



April 3, 2025

**Infrastructure and Planning Committee**  
**City of Calgary**  
PO Box 2100 Stn M  
Calgary AB, T2P 2M5

Dear Members of the Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

**Re: Designation of the East Calgary Substation as a Municipal Historic Resource**

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 East Calgary Substation, located in the industrial community of Highfield, as a Municipal Historic Resource.

The East Calgary Substation is valued for its pivotal role in Calgary's early electrification to support the city's rapid growth and diversifying economy. It was the infrastructure used to bring affordable and abundant power to Calgary for distribution to the city's power grid to support the city's early 20<sup>th</sup>-century building boom.

It was built, owned and operated by the Calgary Power Company (today TransAlta Utilities) to deliver electricity from their generating facility at Horseshoe Falls. The Company eventually became the largest electrical utility provider in Calgary.



East Calgary Substation. Photo credit Glenbow archives  
NC-24-11

The building is a unique example of reinforced, poured-in-place concrete construction and is a rare example of an industrial building built in the Classical Revival Style. It remains a distinctive landmark in the area due to its unique appearance and exposed siting.

Heritage Calgary is pleased to support the designation of this important community landmark as a Municipal Historic Resource. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

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

**Josh Traptow**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Heritage Calgary**



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**Infrastructure and Planning Committee**  
**City of Calgary**  
PO Box 2100 Stn M  
Calgary AB, T2P 2M5

Dear Members of the Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

**Re: Designation of the Upton Residence as a Municipal Historic Resource**

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 Upton Residence, located in the community of Sunnyside, as a Municipal Historic Resource.

The Upton Residence is a rare example of an Edwardian Cottage-style house in Calgary, and represents the earliest phase of suburban development in the Sunnyside Community. It is one of the few remaining houses from the first phase of community development and represents the working-class character of the neighbourhood.

This house was built in 1908 shortly after the community of Sunnyside was annexed to the City of Calgary when the community was sparsely populated. In 1909 streetcar service was introduced to the area, spurring further development.



The Upton Residence prior to the recent expansion.  
Photo credit Heritage Calgary

Heritage Calgary is pleased to support the designation of this original Sunnyside residence as a Municipal Historic Resource. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

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

**Josh Traptow**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Heritage Calgary**



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**City of Calgary**  
PO Box 2100 Stn M  
Calgary AB, T2P 2M5

Dear Members of Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

**Re: Designation of historic Calgary Parks**

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 following historic parks:

- Century Gardens
- Capitol Hill Park
- Parks for Upper Mount Royal: Talon Avenue, Cartier, South Mt Royal, Carlton Plot
- Scarboro Parks: Scotland Street Plot, Triangle Park

An oasis in the heart of downtown Calgary, Century Gardens is a 0.54 ha park created for Calgary's 1975 Centennial celebration. Designed in a brutalist style, the park includes two large concrete water feature structures, designed as an abstraction of the nearby Rocky Mountains. Additional features include spruce, pine, and aspen trees (vegetation common in the Rocky Mountains and Foothills regions), three large bronze sculptures, and ample seating.

Development of Capitol Hill Park started in 1932 and was carried out until 1941. The Park retains its heritage value in its historical planting, function, and design. Representative of multi-purpose neighborhood parks of its era, the Park entails a full, regular block of the residential subdivision. Its original functional areas include a children's playground, an open space for seasonal skating rinks, and a baseball field. An original feature is the perimeter border planting of trees with an understory bed of shrubs and other ornamental plants

The Historic Parks of Upper Mount Royal are valued as fundamental design components of the original subdivision plan for the community. The Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts was contracted to assist in the design of the new subdivision of South Mount Royal in Calgary. The legendary firm, succeeded the famous American landscape architect Fredrick Law Olmsted, was involved in many significant urban improvement projects across the United States and Canada. Based on Olmstedian-suburb-planning principles, the South Mount Royal subdivision layout followed the natural topographical contours of the area. It featured spacious lots with large front yards, gracefully curving streets, treed boulevards, and open park spaces, throughout the community.

The Scarboro Parks included in the designation bylaw include the Scotland Street Plot and Triangle Park. These parks are landscape features of the original "Sunalta Suburb" subdivision designed by John Charles Olmsted. Like the plan for South Mount Royal, the "Sunalta Suburb" reflects Olmsted's typical picturesque approach to suburban design, including utilization of the naturally occurring landscape and topography, a rejection of the grid layout, gracefully curved, tree lined streets, generously sized residential lots and parks and open space for residents to enjoy.

Heritage Calgary is pleased to support the designation of these historic Calgary parks as Municipal Historic Resources. Together they demonstrate the urban and suburban development of Calgary from the early to late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



**Josh Traptow**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Heritage Calgary**