



Air Photos from 1951 & 1952

Alberta's Centennial City



WWW.BROOKS.CA



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Stop 8 on Walking tour

# Walking Tour

## Of Historic Buildings in Downtown Brooks



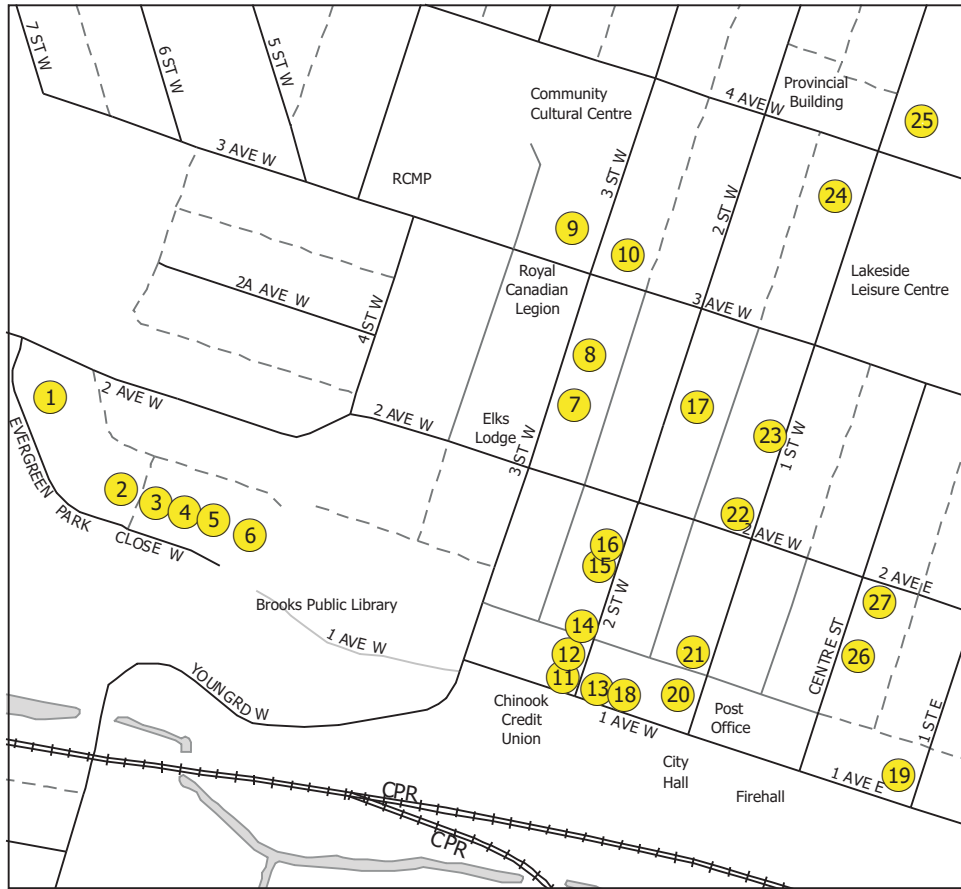
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Stop 16 on Walking tour

## **EVERGREEN PARK CLOSE**

- 1-5) # 8 28 32 36 40 These homes, plus 3 others, had foundations done by the CPR by 1919 and were contracted out to be built by Messrs Lancaster and Poulson, all being completed in 1919. All used by Engineering Staff and Dept Managers. # 40 was occupied by Mr. O'Neil, Hydrographer.
- 6) # 50 Known as the engineer's House, was built about 1912 to be used by the Chief Engineer, one of the first being A. S. Dawson.

In 1935, all the above homes, Headquarters building and Evergreen Park were turned over to the new Eastern Irrigation District from the CPR. In 1991/92, all homes were sold by the EID to private owners.



## **THIRD STREET WEST**

- 7) # 216 Built in 1912 by Leonard Nesbitt, new editor of the Brooks Bulletin, at a cost of \$1,200.
- 8) # 224 Built 1912-1913 by Jim Wilson, known as the "Irish Jew", a tailor with a clothing store on 1 St W. In the 1930's an addition was added to the rear of the building and a screened veranda was added to the front. Owned since 1964 by the descendant of early pioneer Bert Coultis.
- 9) # 307 Built in 1912 in Bassano, moved to 2 St in Brooks and to current location in the 1950's. Original hardwood floors and thick plaster exterior.
- 10) # 304 Built in 1930 by W. G. Manson, owner of a slaughterhouse and grocer. Later occupied by Albert Johnson family.

## **SECOND STREET WEST**

- 11) # 103 Union Bank built 1909/10, first bank in Brooks, using same floor plan as many other Union Banks, some a mirror image. Currently locally owned and houses Re/Max Realty.
- 12) # 107 Newell Hotel (has always been the Newell), built about 1911 (boom years). Originally a frame structure, the brick exterior was added soon after. A bar was added at the back. Is currently locally owned.
- 13) # 102 Merchant's Bank built 1912. Merged with Bank of Montreal in 1922. Building then used by the Irrigation Investigation Branch of the CPR. Owned by C. H. A. Powlett 1937 to 1946. Purchased by the bank of Nova Scotia who added to the back and the north stairwell to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Now the Old Bank Mall is locally owned and leased to Pro Insurance.
- 14) # 111 Brooks Hardware built in the 1920's, destroyed by fire with other downtown buildings. Now Ultra Floors.
- 15) # 125 Men's Clothing Store built by Wilson Cain (first MLA from Brooks). Later Harry Fowler's Men's Wear, McMahon Western Shop.
- 16) # 129 Oasis Theatre, prev. Gayety Theatre, run for many years by the Ubertino family.
- 17) # 224 Masonic Order purchased building in 1918. Meetings held on upper floor. Much later, Masonic Order moved to a new location.

## **FIRST AVENUE** (formerly Railway Avenue)

- 18) # 212 Triangle Motors in the early 30's (Ford and John Deere). Modern Auto (Chev-Olds) 1936-59. Then Jenkins Groceteria and Tom-Boy. Purchased in 1994 by Jaaco Services, being used by them and Dinosaur Gas Co-op. Parking lot to the east was the site of the first drug store owned by P. W. McNab.
- 19) # 124 Built in 1909 by rancher James Pierce, one of the first homes in Brooks. Later occupied by the A. L. Young family, pioneer dairymen.

## **FIRST STREET WEST**

- 20) # 107 Combination of 3 buildings, including the central portion being the first garage (1912), operated by Ed Revenning. Hardware store in north portion. Was owned and operated for many decades by J. S. Ingram and descendants to the present.
- 21) # 111 Brooks Hotel Built in 1908, run by Eli Sandford, sold to James Ingram in 1909 or built in 1910 by J. S. Ingram. Veranda in the front built in 1930. Steam heated. Held gala events (church meetings, social sporting organizations, UFA). Monthly room and board was \$30 in 1914/15 .
- 22) Corner of 2 Ave & 1 St W British Empire Service League (Now Royal Canadian Legion). Held Town of Brooks offices for many years. More recently a gift shop.
- 23) # 224 Brooks Banner built in 1911. Editor, Calvin Goss, sold to Leonard Nesbitt in 1912 for \$500. Became Brooks Bulletin
- 24) # 327 2-story home, one of 3 homes moved from Alderson in 1931.
- 25) # 440 Built in 1926, first brick school, having 2 grades per room. Added more room on the east end of the building. Extended to include grade 12 in 1933. Now part of the Holy Family Academy (2002).

In 1927, 34 evergreens were planted in recognition of 34 fathers of Confederation (some still exist).

## **CENTRE STREET**

- 26) # 126 Sarah King's home. Was a maternity hospital, recording 160 births before a regular hospital was built. It is now a museum.
- 27) # 136 Home built by Fred Hanson, a carpenter, with three others in the early 1930's. Due to a fire in the 1915, Town records were destroyed. Thus, earlier information is somewhat controversial and contradicting.