

BYLAW NUMBER 34M2015

**BEING A BYLAW OF THE CITY OF CALGARY
TO DESIGNATE THE BATTALION NUMBERS AS
A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE**

WHEREAS the *Historical Resources Act*, R.S.A. 2000 c. H-9, as amended (the “*Act*”) permits the Council of The City of Calgary to designate real property as a Municipal Historic Resource whose preservation the Council considers to be in the public interest because of their heritage value;

AND WHEREAS the Owner(s) of the Battalion Numbers has been given sixty (60) days written notice of the intention to pass this Bylaw in accordance with the *Act*;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALGARY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

SHORT TITLE

1. This Bylaw may be cited as “City of Calgary Bylaw to Designate the Battalion Numbers as a Municipal Historic Resource”.

BUILDING AND LAND DESIGNATED AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE

2. The Battalion Numbers comprises:
 - a) 39199.27 square-meters (9.69 acres) of land; and
 - b) Is located at 3020 Signal Hill DR SW, and legally described as Plan 9011331; Block 1; Lot 7MR, as shown on attached Schedule “A”.
3. The Battalion Numbers is designated as a Municipal Historic Resource as defined in the *Act*.
4. The heritage value of the Battalion Numbers is described in the attached Schedule “B”.
5. The specific elements of the Battalion Numbers possessing heritage value are identified as the “character defining elements” in the attached Schedule “B”. Those specific elements identified as “character defining elements” in the attached Schedule “B” are known as the Regulated Portions (“Regulated Portions”).

PERMITTED REPAIRS AND REHABILITATION

6. a) The Regulated Portions of the Battalion Numbers shall not be removed, destroyed, disturbed, altered, rehabilitated, repaired or otherwise permanently changed, other than routine preservation and maintenance work, without prior written approval from the City of Calgary Council, or the heritage planner appointed by the City of Calgary Council as the Approving Authority for the purposes of administration of Section 26 of the *Act*. Any alteration, rehabilitation, repair or change to the Regulated Portions must be in accordance with the terms of the Parks Canada 2010 publication Standards and

Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, (*Standards and Guidelines*”), as referenced and summarized in the attached Schedule “C”.

- b) All portions of the Battalion Numbers which are not specifically described or identified as a Regulated Portion are hereby known as the Non-Regulated Portions (“Non-Regulated Portions”). The Non-Regulated Portions are not subject to the *Standards and Guidelines* and may be rehabilitated, altered or repaired, provided that such rehabilitation, alteration or repair does not negatively impact the Regulated Portions, and that all the other permits required to do such work have been obtained.

COMPENSATION

- 7. No compensation pursuant to Section 28 of the Act is owing.

EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

- 8. Any employees of The City of Calgary who exercise land use and heritage planning powers and duties are hereby authorized to execute such documents as may be necessary to give effect to this Bylaw.

SCHEDULES

- 9. The schedules to this Bylaw form a part of it.
- 10. This Bylaw comes into force on the date it is passed.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2015.

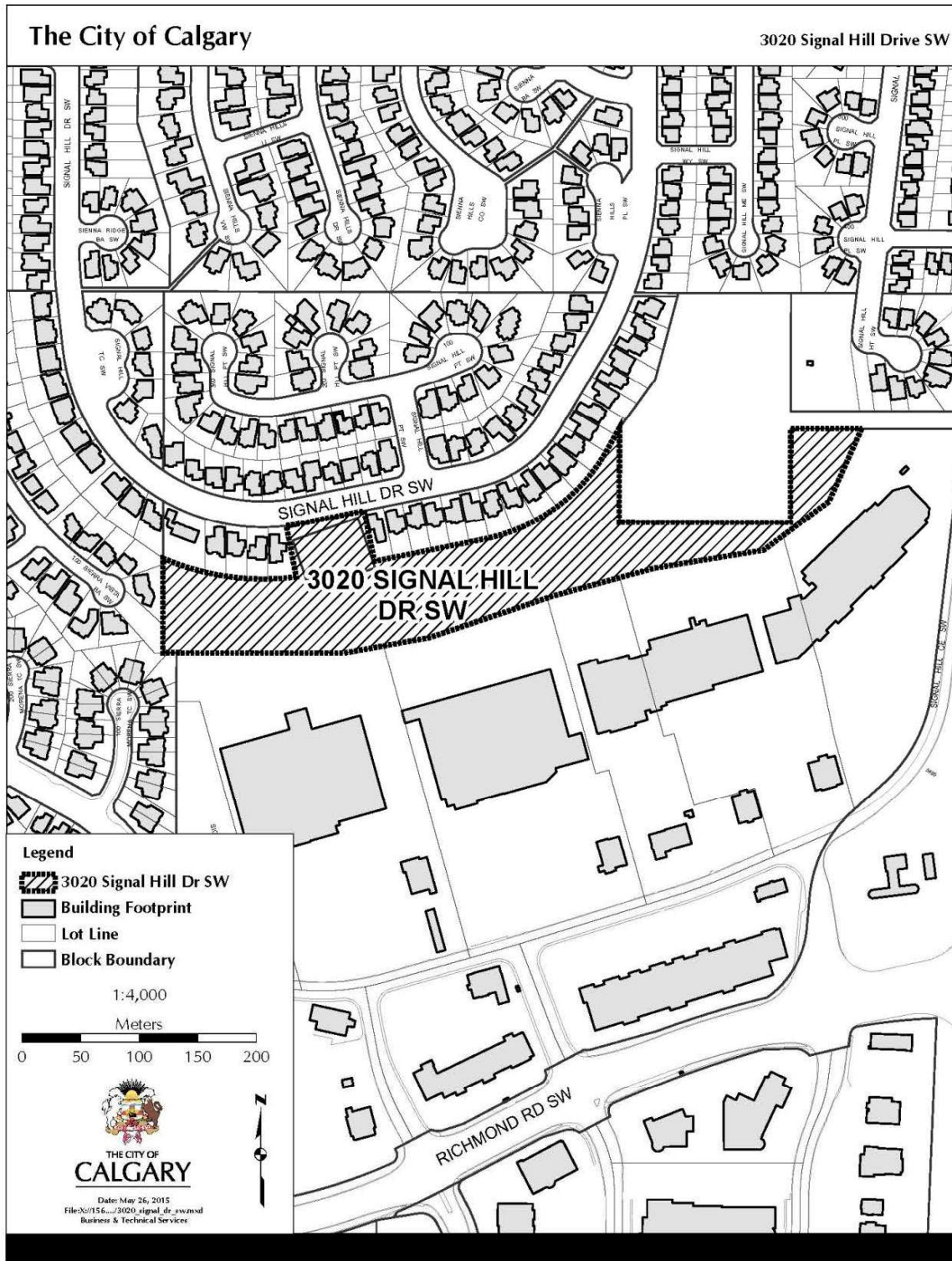
READ A SECOND TIME THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2015.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2015.

MAYOR
SIGNED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2015.

CITY CLERK
SIGNED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2015.

SCHEDULE "A" TO THE BYLAW TO DESIGNATE THE BATTALION NUMBERS AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE



PROPOSED

SCHEDULE “B” TO THE BYLAW TO DESIGNATE GARDEN CRESCENT AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE

Description

The Battalion Numbers site comprises a series of white-painted fieldstones arranged in the formation of the numerals 113, 51, 151 and 137. Originally placed in 1915-16, the stones are situated on a 3.9-hectare parcel on the south-facing slope of Signal Hill, in southwest Calgary. Each serif-style numeral measures up to 36.5 meters in length and 3.7 meters in width. The numbers provide the focal point of Battalion Park, dedicated in 1991.

Heritage Value

The Battalion Numbers have heritage value as symbols of Calgary's role as home to the second largest military training centre in Canada during the First World War. In 1905 Calgary became the headquarters for Military District No.13. Summer training camps for Alberta's militia cavalry were first held on Colonel Walker's estate in the Inglewood district, and moved in 1911 to a southwest Calgary site known as Reservoir Park. Shortly after the First World War began in 1914, the Canadian militia leased a nearby parcel of land from the Tsuu T'ina Nation and established a larger site called Sarcee Camp. This tented city, complete with wooden administrative buildings and electric, water and streetcar service, was Alberta's only training camp during the war.

The Battalion Numbers have event value due to their association with World War I, which had a profound social and cultural impact on Calgary, and they have activity value associated with the training of more than 45,000 Canadian Expeditionary Force personnel at Sarcee Camp. The first units arrived from across Alberta in May 1915, including the 51st Infantry Battalion, recruited in Edmonton. Among other units commemorated in Battalion Park, the 113th (Lethbridge Highlanders) Infantry Battalion, the 137th Infantry Battalion (recruited in Calgary) and the 151st (Central Alberta) Battalion all completed training during the camp's second season in 1916. When deployed overseas, all four units were broken up as replacements for others on the battlefield.

The numerals have construction value as an example of the British military custom of creating rock art to commemorate regimental units. As a form of spirited competition and a conditioning exercise, each unit that trained at Sarcee Camp left its mark by fashioning a large stone figure of its regimental badge in the avenue that marked its section of the camp. In a more unique local expression of this custom, some battalions also laid out their unit numbers in massive stone formations along the ridges north and west of the camp before they embarked for service overseas. The outlines were first plotted out by military engineers, then filled in by fatigue parties who gathered thousands of fieldstones from the surrounding area and laboriously placed them into the hillside. Some two-dozen whitewashed figures covered the hills around Sarcee Camp by 1916, when recruitment for numbered overseas battalions ceased, along with the practice of building rock signs. The unit badges constructed between rows of tents were destroyed in the 1950s to make way for an officers' mess at Harvey Barracks. By the 1980s, when development was proposed for the Signal Hill area, only four of the larger hillside numbers remained visible; three were temporarily relocated while the slope was reshaped, but the number 113 remains in situ.

The construction of large scale, non-Aboriginal geoglyph formations is rare, and these are the only stone monuments of their type known to remain in Alberta. The numbers are unique in that they commemorate the very men who carried out their design and construction. Over the past century various military and paramilitary organizations in Calgary, including local garrisons, veterans of the 137th Battalion, and members of the Royal Canadian Legion have continued the tradition of whitewashing or painting the numbers as an act of remembrance. The commemorative function of the numbers was formalized in 1991 with the development of Battalion Park.

The Battalion Numbers have heritage value as landmarks in the community of Signal Hill and the City of Calgary. Located in a conspicuous hillside location overlooking Richmond Road, the numbers are highly visible from nearby thoroughfares, and from the air. The monuments gave their name to the surrounding area, which was known as Cairn Hill until renamed Signal Hill in 1982. Despite extensive residential and commercial growth since that time, the numbers continue to inform the character of the area.

Character-defining Elements

Key elements that define the heritage character of the Battalion Numbers include:

- Location of number '113' at the upper ridge of Signal Hill, and the numbers 51, 57 and 137 along the south facing slope;
- Form and serif-style of numerals;
- Placement and concentration of stones;
- White paint on stones; and
- Sight lines to the site from the south.

SCHEDULE “C” TO THE BYLAW TO DESIGNATE THE BATTALION NUMBERS AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE

The primary purpose of the *Standards and Guidelines* is to provide guidance to achieve sound conservation practice. They are used to assess proposed changes to designated Municipal Historical Resources and form the basis for review and assessment for the approved rehabilitation program. The *Standards and Guidelines* were developed by Parks Canada and were formally adopted by The City of Calgary in 2005. They provide a philosophical consistency for project work; and while neither technical nor case-specific, they provide the framework for making essential decisions about those features of a historic place, which should be conserved.

The Standards

Definitions of the terms in italics below are set forth in the *Standards and Guidelines*. In the event of a conflict between the italicized terms below and those in the *Standards and Guidelines*, the latter shall take precedence. The Standards are not presented in a sequential or hierarchical order, and as such, equal consideration should be given to each. All Standards for any given type of treatment must, therefore, be applied simultaneously to a project.

General Standards (all projects)

1. Conserve the *heritage value* of a *historic place*. Do not remove, replace, or substantially alter its intact or repairable *character-defining elements*. Do not move a part of a *historic place* if its current location is a *character-defining element*.
2. Conserve changes to a *historic place* which, over time, have become *character defining elements* in their own right.
3. Conserve *heritage value* by adopting an approach calling for *minimal intervention*.
4. Recognize each *historic place* as a physical record of its time, place and use. Do not create a false sense of historical development by adding elements from other *historic places* or other properties or by combining features of the same property that never coexisted.
5. Find a use for a *historic place* that requires minimal or no change to its *character defining elements*.
6. Protect and, if necessary, stabilize a *historic place* until any subsequent *intervention* is undertaken. Protect and preserve archaeological resources in place. Where there is potential for disturbance of archaeological resources, take mitigation measures to limit damage and loss of information.
7. Evaluate the existing condition of *character-defining elements* to determine the appropriate *intervention* needed. Use the gentlest means possible for any *intervention*. Respect *heritage value* when undertaking an *intervention*.
8. Maintain *character-defining elements* on an ongoing basis. Repair *character-defining elements* by reinforcing their materials using recognized conservation methods. Replace in kind any extensively deteriorated or missing parts of *character-defining elements*, where there are surviving prototypes.

9. Make any *intervention* needed to preserve *character-defining elements* physically and visually compatible and identifiable upon close inspection and document any *intervention* for future reference.

Additional Standards Relating to Rehabilitation

10. Repair rather than replace *character-defining elements*. Where *character-defining elements* are too severely deteriorated to repair, and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of sound versions of the same elements. Where there is insufficient physical evidence, make the form, material and detailing of the new elements compatible with the character of the *historic place*.
11. Conserve the *heritage value* and *character-defining elements* when creating any new additions to a *historic place* or any related new construction. Make the new work physically and visually compatible with, subordinate to and distinguishable from the *historic place*.
12. Create any new additions or related new construction so that the essential form and integrity of a *historic place* will not be impaired if the new work is removed in the future.

Additional Standards Relating to Restoration

13. Repair rather than replace *character-defining elements* from the restoration period. Where *character-defining elements* are too severely deteriorated to repair and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of sound versions of the same elements.
14. Replace missing features from the restoration period with new features whose forms, materials and detailing are based on sufficient physical, documentary and/or oral evidence.

Guidelines

The full text of the *Standards and Guidelines* is available from:

City of Calgary
Planning, Development and Assessment Department
P.O. Box 2100, Stn. M, #8073
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2M5

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