

## Enmax Legacy Parks Program — Reader Rock Garden



Historic photo of Reader Rock Garden ca. 1930s (above) and “Friends of Reader” assisting with planting (right)

**Project:** The Reader Rock Garden project was Parks’ first significant revitalization of a cultural landscape using the 2003 pan-Canadian heritage process. The site is an Edwardian era rockery and former home site of William Reader, one of Calgary’s early park superintendents. The project restored the rock garden using historic drawings and plant lists to ensure authenticity. For new vitality, the project also reconstructed the house with a classroom and café lease space. The project has won a number of heritage awards and been designated a provincial historic resource.

**Budget:** \$905K Enmax Legacy Parks Program funding of \$3.4M total.

**Timeline:** Phase 1 completed in 2006; phase 2 completed in 2009.

**Benefits:** The rebuilt home and gardens of a previous Parks superintendent not only demonstrates a vital piece of Calgary parks’ history but provides a horticulturally rich record of heritage plants and experience. Located on the edge of the inner city, it provides a beautiful garden respite to all who discover it.

