



November 9, 2022

Infrastructure and Planning Committee

City of Calgary

PO Box 2100 Stn M
Calgary AB, T2P 2M5

Re: Designation of the Athlone Building as a Municipal Historic Resource

Dear Members of Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

Heritage Calgary, 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 the Athlone Building, located in the historic Currie Barracks, as a Municipal Historic Resource.



The Athlone Building is listed on the Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources as a City Wide Historic Resource. It was built in 1936 to serve as the main Administration building for the Currie Barracks and is one of the first permanent military structures that were constructed at the Canadian Forces Base Calgary. The construction of Currie Barracks was an important turning point in the history of Canadian military infrastructure in the interwar years when Canada was experiencing the Great Depression.

As the Administration Headquarters, the Athlone Building was the seat of power for the base providing offices for the Base Commander, Regimental Commander, drill instructors, and clerical staff from 1936 until 1997. It was the original building of the Parade Square precinct, and the front door for the day-to-day operations and ceremonial life of Currie Barracks. The building was also designed to include ample space for larger meetings and events, with sizeable lecture rooms housed in each pavilion and a spacious, vaulted-roofed assembly hall.

Although decommissioned from its function as the administrative hub for Currie Barracks, today the Athlone Building has been actively integrated into Clear Water Academy and continues to form a vital part of the Currie Barracks community.

Heritage Calgary supports designation of this important community landmark and thanks you for your thoughtful consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Josh Traptow
Chief Executive Officer
Heritage Calgary



Cynthia Klaassen
Heritage Resources Program Manager
Heritage Calgary



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Re: Designation of the Barron Building as a Municipal Historic Resource

Dear Members of Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

Heritage Calgary, 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 the Barron Building as a Municipal Historic Resource.



Barron Building, located at 610 8 AV SW
entertainment and cultural venues.

Located in Calgary's downtown core, the Barron Building first opened for business in 1951 and is one of the best examples of the Art Moderne style in Calgary. Developer Jacob Barron was a Calgary lawyer, impresario and leader in the Jewish community. With the demand for corporate office space following the Leduc oil strike in 1947, Barron built this as Calgary's first major office building, which helped to establish the city as the headquarters of the Alberta's oil and gas sector.

Barron's great passion was the theatre, and as such this building's original design also included a theatre, which made it a valued part of the city's entertainment district. The finishing touch of Barron's vision for this building was a fully glazed rooftop penthouse, surrounded by a rooftop garden, designed with a distinct west-coast, mid-century vibe.

The Barron building is a well known landmark in Calgary because of its unique architecture and history as one of Calgary's foremost

Heritage Calgary regrets the loss of the marquee, the theatre, and the mid-century theatre lobby that made this building unique. After many years of speculation under various owners, we are

pleased that this building will be adaptively re-used for commercial and residential, ensuring its integration into the future of this part of the historic 8th Avenue commercial corridor. The current renovation and revitalization demonstrate the owner's ongoing investment into Calgary's downtown core and the spirit of optimism for this area's future.

Heritage Calgary supports designation of this important community landmark, which includes regulation of the existing materials and original fenestration pattern.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Josh Traptow
Chief Executive Officer
Heritage Calgary



Interior shot of the Uptown Theatre in August 1951, shortly after it opened.



Cynthia Klaassen
Heritage Resources Program Manager
Heritage Calgary



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Re: Designation of the Gray Residence, Inglewood as a Municipal Historic Resource

Dear Members of Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

Heritage Calgary, 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 the Gray Residence, located in the historic community of Inglewood, as a Municipal Historic Resource.

The Gray Residence, Inglewood is listed on the Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources as a Community Historic Resource. This Residence, built in 1911, represents the pre World War 1 phase of development of the Inglewood community, Calgary's earliest neighbourhood. The Gray Residence survives as a rare example of the Edwardian Cottage Bungalows that once populated this area, and other early communities in Calgary.



The Gray Residence represents the early working-class origins of the area, and designation will ensure that this modest bungalow will continue to tell the story of this historic community's history.

Heritage Calgary supports designation of this important community resources and thanks you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Josh Traptow'.

Josh Traptow
Chief Executive Officer
Heritage Calgary

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Cynthia Klaassen'.

Cynthia Klaassen
Heritage Resources Program Manager
Heritage Calgary



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Re: Designation of the McAdam Residence as a Municipal Historic Resource

Dear Members of Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

Heritage Calgary, 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 the McAdam Residence, located in the community of Scarboro, as a Municipal Historic Resource.



The McAdam Residence is listed on the Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources as a Community Historic Resource. This Residence, built in 1926, is an excellent example of the type of housing that established the pastoral character of the street of this suburb, designed by John Charles Olmsted in 1909. This modest bungalow is accentuated with Tudor half-timber detail, and a prominently arched inset front entrance. Located on a curvilinear street with a landscaped boulevard, it is set back on an irregularly

shaped and landscaped lot and was one of the first residences to be constructed on this block

Heritage Calgary supports designation of this important community resource and thanks you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Josh Traptow'.

Josh Traptow

Chief Executive Officer
Heritage Calgary

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Cynthia Klaassen'.

Cynthia Klaassen

Heritage Resources Program Manager
Heritage Calgary



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Re: Designation of Reliance (Armour) Block

Dear Members of Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

Heritage Calgary, 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 the Reliance (Armour) Block, located in the Bridgeland/Riverside Community, as a Municipal Historic Resource.

The Reliance (Armour) Block, often referred to as Budd's Office Furniture, is one of the oldest mixed-use buildings in the area, and serves to symbolize the historical, vibrant, high-street character and importance of Fourth Street NE, which runs north from the Bow River.



Construction of the building began in 1909 for Thomas Wiggins, a local grocer. The building originated as a small two-storey structure to house his grocery business, with his residential quarters above. In 1910 it was extended south to form the two-storey Reliance Block, providing increased space for Wiggins, and two additional storefronts for a hardware store and meat market with apartments above. In 1911 a third storey was added, increasing its residential accommodations. The three-storey extension Armour Block was added in 1912 with early

tenants being the Dominion Bank and a billiard hall. From 1915, until at least the Second World War, a basement space known as 'Wiggins Hall' was a community/dance hall.

Originally the main route to Edmonton, Fourth Street's commercial importance was solidified in 1911 when it became a streetcar route. The Reliance (Armour) Block contributed to the retail street wall, serving local residents' regular needs, while other small retailers, plus a substantial department store (Slingsbys) created a retail corridor. While the retail importance of the area gradually faded, the building continued to function as home of the Riverside Department Store (1950-77).

The upper floors of the building were developed as residential quarters for recent immigrants and other citizens in response to the acute housing shortage which occurred during the 1909-13 boom. Notably, there were a large number of Jewish residents that called the building home, and in 1915 the basement hall inaugurated the first 'House of Israel' congregation, service and celebration. The diversity of the building's residents was illustrative of the community's traditional multi-ethnic, working-class character.

The Reliance (Armour) Block is a rare example of a substantial, historic mixed-use building in the Bridgeland/Riverside community that has been defined by its multiple development phases. Designation of this historic structure will ensure that it continues to survive as a contributing part of the Bridgeland/Riverside community.

Sincerely,



Josh Traptow
Chief Executive Officer
Heritage Calgary



Cynthia Klaassen
Heritage Resources Program Manager
Heritage Calgary