

SPRING BREAK

challenge #4

During Spring Break, we challenge you to get out and explore Maple Ridge with your families! Every day, we will share a local historic location for you to discover, along with some great discussion and learning points to engage with local history.

We encourage you to print off pages 2 & 3 for your kids (or save this document to a mobile device), and go on a new adventure every day during Spring Break.

While you're out and about, check out the local EARTH DAY initiative at www.mrearthday.ca with dozens of other challenges and local gems to visit! Be sure to snap a photo during your adventures and share it on social media with #emergeMR for a chance to win some great prizes!



**MAPLE RIDGE
MUSEUM**
& COMMUNITY ARCHIVES

The many faces of Memorial Peace Park

The town centre of Maple Ridge didn't always look as it does today... What we now call "Maple Ridge" was many communities with their own town centres. Even today, we still find parks, shops, and activities in all corners of town. But, all the way back in 1931, when Lougheed Highway was completed, our modern town centre started to form in the community of Haney as a place that was easily accessible by all. The highway made it much easier for people in the outlying neighbourhoods, like Whonnock, Yennadon, and Ruskin, to do business in the downcore core.

Besides business and commerce, this area was also home to the first schools, library, and town hall of Haney. In fact, in 1923 (nearly 100 years ago), the Haney Central School was upgraded to three rooms! Most community schools at that time were only 1 small room and Haney School was made 3 X bigger! That goes to show just how fast this area was growing!



P14267, Opening day of the bandstand in Memorial Peace Park in 1994

Memorial Peace Park - right in the centre of downtown Maple Ridge - used to be the Aggie Hall & Grounds, where the Fall Fair was held every year. That means, even before it became a municipal park, this spot has been a gathering place for Maple Ridge residents for over a 100 years! Since this spot was such a busy and important community hub, the Cenotaph was also moved there in 1953 to help us remember the local soldiers who lost their lives in the World Wars. It remains in the park today as a very important symbol of our community's history.

Visit our website for the full story and historic photographs to show of the many faces of Memorial Peace Park:

<https://mapleridgemuseum.org/looking-back-memorial-peace-park/>

Today's Challenge

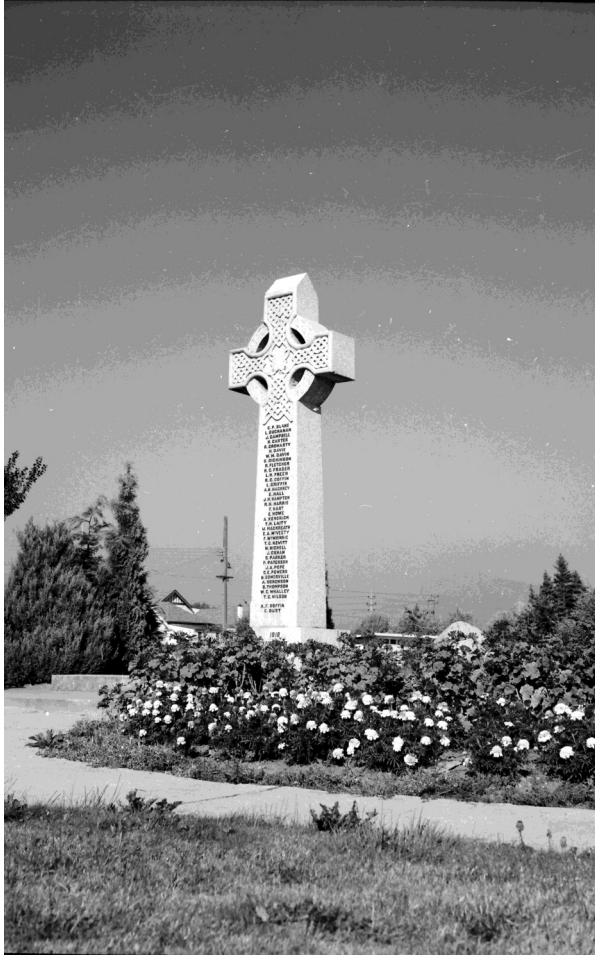


PHOTO P12150, The Cenotaph after it was moved to Haney Centre in the 1950s.

For more at-home learning on the history of Haney and Memorial Peace Park:

First Elementary Schools in Haney Centre:

<http://mapleridgemuseum.org/first-elementary-schools-in-haney-centre/>

The History of Aggie Hall:

<http://mapleridgemuseum.org/the-aggie-hall/>

The Bandstand at Memorial Peace Park: <https://mapleridgemuseum.org/the-bandstand-in-memorial-park/>

Visit Memorial Peace Park and find the Cenotaph. Take a moment of silence to honour the soldiers that bravely fought in the wars.

Then, go stand in the bandstand (the gazebo shaped building). Close your eyes and listen to the sounds around you. Even on a quiet, rainy day, you can still hear the hustle and bustle of the downtown core. Imagine what that spot would have sounded like 50 years ago at the Fall Fair, or 100 years ago when the schoolkids came out to play at recess, or even before the highway was built and it was just farmland 150 years ago?

Open your eyes and look around you. What do you see? Can you identify any community gathering places today?



PHOTO P04597 A row of teenagers with their calves for show at the Aggie Hall, 1955

For a searchable online database of Maple Ridge history and lots of great learning resources, visit us here! <http://mapleridgemuseum.org/>