



# VALLEYVIEW MANOR

12207 - JASPER AVENUE NW

## CITY OF EDMONTON HISTORIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Edmonton

### DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

Valleyview Manor is an eight storey apartment building constructed in 1960-61 containing 45 units. The building is located on the south side of Jasper Avenue overlooking the North Saskatchewan River Valley in what is now known as the Wîhkwêntôwin neighbourhood.

### HERITAGE VALUE

As one of the city's first high rise apartment buildings, Valleyview Manor is significant for its association with the high density redevelopment of Wîhkwêntôwin and its International style. Valleyview Manor was completed in 1961 at a time when apartment living was gaining public acceptance, and represents the beginning of a cultural shift from traditional single family home ownership to marketing a high quality rental building designed for the professional white collar market.

The scale and height of the building, as well as its prominent location overlooking the North Saskatchewan River Valley, were important in the developing skyline of Edmonton and providing the building with an aura of progressive sophistication. The luxury building included underground parking for its residents and high quality marble finishes at the front entrance, which added to its prestige and contributed to the perception of apartment living as a desirable urban lifestyle.

Valleyview Manor is valued as a good example of International style in Edmonton. The International style in Edmonton began in the 1940s and was commonly used until the 1970s, although it is more typically found in commercial as opposed to residential structures.

Valleyview Manor exemplified the International style through its flat roofs, asymmetrical rectangular forms and hard angular edges. Typical to the International style, Valleyview Manor derives its aesthetic qualities from the high quality of material, such as the mosaic tile and marble, rather than architectural ornamentation. The building was designed by Gordon Wynn, of Rule Wynn Rule Architects, an Edmonton firm responsible for many of the more notable modern buildings in Alberta. Valleyview Manor is significant because it is an uncommon and early example of an International style high-rise apartment building in Edmonton.





## CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

Valleyview Manor's association with the high density redevelopment of Wihkwêntôwin is expressed in such character-defining elements as:

- + form, scale, and massing;
- + prominent location facing Jasper Avenue and overlooking the North Saskatchewan River Valley;
- + concrete framed construction;
- + angular metal railings and partitions between projecting balconies;
- + tri-partite front entrance configuration with fixed pane window between two single-acting doors;
- + stylized metal sign which reads "Valleyview Manor";
- + pattern of fenestration with aluminum sliding windows;
- + four bay garage entrance with rolling overhead doors on north elevation, three bay garage entrance with rolling overhead doors on east elevation and six bay garage entrance with rolling overhead doors on west elevation; and
- + interior arrangement of apartments, including the footprint of Suite 701.

*Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 15528 in November 2010.*

Valleyview Manor's International style is expressed in such character-defining elements as:

- + yellow brick cladding;
- + ceramic mosaic tile and marble cladding to lower floor;
- + entrance canopy with domed skylights;



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