11135 - 84 AVENUE NW

DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The Sarah McLellan Residence is a two and a half-storey large Foursquare house with an open veranda. It is located in the Garneau subdivision in close proximity to the University of Alberta.

HERITAGE VALUE

The Sarah McLellan Residence is significant for the role it played in the evolution of the character of housing in the Garneau subdivision. Built in 1913, the design and scale of the house illustrate the economic and social expectation of those who speculated in property in Garneau after the new University of Alberta was established in 1907. The Sarah McLellan Residence is a representative example of a vernacular prairie Foursquare house. Its balloon frame construction and craftsmanship, which has retained a high degree of integrity, exhibits many features of Edwardian era residential style.

The house is also significant for its association with the University of Alberta. Its owner, Sarah McLellan, opened the house as a nurses' residence (1916–1919), for the Strathcona Military Hospital, which later became the University of Alberta Hospital.



Since the 1920s, the varied use of the Sarah McLellan Residence, including as a private residence, student accommodation, student fraternity, and a bed and breakfast, illustrates the traditional and special relationship of Garneau housing to the University.

CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

The form, scale and massing of the Sarah McLellan Residence are exemplified by character defining elements such as:

- its square shape, hipped roof, and broad overhanging eaves, and symmetrical front façade with an offset entrance;
- patterns of fenestration on all façades and dormers including bay windows projecting through the first and second floors on the east elevation;
- detailing of the full-façade open veranda on the north elevation, second-storey balconies, and enclosed rear porch;
- cladding on exterior façades including wooden beveled siding, belt course, and course cedar shingles;
- decorative wood trim including frieze board and diamond-shaped motif on the front façade; and
- brick chimney.

Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 12622 in August 2001.

Designated as a Provincial Historic Resource in June 2000.

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