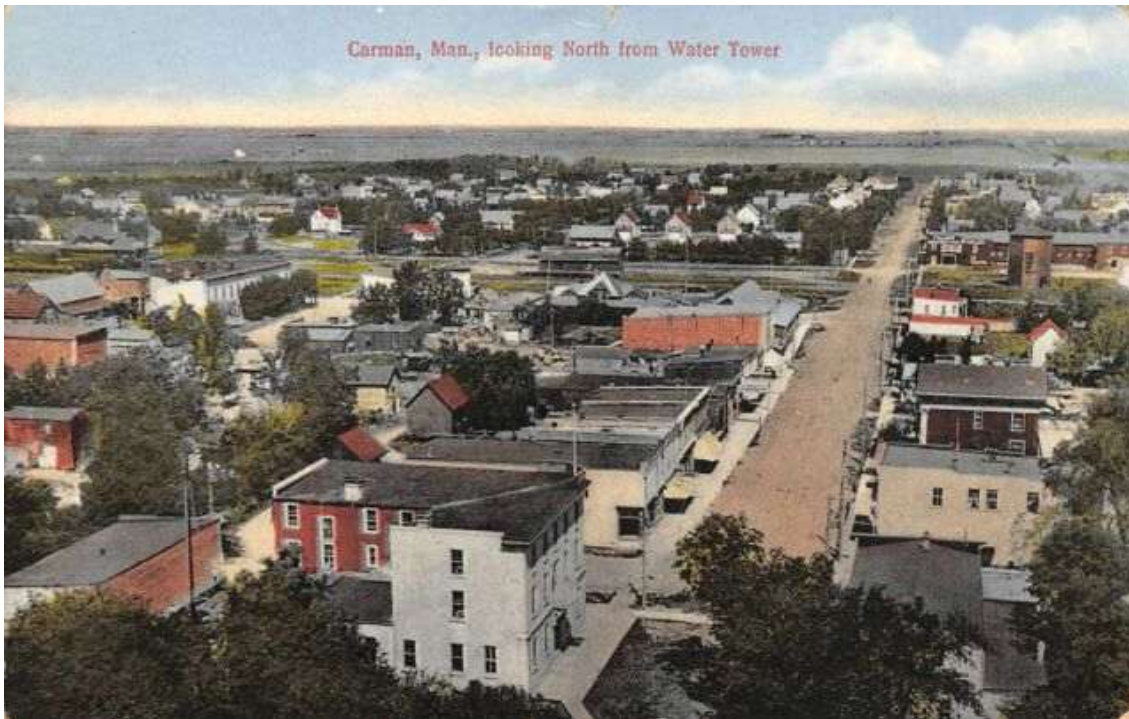


LANDMARKS



Significant Heritage Buildings of the Town of Carman & the Rural Municipality of Dufferin



A Project of the Carman-Dufferin Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee

The Carman-Dufferin Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee would like to acknowledge the support of Manitoba Sport, Culture and Heritage in the development of this initiative, through a grant from the Heritage Grants Program, and through ongoing guidance and support of the Historic Resources Branch.

2018

On the cover: As the caption on this vintage postcard advises, looking north from the water tower (ca. 1900).

Landmarks

Significant Heritage Buildings of the Town of Carman and the Rural Municipality of Dufferin

THE GREAT 19TH CENTURY English writer and historian, John Ruskin, observed about the subject of architectural heritage:

“Old buildings are not ours. They belong to those who built them, and partly to the generations who are to follow us. What we ourselves have built, we are at liberty to throw down. But what other men gave their strength, and wealth and life to accomplish, their right over it does not pass away with their death.

It is with this thought in mind that the Town of Carman and the Rural Municipality of Dufferin, through the Carman-Dufferin Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC), has embarked on a project—in partnership with the Historic Resources Branch of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism—to develop a major heritage initiative: *Special Places. Carman-Dufferin’s Significant Heritage Buildings*.

Carman-Dufferin’s Special Places project (one of about 50 underway across Manitoba with the support of the Historic Resources Branch and Heritage Grants Program) has been developed with two goals in mind: to ensure that communities undertake the kind of comprehensive inventory of sites and rigorous analysis and assessment that allows for a selection of those few buildings with real claims for heritage significance; and also in order to study and explore the community’s architectural history and by so doing to identify those built qualities that combine to make Carman-Dufferin an authentically distinct place.

It is also important to note that the Carman-Dufferin MHAC had been working for several years before this current project on developing inventories of buildings and sites that may have heritage significance to the municipalities. The first of these inventories was undertaken in 1992, and upgraded in 1996. Both of these initiatives relied on a major survey project undertaken by the Historic Resources Branch (HRB) in 1982. Hundreds of buildings and sites were explored through these projects, and that work has greatly informed the current Special Places initiative.

Each building and structure identified in the various inventories developed for the Carman-Dufferin Special Places project was the subject of analysis by our heritage consultant, Mr. Lorne Thompson (commissioned through a grant provided by the Heritage Grants Program), through a process devised by staff of HRB. Focusing on historical and architectural criteria, this approach ensured that the Carman-Dufferin MHAC, with guidance from the Branch, methodically and fairly assessed all sites according to the same issues. This approach ensured that a so-called “long list” of about 40 sites of potential heritage value could then be the subject of a more rigorous evaluation process, in which each site was actually scored, with a “short list” of 21 sites ultimately determined to effectively sum up the main historical and architectural themes that defined Carman and Dufferin over the 40 years of its early life – 1880-1920. For the record, these are the selected sites:

Town of Carman Public and Commercial Buildings

- Canadian Bank of Commerce Building
- Leader Block
- McKinney-Campbell Block
- Union Bank Building
- St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church

Town of Carman Residential Buildings

- Smith House
- Watson House
- Campbell House
- Carr House
- Hill House
- Woodruff House

- Ferguson/McIvor House
- McGill/Johnson House
- Cochran House

R.M. of Dufferin Buildings

- St. Daniel School, Barnsley Area
- Graysville School, Graysville
- St. Paul’s United Church, Graysville
- Latham General Store, Homewood
- Roseisle War Memorial, Roseisle
- Garnett-Bryson Farmsite, Carman area
- McCullough Farmsite, Carman area

All of the records and documentation for the Carman-Dufferin Special Places project—inventories, analysis and evaluations—are maintained by the Carman-Dufferin MHAC and by the Historic Resources Branch.

Additionally, it needs to be noted that before the current Carman-Dufferin Special Places project was undertaken there had already been substantial work done to identify and actually municipally designate a number of sites in the town and rural municipality that obviously had great heritage significance. Those eight sites are listed here:

- Carman Dominion Post Office Building
- Memorial Hall, Carman
- Carman Canadian National Railway Station
- Carman United Church
- Roseisle School, R.M. of Dufferin
- Boyne School, R.M. of Dufferin (since moved to Dufferin Historical Museum grounds)

- Sexsmith House, R.M. of Dufferin (since moved to Dufferin Historical Museum grounds)
- Rodmond Roblin House, R.M. of Dufferin

Two additional Municipal Heritage Sites—the Hiebert House and Dufferin Agricultural Society Grandstand, both in Carman (shown at right)—have been lost through, respectively, demolition and fire.

The total of 21 sites is larger than is usually recommended by HRB for a Special Places final list. And the addition of the eight Municipal Heritage Sites brings that total to 29 places of significance. More typically the aim in these kinds of initiatives is to identify about 10 sites, a short sharp list that helps focus public attention on the truly remarkable, the actually significant. This kind of narrow list also ensures that funds and resources, when they are available, are focused most efficiently and effectively. In our case, however, the Carman-Dufferin MHAC, with acknowledgement from HRB, determined that a greater number of sites was required to more fully express the heritage themes of both the Town of Carman and the R.M. of Dufferin.

The list of 21 buildings and sites derived from our Special Places project constitutes the Carman-Dufferin MHAC's recommendations to the community about those places that have major claims for heritage significance. It is even suggested that this collection defines those places that might be considered for mun-



Paul Hiebert House, Carman, was the home of a well-known Manitoba writer.



Dufferin Agricultural Society Grandstand, Carman.

icipal designation, if that option seems feasible to an owner and the responsible municipality. Please note that there are other issues involved in designation besides heritage value, and it is recommended that interested parties consult the *Municipal Heritage Resource Guide*, available on-line via the Historic Resources Branch website.

Each building and site on our short list (along with those eight places already designated as Municipal Heritage Sties) is presented on the following pages with an accompanying Heritage Value Statement that elucidates that building or site's key heritage attributes. This kind of text is one of the ultimate goals of a Special Places project. The Heritage Value Statements that have been developed here are based on an initiative inaugurated in the early 2000s by Parks Canada in association with all provinces and territories, including Manitoba. The project was called the Historic Places Initiative (HPI), and its goal was to develop a pan-Canadian approach to heritage conservation and communication.

An important aspect of HPI was to develop consistent and reliable approaches that would clarify what makes certain buildings and sites historically significant. The Heritage Value Statement was a key part of that process. HPI documents note that such a statement “seeks to identify what matters and why. It explains why a historic place is important to the community. Naming the heritage values of a place makes it possible to identify the physical qualities that express its values, and also helps determine what aspects of the place need to be conserved.”

It goes on: “Heritage value is what makes a historic place significant to a community of people. It is comprised of the many meanings and values that people attach to a place. Traditionally, historic places have been valued mainly for their historical associations and/or architectural importance.” It is this approach that has been used for the Carman-Dufferin Special Places project.

We also note a key determining factor that has resulted in this final list of 21 notable Carman-Dufferin buildings: while they must have historical and architectural significance, they must also have high levels of physical integrity – that is, the original building design, form, construction and materials must still be visible and in good condition. High physical integrity ensures that the sites chosen for this “short list” can fully and completely describe all aspects of their heritage value.

As a collection, these buildings and sites define many aspects and themes from each municipality's past, and do so through places that are at once significant, but also interesting and attractive. They are places that the people of the municipalities can look to with pride. These places remind us of past glories, but also suggest an enduring sense of community.

The process of evaluation and the ultimate selection of sites of heritage significance was focused on the merits of each building, but the exercise was also informed by an appreciation of the necessity to ensure that as many historical and architectural themes as possible were reflected in the final list.

In practical terms this meant a fair allocation of urban and rural sites, a reasonable distribution of building types (public, commercial, residential) and a recognition of the key architectural styles and historic building materials and construction practices that defined our communities in their formative years around the turn of the 20th century.

One final consideration, suggested to the MHAC by HRB, was to place our full collection of 29 buildings into a broader context— to explore whether there were certain of our sites, or collections of sites, that might have even more significance than to our local communities; that is, if they had regional or even province-wide claims for significance. This kind of work was

considered beyond the capacities of the MHAC, and so we have invited David Butterfield, retired Manager of HRB’s Research Services Unit and Provincial Architectural Historian (and the official who designed and developed the Special Places initiative), to contribute his insights. Mr. Butterfield brings a wealth of knowledge to the task – a broad understanding of architectural history and a deep appreciation for the built-heritage aspects of Manitoba’s smaller urban centres and rural areas. The concluding entry for this report—Carman-Dufferin Sites of Regional/Provincial Significance—is the essential result of this effort. The larger report from which these conclusions have been drawn is available from the Carman-Dufferin MHAC.



View looking north down Fournier Avenue (now 1st Street SW), ca. 1940. The image shows the Dominion Post Office in the foreground and the continuous wall of commercial storefronts that once lined Fournier.

Municipally Designated Heritage Sites

The following eight buildings have been identified by their respective municipal councils as having major historical and architectural significance to the community. Please note that two additional sites—the Hiebert House and Grandstand, both in Carman—have been lost through, respectively, demolition and fire, and no longer are included on our list.

- Carman Dominion Post Office Building
- Memorial Hall
- Carman Canadian National Railway Station
- Carman United Church
- Roseisle School
- Boyne School
- Sexsmith House
- Rodmond Roblin House

Carman Dominion Post Office Building



The Carman Dominion Post Office characterizes the federal government's commitment to achieving quality in the institutions it erected throughout the country around the turn of the twentieth century. Masterful design and dignified materials spoke of progress, prosperity and stability, while a standardized vocabulary worked towards establishing a unified style. Created by the Department of Public Works, each design was related, yet also bestowed with distinctive elements. The Carman building, like many of its counterparts, shares boxy massing and red brick and limestone facades. It breaks from conformity, however, through its tower that features an elegant dome, emphasizing the clock inserts, versus the more common pyramidal roof. The structure, which initially housed the post office and postmaster's suite above, remains in active public use as the Boyne Regional Library.

The site was designated on January 25, 1990, by the Town of Carman.

Memorial Hall



The Memorial Hall, an elegant Georgian Revival-style building in Carman, is a fine example of a structure that integrates important historical events with daily community life. The hall is both a monument to area residents who served in the military during the First World War, including 83 who died in battles at Vimy Ridge and Mons, and a multi-purpose public building. Its commemorative role is evident in the artefacts located on its grounds, its exterior detailing and interior memorial room, which contains commemorative statuary, wreaths and memorabilia of the war. The structure's functional aspects are revealed by its substantial, well-planned design, incorporating the offices and meeting spaces of the Town of Carman and Rural Municipality of Dufferin, an auditorium/theatre, social hall and community room, as well as its past roles housing a jail and library, and a bell tower once used to summon firefighters to emergencies. The building remains a landmark and valued public facility in the Carman/Dufferin district.

The site was designated on August 25, 1994, by the Town of Carman.

Carman Canadian National Railway Station



With its trademark roofline and imposing presence, the Carman CNR Station is a good example of one type of station design that was planned and built across the Prairies in the early 1900s by the Canadian Northern Railway, the structure's original owner. This standardized Second Class design, reserved for significant regional centres, expressed the rail industry's optimism and confidence in the role Carman would play in the future development of southwestern Manitoba. The station was an important commercial and social focus for the life of the town between 1902 and 1974. It retains its visual prominence in Carman, as well as its physical relationship to the rail track and nearby commercial buildings.

The site was designated on June 26, 2003, by the Town of Carman.

Carman United Church



Carman United Church, originally a Methodist facility, is an exceptional example of an English Gothic Revival church erected in rural Manitoba in the early twentieth century. Designed by William Finland of Winnipeg, the structure is a captivating interpretation of the style, with brick buttresses, pointed windows and heavily ornamented towers. It also is noted for its outstanding acoustics and stained glass from the Luxfer Prism Co. of Toronto. The church became part of the United Church of Canada after its congregation voted in 1925 to accept union with other Protestant denominations.

The site was designated on March 24, 1988, by the Town of Carman.

Roseisle School



Roseisle School is an exceptional example of a modestly sized, though finely detailed, village school. The dignified design by Winnipeg architect E.D. Tuttle, which incorporates elements of the Classical Revival style, and the well-preserved brick finish, complemented by generous limestone accents, lend the structure formality and substance. Closed in 1992 due to declining enrolment, this impressive building, with its large, sheltered schoolyard, offers a glimpse of Roseisle's busier past and the importance which the community attached to meeting its educational needs.

The site was designated on October 20, 1989, by the RM of Dufferin.

Boyne School



The one-room Boyne School, with its domestic proportions, hipped roof and raised basement, is a good example of one of Manitoba's most popular standardized provincial school designs available in the post-World War I period. Adapted from a 1912 cottage-style scheme, the school incorporates features that constitute a comfortable well-lit space, such as an obligatory bank of windows along one side of the classroom with transoms for air circulation, cloakrooms lit by side windows and a front storm porch. Saved through community efforts and used for social events, this designated place also is one of the few surviving examples in Manitoba of an intact country school site, complete with a fenced playground, flagpole and stable.

The site was designated on August 4, 1988, by the RM of Dufferin.

Sexsmith House



Because surviving examples of pioneer buildings from the 1870s are rare in Manitoba, this little log house is special, a reminder of the difficult early years endured by our ancestors. The building is typical of the type, a simple form with a gable roof. The house was built by George Sexsmith, whose first sojourn to Manitoba in 1870 as part of the Wolseley Expedition was cut short by a broken leg. Undaunted, he returned in 1872, homesteaded, and married Flora Field. Mr. Sexsmith was a notable early politician as well, serving as councillor and reeve.

The site was designated on May 14, 1998, by the Town of Carman.

Rodmond Roblin House



The Rodmond Roblin House has significant connections to Sir Rodmond Palen Roblin, Manitoba's premier from 1900 to 1915 and one of the most prominent figures in matters of agriculture and transportation during the province's formative period. The land that the house is located on was acquired by Roblin in 1877 during his early years in the Carman district as a farmer, grain buyer and merchant, and later became the site of the family home and farmstead. The 1912 dwelling, which replaced an 1889 log house, was built in part by members of the family and is an important example of a building type popular between 1900 and 1930. Edwardian in style, the 2½-storey structure illustrates the level of sophistication reached in the development of larger houses in rural southern Manitoba by the 1910s.

The site was designated on May 26, 2003, by the RM of Dufferin.

Town of Carman Public and Commercial Buildings

The following five buildings have been identified by the Carman-Dufferin Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee as having major historical and architectural significance to the community.

- Canadian Bank of Commerce Building
- Leader Block
- McKinney-Campbell Block
- Union Bank Building
- St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Canadian Bank of Commerce Building



The Canadian Bank of Commerce Building, erected in 1907, is a rare surviving Manitoba example of a standardized bank-building design that the Canadian Bank of Commerce employed for almost 70 of its small-urban operations across western Canada in the early 20th century. With its handsome and elegant Classical Revival-style architecture, seen primarily on the main façade, the building would have been a reliable destination for townsfolk and farming families seeking to securely undertake their banking activities. These standardized bank designs were developed in Toronto by a major Canadian architectural firm, Darling and Pearson, and were prefabricated by the B.C. Mills Timber and Trading Company, which shipped the materials to the site, where a building might go up in just one day! Since its closure, the bank has served as a Masonic Lodge and more recently as an apartment complex.

Leader Block



The Leader Block, which comprises two adjacent structures on Carman's main street, is a major example of the kind of commercial establishments that provided townsfolk and farming families with a variety of services and products. The buildings are also key local examples of the kind of architectural vocabulary used on this kind of building in the late 19th and early 20th centuries—in this case the handsome and robust Romanesque Revival style. As was typical of the style, the buildings are of brick construction, which was exploited by its designer for its great visual effects, seen here in a wealth of features and details—complex roofline edging, corbel tables, brick surrounds over windows and wrapping around the building, and pilasters capped with limestone crowns. Architect Edmund Watson, working in 1897-98 for owner Mr. Jamieson, certainly created a fully realized version of the style.

McKinney-Campbell Block



The McKinney-Campbell Block, which went up in 1903, is a good example of the kind of commercial establishments that provided townsfolk and farming families with a variety of services and products. The building is also a key local example of the kind of architectural vocabulary used on this type of building in the late 19th and early 20th centuries—in this case the handsome and robust Romanesque Revival style. As was typical of the style, the building is of brick construction, which was exploited by designers for its great visual effects, seen here in a wealth of features and details—roofline edging, intricate brick surrounds over windows and wrapping around the building, and building-edge pilasters highlighted at their tops with corbel tables. The building was actually two buildings in one, and the names of the partners can still be seen in the limestone panels in the second floor—McKinney’s Block and Campbell’s Block.

Union Bank Building



The Union Bank Building, from 1896, is an excellent example of the kind of modest commercial establishment that defined the main commercial thoroughfares of small urban centres throughout Manitoba in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The simple symmetrically-composed red-brick façade is slightly enlivened with the use of a banding feature that separates the two storeys, and a bracketed cornice at the roofline. The Union Bank, a major player in small western Canadian communities, merged with the Royal Bank of Canada in 1925, and that bank provided local services here until 1942. Since that time the building has provided accommodation for a variety of offices and services.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, erected in 1898–99, is a powerful piece of architectural design, and a reminder of the ambitions of some congregations to lavish both finances and design skills in honour of their God. The church, designed by Carman architect Edmund Watson, and built by Mr. R. McKinney, is an exquisite example of the architectural potential of the Gothic Revival style, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries nearly de rigueur for Protestant church designs. With its complex plan, animated roof form, variety of pointed-arch windows, and wealth of wooden features and details, the building is truly a hymn to the style. Closed in 1941, the church has gone through many changes over the years, including the removal of its steeple (which now sits nearby), and is now used as a tea room.

Town of Carman Residential Buildings

The following nine buildings have been identified by the Carman-Dufferin Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee as having major historical and architectural significance to the community.

- Smith House
- Watson House
- Campbell House
- Carr House
- Hill House
- Woodruff House
- Ferguson/McIvor House
- McGill/Johnson House
- Cochran House

Smith House



Built in 1896, this house is a grand old Carman home, whose elegant, stately form is enhanced with a number of fine features and details. The yellow brick walls are highlighted with corner quoins and each window is emphasized with a segmental arch with keystone inset. The gable ends of each roof section are picked out with exceptional decorative woodwork. Designed by local architect Edmund Watson for Carman veterinarian Dr. Will Smith, the house recalls the kind of lifestyle enjoyed by Carman's elite more than 100 years ago.

Watson House



Built in 1895, this is a very good example of the kind of modest residential accommodations that many small-urban citizens built in Manitoba communities more than 100 years ago. The house (at 134-1st Street SE) actually has an important architectural pedigree, having been designed by Carman architect Edmund Watson. Watson not only designed the house, he and his family also lived here for several years. Given the architectural attention, it is not surprising that this building attains considerable charm, through its irregular plan and complex and steep roof forms. Watson also ensured that his little gem of a house had other attributes as well, including finials at the front of each roof ridge, and fish-scale shingles in several of the gable ends. Edmund Watson practiced architecture in Carman from 1891 until the 1930s, designing several local schools, commercial buildings and an important local landmark, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. He died in 1947, and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

Campbell House



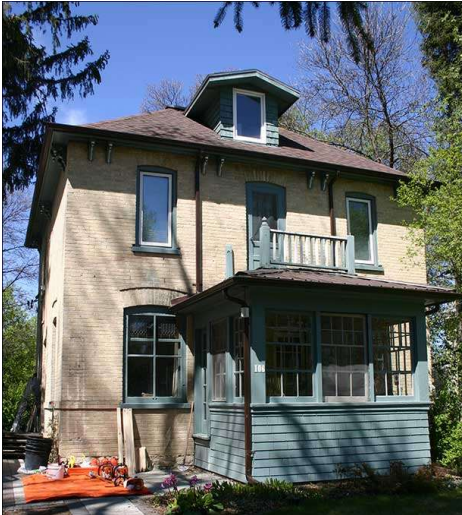
The Campbell House is a Carman landmark—one of the largest and most impressive of the community’s historic houses. Built in 1903 for James Campbell, the house, at 33-2nd Avenue SE, is a bold and ambitious expression of the architectural delights of the Queen Anne style, so popular for residential buildings in Manitoba at this time. The great animation of the brick work and the huge wooden brackets (painted white to contrast with the red brick) are only the start of this building’s architectural qualities. Each gable end is also highlighted with the most dazzling concoctions of wooden fretwork, each a major example of the design and craftsmanship that went into their construction.

Carr House



Built in 1903, this is a fine local example of a familiar residential design common in Manitoba in the late 19th century and the first decade of the 20th century. Commonly known as southern-Ontario Gothic, these houses featured steep roofs, a distinctive steeply pitched dormer, and decorative wooden fretwork in many of the gable-end crests. The house, at 90-1st Street SW, also suggests a common variation on the theme—the use of an L-shaped plan to give the building even more architectural appeal. The use of red brick, and the resulting opportunity to use brick to create dramatic segmental arches over most of the window openings, makes the house even more attractive.

Hill House



This house, which was built for Christopher & Lydia Hill and their family, is an important example of the kind of large and handsome building that the social and economic elite of Carman built for themselves in the late 19th century. Mr. Hill, who operated a grocery store, commissioned this house in 1896, making it one of the first large houses in the community. The building, at 106-2nd Street SW, is a notable example of American Four-square design, with its cubic shape, sturdy brick walls, low pyramidal roof shape, and numerous and expertly crafted features and details, including fine wooden brackets and exquisite brick details. The Hill House is one of the five key buildings that help make the block of 2nd Street SW between 2nd and 3rd avenues such a notable area—packed with fine brick houses that proudly express the architectural ambitions of their owners, and of the Town of Carman at its height.

Woodruff House



This house is one of the finest residential buildings in Carman. Built in about 1903 for Mary and Ella Woodruff, the house is a fantastic example of the Queen Anne style, and completely expressive of the style's popular qualities and features—like the rich contrasts of materials (here brick and richly-detailed wooden details), the exuberant roof and its many details (like the large brackets and exquisite gable-end fretwork), and the fine brick details, including the corner quoins. That the house, at 110-2nd Street SW, has been so carefully restored, with so many of its original architectural qualities still intact, is a tribute to various owners over the years. The Woodruff House is one of the five key buildings that help make the block of 2nd Street SW between 2nd and 3rd avenues such a notable area—packed with fine brick houses that proudly express the architectural ambitions of their owners, and of the Town of Carman at its height.

Ferguson/McIvor House



This house, which was built for Luella Ferguson in 1908 and sold to Malcolm McIvor in 1910, is a major example of the kind of large and handsome building that the social and economic elite of Carman built for themselves in the early 20th century. The present owners, the George family, purchased the house in 1947. The building, at 113-2nd Street SW, is a major example of design and craftsmanship, with its sturdy brick walls, complex and dramatic roof shape, and numerous and expertly crafted features and details. This house is one of the five key buildings that help make the block of 2nd Street SW between 2nd and 3rd avenues such a notable area—packed with fine brick houses that proudly express the architectural ambitions of their owners, and of the Town of Carman at its height.

McGill/Johnson House



This house is an example of the kind of large and important buildings that the social and economic elite of Carman built for themselves in the early 20th century. Joseph and Ada McGill lived here from 1890–1910. Later it was home for T.A. Johnson, his wife Evadine and their family. Johnson served as Agricultural Representative from 1930–1946. The building, at 114-2nd Street SW, is a significant example of modest Queen Anne design and craftsmanship, with its sturdy brick walls, complex and dramatic roof shape, and numerous and expertly crafted features and details. The Johnson House is one of the five key buildings that help make the block of 2nd Street SW between 2nd and 3rd avenues such a notable area—packed with fine brick houses that proudly express the architectural ambitions of their owners, and of the Town of Carman at its height.

Cochran House



This house was built for John R. Cochran, a local optometrist and jeweler, and his family. It is a fine example of the kind of large and handsome building that the social and economic elite of Carman built for themselves in the early 20th century. The building is a notable example of architecture, combining the then-familiar American Four-square design with details from other popular styles of the day. The house, at 119-2nd Street SW, is a basic cubic shape, with sturdy brick walls and a low pyramidal roof shape—hallmarks of the Four square. Stately and elegant Classical Revival aspects can be seen in the tall windows and gracious entrance canopy, and there are Italianate-style features in the delicate roof-eave brackets. The house is certainly one of Carman's finest. The Cochran House is also one of the five key buildings that help make the block of 2nd Street SW between 2nd and 3rd avenues such a notable area—packed with fine brick houses that proudly express the architectural ambitions of their owners, and of the Town of Carman at its height.

R.M. of Dufferin Buildings

The following seven buildings have been identified by the Carman-Dufferin Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee as having major historical and architectural significance to the community.

- St. Daniel School, Barnsley Area
- Graysville School, Graysville
- St. Paul's United Church, Graysville
- Latham General Store, Homewood
- Roseisle War Memorial, Roseisle
- Garnett-Bryson Farmsite, Carman area
- McCullough Farmsite, Carman area

St. Daniel School, Barnsley Area



St. Daniel School was built in 1952 and reflects the last stages of one-room school design before the provincial Department of Education moved to massive school consolidation efforts in the late 1950s and through the 1960s. The building is an excellent example of its type—a compact, attractive design, of wood-frame construction and stucco finishing, distinguished by its clipped hip roof, bank of windows that generously lit the classroom, and small pedimented canopy over the door. This was the third St. Daniel School, with earlier buildings from 1894 (of log) and 1902; that facility offered English and French instruction until 1910. St. Daniel ceased operations in 1966 and the school district was dissolved in 1968. The building is maintained as a community hall.

Graysville School, Graysville



Graysville School, which opened in 1920, is an excellent surviving example of the kind of substantial consolidated school building that started to go up in Manitoba in response to provincial Department of Education requirements that smaller school districts amalgamate in order to save costs. The school brought together students from the older Graysville School, and one-room schools at Lintrathen, Orr, Ravenswood, Stephenfield and Tobacco Creek. The new building was a handsome structure designed by Winnipeg architects E.D. Tuttle and Mr. Reid. With its commodious brick form (containing four large classrooms), broad sheltering roof, large windows and strategic features—like the small roof-top cupola and focusing entrance pediments—the building is a good example of its type—especially important with the loss of so many Manitoba school buildings over the past decades. The school was closed in 2010 due to declining student enrolment.

St. Paul's United Church, Graysville



Originally Presbyterian when it was built in 1912, St. Paul's United Church is an important example of the kind of Gothic Revival building that nearly every Protestant community put up in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The basic box-like form, with steep gable roof and especially the pointed Gothic windows along the nave and main façade, makes the church typical. But St. Paul's rises above other similar churches with a striking piece of architectural design—the elaborate and detailed steeple/bell tower that dramatically animates the roofline at the building's main façade. With its openings of tripartite pointed arches and then tall pyramidal roof with inset gables, the tower is a cherished feature on a beloved church.

Latham General Store, Homewood



The old Latham General Store, in the Homewood area, is a rare surviving example recalling the modest commercial establishments that once would have served farm families throughout the R.M. of Dufferin. This example is of a later generation—constructed in 1956—but its small size and interesting architectural character—a low-slung false-fronted composition—are reminders of how storekeepers like Jack Latham sought to attract attention, and customers. The old store was closed several years ago and has been converted into a house.

Roseisle War Memorial, Roseisle



The Roseisle War Memorial, from 1989, is one of the few Manitoba war memorials with architectural aspirations. Some of these monuments are, quite literally, buildings, but others, like the Roseisle memorial, have qualities of design and appearance that make them appear as building-like forms, or at least as elements of buildings—columns, walls, or arches. The designers of the Roseisle War Memorial used an entirely familiar building element—a brick wall—abstracted by the use of pillars at the edges and elegantly curved transitional elements, to create a powerful and memorable object. The memorial features 62 names of local men who served in World War I, 69 from World War II and four who served in the Korean War of 1950–53. Each November 11, the community gathers here to reaffirm the epitaph: “Together We Will Remember.”

Garnett-Bryson Farmsite, Carman area



The Garnett-Bryson House, built in 1906, is a textbook example of an American Four-square-style farmhouse. The hallmarks of the style are all present here: the sturdy brick walls, two storeys in height, the large and bulky form, and the large truncated pyramidal roof. These key elements are joined with other common features of the Four-square, like the tall gable dormers in the roof (which are faced with fish-scale shingles), tall windows with segmental arched headers, and a very fine screened verandah that runs along the front and one side of the facade. This important house, so typical of the ultimate architectural aspirations of a pioneering farm family, was built by the Garnett family, and taken over since 1910 by generations of the Bryson family. A fine gambrel-roofed barn, from about 1920, also still stands on the farmsite (see next page for image).

McCullough Farmsite, Carman area



The McCullough House, from about 1920, was built for farmer John McCullough, his wife Louisa, and their family. John was the son of John McCullough Sr., and the two of them broke the land on which the farm was established. The house is a grand interpretation of the American Four-square style, at the time a very popular architectural choice for large farm houses. With its grand cubic form (carried out in brick), low pyramidal roof punctuated with large dormers, and wealth of windows, the house is an exceptional example of that style. The site also still boasts an old barn, itself a fine example of the traditional gambrel-roofed form that defines so many barns of this era (see opposite for image).



These two images show the fine barns on the yards of the Garnett-Bryson Farmsite, Carman area (top) and at the McCullough Farmsite, Carman area (below). These essential, and iconic, farm buildings are excellent examples of their type, especially with the tell-tale double-pitched gambrel roofs.

Carman-Dufferin Sites of Regional/Provincial Significance

The final entry for this project explores the Carman-Dufferin MHAC's short lists of locally significant sites to determine their potential for additional, broader claims for heritage value. This exercise has been rigorous and pragmatic, comparing all buildings and certain collections of buildings (commercial and residential in particular) to examples in other communities. The goal has been to consider the Carman-Dufferin sites with those that are already known to have attained excellence in their heritage claims, and then briefly explain those additional claims for our own sites. This exercise has been undertaken to determine if there are places in our communities that can rank with the very best in other places in Manitoba.



Civic Elegance

The Carman Dominion Post Office (above) and the Memorial Hall (left) are exceptional pieces of architecture, amongst the best of their types in the province. That Carman can claim two such buildings is a tribute to the ambitions of earlier generations, and to the architects, builders and craftspeople who designed and then actually made these major public buildings.



The Humble and the Grand

Not many communities can lay claim to a pioneer log house from the earliest years of settlement as well as the near-mansion of a provincial premier. But Carman and Dufferin can, first with the home of George and Flora Sexsmith (above) now at the Dufferin Historical Museum, and then with the home of Rodmond Palen Roblin (right), in the R.M. of Dufferin. The Sexsmith house, from 1876 is at this writing 142 years old, making it one of the oldest residential buildings still left in Manitoba. The Roblin house, on that gentleman's demonstration farm, is a grand and elaborate structure, the only known surviving building with an intimate connection to one of Manitoba's most productive premiers (in that high position from 1900 to 1915).



* It must be acknowledged that these two buildings are not ideal in their heritage claims: the Sexsmith House has been moved into Carman to the Dufferin Historical Museum, and so has lost its important original rural siting; and the Roblin House has been the subject of renovations over the years that have altered its physical integrity. But these caveats need to be put into perspective given the great historical significance of these two buildings.



Queen Anne Splendours

Above are the five notable Queen Anne-style and American Four-square houses that make up a small (informal) residential heritage district on 2nd Street SW, between 2nd and 3rd avenues: from left to right: Hill House, Woodruff House, Ferguson/Mclvor House, McGill/Johnson House and Cochran House. Note that this photographic array suggests all houses are on the same side of the street; in fact they are on either side, making for an even more effective display of their individual architectural qualities and of the overall historic streetscape impression. A leisurely stroll down this stretch of 2nd Street SW can easily transport an interested visitor to a time of quiet, stately sophistication.