



Naming Committee

Honouring People and Places in Our City

THE CITY OF
Edmonton

7th Floor, 10250 - 101 Street
Edmonton AB T5J 3P4
Phone: 780-496-6226 Fax: 780-496-6054

William Darby

(1886-1965)

William Darby was the assistant superintendent and chief engineer of the Edmonton power plant.

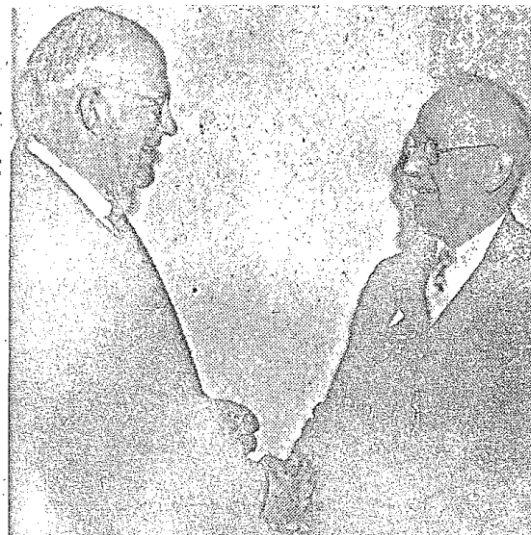
He was born in Birmingham, England, where he grew up and did an apprenticeship before immigrating to Canada. Once in the country, he found employment in Nova Scotia with the Canadian Car and Foundry Company. He studied at a technical school while he was working there. After twelve years of work, he moved to Calgary and worked for a year and a half at the city's steam plant.

In 1920, he came to Edmonton, and found a job as an engine-room mechanic at the Edmonton Power Plant. Soon, he was promoted to the role of chief engineer, a position which he held until 1934, at which time he became the assistant superintendent.

He stayed at the plant until his retirement in December 1951. Within the next few years, both his wife, Ellen, and one of his sons, Lester, died.

During his retirement, he served as Grand Master of the Alberta Orange Lodge, and also held membership with the Edmonton Optimist Club and the Masonic Lodge.

He passed away on September 7, 1965, survived by his remaining son, Frank.



William Darby (right) and coworker, R.I. Willis.

*Written and Edited by: Ellen Keith
October 2011*

CITATION ON FILE

“2 Power Plant Officials Retiring from Service.” *Edmonton Journal*. December 31, 1951. The City of Edmonton Archives.

“Ex-Power Engineer Dies at 79.” *Edmonton Journal*. September 9, 1965.



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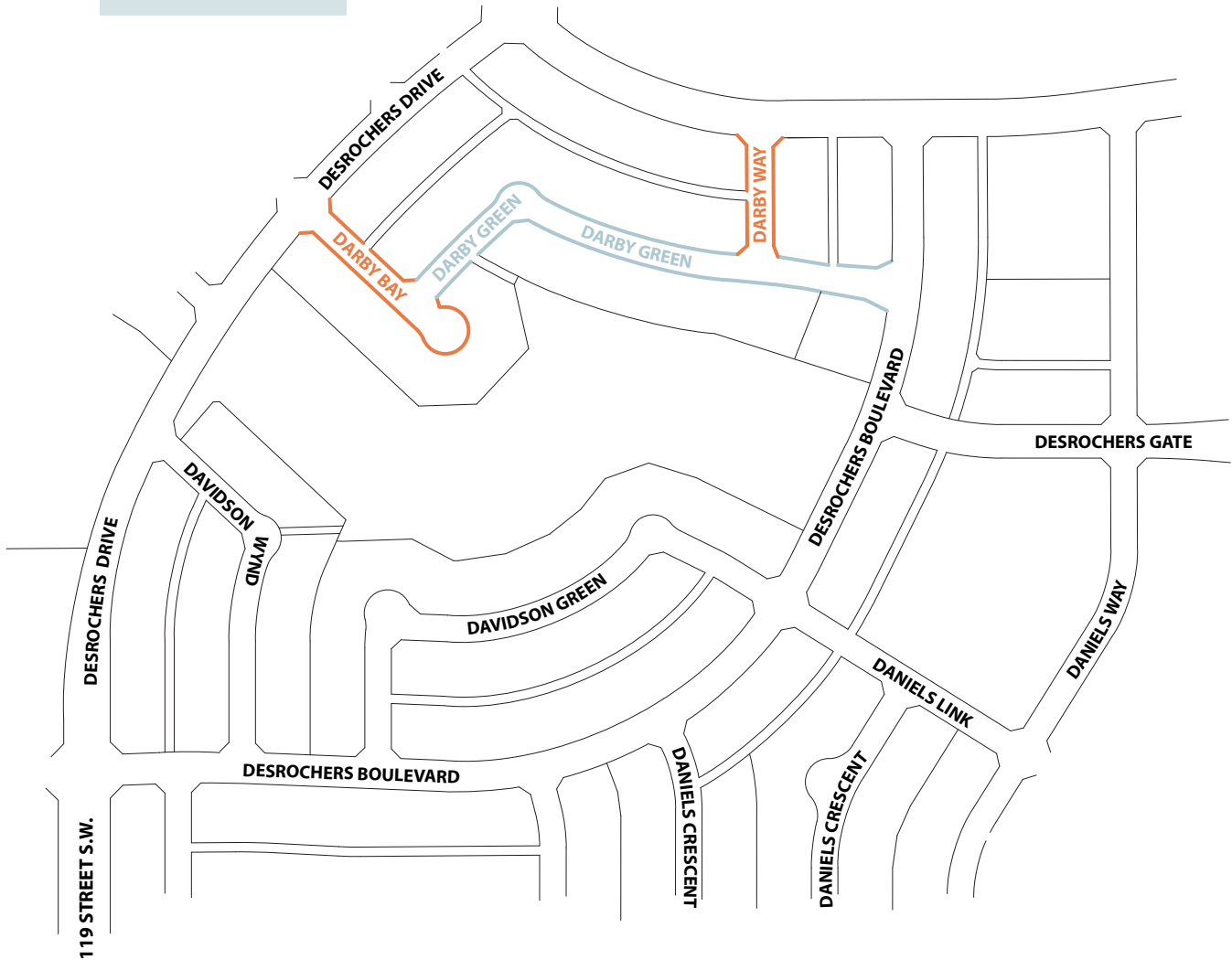
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NOTE:

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ROAD NAMES

Desrochers Neighbourhood

January 29, 2015
Naming Committee