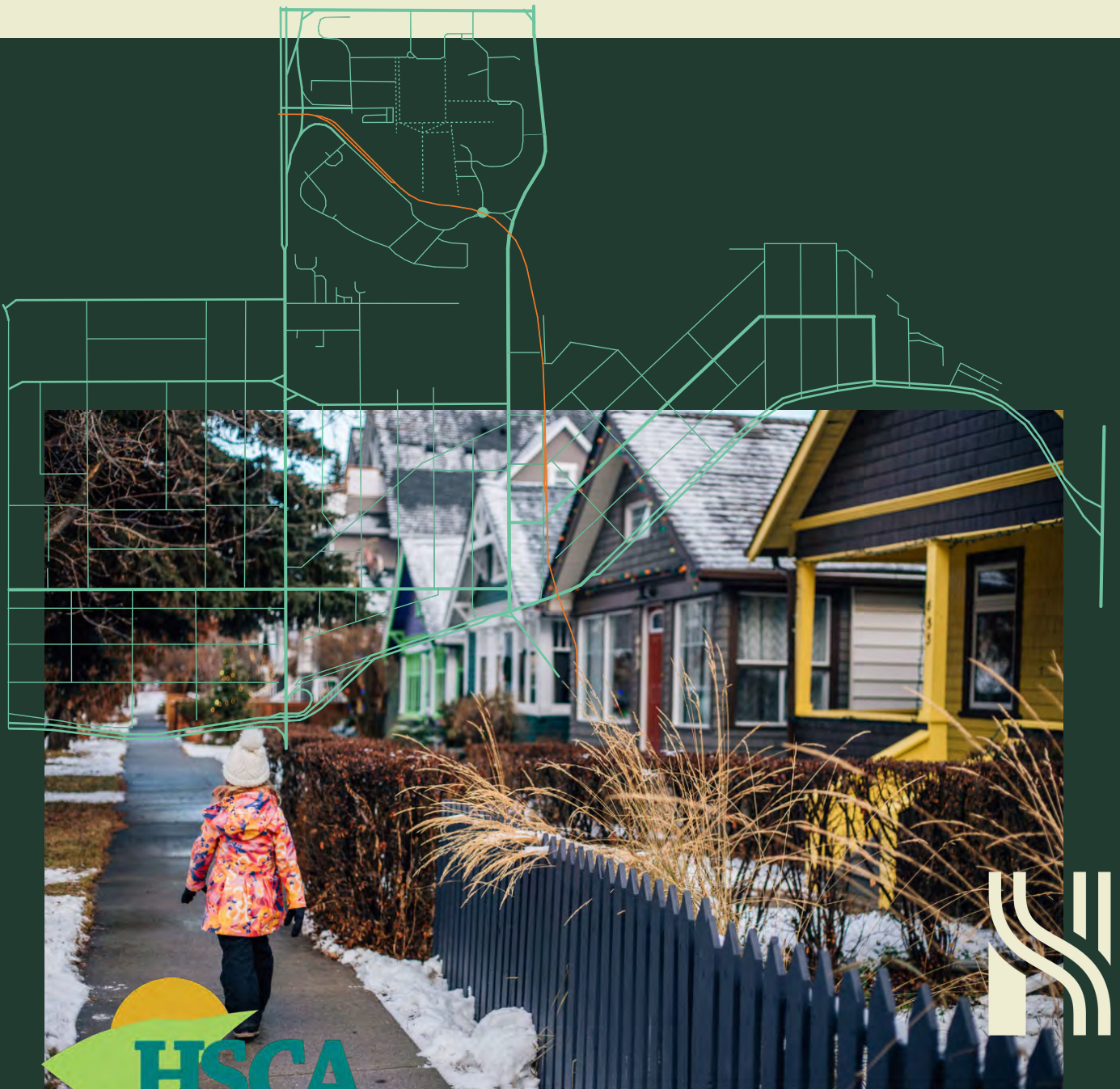


HILLHURST SUNNYSIDE HISTORICAL CONTEXT PAPER



Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association

Commissioned by the HSCA

The Hillhurst Sunnyside Context Paper was commissioned and paid for by the Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association.

The Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association (HSCA) serves the communities of Hillhurst, Upper Hillhurst, Westmount and Sunnyside in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

The community boundaries of Hillhurst include 8th Avenue N and 16th Avenue N to the north, 10th Street W to the east, the Bow River to the south and both 14th Street W and 18th Street W to the west. The Sunnyside boundaries consist of Centre Street on the east and by 10th Street NW on the west. On the north, Sunnyside is bounded by McHugh Bluff Park and on the south by the Bow River.

The HSCA's mission is "to preserve and enhance a healthy and vibrant quality of life for the residents of Hillhurst-Sunnyside".

Cover Photo Credit: Melanie Cooper
Photography
Calgary Heritage Initiative

Copies can be found on HSCA.ca and
Heritagecalgary.ca

Table of Contents

About	ii
Historic Themes	iii
1. The Landscape of Hillhurst-Sunnyside	1
2. The First Nations, Trails and Crossings	6
3. Early Homesteaders and Pioneer Settlement (1883-1907)	11
4. Early Commerce and Industry	28
5. Urban Development	40
6. Establishing Community Institutions	64
7. Building Social and Community Life	77
8. Special Streetscapes and Cultural Landscapes	94
Appendices:	105
Historic Resource Inventory	106
Places of Interest	108
Interpretive Sites	110
Community Statement of Significance	111
Bibliography	130

About

The Hillhurst-Sunnyside Context Paper was prepared in 2021-2022 by Marilyn Williams and Gillian Sissons. In addition to the Context Paper, this document also includes a current listing of all historic resources in the community on the City of Calgary's Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources (the 'Inventory'), a Places of Interest List (POIL) and a Community Statement of Significance (SoS). The preparation of this context paper draws on a wide range of historic sources, secondary sources, and references that are listed in the bibliography. In addition, both the context paper and POIL were informed by community consultation, site visits and previous studies. The writers are particularly grateful for the many community historians who have created articles, walking tours and community histories.

Context Paper

A context paper is an ideal starting point for future community heritage projects. It lays the groundwork for future heritage activities by identifying the significant cultural and historical themes, cultural practices, institutions, events, and people associated with the area. This paper explores and characterizes how the community has been shaped by its geography, natural and pre-contact history, town planning influences, land use and transportation patterns, and trends in building styles and design. It also provides a thematic framework that covers important historic associations, themes, activities, as well as economic, social and political movements, and significant eras of development¹. The context paper will serve as a reference and framework for evaluating the community's heritage resources and identifying its places of interest and heritage values. Finally, it can inform activities in other disciplines such as the preparation of area redevelopment plans, cultural plans, and community projects.

Places of Interest List

A Places of Interest List (POIL) is a list of extant sites in the community that may possess heritage value. That is, they may represent significant individuals, landmarks, themes (including significant eras), activities, cultural practices, events, institutions, or architectural styles and design, or possess other types of heritage values for the city and/or the community. A wide variety of places will be considered to represent Hillhurst-Sunnyside's heritage including commercial, residential and institutional buildings, structures and cultural landscapes like green spaces or streetscapes of architectural interest. As the context paper was being researched, places of interest were identified and prioritized for potential future in-depth research and evaluation for inclusion on the City's Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources (the 'Inventory'). Three lists are included at the end of the context paper: a Places of Interest List, a list of places for potential interpretation, and a current listing of resources found on the Inventory.

Community Statement of Significance

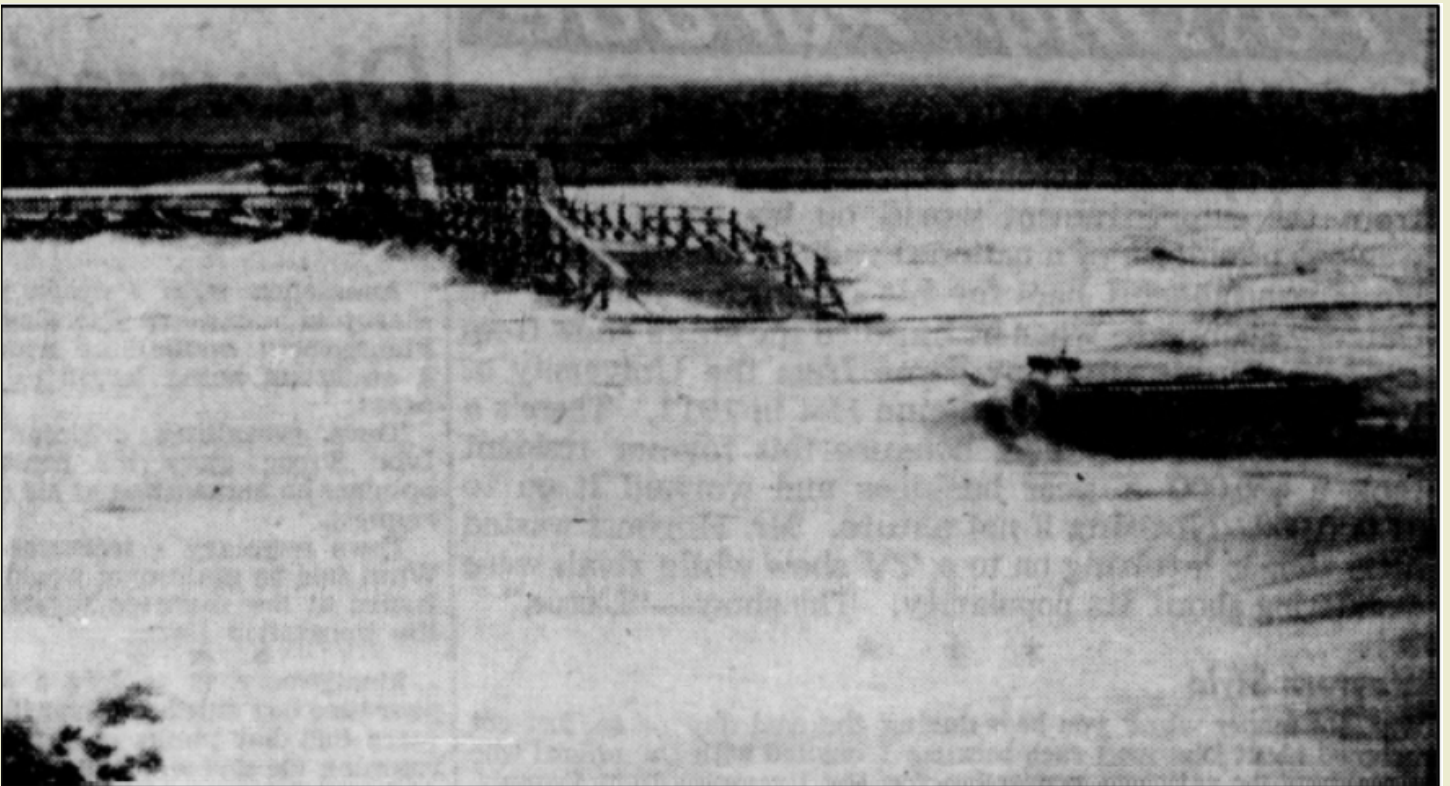
The Community Statement of Significance (SoS) included at the end of this document summarizes the heritage value, character-defining elements and integrity of the community that have been identified in the context paper. This condensed format can be more expedient when used to inform other reports and plans such as area redevelopment plans and cultural plans.

¹ In developing the major themes for this community, the local, provincial, and national thematic frameworks are also considered.

Historic Themes

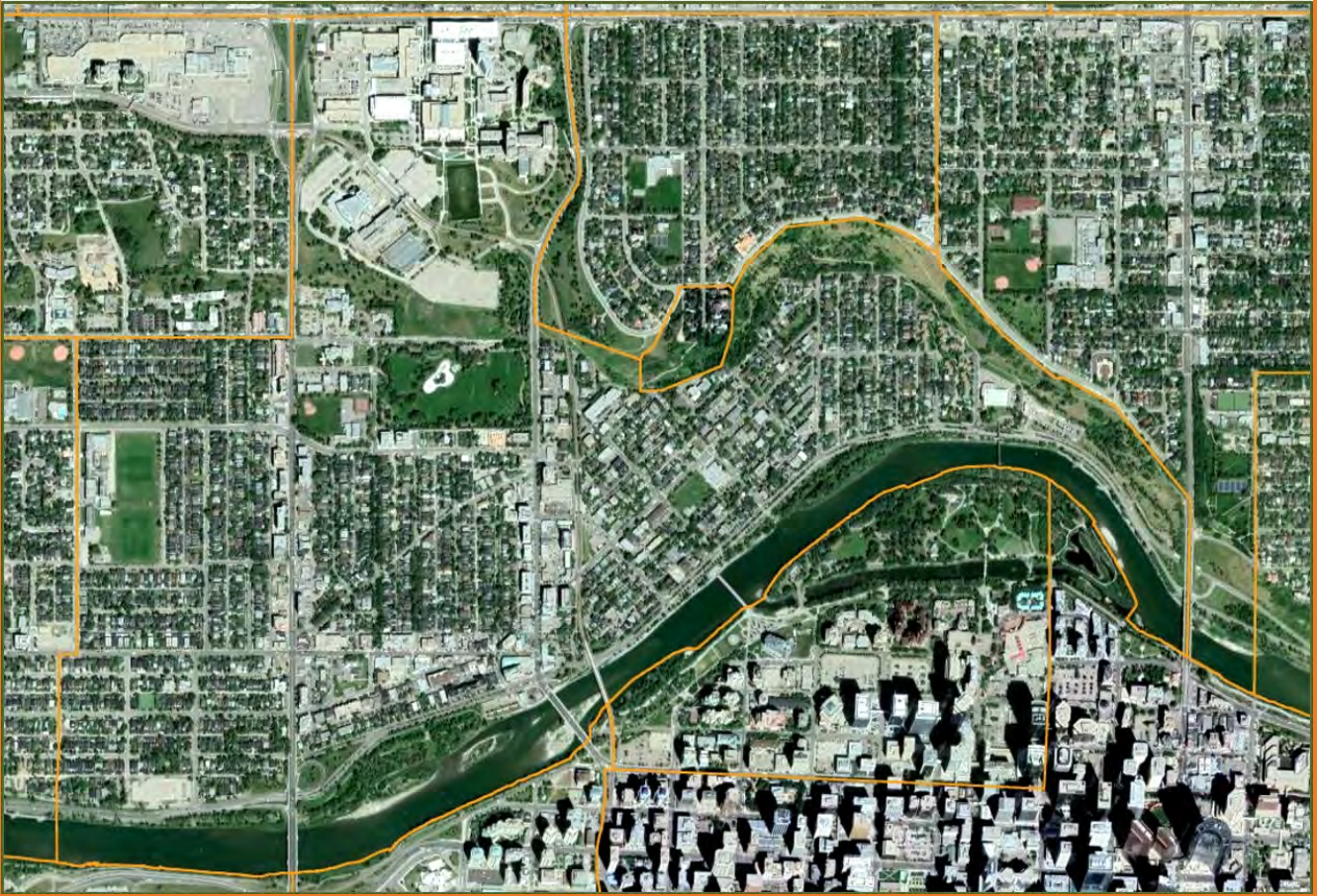
Each section in the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Context Paper represents a significant theme in the community's development. For each theme the history and background will be explored. At the end of each theme, the following items will be provided where applicable:

- One or more 'Heritage Value Statement' associated with the theme.
- One or more 'Character Defining Element' places and/or characteristics of the built form which display/embody the heritage values associated with the theme.
- Potential and/or existing historic resources associated with the theme.
- Potential sites for future interpretation. Some sites of historic interest represent important historic themes and associations, but do not possess sufficient material evidence or integrity to be considered as historic places. These sites have been identified as potential sites for future interpretation using techniques such as interpretive panels, signage, plaques, artwork or murals.



Bow Marsh Bridge during flood of 1902 [Credits: City of Calgary Archives 2013-029-002]

The Landscape of Hillhurst-Sunnyside



2021 aerial photograph with boundaries overlaid in orange [Credit: Federation of Calgary Communities website]

a) Description

Hillhurst-Sunnyside comprises two northwest inner-city communities, Hillhurst and Sunnyside, and is located across the river from the Downtown Centre. The Bow River forms its southern boundary. The northern boundary is 8th Avenue NW between 18th and 14th Streets NW, jogs north to 16th Avenue NW between 14th and 10th Streets, then south again to 8th Avenue before wrapping around the Sunnyside and McHugh Bluffs and Crescent Road. The eastern boundary is Centre Street North, while the western boundary is 18th Street between the Bow River and 8th Avenue, and 14th Street north of 9th Avenue. The two communities are separated by 10th Street NW, a major traffic corridor, formerly

the Morleyville Trail, and later an historic commercial street and early streetcar route, with Hillhurst to the west and Sunnyside to the east.

b) Community Contours

The geography of Hillhurst-Sunnyside is defined by the North Hill, the flats below and the Bow River. In Sunnyside, between the top of the hill and the flats, an extensive escarpment known as McHugh Bluff hugs the northern boundary between 10th and Centre streets². In the northeast part of Hillhurst, a hillside rises above Riley Park to the top of the hill. The river flats

² The western end of the McHugh Bluff is part of the Rosedale community. The Calgary Imagery map database also refers to 'Sunnyside Bluff' at the far west end.



McHugh Bluffs ca1908 [Credits: Glenbow Archives pb-12-39, Archibald Key fonds]

that extend from the base of the North Hill to the Bow River are part of a low terrace that likely dates to the post-glacial fluvial activity between 9,000 and 10,000 years ago³. The top of the escarpment affords magnificent views of the city skyline, the Rocky Mountains, the Bow River Valley and the river flats.

The river erosion activity that cut into the hillside and exposed the escarpments also exposed the underlying sandstone. The sandstone and the shelter offered by the bluffs would have attracted pioneer and early entrepreneur Felix McHugh⁴ to homestead on the flats from 1883 and also to operate a quarry at the base of the escarpment near 4th Street. In July 1990 the cliffs became a natural area public park named McHugh Bluff to recognise his connections to the

area. Long-time residents interviewed in the 1970s believed parts of the bluff were used as a First Nations' bison jump, and that the many skulls unearthed during the excavation of their homes were part of a killsite.

From the 1930s and 1940s instances of instability affected the slope near 5th and 6th streets. Following heavy spring rains in May 1948, a mudslide of over 15,000 cubic metres narrowly missed homes in the 600 block of 9th Avenue, forcing residents at the base of the hill to evacuate. The house for one evacuated resident, Hilda Piper, was relocated to 2nd Avenue (extant). Numerous slope stabilisation projects from the late 1940s to the early 1960s endeavoured to prevent future slides⁵.

The extensive river flats are now fully developed despite

³ Bison Historical Services Ltd (1999).
⁴ Discussed further in Sections 3 and 4.

⁵ Zakrisson (2012); Tanko (1978).

the fact that much of Sunnyside is in a floodplain. Until the mid-20th century, sloughs were located on the flats in both Hillhurst and Sunnyside, at one time extensive, but diminishing over time as they were reclaimed for land. The west slough was identified as a 'lake' in the 1904 subdivision plan for Hillhurst. It was located immediately south of Gladstone Road (formerly Gladstone Avenue) west of the Morleyville Road with an equal size body of water east of the road in Sunnyside. By 1911⁶, only the kidney-shaped Hillhurst slough was shown on the fire insurance maps, although residents recalled wet periods when water ran across the road between the sloughs. The slough east of 10th Street was the first to be reclaimed: aerial photographs show structures present by the late 1940s, and the 1961 Fire Insurance maps shows a service station and Safeway Store. Archaeological investigations carried out north of the Safeway Store in 1999 revealed deposits, likely trucked in from another landfill, which would be consistent with activity to reclaim the slough⁷.

c) Natural Habitat

A large part of the community's natural terrain has been retained as natural area green space which encircles the neighbourhood along the bluffs and riverbanks, plus a very small green space on the west-most flats. The bluff is mainly glacial till. The habitat along the bluffs is comprised of a mix of grasslands and forest. The grasslands are of both native and introduced grasses along with indigenous flowering plants that are associated with grasslands. The forests are extensive balsam poplar forest with willow and ash trees, and white spruce interspersed with small stands of upland tall shrub and aspen. Colorado blue spruce has been introduced at the base of the bluffs.

Natural green space along the north bank of the Bow includes a riparian tall shrub habitat at river edge bordered by balsam poplar forest in Hillhurst. The riverbank in Sunnyside west of 7th Street, except the parts which have undergone flood remediation, has a riparian gravel/sand shoulder, and balsam poplar forest lies east of 7th. A small area of grasslands



1924 aerial photograph showing slough (gold arrow) immediately west of 10th Street (formerly Morleyville Road, green arrow) and south of Gladstone Road (formerly Gladstone Avenue, orange arrow) [Calgary Imagery website]

⁶ Per 1911 Fire Insurance map.

⁷ Bison Historical Services Ltd (1999).

lies on the flats north of Memorial Drive just east of 14th Street. Although relatively inaccessible due to road design, it is a reminder of the gentle, open character of the flats prior to development.

These natural areas, as well as the sheltered terrain and location on the Bow River attract and sustain a diversity of birds and small mammals.

d) The north bank of the Bow

In addition to its natural areas, the north bank of the Bow River has left a legacy of historic floods. In general the entire north bank south of Memorial Drive is floodway, and most of Sunnyside east of 9th Street, including that section of Memorial Drive, is in the floodplain. The most devastating flood on record sustained by the community was in June 1897. A span from a damaged bridge upstream dislodged two pony-truss spans from the Bow Marsh Bridge⁸, one of which continued downstream to damage the original Langevin Bridge⁹.

Although the floodwaters in July 1902 were not as high, they were torrential at the Bow Marsh Bridge which was damaged and closed to traffic. Beyond the interrupted crossing, a major concern was the potential for the bridge detritus to cause further damage to others bridges downstream and arrangements were made for it to be anchored by heavy cables. With the Langevin Bridge also closed, boats were used to assist stranded citizens. A serious impact was the 'milk famine' with rural dairymen unable to get their products into the city.

Other notable but less severe floods occurred in 1915, 1929 and 1932 which significantly affected Sunnyside. Although the construction of the Bearspaw Dam in 1954 helped to control winter flooding, floods have occurred since then in 2005 and 2013, the latter being the second most damaging flood on record.



View of McHugh Bluff natural area park [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

⁸ At today's Louise Bridge crossing.

⁹ The 1910 replacement for this bridge has been renamed Reconciliation Bridge.



View of McHugh Bluff natural area park [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Theme Summary: The Landscape of Hillhurst-Sunnyside

Thematic value

- Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses landmark value for its setting along the Bow River valley, its striking topology of bluffs rising above river flats and its extensive natural areas on the escarpment and river banks that contrast with its urban context.

Character defining elements

- views from the top of McHugh Bluffs and the plateau at the top of the North Hill (north of Riley Park) to the city skyline, the Rocky Mountains, the Bow River Valley and the flats at the base of the North Hill
- the vegetation of the natural area green spaces: native and introduced grasslands, extensive balsam poplar forest with willow, ash, white spruce and Colorado blue spruce, and small stands of upland tall shrubs and aspen along the bluffs; riparian tall shrubs bordered by balsam poplar forest along the river bank in Hillhurst and in Sunnyside east of 7th Street
- setting north of the Bow River, with river flats rising to the plateau of the North Hill

Existing and/or potential historic resources associated with this theme

- Existing: Hillhurst (Louise) Bridge (1921)

Potential historic sites for interpretation

- Hilda Piper Residence (extant, 638 2nd Avenue NW) moved from 568 9 Ave NW after the 1948 mud slide
- 1913 A. Florence Residence (extant, 756 5A Street NW) moved from 618 9th Avenue NW after the 1948 mud slide

The First Nations, Trails and Crossings



The Hillside below SAIT where children played was once scattered with bison bones prior to the First World War [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

a) The First Nations

The first peoples to traverse this area were the Blackfoot peoples, comprising the Siksika (Blackfoot), the Kainai (Blood) and the Piikani (Peigan); the Stoney Nakoda comprising the Bearspaw, Wesley and Chiniki; and the Tsuu T'ina (Sarcee) peoples. The lands were part of their traditional territory for hunting and gathering supplies and food. They followed the migration of the bison. The bison were central to their way of life and essential for their survival. The Bow River, like other Canadian plains rivers, was too shallow to be reliably used as transport, but was important for navigation, its life-giving waters, and sustaining

the plants and game that the First Nations peoples would use for medicines and food. The sheltered river valley was also an ideal location for winter camps.

Prior to 1880 Sunnyside was the site of indigenous encampments, and residents have uncovered artefacts have that date to pre-contact times. A long-time resident, Harold Pemberton, recalled the hill below SAIT where local children played being covered with sun-bleached bison skulls and bones, and believed the area to be an indigenous killsite¹⁰. He also remembered these remains being gathered by the 'government' after the outbreak of the First World War.

¹⁰ Tanko (1978).

b) Pre-contact trails

Today's 10th Street corridor was part of a trail first used by indigenous peoples as a route to the Rocky Mountains through the Bow Valley¹¹. It later became the Morleyville Trail, the route from Calgary to Morleyville, where a Methodist mission was established in 1873 by missionaries George McDougall¹² and his son John. When Hillhurst was subdivided in 1904, the section of the trail in Hillhurst was renamed Morleyville Road.

The road ran between the two sloughs. By at least 1911 the name had changed to 10th Street, although the original name remained in common use, and by 1915¹³ the earth road was paved.

Another trail used in pre-contact times ran diagonally across the communities towards the northeast, skirting the north edge of the sloughs, to the Sunnyside bluffs¹⁴. When the communities were subdivided in the early 20th Century, the trail took the name Gladstone Avenue (later Gladstone Road) in Hillhurst, and became 4th Avenue east of Morleyville Road in Sunnyside.

In 1907¹⁵ the Morleyville Road Baptist Church (later Hillhurst Baptist Church) was erected at the intersection of the two historic trails for Baptist residents and homesteaders in the surrounding area.

c) Early Crossings

There was an historic fording place where the Morleyville Trail crossed the Bow River, described as the 'old



1924 aerial photograph showing the trails incorporated into the Hillhurst and Sunnyside subdivisions: the Morleyville Trail as Morleyville Road, later 10th Street (green arrows) and the diagonal trail to the bluffs as Gladstone Avenue (later Gladstone Road, orange arrow) and 4th Avenue (blue arrow). The gold arrow indicates the Morleyville Road Baptist Church. [Credits: Calgary Imagery website]

¹¹ Peach (1986)

¹² Alberta Register of Historic Places, Morleyville Methodist Mission

¹³ Smith (1977).

¹⁴ Tanko (1978).

¹⁵ McTaggart (1957).

government ford' in frontier times when Calgary was emerging as a town. It was the second choice of three sites proposed in 1885 for Calgary's first bridge across the Bow River, the lead contender being where the ferry crossed at that time, and the last choice being a crossing opposite Fort Calgary¹⁶. The first bridge was erected at the preferred location, the original Langevin Bridge (replaced by the current 1910 Reconciliation Bridge), early in 1888, and in June of that year the wooden 'Bow Marsh' Bridge - the second bridge across the Bow River in Calgary - was constructed at the Morleyville Trail fording place. It was named in recognition of real estate agent George C. Marsh, who actively petitioned for its construction¹⁷. At the time it was important for travel and rural life northwest of the Town of Calgary, incorporated four years earlier.

Following damage sustained during the June 1897 flood, the rebuilding of the Bow Marsh Bridge was not completed until August, and there were still issues with the approaches the following April. Further repairs were required after the 1902 flood, and by spring 1904 there was discussion of the need for a new steel replacement bridge. By early 1906 works were well underway for a new steel trestle bridge, built during the tenure of the Minister of Public Works for Alberta, William H. Cushing, and named the Louise Bridge to commemorate his daughter Louise (1878-1906) following her premature death¹⁸. After 1907, when the city expanded with a significant annexation, it would be one of three crossings critical for development of the newly annexed suburbs north of the Bow¹⁹. Following the introduction of streetcar service in 1909, it became apparent that the narrow bridge could not properly support streetcar, vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Proposals were put forward by City staff in 1912 for concrete replacement bridges for it, the Mission bridge and Centre Street bridge. Planning was

delayed by the First World War, and did not resume in earnest until early 1920; by summer works were well underway for today's concrete-arched Hillhurst Bridge (the name reverting to Louise in 1970²⁰) constructed just east of the 1906 structure which continued in operation until its relocation to the Ghost River in 1927.

¹⁶ The Calgary Herald, November, 1885.

¹⁷ It was funded by Peter Prince of Eau Claire Lumber per Peach (1986).

¹⁸ Sanders (2005).

¹⁹ The third bridge, the original Centre Street Bridge, was completed in 1907.

²⁰ Per the Discover Historic Calgary website, the formal name was Hillhurst (Louise) Bridge; informally the name 'Louise' was in common use for the Hillhurst Bridge after the original 1906 Louise Bridge was relocated.



Top - Wooden Bow Marsh Bridge right of newly built Louise Bridge, 1906;

Bottom - Louise Bridge beside newly built Hillhurst bridge, ca1921 [Credits: Glenbow Archives na-1042-2, na-2365-25]

Theme Summary: The First Nations, trails and crossings

Thematic value -

The Hillhurst-Sunnyside community possesses activity value for its associations with transportation:

- for the 10th Street NW transportation route, once a pre-contact trail for First Nations peoples which in 1873 became the Morleyville Trail historic cart trail, the first streetcar service north of the Bow in 1909, and the northwest light rail transit line in 1987;
- the historic crossing location of an early fording place, and later the location of the 1888 Bow Marsh Bridge, the second bridge to cross the Bow River, marked by the 1921 Louise Bridge.

Character defining elements

- The 1921 Hillhurst (Louise) Bridge marking the historic 1888 Bow Marsh Bridge crossing and historic fording place and landscaped east and west bridge approaches.
- Street layouts that follow the pre-contact trails that traversed the neighbourhood, Gladstone Avenue and 10th Street (Morleyville Trail)

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this theme

- Existing: Hillhurst (Louise) Bridge (1921), Hillhurst Baptist Church (1907) originally named for Morleyville Road

Early Homesteaders and Pioneer Settlement (1883-1907)



View at the base of the McHugh Bluffs. [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

a) Felix and Florence McHugh

When viewed in terms of the Dominion Land Survey, today's Hillhurst-Sunnyside covers much of the southeast quarter of section 20, the parts of section 21 and the southwest quarter of Section 22 that lie north of the Bow, and the parts of the northwest quarter of Section 16 and northeast quarter of Section 17 that lie north of the Bow. The Township map below shows some

of the early homesteaders of those lands, including BM Godsall, Philip Van Cortlandt and Felix McHugh.

Well-known pioneer rancher and contractor Felix Alexander McHugh (1851-1912) came west in 1883 shortly after his marriage to Florence O'Doherty (1861-1933). Both were of Irish descent and born in Ontario, he in Ottawa and she in Gloucester. He arrived with his Clydesdales, vehicles and farm equipment at the end

of the rail line in Maple Creek, and continued on to the Bow River. That summer²¹ he established his 21-acre homestead in the southeast part of Section 21 on the north bank of the Bow across from Prince's Island, his dwelling just west of today's 3rd Street. Together with his brother Thomas, he cultivated about 8 hectares east of 10th Street in today's Sunnyside²². Since his land claim was located on an odd-numbered Section and all of Section 21 was allocated to the Canadian Pacific Railway's (CPR) subsidiary, the Canadian North West Land Company, and formally granted to them in 1889, McHugh's claim was disputed by the CPR and Felix was obliged to relinquish most of his claim. However, as settlement he later was awarded an acre of land at 9A Street and Memorial Drive (named Boulevard at that time) where he built the family house (non-extant)²³. He began logging on leased land upstream of Calgary on the Elbow River, and was awarded a substantial contract with the NWMP. In 1885 he went into partnership with brothers John Joseph (JJ), who first came west in 1878, and Thomas as the JJ Ranch²⁴, which they established near the Blackfoot (Siksika) Reserve. Florence was still living there in 1929 when her youngest daughter, actress Florence McHugh Piercy, visited from London, England.

Section 21 (north of the Bow) was acquired from the CPR by The Calgary and Medicine Hat Land Company in 1890 and by James Heath of London, England in 1904. Later in 1904, Ezra Riley obtained the west half for his Hillhurst subdivisions. In 1905, Heath sold the south half to two gentlemen from Wichita, Kansas, who in turn sold it to a gentleman in North Dakota in summer 1906. That same summer, Arthur Bennett and William Ross acquired the southeast quarter and registered Plan 2448O 'Sunnyside'²⁵

later that year and its addition, Plan 1948P, in 1907. New Edinburgh was part of this subdivision plan.

The natural area bluff between 10th Street NW and Centre Street was named 'McHugh Bluff' in summer 1990 in recognition of the pioneer's connections to the area.

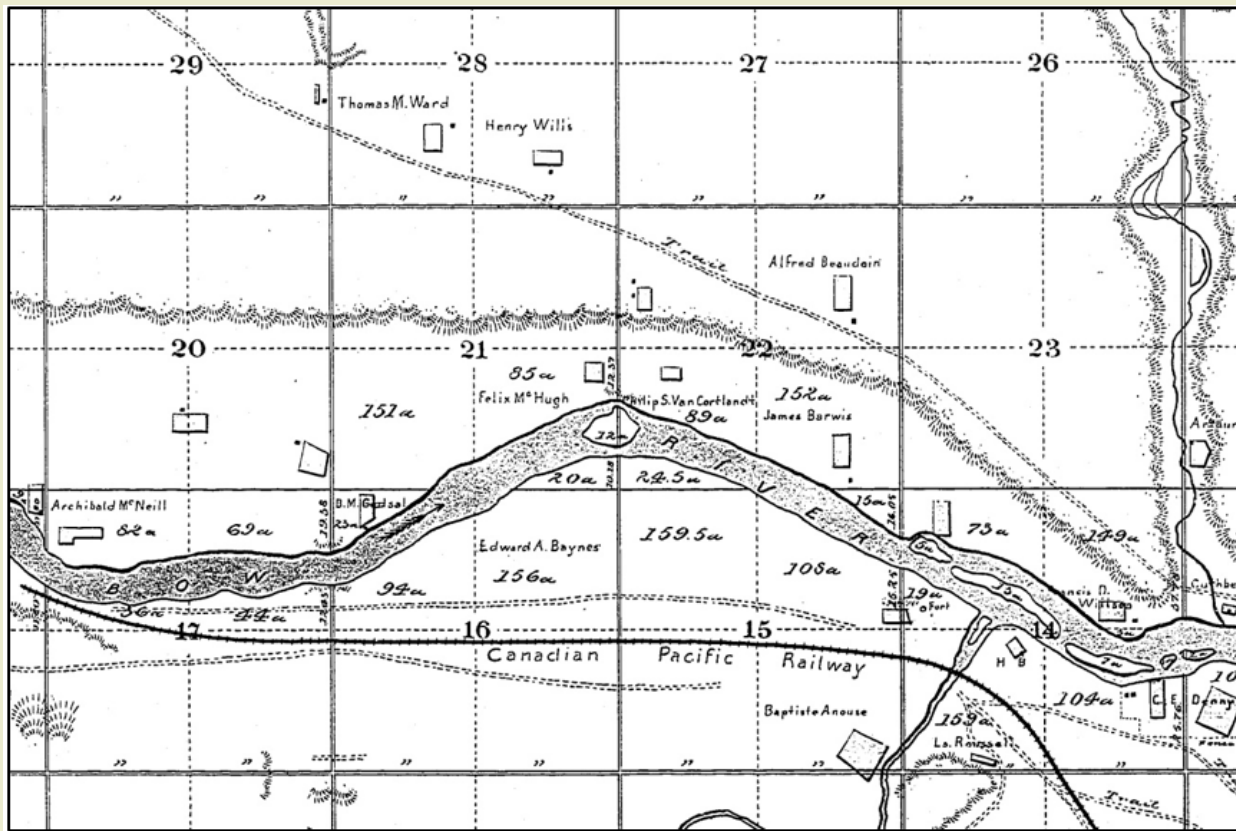
²¹ Per McHugh's claim in homestead application file 43503.

²² Peach (1982); Zakrison (2012).

²³ The Calgary Daily Herald, December 6, 1929; Zakrison (2012).

²⁴ This subdivision also includes a very small portion of the northwest quarter of Section 16.

²⁵ This subdivision also includes a very small portion of the northwest quarter of Section 16.



Section of 1884 Township No. 24 map compiled from 1883 survey [Credits: Alberta Land Titles]

b) The Riley family, a legacy in the landscape

The Riley pioneer ranch family settled in today's Hillhurst, gradually increasing their land holdings until they owned a significant portion²⁶ of inner-city Calgary north of the Bow River. City-builders, the Rileys left a legacy in the landscape with the subdivisions they established, the land they donated for park space and education, and the institutions they created and supported.

Thomas & Georgiana Riley

Thomas Riley (1842-1909) immigrated to Canada from Derbyshire, England in 1862, first settling in eastern Canada where he and Georgiana Hounsfield (1843-1907) married and raised their family of ten before putting down roots in Calgary in 1887²⁷. They arrived with their youngest children, the older siblings joining them over time until the whole family was together in

²⁶ Their lands acquired for agriculture were estimated at over 4,050 hectares (10,008 acres) per research by M McReady.

²⁷ Glenbow Archives, Thomas E. Riley fonds.

Calgary. Within a year they were homesteading just north of the town's limits at that time, on the northwest quarter of Section 20 (today's Briar Hill). By 1903, their farm had barns, stables, granaries and a corral, and after receiving patent in 1904, they built their permanent dwelling, Hounsfield Lodge (non-extant). Thomas raised livestock and crops including wheat, oats and potatoes. He also had a strong interest in politics, was active in the Liberal party and ran for political office for the North-West Territories.

His sons worked on the family farm and also acquired homesteads nearby as they reached the eligible age to apply. They entered into partnership with their father as the Riley & Sons agricultural enterprise. Georgiana acquired the east half of Section 20 in 1902²⁸, and in 1902-3, Georgiana and her son Albert purchased Section 31 from the CPR for ranching, their two portions flanking the Morley Trail²⁹. The Riley & Sons lands were known collectively as the Ranche. In

²⁸ Today comprising Hounsfield Heights and southwest Hillhurst.

²⁹ Today comprising parts of Brentwood, Charleswood and the north campus of the University of Calgary.



Thomas Riley homestead house and farm building. Thomas and Georgiana Riley in pony cart, daughters Louise and Emily and son Thomas on horseback, between 1895 and 1899 [Credits: Glenbow Archives M-8375-11-2]

1906, the Rileys sold 1280 acres of their lands near Nose Creek as well as 400 cattle to P. Burns & Co, retaining their horses but moving from grade cattle to raising pure breeds. The same year plans were drawn up for a second permanent house by an architect referred to in Thomas' diary as Wilson³⁰. Following Georgiana's death in 1907, her portion of Section 31 and her land in Section 20 went to her family; Thomas reserved a 10 acre parcel for the new house. Upon Thomas' passing in 1909 Riley & Sons dissolved; their three daughters - Louise, Emily and Maria - inherited the original homestead and Hounsfield Lodge. In 1910 Edmund and Thomas Jr registered the northeast quarter of Section 20 as the Hounsfield Heights subdivision Plan 5625AC. By 1912, the daughters had married; it was son

³⁰ This was likely prolific pioneer English-born architect James Llewellyn Wilson who designed the 1897 Bow Valley Rancho House and at that time was practising with George M Lang.

Frank's family who would next live in the Hounsfield Lodge until some time after his death in 1939. The lodge and almost five acres were sold to the Bethany Care Society which opened in that house in 1946.

Ezra and Harriet Riley

Of Thomas and Georgina's large family, their son, philanthropist and pioneer rancher Ezra Hounsfield Riley (1866-1937), made the strongest influence on the landscape of Hillhurst. He was born in Toronto and moved to Calgary in 1887. In 1897 he married Harriet Waterhouse whose family were pioneer settlers in the Little Red Deer district west of Innisfail. Harriet acquired the east half of Section 19 north of the Bow River³¹ west of the Thomas Riley homestead in 1902. Ezra

³¹ This land is now the east part of Parkdale and St Andrew's Heights.



Ezra and Harriet Riley family home, 1910s [Credits: Glenbow Archives M-8375-1-22]

purchased the west half of Section 21 from James Heath of London, England in 1904, registering most of the southwest quarter as his 'Hillhurst' subdivision Plan 5609J the same year. He named it Hillhurst for the well-known stock farm of Senator Matthew Cochrane³² located in Compton near Montreal, Quebec³³. The Senator also ran the Cochrane Ranche in Alberta. It was the first in an era of giant leasehold ranches - an era which lasted from 1881 to 1896 - as well as the largest: 334,500 acres at its peak including 106,500 acres between the Belly and Waterton rivers, and 189,000 acres along the Bow River west of Fort Calgary.

In 1906, Ezra registered the rest of the southwest quarter as 51790. The same year, he also erected his family home designed by architect Leo Dowler at 1302 Buckingham (now 8th Avenue, non-extant) on the northmost edge of that subdivision. A Liberal like his father, he served as the Alberta MLA for Gleichen, which at that time included North Calgary, from 1906 to 1910. Ezra's philanthropy was

significant: in 1910 he donated the lands for Riley Park; in 1912 he provided an endowment for St Barnabas Anglican Church, a brick church also designed by Dowler (tower extant); he sold the part of his estate located directly north of the park to the Province for their technical institute in 1919, this land includes the 1956 Burns Memorial Rock Garden along 10th Street³⁴.

The southeast corner of Harriet's land was sold to one of Sunnyside's developers, William Ross, who subdivided it in 1909 as 'Happyland'. The rest of her southeast quarter section was sold to Scott & Hartronft who registered it as 'Parkdale' in 1910. Harriet also loaned the north quarter for St Andrew's Golf Club in 1912.

Their daughter, author and longtime children's librarian Margaret Louise (1900-1957), is best known for her role in introducing children's sections to Calgary's public libraries. She was educated in library science, majoring in children's libraries, and completed her post-graduate work in that field. In 1930 she joined the

³² Namesake of the town of Cochrane.

³³ Sanders (2005); Humber (1995).

³⁴ Discover Historic Calgary, Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden.

Calgary Public Library system, serving as its children's librarian for 19 years and becoming the assistant chief librarian in 1949. In addition to establishing a room in the libraries for youth, her initiatives included developing the library's collection of children's books and initiating a Children's Story Hour on radio. Louise also served as chairman of the Alberta Library Board, and was a published author of adult and children's books. She lived with her father in the Ezra Riley family home until 1936, the year before Ezra's passing, at which time it was sold to the Anglican Diocese.

Harold & Maude Riley

Harold Riley (1877-1946) first earned recognition at age twenty-seven as the youngest deputy minister in Canada when he was appointed the first deputy Provincial Secretary and Registrar of Companies. After entering municipal politics as alderman in 1911, he went on to serve provincially as the Member of the Alberta Legislature for Gleichen in 1912 before again running for public office - this time for councillor - where in total he served 1911, 1914 through 1915, and 1932 through 1935. He established and ran Riley's Limited, an insurance, real estate, brokerage and financial firm, with his brother Edmund (aka Ned, Ed, 1879-1942) in 1910, with Harold acting as president and secretary, and Edmund as treasurer and manager. Edmund oversaw the real estate aspect of their business, which included selling family properties in Hillhurst and West Hillhurst. It is interesting to note that the home at 1340 16A Street NW, where Edmund lived with his wife Amy and family from 1913 to 1915, is extant, one of the two former Riley homes still standing. When the Calgary Stock Exchange was reorganized in 1926 Harold became its secretary-treasurer until 1932. Harold, like his nephews, served overseas during the First World War; he was a captain with the 137th Battalion. He played a lead role in organizing the Southern Alberta Pioneer and Old Timer Association in 1921.



Portrait of Margaret Louise Riley (1900-1957) [Credits: Glenbow Archives PA-39-19]

Harold's wife, Maude Riley (nee Keene, 1880-1962), was just as well-known as Harold, and was recognized for her achievements in women's rights, child welfare and justice reforms, and family courts. Born in Ontario, Maude came to Calgary in 1903, teaching at the Nose Creek School until the time she married Harold in 1907. She helped found the Calgary Playground Association in 1917 and the Calgary Child Welfare Society in 1918 (which later became the Alberta Council on Child and Family Welfare) and served as president of the Council for four decades. Her honours include an award by the Belgian government for work on behalf of the Belgian Relief Fund and the King George VI Coronation Medal. Their son Harold W Riley Jr was a lawyer and for a period of time worked with Riley's Limited; in 1957 he was appointed to the Alberta Supreme Court.

Alfred & Ada Riley

Alfred Riley (1872-1933) began working on his parents' homestead in 1888, at the age of sixteen. From 1896 he was part of the Riley & Sons partnership, ran his own homestead near Innisfail from 1893-99, and later



Portrait of Harold Riley (1877-1946) [Credits: Glenbow Archives PA-743-9]

ranching the lands he and his mother purchased. As well, Thomas' daughters leased the homestead farmlands they inherited to Alfred to operate. In 1912, he had his own Queen Anne Revival-style ranch house, Riley Lodge (extant, relocated near original location), designed by Leo Dowler and constructed on 1.2 acres diagonally opposite his parents' homestead. Harriet had reserved that acreage from the quarter section she sold to Scott & Hartrouft. In 1914, Alfred married Ada Maria Pullan (1880-1966) who had emigrated from Yorkshire, England seven years earlier. Alfred also ranching in Ardenode, 48 km northeast of the city, and wintered in Calgary from around 1911 until his passing in 1933³⁵. Ada inherited the lodge and acreage; nephew Frank Rosset Riley³⁶ received Alfred's portion of Section 31, with the remainder of Alfred's estate going to his five surviving brothers³⁷. Edmund ran the farm in Ardenode for a time until Harold eventually took over those ranching operations.

³⁵ Apart from a period of 4 years when the ranch changed ownership.

³⁶ Frank Russell Riley's son.

³⁷ Alfred was predeceased by his older brother Thomas in 1927 per research of Marg McReady.



Portrait of Maude Riley (nee Keene, 1880-1962) [Credits: Glenbow Archives PA-2807-3152A]

Thomas & Frank Riley

Brothers Thomas Charles (1868-1927) and Frank Russell (1870-1939) were both businessmen. Both had worked with H Shorey and Co for their early careers; they later worked together in the wholesale and retail coal business. Like Harold, Frank served on City Council, although with a shorter term from 1912 to 1913. Frank was also involved with the promotion of amateur sports, and he and Ezra formed the Hillhurst Football Club. He, wife Mildred and family took up residence in the original Hounsfeld Lodge where he lived until his passing.

c) Other pioneers

Byam Martin Godsall

Byam Martin Godsall (1856-1935) - described by the Herald³⁸ as 'one of Calgary's earliest settlers [who arrived] before the railway was built' - had a homestead along the Bow River in the southeast corner of today's Hillhurst (NW16, northwest quarter of Section 16) as well as a large ranch in Pine Creek.

³⁸ The Calgary Weekly Herald, November 7, 1888.

He began homesteading the NW16 in the summer of 1883³⁹, and registered his cattle brand in 1884. His brother Frederick (FW) was well-known as a pioneer rancher in the Pincher Creek area and as an amateur historian for southern Alberta's 'old-timer' history. The brothers were raised in Shropshire, England, and FW had been educated at Oxford and Eton.

In April 1885, Byam was one of a gathering of about fifty pioneer settlers concerned about their claims including Sam Livingston and John Glenn who met at Glenn's Fish Creek farm. Livingston, who after nine years did not receive recognition of his claim, stated that between "government reserves, leases, school lands, and Hudson Bay lands, a man was unable to find a spot to settle" and if he did settle was "certain to be chased ... either by the police, land agents, or government officials" and "driven out" as had been the case for numerous acquaintances. The group formed the Alberta Settlers' Rights Association and formulated a petition of resolutions for improvements to forward to the Prime Minister. The main requests were that Alberta land suitable for cultivation under lease, as well as all of the Townships in the Calgary locale, be opened up to homesteading. Their actions contributed to land settlement reform, and in the shorter term the government quickly opened up several townships near the city, and future ranch leases were subject to two years' cancellation. Senator Cochrane was persuaded to relinquish leases in areas of the the Bow Valley where settlement seemed likely⁴⁰.

The northwest quarter of Section 16 was granted in 1886 to Thomas Wesley Jackson, an Ontario-born barrister, politician and railway investor who settled in Fort Qu'Appelle, who in turn forwarded the patent to Peter Prince of the Bow River Lumber Company. The land would later be acquired by developers Bennett and Ross and became the 'Broadview'

³⁹ Claim in homestead file 43503.

⁴⁰ Breen (1970).

subdivision of Hillhurst in 1907. More research is required to determine what happened to Godsal's claim. By late 1888 he had auctioned his entire herd of dairy cattle for a planned relocation to Australia; however, he ended up settling in America by 1890.

Philip Sidney Van Cortlandt

From early 1883 ex-NWMP officer Philip Sidney Van Cortlandt homesteaded the part of the southwest quarter of Section 22 that lay north of the boulevard fronting the Bow River. His farm was located in the most eastern part of today's Sunnyside between 4th Street NW and Centre Street North. In March 1883, he erected his dwelling and began cultivating his crops and building a road, but did not reside there because materials were not available at that time in Calgary to complete the house. He worked the land throughout the summer, and had fencing and breaking done in 1884 and in summer 1885 was able to live there. A dispute arose over the fulfilment of his homestead conditions, which he appealed in 1887; a solution was found for him to be granted part of the land (about 40 acres) and to make a modest payment for the remainder of the quarter section which was finally granted in 1889. The quarter section was acquired by Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company in 1896, then by Homestead Inspector John Rawlings Thompson. By 1906, rancher Archibald J McArthur owned the west half of Section 22, including this quarter section, to develop as multiple Crescent Heights subdivisions.

Samuel William Trott

Samuel William Trott (1847-1891), a pioneer pharmacist from Collingwood, Ontario, came west in 1871 with a survey team, establishing himself as a druggist in Winnipeg before settling in Calgary in 1883, where he opened Trott Brothers drug store on Stephen Avenue the following year. By 1886, he was building a new drugstore

and a new house. He applied to purchase the south half of Section 20 but did not wish to have his dwelling there, although he made the necessary improvements to the land, including erecting extensive fencing, planting 100 trees, and raising 100 head of cattle. Only twenty acres were worked for crops, much of the land having too much gravel for cultivation. His success in real estate enabled him to sell his pharmacy business in 1888. In 1889, he married Elizabeth Jane Wardlow from Quebec who became 'a favourite in the community'.

Samuel received the grant to his land in 1890, and in February 1891 sold the southeast quarter to George and Henry Alexander. Sadly in August the Trotts' only son Bruce died of cholera at six months old, and in November Samuel passed away from a sudden illness⁴¹.

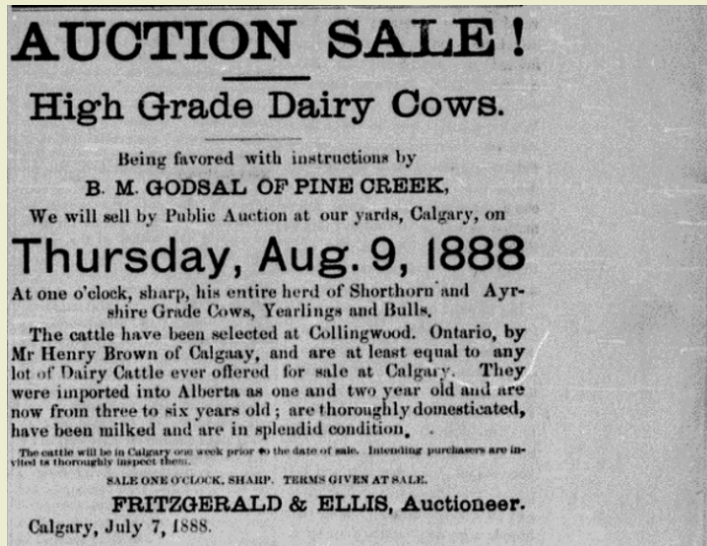
George and Henry Alexander

Irish-born cousins George and Henry (Harry) Alexander who purchased the southeast quarter from Trott ran the 2 Dot Ranch near Nanton, and also begun accumulating land near Calgary from 1888. The Alexander cousins had also purchased Section 19 north of the Bow from the CPR in 1888, as well as the northeast quarter of Section 20 from Eva MacKay Sutherland in 1890⁴². It appears that the cousins ranched the land they amassed in this area during the decade they owned it⁴³. The entrepreneurial cousins were also business leaders who invested substantially in the future of frontier Calgary. George was president of the Calgary Gas & Waterworks Co and built the sandstone Alexander Block in 1891; he ran his ranch and utility company interests from his office in the block. Henry was also involved in a British Columbia mining company. The cousins were directors of the Calgary Hydraulic Company, and George served as president. The Alexanders sold their ranch in 1901 and

⁴¹ Cameron (1993).

⁴² She had received the land grant in 1889.

⁴³ Per Klassen (2002), 260, they were among the ranchers using the Calgary Hydraulic Co irrigation works.



AUCTION SALE!
High Grade Dairy Cows.
Being favored with instructions by
B. M. GODSAL OF PINE CREEK,
We will sell by Public Auction at our yards, Calgary, on
Thursday, Aug. 9, 1888
At one o'clock, sharp, his entire herd of Shorthorn and Ayrshire Grade Cows, Yearlings and Bulls.
The cattle have been selected at Collingwood, Ontario, by Mr Henry Brown of Calgary, and are at least equal to any lot of Dairy Cattle ever offered for sale at Calgary. They were imported into Alberta as one and two year old and are now from three to six years old; are thoroughly domesticated, have been milked and are in splendid condition.
The cattle will be in Calgary one week prior to the date of sale. Intending purchasers are invited to thoroughly inspect them.
SALE ONE O'CLOCK, SHARP. TERMS GIVEN AT SALE.
FRITZGERALD & ELLIS, Auctioneer.
Calgary, July 7, 1888.

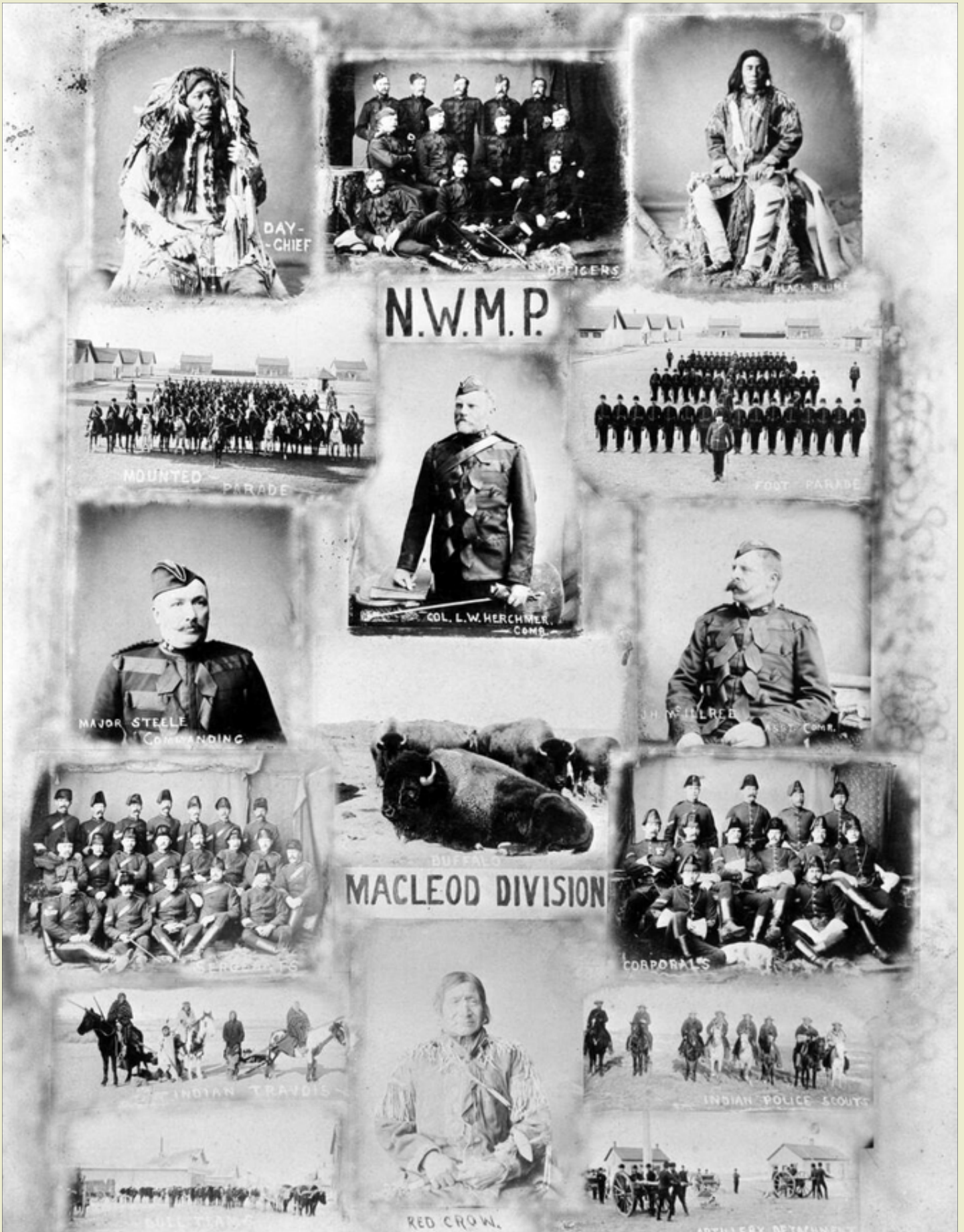
Advertisement, auction of Godsal's cattle [Credits: The Calgary Weekly Herald, July 25, 1888, p 3]

departed Canada; in 1902 the southeast quarter of Section 20 was acquired by Georgiana Riley which she developed in 1906 as 'Upper Hillhurst', and the east half of Section 19 by Harriet Riley.

Lawrence Herchmer

In May 1901, Lawrence William Herchmer (1840-1915) purchased CPR land in the north half of Section 17 north of the river, in the southwest part of today's Hillhurst, where he built and resided in the ca1901-1903 'old colonial Herchmer House' (extant, relocated to 1643 Broadview) for several years. He had been serving in the South African War from 1899 but in 1900 had been involuntarily retired from his position as Commissioner for the NWMP, a role he had held since 1886 when he was selected by Sir John A Macdonald. He came from a staunch Loyalist family based in Kingston, Ontario, and he and his wife's families had extensive political connections. His Oxford-educated father was a schoolmate and friend of Sir John A Macdonald. As with all his siblings he was born in England, where he and his brothers were educated. His diverse experience in Canada and abroad with the military, farming, business and Indian agencies led to his selection as Commissioner⁴⁴.

⁴⁴ Herchmer was also a member of the 'Pack of Western Wolves'.



Commissioner LW Herchmer; Superintendent Samuel B Steele; Assistant Commissioner JH McIllree, Day Chief; Black Plume; Red Crow 1890s
 [Credits: Glenbow archives NA-784-1]



Glenbow Archives NA-1212-3

Portrait of Samuel William Trott (1847-1891) [Credits: Glenbow Archives NA-1212-3]

Herchmer is credited with shaping the early NWMP into an efficient organization and effective military operation, improving training and living conditions, and introducing a pension plan and medical examinations. By no means a popular figure, his uneven temperment, political associations and strict enforcement of disciplinary actions attracted enemies and campaigns against him, and led to his early retirement. But he left a legacy of a NWMP with significantly higher morale and reputation, and the wide-brimmed felt hat and the musical rides that he adopted have become widely popular. He and his second wife, Jane Ashworth, developed the land in 1907 as the 'Westmont' subdivision of Hillhurst, reserving an acreage for them to live in their colonial home.

d) Early Subdivisions

The 1913 EA Victor Street Map of the City of Calgary on page 23 illustrates significant changes that took place over the three decades that passed since the Township survey shown in Section 3a was performed. Although some Riley family lands remain, either for agricultural use or loaned as a golf course,

⁴⁵ The east-most grid lots with east-west orientation in Plan 1948P were referred to on maps as New Edinburgh.

⁴⁶ Peach (1983).

most of Hillhurst-Sunnyside has been registered as subdivisions. The Riley lands would eventually become Hillhurst, West Hillhurst, Briar Hill, Hounsfield Heights, St Andrew's Heights, University Heights, parts of Brentwood, Charleswood, parts of Parkdale and the north campus of the University of Calgary.

Hillhurst

Ezra Riley's 1904 Plan 5609J 'Hillhurst' was the first of the subdivisions listed above to be registered. His plan retained the segment of the Morleyville Trail that traversed it, changing the name to Morleyville Road, as well as the diagonal trail north of the slough which became Gladstone Avenue. Street names in his subdivision like Kensington, Gladstone and Essex showed the family's English roots. In 1906, he registered the rest of Hillhurst as Plan 5179O which continued with English street names including Buckingham and Victoria; a large lot on Church Avenue was reserved for a Church of England (Anglican). The English references continued with the Riley Park land that Ezra donated to the City in 1910, where he requested William Reader to install cricket pitches in 1919. He later sold the Riley acreage north of the park to the province for educational use in 1918 (today's Southern Alberta Institute of Technology and Alberta University of the Arts).

In 1902, Georgiana Riley acquired the east half of Section 20, and developed the southeast quarter as Plan 6219L 'Upper Hillhurst' in 1906. The streets took the names of Riley family members as well as members of the British Royal family, the latter continuing the English references.

Sunnyside

East of the Morleyville Trail (10th Street), developers Arthur Bennett and William Ross engaged surveyor Herbert Harrison Moore to register the 1906 Plan 2448O 'Sunnyside' and its larger addition, Plan

1948P, in 1907⁴⁵. Moore's layout employs a striking juxtaposition of grid lots with east-west orientation along the main corridors, and northeast-southwest orientation in the centre to align with the river, set against deep, narrow lots that run perpendicular to the base of the bluff. Distinctive intersections are created where the different grids connect.

Ross and Bennett were prolific Calgary real estate agents, developers and builders. In addition to Sunnyside, they were responsible for the subdivisions of Broadview, Lincoln Park, Happyland and Capitol Hill. William Ross (1858-1914) was born in Bruce County, Ontario and was of Scottish descent. He had worked in a variety of fields before moving to Calgary with his wife Anna (Annie, née Ferguson) in 1905 including teaching, the cattle trade, farming, running a general store and selling real estate in Manitoba⁴⁶. In Calgary he focused on real estate and development, and also served in municipal politics as an alderman from 1910 until his death. He formed a partnership with Arthur Bennett around 1906. Arthur Bennett was a City of Calgary auditor and his wife Marion was also a real estate agent. The two were responsible for the subdivisions of Sunnyside and Broadview. William later formed Wm Ross and Company with his son William Ferguson Ross and George T French. Ross's early experience running a general store likely led him to build the 1911 Sunnyside Grocery which his son William Ferguson later owned until 1939.

Westmont

South of Upper Hillhurst lay the east part of Westmont, Plan 5151O, a 1907 subdivision of the north half of Section 17, survey by HH Moore and for Jane and Col Lawrence Herchmer where their acreage was reserved in the southeast portion fronting the Boulevard along the river (in the southwest corner of today's Hillhurst west of 17th Street). Street names like McDonald and

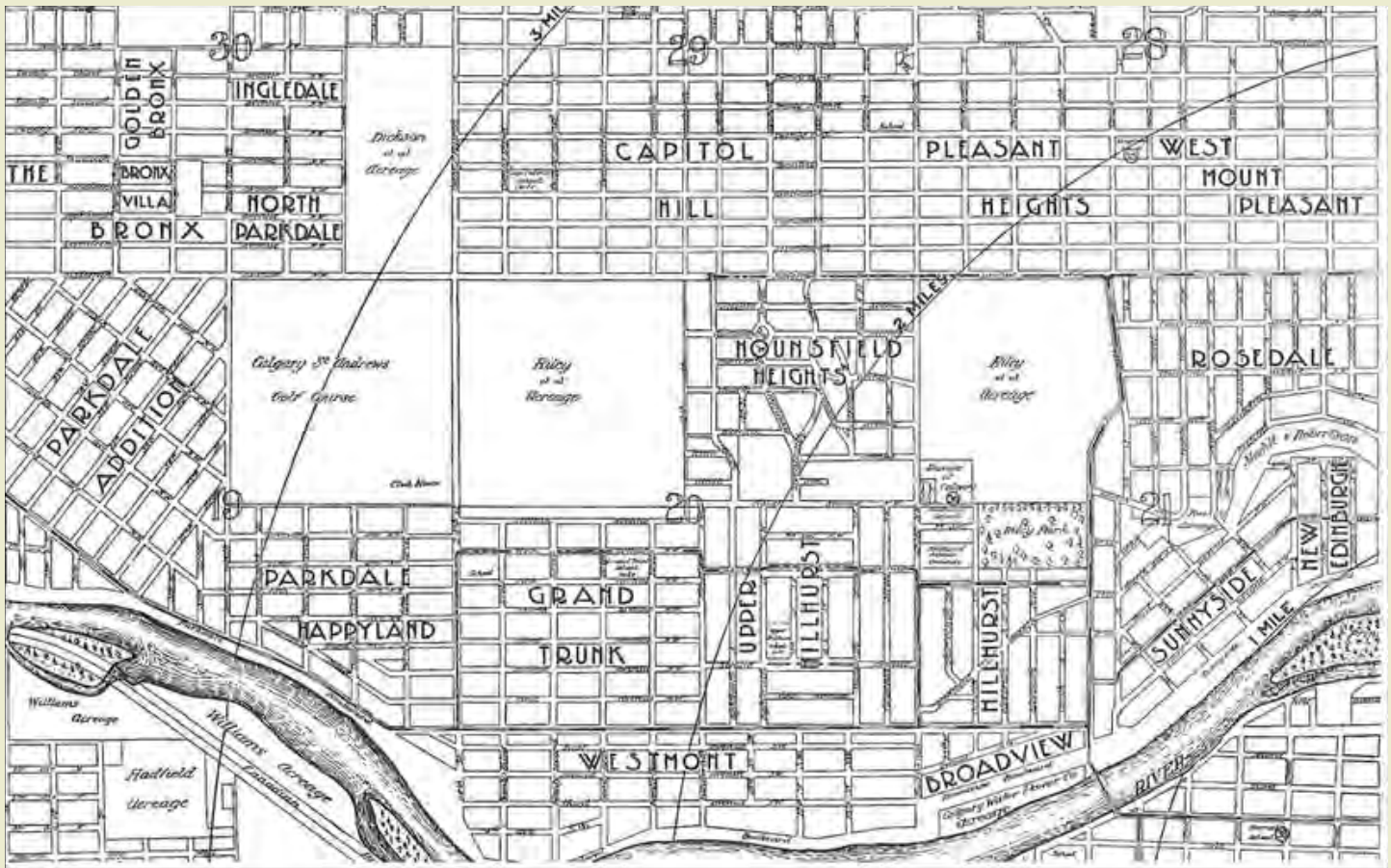
Strathcona streets and Herchmer Avenue reference the pioneer landowner and his connections to the land.

Broadview

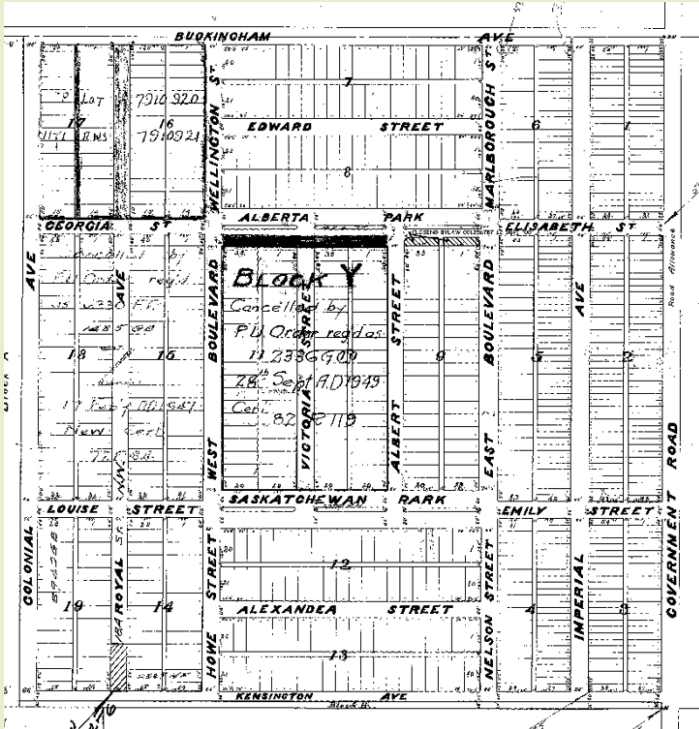
South of the 1904 Hillhurst subdivision, in the northwest quarter of Section 16, Bennett and Ross registered another of their suburbs, Plan 4163P Broadview in 1907, the same year as their addition to Sunnyside. The layout, also by HH Moore, shows the same contrasting lot orientations as Sunnyside, but on a much smaller scale. William Ross built the Ross and Louisa Blocks in Broadview.

New Edinburgh and southeast Crescent Heights

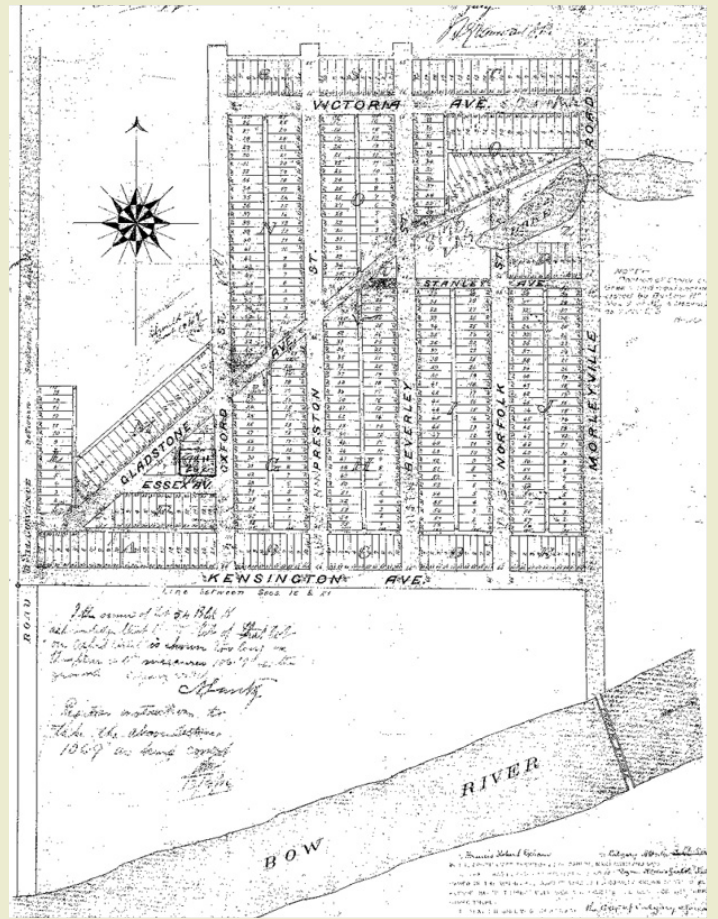
East of Sunnyside, the southwest quarter of Section 22 homesteaded by Van Cortlandt was subdivided in multiple smaller plans. The west-most was New Edinburgh between Sunnyside Lane and 5a Street. 'New Edinburgh' was the east part of the larger 1907 Sunnyside addition (Plan 1948P) with the east-west grid orientation. Between New Edinburgh and Centre Street, the east border of today's Sunnyside, small areas of land were originally registered as plans for Crescent Heights.



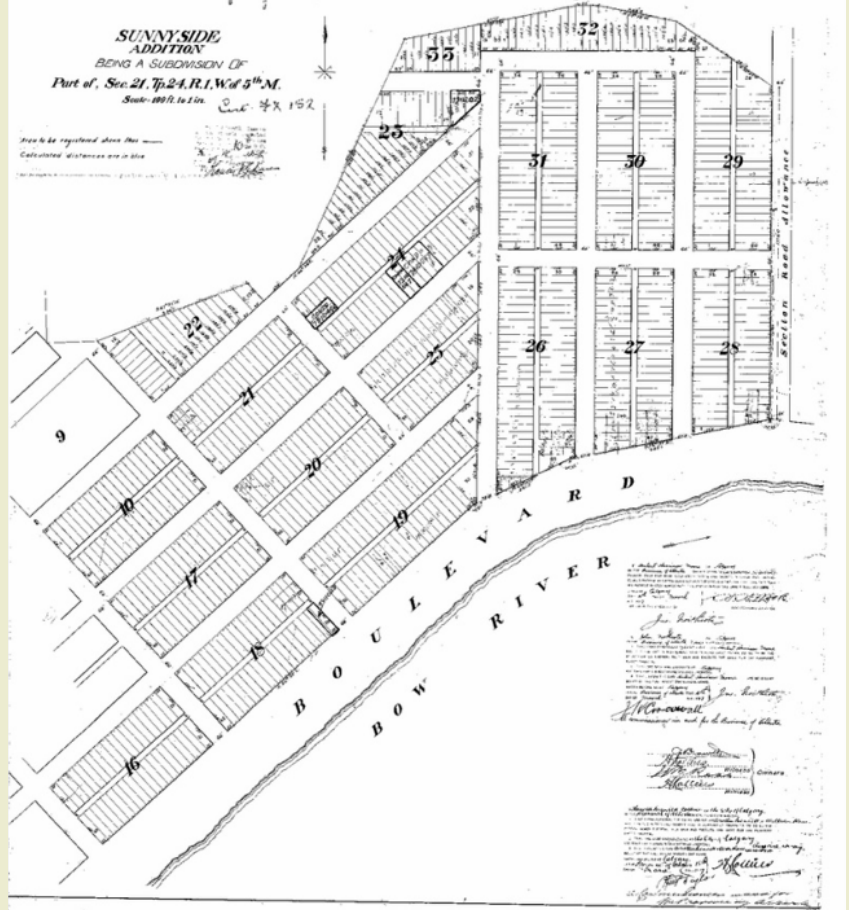
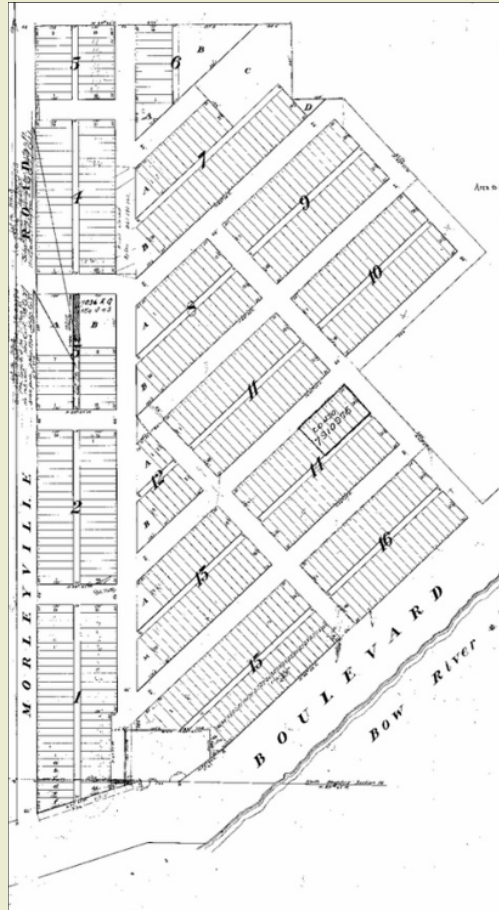
EA Victor's Street Map of the City of Calgary (cropped) [Credits: Calgary Public Library Calg-45]



The 1906 Plan 6219L 'Upper Hillhurst' (cropped) [Credits: Alberta Land Titles]



The 1904 Plan 5609J 'Hillhurst' by Albert Charles Talbot (cropped). The block just west of the 'lake' was surveyed into lots as Plan 8175AG in 1910. [Credits: Alberta Land Titles]



Sunnyside Plans: 1906 Plan 2448O (cropped) and its 1907 Plan 1948P [Credits: Alberta Land Titles]

Theme Summary: Early homesteaders and pioneer settlement (1883-1907)

Thematic value

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses person value for:

- the Riley pioneer ranch family were city-builders, who left a legacy in the landscape with the subdivisions they established, the land they donated for park space and education, and the institutions they created and supported.
- the other early pioneers who homesteaded on the lands where the community is located: the Felix McHugh family, Byam Godsal, Philip Sidney Van Cortlandt, Samuel William Trott, George and Henry Alexander, and Lawrence and Jane Herchmer.

Character defining elements

Historic street and feature names:

- English street names which remain, Kensington and Gladstone.
- sidewalk stamps like Norfolk at the corner of 10A Street and Kensington Road
- Westmont and Broadview road names, and New Edinburgh Park name which reference their original subdivision names.

Historic subdivision names:

- the original names of early subdivision plans, Hillhurst and Sunnyside, maintained for today's communities

Historic subdivision plan layouts:

- surveyor Herbert Moore's street layout for Sunnyside with east-west lot orientation along the main corridors, and northeast-southwest lot orientation in the centre to align with the river, set against deep, narrow lots that run perpendicular to the base of the bluff; distinctive intersections where the different grids connect.
- surveyor Albert Charles Talbot's street layout for Hillhurst with roads that reference pre-contact trails

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this theme

- Existing - Heritage Hall (1921), Riley Park (1911), Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden (1956)
- Additional sites outside the Hillhurst-Sunnyside community boundaries: Riley Lodge (1910), home of Alfred Riley located in Parkdale, within the original Riley family homestead lands
- Potential - Alberta University of the Arts campus (1926)
- Potential sites outside the Hillhurst-Sunnyside community boundaries: The Louise Riley branch library (1959) named to recognise the important role she played in the library system - located at 1904 14th Avenue NW, outside the community but within Thomas Riley's original homestead.



Thomas & Georgiana Riley mausoleum [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Potential historic sites for interpretation

- The former site of the Felix McHugh house and acreage at the over pass approach at the corner of Memorial Drive and 9A Street.
- The ca1901-1903 'old colonial Herchmer House' built by Col Lawrence Herchmer, moved in 1946 to 1643 Broadview. It should be investigated whether it retains enough integrity to evaluate as an historic resource , however it sustained fire damage in 1948 and has also undergone significant exterior alterations.
- The former site of the Sunnyside Grocery (1911) demolished in 2018
- St Barnabas churchyard - When Georgiana passed in 1907 special dispensation was received from the Lord Bishop to bury her in the St Barnabas churchyard. Accounts of Thomas' funeral show the bond forged by Calgary pioneers; his pall bearers were Peter Prince, Judge Stuart and Colonel Walker. Alfred died May 16, 1933 and is also buried in the family plot in Union Cemetery. His funeral was held at St Barnabas Church. Some family members are interred in the family plot at the Union Cemetery. There is a plaque at St Barnabas re Ezra's son Thomas Riley who was killed in action at Passendale who was buried near the front lines with eighty-two others killed on the same day. However, he has no known grave⁴⁷.

⁴⁷ Per information provided by an Ezra Riley family descendent.

Early Commerce & Industry



Boulevard along the Bow River, Sunnyside (foreground) viewed from the east, ca1910s [Credits: Glenbow Archives na-479-41-1, Stanley Brooker fonds]

a) The Streetcar

Annexations

It is not surprising that many of the subdivisions discussed above were registered in 1907. Most of Hillhurst-Sunnyside - the area south of 8th Avenue - was annexed in 1907 and the remainder in 1910. After the 1907 annexation, planning began for a municipal streetcar system - the Calgary Municipal Railway - to serve the growing city, including the newly annexed subdivisions. Streetcar service, once operational, would in turn determine where a neighbourhood's commercial development would take place since individuals seeking to establish their new enterprises

would choose sites along the streetcar route, knowing their businesses would be accessible.

Roadways

Annexation also affected existing street names since the street-naming convention needed to conform to Calgary's numeric quadrant system (NW, SW, etc.) put in place in 1904 to facilitate postal service. The trail to Morleyville which had become Morleyville Road in the 1904 subdivision plan was renamed 10th Street to align with the system. Other important traffic corridors had historically been the section roads which demarcated sections within the township. These include 16th Avenue (the Trans-Canada Highway) which briefly traverses the northern edge of Hillhurst between

10th and 14th streets, and today's Kensington Road. Originally named Kensington Avenue, after annexation it became Centre Avenue and the north-south baseline for the Calgary's quadrant system until 1925. At that time the reference line shifted to the Bow River and the Kensington Road name was restored.

Although it is not a section road, the busy drive along the Bow River, today's Memorial Drive, is also an important traffic route with an interesting naming history. Originally known as the Boulevard, a name that appeared at least as early as 1886 in a plan for villa lots in Section 22, it was later called it the Calgary Boulevard in subdivision plans for Westmont and Broadview. As more pre-war subdivisions were registered the road became associated with the different subdivision names: Westmount Boulevard, Broadview Boulevard, Sunnyside Boulevard, etc. and that pattern continued outside the community with Parkdale Boulevard to the west and Riverside Boulevard to the east for example. In 1922, Riverside Boulevard was renamed Memorial Drive as part of a plan to create a living memorial of trees to honour and remember those soldiers killed in the First World War⁴⁸. By 1943 Sunnyside Boulevard was named simply Boulevard again, however, the continuous changes in street naming likely created confusion. In 1963, the entire road east of Crowchild Trail became Memorial Drive.

Streetcar

Hillhurst-Sunnyside's streetcar system was one of the earliest to develop - from 1909 - and offered the best service outside the city centre. Part of the rollout of the Calgary Municipal Railway's first network in 1909, it was the only service north of the Bow. The river crossing selected was the Louise Bridge at 10th Street in favour of Centre Street which had steeper grades⁴⁹. The streetcars ran across the Louise Bridge along 10th

Street to a turn-around near 5th (Victoria) Street at Riley Park; naturally 10th Street saw the community's first commercial development.

By 1912 the neighbourhood's service had significantly expanded. In Hillhurst, it expanded west with a loop (the 'red line') that ran along 5th Avenue from 10th to 14th Street, along 14th Street to Kensington Road - enabling those two roads to develop commercially after 1912 - and returned to 10th Street. On 10th Street the line also extended further north to 16th Avenue where it accessed areas outside the community to the northeast.

In Sunnyside, a new route was introduced to residential streets along 2nd, 7th and 6th Avenues, traversing most of the subdivision before reaching a turnaround. In July 1912 Hillhurst was part of the inaugural run of an impressive new 50-passenger scenic car which ran along various scenic routes in the city, including the panoramic Sunnyside Loop. The canvas-covered open car featured bronze gates, and varnished seats in elevated tiers.

The neighbourhood's streetcar service expanded further between 1913 and 1921. In Hillhurst service on 8th Avenue, 14th Street and Kensington Road was extended west to interface a loop that accessed the west-most part of Hillhurst, 'Grand Trunk' and east Parkdale in 1913. Residents recall the smaller-sized trams (another name for streetcars) employed on this route which they nick-named the 'Toonerville Trolley'. Service in Sunnyside was extended by the short distance east required to reach Centre Street (an extension that was discontinued in 1944 due to recurring washouts that year)⁵⁰. Also in 1921, streetcar service in the community was significantly facilitated by the construction of the new concrete-arch Hillhurst Bridge just east of the Louise Bridge.

⁴⁸ Covered in more detail in Section 5b.

⁴⁹ Foran (1978); Melnyk (1985).

⁵⁰ Hatcher (1975).

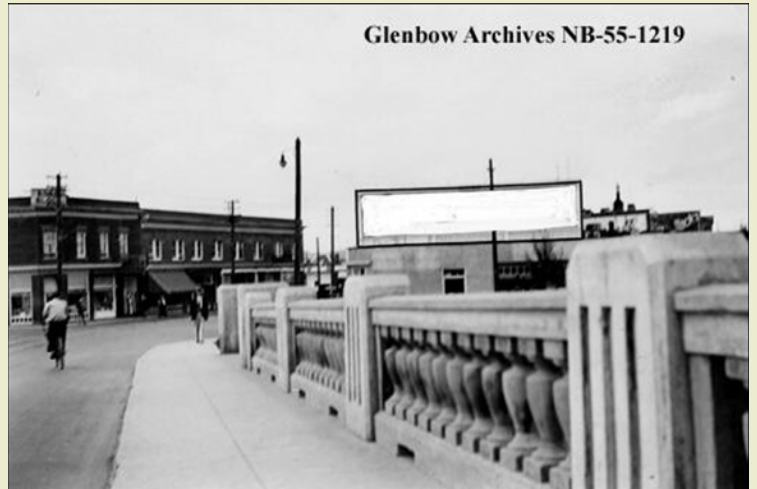
As with the rest of the city, the conversion from trams to buses (also called coaches) began taking place in 1946. The first step was a new corporate name that did not include 'railway': the Calgary Transit System. The same year, an interim phase began during which streetcars were converted to trolley trams. For a period both the converted trolley trams and trolley coaches were operating in the system, until eventually only trolley coaches remained in the system and the tracks were dug up from roadways. The trolley system was eventually replaced by diesel-powered buses. Electric railways would not return to the community until light rail transit was introduced in 1987.

b) Early Commercial Development

10th Street

Because the Hillhurst-Sunnyside streetcar system provided the best service outside the city centre, and because streetcar service and commercial development were closely linked, 10th Street soon developed into one of Calgary's most important commercial streets. Although Kensington Road and 14th Street also developed as local commercial streets after they became streetcar routes in 1912⁵¹, 10th Street became the neighbourhood's main shopping area and remained the sole access to other streetcar routes in the community until the Mewata Bridge crossing was constructed at 14th Street in 1954⁵².

The introduction of service in 1909 spurred considerable commercial activity on 10th Street between 1909 and 1912. The shopping area developed south of 3rd Avenue because of the sloughs, still present at that time, preventing development further north. With its location near the Louise Bridge, the shopping area was referred to as 'The Bridge'⁵³. Although the area



The Ross Block viewed from the Louise Bridge, ca1940s [Credits: Glenbow Archives nb-55-1219]

seems a modest size, the narrow twenty-five foot lots housed a remarkable number and variety of small businesses. Sixteen businesses were listed in the 1912 Henderson's, with an additional five businesses on Boulevard (Memorial Drive) at 10th Street. By 1914 the east side of 10th Street was almost fifty per cent built out and the impressive Ross Block (non-extant) on the west side, wrapped around the corner of 10th and Boulevard. Development slowed through the inter-war years, but picked up significantly in the early years of the post-war era when the commercial street was fully built out. Today a contiguous stretch of 1911-19 buildings on the east side near the bridge is a strong reminder of the years of the developing commercial street.

One of the earliest and best known businesses on 10th Street, Arthur Webb's general store (later Webb's Dry Goods), was located in the Ross Block for over half a century. He carried dry goods and notions, and was ahead of his time offering his customers a loyalty discount. In the same block, two doors north, was the Rossland Confectionery which operated from 1914 into the sixties. The longest term proprietor was Chris Chrisohou Smith who emigrated from Greece in 1913, and later his nephew George Chrisohou. They made and sold hand-made sweets and ice cream, as did the Dari Rich Milk Bar across the street in the 1911 Carscallen Block (116-118A).

⁵¹ City of Calgary (1988).

⁵² City of Calgary (1988).

⁵³ Sanders (2005).



1912 Irwin Block viewed from the south west [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

The oldest business north of the Bow was WC Black Druggist (later Black's Drugstore) which opened in the same block before moving two doors south. The pharmacy was notable for its post office, soda fountain and ice cream counter. Upon Black's passing in 1944 pharmacist William (Bill) Mitchell, who had worked at the drugstore from his internship in 1935, took over until his retirement in 1982 when he closed the business.

The 1912 Irwin Block, adjacent to the Carscallen Block on the south side, is a landmark in the shopping area because of its highly visible location at the east end of Kensington Road. Further south are three adjacent 1919 blocks: 108 which first housed Hillhurst Hardware followed by a number of meat markets from the mid-1920s including butcher Thomas Rhodes' Bridge Meat Market, referencing its location near the bridge; 106a to the south where Black's and the post office

were located for seven decades and later owned by Black; and south of that 106/104 which had the Union and Royal Bank as early tenants as well as a series of hardware stores including the Louise Hardware - another reference to the bridge nearby.

Further north the two-storey commercial-residential brick ca1912 Garnet Block (non-extant), originally the Gordon Block, is interesting as an early example of re-use in the community. It was moved west on 2nd Avenue from its original location on 8th Street to 302 10th Street to accommodate school grounds for the Sunnyside Bungalow School. Contractor George Kerr acquired the Gordon Block, and moved the building in 1927, at which time he re-named it for his only son, Garnet. It was a challenging move which necessitated the building being cut into two parts. He had also built the ca1911 Kerr Block on Memorial Drive where he lived and also ran Hillhurst Furniture Exchange -

The Hillhurst Furniture Exchange
 GEO. A. KERR, Manager.
 THE HOUSE OF ONE HUNDRED BARGAINS.
 KERR BLOCK, 1120 BOULEVARD, N.W. CALGARY.



Ranges
Ranges
Ranges

New Steel Top...\$58.00
 to \$99.00
 Heaters, size and price to
 suit all...\$7.75 to \$25
 Dining Suite, solid quarter
 cut oak, 8 pieces...\$115
 to \$140
 New Brass Beds, complete,
 for \$38.00

THE HOUSE OF ONE HUNDRED BARGAINS.
 KERR BLOCK, 1120 BOULEVARD, N.W. GEO. A. KERR, Prop.
 PHONE M2765.

1919 advertisement for Kerr's Hillhurst Furniture Exchange originally in the Kerr Block, later moved to the Garnet Block [credits: Calgary Daily Herald 1919-12-06, p41]

another early example of re-use in the community - which moved to the Garnet Block. The Garnet Block appears to have been replaced by a similar scale red-brick commercial block in the 1970s.

Chain grocery stores were introduced along 10th Street during the inter-war years, beginning with Jenkins Groceteria No. 5 in 1919 and later Piggly Wiggly No. 1 from the early 1930s, the latter becoming Safeway when acquired by that chain in 1935. Since then, Safeway has been continuously present on 10th Street and at its current location at 410 from the 1960s⁵⁴.

Kensington Road

The other local streetcar commercial streets, Kensington Road and 14th Street, got their start with the 1912 and 1913 expansions. Kensington Road had a gradual beginning, with a handful of early businesses⁵⁵ in a predominantly residential street. Through the inter-war period the number of business doubled, and

⁵⁴ Smith (1977); Henderson's Directories.

included the Plaza Theatre, a 1928 garage re-adapted in 1934-35 to a movie house. The theatre has not lost its popularity from when it first opened and children lined up around the corner for matinees to when it became Calgary's first combined live theatre and movie house in 1984 and is still going strong.

A number of institutional buildings were also erected on the commercial street during the inter-war period. By 1950 it was a bustling commercial street with twenty-five businesses. A long term resident and grocer in the neighbourhood was Albert Wood. In business from 1912 he ran Wood Bros at 1442 with his brother Robert until 1930, and then became the proprietor of the Red & White Store, down the street at 1436 Kensington Road. The original Wood Bros location became Empress Grocery with the next long term resident-owner David Baber, with both stores operating through the early 1950s, at which time a new grocery, Jenkins Grocery No 18 was also operating across the street at 1433.

14th Street

Commercial development for the community's other secondary commercial street, 14th Street, was much more gradual. Hay's Dairy Co Ltd was the sole business listed in the 1914 Henderson's, and even in 1950 there were still only five listings with the Hay's Dairy location occupied by Palm Dairy. However things changed a few years later with the erection of the Mewata Bridge in 1954. By 1959 the number of commercial buildings had increased to thirty-nine, with the businesses generally clustered near the intersections with Kensington Road and with 5th Avenue.

A popular enterprise in business for five decades was Sam's Cosy Corner, operated in by Sam and Sara Lubinsky the Tindall Block⁵⁶, which opened in 1927 the

⁵⁵ Per Henderson's five in 1912, declining to two in 1914 after the outbreak of war and three in 1920.

⁵⁶ Appears to be non-extant, replaced by a brick building in the early



1100 block of Kensington Road [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

year after they emigrated from Russia. Located next to the Telephone Exchange building, the Cosy Corner became a place where youth in the community could gather. The couple ran it for forty-four years after which their son took their place until 1977.

Development on the 5th Avenue streetcar route was limited to the 1200 block. In 1912 the John Crocker meat market opened in the Hunter Block (Riley Park Grocery, extant). Four businesses were present by 1920, including a bakery, grocery and confectionery; however by 1950 only two enterprises remained, and by 1959 a sole business, Cal's Grocery & Confectionery in the Hunter Block.

For the streetcar route through Sunnyside along 2nd and 7th avenues, build-out was mainly residential, but there were some businesses and apartments closer to 10th Street as well as local grocers conveniently located for residents further east along the route. The first business was the Sunnyside Grocery built by William Ross in 1911 (non-extant⁵⁷). A one-storey two-bay brick-clad store was built at 522 7th Avenue (extant) between 1911 and 1914. From 1921 it served as a grocery store, and became Jenkins Groceteria No.

⁵⁷ Demolished in 2018.

10 from the late 1920s to the early 1950s.

In 1912, the Golden West Bakery opened in the Gordon Block's original location, and the North Star Grocery in the Vendome Block (extant), a store which went on to serve residents under various proprietors until the late 1980s. In 1913 Alfred Dawson opened his family food store in the East Sunnyside Grocery (extant). By 1920, only the grocers remained, the Gordon Block having been moved around 1919 to accommodate the bungalow school. There was little change in the 1950s except the Save More Store and Wolf's Grocery and Confectionary were now operating in the East Sunnyside Grocery.

c) Early Industry

Quarries

Felix McHugh operated a quarry, one of two quarries in today's Sunnyside, at the base of the escarpment near today's 4th Street. The second, the Sunnyside Freestone Quarry, was located east of McHugh's quarry and run by Scottish quarry operator John McCallum from at least 1889. McCallum would deliver any size of dimension stone as well as rubble or shoddy, and a

sandstone bassinette from his quarry won a medallion at the 1896 Chicago World's Fair. McCallum had also acquired and operated Butlin's quarry below the Calgary Golf and Country Club after 1891 as well as the Elbow River Quarry in Ramsay from about 1894.

Calgary Water Power Company

One of Calgary's first hydro plants was located in today's Hillhurst. It was a two-storey, wood-frame vernacular building erected along a weir across the Bow River just west of the Bow Marsh Bridge. It

was built and operated by the Calgary Water Power Company established by Peter Prince.

Prince, originally baptised Pierre Edouard Prince⁵⁸, was born in Trois Rivières, Québec and worked in the lumber and hotel industries in Ontario⁵⁹ before moving to Eau Claire, Wisconsin to work for the Eau Claire Lumber Company. In 1885, during Calgary's frontier days, he travelled to Alberta on behalf of that firm to develop logging operations in the town. A year later the Eau Claire and Bow River Lumber Company



Clockwise from top: 1912 Vendome Block, 1913 East Sunnyside Grocery and 1912 Hunter Block, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

⁵⁸ Per 1936 baptism record.

⁵⁹ The Calgary Daily Herald, January 13, 1925.

established a mill in Calgary with Prince as operations manager and Isaac Kerr as president.

Prince and Kerr also established the Calgary Water Power Company⁶⁰ in 1889 and were awarded a contract for street lighting by the Town that year, erecting an electric lighting plant at the Eau Claire sawmill site. In 1893 they built their first hydro plant - also the first in Calgary - between the south bank of the Bow and Prince's Island. The following year the company was awarded a ten-year exclusive agreement to provide Calgary, now a newly incorporated city, with electricity. In the 1920s, the firm and other small service providers were acquired by their competitor, the Calgary Power Company⁶¹ established in 1910 which completed major projects like the province's first major hydro plant at Horseshoe Falls near Seebe, Alberta. They acquired the Calgary Water Power Company in 1928.

The Calgary Hydraulic Company

The cancellation of the large grazing leases in 1884 opened up southern Alberta to smaller ranch and farm operations. With the challenges presented by the area's semi-arid climate, there was a movement to establish irrigation policies and systems, with Calgary's William Pearce at the forefront.

The first irrigation project in the North West Territories was in today's Calgary, implemented by pioneer John Glenn at Fish Creek around 1878. In 1893 a charter was granted⁶² to the Calgary Hydraulic Company, incorporated that year to construct and operated an irrigation ditch along the Bow River through lands which are on today's communities of Hillhurst, West Hillhurst, Parkdale and Montgomery. The Alexander cousins, who by this time had amassed their significant

land holdings in the area, were the directors of the company and George served as president⁶³.

Their system comprised an irrigation ditch and head-works on the south bank of the Bow, a bridge carrying a flume across the river, and an irrigation ditch along the north bank that employed gravity to transport water eastward. Near Bowness Park they constructed a head gate and controllable dam that could raise the water level of an existing river channel. Water crossed the river near today's Hextall Bridge via a separate bridge carrying a wooden barrel flume to a ditch that originated in today's Montgomery and ended in today's Hillhurst; the water flowed eastward down a gradual gradient. It took until 1895 to complete the six-mile main ditch to Hillhurst, and the next year the company had twelve customers. However, customers protested that the cost of irrigation was not sustainable; the Department of the Interior agreed and reduced the allowable fee, and also limited the company's water flow use.

The corporation had more challenges with the 1897 flood. The high waters of the flood damaged the bridge carrying the flume between Bowness and Montgomery; debris carried downstream destroyed two pony-truss spans on the south end of the Bow Marsh Bridge, and also shut down the Calgary Hydraulic Company's operations. The firm unsuccessfully endeavoured to raise funds for repairs, and their operation was terminated when their application for water use was cancelled in 1900.

Sunnyside Greenhouses (Sunnyside Nurseries)

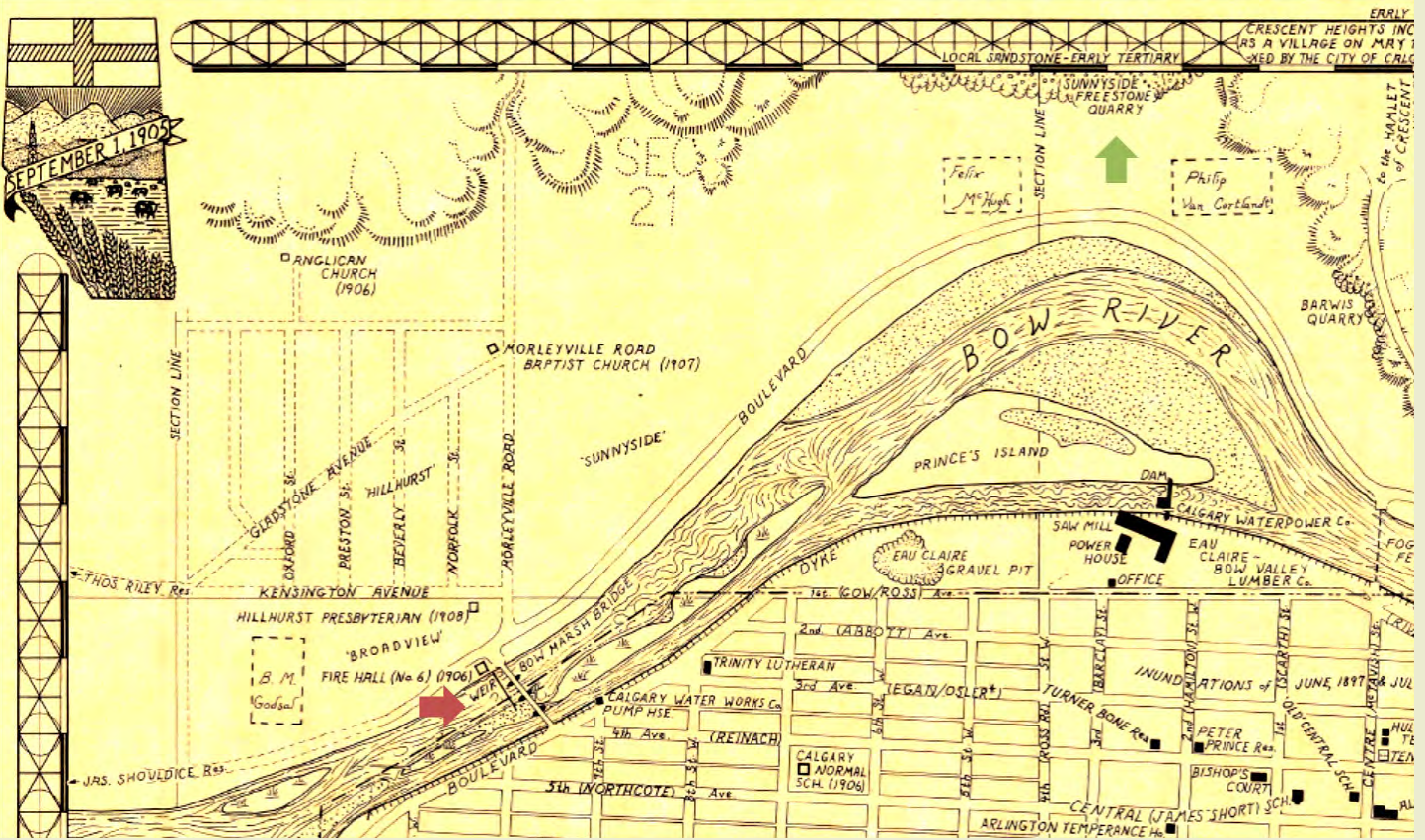
In 1918 Sunnyside Greenhouses Ltd (later Sunnyside Nurseries) was founded by steam fitter Robert McCullagh. The nurseries operated at 918 Memorial Drive, encompassing two lots on Memorial Drive and

⁶³ Along with their silent partner, Sir Douglas Brooke, a Baronet in

⁶⁰ Prince's other Calgary businesses were Calgary Milling Company, Calgary Iron Works and the Prince-Kerr Ranch Company.

⁶¹ Eventually became TransAlta Utilities.

⁶² Until 1894, federal charters were required to construct irrigation works.



Top: Part of ca1905 conjectural map by Donald Wilson for Alberta Centenary showing quarry (green Arrow) and hydro plant weir (red arrow)

[Credits: Calgary Public Library]

Bottom: Calgary Power Company dam, 1911 [Credits: Glenbow Archives na-1044-6]



three across the lane on 1st Avenue; McCullagh lived on site at 917 1st Avenue. In 1930, Jens and Ingeborg Jensen, Sunnyside residents who had emigrated from Denmark in the 1920s, joined the company and were sole owners by 1953. Their family home was one block west of the greenhouses and their son Gordon (1936-2014) grew up working in the family business. Shortly after Gordon and Elizabeth (Betty, nee Farrell, 1940-2020) were married, the couple took over the greenhouse operation. In addition to the nurseries they also ran a retail floral business. Betty was known for her talent as an entrepreneur. In 1965, they relocated the nurseries to Bowness. Under the next generation, Grant and Warren Jensen, the business continued to run into its centenary season in 2018, after which it was closed.

Theme Summary: The Early Commerce and Industry of Hillhurst-Sunnyside

Thematic value

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses activity value:

- for its associations since 1909 with its historic streetcar system, which was one of the earliest in Calgary to develop and which offered the best service outside the city centre.
- its historic streetcar commercial streets, which are the social and commercial hub of the community:
 - 10th Street, one of Calgary's earliest and most important commercial streets, which has been associated with commerce since 1909;
 - Kensington Road, which developed from 1912
- its associations with its frontier industries: Felix McHugh and John McCallum's quarries in Sunnyside; Peter Prince's Calgary Water Power Company just west of today's Louise (Hillhurst) bridge; and the leg of the Anderson Brother's Calgary Hydraulic Company which ran through Hillhurst.

Character defining elements

- 10th Street commercial street with buildings built out to the property line along a common setback with adjacent buildings; commercial uses and storefronts at street level; street trees;
- two-storey Edwardian Commercial Style buildings and one-storey Commercial Style buildings with storefronts at street level, recessed entry ways, large display windows with transom lights, brick façades, signbands and pressed metal cornices;
- contiguous stretch of 1911-19 buildings on the east side of 10th Street at the south end of the corridor; and east side of the 1100 block of Kensington Road;
- commercial signage such as wooden or pressed metal signbands, and/or small projecting signs on building façades at top of storefront; original painted "ghost" signs; and
- inter-war and post-war vernacular commercial buildings with interpretations or influences of styles of the period.

Existing and/or potential historic resources associated with this theme

Existing: Hunter Block (Riley Park Grocery) (1912), AGT Building - Hillhurst Exchange (1922), Hayden Block (1912), Plaza Theatre (1928), Smith Block (1911), Carscallen Block (1911), East Sunnyside Grocery (1913), Irwin Block (1912), Vendome Block (1912), 104/106 10 Street NW (1919), 106A 10 Street NW (1919), 108 10 Street NW (1919)

Potential: n/a

Potential historic sites for interpretation

- The former site of the Sunnyside Grocery (1911) demolished in 2018 at 802 2 AV NW
- Interpretive site for lost commercial buildings on 10th Street and the southwest corner of Memorial Drive: Garnet, Ross, Kerr, Lido blocks, etc.

Urban Development



One and one-half storey houses on 13th Street [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

a) Pre-war boom and First World War development (1904-1918)

Pre-war

From 1904, the year the Hillhurst subdivision was registered, until just prior to the outbreak of war in 1914, Calgary and her communities experienced a significant construction boom. Calgary had been advancing as a city, and Alberta had been established as a province in 1905. The boom was reflected early on in land costs: in 1905, lot prices were \$25, but in 1906, the year before the major annexation, lot prices soared to between \$200 and \$400. By 1911, both Sunnyside and Hillhurst were over fifty per cent built out on average, although some streets in both neighbourhoods developed more quickly than others, typically due to lot location - especially those with river view - and price. The southwest part of Sunnyside, in particular, was almost fully developed by that time.

Construction peaked in 1912 and by the end of the boom Hillhurst-Sunnyside was almost fully developed east of 14th Street, with build-out well underway between 14th and 16th streets.

Although some realtors attempted to market the area as exclusive, the reality was that much of the land in the two communities was a slough, reclaimed slough or subject to regular flooding. As a result, residential lots were affordable, which in turn was reflected in the main buyers, working-class residents, and in their choice of housing types. The most popular housing types by far during the boom were one-storey and one and one-half storey cottages, with twice as many one-storey homes being built. This is not surprising since cottages were affordable and especially appealed to first-time working-class and lower middle-class buyers.

Approximately one third of the one and one-half storey houses (houses where the entire upper storey is



Charles Hay's residence is an example of the one-storey variation of the Foursquare Style [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

contained within the roofline) were constructed with undeveloped upper storeys. This further reduced the initial cost of the home, while permitting owners to develop the attic space in the future to accommodate their growing families.

Two-storey homes were less common, especially in Sunnyside where a relatively small number were built⁶⁴; their first owners had a wide variety of occupations. Most buildings were wooden-frame with bevelled wood siding with notable exceptions in Sunnyside. By 1911 a little over one per cent of houses in Alberta were brick, and by 1921 just over two per cent were brick. The use of stone as a building material was even more uncommon; Hillhurst School, constructed with rough-cut yellow Paskapoo sandstone⁶⁵, is a rare instance.

⁶⁴ Housing typologies 1908-1918 listed in Green (1996); note that this study does not cover buildings west of 11th Street.

⁶⁵ From the Oliver Quarry.

The overwhelming majority of Hillhurst-Sunnyside's working-class and lower middle-class new home owners were trades persons employed in the construction industry, reflecting the demands of the boom for a complete range of services: carpenters (by far the most common occupation in the community), builders, stone masons and cutters, brick-layers, steam-fitters, tinsmiths and blacksmiths, steel and iron workers, millwrights, plasterers, painters and electricians. There were also many labourers, many of whom would have been employed in the construction sector. Transportation was also a sector where many early residents worked, their roles identified as teamsters, drivers, warehousemen, shippers, and liverymen. Most residents did not identify an employer, and there were no employers who employed more than five per cent of the residents, but three employers appeared more frequently than others and represented these two

sectors: the railway, most commonly the CPR, the streetcar and Riverside Lumber.

Middle-class positions included retail employees and small business proprietors (grocers, florists, bakers, butchers, watch-makers, tailors and hardware stores), buyers, salesmen, clerks (many working for building or lumber companies), engineers and real estate agents, the latter three groups again from the construction industry. Many residents remained in the community's first industry - agriculture - as farmers, ranchers and dairy workers.

It is ironic that the vast majority of residents who made Hillhurst their home did not in any way reflect the advertisements of real estate agents who attempted to market the community as exclusive. A late 1906 advertisement for Westmont, subtitled 'The Elite Subdivision', put forward a list of the area's functional and economic benefits which would appeal to all, but also listed that building restrictions that would ensure a 'desirable class' of residents. There were in fact very few professionals from the upper and upper-middle classes. They included accountants, dentists, doctors and a veterinarian. As well, in the building sector, there were engineers and several architects. The architects have been listed here for further research⁶⁶:

Charles Hay	318 7 ST	1911 bungalow (extant)
George Irvine	729 5 ST	1911 bungalow (extant)
Walter D MacLean	821 4 AV	1912 semi-bungalow (extant)
Roscoe Whitten, Whitten & Oman	1016 Memorial Dr	1912 1 ½ storey (extant)

The pre-war residential streetscapes are characterised by Edwardian cottages fronting shallow, landscaped front yards, most with mature plantings, as well as treed sidewalk boulevards⁶⁷. As well, since most blocks

have lanes, the residential streets can retain their tree-lined, pedestrian-friendly character because garages and outbuildings are constructed, and utilities are run at the rear of the properties so front driveways are not necessary.

The preferred pre-war styles in Hillhurst-Sunnyside were the popular Edwardian domestic styles of the time. In general they were constructed on 25-foot lots with full-width front verandahs, and their stylistic detailing was less ornate than their Victorian predecessors. While prized for their modernity, efficiency and affordability, Edwardian cottages were also valued for their cosiness, charm and versatile designs. Their common floor plans could be given a distinctive appearance by creatively applying simplified architectural detailing - often of earlier styles such as Queen Anne, Tudor, Colonial and Classical Revivals.

The Edwardian Gable-front Style - a gable-roofed home with end gable facing the street - was popular for both one and one-half and two-storey homes. Their narrow façades could readily adapt to the 25-foot lots, and decorative shingles and vergeboards could be applied to the main gable peaks. The Edwardian Classical Style was typically reserved for stately two-storey homes, and employed classically-inspired detailing such as pediments, entablatures supported by columns and pilasters, and red-brick cladding with pale stone or cast stone elements.

Foursquare-style homes were either one or two-storeys and built on a square plan, with a high-pitched hipped roof, often with a dormer centred on the front façade. The Craftsman Style, an American adaptation of the English Arts & Crafts style, was used for one-storey and one and one-half storey homes. They featured medium-pitched rooflines with deeply overhanging eaves, and the use of natural, textured materials like bevelled-wood siding or shingles. The style was most

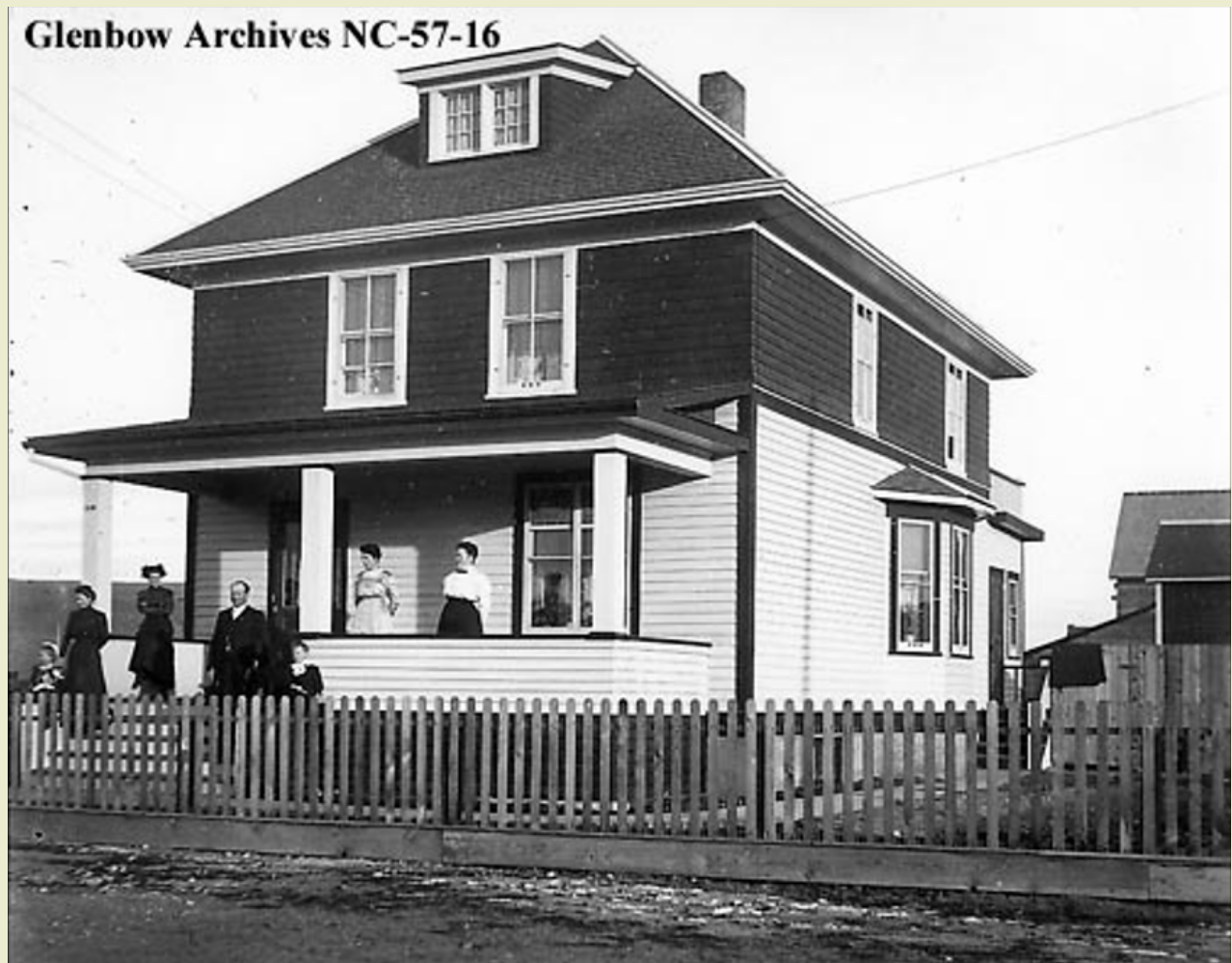
⁶⁶ Homes showing as extant per latest Google street view available, 2019 or later.

⁶⁷ City of Calgary (1988); Sandalack and Andrei (2006).



Top: Pre-war residential streetscapes are characterised by Edwardian cottages on 25-foot lots with full-width front verandahs [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Bottom: Thompson house at 416 11th Street, ca1912 [Credits: Glenbow Archives nc-57-16]





Sunnyside Grocery, 2010 [Credits: City of Calgary, Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources website]

notable for its skilfully crafted elements like exposed rafter tails, decorative brackets and flared columns.

Theophilus Thompson, a builder, mason and plasterer, constructed a notable grouping of Edwardian homes at 412 to 422 11th Street. In 1906 his wife Charlotte Maud Thompson acquired nine lots on the east side of the 400 block of 11th Street where a carriage house from an early homestead remained. Theophilus built four homes on 11th Street: a 1910 Foursquare-style residence at 416 (where the carriage house was standing) with shingle and bevelled-wood cladding; two red-brick 1911 residences, a Foursquare-style home at 412 and an Edwardian Gable-front style home at 418; and a ca1910 one-storey cottage at 422. The couple rented 422 as income and lived at 416, where Maud cultivated a raspberry patch. Maud's father lived

in an early garage at 422 where a bell was connected to 416 so Maud could call him to supper. Theophilus also owned the 1908 Hunter Block from 1911 to 1931. All these buildings and the raspberry patch are still standing today.

Near the peak of the boom in 1911, soaring real estate costs meant detached houses had become unattainable for many, and working-class apartments and terrace housing became essential affordable alternatives. Until that point apartments in Calgary were for wealthy residents seeking convenient, maintenance-free living. There were concerns that building standards might suffer for lower-cost apartments, and new building ordinance by-laws were put in effect to regulate setbacks, fire-safety, natural light and ventilation. The 12-unit 1911 Arts & Crafts Style Wellington Terrace



100 Block of 10th Street showing a contiguous stretch of early commercial buildings [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

wood-frame terrace house was erected at 1001 3rd Avenue⁶⁸. Eight other multi-family residential complexes were built during this period including the 1911 Craftsman Palfreyville Apartments built by prolific Sunnyside carpenter, home builder and resident William Palfrey, who erected at least thirteen frame dwellings from 1909 to 1911, including two 1910 duplexes at 112 and 120 9 Street.

More popular during the pre-war period were the mixed used commercial residential buildings where modest apartments were provided in the upper stories. Often proprietors of the businesses on the main floor lived in apartments above, as was the case for George Kerr whose family lived above his hardware store in the Kerr Block. The early buildings like the 1911 Smith and

1912 Hayden blocks in Hillhurst, and the 1913 East Sunnyside Grocery and 1912 Irwin and Vendome blocks in Sunnyside are typical of commercial buildings built outside the city centre in pre-war times: smaller, brick buildings often with two storeys and residential suites above street-level storefronts. They display Edwardian Commercial-style features such as recessed entry ways, large display windows with transom lights, red-brick façades, signbands and pressed metal cornices⁶⁹. Apart from 1912 when 5 commercial blocks were built, generally a single block was erected each year.

Institutional

Most of Hillhurst-Sunnyside's institutional buildings were built during the pre-war and inter-war periods, the majority of churches in pre-war times and a large number of the schools in the inter-war period.

⁶⁸ Discover Historic Calgary, Wellington Terrace (Lunenburg Apartments).

⁶⁹ Discover Historic Calgary for 7 commercial buildings on the corridor; Melnyk (1985).



1912 view of residential build-out in Sunnyside [Credits: Alberta provincial archives pa-4037-6]

Educational and health care institutional buildings are discussed in more detail in Section 6, and places of faith in Section 7.

popular one-storey cottage.

No commercial or apartment blocks were built during the First World War.

First World War

The pace of construction slowed significantly following the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. With labour diverted to the war effort and the economic uncertainty created by the war, there was little construction from 1914-18. Home construction in 1914 slowed to thirty homes, which included the Cappy Smart Residence, and less than ten houses were built in the three subsequent years taken together. The pre-war social trends continued for the owners of these new homes and their occupations, apart from a few listings which indicated employment as 'active service'. This social makeup was in turn reflected in the continuation of pre-war preferences for home types - especially the

Theme Summary: Urban Development: pre-war boom and First World War development (1904-1918)

Thematic value

- Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its streetscapes and remaining pre-war housing stock possess symbolic value as a working-class and lower middle-class community that almost fully developed during Calgary's pre-First World War construction boom.

Character defining elements

- The pre-war residential streetscapes characterised by Edwardian cottages on twenty-five or fifty-foot lots fronting uniform setbacks with soft landscaping, most with mature plantings, public sidewalk boulevards with mature trees; rear lanes with garage access from the lane;
- Characteristics of the remaining pre-war and inter-war cottages: Edwardian (1901-1914) architectural styles including Edwardian Commercial, Edwardian Gable-front, Edwardian Cottage, Craftsman and Foursquare; one, one and one-half and two-storey form; full-width front verandahs or front porches with front entries, tall vertical single and multi-assembly windows with hung-sash profiles, front and side-gabled and hipped roof profiles with medium to steep roof pitch; and cladding in natural materials like brick, plaster (stucco) from natural components, wooden shingles and bevelled-wood siding.

Existing historic resources associated with this theme

- Commercial: Carscallen Block (1911), East Sunnyside Grocery (1913), Hayden Block (1912), Hunter Block (Riley Park Grocery) (1912), Irwin Block (1912), Smith Block (1911), Vendome Block (1912),
- Residential: 118-120 9 Street NW (1910), A.B.C. Dando Residence (1913), Brower House (1907), Cappy Smart Residence (1914), John A. Tweddle Residence (1913), Malcolm Clair Residence (1912), Orman Residence (1912), Smalley Residence (1910), Smith (Cozzubbo) Residence (1911), Upton Residence (1908), Wellington Terrace (1911), William J Gray Residence (1911)
- Institutional: Fire Hall No. 6 (1909), Hillhurst Baptist Church (1907), Hillhurst Cottage School (1910), Hillhurst School (1911), Hillhurst United Church (1912), St Barnabas Church Tower (1912), St John Elementary School (1916)
- Landscape: Riley Park (1911)

Potential historic resources associated with this theme

- Hay Residence (1911), bungalow residence of local architect Charles Hay at 318 7 Street NW
- Irvine Residence (1911): bungalow residence of local architect George Irvine at 729 5 Street NW
- MacLean Residence (1912): semi-bungalow residence of local architect Walter D MacLean at 821 4 Avenue NW

- Whitten Residence (1912): 1-1/2 storey residence of architect Roscoe Whitten of Whitten & Oman at 1016 Memorial Drive NW
- Clements and Thornton Residences (ca1912) at 918 and 920 5 Street NW - Rare pair of brick houses in Sunnyside
- Bennett's Bathhouses (ca1915), 639-659 3rd Avenue NW - row of ten houses 'named' for Arthur Bennett in Sunnyside

Potential sites for interpretation associated with this theme

- Palfreyville Apartments (1911, demolished 2014)
- Sunnyside Grocery (1911, demolished 2018)
- 144/146 10 Street NW (1912, demolished 2014)
- Theophilus Thompson (builder and craftsman) grouping of Edwardian homes at 412-422 11th Street NW

b) Inter-war and Second World War development (1919-1944) and Memorial Drive

Inter-war

A sustained recession followed the First World War and continued through the 1920s, followed by the Great Depression of the 1930s. There was little construction during the period between the First and Second World Wars. For most of the 1920s, five or fewer homes were

Inter-war homes continued the Edwardian trend towards modernity, with an emphasis on natural light, ventilation and sanitation. Sunrooms and enclosed porches began to replace open verandahs, and verandahs on the existing Edwardian houses were often enclosed. Plaster stucco became a popular cladding material, and was sometimes applied over the wooden siding of existing homes. The majority of houses built during this period were simple, one-storey inter-war cottages with a few larger one and one half-storey variations.



Donegal Mansions, 2020 [Credits: City of Calgary Heritage Planning]

built annually; however in 1928 and 1929 nineteen homes were built. This was a busy construction period in the late 1920s when Calgary experienced a brief interval of prosperity related to its early oil industry. The Turner Valley oil field was proving to be a significant producer, the 1924 Royalite No. 4 had come in, and the Turner Valley gas plant was significantly upgraded. A mere eight homes were built in the first half of the 1930s, and a single home during the latter half.

Existing detached houses were also converted to multi-family dwellings or adapted for other purposes. Ca1929 a pair of adjacent two-storey 1912 brick houses were joined and converted to become the Classical Revival-style Lough Apartments. By 1934 most of the community was rezoned for two-family residential development, Memorial Drive between 14th and 5a streets for multi-family, and Kensington Road and Tenth Street for intermediate commercial.



Louise (Hillhurst) Bridge, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Not surprising in this economic environment, apartments continued to be an important affordable alternative to detached dwellings, and five apartment buildings were erected in the inter-war years. The 1923 Classical Revival Elaine Apartments are an example of this type of building. Interestingly, two of these apartment blocks were upscale 'ultra-modern' buildings constructed during the late 1920s Turner Valley Oil boom by Irish engineer Andrew Murdoch: the 1928 Georgian Revival Glenwood Manor and the 1930 eclectic, Italianate-style Donegal Mansions, Donegal and Glenwood both being place names in Northern Ireland. Both had spacious suites with modern amenities and high-end finishes.

Inter-war commercial buildings, unlike their pre-war Edwardian predecessors, were generally one-storey, wooden-frame Commercial-style blocks and did not provide residential apartments above. They did share

most of the same storefront features such as recessed entry ways, large display windows, signbands and piers between storefront bays⁷⁰. The pre-war construction rate of a single block for most years continued through the 1920s, but only three buildings were erected throughout the 1930s.

As mentioned, a significant number of Hillhurst-Sunnyside's institutional buildings were erected during this period for educational and health care purposes, and are discussed further in Section 6.

Although a quiet period for building construction, the inter-war period has left behind significant markers in the landscape of Hillhurst-Sunnyside. Where feasible, development in the built environment continued to follow the early 20th Century movement towards a City Beautiful. In 1921 the classically-inspired Louise Bridge

⁷⁰ Discover Historic Calgary for 7 commercial buildings on the corridor; Melnyk (1985).



1939 Kerr Residence, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association]

shows City Beautiful influences in its elegant pale concrete balustrades, observation bays detailed with panel motifs and elliptical arches, and was a distinct contrast with earlier wooden and metal-truss bridges.

In 1922, Riverside Boulevard was renamed Memorial Drive, a living memorial of trees to honour the fallen in the First World War, and 900 trees were planted, mostly poplars. Trees continued to be planted along the boulevard, envisioned as a parkway, some by philanthropic organisations and many by the Parks Department. 1948 aerials show that Sunnyside, Westmount and Broadview boulevards were planted by that time. By 1963, a cohesive road-naming strategy was put forward to name all the remaining 'boulevards' from 24th ST NE to 25th ST NW with a single name. Council narrowly favoured Memorial Drive over alternatives such as Bow Valley or Bow River drive, and the new name was implemented in 1964.

Second World War

During the Second World War (1939-44) less than ten houses, a single 1939 apartment building (non-extant) and no commercial blocks were built. The houses were similar in style to inter-war houses, with even more simplicity in architectural detailing as shown by the Kerr Residence below.



Sunnyside neighbourhood, ca1940-45 [Credits: Glenbow Museum, pa-3538-37]

Theme Summary: Urban Development: Inter-war Hillhurst-Sunnyside and Second World War development (1919-1945)

Thematic value

- Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its inter-war buildings and landscapes possess symbolic value for the resilience and determination of those who built during the depressed economy of the inter-war and Second World War periods.

Existing historic resources associated with this theme

- Commercial: 104/106 10 ST NW (1919), 106A 10 ST NW (1919), 108 10 ST NW (1919), AGT Building - Hillhurst Exchange (1922), Bow Valley Lawn Bowling Club (1932), King George Masonic Hall (1926), Plaza Theatre (1928)
- Residential: Donegal Mansions (1930), Glenwood Manor (1928), Lough & Elaine Apartments (1923)
- Institutional: Heritage Hall (SAIT Campus) (1921), Queen Elizabeth Junior and Senior High School (1930), Sunnyside Bungalow School (1919)
- Landscape: 6 AV NW Lilac Medians (1929), 11 ST NW Lilac Median (1919), Bowness Road NW Lilac Medians (1932), Hillhurst (Louise) Bridge (1921), Memorial Drive (1922)

Potential historic resources associated with this theme

Because there was so little building during this period, inter-war buildings and their styles are relatively rare in the community and should be considered for additions to the POIL.

- Pickles Residence at 310 - 10A ST NW (1928) - Inter-war cottage with enclosed porch and front entrance perpendicular to the street
- Kerr Residence at 715 - 4A ST NW (1939) - Second World War cottage and home of commercial artist (and son of Garnet and Kerr Block owner) Garnet Kerr
- Doherty Residence at 725 - 4 ST NW (1945) - larger one and one-half storey cottage
- 1631 Bowness Road (ca1944-45) - good example of the Modern Bungalow

Potential sites for interpretation associated with this theme

- 1037 2nd Avenue (1939, demolished 2013) - only apartment block build during this period



Mewata Bridge aerial view looking south-west, 1962. Note new section of Memorial Drive created to implement the cloverleaf on the north bank [Credits: Calgary Daily Herald 1962-10-20, p12]

c) Post-war and Mid-Century Hillhurst-Sunnyside (1946-1960)

In the post-war period of prosperity which began with the 1947 Leduc oil discovery the few remaining vacant lots in the community were developed. The Leduc discovery was the first of a number of important finds in Alberta that led to a mid-century economic boom. This period of wealth, combined with the severe housing demand created by returning Second World War veterans, also led to a significant construction boom in the province. Automobiles had become affordable and City Beautiful philosophies now gave way to an emerging transportation-oriented vision for Calgary that included expressways and expansion into outer suburbs, and - as the City's population continued to grow - 1960s planning for economies-of-scale efficiencies like mass transit, regional shopping malls and tall buildings.

10th Street was increasingly used as a commuter route, and as the western suburbs developed, in order to

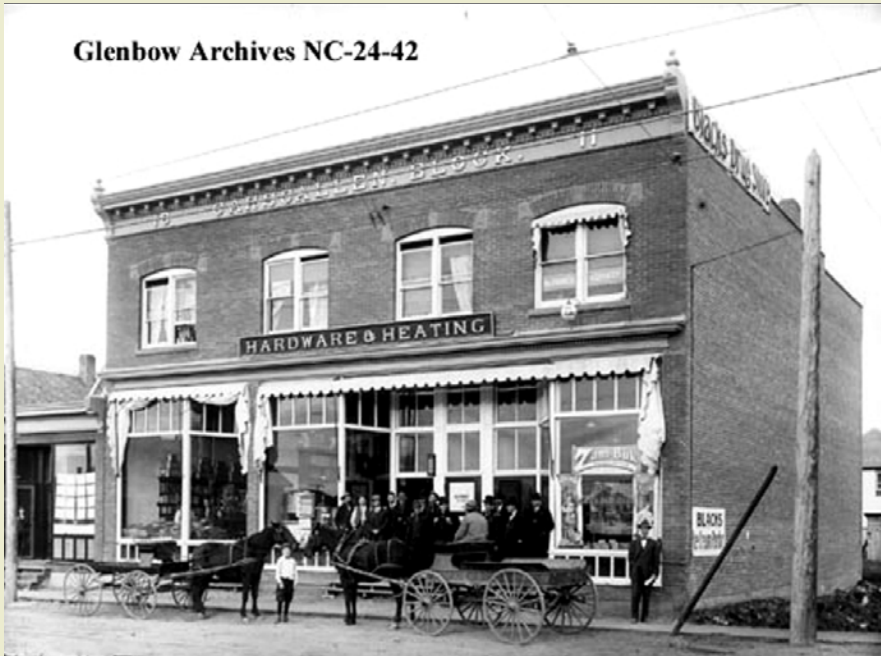
facilitate north-south access, the new Mewata Bridge was constructed over the Bow River at 14th Street in 1954. The triple-span, concrete-arch bridge combines post-war box-girder beam technological innovation with the sleek, horizontal aesthetic of mid-century architecture. The modern automobile-focused bridge employed five traffic lanes and cloverleaf interchanges. The name for the bridge came from Mewata Park (today's Millennium Park) where over twenty-six acres on the south bank were gifted from the federal government in 1906; Rev John McDougall offered the place name Mewata which is derived from the Plains Cree word for happy or joyful. Mewata Stadium opened in the park in 1906 and the Mewata Armoury was built there in 1917, so naming the 14th Street bridge was a logical continuation of this convention.

By the mid-1950s a number of automobile-oriented businesses such as body shops and garages were present on Kensington Road and 10th Street, and quickly began to appear on 14th Street. Through the 1960s, competition from emerging suburban shopping malls - Calgary's first, the 1959 North Hill Shopping Centre, being on their doorstep - led to challenges for the businesses on commercial streets. Short term responses such as 'modernizing' the buildings with mid-century façade makeovers using stucco or sheet metal were not successful.

An interesting post-war example of adaptive re-use in the community is the Jenkins Groceteria No 18 at Kensington Road and 14th Street, a smooth stucco ca1940s Streamlined Moderne building with a curved corner entry and raised horizontal bands or 'speed lines' along the roofline. In 1958 the renovated building became Calgary's first Chicken On The Way (extant, relocated further south on its site by 1962), a use that continues seven decades later.

From the end of the post-war era, most of the

Glenbow Archives NC-24-42



Glenbow Archives NA-2864-17436



Top: Carscallen Block ca1911 [Copyright: Glenbow Archives top nc-24-42];

Middle: block in 1977 after 'makeover'; [Copyright: Glenbow Archives top na-2864-17436];

Bottom: Carscallen Block in 2021 showing 2001 restoration. [Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association]



neighbourhood was fully built out. The slower developing areas west of 14th Street were fully built out through the former Broadview area by 1948, and in 1949 the Herchmer acreage in Westmont was re-subdivided by Lila Hunter. In 1946, in preparation for the new development, Herchmer's estate home was moved about two blocks east to a new foundation at 1643 Broadview Road where it rests today. By 1953 even the west parts of the community were built out, and the former slough was reclaimed and built upon once the 1933 Glenmore and 1954 Bears paw Dams controlled flooding⁷¹. Around the mid-1950s a large portion of the extreme north end of Scotchman's Hill was moved to Sunnyside as part of an anti-flood dyke scheme.

By the end of the 1960s about twenty-three new bungalows infilled the vacant lots interspersed through the community. Also by the end of the 1960s, with new land use classifications introduced in the 1950s⁷², twenty-one new walk-up style apartment buildings - almost as many as houses - were erected, most replacing existing homes. Of the remaining extant, unaltered 1950s homes there are interesting examples of the popular mid-century Modern Bungalow and Minimal Traditional styles.

Theme Summary: Urban Development: Post-war and Mid-century Hillhurst-Sunnyside (1946-1969)

Thematic value

- Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its mid-century buildings and structures possess symbolic value for their associations with Calgary's post-war economic oil boom when renewed prosperity enabled the final build-out of the community.

Existing historic resources associated with this theme

- Institutional: Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (1957)
- Landscape: Mewata Bridge (1954), Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Gardens (1956)

Potential historic resources associated with this theme

Potential - Although mid-century architecture is generally rare in the community, unlike inter-war and Second World War buildings, there is an abundant mid-century building stock throughout the city. There are still some notable examples to consider for the POIL:

- Michael Residence (1955) at 640 3rd Avenue - good example of 1950 Modern Bungalow
- Davies Residence (ca1951) at 737 5th Street - example of Minimal Traditional Style

Potential sites for interpretation associated with this theme

- St John's Church (1953, demolished 2003)

⁷¹ 1951 aerial map; 1961 Fire Insurance maps.

⁷² City of Calgary (1988).

d) Hillhurst-Sunnyside Renaissance (1970-1983)

Under Pressure

Many of the changes during Hillhurst-Sunnyside's mid-century evolution continued or intensified in the 1970s. The role the community was expected to play in the transportation ambitions of the City, as well as its proximity to the city centre and its prospects as a location for downtown-type commercial uses, placed significant pressures on the small community. Its earlier residential, commercial and institutional legacy that had developed in the built environment through the post-war period was rapidly being lost and was increasingly at risk.

The neighbourhood was also feeling the impact of the mid-century road improvements: commuter traffic had increased on 10th and 14th streets, and Memorial Drive had quickly become an east-west thoroughfare. In the 1960s Hillhurst-Sunnyside was already being proposed as part of the route for one of four radiating light rail rapid transit lines⁷³. The response to these pressures came in the form of a new community-led vision guided by the residents and business proprietors of Hillhurst-Sunnyside, as well as a federal programme that invested in community buildings and infrastructure.

There were other pressures on the residential built environment. The post-war trend of replacing homes with walk-up style apartments intensified with over 50 apartments constructed during the 1970s. Non-resident landowners who had acquired houses for land speculation and future development potential no longer invested in their properties; deferred maintenance and neglect had a negative visual impact. The new apartments were mainly aimed at accommodating single residents, resulting in a shift in the community demographic away from families.

The institutional impacts at this time were a result of these changing demographic. The shift away from families had consequences for the established educational institutions. The declining enrolment in schools meant an increasing risk of school closures. There was also pressure on losing family amenities like playgrounds. As well, there was an increase in the seniors' age group. The shift towards an aging population meant there were insufficient activities and services in the community to retain and support these residents.

On the commercial streets the pressures from mall competition continued into the 1970s. Although only three commercial buildings were constructed during this period, one was a ten-storey mixed-use building that radically changed the landscape of the historic 10th Street commercial street.

The Fourfold Response

The response to these pressures was four initiatives that made a significant difference to the outcomes for the neighbourhood: the establishment of a new community association; the development of a community-inspired design brief; participation in a federally run neighbourhood improvement programme, and the formation of a local business revitalisation organisation.

In 1973, a new Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association was formed with the purpose of bringing together residents to have a say in the direction that development in their community would take. The association also took a role in providing seniors activities. From 1976 to 1983 the community also participated in the federal government's Neighbourhood Improvement Program (NIP), where they could pursue funding for residential and community infrastructure. The Hillhurst-Sunnyside Design Brief was adopted in

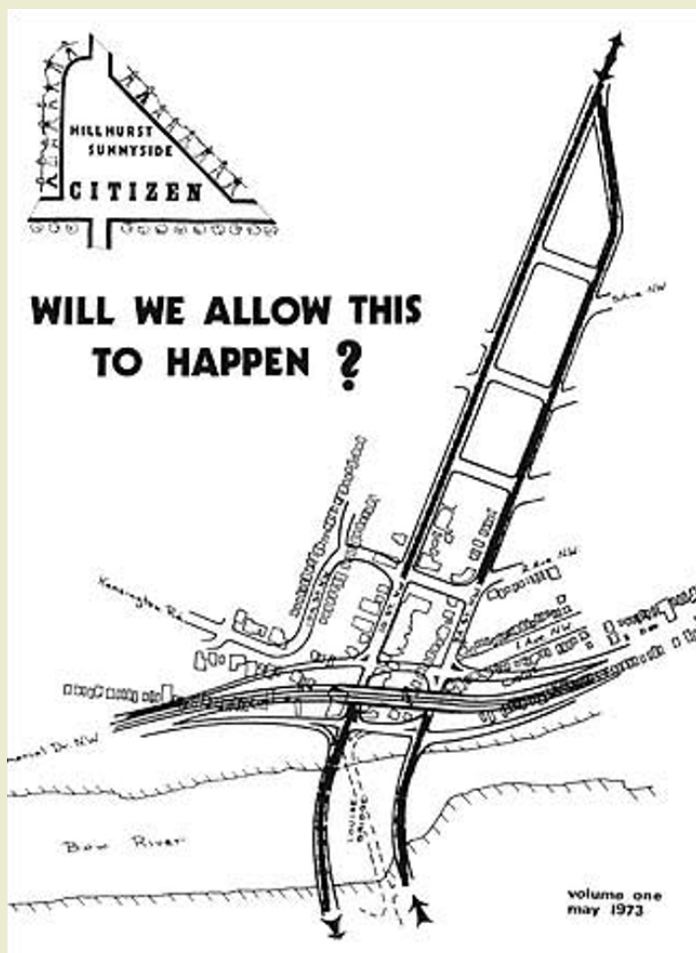
⁷³ Simaluk (1968).



Davies Residence (ca1951), Minimal Traditional-style home in Sunnyside [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association]

Mewata Bridge, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]





Cover page of the May 1973 Hillhurst-Sunnyside Citizen Newsletter, published by the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association [Copyright: Glenbow Archives, Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association fonds]

1977. New commercial policies were aimed at limiting downtown-type uses in the local business areas, and new residential policies encouraged a move towards family-oriented development. Also in 1977, thirty-two businesses from the 10th Street Business Association came together to develop a cohesive strategy for the commercial district, and to promote the commercial area as Louise Crossing, a reference to the early bridge that became the shopping area's namesake.

Revitalisation

These initiatives resulted in a number of successes, although a few were short-lived. In 1978 council ruled that running the Light Rail Transit line down the centre of 9A Street would be too disruptive in the community - a decision that would be overturned just three years later. In 1979 council approved an extensive down-

zoning of the district, limiting heights of new buildings on 10th Street and Kensington Road to 50 feet, and favouring housing for families in the residential areas. Zoning for public use was retained for the Hillhurst and Sunnyside school grounds vs. re-zoning to residential as was happening in other communities. The schools themselves were given community school status so facilities could be used outside school hours for community purposes, increasing use and viability of the buildings. This represented a return to a brief period just prior to the First World War when Hillhurst and Sunnyside became early proponents of the 'social centre' movement to use schools for community commercial and educational purposes. Under the community infrastructure component of the NIP Program, where twenty-five per cent of improvements were covered by grants, work was done to create playgrounds and a Community Centre.

Under the residential component of the NIP Program loans and grants were made available to upgrade and make improvements to 600 homes. During this period, some houses that had been divided into multiple suites were reconverted to single-family homes. The 1979 Sunnyhill townhouses are a non-profit housing co-operative that provides 66 townhouses for households of all sizes.

In 1983 the business association successfully petitioned for pedestrian-oriented improvements in the streetscape such as brick paving and light standards that would enhance the character of the historic street. The business operators co-ordinated with each other to upgrade and restore their storefronts. Notable commercial block owner John Kerr, who had already restored and rehabilitated a number of historic buildings on Inglewood's commercial street, began to do the same with several buildings on 10th Street. His long-term approach to managing and maintaining the buildings acquired a number of tenants who brought a

trendy, 'village' vibe to the street. From 1985 the district included Kensington Road and became the Kensington at Louise Crossing Business Revitalisation Zone. Today the district is the Kensington Business Improvement Area (BIA), also promoted as Kensington Village and one of fifteen BIA's in Calgary.

Also during this time the community was endowed with a number of innovative structures. Commercial complexes include the 1977-1978 Ross Place by Pendergast & Purl, 1978-1980 Spindler Office Building by Ken Hutchinson, 1979-1981 Two One Three Nine 4th Avenue by Tom Laird & Associated, 1980-1981 Kensington Place by Peter & Symonds, and 1981-1983 Kensington House by Barry Pendergast.

Residential architecture from this period includes 1977-1979 Memorial Drive Condominium by George Brown, 1979-1981 The Arbours by James McKellar, 1979-1980 Gladstone Court by Sturgess Donnell, and the mixed-use 1981-1982 Norfolk House by James Jones⁷⁴. Perhaps the most impressive building from this period is institutional, the expansive 1969-1972 University of the Arts building by Cohos Evamy.

There were losses as well. In 1987 the community,

⁷⁴ Guimond and Sinclair (1984).

supported by the heritage advisory board, advocated to protect the adjacent historic Kerr and Ross blocks (or the façades as a minimum) that had been a commercial anchor in the community as well as a landmark with their location across the street from the Louise Bridge. The following year the Ross Block was destroyed in a fire, and in 1989 a seven-storey project - twice the height recommended in policy - was approved to replace the buildings. In 1981 Council reversed their earlier decision and approved the northwest LRT extension to be routed along 9A Street, entirely above ground despite Mayor Ralph Klein's contention that the "LRT should not be on a residential street" and his urging to support a partially underground route. Fortunately a community 'amelioration committee' was engaged, so fewer homes were destroyed, a more compatible station was built at 4th Avenue, and a pedestrian bridge was erected across the Bow River when the line was constructed in 1987. But from that time, there was a layer of separation between Sunnyside and Hillhurst and the commercial streets.



Sunnyhill townhouse co-operative [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]



Part of the University of the Arts complex, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Theme Summary: Urban Development: The Renaissance era of Hillhurst-Sunnyside (1970-1983)

Thematic value

- Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its 1970s and early 1980s architecture is symbolic of the period of urban revitalisation of the historic neighbourhood led by community residents and businesses.

Existing historic resources associated with this theme

- n/a

Potential historic resources associated with this theme

Notable examples of 1970s architecture and design:

- Alberta College of Art (now Alberta University of the Arts) (1973), located at the SAIT campus

and designed by Cohos Evamy & Partners, featuring a stepped brick clad building on a sloping site on the south side of the SAIT campus.

- The Arbours (1981), two developments containing 8 and 9 townhouse units, designed to achieve a high density while maintaining a streetscape sensitive to its low-density neighbours, located at 310 and 834 2nd AV NW
- Gladstone Court Townhouses, 11th street and Gladstone Road, the Sturgess Donell Associates project features ten residential units, providing a high density suitable to the low density scale of the neighbourhood and featuring sheltered, landscaped shared courtyards.
- Kensington House (1983), a brick clad, five-storey concrete mixed use building, featuring street level retail space with office space above, located at 1167 Bowness Road NW
- Kensington Place (1981), a mixed use four storey building, offering street level retail with upper level office space, clad in red brick with bronze glazing and frames, designed by Peter & Symonds Partnership and located at 1240 Kensington Road NW
- Memorial Drive Condominium (1979), designed by George A. Brown Architect Ltd, a walk up style brick apartment building with eight residential suites, designed to mirror earlier Memorial Drive walk up style buildings, located at 934 Memorial Drive NW
- Norfolk House (1982), designed by James S. Jones Architect, 1114-1120 Kensington Road NW and 206 10 A Street NW, this five storey mixed use building was designed for the Hillhurst Sunnyside Non-Profit Housing Association, and features four storeys of apartments designed for seniors and those with barrier free requirements, while the main floor was designed to house local community organisations (discussed in Section 7).
- Ross Place (1978), a low rise office building designed by architectural firm Pendergast & Purll with R. E. Hulbert Architects at 1400 Kensington Road NW
- Spindler Office Building (1980), three storey sandblasted concrete office building by architect Ken Hutchinson with extensive bermed landscaping, 1601 Westmount Road NW
- Sunnyhill Housing Co-operative (1978), a 66-unit residential co-operative that resulted from combined efforts of the co-operative group, the community association and municipal and federal governments, located at 725 3 Street NW
- Two One Three Nine - 4th Avenue NW (1981), a three storey building at this same address, clad in bright red and orange ribbed metal siding and designed by Tom Laird & Associates Architects Ltd.
- Donald Residence (1912), example of a home subdivided into three suites and reconverted to a single-family home in 1981 during the period of revitalisation, located at 1410 Memorial Drive.

Establishing Community Institutions



The Great West Trading Co, top 1907⁷⁶; bottom 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

a) Public institutions and services

Postal Service

In the decade before the First World War, Calgary's growth due to the economic boom and the 1907 and 1910 annexations created pressure to build civic infrastructure in the new suburbs - paved roads, sidewalks, street lighting and water and sewer systems. Infrastructure for utilities like gas, electricity and telephone was also required, as were critical services such as fire-fighting, garbage collection and postal service.

Even prior to annexation a post office opened in Hillhurst in 1906: Calgary Substation No 3, located at 429 11th Street at the Great West Trading Co with AE Mutton, John McFarlane and Charles Mack as postmasters at that location. Ezra Riley owned this building from 1909-14. The office moved in July 1914 to Wood Bros Grocery with Robert Wood the postmaster for a year, after which LF Paine took over from him until the Hillhurst substation closed in 1921⁷⁵.

After annexation in 1907, door to door letter service began with individual carriers for both the Hillhurst and Sunnyside districts⁷⁷. In 1913 Calgary Substation No 17 opened in Sunnyside in Black's drugstore and re-located with the pharmacy through its various address changes through the early 1980s. Clifford Black was postmaster until his passing in 1943, at which point he was followed by the next long-term postmaster, William (Bill) Mitchell, until he closed the business in 1982⁷⁸. Today the post office continues in a drugstore, Shoppers Drug Mart, no longer in Sunnyside but coming back to the original location in Hillhurst in the 1400 block of Kensington Road⁷⁹. The post office has another interesting connection to the community; its football club, formed in 1914, held their matches at the Hillhurst Athletic Park and nearby at Mewata Park⁸⁰.

Fire Protection

Fire protection service was provided for both Hillhurst and Sunnyside by a single station, Firehall No 6, when

⁷⁶ Credits: Morning Albertan feature advertisement "Suburbs North of the Bow River," November 16, 1907.

⁷⁷ Surplis (1975), 382.

⁷⁸ Library and Archives Canada, Item 21519 (Calgary Sub No 17).

⁷⁹ Discover Historic Calgary, 106A 10 Street NW.

⁸⁰ Surplis (1975), 393.

⁷⁵ Library and Archives Canada, Item 16385 (Calgary Sub No 3).

in 1909 an Edwardian Classical building was built just west of the Louise Bridge on Boulevard (Memorial Drive⁸¹). It was one of three of identical satellite fire halls built by the City in 1909⁸². When it opened in 1910 this vital service was provided by John McKinnon, the Captain, and Alfred Rogers and James Cook, the firemen. McKinnon later became Calgary's Fire Chief from 1943 to 1945.

After it was replaced in 1964 by a new Firehall No 6 in West Hillhurst, it served as a city garage and storage location. The hall is an excellent example of adaptive re-use in the community. It underwent its first renovation in 1981 during the neighbourhood's revitalisation period, having - ironically - sustained fire damage in 1974, and in 2001 the Calgary Area Outdoor Council and Parks Recreation completed a joint rehabilitation project for a new use as a centre for outdoor recreation education and information. Its prominent red-brick façade with classical detailing and white trim that display its institutional importance, its location at a busy intersection and its setting on the Bow River make it a city landmark.

James 'Cappy' Smart, a well-known community resident⁸³ and colourful public figure, was Calgary's Fire chief from 1898 to 1933, and had a fire bell installed in his Sunnyside house to alert him during any emergencies. He began a fifty-year career with the fire department in 1885 when it was a volunteer organisation, and worked his way up through the ranks, becoming a professional fire fighter and retiring from his 'day job' around 1891 when his mortuary was sold. Smart also played a memorable role in the 1902 flood when he was called in to rescue Calgarians who had not evacuated their homes, but ended up swamping his boat when he attempted to manoeuvre it to the bank and nearly drowned himself.

⁸¹ Discover Historic Calgary, Firehall No. 6.

⁸² It is also one of only five extant pre-war fire halls remaining in the city.

⁸³ Lived at 436 Memorial Drive from 1923 until his death in 1939.

Telephone Service

A 1907 article on Hillhurst's progress as a new suburb⁸⁴ indicated that many residents were receiving telephone service from Bell Telephone Company, the first firm to offer city-wide telephone service by 1900. However because of the growth during the pre-war boom, the provincial government which had provided rural telephone service since 1906, established the Alberta Government Telephones (AGT) in 1908 and took over from Bell, acquiring their infrastructure. The next year they introduced automated switching to the province since the existing manually operated telephone exchanges could not keep up with the rapid growth in demand for telephone service.

While the First World War led to a temporary halt to their build-out of telephone infrastructure in Calgary, construction quickly resumed with the North Hill central office switch in 1921 followed by the 1922 Louise Telephone Exchange which routed all telephone calls in Hillhurst-Sunnyside as well as Grand Trunk and Parkdale. Local telephone numbers were prefaced with an 'L' for Louise. The Edwardian Classical edifice that housed the exchange joins the ranks of the many inter-war institutional buildings erected in Hillhurst-Sunnyside and, with its location at the busy intersection of Kensington Road and 14th Street, is another community landmark.

Public Infrastructure

When Hillhurst was incorporated as part of Calgary in 1907, properties there were exempted from taxes for two years so the expectation was that few public improvements would be undertaken before 1909. By 1910 cement sidewalks were beginning to replace wooden or non-existing sidewalks but in outlying areas, many were replaced much later. The ca1911

⁸⁴ The Morning Albertan, November 16, 1907.



Sunnyside panorama (cropped), ca1911 [Credits: City of Calgary Corporate Archives CalA 2000-003]

historic photograph above of Sunnyside just prior to the peak of the boom shows infrastructure for power and telephone connectivity. It also shows outhouses in most of the back yards. Households mainly used coal for energy at this time.

In 1912 water and sewer service became available. Prior to that time water was retrieved from springs. Fresh spring-water was also required for several weeks each spring when the water in the taps ran muddy for most residents. The weekend line-ups for water at a popular spring on the hillside near Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden were recalled as a social opportunity. When Andrew Murdoch built his 'modern' well-appointed Donegal Mansions in 1930, he advertised the apartments' private filtered well-water system as an important amenity.

Over all, most infrastructure and services were rolled out by the 1920s. By that time indoor plumbing had become the norm and outhouses were no longer required. Although households had used coal for energy well into the inter-war period, by the late 1920s the majority of residences were converted to gas.

b) Education

The schools of Hillhurst-Sunnyside represent every type of standardized school adopted by the Calgary School Board, from the earliest cost-efficient two-room, wooden-frame buildings with wooden siding, to the legacy sandstone schools, to the later interwar brick bungalow and Collegiate Gothic institutes. The majority of these schools still stand today.

In 1908 Bishop Pinkham college (non-extant), a private Anglican boys school, opened in the home of Canon d'Easum, rector of St Barnabas' parish. Its purpose was to prepare students who planned to pursue university studies in the Anglican ministry. In 1911 Ezra Riley commissioned Leo Dowler, the architect who had designed his home and St Barnabas Anglican Church, to design a purpose-built college on land immediately west of Ezra's house and estate. Like so many undertakings in the boom, the college enjoyed success until the outbreak of the First World War, and in 1916 it was obliged to close.

The 1909 Sunnyside Cottage School (non-extant) was the first purpose-built school in Hillhurst-Sunnyside, located at 9th Street and 2nd Avenue. The two-storey,

four-room, solid brick school was distinct from the later standardised designs. After the pre-war boom, the Gordon Block was rented to provide additional classroom space from 1914 until 1923. The public school remained in operation even after a new bungalow school was built in Sunnyside in 1919. In December 1956, following an expansion of the bungalow school, children attending the cottage school were moved to the 1919 school. The cottage school was demolished to accommodate a school board stores building.

The 1910 Hillhurst Cottage School, located on 12th Street between 5th Avenue and Gladstone Road, is the earliest extant purpose-built school in Hillhurst-Sunnyside. By that time Calgary's public school board was using two designs for cottage schools, and this two-storey school was the first of its design to be built in the city. As well, it is one of only two remaining cottage schools of the approximately seventeen that were built in the city.

The design for the cottage schools as conceived by the resourceful, future-thinking building committee led by Colonel James Walker was for facilities that would have an interim use for education until growth in enrolment justified larger, more permanent structures, at which time they could be resold for residential use. With the nearby Riley and Hillhurst athletic parks serving the

function of school grounds, only a double residential lot was required. Its small lot size and Foursquare Style allows the Hillhurst Cottage School to fully integrate into the residential streetscape.

For a period three church halls were rented to provide additional classroom space. Surprisingly the school was used for its original purpose until 1965, after which it has served the community as a meeting place for the North Hill Optimists, the Canadian Youth Hostel Association and the Alberta Wilderness Association.

The Hillhurst School, an example of the next phase of larger, more permanent schools, was erected only one year after the cottage school in 1911 on 7th Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets, immediately west of Riley Park. Its dignified, solid-sandstone construction and timeless Classical Revival Style speak to a building that was designed to endure. The local school followed a standard design by Leo Dowler and his partner at that time, George Lang.

Over the years the school was reorganised to teach different grades: in 1935 it became a Junior High; in 1953 only elementary grades were taught; and by 1957 it combined these levels, offering grades I to VII. It later added adult night classes and served as a practicum school for student teachers. Hillhurst School continues



Sunnyside panorama (cropped) showing Sunnyside Cottage School (orange arrow), ca1911 [Credits: City of Calgary Corporate Archives CalA 2000-003]

to serve its original educational function, currently for kindergarten to Grade 6 students. In contrast with the cottage school that blends into the streetscape, the Hillhurst Community School with surrounding grounds is highly visible from 14th Street and a well-known landmark.

Five years later the community's first bungalow school, the 1916 St John Elementary (extant), was erected for children of the Roman Catholic faith. Like its public counterpart, the separate school board was also building bungalow-type schools during the Second World War and Inter-war periods. This Georgian Revival-style bungalow school was designed by JE Burrell of the Calgary firm of Burrell and McDowell, and the same plans were used three years later for another separate school, Holy Angels School in Cliff Bungalow.

The brick exterior and formal, traditional lines of the school lend it a sense of permanence. To meet the growth in enrolment experienced during the mid-

century boom, rear extensions were added in 1954 and 1967 to increase its capacity. Since 1985 it has served as a Fine Arts Magnet School. The school and its grounds are an interesting element of Kensington Road, which displays a mix of residential, commercial and institutional build-out.

In 1919 the public school board erected the Sunnyside Bungalow School. During the recessed economy of the inter-war period the school board by necessity had to return to its earlier resourceful philosophies, keeping re-use in mind and once again designing schools with the intention that they could be converted to apartment use if replaced by larger schools in the future.

The design for this school by Calgary Board of Education architect William A Branton, who had recently returned from service and just passed his requirements to be



Hillhurst School, ca1912 [Credits: Glenbow Archives na-613-10]



Sunnyside Bungalow School, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

a Canadian architect that year, differed from other 'bungalow' schools of the time. It differed as a typology, a lower, one-storey school vs. one and one-half-stories of the earlier versions, and with six classrooms vs. four. It also differed in style with a flat vs. steep-pitched roof. The wide, horizontal façade displays a projecting front entry bay flanked on each side by recessed and projecting bays, with decorative parapets centred above the projecting bays. Like many of Branton's inter-war schools it featured durable and decorative tiles. He was designing for brick schools since, as he explained later in an interview, following the First World War Calgary's excellent Scottish stone masons and cutters appeared to have "vanished". It continues its original use for education to this day. During the post-war economic boom it was also expanded with 1956 rear additions that added three more classrooms and a gymnasium.

In Hillhurst there were also pressures to provide more classroom space. In 1920 space was rented in St Barnabas Church, and in 1921 a wooden-frame cottage school was moved from the Mount Pleasant area to 2nd Avenue and 17th Street and renamed the Upper Hillhurst School. It remained in service until the 1958 Queen Elizabeth elementary school was built, at which time it was demolished.

Built in 1921 to 1922, the Provincial Institute of Technology Building and Normal School (teacher training centre) was the first name given to the centre of higher education which we know today as the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology or simply SAIT. The Province had begun plans for their southern technical institute in 1919 when they purchased the part of Ezra Riley's estate lying directly north of Riley Park. The impetus at that time was the need to retrain First World War veterans.



Heritage Hall of the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, n.d. [Credits: Alberta Culture]

The institute was designed by architect Richard P Blakey, the Provincial Architect at that time, in the Collegiate Gothic style, the style favoured for educational institutional buildings in the first part of the 20th Century. The linear horizontal lines of the style also adapted well to the emerging steel and concrete construction methods used for this building. While the institute is faced in red brick, there is significant detailing in carved stone, most notably the massive surrounds for the entries and multi-assembly windows, and the carving in the gothic arches, pinnacles and crenulations along the parapets and towers.

The interior is equally grand with oak doors, terrazzo flooring and solid maple banisters, and has a magnificent auditorium, MacDonald Hall, with stage and gallery. In 1934 the school offered aeronautical training, and during the Second World War, the federal government took over the building for the No. 2 Wireless Training School to train airmen as part of the

British Commonwealth Air Training Program. In the past century there has been tremendous growth on the campus, and the original building has been called Heritage Hall since 1985.

The technical institute also expanded to include an arts school on campus in 1926. The Art department was known as the Alberta College of Art and evolved to include a gallery in 1958 (extant, renamed Illingworth Kerr Gallery). From 1969 to 1973 a modern college building designed by Cohos Evamy & Partners was erected on campus near the Jubilee Auditorium. Its brick and concrete materials house simple, flexible interior spaces. The architecture is enduring and creative, especially in its response to the sloping site and connectivity between the college, technical institute and auditorium.

The college became independent of SAIT in 1985 and changed its name to Alberta College of Art + Design to underline the importance of design in 1995. That year it also became accredited to award Fine Arts bachelor's



Queen Elizabeth (orange arrow) and Upper Hillhurst cottage school (blue arrow) centre right; Hounsfield Lodge (Frank Riley family home at the time) foreground, ca1933 [Credits: Glenbow Archives na-3246-2]

degrees, and Bachelor of Design and Masters degrees followed in 2000 and 2015. It achieved full university status in 2018, reflected in another name change to the Alberta University of the Arts in 2019⁸⁵. Its significant contribution to Hillhurst-Sunnyside's flourishing arts community is discussed further in Section 7.

In 1930 a nine-room, two-storey Collegiate Gothic-style Bow View School was built just to the north and west of the Upper Hillhurst School. It was one of three identical schools built at that time, the others being Rideau Park (extant) and Knob Hill (non-extant). Very few schools were built in Alberta from 1914 to 1930, and no schools were built in Calgary from 1931 to 1946 so schools built between 1914 and 1946 are rare, and large schools like Bow View especially so.

The original building and its cohesive and sensitive six-room 1948 and expansive 1953 additions were all conceived by WA Branton. His 1953 wing fronting 18th Street is the largest structure in the complex; that year the school was re-named Queen Elizabeth Junior and Senior High School in honour of Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation. In 1958 the standalone Queen Elizabeth

Elementary School was built immediately south of the complex, also fronting 18th Street. A gymnasium was added in 1963, and for Canada's Centennial in 1967 a raised library wing designed by architect JJ Smart was constructed.

⁸⁵ Alberta University of the Arts, History and Mission.



Nurses at Grace Hospital, Calgary, Alberta ca1920s [Credits: Glenbow Archives na-2954-19]

In 1924 a long association of the site with the Salvation Army, who had been active in Calgary since 1887 and caring for single mothers since 1904, began when the building and grounds were acquired from the diocese. The hospital opened their new Grace Maternity Hospital and Girls Home in spring 1926, a significant step forward from their small nursing home for single mothers in Victoria Park⁸⁶.

Post-war, there was a demand for quality maternity care for all mothers, but the original building had insufficient capacity to accommodate married women as well. Staff living quarters were also needed. A two-storey west wing was added in 1954; four years later a third storey was added to the wing and a separate building was constructed to house hospital staff. A major expansion took place from 1965 to 1967, seeing a south wing erected and the 1911 building demolished.

c) Health Care

Health care services in the community first developed around the institutional lands of the Anglican Diocese (north of Hillhurst School) which were originally used for education, and later expanded to include the adjacent Ezra Riley Lodge and estate when they were acquired by the diocese. Following the advent of the First World War, with the young men of Calgary leaving to join the war effort, the Anglican boy's school changed its purpose to health care while continuing its institutional use. In 1919, under the Invalided Soldiers Commission, the building became the SCR (Soldiers Civil Re-establishment) Sunnyside Hospital with Dr Huxley Johnson as medical officer and Margaret Duffield as matron. When the hospital closed in 1922, the diocese retained ownership of the site.

A range of women's health programmes were added, and the single mothers program moved off site. To reflect its new mandate the hospital's name changed in 1986 to the Salvation Army Grace Hospital Women's Health Centre. Over time fewer Salvation Army officers were involved in the hospital's administration, however the Executive Director and Board of Directors remained high-ranking officers. The maternity program was ended when the hospital's responsibility came under the Calgary Regional Health Authority in 1995. In 1996 the provincial government permanently closed the Grace Hospital, transferring many women's health programs to the Foothills Hospital. Although no longer serving as a hospital, the building continues to be used as an active maternity clinic with prenatal and postnatal care.

⁸⁶ Original nursing home location at 11 Ave and 1st Street SE.



Grace Maternity hospital, 1954, with new west wing [Photography by Jack De Lorme, Credits: Glenbow Archives na-5600-7431a]

When Louise Riley and her father Ezra moved from the Ezra Riley family home in 1936, just prior to Ezra's passing in 1937, the Salvation Army purchased the land and home. From 1937 they expanded into this site which was adjacent to the Grace Hospital grounds to the south, and there was a parallel evolution of this additional part of the site for health care. The Salvation Army Sunset Lodge for female senior citizens relocated to this new site that year, and later expanded into modern buildings. The Sunset Lodge transitioned in 1992 to become the Agapé Hospice which provides end-of-life palliative care. Today the hospice remains one of three key locations operated by today's Salvation Army in Calgary.

In addition to the larger institutions, medical care was administered by local practitioners in the community. One of the first physicians to practise in Hillhurst-

Sunnyside was Dr Duncan Gow (ca1860-1938), although he lived across the river in Connaught. Born and trained in Ontario, Dr Gow had moved to Calgary in 1904, and was the City's Medical Health Officer and Superintendent of the General Hospital from 1923-1933, before focusing on his private practice.

Physician, surgeon and Hillhurst resident Dr Robert Francis (1881-1955), lived in a stately two-storey brick home (extant) on 11A Street and had offices in the Carscallen Block for the early years of his practice. He was also born in Ontario where he trained before coming to Calgary in 1909. Dr Francis was socially active with numerous societies including Hillhurst United Church⁸⁷.

⁸⁷ Jamieson (1947).



Ezra Riley family home, 1965 [Credits: Calgary Public Library Alison Jackson collection]

Theme Summary:

Thematic value

- The Hillhurst-Sunnyside community possesses institution value for its historic associations with education, health care and its many community institutions like the local post office and telephone exchange.

Existing historic resources

- Heritage Hall (SAIT Campus) (1921), Hillhurst Cottage School (1910), Hillhurst School (1911), Queen Elizabeth Junior and Senior High School (1930), St John Elementary School (1916), Sunnyside Bungalow School (1919)

Potential historic resources associated with this theme

- Alberta University of the Arts (1973)
- Francis Residence (ca1910) at 236 11A Street - residence of early Alberta pioneer doctor and long-time Hillhurst community member
- Great West Trading Company at 429 11th Street as the first location for the community's post office

Building Social and Community Life



View of former Norfolk (10A) Street. [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

a) Social, Intellectual and Ethnic English Cultural Life

The threads of ethnic English and Scottish traditions that ran through the early cultural life of Hillhurst-Sunnyside began with the area's pioneers and developers whose families had roots in those two homelands and brought the customs of those countries to their new home.

The Englishness of Hillhurst was clearly shaped by the vision of its pioneer landowner and developer, Ezra Riley, whose father Thomas came from Derbyshire, England and whose mother Georgiana from the small town of Kirton in Lindsey, in North Lincolnshire,

England. Both Ezra's original 1904 subdivision and its 1906 addition employed street names that referenced English place names including Oxford, Gladstone, Buckingham, Norfolk and Essex. When his mother, Georgiana Riley, registered Upper Hillhurst in 1906 she also used street names with English references like Marlborough and Wellington streets and others named for the British Royal family.

English roots are also evident in Col Lawrence Herchmer's 1907 Westmont subdivision which had original street names like Cambridge, Devenish and Beveridge. Herchmer descended from a prominent Kingston, Ontario family of United Empire Loyalists whose arrival in North America dates to the 18th

century. As a result he was born and received most of his education in England.

The Church of England (Anglican Church) also featured conspicuously in Hillhurst, with Morleyville Road named for the Anglican Mission at Morley, and after 1906, with St Barnabas Church and churchyard. In 1912 Ezra gifted a new brick-clad St Barnabas Church to the parish. As well, an Anglican boy's school, the Bishop Pinkham College (the site that would be used for health care), was built just north of Hillhurst School. The architect responsible for these ecclesiastical buildings was Leo Dowler (1876-1921), an Anglican himself as well as a Sunnyside resident.

One of Calgary's most prolific early architects, Dowler was born in Kingston, Ontario where he trained in architecture, arriving in Calgary in 1899. He first worked in carpentry before establishing his architecture practice in 1905. He worked with a variety of partners before returning to independent practice, during which time he also served as the Dominion Government's resident architect in Calgary. Leo married pioneer Samuel Livingston's daughter Mary in 1904, and designed and built their 1911 home⁸⁸ where they raised their large, growing family. His other works in and near the community include Hillhurst School, Ezra Riley's Hillhurst estate home, Alfred's Riley's Lodge in Parkdale, landowner AJ McArthur's Crescent Heights residence and - just across today's Mewata Bridge - the Mewata Armory. Although he is responsible for numerous historic resources in the city, only Hillhurst School and St Barnabas Church tower remain of his Hillhurst-Sunnyside works.

Perhaps the most unusual English influence to find in a North American community is the cricket field, also a legacy of Ezra. He donated the land for a City park, Riley Park, in 1910 and in 1919 he asked parks

⁸⁸ 428 Boulevard (now Memorial Drive, home non-extant or significantly altered).

superintendent William Reader to install cricket pitches in the park. He also requested that cricket be the only team sport to be played in Riley Park. Another English custom - 'afternoon tea' - played out every Sunday at Riley Park, when it was served at the cricket club house.

The game of cricket in Riley Park where the Calgary and District Cricket League are currently based, and worship in St Barnabas Church of England, are enduring examples of intangible cultural heritage that have been practiced for over a century.

A parallel ethnic cultural development was unfolding in Sunnyside where Scottish influences in the landscape and culture originated with landowner and developer William Ross who settled in Calgary in 1905. He was from Kincardine Township, Bruce County, Ontario and of Scottish descent, his father Allan being from Rosshire and his mother Alexandria from the Isle of Harris in Scotland. Ross and business partner Arthur Bennett registered Sunnyside, both its original subdivision and larger addition, and Broadview subdivisions in 1907. 'New Edinburgh' was the east part of the larger Sunnyside addition with the east-west grid orientation as shown in the advertisement on the next page.

Although not shown in the advertisement, New Edinburgh street names included Dundee, Glasgow and Leith avenues⁸⁹; in Sunnyside, for example, 9A Street was originally Merchison Street. New Edinburgh Park, immediately west of where New Edinburgh was shown on early maps, is named for the former subdivision. It has a playground, as well as a skating rink in winter, and is known for becoming the city's first pesticide-free park in 1999.

In Broadview, Bennett and Ross's only Hillhurst-Sunnyside subdivision west of 10th Street, a Church

⁸⁹ 1910 City of Calgary engineering map.



Top: Cricket match in Riley Park [Credits: Glenbow Archives pa-3383-4]

Bottom: William Ross New Edinburgh and Sunnyside real estate ad, 1907 [Credits: Daily Herald March 15, 1907]

NEW EDINBURGH

SUNNYSIDE

AT LAST! AT LAST!

The Beautiful Suburb

NEW EDINBURGH

Is put on the Market

Just Think of it!

Splendid level Lots only \$300 each

within the mile circle, easily worth \$500 each. There are only 328 lots all told. We will cut them loose to the first man with the deposit.

Go down and see the E. C. Hustler putting the bridge in. Must be completed by August.

Lots on Eighth Avenue, the same distance from the Centre were selling slowly at \$275 to \$300 each one year ago. Today the same lots are picked up as a snap at \$2,000 to \$3,000 each.

Learn wisdom from the past or you will never learn at all. Calgary's greatest expansion lies just ahead of us. Take time to consider what this means:

- \$80,000 for Land Titles Office.
- \$150,000 for City Hall.
- \$250,000 for Water System.
- \$500,000 for Street Railway.

To give everybody a chance we will make the terms 1-3 cash, 1-3 July 1st, balance to suit.

WILLIAM ROSS

Phone 604 First Door East Alberta Hotel

A clean, healthy suburb, subject to the following restrictions:

- One dwelling only on two lots.
- All buildings to be erected not to be nearer than twenty (20) feet to street line.
- All buildings to be painted within one year after erection.
- No portion of this land to be used for immoral purposes or nuisances.
- No intoxicating liquors to be sold on any portion of this land.



Statue of King Robert the Bruce, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

of Scotland - Hillhurst Presbyterian Church⁹⁰ - was erected south of Kensington Road, the first in 1907 and a second permanent church in 1912. The architect was George Gilbert Irvine (1868-c1932), born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and this ecclesiastical British Arts & Crafts-style church is his only known work from his brief practice in Calgary from 1912-1913.

Irvine articulated under his father, architect James Irvine, who was the clerk of works for George Gilbert Scott, London's leading church architect in the latter 19th Century and George Gilbert Irvine was almost certainly named for him. After gaining experience in England, Irvine opened an office in Aberdeen and later Edinburgh. He immigrated to Canada in 1911, briefly settling in Calgary (living in Sunnyside) before returning to England in late 1913. The church's British Arts & Crafts style employs diverse traditional architectural elements and natural materials to evoke the rural countryside of the British Isles. The ecclesiastical version of the style uses prominent gothic-arched windows.

Rancher and developer Archibald McArthur, who had acquired the land homesteaded by Philip Van Cortlandt in 1906 and subdivided the area shortly after, had

⁹⁰ Today's Hillhurst United Church.

emigrated with his parents from the Scottish isle of Iona, in the Inner Hebrides, as a small child. Like Ross, he was raised in Bruce County, Ontario. He settled in the Calgary area in 1890. However, he had less influence on the Sunnyside community partly due to his sudden passing in 1911 when he died intestate and his lands were tied up for many years. This prevented his widow Catherine from managing the inherited real estate until the boom had long passed. For this reason, and because of his aspirations towards incorporating his lands at the top of the hill as the village of Crescent Heights, McArthur is today mainly associated with Crescent Heights.

Nevertheless, part of his lands just east of 3rd Street at the base of the bluff have had a Scottish connection since mid-century times. The Scottish sport of curling formally arrived in the community when the Calgary Curling Club constructed a Sunnyside rink complex in 1953⁹¹. The club had moved from Victoria Park where they were located from 1909 although they had built their first rink two decades earlier⁹². One well-known Scottish resident of Sunnyside, James 'Cappy' Smart, who was born in Arbroath, Scotland and had

⁹¹ The current facility dates to 1976.

⁹² There had been curling in Calgary from 1885.

immigrated to Canada in 1883, was president of the Alberta Curling Club in 1904.

Also during the community's mid-century period, in 1967, a statue of King Robert the Bruce was installed on the hillside below the Jubilee Auditorium. The sculpture had been acquired by Eric Harvie, whose grandparents came from Scotland, who donated it to the city. The twenty-seven foot bronze sculpture is one of two statues created by Scottish sculptor C d'O Pilkington Jackson to commemorate the Battle of Bannockville, a famous Scottish victory during the First War of Scottish Independence. The other was unveiled in Stirling, Scotland. In 2014 the statue was re-dedicated by Calgary's Robbie Burns club to mark the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockville.

While it is easy to understand the longing for one's homeland, and wanting to bring customs and re-create places of their youth in their newly adopted country, it is another matter entirely to promote these interests by excluding other races, nationalities and/or income levels. There is at least one unfortunate example that appeared in a piece regarding Hillhurst within a larger two-page 1907 Albertan feature article about suburbs north of the Bow:

"A great feature of the Hillhurst settlement is the fine class of people who are making homes there. They are mostly Canadians or people from the British Isles and great care is exercised in the choice of people to whom to sell lots for building purposes. As a result there is no foreign settlement in Hillhurst and all the new-comers speak the English language and are of Anglo-Saxon origin. This is a guarantee that the public institutions and private homes will be built upon the high plan of Anglo-Saxon and Canadian ideals⁹³."

Although the perspective of the journalist is regrettable

⁹³ The Morning Albertan, November 16, 1907

and one is left to wonder exactly what is meant by 'the high plan of Anglo-Saxon and Canadian ideals', there is no evidence this was a view espoused in general by the residents of Hillhurst-Sunnyside, and the reference to class was certainly not reflected in the working-class occupations of residents. On the other hand, as seen in the New Edinburgh advertisement above, William Ross chose to market Sunnyside as a 'clean, healthy', affordable and beautiful suburb and there is no mention of promoting a certain social class or ethnic background.

As well, an item in the same 1907 Albertan feature article entitled "Workmen's cottages in Sunnyside" reported that the Calgary Building Company had erected good quality cottages in the entire block 20 in Sunnyside that were "within reach of any workingman who wishes to secure a neat and comfortable home in a pleasant locality". Yet history tells us that there was much opportunity for change, inclusivity, diversity and a new cosmopolitan perspective in the neighbourhood and in the wider global community.

To give an idea of provincial government policy of the time, the first government following the formation of the province in 1905 were the Liberals who held twenty-three of twenty-five seats and were to serve four successive terms. Liberal MLA Ezra Riley, whose riding included North Calgary, was part of this government from 1906 to 1910. The Liberals' success in the election was due partly to policies that were popular with voters, like their support for free trade, reforms such as women's rights and open immigration⁹⁴.

Regarding the place of origin of Calgarians at the time, in 1906 51 per cent were born in Canada, 25 per cent in Ontario and 16 per cent in Alberta. Of those born in British Empire countries other than Canada, the highest percentage were born in England, 13 per cent,

⁹⁴ Palmer (1990).

followed by Scotland, 5 per cent. Only 28 per cent of Calgarians were born outside the British Empire, and, of those, two-thirds were from the United States.

Two Sunnyside residents played an important role in the movement towards change, notable Canadian racial equality pioneers, Violet and Theodore (Ted) King. Violet (1929-1982) broke barriers for both gender and racial equality. In 1954 she became the first Black person to obtain a law degree in Alberta and the first to be admitted to the Alberta bar, the latter being a feat that would not be repeated for another decade. She was also Canada's first Black female lawyer. Her brother Ted was an early human rights advocate who served as president of the Alberta Association for the Advancement of Coloured People. This was a time

when hotels and motels could refuse accommodation to people of visible minorities, and Ted used the courts to fight this discrimination.

Violet and Ted's parents Stella, a seamstress and cook, and her husband John moved to Sunnyside in 1929 to raise their family. John worked as a sleeping car porter, one of the few occupations available to Blacks prior to the First World War. John's parents, African Americans who emigrated in 1911 from Oklahoma to a small farming community in Alberta, had also faced discrimination when in the early 19th Century politicians were attempting to implement policy that would restrict the number of Black immigrants to the Canadian Prairies. Fortunately these policies were never adopted.



Violet King shakes hands with EJ McCormick with whom she articulated, 1954 [Credits: Glenbow Museum NA5600-7760a, originally featured in the Albertan]

b) Spiritual Life

The churches of Hillhurst-Sunnyside were all built in Hillhurst. In addition to serving as places of worship for most of the denominations of Western Europe, they were the places where major life events like baptisms, weddings and funerals were held. They offered many other social and institutional activities from serving as classroom space to providing a gathering place for clubs and events.

The first purpose-built church in the community was the 1906 St Barnabas Church of England (replaced) fronting Church Avenue (today's 7th Avenue) and was also the first Anglican church north of the Bow River. The small wooden-frame church was based on plans for an Anglican Church in East Calgary to save costs. Prior to that, religious services were held at the Chenery Residence (non-extant) as were the first meetings of St Barnabas parish.

In 1912 Ezra Riley gifted a new brick and sandstone church designed by Leo Dowler in the Ecclesiastical Gothic Revival Style to replace the 1906 church. Anglican Bishop Pinkham laid the red granite cornerstone⁹⁵ engraved 'erected by Ezra Hounsfield Riley as a loving memory of his Mother, Father and Infant daughter'. Most of the place of faith was destroyed in a 1957 fire, although the cemetery, the tower, all stained-glass window sashes but one, and the chancel furniture donated by Maude Riley in memory of her husband Harold remain. All the building elements were incorporated into a new mid-century church. The place of worship and cemetery continue to serve the community in their original use.

The Morleyville Road Baptist Church (extant) was a modest Carpenter Gothic-style church built in 1907 at the intersection of two trails, taking its name

from the trail north (today's 10th Street). From 1888 until 1906 Baptist worship in Calgary was held in downtown locations, but by 1906 First Baptist, the mother church, seeded five new congregations from its members including Hillhurst; an assistant from First Baptist, Reverend DA Gunn, became its first pastor. Before the building was constructed Morleyville Road Baptist members met in private homes and organized a Sunday school in rooms above a store.

Typical of Carpenter Gothic churches stylistic elements are crafted in wood rather than stone, and parish volunteers, often skilled craftsmen, assisted with building activities. The church grew rapidly in the pre-war boom, in 1911 the name changed to the Hillhurst Baptist and in 1914, with a congregation of 140, the building was expanded. Membership continued to grow during Calgary's mid-century period of economic prosperity; the congregations of Hillhurst and Emmanuel (West Hillhurst, non-extant) consolidated in 1952, and an adjoining church hall and Christian Education Building was erected in 1958. In 1971 the congregation disbanded, and the place of faith was for next year rented to the Bible Baptist Church before being sold. Following its service as a church, the building was home to a variety of occupants including art, theatre and martial arts groups before being converted to retail use, with long term tenants Weddings 'n Things and Lifesport. With its tall steeple and setting on a unique triangular-shaped lot, the church is a community landmark.

The Hillhurst Presbyterian Church (Church of Scotland) congregation was established in 1907 and a small church was erected on Kensington Crescent⁹⁶ where

⁹⁵ Extant, in the tower

⁹⁶ Originally 2nd Avenue and later Bowness Road; ca1986 the name of the portion east of 11A Street of the short segment of Bowness Road in the original Broadview subdivision was changed (along with the portion of 11A south of Kensington Road) to Kensington Crescent and the street was reconfigured and closed to traffic from the west half. The remaining portion of Bowness Road between 11A and 14th Streets was changed to Kensington Close in ca1990 to reflect a more prestigious address for the new Providence Kensington development.

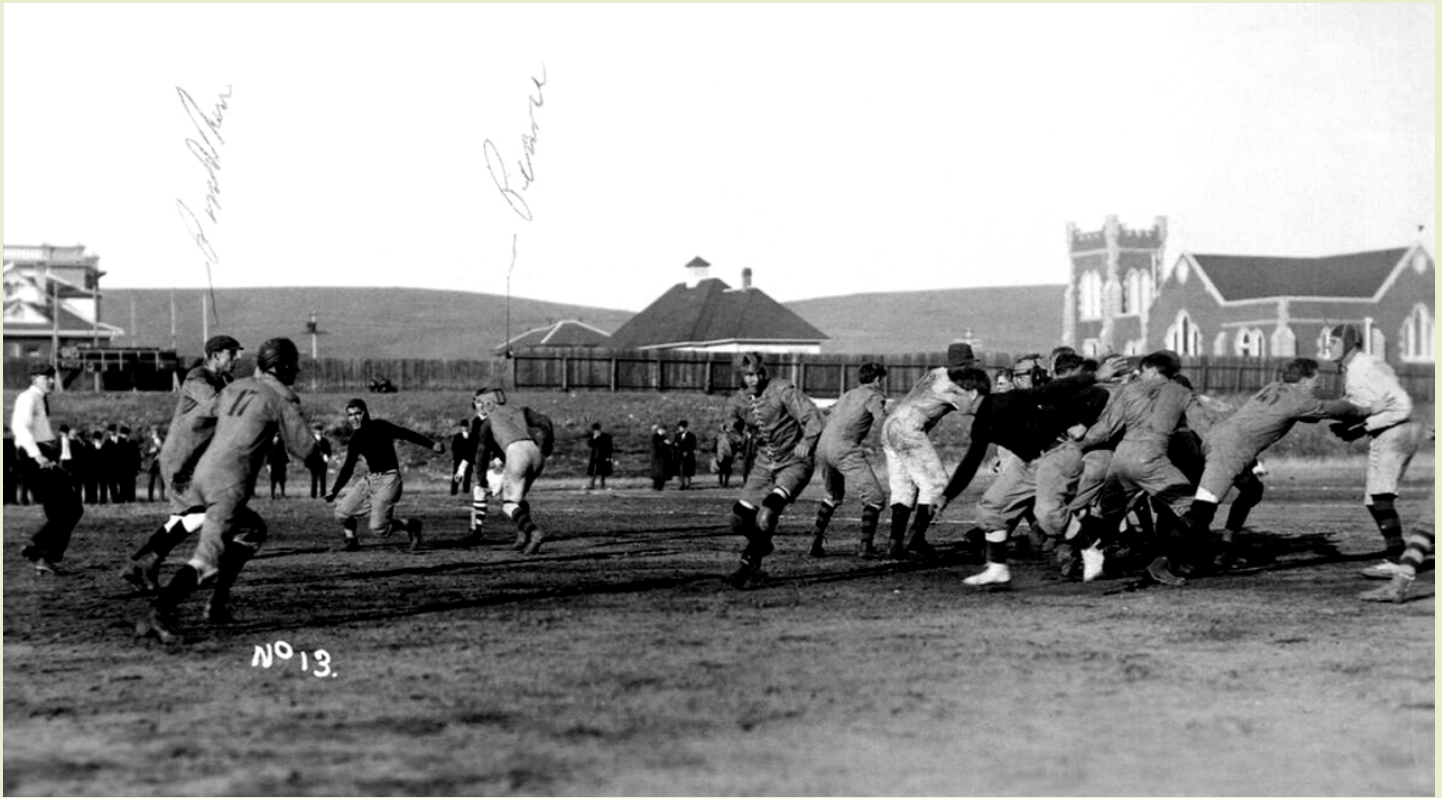
it intersects Kensington Road at 10A Street. In 1912 a charming British Arts & Crafts-style church was built further west on Kensington Close at 12th Street. In the early years the congregation boasted over 400 members, and at one point its Sunday school was one of the largest in Calgary. By 1925 the membership was further bolstered, and the expenses of the large pre-war church were offset when the congregation of St Paul's Methodist Church, a few blocks north, joined Hillhurst Presbyterian to become a single congregation, Hillhurst United, located in the Presbyterian building. a mixed use commercial-residential building has taken its place.

The flourishing, active congregation engaged in many social activities in the facility's auditorium, gymnasium and meeting hall equipped with supper kitchen. During the Second World War the Young Ladies Mission Circle was founded to visit shut-ins and host tea meetings and fireside evenings for servicemen in the community. Despite a decline in Sunday school numbers from the 1950s the church was expanded to the west with a new church hall which opened in 1965.

The Roman Catholic faith community was represented by four sites in Hillhurst, including the 1916 St John's Elementary School on Kensington Road and three other sites near 10th Street and Gladstone Road: the 1953 St John's Church (non-extant), its nearby 1957 rectory and St John's convent. St John's Roman Catholic parish worshippers first met in a temporary chapel in the school. It served Hillhurst-Sunnyside as well as many other northwest districts. Work started in 1930 for the edifice, and as happened with many Calgary churches erected at the time, it began as a 'foundation church', the first phase of a church intended to be completed at a later date when the economy permitted. When the economy did improve a church designed by Hodgson and Bates was erected between 1953 and 1954. The place of faith was in active service until 2001 when St Bernard's became the principal parish church. The following year the church was destroyed in a fire, and



Hillhurst Presbyterian Sunday school group promoting prohibition/temperance, 1912-1916 [Credits: Glenbow Archives na-1639-1]



Calgary Tigers, the precursors to the Stampeders, playing football at Hillhurst Athletic Park, 1913 [Credits: Glenbow Archives na-1744-7]

c) Connecting community through Sports, Clubs, Recreation and Leisure

In addition to the social role played by the early churches, recreation and leisure - both formal and informal - figured prominently in the social life of residents. In March of 1911 the lands immediately west of Riley Park were donated to the City by the Riley family for Hillhurst Athletic Park⁹⁷. By 1912 a grandstand and bleachers were erected, and the existing Hillhurst Football club clubhouse/dressing cabins were moved to the playing field and enlarged. Ezra and Frank Riley organized the Hillhurst Football Club which won the Dominion Championship twice. Frank served as the club's president Club from 1910-1922 and was an active promoter of rugby football in Calgary.

In 1912, Harriet Riley loaned her land nearby to the north and west (today's St Andrews Heights) to be developed as Calgary's second golf course, St Andrews Golf Club, named for the famous links course in Scotland

⁹⁷ The Calgary Daily Herald, March 24, 1911.

and opened in May 1913. The club membership, which had free playing rights, grew rapidly⁹⁸. Probably the most popular area for the neighbourhood, Riley Park, was a place for informal leisure and recreation in all seasons. The park was donated by Ezra Riley in 1910. Within two years it was cultivated and sown with grass, landscaped with flower beds and thousands of trees and shrubs, and had a wading pool for children. An early toboggan run on the hillside immediately north of the park was dismantled after the First World War, possibly to accommodate the land sale to the province for the technical institute. Another very popular informal winter activity was skating on the frozen sloughs, an activity that lasted well into the post-war period when the last slough was reclaimed for development.

Local fraternal lodges were also established early on. The Riley Hall in the Great West Trading Co building housed the 7th Day Adventists, two orders of the Loyal Order of Lions and the King George Masonic Lodge No 59. As soon as the Ross Block was completed

⁹⁸ Per research by Marg McReady.



King George Masonic Lodge No 59, n.d. [Credits: City of Calgary, Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources website]

public hall next to the Hillhurst Pool Room. Members included pharmacist WC Black who was Chair in 1922 and Calgary's mayor at the time, and Andrew Davidson (term 1929-1945) who lived north of the Bow.

The Masons sublet the hall to other groups, among them the Rebeccah Lodge, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Loyal Orange Lodge and the Oddfellows Hillhurst No 46 lodge. In 1926 the King George Masonic Lodge No 59 erected their own hall while the Oddfellows remained in the Ross Block. The new Masonic Lodge was a Spanish Colonial Revival-style building (extant, 1126 Kensington Road) designed by architect DS McIlroy who was also a Mason⁹⁹. In 1984 the lodge moved to the city's southwest; since that time the building has provided a new use as the Higher Ground coffee house, and still continues its social purpose as a popular community gathering place.

Immediately after the war in 1919, the City Parks Department installed three cricket pitches and a clubhouse in Riley Park at Ezra's request. Also in the inter-war period the Bow Valley Lawn Bowling pitch was developed on Bowness Road in 1932. Member of council and successful plumbing contractor Frederick (Fred) Lepper (term 1937-1938) was the club's founding president and was instrumental in negotiating the land

⁹⁹ McIlroy also built the Odd Fellows temple on 6th Avenue SW.

which had been acquired by the City in 1922, likely due to tax forfeiture. The bowling club is still active and has expanded to indoor uses in its 2002 club house.

Formal team sports and the athletic park were especially important in the depressed economy of the inter-war era. Spectators watched talented athletes play the most popular sports at that time - soccer, hockey and American football - for free on the playing field they at that time referred to as the 'Hillhurst Ball Park'. The sports teams, in turn, received support from the business proprietors who would act as sponsors and advertise their businesses on team jerseys. Two sponsors on 10th Street were Ken Morgan's barber shop and the Dari Rich Milk Bar, both shops were also 'hangouts' for the sportsmen. In 1922 the senior soccer team won the Dominion Championship. Local Dodger Lewis played fastball in the 1930s for the St Louis Browns (American League). Sunnyside resident Lloyd Turner (1884-1976) started up and managed several leagues, tournaments, and teams including the creation of two professional teams in Alberta. He later managed senior amateur hockey at the Corral. Turner was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame as a 'Builder' in 1958.

In 1948, during the mid-century oil boom, the first Hillhurst/Sunnyside Community Association was incorporated as a non-profit society. The 1912 dressing rooms in the athletic field had also been used as meeting rooms and became the original community centre. As with other Alberta community associations and leagues of this era, the focus was primarily on organising and supporting sports and social gatherings like winter festivals. Hockey had emerged as the most popular sport in the 1950s, and the community association maintained two rinks, one just for hockey. Long-time residents and well-known community association volunteers at that time were Bernice and John Corless and their son Bob. Bob and John flooded



One of the banquets at the community hall following an exchange match with children from the Morley Reserve, ca1950s [Credits: Bob Corless private collection]

the rink, and John managed the teams and assisted the coaches. Children from the community would play exchange matches with the children from the Morley Reserve in both Hillhurst and Morley.

Bernice and John Corless managed the community association facility as volunteers. In 1953/54, the association added a kitchen and hall to the dressing cabins, and in the mid-1950s tennis courts were opened. The Calgary Curling Club also built their new arena in Sunnyside during the mid-1950s.

There were also local sports heroes during this period. Hillhurst resident Joseph Sidney (Sid) Finney (1929-2009), who had emigrated from Ireland, played professionally in the 1950-60s, first for the Calgary Buffalos, then the senior Calgary Stampeder's hockey club and on to the National Hockey League for the Chicago Blackhawks. His brother James (Jim) was a hockey player and a coach in the community.

Hockey was still one of the community's two strongest sports in the 1970s, the other being baseball. In 1978, under the new Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community

Association that had formed in 1973, the 1953/4 community buildings underwent a major expansion with a gymnasium and recreation complex. The mandate of the centre also significantly expanded in this period of revitalisation to include almost every aspect of life in the community including child care, youth drop-in programmes, programmes for seniors, community assistance and collective kitchens. After the Norfolk House mixed-use seniors complex on Kensington Road was completed in 1982 for the Hillhurst Sunnyside Non-Profit Housing Association, new organisations opened on the main floor: the Hillside Seniors' Welcome Centre, the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Information Centre and the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Non-Profit Housing Association.



John Corless at the athletic concession and membership stand run by his wife Bernice, ca1950s [Credits: Bob Corless private collection]

d) Thriving Arts Community

With two important provincial centres for the performing arts and fine arts, as well as galleries being located in the community, Hillhurst-Sunnyside has become a nucleus of arts in the city. Residents have been attracted to the neighbourhood by the thriving local arts centres and in turn have shaped and fostered the local culture in the community.

Fine Arts

The Alberta University of the Arts was established on the SAIT campus in 1926, beginning as a department of the technical school, and growing to become a fully accredited university in 2019. A public art gallery

was opened in 1958 and renamed the Illingworth Kerr Gallery in 1990; Kerr who taught and served as the director of the art department at Alberta University of the Arts (then Alberta College of Art) from 1947 to ca1967 was also named to the Order of Canada in 1983.

The exhibition space is the longest-running international art program in Calgary. A second student-run gallery opened by at least 1986 to showcase student work, the Marion Nicoll Gallery, which was named for Marion Florence Nicoll (1909-1985), one of the province's earliest abstract painters who became the art school's first female instructor in 1933. The arts university's students, former students and staff have made Hillhurst-Sunnyside their home.



Plaza Theatre on Kensington Road. [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Performing Arts

One of the earliest examples of the performing arts, and an important example of intangible heritage in Hillhurst-Sunnyside, is the bandstand in Riley Park, which was planned for at least by 1913. Funding was made available for a new bandstand as a commemorative project in 1980, but it was not constructed until the late 1980s. This bandstand was in turn replaced in 2018.

The youngest daughter of pioneers Felix and Florence McHugh, Florence McHugh Piercy (1901-1984), was a talented artist who achieved renown for her roles - many of them leading roles - in plays, light opera and musical comedy in live theatre and film. She was still a student in the field when she moved in 1921 to London to finish her training. After establishing a successful career in London she made it her permanent home. With the introduction of the Plaza Theatre, a small

theatre house created by adapting and renewing the façade of a 1929 garage, to the community in 1935, a wide variety of affordable films aimed at diverse age groups were accessible to residents.

The Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium, a 2,700-seat concert hall and theatre was built between 1955 and 1957 as a venue for both local and international performing artists. From 1982 to 2004 the basement was reconfigured to add a second more intimate 250-seat auditorium, the Dr Betty Mitchell Theatre, named for Betty Mitchell who founded several Calgary theatrical groups in the 1930s-40s¹⁰⁰.

Residents have been attracted to the neighbourhood by the thriving local arts centres and in turn have shaped and fostered the local culture in the community. This was no more evident than during the counter-culture movement of the 1960s and 1970s. For a few years

¹⁰⁰ Another theatre that opened in the Allied Arts Centre (non-extant) in 1962 was also named in her honour.



Love-In in at Riley Park where 'flower children' passed around incense and flowers, read poetry and danced to rock bands, 1967. [Credits: Calgary Daily Herald, August 7, 1988, p44]

Riley Park became a magnet for free-spirited, anti-establishment youth. It began in July 1967, when an estimated 5,000 hippies and spectators participated in a Love-In, a full year before San Francisco's 1968 'summer of love'. The Love-In was promoted by Luvinc, a free society for the promotion of arts and artisanry in Calgary. In her community newsletter article 'Confessions of a Hippie', long-time resident Patti Dawkins, explains that these gatherings were her introduction to Riley Park and the wider community of like-minded individuals and disillusioned youth. Another sign of the times in the community was the Garnet Block which became the Headquarters head shop which advertised with psychedelic posters by artist Bruce Pearson.

the community, began his fine arts studies at AUARTS in 1960. At that time he connected with musicians and to form a band. The Sunnyside property he rented in the late 1960s was a gathering place for both artists and musicians. At that time he also was involved with the 'Diggers' a counter-culture movement of social activists and street performers that originated in Haight Ashbury, San Francisco that promoted the idea that everything should be free. Smith helped others in need find free accommodation.

Another long-time resident Brian Smith, who was born at Grace Hospital eight decades ago and was raised in



The Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Theme Summary: Building Social and Community Life

Thematic value

- Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses symbolic value for its association with the cultural aspirations of its ethnic English and Scottish settlers, developers, business owners and residents. The east part of Sunnyside was called New Edinburgh during the early 1900s, and both Hillhurst and Sunnyside had original English and Scottish street names. The game of cricket in Riley Park, and worship in St Barnabas Church of England and Hillhurst United (originally Presbyterian) Church are enduring examples of intangible cultural heritage that have been practiced for over a century.
- Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses person value for notable Canadian racial equality pioneers, Violet and Theodore (Ted) King. Violet (1929-1982) broke barriers for both gender and racial equality; she was the first Black person to obtain a law degree in Alberta and the first to be admitted to the Alberta bar association, and was also Canada's first Black female lawyer. Ted was an early human rights advocate who served as president of the Alberta Association for the Advancement of Coloured People.
- Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses institution value for its extant churches, some which are still active places of worship.
- Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses activity value for its association with sports, and for playing fields and cricket pitches.
- Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses person value for its local sportsmen who achieved national and international recognition including Lloyd Turner who was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame as a 'Builder' in 1958, Dodger Lewis who played fastball in the 1930s for the St Louis Browns, professional hockey player Joseph Sidney (Sid) Finney who played in the National Hockey League for the Chicago Blackhawks (1951-54), and Ezra and Frank Riley who organized the Hillhurst Football Club which twice won the Dominion Championship.

Character Defining Elements

- English place names that exist today including Gladstone and Kensington
- Scottish place names that exist today New Edinburgh Park
- Riley Park Cricket Pitches (1919) at Riley Park
- Robert the Bruce statue (1967) south of the Jubilee Auditorium
- intangible heritage practices which continue today including the game of cricket in Riley Park, worship in the active community churches, performing arts in community venues
- Existing historic resources associated with this theme
- Bow Valley Lawn Bowling Club (1932), Hillhurst Baptist Church (1907), Hillhurst United Church (1912), King George Masonic Hall (1926), Plaza Theatre (1928), Riley Park (1911) including the cricket pitches, St Barnabas Church Tower (1912), St John's Church (1953, demolished), Senator Patrick Burns memorial Rock Garden (1956), Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (1957)

Potential historic resources associated with this theme

- AUArts facilities including the Illingworth Kerr Gallery (1958) and the Marion Nicoll Gallery (1986) for their continued use as art galleries and interpretive spaces
- Great West Trading Company at 429 11th Street, which hosted the 7th Day Adventists, the Loyal Order of Lions and the King George Masonic Lodge No 59
- Norfolk House (1982), designed by James S. Jones Architect and located at 1114-1120 Kensington Road NW and 206 10 A Street NW, designed for the Hillhurst Sunnyside Non-Profit Housing Association
- Violet and Ted King's childhood residence at 518 7th Avenue
- Irvine Residence (ca1912) at 729 5th Street - home of architect George Gilbert Irvine when he designed Hillhurst Presbyterian Church
- Residences of Sunnyside's professional athletes, including Lloyd Turner, Dodger Lewis and Joseph Sidney 'Sid' Flemming if extant (addresses and years to be determined)

Potential sites for interpretation

- Dr Betty Mitchell Theatre (1982) in the basement of the Jubilee
- Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association (1953) at 1320 5th Avenue
- Hillhurst Athletic Park (1911) which now exists as Hillhurst-Sunnyside Park for its role in hosting early organized sport; Riley Athletic Park building - (ca1911) if any part has been incorporated into the present day community centre
- Bandstand at Riley Park
- Street names at the time of subdivision representing communities English and Scottish influences - street signs that include historic street-naming is a popular, everyday type of interpretation
- Original location of the Hillhurst Presbyterian Church (ca1907) at 10A Street and Kensington Road
- Calgary Curling Club (1976), at the site since 1953 and rebuilt following a fire, the club is located at 720 3rd Street
- Robert the Bruce statue (1967) south of the Jubilee Auditorium
- New Edinburgh Park (ca1900s) at 625 3rd Avenue, the only remaining Scottish name of the subdivision of New Edinburgh

Special Streetscapes and Cultural Landscapes



Pre-war public sidewalk boulevards with mature trees, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

a) Special streetscapes

Heritage in the built environment is not limited to individual structures with special significance. A group of modest buildings, which individually would not qualify as historic resources, when considered together with each other and their landscape can create a special sense of place, time, aesthetics or identity that is valued by a community. The following residential and commercial streetscapes create all of these things. They were selected because of their higher integrity in terms of the proportion of remaining pre-war and inter-war housing stock. A unique and exceptional First World War streetscape, 'Bennett's Bathhouses (or Bath Houses), is considered at the end of this section.

Hillhurst residential streetscapes:

- 12th Street - 200-400 blocks, east side north of house number 222
- 13th Street - 300-400 block, west side north of

house number 333

- 10A Street - 200-300 block, east side north of house number 218
- Bowness Road - 1600 block, east and west sides and lilac boulevard

Sunnyside residential streetscapes:

- 5th Street - 900 block, east side south of 934 in New Edinburgh (contains the two brick houses)
- 1st Street - 1000 block, south side north of 1027

Heritage Value

Hillhurst-Sunnyside's residential pre-war streetscapes:

- are symbolic of the working-class and lower middle-class community that was almost fully developed during Calgary's pre-First World War construction boom. (symbolic value)
- possess style value for their remaining pre-war and inter-war cottages which feature Edwardian (1901-1914) architectural styles including Edwardian

Commercial, Edwardian Gable-front, Edwardian Cottage, Craftsman and Foursquare styles.

Road possesses heritage value as an intact section of Kensington Road, which developed as a busy social hub and commercial street from 1912 when the streetcar was introduced.

Character defining elements

- Edwardian cottages on twenty-five or fifty-foot lots fronting uniform, front setbacks with soft landscaping, most with mature plantings, public sidewalk boulevards with mature trees; rear lanes with garage access from the lane;
- Characteristics of the remaining pre-war and inter-war cottages: Edwardian (1901-1914) architectural styles including Edwardian Commercial, Edwardian Gable-front, Edwardian Cottage, Craftsman and Foursquare; one, one and one-half and two-storey form; full-width front verandahs or front porches with front entries, tall vertical single and multi-assembly windows with hung-sash profiles, front and side-gabled and hipped roof profiles with medium to steep roof pitch; and cladding in natural materials like brick, plaster (stucco) from natural components, wooden shingles and bevelled-wood siding.
- raised median with continued plantings of grass and purple-flowering Lilac shrubs; original Bowness Road street name and historic relation to planned streetcar route to Bowness (Bowness Road streetscape)

Existing and potential historic resources associated with this theme

Existing - Bowness Road lilac medians

Potential - n/a

Hillhurst Commercial Streetscape

Heritage Value

- The east side of the 1100 block of Kensington

Character defining elements

- buildings built out to the property line along a common setback with adjacent buildings; commercial uses and storefronts at street level; street trees;
- one and one-half-storey and two-storey buildings with storefronts at street level, recessed entry ways, large display windows with transom lights, brick façades, signbands and pressed metal cornices;
- commercial signage such as wooden or pressed metal signbands, and/or small projecting signs on building façades at top of storefront.

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this theme

- refer to Section 4b commerce

Sunnyside Commercial Streetscape

Heritage Value

- The contiguous stretch of 1911-19 buildings at the south end of the east side of 10th Street possesses heritage value as an intact section of historic 10th Street, one of Calgary's earliest and most important commercial streets, which has been associated with commerce since the streetcar was introduced in 1909.

Character defining elements

- buildings built out to the property line along a common setback with adjacent buildings;



1100 Block of Kensington Road, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

commercial uses and storefronts at street level; street trees;

- two-storey Edwardian Commercial Style buildings and one-storey Commercial Style buildings with storefronts at street level, recessed entry ways, large display windows with transom lights, brick façades, signbands and pressed metal cornices;
- commercial signage such as wooden or pressed metal signbands, and/or small projecting signs on building façades at top of storefront; original painted “ghost” signs; and
- inter-war and post-war vernacular commercial buildings with interpretations or influences of styles of the period.

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this theme

- refer to Section 4b commerce

Bennett’s Bathhouses

Arthur Bennett (1865-1946), was born and raised in London, England where he married Australia-born

Marion (nee Marchant, 1861-1954) who had lived in London from childhood. They started their family of five children before coming to Canada from England ca1903. A City of Calgary auditor, Arthur became a developer when he formed a partnership with William Ross around 1906, and the two registered the Sunnyside subdivision that year as well as Broadview and an addition to Sunnyside in 1907. He also became a property owner with property elsewhere in Alberta, and a builder. In 1914 Arthur built a contiguous row of nine charming one-storey gable-front cottages on 3rd Avenue (Nos. 641,647-661), which he extended to eleven cottages when he built two more in 1915 (Nos. 637 & 639). The houses represented substantial and rare construction during the First World War. According to Florence Wilson, whose family arrived in the community in 1914 and after several moves lived at 661, the homes were referred to as Bennett’s Bath Houses in the 1920s, clearly for their resemblance to the snug rows of colourful gable-fronted seaside beach huts with verandahs found at seashore vacation spots.

Bennett’s cottages were mainly destined for middle-class owners. The positions of the earliest owners were



651 3rd Avenue, one of Bennett's Bathhouses, 2021 [copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

salesman, carpenter, sanitary inspector, a clerk with the CPR, a wire chief¹⁰¹, two mechanics, two police constables - one for the RNWMP and one for the City - and a porter for the Hudson's Bay Company. Based on the details for number 659 each cottage had five rooms and a bathroom, and their cosy interiors featured fir floors and trim, and a fireplace. The 1914 fire insurance map showed that construction had begun on all eleven homes, each wooden-frame with wooden siding and a full-width front verandah (many which have since been enclosed).

From his offices at home or in the McDougall Block he built and sold other cottages; short advertisements titled 'A very pretty bungalow' and 'Fully modern cottage' promoted their access to the street car and

¹⁰¹ Supervisor responsible for maintenance, operation and personnel for telegraph and telephone systems.

'very easy terms'. The couple moved to Ontario by 1926 where they lived the rest of their lives, first in Toronto and then in York. In 1929 an Interwar Craftsman-style cottage built on the empty double lot between 641 and 647 integrated discreetly into the row. Currently, his eleven original houses remain, despite the frequent flooding that they sustained before the Bear's Paw Dam was operating. Recently the three east-most homes have been visually orphaned when the 1929 cottage was replaced by a two and one-half-storey infill.

Heritage Value

- Bennett's Bathhouses (1913-15) possess heritage value for their associations with their builder Arthur Bennett, one of Sunnyside's developers and an important builder in the community. The



653 3rd Avenue, one of Bennett's Bathhouses, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

eleven charming one-storey gable-front cottages with wooden siding and full-width front verandahs represent substantial and rare construction during the First World War, especially on a single street with a contiguous row of eight houses.

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this streetscape

Existing: none

Potential: Bennett's Bathhouses streetscape as described above - could include all eleven original homes, or just the eight in a row.

Character defining elements

- Bennett's Bathhouses streetscape, eleven 1913-15 one-storey, Edwardian Gable-front Style cottages with wooden-shingle siding and full-width front verandahs (many enclosed), with a contiguous row of eight cottages, in the 600 block of 3rd Avenue
- Edwardian cottages on twenty-five foot lots with uniform narrow front setbacks with soft landscaping, fronting treed, grassy public sidewalk boulevards; rear lanes with garage access from the lane

b) Cultural Landscapes

Cultural landscapes in Hillhurst-Sunnyside include a designed landscape, Riley Park, a commemorative landscape, Memorial Drive, and a natural landscape, in this case a reclaimed natural landscape, the McHugh Bluffs. Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden is both a designed and commemorative landscape.

Riley Park designed cultural landscape

In 1910, the year after Calgary's first Parks Board was established, Ezra Riley donated 20 acres of land immediately north of his Hillhurst subdivision to the City for 'park purposes only', like other wealthy landowners at that time giving a kickstart to the city's park system. The park was named Riley Park by council the same year. Although the first Parks Superintendent John Buchanan intended to make Riley Park one of his priorities, he resigned when the required budgetary support from Council was not forthcoming. Development began in earnest under his replacement, Richard Iverson, in 1911; by the following year a perimeter picket fence and elegant gates as well as play structures were erected. In April 1913, Iverson, who had also resigned, was replaced by long-time Parks Superintendent William Reader.

By the summer of 1913 the Herald described the design proposed for the park including tree-lined walks bordered with flower beds radiating from a central bandstand and refreshment room and an artificial lake. Although the latter never materialized, later that year construction began on a wading pond. Cricket pitches and a clubhouse were formally developed in 1919, although the sport had been played there since the time the park was donated.

Heritage Value

Riley Park is valued for:

- its association with the Riley family as former Riley lands which were donated by Ezra Riley (person value)
- its service for eleven decades as one of the most distinctive and important public spaces in the city (institution value)



Riley Park pathway [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

- the park’s aesthetic appearance from its early development with formal, City Beautiful influences such as geometric floral displays and curvilinear pathways (design value)

Character defining elements

- views to Riley Park from 10th Street and from the North Hill above the park;
- the historic relation of the park to its setting on adjacent former Riley lands, the undeveloped slopes above the park and the memorial rock garden; and
- the formal, geometric floral display along 10th Street influenced by the City Beautiful movement; curvilinear circulation pattern; wading pool; the cricket pitches and club house.

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this streetscape

Existing: Riley Park

Potential: n/a

Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden commemorative designed landscape

The creation of this rock garden in the community dates to 1956 when the 1901 mansion of Patrick Burns, city-builder, pioneer rancher and one of Canada’s most noted entrepreneurs, was slated for demolition. It had been acquired in 1941 for the site of the Colonel Belcher federal military hospital and served as the patient’s canteen and recreation centre after the hospital was built.

Appeals to save the mansion were unsuccessful, however a solution was found to both commemorate Burns and reuse 20,000 sandstone blocks from his

residence with a rock garden. The location chosen for the stone and garden was on SAIT lands with sloping terrain adjacent to 10th Street that were unlikely to be used for future development. The garden was designed as a naturalistic-style alpine rock garden by Alex Munro, the Parks Superintendent at that time.

Heritage Value

- together with Riley Park the rock garden is a verdant and aesthetic landmark on the busy 10th Street corridor;
- the commemorative site, designed by Alex Munro, is a unique example of a naturalistic-style alpine rock garden that employs sandstone from an historic residence (design value).

Character defining elements

- elements and plantings of a naturalistic-style alpine rock garden
- original sandstone from the 1901 Burns mansion
- plaques honouring Senator Patrick Burns and Alex Munro

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this streetscape

Existing: Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden

Potential: n/a

Memorial Drive commemorative landscape

Heritage Value

Memorial Drive is valued:

- as a ‘Road of Remembrance’ parkway planned in 1922 and renamed Memorial Drive to remember those soldiers who fell in the First World War



Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden commemorative designed landscape [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

(design value)

- for the use of trees as a living memorial to symbolize the triumph of life over death (symbolic value)
- as the city's only parkway and therefore a well-known landmark (landmark value)

Character defining elements

- landscaped parkway along the north bank of the Bow River
- continued plantings of propagations of the original Poplar trees planted in 1922

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this streetscape

Existing: Memorial Drive

Potential: n/a



View of heritage trees along Memorial Drive commemorative landscape. [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

10th Street cultural landscape

This cultural landscape extends north along 10th Street from the south end of Riley Park to 16th Avenue. From about 1930 it was envisioned by William Reader as a 'Tenth Street Park Way'. Expanding upon Riley Park and the beautifully landscaped grounds of SAIT, Reader planned to create green space on City lands located along this important traffic corridor. These lands likely had been acquired through tax forfeitures during the inter-war recession and depression. Much of his vision came to fruition; in addition, in 1956 the memorial rock garden further enhanced this landscaped drive.

Heritage Value

The 10th Street cultural landscape is valued:

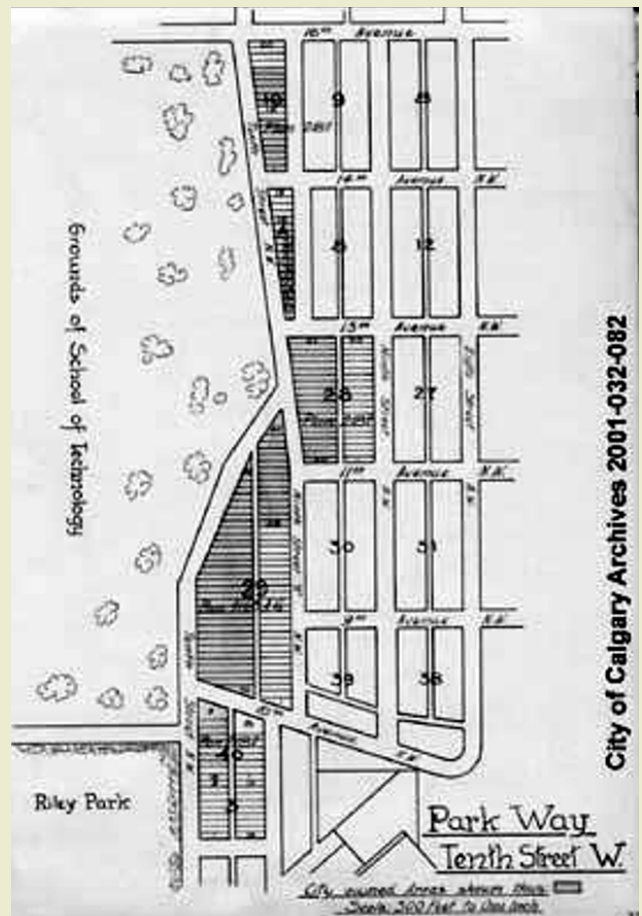
- as the section of the historic Morleyville Trail

transportation route which winds up the North Hill (activity value)

- for the aesthetic contributions to 10th Street of the City Beautiful geometric floral displays of Riley Park, and the formal design and plantings of the Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden (design value)
- for the extensive, verdant green space along the sloping terrain of both sides of the busy corridor, including the landscaped grounds of SAIT (landmark value)

Character defining elements

- curvilinear route with uninterrupted landscaped plantings of grass and mature trees on both sides of the corridor where it climbs the North Hill
- views to the geometric floral displays and the east cricket pitch of Riley Park, and to the Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden



William Reader's plans for a 10th Street parkway, ca1930 [Credits: City of Calgary Archives 2001-032-082]

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this streetscape

Existing: Riley Park and Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden

Potential: 10th Street cultural landscape

McHugh Bluffs

Heritage Value

The McHugh Bluffs reclaimed natural landscape is valued for its associations with:

- Hillhurst-Sunnyside's frontier industry, Felix McHugh and John McCallum's quarries (activity value)
- historic flooding and mudslides after which the slopes were stabilised and reclaimed (event value)
- early pioneer homesteaders Philip Van Cortlandt and Felix McHugh who farmed the land (person value)

Character defining elements

- the vegetation of the natural area: native and introduced grasslands, extensive balsam poplar forest with willow, ash, white spruce and Colorado blue spruce, and small stands of upland tall shrub and aspen along the bluffs;
- views from the top of McHugh Bluffs to the city skyline, the Rocky Mountains, the Bow River Valley and the flats below

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this streetscape

Existing: none

Potential: McHugh Bluffs

Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Garden cultural landscape

This cultural landscape, situated in Sunnyside, comprises the 1989 Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Garden and the 2009 Hollicky Park and Community Orchard adjacent to the west across Sunnyhill Lane. The community garden was first conceived by the community association board in the mid-1970s during its period of revitalisation. After funding became available in the mid-1980s, site acquisition and planning began under the guidance of resident Tref Burnett and his garden committee. The first earth was turned in 1989, when the cooperative endeavour became Calgary's third community garden.

Hollicky Park and Community Orchard, a small grove of fruit trees and shrubs incorporated into an existing park adjacent to the garden, was part of a 2009 City of Calgary pilot project for four urban orchards, and the first to be completed. It was named for local resident James Hollicky (Jim, 1931-2013) in recognition of his long-time stewardship of the garden, park and orchard. Hollicky was a constant presence in the garden from 1989 and its leader for many years. He had adopted the park early on, and became the new orchard's caretaker. Gardening within this popular cultural landscape with over thirty garden plots has connected residents to the land, to gardening, to the food they produce and to each other.

Heritage Value

The Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Garden cultural landscape is valued for its associations with the social activity of communal gardening (activity value)



View of Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Garden commemorative landscape [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Character defining elements

- location fronting 9th Avenue and setting next to the treed slopes at the base of the McHugh Bluffs
- landscaped triangular community garden site with mature trees and garden plots perpendicular to the cliff base
- central brick walkway laid by James Hollicky and his family
- community orchard site with fruit trees and shrubs such as apple, apricot and pear trees, and cherry, hazelnut, gooseberry and honeyberry bushes; grassy open space for use as playing field and gathering place
- intangible heritage of continuous gardening since 1989

Existing or potential historic resources associated with this streetscape

Existing: none

Potential: none; Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Garden cultural landscape is recommended for a site for interpretation

Appendix A: Tables

Use this page to reference each site's theme number on the following tables:

- Existing Historic Resources on the Inventory
- Places of Interest List (PoIL)
- List of Potential Interpretive Sites

To save on space in the tables themselves, this legend will help you decipher relevant themes of the sites.

Theme Number legend

1. The Landscape of Hillhurst-Sunnyside
 - a. Description
 - b. Community Contours
 - c. Natural Habitat
 - d. The North Bank of The Bow
2. The First Nations, Trails and Crossings
 - a. The First Nations
 - b. Pre-Contact Trails
 - c. Early Crossings
3. Early Homesteaders and Pioneer Settlement (1883-1907)
 - a. Felix and Florence McHugh
 - b. The Riley Family, A Legacy In The Landscape
 - c. Other Pioneers
 - d. Early Subdivisions
4. Early Commerce & Industry
 - a. The Streetcar
 - b. Early Commercial Development
 - c. Early Industry
5. Urban Development
 - a. Pre-War Boom and First World War Development (1904-1918)
 - b. Inter-War and Second World War Development (1919-1944) and Memorial Drive
 - c. Post-War and Mid-Century Hillhurst-Sunnyside (1946-1960)
 - d. Hillhurst-Sunnyside Renaissance (1970-1983)
6. Establishing Community Institutions
 - a. Public Institutions and Services
 - b. Health Care
7. Building Social and Community Life
 - a. Social, Intellectual and Ethnic English Cultural Life
 - b. Spiritual Life
 - c. Connecting Community Through Sports, Clubs, Recreation and Leisure
 - d. Thriving Arts Community
8. Special Streetscapes and Cultural Landscapes
 - a. Special Streetscapes
 - b. Cultural Landscapes

Existing Historic Resources on the Inventory

Hillhurst Sites

Date	Historic Name (Current)	Address	Theme Number	Comments
1913	A.B.C. Dando Residence	1722 6 AV NW	5a, 3c	
1922	AGT Building - Hillhurst Exchange	1510 Kensington RD NW	4b	
1932	Bow Valley Lawn Bowling Club	1740 Bowness RD NW	7a, 7c	
1932	Bowness Road NW Lilac Medians	0 Bowness RD NW	8a, 5b	City Beautiful influence
1909	Fire Hall No. 6	1111 Memorial DR NW	6a, 5a	Currently used by Parks
1912	Hayden Block	1134 Kensington RD NW	4b	
1921	Heritage Hall (SAIT Campus)	1301 16 AV NW	6b	
1921	Hillhurst (Louise) Bridge	0 10 ST NW	1d, 2b, 3d	
1907	Hillhurst Baptist Church	1110 Gladstone RD NW	2b, 7b	
1910	Hillhurst Cottage School	455 12 ST NW	6b	Was later (post 1950s) used for clubs/activities etc.
1911	Hillhurst School	1418 7 AV NW	6b	
1912	Hillhurst United Church	1227 Kensington CL NW	7b	
1912	Hunter Block (Riley Park Grocery)	1209 5 AV NW	5a, 3d, 4b	Also listed as 1908, first grocery in the neighbourhood
1913	John A. Tweddle Residence	1728 6 AV NW	5a	
1926	King George Masonic Hall	1126 Kensington RD NW	7a	
1912	Malcolm Clair Residence	226 11A ST NW	5a	
1954	Mewata Bridge	0 14 ST NW	5c, 1d	
1928	Plaza Theatre	1133 Kensington RD NW	7c, 5b, 4b	
1930	Queen Elizabeth Junior and Senior High School	512 18 ST NW	6b, 5b, 5d	
1911	Riley Park	800 12 ST NW	3b, 3d, 7c	
1956	Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden	1103 10 ST NW	3c, 3d, 7c	
1911	Smith (Cozzubbo) Residence	207 10A ST NW	5a	
1911	Smith Block	1122 Kensington RD NW	4b	
1957	Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium	1415 14 AV NW	7d, 7c, 6a, 6b	
1912	St. Barnabas Church Tower	1407 Kensington RD NW	7b	
1916	St. John Elementary School	1309 Kensington RD NW	6b	
1953	St. John's Church (Demolished - 2003)	409 10 ST NW	7b	
1911	William J. Gray Residence	424 11A ST NW	5a	
1919	11 Street NW Lilac Median	0 11 ST NW	8a, 5b	City Beautiful
1929	6 Avenue NW Lilac Medians	0 6 AV NW	8a, 5b	City Beautiful

Sunnyside Sites

Date	Historic Name (Current)	Address	Theme Number	Comments
1907	Brower House	1052 Memorial DR NW	5a	
1914	Cappy Smart Residence	436 Memorial DR NW	5a	Cappy was a chief with fire dept
1911	Carscallen Block	116 10 ST NW	4b	
1903	Donegal Mansions	830 Memorial DR NW	5b	
1913	East Sunnyside Grocery	540 7 AV NW	4b	
1928	Glenwood Manor	904 Memorial DR NW	5b	Samuel Nickle and other notable Calgarians have lived here
1912	Irwin Block	110 10 ST NW	4b	
1923	Lough & Elaine Apartments	820 Memorial DR NW	5b	
1922	Memorial Drive	Memorial DR (10 ST NW to Zoo RD)	8a, 8b, 5b	
1912	Orman Residence	734 Memorial DR NW	5a	
1911	Palfreyville Apartments (Demolished - 2014)	802 2 AV NW	5a	
1910	Smalley Residence	440 Memorial DR NW	5a	
1919	Sunnyside Bungalow School	211 7 ST NW	6b	
1911	Sunnyside Grocery (Demolished - 2018)	802 2 AV NW	4b	
1908	Upton Residence	1035 1 AV NW	5a	
1912	Vendome Block	938 2 AV NW	5a, 4a	
1911	Wellington Terrace	1001 3 AV NW	5a	
1919	104/106 10 ST NW	104 10 ST NW	5b	
1919	106A 10 ST NW	106A 10 ST NW	5b	
1910	118-120 9 ST NW	120 9 ST NW	5b	
1919	108 10 ST NW	108 10 ST NW	5b	
1939	1037 2 AV NW (Demolished - 2013)	1037 2 AV NW	5b	
1912	144/146 10 ST NW (Demolished - 2014)	144 10 ST NW	4b	Lido

Outside Hillhurst-Sunnyside

1910	Riley Lodge	843 27 ST NW (Parkdale)	3b	Home of Alfred Riley located in Parkdale within original Riley Family homestead
1959	Louise Riley branch of Calgary Public Library	1904 14 AV NW	3b	within original Riley homestead boundaries

Places of Interest List (POIL)

Date	Historic Name (Current)	Address	Theme Number	Comments
n/a	10 ST Cultural Landscape	n/a	8b	Cultural landscape
1913	A. Florence Residence	756 5A ST NW	1b	Moved from 618 9 AV NW after 1948 mudslide
1973	Alberta College of Art (Alberta University of the Arts campus)	1407 14 AV NW	3b, 6b, 5d, 6b	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
1981	The Arbours	834 2 AV NW	5d	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
~1912	Bennett's Bathouses	639-659 3 AV NW	5a	rare grouping of cottages by developer/builder Arthur Bennett
~1912	Clement & Thorton Residences	918-920 5 ST NW	5a	Rare residential brick construction in Sunnyside
~1951	Davies Residence	737 5 ST NW	5c	Rare mid-century residence
1900s	Dodger Lewis Residence	940 Memorial DR NW	7a	Person Value (athlete)
1945	Doherty Residence	745 4 ST NW	5b	Rare Second World War residence
1912	Donald Residence	1410 Memorial DR NW	5d	Reconverted to single family
~1910	Francis Residence	236 11A ST NW	6c	Health care theme
1980	Gladstone Court Townhouses	11 ST & Gladstone RD NW	5d	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
~1907	Great West Trading Company	429 11 ST NW	4b, 6a, 7a	Early post office and community hub
1911	Hay Residence	318 7 ST NW	5a	Architect-designed built for personal residence
1901-1903	Herchmer Residence	1643 Broadview RD NW	3d	Person value
1911	Irvine Residence	729 5th Street NW	5a, 7b	Architect-designed built for personal residence
1983	Kensington House	1167 Bowness RD NW	5d	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
1981	Kensington Place	1240 Kensington RD NW	5d	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
1939	Kerr Residence	715 4A ST NW	5b	Rare Second World War residence

Date	Historic Name (Current)	Address	Theme Number	Comments
~1945	Locke Residence	1631 Bowness RD NW	5c	Rare Modern Bungalow in neighbourhood
~1914	Lloyd Turner Residence	842 4 AV NW	7a	Person value (athlete)
1912	MacLean Residence	821 4 AV NW	5a	Architect-designed built for personal residence
n/a	McHugh Bluffs	n/a	8b	Cultural Landscape
~1912	Bennett's Bathouses	639-659 3 AV NW	5a	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
~1912	Memorial Drive Condominium	934 Memorial DR NW	5d	Rare residential brick construction in Sunnyside
1955	Michael Residence	640 3 AV NW	5c	Rare Modern Bungalow in neighbourhood
1955	Norfolk House	1114-1120 Kensington RD NW	5d, 7c	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
2012	Peace Bridge	n/a	1d	Design by Santiago Calatrava
~1912	Piper Residence	638 2 AV NW	1b	Moved from 568 9 AV after 1948 mud slide
1978	Ross Place	1400 Kensington RD NW	5d, 7a	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
1980	Spindler Office Building	1601 Westmount RD NW	5d	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
1978	Sunnyside Housing	725 3 ST NW	5d	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
1981	Two One Three Nine 4 Avenue	2139 4 AV NW	5d	Innovative architecture, excellent example from period
1912	Whitten Residence	1016 Memorial DR NW	5a	Architect-designed built for personal residence
n/a	** Residence	202-6 ST NW (laneway)	1d	floated across the Bow, possible livery stable

List of Potential Interpretive Sites

Date	Historic Name (Current)	Address	Theme Number	Comments
1912	144/146 10 Street NW (Lido Block)	144/146 10 ST NW	4b, 5a	see item under inventory listing, demolished 2014
1939	1037 2nd Avenue Apartment	1037 2 AV NW	5b	see item under inventory listing, demolished 2013
n/a	Bandstand, Riley Park	800 12 ST NW	7a, 7d	original replaced
1976	Calgary Curling Club	720 3 ST NW	7a	
1982	Dr. Betty Mitchell Theatre	1415 14 AV NW	7d	see item under inventory listing, demolished 2004
n/a	Felix McHugh House location	Corner of Memorial DR and 9a ST NW	3a	
n/a	First Nations Trails (10th St, Gladstone Rd & 4th Ave east of 10th St)	10 ST, Gladstone RD, 4 AV (east of 10 ST) NW	2b	First Nations pre-contact trails that shaped the current subdivisions
~1912	Garnet Block	302 10 ST NW	4b	Additional original location on 8th Street and 2nd Avenue, see item under inventory listing, demolished ca1970s
1911 1953	Hillhurst Athletic Park (Hillhurst-Sunnyside Park) & Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association)	1320 5 AV NW	7a, 7c	
~1989	Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Garden	n/a	8b	Cultural landscape
~1907	Hillhurst Presbyterian Church	Kensington RD & 10 A ST NW	7b	see item under inventory listing, demolished ca1914
~1911	Kerr Block	1118a Memorial DR NW	4b	
~1900s	New Edinburgh Park	625 3 AV NW	7a	
1911	Palfreyville Apartments	214 9 ST NW	5a	see item under inventory listing, demolished 2014
1889	Riley Family Pioneer Cemetery	n/a		
1967	Robert the Bruce Statue	1415 14 AV NW	7a	
1911	Ross Block	109a 10 ST NW	3d, 4b, 5a, 7a	destroyed by fire, 1988
1906	St. Barnabas Churchyard	1407 7 AV NW	3b	Burial place of Thomas & Georgiana Riley family members
1953	St. John's Church	409 10 ST NW	5c	see item under inventory listing, demolished 2003
1911	Sunnyside Grocery	802 2 AV NW	3d, 4b, 5a	see item under inventory listing, demolished in 2018
1910 -1911	Theophilus Thompson grouping of Edwardian homes	412-422 11 ST NW	5a	Theophilus Thompson (builder and craftsman)

Community Statement of Significance

Summary of Significance

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses landmark value for its setting along the Bow River valley, its striking topology of bluffs rising above river flats and its extensive natural areas on the escarpment and river banks that contrast with its urban context. (Landmark Value)

The Hillhurst-Sunnyside community possesses activity value for its associations with transportation:

- for the 10th Street NW transportation route, once a pre-contact trail for First Nations peoples which in 1873 became the Morleyville Trail historic cart trail, the first streetcar service north of the Bow in 1909, and the northwest light rail transit line in 1987;
- and for the 1921 Louise Bridge which marks the historic crossing location of an early fording place, and later the 1888 Bow Marsh Bridge, the second bridge to cross the Bow River. (Activity Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses person value for:

- the Riley pioneer ranch family, city-builders who left a legacy in the landscape with the subdivisions they established, the land they donated for park space and education, and the institutions they created and supported.
- the other early pioneers who homesteaded on the lands where the community is located: the Felix McHugh family, Byam Godsal, Philip Sidney Van Cortlandt, Samuel William Trott, George and Henry Alexander, and Lawrence and Jane Herchmer. (Person Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses activity value:

- for its associations since 1909 with its historic streetcar system, which was one of the earliest in Calgary to develop and which offered the best service outside the city centre.
- its historic streetcar commercial streets, which are the social and commercial hub of the community:
 - 10th Street, one of Calgary's earliest and most important commercial streets, which has been associated with commerce since 1909;
 - Kensington Road, which developed from 1912
- its associations with its frontier industries: Felix McHugh and John McCallum's quarries in Sunnyside; Peter Prince's Calgary Water Power Company just west of today's Louise (Hillhurst) bridge; and the leg of the Anderson Brother's Calgary Hydraulic Company which ran through Hillhurst. (Activity Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its streetscapes and remaining pre-war housing stock possess symbolic value as a working-class and lower middle-class community that almost fully developed during Calgary's pre-First World War construction boom. (Symbolic Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its inter-war buildings and landscapes possess symbolic value for the resilience and determination of those who built during the depressed economy of the inter-war and Second World War periods. (Symbolic Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its mid-century buildings and structures possess symbolic value for their associations with Calgary's post-war economic oil boom when



Louise (Hillhurst) Bridge looking from the southeast

renewed prosperity enabled the final build-out of the community. (Symbolic Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its 1970s and early 1980s architecture is symbolic of the period of urban revitalisation of the historic neighbourhood led by community residents and businesses. (Symbolic Value)

The Hillhurst-Sunnyside community possesses institution value for its historic associations with education, health care and its many community institutions like the local post office and telephone exchange. (Institution Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses symbolic value for its association with the cultural aspirations of its ethnic English and Scottish settlers, developers, business owners and residents. The east part of Sunnyside was called New Edinburgh during the early 1900s, and both Hillhurst and Sunnyside had original English and Scottish street names. The game of cricket in Riley

Park, and worship in St Barnabas Church of England and Hillhurst United (originally Presbyterian) Church are enduring examples of intangible cultural heritage that have been practiced for over a century. (Symbolic Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses person value for notable Canadian racial equality pioneers, Violet and Theodore (Ted) King. Violet (1929-1982) broke barriers for both gender and racial equality; she was the first Black person to obtain a law degree in Alberta and the first to be admitted to the Alberta bar association, and was also Canada's first Black female lawyer. Ted was an early human rights advocate who served as president of the Alberta Association for the Advancement of Coloured People. (Person Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses institution value for its extant churches, some which are still active places of worship. (Institution Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses activity value for its association with sports, and for playing fields, cricket pitches and lawn bowling greens. (Activity Value)

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses person value for its local sportsmen who achieved national and international recognition including Lloyd Turner who was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame as a 'Builder' in 1958, Dodger Lewis who played fastball in the 1930s for the St Louis Browns, professional hockey player Joseph Sidney (Sid) Finney who played in the National Hockey League for the Chicago Blackhawks (1951-54), and Ezra and Frank Riley who organized the Hillhurst Football Club which twice won the Dominion Championship. (Person Value)

Description

Hillhurst-Sunnyside comprises two northwest inner-city communities, Hillhurst and Sunnyside, located across the river from the Downtown Centre. The Bow River forms its southern boundary. The northern boundary runs along 8th Avenue NW between 18th and 14th Streets NW, jogs north to 16th Avenue NW between 14th and 10th Streets, then south again to 8th Avenue before wrapping around the Sunnyside and McHugh Bluffs and Crescent Road. The eastern boundary is Centre Street North, while the western boundary is 18th Street between the Bow River and 8th Avenue, and 14th Street north of 9th Avenue. Hillhurst and Sunnyside are separated by 10th Street NW, a major traffic corridor, formerly the Morleyville Trail, and later an historic commercial street and early streetcar route, with Hillhurst to the west and Sunnyside to the east.

Heritage Value

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses landmark value for its setting along the Bow River valley, its striking topology of bluffs rising above river flats and its extensive natural areas on the escarpment and river banks that contrast with its urban context. A large part of the community's terrain has been retained as natural area green space which encircles the neighbourhood along the bluffs and riverbanks, as well as a very small green space on the west-most flats. In addition to its natural areas, Hillhurst-Sunnyside has an historical relation to its geographic features which have shaped its urban development on the river flats. Sloughs located on the flats, at one time extensive, have gradually disappeared over time as they were reclaimed. The area has also experienced mudslides and slope instability at the base of the bluffs, as well as a legacy of historic floods left by the Bow River.

These lands are also part of the traditional territories of the Blackfoot peoples, comprising the Siksika (Blackfoot), the Kainai (Blood) and the Piikani (Peigan); the Stoney Nakoda comprising the Bearspaw, Wesley and Chiniki; and the Tsuu T'ina (Sarcee) peoples. They used the lands for hunting and gathering supplies and food as they followed the migration of the bison which were central to their way of life and essential for their survival. The Bow River, while too shallow for reliable transport, was important for navigation, its life-giving waters, and sustaining the plants and game that the First Nations peoples used for medicines and food. The sheltered river valley was also an ideal location for winter camps.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses activity value for its associations with transportation, for both its overland routes and its river crossings. The 10th Street NW transportation route is associated with its service as a pre-contact trail for First Nations peoples, as

the Morleyville Trail historic cart trail between the Morleyville mission and Calgary from 1873, as the first streetcar service north of the Bow in 1909, and as the northwest light rail transit line from 1987. Another trail used in pre-contact times ran diagonally across the communities towards the northeast, skirting the north edge of the sloughs, to the Sunnyside bluffs. In the early 20th Century, the trail took the name Gladstone Avenue (later Gladstone Road) in Hillhurst, and 4th Avenue in Sunnyside.

The 1921 Louise Bridge marks an historic crossing location where the Morleyville Trail crossed the Bow River, which was first an early fording place, and later the 1888 Bow Marsh Bridge, the second bridge to cross the Bow River. The Bow Marsh Bridge was rebuilt following the 1897 flood, replaced in 1906 by the steel trestle Louise Bridge and again replaced by the new concrete arch Louise Bridge in 1921 to facilitate streetcar service. Other river crossings in the community include the 1954 Mewata Bridge at 14th Street, the 1972 pedestrian/cyclist crossing between Memorial Drive and Prince's Island Park, the 1987 Light Rail Transit overpass and pedestrian/cyclist crossing just east of the Louise Bridge, and the 2012 Peace Bridge for pedestrians and cyclists.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses person value for early pioneers who homesteaded on the lands where the community is located. The Riley pioneer ranch family were city-builders, who left a legacy in the landscape with the subdivisions they established, the land they donated for park space and education, and the institutions they created and supported. The Riley lands would eventually become Hillhurst, West Hillhurst, Briar Hill, Hounsfield Heights, St Andrew's Heights, University Heights, parts of Brentwood, Charleswood, parts of Parkdale and the north campus of the University of Calgary. Thomas Riley (1842-1909), a farmer from England, immigrated to Canada in 1862

and settled in in today's Hillhurst, West Hillhurst and Hounsfield Heights with his wife Georgiana Hounsfield (1843-1907) in 1887. His sons worked on the family farm and also acquired homesteads nearby as they reached the eligible age to apply. They entered into partnership with their father as the Riley & Sons agricultural enterprise.

Of Thomas and Georgina's large family, their son, philanthropist and pioneer rancher Ezra Hounsfield Riley (1866-1937), made the strongest influence on the landscape of Hillhurst. An important Calgary developer and the MLA for Gleichen from 1906-10, Toronto-born Ezra subdivided the land immediately west of Morleyville Trail in 1904 as Plan 5609J 'Hillhurst', naming it for the Quebec stock farm of Senator Cochrane. In 1910 he also donated 20 acres of land bordering his subdivision to the north to the City for 'park purposes only', expressing his desire that cricket be played there forever. The park was named Riley Park by council the same year. In 1912 Ezra provided an endowment for St Barnabas Anglican Church and cemetery, and in 1919 he sold the part of his estate located directly north of the park to the Province for their technical institute.

Ezra's daughter, author and longtime children's librarian Margaret Louise (1900-1957), is best known for her role in introducing children's sections to Calgary's public libraries. Ezra's brother Harold Riley (1877-1946) first earned recognition at age twenty-seven as the youngest deputy minister in Canada when he was appointed the first deputy Provincial Secretary and Registrar of Companies. He served in municipal politics as alderman, and provincially as the Member of the Alberta Legislature for Gleichen. Harold's wife, Maude Riley (nee Keene, 1880-1962), is recognized for her achievements in women's rights, child welfare and justice reforms, and family courts.

Other important pioneers include the Felix McHugh family, Byam Godsal, Philip Sidney Van Cortlandt,



McHugh Bluffs and the wooden stairs leading up. The stairs are something of a community focal point and are a popular exercise location

Samuel William Trott, George and Henry Alexander, and Lawrence and Jane Herchmer. Well-known pioneer rancher and contractor Felix Alexander McHugh (1851-1912) came west in 1883 shortly after his marriage to Florence O'Doherty (1861- 1933). He established his 21-acre homestead in the southeast part of Section 21 on the north bank of the Bow across from Prince's Island, and together with his brother Thomas, cultivated about 8 hectares east of 10th Street. Developers Arthur Bennett and William Ross eventually acquired these lands and engaged surveyor Herbert Harrison Moore to register the 1906 Plan 2448O 'Sunnyside' and its larger 1907 addition, Plan 1948P. Moore's layout employs a striking juxtaposition of grid lots with east-west orientation along the main corridors, and northeast-southwest orientation in the centre to align with the river, set against deep, narrow lots that run perpendicular to the base of the bluff. Distinctive intersections are created where the different grids

connect. The Sunnyside and Hillhurst plans retained the routes of the pre-contact trails, the Morleyville Trail and the diagonal trail north of the slough. Byam Martin Godsal (1856-1935) - described by the Herald as 'one of Calgary's earliest settlers before the railway was built' - had a homestead along the Bow River in the southeast corner of today's Hillhurst (NW16, northwest quarter of Section 16) which he began homesteading in the summer of 1883. His land would also be acquired by Bennett and Ross and became the 1907 Plan 4163P 'Broadview' subdivision in southeast Hillhurst. From early 1883 ex-NWMP officer Philip Sidney Van Cortlandt homesteaded the part of the southwest quarter of Section 22 that lay north of the boulevard fronting the Bow River. His farm was located in the part of today's Sunnyside farthest east between 4th Street NW and Centre Street North. His lands became the east part of the 1907 Sunnyside addition referred to as 'New Edinburgh'.

Samuel William Trott (1847-1891), a pioneer pharmacist from Collingwood, Ontario, came west in 1871 with a survey team, establishing himself as a druggist in Winnipeg before settling in Calgary in 1883, where he opened Trott Brothers drug store on Stephen Avenue the following year. He raised cattle on the south half of Section 20 although he lived in the town.

Irish-born cousins George and Henry (Harry) Alexander began accumulating land near Calgary from 1888, and purchased the southeast quarter from Trott. The cousins also purchased Section 19 north of the Bow from the CPR in 1888, and it appears they ranched the land they amassed in this area. In 1902, they sold the southeast quarter of Section 20 to Georgiana Riley which she developed in 1906 as Plan 6219L 'Upper Hillhurst'. In 1901, Lawrence William Herchmer (1840-1915) purchased CPR land in the north half of Section 17 in the southwest part of today's Hillhurst, where he built and resided in the ca1901-1903 'old colonial Herchmer House' for several years. Herchmer, Commissioner for the NWMP from 1886 to 1900, is credited with shaping the early NWMP into an efficient organization and effective military operation, improving training and living and working conditions. He left a legacy of a NWMP with significantly higher morale and reputation, and the wide-brimmed felt hat and the musical rides that he adopted have become widely popular. He and his second wife, Jane Ashworth, developed the land in 1907 as the Plan 5151O 'Westmont' subdivision of Hillhurst.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses activity value for its early commerce and frontier industry. Felix McHugh operated a quarry, one of two quarries in today's Sunnyside, at the base of the escarpment near today's 4th Street. The second, the Sunnyside Freestone Quarry, was located east of McHugh's quarry and run by Scottish quarry operator John McCallum from at least 1889. One of Calgary's first hydro plants was located in today's

Hillhurst. It was a two-storey, wood-frame vernacular building erected along a weir across the Bow River just west of the Bow Marsh Bridge. It was built and operated by the Calgary Water Power Company established by Peter Prince in 1889. The Anderson Brother's Calgary Hydraulic Company, incorporated in 1893, constructed and operated an irrigation ditch along the Bow River that originated in today's Montgomery and ended in today's Hillhurst.

Although commerce was present in the community many years before, its historic commercial streets, the social and commercial hub of the community, were enabled by its streetcar system which was one of the earliest in Calgary to develop, and which offered the best service outside the city centre. 10th Street, one of Calgary's earliest and most important commercial streets, has been associated with commerce since 1909, and Kensington Road from 1912 when streetcar service was introduced. The commercial area first developed south of 3rd Avenue near the bridge and was referred to as 'The Bridge'. The sloughs which remained prevented development north of 3rd Avenue.

A contiguous stretch of 1911-19 buildings on the east side of 10th Street near the bridge is a strong reminder of the early commercial street. These pre-WWI commercial buildings are typical of the blocks built outside the city centre: smaller, two-storey buildings with residential suites above and storefronts at street level. They display Edwardian Commercial-style features such as recessed entry ways, large display windows with transom lights, brick façades, signbands and pressed metal cornices. Later buildings constructed at the end of the First World War have many of the storefront features but are generally one-storey, wood-frame Commercial-style buildings.

Since the 1970s the 10th Street Business Association, which became the 'Kensington at Louise Crossing

Business Revitalisation Zone' in 1985, has been promoting the commercial area as Louise Crossing, maintaining the reference to the bridge. Today the district is the Kensington Business Improvement Area (BIA), also promoted as Kensington Village and one of fifteen BIA's in Calgary. There were less than five commercial businesses on 14th Street prior to the construction of the Mewata Bridge in 1954, after which commercial activities expanded rapidly, with the businesses generally clustered near the intersections with Kensington Road and with 5th Avenue.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside, its streetscapes and remaining pre-war housing stock possess symbolic value as a working-class and lower middle-class community that almost fully developed during Calgary's pre-First World War construction boom. The most popular housing types by far during the boom were one-storey and one and one-half storey cottages, with twice as many one-storey homes being built. This is not surprising since cottages were affordable and especially appealed to first-time working-class and lower middle-class buyers. Approximately one third of the one and one-half storey houses (houses where the entire upper storey is contained within the roofline) were constructed with undeveloped upper storeys. This further reduced the initial cost of the home, while permitting owners to develop the attic space in the future to accommodate their growing families. Two-storey homes were less common, especially in Sunnyside where a relatively small number were built; their first owners had a wide variety of occupations. Most buildings were wooden-frame with bevelled wood siding with notable exceptions in Sunnyside.

The overwhelming majority of Hillhurst-Sunnyside's working-class and lower middle-class new home owners were trades persons employed in the construction industry, reflecting the demands of the boom for a complete range of services: carpenters (by far the

most common occupation in the community), builders, stone masons and cutters, brick-layers, steam-fitters, tinsmiths and blacksmiths, steel and iron workers, millwrights, plasterers, painters and electricians. There were also many labourers, many of whom would have been employed in the construction sector. Transportation was also a sector where many early residents worked, their roles identified as teamsters, drivers, warehousemen, shippers, and liverymen.

The pre-war residential streetscapes are characterised by Edwardian cottages fronting shallow, landscaped front yards, most with mature plantings, as well as treed sidewalk boulevards. As well, since most blocks have lanes, the residential streets can retain their tree-lined, pedestrian-friendly character since garages, outbuildings and utilities are at the rear of the properties so front driveways are not necessary. The preferred pre-war styles in Hillhurst-Sunnyside were the popular Edwardian domestic styles of the time. In general they were constructed on 25-foot lots with full-width front verandahs, and their stylistic detailing was less ornate than their Victorian predecessors. While prized for their modernity, efficiency and affordability, Edwardian cottages were also valued for their cosiness, charm and versatile designs. Their common floor plans could be given a distinctive appearance by creatively applying simplified architectural detailing - often of earlier styles such as Queen Anne, Tudor, Colonial and Classical Revivals.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its inter-war buildings and landscapes possess symbolic value for the resilience and determination of those who built during the depressed economy of the inter-war and Second World War periods. There was little construction during the period between the First and Second World Wars. For most of the 1920s, five or fewer homes were built annually; during the Second World War (1939-44) less than ten houses, a single 1939 apartment building (non-extant) and no commercial blocks were built. Any



Looking down the McHugh Bluffs into the Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Garden at 9 AV and Sunnyhill LN NW

extant homes from that period should be considered rare.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its innovative mid-century buildings and structures possess symbolic value for their associations with Calgary's post-war economic oil boom when renewed prosperity enabled the final build-out of the community. It was not until the Post-war period of prosperity which began with the 1947 Leduc oil discovery that the remaining vacant lots on the commercial street were filled in. By the end of the 1960s, about twenty-three new bungalows infilled the vacant lots interspersed through the community. Also by the end of the 1960s, with new land use classifications introduced in the 1950s, twenty-one new walk-up style apartment buildings - almost as many as

houses - were erected, most replacing existing homes. Of the remaining extant, unaltered 1950s homes there are interesting examples of the popular mid-century Modern Bungalow and Minimal Traditional styles.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside and its 1970s and early 1980s architecture is symbolic of the period of urban revitalisation of the historic neighbourhood led by community residents and businesses. Commercial complexes include the 1977-1978 Ross Place by Pendergast & Purl, 1978-1980 Spindler Office Building by Ken Hutchinson, 1979-1981 Two One Three Nine 4th Avenue by Tom Laird & Associated, 1980-1981 Kensington Place by Peter & Symonds, and 1981-1983 Kensington House by Barry Pendergast. Residential architecture from this period includes 1977-1979



Kensington Road NW, facing east. King George Masonic Hall and Smith Block are visible to the right, while Irwin Block can be seen in the distance at the far traffic lights.

Memorial Drive Condominium by George Brown, 1979-1981 The Arbours by James McKellar, 1979-1980 Gladstone Court by Sturgess Donnell, and the mixed-use 1981-1982 Norfolk House by James Jones. Perhaps the most impressive building from this period is institutional, the expansive 1969-1972 University of the Arts building by Cohos Evamy.

The Hillhurst-Sunnyside community possesses institution value for its institutional buildings and their historic associations with education, health care and community institutions like the local post offices and telephone exchange. Many significant buildings associated with education remain including the 1921 Heritage Hall and the 1973 Alberta University of the Arts complex on the SAIT Campus, the 1910 Hillhurst Cottage School, the 1911 Hillhurst School, the 1930 Queen Elizabeth Junior and Senior High School, the 1916 St John Elementary School and the 1919

Sunnyside Bungalow School.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses symbolic value for its association with the cultural aspirations of its ethnic English and Scottish settlers, developers, business owners and residents. The east part of Sunnyside was called New Edinburgh during the early 1900s, and both Hillhurst and Sunnyside had original English and Scottish street names. The threads of ethnic English and Scottish traditions that ran through the early cultural life of Hillhurst-Sunnyside began with the area's pioneers and developers whose families had roots in those two homelands, and brought the customs of those countries to their new home.

The Englishness of Hillhurst was clearly shaped by the vision of its pioneer landowner and developer, Ezra Riley, whose father Thomas came from Derbyshire,

England and mother Georgiana from North Lincolnshire, England. Both Ezra's original 1904 subdivision and its 1906 addition employed street names that referenced English place names including Oxford, Gladstone, Buckingham, Norfolk and Essex. When his mother, Georgiana Riley, registered Upper Hillhurst in 1906 she also used street names with English references like Marlborough and Wellington streets and others named for the British Royal family.

English roots are also evident in Col Lawrence Herchmer's 1907 Westmont subdivision which had original street names like Cambridge, Devenish, and Beveridge. Herchmer descended from a prominent Kingston, Ontario family of United Empire Loyalists whose arrival in North America dates to the 18th century. As a result he was born in England and received most of his education there.

The Church of England (Anglican Church) also featured conspicuously in Hillhurst, with Morleyville Road named for the Anglican Mission at Morley, and after 1906, with St Barnabas Church and churchyard. In 1912 Ezra gifted a new brick-clad St Barnabas Church to the parish. As well, an Anglican boy's school, the Bishop Pinkham College (the site that would be used for health care), was built just north of Hillhurst School. Perhaps the most unusual English influence to find in a North American community is the cricket field, also a legacy of Ezra. He donated the land for a City park, Riley Park, in 1910 and in 1919 he asked parks superintendent William Reader to install cricket pitches in the park. He also requested that cricket be the only team sport to be played in Riley Park. The game of cricket in Riley Park where the Calgary and District Cricket League are currently based, and worship in St Barnabas Church of England, are enduring examples of intangible cultural heritage that have been practiced for over a century.

Sunnyside where Scottish influences in the landscape and culture originated with landowner and developer William Ross who settled in Calgary in 1905. He was from Kincardine Township, Bruce County, Ontario and of Scottish descent, his father Allan being from Rosshire and his mother Alexandria from the Isle of Harris in Scotland. Ross and business partner Arthur Bennett registered Sunnyside, both its original subdivision and larger addition, and Broadview subdivisions in 1907. 'New Edinburgh', the east part of the larger Sunnyside addition, had street names like Dundee, Glasgow and Leith avenues. New Edinburgh Park takes the subdivision's former name. In Broadview, Bennett and Ross's only Hillhurst-Sunnyside subdivision west of 10th Street, a Church of Scotland - Hillhurst Presbyterian Church - was erected south of Kensington Road, the first in 1907 and a second permanent church in 1912.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses person value for notable Canadian racial equality pioneers, Violet and Theodore (Ted) King. Violet (1929-1982) broke barriers for both gender and racial equality. In 1954 she became the first Black person to obtain a law degree in Alberta and the first to be admitted to the Alberta bar, the latter being a feat that would not be repeated for another decade. She was also Canada's first Black female lawyer. Her brother Ted was an early human rights advocate who served as president of the Alberta Association for the Advancement of Coloured People. This was a time when hotels and motels could refuse accommodation to people of visible minorities, and Ted used the courts to fight this discrimination.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses institution value for its extant places of worship, some of which are still active places of worship: the 1907 Hillhurst Baptist Church, the 1912 Hillhurst United Church and cemetery, and the 1912 St Barnabas Church Tower.

A parallel ethnic cultural development was unfolding in Hillhurst-Sunnyside possesses activity value for



St. Barnabas's Church Tower

its association with sports, and for playing fields and cricket pitches. It also possesses person value for its local sportsmen who achieved national and international recognition including Lloyd Turner who was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame as a 'Builder' in 1958, Dodger Lewis who played fastball in the 1930s for the St Louis Browns, professional hockey player Joseph Sidney (Sid) Finney who played in the National Hockey League for the Chicago Blackhawks (1951-54), and Ezra and Frank Riley who organized the Hillhurst Football Club which twice won the Dominion Championship.

With two important provincial centres for the performing

arts and fine arts, as well as galleries being located in the community, Hillhurst-Sunnyside has become a nucleus of arts in the city. Residents have been attracted to the neighbourhood by the thriving local arts centres and in turn have shaped and fostered the local culture in the community. The Alberta University of the Arts was established on the SAIT campus in 1926, beginning as a department of the technical school, and growing to become a fully accredited university in 2019. A public art gallery was opened in 1958 and renamed the Illingworth Kerr Gallery in 1990; Kerr who taught and served as the director of the art department at Alberta University of the Arts (then Alberta College of Art) from 1947 to ca1967 was also named to the Order of Canada in 1983. The exhibition space is the longest-running international art program in Calgary. The Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium, a 2,700-seat concert hall and theatre was built between 1955 and 1957 as a venue for both local and international performing artists. From 1982 to 2004 the basement was reconfigured to add a second more intimate 250-seat auditorium, the Dr Betty Mitchell Theatre, named for Betty Mitchell who founded several Calgary theatrical groups in the 1930s-40s.



Historic aerial photo of Sunnyside facing south towards the downtown. Sunnyside Bungalow School can be seen on the right, as can Glenwood Manor, the Donegal Mansion and a handful of other Inventory sites

Character Defining Elements

Key elements that define the heritage character of the Hillhurst-Sunnyside community include but are not limited to:

- views from the top of McHugh Bluffs and the plateau at the top of the North Hill (north of Riley Park) to the city skyline, the Rocky Mountains, the Bow River Valley and the flats at the base of the North Hill
- the vegetation of the natural area green spaces: native and introduced grasslands, extensive balsam poplar forest with willow, ash, white spruce and Colorado blue spruce, and small stands of upland tall shrubs and aspen along the bluffs; riparian tall shrubs bordered by balsam poplar forest along the river bank in Hillhurst and in Sunnyside east of 7th Street
- its setting north of the Bow River, with river flats rising to the plateau of the North Hill
- views to Riley Park from 10th Street and from the North Hill above the park; the historic relation of the park to its setting on adjacent former Riley lands, the undeveloped slopes above the park and the memorial rock garden; the formal, geometric floral display along 10th Street influenced by the City Beautiful movement; the curvilinear circulation pattern; the wading pool; the cricket pitches and club house
- views to Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden from 10th Street; elements and plantings of a naturalistic-style alpine rock garden; original sandstone from the 1901 Burns mansion; plaques honouring Senator Patrick Burns and Alex Munro
- the 10th Street 'parkway' from the south end of Riley Park to 16th Avenue, a curvilinear route with uninterrupted landscaped plantings of grass and mature trees on both sides of the corridor where it climbs the North Hill;
- the Memorial Drive landscaped parkway along the north bank of the Bow River; continued plantings of propagations of the original Poplar trees planted in 1922
- the 1921 Hillhurst (Louise) Bridge marking the historic 1888 Bow Marsh Bridge crossing and historic fording place, and landscaped east and west bridge approaches
- street layouts that follow the pre-contact trails that traversed the neighbourhood, Gladstone Avenue and 10th Street (Morleyville Trail)
- historic street and feature names:
 - English street names which remain, Kensington and Gladstone
 - sidewalk stamps like Norfolk at the corner of 10A Street and Kensington Road
 - Westmont and Broadview road names and New Edinburgh Park's name which reference their original subdivision names
- historic subdivision names:
 - the original names of early subdivision plans, Hillhurst and Sunnyside, maintained for today's communities
- historic subdivision plan layouts:
 - surveyor Herbert Moore's street layout for Sunnyside with east-west lot orientation along the main

corridors, and northeast-southwest lot orientation in the centre to align with the river, set against deep, narrow lots that run perpendicular to the base of the bluff; distinctive intersections where the different grids connect

- surveyor Albert Charles Talbot's street layout for Hillhurst with roads that reference pre-contact trails
- 10th Street commercial street with buildings built out to the property line along a common setback with adjacent buildings; commercial uses and storefronts at street level; street trees
- two-storey Edwardian Commercial Style buildings and one-storey Commercial Style buildings with storefronts at street level, recessed entry ways, large display windows with transom lights, brick façades, signbands and pressed metal cornices
- contiguous stretch of 1911-19 buildings on the east side of 10th Street at the south end of the corridor; and east side of the 1100 block of Kensington Road
- commercial signage such as wooden or pressed metal signbands, and/or small projecting signs on building façades at top of storefront; original painted 'ghost' signs
- inter-war and post-war vernacular commercial buildings with interpretations or influences of styles of the period
- the pre-war residential streetscapes characterised by Edwardian cottages on twenty-five or fifty-foot lots fronting uniform setbacks with soft landscaping, most with mature plantings, public sidewalk boulevards with mature trees; rear lanes with garage access from the lane
- specific highly intact pre-war residential streetscapes:
 - 12th Street - 200-400 blocks, east side north of house number 222
 - 13th Street - 300-400 block, west side north of house number 333
 - 10A Street - 200-300 block, east side north of house number 218
 - Bowness Road - 1600 block, east and west sides and lilac boulevard
 - 5th Street - 900 block, east side south of 934 in New Edinburgh (contains the two brick houses)
 - 1st Street - 1000 block, south side north of 1027
 - Bennett's Bathhouses streetscape, eleven 1913-15 one-storey, Edwardian Gable-front Style cottages with wooden-shingle siding and full-width front verandahs (many enclosed), with a contiguous row of eight cottages, in the 600 block of 3rd Avenue; Edwardian cottages on twenty-five foot lots with uniform narrow front setbacks with soft landscaping, fronting treed, grassy public sidewalk boulevards; rear lanes with garage access from the lane
- characteristics of the remaining pre-war and inter-war cottages: Edwardian (1901-1914) architectural styles including Edwardian Commercial, Edwardian Gable-front, Edwardian Cottage, Craftsman and Foursquare; one, one and-one-half and two-storey form; full-width front verandahs or front porches with front entries, tall vertical single and multi-assembly windows with hung-sash profiles, front and side-gabled and hipped roof profiles with medium to steep roof pitch; and cladding in natural materials like brick, plaster (stucco) from natural components, wooden shingles and bevelled-wood siding
- places and practices associated with Hillhurst-Sunnyside's ethnic Scottish and English roots:
 - early cricket pitches at Riley Park

- 1967 Robert the Bruce statue south of the Jubilee Auditorium
- Hillhurst-Sunnyside's institutional buildings associated with education, health care and public services including the 1921 Heritage Hall and the 1973 Alberta University of the Arts complex on the SAIT Campus, the 1910 Hillhurst Cottage School, the 1911 Hillhurst School, the 1930 Queen Elizabeth Junior and Senior High School, the 1916 St John Elementary School, the 1919 Sunnyside Bungalow School, the ca1910 home of early Hillhurst-Sunnyside doctor Robert Francis at 236 11A Street, the 1922 AGT Building - Hillhurst Exchange, the 1909 Fire Hall No. 6 and the Great West Trading Company, the location of the community's first post office, at 429 11th Street
- extant institutional buildings for arts and societies like the 1926 King George Masonic Hall, the 1928 Plaza Theatre and the 1957 Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium
- Extant places of worship, some of which are still active places of worship: the 1907 Hillhurst Baptist Church, the 1912 Hillhurst United Church and cemetery, and the 1912 St Barnabas Church Tower
- Intangible heritage practices which continue today including the game of cricket in Riley Park, worship in the active community churches, performing arts in community venues



Louise Bridge viewed from the southwest, 2021 [Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

Statement of Integrity

Location:

Hillhurst-Sunnyside retains its original location and situation relative to its natural topographical boundaries as well as its roadway boundaries as per the original subdivision plans.

Design:

The community of Hillhurst-Sunnyside retains a high degree of design integrity. The historic subdivision plan layouts as surveyed by Albert Charles Talbot in Hillhurst and Herbert Moore in Sunnyside have remained intact, including the reference to pre-contact trails that traverse the neighbourhood, unique grid patterns aligned with the river, lots perpendicular to the base of McHugh Bluffs and distinctive intersections where grids connect (Sunnyside), and Memorial Drive, as an amalgamation of the original neighbourhood 'Boulevards' that followed the banks of the Bow River.

10th Street retains the layout of the historic Morleyville Trail transportation corridor. To the north, the 'parkway' design is retained, a curvilinear route with uninterrupted landscaped plantings of grass and mature trees on both sides of the corridor from the south end of Riley Park to 16th Avenue. The design of Riley Park remains highly intact with the preservation of the formal, geometric floral display along 10th Street influenced by the City Beautiful movement, the curvilinear circulation pattern, the wading pool, the cricket pitches and club house.

Changes to the community's original subdivision layouts have occurred to accommodate changing infrastructure needs. The most significant design changes resulted from the construction of the 1954 Mewata Bridge and the 1987 LRT line and station. Following the construction of the Mewata Bridge, 14th Street changed from a primarily residential street to a commercial street and major traffic corridor with some high density residential. This change has somewhat isolated the portion of Hillhurst west of 14th Street, with Bowness Road, once continuous from the 1100 block westward, now converted to cul-de-sacs on either side. Memorial Drive, Westmount Boulevard and Broadview Road were also reconfigured. The construction of the LRT changed the residential nature of 9A Street with the loss of many homes south of 4th Avenue, and reduced the accessibility and permeability between the two neighbourhoods.

In residential areas, the neighbourhood streetscape design is retained with predominantly single family homes on single or double 25-foot lots with uniform front setbacks with soft landscaping, public sidewalk boulevards with mature trees, and rear lanes with garage access from the lane. The retained pre-war homes still feature their Edwardian architectural style and their original tall vertical single and multi-assembly wood framed windows with hung-sash profiles. Planning policy introduced since the post-war period to accommodate population growth has resulted in a loss of historic structures, and the streetscapes have evolved to include a variety of multi-family dwellings and apartments, which to varying degrees disrupt the streetscape design of

uniform lot widths, front setbacks and house forms. Especially intact streetscapes have been listed in Section 8.

For commercial streets, post-war development was mainly infill on undeveloped parcels and generally did not result in a loss of historic structures. However, since that time most developments have been erected on large land parcels and do not maintain scale or the fine-grained massing, articulation or bay rhythm at street level of the early 20th Century commercial buildings. Remaining intact commercial areas include the south end of 10th Street where retained features include its commercial storefronts with a 25-foot bay rhythm, and buildings built out to the property line along a common setback with adjacent buildings. Early 20th Century commercial streetscape design is also retained along Kensington Road in the 1100 and 1200 blocks.

Environment:

The environment of Hillhurst-Sunnyside retains a high degree of integrity. A defining feature of the neighbourhood is its setting north of the Bow River. The distinct riverine habitat of the natural area green spaces along the river banks in Hillhurst remains intact as does Sunnyside's balsam poplar forest east of 7th Street. The 1921 Hillhurst (Louise) Bridge, connecting Hillhurst-Sunnyside to downtown Calgary, remains and marks the location of the 1888 Bow Marsh Bridge crossing as well as the historic fording place. The north edges of the neighbourhood are still defined by the North Hill; especially notable are the natural area green spaces of McHugh Bluff and their characteristic vegetation. Views towards the city skyline, the Rocky Mountains, the Bow River valley and the flats at the base of the North Hill remain intact.

Materials:

Hillhurst-Sunnyside retains many original materials. In the residential portion of the neighbourhood, where early dwellings have been maintained many of the original materials have been preserved as well. The predominantly Edwardian and inter-war homes often include extensive woodwork such as wooden shingles and bevelled-wood siding, although homes with plaster (stucco) and brick cladding are also present within the neighbourhood.

There is a high degree of material integrity in Hillhurst-Sunnyside's commercial and institutional buildings. The two-storey Edwardian Commercial Style buildings and one-storey Commercial Style buildings with storefronts at street level have frequently retained their brick façades, wooden signbands and pressed metal cornices. Especially intact streetscapes with groupings of these buildings are the south end and east side of 10th Street and the east side of the 1100 block of Kensington Road, but individual examples remain elsewhere in the neighbourhood as well, a particularly good example is the 1912 Vendome Block. Institutional buildings were solidly constructed with enduring materials such as brick and stone; these materials are retained in educational, healthcare, religious and civic buildings. Notable examples include but are not limited to the brickwork on Heritage Hall and the Alberta University of the Arts complex, the stonework at Hillhurst School, the red brick façade and classical detailing of the 1909 Fire Hall, the brick and stone work of the 1912 St Barnabas Church Tower and the brick and stucco with half timbering at Hillhurst United Church. Many of these institutional buildings also retain other materials, such as wooden doors and original windows.

In addition to the materials seen in extant buildings, there is also a high degree of material integrity in the neighbourhood landscape and infrastructure. Good examples are the concrete in the 1921 Hillhurst (Louise) bridge and the original sandstone from the 1901 Burns mansion used in the Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Rock Garden.

Workmanship:

Hillhurst-Sunnyside retains many of its materials, and therefore the associated workmanship. Craftsmanship including woodworking, metal work and masonry is retained within the well-crafted residential, commercial and institutional historical building stock, as well as the Hillhurst (Louise) and Mewata bridges. Retained workmanship can also be seen in original commercial signage such as wooden or pressed metal signbands, projecting signs, and original painted 'ghost' signs. Skilled workmanship is evident in the continued landscaping of Riley Park, including the curvilinear circulation pattern, floral displays, and the naturalistic-style alpine rock garden in Senator Burns Memorial Rock Garden.

Feeling:

Hillhurst-Sunnyside retains the feeling of the pre-war period when it was mainly settled, an era of prosperity, optimism and city-building. Design elements, such as the original subdivision layouts contribute to this feeling, but it is the City Beautiful-inspired features including the Louise Bridge, Riley Park and the 10th Street parkway as well as the community's intact streetscapes identified in Section 8 which play the most significant role. These include the busy historic streetcar commercial main streets of 10th Street and Kensington Road which have many groupings of buildings that have operated continuously in a commercial capacity since the 1910s and retain much of their original design, materials and associated workmanship. Similarly, the residential portions of the neighbourhood have many unique streetscapes that feature groupings of well-preserved Edwardian cottages. These intact streetscapes, along with the many retained institutional buildings convey the feeling of the busy early Calgary neighbourhood north of the Bow River.

Hillhurst-Sunnyside's natural area green spaces along the bluff and riverbanks recall the community's frontier period when the landscape was pioneer homesteads and ranches.

Association:

Hillhurst-Sunnyside retains many historical associations, including its associations with:

- its natural environment, with its setting north of the Bow River, views from the top of McHugh Bluffs and the plateau at the top of the North Hill (north of Riley Park) to the city skyline, the Rocky Mountains, the Bow River Valley and the flats at the base of the North Hill, and the vegetation of the natural area green spaces
- its pre-contact use through street layouts that follow the pre-contact trails that traversed the neighbourhood, Gladstone Avenue and 10th Street (Morleyville Trail)
- its early homesteader and quarry operator Felix McHugh, and Calgary pioneer ranching Riley family,

recognized through the naming of McHugh Bluffs, Riley Park and the Louise Riley Library

- commercial activity along 10th Street from 1909, Kensington Road from 1912 and 14th Street from the mid-1950s, through its many intact two-storey Edwardian Commercial-style buildings and one-storey inter-war Commercial-style buildings with storefronts at street level, particularly visible with the contiguous stretch of 1911-19 buildings on the east side of 10th Street at the south end of the corridor and east side of the 1100 block of Kensington Road
- urban development and revitalisation during the 1970s and early 1980s through the innovative architecture of that time
- institutional activity and strong connections to education and the arts, through the many extant buildings of learning and in particular Heritage Hall and the 1973 Alberta University of the Arts complex on the SAIT Campus, the 1928 Plaza Theatre and the 1957 Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium
- early land use patterns, through the locations of residential, commercial and institutional areas and green spaces
- its initial development as a pre-war working and lower middle class neighbourhood through its residential streetscapes and their remaining one storey, one-and-one-half storey and two storey Edwardian cottages that symbolize the community's working-class roots and intact streetscapes of cottages such as 'Bennett's Bathhouses' on the 600 block of 3rd Avenue
- the ethnic Scottish and English roots of its early developers through historic street and feature names, such as English street names that remain in use (Kensington and Gladstone), sidewalk stamps like Norfolk, and road names Westmont and Broadview and park name New Edinburgh Park which references the original New Edinburgh subdivision. These associations are also maintained through the cricket pitches at Riley Park, the 1967 Robert the Bruce statue south of the Jubilee Auditorium, and heritage practices which continue today including the game of cricket in Riley Park and worship in the active Anglican (Church of England) and United (originally Presbyterian or Church of Scotland) community churches.



View from the hillside above Riley Park, 2021[Copyright: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Assn]

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