



# IRA W. STEPHENS RESIDENCE

6526 - 111 AVENUE NW

## CITY OF EDMONTON HISTORIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



### DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The Ira W. Stephens Residence is a one and one-half storey building with Craftsman style influences. It is located on a corner lot in the historic Highlands neighbourhood.

### HERITAGE VALUE

Constructed in 1914, the Ira W. Stephens residence is significant for its association with early residential development in The Highlands and its Craftsman style design influences.

The Highlands was subdivided and developed by the Magrath-Holgate Co. with the intent of establishing it as a bedroom community for Edmonton's more affluent residents. The Highlands developed rapidly between 1911 and 1915, fuelled by a booming provincial economy. This period of prosperity saw the paving of streets, the extension of the streetcar line, provision of running water, telephone service and electricity. When combined with the pastoral setting and scenic vistas over the river valley, these modern amenities made Highlands an attractive location for those homebuyers who could afford to purchase there.

Though the Ira W. Stephens Residence would have been consistent with Magrath and Holgate's vision for Highlands, it is more modest than many of the grand homes built in the community during this period.

By 1915, the boom had ended and Edmonton's population was in decline. As a result Highlands would experience a prolonged period of limited development, which did not end until the period following World War II.

### CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

The character defining elements of the 1914 Ira W. Stephens Residence include:

- + one and one-half storeys;
- + gable roof with exposed rafters;
- + enclosed porch with shed roof and exposed rafters;
- + shed roof dormer with exposed rafters;
- + two engaged wood pilasters;
- + paired wood columns in corner of porch;
- + wood panel door;
- + fenestration pattern;
- + 3 over 2 windows with storms attached;
- + cedar shingle roof;
- + clinker brick chimney;
- + rear chimney;
- + pebbled stucco in the upper gables with decorative half-timbering; and
- + wood clapboard siding.

*Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 17938 in April 2017.*

