#### City of Regina

# Heritage Holding Bylaw Evaluation Form

Evaluation Date		
	January 15, 2018	
Community District		
	Downtown	
Designation		
	City of Reging	

1913

The place should be rated for each of the criteria below, in order to establish its relative significance. This will determine if the place merits inclusion on the City of Regina Heritage Holding Bylaw, or not, and whether it is **Grade 2** (Moderate/High Heritage Significance) or **Grade 1** (Exceptional/Outstanding Heritage Significance).

Site Name(s): Gilmour Block (Birks Building)

Municipal Address: 1825 Scarth Street

Date of
Construction:

Legal Address: Lot 8 and 9, Block 306, Plan Old 33

Area: 581m<sup>2</sup>

Architectural Style:

Architect: Henry Ernest Lloyd Owen

**Builder:** Unknown

 Consultant(s): Donald Luxton & Associates
 Evaluation
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 Date:
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Heritage Committee: N/A

Heritage Planner: N/A



### **Statement of Significance**

Site Name

Gilmour Block

Site Name: Gilmour Block

Municipal Address: 1825 Scarth Street

#### **Description of Historic Place:**

The Gilmour Block, located in downtown Regina at 1825 Scarth Street, is a two-storey, commercial building.

#### Heritage Value of Historic Place:

The aesthetic value of the Gilmour Block, constructed in 1913, resides in its design. The design is characterized by large display windows on the ground floor and a row of almost continuous windows on the second floor, which reflects the building's steel frame and masonry-clad construction. The second floor facade was restored to its original appearance during the Scarth Street Mall façade improvement program in the mid-1990s. The ground floor façade was altered completely as part of the pedestrian corridor project. Saskatchewan ceramic artist, Judy McNaughton, completed the intricate mosaic pattern above the ground floor windows in the late 1990s.

The historic value of the Gilmour Block resides in its association with Canadian City and Town Properties Ltd., an investment and property development company formed in Liverpool, England. CC&TP designed and invested in this building and other buildings throughout the Prairies, particularly in Saskatchewan, such as the Canada Life Assurance Building in Regina and the Hughes Block in Moose Jaw, which is virtually identical to the Gilmour Block. Henry Ernest Lloyd Owen, who immigrated to Winnipeg from England in 1910, was the company architect for this building.

The value of the property also resides in its contribution to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial streetscape of the 1800 block of Scarth Street, now known as the Frederick W. Hill Mall. Collectively, the buildings represent Regina's most intact concentration of pre-First World War commercial architecture.

#### **Character Defining Elements:**

The character defining elements include but are not limited to:

- the building's two-storey form, symmetry and vertical massing;
- commercial form defined by a ground floor storefront, contributing to a small-scale commercial streetscape;
- steel frame faced with light-brown brick;
- prominent denticulated metal cornice with large supporting corbels;
- decorative pattern of coloured tiles on the second level;
- regular and expansive window pattern.

Those elements which speak to the connection of the building to Regina's early pre-First World War building boom, including:

- location of the building on its original site and adjacent to other buildings of the same era.



Front façade of block with large storefront windows and double assembly windows on second floor, 2010 (City of Regina)



Original pressed tin rooftop cornice and grey brick with decorative tile on second floor, 2010 (City of Regina)

## **Statement of Integrity**

Site Name

Gilmour Block

#### Values Summary:

The aesthetic value of the Gilmour Block, constructed in 1913, resides in its design. The design is characterized by large display windows on the ground floor and a row of almost continuous windows on the second floor, which reflects the building's steel frame and masonry-clad construction.

The historic value of the Gilmour Block resides in its association with Canadian City and Town Properties Ltd., an investment and property development company formed in Liverpool, England.

The value of the property also resides in its contribution to the early 20th century commercial streetscape of the 1800 block of Scarth Street, now known as the Frederick W. Hill Mall.

Period of Significance: 1906-1913 Pre-First World War, Age of Optimism	

#### Chronology of Alterations (point form):

Mid-1990s

Second floor restored

also been restored.

• Ground floor altered completely

Late-1990s

• Mosaic tile installed over ground floor windows

As	Aspects of Integrity:				
1.	LOCATION	Yes 🛛	No 🗌	N/A 🗆	
	Location is the place where an histori	c resource was co	onstructed or the	e site where an historic activity or event occurred.	
2.	DESIGN	Yes 🛛	No 🗌	N/A 🗆	
	Design is the combination of elements	that create the t	form, plan, spa	ce, structure and style of a resource.	
3.	ENVIRONMENT	Yes 🛚	No 🗌	N/A 🗆	
	Environment is the physical setting of of the place in which a resource play			ocation refers to a specific place, environment refers to the ch	ıaracter
4.	MATERIALS	Yes 🛛	No 🗌	N/A 🗆	
	Materials are the physical elements t pattern or configuration to form an h		ed or deposited	d during a particular period(s) or time frame and in a particul	lar
5.	WORKMANSHIP	Yes 🛛	No 🗌	N/A 🗆	
	Workmanship is the physical evidenc because it can provide information a		•	lture or people during any given period in history. It is impor d aesthetic principles.	tant
6.	ASSOCIATION	Yes 🛚	No 🗌	N/A 🗆	
	Association is a direct link between a	n historic resource	and a signific	ant historical theme, activity or event, or an institution or perso	on.
Statement of Integrity:  Gilmour Block maintains all the aspects of integrity necessary for it to convey its significance/heritage value.  Aspects of the building's original form, scale, and massing are intact. The building retains its original fabric and architectural elements primarily on the second floor.					
	<ul> <li>Foundation: Could not be assessed using photographs provided.</li> <li>Cladding: Tyndall stone pilasters of ground floor are original and in good condition overall. There is staining at the base of the pilasters and chips on the outside corners of the pilasters. The brick exterior of</li> </ul>				

the second floor has been restored to its original condition. The inlaid decorative tile is original and has

- Roof: Could not be assessed using photographs provided.
- Roof elements: The pressed tin rooftop cornice and brackets are original and have been restored. There are localized areas of staining, paint failure, and corrosion on the tin.
- Windows: Ground floor storefront replaced completed new storefront installed. The second floor double assembly window openings are intact. The wooden-sash windows have been restored.
- Doors: Front doors have been replaced and awning over entry added.
- Chimney: Could not be assessed using photographs provided.
- Other: Storefront level pressed tin cornice is retained and in good condition.

## Criteria of Significance

Site Name

Gilmour Block

CRITERIA	Lev N/A	el of Herita	i <b>ge Significanc</b> Moderate	<b>e</b> High
1. The place is closely and meaningfully associated with one or more themes, events, periods of time, or cultural traditions considered important in the history of Regina. (Historic)			Moderate	
<b>2.</b> The place is strongly associated with the life or work of a person, group of persons, or institution(s) of importance in Regina's history. ( <i>Historic</i> )				
3. The place is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or represents an important creative achievement in design, architecture, landscape architecture, planning, construction, materials, or technology. (Aesthetic, Architectural, Technical)				
<b>4.</b> The community, or a social or cultural group within the community, is deeply attached to the place for social, cultural, or spiritual reasons. (Social, Cultural, Spiritual)				
5. The place, by virtue of its location, its symbolism, or some other element, serves to communicate the heritage of Regina to a broad audience. (Landmark, Symbolism)				
<b>6.</b> The place could yield important information that will contribute to the understanding of Regina's past. (Scientific, Educational)			$\boxtimes$	
7. The place possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Regina 's cultural history. (Historic, Rarity)				
8. The place is important in the historic urban development of the neighbourhood or city. (Context, Landscape, Urban Context, Group Value)			$\boxtimes$	

Based on the above criteria, does the place merit inclusion on the Inventory? (at least 1 'High' or 4 'Moderate')	NO:	YES:
Does the place possess exceptional/outstanding qualities		
for any of the criteria listed above? If yes, explain:	NO: 🔀	YES:
	(result is GRADE 2)	(result is GRADE 1)
Does the place retain sufficient integrity to convey significance? If not, the place will <b>not</b> qualify.	NO:	YES:
FINAL EVALUATION	GRADE 2:	GRADE 1:
Date Evaluated by Donald Luxton & Associates:	January 15, 2018	
Date Approved by City of Regina:	February 13, 2019	

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

#### Eligibility for inclusion the Heritage Holding Bylaw:

- Places must be at least 20 years old to be eligible for inclusion.
- Places include: buildings, structures, groups of buildings or structures, landscape features (gardens, but not individual trees unless commemorative), cultural landscapes and engineering works.
- Excluded places include archaeological sites, individual trees unless commemorative, movable objects and intangible heritage.

#### Assessing Level of Heritage Significance:

Within each criterion, there should be a comparison of the place to similar places within the City of Regina in order to determine the relative merit of the place.

**CRITERIA 1** – This criterion assesses the place's association with broad themes, events, periods of time and cultural traditions of local/civic history, including settlement patterns, economic growth/ production, community development, cultural knowledge base and traditions, and government systems. The themes have been established in the city's Historic Context and Thematic Framework Document available on the city's website.

N/A The place exhibits a limited connection to one or more of the identified city-wide historic

themes or subthemes.

Low The place exhibits a recognizable connection to one or more of the identified city-wide historic

themes or subthemes.

Moderate The place exhibits a significant connection to one or more of the identified city-wide historic

themes or subthemes.

High The place exhibits a direct connection to one or more of the identified city-wide historic themes

or subthemes and is an excellent, tangible expression of one or more of the themes/subthemes.

**CRITERIA 2** – This criterion assesses the place's association with a particular person, group of people or institution(s), including the importance of the architect, builder, landscape architect, or planner.

**N/A** Little or no known historic association.

Low Connected with a person, social or cultural group, or institution that is of limited importance to

the neighbourhood.

Moderate Closely connected with a person, social or cultural group, or institution that is of considerable

importance to the neighbourhood, or moderate importance to the city.

High Closely connected with a person, social or cultural group, or institution that is of considerable

importance to the city, province or nation.

**CRITERIA 3** – This criterion assesses the place's architectural significance; its expression of style; its design details and features; its building materials; its method of construction; and its planning context.

**N/A** An average example of a style, type, design or technology that remains common in Regina.

Low A good example of a style, type, design or technology that is common in Regina or in a

neighbourhood.

Moderate A very good example of a style, type, design or technology in Regina or in a neighbourhood,

or a good example of a style, type or design that is notably early or rare in Regina or in a

neighbourhood.

High An excellent example of a style, type, design or technology in Regina or one of few surviving

and very good examples of a style, type, design or technology in Regina.

**CRITERIA 4** – This criterion assesses evidence of a strong/special association between the place and a particular community/cultural group.

**N/A** The place possesses limited social, cultural or spiritual value.

Low There is a weak social, cultural or spiritual connection between the place and a particular

community/cultural group.

Moderate There is a moderate social, cultural or spiritual connection between the place and a particular

community/cultural group.

High There is a strong social, cultural or spiritual connection between the place and a particular

community/cultural group.

**CRITERIA 5** – This criterion assesses the visual landmark status or cultural, spiritual or symbolic value of the place.

**N/A** A place of no landmark or symbolic significance.

Low A landmark in an immediate area or a place of symbolic importance to an immediate area.

Moderate A major landmark within a neighbourhood or a place of symbolic importance to a

neighbourhood.

High A landmark of civic importance or a place of significant symbolic value to the city, province or

nation.

**CRITERIA 6** – This criterion assesses the physical fabric, documentary evidence, or oral history relating to the place that could yield meaningful information about Regina's cultural history.

**N/A** The place is not able communicate the history of the immediate area, neighbourhood, or city.

Low The place communicates (physically or through documented/oral evidence) an aspect or

aspects of the immediate area's history.

**Moderate** The place communicates (physically or through documented/oral evidence) an aspect or

aspects of history on a neighbourhood scale.

High The place directly communicates (physically or through documented/oral evidence) an aspect

or aspects integral to the historic or cultural development of Regina, or is of provincial or

national importance.

**CRITERIA 7** – This criterion assesses how rare or uncommon the place is within Regina, or whether it is among a small number of extant places that demonstrate an important style, phase, event, etc.

**N/A** There are a significant number of similar places.

Low The place demonstrates an uncommon, rare or endangered aspect of the immediate area's

cultural history.

Moderate The place demonstrates an uncommon, rare or endangered aspect of the neighbourhood's

cultural history.

**High** The place demonstrates an uncommon, rare or endangered aspect of the city's cultural history.

**CRITERIA 8** – This criterion assesses the significance of the place (building, landscape, urban context) within the historic urban development of the neighbourhood and/or city, including its place within a group of similar buildings, landscapes, or cultural landscapes.

**N/A** A place with little evidence of a recognizable historic pattern.

Low A place that provides some evidence of an historic pattern of importance for the immediate

area

Moderate A place that can be directly linked to the establishment of an historic pattern of neighbourhood

importance.

**High** A place that can be directly linked to the establishment of an historic pattern of civic

importance.

BASED ON THE EIGHT CRITERIA, THE PLACE MERITS INCLUSION ON REGINA'S HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY WITH AT LEAST 1 'HIGH' RATING OR AT LEAST 4 'MODERATE' RATINGS.

#### **THRESHOLDS**

- Ranking: If a place demonstrates exceptional or outstanding qualities for any of the criteria (above a 'High' level), it would be considered a Grade 1 place with city-wide significance, whereas a place that does not exceed a 'High' level in any of the criteria would be considered a Grade 2 place with neighbourhood-wide significance.
- Integrity: This refers to the degree to which the heritage values of the place are still evident/authentic, and can be understood and appreciated (for example, the degree to which the

original design or use of a place can still be discerned). This includes authenticity of materials, technology and design. If considerable change to the place has occurred, the significant values may not be readily identifiable. Changes that are reversible are not considered to affect integrity. In the City of Regina, degree of integrity is evaluated by a Statement of Integrity, included in this evaluation.