The background is a piece of aged, yellowish paper. In the top left corner, there is a circular postmark with some illegible text and numbers. To its right, there is handwritten text in cursive, including the name 'Mr. J. J. Doherty' and 'Lacombe, P.E.I.'. The main text is a black serif font, centered on the page.

Welcome to the Historic Residential District tour. This is a self-guided tour focusing on 18 historic homes and two historic churches that helped build up our community. Also featured is the only house in Lacombe that is a Designated Provincial Historic Resource; the Young Residence. Enjoy learning about the old architecture of these buildings and the prominent local citizens who owned them. The tour begins at Michener House Museum & Archives and will end at the Raymond / Doherty Residence on 52nd Street. It should take between an hour and an hour-and-a-half to complete either walking, cycling or by car.

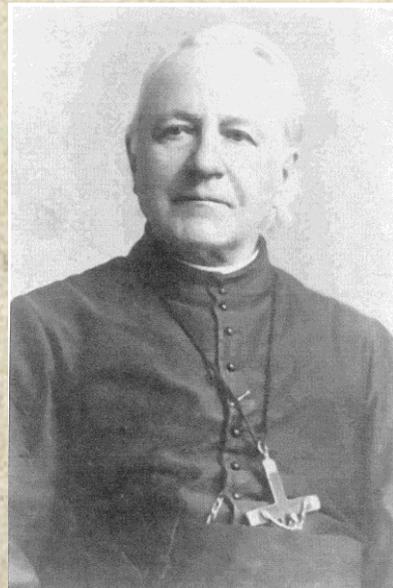
Barnett History



Barnett Residence, Lacombe to the North circa. 1906



Ed & Elvie Barnett, 1900



Father Albert Lacombe,

1890

Lacombe first began in 1883 when Edward Barnett made the long journey north from Calgary. The land between Calgary and Edmonton was practically inhabited and Ed constructed a stopping house along the Calgary—Edmonton Trail as a rest stop for travellers. The stopping house became the first building constructed in the current city of Lacombe. Barnett's Rest (the stopping house) was located approximately where the Junior High School stands today. The Barnett Residence was farther north down the Trail, close to the ravine that ran through the back of what is now 5930 C&E Trail.

In 1890 when the Calgary-Edmonton Railway was being constructed, several Sidings were established. These Sidings were essentially a spur tack and a boxcar numbered in consecutive order north from Calgary. The area around Barnett's Rest became Siding 12 and was soon remained Barnett Siding by local residents. Father Albert Lacombe was a pioneer Roman Catholic missionary who was a friend and helper to all. He knew all the First Nations chiefs and became fluent in their languages. He was a peacemaker between the Natives and the White Men who were settling in the region. When the CPR needed land for the railway, Father Lacombe was responsible for peaceful negotiations. In honor of his contributions to this region, Barnett Siding was renamed Lacombe.

Edward Barnett, as a former member of the NWMP, acquired large tracts of land south of his stopping house and began selling it off piecemeal for a steady profit. This practice wasn't popular in just Lacombe, it was popular in nearly every settlement in Western Canada. So it can be said that parts of the downtown district of Lacombe are built on Barnett Land.

Michener House 5036 51 Street

Built in 1894



*Michener House and Grace Methodist Church, after 1907,
before 1918*

For almost thirty years after its construction in 1894, this modest wood frame Queen Anne Revival Style house was home to Lacombe's Methodist ministers. The Grace Methodist, the church in which they served, was conveniently located next door to the manse. Lacombe's first Methodist minister E.J. Chegwin arrived to Lacombe in 1893 and in the following year helped to build the wood church and manse. Succeeding him in 1897, Edward Michener inherited not only the Lacombe congregation but also that of Blackfalds, Chigwell, Spruceville, Bentley, Lakeside Canyon, Central and Spring Valley. Shortly before departing to Red Deer in 1900, Mary and Edward Michener's son Roland was born in the house on April 19th, 1900. Edward Michener became a successful businessman and politician in Red Deer which culminated in his appointment to the Senate. Roland Michener followed in his father's footsteps and also pursued a career in politics, eventually surpassing his father's achievements; becoming first a successful lawyer and politician, then Governor General of Canada from 1967 to 1974. It is in honor of this man, Lacombe's most distinguished native son, that Michener House has been named and preserved as a Provincial Historic Resource since 1977.

After the departure of the Michener family, the house was passed to successive ministers. An expansion to the rear in 1918 subsequently converted the house for use as a church hall. The Grace Methodist Church was also used as a church hall, a Sunday school house and a Boy Scout's Hall when the Methodist Congregation merged with the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Congregation to form the St. Andrew's United Church in 1922. The church was condemned and torn down in 1984, the same year the Michener House became a museum.

The House continues to be home to the Michener House Museum & Archives and is owned by the Lacombe & District Historical Society. Today, the Michener House is the oldest remaining building in Lacombe and illustrates the important first phase of the community's development.

Barnett Property

5015 51 Street

Purchased in 1894



Barnett family, 1922

In 1883 when Edward Barnett became Lacombe's very first permanent resident, he purchased the first piece of land in what would soon be the Lacombe townsite. In order to make a bit of money for his family, Barnett began selling off pieces of his land to other new settlers. Once his whole property was subdivided, Edward Barnett sold this section of land to James D. Skinner in 1903. Skinner was a local businessman who counted the Lacombe Globe newspaper among his enterprises.

The house on this property is a mystery. Tax assessment rolls indicate that a house was built on this lot in 1915. However, many factors prove this to be false. It is more likely that a house was built prior to 1909 on a different lot then moved to this location in 1915. At the time, a holding company owned this lot. In any case, there are no archival photographs or other documents that have been found to indicate when or for whom the house was constructed.

Urquhart Residence

5307 50 Ave

Built between 1900 – 1910

Built in the early days of Lacombe, this modest residence belonged to Andrew Urquhart who was a local businessman. After the Flatiron Block fire in September 1906, Urquhart purchased a lot on Flatiron Block and built the Urquhart Block (the Jack Kanngiesser store). From this location Andrew Urquhart operated the “Urquhart & Company Limited Department Store” for many years.

The Urquhart Residence on Barnett Avenue is an example of the Edwardian Era home and possibly the Queen Anne Revival style of construction. The one-and-a-half storey wooden house features a front gabled roof with a sloping roofline on one side, and an enclosed front entranceway with a hipped roof. The front door is original to the house as well as some of the double-hung windows. Recently, a metal roof has been installed.

Edna Urquhart, a relation of Andrew Urquhart, purchased the house in 1949 and lived there until the late 1970s.



Urquhart Staff Outside Store, 1910

Dr. E.M. Sharpe Residence

5313 50 Ave

Build in 1914



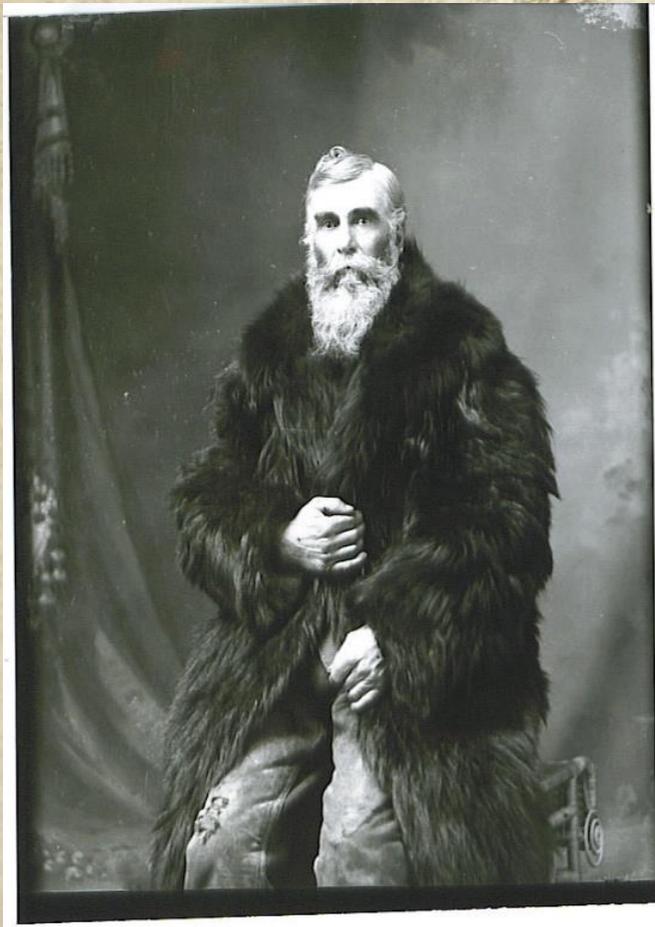
Dr. E.M. Sharpe Residence, 1930s

By 1906, there were three doctors and two dentists in Lacombe and “the medical services available to the residents of Lacombe were considered much superior to those of many larger centers in the province.” When Edward Montrose Sharpe first arrived from New Brunswick in 1896, he was the only practicing medical doctor in town. Conditions and communications were difficult at this time. In 1904 a telephone exchange was installed in Lacombe and in 1912 Dr. Sharpe bought a Ford Model T. However, it was still difficult being a doctor in Lacombe, especially in the winter months. As well as being a local doctor, Sharpe was also on the first hospital board and served as mayor of Lacombe in 1909.

Dr. Sharpe’s first residence and medical office was a wood frame building on 50th street. In 1912, he bought this property on 50th Avenue and in 1914 had this house built by local architect Sam Watt. This Queen Anne Revival Style home again housed both his residence and professional office. Separate rooms were added to the design to accommodate inpatients. The full two-storey corner turret, double-hung windows with multi-paned upper sashes, exposed rafter tails and tapered corner stone piers along the verandah are prominent features of this style of home. All the features along with the lapped siding are still original to the house today. The only changes are the missing crenellated shingled parapet on the turret and the new side entrance to the porch.

William Burris Residence 5320 50 Ave

Built in 1903



*William Burris, Lacombe's First
Mayor, circa. 1902*

In 1896, William Burris Sr. became Lacombe's postmaster. He operated the post office until his retirement, passing it down to his son William Burris Jr. He was also credited with being the first town overseer from 1896 to 1898. In 1902 Burris Sr. became the first mayor of Lacombe and the next year he had his house built on Barnett Avenue just a few blocks from the post office.

This one-and-a-half storey Queen Anne Revival style house was constructed by local contractor and architect Sam Watt. It features a front-gabled roof with a louver and an open front porch with a low-pitched hipped roof supported by lathe-turned columns. Much of the house has remained original. However, a barn at the back of the property has been torn down and the present-day family room at the back of the house was originally a closed porch.

In 1942 the home was purchased by Eddie and Effie Miller and was in the Miller family until 2016.

Nichol / McKenty Residence

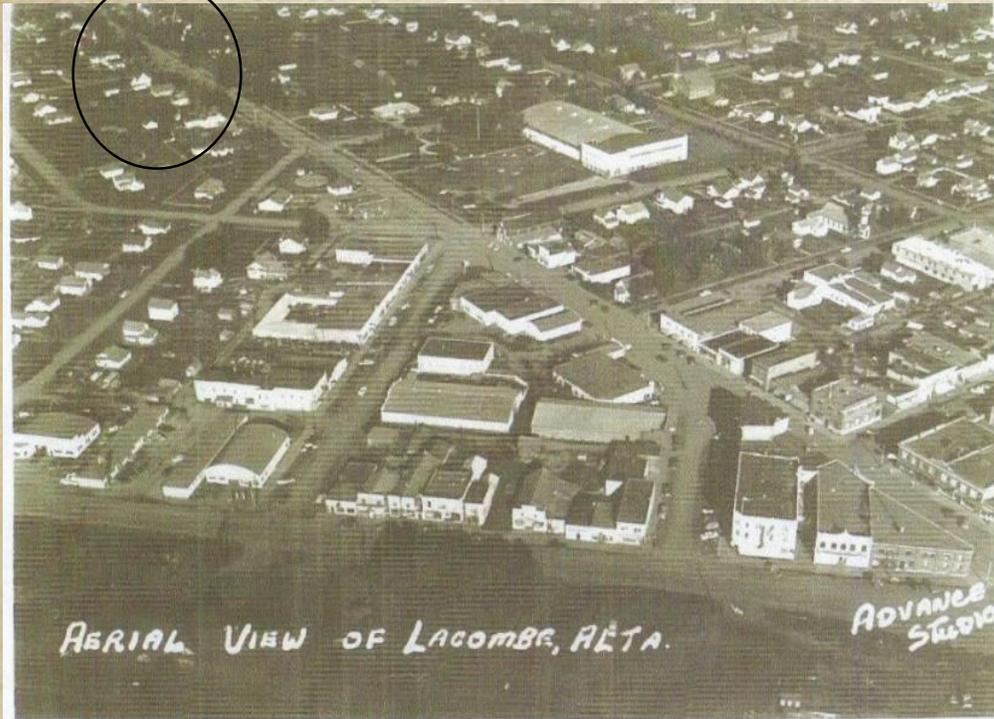
5323 50 Ave

Built between 1900 – 1902

John W. Nichol was a local resident of Lacombe. He arrived to Lacombe shortly before 1900 and had a house built a few years later. He enlisted in World War I in November 1915 and was unfortunately killed in action.

In the 1920s the house was sold to John McKenty. McKenty was a real estate agent and an auditor. He had an office on Flatiron block prior to the fire and did not rebuild his office there. The McKenty family were the first Catholics to settle in Lacombe in 1900. In the years prior to St. Stephen's Church (built 1903) the McKenty's first home was the location for the church services. John McKenty was also on the Town Council in 1905 and his wife was part of the Lest We Forget Club.

This early construction features a pyramidal hipped roof, a projected front-gable roof over the entrance and a brick chimney. The original wood front door is also still in place. While the outside might look quaint, the cellar under the house is full of mystery. Stories and local lore say that there was a secret bricked-in corner of the cellar used to hide liquor. The entrance to the cache was a trap door in the living room floor, hidden under the rug. Grandma was said to have put her rocking chair on top of the hatch and sit there doing knitting when ever the revenuers came knocking so the liquor stash was never uncovered. No proof has been discovered to confirm these stories.



Approx. Location of the Nichol/McKenty Residence

Campbell's Second Residence 5415 50 Ave

Build in 1913



Campbell Residence, early 20th century

Alexander M. (Sandy) Campbell came to Lacombe at the turn of the century. By 1904 he had opened a wood frame false-front general store on Railway Street (Highway 2A) on the corner of the original Corner Business Block. After the Flatiron Block fire of 1906, Campbell went into partnership with E. Titsworth and bought the Leading Store. Also in 1906, Campbell bought the property that this house stands on, but it wasn't until 1913 that he had the house built. He was also a successful businessman, member of the town council and the board of trade and his house reflects his accomplishments.

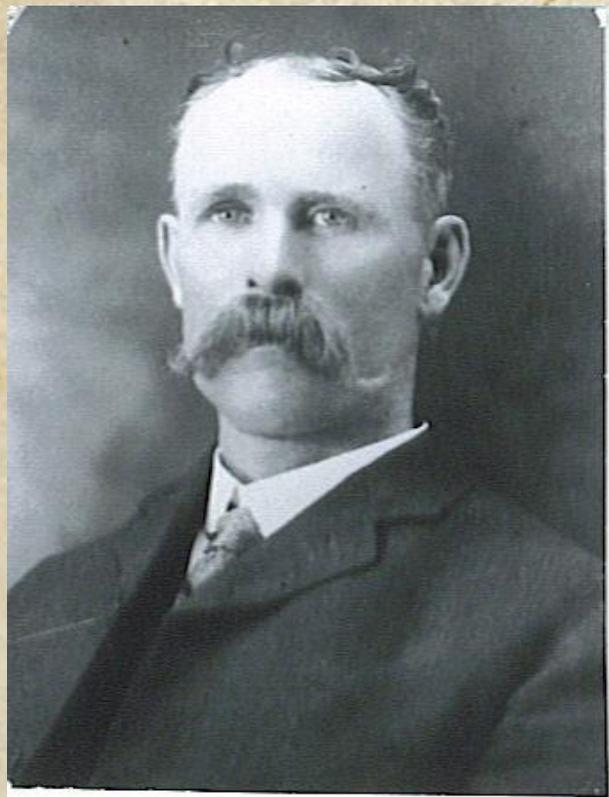
Built in the Queen Anne Revival Style, the Campbell Residence has a varied roofline with fish scale shingles in the gable ends. Few changes have occurred to the outside of the house. However, the most noticeable is the front porch. Formerly an open verandah with Doric columns supporting a balustrade balcony above, the porch is now glassed-in and covered with a bellcast roof.

Currently, the Campbell Residence is home of the Stopping House Café.

Puffer Residence

5437 50 Ave

Built in 1901



William Puffer, 1905

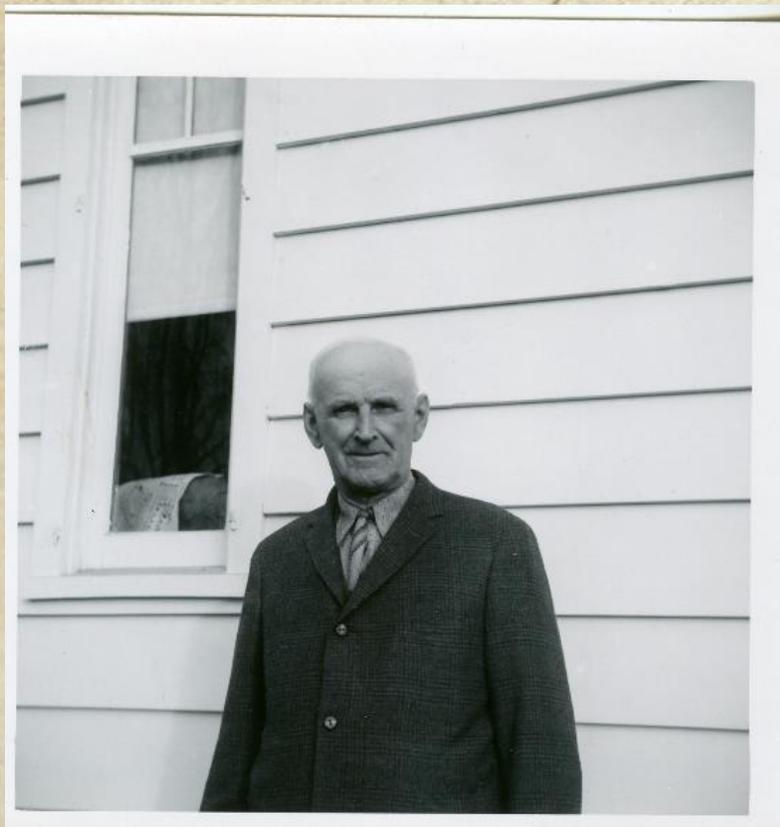
William Puffer came to Lacombe in 1895. By 1900 Puffer owned two lots on Nanton Street (50th Street) and had opened his meat market and livestock businesses. When the Victoria Hotel Fire (January 1st, 1911) destroyed his shop, Puffer teamed up with Hop Chung and together they built the Puffer Chung Block to house both of their respective businesses. William Puffer was also a member of the first town council in 1902, was Lacombe's first MLA in the first Legislature of the new Province of Alberta and was instrumental in bringing the Federal Research Station to Lacombe. He was also well known for his renditions of the works of Robbie Burns each year at the Robbie Burns Night and his work on many different organizations. He is considered one of the most important figures of Lacombe's early development.

The Puffer Residence is a quaint, one-and-a-half storey house with a cross-gable roof. The house featured wooden siding, corner boards and wooden sash double-hung windows, some of which are still part of the house today. The cornice in the front eaves is original as well. A porch cover was added in the 1980s and has since been removed.

Young Residence

5450 49 Ave

Built in 1948



Ormiston Young, 1960s

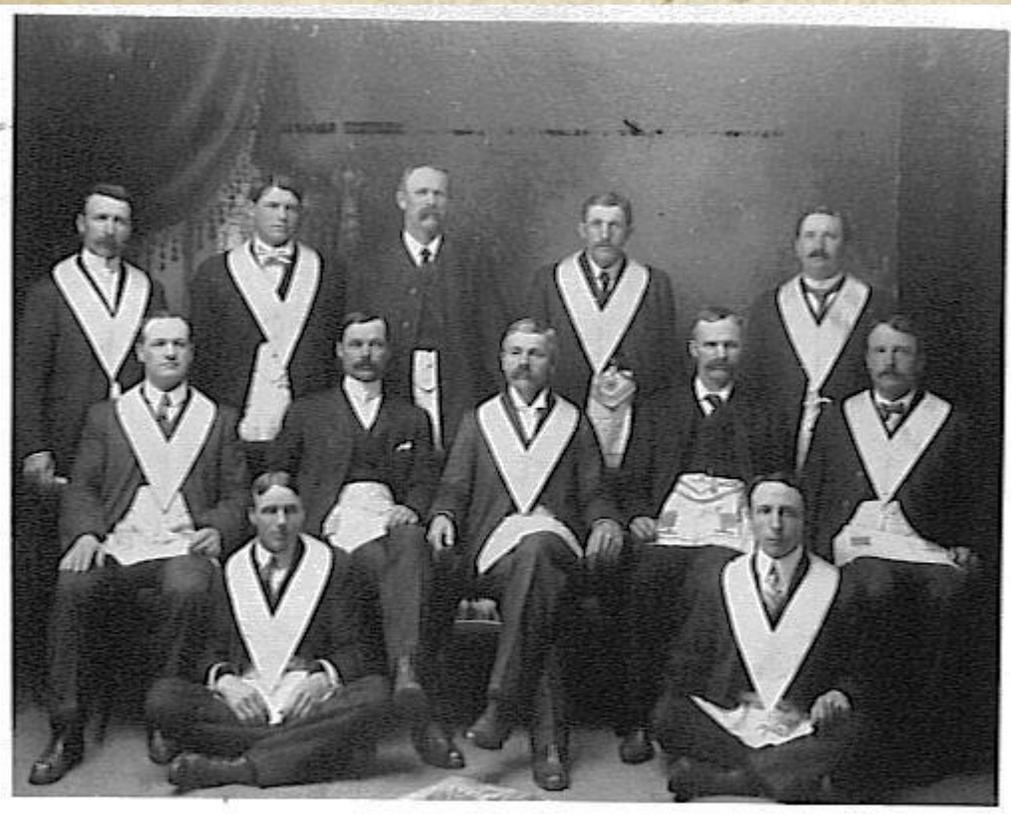
In 1948, Ormiston and Margaret Young moved to Lacombe from Ontario and had this house built for their growing family. Mr. & Mrs. Young were very involved in the community; Ormiston being an honorary member of the Lacombe & District Garden Club, Margaret being treasurer of the “Over-Sixties” Friendship Club and a member of the UFWA. When the couple moved out of their home, their nephew Ross Young lived in this house.

The Young Residence is one-storey, side-gable bungalow built in the Modern Style that was very popular after World War II. This residence was one of the first Modern Style homes in town, and soon after this style became the primary building type in town. However, the Young Residence still has many elements of the Colonial Revival building style that was popular in the interwar period. This style is shown through the wide lapped siding, decorative parged concrete detailing along the foundation, and metal porch and window awnings. These features along with the single-assembly windows and the multilight wooden front door are still original to the house today. In 2016, the Young Residence became the first home in Lacombe to become a Designated Provincial Historic Resource.

Campbell's First Residence

5418 49th Ave

Build in 1907



Eureka Lodge Members, 1902 (A.M. Campbell 2nd from the left, back row)

The original owner of this lot was W.J. Burris. In 1907, he sold the lot to A.M. Campbell and a house was built on the lot soon after. Campbell lived in this house while his grand residence on Barnett Avenue (number 8 on the tour) was being built. Campbell lived in this home until 18 June 1913, according to the Western Globe.

This home is an example of an Eaton's catalogue home. Future homeowners could purchase an entire home—from plans right down to the lumber and nails needed to construct it—from a number of different catalogues. The home kits would have been sent by rail from Eastern Canada and the recipient would have constructed the home on the lot they had purchased.

This model of home is in the Queen Anne's Revival Style. It is a one-and-a-half storey house featuring a front-gable roof and a projecting hipped roof front porch. The second floor windows openings on the front of the house appear to be in the original location.

St. Cyprian's Anglican Church 5005

C&E Trail

Built in 1901



St. Cyprian's Anglican Church & Rectory, 1920

The parish of St. Cyprian's was organized in 1894 and its first services were held out of the log schoolhouse just like those of the Methodists and Presbyterians. Contrary to the other congregations, however, the Anglicans did not immediately build their own church. It wasn't until 1901 that St. Cyprian's Anglican Church was built at 5131-51 Street on land donated by Ed Barnett and the C & E Railway townsite trustees. The Church was built in the Carpenter's Gothic Style and the original rectory still stands just north of the site. There was very little to distinguish St. Cyprian's from the other churches in town; it was a traditional wood build, rectangular in shape with a gable roof on the nave, a gable-roofed porch and pointed windows ran down on the sides. However, the steep pitch of the roof set the church apart from the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, enhancing its "gothic" and therefor "English" character (the Gothic Revival Style was the mode of design thought most appropriate by the Church of England).

Various changes have been made to St. Cyprian's over the years. Shed-roofed additions have been added to either side of the entrance porch and a coat of stucco has covered up the original wood siding. However, the most drastic change occurred in 1948 with the entire structure was moved six blocks to its present location.

Switzer Residence

5032 C&E Trail

Built in 1906



Switzer Family, 1910s or 1920s

In 1906, C.C. Switzer bought this lot from R. Shilleto and constructed one of the most unique and distinguishable home in Lacombe. When the Switzer family arrived in Lacombe in 1891, they had a farm just outside town. When Percy Switzer retired from farming, he was the Magistrate in Lacombe for around 12 years and his farm became part of the Federal Research Station.

Around 1928, this house was sold to Mac and Annie Frizzell. Mac was a WWI veteran and later served as the Postmaster from 1928 to 1951. A respected stonemason from Bentley did the stonework on the front of the property with the stones and petrified wood the Frizzell children collected on their Sunday drives.

The Switzer Residence is a two-storey home with a hipped roof. The full-width verandah features the tapered round stone columns with tuck-pointing. The property line is highlighted by the low stone wall with tuck-pointing out front of the house. The front door, windows and white painted siding around the sunroom are still original. The rest of the house has been wrapped in vinyl siding.

Johnston Residence

5344 51 Ave

Built in 1902



Johnston & Morrison inside their store, 1905

In 1895 James Johnston arrived in Lacombe and in 1901, Johnston and William N. Morrison began their hardware business in the commercial district. In 1902, Johnston bought the property across the street to what would soon be his business partner's and built his house. Together, Morrison and Johnston ran the business for eleven years until Johnston moved to Edmonton in 1912.

The Johnston Residence is a gable front Queen Anne Style house and is largely untouched from its original construction. The lapped siding, wooden corner boards and double-hung windows are still original as well as the lathe-turned columns supporting the front porch roof. However, the porch originally stretched over the whole front of the house. Also, some of the decorative woodwork that once adorned the front gable has been removed.

Jackson Residence

5338 51 Ave

Built in 1912



Jackson Residence, 1930s

The original owner of this home, Gilbert Thornlinson Jackson arrived in Lacombe prior to the winter of 1901-1902. By 1908, Jackson became the station agent for the line of Canadian Pacific Railway (C.P.R.) that run through Lacombe, a position he held until the early 1940s. One of the most memorable accidents of his career occurred in 1911: the roof of the baggage room was blown off when the baggageman vigorously heaved a trunk filled with photographer's flash powder. The baggageman was killed. Jackson, however, was bowling at the time and survived the explosion.

In January of 1912, Jackson bought the property on Hamilton Avenue (now called 51st Avenue) and had this house built. A prominent feature of the house's Queen Anne Revival style was the oriel window that projected over the front verandah. The window was designed for Jackson's first wife, who was ill with tuberculosis. In 1925, Jackson had a section of the verandah enclosed to enlarge the living room – which undoubtedly came in handy during Jackson's term as mayor from 1927 to 1931. The construction of this home also introduced some new, modern technology to Lacombe: steam-driven bandsaws, drills and lathes.

Renovations in the 1980s have removed the oriel window and replaced it with a flat wall as well as removing a part of the original full-width wrap around verandah. Other than these changes, the house is practically original to its construction in 1912.

Morrison Residence

5331 51 Ave

Built in 1919



Morrison Residence, 1930s

William N. Morrison arrived to Lacombe with his family in 1900 from Prince Edward Island. In 1901 he opened a hardware store with his business partner James Johnston. Three years later, Morrison had purchased a property on Hamilton Avenue but did not build this house until 1919. During his life, William Morrison was also mayor of Lacombe from 1912 to 1920 and was a founding member of the Board of Trade.

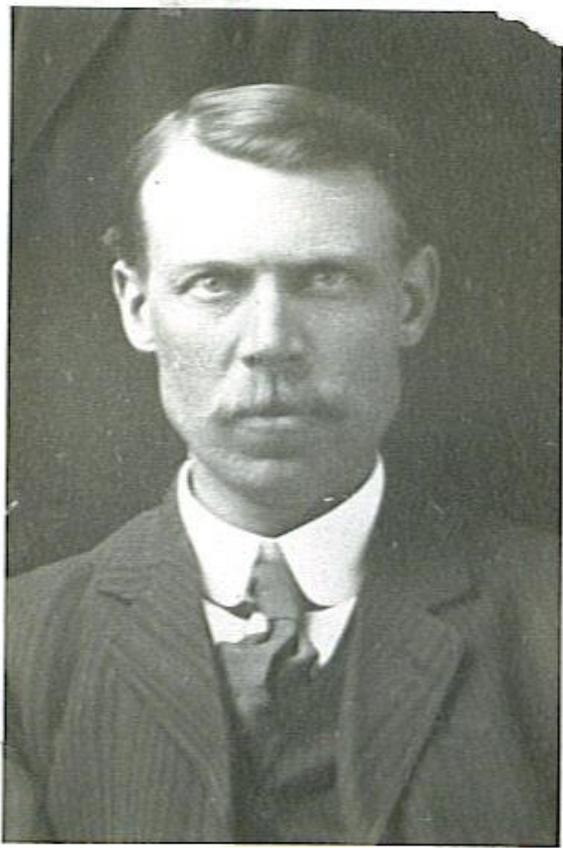
In 1903, a smaller house was built on this lot. However, the 1919 rebuild shows complexity and sophistication previously unseen in Lacombe. It is possible that this Colonial Revival Style house was a mail order home kit from the Sears, Roebuck and Co. or Eatons catalogues. These house kits out have come with all the plans and building materials necessary to construct the house. Prominent features of this house include the high-pitched gambrel, central eyebrow dormer and central enclosed entrance with the balcony above. The internal and external red-brick chimneys and the multi-paned front door are also original to the home.

Morrison House is home today of the Morrison House Café. Stop by for lunch or even just coffee and a piece of homemade pie. It's open Tuesday to Saturday for 11:00am to 3:30pm and is the highest rated restaurant in Lacombe according to Trip Advisor!

Darling / Morrison Residence

5323 51 Ave

Built in 1900



W. N. MORRISON

When Lacombe was incorporated as a Town, the original owner of this home was L.L. Darling. In 1904, Darling sold the home to William Norman Morrison. The Morrison family lived in this home until 1919 when their new house, the Morrison Residence, was completed next door. W.N. Morrison co-owned M & J Hardware with James Johnston. When the Johnston family left Lacombe in 1912, M&J Hardware was left in Morrison's hands. The hardware store was in the Morrison family for 74 years (1901-75) and is the longest family-run business in Lacombe to date. Mrs. Morrison was a local school teacher as early as 1900. Gordon Sweet, owner of Sweet's Pharmacy, was a tenant of the house at one time.

The Darling/Morrison Residence is built in the Queen Anne Revival style and features a hipped roof, a wraparound verandah with square columns. As the Morrison family grew larger, the house became too small. In 1910, the Western Globe reported that the Morrison Residence had been raised up, possibly to enlarge a root cellar, and a second storey added to incorporate more bedrooms. The double-hung windows on the second storey are original as well as the full-width wrap around porch. The original wooden siding has been covered with stucco.

Hay Residence

5316 51 Ave

Built in 1924



Hay Residence, 1930s

David Hay, the original owner of this home, was a successful businessman in Lacombe. Hay owned and operated Watt & Hay's Gent's Furnishings out of the McLearn Block on Barnett Avenue from 1914 to 1990. He was also a volunteer firefighter, joining the force the year after the Flatiron Block fire and stayed on until 1942.

The Hay Residence on then Hamilton Avenue greatly reflected Mr. Hay's commercial success. The house was built during the interwar period of Lacombe, a very prosperous time for the community and the world at large. This Craftsman Style home features a one-and-a-half storey massing, a full width porch with an open balustrade and a shed roof dormer, all popular elements of the Arts & Crafts movement and the modern times. Unfortunately, the original wooden siding has been covered by stucco, but, the original internal and external red brick chimneys are unchanged. Also, many of the windows and window openings are original to the 1924 build.

Dr. Stewart Residence

5312 51 Ave

Built in 1927

Contrary to its name, this residence was not in fact first owned by Dr. Frank Stewart. Rather it was owned by Lacombe's local photographer Ben S. Cameron. Cameron bought the lot from the Baptist Church in 1925 and in 1927 he had a house built on it. Also in 1927, he sold the house to Dr. Frank Stewart. Stewart was one of the local dentists in town and he lived in this house with his wife for many years.

The Dr. Stewart Residence is a one-storey wooden frame Craftsman Style Bungalow. It's a direct reflection of the successful business Dr. Stewart ran for many years. The detailing such as the half-width porch with triangular brackets, the closed balustrade supported by tapered cobblestone piers, and the low-pitched roofline reflect this success and the prosperous inter-war period in which the house was built.

The house has maintained some of its original features such as the front porch and a few original windows openings along the front and rear facades. However, a front gable extension was added on the east side of the house post 1940s and the house's original wood siding has been covered with vinyl. Also many of the window openings have been changed and all the windows have been replaced.

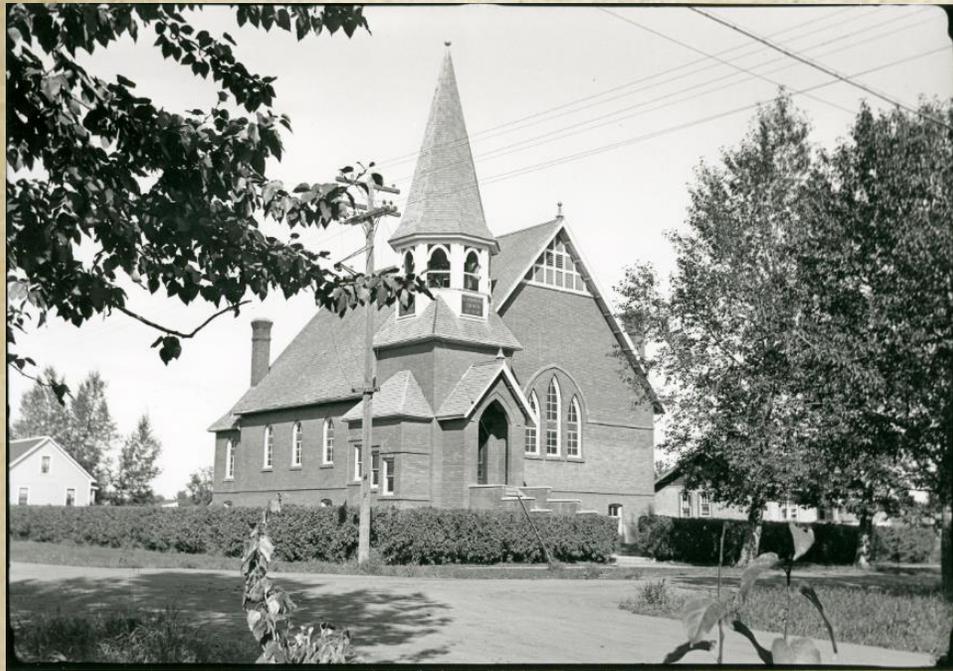


Frank Stewart, Lions Ball Tourn. 1964

St. Andrew's United Church

5226 51 Ave

Built in 1905



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1913

In the early 1890s, many people began moving into Lacombe and the need for churches grew. In this early time, the Presbyterian congregation held their church services out of a freight shed. By 1895, the first Presbyterian Church was built for a large sum of \$525. As the congregation grew larger in the early 20th century, the need for a bigger church was evident. In 1909, the historic sanctuary of the present day St. Andrew's United Church was built for \$12,315.99. In 1922, the St. Andrew's Presbyterian congregation and the Grace Methodist congregation formed a union and the first United Church in Lacombe.

The historic portion of the church is the section closest to the corner. This first section of the church has the bell tower and the only church bell in town (\$120 when purchased in 1908). Over the years, many renovations have been made to St. Andrew's. The Christian Education Building on the east side of the property was built in 1957. The Center Block that now joins the Sanctuary and the C.E. building was added in 1960. The narthex on the sanctuary was completed in 1965 and eliminated the treacherous exterior stairs. Finally, in 2002, the sanctuary was extended and an elevator was added in the center block.

Raymond / Doherty Residence

5029 52nd Street

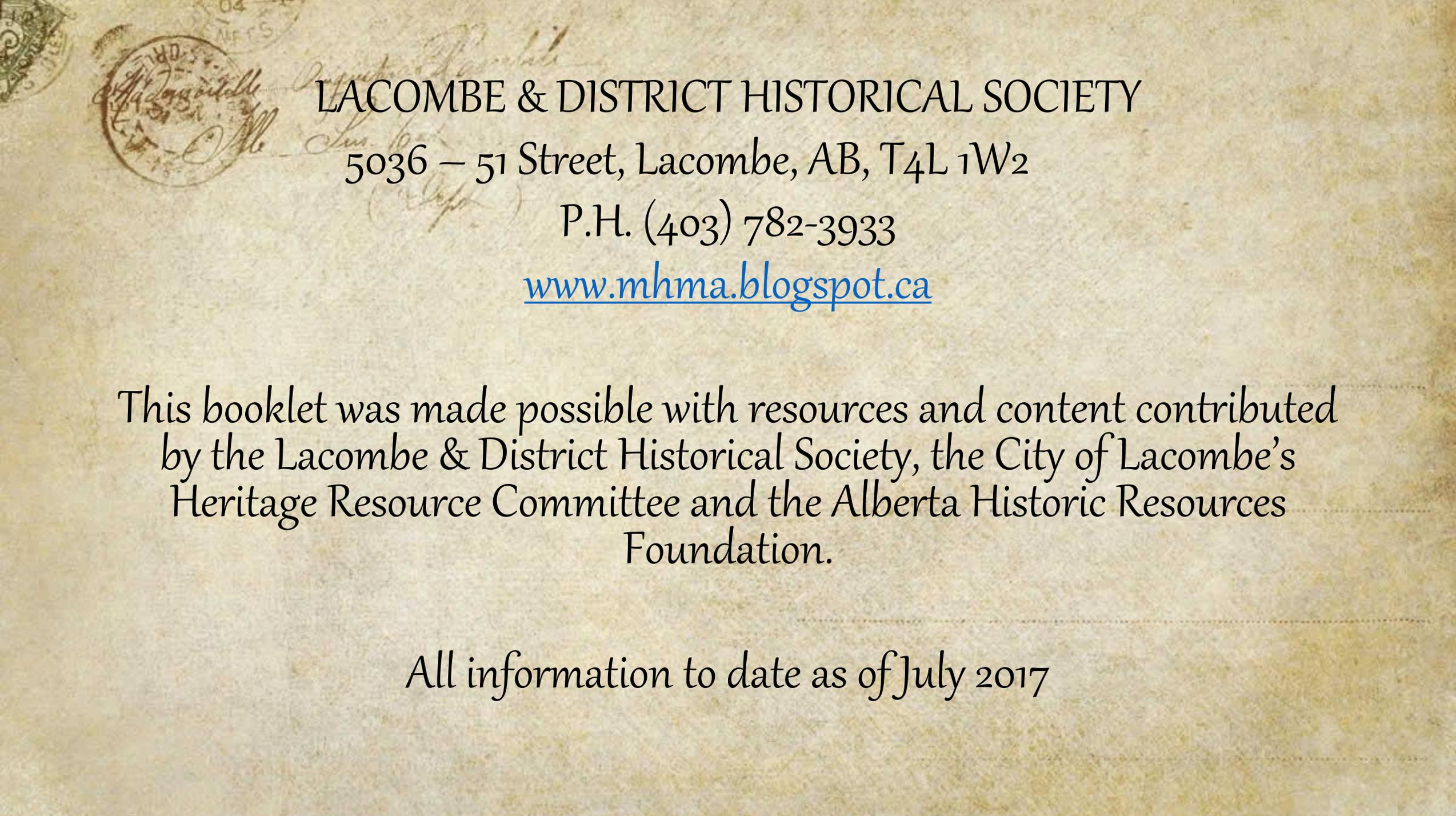
Build prior to 1903



Mr. & Mrs. Charles Raymond, circa. 1910

This house was built prior to 1903 and was originally owned by Johnson Dairies. By 1907 the house was sold to Charles Raymond, who was a later owner of the W.F. Brett's Furniture Store. He was also the Consul of a local club called the Modern Woodmen of America, which began prior to 1911. He was an outstanding member of the club and was recognized for 25 years of service in the late 1930s. George Doherty was a long-time tenant in the home.

The Raymond / Doherty residence is a quaint one-and-one-half storey house. It features a front-gable roof with decorative barge board. Additionally, there is a hipped roof projected over the entranceway with twin double-hung windows.



LACOMBE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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All information to date as of July 2017