



Maison des Lantier

Maison des Lantier is situated in what was originally known as the Parish of Pointe-Claire, founded by an edict of the King of France in 1722, recognized by the Church in 1855.

Although the exact date of construction is not known, the date 1737 was found carved in one of the roof beams, which gives a clue as to its history.

One of the foundation stones has an engraved date as well, being 1875, which leads to believe that the structure was subject to alteration or enlargement.

In 1875, Thomas Brunet was hired to work for the owner, Joseph Lantier, and his wife Rose de Lima, who had two daughters. Following Joseph Lantier's death at the age of 33, Mrs. Lantier married Thomas Brunet, her hired man in 1880, at St-Joachim Church in Pointe-Claire. They subsequently had four daughters, and a son named Trefflé. The family was not wealthy, and as a result, in 1912, father Thomas decided to sell the farm to a well-off Englishman, who gave Thomas

\$1000.00 on deposit. As the Englishman was going on a trip, the family remained on the farm until his return.

Recognizing the historical value of the abandoned house, the Town of Kirkland in 1973 took measures to prevent its demolition, by zoning the surrounding area as parkland. The house was donated to the municipality by the consortium, and notarial paper was signed January 15, 1975.

The Englishman was killed in the Titanic disaster in April 1912.

The money deposited was not reclaimed, and the Brunets remained on the farm. In 1918, Rose de Lima died, and in 1925 Trefflé, the son, married Evelyne Laniel, a teacher, and had five children, four sons and a daughter.

Trefflé and Evelyne left the farm in 1940 after the death of the father Thomas, and lived on their other farm on St-Charles road, but continued to farm the land on Ste-Marie road.

The land was subsequently sold to H.J. O'Connell in 1945, who was proprietor until 1960, when an Arab consortium gained possession. During this time, the house was vandalised and partially destroyed.

In 1976, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs declared the house a historic site, officially entitled "Maison des Lantier", after its first proprietor, Joseph Lantier.

The Town received a provincial grant of \$280,000. 00 in 1977, and restoration works were begun in the spring of 1978, for completion the following year.

The walls of the house are 2.5 feet thick, and the shingles and beams of cedar were hand-trimmed, as were the originals. The house has two fireplaces,

one for cooking, and one for heating.

The large cross in the front yard was donated by Roger Brunet, and was transported from the Brunet home on St. Charles Boulevard in 1981.

The House, surrounded by Heritage Park, will serve as a cultural centre for the Town offering exhibitions of paintings, sculpture, music, handcrafts, and, for small groups, meetings.