



WILLIAM BROWN RESIDENCE

CITY OF EDMONTON HISTORIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Edmonton

11108 - 64 STREET NW

DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The William Brown Residence was built in 1927 as a one and one-half storey clinker brick home with a jerkinhead roof, a large jerkinhead roofed dormer and an open gable roofed front porch. It is located on two city lots on a residential street corner in the Highlands.

HERITAGE VALUE

The William Brown Residence is significant for its Craftsman design and as one of the handful of surviving clinker brick homes in Edmonton.

Built by experienced contractor William Brown in 1927, this home is significant for its Craftsman design, which were popular in Edmonton from the mid-1910s until the 1930s.



Craftsman bungalows are characterized by their use of warm materials such as brick and stucco, as well as their liberal use of windows, open front porches, exposed roof rafters and decorative beams. Although Craftsman homes can be found throughout North America, Craftsman homes in Edmonton tended to have steeper pitched roofs and shallower eaves, as displayed in the William Brown Residence, to deal with the weather stresses of a northern climate.

The interior is largely intact and displays the simplicity sought by Craftsman design through simple wood baseboards and trim, a plain balustrade and hardwood floor and unadorned heating grates. The home is an uncommon example of the Craftsman style in Edmonton because of its incorporation clinker brick and its jerkinhead roof.

The clinker brick construction of the William Brown Residence contributes to its value as a historic resource. Clinker bricks were originally discarded as waste material unsuitable for construction because they were over-fired, burnt, and misshapen. Builders in Edmonton began to use clinker bricks as early as 1913. The firing process gives every clinker brick a slightly different colour and texture. As a result, every clinker brick structure, including the William Brown Residence, is provided a unique appearance.

The continued presence of clinker brick structures like the William Brown Residence are important in preserving one of Edmonton's few regional construction materials.





CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

The heritage value of the William Brown Residence is expressed in such character-defining elements as:

- + the jerkinhead roof with wide eaves and exposed rafters;
- + the front porch with gable roof supported by two wide tapered pillars set on brick piers;
- + the rectangular plan with front porch and side extension;
- + the clinker brick on the main elevation;
- + the stucco on the upper storey;
- + the clinker brick chimney;
- + the stucco clad chimney; and
- + the pattern, style and construction of all original wooden windows.

Interior

- + the interior timber trim and mouldings;
- + the hardwood floor; and
- + the clinker brick fireplace in the living room and tile hearth.

Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 15712 in September 2011.



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