



J. MACGREGOR THOM RESIDENCE

11220 - 62 STREET NW

CITY OF EDMONTON
HISTORIC RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Edmonton

DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The J. MacGregor Thom Residence was built in 1930 as a one and one-half storey gable-roof residence with a clinker brick and stucco exterior. It is located on a residential street and occupies a single city lot mid-block in the Edmonton neighbourhood of the Highlands.

HERITAGE VALUE

The J. MacGregor Thom Residence is significant as a rare example of a Craftsman style residence in the Highlands and as one of the handful of surviving clinker brick structures in Edmonton.

Built in 1930, this home, with its low-slung gable roof, offset columned porch and exposed rafters, is one of the few surviving examples of a local variation of the Craftsman style.

The Craftsman style is evident in the projecting front porch with wood columns and multi-lite decorative windows in the front façade. Reflecting Edmonton's reality as a northern city, the front porch was enclosed with wooden windows.

The home is also considered a local variation of the Craftsman style through the incorporation clinker brick, a building material which saw great popularity in Edmonton during the 1920s and 1930s. When it was constructed in 1930 Craftsman homes were popular in Edmonton.



The use of clinker brick in this home makes it stand out from the other Craftsman homes built in the Highlands at the time. Clinker brick is known for its unusual non-uniform appearance with irregular surfaces and diverse colouring. Clinker bricks were the over-fired, burnt, and misshapen bricks that manufacturers usually discarded as unsuitable for construction.

As early as 1913, builders in Edmonton began seeing the creative possibilities of these unique bricks, particularly for the texture they could give a building. Clinker brick quickly became a favoured construction material, particularly in residential buildings.

Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 15376 in February 2010.





CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

The heritage value of the J. MacGregor Thom Residence is expressed in such character-defining elements as:

- + medium pitched gable roof;
- + clinker brick cladding;
- + stucco around the base of the house;
- + projecting gable roof wall dormer above a square bay window on the south elevation;
- + exposed rafters and wide eave with square block decoration;
- + enclosed front porch with decorative trim and stucco finish supported by wood columns with corner posts and pedestals with squared capitals;
- + multiple small pane glass windows in the porch;
- + solid step stairway with low square wall string at front;
- + cast stone window sill;
- + flat arch brick lintels;
- + style, pattern and construction of all wood windows, including the twinned 5 over 1 windows on the front façade; and
- + interior hardwood flooring.

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