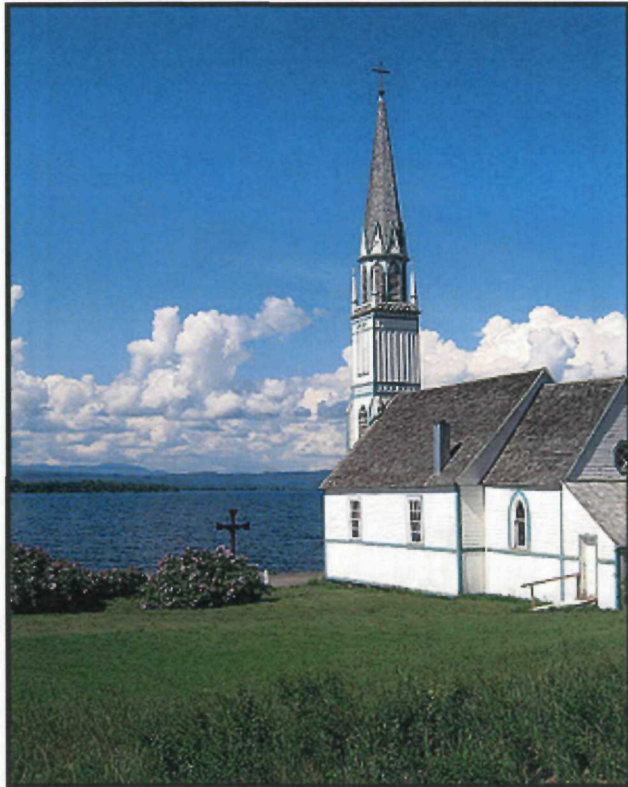


Our Lady of Good Hope Church



“Third Oldest Church in British Columbia”

Historic Fort St. James

This Historic site is on Lakeshore Drive off the shores of Stuart Lake. The church was completed in 1873 and was originally built with square logs and looked very basic with its square windows and plain tower. In 1905 Father Coccola, remodelled the church to look much like it does today.

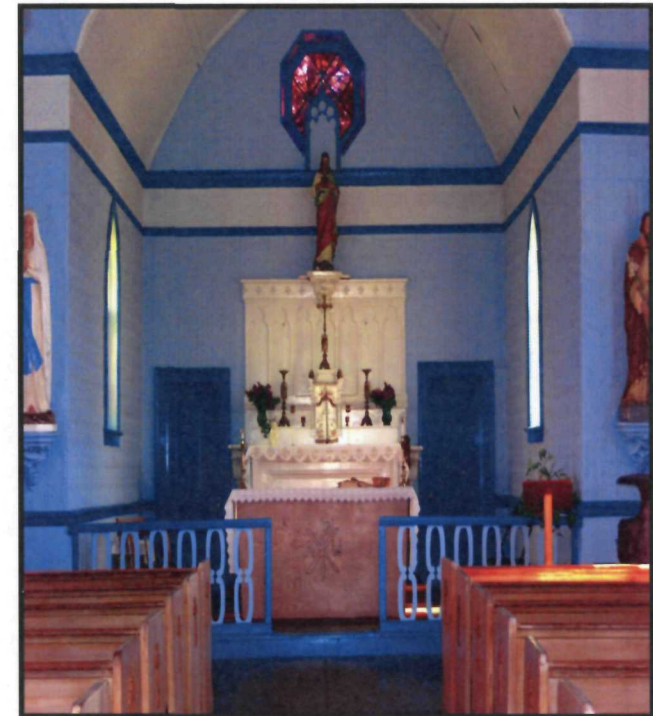
Father Adrien Gabriel Morice served as a missionary in Fort St. James from 1885-1905. He is best known for his books, *History of the Northern Interior of BC* (1904), *The Carrier Language* (2 Vols. 1932) and the first comprehensive map of the north-central interior of BC (1907). . Right behind the church is the cabin in which Father Morice printed the *Carrier Prayer Books* and newspapers.

The mission land surrounding the church historically included a small collection of houses belonging to Nak'azdli People. This village was torn down at the direction of Father Simpson. Most people moved to Nak'azdli land. Those who couldn't afford to move lost their homes.

From 1917-1922 a residential school was run on mission land by the church.



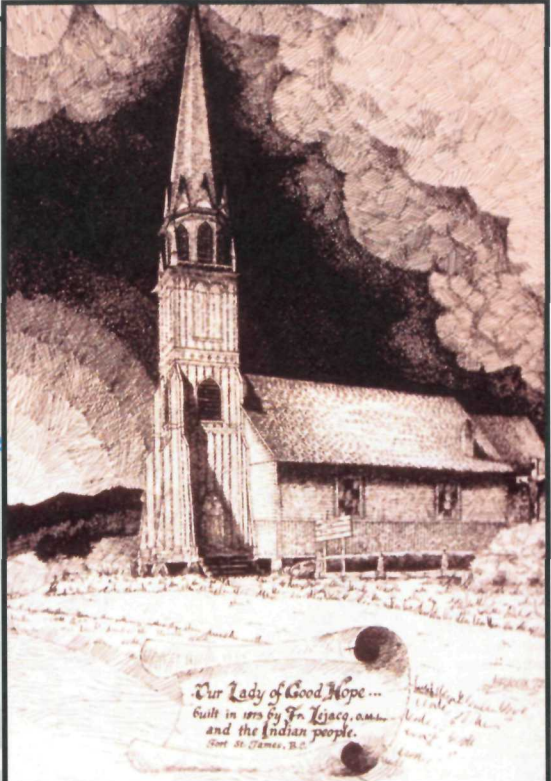
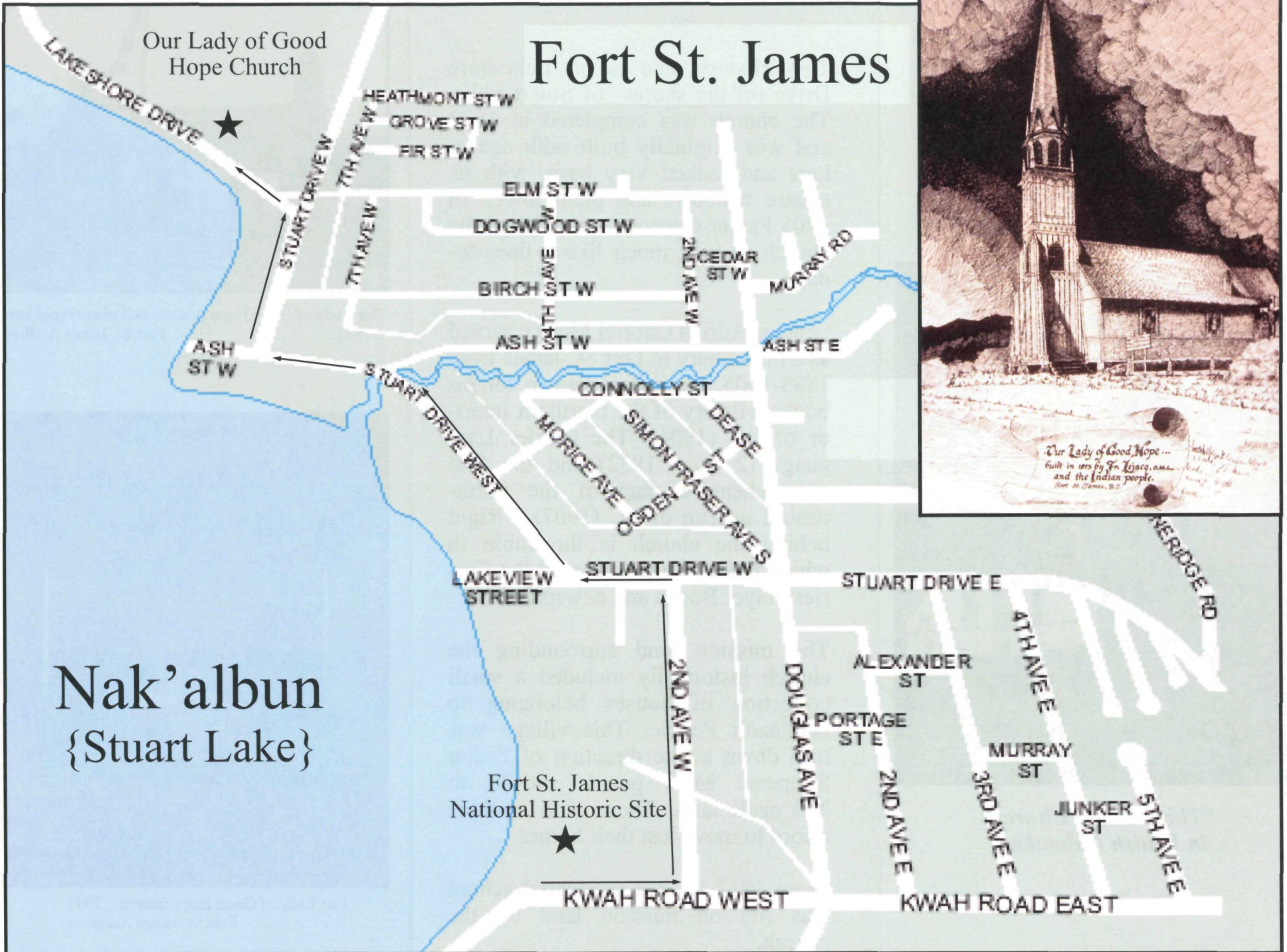
Our Lady of Good Hope prior to bell tower renovation c.1895. Fort St. James Archives



Our Lady of Good Hope interior , 2007 Fort St. James Archives

Fort St. James

Our Lady of Good Hope Church



*Our Lady of Good Hope...
built in 1875 by Fr. Lajoie, O.M.I.
and the Indian people.
Fort St. James, B.C.*