



CHINOOK COUNTRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2007

Sunnyside-Hillhurst Ghost Tours

The Calgary and District Chapter
of the Historical Society
of Alberta

Office:
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www.albertahistory.org/Chinook

The Vision of the Society:
"to promote a greater
understanding of Canadian and
Alberta history in Chinook
Country for people of all ages."

Chinook boundaries
are from Olds to Nanton,
from the B.C. to the
Saskatchewan borders.



Author's Note: The City of Calgary Parks - Outdoor Resource Centre hosted a busy day as part of Historic Calgary Week this summer. Four different events were offered on Saturday, July 28. The turn-out was good and everyone seemed to have a good time. One of the offerings was the Sunnyside-Hillhurst Walking Tour. This event was quickly filled and a lot of disappointed people were turned away.

Since there were so many people unable to attend that evening, there is another opportunity to take in the ghost tour this year. The Parks - Outdoor Resource Centre is offering four different Ghost Tours this October as part of their Fall line-up of courses.

As Halloween approaches, take a look at your neighborhood and community parks in a whole new way. Discover the neighbours that have never left the area, animal haunts, ghost women and phantom men.

Starting at the Haunted Firehall, the Sunnyside-Hillhurst Walking Tour takes you to the locations of sightings, stories and sounds of ghostly experiences. Visit a graveyard, look for past spirits and find out who walks among the living at Riley Park. Please dress for the weather and be prepared to walk for most of the time.

The fee for this tour is \$12.00 per person. Pre-Registration is required (see below).

Starting Location

The tour starts at the Outdoor Resource Centre, 1111 Memorial Drive N.W. (the old



firehall at the corner of Memorial Drive and 10th Street NW). Free parking passes are available for duration of tour – come inside to pick up a pass just before tour start time.

Course 177230: Thurs., Oct. 4, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Course 177231: Thurs., Oct. 11; 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Course 177232: Thurs., Oct. 18; 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Course 177233: Thurs., Oct. 25; 7:00 - 9:00 pm

To Register

Call 268-3800 during weekdays (8:30 am - 7:00 pm), or register in person at 2808 Spiller Road S.E. (8:30 am - 4:00 pm weekdays). Or, you can register online anytime at www.calgary.ca/recreation/eregistration. -CCHS

—Submitted by Susanah Windrum

Winners of the Calgary Herald Historic Crossword Puzzle

The winner of the A.Y. Jackson print, donated by Prints Charming was Virginia Klatzel, Calgary.

Other winners were:

Delores Klatzel, Calgary

Bonnie Fischer, Calgary

Michael Zenaitis, Calgary

Patricia Wallace, Lethbridge

Carol Christensen, Calgary

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all those who persevered in completing the puzzle.

On behalf of Historic Calgary Week and Chinook Country Historical Society, I would like to thank the Calgary Herald for its sponsorship of Historic Calgary Week. -CCHS

—Submitted by Jennifer Prest



Correction Notice

Mary C. Hughes of High River has pointed out a spelling mistake in the article, Postcards from Small Places in the last newsletter (Summer, 2007).

The article stated: "After 41 years it was relocated to Baynes' store." According to Ms. Hughes, the store is spelled BAINES. Ms. Hughes says that she lived about 12 miles from the store for many years.

If anyone has any reminiscences of Baines store, or of any of the places mentioned in the article, please let us know. We would love to print your recollections in a future issue. -CCHS

From the President

Once again, as the summer winds down, Chinook Country Historical Society is basking in the glow of another successful Historic Calgary Week. Congratulations to the committee chairs and the loyal volunteers who have been working since last October to stage Historic Calgary Week 2007. The committees headed by Len Babin (programs), Kate Reeves and Janice Lowe (noon hour programs), Roberta Ryckman and Lynda Purdy (brochure planning and layout), Irene DeBoni (volunteers), Walter DeBoni (publicity), and Ron Kessler (venues and AV equipment) did yeoman service. Thanks to all. And thanks to the Historic Calgary Week chair, Gary Ellis, and to the coordinator, Stephanie McSween.

Historic Calgary Week was launched at Lougheed House on a glorious summer evening, and ended with a flag lowering ceremony at Fort Calgary on another flawless day. During the week, Calgarians and their guests were treated to an impressive array of walks, talks, songs, stories, family histories, and tours of museums and cemeteries.

Thanks to the Calgary Herald, which printed the day's program as well as the famous Historic Calgary Week Crossword Puzzle. ARC Energy Trust deserves special thanks for its generous financial donation, acquired through the auspices of Walter DeBoni. Thanks Walter. Thanks also to the other sponsors of Historic Calgary Week: Central United Church, City of Calgary Parks – Outdoor Resource Centre, Memorial Park Library, Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts, First Thursdays Organization, Fort Calgary,

Lougheed House, Southern Alberta Pioneers and their Descendants, Calgary Heritage Initiative, Prints Charming, and the Alberta Family Histories Society. Thanks to all.

The mandate of this year's committee was to expand the reach of Historic Calgary Week to include some of Calgary's other historic groups and societies, so this year we were treated to hikes led by volunteers from the Calgary Heritage Initiative and the POWER tour group as well as a historic day at the Outdoor Resource Centre and open house information sessions at the Alberta Family Histories Society Library. The "Ride Through Time – Period Cars and Fashion" at the Lougheed House and the Closing Day at Fort Calgary were grand additions to Historic Calgary Week.

If we are to continue to expand Historic Calgary Week, we will need more ideas and suggestions. CCHS Past President Diana Ringstrom has already started planning for some out-of-town events for 2008. We would also like to include more activities for children like the morning activity day for children organized by Susanah Windrum at the Outdoor Resource Centre. Planning for next year's Historic Calgary Week will begin in October. If you are interested in history and like meeting other history aficionados, why don't you join the committee? Call 261-4667 and leave a message.

Included with this newsletter is the program for 2007-2008. I look forward to seeing you at Fort Calgary at these wonderful presentations. -CCHS

—Carrol Jaques

Solutions to Crossword (Crossword on page 6)

Across: 1. Peigan; 4. Stanley; 8. Ingot; 9. Scone; 10. Who; 11. Dee; 12. Raitt; 13. Pasta; 14. Short; 16. Laurier; 19. Dover; 20. Ernie; 23. Cappy; 25. Howdy; 27. Sam; 28. Diana; 30. It; 31. Air; 32. ATA; 33. PEI; 34. Stem.

Down: 1. Priddis; 2. Inglewood; 3. Aster; 4. Scott; 5. Ate; 6. Lowes; 7. Yeoman; 9. Spiller; 13. Price; 15. Tovey; 17. Uptown; 18. Ringstrom; 21. Ermine; 22. Acadia; 24. Plaza; 25. Heidi; 26. Yeast; 30. ATP. -CCHS

A Sense Of Place: Cliff Bungalow/Mission

A Vision for a Calgary Community which is Tied to its Past

Author's Note: This article puts forward strategies to preserve heritage character in historic communities, and is based on a two-part article published in the community newsletter, the Mission Statement.

It first came upon the expression sense of place when I was doing some background research to approach the Cliff Bungalow–Mission Community Association about starting a Heritage Committee. In an article written by Nancy Tausky, for the London (Ontario) Free Press. In it she examines the paradox that heritage preservation is fundamental to creating her dream city of the future. To explore this, she analyzed the qualities which are essential to her vision, and explained how each relates to heritage.

A Distinctive Sense of Place

The first quality mentioned is a distinctive sense of place. This quality is more important than ever in the age of the global community, multinational corporations and chain stores. Historic buildings and sites can define the character of a community.

Consider Cliff Bungalow: the trademark streetscapes of early twentieth-century homes fronted by rows of mature trees; the landmark Western Canada High School and the two brick bungalow schools set against the Cliff Street escarpment; and 1930's and 40's apartments like the Gordon Suites and the Laurence.

In Mission there are still pockets of older homes and trees, and apartments from the turn of the twentieth century (Sibley Apartments, Flexford House) and later from the 1930's and 40's (the Athlone). In addition, Mission is rich



in historical monuments and institutions: think of the grand marble pillars fronting the McNab Wing of the Holy Cross Hospital, the impressive facades of St. Mary's Cathedral and the Parish Hall, and the mansard roofs and Roman arched windows of the Sacred Heart convent. On Fourth Street, some of the original brick commercial buildings (Bannerman, Wright, and Young Blocks) form the most memorable part of the street.

Location and Self-Identity

The next quality is the ability of the inhabitants to identify themselves in relation to the place where they live. Their connection to the past can give them this sense of identity.

Consider the layered and intertwined themes of the district's early past: natural history, indigenous peoples, francophone settlers, Catholics, the railway. It begins with the Elbow River corridor, which the Blackfoot, Stoney and Tsuu T'ina people used for thousands of years. Later came the first loosely scattered settlements of Métis and English-Canadian farmsteads in the 1870's, and the mounted police posts and missions established to serve them.

Francophone Catholic Missions were built in various locations from 1875 onward until finally settling in our neighbourhood; the missionaries established the Holy Cross hospital in 1881, subdivided the land into residential lots in 1884 which eventually were incorporated as the village of Rouleauville in 1899. They also built the first St. Mary's school in 1885, the first St. Mary's church in 1889 and the Sacred Heart convent in 1893. Their efforts had been facilitated by the arrival of the CPR railway in 1883. The CPR was awarded right-of-way lands by the federal government, and during Calgary's first boom in the early 1900's they developed Section 9, later to be known as Cliff Bungalow. In 1911, the short-lived Canadian Northern Railway purchased St. Mary's Parish Hall for their station. To support the boom, the bungalow schools, street car line and commercial enterprise followed.

So much of the built environment of the neighbourhood reminds us of that past; for example, the characteristic two and two-and-a-half storey homes with architectural features like bay windows, verandas, balconies, hip roofs or roofs with gables, wooden clapboards and shingles. Cliff Bungalow also catered to the upper income levels and CPR management, so we see some grander homes of brick, with sandstone lintels and leaded glass windows.

Because of Mission's later booms and periods of sporadic development, much of the built environment has disappeared, but what remains is significant. The 1950's landmark St. Mary's Cathedral is so magnificent that the area which surrounds it is

—Continued on page 4

A Sense Of Place: Cliff Bungalow/Mission (cont'd)

known at the Cathedral district. Also remaining in this district are St. Mary's Parish Hall, the Sacred Heart Convent, the Rouleau and McHugh homes, and the House of Israel. The Holy Cross Site which covers eight acres is remarkable for its setting and its history.

The residential and commercial districts are defined by some of the original brick buildings with their pedestrian oriented store fronts.

Diversity

The waves of development which occur during different periods of history leads to another essential quality: diversity. In sharp contrast to contemporary subdivisions, the community has evolved over time.

This is evident in the architectural styles: the pre 1911 homes with Victorian influence and embellishments, the 1911 Edwardian domestic style, the 1930's stucco siding used in new apartments and to resurface older homes, and the Art Moderne style of the early 1940's apartment buildings. There is also a diversity of sizes – from apartments to cottages to mansions, and later, starting with the depression in 1929, the conversions of mansions into apartments (although we have lost many of these grand homes).

The diversity of buildings promotes a diversity of residents – from students to professionals to seniors. There is even further diversity in the variety of residential, commercial and institutional land use.

Heritage Landscapes

I would add another quality: the sense of community which can be provided from the heritage landscapes, the street orientation and human scale of the old

homes, the special tree plantings and parks by William Reader and others, the schools built by well known Calgary architects Branton and Bates, and their landscaped school yards.

At one time the historic institutions in Mission were the very fabric of the community: the cathedral and synagogue, the beautiful and peaceful convent along the river banks, the hospital, the schools and the shopping district all give Mission the feel of a village within Calgary. Adaptive re-use such as the CNR station by the Alberta Ballet Company, and heritage buildings used for restaurants and galleries along Fourth Street complete the picture with arts and entertainment.

Where to Begin Preservation

The starting place for preserving the heritage character of a community is a vision which takes into account the diverse perspectives within the community.

For Cliff Bungalow and Mission this vision has taken the form of an Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP): a statutory document used to supplement the land use bylaws which provides guidelines for sensitive development. The goals were hammered out over many years, and took into account external stakeholders such as the city planners and city council. The objectives tie in directly with the qualities I have outlined above: to promote and enhance the historic character of the community; to encourage all new development to be compatible with its historic nature; to preserve historically significant residences; and to encourage conservation of the community's historic resources through sensitive intensification, renovation and adaptive re-use.

The ARPs go beyond just the vision;

they outline detailed and often prescriptive guidelines, from architectural details to the replacement of trees, to which future development must adhere. It is up to community planning and/or development committees to educate the community and developers about the ARPs, and to enforce them, through the appeals process if necessary.

Other strategies include implementing projects which develop awareness; our community projects include a historic street sign project, self-guided walking tour brochures, historic postcards, and awards nominations. We are currently working on a project to recognize special community heritage sites with beautiful plaques. The community newsletter is, of course, an excellent vehicle for awareness.

To make the best use of limited resources we try to network with as many organizations and communities as time permits. We have a formal heritage community, but a community can also foster heritage as part of their planning or development committees, or allow certain dedicated individuals to work co-operatively with the community association.

The effort is worth it. According to Ms. Tausky, "Of all the physical mementoes of history, historic buildings and landscapes form the most immediate reminders that we and our society have roots in the past and an opportunity to grow beyond our present." -CHS

—Submitted by Marilyn Williams,
Cliff Bungalow-Mission
Community Association

Calgary Cliff Bungalow and Mission Historical Walking
Tour Version 5.4, James Bowman, Calgary, June 22, 1998

The Next London- Visions for the future of a city. Nancy
Tausky, Special to the London Free Press, May 20, 2005

Bowness Historical Society Update

Our book *Bowness: Our Village in the Valley* was launched in September, 2005. The first printing of 1,000 copies sold out in six weeks and resulted in a second printing of 500. Of those, we have 130 available. (Price is \$60.00 and \$55.00 for seniors.) Books can be purchased from Carole (kjell@shaw.ca) or Inga (call 288-2055 or email july2@telus.net).

Projects

We are finalizing designs for welcome signs at the entrances to the town. These will welcome visitors to the "Historic Community of Bowness." The Hextall Bridge site has been selected for the the first sign, which is expected to be complete in the Fall of 2007.

The Bowness Historical Society is investigating the establishment of a Scholarship program for local students demonstrating an interest in history. Discussions have started with the School Board's "Education Matters" Program.

Heritage Walking Tours of Hextall Homes at Bowness, as part of Historic Calgary Week, have been very successful. Participants on the tour have viewed the interior of two of the heritage homes. The Bowness Historical Society will be hosting their own tour on Saturday, September 8 at 11:00 a.m. Meet at 8331 - 48 Avenue N.W.

Through the Heritage Tree Foundation of Canada, The Bowness Historical Society's nomination of two historic trees, the Douglas Fir and the Bur Oak, have been accepted as part of the Alberta Heritage Tree Project. This project is designed to raise awareness and educate people about environmental and historical value of trees. Baker Park is the original site of Baker Sanatorium. The trees will be included in the Spring 2008 publication of Heritage Trees of Alberta.

Trees of Baker Park Walking Tour will be held in October. This unique park incorporates many large, older trees planted in perimeter rows, alleys and geometric figures. Visit www.bownesshistoricalsociety.com for date and registration.

Ongoing

We hold open meetings for members and non-members at the Bowness Seniors' Centre on the second Saturday of every month. We encourage people to bring stories and photographs.

We are seeking information, stories and photos for the Bowness Historical Society Archives. Please contact us at 288-1737, 288-2055 or 247-5200 if you have any information to contribute.

We are continually enhancing community awareness on Bowness history, such as presentations to schools and community groups and advice to the Bowness Business Revitalization Zone.

Future Plans

We are currently looking for a home for the Bowness Historical Society (office, museum, archives). As well, we are working on a Photo History Addendum to our book *Bowness: Our Village in the Valley*. -CCHS

— Submitted by Carole Carpenter

VOICES FROM OUR PAST

"Nothing could be more splendid than the immense chain of the Rockies...They rise and rise against the west, and from their very roots upwards to their shining crowns, you can follow the magnificent lines of their building – their vast bases, against which the billowing foothills dwindle to far-seen ripples, their towering heights and depths, the clefts and ledges piled with mountainous weights of snow, the jutting cliffs that catch at passing clouds, the great hollows that one guesses at from clear-cut shadows on the snow, and then the final glory of their sun-lit crests. So high and shining they are, they seem like some rampart to the world. If you look for a long while...you are seized with a fancy that all the earth is rolling towards the west, and there is nothing beyond the Rockies; they end the world and meet the sky."

—Agnes Skrine from a 1898 article entitled, *A Lady's Life on a Rancho*

Submitted by Laurel Halladay

New! Canadian Architectural Photography Web Project

The Canadian Architectural Archives, University of Calgary Libraries and Cultural Resources, is pleased to announce the availability of "Views of 20th Century Canada: The Canadian Architectural Photography Web Project."

This online resource provides an image repository containing 10,000 photographs of the Canadian-built environment. It also contains educational resources related to Canadian architecture and architectural photography.

Featured images come from collections of the Canadian Architectural Archives and include: Calgary Modern, John Flanders, Thomas Mawson, Panda Associates, and Donovan and Eunice Williams.

Views of 20th Century Canada can be found at:

www.caa.ucalgary.ca/lr_caa/viewsof20thcentury

This project was made possible – in part or entirely – through the Canadian Culture Online Program of Canadian Heritage, Library and Archives Canada and the Canadian Council of Archives. -CCHS

—Submitted by Linda Fraser, Archivist and Chief Curator, Canadian Architectural Archives, University of Calgary

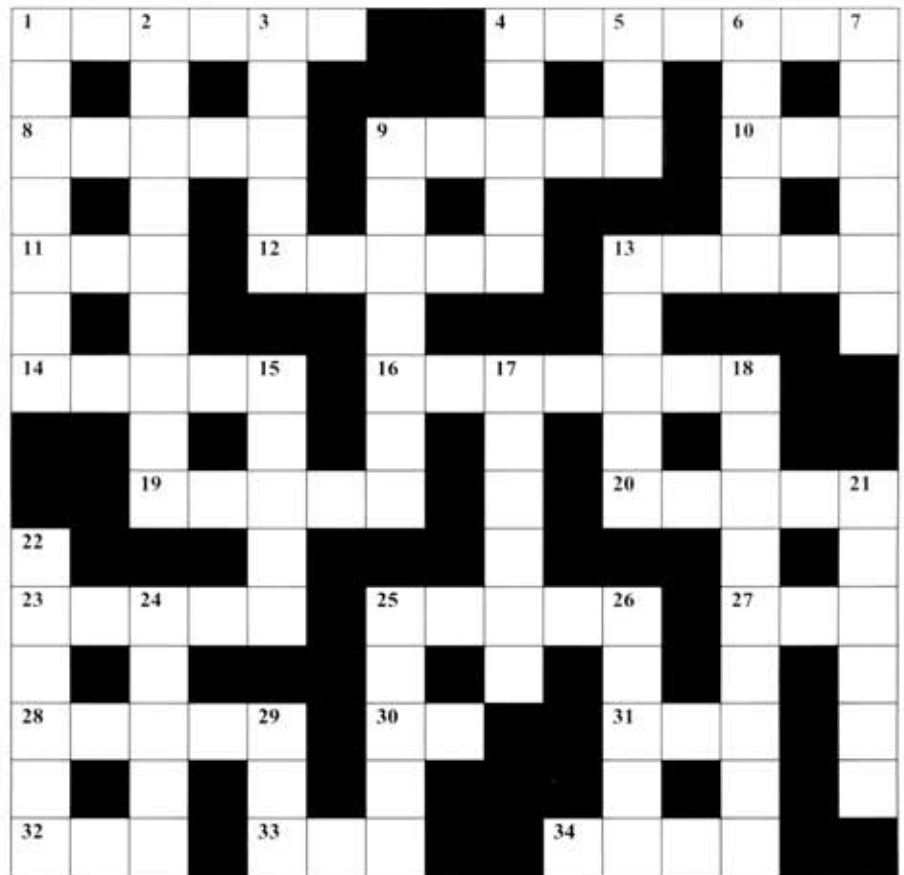


Local History Crossword

(Solution on page 2)

Across

1. A Southern Alberta Indian band
4. Distinguished Calgarian and designer of the Canadian flag, George F.G. -----
8. A gold bar
9. A Scottish biscuit
10. A successful Canadian pop band of the 1970's, the Guess ---
11. A teenage star of the 1960's, Sandra ---
12. Blues singer/songwriter, Bonnie -----
13. An Italian culinary specialty
14. James ----- Memorial Elementary School, opened in 1973 to replace the original school of that name that was built in 1904
16. Canada's seventh Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid -----
19. Daughter of A.E. Cross and Lt.-Col in the CWAC, Mary -----
20. Calgary Alderman from 1941 to 1966, ----- Starr
23. Former Fire Chief, James (-----) Smart
25. One of the 1988 Calgary Olympics mascots
27. NWMP member and first commanding officer of Lord Strathcona's Horse, Sir --- Steele
28. Past President of the CCHS (see 18 down)
30. Indefinite pronoun
31. To ventilate or display
32. Teachers' organization
33. L.M. Montgomery's province
34. A part of a plant



Down

1. A hamlet south west of Calgary
2. The oldest district in Calgary
3. A fall flower
4. Former Calgary alderman, Barbara ----
5. Consumed
6. Early Calgary realtor, Freddie -----
7. A farmer of olden days
9. A Calgary thoroughfare bordered by the Union Cemetery, ----- Road, S.E.
13. The cost or tariff
15. A frequent guest conductor of the CPO, Bramwell -----
17. A movie theatre that shares a building with the H.S.A.
18. Past President of the CCHS (with 28 across)
21. A fur used to trim regal robes
22. A district in S.E. Calgary
24. A movie theatre in Kensington
25. See 25 across
26. An essential agent for baking bread
29. A Calgary theatrical company

—Jennifer Prest



Membership

Please check the address label on your envelope and note when your subscription expires. Membership cheques are payable to:
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Newsletter Submissions: The deadline for the Winter issue is **OCTOBER 15, 2007.**
Please send your article to Ruth Kerr at rakerr2@telus.net.

Individual membership	\$15.00	Family membership	\$25.00	Affiliate membership	\$55.00
Annual subscription	\$25.00	Annual subscription	\$25.00	(school, museum, library, historical society)	
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