Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan
{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
This document was created as part of The City of Calgary Parks’ commitment to the conservation and stewardship of Calgary’s open space.

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**The Calgary Heritage Authority**

**The Calgary Heritage Initiative**
Executive Summary

Cultural landscapes are historically significant landscapes. Similar to other historic resources, cultural landscapes connect Calgarians with their past. They help to tell the story of how Calgary developed; and how Calgarians lived. Cultural landscapes are vital to contemporary society. They contribute to great communities by enhancing character, distinctiveness, vibrancy, identity and sense of place.

This document establishes a set of policies and strategies for The City of Calgary Parks to identify, protect, manage and celebrate the rich, unique collection of historic resources found in Calgary’s open space system.

The purpose of the Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan is to create a set of policies and strategies to formally establish a cultural landscape portfolio within The City of Calgary Parks. This portfolio will be similar to other portfolios within the Parks business unit. It will consist of specialized staff who are given the responsibility to conserve and celebrate the cultural landscapes in The City of Calgary Parks’ open space system.

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The document is arranged into three sections.

1. The first section includes an introduction to the document and illustrates how the document aligns with the Municipal Development Plan (2010), Council’s Fiscal Plan (2011), Imagine Calgary (2006), the Open Space Plan (2002), and the Calgary Heritage Strategy (2008). The first section also defines cultural landscape and explains the associated character defining elements.

2. The second section is the compilation of policies and strategies. This section includes policy statements and action-related strategies specific to identification, protection (statutory designation), and management (conservation, operation, archaeological resources and education) of the cultural landscapes in The City of Calgary Parks’ open space system.

3. The last section is the collection of cultural landscapes and historic resources in The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory. This section lists the existing collection of landscapes and briefly explains the unique significance of the individual sites.
October 5, 2011

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Dear Ms. Reid,

Re: Calgary’s Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan

On behalf of the Heritage Canada Foundation (HCF), I am pleased to express recognition and encouragement for the Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan which is being developed for the City of Calgary Parks system.

HCF was pleased to confer upon the City of Calgary an Achievement Award for its Reader Rock Garden project in 2008, and an honourable mention for the Prince of Wales Prize for Municipal Heritage Leadership last year.

The development and implementation of a Cultural Landscape Plan can play an important role in the ongoing identification, protection and enhancement of special places that enrich the lives of Calgarians. The integration of the Plan with other key guiding documents including the Calgary Heritage Strategy will further strengthen Calgary’s ability to balance old and new and promote vibrant, liveable communities.

The City’s investment of resources in the development of a Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan is commendable, and we are pleased to lend our recognition and support.

Natalie Bull
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Chapter 1.1: Introduction

The City of Calgary Parks identifies, protects, manages and celebrates a collection of cultural landscapes that are valued for their historic significance and for the contribution they make to the variety, uniqueness and richness of park experiences within Calgary.
The City of Calgary Parks has developed a series of portfolios within Parks to manage Calgary’s natural areas, water resources, urban forest, cemeteries, pathways and, now, Calgary’s cultural landscapes. The intent is to establish a planning framework that integrates cultural landscape conservation principles into long-term park planning.
1.1 Introduction

The Calgary landscape has always been an important part of the history of the city. The prairie grasslands, rolling topography and the confluence of the two rivers first attracted ancestors of First Nations people to the area. This same landscape attracted successive cultures to settle in the area. It is not surprising that landscapes within Calgary are now being recognized for their heritage value.

Cultural landscapes are simply landscapes that are considered historically significant. Similar to other historic resources, cultural landscapes connect Calgarians to their past and help to tell the story of how Calgary developed and how Calgarians lived. Cultural landscapes reflect our social, cultural, environmental and economic history.

Parks like these provide people with the opportunity to glance back into history to learn about how Calgary once was and also to understand how the city has changed over time. Cultural landscapes are not resources frozen in time; they are landscapes that are vital in the present and retain a link to the past – valued by contemporary society for what they offer today, including that connection to the past.

Cultural landscapes are not resources frozen in time; they are landscapes that are vital in the present and retain a link to the past – valued by contemporary society for what they offer today, including that connection to the past.
When managing an infrastructure as wide and as varied as The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory, it is important to recognize the unique components within the large variety – Calgary’s natural area parks are different from the downtown plazas, and the sport fields are different from the cemeteries. The City of Calgary Parks attempts to understand what is unique about each natural area, each plaza and each park to ensure the management of each site retains its unique qualities.

Calgary’s cultural landscapes are an important and irreplaceable component of the city’s open space system. The Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan will allow The City of Calgary Parks to identify what is unique about each cultural landscape, and will ensure each landscape is managed in a manner that retains and celebrates that uniqueness and significance.

The City of Calgary Parks has developed a series of portfolios within Parks to manage Calgary’s natural areas, water resources, urban forest, cemeteries, pathways and, now, Calgary’s cultural landscapes. The intent is to establish a planning framework that integrates cultural landscape conservation principles into long-term park planning.

Vision

The City of Calgary Parks identifies, protects, manages and celebrates a collection of cultural landscapes that are valued for their historic significance and for the contribution they make to the variety, uniqueness and richness of park experiences within Calgary.
Cultural Landscape Policy Framework


MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (2010)

2.3 Creating Great Communities

Objective: Respect and enhance neighbourhood character and vitality

Create great communities by maintaining quality living and working environments, improving housing diversity and choice, enhancing community character and distinctiveness, and providing vibrant public places.

Objective: Protect historic resources and promote public art.

The “sense of place” inherent in Calgary’s neighbourhoods is a function of their history, built form, landscape, visual qualities and people. Together, the interaction of these factors defines the distinctive identity and local character of a neighbourhood.

Objective: Create quality public parks, open spaces and other community amenities, and make leisure and recreation activities available to all Calgarians.

The City will strengthen the connection between its natural areas, public parks and communities to enhance opportunities for outdoor recreation, retain Calgary’s natural and cultural heritage, and conserve biodiversity and important environmental systems.

2.4 Urban Design

Make Calgary a livable, attractive, memorable and functional city by recognizing its unique setting and dynamic urban character, and creating a legacy of quality public and private developments for future generations.

Objective: Make Calgary a more beautiful, memorable city with a commitment to excellence in urban design.

Cities are made up of collections of great buildings and memorable spaces. Memorable places are the special spaces that have a major role in defining and enhancing the image of the city. Natural and cultural landmarks provide city reference points that contribute to wayfinding, sense of place and city identity.

COUNCIL’S FISCAL PLAN 2012-2014 (2011)

Investing in great communities and a vibrant urban fabric.

P2. Continue operating budget support for Arts and Culture.


Becoming a more effective and disciplined organization.

Z1. Foster innovation and creativity.

Z3. Increase the use of benchmarking, performance measures and best practices information to improve service effectiveness and efficiency.

IMAGINE CALGARY (2006)

Aesthetic enjoyment:

A beautiful city contributes to citizens’ sense of community and civic pride. We recognize and protect our natural and built environments for their beauty. Our traditions, values and distinctive characteristics are used to enhance physical and human resources.

Target: By 2036, 95 per cent of Calgarians report that they have a range of opportunities for the aesthetic enjoyment of nature, arts and culture.

Meaning, purpose and connectedness:

We create individual meaning, purpose and connectedness in our lives for our own benefit and that of others.

Target: By 2036, 90 per cent of citizens agree that “Calgary is a city with soul,” which is defined as citizens having meaning and purpose in life and experiencing ongoing feelings of connectedness with some form of human, historic, or natural system.

Sense of community:

We have a sense of belonging, friendship and identity within the context of our groups and neighbourhoods. We honour and celebrate diversity. We act as collective stewards of our values, traditions, institutions and the natural environment.

Target: By 2010, 90 per cent of Calgarians agree that there is a strong sense of community in Calgary, and at least 80 per cent of Calgarians report high levels of satisfaction, sense of belonging, attachment and civic pride.
OPEN SPACE PLAN (2002)
The management of cultural resources should be governed by a Cultural Resources Management Plan that sets out the guidelines and standards for maintaining the resource.

Cultural landscapes should be protected, enhanced and promoted because of their importance to The City of Calgary.

CALGARY HERITAGE STRATEGY (2008)
Identify, protect and manage cultural landscapes owned by The City of Calgary by developing an overall Cultural Landscape Management Plan and a detailed framework for the management of specific examples.

Promote knowledge of, access to and enjoyment of cultural landscapes.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE STRATEGIC PLAN
The City of Calgary Parks identifies, protects, manages and celebrates a collection of cultural landscapes that are valued for their historic significance and for the contribution they make to the variety and richness of park experiences within Calgary.

SOCIAL BENEFITS:
Cultural landscapes are unique sites that connect Calgarians with the past. They provide people with the opportunity to learn about Calgary's history and this helps people to develop an understanding of their community. Calgary's cultural landscapes contribute to Calgarians' sense of identity and community distinctiveness by preserving unique places, often with rich symbolism, that enhance community pride and "sense of place."

{ Bridgeland-Riverside Vacant Lot Gardeners }
2008 | Mike Ricketts

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS:
The conservation of cultural landscapes can often have significant environmental benefits as many of these landscapes are rich with biodiversity that are being conserved as part of the landscape. The conservation of these components contributes to the larger biodiversity within Calgary.

The conservation of the existing landscapes can also achieve significant energy savings. When conserving a cultural landscape within the framework of redevelopment, many of the existing components would be retained. This would result in less energy use for demolition, less construction and demolition debris into the waste stream, and more embodied energy retained, reducing the energy required for the new construction.

{ Conservation work at Reader Rock Garden }
2010 | The City of Calgary

ECONOMIC BENEFITS:
Cultural landscapes provide economic benefits by contributing to tourism and property value. Many of Calgary's cultural landscapes contribute to Calgary's tourism, as people enjoy visiting historic sites and learning about history.

Cultural landscapes also have the ability to increase property value. People enjoy living and working near places of intrinsic value. This desire can result in a monetary value back to The City in taxes if cultural landscapes are celebrated and identified as places of value.

{ Canoeing at Bowness Park }
2009 | The City of Calgary Parks
The purpose of the Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan is to create a set of policies, strategies and protocols to formally establish a cultural landscape portfolio within The City of Calgary Parks. This portfolio will be similar to other portfolios within the Parks business unit. It will consist of specialized staff who are given the responsibility to conserve and celebrate the cultural landscapes within The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory.

The portfolio will centralize subject matter expertise and will act as a resource for other Parks staff who operate, develop or interpret cultural landscapes by establishing best practices, benchmarks and performance measures to ensure service effectiveness and efficiency. The portfolio will also establish working relationships with other business units and groups for conserving and celebrating cultural landscapes.

The document has eight policy chapters that establish policies and strategies for the identification, protection, management and celebration of cultural landscapes within The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory.
Identification
Chapter 2.1: Identification and Evaluation of Cultural Landscapes outlines the need to continue working with the Calgary Heritage Authority on the evaluation of cultural landscapes, as it is the Calgary Heritage Authority that is responsible for evaluating individual resources and determining historic significance and heritage value at the municipal level. Chapter 2.5: Statutory Designation of Cultural Landscapes identifies the need to work with provincial and federal authorities to recognize provincial and national significance. Chapter 2.7: Records and Archives identifies the importance of historic material and the role it plays in evaluations.

Protection
Chapter 2.5: Statutory Designation of Cultural Landscapes outlines that legal protection is via the Alberta’s Historical Resources Act (RSA 2009 cH-9) and that, often, legal protection qualifies cultural landscapes for government funding. Provincial Historic Resource designation and Municipal Historic Resource designation can be achieved by working with provincial authorities and the heritage planners within the Land Use Planning and Policy business unit.

Management
Management is the primary focus of the cultural landscape plan, as the management of City-owned landscapes is the primary responsibility of The City of Calgary Parks. Chapter 2.2: Conservation of Cultural Landscapes highlights the importance of understanding conservation approaches, and outlines ways in which cultural landscapes can remain vital to contemporary society, while still retaining their connection to the past. Chapter 2.3: Operation of Cultural Landscapes outlines the importance of operational staff and the need to provide necessary resources for staff to effectively perform various functions. Chapter 2.4: Archaeological Resources and Culturally Significant Areas identifies the need to work closely with Parks’ Natural Area staff and the Community & Neighbourhood Services business unit in the conservation of First Nations heritage. Chapter 2.8: Collaboration and Partnerships identifies resources and groups that are available to engage citizens and celebrate the role of cultural landscapes within our city.

Celebration
Chapter 2.6: Education and Awareness of Cultural Landscapes outlines the importance of education and identifies the need to work with Parks’ Environmental and Education Initiatives staff towards educating the public about cultural landscapes. Chapter 2.4: Collaboration and Partnerships identifies resources and groups that are available to engage citizens and celebrate the role of cultural landscapes within our city.
Chapter 1.2: Understanding Cultural Landscapes

Definition:

A cultural landscape is defined by Parks Canada as “any geographical area that has been modified, influenced or given special cultural meaning by people, and that has been formally recognized for its heritage value.”
Cultural landscapes connect us with our past and contribute to our communities. They illustrate Calgary’s relationship between people and the natural environment, the importance Calgarians place on recreation and the pride Calgarians have for The City’s civic spaces and monuments.
1.2 Understanding Cultural Landscapes

Cultural landscapes are landscapes that are considered historically significant. A cultural landscape is defined by Parks Canada as "any geographical area that has been modified, influenced or given special cultural meaning by people, and that has been formally recognized for its heritage value." Cultural landscapes connect people with their past and contribute to their communities. They illustrate Calgary's relationship between people and the natural environment, the importance Calgarians place on recreation, and the pride Calgarians have for The City's civic spaces and monuments.

Ancestors of Canada's First Nations used the natural environment of the Calgary landscape for over 10,000 years, and Calgary’s park system is rich with archaeological resources that tell the story of that use. The early settlement of Calgary included the establishment of functional landscapes such as Union Cemetery and the city’s many boulevards. As Calgary continued to grow, social needs dominated, and recreational and memorial spaces were created. As the environmental movement formalized, natural areas were protected and the stewardship era began. The history of The City of Calgary Parks Department is found within the collection of cultural landscapes. These landscapes are tangible pieces of Calgary’s past, its evolution and its future.

The City of Calgary’s parks evolution

The City of Calgary Parks’ cultural landscapes are a collection of historic resources that illustrate the use of the landscape and the development of public open space over time. While social, physical and technological conditions have changed over time, the value Calgarians place on the city’s parks system has remained constant.

To understand the significance of individual cultural landscapes one needs to understand how Calgary’s public landscapes have developed and the role the landscapes played in the lives of Calgarians.

As Calgary continued to grow, social needs dominated, and recreational and memorial spaces were created. As the environmental movement formalized, natural areas were protected and the stewardship era began.
## Timeline

**PRE-1875**

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**SETTLEMENT**

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<tr>
<td>The North West Mounted Police established Fort Calgary at the</td>
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<td>confluence of the Bow and Elbow rivers in 1875.</td>
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<td>In the 1880s the CPR brought settlers to the area, and by 1890, the</td>
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<td>CPR Gardens were established, illustrating the value of landscape</td>
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<td>beautification in attracting settlers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individuals have historically made a big impact on Calgary’s park</td>
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<tr>
<td>system. William Pearce was one of those individuals. He believed</td>
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<tr>
<td>in the value of public space to attract settlers to a city and was</td>
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<tr>
<td>instrumental in securing land for many of Calgary’s early parks and</td>
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<td>open spaces.</td>
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**ESTABLISHMENT**

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<tr>
<td>William Reader was appointed Calgary’s superintendent of Parks in</td>
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<td>1913. He held the position until 1942 and is credited with establishing and growing Calgary’s early park system.</td>
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**GROWTH**

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<tr>
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<td>establishment and growth of Calgary’s parks. The Calgary Horticultural Society, The Vacant Lots Garden Club, and The Calgary League of Women are examples.</td>
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<td>through her work that the Calgary Playground Association was</td>
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<td>Philanthropy has always been an important part of securing parkland.</td>
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<td>the 1940s and by the 1970s the Devonian Foundation was established.</td>
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**MEMORIAL**

As Calgary was settled and started to establish itself as a city, functional landscape requirements such as a cemetery were required. The provision of burial and memorial space is still an important part of the Parks service.

**RECREATION**

From the early provision of sports fields to the influence of the Participation and Fitness movement, recreation has always been one of the primary services offered by Parks.

**PLAYGROUND MOVEMENT**

> Citizen organizations have played an important role in the establishment and growth of Calgary’s parks. The Calgary Horticultural Society, The Vacant Lots Garden Club, and The Calgary League of Women are examples.
> Maude Riley was a member of the Calgary League of Women and it was through her work that the Calgary Playground Association was established.
> Philanthropy has always been an important part of securing parkland. Colonel Walker and Selby Walker protected and then ultimately donated Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. Eric Harvie started donating in the 1940s and by the 1970s the Devonian Foundation was established.

**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

The natural environments, and particularly the rivers, were historically important elements of Calgary and its parks. Fort Calgary was established at the confluence of the rivers and St. George’s Island Park was among Calgary’s first parks.

**CITY BEAUTIFUL**

The City Beautiful Movement was a well-articulated theory of city planning with an underlying philosophy that a clean and beautiful city would reflect a “good” society. The form included formal spaces and tree lined boulevards. The City Beautiful Movement matched the emerging profession of landscape architecture and the advocacy for urban park systems.

**PICTURESQUE**

The Picturesque design influence is not formal and is considered “naturalistic” as it follows the natural topography of the land and includes expansive lawns, curvilinear pathways, and native vegetation. This style fits well with Calgary’s natural landscape and the rolling foothills. The influence of the style in park design is still evident today.

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**SOCIAL INFLUENCES**

- Early Calgary Landscape
- CPR Gardens
- Union Cemetery
- Central Memorial Park
- Bowness Park
- Inglewood Bird Sanctuary

**DESIGN INFLUENCES**

- City Beautiful
- Picturesque
During and after WWI and WWII, public expressions of memorial were required. It was Calgary’s public spaces that allowed citizens to gather together and acknowledge the sacrifice.

**PARTICIPATION AND FITNESS**

**SUBURBAN GROWTH** Suburban areas grew rapidly after WWII and as a result, park space started to change. In the 1950s developers were required to set aside 10% of land for park space. Calgary’s park space still grows today with the 10% requirement.

**SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT** The influence of scientific management is still strong, and Parks manages various assets with specialized portfolios related to water management, urban forestry and biodiversity.

**GRASS ROOTS MOVEMENT** The Grass Roots Movement that started in Calgary in the 1960s has evolved into various alliances with groups that represent citizens’ interests. The Parks Foundation and the River Valleys Committee are two of these alliances.

**ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT** The Calgary Field Naturalists, another important civic group, play an important role in the conservation of Calgary’s natural areas.

**CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP** As the environmental movement continues to grow, sustainability becomes increasingly important. Calgary Parks has responded with a strong environmental education component.

**ALIANCES**

**GREEN DESIGN** The natural environment has functionally always had an impact on Calgary’s park spaces. As the environmental movement continues to develop, green design elements are becoming increasingly popular.

**MODERNISM** Modernism starts to influence park design in Calgary in the 1960s (Confederation Park) and the 1970s (Century Gardens).

**POST MODERNISM** Post modern design began to have an impact in the 1980s (Olympic Plaza) and as a result park design and urban spaces began to return to a more formal form.

**MODERNISM** Modernism is again influencing open space design.

> Harry Boothman became Parks Director in 1960. He focused on providing "Parks for People." Under his direction the concept of regional parks was established along with the beginnings of Calgary’s pathways system.

> Mayor Bronconnier established the Enmax Legacy Parks Program to secure long-term funding for Parks.
**Definition of Cultural Landscape**

The understanding of cultural landscapes began at the international level with discussions within UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization) and ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites). Today, the most widely accepted definition of cultural landscape in Canada is the one that was developed by UNESCO/ICOMOS in 1995:

“Cultural landscapes represent the combined works of nature and of man and are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic, and cultural forces, both external and internal.”

UNESCO/ICOMOS evaluates cultural landscapes with specific categories as a way to understand the significance of the landscape:

1. **Designed landscapes**

   This category includes landscapes designed or created intentionally by man. This includes gardens and parks that are considered historically significant due to the aesthetic qualities and/or design. The City of Calgary Parks’ examples of these landscapes include places like Central Memorial Park with its Formal Carpet Bed design, and Reader Rock Garden as an example of an Edwardian era Arts and Craft Rockery.

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1 While there is an attempt to categorize cultural landscapes, these categories are primarily used as a way of understanding why a landscape is historically significant. It is often the case that a landscape can be considered significant for more than one reason and, hence, falls into more than one category. Central Memorial Park, for example, is considered historically significant for its design – it is an excellent example of a Victorian era garden based on what is known as a geometric carpet bed. The park is also significant for its association with the War Memorial and the annual Remembrance Day ceremonies. Finally, the memorial association can be considered to have evolved over time as memorials were added to the park.
2. **Organically evolved landscapes**

The historic significance of these landscapes results from an initial social, economic, administrative and/or religious imperative and develops over time in response to the social and natural environment. Such landscapes reflect the process of evolution in their form and component features. They fall into two sub-categories:

2A. **Relict (or Fossil) landscapes**

are historically significant landscapes in which an evolutionary process has come to an end at some time in the past. The City of Calgary Parks’ examples of these landscapes include places with rich archaeological resources, such as Nose Hill Park, Paskapoo Slopes and 12 Mile Coulee.

2B. **Continuing landscapes** are historically significant landscapes that retain an active social role in contemporary society and where the evolutionary processes are still in progress, while still retaining the historic significance of the site. The City of Calgary Parks’ examples of these landscapes include the evolution of Bowness Park as a pleasure ground, offering at one time camping, then amusement rides and, now, the existing activities. Another example is Memorial Drive and the evolution as a memorial place that accommodated first transportation then recreation.

3. **Associative landscapes**

These landscapes are considered historically significant due to the associations with the landscape. This includes associations to people, institutions, events and activities. The City of Calgary Parks’ examples of these landscapes include Inglewood Bird Sanctuary with its association with Colonel Walker, and Battalion Park with its association with the training of Canadian soldiers for WWI.
Character defining elements of cultural landscapes

Parks Canada adds to the understanding of cultural landscapes by further identifying specific components within a landscape called **Character Defining Elements**. These are the physical components of the landscape; the physical connection to the heritage value or historic significance of that landscape. The historic significance of a resource is embodied in these physical character defining elements of a site. If any elements are listed as character defining, they must be retained in order to preserve the significance of the landscape. Parks Canada identifies 11 components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. SPATIAL ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>2. LAND PATTERNS</th>
<th>3. VISUAL RELATIONSHIPS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spatial organization refers to the arrangement of spaces in a cultural landscape and how the spaces are physically, visually or functionally connected.</td>
<td>Land pattern refers to the relationship of the cultural landscape to the larger adjacent landscape. This includes how the larger landscape impacts the cultural landscape and the role of the cultural landscape within the larger landscape.</td>
<td>Visual relationships are between an observer and a landscape. A viewscape (or view) can include scenes or panoramas over large areas, vistas, visual axes and sight lines to specific objects.</td>
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**Example:** how the six sub-gardens areas within Reader Rock Garden relate to each other.

**Example:** how the four garden plots of the Bridgeland-Riverside Vacant Lots Garden align with the four adjacent residential lots.

**Example:** the view from the library overlooking Central Memorial Park.

*Image of Reader Rock Garden Plan*  
C 1930s | The City of Calgary Parks

*Image of Bridgeland-Riverside Vacant Lots Garden*  
2007 | The City of Calgary Parks

*Image of Central Memorial Park*  
2010 | The City of Calgary Parks
<table>
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<tr>
<th>4. CIRCULATION</th>
<th>5. VEGETATION</th>
<th>6. ECOLOGICAL FEATURES</th>
<th>7. LANDFORMS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circulation refers to individual elements that facilitate or direct movement and travel, such as paths, trails, roads, parkways, bridges, tunnels, etc. A circulation system is the collection of those elements within the landscape.</td>
<td>Vegetation refers to trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, grasses, vines, aquatic and wetland plants, and other living plant material. Vegetation may include individual plants, such as a specimen tree or groupings (hedges, allées, perennial beds or wind rows).</td>
<td>An ecological feature is a natural element, such as a marsh, a pond or a stand of trees, which is typically part of a larger ecosystem. While it can be part of the vegetation component of a cultural landscape, it is separated out to ensure that ecological features are managed as part of the larger ecosystem.</td>
<td>Landforms include both natural and constructed elements, such as hills, valleys, flat plains, terraces, embankments, berms, ditches and swales.</td>
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<td>Example: the geometric pathways of Balmoral Circus.</td>
<td>Example: the memorial trees of Memorial Drive.</td>
<td>Example: the protected bird sanctuary at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary.</td>
<td>Example: the naturally occurring coulee landform that forms Confederation Park</td>
</tr>
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![Plan of Balmoral Circus](c 1930s | The City of Calgary Parks)

![Memorial Drive](2011 | The City of Calgary Parks)

![Deer in Inglewood Bird Sanctuary](2008 | The City of Calgary)

![Confederation Park](1967 | The City of Calgary, Corporate Records, Archives)
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<tr>
<th><strong>8. WATER FEATURES</strong></th>
<th><strong>9. BUILT FEATURES</strong></th>
<th><strong>10. TRADITIONAL PRACTICES</strong></th>
<th><strong>11. LAND USE</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Water features can include constructed and natural elements such as canals, ponds, reflecting pools, fountains, irrigation, rivers, streams and lakes. The role of the water feature may be functional or aesthetic, or a combination of both.</td>
<td>Built features are other features within the landscape and can include a wide array of items such as gazebos, statuary, fences, free-standing walls, site furnishings, archaeological remains and even buildings.</td>
<td>Traditional practices are actions that continue to occur within a cultural landscape by a specific community or group. This can be a traditional First Nations ceremony or an annual community light display.</td>
<td>Land uses are specific uses that contribute to the historic significance of the landscape, such as continuing use for wildlife grazing, continued use as farmland or continued recreational use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> the pond at Riley Park.</td>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> the Arts &amp; Craft twiggery benches at Reader Rock Garden.</td>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony at Central Memorial Park.</td>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> the continued use of ice skating at Bowness Park.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Senator Patrick Burns Rock Garden

c 1960s | The City of Calgary
Chapter 2.1: Identification and Evaluation of Cultural Landscapes

The City will identify and help to protect and manage Calgary’s historic resources by identifying and evaluating (via the Calgary Heritage Authority) a collection of City owned cultural landscapes.
Calgary’s collection of cultural landscapes includes a wide range of landscapes for citizens to experience.
2.1 Identification and Evaluation of Cultural Landscapes

The first step in any heritage strategy must be to identify those resources that are historically significant. Calgary’s Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources is a collection of resources evaluated by the Calgary Heritage Authority, which have been determined to have significant heritage value and are worthy of conservation.

The City of Calgary Parks has worked very closely with the Calgary Heritage Authority and Heritage Planning staff in starting to identify and evaluate Calgary’s cultural landscapes.

Value-based evaluation criteria were developed in 2008 to better understand the significance of historic resources, including landscapes. Calgary’s collection of cultural landscapes includes a wide range of landscapes for citizens to experience. This includes formally designed spaces like Central Memorial Park and Reader Rock Garden, recreational spaces like the Beltline Bowling Green, archaeological resources at Paskapoo Slopes, and unique resources, such as the Battalion Numbers on Signal Hill.

The inventory currently has more than 60 listed resources that are managed by The City of Calgary Parks. The City of Calgary Parks has undertaken a survey of the Parks’ inventory and has identified a total of 70+ landscapes with potential historic significance (see section 3). While there is an attempt to capture all of The City of Calgary’s cultural landscapes, there is also the realization that the inventory is ever increasing. As Calgary continues to develop, parks and landscapes are added to The City of Calgary Parks system, and some of those landscapes will inevitably have heritage value.

Policy

The City will identify and help to protect and manage Calgary’s historic resources by:

- Identifying and evaluating (via the Calgary Heritage Authority) a collection of City owned cultural landscapes that have historic significance.

Strategies

- The City of Calgary Parks will work with the Calgary Heritage Authority to have landscapes with potential historic significance evaluated, the significance determined and the names listed in the Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources.

- The City of Calgary Parks will work with the Calgary Heritage Authority and Heritage Planning staff to ensure the evaluation criteria used by the Calgary Heritage Authority accommodate the wide range of cultural landscapes found in The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory.

- The City of Calgary Parks will review urban development applications at the Outline Plan stage to identify any landscapes with potential historic significance. If it is found that any potential historic significance is evident, a Historic Resource Impact Assessment will be required, and there will be an attempt to capture any important cultural landscapes within allotted City of Calgary park space.

- The City of Calgary Parks will conduct a comprehensive survey every five years to identify any landscapes with potential heritage value within The City of Calgary parks system. This survey will then be reviewed with the Calgary Heritage Authority.

Italicized text is policy 2.3.3a from the Municipal Development Plan (2010)
Chapter 2.2: Conservation of Cultural Landscapes

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
Layering in, or adding a new use can revitalize a historic place that is in danger of being lost to either inactivity or to contemporary pressure to develop the landscape.
Conservation is the primary goal when managing historic resources and cultural landscapes. It ensures the historic significance of a site is maintained in the present and provides the framework to ensure the historic significance will be maintained in the future.

Cultural landscape conservation inherently deals with change, as landscapes are dynamic resources with elements that grow, evolve, deteriorate and die. As a result, it is difficult to establish absolute rules for all landscapes, but there are principles or conservation approaches outlined in the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

Conservation fundamentally consists of intervening on a site for the purpose of maintaining that site. Conservation interventions can include the repair of deteriorating elements, the reconstruction of missing elements, and the addition of new elements to a landscape.

Evaluating and determining the impact of a proposed conservation strategy is a complex undertaking and requires the expertise of a trained conservation landscape architect.

If a site is designated, all of the proposed work must be in compliance with the Historic Sites and Monuments Act (RSA 2002, cH-4), the Province of Alberta Historical Resources Act (RSA 2000 cH-9), and any ministerial orders or municipal bylaws related to the landscape. In addition, the proposed work must align with the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

Conservation approaches
The objective for any conservation strategy is to meet the functional goals and objectives of the landscape while respecting the historic significance of the site and maintaining the character defining elements. A conservation strategy should include short-term and interim measures to protect or stabilize the landscape, long-term actions to minimize deterioration or prevent damage, and may also include replacement and new construction.

The conservation strategy typically involves a combination of four conservation approaches: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and adaptive reuse.

The four conservation approaches can be understood as a continuum of interventions, with preservation requiring minimal intervention and focusing on maintaining the resource, rehabilitation requiring slightly more intervention and focusing on repairing the resource (but can include minimal alterations or additions to the resource), restoration, which requires even more intervention and typically includes accurately exposing or reconstructing specific elements of a resource, and adaptive reuse, which includes adding compatible, contemporary new uses to ensure continued use of the resource.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEAST INTERVENTION</th>
<th>MOST INTERVENTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRESERVATION</strong></td>
<td><strong>REHABILITATION</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definition: the action or process of protecting, maintaining and/or stabilizing the existing physical material of a cultural landscape, while protecting the historic significance of that landscape.</td>
<td>Definition: the action or process of repairing a cultural landscape through replacements, alterations and/or minimal additions, while protecting the historic significance of that landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Example: the maintenance and stabilization of the monuments at Central Memorial Park.</td>
<td>Example: the repair and alteration (for safety concerns) of the rock work at Reader Rock Garden.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preservation

Preservation is the process of protecting, maintaining and/or stabilizing the existing physical materials of a cultural landscape, while protecting the historic significance of the landscape. Preservation can include both short-term and interim measures to protect or stabilize the landscape, as well as long-term actions to minimize deterioration or prevent damage.

The goal is to retain the historic significance of the landscape through routine maintenance and minimal repair, rather than through extensive replacement and new construction.

Preservation should be considered as the primary conservation approach when the landscape’s character defining elements are intact and embody the heritage value of the site.

Preservation is typically the most cautious of the conservation treatments and retains the most original physical material. Authenticity is very important when preserving elements of a cultural landscape. The authentic elements are the original physical material, still in the original location and with the original relationship to the larger site. Sites or elements that exist in their original, authentic and intact condition should be preserved and required interventions should be as minimal as possible.

Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation is the process of repairing a cultural landscape or individual component through replacement, alterations and/or minimal additions, while protecting the historic significance of the cultural landscape. Rehabilitation standards acknowledge the need to replace, alter or add to a cultural landscape to meet the functional goals and objectives of the landscape.

Rehabilitation should be considered as the primary conservation approach when repair or replacement of deteriorated material is necessary. Rehabilitation can be fairly straightforward when conserving static, fixed elements. If a small part of a fence or pathway needs to be repaired or replaced, that can be completed as part of a rehabilitation approach. Rehabilitation can become more complex when dealing with cultural landscapes due to the fact that cultural landscapes are, by their very nature, evolutionary. The vegetation components within cultural landscapes naturally grow, change and eventually die.

Rehabilitation can be fairly straightforward when conserving static, fixed elements. If a small part of a fence or pathway needs to be repaired or replaced, that can be completed as part of a rehabilitation approach. Rehabilitation can become more complex when dealing with cultural landscapes due to the fact that cultural landscapes are, by their very nature, evolutionary. The vegetation components within cultural landscapes naturally grow, change and eventually die.

The living component of a cultural landscape is typically an important part of the historic record and contributes to the historic significance of the site. As a result, the vegetation, just as other character defining elements, needs to be conserved as a significant element of the cultural landscape. Expert, educated judgments will need to be made with respect to when living components, such as trees, are to be retained or replaced. Many factors need to be evaluated to determine what is necessary to retain the historic significance of the landscape, including:

- the health and safety of the living element.
- the contribution the living element makes to the historic significance of the site.
- the impact the element has on other components within the landscape.
**Restoration**

Restoration is the process of accurately revealing, recovering or reconstructing the state of a cultural landscape, while protecting the historic significance of the landscape. Restoration includes the removal of features from non-significant periods in history and the reconstruction of missing features from the significant period. Restoration must be based on clear evidence and detailed knowledge of the earlier physical forms and materials being recovered. Restoration should be considered as the primary conservation approach when the historic significance or heritage value of a landscape can be revealed through removing or reconstructing elements based on historical evidence.

Reconstruction standards establish a framework for re-creating non-surviving elements of a landscape with new materials. Re-creation of an element should not be considered without complete information of the original form and content. The removal of physical material can result in considerable change to a historic place. The restoration plan must include a thorough analysis of the historic significance of the landscape as part of the justification for this approach.

**Adaptive reuse**

Adaptive reuse is the process of including a new use in a cultural landscape through the addition of contemporary elements that are compatible with the style, era and character of the site, while protecting the historic significance of the landscape.

The objective for any conservation strategy is to meet the functional goals and objectives of the landscape, and that can include layering in new uses to ensure the landscape is actively used and valued by society.

The *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* outlines that new uses or new elements added to a historic place should be physically and visually compatible with, subordinate to and distinguishable from the historic place.

Adaptive reuse should be considered as the primary conservation approach when alterations or additions to the historic place are planned for a new use of, or uses on, the site. Layering in, or adding a new use can revitalize a historic place that is in danger of being lost to either inactivity or to contemporary pressure to develop the landscape. A plan for the new uses, including evaluating the impact of the required interventions, needs to be developed before the new uses are added.

If the use of a cultural landscape is part of the heritage value, then that use should be retained if possible. If the original use is no longer functionally possible, then a use compatible with the historic significance of the landscape should be found. Historic homesteads have been altered for park purposes within The City of Calgary, including Edworthy Park, Inglewood Bird Sanctuary and Pearce Estate Park. A viable use or the addition of new uses will help to ensure the long-term survival of a cultural landscape, since an actively used site is typically valued by the users and is retained within the community.

(Plants used in the 2004/2005 restoration of the planting beds at Reader Rock Garden were based on thorough historic research and the historic plants list.)

2005 | The City of Calgary Parks
Policies
Ensure that the protection and enhancement of historic assets in Calgary is based on an understanding of their special character and form part of the wider design and urban development agenda by ensuring:

• The management of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes, will be governed by Cultural Resource Strategic Plans that set out the guidelines and standards for conservation of the resources.

The City will be a leader in preserving and enlivening historic resources using all tools and mechanisms currently available to a municipality including ensuring:

• A Historical Resource Impact Assessment will be conducted prior to development to ensure the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

Strategies
• The City of Calgary Parks will establish a Cultural Landscape portfolio for the purpose of providing expert advice and consultation for the conservation of cultural landscapes within the city of Calgary.

• The City of Calgary Parks will integrate conservation into the management of cultural landscapes at various areas within the business unit, including acquisition, re-development, operation, and education.

• The City of Calgary Parks will develop a conservation strategy for each cultural landscape in the Parks’ inventory to ensure the significance of the site is maintained. Parks will engage and respond to public needs, and will ensure the conservation strategy meets the functional goals and objectives of the public.

• The City of Calgary Parks will approach each cultural landscape individually and use conservation approaches in response to the specific elements and situation of the individual landscape. The conservation approach will use preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and adaptive reuse strategies as outlined in the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

• The City of Calgary Parks will develop best practices and performance measures for individual cultural landscapes to effectively conserve the heritage value of the site.

• The City of Calgary Parks will ensure an appropriate evaluation of any proposed interventions on or within a cultural landscape to ensure the various interventions will respect and retain the heritage value of the site.

The Café at Central Memorial Park was built in the historic location of the small washroom building. While the café is a new addition to the park, (and acts as an adaptive reuse) it was placed in a way that respected the historic design of the park.

The Café at Central Memorial Park was built in the historic location of the small washroom building. While the café is a new addition to the park, (and acts as an adaptive reuse) it was placed in a way that respected the historic design of the park.
Ensure that the protection and enhancement of historic assets in Calgary is based on an understanding of their special character and form part of the wider design and urban development agenda, by ensuring the management of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes, will be governed by Cultural Resource Strategic Plans that set out the guidelines and standards for conservation of the resources.

Policy:

Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes
The purpose of conserving cultural landscapes is for the use and enjoyment of the landscapes by people.
2.3 Operation of Cultural Landscapes

The purpose of conserving cultural landscapes is for the use and enjoyment of the landscapes by people.

The ongoing operation of a cultural landscape is key to the success and enjoyment of that landscape. Operational staff act as the front line in the management of The City of Calgary Parks’ cultural landscapes. The operational activities undertaken in a cultural landscape can contribute to the conservation of that site if knowledgeable and committed staff are working within a framework that protects the historic significance of the landscape.

Site-specific conservation plans

Site-specific conservation plans are integral to the long-term conservation of cultural landscapes, as these documents create the framework for conservation. The cumulative effects of the regular use and operation of a cultural landscape can either preserve or degrade the site; it can have either a positive or negative impact on that landscape. Site-specific conservation plans identify any negative cumulative effects and counteract them with policies, protocols and procedures that respect and maintain the historic significance of the landscape.
Historic significance
The first component of a site-specific conservation plan is to establish why the site is considered historically significant. The intention is for staff to develop an understanding of how their work can positively or negatively impact the landscape. A concise history of the site is included in the plan, along with information on why the landscape is considered historically significant (known as The Statement of Significance). The plan will include copies of historic plans, plant lists, photographs, post cards, aerial photos, etc.
This information is used to assist staff in understanding the history of the landscape and how the site developed over time.

The information also identifies physical material or specific components that staff can preserve to maintain the historic significance of the landscape, including a list of character defining elements.

Character defining elements are tangible, physical components of a cultural landscape that need to be retained.

Character defining elements in cultural landscapes are organized in 11 categories:

- Spatial organization
- Land patterns
- Visual relationships
- Circulation
- Vegetation
- Ecological features
- Landforms
- Water features
- Built features
- Traditional practices
- Land use

See chapter 1.2: Understanding Cultural Landscapes for a detailed definition of character defining elements.
New elements like the fountains at Central Memorial Park can be added to a cultural landscape to revitalize the historic site.

**Heritage protocol**

The heritage protocol is based on a sound conservation approach and provides staff with general guidelines to ensure the historic significance of the site is maintained while still actively operating the park. These guidelines are based on the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada and ensure that any necessary alterations, interventions, etc., are done in a way that conserves the historic significance of the landscape. Cultural landscape portfolio staff will work with operational staff to ensure the heritage protocol is understood and the historic significance of the site is retained.

The operation of any cultural landscape within the Parks’ inventory will include a degree of alteration, intervention and change, as landscapes are dynamic, ever-evolving resources.

There will be alterations of certain elements to better accommodate park users, interventions for safety reasons, the removal of trees as they become diseased, etc. New elements can also be added to a cultural landscape to revitalize the historic site.

The protocol for alterations and interventions that have the potential to negatively affect the heritage value of the landscape will include the engagement of the cultural landscape portfolio staff. Technical support can be provided to assist staff in avoiding or minimizing any negative impacts.

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3 See Chapter 2.2: Conservation of Cultural Landscapes for detailed information about conservation approaches.

4 All new interventions on or within a cultural landscape should be compatible with the style, era and character of the historic site. See Chapter 2.2: Conservation of Cultural Landscapes for detailed information about adaptive reuse and the addition of new elements within a cultural landscape.
Operational standards
The operational standards will be specific to each cultural landscape and will outline specific standards for the various character defining elements within the landscape. The document will establish best practices and will outline the functions and techniques required to maintain the character defining elements and the overall landscape. This can include best practice for maintenance of specific landscape components, horticultural requirements, tree and plant replacement, pruning and plantings to retain views, water management and the maintenance of pathways, site furniture and built features.

Also included within operational standards are regular inspection and monitoring of the landscape and the associated character defining elements. The inspections and monitoring can identify any damage that occurs after naturally occurring events (such as storms), any damage that occurs after public or private events, any vandalism to the site from unregulated use, and any cumulative effects of the ongoing maintenance that is negatively impacting the historic significance of the site.

Staffing requirements
The operational staff are integral to the success of the landscape, as they are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the landscape. Without sufficient dedicated staff, who are committed to maintaining the historic significance of the landscape, the landscape will deteriorate and negatively impact the heritage value and character defining elements of the site.

The conservation plan will outline skills required to maintain the site, as some sites will require some degree of specialization. The plan will also specify the optimal number and type of staff required to maintain the site, as understaffed sites can suffer from deterioration due to neglect.

Each cultural landscape should have a lead operational contact who knows the history of the landscape and understands the historic significance of the landscape. This staff position will regularly meet with the cultural landscape portfolio staff to ensure the on-site operation does not negatively impact the historic significance of the landscape.

Site carrying capacity
Establishing a manageable carrying capacity for a cultural landscape is required to ensure that park users are not unknowingly or unnecessarily negatively impacting the landscape. Many of the unique cultural landscapes inherently attract event use. If the event is not correctly monitored and evaluated, regular event use of a sensitive cultural landscape can have a negative impact on the site.

The conservation plan will anticipate the numbers and interests of event users to the landscape, and will outline the maximum numbers of visitors per event. The plan will also list the type of public use that is acceptable and will prohibit activities that are unacceptable or will have a negative impact on the landscape. Carrying capacities will be evaluated annually to ensure any restrictions are accommodating public need while protecting the landscape.

Documentation
Documentation is crucial when managing cultural landscapes, as landscapes are living, evolving resources. It is the documentation that records the evolution, the changes, the operational alterations, the impacts from natural events, the impact from cultural events, etc.

Any changes to the resource will be routinely and thoroughly recorded in an annual report of the operation of the cultural landscape.

The annual report will be a short document, with photos, that includes the following: a list of any changes to the site and why the change occurred; the identification of any operational protocols that pose a difficulty; a review of the levels and recommendations for future staffing levels; and a summary of public use of the park and comment on the recommended carrying capacity.

The annual report will add to the comprehensive understanding of the cultural landscape and will contribute to the ongoing conservation of the landscape.
Policy

Ensure that the protection and enhancement of historic assets in Calgary is based on an understanding of their special character and form part of the wider design and urban development agenda* by ensuring:

- The management of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes, will be governed by Cultural Resource Strategic Plans that set out the guidelines and standards for conservation of the resources.

Strategies

- The City of Calgary Parks will establish a Cultural Landscape portfolio for the purpose of providing expert advice and consultation to assist operational staff in the operation and management of cultural landscapes.
- The City of Calgary Parks will establish a lead operational contact for each cultural landscape. This contact will work with the Cultural Landscape portfolio staff to develop best practices and performance measures for individual sites to efficiently conserve the heritage value of the cultural landscape.
- The City of Calgary Parks will assign sufficient staff to cultural landscape sites to ensure the long-term conservation of that landscape. These staff members will be educated on why cultural landscapes are valuable and how historic significance is maintained within the landscape.
- The City of Calgary Parks will develop best practices and performance measures for individual sites to efficiently conserve the heritage value of the cultural landscape.

*Italicized text is policy 2.3.3b from the Municipal Development Plan (2010)
Chapter 2.4: Archaeological Resources and Culturally Significant Areas

The City will be a leader in preserving and enlivening historic resources using all tools and mechanisms currently available to a municipality including ensuring a Historical Resource Impact Assessment will be conducted prior to development to ensure the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

Encourage owners to conserve and/or enhance Calgary’s historic resources, including historic structures, streetscapes, landmarks and viewpoints, parks and gardens, landscapes, topographical and natural features, archaeological sites and artifacts by developing partnerships and collaboration opportunities with external organizations that own, manage, or have an interest in the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

Policies:

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
The Calgary region was one of two primary First Nations settlement areas in the foothills of southern Alberta. The history of First Nations occupation of the region extends to the close of the last Ice Age, over 10,000 years ago.
2.4 Archaeological Resources and Culturally Significant Areas

Archaeological resources
Archaeological sites are defined by Parks Canada as places or areas where tangible evidence of past human activity is located in situ on, below or above ground, or on lands under water. An archaeological site is characterized by its environment, including stratified deposits with physical traces of the site’s formation that help determine the significance of the site.

The majority of archaeological sites in Calgary are pre-contact, First Nations archaeological sites.

The Calgary region was one of two primary First Nations settlement areas in the foothills of southern Alberta. The history of First Nations occupation of the region extends to the close of the last Ice Age, over 10,000 years ago. First Nations archaeological sites in Calgary range from isolated stone tools and small tipi ring camps, to major winter camps and bison kill/processing sites. The majority of the recorded sites are small sites and artefact finds of limited significance to the Province (with HRV ratings of 0); however, some of the sites are of regional and provincial significance (with HRV ratings of 4–1).

There are more than 350 archaeological sites in Calgary, identified by the Province as significant (361 HRV4, 1 HRV3, and 4 HRV1). Many of these sites, and some of the HRV0 sites, are an important component of the First Nations heritage of our city and should be managed as such.

An archaeological site can include one, or a combination of the following character defining elements:

- Features, such as hearths, stone tool manufacture areas, staging areas, cairns and rock art, and natural features that have cultural significance.
- Structures, such as remains of stone walls, tent rings or industrial machinery, which can be below or above ground.
- Archaeological objects, such as artefacts, soil and botanical samples, animal remains, pollen or any specimen associated with the site that provides information on its characteristics, function and significance.
- Physical places with evidence of human activity identified through local knowledge or oral tradition.
Ownership
All archaeological sites in Alberta are owned by the Crown as outlined in the Alberta Historical Resources Act (RSA 2009 cH-9). As land is developed in Alberta, it is common for sites with archaeological significance to be transferred to The City of Calgary as part of the Environmental Reserve to avoid disturbing the site or to avoid further study that is identified by the Province of Alberta. While the land is transferred to The City, the archaeological sites remain the property of the Crown.

Within The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory there are currently 167 sites recorded and significant (164 HRV 4 and 3HRV 1). Three site complexes are listed on Calgary’s Inventory of Evaluated Historic Sites (Paskapoo Slopes, 12 Mile Coulee and Nose Hill Park), and collectively they include 39 sites. The City of Calgary does have a responsibility, under the Alberta Historical Resources Act, to appropriately protect and maintain any archaeological sites located on City-owned land, including parkland.

Conservation
Archaeological resources differ from extant resources, because their character defining elements are often hidden below grade. The ongoing maintenance and conservation of archaeological sites relies on periodic evaluations, and focuses on the archaeological sites and the immediate environment. Monitoring site conditions is an important component of the long-term conservation of archaeological resources.

Archaeological sites should be preserved in situ to preserve the heritage value of the site; any negative impacts on the site’s significance should be limited. However, in situations where preservation is threatened due to natural impacts (e.g. natural erosion patterns) or cultural impacts (e.g. desire to develop recreational opportunities), a controlled archaeological investigation should be undertaken in collaboration with the Province and any associated cultural group, to ensure any threatened elements are fully recorded and the significance is documented.

Culturally significant areas
The majority of archaeological sites in Calgary are First Nations archaeological sites. Some of these may have been given special meaning by a First Nations people and, as a result, may be considered culturally sensitive places. These places can be First Nations spiritual places and can include burial places, medicine wheels and effigies, or other sites that may have spiritual value for the community.

First Nations people may deem a specific site as significant through their oral traditions and not necessarily via any existing physical archaeological material. The City has a responsibility to preserve the richness of the oral history and the ongoing value of those sites, just as they do with sites identified with physical material.

When working within culturally significant areas it is important to work with any affiliated communities. This collaboration will define and determine acceptable activities within the landscape. The collaborative approach enables a continued relationship between the cultural group and the culturally significant area and can include access and use for rituals, ceremonies and traditional gatherings if desired. The City of Calgary Community & Neighbourhood Services has recently been developing policy and practice that focuses on consultation with First Nations to develop working relationships and finding solutions within a collaborative framework.

5 If human remains are discovered as part of an archaeological site, the proper authorities must be contacted. Any action on land with human remains should only be performed according to provincial legislation and be supported by the affiliated community.
Policy
The City will be a leader in preserving and enlivening historic resources using all tools and mechanisms currently available to a municipality including ensuring:

• A Historical Resource Impact Assessment will be conducted prior to development to ensure the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

Encourage owners to conserve and/or enhance Calgary’s historic resources, including historic structures, streetscapes, landmarks and viewpoints, parks and gardens, landscapes, topographical and natural features, archaeological sites and artifacts by:

• Developing partnerships and collaboration opportunities with external organizations that own, manage, or have an interest in the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

Strategies
• The City of Calgary Parks will conserve and celebrate the historic significance of archaeological sites and culturally significant areas located within The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory.

• The City of Calgary Parks will identify and maintain an up-to-date list of all archaeological sites located in The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory.

• The City of Calgary Parks will create an archaeological resource/ culturally significant area framework that ensures the long-term conservation of archaeological sites within Calgary parkland.

• The City of Calgary Parks will engage First Nations (via Community & Neighbourhood Services) to identify any open space or natural area that is considered culturally significant.

• The City of Calgary Parks will undertake investigation, via predictive modelling, to identify any natural areas where further archaeological study is required.

• The City of Calgary Parks will review applications for subdivisions at the Outline Plan stage for the purpose of capturing any significant archaeological resources within allotted City of Calgary park space.

• The City of Calgary Parks will collaborate with any First Nations (via Community & Neighbourhood Services) when undertaking any activity on landscapes with culturally significant sites.

• The City of Calgary Parks will develop an education and interpretive component to celebrate the history of First Nations within the Calgary landscape, while still maintaining the significance of the individual artefacts.

Archaeological sites should be preserved in situ to preserve the heritage value of the site; any negative impacts on the site’s significance should be limited.

*Italicized text is policy 2.3.3e from the Municipal Development Plan (2010)*

*Italicized text is policy 2.3.3d from the Municipal Development Plan (2010)*
Chapter 2.5: Statutory Designation of Cultural Landscapes

The City will be a leader in preserving and enlivening historic resources using all tools and mechanisms currently available to a municipality including ensuring City owned cultural resources, including cultural landscapes, will be legally protected via the Alberta Historic Resources Act.
Designation is an important component within a heritage conservation strategy, as the designation of historic resources, including cultural landscapes, can be beneficial for the resource for legal protection, commemoration purposes and for access to grant funds.
Designation is an important component within a heritage conservation strategy, as the designation of historic resources, including cultural landscapes, can be beneficial for the resource in three primary ways:

- **Legal protection**, to ensure retention of the historic significance.
- **Commemoration**, to increase public awareness of the historic significance.
- **Access to government funds**, for conservation of the historic significance.

The designation of historic resources, including cultural landscapes, can be done at the federal, provincial and municipal level in Canada. National Historic Site designation is achieved via the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act* (RSA 2002, ch·4). Provincial Historic Resource designation and Municipal Historic Resource designation are achieved via Alberta’s *Historical Resources Act* (RSA 2009 ch·H-9).

Calgary does have a small number of cultural landscapes that may be eligible for National Historic Site designation; for example, Central Memorial Park, Reader Rock Garden and Memorial Drive may qualify.

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*Legal protection of cultural landscapes is important, as it ensures the conservation of the landscapes in the present and the future.*

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6 Please see chart in part 3 for identification of Provincial Historic Resources within The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory.
Legal protection

Legal protection of cultural landscapes is important, as it ensures the conservation of the landscapes in the present and the future. There is no legal protection for sites designated a National Historic Site, as provincial and territorial governments hold jurisdiction over privately owned property. Both Provincial Historic Resource and Municipal Historic Resource designations provide legal protection under the provincial Historical Resources Act, and this ensures that “no person shall destroy, disturb, alter” any historic resource that has been so designated. Legal protection prevents demolition, assists with the establishment of a framework to accommodate potential changes or interventions, and contributes to long-term conservation of historic resources, including cultural landscapes.

Commemoration

All three levels of designation commemorate the historic significance of a designated site. Commemoration is valuable as it is an immediate indicator to visitors that a site is of value. Commemoration can also effectively be used to increase the public awareness of a site. All three levels of designation in Canada make the designated resources eligible for the Canadian Register of Historic Places. The Register is “a searchable database containing information about recognized historic places of local, provincial, territorial and national significance.” One of the primary goals of the Register is to increase the awareness of Canada’s historic places. If The City of Calgary Parks’ collection of designated cultural landscapes is added to the Register, Calgarians, Canadians and people all over the world can learn about the history and significance of these landscapes. Designation, at any level, would immediately indicate to the public the significance of the cultural landscape.

Access to funding

All three levels of government have funding programs in place for the conservation of designated historic resources. Funding for these programs fluctuates according to budgets and political priorities, but typically each level of government has grant programs in place for the conservation of historic resources.

At the federal level, the National Historic Sites of Canada Cost-Sharing Program is administered by Parks Canada.

At the provincial level the Heritage Preservation Partnership Program is administered by Alberta Culture and Community Spirit and the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation.

At the municipal level, The City of Calgary Land Use Planning & Policy is developing a grant program for commercial Municipal Historic Resources.

The Municipal program does not provide any funding for non-commercial resources, and as a result, cultural landscapes would not be eligible to access the municipal grants. All of the programs require the site be designated in order to access the grant funding, illustrating the importance of designation.
Policy

The City will be a leader in preserving and enlivening historic resources using all tools and mechanisms currently available to a municipality including ensuring:

- City owned cultural resources, including cultural landscapes, will be legally protected via the Alberta Historic Resources Act.

Strategies

- The City of Calgary Parks will work with Heritage Planning staff and Alberta Culture and Community Spirit to secure Municipal Historic Resource designation for Calgary's cultural landscapes to ensure these landscapes are legally protected.

- The City of Calgary Parks will secure designation for each cultural landscape and will work with Parks Canada to ensure the inclusion of each cultural landscape in the Canadian Register of Historic Places.

- The City of Calgary Parks will regularly apply for government grants to secure funds for the conservation of eligible designated cultural landscapes.

- The City of Calgary Parks will work with Heritage Planning staff to establish a grant program for Municipal Historic Resources that is not limited to commercial properties.

Italicized text is policy 2.3.3e from the Municipal Development Plan (2010)
Chapter 2.6: Education and Awareness of Cultural Landscapes

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }

Preserve, enhance and feature important elements of significant architectural, topographical, landscape, scenic, ecological, recreational or cultural interest by establishing education and awareness programs with the intent of developing an intrinsic, public value for cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.
Cultural landscapes are conserved for the use and enjoyment of people. Education and awareness are important components within the conservation cycle, as they encourage people to actively use and value historic sites.
2.6 Education and Awareness of Cultural Landscapes

Cultural landscapes are conserved for the use and enjoyment of people. Education and awareness are important components within the conservation cycle, as they encourage people to actively use and value historic sites. The conservation cycle is based on education and awareness contributing to the understanding and ultimate valuing of a cultural landscape.

By valuing the landscape, people will want to care for it; by caring for it, people will enjoy it; and through enjoyment comes the desire to understand the landscape, which starts the cycle over again. With more people understanding, valuing and caring for cultural landscapes, the more valuable cultural landscapes become to the community.

Conservation cycle

- Understanding: By understanding the historic resource, people will value it.
- Valuing: By valuing the historic resource they will want to care for it.
- Enjoying: By caring for the historic resource they will enjoy it.
- Caring For: Enjoying the historic resource inspires a desire to understand it.
Understanding
Developing an understanding of why a cultural landscape has heritage value is primarily accomplished by presenting the information to the public. This can be done via a variety of approaches, including small on-site interpretation signs, Internet-based interpretation, organized site tours, and the development of classroom or volunteer programs that educate both children and adults. All interpretation and education approaches should be undertaken with the intent of establishing an intrinsic value for the landscape.

Within the city of Calgary there are many opportunities for people to learn about the history of the city, including the history of many cultural landscapes. The Calgary Public Library has the Community Heritage and Family History Collection that contains historical government documents and studies on park planning and relevant photographs and postcards; the Glenbow Museum and Archives has an extensive archive collection; the University of Calgary and Mount Royal University have compiled extensive research on the history of the city; The City of Calgary Corporate Records and Archives has records related to parks that date back to the establishment of our city; and The City of Calgary Heritage Planning has the Internet-based "Discover Historic Calgary."

Valuing
The purpose of establishing a public understanding of why a cultural landscape is considered historically significant is to develop a public valuing of the site. The public valuing the landscape will aid in the long-term conservation of the landscape. This approach has been used extensively in the conservation of natural areas. The assumption is that if people understand why a landscape (natural or cultural) is valuable, those people will start to value the landscape, and the same people will take care when they use the site.

Caring for
Caring for a landscape can take many forms. It can simply be one person choosing to stay on a designated pathway, making sure not to trample natural or ornamental vegetation. It can be the establishment of a volunteer group that educates others as to why a cultural landscape is valuable. It can be the community association actively participating in the management of a valuable community cultural landscape. What is important is that Calgarians are actively caring for and using the landscapes.

Enjoying
The ultimate goal is to ensure that Calgarians are actively using and enjoying Calgary’s cultural landscapes. The experiences can be learning about and exploring ornamental alpine plants at Reader Rock Garden, skating on the Bowness Lagoon, gardening in the Bridgeland-Riverside Vacant Lots Garden, biking along the Memorial Drive pathway, or bird watching at the Colonel Walker Homestead and Bird Sanctuary. The more time Calgarians spend in cultural landscapes, the more they will want to learn about them, the more they will value them and the more they will use, enjoy and ultimately conserve them.
The more time Calgarians spend in cultural landscapes, the more they will want to learn about them, the more they will value them and the more they will use, enjoy and ultimately conserve them.

**Policy**

*Preserve, enhance and feature important elements of significant architectural, topographical, landscape, scenic, ecological, recreational or cultural interest* by:

- Establishing education and awareness programs with the intent of developing an intrinsic, public value for cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

**Strategies**

- The City of Calgary Parks will develop an interpretation strategy for each cultural landscape within The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory.
- The City of Calgary Parks Environmental and Education Initiatives staff will work with Cultural Landscape Portfolio staff to develop Internet-based interpretation, educational programs for both children and adults, and volunteer opportunities designed to promote the ongoing conservation and use of cultural landscapes.
- The City of Calgary Parks will work with other organizations and business units to support the understanding of cultural landscapes in The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory.

**Italicized text is policy 2.4.1b from the Municipal Development Plan (2010)**
Encourage owners to conserve and/or enhance Calgary’s historic resources, including historic structures, streetscapes, landmarks and viewpoints, parks and gardens, landscapes, topographical and natural features, archaeological sites and artifacts by developing partnerships and collaboration opportunities with external organizations that own, manage, or have an interest in the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

Policy:

2.7

Chapter 2.7: Records and Archives

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
Historic reports, plans, plants lists, photos, air photos, and other historic documents are used to ensure an historic place is accurately and authentically relaying the history and significance of the site.
2.7 Records and Archives

Importance of Documentation and Archives

Organized record keeping and preservation of documentation in publicly accessible archives are essential elements in heritage conservation. Historic reports, plans, plant lists, photos, air photos, and other historic documents are used to ensure an historic place is accurately and authentically relaying the history of the site. This historic material can be found in a variety of places within Calgary, including The City of Calgary, Corporate Records, Archives; The Glenbow Museum Archives; and the Community Heritage and Family History Collection at the Calgary Public Library.

Contemporary documentation is required to ensure future generations can continue to research the evolution of The City of Calgary Parks in order to understand the history of open space development in Calgary. It is required to determine the significance of various open spaces in the future. Publicly accessible archives should annually receive the following contemporary documentation:

- All completed planning documents.
- The annual growth of new open space from capital development, urban development, donations, etc.
- Summary of development and improvement of existing open space.
- Summary of standards, techniques and procedures for park operations and the various park portfolios.

Policy

*Encourage owners to conserve and/or enhance Calgary’s historic resources, including historic structures, streetscapes, landmarks and viewpoints, parks and gardens, landscapes, topographical and natural features, archaeological sites and artifacts* by:

- Developing partnerships and collaboration opportunities with external organizations that own, manage, or have an interest in the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

Strategies

- The City of Calgary Parks will ensure the long term documentation of, and public access to, the evolution of open space planning, growth, development, and operations within The City of Calgary Parks.
- The City of Calgary Parks Asset Reporting and Information System (PARIS) will work with Parks Operations staff, Parks Planning staff, staff from The City of Calgary Parks various portfolios and Cultural Landscape Portfolio staff to develop an annual reporting requirement, archive accession policy and procedure.
- The City of Calgary Parks will develop working relationships with The City of Calgary, Corporate Records, Archives; The Glenbow Museum Archives; and The Calgary Public Library to develop standards and best practices for accession requirements.

Contemporary documentation is required to ensure future generations can continue to research the evolution of The City of Calgary Parks in order to understand the history of open space development in Calgary.

*Italicized text is policy 2.3.3d from the Municipal Development Plan (2010)*
Chapter 2.8: Collaboration and Partnerships

Encourage owners to conserve and/or enhance Calgary’s historic resources, including historic structures, streetscapes, landmarks and viewpoints, parks and gardens, landscapes, topographical and natural features, archaeological sites and artifacts by developing partnerships and collaboration opportunities with external organizations that own, manage, or have an interest in the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.
Many of Calgary’s most important landscapes are not part of The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory, but are managed by civic partners, community associations and private businesses. Some of the most noteworthy include Fort Calgary, the Zoo and some historic communities, such as Mount Royal, Cliff Bunaglow/Mission and Chinatown.
2.8 Collaboration and Partnerships

Cultural landscapes external to The City of Calgary Parks

The conservation of Calgary’s cultural landscapes cannot entirely be completed within The City of Calgary Parks’ framework. Many of Calgary’s most important landscapes are not part of The City of Calgary Parks’ inventory, but are managed by civic partners, community associations and private businesses. Some of the most noteworthy include Fort Calgary, the Zoo and some historic communities, such as Mount Royal, Cliff Bunaglow/Mission and Chinatown.

The industrialized landscapes associated with the railways also have heritage value and are significant landscapes that illustrate our development as a city. With the Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan, The City of Calgary Parks is emerging as a leader in North America regarding the conservation of cultural landscapes.

The expertise developed within the Parks business unit should be available to other business units, civic partners, community associations, organizations, private citizens and businesses interested in identifying, conserving, managing and celebrating Calgary’s cultural landscapes.

Cultural landscapes are important and irreplaceable historic resources in the city of Calgary. These landscapes connect citizens with the past and tell the story of how Calgary developed. Cultural landscapes are vital to contemporary society; they contribute to great communities by enhancing character, vibrancy, identity and sense of place. These landscapes are tangible pieces of Calgary’s history and are valuable to our communities today; they should be conserved and celebrated as such.

Policy

Encourage owners to conserve and/or enhance Calgary’s historic resources, including historic structures, streetscapes, landmarks and viewpoints, parks and gardens, landscapes, topographical and natural features, archaeological sites and artifacts by:

- Developing partnerships and collaboration opportunities with external organizations that own, manage, or have an interest in the conservation of cultural resources, including cultural landscapes.

Strategies

- The City of Calgary Parks will develop working relationships with the Calgary Heritage Authority, the Calgary Heritage Initiative and other heritage groups, to encourage the identification and celebration of cultural landscapes.
- The City of Calgary Parks will develop working relationships and offer assistance to community associations and organizations committed to the conservation of cultural landscapes.
Historic Resources within The City of Calgary Parks

**Parks, Gardens, and Recreational Landscapes**
1. Battalion Numbers
2. Bowness Park
3. Bridgeland-Riverside Vacant Lots Garden
4. Calgary Lawn Bowling Club
5. Capitol Hill Park
6. Central Memorial Park
7. Century Gardens
8. Confederation Park
9. Crescent Park
10. Elbow Park Swimming Pool Grounds
11. George Moss Park
12. Inglewood Lawn Bowling Club
13. McDougall Cairn
14. Olympic Plaza
15. Ranchlands Cairn
16. Reader Rock Garden
17. Riley Park
18. Rotary Park Lawn Bowls
19. Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Garden
20. South Mount Royal Parks (Cartier Park, Levis Park, South Mount Royal Park & Talon Avenue Garden)
21. Scarboro/ Sunalta Parks (Sunalta Recreation Ground, Triangle Park & Ward Plot)

**Homestead, Estate, Commercial and Institutional Lands**
24. Beaulieu Gardens
25. Brick Burn (part of Edworthy Park)
26. Colonel Walker Homestead & Bird Sanctuary
27. Edworthy Park and Sandstone Quarry
28. Fort Calgary
29. Pearce Estates
30. Riveredge Park

**Cemeteries**
21. Burnsland Cemetery
22. Chinese Cemetery
23. St. Mary’s Cemetery
24. Union Cemetery

**Archaeological Resources**
47. Nose Hill Archaeological Sites
48. Paskapoo Slope Archaeological Sites
49. Twelve Mile Coulee Archaeological Sites

**Buildings & Building Remnants**
26. Colonel Walker House
27. Edworthy House
28. Elbow Park Swimming Building
29. Fire Hall #6
30. Lindsey’s Foily
31. Union Cemetery Caretaker’s Cottage
32. Union Cemetery Mortuary
33. William Reader House

**Homestead, Estate, Commercial and Institutional Lands**
44. Sandy Beach Pedestrian Bridge
45. Senlac Street SW
46. Sharon Avenue SW
47. Shelbourne Street SW
48. Shouldice Hextall Bridge
49. Sifton Boulevard SW

**Boulevards, Streets & Bridges**
30. 4a Street NW
31. 5 Avenue NE
32. 5 Street NW
33. 5A Street SW
34. 6th Ave Lilac Median
35. 7 Avenue NE
36. 7 Street NW
37. 8 Avenue NE
38. 8 Street NE
39. 9 Avenue N
40. 9 Avenue SE
41. 9 Street SE
42. 10 Avenue N
43. 11 Avenue N
44. Balmoral Circus
45. Beaumont Circus
46. Bowness Road Lilac Median
47. Frontenac Avenue SW
48. Garden Crescent
49. Memorial Drive
50. Montcalm Crescent SW
51. Montreal Avenue SW
52. Quarry Trail
53. Quebec Avenue SW
54. Rideau Pedestrian Bridge
55. Riverdale Avenue SW
3.2: List of Parks’ Cultural Landscapes

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
# The City of Calgary Parks: Cultural Landscapes and Historic Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parks, Gardens, and Recreational Landscapes</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Primary Cultural Landscape Type</th>
<th>Primary Conservation Approach</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Potential Significance</th>
<th>Ward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Battalion Numbers</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>3020 Signal Hill Dr. S.W.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<td>Bowness Park</td>
<td>1912</td>
<td>8900 48th Ave. N.W.</td>
<td>evolving</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
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<td>Bridgeland-Riverside Vacant Lots Garden</td>
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<td>46 7th St. N.E.</td>
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<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<td>Calgary Lawn Bowling Club</td>
<td>1929</td>
<td>1236 16th Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capitol Hill Park</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>14th St. and 20th Ave. N.W</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<td>Cartier Park</td>
<td>1911/35</td>
<td>1008 Premier Way S.W</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<td>Central Memorial Park</td>
<td>1912</td>
<td>1221 2nd St. S.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<td>Century Gardens</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>800 8th St. S.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
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<td>Confederation Park</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>2416 10th St. N.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<td>Crescent Park</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td>1201 2nd St. N.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elbow Park Swimming Pool Grounds</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>Elbow Drive at 29th Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
<td>provincial</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Moss Park</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>74th Ave. and 24th St. S.E</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inglewood Lawn Bowling Club</td>
<td>1936</td>
<td>1235 8th Ave. S.E.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Levis Park (Carlton Plot)</td>
<td>1911/51</td>
<td>1121 Levis Ave. S.W</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<td>McDougall Cairn Site</td>
<td>1876</td>
<td>133 Panora Way N.W.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>commemoration</td>
<td>provincial</td>
<td>national</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olympic Plaza</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>228 8th Ave. S.E.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>adaptive reuse</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ranchlands Parks</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>700 Ranchlands Blvd. N.W</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reader Rock Garden</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>339 25th Ave. S.E.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; restoration</td>
<td>provincial</td>
<td>national</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riley Park</td>
<td>1911</td>
<td>800 12th St. N.W</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>restoration &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rotary Park Lawn Bowls</td>
<td>1931</td>
<td>617 1st St. N.E.</td>
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<td>adaptive reuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Garden</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>1103 10th St. N.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Mount Royal Park</td>
<td>1911/28</td>
<td>2908 Wolfe St. S.W</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunalta Recreation Ground</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>16th St. and 14th Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<td>Talon Avenue Garden</td>
<td>1911/51</td>
<td>1119 Talon Ave. S.W</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Triangle Park</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>Senlac St. and Sunderland Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<td>Ward Plot</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>Scarborough Ave. and 17th Ave. S.W</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>provincial</td>
<td>8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* The City of Calgary Parks: Cultural Landscapes and Historic Resources

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75 | CULTURAL LANDSCAPE STRATEGIC PLAN
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cemeteries</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Primary Cultural Landscape Type</th>
<th>Primary Conservation Approach</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Potential Significance</th>
<th>Ward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burnsland Cemetery</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td>3020 Spiller Rd. S.E.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Cemetery</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>3205 MacLeod Tr. S.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Mary's Cemetery</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>3305 Erlton St. S.W.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
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<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union Cemetery</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>3025 Spiller Road S.E.</td>
<td>designed &amp; associative</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homestead, Estate, Commercial and Institutional Lands</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Primary Cultural Landscape Type</th>
<th>Primary Conservation Approach</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Potential Significance</th>
<th>Ward</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaulieu Gardens</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>707 13th Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>restoration</td>
<td>provincial</td>
<td>provincial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brick Burn (part of Edworthy Park)</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>5050 Spruce Dr. S.W.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>commemoration</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonel Walker Homestead and Bird Sanctuary</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>2425 9th Ave. S.E.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
<td>municipal</td>
<td>provincial</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edworthy Park and Sandstone Quarry</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>5050 Spruce Dr. S.W.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
<td>municipal</td>
<td>provincial</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riveredge Park</td>
<td>1880</td>
<td>1215 50 Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pearce Estates</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>1440 17A St. S.E.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>commemoration</td>
<td>municipal</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Calgary</td>
<td>1875</td>
<td>750 9th Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>associative</td>
<td>restoration</td>
<td>national</td>
<td>national</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boulevards, Streets &amp; Bridges</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Primary Cultural Landscape Type</th>
<th>Primary Conservation Approach</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Potential Significance</th>
<th>Ward</th>
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<tr>
<td>4a Street NW</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>Alexander Cres. N.W. and 16th Ave. N.W.</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Avenue NE</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>Edmonton Trail and 2nd St. N.E.</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Street NW</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>Crescent Rd. N.W. and 16th Ave. N.W.</td>
<td>designed</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>municipal</td>
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<td>5A Street SW</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>17th Ave. and Royal Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>designed</td>
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<td>municipal</td>
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<td>6th Ave Lilac Median</td>
<td>tbd</td>
<td>between 16th St. and 18th St. N.W.</td>
<td>designed</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th St NW Lilac Median</td>
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<td><strong>Date</strong></td>
<td><strong>Address</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Primary Conservation Approach</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Potential Significance</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ward</strong></td>
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<td>rehabilitation &amp; restoration</td>
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<td>designed</td>
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<td>Frontenac Avenue SW</td>
<td>1929</td>
<td>Carleton St. S.W. and Wolfe St. S.W.</td>
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<td>evolving &amp; associative</td>
<td>rehabilitation &amp; adaptive reuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montcalm Crescent SW</td>
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<td>Quebec Ave. and Frontenac Ave. S.W.</td>
<td>designed</td>
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<td>9 &amp; 11</td>
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<td>Riverdale Avenue SW</td>
<td>1929</td>
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<td>Senlac Street SW</td>
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<td>Sifton Boulevard SW</td>
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<td>Nose Hill Archaeological Sites</td>
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<td>Paskapoo Slope Archaeological Sites</td>
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<td>Twelve Mile Coulee Archaeological Sites</td>
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<td>1908</td>
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* This list should be considered to be ever-increasing.
As research is undertaken and as Calgary continues to develop more cultural resources will be identified as having historic significance and will be added to the inventory.

** Primary Cultural Landscape Type is based on the UNESCO/ICOMOS categories of cultural landscapes.

*** Primary Conservation Approach could change as new information arises.
3.3: Parks and Gardens

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
The collection of battalion numbers are known as “geoglyphs” and were created by soldiers training in Calgary for WWI. In the summer of 1914, the Canadian militia leased a part of the Sarcee Indian Reserve as a prospective training site for military personnel. More than 45,000 men from 30 units across the province trained at the camp over the course of the war. It was one of the largest military training areas in Canada at the time. Stones were used by soldiers to create the monumental rock constructions (ranging from 25 m by 30 m to 40 m by 65 m).

This included assembling thousands of stones to form the serif-type numerals of their battalion numbers. Among those who did so were the 137th Infantry Battalion of Calgary, the 151st Central Alberta Battalion, the 51st Canadian Infantry Battalion and the 113th Lethbridge Highlands Infantry, all of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (C.E.F.). The site remains a stirring reminder of the training of Alberta’s soldiers and the heroic sacrifices they made during the Great War.
Bowness Park
8900 48th Ave. N.W.

Bowness Park is among Calgary’s first pleasure grounds, or excursion parks. It was located outside of Calgary and it was created as a place where citizens of Calgary could retreat, to escape the city. Activities at the park included boating, skating, picnicking, camping, dancing, attractions, mini golf, etc. The form of the park – a river edge park incorporating a river island – is an important park form within Calgary. The Bow River and the Elbow River have historically, and continue to, play an important role in the establishment and development of park space and for recreational pursuits.

John Hextall purchased the Bowness Ranch in 1908 with plans to develop a community. Bowness Ranch ultimately became the community, then town, then community of Bowness. By 1914 the park development began and, since that time, has become one of the most beloved parks in Calgary.
By 1914 the park development began and, since that time, has become one of the most beloved parks in Calgary.
The Bridgeland-Riverside Vacant Lots Garden is the last known remaining Vacant Lots Garden in Calgary. The Vacant Lots Garden Club dates from 1914 and was an important part of the early development of Calgary. The club was run, in part, by the Parks Department, and the purpose was to benefit neighbourhood families by allowing them to grow vegetables and other produce, while at the same time improving the appearance of the city by ridding vacant lots of dust, weeds and garbage. Private and City-owned lots were included in the program, and during WWII the club peaked with 3,229 lots under cultivation.
Capitol Hill Park
14th St. and 20th Ave. N.W.

Capitol Hill Park is one of a few historic recreational parks with its historic form still intact. The recreational components in the park were varied and included winter use. Recreational areas are important in the establishment of a city, as they allow citizens opportunities to gather for leisure and social engagement.

The planting design of the park includes dense planting around the edges of the park to delineate and beautify the space. The edge planting design is typical of park design from the 1920s and 1930s. During the early development of Calgary and into the 1940s, parks were thought of as refuges from the rest of the city. The typically dense plantings around the edges of the parks kept the dust and noise out of the park and people in the park.
Central Memorial Park

Central Memorial Park dates from 1911/1912 and is an Edwardian era, Victorian inspired, formal garden. This design was based on what was known as a “carpet bed design” and is illustrated with the symmetrical, geometric patterns of paths, planting beds and lawn areas on a flat grassed plane (hence the term carpet bed). The flat geometric design is punctuated with unique vertical ornamental material, such as topiary spruce, grafted weeping caragana and palms.

When the Carnegie Library and Park were first established in 1911/12, the site was considered the social and intellectual centre of Calgary – this was the place where Calgarians could gather together and be in society. The formal style of the park was essential for a growing city attempting to attract permanent residents. The formal park and associated library illustrated that Calgary was a sophisticated city, where people could live comfortably and raise a well-mannered, educated family. When Calgarians needed a place to grieve over the losses of WWI (and subsequent wars and conflicts), Central Memorial Park was the place where they gathered and where they erected the monuments.
The flat geometric design is punctuated with unique vertical ornamental material, such as topiary spruce, grafted weeping caragana and palms.
Confederation Park was created as one of The City of Calgary’s major initiatives to celebrate the Canadian Centennial in 1967. In 1965, the Centennial Ravine Park Society was established to advocate the development of the coulee as a park. This organization expanded its membership with individuals, business and service groups in the surrounding neighborhoods and throughout the city, raising support, funds and contributions. Confederation Park recalls the community activism associated with the populist movements that were common in North America at the time.

The park was the vision of Harry Boothman, one of Calgary’s more influential Parks superintendents. Boothman’s vision was that parks needed to be created for the use of the people using the spaces. This marks a distinct trend away from ornamental parks or recreational spaces to general purpose parks with emphasis on leisure and environment. The park is considered an outstanding achievement in landscape design as seen in the variably grand and sheltered, verdant spaces formed by spectacular plantings. These spaces, aligned with Boothman’s vision, were intended for unstructured experience and activity enjoyed by people using the park. While the park is naturalistic in its theme, the design concept is from the tradition of the romantic, picturesque landscape style originating in England in the 18th century.
Century Gardens was created for Calgary’s 1975 Centennial celebration. Calgary celebrated its centennial in a variety of ways, including a park-building initiative spearheaded by Century Calgary, the official co-ordinating agency for all centennial celebrations. Established in 1973, the goal was to create one hundred additional acres of parkland for the centennial year, focusing on large river valley parks, neighbourhood parks, individual parks and downtown parks. Several parks were created as a result of this initiative. Eric Harvie and the Devonian Foundation initiated construction for Century Gardens and donated $3.2 million to the project.

The unique design style of the park also acts as a symbol of Calgary’s coming of age and reflected the City’s maturity through the modern contemporary design. Century Gardens is a good example of an uncommon type of landscape architecture in Calgary. The park’s heavily massed concrete form, its use of flowing water and spruce trees combine to create realistic and abstract expressions of nature. The design used the adjacent landscape of the Rocky Mountains as inspiration.
Crescent Park

Crescent Park is one of a few historic recreational parks with its historic form still intact. The Park developed over the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s. The recreational components included a pleasure skating rink, a hockey arena, the North Hill Curling Club, lawn bowling, tennis courts and baseball diamonds. All of these activities exist today, except for lawn bowling. Recreational areas are important in the establishment of a city, as they allow citizens opportunities to gather for leisure and social engagement.

The planting design includes dense planting around the edges of the recreational space to define the spaces. The edge and dividing planting is typical of park design from the 1920s and 1930s. During the early development of Calgary and into 1940s, parks were thought of as refuges from the rest of the city. The typically dense plantings around the edges of parks kept the dust and noise out of the park and people in the park.

Recreational areas are important in the establishment of a city, as they allow citizens opportunities to gather for leisure and social engagement.
The Elbow Park Swimming Pool and Grounds was the first public swimming facility in Calgary. Residents had been swimming in this place, as well as others in the rivers in and around Calgary, from the earliest times. The provision of swimming facilities at this site in 1914, first with safety ropes and then construction, in 1922, of the dressing rooms building, made the Elbow Park Swimming Pool distinctly attractive. The addition of booms in the river, play equipment (including an outdoor checker board), washrooms attached to the building, a fountain, pathways and ornamental plantings further enhanced the attractiveness of the grounds. Until interest shifted to constructed swimming pools in the 1940s, the Elbow Park Swimming Pool was the most popular swimming place in the inner city and second only to the lagoon at Bowness Park in the number of users.

The Parks Department also established a winter recreation program in 1913 with development of skating rinks around the city. Among these was a reach of the Elbow River that included the Elbow Park Swimming Pool, where the dressing rooms also served the skaters.
George Moss Park is thought to be the oldest park space in the community of Ogden. The town of Ogden was created, in part, to provide housing options for the Canadian Pacific Railway workers. Ogden was established in 1912 and is named after I.G. Ogden, former VP of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The first two-room school was constructed in the community in 1912, on the land which is now George Moss Park. By 1914, the school was replaced by a four-room school house on another site and the two-room school site became park space. George Moss Park represents an original community space for the town, now community, of Ogden.
Lawn bowling has been an athletic and social tradition in Calgary since it was first played locally as an organized sport in 1904. It was and is accessible by city residents of all income levels and social strata. The city once had as many as seven lawn bowling organizations concurrently; players have participated in city, provincial and national tournaments, and have hosted international players.

The Ranchmen’s Club, a private organization, had established Calgary’s first lawn bowling facility in 1904 (no longer exists). Today the Calgary Lawn Bowling Club is the oldest remaining lawn bowling organization in the city. It was established in 1912. The Inglewood Lawn Bowling Club began as the Chinook Club in the early 1930s. The Rotary Park Lawn Bowls were developed in 1931 by the Rotary Club of Calgary as part of the mandate of the organization to build and equip city parks.
Mount Royal Parks

Mount Royal Parks

Cartier Park 1008 Premier Way S.W.
Levis Park (Carlton Plot) 1121 Levis Ave. S.W.
South Mount Royal Park 2908 Wolfe St. S.W.
Talon Avenue Garden 1119 Talon Ave. S.W.

The four Mount Royal parks are significant as an integral design component of the original subdivision plan for the community. In 1910-11, the Canadian Pacific Railway contracted the Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, to assist in the design of the new subdivision of South Mount Royal in Calgary. The legendary firm, successors to famous American landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, was involved in many significant urban improvement projects across the United States and Canada. Based on Olmstedian-suburb planning principles, the South Mount Royal subdivision layout followed the natural topographical contours of the area. It featured spacious lots with large front yards, gracefully curving streets, treed boulevards and open park spaces, such as South Mount Royal Park, Cartier Park, Levis Park and Talon Avenue Garden.

McDougall Cairn

McDougall Cairn

133 Panora Way N.W.

The Reverend George McDougall Memorial is a commemorative cairn, located within a small park in the community of Panorama. Reverend George McDougall was one of the pre-eminent early missionaries in Alberta and a key figure in the development of early civil life in the province. McDougall served both Native and Euro-Canadian populations in his role as evangelist and spiritual guide. McDougall pioneered some of the earliest settlements and agricultural efforts in Alberta. As missionary, advocate, and pioneer, McDougall had a profound impact upon Euro-Canadian and Native relations in western Canada and on the development of early settlement in present-day Alberta. George McDougall died in January 1876 after becoming lost in a snow storm during a buffalo hunt. The site is now marked by the commemorative cairn.
Olympic Plaza was created as the venue for the medal ceremonies at the 1988 Winter Olympic Games. Each evening, the medals for the day were awarded to the athletes in Olympic Plaza, where participants and citizens could gather in the large central square to experience the monumental event. The park includes the brick walk, which was created through a program where Calgarians could purchase, for $19.88, a brick with their names laser-engraved on it. Many other 1988 Winter Olympic Games associated elements are part of the site, including the post-modern columns and arches, the skating statue and other identifying markers.
1988 | The City of Calgary, Corporate Records, Archives

Olympic medal ceremony

Olympic Plaza

Commemorative bricks in Olympic Plaza
Ranchlands Parks

The subdivision of Ranchlands was created in 1977. The design approach was to retain the natural existing aspen stands within the rolling topography as part of the open space system for the community. This was among the first example of a subdivision in Calgary in which the development of allotted community green space was based on the value of the existing natural landscape (excluding river edge sites). The aspen stands and natural landscape were ultimately conserved and formed the subdivision’s open space. The Ranchlands Parks illustrates the influence of the environmental movement that was common within Calgary and North America at the time.
Reader Rock Garden is an Edwardian era Arts and Craft style rockery. The three-acre Garden consists of a matrix of rock paths, steps and walls that form numerous planting beds and a variety of microclimates. The Garden dates from 1913 and was historically used as a private residence and accompanying garden for William Roland Reader, Calgary’s most influential Parks superintendent. The Garden was developed as a naturalistic garden, with the purpose of demonstrating horticultural potential for pioneering Calgary within the rigors of the western prairie/foothills environment. Reader tested and documented over 4,000 different plant species in the Garden and wrote an unpublished book, The Hardy Herbaceous Perennial Garden, which lists, bed by bed, the plants in the Garden. Historically, the Garden was viewed as one of the few significant gardens in western Canada. It was known internationally for its botanical diversity, and the quality of Reader’s plants and seedlings were recognized by The Queen of England, Kew Gardens in London, the Botanical Gardens at Harvard and the Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh.

Historically, the Garden was viewed as one of the few significant gardens in western Canada.
Riley Park dates from 1911 and is comprised of an ornamental area along 10th Street N.W., a wading pool, a large informal curved pathway and a variety of recreational areas, including cricket pitches. The majority of the park design (excluding the 10th Street floral display) was influenced by the picturesque movement where an emphasis was placed more on informal, natural in appearance and curvilinear design elements; the natural shape of the wading pool, the curvilinear pathway and the natural appearance planting along the edges of the park reflect this influence.

The park is also significant for the wide variety of leisure activities. Leisure and recreational areas are important in the establishment of a city, as they allow citizens opportunities to gather for leisure and social engagement.
Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Garden
1103 10th St. N.W.

Senator Patrick Burns Memorial Garden is a rock garden that is a collection of planting beds, lawn areas and extensive rock work, including paths, retaining walls and a rundle stone stream and pond. The sandstone for the garden was secured when the demolition of the Senator Patrick Burns Mansion occurred in 1955. Burns was one of the Big Four ranchers who assisted with the establishment of the first Calgary Stampede in 1912. He was called to the Senate of Canada in 1931, and he remained a senator until his death six years later. The garden construction began in 1956 and was largely completed by 1959.

The Garden is also associated with Alex Munro who was the Parks superintendent at the time of construction. Munro was known as a skilled plants man who valued horticultural ornamentation. This garden was created with his expertise and influence and marks one of the last purely ornamental parks constructed by The City of Calgary Parks.
Sunalta Parks

Sunalta Recreation Ground 16th St. and 14th Ave. S.W.
Triangle Park Senlac St. and Sunderland Ave. S.W.
Ward Plot Scarboro Ave. and 17th Ave. S.W.

The three Sunalta parks are significant as an integral design component of the original subdivision plan for the community. In 1909, the Canadian Pacific Railway contracted the Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, to assist in the design of the Sunalta subdivision in Calgary. The legendary firm, successors to famous American landscape architect Fredrick Law Olmsted, was involved in many significant urban improvement projects across the United States and Canada. Based on Olmstedian-suburb planning principles, the Sunalta subdivision layout followed the natural topographical contours of the area. It featured spacious lots with large front yards, gracefully curving streets, treed boulevards and open park spaces, such as the Sunalta Recreation Ground, Triangle Park and Ward Plot.

Based on Olmstedian-suburb planning principles, the Sunalta subdivision layout followed the natural topographical contours of the area. It featured spacious lots with large front yards, gracefully curving streets, treed boulevards and open park spaces...

{ Historic plan of Triangle Park }
c 1930s | The City of Calgary, Corporate Records, Archives

{ Calgary Tennis Club at the Sunalta Recreation Ground }
c 1910s | Glenbow Archives
Pearce Estate

c 1900s | Glenbow Archives
3.3 Homestead, Estate, Commercial and Institutional Lands

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
Edworthy Park is the historic ranch of Thomas Edworthy, which was first established in 1891 and expanded in 1900. Edworthy established a market garden on his land, from which he supplied produce to Calgarians. In the mid-to late-1880s, building construction in Calgary created increased demand for sandstone. Edworthy established his Bow Bank Sandstone Quarries on the ranch at that time. Edworthy had three separate quarries on the property and allowed the CPR to open a fourth. Remains of the quarries still exist in Edworthy Park. The site survives as one of only a few remaining agricultural homestead lands in Calgary. It serves to recall the importance and predominance of agricultural activity to Calgary’s development history and is an important example of a local industry utilizing the naturally occurring sandstone that was used in the construction of many of Calgary’s early buildings, resulting in Calgary being known as “the Sandstone City”.

Edworthy Park and Sandstone Quarry
5050 Spruce Dr. S.W.
Brickburn (part of Edworthy Park)
5050 Spruce Dr. S.W.

Brickburn was a small community that was home to the workers of the Calgary Pressed Brick and Sandstone Company and their families. Brickburn is an important example of a local industry utilizing the existing sandstone, clay and shale deposits of the Calgary landscape. At the height of production, the company was creating 80,000 bricks daily and serving areas across North America. The site no longer has any remnants of the company, but the landscape still has remnants of the raw materials, from which the bricks were created. The landscape of this site should be commemorated for the role it played in the development of Calgary and other places across North America.

Fort Calgary
750 9 Ave SE

Fort Calgary formed part of a network of forts constructed across Canada that played an important role in the extension and enforcement of federal law in Canada during the latter part of the 19th century. Fort Calgary was a base for patrols to native communities, ranches, and for police duties during the construction of the C.P.R. railway. The Fort was rebuilt as a district headquarters in 1882 and was the focal point for the new settlement of Calgary.
Pearce Estates

Pearce Estates is a portion of the land that once held the home of William Pearce. William Pearce is an important figure in the development of Calgary and contributed greatly to the development of Calgary’s park space. His contributions include assisting with securing Calgary’s first park space, the three islands in the Bow, and the space that ultimately became Memorial Drive. Pearce settled in Calgary as superintendent of mines for the North-West Territories in 1884.

Pearce built an impressive sandstone residence in 1889 on an estate farm of 197 acres. It was one of the earliest large homes to be built in Calgary and set a high tone as Calgary’s emerging elite. Pearce gave it the name of Bow Bend Shack. The site no longer has any remnants of the house, but the landscape still retains Pearce’s name and this site should be commemorated for the role he played in the development of Calgary.

Riveredge Park

Riveredge Park is a City of Calgary recreational area and former agricultural land. Riveredge Park was used for agriculture from the 1880s into the 1950s. Joseph Butlin owned and farmed the site from 1880-1891. Butlin was an important Calgary pioneer rancher, quarry operator and police constable during the city’s earliest settlement period. In 1884 he was elected as an official of Calgary’s first agricultural society which promoted the city’s natural beauty and farming. Butlin’s land included the bank of the Elbow River opposite Riveredge Park where he established one of Calgary’s earliest sandstone quarries. Stone from the quarries was used for the Bank of Montreal building, Beaulieu and the original St. Mary’s Cathedral. The historic cabin on the site sustained extensive damage during the 2013 flood and has been removed.
Walker Homestead and Bird Sanctuary
2425 Ninth Ave. S.E.

The Colonel Walker Homestead Lands, now known as the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, is the historic homestead of Colonel James Walker. Walker was a founder of the city of Calgary and one of the city’s most important early civic leaders. He was the first Chairman of the Civic Committee (the precursor to Calgary’s City Council) and was declared Citizen of the Century on the city’s centennial in 1975.

The site survives as one of only two remaining agricultural homesteads in Calgary’s inner city (the other is The William Pearce estate). It serves to recall the importance and predominance of agricultural activity to Calgary’s development history and character. The property was originally part of a 480-acre parcel, which comprised native and improved pasture, hay fields and crop land.

The site is also one of the first federally designated migratory bird sanctuaries in Alberta and Canada. In 1929, the site received the designation of the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary as a federal migratory bird sanctuary, only the second in Alberta, following the ratification by Canada and the United States of the Migratory Birds Convention in 1917.

Senator Lougheed Residence & Beaulieu Gardens
707 13th Ave. S.W.

Beaulieu Gardens is the formal (reconstructed) gardens of the residence of Senator James Alexander Lougheed and is based on formal Victoria era garden design. Lougheed was appointed to the Senate in 1889 and was elevated to Conservative leader in the Upper House in 1906, a position he maintained until his death in 1925.

In 1891, the Lougheeds constructed the majestic residence on the open prairie southwest of the developing downtown core of Calgary. The new home — christened with the regal name “Beaulieu” or “Beautiful Place” — was a powerful symbol of the Lougheed’s growing prestige and influence.
3.3 Cemeteries
Burnsland Cemetery
3020 Spiller Rd. S.E.

Burnsland Cemetery is a historic public burying ground established in Calgary in 1923. There are approximately 22,000 graves in Burnsland, including most of the city’s World War One war veterans. The veterans are buried in the Field of Honour, which includes row upon row of the same headstone design, illustrating the extent of their participation and sacrifice. The Field of Honour includes the Cross of Sacrifice (a finely proportioned stone cross with a symbolic bronze sword), which is one of the 26 crosses erected throughout North America, 25 of which are in Canada.

The design for Burnsland Cemetery was based on the Victorian “garden cemetery” concept, embracing elements of nature, curvilinear paths and plantings that create a park-like environment.

Chinese Cemetery
3205 MacLeod Tr. S.W.

The Chinese Cemetery was initially part of Union Cemetery. It officially separated from Union Cemetery in 1908. The Chinese Cemetery contains the graves of approximately a thousand of the town’s early Chinese citizens. The Cemetery remains an important cultural resource for the city as a whole and for the Chinese Community in particular.

The graves in the Chinese Cemetery follow the Chinese tradition of burial, including the fact that all of the graves are on a slope and all face east. This is to ensure the dead can face the rising sun.
Union Cemetery
3025 Spiller Rd. S.E.

Union Cemetery is the oldest existing public burial ground in Calgary. The Cemetery dates from 1891 and contains the graves of approximately fifty to sixty thousand of the town’s early citizens. The Cemetery is also home to the Field of Honour, memorializing 173 World War One veterans. The veterans are buried in the Field of Honour, which includes rows of the same headstone design, illustrating the extent of their participation and sacrifice. The Field of Honour includes the Cross of Sacrifice (a finely proportioned stone cross with a symbolic bronze sword) which is one of the 26 crosses erected throughout North America, 25 of which are in Canada.

Union Cemetery’s design was based on the Victorian “garden cemetery” concept, embracing elements of nature and making use of hillside topography, curvilinear paths and plantings that created a park-like environment.

St. Mary’s Cemetery
3305 Erlton St. S.W.

The existing St. Mary’s Cemetery was established in 1935. The cemetery served and still remains a Catholic cemetery. It contains about 15,000 burials. St. Mary’s Cemetery is associated with the Roman Catholic mission. The Catholic Mission set up a French community very early in Calgary’s history (1876). The mission set up a burial ground at that time and graves were re-located to the now existing St. Mary’s Cemetery in 1935 in what is known as the Pioneer section. The Pioneer section includes the graves of many of the very early Catholic citizens.

The 1935, St. Mary’s Cemetery was designed as a typical mid-1900s cemetery. The graves are set in a space-efficient, linear arrangement within a park-like setting. It represents typical cemetery design.
3.3 Boulevards, Streets and Bridges

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
Balmoral Circus and Beaumont Circus are considered a rare form of street development in Calgary. These circuses are the only two known historic circuses in Calgary. The circuses were created within the influence of the City Beautiful Movement in urban development and planning. The movement supported beautification, monumental grandeur and formality to encourage order and harmony. Advocates of the movement believed the approach would promote a harmonious social order that would increase the quality of life and help to reduce undesirable behaviour.

Historically, careful attention was given Balmoral Circus as an ornamental area filled with colourful annuals. During the mid- to late-1930s, between 3,000 and 4,000 annuals were planted each year, and by the 1950s, the number had grown to 5,000. Beaumont Circle, formally established in 1945, did not include the intricate planting beds and associated herbaceous planting that Balmoral Circus did.
Garden Crescent exemplifies the historic aspirations and actions in Calgary for urban landscape beautification. The design and quality of this landscape represents the aspirations for urban beautification held not only by the developer who initiated it, but also by the Parks Department, which applied an extraordinary level of resources to its development and care.

The Lilac Medians
11th Street Entrance into Riley Park on Fifth Avenue N.W.
Bowness Road between 14th Street and 17th Street N.W.
Sixth Avenue between 16th Street and 18th Street N.W.

Historically, there was an effort by William Reader to coin Calgary as the Lilac City. Reader is one of Calgary’s most influential Park superintendents and, under his direction, many lilacs were planted on medians, boulevards and public spaces throughout the city. Reader was influenced by the City Beautiful Movement in urban development/planning. The movement supported beautification, monumental grandeur and formality to encourage order and harmony. This included tree-lined boulevards and medians.
Memorial Drive was created in 1922 as a Road of Remembrance to honour the memory of soldiers fallen during the First World War. Similar roads were built across Canada in Victoria, Saskatoon, Thunder Bay and Montreal. Roads of Remembrance can also be found in England, the United States and Australia. Roads of Remembrance were the result of a desire to create a lasting, individualized memorial to fallen soldiers using trees instead of statuary in order to symbolize the triumph of life over death.

In its original form, Memorial Drive displayed the most significant characteristics of such roads: it was a linear avenue in a suburban setting, lined with trees of a single species. Trees were assigned to a specific fallen soldier by means of a small metal plaque in front of each tree, and next-of-kin were involved in purchasing and planting the trees. One deviation is that the trees did not form an allee, but rather took on a more naturalized planting form.
Shouldice (Hextall) Bridge
Bowness Rd. and Bow Cres. N.W.

The Shouldice (Hextall) Bridge was constructed in 1910/11 by John Hextall as part of a land development project. Hextall came to the Calgary area in 1908 and purchased the Bowness Ranch to turn the area into a suburb designed to attract wealthy residents. To attract buyers, he built a golf course and clubhouse, constructed an electrical generating station, developed the two islands in the Bow River into a park site and built the $75,000 three span steel truss bridge (completed in 1911) connecting Bowness to Calgary. That fall, Hextall reached an agreement with The City of Calgary whereby he would donate the park and the bridge and pay for construction to supply hourly transit service. The streetcars began running in June 1912, and many Calgarians began to enjoy outings at Bowness Park.

Tree-lined Streets
various locations

The creation of tree-lined streets was very important in the establishment and early growth of Calgary. Tree-lined streets indicated to early settlers and visitors that Calgary was a civilized place where they could settle and raise a family. The City Beautiful Movement of the time supported beautification, monumental grandeur and formality to encourage order and harmony. This included tree-lined boulevards and medians. Advocates of the movement believed the approach would promote a harmonious social order that would increase the quality of life and help to reduce undesirable behaviour. Intact streetscapes with the original species still in place provide an understanding of the importance of public spaces and beautification.

The creation of tree-lined streets was very important in the establishment and early growth of Calgary.
The Rideau Park Pedestrian Bridge, built in 1934, and the Sandy Beach Pedestrian Bridge, built in 1960, are significant to the use of historic suspension bridges in Calgary.

The Rideau Park Pedestrian Bridge
3200 Elbow Drive S.W.

Sandy Beach Park Pedestrian Bridge
4500 14A St. S.W.

These modest pedestrian bridges consist of towers at each end with single wood-deck spans across the Elbow River that are suspended by cables. While modest, these bridges are distinctive and unique within Calgary and contribute to their status as community landmarks.

There are only four historic suspension bridges in the city dedicated for pedestrian use. The Rideau Park Pedestrian Bridge is the first-known suspension bridge to be built in Calgary and the Sandy Beach Bridge is the last known. The other two bridges of this type are the George Clift King Pedestrian Bridge (1954) at the north side of the Zoo and the Sifton Boulevard Pedestrian Bridge (1949). The 2013 flood destroyed the Rideau Park Pedestrian Bridge and left only the towers of the Sandy Beach and Sifton Boulevard bridges.
Quarry Road Trail is located at the east end of the Edworthy Park-Lawrey Gardens natural area park system on the south bank of the Bow River. The area surrounding Quarry Road Trail has been known as Shaganappi Point since the 1870’s. The quarries directly associated with the area were sometimes referred to as the Shaganappi quarries. Sandstone quarries were important to the establishment and early development of Calgary during an era when the City’s urban development was defined by sandstone buildings. The trail head opens onto bluffs which were once the site of a Métis settlement as well as First Peoples’ encampments. A lengthy bison jump ran along the base of the escarpment where the lower part of the trail is located.
(Stone projectile points)
no date | Glenbow Archives
3.3 Archaeological Resources

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
The Calgary area was one of the two major settlement areas in the foothills of southwestern Alberta.

Nose Hill Archaeological Sites
5620 14th St. N.W.

The Nose Hill Archaeological sites have a rich cultural heritage relating to the pre-contact use of the hill over the last 9,000 years — including their use as camp locations and as an excellent vantage point from which to visually survey the surrounding landscape.

The Calgary area was one of the two major settlement areas in the foothills of southwestern Alberta. Uplands, such as Nose Hill, were attractive to bison during the winter and into the early spring. Small camps, marked by tipi rings and a few stone tools, along with bison kill sites, are found within Nose Hill and evidence indicates winter and early spring use. The sites at Nose Hill are part of the regional pattern of sites and are collectively the only relatively intact set of upland archaeological sites remaining within the Calgary area.

Paskapoo Slope Archaeological Sites
226 Patterson Blvd. S.W.

The Paskapoo Slope archaeological complex includes over 50 identified sites, including processing camps on the main bench levels extending across the hillside and larger bison kill sites on or at the base of the steeper slopes. Twenty-five archaeological sites are found within the boundaries of Paskapoo Slopes parkland. In addition to these large sites, smaller sites in the form of scatters of fire-broken rock and stone waste flakes, which are associated with workshops, game lookouts and sweat lodge locations, are found on the more exposed ridges near the bottom of the slopes and along the edges of the uplands.

Although this archaeological site complex was only relatively recently discovered, field studies suggest it is one of the densest concentrations of bison kill and processing sites known in southern Alberta. Excavations of various sites associated with this complex indicate the area was extensively used over the last two to three thousand years.
Twelve Mile Coulee Archaeological Sites
6 Tuscany Hill Rd. N.W.

The Twelve Mile Coulee archaeological complex includes over 15 identified sites. These sites range from ring (stone tipi circles) sites and small artefact scatters, to stone cairns found along the coulee’s edge. Archaeological research within the coulee and beyond indicates that the area was an important location in much earlier times (more than 7,000 years ago), when native inhabitants in the region hunted buffalo, antelope and other animals. Over the succeeding millennia, as cultural adaptations to the local environment continued to change, the coulee and surrounding uplands became a focus for harvesting fresh foods in the early months of spring, as indicated by the many small short-term campsites found throughout this area.

Although there is no record of when people first arrived in the Calgary area, we do know that some of the earliest sites that have been recorded in the city are located in or adjacent to Twelve Mile Coulee. Archaeological finds recovered from the Ever Blue Springs Site (EgPn-700) and other nearby locations indicate the coulee was a favoured location for trapping and hunting buffalo in spring on the margins of the coulee over 7,000 years ago. The Ever Blue Springs Site is particularly noteworthy in that it is the third oldest bison killsite excavated in Alberta to date.
{Fire Hall #6}
c. 1906 | The City of Calgary Parks
3.3 Buildings and Building Remnants

{ Managing the Collection of Calgary’s Cultural Landscapes }
Colonel Walker House
3020 Sanctuary Rd. S.E.

The Colonel Walker House served as the primary residence of Colonel James Walker for over 25 years. It is a good example of early twentieth century eclectic residential architecture, constructed of red brick and featuring judicious use of sandstone trim elements, a low-hipped roof and a wide, curved veranda. Italianate influence is apparent in the detailing of the veranda columns, fascia and soffit and the southwest corner entry vestibule with a railed balcony above. See the Colonel Walker Homestead and Bird Sanctuary summary for more information.

Edworthy House
5050 Spruce Dr. S.W.

Thomas Edworthy built the original portion of this house, a one-storey structure built of Douglas fir logs, in 1883. This house is a good example of a modest home created by Calgary’s early pioneers. The two-storey portion of the house was built at an unknown date in the 1890s, and the original log portion became the kitchen. See the Edworthy Park and Sandstone Quarry summary for more information.
Elbow Park Swimming Building
Elbow Dr. at 29th Ave. S.W.

The Elbow Park swimming pool/dressing room building is the only structure of its type in Calgary. The one-storey, wood-frame building features a simple side-gable roof with extended slopes that shelter washrooms on one side of the building and form a veranda on the other; change rooms occupy the centre of the building and face the river. Located adjacent to and parallel with the Elbow River, it creates a strong outdoor spatial relationship with the water’s edge and defines the beach. See the Elbow Park Swimming Pool Grounds summary for more information.

Fire Hall #6
1101 Memorial Dr. N.W.

Fire Hall #6 was built in 1906 as a satellite fire station. The building is a two-storey brick structure, with two segmental-headed openings for the fire engines (originally containing swinging doors, but now altered to allow the insertion of an overhead garage-type door), and windows on the second storey to illuminate the firemen’s living quarters.
Lindsey's Folly

3625 Fourth St. S.W.

Lindsey's Folly is representative of Calgary's "Age of Optimism" and of the economic collapse that followed. It was built by a physician-turned-real estate speculator, during a time when many Calgarians made — and later lost — their fortunes in the real estate market. The house was one of many elegant sandstone structures built at the time. The never-realized grandeur and the location in what was then an area of speculative subdivisions at the edge of town represent the optimism of Calgary during the boom. That the house was never completed, and its owner ruined, is evidence of the burst of the real estate bubble.

Union Cemetery Caretaker's Cottage

3025 Spiller Rd. S.E.

Union Cemetery Caretaker’s Cottage was designed by the City engineer. Despite its small size, it is a substantial building constructed from sandstone and brick. It features a simple rectangular plan with double-hung wood windows and a cottage roofline providing a low profile hugging the ground.
The Union Cemetery mortuary/chapel is a unique structure in Calgary. It was designed by the City engineer with Gothic details, including pointed arch openings for doors and windows, arrow loop windows, formed concrete block in the pattern of stone, exposed wood beam roof trusses and a trap door for lowering caskets.

The William Reader House is a reconstruction of the superintendent’s cottage that originally sat on the crest of a hill at the northeast corner of the Union Cemetery site. The exterior of the new building appears as a large, multi-storey single family residence with cedar shake siding and wood trim at the corners. It has a large veranda to the north and a smaller veranda on the south elevation. Projections on each of the building elevations and dormers placed on the north and south roof line effectively reduce the apparent scale of the building.