

Strathcona

HISTORICAL WALKING AND DRIVING TOUR





Above: View of Whyte Avenue, ca. 1907-12 (PAA IR323)

Cover: McIntyre Memorial Fountain, ca. 1914 (GA NC-6-832)

This booklet contains two tours of the Old Strathcona area of Edmonton. A map of the tour routes is provided in

Strathcona

HISTORICAL WALKING AND DRIVING TOUR

the centre of the booklet. The walking tour takes approximately 2 hours to complete, and the driving tour takes about 1 hour. Please note that, wherever possible, historical names have been used for buildings, names that often do not correspond to their current owners or occupants. Some of the sites on these tours are private property; in viewing these buildings, please remain in the public areas.

STRATHCONA HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

Before 1891 the area which was to become Strathcona was largely undeveloped. Private land ownership had only been introduced in Alberta in 1870, and it was not until 1882 that the river lots in this vicinity were surveyed. The sparse settlement that did exist consisted of scattered farms including John Walter's property on the North Saskatchewan River. Walter's ferry provided the only means of crossing the river, and it was by this route that the Hudson's Bay Company's first shipment of supplies from the south travelled through the Strathcona area in 1882 on its way to Fort Edmonton.

Strathcona was brought into being largely through the efforts of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Company. Rather than undertake the costly venture of building a bridge across the North Saskatchewan River to reach Edmonton, the C & ER Company decided to establish a townsite on the south bank, with the intention that it replace Edmonton as the commercial centre of the area. To this end, land transactions necessary for the establishment of a townsite took place between the local land owners and the C & ER Company in the spring of 1891. When the railway reached the townsite in July, the land was being surveyed, and by August it had been divided up among the various owners.

The arrival of the railway represented the first of three periods in the growth of Strathcona from its earliest beginnings to its amalgamation with

View of Whyte Avenue, ca. 1910s (PAA A3001)



Edmonton in 1912. From 1891 to 1898, the development of the area was dominated by the influence of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Company. Not only did the Company initiate the development of Strathcona by assembling the land for a townsite, it erected the first buildings, including a station, section house, engine house, coal shed, water tank and hotel. It also graded the first roads. The roads the rail company chose to grade were, understandably, convenient to property which it owned. Thus the Town of Strathcona developed its commercial and civic centres along Whyte Avenue and 104 Street, much to the advantage of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Company.

After incorporation as a town in 1899, decisions made by Strathcona's civic government took a leading role in shaping the community. Brick had

been produced in the area since 1881, but it was not until the council passed a fire prevention by-law in 1902 that the first false fronted wood frame buildings typical of Strathcona's business district began to be replaced by structures of brick. The town council took an active, as well as regulative role in Strathcona's development. Through its Public Works Committee the council undertook various street improvements, sidewalk construction projects and drainage works. Additionally, it undertook to provide electric light, water, sewage, and telephone systems.

The third and final phase through which Strathcona passed as an independent community was from 1907, when it was incorporated as a city, to 1912, when it amalgamated with Edmonton. Throughout these years, Strathcona experienced its most dynamic period of growth. The

Street scene, Strathcona, 1895 (PAA B5018)



boundaries under the council's jurisdiction were vastly expanded to the west and south.

A large number of civic buildings including a city hall, library, hospital, market, and a new fire hall were undertaken, as well as beautification projects such as the creation of parks and boulevards.

Public transportation in the form of a street railway system was initiated, and both the Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern Railways built new stations in Strathcona. The Dominion Government also contributed, building an armoury and a post office.

Amalgamation with Edmonton marked the end of Strathcona's independent development. After 1912, growth slowed dramatically on the south side. Edmonton had by that time attracted the lion's share of commercial activity, and though it too was affected by the province-wide economic slowdown, it remained dominant in the area. The misfortune of Strathcona's early merchants is our good fortune today, however, since Whyte Avenue has been preserved as a virtual time capsule of the town's first, vibrant years. The buildings on this tour form a link with the past, giving a glimpse back in time to the beginnings of settlement in Strathcona.

1

STRATHCONA PUBLIC LIBRARY (1913)

8331 - 104 Street



Strathcona Public Library, 1914 (GA NC-6-1027)

As early as 1907, plans were being made for a public library for Strathcona, but circumstances delayed their realisation. First, the newly incorporated city was too busy with the new city hall and market to address the need for a library. Later, a Carnegie grant would have given the community its library, but the City turned it down when the sum offered did not match the scale of the proposed building. Finally, Strathcona got its library in 1913 as part of the Edmonton-Strathcona amalgamation agreement.

The design of the Strathcona Public Library is typical of the larger early twentieth century educational buildings in western Canada. It is predominantly brick, but is embellished with limestone detailing in a very restrained classical style. One of the main features of the design is the string courses which articulate the floor levels and windows. These courses add a horizontal element to what would otherwise appear a rather tall, narrow building. The wide stone cornice and, at the front of the library, a gable with an oculus, brake the upward movement

of the eye and, in effect, add another horizontal element. A wide stone staircase, Ionic columns and curved pediment grace the front entrance and give the building a sense of gravity and dignity suitable to a place of learning.

The Strathcona Public Library was declared a Registered Historical Resource in 1976.

Go north on 104 Street.

2

KNOX CHURCH (1907)

8403 - 104 Street



Knox Church, n.d. (PAA B3527)

Strathcona's first Presbyterian services took place in the Strathcona Hotel in 1891-2. Then, in cooperation with the Methodist congregation, a wood frame church was erected in 1892. As attendance continued to grow, a larger church became a necessity. The old structure was moved to 10453-86 Avenue, where it was converted into a duplex, and a new brick church able to seat 600 was built in 1907.

By the time this church was built, the Gothic Revival style had long been the preferred choice for denominations of British extraction. The prototype for this style had its roots in the rural village churches of England, and for many new arrivals in Canada the style provided a physical as well as spiritual continuity with their homeland. Pointed arches, steeply pitched roofs, battlements, buttresses, pinnacles, stained glass and gothic tracery are all standard elements of this style which can be seen in the Knox Church. It has a cross-shaped plan with a small cupola at the intersection of the axes, and a handsome square bell tower that has two Tudor-arched entrances in the base. A large pipe organ was installed in 1911, and an assembly hall was added at the rear in 1949.

Knox Church was one of a few large brick churches to be constructed in Edmonton before the boom period of 1911-14. Today it is one of the oldest in Edmonton, and among the best preserved. In 1976 this church was designated a Registered Historical Resource.

Continue north on 104 Street, turn east on 85 Avenue.

3

CONNAUGHT ARMOURY (1911)

10310 - 85 Avenue



Connaught Armoury, ca. 1912 (GA NC-6-835)

The Connaught Armoury was built by the Canadian federal government in 1911, at a cost of \$35,000. It was named in honour of the third son of Queen Victoria, Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught, Canada's Governor General from 1911 to 1916. The Armoury housed the drill hall, rifle range and regimental offices of the 19th Alberta Dragoons, one of Alberta's oldest mounted regiments, until 1964, when the regiment was disbanded. During the First World War the 19th saw extensive service, fighting at such well-known engagements as Ypres, the Somme and Vimy Ridge.

In addition to its military functions, the Armoury played a part in Strathcona's social life. While awaiting the completion of their church in 1913, the congregation of the Holy Trinity Anglican Church (Site 30) was permitted to use the drill hall for their services. This same hall was the scene of an annual ball - one of four held in Strathcona each year - hosted by the regiment.

The design of the Connaught Armoury was the responsibility of the same federal office - the Department of Public Works - which later produced the Strathcona Public Building (Site 8). Brick and limestone were used to construct the Armoury, the former for the body of the building, and the latter for the decorative string courses, entrance details and basement storey. In line with its military function, the Armoury appears defensible. The "cannonballs" atop the entry porch and the suggestion of crenellation in the parapet reinforce the military theme. The oldest such building in Alberta, the Connaught Armoury was designated a Provincial Historical Resource in 1979.

Retrace your steps to 104 Street, turn right, and go one block north.

4

MCKENZIE RESIDENCE (1907)

8603 - 104 Street



McKenzie Residence, Oct. 2000 (ACD 00-R149-8)

When John James McKenzie arrived in Edmonton in 1887 at the age of twenty-three, he found work as a ferryman on the North Saskatchewan River. In 1891 he struck out on his own and opened a blacksmithing and farming equipment business in the new town of Strathcona. McKenzie was interested in civic affairs, and served on Strathcona's first town council from 1899 to 1903. He was also a member of the school board and mayor of Strathcona in 1904. His interest did not wane after the amalgamation of Edmonton and Strathcona, and he continued to serve on the Edmonton city council and the Edmonton public school board.

This house was built in 1907, and McKenzie is recorded as living here from 1909 to 1923. It is a fine example of domestic Edwardian Classical Revival architecture. Symmetry, restrained classical details and an emphasis on the horizontal are all characteristics of this style that can be seen in the McKenzie residence. Particularly striking are the hipped roof with bellcast eaves and the full width front porch with plain Tuscan columns supporting a second storey balcony. Bay windows flank the front door, and a centrally located dormer window with an arched gable completes the classically balanced scheme.

There are many houses of this type in Strathcona, but few are as well designed or preserved as this one. The McKenzie residence was designated a Registered Historical Resource in 1976 and for many years housed the Old Strathcona Model and Toy Museum.

Go west on 86 Avenue to 105 Street.

5

CALGARY AND EDMONTON RAILWAY STATION (REPLICA) (1891) 10447 - 86 Avenue



C&E Station in Strathcona, 1890s (PAA A2996)

Strathcona's first railway station was originally located a short distance to the north of the 1908 CPR Station which will be seen later in the tour (Site 18). It was built in 1891, by the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Company, in time to meet their first train in August of that year. Constructed according to a standard plan used along the length of the line (ten of this type were built between Calgary and Edmonton), this station had public waiting rooms, railway offices and living quarters for the station master. When the new CPR station was erected, the old building was moved to 87 Avenue and converted for use as a house. Moved to this location in 1978, the station deteriorated badly over the following two years, until restoration was impossible. It was demolished in 1980, and the Junior League of Edmonton built this partial replica, which currently serves as the headquarters of that organization.

Like the Strathcona Hotel (Site 19), this station is a simple, solid-looking wood frame building. Tongue and groove siding is used as the exterior finish; a finial on the roof provides the only decorative touch. Interest is added to the station's design by the use of different roof levels and types. The stem of the building's T-shaped plan has one storey and a gable roof; the cross of the "T" has two storeys and a jerkinhead roof; a shed roof annex adds extra space at the rear; finally, a shed roof canopy provides shelter on the platform.

The C & ER station is a good example of the strong, utilitarian architecture that was widespread in frontier areas before style and ornament became over-riding concerns.

Go south on 105 Street to 84 Avenue.

6

MCLEAN RESIDENCE (1896)

10454 - 84 Avenue



McLean Residence ca.1900 (CEA A96-135)

Arthur McLean arrived in Strathcona from Ontario in 1892. When he wasn't working at his hardware business, McLean was very involved in community affairs. He served as a member of one of Strathcona's first school boards, was elected to the town council in 1901 and 1902 and participated in the establishment of Holy Trinity Anglican Church (Site 30), where he was a vestryman.

The house McLean built for himself in 1896 is a good example of the most popular style of architecture in late nineteenth century Alberta. Built before the time when brick became the usual construction material for large houses in Strathcona, this wood frame house has many characteristics of the Queen Anne Style. It has a varied roof line and an irregular plan; there are two different types of siding - clapboard and fishscale shingles - and fancy "gingerbread" trim. The wrap-around porch completes the scheme.

There are many other wood frame houses in Strathcona which are variations of the Queen Anne Style, but the McLean residence is one of the best examples. It was owned by the Old Strathcona Foundation when it was designated a Registered Historical Resource in 1983.

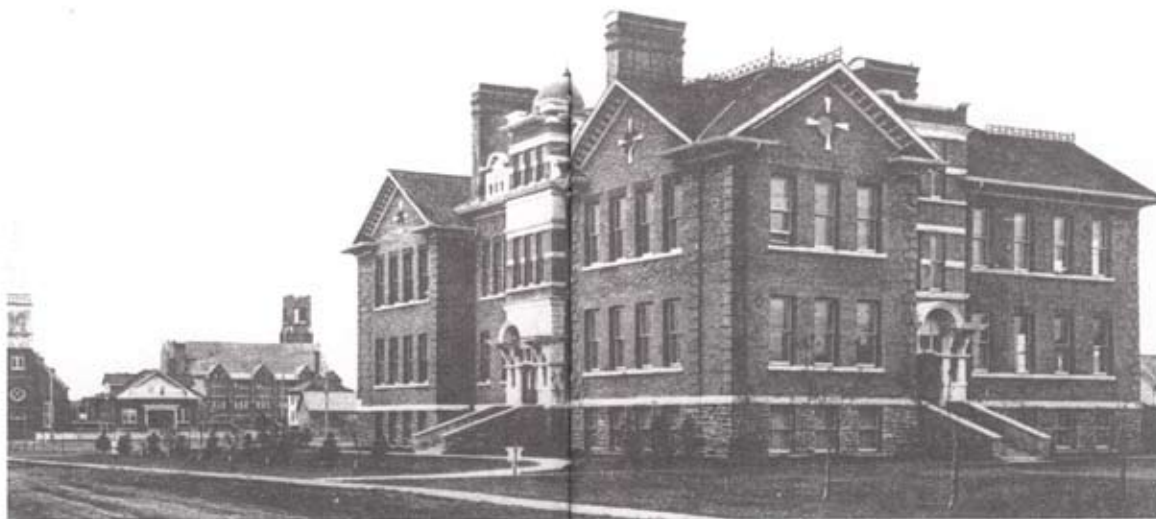
Continue south half a block on 105 Street.

7

STRATHCONA COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE (1908)

10523 - 84 Avenue

By January 1892, a school district was formally organized and instruction became available to the children of Strathcona. A one room, wood-frame schoolhouse was built in the autumn of that year but was soon outgrown. It was replaced by the four room brick Niblock School in 1894, located on the south-east corner of 105 Street and 84 Avenue. By the



Strathcona Collegiate Institute from the north-west, 1913
(PAA A2497)

time this second building was demolished in 1906, two other schools had already been built to handle the burgeoning student population, which had reached 1,000. In 1908, the Strathcona Collegiate Institute was built on the site of the Niblock Street School at a cost of approximately \$100,000. It housed the higher levels of the public school system, and from 1909 to 1911 accommodated the University of Alberta on the top floor as well.

A variety of local and imported materials were used in the construction of the Institute: Strathcona brick for the walls, Alberta bluestone for the foundations, Kootenay marble for decorative elements, and B.C. fir and cedar for the interior woodwork. The Strathcona Plaindealer reported that Premier Rutherford had pronounced it to be "the finest school building in the province," a statement which was easy to believe, considering the ornateness of the design. Stone has been used to accent the main entrance, a semicircular canopy shelters the doorway, and a dome surmounts the third floor above the entrance. Quoins, string courses, sills, brackets and

keystones are also highlighted in stone. Large chimneys, metal cresting, triple paned dormers, each with a Palladian central arch, add to the height and dignity of the school. Today, the "Old Scona High School" is Edmonton's oldest active secondary school. In recent years extensive renovations have been carried out, in large part by the school's students and staff, to recapture the original charm of the building.

Continue south on 105 Street to Whyte Avenue.

8

STRATHCONA PUBLIC BUILDING (1913)

10501 Whyte (82) Avenue

Construction of the Strathcona Public Building began in 1911. It was a project of the federal Department of Public Works and was intended to accommodate the community's post office as well as the offices of the Customs and Inland Revenue Bureaux. Various



Strathcona Public Building, ca. 1912 (CEA EA-507-2)

delays were experienced as the project proceeded, causing the citizens of Strathcona to express concern over the priorities of federal building programs. Finally, in 1913, the building was completed.

The design of the Strathcona Public Building is typical of the federal post office structures of the period. It was similar to, but smaller and more restrained than the post office erected across the river in Edmonton in 1907-10 (since demolished). The main features of this design are the giant order pilasters that rise the full height of the two-storey building, the oversized voussoirs surrounding the ground floor windows, and the clock tower with its pyramidal roof. This Edwardian Classical Revival building is one of the most formal and certainly the most sophisticated of the existing structures in the Strathcona area. Designated a Provincial Historical Resource in 1985, the Strathcona Public Building now functions as a public market featuring various boutiques and restaurants.

Cross to the south side of Whyte Avenue, turn left and go east half a block.

9

DOUGLAS BLOCK (1912)

10442 Whyte (82) Avenue



The Douglas Block in 1914 (GA NC-6-813)

The Douglas Block was designed by the architectural firm of Wilson and Herrald, who also designed the Princess Theatre (Site 15), and the Strathcona Public Library (Site 1). It was built in 1912 for the Douglas brothers, James and Robert, who intended it to be a revenue property. The ground floor could accommodate one or two retail outlets, and the upper floors were designed as apartments. Although called the Douglas Block, it never housed their very successful general store.

This block is similar to the Richards Block (Site 11) in that it uses a classical vocabulary, and has the same arrangement of pilasters, cornice and parapet. The use of stone for the pilasters and the central portion of the building served to emphasize the vertical aspect of the design, drawing the eye towards the gable-like feature in the centre of the parapet which displays the building's name. The Douglas Block was designated a Provincial Historical Resource in 1982.

Continue east on Whyte Avenue to next site.

10

CHAPMAN BROTHERS LIMITED (1901)

10423 Whyte (82) Avenue



Chapman Brothers, left, 1924 (GA NC-6-11032)

The original occupant of this 1901 wood frame store was the Great West Saddlery Company, managed by Archibald Benjamin Chapman. In 1912 Mr. Chapman bought the company, renamed it A.B. Chapman and Company, and continued making and selling harnesses. After his death in 1918 Archie Chapman's sons changed the company name again, this time to Chapman Brothers Limited. With the advent of the motor car and the tractor, the Chapman harness-making business went into decline. In order to survive, the store's merchandise was diversified to include western wear, and at times half of the premises was let to other businesses. The Chapman family owned the store until recently, and maintained the exterior in essentially its original condition.

This is one of the least altered of the remaining wood frame commercial buildings on Whyte Avenue. The boomtown front with bracketed parapet, the arrangement of the multi-paned windows and the location of the doors are all preserved in good condition. Of particular interest is the pressed tin siding, moulded to imitate brick. This was a popular exterior cladding around the turn of the century, and can be seen on the sides of the building. In 1976, the Chapman Brothers store was designated a Registered Historical Resource.

11

RICHARDS BLOCK (1910)

10422 Whyte (82) Avenue



The Richards Block, n.d. (CEA A95-93)

The official opening of the A.H. Richards and Company general store on March 12, 1910 was conducted with style. Special discounts were offered on all items in the store, and an orchestra was in attendance for much of the day. The store, located on the ground floor of the Richards Block, sold a wide range of goods, including clothing, household items, and groceries. Originally, the upper floors housed offices and meeting rooms, but after 1925 these were converted to apartments.

The Richards family had come to Strathcona in 1893 and were among its earliest merchants. A.H. Richards served as a town councillor in 1906, and his son Thomas was, for some time, Strathcona's only

contractor. It was a measure of their success in the community that they could construct such a substantial building at the then considerable cost of \$30,000. Small wonder they put on such a show for its opening.

The Richards Block is very solidly built, the foundation walls being two feet thick and the superstructure containing steel reinforcement. Classical details embellish the facade and give it a distinguished appearance. The ground level was originally faced in regularly coursed, rusticated sandstone with decorative urns in the same material placed at each end (see photo). The two upper floors are finished with brick that has been laid to imitate coursed stone. Four pilasters included in the fancy brickwork pierce through a wide cornice to reach the top of the height-enhancing parapet. Taken together these details created a pleasing, balanced effect typical of Edwardian commercial buildings. The Richards Block was designated a Registered Historical Resource in 1976.

Continue east on Whyte Avenue, cross 104 Street.



The Tipton and Hulbert Blocks, ca. 1914 (CEA EA-10-274)

12

TIPTON AND HULBERT BLOCKS (1911, 1912)

10355-63 Whyte (82) Avenue

Both the Tipton and the Hulbert Blocks were constructed by R.A. Hulbert, a well-known contractor who arrived in Strathcona from Nova Scotia in 1893. He quickly established himself as a prominent member of the community, especially in the land speculation and development business.

The Tipton Block was built in 1911, on speculation it would appear, since it was soon sold. J. G. Tipton and Sons, the oldest and largest real estate firm in Strathcona at that time, paid \$40,000 for it in 1912. The main architectural features of this block are the heavy lintels with enlarged keystones above the windows, and the two storey high brick pilasters that rise to the ornate cornice crowning the building. The neighbouring Hulbert Block was built in 1912, and though it appears very much the same as the Tipton Block, it cost only \$25,000 to construct. It must have been built before the sale of its companion, since they share an internal staircase.

The Tipton and Hulbert Blocks are typical of early twentieth century commercial structures in western Canada. Similar buildings can be seen throughout Alberta where early main street developments have been preserved. The Tipton Block was renovated by the Old Strathcona Foundation in 1979 at a cost of \$400,000.

Continue east on Whyte Avenue.

13

HUB NEWS STORE (1894)

10345 Whyte (82) Avenue



The Hub News Store (arrow), ca. 1901 (GA NA-1334-1)

The Hub News Store was built at a cost of \$300 in 1894 by J. J. Duggan, a local pioneer and early mayor of Strathcona. Its first occupant was the Cowles Pioneer Drug Store. Later, around 1900, Bob Edwards published *The Strathcolic* newspaper from the upper floor. In 1910, after a succession of tenants, the Hub Cigar Store Company took up residence and has remained ever since, making it the longest continually operating news-stand in Edmonton.

The Hub News Store is one of the few remaining structures that illustrate the earliest phase of development in Strathcona. During this period, buildings were generally erected quickly and cheaply to meet the needs of the moment on the understanding that if the venture turned out to be economically viable, something more substantial would be erected as soon as resources would allow. Temporary though they might be, these buildings could not afford to look insubstantial. Thus, boomtown fronts such as the one on the Hub News Store and its neighbouring 1896 expansion were added to increase the dignity and apparent size of the humble wood frame structures. Both the Hub News Store and its annex have been restored in recent years, and now - apart from the electric signage - appear much as they did originally.

Continue east on Whyte Avenue.

14

GAINER BLOCK (1902)

10341-43 Whyte (82) Avenue



The Gainer Block, centre, ca. 1910 (PAA A6328/C)

When John Gainer arrived in Strathcona with his family in 1891 on one of the first Calgary and Edmonton Railway trains, he knew almost nothing about the butchering trade. Having spotted an opening in the market, however, he proceeded to set up shop in a single-storey wood frame building he constructed on Whyte Avenue in 1892. Business went well, and by 1902 it was necessary to replace this structure with the brick Gainer Block. "John Gainer and Company, Butchers and Pork Packers", founded in that same year, continued to prosper, and became one of western Canada's largest meat packing companies.

The pattern of development illustrated by the Gainer property is typical of early Strathcona. Before 1902, buildings were predominantly of wood. After this date brick was the rule, since the town council passed a fire prevention by-law in 1902 which specified that buildings along Whyte Avenue be constructed in brick. The classical elements used in this building - arches, cornices, and decorative infill resembling coffering - were very popular in late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial

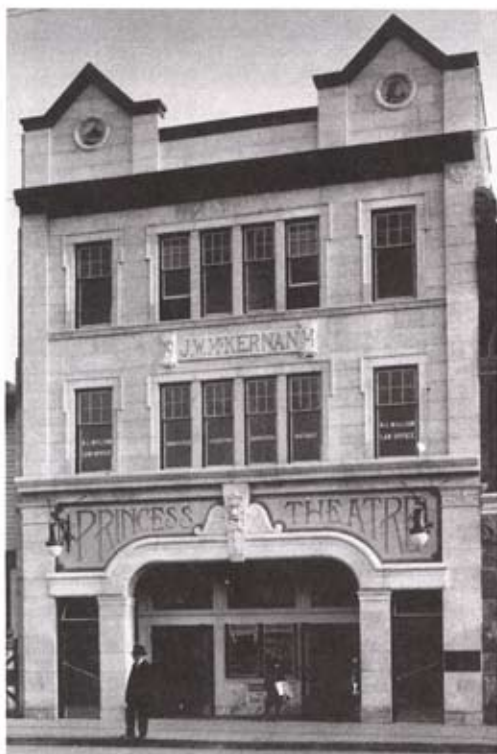
buildings in Western Canada. They could be combined in a myriad of ways to produce a wide range of effects that implied stability, permanence, and prestige. In common with many frontier buildings, a false front, or boomtown front, was added to give the building a larger, more regular and distinguished appearance. In 1982 the Gainer Block was designated a Provincial Historical Resource.

Continue east on Whyte Avenue.

15

PRINCESS THEATRE (1914)

10337 Whyte (82) Avenue



The Princess Cinema, ca. 1915 (CEA EA-519-1)

The Princess Theatre was designed by the local architectural firm of Wilson and Herrald for John McKernan, son of Robert McKernan, builder of the Dominion Hotel (Site 16). When it opened in 1915, the Princess claimed to have the largest stage in Western Canada, and promised a program of "high class moving pictures varied occasionally with high class musical vaudeville or musical concerts". In addition to the theatre, which occupied the first two floors, there was a billiards room in the basement, and offices on the third floor. The Princess cost \$75,000 to construct and was considered one of the "most complete and beautiful buildings of its kind in Western Canada."

A large portion of the budget must have been expended on the decoration of the building. Rich materials were used to finish the exterior: marble from British Columbia faced the theatre, ceramic mosaics adorned twin gables in the parapet above a copper cornice, and a large transom above the main entrances featured a stained glass window. The marquee was a later addition. Inside, the ceiling of the theatre was arched and adorned with plaster figures and friezes.

The Princess was the only theatre in South Edmonton until 1940, when two new cinemas opened on 109 Street: the Varscona (built by the McKernan family, now demolished) at 82nd Avenue and the Garneau at 87 Avenue. The Princess continued to operate as a theatre until 1958, after which the building housed various retail outlets. In 1973 it was returned to its original use and was designated a Registered Historical Resource in 1976. Further renovations ensued, and the Princess was designated a Provincial Historical Resource in 1994.

Continue east on Whyte Avenue.

16

DOMINION HOTEL (1903)

10324 Whyte (82) Avenue



The Dominion Hotel, ca. 1908 (CEA EA-99-1)

Robert McKernan, a local pioneer, built the Dominion Hotel in 1903 with profits from his farming ventures. With at least 33 bedrooms, several public parlours, a dining room and a beer parlour, the Dominion was known as one of the most spacious and relaxing stopping houses in Strathcona. At the time of its construction, it was the most ornate building on Whyte Avenue. Nevertheless, when prohibition came into effect in 1916 and the hotel ceased to sell alcohol, the popularity and success of the Dominion dwindled, and eventually it had to close its doors.

In subsequent years the upper floors of the Dominion Hotel building served as rental accommodation, with various retail stores occupying the street level. Over the years many alterations were

made to the hotel. It lost its tower and settled on one side a great deal before it was designated a Registered Historical Resource in 1976. Since then the façade has been restored to its original splendour by the Old Strathcona Foundation. A completely new building, with an extra floor, has been unobtrusively built behind the façade, and today the Dominion Hotel houses a variety of offices and businesses.

The Dominion Hotel, like many Victorian buildings, owes its striking character to a wealth of applied detail. In this case, three tiers of wooden balconies were, in effect, superimposed onto the facade of an unadorned brick building. The Chinoiserie style of the ornate woodwork blends surprisingly well with the French mansard roof surmounting the central tower to produce a unique and striking image.

Continue east on Whyte Avenue.

17

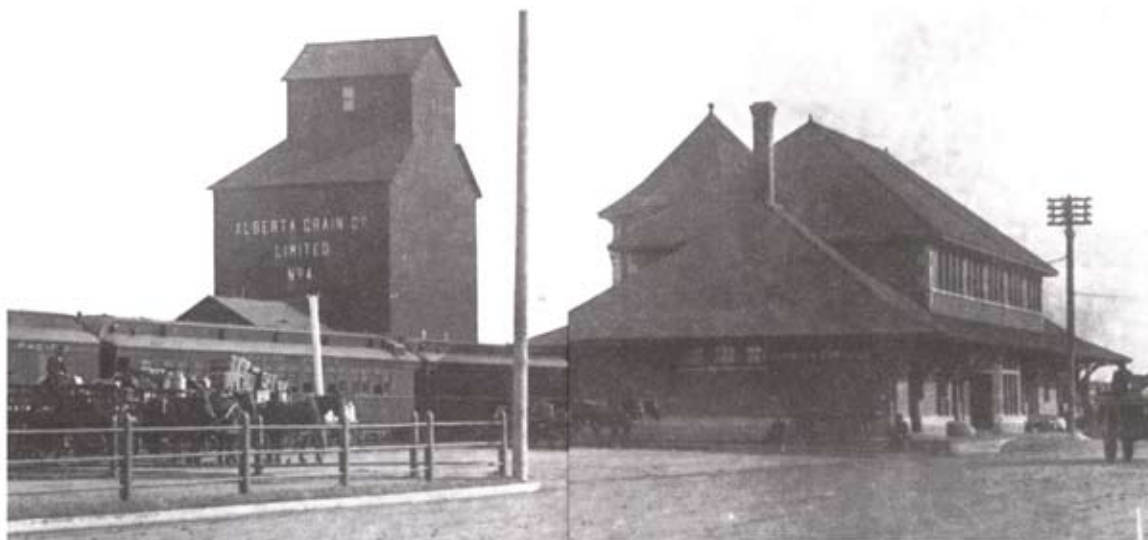
ROSS BLOCK (1894)

10309 Whyte (82) Avenue



The Ross Block (centre), 1898 (GA NA-614-23)

Constructed in 1894, the Ross Block was one of the first brick buildings on Whyte Avenue, and is now the oldest such structure remaining. Originally, the Ross Block functioned as Strathcona's first hardware, plumbing and tinsmithing business, but after 1897 when its namesake W.E. Ross acquired it, many other uses were



Canadian Pacific Railway Station, 1910 (PAA B7047)

found for the building. The upper floor became Ross Hall, and served as Strathcona's first meeting hall and cultural centre. Touring art exhibits and theatrical productions also took place here. Later, the hall accommodated Edmonton's Masonic Lodge and finally was converted into apartments. Over the years the lower floor was variously a feed store, a restaurant, a clothing store and a nightclub.

The most common building material in early Strathcona was wood. The Ross Block predates the widespread use of brick in the area by about ten years. Another unusual and, for the period, extravagant feature of the building was the very large panes of glass in the arched openings of the street facade. Clearly, this was intended to be a distinctive building. The corbelled parapet, round-headed second floor windows, and massive arches on the ground level suggest the influence of the Richardsonian Romanesque style in the design of this building. In 1976, the Ross Block was designated a Registered Historical Resource.

Continue east on Whyte Avenue to 103 Street, turn right and go one block south.

18

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY STATION (1908)

8101-103 Street

In January 1908, soon after Strathcona was granted city status, the Canadian Pacific Railway opened this picturesque new station. It was built at a cost of \$24,000, and replaced a modest wood frame station erected by the Calgary and Edmonton Railway in 1891 (seen earlier in the tour, Site 5). The new station was much grander than the original and contained amenities not seen before by Strathcona's travelling public, including separate waiting rooms for men and women and a smoking lounge.

Architecturally, the Strathcona CPR station is one of very few urban stations of its kind left in Alberta, and is a good example of a standard CPR station design. Built in the Queen Anne style, the station nevertheless incorporates elements from French and Scottish architectural sources. The large two-tiered hipped roof with wide bellcast eaves has its origins

Walking Route

- 1 Strathcona Public Library (1913)
8331 - 104 Street
- 2 Knox Church (1907)
8403 - 104 Street
- 3 Connaught Armoury (1911)
10310 - 85 Avenue
- 4 McKenzie Residence (1907)
8603 - 104 Street
- 5 Calgary and Edmonton Railway Station
(replica) (1891)
10447 - 86 Avenue
- 6 McLean Residence (1896)
10454 - 84 Avenue
- 7 Strathcona Collegiate Institute (1908)
10523 - 84 Avenue
- 8 Strathcona Public Building (1913)
10510 Whyte (82) Avenue

- 9 Douglas Block (1912)
10442 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 10 Chapman Brothers Limited (1901)
10423 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 11 Richards Block (1910)
10422 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 12 Tipton and Hulbert Blocks (1911, 1912)
10355-63 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 13 Hub News Store (1894)
10345 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 14 Gainer Block (1902)
10341-43 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 15 Princess Theatre (1914)
10337 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 16 Dominion Hotel (1903)
10324 Whyte (82) Avenue

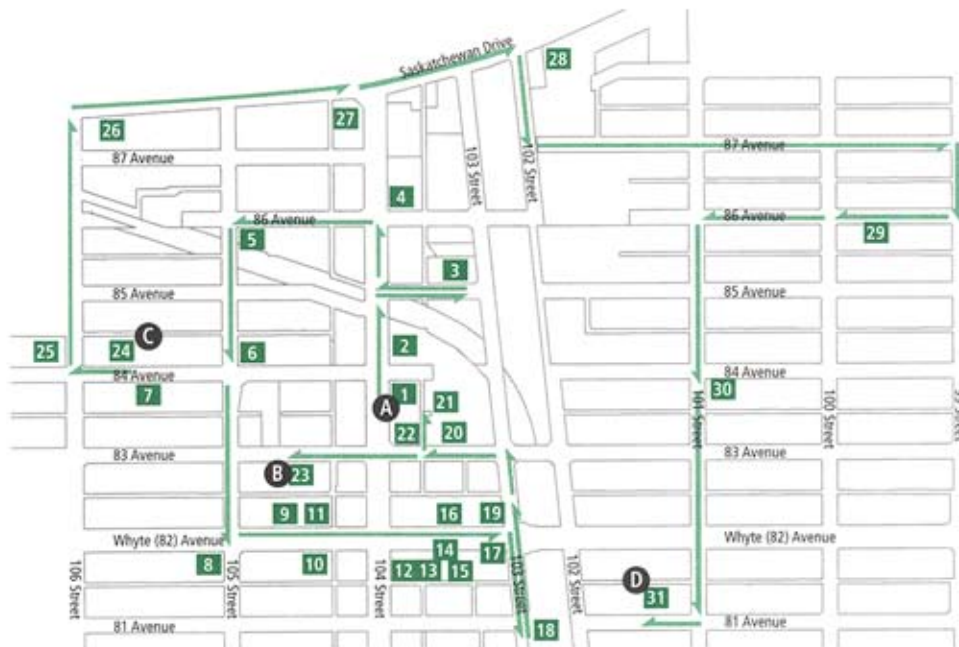
- 17 Ross Block (1894)
10309 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 18 Canadian Pacific Railway Station (1908)
8101 - 103 Street
- 19 Strathcona Hotel (1891)
10302 Whyte (82) Avenue
- 20 Fire Hall #1 (1910)
10322 - 83 Avenue
- 21 Orange Hall (1903)
10335 - 84 Avenue
- 22 McIntyre Memorial Park (1989)
83 Avenue & 104 Street
- 23 Strathcona Telephone Exchange (1908)
10437 - 83 Avenue

Driving Route

- 24 Bard Residence (1912)
10544 - 84 Avenue
- 25 Davies Residence (1909)
10606 - 84 Avenue
- 26 Duggan Residence (1907)
10515 Saskatchewan Drive
- 27 O'Brien Residence (1918)
10311 Saskatchewan Drive
- 28 Ritchie Mill (1893)
10170 Saskatchewan Drive
- 29 Sheppard Residence (1911)
9945 - 86 Avenue
- 30 Holy Trinity Anglican Church (1913)
10037 - 84 Avenue
- 31 81 Avenue between 101 & 102 Streets

designated site

- A start of Walking Tour
- B end of Walking Tour
- C start of Driving Tour
- D end of Driving Tour



in French architecture, while the octagonal tower on the building's east side was derived from Scottish sources - perhaps in recognition of the Scottish ancestry of high ranking CPR officers. When combined, these diverse elements created a rather romantic, distinctive image which is today very evocative of Canada's early railway days.

Retrace your steps north to Whyte Avenue.

19 STRATHCONA HOTEL (1891)

10302 Whyte (82) Avenue



Strathcona Hotel, ca. 1903 (PAA B4351)

The Strathcona Hotel is the oldest wood frame commercial building on Whyte Avenue. It was constructed by the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Company in 1891, and was originally named Hotel Edmonton. Even with additions in 1907 and 1913, the Strathcona could not compete with its grand CPR cousins where size was concerned, but its local reputation could rival any of them. In 1911 the Edmonton Bulletin, referring to the Strathcona Hotel,

noted that "this city has for years provided first class accommodations and at the present time has one of the best known houses in this section of Canada."

Business suffered at the Strathcona during Prohibition, when laws against the sale of liquor were brought into effect. In order to survive, hotels had to find alternative uses for their rooms. For a brief period the Strathcona served as the home of the Westminster Ladies College, but in 1919 it returned, unlike its neighbour the Dominion (Site 16), to its original function. Prohibition ended in Alberta in 1923, giving hotels a new lease on life. The Strathcona survived the crisis and has continued to operate as a hotel to the present day.

The design of the Strathcona Hotel - a rectangular wood-frame structure - is typical of frontier buildings, having only a few details to suggest a particular style. In this case, brackets under the eaves and pediments over the windows and doors give the hotel a classical appearance. The building's simplicity allowed it to be constructed at minimum cost - \$5,000 in 1891, and with the maximum content - 45 guest rooms, a dining room and a beer parlour. New arrivals in Strathcona would probably have found the solid, substantial appearance of the hotel comforting after their journey, and its classical styling and large hipped roof lent an air of distinction to the new streetscape.

The Strathcona Hotel was declared a Registered Historical Resource in 1976.

Continue north on 103 Street to 83 Avenue, turn left.

20

FIRE HALL #1 (1910)

10322 - 83 Avenue



Fire Hall #1, n.d. (PAA B1522)

Strathcona's first fire hall, built before 1906, was a wood frame structure, and by 1909 was in need of replacement. The present building was finished in 1910 and was in continuous use until a new fire hall was opened across the street in 1954. The original fire engines were horse drawn, so the hall had to serve as a stable as well as a garage for the engines and a dormitory for the firemen. Fire prevention by-laws were passed in 1902. Strathcona had an exclusively volunteer corps of firemen. During their two-year service period, the fire hall became a second home to these men.

The architectural interest of this building is concentrated in its facade and its tower. Stone quoins and a wide cornice outline the facade, and the fire engine bays are delineated by oversized voussoirs. This use of exaggerated classical elements suggests the influence of the Richardsonian Romanesque - a

style popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A large pediment-shaped parapet displaying the name of the fire hall originally completed the facade. Standing 77 feet high, the cupola-topped tower of this fire hall was a landmark in early Strathcona. One of the tallest structures in the town, it housed the hall's alarm bell and drying racks for the fire hoses.

Originally Fire Hall #1, this building became Fire Hall #6 in 1912 as a result of Strathcona's amalgamation with Edmonton. Today it is the only surviving fire hall from this era in Edmonton, and one of a very few left in Alberta. In 1974, Fire Hall #6 was converted to house the Walterdale Playhouse Theatre, and was designated a Registered Historical Resource two years later.

Go north on lane at west side of Fire Hall #1.

21

ORANGE HALL (1903)

10335 - 84 Avenue



Members in front of Orange Hall, 1912 (CEA EA-63-3)

Loyal Orange Lodge No. 1654 was formed in 1895. From that time until the construction of Orange Hall in 1903, meetings were held in members' homes. Some of the community's leading citizens were

among the fraternity's founding membership. H.W. Nash, a Strathcona grain buyer, played host to the first meeting. Rev. Robert A. Munroe was the lodge's first grand master. R.W. Pettipiece, the editor of the *South Edmonton News*, was the first recording secretary. Robert McKernan, later the owner of the Dominion Hotel, organized several Orangemen's parades and was subsequently grand master of the lodge.

Every year on the "Glorious 12th of July" the members of the Orange Lodge would parade down Whyte Avenue in honour of William of Orange, a Protestant who became King of England in place of James II, a Catholic. The first such parade held in Strathcona was in 1895 and was composed of 60 Orangemen and a fife and drum corps. By 1904 the group's membership had grown considerably, and an impressive 2,500 Orangemen from all over Alberta participated in that year's procession. Originally a partisan group supporting the cause of Protestantism in England, today Strathcona's Lodge operates primarily as a benevolent association, raising funds for various children's charities.

Orange Hall is a wood frame structure that remains much as it was built. The land on which it stands was bought for \$150 in 1903 and the hall was built in the same year, largely by the membership. The white clapboard siding was originally painted a dark colour, and the closed-in porch is a later addition. Otherwise the hall is essentially unchanged. Inside, the hall has hardwood flooring, wainscoting, and, at one end, a stage with a podium and carved wooden arch. In 1980, because of the well-preserved interior, the hall was used as the set for a documentary on the life of Alberta women's rights activist Emily Murphy. The Orange Hall was designated a Registered Historical Resource in 1994.

Retrace your steps to 83 Avenue, turn right and go west.

22

McINTYRE MEMORIAL PARK (1989)

83 Avenue & 104 Street



McIntyre Memorial Fountain, ca. 1914 (GA NC-6-832)

McIntyre Memorial Park is named for Dr. Wilbert McIntyre, an early and respected Strathcona physician. He was born in Ontario in 1867 and came west in 1891. McIntyre returned to Ontario to advance his education, but the west must have made an impression on him. In 1902, after completing his medical degree at the University of Toronto, he came back, and settled in Strathcona. Involvement in local politics as Secretary-Treasurer of the Liberal party eventually led to him run in a federal by-election. He emerged victorious, and in 1906 went to Ottawa as the representative for Strathcona, a constituency reaching south to Innisfail and east to Lloydminster. McIntyre married his childhood sweetheart in early

1908 and was re-elected to the House of Commons that same year. The future looked promising, but it all came to a sudden end when he died after a short illness in 1909 at the age of 42.

Public subscription paid for the erection of the original McIntyre fountain in 1913. It was made of bronze, and featured three gas lamps, three drinking fountains for people, two for dogs and one for horses. Located prominently in the centre of 104 Street just north of the intersection with 83 Avenue, the fountain was hit by a number of vehicles over the years, but in 1952 it was completely knocked over when struck by a car. The fountain was not replaced, but another memorial to Dr. McIntyre was erected in Queen Elizabeth Park. The current fountain is a replica of the original monument, painstakingly re-created by local craftsmen and funded by donations to the Old Strathcona Foundation. It was unveiled in 1991.

Also in McIntyre Memorial Park is a replica of Strathcona's bandstand. The original had a wandering existence. Historic photographs show it in a variety of locations between 102 and 103 Streets either just north or just south of Whyte Avenue. It was rebuilt here by the Old Strathcona Foundation in 1980 according to plans drawn up by architect Larrie Taylor, with funding provided by the Strathcona Rotary Club.

Strathcona's first city hall stood in the south-west corner of McIntyre Memorial Park. It was a two-storey brick building with classical details. After Strathcona merged with Edmonton in 1912, it became city offices. In 1948, the building was converted for use as the City Boys Home, a function it served until 1966 or '67, when it was demolished. For several years the land was a parking lot, but plans to restore the fountain and create a park were already being made by the late 1970s. McIntyre Memorial Park was officially named in 1989, and has become a focal point in the area, especially during the annual Fringe Theatre Festival.

Cross 104 Street and go west on 83 Avenue.

23

STRATHCONA TELEPHONE EXCHANGE (1908)

10437 - 83 Avenue



Strathcona Telephone Exchange, 1908 (PAA B4413)

The Edmonton District Telephone Company network, of which Strathcona was originally a part, was founded in 1885 by Alex Taylor, Edmonton's first telegraph operator. Telephone service may have been available in the Strathcona area as early as 1889 when Robert McKernan and John Walter requested lines be strung from Edmonton to their homes on the south side. The first documented connection was not made until 1891, however, when the Calgary and Edmonton Railway station (Site 5) received a phone. By 1895 there were seven phones in Strathcona and in 1901 there were 25. At that time 24-hour telephone service became available to Edmonton subscribers, but Strathcona remained on the old 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. schedule for several more years.

Late 1904 saw the EDTC purchased by the City of Edmonton and the status of Strathcona's phones, which lay outside the city's boundaries, came into question. The solution of giving Edmonton a franchise to serve Strathcona essentially avoided the

problem, but it did allow time for more satisfactory arrangements to be made. In 1905 Alberta became a province and in 1906 a provincial publicly owned telephone company was created. This company bought Strathcona's existing telephone system from the city of Edmonton in 1908 for \$1,000, and promptly replaced it with an up-to-date system. A new exchange building was thrown up in less than four months to house the new machinery.

Being a government building, it was only natural that the Strathcona telephone exchange be designed by the government architect. In this case that architect happened to be A.M. Jeffers, designer of Alberta's Legislature Buildings. The ground floor and basement of Jeffers' exchange were originally used for equipment and offices, while the second, or top floor provided accommodation for the telephone operator. Later, the living space was converted to house the long distance service when it was transferred to Strathcona from the Legislature in 1911. After four years in Strathcona, the provincial government sold its interest back to Edmonton when the two cities amalgamated in 1912.

Over the years, the Strathcona telephone exchange has seen many changes. Originally a two storey brick building with minimal classical detailing - quoins, a cornice, stone lintels and sills - the exchange was altered first in 1926 and again in 1948. Today it is still possible to see the rear of the original structure, but the front has been removed, and the bulk of the building absorbed by the later exchange. In 1987, Edmonton Telephones opened a Historical Information Centre in this building. Some of the walls of Strathcona's first automatic telephone exchange can be seen in the interior of this public museum, now known as the Telephone Historical Centre.

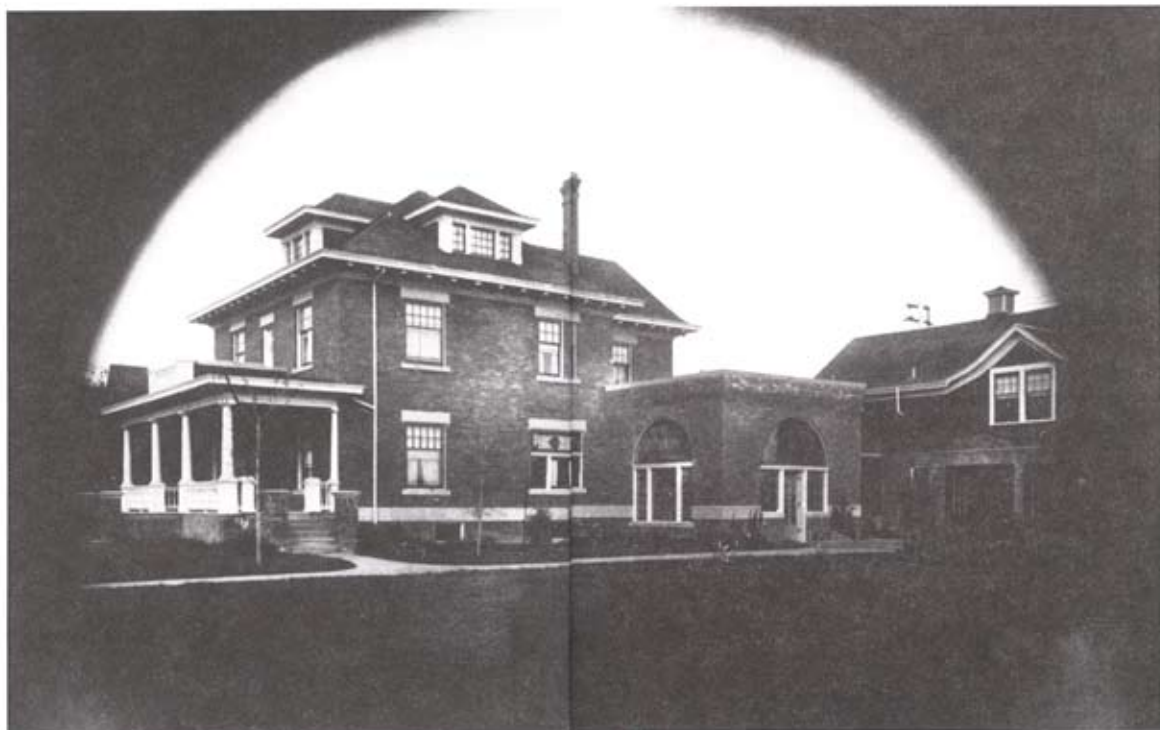
This site marks the end of the walking tour.

STRATHCONA HISTORICAL DRIVING TOUR

Since the commercial and civic centre of Old Strathcona is situated on or near Whyte Avenue and is covered in the walking tour, the driving portion of the tour concentrates on the outlying residential and industrial areas. If you follow the driving tour route only, it would be wise to read the walking tour first, as it includes historical details that will add to the driving tour commentary.

City of Strathcona





Bard Residence, ca. 1912 (CEA EA-474-53)

24

BARD RESIDENCE (1912)

10544 - 84 Avenue

After having resided in Strathcona for only five years, Delmar Bard built what the local press called one of the city's finest homes. He had begun his career in Strathcona in 1907 as an Indian Agent for the provincial government. One did not become wealthy as a civil servant, but Delmar Bard had several investments that enabled him to live in grand style. He owned a butcher shop on Whyte Avenue, and with the income from this business and his government post, Bard was able to invest in various real estate ventures that proved to be very successful.

Bard's house was designed by the Keith Brothers and built at a cost of \$6,500. The home is an archetypal example of the residences of the wealthy in Strathcona. Built of brick, with stone details and a full width porch with a balcony above, the house was crowned with a pyramidal roof and bracketed bellcast eaves. The styling is typical of classical revival designs, but there are several features which distinguish this house from Strathcona's other large brick homes. Attached to the house itself is a spacious flat-roofed conservatory with large windows intended to catch the eastern sun. Located at the back of the lot is a large carriage house with second floor living quarters which has been

converted to a garage. Of particular interest was the turntable Bard installed in the driveway - much like those found in railroad roundhouses - which could rotate a vehicle 180° and eliminated the worry of backing onto the street. The Bard Residence was designated a Registered Historical Resource in 1981, and was owned and occupied by descendants of Delmar Bard until the 1990s. In 2001, the Bard Residence was designated a Provincial Historical Resource.

Drive to the end of the block. The next site is on the north-west corner of 84 Avenue and 106 Street.

25

DAVIES RESIDENCE (1909)

10606 - 84 Avenue



Davies Residence, Oct. 2000 (ACD 00-R149-3)

Arthur Davies came to Strathcona in 1895. Like many other early entrepreneurs, he owned and operated a business - in this case a grocery store. Similarly as well, a large part of his financial success was due to the real estate investments he made. Davies was very community-minded and was involved in local politics and service groups. He was

on the city council for three years and was twice mayor, first in 1905 and again in 1911. During his first term, Strathcona's first sewage and water systems were installed, and in his second term he played an important role in Strathcona's amalgamation with Edmonton.

In 1909 Arthur Davies built himself a brick house befitting a man of his station in the community. It is a large house in the Queen Anne Style embellished with classical details. Sandstone string courses and lintels accent the body of the house built in brick. A wooden porch with Tuscan columns supporting a second-storey balcony adorns the front of the house, and wooden brackets decorate the underside of the roof's wide bellcast eaves. Twin two-storey bow windows - a typical Queen Anne feature which both increases floor space and admits more light - are found on the east face of the house. A modern addition has been made to the rear of the house, which now serves as a kindergarten.

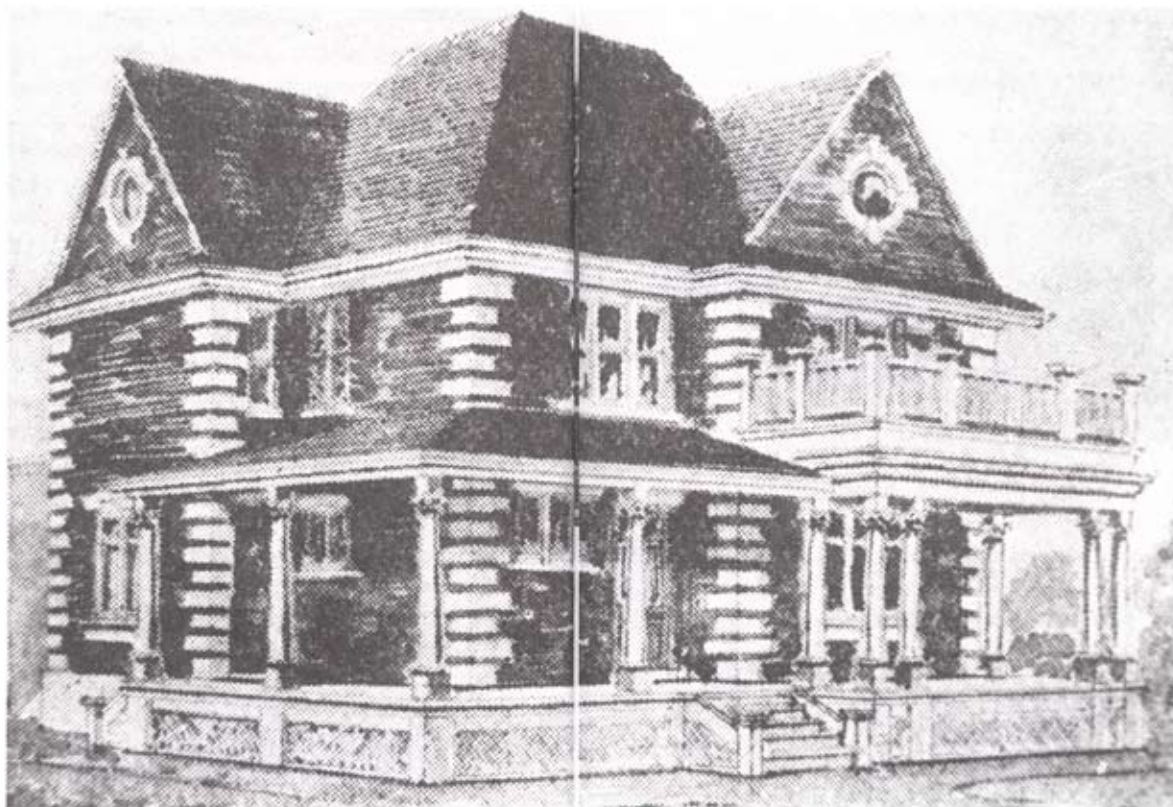
Turn right on 106 Street, drive north to Saskatchewan Drive and turn right. Drive east about one block.

26

DUGGAN RESIDENCE (1907)

10515 Saskatchewan Drive

John Joseph Duggan shares with Arthur Davies (Site 25) the distinction of having been elected mayor of Strathcona for more than one term. He arrived in Strathcona in 1891, and through various enterprises - including managing the town's first lumber yard, establishing its first rail yard, speculating in real estate and running several farms - was able to erect this substantial house by 1907 at the then considerable cost of \$8,000. The esteem with which Duggan was regarded by the rest of the community was reflected in the fact that he served as mayor of Strathcona for five years: in 1902 and 1903, and from 1908 to 1910.



Sketch of Duggan Residence, ca. 1908 (CEA EA-267-102)

Even in 1907, Saskatchewan Drive was a prestigious address. The elite of Strathcona chose Saskatchewan Avenue, as it was then known, as the site for their homes. John Gainer, proprietor of Gainer Meats and the Gainer Block; J. Douglas of Douglas Brothers and the Douglas Block; R.R. Buchanan, manager of the Bank of Commerce; J. Lavell, a lawyer; and S.Q. O'Brien, a successful lumber merchant, were among Duggan's neighbours over the years.

In keeping with the status of the area, Duggan built his large house of brick. The style he chose was Queen Anne with restrained classical detailing, such

as the contrasting sandstone sill, quoins, and keystones present in the two round attic storey windows. The wooden front porch features Doric columns that support a verandah roof and balcony. A tall, hipped roof with two projecting gables completes the composition.

J.J. Duggan lived in this house until 1931. During WWII it was converted to a duplex, but was restored to its original condition in 1978 by the Alberta Association of Architects. In 1982 the J.J. Duggan Residence was designated a Provincial Historical Resource.

Continue east on Saskatchewan Drive.

27

O'BRIEN RESIDENCE (1918)

10311 Saskatchewan Drive



O'Brien Residence, Oct. 2000 (ACD 00-R149-9)

When S.Q. O'Brien built a wooden bungalow on Saskatchewan Drive, he was creating a precedent. Brick had previously been the material of choice, and classically inspired style the rule for the homes of Strathcona's most prominent citizens. O'Brien's choice reflected a trend away from brick for residential construction, due undoubtedly to his involvement in the lumber trade.

For the first few years after he arrived in Strathcona in the late 1890s, S.Q. O'Brien worked as a teacher. In 1901, however, he established a lumberyard at 103 Street and 80 Avenue. By 1902 he had built an office, fenced the yard, and had sufficient business in Strathcona to warrant the full time employment of a team for deliveries. In 1918 O'Brien built his home on Saskatchewan Drive, but he did not long enjoy it, since he left Strathcona under a cloud in 1921, having been accused of attempting to corner the lumber market.

Bungalows became popular in North America between 1900 and 1920. Typically, such houses had a large roof with the gable at the side rather than the front of the house, creating a large verandah, as seen in the O'Brien House. The second floor shed roof dormer windows are also common to this style. In contrast to the formal classical revival styles, the

"California Bungalow" used rustic finishes such as shingles, random rubble masonry and art glass windows to create an informal effect.

The O'Brien Residence was unusual as both a wood frame house among brick buildings and as an early example of the Bungalow style in Edmonton. Within a few years, however, this type of house began to appear in neighbourhoods throughout the city. In 1982, the O'Brien Residence was designated a Registered Historical Resource.

Drive one block east, turn right (south) on 102 Street. The next site is located on the corner of 102 Street and Saskatchewan Drive.

28

RITCHIE MILL (1893)

10170 Saskatchewan Drive



The Ritchie Mill, ca. 1908 (CEA EA-267-103)

Robert Ritchie arrived in Strathcona from Ontario early in 1892. Within a year, he had built and began operating a flour mill on this site near the end of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway line. Business was good, and Ritchie added elevators to his mill in 1895

and 1902 to handle the increasing volume of grain being processed. In addition to his business interests, Ritchie was very active in local politics. He served as an alderman, a school trustee, a justice of peace, and in 1906 was elected mayor of Strathcona. In 1912 Ritchie sold the mill to the Northwest Mill and Feed Company, which operated it as a flourmill until 1948.

The original mill was three storeys high and built of brick and stone. The majority of the later additions were built of wood with metal siding. There was no architect for the Ritchie Mill. Rather, it is an industrial design that developed from the function of the building. Nevertheless, the form of the structure leaves a pleasing aesthetic impression, with its large, simple masses and unbroken surfaces.

The Ritchie Mill was one of the first mills in western Canada to be equipped with steam powered steel rollers. These increased both the range of flours which could be milled, and the quantity which could be produced. Today the mill is one of a few nineteenth century industrial buildings left in Alberta, one of even fewer agricultural buildings left in an urban setting. It is also the oldest extant flour mill in Alberta and possibly the earliest such building of its kind in Canada. The Ritchie Mill has been restored by the Old Strathcona Foundation, and was designated a Provincial Historical Resource in 1979.

Drive south on 102 Street; turn left on 87 Avenue. Go east to 99 Street and turn right. Turn right again at 86 Avenue and go west.

29

SHEPPARD RESIDENCE (1911)

9945 - 86 Avenue



Sheppard Residence, Oct. 2000 (ACD 00-R149-15)

The early Canadian west was full of opportunities for those who knew how to take advantage of them. William Henry Sheppard was such a person. Having left his home in Ontario at the age of fifteen, Sheppard worked first on the railroads, then as a contractor, and finally as a hotelier before arriving in Strathcona in 1894. Soon afterwards he opened the Hotel Raymond, which was considered not only one of the best hotels in Strathcona, but in all of western Canada. In 1896, Sheppard expanded his operations by buying the Strathcona Hotel, and his success in the hospitality business enabled him to branch out into other areas, including mining, brewing and real estate.

Carrying his business acumen into the political arena, Sheppard served on Strathcona's Town Council in 1899, 1901, 1902, 1904, 1908, and 1909. In addition, he ran for and was elected to the position of mayor of Strathcona in 1906. During his term in that office, Sheppard was instrumental in changing Strathcona's status from that of a town to a city. Later, he served on the committee that considered the question of amalgamation with Edmonton.

When William Sheppard built his 86 Avenue home in 1911, he had long been established as one of Strathcona's leading citizens. This large, dignified residence was designed to reflect that status. Like many other large houses of the period, it is built of brick in a classical revival style. An interesting feature that sets this house apart is the semicircular bow of the front porch. The columns of this porch support a large second floor balcony, and a widow's walk surmounts the pyramidal roof. Wide bracketed bellcast eaves; a pair of gabled dormers; stone lintels and sills on the windows; brick quoins; and a semicircular window in the west gable, complete the attractive symmetrical design of the Sheppard Residence. The house has been restored in recent years and was designated a Provincial Historical Resource in 1981.

Continue west on 86 Avenue. Turn left and go south on 101 Street. Stop opposite the church for the best view.

30

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH (1913)

10037 - 84 Avenue

After a delay of six years, Holy Trinity Anglican Church was officially opened, in October 1913, by the Bishop of Calgary. This building was begun in 1906 as a replacement for a wood frame church constructed in 1893. Economic circumstances brought the project to a halt in 1907, just after the basement had been dug. A roof was erected over this as an interim measure, and services were held in this temporary building from 1901 to 1912, when construction was resumed.

Like the Knox Church on 104 Street, Holy Trinity Anglican Church is modelled on Gothic English country churches. The clinker brick exterior finish of the church heightens the rustic feeling of the design. Pointed arches, buttresses and crenellated parapets



Holy Trinity Anglican Church, n.d. (PAA B3513)

are among the few details which distinguish this as a Gothic Revival Style church, a design which was the one most often employed in Anglican Church architecture in the province. The popularity of the Gothic Revival Style for Anglican church design was largely due to the fact that the style was identified in the nineteenth century by the Church of England as the one which best suited its religious teachings. Holy Trinity Anglican Church was designated a Provincial Historical Resource in 1983.

Drive three blocks south on 101 Street and turn right on 81 Avenue.



81 Avenue between 101 and 102 Streets, Oct. 2000 (ACD 00-R149-27)

31 81 AVENUE BETWEEN 101 AND 102 STREETS

The Strathcona historical walking and driving tours have given details of many large public and private buildings associated with important people, government bodies and commercial enterprises. This last section of the tour illustrates the fact that Strathcona's development also depended on the efforts of a large number of people whose names never appeared in the papers or in any history books.

The two small houses at 10107 - 81 Avenue and 10111 - 81 Avenue were built in the first decade of this century and were occupied by persons with such varied occupations as electrician, musician, and blacksmith. Originally these homes would have had only a few rooms, but as the need arose, additional space was added in the form of shed-roofed lean-tos at the back of the building. There were never more than a few houses on this street - a lumber yard occupied the greater part of the block on the south

side of the street, and the north side was largely undeveloped. The majority of the older shops and warehouses remaining on this block were built in the early 1940s, but the wood frame building at 10139-81 Avenue is possibly a vestige of the lumber yard, and may date from before the turn of the century.

It was not unusual for prairie towns to have sharply defined residential, commercial and industrial areas. Typically, railroad tracks divided the town half, with industrial area located on the leeward side, so that smoke and fumes would not blow over the residential areas. In Strathcona this is not the case, as all types of development are found on both sides of the tracks. Many factors contributed to this arrangement including geography, politics, and patterns of investment. Strathcona was a city that offered many opportunities, and some were able to reap large profits from its rapid growth. Many more did not "make it big", but, then as now, settled in Strathcona for its unique ambience.

This site marks the end of the driving tour.

Glossary

bay window An angular or curved projection of an exterior wall that contains windows.

Chinoiserie Western imitations or evocations of Chinese art, especially popular during the Victorian era.

corbelling A projection or series of stepped projections in masonry or brick built out from a wall to support the eaves of a roof or some other feature.

cornice Any projecting decorative moulding along the top of a building, wall or arch.

façade The front or main face of a building.

frieze The decorative band along the upper part of a wall, immediately below the cornice.

jerkinhead roof A roof form in which the top of the end of a gable is cut off by a secondary slope forming a hip.

oculus A circular opening or window in a wall or at the apex of a dome.

Palladian window A three-sectioned window; the centre section is round arched, and the slightly shorter and narrower side windows are flat headed.

pinnacle A steep pyramidally or conically shaped decoration crowning spires, buttresses, the angle of parapets, etc.

quoins Stones at the corners of a building usually employed as decorations or for reinforcing the edge of the wall.

tongue and groove siding Exterior finish consisting of boards that fit together by means of interlocking projections and indentations.

transom window The upper part of a window divided from the lower by a transom, or horizontal bar of wood or stone.

tudor arch A flattened gothic or pointed arch.

wainscoting Wood panelling on the walls of a room, often only on the lower part of the wall.

The Old Strathcona Foundation

The Old Strathcona Foundation is a registered charitable non-profit organization that was established in 1974 to administer the Old Strathcona Heritage Area. It had its beginnings in 1972 when the "Strathcona Historical Group" presented a proposal and recommendations for the preservation and rejuvenation of Strathcona to the Edmonton City Council. This proposal was accepted in 1973, putting an end to plans for a freeway through the area. In 1976, an agreement between the Old Strathcona Foundation, the City of Edmonton and Heritage Canada was signed. Since then, many of the storefronts in Old Strathcona have been successfully restored through the sponsorship of the Old Strathcona Foundation and funding from Employment and Immigration Canada (Section 38) and the owners. Additional restoration funding and design advice focussing on Strathcona's designated buildings was obtained from Alberta Community Development and the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation. The City of Edmonton, in conjunction with the Old Strathcona Foundation, planned and completed the upgrading of

sidewalks, installation of lamps, benches, waste receptacles, banners, bicycle racks and poster display posts. To further enhance the historic area, trees were planted along the sidewalks and boulevards of Strathcona.

The Old Strathcona Foundation invites you to come to Strathcona and visit the Farmer's Market, the Princess Theatre, the Library, McIntyre Memorial Park, and all the other sites that make Strathcona a vibrant, historically-connected place. Come and participate in the Walking Tours, the Canada Day Silly Summer Parade, the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and other special events sponsored by the Old Strathcona Foundation.



Historical Tour Series

Historical Walking and Driving Tours
are available for the following communities
and areas:

Bellevue and Hillcrest, 2nd Edition
Blairmore, 2nd Edition
Calgary (Atlantic Avenue, Inglewood)
Calgary (Inglewood & Mount Royal)
Calgary (Mission & Cliff Bungalow)
Calgary (Stephen Avenue)
East Central Alberta (Ukrainian
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Edmonton (Downtown), 2nd Edition
Edmonton (The Highlands)
Edmonton (Oliver)
Edmonton (Strathcona), 2nd Edition
Fort Macleod
Grande Prairie
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Markerville, 2nd Edition
Medicine Hat
North Red Deer
Red Deer, 2nd Edition
Strathcona, 2nd Edition
Turner Valley, 2nd Edition

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Strathcona Hotel, C&E Station, 1891 (CEA EA-10-1291)





Alberta
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT