

OLIVER

EDMONTON
HISTORICAL
WALKING &
BIKING
TOURS



THERE ARE TWO HISTORICAL WALKING AND BIKING TOURS OF THE OLIVER NEIGHBOURHOOD IN THIS BOOKLET.

OLIVER EAST TOUR 1
OLIVER WEST TOUR 2

Both tours begin and end at the LeMarchand Mansion (11523 – 100 Avenue NW). Parking is available in a parkade on the north side of 100 Avenue. Each of the tours takes approximately 2.5 hours to walk, or 1 – 1.5 hours to bike.

Wherever possible, historic names have been used for buildings, names which often do not correspond to their current owners or uses. Also, please note that many of the buildings on this tour are privately owned and ought to be viewed only from the street.



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*Edmonton Brewing and Malting
Company Ltd. Building and the
Administration Office Building,
1949 (CEA EA-600-2799j)*



OLIVER

EDMONTON HISTORICAL WALKING & BIKING TOURS

T

he area that now makes up the neighbourhood of Oliver, and the City of Edmonton at large, was originally occupied by various Indigenous groups including the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux. Archaeological investigations indicate that Indigenous peoples have inhabited the Edmonton area for thousands of years. The close proximity of the North Saskatchewan River provided a number of resources, and the river escarpment allowed the potential to observe wildlife and other people from great heights. With the onset of the fur trade in the 18th century, European people began to arrive in the area, and soon a flood of people from other nations would follow. Indigenous groups in the Edmonton area were essential to the success of the western fur trade, as they scouted, hunted, trapped, and traded

ABOUT NINE BLOCKS OF UNDEVELOPED
LAND SEPARATED THE OLIVER DISTRICT
FROM EDMONTON'S DOWNTOWN.
THIS DISTANCE ENCOURAGED THE
CREATION OF A DISTINCT COMMUNITY.

*Edmonton Brewing and Malting
Company Ltd. Building and the
Administration Office Building,
1949 (CEA EA-600-2799j)*

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THE AREA NOW REFERRED TO AS “OLIVER”, HAS BEEN PART OF EDMONTON SINCE ITS EARLIEST DAYS.

with the European newcomers. With the signing of Treaty 6 (1876), with adhesion at Fort Edmonton in 1877; and with Treaty 7 (1877) at Blackfoot Crossing, Indigenous people were moved onto reserves and the area in question was taken up for settlement.

The area now referred to as “Oliver”, has been part of Edmonton since its earliest days. An 1892 map shows that most of the district, from 109 Street to 121 Street between the North Saskatchewan River and 104 Avenue, was within the boundaries of the then Town of Edmonton. Originally, the area west of downtown was commonly referred to as the “West End”. This included not just Oliver, but the areas now known as Glenora, Westmount, and Inglewood.

About nine blocks of undeveloped land separated the Oliver District from Edmonton’s downtown. This distance encouraged the creation of a distinct community. However, it also separated residents from their places of work, worship, shopping, and entertainment, not to mention family and friends. In its early days, when walking was the most common form of transportation, this distance was sufficient to detract from the desirability and, consequently, from the property values of the West End.

FRANK OLIVER IS A NAMESAKE FOR THIS DISTRICT, EVEN THOUGH HE WAS NEVER A RESIDENT. WHEN HE ARRIVED, EDMONTON WAS A FUR TRADE FORT, WITH A PREDOMINANTLY FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND FRENCH-CANADIAN POPULATION IN THE SURROUNDING AREA.

Thus, a key to the development of the West End was a physical link with the rest of the city. William Trethewey, the West End’s first developer, recognized the need for such a link. In 1903, soon after acquiring a large tract of land in the area from the Malcolm Groat Estate, Trethewey bought the Street Rail Company. He gave the City a \$10,000 deposit as proof of his commitment to create a public transit system. The task proved to be too much for him, however, and Mr. Trethewey lost his deposit, sold his properties, and left town. The City took over, and in November 1908 the Edmonton Radial Railway commenced operations. One of its first two lines went along Jasper Avenue from downtown to 121 Street and back. This link all but guaranteed the success of the Oliver District.



The Oliver District c. 1912 (EA-246-61)

In 1911, a school was built on 117 Street and named for Frank Oliver, an Edmonton pioneer. It became a focus for community activity. In 1922, the West End Community League was formed and began meeting at the Oliver School. Members were soon known as the “public spirited citizens of the district Oliver School”. They officially changed their name to the “Oliver Community League” in 1937, and in so doing, unofficially renamed the district.

EDMONTON'S FUR TRADE ROOTS GAVE IT A SIGNIFICANT FRENCH-SPEAKING, CATHOLIC, POPULATION. NATURALLY, THE CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS ORDERS WHICH SERVED THIS POPULATION ALSO HAD FRENCH CANADIAN ORIGINS.

Frank Oliver is a namesake for this district, even though he was never a resident. When he arrived, Edmonton was a fur trade fort, with a predominantly First Nations, Métis and French-Canadian population in the surrounding area. Oliver was among Edmonton's first English-speaking settlers. He championed Western Canada, and fought for "Responsible Government" as a member of the North West Council, and then in the Legislative Assembly which replaced it.

A journalist and merchant, Oliver founded the *Edmonton Bulletin* newspaper, which became popular for his biting witty editorials. The *Bulletin* provided Oliver the opportunity to voice many controversial ideas and policies, including a petition and lobby for the surrender of Indian Reserves in the Edmonton area. Oliver's notoriety and political powers were growing; he was elected to the Northwest Council in 1883, elected as the first Member of Parliament in 1896, and elected as the Minister of the Interior and the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs in 1905. With these new found political powers and the *Bulletin* as his public platform, Oliver was able to negotiate the surrender of the Papaschase Reserve and the Michel Reserve. As Minister of the Interior, Oliver introduced the *Immigration Act* of 1906 and the *Immigration Act* of 1910. These Acts introduced broad restrictions on immigration into Canada, directed towards the exclusion of non-white immigrants.

Edmonton's fur trade roots gave it a significant French-speaking, Catholic, population. Naturally, the Catholic religious orders which served this population also had French Canadian origins. Oliver's first major buildings,



1921

Wedding at Christ Church,
n.d. (PAA B401/1)



Robertson Wesley United Church, n.d. (PAA B3608)

erected by the French Catholic Church and community, lent a distinct flavour to the district. In 1886, the church of St. Joachim was built on 110 Street north of 99 Avenue. A larger brick church replaced this in 1899. In 1895, the Edmonton General Hospital was built a few blocks away. Next, a convent was erected just south of St. Joachim. A rectory for the church at the north end of the block soon followed. In 1935, the *Oblats Maison Provinciale* was constructed to the south of St. Joachim Church. In 1905, the Misericordia Hospital was built on 111 Street between 98 and 99 Avenues. The 1914 Grandin Catholic School District completed the projects of the Catholic Community.

Edmonton continued to expand westward. In 1909, the LeMarchand Mansion was constructed on 116 Street, followed by the Oliver School on 117 Street in 1911. The next year, the Buena Vista was built on 124 Street in anticipation of the Glenora development planned for part of the former Groat Estate further west. Oliver's

predominantly French character was diluted as Protestant churches based on English models were built. Presbyterian, Methodist and Anglican churches were first located on 116 and 114 Streets, but were rebuilt on a grander scale on 123, 117 and 121 Streets respectively.

Residential construction was unaffected by the French styles characteristic of Oliver's early public architecture. Even prominent francophone residents chose styles common throughout early Edmonton for their homes. The Four Square Style, modified Queen Anne Revival Style, and Bungalow Style were the most popular. Oliver offered a range of housing types: single family dwellings; row houses; duplexes; buildings with a mix of residential and retail; and apartment buildings. An equally diverse group of residents were attracted to Oliver. Millionaires perched their mansions prominently overlooking the valley on Victoria Avenue; middle class houses and workmen's cottages filled the streets behind them.



Streetcar rails on Jasper Avenue looking east at 121 St. n.d. (GAN D-3-2314)

Oliver was a community with much to offer: easy access to the downtown core, stunning views of the river valley, an excellent elementary school, and the recreational opportunities afforded by Victoria Park and the Golf Links. Frank Oliver's pioneering spirit has been echoed by the leaders of subsequent generations that have resided in the Oliver District. It is not difficult to understand the continuing popularity and success of Oliver.



OLIVER WEST

TOUR 1



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Valleyview Manor,
1962 (PAA WS.482)

1 & 21

THE LEMARCHAND MANSION (1909-1911)

11523 – 100 AVENUE NW

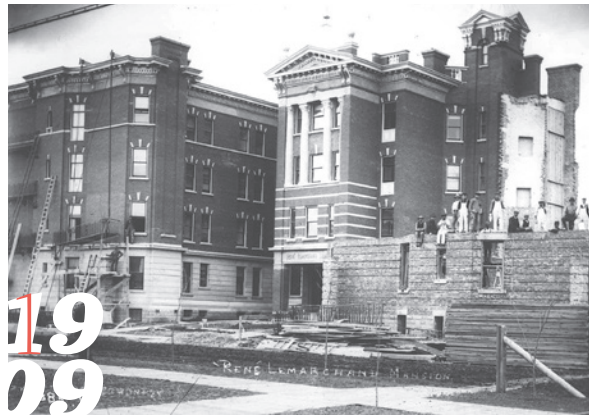
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he LeMarchand Mansion is one of the most beautiful apartment buildings of its age in Edmonton. After all, René LeMarchand's ambition was to erect an apartment building which would be *"un des plus luxueux dans le genre au Canada"* – one of the most luxurious of its kind in Canada. And so it was. Designed by the Edmonton architect A.M. Calderon and built between 1909 and 1911, the LeMarchand Mansion cost between \$140,000 and \$200,000. It was spectacularly sited, and established the West End as an affluent neighbourhood and prestigious address.

MANY SPECIAL CONVENIENCES AND COMFORTS WERE PROVIDED, INCLUDING ONE OF EDMONTON'S FIRST ELEVATORS

The interior was elegant: the entrance had bevelled and stained glass, marble flooring, oak panelled walls, and a brass-hooded fireplace. Many special conveniences and comforts were provided, including one of Edmonton's first elevators, and an onsite coal degasifier that produced natural gas for cooking and heating. The H-shaped plan eliminated light shafts – all rooms had an exterior window. Electric dumbwaiters made the delivery of groceries or packages easy, and each suite had one or two fireplaces. Concrete floors and brick walls made the building as soundproof and fireproof as was then possible. All this luxury came with a price tag: suites rented for \$40 to \$100 a month, at a time when a workman's wage was about 50 cents an hour.

The exterior of the LeMarchand Mansion is worthy of its interior. The block has four storeys, the upper three of which are red brick. The lower floors are brick covered with cement-based parging to resemble stone. Details include contrasting keystones, an ornate cornice, iron balconies, pillars and pilasters, and triangular pediments. The influence of the French classical revival Beaux-Arts Style can be seen in the grand entry. The first storey portico is surmounted by decorative horizontal bands of contrasting stone and brick. The third and fourth storeys have columns which rise two storeys to another pediment.



The LeMarchand Mansion under construction c. 1910-1911. (PAA B4224)

The LeMarchand Mansion was a contrast to its setting. Not far away was virtually uninterrupted wilderness, yet this was an essentially urban type of housing. In Europe and some North American cities, apartments provided a popular alternative to the single family detached house. The LeMarchand Mansion, with its five, six, and seven room suites, introduced this alternative to Edmonton. It was intended to appeal to upper-income families, not just the couples and singles most apartments cater to.

THE ANNAMOE MANSION

11950 – 100 AVENUE NW

René LeMarchand came to Edmonton from Paris at the urging of his brother Alphonse, curate of St. Joachim's. When he arrived in 1905, René was prosperous and no longer young. He had been a butler, and allegedly made his fortune from a strange inheritance: a collection of straight razors willed to him by his eccentric Parisian employer, who had used a new one every day. Razors could be expensive, and most men owned only a few in their lifetime. One of LeMarchand's ventures was The Finest Fruits and Fancy Goods Store in Edmonton selling, among other things, French and English razors. After 1906, he sold his store and invested his money in real estate. An enthusiastic booster, LeMarchand secured

THE LEMARCHAND MANSION IS ON THE CITY OF EDMONTON'S INVENTORY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES, MEANING THAT IT IS ELIGIBLE TO BE DESIGNATED AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE.

funds from the Paris Waiter's Union, *L'Union des garçons de Café*, to build this apartment block. After WWI, LeMarchand visited Edmonton infrequently before his death in Paris in 1921.

The LeMarchand Mansion suffered predictably during the Great Depression in the 1930s. Lower suites were converted to offices after WWII, but many long term tenants stayed on. In 1977, the building was designated a Provincial Historic Resource, and a \$4.5 million restoration was undertaken. The most significant exterior change was the replacement of the original double-hung windows with single pane sealed units. Today, the LeMarchand Mansion has been entirely converted to offices and shops. The LeMarchand Mansion is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



HEAD WEST ON 100 AVENUE FOR FOUR BLOCKS.

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he Annamoe Mansion, unlike the grander LeMarchand Mansion, has a principal façade full of windows to take advantage of magnificent river valley views. Despite its more modest scale, the Annamoe has some interesting features. A variety of bricklaying patterns is used on the front of the three storey red brick building, creating a textured, two-dimensional effect. White accents the details in the design. Stone provides variety in the brick, and both the window frames and the balconies with their supporting brackets are painted white. The red tile-roofed canopies which span the façade lend a rather Spanish air to this building.



The Annamoe Mansion c. 1915. (GA NC-6-2919)

THE ANNAMOE WAS ONE OF A NUMBER OF APARTMENT BLOCKS BUILT IN THE OLIVER DISTRICT BEFORE WWI TO CATER TO EDMONTON'S GROWING POPULATION OF WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS.

The Annamoe Mansion was named for the town of Annamoe in County Wicklow, Ireland. This was the birthplace of the man who had the apartment building constructed in 1914: Robert Childers Barton. The Annamoe was one of a number of apartment blocks built in the Oliver District before WWI to cater to Edmonton's growing population of white-collar workers. They include the LeMarchand Mansion, the Derwas Court Apartments, the Buena Vista, and the Westminster. The Annamoe Mansion is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



THE GOLF LINKS/VICTORIA PARK VANTAGE POINT IS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF 100 AVENUE, ACROSS FROM THE ANNAMOE MANSION.

3

VICTORIA PARK & THE GOLF LINKS

VIEWED FROM 100 AVENUE BETWEEN 119 AND 120 STREETS

VICTORIA PARK

After Fort Edmonton was established in 1795, Indigenous peoples camped here while trading furs. In 1913, the City of Edmonton paid the Hudson's Bay Company \$310,000 for 155 acres in the river valley, including this area. Both a 1907 report by Frederick N. Todd, the landscape architect responsible for the National Capital



Birds-eye view of the Golf Links c. 1920. (GAN C-6-4901)

Parks System, and a 1912 beautification plan by Minneapolis architects Morrell & Nicholls, had recommended that the City acquire the land to establish a river valley park system.

City Beautiful concepts were then popular among urban planners, who were greatly influenced by Frederick Law Olmstead, the landscape architect who designed New York's Central Park and Mount Royal Park in Montreal. Both the Todd, and the Morrell & Nicholls plans drew from these sources.

In response to lobbying by prominent Edmonton women, the park's name was changed from Hudson's Bay Park to Victoria Park, in honour of Queen Victoria. The river valley has played an important role in the Oliver District. In the early days, it was used for large public celebrations, and the panoramic views attracted Edmonton's elite. More recently, high-rises overlook the park, and picnic facilities provide an on-site amenity. Victoria Park is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.

THE GOLF LINKS

In 1905, Edmonton's first 9-hole golf course was established east of the present links. Construction of the Legislature Building forced its abandonment in 1907, and a new course was laid out in the river valley. The City took over maintenance, and the members only policy was eliminated. When, in 1912, the City purchased

the 9-hole links, it was Canada's first municipal golf course. By 1922, the course was expanded to 18 holes. In 1930, a six-foot coal seam was discovered below the golf course. Fortunately, it was not turned into a mine. By the 1950s, at 27 holes, this was Canada's largest municipal golf course. These extra holes were lost three years later when the Groat Bridge was built.

Since 1912, the Municipal Golf Links (now known as Victoria Golf Course) has had three clubhouses and five groundskeepers. Twenty 9-hole games cost \$3.50 in 1919, and \$5.50 in 1950. By the late 1980s a single 9-hole game (during the week) cost \$6.00.



CONTINUE ALONG 100 AVENUE TO JASPER AVENUE. FOLLOW 121 STREET HALF A BLOCK NORTH.

4

DERWAS COURT APARTMENT BUILDING (1913-1914)

10146 – 121 STREET NW



The Derwas Court Apartment Building was planned in 1913 to meet the demand for apartments which had developed in Edmonton's pre-World War I boom economy. Finished a scant two months before the outbreak of war in 1914, it was nonetheless quickly rented. Despite the income of about \$10,000 per year in rent the property generated by the early 1920s, the owner, Mr. E.D. Baugh, was unable to maintain his financing.

ON EACH OF THE THREE STOREYS ARE FOUR SUITES, EACH WITH A FIREPLACE IN THE LIVING ROOM, A FORMAL DINING ROOM, A BALCONY, AND A SINGLE BEDROOM.



The Derwas Apartments c. 1917. (GA NC-6-2908)

The Derwas was designed by the architect E.C. Hopkins. It has a red brick facade and a rectangular plan. The exterior is restrained, but not devoid of architectural details: it features a cornice, contrasting window sills and keystones, and brick pilasters which divide the main façade into five bays. The entrance vestibule, located in the central bay, has a set of double doors with a fanlight above, all contained within an arch with a contrasting keystone and voussoirs. On each of the three storeys are four suites, each with a fireplace in the living room, a formal dining room, a balcony, and a single bedroom. The rather small kitchens and bathrooms are illuminated by light shafts. The Derwas Court Apartment Building is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



CONTINUE NORTH ON 121 STREET TO 102 AVENUE AND CROSS TO THE EAST SIDE.

5

THE WEST END TELEPHONE EXCHANGE (1913)

12019 – 102 AVENUE NW



The West End Telephone Exchange was built in 1913 according to the same design architect Alan Jeffers had drawn up for the North End Telephone Exchange at 10105 – 112 Avenue NW. The two exchanges were identical, at least on the exterior. Both were rectangular, with a depth at least twice that of their street frontage. Built of brick, and two storeys in height, their most distinctive features were a fanlight in the gable end, and parapets both front and back.

The West End Exchange differed from its North Edmonton twin in one significant respect: equipment. The North End Exchange had switches from England, whereas the West End mechanisms came from the Automatic Electric Co. Ltd. of Chicago, Illinois.

The four exchanges comprising the Edmonton Telephone District – the North, West, Central and Southside – were all at or near capacity by 1919 and new lines were desperately needed. By 1921 the Central Exchange was converted to the new two-wire technology, which allowed lines to be switched from the North and West Exchanges.

In 1949, an extension was built onto what was by then known as the Oliver Wire Exchange to meet the ever-expanding need for telephone service. In 1982, the Oliver Exchange equipment was upgraded to digital switching from the old dial equipment. This is particularly remarkable because it signifies that the Oliver Exchange



The West Side Exchange c. 1914. (ACD)



RETURN TO THE WEST SIDE OF 121 STREET AND CROSS 102 AVENUE.

6

CHRIST CHURCH (1921)

12116 – 102 AVENUE NW



In 1909, Anglicans from the West End attending downtown churches came to the same conclusion reached by the Presbyterians and the Methodists: it was time to build a church closer to home. The first Christ Church, finally built in 1919, was a plain frame building at 116 Street and 102 Avenue. When it was built, there was more woods than homes in the parish, but soon the West End became more populated, and a larger building was needed. By 1921, two lots at 121 Street and 102 Avenue, the former site of a skating rink, had been purchased.



Christ Church and Christ Church Parish Hall c. 1926.
(GA ND- 3- 3345)

The pre-World War I land bust, the postwar recession, and the financial problems of congregations which had embarked on ambitious building programs, were a curb on the building plans of the Elders of Christ Church. To economize, the skating clubhouse was converted to a rectory, and architect W.G. Blakey was hired to design a relatively modest new church. His partner and brother, R.P. Blakey, designed many of its interior features. The vestry, constructed in 1922, was also a W.G. Blakey design.

Christ Church follows an architectural revival movement which looked to medieval English models for inspiration. This same movement shaped the Robertson Presbyterian and Wesley Methodist Churches, as well as the Oliver School. Unlike these buildings, however, Christ Church is based on rural and domestic models of this architectural style. Humble materials and a more intimate scale produced a charming and unpretentious parish church.

The church and vestry buildings form a visual unit because their designs relate to and reinforce each other. Both use the same building materials: white stucco with red asphalt tile roofing. They also share architectural forms: both the church and vestry have steeply-pitched roofs with gabled dormers. A bell tower huddles between the apse end of the church, and the jerkinhead-roofed vestry with its oriel window.

Initially, it was not certain that this would be the parish's permanent church, "...but the quaint building quickly endeared itself to the hearts of the parishioners." That it was widely popular is demonstrated by W.G. Blakey's 1923 design for the Highlands United Church, which is almost identical to the Oliver church. Christ Church Anglican continues to endear itself to parishioners and Oliver residents alike. The Christ Church is listed on the City of Edmonton Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



**CONTINUE WEST ON 102 AVENUE
TO 122 STREET, GO SOUTH ON
122 STREET.**

7

THE WORLD WAR II RESIDENCES (1943-1944)

10153 – 122 STREET NW (YEE RESIDENCE),
10145 – 122 STREET NW (SPEVAKOW
RESIDENCE), 10157 – 122 STREET NW
(NAVERSETH RESIDENCE), 10149 – 122 STREET
NW (REVEREND VIKMAN RESIDENCE)



The four northernmost houses on the east side of 122 Street were constructed in 1943 and 1944. Each is unique, but all share the same vocabulary of the English Cottage Style, part of the English Revival movement early in this century. It attempted to create homes with a domestic character using architectural forms and materials such as stucco walls, slate roofs, and imitation half-timbering. Although lacking many of the details which characterized



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World War II Residences, 1993. (ACD)

the original movement, these houses have a storybook charm, especially recognizable in the Reverend Vikman Residence, 10149 – 122 Street NW.

All four of the 122 Street World War II Residences are on the City of Edmonton’s Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that they are eligible to be designated as Municipal Historic Resources.



CONTINUE SOUTH ON 122 STREET TO JASPER AVENUE AND CROSS TO THE SOUTH SIDE.

8

VALLEYVIEW MANOR (1960-1961)

12207 JASPER AVENUE NW



Valleyview Manor was one of Edmonton’s first high-rise apartment buildings. Its location atop Victoria Park Road, overlooking the North Saskatchewan River, and its luxurious qualities led to its popularity among a white collar market. The building represented a cultural shift in Edmonton, from the traditional single family home to high quality rental units with close proximity to the downtown core.



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Valleyview Manor, 1962 (PAA WS.482)

Standing eight storeys tall, Valleyview Manor contributed to the creation of a new skyline for Edmonton, and helped to transform Oliver into a high density neighbourhood. At a cost of approximately \$1,000,000, the luxury apartment building boasted underground parking, marble finishes, and river valley views, adding to its prestige. The complex was advertised as *Edmonton’s New Home of Gracious Living*.

Francis Winspear, a prominent accountant, businessman, and philanthropist in Edmonton, assisted in the financing and management of the building. Winspear was a longtime resident of Valleyview Manor, where he lived in a river-view suite, on the top floor, with his wife Bess, until her death in 1979. In 1981, he married Harriet Snowball, who was the resident manager.

Designed by Gordon K. Wynn, principal and founding partner of the notable firm Rule Wynn & Rule Architects, the building reflects the International Style, which remained popular in Edmonton through the 1940s to the 1970s. The eight storey building includes 45 units and 65,000 square feet of space. The exterior of the building includes a concrete frame, yellow brick cladding, and projecting balconies. Little architectural ornamentation exists on the building, but high aesthetic qualities are visible through the mosaic tile and marble finishes. Valleyview Manor was designated a Municipal Historic Resource in November, 2010.



GO WEST ON JASPER AVENUE AND TURN NORTH ON 124 STREET, CONTINUE TO 102 AVENUE. CROSS TO THE EAST SIDE OF THE STREET.

9

THE BUENA VISTA (1912)

10133/37 – 124 STREET NW



The Buena Vista was a handsome mixed-use building with street-level storefronts and apartments on the second and third floors. This building type is popular in densely populated urban areas, but those less subject to population pressures and more oriented to automobile travel, such as Edmonton, have few examples.

The Buena Vista was designed by the prominent architectural partnership of Magoon & MacDonald, who also designed the Wesley Methodist Church. The Buena Vista cost \$24,000 to build, a significant amount in 1912. This cost was reflected in the extensive detailing. The development of the exclusively residential Glenora subdivision in 1911 prompted the construction of the Buena Vista. Sites close to Glenora which allowed commercial activity were targeted by speculators. One such group was the Riverview Land Company, a six-man partnership which included the Edmonton florist, Walter Ramsay. It was they who planned and built the Buena Vista as a speculative venture.

In large part, the Buena Vista was successful. It enjoyed almost continuous occupancy: the apartments were popular with the clergy from nearby churches, and the main floor was almost continuously occupied as well. The three storefronts usually included a pharmacy, meat market, and grocery store. Perhaps one of the best-known enterprises was an early P. Burns and Company Meat Market, which was located here for a short time. Despite this measure of success, the Riverview Land Company never realized the profits they had sought. By 1930, the City sold the Buena Vista for nonpayment of taxes.



The Buena Vista at right, 1939. (GA NC-6-13951d)

In 2016, the building was dismantled after detailed documentation and cataloguing of the exterior features. A redevelopment project will look to construct a mixed-use high-rise complex on the site. The heritage portion of the original north, west and south elevations will be reassembled on the podium, which will feature street-oriented retail frontage.



CONTINUE EAST ON 102 AVENUE TO 123 STREET.

10

ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH (1913)

10209 – 123 STREET NW



In 1909, a collection was taken to build a Presbyterian Church in the West End. Later that year, a white clapboard church was built on 116 Street and named for Reverend James Robertson, the first superintendent of Presbyterian Missions in Western Canada. As the West End expanded, a larger church was soon needed. Land was purchased and plans for a 1200-seat building began. It was then that the Edmonton boom went bust. Only \$31,725 of the estimated \$136,000 cost of the building was raised, and so plans were scaled down. A more modest design used for the Calgary First Baptist Church was purchased and modified.

FREEMAN STANLEY RESIDENCE (1911)

10312 – 121 STREET NW



Robertson Wesley United Church, n.d. (PAA B3608)

All told, the cost of the land and building came to \$110,386. Even this sum placed the parish under considerable financial strain for the next decade. Not until the 1950s could the parish gather funds for its proposed Sunday school.

Anticipating the merger of Methodist and Presbyterian churches across Canada, Robertson Presbyterian approved a union with Wesley Methodist in 1921. The proposal was declined, but in 1925 the national churches joined to form the United Church of Canada, and the two Oliver United Churches eventually amalgamated in 1970.

The Robertson-Wesley United Church is a fine example of the Gothic Revival Style. Gothic elements include the massing, the architectural forms, and notably, the elaborate and delicate tracery. Built of red brick with contrasting detailing, the church is elegantly proportioned. It has a central gable-roofed hall with a corner bell tower. The entrances are contained within gothic arches, as are the large stained glass windows. The Robertson-Wesley United Church was designated a Municipal Historic Resource in July, 2004.



GO NORTH ON 123 STREET TO 103 AVENUE. GO EAST TWO BLOCKS ON 103 AVENUE AND TURN NORTH ON 121 STREET.



Prior to World War I, Oliver was experiencing an early residential boom. It was a preferred neighbourhood for individuals who sought a pastoral environment within close proximity to the downtown core. Access to the downtown core was better facilitated with the Edmonton Radial Railway streetcar, which was extended to 124 Street in 1910.

Freeman Stanley resided at the residence from 1912 to 1926. He was co-owner of Stanley & Jackson, a company which specialized in men's furnishings, clothing, hats and shoes. Stanley & Jackson was located on 118 Street and Jasper Avenue. Prior to moving into the residence in 1912, Stanley resided in suite 24 at the LeMarchand Mansion.



Freeman Stanley Residence, c. 1975 (CEA EA-62-265)

The Freeman Stanley Residence is a good example of the Craftsman-influenced buildings that were constructed in Oliver in the early decades of the 20th century. The house features a gabled roof, wood shingle cladding, and a full width front verandah with elaborate capitals. The residence is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



CONTINUE NORTH ON 121 STREET AND CROSS STONY PLAIN ROAD.

12

EDMONTON BREWING & MALTING COMPANY LTD. BUILDING & THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BUILDING

10449 – 121 STREET NW

EDMONTON BREWING AND MALTING COMPANY LTD. BUILDING (1913)

The Edmonton Brewing and Malting Company Ltd. Building is an early industrial site in Edmonton. Designed by Chicago-based architect, Bernard Barthel, the building is practical and functional, yet elegant and artistic in its design.

Barthel was born and trained in Germany, and specialized in designing industrial buildings, particularly breweries. These ties, along with the strong Germanic brewing tradition of the United States and the popularity of Germanic architectural motifs, inspired his work. Barthel designed a number of industrial buildings across North America; however, little remains of his work.

Situated adjacent to railways and a major roadway, the brewery site was ideally located to facilitate efficient shipping and receiving. It was also accessible to workers, as it was centrally located, nearby residential neighbourhoods and historic streetcar lines.

The Edmonton Brewing and Malting Company Ltd. Building was constructed as a replacement of their smaller brewery, originally located in the neighbourhood of Rossdale. The Oliver brewery has had numerous owners over the years, and spent its last years in the hands of Molson Canada. Evidence of the evolution of Alberta's brewing industry can



Edmonton Brewing and Malting Company Ltd. Building and the Administration Office Building, 1949 (CEA EA-600-2799j)

be found in remaining Edmonton Brewing and Malting Company Ltd. signage and a tile mosaic of a Molson logo on the exterior.

The brewery's function is expressed through its general factory-like appearance, portrayed through the use of wide entryways, and large, multi-paned factory style windows. Classical Revivalist elements are expressed through the use of brick pilasters, window arches, and dentils. Architectural details, that include simulated battlements and turrets, a gatehouse, and semi-circular arches over windows and entryways, represent a Germanic, castle-like aesthetic.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BUILDING (1924 OR 1925)

Located on the Edmonton Brewing and Malting Company Ltd. site, the Administration Office Building was constructed in 1924 or 1925, and expanded in 1955. Also constructed of brick, the Administration Office Building's simpler Classical Revival styling complements the main brewery building. Detached buildings for administrative functions were typical of twentieth century industrial sites in Alberta.

Both the Edmonton Brewing and Malting Company Ltd. Building and the Administration Office Building were designated as Municipal Historic Resources in May, 2016. The buildings will undergo rehabilitation as part of the Oliver Brewery District development.



**RETURN SOUTH ON 121 STREET,
CROSS STONY PLAIN ROAD, AND
CONTINUE SOUTH FOR ONE AND
A HALF BLOCKS.**

13

YEATES & WILLIAMS RESIDENCE (1932)

10229-10231 – 121 STREET NW



In the early 1930s, after the start of the Great Depression, Edmonton was continuing to undergo a population increase, as people were migrating to centres for work. A growing population among economic constraints led to a diversity of housing alternatives. This trend resulted in the construction of duplexes, like the Yeates and Williams Residence, which provided residents with a quality design and a reasonable amount of space.

Frank Yeates was the first resident to live in the suite addressed 10229 – 121 Street. He was co-owner of the Royal Tailoring Co. and later, a clerk for the Provincial Government. Louise Williams, a clerk, was an early resident of the suite next door, at 10231 – 121 Street.

The residence is a two-storey, semi-detached design with distinct Tudor Revival design elements. These elements include the steeply pitched front gable roof and a stucco finish with half-timbering on the front façade.

The Yeates and Williams Residence is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



Yeates & Williams Residence, 2006 (COE)



**CONTINUE SOUTH ON 121 STREET
AND GO EAST ON 102 AVENUE FOR
TWO AND A HALF BLOCKS.**

14

JOHN WOOD RESIDENCE (1914)

11835 – 102 AVENUE NW



The John Wood Residence is representative of the scale and style of homes that were being built in Oliver throughout the early 1900s. The residence was first occupied by John Wood, of the Owners Realty Co. Ltd.



John Wood Residence, c. 1975 (CEA EA-62-193)

During the period prior to World War I, the Oliver neighbourhood experienced an early residential housing boom. Close proximity to the downtown core, made easily accessible by the Radial Railway streetcar, and the residential atmosphere that Oliver offered made it a desirable neighbourhood for business and professional elite classes.

Significant for its Foursquare design, the residence was a preferred style of the early residential boom period. Details such as the flared hip roof, full length verandah, and horizontal wood clapboard siding reflect the Foursquare style of the house. The John Wood Residence is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible for designation.



**CONTINUE EAST
ON 102 AVENUE.**

15

BRICK ROW HOUSES (1922)

11801/13 – 102 AVENUE NW

T

his seven-unit block of row houses was likely built in 1922, and first occupied in 1923. The initial residents included a teacher from the nearby Oliver School, as well as several salesmen, a clerk, and a real estate agent.

These homes have a decided charm. In size, scale and detailing they are cozy, and cottage-like. The red brick gable-roofed units are arranged in a continuous line, punctuated only by gabled dormers and porches with individual doors. The double-hung windows have multipaned upper sashes, and a railing runs the length of the row. The detailing is all in white, and the total effect is both modest and dignified.



Row Houses on 102 Avenue at 118 Street, 1993. (ACD)

This is just one of several row house developments in early Edmonton. At least two other such developments were built on 102 Avenue, but this is the best-preserved example. Despite being ideally suited to the urban setting, row houses did not, until more recently, become a popular housing type in Edmonton. The Brick Row Houses are on



**GO NORTH
ON 118 STREET.**

16

OLIVER SCHOOL (1910-1911)

10227 – 118 STREET NW

T

he Oliver School was designed by Edmonton Public School Board Building Commissioner, George Turner. Construction started in July 1910, and it opened in March 1911, having cost about \$100,000. The first brick school west of 109 Street, Oliver was a showcase of the amenities of its day – indoor toilets, electric lights, and a sophisticated ventilation system – incongruously sited next to blocks of bush.

**THE FIRST BRICK SCHOOL WEST OF
109 STREET, OLIVER WAS A SHOWCASE
OF THE AMENITIES OF ITS DAY...**

This three storey school is designed in the Collegiate Gothic Style, a revival style used for educational buildings across North America in the 19th and early 20th centuries. It illustrates how revival style names were sometimes more colourful than accurate, since, strictly speaking, the Oliver School has Tudor, not Gothic, sources. Decorative stonework forming quoins, finials atop the three cross-gables, large lintels, and separate Tudor-arched and battlemented boys' and girls' entrances enliven the design. The school's elegance is obscured by a 1957 addition on the east elevation.



Oliver School c. 1912. (GAN C-6-103)

THEY ARE TYPICAL OF THE FRAME HOUSES BUILT IN THE WEST END, AND THROUGHOUT EDMONTON, DURING THE EDWARDIAN ERA, WHICH WERE LARGELY SWEEPED AWAY BY THE BUILDING BOOM IN THE 1970S.

Interior spaces were organized in the style of the day: the third floor housed the assembly rooms; the first and second were each divided into six classrooms large enough for 50 students; the basement had a girls' playroom, and a boys' playroom with a rifle range.

The Oliver School has a distinguished history. It played a significant role in the development and naming of the Oliver district. It has a reputation for academic excellence and has had a number of noteworthy alumni, including publisher Mel Hurtig, provincial cabinet minister Lou Hyndman, Justice Tevie Miller of the Court of Queen's Bench, and federal cabinet minister Judd Buchanan.

Oliver School is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



RETURN TO 102 AVENUE AND GO EAST FOR TWO BLOCKS. GO SOUTH ON 116 STREET.



The 116 Street Residences, 1993. (ACD)

The Fred Constant Residence, located at 10181 – 116 Street NW, is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



RETURN TO 102 AVENUE. GO EAST ONE BLOCK TO 115 STREET AND TURN SOUTH.

17

THE 116 STREET RESIDENCES (1911-1912)

10177, 10181 (FRED CONSTANT RESIDENCE), 10187 – 116 STREET NW



The three wood frame houses on 116 Street, just south of 102 Avenue, bear a strong resemblance to one to another. All were built around 1911, and all are two-storey wood frame

THE 115 STREET RESIDENCES (1909-1911)

10145 (THE GORDON RESIDENCE),
10147 (MURDOCH MCLEOD RESIDENCE),
10153 – 115 STREET NW



The construction of the LeMarchand Mansion and the grand homes of Victoria Avenue developed the Oliver District's reputation as a prestigious address. However, not all homes in Oliver aspired to such luxury. The three houses located on 115 Street north of Jasper Avenue illustrate the more common types of residences to be found in the district in its early years.

With one exception, the houses have largely retained their original appearance. That exception is the Gordon Residence at 10145 – 115 Street NW, which has been stuccoed, and a stone veneer treatment has been added around the front entrance, a popular practice in the 1940s and 1950s.

The three houses have experienced stable long-term occupation, with residents staying up to 30 or 40 years.

The Murdoch McLeod Residence, located at 10147 – 115 Street NW, is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



*Murdoch McLeod Residence
(10147 – 115 Street), 2016. (COE)*



**CONTINUE SOUTH TO JASPER AVENUE.
TURN RIGHT ON JASPER AVENUE
AND GO NORTH ON 116 STREET.**

BALFOUR MANOR (1912)

10139 – 116 STREET NW



The Balfour Manor was originally designed to accommodate horses and horse drawn equipment when it was constructed in 1912, as Fire Hall No. 4. The Fire Hall was intended to service the developing West End, which included the neighbourhoods of Oliver, Glenora, Westmount, and Inglewood. As motorized equipment became more common, the fire hall could not be maintained, and was closed in 1921.

Beginning in 1922, the main floor was utilized as a garage space, operated first by Jarvis Hutchinson, and then by Harry Whitehead, in 1927. Midland Rapid Transit occupied the garage beginning in 1933, and remained there until 1939. While the main floor operated as a garage, the upper floor was used for residential units.

In the summer of 1939, local contractor Joseph Napoleon Côté remodeled the building into a ten unit multi-family housing complex. Converting large existing buildings into multiple units was common during this period, as there was a housing shortage at the outbreak of World War II. Originally from Quebec, Côté lived in Edmonton for thirty-five years, and established himself as a significant construction contractor. At the end of the Second World War, Côté relocated to Victoria, B.C., where he continued in the contracting business with his son Henry Côté.

Balfour Manor is a three-storey stucco clad apartment building, significant for its elegant Streamline Moderne architectural style with Art Deco influences. The building has a rectangular plan, a flat roof, and a symmetrical design. The

Streamline Moderne Style is represented in the rounded front parapets, streamlined banding, curved entry elements, and horizontal speed lines on the front façade. The interior of the building features original hardwood floors, fireplaces, kitchenettes, bathroom fixtures, stairs and balustrades.



Fire Hall No. 4, n.d.
(CEA EA-10-1002)

Through adaptive reuse, the Balfour Manor has evolved over time. The original Fire Hall No. 4 was a brick building, but was clad in stucco when remodeled and modernized in 1939. The remodeled apartment building was recognized in the *Edmonton Bulletin* as an “up-to-the-minute” building with the “latest innovations in architectural design”, attracting professional clientele including doctors, business owners, teachers, and chartered accountants. It is suspected that the original brick pavements from the fire hall still remain under the front lawn. The Balfour Manor was designated as a Municipal Historic Resource in July, 2005, and was fully restored from 2006-2007.



RETURN TO JASPER AVENUE AND WALK ONE BLOCK WEST TO 117 STREET.

20

PAGE THE CLEANERS (1958)

11715 JASPER AVENUE NW



Page the Cleaners is an early example of Modern style architecture, which was emerging in Edmonton by the end of the 1950s. This style of

design is expressed in Page the Cleaners through the use of clean horizontal lines, and expressed beams that form a sign band adjacent to Jasper Avenue. Large areas of glass for the storefronts, and random cut fieldstone, with projecting mortar flanked the entrance and the 117th street façade.

Page the Cleaners is historically significant for its association with the development of the Oliver neighbourhood after World War II. The plant has capitalized on its prominent Jasper Avenue location, and has remained a citywide, long term business. Its high style expresses the company’s forward marketing and new advances in dry cleaning. The building was constructed in the age of the drive-in and the drive-through, a time when most Edmontonians were doing business by cars. As a result, the spacious parking and drop off space was a prized design component.



Page the Cleaners, 2008 (COE)

The Page the Cleaners building was a project of the Rule Wynn & Rule architectural firm. Established in 1938, the firm was unique in that it was headed by principals who had studied in Alberta, and in that it was Alberta-based at a time when most of the leading Canadian firms operated from either Ontario or Quebec. Page the Cleaners is on the City of Edmonton’s Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



TO RETURN TO THE LEMARCHAND MANSION, CONTINUE SOUTH ON 117 STREET, AND GO EAST ON 100 AVENUE FOR ONE BLOCK.



OLIVER WEST

- 1 The LeMarchand Mansion (1909-1911)*
- 2 The Annamoe Apartments (1914)
- 3 The Golf Links/ Victoria Park*
- 4 The Derwas Apartments (1913-1914)
- 5 The West End Telephone Exchange (1913)
- 6 Christ Church (1921)*
- 7 The World War II Residences (1943-1944)
- 8 Valleyview Manor (1960-1961)*
- 9 The Buena Vista (1912)*
- 10 Robertson-Wesley United Church (1913)*
- 11 Freeman Stanley Residence (1911)
- 12 Edmonton Brewing and Malting Company Ltd. Building and the Administration Office Building*
- 13 Yeates and Williams Residence (1932)
- 14 John Wood Residence (1914)
- 15 The 102 Avenue Row Houses (1922)
- 16 Oliver School (1910-1911)*
- 17 The 116th Street Residences (1911-1912)
- 18 The 115th Street Residences (1909-1911)
- 19 Balfour Manor (1912)*
- 20 Page the Cleaners (1958)

OLIVER EAST

- 21 The LeMarchand Mansion (1910-1911)*
- 22 The Westminster Apartments (1912-1913)*
- 23 The Hugh W. Campbell Residence (1909)
- 24 Grace Lutheran Church (1955)
- 25 The Kirkhaven (1907)
- 26 North Side 99 Avenue Houses (1907)
- 27 The Mountfield Residence (1905)*
- 28 The 112 Street Residences (1907-1911)*
- 29 Cornelius Gallagher Residence (1912)
- 30 John T. Ross Residence (c. 1910)*
- 31 The Hill Houses (1909-1910)
- 32 The High Level Bridge (1910-1913)*
- 33 Grandin School (1914)
- 34 The Oblate Provincial House (1935)*
- 35 St. Joachim Church (1898-1899)*
- 36 The Edmonton General Hospital (1895-Present)*
- 37 St. Joseph's Cathedral (1924-1963)
- 38 Victoria Avenue Houses (1907-1913)

* Indicates presence of an Edmonton Historical Board Plaque highlighting the building's history.



OLIVER EAST

TOUR 2

18
95

*The Edmonton General
Hospital c. 1895. (PAA B3796)*

21

THE LEMARCHAND MANSION (1910-1911)

11523 – 100 AVENUE NW



The LeMarchand Mansion c. 1914. (CEA EA-270-07)

See entry for the Oliver West Tour, Site 1.



**GO EAST ON 100 AVENUE AND
TURN SOUTH AT 114 STREET.**

22

THE WESTMINSTER APARTMENTS (1912-1913)

9955 – 114 STREET NW



Before World War I, Edmonton was the land of opportunity, attracting many new citizens. Housing was in great demand. Western Canada Properties Ltd., a development company from the East, seized the opportunity, and had the Westminster built in 1912.



The Westminster Apartments c. 1914 (GAN C-6-816)

Opened in 1913, it had cost \$65,000 to construct. There were 24 suites, with a variety of options and sizes: one or two bedrooms, with or without a dining room, ranging in size from 660 to 1200 square feet.

At first the Westminster attracted white collar workers such as clerks and secretaries, as well as managers, barristers and accountants. By the 1930s, single and widowed women occupied half the suites and today, the building is popular with young professionals and students.

Standard blueprints were likely the design source for the Westminster. The building is an L-shaped three-storey structure faced in red brick. Two types of facade treatment are used: wire-cut brick on the street elevations, and utility brick on the rear of the building. Detailing includes projecting brick header courses, used to create pattern and texture on the two primary facades; corbelling which encircles the building just underneath the cornice; belt courses used to separate storeys; and horizontal banding, used on the first storey facades to define window sills and decorative shapes. The Westminster also has glazed porcelain tiles decorating the street elevations, and glazed-surface pendants and tiles on the corners of the building. The entrance is distinguished by a Tudor arch transom light, flanked by two globe lights, and double oak doors. A decorated metal cornice completes the building. The Westminster Apartments were designated as a Municipal Historic Resource in December, 2002.



**CONTINUE SOUTH
ON 114 STREET.**

23

THE HUGH W. CAMPBELL RESIDENCE (1909)

9934 – 114 STREET NW

H

ugh W. Campbell was the first resident and owner of this home. He was an entrepreneur during Edmonton's great land boom, and the rise and fall of his business mirrors those of his fellow capitalists. A clerk in 1899 at McIntosh and Whitelaw Furniture and Undertakers, by 1907 he was the head of Campbell's Furniture Company.



The Hugh W. Campbell Residence, 1993 (ACD)

By 1908, his store had grown to occupy 25,000 square feet of the elegant Empire Building on Jasper Avenue, a "...twentieth century mammoth furniture emporium...that is not equalled, much less surpassed, anywhere in the West". By 1914, Campbell's Furniture Company was no more. The "Campbell Furniture Company" was soon eclipsed by Thomas Campbell's "Campbell's Furniture Exchange", which was established in 1916 and is still in operation across the province under the name "Campbell's Home Furnishings".

This modest two storey house was built in 1909. It is a generously-sized frame building with

a hip roof and an offset gable containing an attic window. The exterior is white clapboard siding; the only decorative features are wooden shutters alongside the second storey windows, and a pair of pilasters that frame the front door. The Hugh W. Campbell Residence is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



**CONTINUE SOUTH
ON 114 STREET.**

24

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (1955)

9907 – 114 STREET NW

G

race Lutheran Church has served as a landmark within the Oliver neighbourhood for over fifty years. The beginnings of the Grace Lutheran Church in Edmonton can be traced to the year 1924, when a group of Lutherans decided to bring the message of the Reformation to worshippers in English. Prior to that date Lutheran services in Edmonton were usually conducted in German, or Scandinavian languages. In 1927, Reverend J.H. Boettcher came to serve the group, and his 13 year ministry in Edmonton led to the formation of a number of churches in the city, including Grace Lutheran.

There were limited funds to build a new Grace Lutheran Church and from 1924 to 1954, services were held at multiple locations before the present day Grace Lutheran Church was constructed. The first services were held at the Masonic Hall in the former Ohio Synod Lutheran Church. Other locations included the former Moravian Church and the Howard and McBride Funeral Home. In 1937, members of the church



Grace Lutheran Church, 1965 (CEA EA-10-506)

formed a building committee and purchased a site at 10044 - 107 Street. This site contained a two and a half storey house, which was converted into a parish hall, large enough for 35 parishioners and a parsonage. The first service was held here on May 23rd, 1937, and three weeks later the sod was turned for construction of a new wood framed church. The new modest church served as the home of Grace Lutheran for 17 years. With rapid growth in Edmonton and a corresponding rise in parishioners, this church was becoming overcrowded, and the need for a larger church was realized.

By the early spring of 1954 the congregation of Grace Lutheran found a location on the corner of 114 Street and 99 Avenue, and plans were made for the construction of a new church, with a budget of \$100,000. The local architectural firm, Rule Wynn & Rule designed the church. It measured 112 feet long and 38 feet wide, and contractor Fred Seifert began construction on August 22, 1954. At the end of construction, the cost of the church totaled \$118,429. It was dedicated on July 3, 1955. Prior to the construction of Grace Lutheran Church at 9907- 114 Street NW, six Lutheran churches had already been constructed in Edmonton including a Norwegian, a Swedish, a Danish, and a trio of German churches. Grace Lutheran Church was the first Lutheran church in Edmonton to have service in English. In 1963, the lot to the north of the church was purchased for expansion, and in 1965 the adjacent lot was purchased for a new education wing.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH WAS THE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH IN EDMONTON TO HAVE SERVICE IN ENGLISH.

In 1969, the Grace Lutheran church was selected as a Landmark church by the Lutheran Brotherhood. The Lutheran Brotherhood is a fraternal organization which operates in Canada and the United States. Each month, one church is selected for the honor of a Landmark church from more than 19,000 congregations. The selection is made on the basis of outstanding contribution to the community. A bronze plaque was presented to the Grace Lutheran Church on Sunday September 28, 1969 by Norman Hougé, an Alberta representative of the Lutheran Brotherhood.



GO ONE BLOCK EAST ON 99 AVENUE

25

KIRKHAVEN (1907)

11229 - 99 AVENUE NW



The Kirkhaven (1907) and its neighbour to the east, the Findlay Residence (1910), are two of the earliest residential structures in the district.



Horse-drawn buggy in front of the Kirkhaven c. 1914 (GA NC-6-1286)

The Kirkhaven is a typical Edwardian wood frame house with two storeys, an offset gable dormer, shutters and clapboard siding. On the exterior, it is practically identical to the Hugh W. Campbell Residence. The few differences in appearance result from additions made when the house was converted into apartment suites.

The conversion of larger homes in the Oliver District became common practice in the 1940s and 50s, when the North American trend toward suburban development created a mass exodus of families from the inner city. Subsequently, these urban communities were altered to appeal to single people or couples seeking the lower cost and lower maintenance afforded by apartments.



**CROSS TO THE NORTH SIDE
OF 99 AVENUE AND GO EAST.**

26

NORTH SIDE 99 AVENUE HOMES (1907)

11212 (EDMONDS RESIDENCE),
11210/11208 (PURVIS RESIDENCE),
11204/11202 – 99 AVENUE NW
(ARMSTRONG RESIDENCE)



Although the residences on the north side of 99 Avenue between 112 and 113 Streets have been altered over the years, they retain much of their original similarity. All are brick, two storeys, and have a two-storey bow window topped by an off-centre gable with an inset fanlight, and a second storey balcony above a first floor porch. Detailing is restrained, largely limited to the stone window sills and brackets under the eaves and verges.



*The Rankine Hume Residence
(11204/11202 – 99 Avenue NW), 1993 (ACD)*

The North Side 99 Avenue residences once stood on a single parcel which was divided in 1907. They were all built in that year, making them among the earliest in the district. All three of the Residences are on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that they are eligible to be designated as Municipal Historic Resources.



**CONTINUE EAST DOWN 99 AVENUE
AND TURN SOUTH ON 112 STREET.**

27

THE MOUNTIFIELD RESIDENCE (1905)

9850 – 112 STREET NW



The Mountifield Residence was built for Henry R. Mountifield, a man who led an uncommonly cosmopolitan existence. Born in England in 1867, he graduated from Portsmouth Naval Academy and obtained a Master's Degree from the London School of Arts. He spent the next eight years in Japan, then still largely closed to foreigners and cloaked in mystery. His next stop was the Yukon, where he worked as a store manager.

After five years in the north, Mr. Mountifield moved to Edmonton in 1902, and was appointed City Auditor in 1905. Mr. Mountifield later became involved in real estate. He enlisted during World War I and served with the 19th Alberta Dragoons. Noted as a leading cricketer, several of Mr. Mountifield's nine children also distinguished themselves in sports.

THE RESIDENCE WAS DESIGNED BY ARCHITECT JAMES E. WIZE, NOTED FOR DESIGNING THE CORONA HOTEL, THE ALBERTA HOTEL, THE MCLEAN BLOCK, AND QUEEN ALEXANDRA SCHOOL.

Eleanor Mountifield, one of Mountifield's nine children, joined the Edmonton Grads basketball team in 1919. The Edmonton Grads were declared by James A. Naismith, the inventor of basketball, as "the greatest club that ever stepped on a basketball floor". In 1922, Eleanor, as team captain, led the team to its first



The Mountifield Residence, 1908 (CEA EA-500-180)

Dominion (National) Championship. It was the first Dominion Championship to be won by an Edmonton team across all sports, and earned them a Civic Reception on their return. The team received recognition across the country, and later across the world, when they won the International Basketball Federation's World Championship at the 1924 Olympics in Paris.

...AT A COST OF \$2,550, THE RESIDENCE REFLECTS A NUMBER OF NOTABLE FEATURES INCLUDING, A MANSARD ROOF, A FOUR-COLUMNED FRONT PORCH, AND AN UNUSUAL CENTRE WINDOW ON THE SECOND FLOOR TOPPED BY A PEDIMENT DORMER WITH A FANLIGHT.

The Mountifield family remained in the residence until 1919. In July, 1938, at the age of 71, H.R. Mountifield passed away. Isabel MacMillan, a noted women's rights activist, reporter, editor, and publisher, resided in the home from 1934 to 1978, which was a period of intense development within Oliver. It is believed that the Mountifield Residence stands today due to the persistence of Ms. MacMillan.

Built in 1905, the Mountifield Residence was one of the first houses in the area known as the "French Quarter". The residence was designed by architect James E. Wize, noted for designing the Corona Hotel, the Alberta Hotel, the McLean Block, and Queen Alexandra School.

Designed in the Second Empire style and constructed at a cost of \$2,550, the residence reflects a number of notable features including, a mansard roof, a four-columned front porch, and an unusual centre window on the second floor topped by a pediment dormer with a fanlight.

A number of Second Empire homes were constructed in Edmonton, and across the country, around the turn of the 20th century. This ornate style fell out of fashion by the 1910s, and only two notable examples remain in Edmonton, the Garipey Residence and the Mountifield Residence. The Mountifield Residence was designated as a Municipal Historic Resource in March, 2015 and remains a landmark in the Grandin neighbourhood.



RETURN TO THE NORTH SIDE OF 99 AVENUE AND GO NORTH ALONG 112 STREET.

28

THE 112 STREET RESIDENCES (1907-1911)



The 112 Street residences reflect the building trend of the pre-World War I period, where middle class houses and workmen's bungalows were constructed along the streets, while prestigious homes for more affluent citizens were located along the avenues and overlooking the river valley. The 112 Street block is essentially the only remaining example in the Oliver neighbourhood of the more modest and multi-family dwellings constructed during the original building boom on the Streets.

JOHN L. LANG APARTMENTS (1907-1910) 9908, 9910, 9912, 9914 – 112 STREET NW

The John L. Lang Apartments were constructed by carpenter John L. Lang sometime between the years 1907 and 1910. On September 9, 1907, Lang acquired a building permit to construct the dwelling at Block 12, Lot 78 of the Hudson's Bay Reserve lands. Originally built as a duplex, it was later converted into a fourplex in 1938. Another house located at the back of the lot was removed sometime after 1938. John L. Lang lived in the home until 1910.

Following the disastrous influenza epidemic of 1918, the Misericordia Hospital bought the John L. Lang Apartments in 1919 to house nurses and Catholic Sisters. The house remained a nurses residence until the Misericordia Hospital built a new residence in 1938. Between 1929 and 1932, the apartments were occasionally rented to other occupants.

The Edwardian-influenced building was constructed during the housing boom that



John L. Lang Apartments, 2003 (COE)

began in 1904. The two-storey brick house has a hipped roof, and is clad in timber clapboard siding. The front façade is symmetrical, with a central veranda and a raised porch. The John L. Lang Apartments represent an early example of working-class residential developments in Oliver that remain important to the contemporary character of the neighbourhood. The John L. Lang Apartments were designated a Municipal Historic Resource in November, 2007.

DAME ELIZA CHENIER RESIDENCES (1910-1911) 9926, 9928 – 112 STREET NW

Dame Eliza Chenier was an early Edmonton female entrepreneur, who was known for her real-estate investments and her co-ownership of the Strathcona Hotel with Joseph Beauchamp.

The Dame Eliza Chenier Residences were constructed between 1910 and 1911. The duplex was considered large for this period and style. Alongside the other heritage buildings in the area, the duplex helped create a sense of streetscape in this pre-First World War Edmonton neighborhood.

In addition to being business partners, Beauchamp and Chenier were also next door neighbours. Chenier resided in the southern unit of the duplex until 1926, while Beauchamp occupied the north half of the duplex until 1919. Unfortunately, their ownership of the Strathcona Hotel came to an end when their mortgage company foreclosed on their partnership in 1923, just before the repeal of the prohibition, which would make most hotels profitable again.



*Dame Eliza Chenier Residences (left)
and Lester N. Allyn House (right), 2003 (COE)*

Beauchamp was well known in the hotel business for having owned and managed several hotels in Fort Saskatchewan, where he built the first hotel in 1901. Later, he bought the Windsor Hotel located on the southwest corner of Jasper Avenue and 101 Street. Renamed the Selkirk Hotel, it met an unfortunate end when a fire led to its demolition in 1961. A replica of the Selkirk Hotel can be found at Fort Edmonton Park. Beauchamp was also co-owner and manager of the Cecil Hotel, on the northwest corner of Jasper Avenue and 104 Street, from 1924 until his death in 1949. Beauchamp was an active member of the Knights of Columbus (a Catholic based fraternal organization) for 25 years and was named a life member of the Alberta Pioneers' and Old Timers' Association.

The Dame Eliza Chenier Residences were built in the Foursquare style. The duplex is clad in timber clapboard and has a hipped roof with bellcast eaves, a full length porch at ground level, and a smaller porch on the second level, with a gable roof. The Dame Eliza Chenier Residences were designated a Municipal Historic Resource in November, 2007.

LESTER N. ALLYN HOUSE (1907-1908) **9932 – 112 STREET NW**

Originally built as one of a group of three matching houses, located on two lots, the Lester N. Allyn Residence is the only home that remains. Contractor Lester N. Allyn built all three houses, and resided at the 9932 - 112 Street residence from 1908 to 1911. Taking advantage of the booming housing market in the new provincial capital, Allyn also built several other homes in the area.

The Lester N. Allyn House was home to a number of prominent Edmontonians. In 1912, Frank Ford moved into the house. Ford, who was born and educated in Ontario, led a distinguished career in law. In 1906 he moved west to Saskatchewan, where he served as Deputy Attorney General. When he arrived in Edmonton in 1910, he practiced law and taught at the University of Alberta. In 1926, years after leaving the Allyn House, Ford was made a judge of the Supreme Court of Alberta. He also served as vice president of the Law Society of Alberta, and from 1941 to 1946, was Chancellor of the University of Alberta, where he received a honorary Doctor of Law degree in 1946.

Arthur Dodman, general manager of the Hudson's Bay Company, lived here from 1915 to 1917. Then from 1929 to 1931, Max Amerongen and his family lived in the house. Interesting fact - Max's son, Gerard Amerongen, was a lawyer. He was elected the MLA for Edmonton Meadowlark in 1971, and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in 1972, a position which he held for several years. He is credited with convincing Peter Lougheed to seek the leadership of the Alberta Tories party. The Amerongens continued to live in the Oliver neighbourhood for several years, where they were members of St. Joseph's parish.

The Lester N. Allyn House is a rare example of an Edwardian brick residential building in Edmonton. Because the brick has been painted, it is unclear whether the brickwork on the house is patterned or is two different colours. The gabled roof is clad with wood shingles, some in a fish scale pattern. There is a garage at the rear of the property which may be the only remaining historic garage or outbuilding in the area. The Lester N. Allyn House was designated a Municipal Historic Resource in November, 2007.



**TURN EAST ON 100 AVENUE,
GO ONE BLOCK AND TURN SOUTH
ON 111 STREET TO 99 AVENUE.**

29

CORNELIUS GALLAGHER RESIDENCE (1912)

9902 – 111 STREET NW



Cornelius Gallagher was born in Saint John, New Brunswick, on December 31, 1854. His father, Patrick Gallagher immigrated to New Brunswick from Ireland at the age of fourteen. He was a wholesale meat merchant and meat packer. Cornelius Gallagher's mother was Katherine (Maher) Gallagher, also a native of Saint John.

Cornelius Gallagher attended the Brothers school in Saint John and later joined his father's business. In 1877, Patrick Gallagher and his family relocated to Winnipeg, where they created the wholesale and retail meat merchants firm known as P. Gallagher & Son. This partnership continued until 1888, when Cornelius Gallagher moved to Battleford, Saskatchewan to supply meat to troops suppressing the North-West Rebellion, and later the North-West Mounted Police. In 1888, Gallagher married Exilda Bourre, a daughter of Regis Bourre of Quebec, and they adopted two children, Mary and Marie. From 1889 to 1891, Gallagher and his family lived in Regina.

Cornelius Gallagher arrived in Edmonton in 1891, and founded the Gallagher-Hull meat company, which he operated until his retirement in 1911. Gallagher was active in Edmonton politics. In 1893, he first sought public office and was elected to Edmonton Town Council. He was re-elected in 1894 for a two year term. Several months later, in 1896, Mayor Herbert Charles Wilson resigned over a dispute involving town funds. Gallagher was selected by the council as his replacement and sworn in as Edmonton's third mayor, on October 27, 1896. Gallagher

CORNELIUS GALLAGHER ARRIVED IN EDMONTON IN 1891, AND FOUNDED THE GALLAGHER-HULL MEAT COMPANY, WHICH HE OPERATED UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT IN 1911.

remained in politics for several years, serving as an Alderman in 1893, 1894, 1897, 1902, and 1903. In addition to his participation in politics, Gallagher was president of the Edmonton Board of Trade, chief organizer of the Edmonton Exhibition Association, and a charter member of the Edmonton Club.



Cornelius Gallagher Residence, 2003 (COE)

The Cornelius Gallagher Residence, built in 1912, was one of the largest and most elaborate residential homes of its time, and remains one of the most distinctive and impressive buildings in the Oliver area. Gallagher lived in this house until his death in 1932. Located on a corner lot, the massive two and one-half storey house is constructed of red brick and stone, featuring an enclosed wrap around verandah with a second storey balcony on the east façade, and a large bay window on the south façade. The Cornelius Gallagher Residence is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



**CONTINUE SOUTH ON
111 STREET FOR ONE BLOCK**

30

JOHN T. ROSS RESIDENCE (CIRCA 1910)

9749 – 111 STREET NW



The John T. Ross Residence is estimated to have been constructed in 1909 or 1910. John T. Ross was the first recorded occupant of the home, in 1910, and remained at the residence until 1914. Born on February 7, 1864 at Wawanosh, Huron County, Ontario, Ross completed elementary school in 1877, worked on the family farm for eleven years, and then returned to high school in 1888. In 1891, he attended the University of Toronto, where he studied Honours Mathematics. Before completing his degree, he moved west in 1892 to teach at Winnipeg Normal School.

Ross later completed a BA degree at the University of Manitoba, and taught in parts of Saskatchewan and Alberta before arriving in Edmonton in 1901, where he was appointed principal of Edmonton Schools. Shortly afterwards, Ross left for a position in the Yukon Territories. He returned to Edmonton in 1906 as Inspector of Schools for the Strathcona Inspectorate. In 1908, Ross was appointed Acting Deputy Minister of Education, a position he held for the duration of his residence in this house. From September 1917, until his retirement Ross was Alberta's Deputy Minister of Education.

Ross' contribution to education work in Western Canada was widely recognized, and he was presented with a Honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1934. In 1935, he was awarded the Order of the British Empire.

The John T. Ross Residence is an eclectic mix of architectural styles, with some emphasis on the Prairie Style. It has a symmetrical façade,



John T. Ross Residence, 2007 (COE)

a low pitched roof, and wide overhanging eaves. Although it is smaller than most neighboring residences it was still designed to reflect the wealth of the neighbourhood. While constructed of a wood frame, the residence had a brick veneer exterior in keeping with the large mansions in the area. In the 1930s, a small front porch replaced the original wrap-around verandah. This alteration reflects the changing residential designs in Edmonton at the time, where private lives began retreating indoors or to the backyard. The combination of design elements in the John T. Ross Residence make it unique in Oliver, adding to the diverse historical character of the neighbourhood. The John T. Ross Residence was designated a Municipal Historic Resource in November, 2007.



**CONTINUE SOUTH
ON 111 STREET.**

31

THE HILL HOUSES (1909-1910)

9720 (WILLIAM MACKAY RESIDENCE),
9716 (HUGH MCDONALD RESIDENCE),
AND 9712 – 111 STREET NW



Known locally as the Hill Houses, the three houses located on the crest of the hill at 97 Avenue and 111 Street have been landmarks since Oliver's earliest days. These three sisters now appear merely similar;



19
09

The Hill Houses (CEA EA-246-64)

originally they were identical. Each features a two-and-a-half storey facade, with an offset attic gable and a truncated hip roof. Although hidden by veneer or siding, all are clad in red brick with contrasting stone string courses, sills and lintels. The verticality of their design has been obscured, as have the open porches and second storey balconies that once defined the front entrances.

The first, and most interesting of the three is the Mackay Residence, at 9720. It was owned for 41 years by the pioneering Mackay family: first Mrs. Jane Mackay, and then Miss Ethel Mackay. Dr. Mackay, Jane's husband, led a remarkable life as one of the Canadian West's first permanent doctors. Born in Scotland in 1836, W.M. Mackay became a doctor in 1859, and was hired by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1864. A medical pioneer as well, he was taught by modern medicine's founders: James Lister, who revolutionized surgical survival rates with the discovery of antiseptics; and Sir James Y. Simpson, who discovered the use of chloroform anaesthesia.

Dr. Mackay's obituary stated that he occupies a worthy place in the pages of history among that noble band of adventurers who helped to place the west on the map. For many years he travelled from Fort to Fort, between Hudson's Bay and the Rocky Mountains, going wherever he was needed most. It was a life full of hardship and privation, demanding great courage, personal sacrifice, and the ability to improvise under difficult circumstances. His experiences are the stuff of which legends are made. Indeed, there is an extraordinary story that Dr. Mackay once skated

200 miles, from Grouard to Edmonton, in order to handle a medical emergency on homemade skates made from hardwood blocks and metal files.

His wife Jane, who served as nurse, helpmate, and mother to their eight children, lived through it all. She was born Jane Flett at Pierre House, a Hudson's Bay Company post, the daughter of James Flett, chief factor at Fort MacPherson, and his First Nations wife. It was common practice for European fur traders to take First Nations wives, for not only were European women scarce in the North West, but First Nations women could better face the challenges and hardships of such a life, and provided a bridge between European and First Nations populations. Jane married William Mackay in 1874, at the age of 17, 21 years his junior.

After a lifetime in the north, Dr. and Mrs. Mackay finally settled in Edmonton with their family in 1898. Their house stood near McKay Avenue School, which was named in Dr. Mackay's honour. The name of the school (and the avenue on which it sits) was misspelled "McKay"; this spelling, though incorrect, has remained standard.

Dr. Mackay died in February 1917 at age 80, and Jane Mackay in 1947 at age 89. Though their deaths mark the end of the pioneering era, the pioneering line continued. Before Jane Mackay died, her great-granddaughter was born, the product of four generations of Mackays and McDougalls, two of the great pioneering families of the Canadian West. Few could equal such a pedigree in the 1940s.

The William Mackay Residence, located at 9720 – 111 Street NW, and the Hugh McDonald Residence, located at 9716 – 111 Street NW are on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, and are eligible to be designated as Municipal Historic Resources.



VIEW THE NEXT SITE FROM 97 AVENUE, OR GO SOUTH INTO THE PARK TOWARDS THE BRIDGE.

32

THE HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE (1910-1913)

109 STREET



The High Level Bridge links Edmonton, and the Legislature, with Strathcona, and the University of Alberta. It is also mile zero of the Alaska Highway, the physical and psychological link between the Great North and the Lands of the South.

At 2,800 feet in length and 156 feet in height, the High Level Bridge is second in size in Alberta only to the Lethbridge High Level Bridge. Men worked on it, day and night, from August 1910 until September 1913. The final cost was approximately \$2,000,000 and three workmen's lives. On the third of October, 1912, fifty steelworkers walked off the job. Their demands included a 9- as opposed to 10-hour working day at 50 cents per hour, a raise of a nickel. The strike was brief, and no records could be found as to whether or not their demands were met.



U.S. Military Police Alaska Highway patrol, 1943. (PAA B1456/1)

At the time it was built, the High Level Bridge was unique in the West for the variety of traffic it carried: it accommodated rail traffic on the upper deck, and two-way traffic with streetcars

AT 2,800 FEET IN LENGTH AND 156 FEET IN HEIGHT, THE HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE IS SECOND IN SIZE IN ALBERTA ONLY TO THE LETHBRIDGE HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE.

and automobiles below. In 1980, it was made one-way southbound for automobiles. The City contemplated painting the bridge gold in 1967 in honour of Canada's Centennial. In 1980, pumps, piping, and sprinklers were installed on the east side of the bridge to form a huge waterfall. They were occasionally turned on in the summer, and every year on July 1 for Canada Day celebrations, until they were shut off in 2014. In 2015, 60,000 LED bulbs were installed along the bridge, as a result of the Light the Bridge Campaign. The bridge is lit every night, and features particular colours on certain dates to recognize major events and cultural celebrations.

The High Level Bridge was designated as a Municipal Historic Resource on September 13, 1995.



GO NORTH ON 110 STREET, CONTINUING JUST PAST 98 AVENUE.

33

GRANDIN SCHOOL (1914)

9844 - 110 STREET NW



Grandin School is another reminder of the strong French community roots in the parish of St Joachim. With the westward expansion of the city in the early part of the 20th century, the Edmonton Catholic School boards (then known as Roman Catholic Separate schools) existing facilities in the area became inadequate. Trustees of the RC Separate School system proposed a new school to ease the demands on St Mary's (Third Street)

RAISED BRICK PROVIDES TEXTURAL AND DECORATIVE DETAILING, BEING USED TO CREATE HORIZONTALLY-BANDED PILASTERS AND DECORATIVE DETAILING BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND STOREYS.

further to the East. With the assistance of the Archdiocese and the Faithful Companions of Jesus (the Roman Catholic Separate School system's founding order), the trustees acquired eleven lots south of 99th Avenue – very close to the site of the very first RC Separate school, at St Joachim- and began construction in 1914. After one year of construction, Grandin School opened in August of 1915, and was formally dedicated on the 8th of January, 1916 by Archbishop Legal. It was originally staffed by Sisters from the nearby Faithful Companions of Jesus convent, with instruction provided in both English and French for grades one through eight. Ninth grade classes were added in 1936.

The two storey brick building is sober and symmetrical in its styling. The front is faced with pressed red brick, and is remarkable for the almost continuous row of windows on each storey. Contrasting stone is used for lintels and sills, as well as for belt courses. Raised brick provides textural and decorative detailing, being used to create horizontally-banded pilasters and decorative detailing between the first and second storeys. An impressive entrance reached by a handsome set of stairs is topped with a balcony and parapet with a flagpole. The original 1914 building comprised 8 classrooms and a Principal's office on the two upper floors, with separate playrooms for girls and boys in the basement along with indoor washrooms and the boiler room. At the time of its construction, it boasted many state of the art amenities, including intercom phone lines and pipes for a central vacuum system. In the 1920s, with unprecedented enrollment, the site expanded to include several portables along the west side of the building, affectionately referred to as the 'chicken coops.' Additions in 1953 and 1963 provided a gymnasium and a further 12 classrooms.



Grandin School n.d. (PAA OB575)

Grandin currently provides instruction in English, French Immersion and Spanish Bilingual programs. Grandin School is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



**CONTINUE NORTH PAST
99 AVENUE ON 110 STREET.**

34

THE OBLATE PROVINCIAL HOUSE (1935)

9916 – 110 STREET NW



The Oblats Maison Provinciale is located directly south of the Church of St. Joachim, a site which early photographs indicate had once been used as a graveyard. The proximity of the Oblate Provincial House to the church illustrates the ties between the Order and the parish. The Oblates were given the land by the Diocese in 1927 on the condition that they finance the building themselves, and that it provide accommodation for the St. Joachim clergy, since the parish Rectory had previously been converted into the diocesan Grand Seminary.



The Oblate Provincial House, flanked by the Convent (left) and St. Joachim (right) c. 1937. (PAA OB618)

35

ST. JOACHIM'S CHURCH (1898-1899)

9928 – 110 STREET NW

Designed by local architect Edward Underwood and constructed by J.P. Desrochers, the Provincial House is a rectangular three storey red brick building of classical, rather sober, styling. Most prominent are a hexagonal cupola with a large cross finial and a pedimented entrance porch, consisting of an arch with accented voussoirs and two globe lights. Arches with keystones are repeated on the main floor above the windows, and a belt course defines the first storey and continues the line of the entrance pediment.

The Oblate Provincial House and the St. Joachim Church are all that remain of the original Mission Block buildings. The Rectory and the Convent of the Faithful Companions of Jesus, built in the late 1890s, were both demolished in the late 1970s. The group had been an eloquent testimony to the strength of the French Canadian presence in early Edmonton.

For more than 65 years the Provincial House has served as the administrative headquarters of the Catholic Oblate Ecclesiastical Province of Alberta and Saskatchewan, and as a residence for both Oblate missionary priests and the Oblate priests serving St. Joachim Catholic parish. *The Oblats Maison Provinciale* was designated a Provincial Historic Resource in October, 2001, and a Municipal Historic Resource in August, 2004.



**CONTINUE NORTH
ON 110 STREET.**



The current Church of St. Joachim is the fourth Edmonton building to bear that name. The first was a house chapel built in Fort Edmonton in 1859. The second was a frame church that stood from 1876 to 1886, and was located at 105 Avenue and 118 Street, the site of St. Joachim cemetery today. A historical plaque was installed at this site by the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation. The third church building was a wooden church erected at 111 Street, just south of 100 Avenue.



St. Joachim Church (right) with Rectory c. 1927. (GAND-3-3507a)

By 1896 it was clear that the third building was too small for its growing congregation, and so the handsome sum of \$16,000 was collected from subscriptions, bazaars, and donations, and by 1898 construction was under way for a new church. The first services in the new church were held December 8, 1899, Feast day of the Immaculate Conception, an important date to the OMI priests.

THIS IS THE LONGEST SERVING
CATHOLIC PARISH IN EDMONTON, AND
IT CONTINUES TO SERVE AN ACTIVE
FRANCOPHONE CONGREGATION.

36

THE EDMONTON GENERAL HOSPITAL (1895 – PRESENT)

11111 JASPER AVENUE NW

The subsequent economic boom in Edmonton again increased the size of the parish congregation. A large influx of English-speaking parishioners led to the creation of the parish of St. Joseph in 1917. Both congregations continued to worship at St. Joachim's until 1925, when the English group moved to the newly completed crypt church of St. Joseph's Cathedral nearby.

St. Joachim's was founded by the Quebec based ecclesiastical Province of the Order of *les Oblats de Marie Imaculée* (OMI), a Catholic religious order, and so it is not surprising that the building is very similar in style to 19th century Quebec churches. The most distinctly French Canadian features are the galvanized metal roof of the brick building, the three-towered facade, and *oeil de boeuf* window (literally, a bull's eye window). Arches are decorated with prominent keystones and voussoirs. The interior is richly finished with carved wood and Italian marble and plaster altars.

This is the longest serving Catholic parish in Edmonton, and it continues to serve an active Francophone congregation. St. Joachim's Church was designated a Provincial Historic Resource in September, 1978, and is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



**CONTINUE NORTH ON 110 STREET TO
100 AVENUE AND TURN LEFT (WEST),
THEN TURN RIGHT (NORTH) ON 111
STREET, CONTINUE UNTIL JASPER
AVENUE AND TURN LEFT (WEST).**



In 1894, Edmonton's pioneer surgeons petitioned the Sisters of Charity (the Grey Nuns) to come and establish Edmonton's first hospital. The Montreal head office assigned Sisters Marie Xavier and Gosellin the task, and by July 1895 the hospital was built, and they were ministering to Edmonton's sick.

The first Edmonton General Hospital, which faced south on Victoria Avenue, had 36 beds and was described as the largest, most substantial and costly building in Edmonton. It was a handsome three storey brick structure with sun porches in each corner, a hip roof capped by a belfry, and hip dormers on each of the four sides. Decorative detailing included corbelling, string courses, and voussoirs over the windows. The total cost, in 1895, was a staggering \$30,000.



The Edmonton General Hospital c. 1910 (CEA EA-1-46)

ST. JOSEPH'S BASILICA (1924-1963)

10044 – 113 STREET NW

Edmonton continued growing, and the hospital expanded right along with it. Pictures taken in 1910 show a harmonious, but not identical, brick three storey addition more than double the size of the first building. The addition was opened on June 24, 1908, St. Jean Baptiste Day, and was the design of architect J.A. Senecal of Winnipeg and R. Percy Barnes of Edmonton.

BY 1957 ONLY A FEW OF THE ORIGINAL 1895 WALLS REMAINED, AND EVEN THESE HAD BEEN EXTENSIVELY REMODELED.

In 1928, a 200-bed wing was added to the structure. Five major expansion programs have since followed, obliterating all traces of the earliest buildings. By 1957 only a few of the original 1895 walls remained, and even these had been extensively remodeled. The A-wing (1940s), which faces Jasper Avenue, and the B-wing (1950s), which faces 111 Street, still remain on the site.

The A-wing is one of the last Art Deco buildings to be constructed in Edmonton, and the attached B-wing is a mid-century Moderne interpretation. Both buildings are clad in bricks from a local Edmonton brickyard.

As the first hospital in Edmonton, The Edmonton General Hospital is an institution which continues to change in response to the needs of the city. It was a full service community hospital until the Grey Nuns hospital was built in Mill Woods. The Edmonton General then became a continuing care and palliative care facility and remains as such today, operated by Covenant Health. The Edmonton General Hospital is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



**CONTINUE WEST ON JASPER
AVENUE TO 113 STREET.**



Roman Catholic Archbishop Emile Légal formed the parish of St. Joseph in 1914, and named it after Saint Joseph the Worker. Ten years later construction of St. Joseph's Cathedral proceeded. In 1923, the parish was designated the seat of the Archbishop, thus becoming the Cathedral parish in the diocese. This replaced the previous Cathedral parish of the diocese in St. Albert. The St. Joseph parish community celebrated mass at St. Joachim's until 1925. By 1925, the crypt church was finished, and services were held at this location, but there were no funds to build the church superstructure designed by architect Edward Underwood. This long delay was due to faltering prosperity, with first the post-World War I recession, and then the Great Depression.

In 1961, Montreal architect Henri Labelle and his Edmonton associate Eugene Olesky developed the final design for the cathedral. Construction of St. Joseph's superstructure was not completed until 1963. Additional renovations have been undertaken on the front steps, the sanctuary area of the church, and the basement church hall.

St. Joseph's is 142 feet wide, 265 feet long and 90 feet high, and seats up to 1,200 people. Tyndall stone is used for the exterior, and a synthetic stone is used for the interior in order to subdue sounds. The exterior is a contemporary interpretation of Medieval Gothic architecture, while the interior is a more simplified construction than a traditional Medieval style cathedral. Rather than a peaked structure it has a flat structure. The Basilica contains over 70 stained glass windows depicting apostles, prophets, biblical scenes, saints and prominent Church figures.



St. Joseph's Cathedral c. 1965. (CEA EA-10-532)

St. Joseph's Basilica is the Cathedral church of the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton. The term cathedral refers more to a church's function than to its design. It is the home parish of the Archbishop.

A statement was issued from the Vatican's secretary of State on March 15, 1984, designating St. Joseph's as a Minor Basilica. It is the only Roman Catholic Church west of Manitoba that has been granted such an honour. It received designation due to its antiquity, dignity, historical value, architectural and artistic worth, and significance as a center of worship.

As the original crypt church and beautiful upper building became a parish, a cathedral, and then a basilica, numerous events contributed to the personal and ceremonial character of the building. Many priests were ordained there, several bishops and archbishops were consecrated, and Pope John Paul II himself led an evening prayer service during his 1984 visit to Alberta.

In 1951, St. Joseph's was the first Catholic parish in Canada to develop the devotion of Perpetual Adoration, where a parishioner is present before the Blessed Sacrament 24 hours a day (except Good Friday and Holy Saturday) and the church doors were never locked. Unfortunately, this came to an end following an arson fire in the church in 1980.

St. Joseph's has seen many weddings, baptisms and funerals, including the wedding of Wayne and Janet Gretzky and the funeral of slain police officer Ezio Faraone. The church has a rich history of liturgical music dating from 1926 when High Mass was broadcast over the radio, to today, as the Schola Cantorum, a professional vocal ensemble, provides music for the 10:30 AM Sunday mass and special archdiocesan celebrations. The Cathedral has been the scene of many choral recitals by prominent local, national and international groups including Pro Coro Canada, Paderborn West Germany Cathedral Choir, Concordia Lutheran Concert Choir and the Greenwood Singers. Currently, over 3,500 families worship in St. Joseph's Basilica parish.

St. Joseph's Basilica is on the City of Edmonton's Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning it is eligible to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.



TURN SOUTH ON 113 STREET TO 100 AVENUE, CROSS TO THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE AVENUE AND GO EAST.

38

VICTORIA AVENUE RESIDENCES (1907-1908)

11219 (WEINLOS RESIDENCE),
11223 AND 11229 – 100 AVENUE NW



These four homes illustrate the large and elegant homes once found on 100 Avenue, formerly Victoria Avenue. The residents have included doctors, lawyers, bankers, and managers. Each house has had long-term residents, indicating a stable neighbourhood.

Originally part of a single parcel, the three most westerly homes were likely built by William Allen in 1907/08, who also divided the lots. The houses all bear an unmistakable resemblance to one another; all are wood frame, two-storey Foursquare structures, with a hip roof and dormer. Each has a front porch, as well as the same type of siding and distinctive brackets on the soffits of the overhanging eaves.



Victoria Avenue Residences- The Weinlos/Friedman Residence, 1993. (ACD)

The Weinlos/Friedman Residence at 11219 – 100 Avenue NW was bought in 1926 by Eisig (Isaac) and Lea Weinlos. It remained in their family until 1982, some 56 years later. Their five children, as well as their numerous grandchildren, have distinguished themselves through their community service. Their son Morris became Chief of Surgery and Chief of Staff at the Misericordia Hospital, and established the still-extant Weinlos Clinic. Son Harry became a senior surgeon at the Misericordia and also opened a clinic. In addition to serving as an alderman for four terms, Morris served on the board, or was president, of many organizations, including the Edmonton Exhibition, the Police Commission,

the Edmonton Symphony (he was a founding member of the Opera Society), the John Howard Society, and the United Way, as well as the Beth Israel Synagogue, to name but a few. Harry was given an achievement award for humanitarian service by the Province of Alberta and an Outstanding Citizenship Award from the Junior Chamber of Commerce. In 1976, the city named a section of a Millwoods subdivision in honour of Harry and Morris Weinlos, and today a school also bears their name.

IN 1976, THE CITY NAMED A SECTION OF A MILLWOODS SUBDIVISION IN HONOUR OF HARRY AND MORRIS WEINLOS, AND TODAY A SCHOOL ALSO BEARS THEIR NAME.

The Saint Vincent de Paul Sisters of Charity Convent at 11229 – 100 Avenue NW also has a claim to fame. Briefly, between 1915 and 1918, it was the home of Robert and Nellie McClung, a famous early women’s rights activist. She was also involved in the temperance movement, sat as a Liberal MLA from 1921 to 1926, taught, was a published author, served as a Canadian representative to the League of Nations, and was the first woman to sit on the board of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The Weinlos Residence, located at 11219 – 100 Avenue NW, and the residence located at 11223 – 100 Avenue NW are on the City of Edmonton’s Inventory of Historic Resources, meaning that they are eligible to be designated as Municipal Historic Resources.



TO RETURN TO THE LEMARCHAND MANSION, GO WEST ON 100 AVENUE TO 116 STREET.

GLOSSARY

ART DECO a style of architecture and design that first appeared in France before WWI. These buildings have a sleek, linear appearance, with stylized, often geometric ornamentation

BASILICA The word basilica is derived from a Greek term meaning “royal house.” In the Catholic world, a basilica is a church building that has been accorded special privileges by the pope. There are two kinds of basilicas, major, or papal (4 in the world), and minor basilicas. Minor, or lesser, basilicas are significant churches that meet certain criteria and are given special ecclesiastical privileges. Minor basilicas are traditionally named because of their antiquity, dignity, historical value, architectural and artistic worth, and/or significance as centers of worship. A basilica must “stand out as a center of active and pastoral liturgy,” according to the 1989 Vatican document *Domus ecclesiae*.

BEAUX-ARTS STYLE a classically-inspired style originating at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, France. Monumental in scale and formal in design, this style was particularly suited to and popular for government and bank buildings

BELLCAST eaves which flare outwards in a bell shape

BUNGALOW a one-storey house, or a multi-storey house with a roof sloping towards the front and back, with a large overhang creating a verandah at the front

CLASSICAL REVIVAL STYLE a style inspired by ancient Greek and Roman buildings. It is characterized by form and symmetry, and uses elements such as columns and pilasters

COLLEGIATE GOTHIC STYLE a style popular for educational buildings in the 19th and early 20th centuries. It was based on the tradition of medieval English colleges such as Oxford and Cambridge

CORBELLING a projection or series of stepped projections in masonry or brick built out from a wall to support the eaves of a roof or some other feature

CORNICE a projecting decorative band at the top of a building. Can be of wood, stone, plaster or pressed metal

DENTILS a series of toothlike blocks found below a cornice

EDWARDIAN STYLE a style popular during the reign of King Edward VII of the United Kingdom (1901 to 1910). This style is typically less ornate than high or late Victorian Architecture

FINIAL an ornament which is situated at the top of a roof gable, spire, etc.

FOUR SQUARE STYLE a house with cubic proportions, a pyramidal roof and classically-inspired details

FRIEZE the decorated band along the upper part of a wall, immediately below the cornice

GOTHIC REVIVAL STYLE a style based on the building forms of the Middle Ages in Western Europe, often recognized by the use of pointed Gothic arches

HIPPED ROOF a roof which slopes in four directions

INTERNATIONAL STYLE a style that emerged in the 1920 and 1930s. Characteristics include rectilinear forms, limited ornamentation and decoration, and the use of glass, steel, and concrete

JERKINHEAD ROOF a roof in which the end of a gable roof is cut off by a secondary slope forming a hip

KEYSTONE the wedge-shaped stone at the top of an arch, sometimes enlarged for decorative purposes

MANSARD ROOF a double-sloped roof. The upper slope has a low pitch, while the lower is steeply pitched

ORIEL WINDOW a window projecting from an upper storey

PARAPET a low wall at the edge of a roof

PEDIMENT the triangular end of a gable roof, or a triangular element resembling it

PILASTER a pier or pillar projecting slightly from a wall

PORTICO a roof supported by columns, usually attached to a building like a porch

PRAIRIE STYLE this style is credited to architect Frank Lloyd Wright. It is an organic style of architecture, inspired by the flat landscapes of America's Midwest

QUEEN ANNE REVIVAL STYLE an eclectic late-Victorian style with varied rooflines, rich detailing, and generally vertical proportions

QUOINS enlarged stones at the corners of a building for decoration or reinforcement

SECOND EMPIRE STYLE a style originating in France in the late 19th century. Mansard roofs are a characteristic feature

STREAMLINE MODERNE a late type of the Art Deco architecture and design that emerged in the 1930s. Characteristics include curving forms, long horizontal lines, and sometimes nautical elements

STRING COURSE a horizontal band of stone or brick which encircles a building

TRACERY a pattern of interlacing ribs in the upper part of a Gothic window

TUDOR REVIVAL STYLE a style of architecture characterized by half-timbering, flattened (pointed) Gothic arches, shallow mouldings and extensive panelling

TURRET a small, castle-like tower, often on top of a larger tower or at the corner of a building or wall

TYNDALL STONE a type of limestone from Tyndall, Manitoba

VERGE BOARD a board, often decorated, on the projecting ends of a gable roof

VOUSSOIRS the wedge-shaped stones or bricks composing an arch

CREDITS

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