



# RODD APARTMENTS

CITY OF EDMONTON  
HISTORIC RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



9537 - 103 AVENUE NW

## DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The Rodd Apartments is a two-storey, stucco-clad structure with a gable end roof that was originally built in 1912, but heavily modified into an apartment block in 1943. The house is located on the south side of 103 Avenue and is part of a larger collection of single detached houses on this street.

## HERITAGE VALUE

The Rodd Apartments is historically valuable for its association with the development of the Jewish community in the Boyle Street neighbourhood in the early part of the 20th Century.

The first Jewish synagogue in Edmonton was located nearby on 95 Street. The Beth Israel Synagogue was constructed in 1911 by a small group of Jewish Edmontonians through donations and through fundraising by the Edmonton Hebrew Association. A small Jewish school was also located in this area.

This street appears to have been home to a small but interrelated Jewish community. The first resident of the house was Lewis Goldsmith, while the longest resident of this dwelling was Max Rodnunsky, who was most often listed as a business owner. The Rodnunskys were members of Edmonton's Jewish community at the time. Both Lewis and Max were members of the Jewish community.

The Rodd Apartments is architecturally significant for its unusual style and eclectic influences. Originally, the house likely had a front gable end roof which was modified at a later time with the addition of a stucco clad false front. The

house was converted to the Rodd Apartments in 1943 and featured six units. It is likely that the false front may have been added at this time, and a rear addition extended the length of the building much farther than typical on the adjacent blockface. The current stucco cladding was likely added at this time as well. The false front illustrates influence from the Moderne style in its curved overhang over the front door. The roofline of the false front has a stepped parapet with stone accents and trim.

The Rodd Apartments is environmentally significant as part of a streetscape of single family dwellings along this street. These remaining houses form a rare streetscape indicative of the early development of the Boyle Street neighbourhood. They are also representative of the growth of the Jewish community in this area.





## CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

The character defining elements of the 1912/1943 Rodd Apartments include:

- + form, scale and massing;
- + location as part of a larger group of older homes along 103 Avenue between 95 Street and 96 Street;
- + the original gable end roofline behind the false front;
- + unusually-styled false front with stucco cladding and stone trim and accents on the parapet;
- + stucco cladding on north, west and east elevations
- + the pattern, style and construction of all wood windows, including storms on veranda and double hung windows on main façade;
- + Moderne curved overhang over front door; and
- + all wood trim around windows and doorways.

*Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 17837 in May 2017.*

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