



Western Steel Products Plant (pg 11)

RAMSAY

Walking Tour



HERITAGE
CALGARY



RAMSAY

While the sites are organized in a rough line, there is no starting point on this tour.

Pick a building to start on the map and explore!

Table of Contents

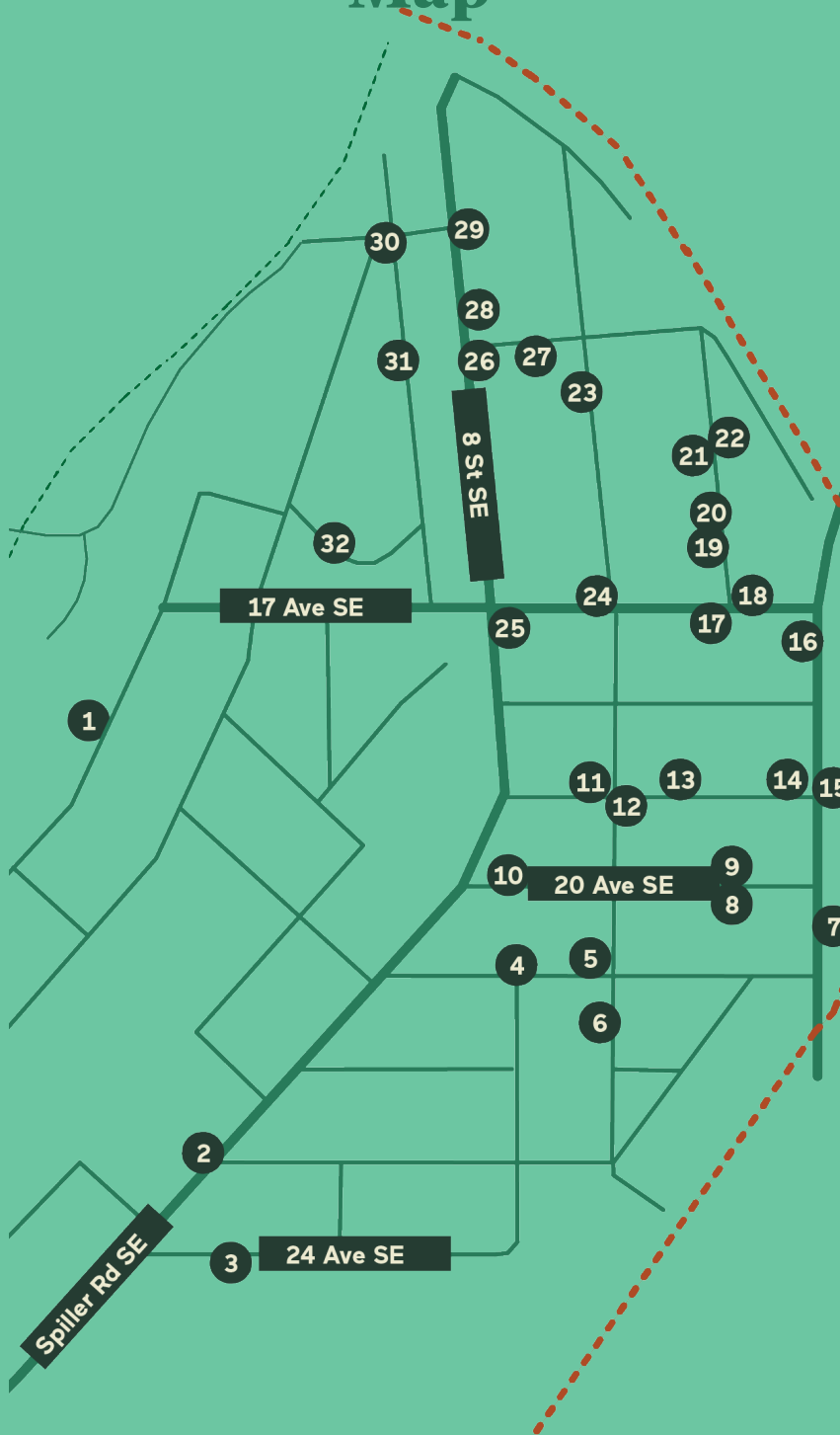
RAMSAY

- 5 Scotsman's Hill
- 5 Ramsay Elementary School
- 6 Dominion Bridge/Riverside Iron Works
- 6 St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church
- 7 St. Anne's Presbytery
- 7 Lyons Residence
- 8 C.C. Snowdon Oils Factor and Office
- 8 Spence Residence
- 9 John Jefferies Residence
- 9 Sanderson Residence - Ramsay
- 10 Alberta Grocery
- 10 Beers Residence
- 11 McKay Lodge
- 11 Sinclair Residence
- 12 Western Steel Products Plant
- 12 Calgary Co-operative Fur Farmers' Association Building
- 13 McIntyre Residence
- 13 Frank Block
- 14 McCurdy Residence
- 14 Jefferies Residence
- 15 Borland (Craik) Residence
- 15 Jefferies Park
- 16 9 Street SE Boulevards
- 16 Nevler (Yorkshire) Block
- 17 Black & White Meat and Groceries
- 17 Scott Residence
- 18 Johnson Residence
- 18 Beaudry Block
- 19 MacLean Residence
- 19 Dairy Bar Sign
- 20 McDonald Residence
- 20 Harrison Residence

**Cover photo:
Western Steel
Products Plant**

**"Western Foundry and Metal
Company, Calgary, Alberta.",
[ca. 1911], (CU169178) by
Unknown. Courtesy of Libraries
and Cultural Resources Digital
Collections, University of
Calgary.**

RAMSAY Map



- 1 Scotsman's Hill
- 2 Ramsay Elementary School
- 3 Dominion Bridge/Riverside Iron Works
- 4 St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church
- 5 St. Anne's Presbytery
- 6 Lyons Residence
- 7 C.C. Snowdon oils Factori and Office
- 8 Spence Residence
- 9 John Jefferies Residence
- 10 Sanderson Residence - Ramsay
- 11 Alberta Grocery
- 12 Beers Residence
- 13 McKay Lodge
- 14 Sinclair Residence
- 15 Western Steel Products Plant
- 16 Calgary Co-operative Fur Farmers' Association Building
- 17 McIntyre Residence
- 18 Frank Block
- 19 McCurdy Residence
- 20 Jefferies Residence
- 21 Borland (Craik) Residence
- 22 Jefferies Park
- 23 9 Street SE Boulevards
- 24 Nevler (Yorkshire) Block
- 25 Black & White Meat and Groceries
- 26 Scott Residence
- 27 Johnson Residence
- 28 Beaudry Block
- 29 MacLean Residence
- 30 Dairy Bar Sign
- 31 McDonald Residence
- 32 Harrison Residence

INTRODUCTION

Ramsay is one of the city's most historic communities. Its earliest settlement began along the Elbow River where the distinctive geography of escarpment, valley and river, attracted herds of migrating bison. The bison, in turn, attracted the First Nations peoples, who followed the bison's migration path along the valley, once part of a trail they called the Old North Trail. Ramsay's location is very close to the confluence of the Bow and Elbow Rivers, a major navigational intersection and encampment area. The First Peoples, in turn, enabled the earliest businesses, the fur and provisioning trade, providing both a market for the products and the resources on which the trade was based, pemmican and buffalo robes. Former buffalo hunter Métis Louis Roselle was East Calgary's first settler. He established his farm along the river on part of the escarpment known as Scotman's Hill. Angus Fraser, during his time as Hudson's Bay Company manager, also had a homestead around the HBC post, his land claim extending south along the east bank of the Elbow River into Ramsay.

The Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) main line reached Calgary in 1883 as construction of the transcontinental railway moved westward. The railway rapidly transformed the city which was incorporated as the Town of Calgary by 1884. The northern portion of Ramsay was part of the original townsite, a rare claim for a Calgary community. The CPR would become the largest employer in Ramsay, employing 35% of the first or second residents of Ramsay homes.

The subdivision plans of Ramsay's early developers designed the layout of the community's residential areas. In 1877, in order to expedite the construction of a traffic bridge crossing the Elbow River, Wesley Orr and John Stewart, both landowners east of the river in today's Ramsay and Inglewood, agreed to subdivide their land. Orr, who had purchased Roselle's claim in 1883, registered his subdivision as plan A2 of East Calgary. In 1904, Orr's daughter, Maggie Beattie, registered Plan 2789. In 1906 the northwest part of Section 11 was annexed, W.T. Ramsay subdivided the escarpment (Grandview Heights) and A.F. Mills began developing the land east of Spiller Road which became known as Mills Estates. The remainder of Ramsay was annexed in 1907.

From the Ramsay Historical Context Paper, which can be found at HeritageCalgary.ca/Heritage-Links

Scotsman's Hill

Salisbury St SE - Landmark - ~1894

Scotsman's Hill is a landmark in Calgary's skyline and the most distinctive geographical feature of the Ramsay community. The hill lies between a steep escarpment along the Elbow River and a valley to the east. Both the valley and escarpment are believed to be abandoned meltwater channels created around 12,000 years ago when ancient glacial Lake Calgary drained.

Scotsman's Hill possesses person value for its earliest landowners and homesteaders, Angus Fraser and Louis Roselle. The hill was called Fraser's Hill in Calgary's frontier days, and may be named for Scottish-born Fraser. A Hudson's Bay Company storeman, Fraser opened an outpost west of the city on the Bow River in 1874. When the RCMP established Fort Calgary in 1875, he relocated the post across the Elbow River and eventually became Manager of the post in 1878. Since the HBC did not own the land around the Calgary post, from 1881 Fraser personally homesteaded 160 acres including the northern part of Scotsman's Hill.



Ramsay Elementary School

2223 Spiller Rd SE - Queen Anne Revival - 1912

One of four new large sandstone schools built in 1912 during Calgary's pre-WWI economic boom. Designed by Hugh McClelland, superintendent of school construction, it is a Free Classic design featuring: rock faced sandstone, arched stone entrance, pressed metal cornice, cupola and flagpole. It is the only remaining large sandstone school which is totally intact. The school was prominently located on the former MacLeod Trail and is a strong point of reference for the community. It establishes the dominant character of the area.

Between 1892 and 1920, Calgary's public school board built some twenty sandstone schools, fourteen of which now remain, to accommodate the city's rapidly growing student population. These



imposing structures reflected 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 everyone near the school.

Dominion Bridge/Riverside Ironworks 803 24 Ave SE - Industrial Vernacular - 1927

Original ties to the property are attributed to the early manufacturing business of Riverside Iron Works, founded by F.L. Irving in 1913. Irving first established Riverside Iron Works as a small machine and repair shop, eventually expanding to become a large steel manufacturer who supplied many levels of industry. In 1921, Irving purchased land in southeast Calgary to erect a large foundry to supply the increasing demands of nearby agriculture industries. The Riverside Iron Works Limited plant officially opened in 1927, five years after company officials first planned the structure. Considered to be one of the best equipped plants in Western Canada, Riverside Iron Works symbolized the growing importance of Alberta as an industrial province in the twenties.

Despite the local success of Riverside Iron Works, Frederick Irving sold controlling interest of his company to the Montreal based Dominion Bridge Company in 1929. An additional 13 acres were acquired and a sizeable steel shop was built and fully outfitted adjacent to Riverside Iron Works. Irving remained on the board of directors until WWII.



St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church 901 21 Ave SE - Modern - 1958

St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church is a well-maintained, highly-intact, two-storey Modern-style church built in 1958. The resource was built as the parish church of St. Anne's Parish, which was a constituent unit of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary from 1910 until 2000. The diocese was established in 1912 as the ecclesiastical district for Calgary and southern Alberta and placed under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Calgary. In 2000, St. Anne's Parish merged with St. Mary's Cathedral Parish. In 2002, the resource became the home of St. Anne's Korean Parish, which had been formed in 1976 as St. Andrew Kim Parish, Calgary's first Korean Catholic community.

St. Ann's Parish (as the spelling was originally rendered) was established in 1910 to serve Catholics who lived in east Calgary. Services had begun in 1908, and, in 1910, a wooden church was built at 8 Ave and 14 St SE.



St. Ann's Presbytery

922 21 Ave SE - Second Empire - 1913

Until 1912, Calgary lay within the Diocese of St. Albert, which was led by a French-born Oblate, Bishop Emile Legal. In 1904, Legal invited the Tinchey Fathers to establish parishes in central Alberta. This came at a time of threatened anglicization – there was new pressures from the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Ontario to appoint English-speaking bishops on the prairies. Legal's installation of the Tinchey Fathers was an attempt to reinforce the presence in Calgary of French-speaking orders. In 1911, at Legal's request, they assumed responsibility for the new and growing St. Ann's Parish in East Calgary.

St. Ann's Presbytery is valued as a rare example of Second Empire style in the city. It features more elaborate exterior detailing seen with its mansard roof form, pedimented roof dormers and entablature featuring overhanging cornice and dentils. The red and yellow brick patterns represent the Second Empire interpreted through a Prairie-inspired style.



Lyons Residence

2109 9 St SE - Foursquare - 1911

The Lyons Residence possesses style value as an example of a spacious Foursquare residence in Ramsay, built during the Edwardian period. Features of the Lyons Residence which exhibit the Foursquare style are the hipped roof with overhanging eaves and central front dormer, the full width front verandahs on both storeys and the asymmetrical front entrance. In 1911 a building permit was issued for the house, showing the Rock Brothers as owners. The first residents, the Lyons family, moved to the home in 1912 and purchased it in 1916.

The Lyons Residence is symbolic of the early Catholic church in Calgary because of its association with the Parish of St. Anne, the city's second Roman Catholic parish. St. Anne's Parish is also remarkable for the number of vocations it produced - twenty-four by the 1970s - including two priests and three nuns who were raised in the Lyons Residence.



C.C. Snowdon Oils Factory and Office 2010 11 St SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1911

The C.C. Snowdon Oils Factory and Office was the site of significant industrial, manufacturing and employment activity during its years in operation from 1911-83. The C.C. Snowdon company is said to have been one of the first oil manufacturing and refining businesses to be based in Western Canada.

The remaining brick building, consisting of three joined structures. Built as offices, warehouses and manufacturing space, it was the most substantial building on site in terms of size and quality. Constructed of loadbearing red brick the functional building is valued for its stylistic and functional design attributes.

The building's rarity of character, modest but attractive architecture, distinctive ghost signage on all facades, and prominent location on a busy street has served to make the building a landmark.



Spence Residence 1029 20 Ave SE - Edwardian Gable-Front - 1909

The Spence Residence is an attractive, one-and-one-half-storey Edwardian Gable-Front style house with a decorative radial design in its steeply-pitched front gable. The home is clad in bevelled wood siding and has a stained glass bay window on one side of the façade and a covered entry porch on the other.

The Spence Residence and stable possess symbolic value for their association with the early mixed use development of East Calgary, when working class Ramsay residents both lived and worked in the same area, sometimes on the same site. From 1909 until 1928, James Spence operated as a teamster from these buildings which were first located at 1108 19th Avenue S.E., along the busy 11th Street industrial corridor. 1928 is the last year Spence lived at the 1108 19th Avenue address. Spence had sold this land to Western Steel Products to accommodate a plant expansion, and in 1929 purchased property one block west in Mills Estate, where the house is currently located.



John Jefferies Residence

105 Scarboro Ave SW - Queen Anne Revival - 1911

The John Jefferies Residence is a dignified red brick, two-storey Queen Anne Revival style house built in 1911. The home has large bay windows, a steeply pitched hipped roof, a full width front verandah and a gabled upper porch.

The Jefferies Residence possesses person value for first resident and builder John M. Jefferies, the first of three generations of important Calgary builders and contractors. John, his son James Edward, and his grandson Raymond, were also important to the Ramsay community as long-time residents who built many homes in the community. Scottish born Jefferies immigrated to Canada with his wife Jemima in 1907, having previously worked as a coal miner in Wales and later as a stonemason in Scotland. He was a contractor and builder, and started with the excavation of sewers and basements as well as pouring concrete foundations. He was joined by his son, James Edward Jefferies, around 1909.



Sanderson Residence - Ramsay

904 20 Ave SE - Queen Anne Revival - 1911

The Sanderson Residence possesses style value as an example of a Queen Anne Revival house in Ramsay. The asymmetrical arrangement of the bay windows and gables on the southwest corner and front façade create a picturesque aspect on the corner lot. Other Queen Anne style details include the use of small panes (some stained glass) surrounding the large panes in bay windows, as well as the ornamental diamond pattern shingle detailing on the upper porch balustrade. The house also exhibits Edwardian Classical Revival influences such as the full-width, open front verandah with squared wooden posts and moulded capitals.

The home was purchased in 1912 by its first resident, Robert F. Sanderson, and Robert's brother Herman Samuel Sanderson, both Calgary merchants. Robert ran a hardware store in Calgary, and had



previously owned and operated the general store on the main street in Alix, Alberta. Robert was also the first mayor of Alix, originally called Toddsville when it was incorporated as a village in 1907.

Alberta Grocery 922 19 Ave SE - Vernacular - 1912

Constructed in 1912, Alberta Grocery is a physical representation of a period of dramatic growth in Calgary and specifically the neighbourhood of Ramsay, during Calgary's boom period from 1906 to 1913.

Ideally situated on a prominent corner in the community of Ramsay, the Alberta Grocery is valued as representative of the historic prevalence of corner groceries in residential neighbourhoods. Neighbourhood stores, such as the Alberta Grocery, provided local residents with the means to acquire foodstuffs and household supplies without having to travel outside their community. This type of business was common in Calgary's early development period, when neighbourhoods were typically self-contained enclaves. This type of resource also served as the social centre for the community, playing a key role in Ramsay's community development.



Beers Residence 1001 19 Ave SE - Vernacular - 1907

The Beers House is an uncommon surviving example in Ramsay of the early adaptation of a modest residence to a storefront commercial-residential building with a Boomtown or false-front façade. The vernacular design of the building serves its commercial function. The false-front parapet conceals the end gable on the front façade, increasing the building's visibility on the street and attracting attention to the signband. The recessed entrance provides shelter for window shoppers and permits the front door to swing open without encroaching on sidewalk space. The live-work design included a storefront bay and a large rear dwelling bay, as well as a detached livery stable.

In 1907, builder and contractor Daniel O'Brien purchased three lots at 9th St and 19th Ave SE. The Beers House was constructed on the corner lot with a full width front verandah and set back from the street, either by O'Brien or by first resident, carpenter Joseph Beers. Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Beers moved to Calgary in 1906 and by 1907 he and his family were living in the home. He acquired title in 1912, and significantly adapted the building to its current form by 1914.



McKay Lodge

1016 19 Ave SE - Foursquare - 1911

McKay Lodge is valued as an excellent variant of the Foursquare style that was popular at the time of its construction. The name of the style comes from the efficient square floor plan divided into four main rooms on each floor. This variation anticipates the popular Edwardian Gable Front style by offsetting the entry to one side. The hipped and dormered roof over the third-floor attic rooms and the full-length front porch are also characteristic of this style.

The house was built in 1911 for Robert James McKay, a 41-year employee of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which included 37 years as a locomotive engineer, and was the long-time home and property of the McKay family.

The house has activity value as McKay Lodge, as it was named once it was converted into apartments circa 1926–29. It provided affordable housing for working-class individuals and families in what began and remained a working-class neighbourhood.



Sinclair Residence

1044 19 Ave SE - Edwardian Cottage - 1911

The Sinclair Residence is significant as an excellent example of the Edwardian cottage style in Ramsay which retains all its stylistic details. The home displays features such as the simple one-storey, rectangular form, an open front verandah and steeply-pitched, hipped roof with overhanging eaves. The home was constructed at a time when domestic architecture was moving away from any display of ostentation, and towards simple designs and finishes which embodied the values of comfort and utility.

As an exceptionally well preserved worker's cottage built at the peak of Calgary's first building boom, the Sinclair Residence is symbolic of Ramsay's industrial history and working class roots. Affordable dwellings like the Sinclair Residence, with its efficient six-room floor plan, addressed the housing crisis experienced by workers during the



boom. For example, by 1911, the year the Sinclair Residence was built, rental costs for a three to five room home had risen from \$12 per month in 1905 to as high as \$30.

Western Steel Products Plant 1902 11 St SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1919

The Western Steel Products Plant, one of East Calgary's early industrial buildings, is symbolic of the emergence of this area as the city's first industrial district.



The Western Steel products plant is an early example of notable Calgary architect George Fordyce, who later worked with James Stevenson in the firm Fordyce and Stevenson. The plant displays Edwardian Commercial style details such as a simple, uniform red brick façade, sash windows and brick cornice detailing. The façade makes a bold allusion to the metal plant with its galvanized iron cornice and flag pole surmounting the signband. The rear façade on the railway side is also prominent with its Westeel painted signband and parapet. During WWII, Western Steel began liaising with the Department of National Defense, obtaining contracts with the armed forces ranging from oil tank repair to B-28 Catalina parts manufacturing.

Calgary Co-operative Fur Farmers' Association Building 1707 11 St SE - Vernacular - 1912

The Calgary Co-operative Fur Farmers Association Buildings form a Vernacular industrial complex consisting of a 1949 two-storey rectangular former feed mill with bold painted signage, a third floor 'cupola' and an attached one-storey former storage annex.

The building was initially built by the Canadian Western Natural Gas, Light, Heat and Power Company, which was established by Eugene Coste after the 1909 Bow Island gas discovery. It was built as a warehouse for the company but would quickly become an experimental facility that was used in WWI to secretly research the manufacture of Helium from natural gas. The plant was guarded until 1919, when the research report into Helium was published. The building was then converted and leased after a few years of vacancy into the Calgary Casket Company and Central Flour Mills. Eventually the building was taken over by the Co-operative Fur Farmers Association in 1940, who further converted the building to manufacture and process furs.



McIntyre Residence

1023 17 Ave SE - Edwardian Cottage - 1910

As an excellent example of an attractive and affordable working class cottage, the McIntyre Residence possesses symbolic value for its association with the early working class subdivision originally known as Mills Estate. The house was designed for comfort and efficiency as expressed by its simple one-and-one-half-storey, rectangular form. Although modest, the home once housed seven members of the McIntyre family, its first residents. Cottages such as the McIntyre Residence comprise over thirty percent of the homes in the Mills Estate subdivision.

The McIntyre Residence is an excellent representative example of the distinctive and picturesque triple-gable variation of the Edwardian Cottage style found, perhaps uniquely, in Ramsay. By December 1910, Thomas McIntyre, a conductor for the CPR, was living in the home with his wife, Florence, his mother and his retired father. They purchased the home in 1911 and by 1916 the couple had three children.



Frank Block

1024 17 Ave SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1912

The Frank Block is a pattern book Edwardian Commercial building of brick construction with storefronts on the ground level and apartments above. The simple design of the building represents the fast-growing, working class nature of Ramsay. While no architect for the building was listed, Frank Block was built by first owner, Louis Frank, using day labour at an estimated cost of \$3500. The earliest commercial tenant of the Block was Flora Jane Allison, who operated a grocery store, which occupied the main floor from 1913 to 1916. Between 1916 and 1923, a series of minor tenants occupied the commercial space until Sydney Cooper opened a grocery service, which lasted 52 years. Part of Cooper's long-lasting success in the neighbourhood was his willingness to extend credit to neighbours in need, which can be attributed to his membership with the order of Odd Fellows, a fraternal order whose purpose is "Visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead and educate the orphan."



After Louis Frank sold the building, it changed hands multiple times until Hanson Chan bought it in 1977, who renovated and sold it to a group that turned it into an Avatamsaka Buddhist Monastery

McCurdy Residence 1141 10 St SE - Edwardian Gable-Front - 1909

The McCurdy Residence is a charming 1909 one-and-one-half-storey, Edwardian Gable Front house with a decorative radial design in the steeply pitched front gable. The woodframe home is clad in bevelled wood siding and has an off-centre entry porch on one side and bay window on the other.

The McCurdy Residence, located near an industrial area and railway tracks, is an example of an early working class cottage located in the earliest subdivision of Ramsay. It was developed by Wesley Fletcher Orr, a former Calgary mayor known for his efforts to establish Calgary's first industry. The McCurdy residence was built in 1909 on 10th St. by Mrs. Jessie Evans, and was subsequently home to a number of working class residents. Miller John McCurdy was the first resident in 1910. Alfred Splane, a salesman with the H.M. Splane & Co. real estate and insurance company, was the second resident. He moved to the home in 1912 and his wife, Clara, purchased it in 1914.



Jefferies Residence 1135 10 St SE - Arts & Crafts - 1912

The Jefferies Residence is a charming one-and-one-half-storey, Arts and Crafts house built in 1912. The stuccoed front façade, accentuated with quoin detailing and canopy, faces onto a small park across the street. The home is situated on a quiet residential street with mature landscaping and trees as well as other character homes of the same age.

The Jefferies Residence possesses person value for first resident James Edward Jefferies, a prominent Calgary philanthropist, builder and construction company owner (Jefferies & Sons). Scottish-born Jefferies immigrated to Canada from Wales in 1907 and moved to Calgary in 1908. He worked excavating sewers and basements and pouring concrete foundations, first with his father and later for his own firm. As the Jefferies family's home for five decades, the Jefferies residence is symbolic of the contributions the Jefferies family made to Calgary and to the Ramsay community.

Prior to Ed Jefferies' death, he and his sons acquired the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, a favourite spot for family walks and outings, from Selby Walker's estate.



Borland (Craik) Residence

1123 10 St SE - Edwardian Gable-Front - 1913

The Borland (Craik) Residence has further significance as a particularly dignified example of the Edwardian gable-front style of architecture that was popular in Ramsay after the turn of the twentieth century. Based on a standard side-hall plan, the home features an enclosed full-width front porch and a steeply pitched front-facing gable roof, which originally incorporated a single shed dormer on the north side.

Unlike the simplified detailing of most gable-front houses of the era, this residence is distinguished by its extensive use of riverstone on the foundation base and tapered porch supports. There is also a prominent ornamental riverstone wall which wraps around the front of the property. These elements are reminiscent of the Craftsman style, and contribute to a sense of stature and quality, as well as giving the residence a unique visual presence in the neighbourhood.



Jefferies Park

1120 10 St SE - Public Park - N/A

Jefferies Park is a long, narrow recreational park with a grassy rectangular playing field bordered by tree plantings and shrubs, and a small triangular-shaped playground area to the north. It is bounded to the east by a gentle slope covered in natural vegetation which overlooks railway tracks and early industrial buildings.

Jefferies Park possesses person value for Ramsay residents James Edward Jefferies and son Raymond, prominent Calgary businessmen and philanthropists who made significant contributions to the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary.

They acquired the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary and sold the land to the City on the condition that it would remain a wildlife park, and Ed Jefferies donated sand and gravel to develop the Inglewood bowling green. For decades, Ed and Ray flooded and cleared a skating rink in the park across from their home, and Ray donated a floodlight.



9 St SE Boulevards

1100 Block 9 St SE - Streetscape - 1929

William Roland Reader, Calgary's Superintendent of Parks and Cemeteries from 1913-1942, was influenced by the City Beautiful Movement in urban development/planning. Reader's goal was to develop Calgary into one of the most desirable cities of western Canada. The intent was to illustrate that Calgary was a civilized city with high quality public spaces. One of his principle initiatives was the creation of streets lined with trees and developed with landscaped boulevards and medians. In 1913 Reader stated "I doubt that any other public improvement will tend to create and foster a civic pride in Calgary to the same extent as will the making of boulevards, and planting of trees on our streets, nor will any other feature of our city impress visitors so favorably." The ordered, regular planting design of the boulevards reflects the formal approach to the design of public spaces common in the City Beautiful movement. The movement supported beautification and formality to encourage order and harmony.



Nevler (Yorkshire) Block

920 17 Ave SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1915

The Nevler (Yorkshire) Block, built in 1915, is an Edwardian Commercial style building featuring; simplified storefront, corner entrance doorway, sign band cornice, upper double hung windows, brick facade, and flat roof. Located in a residential area, it was a familiar structure within the community.

The building's original owner was Jeremiah Nevler, a Russian Jewish immigrant who lived in Calgary with his family between 1911 and 1923. Nevler operated a grocery store in Bridgeland / Riverside before relocating his home and business to this address. He evidently left the City around 1923-24, and sold the building around 1928.

After Nevler's departure, the corner grocery store operated as Martin's Cash Grocery in 1924. By 1926, it was called the York Grocery, owned by Elizabeth York from about 1926-28, followed by Israel Sigal from around 1929-36. Mary Pevsner, who had once worked for Sigal, bought the store from him around 1936, and operated it as the Yorkshire Grocery.



Black & White Meat and Groceries

1702 8 St SE - Art Moderne - 1948

The grocery is modest, but relatively rare, example of a Moderne style storefront featuring; stucco finish, large projecting canopy/storefront wrapping around the corner, triple racing stripe along the parapet, and sweeping curved corner entrance doorway. The interior remains intact with painted V-joint wall boarding and unfinished strip hardwood flooring.

Around 1935, butcher Henry Benner took over the space of what had been Eaton's Meat & Grocery at 1101- 8 Street S.E. in Ramsay, and named his business the Black & White Meat Market. It lay along Burns Avenue-Sunnyside streetcar route, on what was once the Macleod Trail. In 1948, Benner acquired this vacant lot a few blocks south on 8 Street S.E., and built this single-storey grocery store and butcher shop in 1948-49 to house his business. Black & White Meat and Groceries had operated until recently as a neighbourhood cornerstore.



Scott Residence

1102 8 St SE - Edwardian Gable-Front - 1909

The Scott Residence is a modest 1909 one-and-one-half-storey, Edwardian Gable Front style house with a two-storey rear bay. The steeply pitched front gable displays Stick-style features including a decorative wooden gable screen as well as diagonal and horizontal siding framed by bands of wood trim. The woodframe home, clad in bevelled wood siding, has an off-centre entry porch on one side and large window on the other.

Hubert Scott built the house in 1909. Scott, a carpenter, built the house and its seven-room home with an unusual two-storey rear bay. The home had a dugout basement, and fir was used for the floors and trim. Scott lived in the residence until around 1920, when it was purchased by the Trusts and Guarantee Company and converted into a rental property.



The Scott Residence possesses person value as the home of talented artisan Leo Otto Habarth (1893-1980), a notable Alberta harness and saddlemaker, who lived in the Scott Residence for over three decades.

Johnson Residence

919 11 Ave SE - Queen Anne Revival - 1908

The Johnson Residence is a picturesque one-and-one-half-storey, ca 1908 Queen Anne Revival style house built on an L-shaped plan with an off-centre verandah. Features of the home which exhibit this style are the asymmetry of its verandah as well as its elaborate roofline with steeply pitched side-gable, cross gable in the east wing, dormers and tall, corbelled brick chimney. Other picturesque features include the use of multi-pane windows with small, stained glass panes surrounding a large pane and the use of contrasting textures of cladding material, horizontal wood siding on the lower storey and vertical wood siding on the gables and dormers.



In 1913, the land was divided into two parts and sold to Mary Jane Johnson who obtained the eastern-most 100 feet of the two lots, and her husband George who owned the remaining square 50' by 50' lot. By 1913, the Johnson Residence was moved from its original location on the east end of lot 28 to the west end within the square lot owned by George and next to the alley.

Beaudry Block

1040 8 St SE - Edwardian Commercial - 1911

The Beaudry Block is a three-storey brick structure with Edwardian commercial styling. Originally the street was the well traveled trail to Fort MacLeod and was serviced by a street trolley line. The structure dominates the street both then and now. Originally this was a business/apartment block with storefronts on the ground floor. Commercial tenants included grocers, barbers and butchers. It has been strictly a residential building since the late 1960s.

In 1907, grocer Leon N. Beaudry purchased the lot and erected a small cottage at the rear. He took out a building permit on 1911 August 25 to build this three-storey block at an estimated cost of \$15,000. Beaudry owned and lived in the building until the mid-1920s, and evidently moved to Delia at that time. The next owner was the Netherlands Investment Company, followed by Henderson & Rogers, a real estate partnership formed by William Henderson and Fred W. Rogers (circa 1928-35).



MacLean Residence

1026 8 St SE - Queen Anne Revival - 1910

The MacLean Residence is an elegant and well-preserved example of the Queen Anne Revival style. The house displays picturesque Queen Anne style details such as its asymmetrical fenestration and offset entrance on the front façade as well as its steeply pitched hipped roof with pedimented front gable. Other aesthetic features of the style are the ornamental diamond and scallop pattern of the decorative shingles on the upper balcony, the transom above the front entrance, and the use of finishing materials with contrasting textures such as wood shingles and brick. The elegant proportions, large windows and fine brick cladding distinguish the house as a high-quality and well-designed residence.



The MacLean Residence possesses person value for well-known Calgary auctioneers Alexander MacLean, who owned and lived in the house from 1912-28, and his sons George and Donald who were raised in the home.

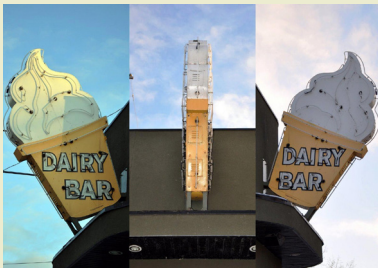
Dairy Bar Sign

815 MacDonald Ave SE - Modern - 1957

Mounted in a prominent location at the busy intersection of Bellevue Street, Maggie Street and Macdonald Avenue, the western entry to Ramsay, Dairy Bar Sign has served as a treasured landmark to locals, Calgarians and visitors for over five decades.

The dairy sign, located at the north end of Scotsman's Hill, is a symbol of the former confectioneries which were a leisure destination for the community, Stampede visitors and Sunshine Auto Camp patrons from the '40s. Following the first Calgary Stampede in 1912, Scotsman's Hill became a popular venue to view the grandstand activities.

Dairy Bar Sign, fabricated 1957 during the peak of neon sign production in Calgary, possesses design value as a rare remaining example of a '50s neon sign in Calgary and the only known example in



Ramsay. Neon advertising signs were first produced in the 1910s in France and introduced to North America in 1923. Although widely available in Calgary since the end of the 1920's, few illuminated signs from this period remain.

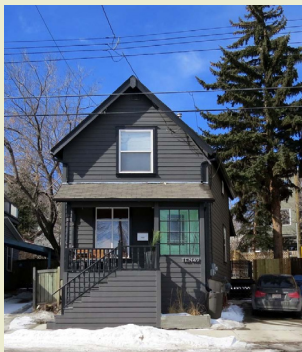
McDonald Residence

1049 Maggie St SE - Edwardian Gable-Front - 1911

The McDonald Residence is a dignified one-and-one-half-storey, 1911 Edwardian Gable-Front Style home clad in bevelled wood siding with a medium-pitched gable roof. Its open front verandah is fronted by a distinctive sideways staircase which is built right out to the sidewalk.

The McDonald Residence possesses symbolic value as a home which exemplifies the unique characteristics of Maggie Street, one of most interesting streetscapes in Calgary because its subdivision plan pre-dates many city housing regulations. The house is built right out to the sidewalk and has no alley or rear access to the property.

Donald McDonald, a labourer, acquired four large adjoining lots which fronted Bellevue and Maggie, as well as a building permit in 1911. By October there were four new houses on his properties, including a home fronting Bellevue where McDonald was living and three adjacent homes on Maggie Street occupied by his tenants.



Harrison Residence

814 Bison Path SE - Foursquare- 1912

The Harrison residence possesses style value as a rare example of a Foursquare home in Ramsay. The house exhibits a dignified appearance with its medium-pitched pyramidal roof, symmetrical upper storey and full-width covered front verandah with classical columns. Both the home and double lot size are substantial for Ramsay. The wood belt-course trim detailing which separates the storeys and the use of different materials on the two floors (shingles on top and bevelled siding below) contributes to its horizontal emphasis and solid appearance. It was constructed with seven rooms plus a bathroom, a fireplace, verandah, and fir floors and trim.

The Arthur Harrison family moved to the home in 1915, and resided there for almost six decades. He and wife Mary raised their two sons Rob and Charles in the Harrison residence. Mary supported local social activities in the city. Arthur began his career as a yardman in 1910, was a switchman by 1915, and was working as a yard foreman when he retired in 1951 after 40 years service with the CPR.





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