

**SAINT ANNE'S HALL, 838 LAVAL STREET**

**Description of Historic Place**

Saint Anne's Hall, located in Laval Square in the centre of the Maillardville community, is part of a significant grouping of religious buildings that includes Notre Dames De Lourdes and the Rectory. It is a one-storey, front-gabled rectangular structure with a partial basement, facing south at the eastern edge of Laval Square. A significant renovation has obscured some of its original features; however the form of the building remains recognizable.

**Heritage Value of Historic Place**

Saint Anne's Hall is valued for its association with the Maillardville community and Fraser Mills, and is part of a grouping of religious buildings that forms the physical and spiritual core of Maillardville, one of the only distinct French-Canadian settlements west of Manitoba. The establishment of the Church reflects the strength and continuity of the French-Canadian community that immigrated and settled in the area beginning in 1909 to work in Fraser Mills—a major employer and producer of wood products. In 1909, 110 French Canadians, approximately 40 families, mostly from lumbering villages in the Hull and Sherbrooke regions in Quebec and Rockland, Ontario, arrived at the Millside Station. A second group of immigrants arrived the following year. The French-speaking settlers founded the community of Maillardville in close vicinity to Fraser Mills, on pay-by-the-month lots supplied by the company. Far from home, the residents of Maillardville settled in a town designed with a church located in the central square. Funds were raised to build the initial church in Maillardville in 1910, but it was destroyed by fire in 1912. This was the second Notre Dame De Lourdes, built in 1912. A new larger church was required in the 1920s but due to economic conditions was not completed until 1939, at which time the former second church was retained for use as a hall for social gatherings and church functions, and for a number of years was also used as a classroom. Although altered in both its interior and exterior appearance, this church dates back to the early days of the Maillardville community and remains today in use as Saint Anne's Hall, an integral part of the Laval Square complex.

The Hall is further significant for its association with the Knights of Columbus Maillardville Council #3239, which occupied the Hall beginning in 1949. The Knights of Columbus, one of the world's leading Catholic fraternal benefit societies, provided financial aid to community members in Maillardville. The Knights of Columbus remain active in Maillardville to the present day.

**Character-Defining Elements**

Key elements that define the heritage character of Saint Anne's Hall include its:

- landmark corner location in Laval Square, in a religious heritage grouping with Notre Dames De Lourdes and the Rectory
- ecclesiastical form, scale and massing as expressed by its modest one-storey rectangular plan and front gabled roof
- wood-frame construction, including features that date to the original construction such as exterior wood siding extant under later vinyl, and interior features covered by later wall surfaces



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**CITY OF COQUITLAM, STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE, 2007**

**SAINT ANNE'S HALL, 838 LAVAL STREET  
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  
RESEARCH SUMMARY SHEET**

**CIVIC ADDRESS:** 838 Laval Street

**HISTORIC NAME:** Notre Dame De Lourdes

**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** 1912

**SOURCE:** Parish Records of Notre Dame De Lourdes

**REFERENCES:**

- **Assessment Card Information:** Date of Construction: 1923 [sic] Roof: Cedar Shingles  
Foundation: Concrete

**OTHER REFERENCES:**

- *Coquitlam: 100 Years: Reflections of the Past.* Coquitlam: District of Coquitlam, 1990.
- Foundation Group Designs Ltd. *Heritage Maillardville: Building Inventory.* Coquitlam: District of Coquitlam, 1986.
- Monk, H.A.J and John Stewart. *A History of Coquitlam and Fraser Mills 1858-1958.* New Westminster: Jackson, 1958.
- Souvenir Program 1909-1959, *Fêtes du Jubile d'Or : History of the Parish,* 1959.