



Wednesday, June 8, 2016

The following is an historical chronology of our heritage home at 150 Crescent Road N.W., Calgary.

A Department of the Interior topographical survey map dated Ottawa, April 9<sup>th</sup> 1895 shows Philip S. Van Cortlandt as the quarter section owner that our house is built on. The City property assessment records states that our residence was taxed in 1910. An obituary classified newspaper ad dated April 27, 1995 stated that Jean Leslie (Paterson) Stewart was born to a pioneer Canadian family on March 23, 1907 at her parents' home, 150 Crescent Road in Calgary, Alberta. When was the Tudor-style brick and sandstone house pictured in this 1900's photograph built?



Our Transfer of Land document dated September 3, 1907 states that Archibald John McArthur sold the lots, including all buildings and other improvements to Laura Eshleman Paterson. It is believed that the capital received went to help finance the 1907 McArthur Center Street bridge (original) construction.

Over the years our heritage home underwent multiple renovations and repairs before it was purchased by Margaret and Joe Hodorek on October 1, 1991. The creaky floors had several layers of linoleum, plus an illegal secondary suite. Our dream home became a big restoration project. Our main objective was to retain its brick and sandstone Tudor style. After carefully removing and saving the original sandstone and brick our stonemason and master brick layer recommended that we get new materials. Pasqualie got large sandstone boulders dumped on the front lawn and disappeared into a cloud of sandstone dust cutting new coins, sills and headers. He would get slowed down when his tools got dull and he had to fly them to Germany for sharpening. Please witness Pasqualie at work in the enclosed picture.



Johnny, the Master Bricklayer insisted that we have undersized brick made to retain the original look. We did.

The City of Calgary Planning and Building Department used the following picture of our restored heritage home on the cover page of its Crescent Heights Area Redevelopment Plan, Residential Section.



The good news is that participants on the annual Crescent Heights historical walk have a circa 1906 heritage home to enjoy. The bad news is that the most historic 1907 A. J. McArthur residence shown below was demolished in 1960.



A second residential casualty was 102 Crescent Road N.W., The Buena Vista house, as it was known, was destroyed by fire in 1999: picture attached.



Crescent Road N.W. is a city treasure. Its heritage homes are disappearing. Can the Calgary Heritage Authority slow down the loss of its charm?

Joe Hodorek

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