

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church

This local landmark was built in 1955. But the Calgary parish itself dates back to 1909, when it was known as St. Stephen's. The first parish church was built in 1911 in the Tuxedo Park district, but in 1926 was physically moved down to the NW corner of 6th Street and 1st Ave NE in Bridgeland, which is 6 blocks due south of here.

Following a fire at St. Stephen's in 1942 and, after WW2, the parish began to search for a new building site. In 1952, the land at 704 6th Street NE was purchased, and construction began in 1955. In 1957, the parish changed its name to the present one, which respectfully, is a bit of a mouthful.

And speaking of mouthfuls, locals know that the Church's annual perogy suppers in the fall aren't to be missed!

(Photo credit, top picture- Dreena Buyachek from the ABVM website)



Below is a close-up of the cornerstone, and of the 1911 St. Stephens Church, now a Buddhist Temple.

The cornerstone of the ABVM Church on 6th St NE, atop the hill:



The 1911 St. Stephen's Church



St. Stephen's today, 6th St & 1st Ave NE



(Herald image)

Mention was made before of the vandalism suffered by the ABVM Church during the summer of 2021 following the discovery of unmarked Indigenous gravesites at Industrial Schools across Canada. Over the years, ABVM church parishioners have suffered their own hardships over the years, as outlined in the letter to the Herald- previously posted- from Lubomyr Luciuk. The photos below illustrate some of the damage, both to the church and to the plaque recalling the internment of Ukrainians during WW1.



Photo source- Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association



Photo source- Ukrainian News