



G.F. & J. Galt & Co. Wholesale Grocers Warehouse, page 10

EAST VILLAGE & WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

Walking Tour



HERITAGE
CALGARY

INTRODUCTION

The Warehouse District is a stretch between Olympic Way SE to 4 Street SW, between 10 and 12 Avenues SW, where a great many cross-Canada companies established warehouses, shops and offices.

Established in the early 20 century as an important wholesale and distribution centre between Winnipeg and Vancouver. Calgary, being the last large settlement along the CPR mainline before the mountains (or the first settlement after leaving the mountains,) made for an ideal location for a major rail centre. The line north to Edmonton cemented this.

An influx of settlers and immigrants to the city and region and Calgary thrived as a commercial centre. From Calgary's wholesale district local and national companies supplied the growing city and region with a wide array of merchandise including farm machinery and parts, groceries, dry goods, building supplies and hardware.

Downtown East Village is the site of some of the newest condominiums and apartments. The new Central Library and the National Music Centre call the East Village home. A lot of new is in the growing neighbourhood, but there is a good deal of important history to Calgary still standing.

The Simmons Warehouse and the King Edward Hotel have both been repurposed, with the King Edward having been deconstructed and incorporated into the NMC. Also standing is the St Louis Hotel, restored in 2016 and the Hillier Block, also having been restored.

Table of Contents

East Village

- 4 Simmons Factory Warehouse
- 4 St. Louis Hotel
- 5 Hiller Block
- 5 Alberta Hide & Fur Co. Building
- 6 King Edward Hotel

10 Ave Warehouses & Sites

- Starting from Olympic Way SE to 4 Street SW**
- 6 McBride Hardware Co. Warehouse
 - 7 Great West Liquor Co. Warehouse
 - 7 Bell Block
 - 8 Tudhope, Anderson Company
 - 8 Western (Underwood) Block
 - 9 Calgary Gas Co. Workshop
 - 9 Scott Fruit Co. & Lowney Wm. Co.
 - 10 G.F. & J. Galt & Co. Wholesale Grocers Warehouse
 - 10 J.I. Case Co. Building

Cover image: G.F. & J. Galt & Co. Wholesale Grocers Warehouse

East Village and the Warehouse District

There is no starting point on this tour. Pick a building to start on the map and explore!



11 Ave Warehouses & Sites

Starting from 4 Street SW to Olympic Way SE

- 11 Metals Limited Warehouse
- 11 J.H. Ashdown Warehouse
- 12 Donnelly, Watson & Brown Warehouse
- 12 Northern Electric Co. Warehouse
- 13 Customs House
- 13 Calgary Wine & Spirit Co. Warehouse
- 14 Imperial Tobacco Warehouse
- 14 Calgary Labour Temple
- 15 Louise Block
- 15 Massey-Harris Co. Warehouse
- 16 Pilkington Paint & Glass
- 16 Neilson's Furniture Warehouse
- 17 Victoria Sandstone School

12 Ave Warehouses & Sites

Starting from Olympic Way SE to 4 Street SW

- 17 Victoria Bungalow School
- 18 Dafoe Terrace
- 18 Fairey Terrace
- 19 Pryce-Jones Department Store
- 19 Canadian Bank of Commerce
- 20 Radio Block
- 20 Aull Block
- 21 Edmonds Block
- 21 Davis Residence
- 22 YWCA
- 22 Central Memorial Park
- 23 Central Memorial Park Library
- 23 Calgary Masonic Temple
- 24 J. Stevenson & Associates

EAST VILLAGE

- 1 Simmons Factory Warehouse
- 2 St. Louis Hotel
- 3 Hiller Block
- 4 Alberta Hide & Fur Co. Building
- 5 King Edward Hotel

WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

- 6 McBride Hardware Co. Warehouse
- 7 Great West Liquor Co. Warehouse
- 8 Bell Block
- 9 Tudhope, Anderson Company
- 10 Western (Underwood Block)
- 11 Calgary Gas Co. Workshop

- 12 Scott Fruit Co. & Lowney Wm. Co.
- 13 G.F. & J. Galt & Co. Wholesale Grocers Warehouse
- 14 J.J. Case Co. Building
- 15 Metals Limited Warehouse
- 16 J.H. Ashdown Warehouse
- 17 Donnelly, Watson & Brown Warehouse
- 18 Northern Electric Co. Warehouse
- 19 Customs House
- 20 Calgary Wine & Spirit Co. Warehouse
- 21 Imperial Tobacco Warehouse
- 22 Calgary Labour Temple
- 23 Louise Block
- 24 Massey-Harris Co. Warehouse

- 25 Pilkington Paint & Glass
- 26 Neilson's Furniture Warehouse
- 27 Victoria Sandstone School
- 28 Victoria Bungalow School
- 29 Dafoe Terrace
- 30 Fairey Terrace
- 31 Pryce-Jones Department Store
- 32 Canadian Bank of Commerce
- 33 Radio Block
- 34 Aull Block
- 35 Edmonds Block
- 36 Davis Residence
- 37 YWCA

- 38 Central Memorial Park
- 39 Central Memorial Park Library
- 40 Calgary Masonic Temple
- 41 J. Stevenson & Associates



Simmons Factory Warehouse

618 Confluence WY SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1912

The Simmons Factory Warehouse, built in 1912, is a two-storey, brick structure adorned with historic painted signage. The property is situated on the eastern edge of downtown Calgary in the East Village neighbourhood, on the bank of the Bow River.

The Simmons Factory Warehouse is an excellent and rare representative example of the pre-World War I manufacturing and industrial buildings which were once situated east of downtown. Its standard post and beam construction with brick exterior walls exemplifies industrial and warehouse construction in Calgary. The twelve-inch fir square posts, short-span beams, and mill floors provided maximum floor loading capability to support the heavy machinery and the stacks of mattresses and other bedding materials produced by the Simmons Company.



Hillier Block

429 8 AV SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1910

The Hillier Block is a three-storey, red-brick structure. The building is distinguished by its first-storey storefront and decorative metal cornices. The Hillier Block recalls the apex of an economic boom which occurred in Calgary between 1910 and 1913 due to the mass immigration to Western Canada and the city's emergence as an important regional wholesale and distribution centre.

The exterior character elements of the Hillier Block include such features as its: symmetrical facade and flat roof; brick construction with a red-brick façade laid in common bond comprising quoins (at corners) and a straight parapet, and ornamental, galvanized-metal, roofline cornice and storefront cornice.



St. Louis Hotel

430 8 AV SE - Commercial - 1913

Built in 1914, the St. Louis Hotel is a three-storey, brick structure. Distinctive Chicago windows and Neoclassical-style influences, such as an elaborate metal cornice and brick pilasters distinguish the façade.

The St. Louis Hotel was developed by one of Calgary's most prominent citizens, Col. James Walker. Prior to becoming a leading real estate businessman, Walker was one of Calgary's first residents, serving as an original officer with the North West Mounted Police at Fort Calgary.

The exterior character-defining elements of the St. Louis Hotel include such features as its: three-storey, rectangular plan with short façade and flat roof; brick and tile construction; façade brickwork laid in stretcher bond with raked joints, and articulated to create pilasters and panels, and forming a straight parapet, and illuminated 1950s signage suspended from the facade.



Alberta Hide & Fur Co. Building

431 8 AV SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1907

The Alberta Hide & Fur Co. Building is symbolic of the historic mixed use community of East Village, as an early commercial-residential building and an important part of the neighbourhood's last remaining grouping of early 20th Century buildings.

The commercial block is a rare remaining example of the Edwardian Commercial Style in East Village, with many of the elements which typify that style. The lower storefront displays a moulded pressed-tin cornice with signband and decorative end brackets. The upper façade displays a brick parapet with corbeled, dog-toothed brick cornice as well as large, segmental-arched windows.



King Edward Hotel

438 9 AV SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1905

The King Edward Hotel, built in phases between 1905 and 1910, is a modestly finished pioneer-era structure consisting of two distinct sections which are three and five stories in height. It is significant as the second oldest extant hotel building in Calgary and was the oldest continually operating hotel in the city until its closure in 2004.



In the early 1980s the King Edward Hotel became one of Canada's first blues bars, proclaiming itself 'Home of the Blues'. It gained a national and international reputation attracting 'A' circuit bands and performers from the USA and Canada. Legendary blues musicians such as B.B. King, John Hammond, Pinetop Perkins, and Otis Rush performed at the King Edward during this time, as well as rock star Brian Adams. When the King Edward closed its doors, the hotel was considered to be Canada's oldest blues bar. The hotel is now a part of the National Music Centre, which reflects the building's history in the Calgary blues scene.

Great West Liquor Co. Warehouse

305 10 AV SE - Romanesque Revival - 1911

The Great West Liquor Co. Warehouse, built 1911, is a rectangular, two-storey building, of heavy-timber construction clad in brick. Its red-brick facade is enlivened by its rock-faced sandstone detailing and battered foundation, corbelled cornice, and unusual porte-cochere extension.

The building was erected for the Great West Liquor Co., which occupied it until 1917. This end date roughly coincides with the enactment of Prohibition legislation in the Alberta in 1916, which caused the demise of local liquor businesses.



The building is defined by its two-storey, rectangular, flat-roof form with asymmetrical facade; raised basement and ground floor, heavy-timber construction with brick exterior; red, pressed-brick facade with heavily corbelled cornice; battered rock-faced sandstone foundation rock-faced sandstone sill course, window sills and lintels.

McBride Hardware Co. Warehouse

339 10 AV SE - Commercial - 1913

The McBride Hardware Co. Warehouse, built in 1911, is a rectangular, three-storey building constructed of board-formed concrete with a red-brick main facade. Subtle corbelling of the brick frames each of the front bays of the main façade. The Edwardian Commercial-style warehouse is situated in the northern part of the Beltline community immediately south of Calgary's downtown and contributes to a historic warehouse district adjacent to the Canadian Pacific Railway (C.P.R.) mainline.



Character-defining elements of the property include, but are not limited to,

the following: three-storey, rectangular, flat-roof form with mainly symmetrical facade; three bays wide and ten deep; raised basement and ground floor, fenestration, comprising rectangular windows with plain concrete sills; paired one-over-one window sashes and Off-center main entrance doorway with transom light.

Bell Block

1002 MacLeod TR SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1909

The Bell Block is an early commercial/residential building that is highly symbolic of development trends in the community of Victoria Park. Bordering both the warehouse district and the commercial concentration of early buildings along 2 Street E., it is a distinctive endpost to a significant historic grouping. Owned and developed by Ralph A. Bell from 1909 to 1949, the block helped to extend Calgary's commercial core southward, following the street car route to Victoria Park.

Typical of Edwardian Commercial design, the Bell Block housed a variety of storefronts and over thirty residential suites. Many residents were employed by the C.P.R. Early businesses included confectionaries, a billiards room, and the International Correspondence School.



Tudhope, Anderson Company Ltd.

239 10 AV SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1906

Considered to be the oldest extant warehouse in Calgary, the Tudhope Anderson Co. Building was constructed in 1906 by the well-known agricultural equipment and automobile sales agency. One of twenty-three wholesale implement and machinery warehouses promoted by civic boosters in 1909, the warehouse was occupied by the Tudhope Anderson Co. from 1906 to 1921. Also considered to be among the first recycled warehouse buildings, the structure is recognized for its adaptive re-use in the early 1980s. As the distribution of goods throughout the West was dependent upon the railway, the pattern of



wholesale development in Calgary was determined by the location of the C.P.R. freight yards.

Calgary Gas Co. Workshop

209 10 AV SE - Romanesque Revival- 1907

The Calgary Gas Co. Workshop

It was originally used as a workshop for the Calgary Gas Company, making it one of the oldest extant workshops associated with the oil and gas industries. It is an extension to the Western Block, and contributes to the context of the Western Block.

It is a rare surviving example of wood vernacular commercial building in Calgary.

**Western (Underwood) Block**

1001 1 ST SE - Commercial - 1905

This two-storey commercial and residential structure was built in 1905 by Thomas Underwood, as part of his efforts to open up this part of the city to more intensive development. The present building is a good example of the commercial style of the period, with brick pilaster strips in shallow relief between pairs of windows enlivened with sandstone bands. Sandstone is also used for the window lintels and sills. A decorative pediment at the canted corner bears the date 1905. A cornice extends along both the 1 Street and 10 Avenue facades.

When Underwood subsequently built the five-storey Underwood Block nearby, the name of this building was changed to the Western Block. The building has been subjected to few alterations aside from superficial changes in the storefronts.

**Scott Fruit Co. & Lowney Wm. Co.**

215 10 AV SE - Commercial - 1912

A warehouse building exemplifying the building boom of 1906 - 1914, within the warehouse district. The elevation, detail and style are a good example of warehouse architecture. Constructed using concrete foundation, post and beam structure with brick walls and sandstone cladding.

The Scott Fruit Co. & Lowney Wm. Co. building is a good standing example of Edwardian Commercial architecture applied conservatively. Concrete sills and rows decorate the rectangular windows and are separated by red brick columns topped by a stepped entablature and a dentil pattern across the front facade.



G.F. & J. Galt & Co. Wholesale Grocers Warehouse

325 10 AV SW - Romanesque Revival- 1910

The G. F. & J. Galt & Co. Wholesale Grocers Warehouse, built in two stages in 1910 and c. 1913, is a five-storey rectangular building, of heavy-timber construction faced in red brick. The facade is distinguished by a heavily corbelled, brick cornice and a rock-faced sandstone foundation.

It is an excellent example Romanesque Revival-style architecture, and is one of the largest structures to have been built the wholesale and warehouse district. It is notable for its heavily corbelled brick cornice and rock-faced sandstone foundation.

Its contribution to Calgary's historic wholesale/warehouse district, recalls Calgary's historic status as the most important wholesale and distribution centre between Winnipeg and Vancouver.



Metals Limited Warehouse

322 11 AV SW - Commercial - 1928

This building was originally constructed in 1928 as a four-storey rectangular reinforced concrete and brick warehouse. Designed in the Commercial warehouse style, it features a plain façade with brick pilasters, concrete lintels, and large windows. Four additional storeys were added in 1998, largely in keeping with the original style.

This building has heritage value as a high-quality and characteristic example of the plain Commercial style of the late 1920s. Built from locally sourced materials and almost completely fireproof, it was considered to be of superior quality

at the time of its construction. It features reinforced concrete floors, slab and beams, with steel frame window openings and solid brick walls. Bays of large windows with concrete lintels are set between vertical brick piers, which define the overall look of the façade and serve to express the building's internal structure.

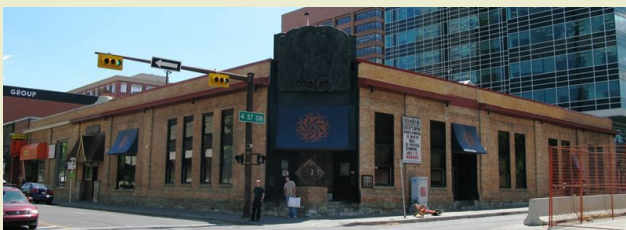


J.I. Case Co. Building

355 10 AV SW - Commercial - 1907

The J.I. Case Building is one of the oldest extant warehouse in Calgary and was the home of H.I. Case for over 65 years. The building, erected in 1907, contained offices and a showroom, and represents the architectural needs of the industry. Machinery for sale was stored in the lot just to the east.

The low scale flat roof building was built with wood posts and beams on a concrete foundation and is clad in brick, in a common bond pattern, with fieldstone surround at the base. It is enlivened by sandstone sills, pilasters and a shallow cornice. It once featured the Case Company's eagle on a globe at the corner of the roof; this piece has since been removed and is at present in the Glenbow Museum. There is a two-bay extension to the west of the original warehouse designed in 1928 by Fordyce & Stevenson which continued the original architectural elements.



J.H. Ashdown Warehouse

240 11 AV SW - Commercial - 1909

The J.H. Ashdown Warehouse is a substantial red-brick building with a symmetrical tripartite facade of six bays, with three-storey-high Roman arches enclosing recessed window openings. First completed in 1909 (expanded 1910, 1913), the J.H. Ashdown Warehouse, and its contribution to Calgary's historic wholesale/warehouse district, recalls Calgary's historic status as the most important wholesale and distribution centre between Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Character-defining elements include: rectangular form six bays wide, six stories high, with full basement; tripartite facade, flat roof with parapet, two rear elevator penthouses, and three-storey-high Roman arches enclosing recessed areas with window openings; front first-story segmental arches enclosing recessed current and former doorway, among more.



Donnelly, Watson & Brown Warehouse

224 11 AV SW - Commercial - 1910

The Donnelly, Watson & Brown Wholesale Grocery Warehouse, built 1910, is a rectangular, three-storey building, of heavy-timber and brick construction. Its red-brick facade features rock-faced sandstone detailing and battered foundation, and heavily corbelled cornice.

The property is an excellent Calgary example of Romanesque Revival-style architecture adapted for warehouse use. Constructed of heavy-timber, load bearing brick, and an 'extra heavy foundation' that is slightly buttressed with rock-faced sandstone gives the building a definitively solid appearance. The heavily corbelled roofline cornice and rock-faced sandstone detailing further reinforces the Romanesque influence.



Customs House

134 11 AV SE - Chicago Commercial Style - 1916

The Customs House is a four-storey Chicago Commercial-style warehouse-type building, clad with red brick and sandstone. This property is historically significant for its role as the federal government's customs house in Calgary from the time of its completion in 1916 until 1979. During this period it contained the administrative offices and examining quarters for the Port of Calgary.



The character-defining elements of the Customs House include, but are not limited to its: symmetrically balanced,

rectangular, four-storey, flat-roof form; brick detailing consisting of pilasters; and sandstone detailing consisting of pilaster capitals and bases, window lintels and sills, continuous window hoods with keystones and the front doorway surround.

Northern Electric Co. Warehouse

102 11 AV SE - Commercial - 1913

The 1913 Northern Electric Co. Warehouse is a four-storey building of reinforced concrete construction with banks of multi-light windows. Its two lower storeys display stone-look concrete with heavy rusticated piers, deeply recessed windows and horizontal moulded panels between the floors. The upper storeys feature red face-brick cladding articulated by smooth-finished concrete piers that extend to a moulded frieze. The main entryway is a decorative portico.

The former warehouse is positioned on a deep corner lot with zero setbacks on the south and west façades, with the main façade fronting 11th Avenue, a busy downtown commercial street and traffic corridor.



The building is also valued for its association with charitable and social organizations. In 1942, it had been acquired by the federal government for the war effort and shortly after the war housed the Department of Veterans Affairs which provided Prosthetic Services and ran a Vetcraft shop to employ disabled soldiers.

Calgary Wine & Spirit Co. Warehouse

206 11 AV SE - Romanesque Revival - 1909

The Calgary Wine and Spirit Co. Warehouse, built in 1909, is a modest four-storey building, narrow but deep, of mill construction faced in brick. Its otherwise plain facade is distinguished by a large arched window.



The warehouse was designed with an understated Romanesque Revival-style appearance, evidenced by its prominent round-arched facade window. The building features an asymmetrical facade, raised basemend and ground floor, fenestration, with the facade comprising of first-storey off-centre segmental arched window, five closely set rectangular windows on each upper storey, and an off-centre, main-entrance doorway with a transom light above.

Imperial Tobacco Warehouse

220 11 AV SE - Commercial - 1929

The Imperial Tobacco Warehouse, built in 1929, is a four-storey, rectangular, flat roof structure. It's distinguished by its red-brick walls which fill an exposed and highlighted concrete frame.

The Imperial Tobacco Warehouse is one of the warehouse district's best architectural examples dating from the 1920s. Its appearance was very cutting-edge at the time, with its clearly exposed structural components such as the piers and concrete frame highlighted rather than hidden, as was typically the case, at least on a main facade. These structural components contrasted with the red-brick walls that filled the concrete frame.



Louise Block

1018 MacLeod TR SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1910

Built in 1910, as strip development began to intensify along Macleod Trail, this combined commercial/residential block is a strong point of reference within the community of Victoria Park. The building is a distinctive part of a significant historic grouping. Developed by Frank Fairey, a Calgary contractor, the building is named after his wife, Louise. Fairey was an important personality in the early development of Victoria Park.

A dentilled cornice and stone window retailing add to the well executed facade. Largely unaltered, the block is an excellent example of Calgary's boomtime commercial architecture. The building also reflects the nature of the two streets it is located on -- Macleod Trail was commercial, and 11 Avenue was warehousing.



Calgary Labour Temple

229 11 AV SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1912

Realizing the necessity for a central meeting place, the trade unionists in Calgary organized the Calgary Labour Temple Company in 1912 to erect a suitable labour building. Initially a one-storey building, it was redeveloped in 1954. Although expansion plans were considered as



early as 1931, when architects Fordyce & Stevenson were commissioned to remodel the structure, attempts were interrupted by economic downturns and the Second World

War. A simple, rectangular building, the structure is distinguished by brickwork that gives the impression of arches over the entrance and first-storey windows. The 1954 second-storey addition, and a 1959 rear addition, complement the original design elements of the temple.

Massey-Harris Co. Warehouse

318 11 AV SE - Commercial - 1912

One of several implement warehouses built in Calgary's wholesale district, this 1912 structure was occupied by Massey Harris from the date of construction to 1979. The Massey Harris warehouse played an important role in the maturation of Calgary's wholesale district. Designed by the Toronto head office, the warehouse was monitored by the local architect, J.A. Cawston. The brick facade design features elements of both warehousing and retail. The lower level has enlarged windows for display; however, the floor is set up at the height at which the railcars at the rear could be loaded/unloaded. Organization of the facade is in keeping with the Edwardian manner of an ordered classical format: pilasters, corbelled cornice, sandstone plinth, and a horizontal signband element typical of retail storefronts.



Pilkington Paint & Glass

402 11 AV SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1913

This concrete-frame warehouse with red brick veneer was built in two phases comprising a two-storey west portion and a three-storey east portion, both completed in 1913.

This property has heritage significance as one of the most substantial and attractive examples of Commercial-style warehouse architecture in the Beltline.

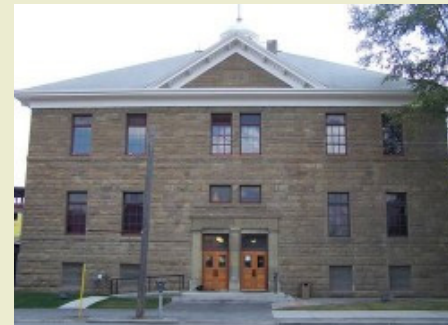
The office section at the lower southeast corner of the building boasts an elaborated, two-storey, Tyndall-stone façade. Within this stone frontispiece 'Pilkington Brothers Limited' is carved below a classical cornice. Set against plain red brick, this stone creates a focal point of the entrance and enlivens an otherwise severe façade.



Victoria Sandstone School

411 11 AV SE - Queen Anne Revival - 1912

A substantial sandstone school built during the apex of the pre-WWI economic boom to service a rapidly growing school population. A Free Classic design featuring; rock faced sandstone, pressed metal entablature/ pediment, central cupola and simple front entrance with engaged pilasters. It is a strong point of reference in the community and forms part of a distinctive grouping of urban buildings: terrace housing, former general hospital, and warehouse structures. Between 1892 and 1920, Calgary's public school board built some twenty sandstone schools to accommodate the city's growing prosperity



prior to World War I, and their Edwardian designs evoked the connection to the British Empire in the minds of Anglo-Saxon and immigrant schoolchildren, their parents, and the population at large.

Neilson's Furniture Warehouse

438 11 AV SE - Commercial - 1912

Originally erected as a three storey brick building, its facade was treated with paired windows separated by pilaster strips and capped by a corbelled parapet. A common form of warehouse design, the building was constructed to be sturdy. A compatible one storey addition was added to the structure in 1926 in anticipation of a new tenant, the Independent Biscuit Co. The addition retained the original corbelled parapet detailing. In 2013, the Biscuit Block was renovated to add another two-storeys, creating a distinct fusion of architectural styles that are a century apart. The warehouse joins the Snowdon Office, the King Edward Hotel, and the King Edward School (cSpace) as clever combinations of old and new.



Victoria Bungalow School

456 12 AV SE -Bungalow - 1919

The Bungalow School was constructed in 1919 to expand upon the existing school site facilities. Representing a movement towards reduced expenditure on school buildings, it is an important city and community landmark. In the prosperous years of 1905-1914, Calgary evolved modern and imposing school structures, such as the first Victoria School constructed in 1904, and its large 1912 addition. One of six bungalow schools erected in 1919 and 1920, Victoria Bungalow School initially housed four classrooms. Constructed at a cost of approximately \$35,000, in contrast to the value of its sandstone counterpart (over \$100,000.) Facade materials (bevelled wood siding) and classical detailing contributed to a more institutional massing. Victoria Bungalow School is formalized by its two-storey front entrance and imposing roof line.



Dafoe Terrace

1204 3 ST SE - Georgian Revival - 1910

The 1910 Dafoe Terrace is a two-and-one-half-storey, woodframe Georgian Revival Style residential terrace apartment with red-brick cladding. It has a wood-shingled hip roof with dormer windows. The front façade features sandstone quoins, sills and belt course, as well as three prominent grey-brick door surrounds with arched openings and sandstone keystones.

The building is a high quality example of the Georgian Revival Style. Prominent features of the style reflected in the terrace are



its sandstone quoins, decorated entryways with grey-brick door surrounds, and sandstone keystones; the doorway assemblies were originally detailed with fanlights and wood-paneled reveals. Other Georgian detailing includes the symmetrical façade, sandstone belt course and hipped roofline.

Pryce-Jones Department Store

1202 1 ST SW - Georgian Revival - 1912

This structure was originally constructed to house the Pryce-Jones Department Store. Designed by Hodgson & Bates Architects, it was not built as detailed. Sandstone capitals were not installed probably due to the expense of carving. William Bates also designed the Burns Building and other prominent buildings of the pre-World War I era. Jenkins Grocery Stores had an outlet here between 1934 and 1943, and in the 1950s, the Federal government maintained offices here. (1982) In 1995, the building was retrofitted to accommodate condominium development and renamed the Manhattan Lofts.



Fairey Terrace

1111 3 ST SE - Classic Revival - 1906

The 1906 Fairey Terrace is an early two-storey, Classical Revival-style residential terrace apartment building of solid masonry construction. The six original units are paired around three prominent double entries with wide reconstructed porticos flanked by projecting two-storey bays, with semi-hexagonal bay windows for the centre units and square bays at the ends. The symmetrical red-brick façade also features a flat roof with shaped parapet and brick cornice, as well as a rock-faced sandstone foundation trim.

As a 1906 apartment built for professionals, and a community landmark, Fairey Terrace is symbolic of early Victoria Park, where a rich variety of building types developed to serve a wide range of social classes and land uses. Dating to Calgary's settlement, the subdivision was registered by the CPR in 1888.



Canadian Bank of Commerce

1202 1 ST SW - Georgian Revival - 1912

The 1912-13 Canadian Bank of Commerce is a formal Georgian Revival style, three-storey building with red-brown face brick, terra cotta architectural details and a granite plinth. Its symmetrical 5-bay front façade features a central entrance with ornamental sculpture and triangular terra cotta pediment supported by terra cotta pilasters with moulded capitals. The lower floors feature large, vertical flat and arched windows with decorative terra cotta surrounds, as well as rusticated terra cotta quoining. The top floor displays quoining and elaborate window surrounds with keystones and scrolls, a cornice and signband below, as well as an upper moulded tin cornice and shaped terra cotta parapet above.



Radio Block

1215 1ST SW - Commercial - 1923

This two storey brick commercial block along 1 Street S.W. is a good illustration of commercial development in the years after the First World War. It is a good representative of the commercial style of the time, and features very good brick work and a well-preserved exterior. It forms part of an excellent historic grouping and a very good streetscape.

Built in 1922, the Radio Block was named this way because "radio"

was a buzzword at the time that invoked cutting edge technology and financial progress (source: Beltline Heritage Group.) The building features interesting brick work on its well preserved exterior. Also of note, the building has an angled front entrance - a feature that was very trendy in the 1920's.



Edmonds Block

211A 12 AV SW - Edwardian Commercial - 1913

Built in 1913, it features a buff-brick façade with sandstone ornamental detailing. The Edmonds Block is valued as an attractive example of Edwardian Commercial style architecture and features a high-quality wraparound façade clad in buff-coloured brick. Unlike most buildings from the period which are ornamented with lower-cost pressed-metal detailing, the Edmonds Block features sandstone detailing. Carved sandstone forms the roofline cornice and curved hood above the main entrance while smoothly finished sandstone comprises the storefront cornice, pier capitals and bases. The building was designed with an Arts and Crafts aesthetic with Neo-Classical inspiration and the focal point being a darkly stained wooden staircase with thick, squared, connected balusters. The walls of the staircase and the stair hall were finished with a complementary wood and plaster dado; hardwood floors lined the corridors.



Aull Block #1 & #2

1201 1ST SW - Edwardian Commercial - 1908

This structure was constructed in two phases in 1908 and 1925 and is a typical, representative example of combined commercial and residential development of the period. The easternmost, two storey brick structure, called the Shepard Block, was completed in 1908 during Calgary's initial, pre-World War I boom and featured retail uses at grade with apartments and/or offices above.

The property was purchased by Dr. E. Aull in 1911 and converted into possible the earliest medical consultancy centre in Calgary. In 1925 Dr. Aull expanded the building and replaced the existing corner structure with current commercial building. Aull Block #1 and #2 form a familiar corner landmark in the community.



Davis Residence

213 12 AV SW - Queen Anne Revival - 1905

The Davis Residence is a Queen Anne Revival-style dwelling that was built c. 1905. It is a two-storey wood-frame structure, placed on a sandstone foundation. Clad in lapped siding, it features a full-length front verandah and second-storey balcony, a hipped-roof with cross-gables, and bay windows.

The Davis Residence exemplifies the attractive and comfortable Queen Anne Revival-style houses built in Calgary at the beginning of the twentieth century. While some more-elaborate variants of the style survive in the city, the Davis Residence represents the version more commonly and widely constructed for the middle and professional classes. Once relatively common in the Beltline, Queen Anne Revival-style houses have become rare in the community.



YWCA

223 12 AV SW - Georgian Revival - 1910

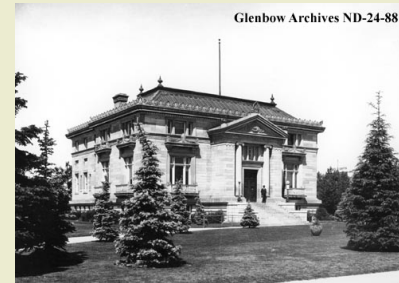
The YWCA (Young Women's Christian Association) building is a three-story red brick and sandstone building constructed from 1910-1911 in the community of Beltline. A handsome example of the Georgian Revival style of architecture in Calgary, the building is distinguished by its symmetrical façade with dressed sandstone detailing, and a prominent three-storey veranda. Designed to provide safe accommodation for about 60 young women, the YWCA serves as a symbol of the pace of growth during Calgary's 1909-1913 boom, and the social dislocations that accompanied rapid urbanization. The YWCA also began an employment bureau for women in 1911 - a role it extended during the 1930s Depression - and in 1912, began a Travellers' Aid service to assist newcomers arriving by train to Calgary.



Central Memorial Park Library

223 12 AV SW - Georgian Revival - 1910

The Memorial Park Library is a classically-inspired, two-storey sandstone building located on 1.93 hectares in Central Memorial Park in downtown Calgary. The library is situated within view of other Calgary landmarks such as the Masonic Lodge and the First Baptist Church. An east facing portico set atop a series of granite steps is adorned with Ionic columns and a skilfully carved pediment, creating a dignified entry into the library. The building is topped with a low hipped roof, and expertly executed decoration.

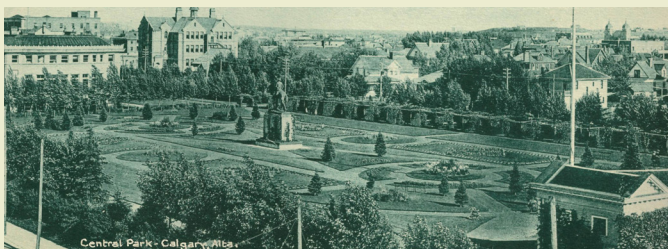


The Memorial Park Library was the first public library building in Alberta and one of the over 150 libraries built in Canada with funds from the American millionaire Andrew Carnegie. Carnegie, the world's wealthiest man at the time, had limited formal schooling, which convinced him of the need for freely accessible learning for all people.

Central Memorial Park

1221 2 ST SW - Victorian Leisure - 1912

Originally known as Central Park, land was reserved for the site in 1889 on the initiative of William Pearce, Superintendent of Mines for the North West Territories. He convinced the Dominion government to donate the land to the Town of Calgary. Eventually designed by William Reader, Central Memorial Park is Calgary's oldest surviving park. In 1894, a public works committee was instructed to plough sufficient land on the site to allow for the planting of 500 trees for later distribution and sale to the public. In 1900, a civic gardener was employed to nurture the crop and care for a newly constructed civic windmill. Further development of the site was not realized until the construction of the Carnegie Library in 1910. The east end of the park grounds were laid to complement the library building. A spectacular rose garden was laid out for the Royal Visit in 1939. It is one of the last, if not the sole remaining formal Edwardian Park in Western Canada.



Calgary Masonic Temple

330 12 AV SW - Stripped Classical - 1928

The Calgary Masonic Temple, built in 1928, is a three-storey, symmetrical, three-bay building in the Stripped Classical style, faced in red brick with sandstone trim. The temple, dedicated Dec. 1928, has been in active use ever since for meetings, social events, and charitable/fundraising activities of the 8 Masonic lodges that had it built as well as Masonic-affiliated groups and others. The Calgary Masonic Temple contributed to the resurgence of the Beltline after WW I, especially 12 Avenue, as a prime downtown area. The character-defining elements include, but are not limited to: flat roofs; skylight window-well; plain cornice, pediment in a stepped Art Deco profile, low-relief in-antis window bays and plain engage pilasters; and sandstone top plaque with Masonic "square & compass" symbol and "MASONIC TEMPLE" in relief.



J. Stevenson & Associates

344 12 AV SW - International - 1956

By far the newest building on this walking tour, J. Stevenson & Associates (also known as Lacey Court) is a Modern style building designed to house the offices of a prominent architectural practise. The building is a very good example of the style and features; large spans of glazing, fully expressed structural system of slender steel columns and timber beams, strong horizontal lines with a clearly defined modular pattern all designed around a courtyard. The building forms part of the edge of a major civic park and is part of a significant grouping of buildings of successive stylistic eras.

The original structure on the site was the frame and brick veneer home of pioneer druggist Wendell MacLean, built as early as 1906, and demolished in 1955.



About us:

Heritage Calgary is a charitable Civic Partner of the City of Calgary that identifies, preserves, and promotes Calgary's diverse heritage for future generations. We believe heritage is a dynamic process by which identity is experienced, interpreted, and represented and we take pride in working with Calgarians to honour the fabric that we are all a part of.

Visit us:

heritagecalgary.ca

There you can find more walking tours like this one, and find out more about buildings and sites on the Inventory.

Contact us:

info@heritagecalgary.ca
(403) 805-7084

Social Media:



Heritage Calgary



@heritagecalgary



@HeritageCalgary