of both the Alouette and the North Alouette Rivers as being for Oe’lectan’s use).

Khaals encounters people at what is now I.R. 4, on the west side of Grant Narrows, and changes some of them into seals.

Khaals then makes a brief visit to Swaneset and his people, and finds them “flourishing and content.” Khaals also finds people living on Barnston Island, and shortly thereafter, Khaals “disappeared up the Fraser River, but whither he went no man knows.”

In the period immediately following Khaals’ transformation of land and resources, and his establishment of corresponding laws governing land use and resource-harvesting, the descendants of Oe’lectan and Swaneset - the Katzie people - thrived in their newfound wealth and security, and further developed customary laws governing resource-sharing and resource conservation.

In the time that followed Khaals, all of the lands and resources within Katzie territory were soon fully utilized.

care and attention, and the harvest was undertaken from canoes, or by 'dancing', wading through the shallows and treading on the plants until the roots floated to the surface.

Hudson Bay Company officials, after arriving in the early 1820s on the Fraser River, observed hundreds of native families travelling to the Katzie territory in the autumn months to assist in the wapato harvest. Rather than being simply a casual resource-gathering activity, the wapato harvest should be regarded for what it was: agriculture. The Katzie were proud of their renowned wapato, and it was obviously a valuable 'trade commodity'. It was the presence of an effective customary law governing the ownership and distribution of the wapato resource that allowed such harvests as those described by Simon Pierre and observed by HBC officials. Directed harvest of saltwater resources by Katzie people, either through reciprocal relationships with saltwater people or long-standing rights of access, was an occasional practice. It was likely more common that neighbouring First Nations transported shellfish and other saltwater resources to Katzie, as friends and relatives do to this day (subsequent population declines, confinement to reserves and land pre-emption by non-native settlers brought an end to Katzie's traditional agrarian pursuits).

More than any other aspect of settlement by non-natives, epidemic diseases, for which native peoples held no immunity, served to diminish the size and influence of the Katzie people in the Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge area. After smallpox came tuberculosis, Spanish influenza, measles and a variety of other ailments to which the Europeans had developed resistance. As a result of these and other factors, the Katzie people, by the 1990s, had been reduced to about 400 individuals, about half of whom live on three reserves, in Pitt Meadows, on Barnston Island, and on the Fraser at Langley. Katzie's two other reserves consist of a parcel of land opposite the boat launch at Grant Narrows, and a small cemetery in Maple Ridge. The reserves were established in the colonial period, and later adjusted and confirmed in the 1880s and in 1916. The Katzie community is growing, however, and is continuing its efforts to preserve a place for itself in its traditional territory. Katzie maintains a strong local presence in the salmon fisheries, and Katzie people continue to hunt throughout the territory and utilize the landscape as best they can.



Above: Halkomen Mat Shelters. M.R.M. & A., p. 1623.

## CHRONOLOGY OF HISTORIC EVENTS

**1792**

Captain Vancouver sails past the mouth of the Fraser River.

**1808**

Simon Fraser, explorer for the North West Fur Trading Company, descends the Fraser River to its mouth at the Pacific Ocean.

**1821**

The Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company amalgamate.

**1827**

Fort Langley is established on the south side of the Fraser River by the Hudson's Bay Company.

**1843**

Fort Victoria is established at the southern tip of Vancouver Island.

**1846**

Oregon Boundary Treaty.

**1849**

Founding of Fort Hope. Vancouver Island becomes a Crown Colony.

**1858**

Gold is discovered south of Yale, touching off the local Gold Rush. The mainland territory of New Caledonia is proclaimed as the Crown Colony of British Columbia, with Sir James Douglas sworn in as Governor. The townsite of Derby is laid out as the capital, but is condemned as indefensible from American attack. The first Royal Engineers arrive.

**1859**

Queensborough, now New Westminster, is chosen as the capital for the new colony. Town lots at Derby are put up for sale. John McIver selects a farm site on the north side of the Fraser, where the Maple Ridge Golf Course is now located. He begins clearing the site, which he names '*Maple Ridge*', after a stand of Maples that stretches along a ridge for two miles. These trees run from what is now Hammond almost to Haney.

**1860**

Proclamation of the Pre-Emption Act in January, allowing for the registration of land in British Columbia; the first pre-emptions are at Albion, Chilliwack and Sumas. New Westminster is incorporated as the first city in B.C. Gold is discovered in the Cariboo.

**1861**

Construction of Semiahmoo Road. An Indian mission is established at the future site of Mission.

**1862**

The first Presbyterian service in the District is conducted by Rev. R. Jamieson.

**1865**

Rev. Ebenezer Robson conducts the District's first Methodist services.

**1866**

Vancouver Island and British Columbia are united as one Crown Colony.

**1867**

Canadian Confederation.

**1868**

The provincial capital is moved to Victoria.

**1871**

The Province of British Columbia is admitted to Confederation on July 20.

**1872**

Construction begins on the Yale Wagon Road between New Westminster and Yale, which is completed two years later. The District's first Methodist church is constructed. The Hammond Brothers pre-empt one hundred and twenty acres on the north shore of the Fraser River. The Municipalities Act is passed.

**Maple Ridge Methodist Church. Built 1872**



**1874**  
The Federal Free Homestead Act is passed, allowing land grants to settlers if they were able to meet certain stringent conditions, including clearing and cropping certain acreages and having taken up residence by the beginning of the third year. The District of Maple Ridge is incorporated on September 12th, the third district municipality in B.C. - preceded only by Langley and Chilliwack (Victoria and New Westminster were established as cities before this date). The population consists of fewer than fifty pioneer families, spread over 33,000 acres. The first organizational meeting for the District Council is held at John McIver's home on October 3rd. The first regular Council meeting is held on October 10th, under the Maple trees on McIver's Farm; Wellington Harris is elected as the first Warden.

**1875**  
In the first District-wide election, Wellington Harris is returned as Warden. The first regular school service commences with the arrival of teacher James Sinclair. Completion of the New Westminster to Yale Wagon Road.

**1876**  
The District's first Post Office opens on October 1st, with W.J. Howison as the post master.

**1878**  
The District is split into two Wards, divided by Townline Road (now 216th Street). A municipal cemetery is established.

**1879**  
Katie Indian Reserve Number One is allocated by Commissioner Sproat. The decision is made to route the Canadian Pacific Railway through the Fraser Valley. Incorporation of Delta.

**1880**  
A large section of land on Howison's property slides into the Fraser River, creating a wave sixty feet high.

**1882**  
Port Haney Townsite is registered. Construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway through Maple Ridge commences. St. John the Divine Church, built in Derby in 1859, is dismantled and floated across the Fraser on scows; it is reconstructed at its present location at Laity Street and River Road. James Murray Webster first settles in what later becomes known as Webster's Corners.

**1883**  
Hammond Townsite is registered as Port Hammond Junction.

**1884**  
The Haney Post Office opens, with Daniel Dockstader as post master.

**1885**  
The Hammond and Whonnock Post Offices open. A bridge is built over Kanaka Creek. The first transcontinental train pulls into Hammond on November 8th.

**1886**  
Incorporation of Vancouver, followed shortly by a devastating fire.

**1887**  
The transcontinental railway reaches the terminal at Vancouver. The train begins regular stops in Port Haney and Whonnock.



**THE HERITAGE RESOURCES OF MAPLE RIDGE**  
*Chronology of Historic Events*

**1888**

The District is further split into five Wards. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church is built in the Port Haney area, on land donated by Thomas Haney. Lillooet School is built at the corner of Dewdney Trunk Road and 232nd Street. A diphtheria epidemic breaks out, leaving two dead.

**1891**

James Murray Webster opens the first Post Office in Webster's Corners in his own home.

**1892**

Construction of Haney Hall, which served as Municipal Hall, police headquarters, jail, library and part-time school room.

**1893**

The first freight station in Port Haney is built on the river side of the tracks.

**1894**

Disastrous flooding of the Fraser River. Settlers in the Pitt Meadows lowlands petition to be removed from Maple Ridge, in order to deal directly with the provincial government for better flood control.

**1895**

South Lillooet School opens. Regular passenger service now operating between New Westminster and Chilliwack. Dewdney Trunk Road is completed by the province.

**1896**

Pitt Meadows is allowed to revert to unorganized territory, and remains so until 1914.

**1898**

The first school is opened in East Haney. The Ruskin Post Office opens. One acre of land is purchased from John Hammond for use as an Indian cemetery.

**1900**

Regular passenger service now operating between New Westminster and Chilliwack. Dewdney Trunk Road is completed by the province.

**1901**

The Maple Ridge Agricultural Association is formed on June 15th. The first Fall Fair is held in September.

**1903**

The Ward system is abolished.

**1907**

The Port Haney Brick Company is founded by Harold Burnet, E.G. Baynes and W.M. Horie. Pioneer Japanese settler, Mr. Inouye, arrives in Maple Ridge. The East Haney Post Office opens in the area now known as Albion.

**1909**

Aggie Hall is built in Haney.

**Below: The Fair Hall at Aggie Hall (M.R.M. & A.)**



Electricity comes to Hammond and Haney, supplied by the Stave Lake Power Company. The second Hammond train station is built

**Below: Second Hammond Train Station Circa 1920 (B.C. Provincial Archives HP #52488)**





THE HERITAGE RESOURCES OF MAPLE RIDGE  
*Chronology of Historic Events*

1913

The Pitt River Bridge opens.

1914

World War One breaks out. Pitt Meadows is incorporated as a separate municipality.

1915

The Haney Branch of the Women's Institute is formed. The Canadian Northern Railway reaches Vancouver.

1916

The Finnish Hall at Webster's Corner opens on January 1st. A fire destroys the business district of Hammond.

1918

Armistice is signed on November 11th, ending the First World War.

1919

The first local newspaper, the '*Gazette*', begins publication. The Spanish Influenza epidemic breaks out, during which schools are closed and public meetings cancelled.

1928

Construction starts on the Lougheed Highway. The first District Nurse is appointed.

1929

The crash of the Stock Market heralds the beginning of the Great Depression.

1931

The Lougheed Highway is completed, and is opened to traffic. Businesses begin to relocate along the Highway in Haney, which becomes the business centre of the District.

1939

Outbreak of the Second World War.  
the Great Depression.

Below: Maple Ridge Hotel (B.C. Provincial Archives HP #84548)



1942

The Japanese population is evacuated from the Coast; Japanese-owned farms and properties are auctioned off.

1945

The Second World War ends with the Allied victories in Europe and Japan.

Below: Bank of Montreal, November 1947 (B.C. Provincial Archives HP #62307)



THE HERITAGE RESOURCES OF MAPLE RIDGE  
*Chronology of Historic Events*

1948

Severe flooding along the Fraser River.

1951

A new Municipal Hall is opened.

1958

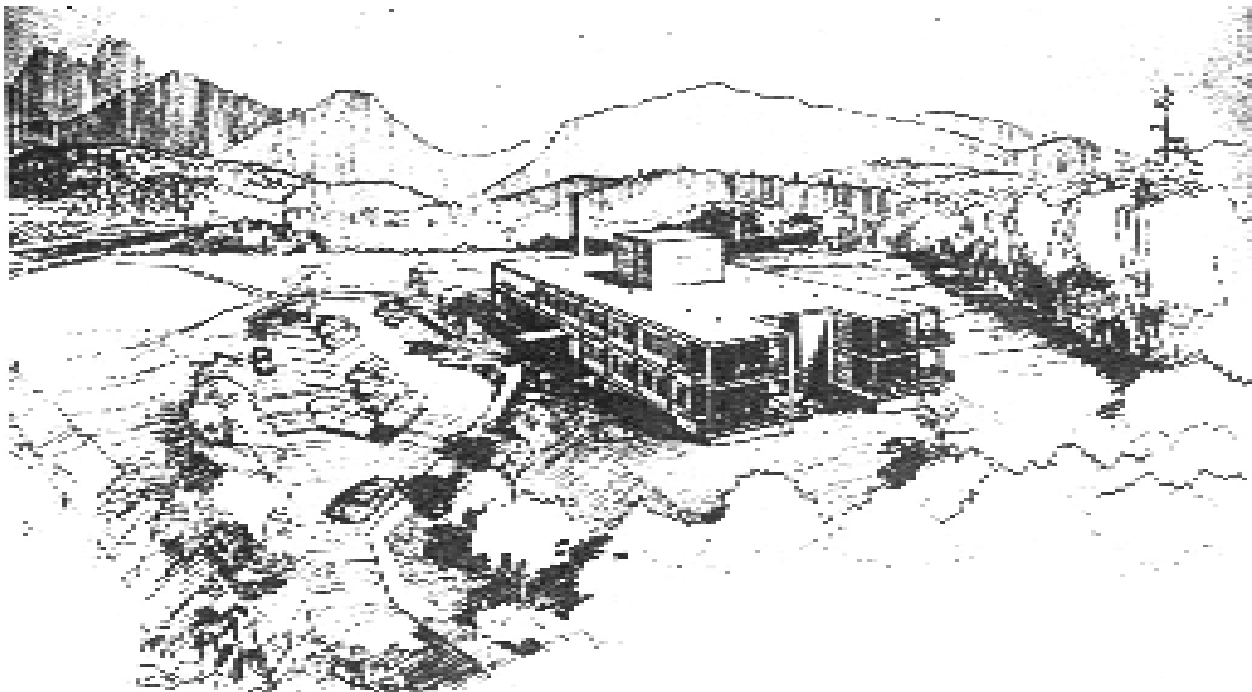
Maple Ridge Hospital opens.

1972

Institution of the Agricultural Land Freeze.

1973

Establishment of the Agricultural Land Reserve.



Maple Ridge Hospital. Rendering of original design by Thompson, Berwick & Pratt.. ( M.R.M. & A. P2319).

## The Historic Communities of Maple Ridge

