

Letter from Calgary Heritage Authority: Reader Rock Garden



December 21, 2016

Dear Members of Planning & Urban Development:

Re: Designation of Reader Rock Garden as a Municipal Historic Resource

The Calgary Heritage Authority (CHA), in accordance with its role to advise Council and Administration on heritage matters in the City of Calgary, would like to take this opportunity to support the designation of Reader Rock Garden located in Manchester Industrial as a Municipal Historic Resource.

Reader Rock Garden is listed on the CHA *Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources* as a City Wide Historic Resource.

Reader Rock Garden is valued for its connection to William Roland Reader who was Calgary's Parks Superintendent from 1913 to 1942 and is considered Calgary's most influential Parks Superintendent. The development of civic recreational spaces and beautification of streetscapes are key features of his legacy. Reader lined streets with trees, expanded the area of city parks, and designed playgrounds, parks, golf courses and tennis courts. He was also a founding member of the Calgary Vacant Lots Garden Club and the Calgary Horticultural Society. Reader's efforts did much to educate Calgarians about contemporary gardening principles and he wrote many articles encouraging citizens to beautify their surroundings. Through his dedication, he turned a nearly treeless Calgary into what became known as the "garden city of the west."

Thank-you for your thoughtful consideration on this matter, should you or your staff require more information please contact our executive director, Josh Traptow, at josh@calgaryheritageauthority.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. Heard".

Pam Heard
Chair, Calgary Heritage Authority



CALGARY HERITAGE AUTHORITY, P.O. Box 2100, STN. M, #8073, CALGARY, AB T2P 2M5
INFO@CALGARYHERITAGEAUTHORITY.COM | WWW.CALGARYHERITAGEAUTHORITY.COM