

1.3 Community Context

History

Calgary is located on the traditional territories of the people of Treaty 7. This includes: the Blackfoot Confederacy, made up of the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations; the Îlethka Nakoda Wicastabi First Nations, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations; and the Tsuut'ina First Nation. Calgary is also homeland to the historic Northwest Métis and to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

Calgary was originally centred at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow rivers, which was an important site for Indigenous peoples for more than 11,000 years. With its sheltering river flats, plentiful wood and water, and warm Chinook winds in the winter, the confluence area was a preferred seasonal campsite.

As a permanently settled place, Calgary began in 1875 as a North-West Mounted Police post. By the time the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) arrived in 1883, Calgary had developed as an unincorporated settlement on the future site of the Inglewood neighbourhood. The CPR laid out a new townsite on its own property in what is now downtown, and the settlement moved west at the beginning of 1884. Calgary was incorporated as a town later that year, and in 1894 it became a city.

Before a series of annexations added considerably to Calgary's footprint, the site of the future Westbrook Communities lay outside the municipal boundaries. The area comprises an approximately twenty-block length along the south bank of the Bow River between Crowchild and Sarcee trails and the uplands south to Richmond Road. As in so much of the city, land development preceded archaeological investigation of pre-contact Indigenous life. However, a half-dozen sites, mostly within Edworthy Park, have revealed evidence of camp life (fire-broken rock, butchered bones, and flaked and shattered stones) as well as a large stone circle that might be evidence of a special event or gathering. There is potential for future archaeological study in the area.

The area was a transit corridor, a function that the river manifested from time immemorial. The historic South Morley Trail (now Richmond Road) led to Morleyville, and the historic Banff Coach Road (now Bow Trail) led to Banff. A cart trail extended from the present Beltline district toward Banff Coach Road. The CPR's transcontinental line, built along the south bank of the Bow west of Calgary in 1883, traverses Scarboro/Sunalta West, Shaganappi, Spruce Cliff, and Wildwood.

Beginning in the 1880s, the area was settled by farmers who obtained their lands as squatters, as homesteaders through the Dominion Lands Act, or both. Early farmers included Thomas Edworthy in Spruce Cliff, Allan Poyntz Patrick in Glenbrook, and brothers Charles Jackson and Thomas Edgar Jackson in Shaganappi and Killarney/Glengarry. The homes of these pioneers remain extant, and the open space of Edworthy Park is a remnant of that agricultural period. The area was organized in 1912 as a small Improvement District and as the Municipal District of Springbank No. 221 in 1918. In 1945, it was renamed the Municipal District of Springbank No. 45, and, in 1955, it was merged into the Municipal District of Calgary 1944 (an entity that was later renamed Rocky View County).

Early in the twentieth century, Calgary experienced an economic and population boom that transformed it into a regional wholesale and distribution centre. Speculators began purchasing farmland outside the city limits and registering subdivision plans. The first in this area was Glengarry, which was situated between present-day Crowchild Trail and 29 Street SW from 17 Avenue to Richmond Road. It now lies within Richmond and Killarney.

Calgary's area expanded considerably in 1907 through a single land annexation. Among other changes, it shifted the western city limit from 14 Street to 24 Street SW (now Crowchild Trail) and the southern limit from 17 Avenue to 34 Avenue SW. This brought the earliest portions of the Westbrook Communities into the city limits—Scarboro/Sunalta West and the eastern part of Richmond. These areas, separated by 17 Avenue SW, were characterized by a north-south gully where partners William McCombie Gilbert, John Bone, and William Oliver operated a sandstone quarry early in the 20th century. The development of Crowchild Trail in the 1960s destroyed the gully and the quarry's remnants, and it bisected the Scarboro neighbourhood, which the CPR had developed before the First World War. The portion of Scarboro west of the freeway became Scarboro/Sunalta West.

In 1909, local businessman D'arcy Boulton Niblock (1875–1947) subdivided land in Killarney, which lay west of Glengarry. The following year, another large annexation shifted Calgary's boundaries again, west to 37 Street SW and south to 50 Avenue SW. This added area included Killarney and Glengarry, the balance of Richmond and Shaganappi, most of Spruce Cliff, and the eastern edge of Rosscarrock. Some of these areas were developed while others remained lightly-settled or speculative.

The city's pre-First World War boom ended in 1913, and Calgary grew modestly in the decades that followed. Its built area contracted in the 1920s through a City program that subsidized the cost of house-moving and encouraged property owners in outlying areas to swap their land for inner-city lots. After the Second World War, Calgary experienced significant urban growth supported by returning veterans, European immigration, government incentives, and the late-1940s oil boom. This resulted in new residential development both in established neighbourhoods and new subdivisions.

In 1954, the western city limit shifted to 45 Street SW, which included the rest of Rosscarrock and Spruce Cliff and the eastern portions of Glenbrook, Glendale, and Wildwood. As The City had hoped, the McNally Royal Commission on Metropolitan Development recommended in 1956 that Calgary annex surrounding areas for future growth. A 1956 annexation brought the rest of the area, including Westgate and the balance of Glenbrook, Glendale, and Wildwood, into the city limits.

The City established a Planning Department in 1951 and adopted the "neighbourhood unit" concept that comprised quiet residential streets (curvilinear in many cases), schools, houses of worship, convenience stores and social services, and parks and playgrounds, all enclosed by busier collector streets that featured commercial zoning (including gas stations and neighbourhood shopping malls) at major intersections.

Up to the 1950s, The City had acted as developer, building infrastructure and utilities itself and selling individual lots to builders. Now, private developers could buy land to build entire subdivisions, and The City offloaded construction and cost of utilities and infrastructure to the developers. It was more efficient to provide infrastructure to undeveloped areas than to established parts of the city. Local builders joined forces to create new development firms like Carma Developers and Kelwood Corporation.

The Calgary Municipal Railway, which had been inaugurated in 1909, was a key factor that accelerated and shaped early growth. Homebuilders gravitated toward areas close to streetcar routes, and streetcars made commercial uses feasible beyond the city centre. Early subdivisions clustered around the streetcar lines and shared similar features including grid street networks fronted with boulevard trees and landscaped yards.

Within months of its inauguration in 1909, the streetcar system extended along 17 Avenue as far west as 14 Street SW. In 1912, the line was extended west to 24 Street SW, where it ended at the Killarney Loop and returned eastward along 17 Avenue. A 17 Avenue business district developed quickly.

The street railway was renamed the Calgary Transit System (CTS) in 1946, and its operation was converted to buses and electric trolley coaches by 1950. Like buses, electric trolley were trackless rubber-wheeled vehicles, but their routes necessarily followed the overhead lines that powered them through trolley poles that projected upward from the vehicle's roof. Streetcar service on 17 Avenue SW ended in 1948, and it was replaced by a trolley coach line along 17 Avenue to 29 Street (and later extended to George Street, west of 45 Street, in 1960). The original trolley coach line also extended south from 17 Avenue along 24 Street and then west on 26 Avenue to 29 Street (and further extended to 38 Street SW by 1955 and to 49 Street SW in 1960). As trolley coach lines were extended, each successive terminus required a new end-of-line turnaround loop for the overhead electric trolley wire. In 1957, CTS supplemented its trolley coach trunk lines and local bus routes with new express bus routes, each with a distinct name. The Green Pennant Express provided direct service between downtown and Wildwood, and the Red Pennant Express provided the same for Killarney and Mount Royal. CTS was renamed Calgary Transit in 1970, and trolley coach service ended in 1975. Bus routes continue to serve the area as they did during the trolley coach era.

In 1981, the renamed Calgary Transit re-introduced rail service with the C-Train, which began operating between downtown and points south in 1981. In 2012, the original line was extended west from downtown to the Westbrook Communities, where it stops at the Shaganappi Point, Westbrook and 45 Street SW stations.

Additional Historic Information

Major roads

Two major roads in this area began as historic trails, and four began as section lines that doubled at certain times as city limits.

The historic South Morley Trail became Richmond Road as early as 1910 and provided a link between Calgary and Sarcee Camp, the military training base established on land leased from the Tsuut'ina Nation. In the 1950s, it was considered as a possible truck route. The namesake of Richmond Road is unknown.

Banff Coach Road, the historic route to Banff, was renamed Bow Trail in 1966. Early in the 1960s, The City decided that new freeways would be known as 'trails'. The new Bow Trail was meant to extend eastward as a crosstown freeway along the south bank of the Bow, and it would have disrupted Chinatown, the site of Fort Calgary, and Inglewood. The project provoked fierce community resistance, and it was never realized.

Seventeenth Avenue was a section line which served as Calgary's original southern boundary (between 6 Street SE and 14 Street SW) beginning in 1884 and doubled as the highway to Springbank. As Calgary pushed westward through annexation, 17 Avenue as a city road extended west to the present Crowchild Trail in 1907, to 37 Street SW in 1954, and to Sarcee Trail SW in 1956. In the Westbrook Communities, it delineates neighbourhoods, with Scarboro/Sunalta West, Shaganappi, Rosscarrock, and Westgate to the north, and Richmond, Killarney, and Glendale to the south. In the 1950s, Calgarians travelled along 17 Avenue SW to reach the Lone Pine Supper Club, a popular night spot positioned just beyond the city limit.

Crowchild Trail, formerly 24 Street SW, also began as a section line that functioned briefly as the western city limit from 1907 to 1910. It developed by the 1950s as a residential street with some commercial development, and it led south to Currie Barracks, the military base built along 24 Street in the early 1930s. It was refashioned as a freeway in 1965–67 and named for Chief David Crowchild of the Tsuut'ina Nation, who was present at its dedication.

From 1910 to 1954, another section line—37 Street SW—doubled as the western city limit. William J. Tregillus' Rosscarrock Ranch House at 37 Street and Bow Trail was an early landmark. The street first appeared in Henderson's Directory in 1913 when it had two residential listings. It was settled lightly as a residential street and was intensively developed in the 1950s. Early commercial development in the 1950s included the Sunset Drive-In Restaurant northwest of the 17 Avenue intersection and the extant strip mall at the southeast corner. Commercial development has largely taken over the earlier residential character.

Sarcee Trail was similarly a section line formerly known as 53 Street SW. It served briefly in 1956 as a western city limit before another annexation that year pushed the city further west. The name was evidently selected in the early 1960s, and it references the name formerly used to refer to the Tsuut'ina Nation and the Tsuut'ina reserve.

The Communities

Richmond

Before 1910, almost the entire Westbrook Communities area lay outside of the city limits. One exception is the site of HMCS Tecumseh (1820–24 Street SW), a Canadian Forces Naval Reserve training facility that has the same status as a naval ship. The complex was developed in 1943 on land that had been annexed to Calgary in 1907.

Present-day Richmond was annexed in two phases—in 1907 for that portion east of 24 Street SW, and in 1910 for that portion west of that road. In the 1960s, 24 Street SW was developed into the Crowchild Trail freeway, which also functions as the eastern boundary of the Westbrook Communities. Only that part of Richmond lying west of Crowchild is included in the Westbrook Communities. However, Crowchild jogs east of the old 24 Street SW at HMCS Tecumseh, which places it within the Westbrook Communities.

HMCS Tecumseh consists of a fenced compound, a main building (rebuilt after a 1981 fire destroyed the original), and a parade square. Thousands of Canadian naval personnel have trained there.

The balance of western Richmond lies within Section 7-24-R2-W5M, for which the CPR was given the original land grant. It was subdivided in 1906 along with Glengarry, and it developed as a residential neighbourhood on a grid pattern (apart from Richmond Road, which traverses it on an angle.) In 1957, the public school board opened Viscount Bennett junior and senior high school (2519 Richmond Road SW). The school closed in the 1980s, but the facility remained functional as a continuing educational institution until it closed permanently in 2018.

Scarboro/Sunalta West

Scarboro/Sunalta West extends from Crowchild Trail west to 24 Street SW and from the Bow River south to 17 Avenue SW. Like the Tecumseh site, this area was part of the 1907 annexation. It owes its distinct identity to the construction of Crowchild Trail in 1965–67. The freeway severed this residential area and the present Oliver Quarry Park from Scarboro, to which it had earlier belonged.

Crowchild, as it passes through this neighbourhood, covers part of the gulley that functioned as a sandstone quarry in the first decade of the 20th century. Oliver Quarry Park, which overlooks the freeway from the west, includes interpretive signage that tells the story of William Oliver, the best-known of the quarry operators at this location. In 1906, Thomas Edgar Jackson and John Sarginson Wilson acquired title to a four-acre parcel in the gully where the partnership of Gilbert, Bone and Oliver operated a quarry; Jackson later acquired an additional adjacent acre. At an unknown date before 1915, roadway construction on 17 Avenue SW led to the closure of the quarry north of the avenue, but the operation continued south of 17 Avenue SW in Richmond.

After quarry operations ceased sometime before the First World War, the gulley was redeveloped as a beauty spot and the location of the Scarboro community hall and its tennis courts. Freeway development replaced this amenity and created a barrier between homes and streets on either side. Scarboro was developed by the CPR as an exclusive neighbourhood designed by Olmsted Bros. The area that now comprises Scarboro/Sunalta West was a fringe area of that project, and many of its homes were constructed much later.

Killarney

Killarney, along with western Richmond, lies within Section 7-24-R1-W5M. The CPR received the original land grants to all but the northeast quarter, which was issued to Thomas Edgar Jackson. In 1901, Ontario settler John Craig established what he named the “Prairie Home Farm” on land he had acquired from the railway.

The area was annexed in 1910, and Glengarry and Killarney were subdivided as residential neighbourhoods with 25- and 50-foot lots. Dwellings were predominantly clapboard, single-family houses, and they were later supplemented by single-storey bungalows in the post-Second World War boom. Although a residential neighbourhood, it also included an animal pound (which was used for stray horses) as well as a piggery.

Killarney is the only one of the Westbrook Communities that was fully developed during Calgary’s streetcar era. Streetcar service began along 17 Avenue west to 24 Street SW in 1912, and a 17 Avenue business district quickly developed. Extant examples of early business structures include low-rise commercial buildings at 2707 to 2709–17 Avenue (built in 1914), 2701 to 2705A–17 Avenue (built in 1946), and the former Rite-Way Grocery at 2523–17 Avenue SW (built ca. 1947) and Jenkins Groceteria No. 24 at 2639–17 Avenue SW (built in 1947).

Within a few years, the streetcar line was extended west to 29 Street SW and then made a loop south to 23 Avenue, east to 26 Street, and north back to 17 Avenue for the return trip east. The Killarney Loop led to further commercial development. Around 1920, Harry A. Moulding (1883–1970), president of the community ratepayers’ association, converted his home at 3001–23 Avenue SW into a grocery store that was eventually named the Killarney Corner Store. The City supplied a shelter at the streetcar stop, and there visitors from the Tsuut’ina Nation (which Calgarians called the Sarcee Reserve at that time) picketed their horses and took the streetcar downtown when they visited the city.

Around 1912, residents formed the Glengarry and Killarney Ratepayers’ Association, which was eventually renamed the Killarney-Glengarry Community Association. In 1954, the association acquired the historic West Calgary United Church, a longtime local landmark, and moved it to the park at 26 Avenue and 28 Street SW for use as its community hall. By 1954, the community association hosted an annual winter carnival and a summer carnival at the New Hall with jitney square dancing in 1956.

The first school in the neighbourhood was Glengarry Cottage School (2814–21 Avenue SW), which the public school board opened in 1911. Increased enrollment led to its replacement in 1920 by nearby Glengarry Bungalow School (2019–29 Street SW), a new brick building that was actually situated in Killarney. The bungalow school, eventually renamed Glengarry Elementary, was enlarged considerably in 1947 with the addition of 12 new classrooms and an auditorium. In the 1950s, it accommodated students from Glenbrook and Wildwood until school facilities in those new subdivisions were ready for use. The board opened a second elementary, Killarney School (3009–33 Street SW), in 1952. Glengarry Elementary was badly damaged by arson in 1978 and was subsequently demolished. The City purchased the site in 1982 and turned it into a park south of the Killarney pool.

In 1948, the Catholic school board opened Holy Name School in the old Glengarry Cottage School building that it purchased from the public board. Four years later, the school moved to a newly-built campus at 3011–35 Street SW, and the old building became Holy Name Cottage School. The cottage school was removed at an unknown date.

Two successive fire halls have operated in the neighbourhood. Fire Hall No. 10 (2415–26 Street SW) opened in 1915, but was decommissioned in 1921 as a cost-saving measure. The vacant building was removed years later. A new Fire Hall No. 8 (2208–29 Street SW) was built in 1954. By 1981, it was no longer in use but still stood. It was replaced in 1979 or 1980 by the new Fire Hall No. 8 (1720–45 Street SW) in nearby Rosscarrock. The old hall was demolished and replaced by Killarney Courtyard, a multiple-unit dwelling.

In 1950, the Calgary Public Library opened its Glengarry Branch in a purpose-built structure at 2609–19 Avenue SW. The library was built in a block-sized park in Plan 5661O that is now designated as the Killarney Off Leash Dog park. The library closed in 1976 and has been demolished.

Spruce Cliff

Historic settlement in Spruce Cliff is divided by 8 Avenue SW, which separates the north and south halves of Section 18 at this point.

John Lawrey (1843–1904), a market gardener originally from Cornwall, England, became a squatter on the northwest quarter (north of 8 Avenue) in 1882 and received homestead title in 1888. In the interim, the Dominion government had in 1887 subdivided a 31-acre portion in the northeast corner of this quarter section into four quarry lots. When Lawrey received homestead title to this quarter section, the government retained ownership of the four quarry lots. The quarry lots were subsequently leased to quarry operators. Lawrey eventually purchased one of the lots, and portions of two others became private property that was eventually sold to Charlie Jackson. Apart from the quarry lots, other quarry operations, many unrecorded, were established in this quarter-section and along the Shaganappi escarpment in the course of time.

John Charles (Charlie) Jackson (1864–1949) settled in the quarter south of 8 Avenue SW. Charlie Jackson came west in from Wingham, Ontario in 1882 and homesteaded on SW-18-24-1-W5M at the confluence of the future Rosscarrock, Shaganappi, and Spruce Cliff neighbourhoods. He borrowed free-ranging cows from pioneer farmer Sam Livingston, and he claimed to have been Calgary's first milkman. Jackson used sandstone acquired from Thomas Edworthy in the house he built on his quarter-section. The house stood at 12 Avenue and 24 Street SW (the future Crowchild Trail).

The City annexed almost all of this neighbourhood in 1910; the small portion west of 37 Street followed in 1954. Spruce Cliff was subdivided for residential development during Calgary's pre-First World War boom, but it failed to develop successfully and remained lightly settled. It was again subdivided in 1953, and prospective buyers stood in line for days to purchase 118 building lots available from The City. Street layout was a combination of numbered streets and avenues on a grid pattern and named roads, all chosen from types of trees, on a curved pattern with crescents. Spruce Cliff Apartments, a novel development built in 1953, comprised over two dozen low-rise apartment buildings in a park-like, 50-acre site. The City built public housing in Spruce Cliff in the late 1960s. The Spruce Cliff Community Association was organized in 1954.

Spruce Cliff School (3405 Spruce Drive SW), a public elementary school, opened in 1955, and an addition was completed in 1964. Its Catholic counterpart, John Kinahan School (3363 Spruce Drive SW), opened in 1958. The school was named for John Francis Kinahan (1875–1940), superintendent of the Catholic school board from 1918 to 1940. Both schools were eventually closed due to low enrollment and were repurposed. John Kinahan School closed in 1976 and re-

opened in 1978 as the Wildflower Arts Centre, the first stand-alone City-operated arts centre in Calgary. By 2005, after the public school closed, its campus became the new home of Calgary Quest School, a school established in 1990 for students with special needs.

In 1958, both St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church (1 Tamarac Crescent SW) and the Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd (408–38 Street SW) were built. The Free Methodist Church (3511–3 Avenue SW) followed by 1962, but the congregation sold the building in 1981 when it outgrew the facility. It has since been the home of the Calgary Korean Presbyterian Church (in the 1990s) and St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church.

Commercial establishments have included the Spruce Centre Shopping Plaza, which opened in 1955, and the Westgate Hotel, built in 1963 and demolished circa 2004. The Brava, Encore, and Ovation condominium complex replaced the hotel.

In 1970, in tandem with new public housing in the district, The City built the Tri-Services Centre (3415–8 Avenue SW) to house a day care centre, public health clinic, social services offices, and the new Shaganappi Branch of the Calgary Public Library. Besides Spruce Cliff, the facility served Rosscarrock, Shaganappi, Westgate and Wildwood. The concrete, Brutalist structure and its purposes remain, although the library closed in 2016 when a new facility opened in Westgate.

Besides the Wildflower Arts Centre, cultural institutions include the Hellenic Greek Community Club (1 Tamarac Crescent SW) and the Calgary Lawn Bowling Club (#101, 3375 Spruce Drive SW).

Shaganappi

Most of Shaganappi lies north of Bow Trail on land that the Dominion government provided to the Town of Calgary in 1885 for parks purposes. From that time until 1890, it was used as the Shaganappi Point cemetery. The site proved unsuitable for the purpose, and the Town purchased land for Union Cemetery in the future Manchester Industrial district. Seventy-five graves were moved from Shaganappi to Union Cemetery in the summer of 1892, and the balance were moved there in 1911. The old cemetery site was redeveloped as Shaganappi Golf Course, which opened in 1915.

Brothers John Charles Jackson and Thomas Edgar Jackson homesteaded in Killarney/Glengarry and owned land in Shaganappi south of Bow Trail. The Jackson Ranch (1431–28 Street SW) remains extant, and a sandstone quarry that the Jackson brothers operated might have been in this district. The Jacksons (and W.J. Tregillus) began subdividing this area as early as 1907, and it was annexed to Calgary in 1910. However, most development did not take place until after the Second World War.

The Salvation Army's Booth Memorial Home stood at 3004–17 Avenue SW from 1921 until it was demolished in 1985. The orphanage was originally known as the Salvation Army Children's Home when it opened in 1922, and by the time it was demolished, it was part of the Salvation Army Children's Village. Charles Jackson donated the ten-acre site, and the facility was designed by architect George Fordyce and built by the W.H. Cawston construction firm. A new wing was constructed in 1944. In 1966, residents moved into newly-built adjacent cottages, and the original building was repurposed but remained part of the orphanage. The complex remains extant and has been renamed the Barbara Mitchell Family Resource Centre.

The public school board opened Alex Ferguson School (1704–26 Street SW) in 1956. Jacques Lodge (2500 Bow Trail SW), Calgary's second seniors' home, opened in 1963 on land donated for the purpose by jeweller Harry C. Jacques. The complex was demolished sometime in 2011–20 and is awaiting redevelopment.

Rosscarrock

Rosscarrock is situated between Bow Trail to the north and 17 Avenue to the south from 33 Street to 45 Street SW. West of 37 Street, it is within Section 13-24-R2-W5M, which was originally granted to the CPR. In 1904, this quarter-section became the farm of Abraham Kersey (A.K.) Jackson (1873–1946) and his wife, Minnie (née Code, 1877–1978). A.K. Jackson was a brother of area pioneers Thomas and Charlie Jackson, who had come west from Ontario in the 1880s. East of 37 Street, Rosscarrock is in Section 18-24-R1-W5M, which was granted mostly to Charlie Jackson and partly to Francis White.

At an unknown early date, West Calgary School was built on A.K. Jackson's land, and the area became known as West Calgary. West Calgary School District No. 209 was established in 1890 and maintained two schools, West Calgary School at roughly 37 Street and 17 Avenue SW and Spruce Vale School, which was further west on Bragg Creek Road outside of the Westbrook Communities. William J. Tregillus became the school board's chair by 1911. The Jackson family billeted some of the teachers, and the school became a social centre and gathering place for the area. The school closed at some point before 1931 and reopened, evidently in a new building (possibly located on the future site of Rosscarrock School at 1406–40 Street SW), at an unknown later date. In the interval, area students attended the Spuce Vale School three miles distant. In 1958, Calgary's public school board took possession of the building, and it was evidently demolished.

The portion of Rosscarrock lying east of 37 Street SW was part of the 1910 annexation. West of 37 Street, the future neighbourhood lay outside the city limits until 1955. Limited development took place in the meantime. In 1908, A.K. Jackson sold his north 80 acres, and this was evidently the area subdivided the following year as Plan 3681V.

The public school board opened Melville Scott School (1723–33 Street SW) in 1954, Rosscarrock Elementary (1406–50 Street SW) in 1961, and Ernest Manning High School (3600–16 Avenue SW) in 1963. Melville Scott closed by the 1970s, and its campus became the Plains Indians Cultural Survival School, the first high school of its kind in Canada. The school continued to operate until 2002. The Catholic school district opened St. Michael Elementary and Junior High (4511–8 Avenue SW) by 1964, when it was the only school in the province that practiced "total team teaching."

The Rosscarrock Community Association was established in the mid- to late-1950s, and it developed a community hall at 4411–10 Avenue SW.

Commercial development along Banff Coach Road (the future Bow Trail) began as early as 1951, when the Lucky Strike store operated at 3802–11 Avenue SW. Wildwood Plaza (3825 Bow Trail SW), an extant strip mall, opened around 1959. Westbrook Mall (1650–27 St SW or 1200–37 Street SW) was built in 1963–64 on the former 36-acre site of the Calgary Gun Club, which owned and used the property from 1948 to 1958. The club had been established in the 1880s or 1890s, and it was incorporated in 1901. Its clubhouse, built in 1948, reportedly burned in 1957. The club relocated to northeast Calgary in 1958 and sold its Rosscarrock property to The City. Westbrook Mall was designed by architects Abugov and Sunderland, and it was built

by Sam Hashman. Anchor tenant Woolco opened in 1964, and the Calgary Public Library opened its Rosscarrock Branch in the mall that year.

Fire Hall No. 8 (1720–45 Street SW) was built in 1979 to replace an earlier station located in Killarney. In 2012, Calgary Transit began C-Train service on the new west extension of its Blue Line, which includes Westbrook Station in Rosscarrock. The project required the demolition of Ernest Manning High School and the former Melville Scott/Plains Indians Cultural Survival School. The underground station is part of a complex that includes CPL's Westbrook Branch.

Glendale

Apart from a small area projecting south from 26 Avenue SW, Glendale corresponds to the half-section farm homesteaded in the 1880s by Robert Walsh (ca. 1853–). Three section lines—17 Avenue, 37 Street, and Sarcee Trail—divide Glendale from its neighbours just as they once defined this farm.

Glendale still lay outside the city limits in 1953 when its development potential attracted the interest of two different parties who then worked together by forming a new development company, Kelwood Corporation. On the promise that The City would annex the area if the developer paid completely for infrastructure and roads, Kelwood acquired and subdivided the eastern portion, and development preceded annexation. Glendale proper, from 37 Street to 45 Street, was annexed in 1955 (with a retroactive date of 1954), and Glendale Meadows, west from 45 Street to Sarcee Trail, followed in 1956. Arthur Sullivan developed Glendale Meadows.

The Glendale Community Club was established in 1955, and it built a community hall (4500–25 Avenue SW) around 1959 and rebuilt it in 1993. The public school board opened Glendale Elementary (2415 Kelwood Drive SW) in 1955 and Glenmeadows School (4931 Grove Hill Road SW) in 1958. The Catholic school district opened St. Gregory School (5340–26 Avenue SW) in 1967.

Commercial development occurred at the northeast corner of the neighbourhood, where Loblaw's supermarket (1909–37 Street SW) opened in 1958, and to the south, where the smaller Tri-Glen Centre (4704–26 Avenue SW) opened around the same time.

In 1957, The City bought 52 undeveloped acres from Art Sullivan, who developed Glendale Meadows. This was presumably the wetland that residents disliked and wished to be drained. By the early 1970s, the Optimists Clubs of Calgary, in partnership with The City, redeveloped this 40-acre area in the wetland as Optimist Park, and two arenas, Optimist and George Blundun, were later constructed there. George J. Blundun (1908–1988) was a Calgary oil executive and an important figure in Canadian figure skating. Blundun was Calgary Sportsman of the Year in 1985.

Westgate

Westgate is located between Bow Trail and 17 Avenue SW from 45 Street west to Sarcee Trail. Apart from the portion north of Bow Trail (which is part of Wildwood), it occupies the entire west half of Section 13-24-2-W5M.

The CPR received the original land grant to this section. In 1902, industrialist William J. Tregillus (1858–1914) purchased the southwest, northwest, and northeast quarters, comprising all of Westgate and portions of Rosscarrock, Spruce Cliff, and Wildwood. Here he established the

Rosscarrock Ranch and the Tregillus Clay Products factory. His enterprises ceased after his death, and Springbank dairyman Robert James Hilton (1871–1939) and his family operated the Rosscarrock Dairy on the property in the 1930s.

Between Tregillus' death and Hilton's arrival, an unusual, temporary operation took place on the property. From 1928 to 1929, the newly-formed Calgary Aero Club operated a temporary airfield here while the Calgary Municipal Airport was being developed in the Renfrew district in the city's northeast.

The future Westgate still lay outside the city limits when the 17th Avenue Drive-In cinema opened in 1954 at the northwest corner of 17 Avenue and 45 Street. The drive-in remained in operation until 1979. It was demolished and replaced by the extant Alberta Motor Association complex (4700–17 Avenue SW).

The area was annexed in 1956, and a firm known as Westgate Land Development Ltd. transformed it into a residential development by 1957. From the start, the neighbourhood was characterized by curvilinear streets, named roads, and single detached homes. The Westgate Community Association formed by 1959, and its community hall (4943–8 Avenue SW) was built by 1961. Two public schools, Westgate Elementary (150 Westminster Drive SW) and Vincent Massey Junior High (939–45 Street SW), opened in 1958.

Commercial areas were developed at the northeast and southwest corners of the neighbourhood in 1959 and the late 1970s respectively. In 1959, Westgate Shopping Centre, a strip mall, opened at 4263 Bow Trail SW (known at the time as Banff Coach Road) with Canada Safeway as its anchor tenant. The Westland Centre business area (5308–17 Avenue SW) was evidently first developed in the late 1970s.

Wildwood

Wildwood lies between the Bow River and Bow Trail, west from 37 Street and 38 Street to Sarcee Trail. It occupies portions of four sections of land, but it lies mostly within two of them—Section 24-24-R2-W5M, which is historically associated with Thomas and Mary Edworthy, and Section 13-24-R2-W5M, which is associated with William Tregillus. Spruce Drive, which follows a section line, separates them on an east-west axis.

The land north of Spruce Drive was once part of the Cochrane Rancho lease, a massive ranch established in the early 1880s by Senator Matthew Henry Cochrane (1823–1903) for whom the town west of Calgary was named. Thomas Edworthy (1856–1904), a farmer and market gardener, and James A. McMillan, a Dominion Land Surveyor, settled on portions of this land within the future Wildwood district in 1883 and circa 1884 respectively. Their names live on in Edworthy Park and McMillan Coulee.

Along the south bank of the Bow, in the future park that bears his name, Edworthy established an irrigated farm and market garden and developed three sandstone quarries. Between the 1880s and the First World War, hundreds of structures in Calgary were built of sandstone or used sandstone in their construction. Even then, Calgary had the nickname “Sandstone City.” Edworthy's quarries were the source of stones for many of these structures. His house, along with remnants of his quarries and irrigation works, remain extant.

McMillan, the other settler on this land, died in 1898 without having proved up his homestead. His land reverted to the Dominion government, and Edworthy purchased most of it. Ottawa

reserved a portion of McMillan's land in the future Edworthy Park area as quarry lots. The CPR operated a quarry in one of those lots and used the stone to build its now-demolished West Shops roundhouse in Downtown East Village. Arthur Caldwell (ca. 1860–1936) later acquired the CPR quarry and operated a fox farm on the property.

After her husband's death, Mary Edworthy (née McArthur, 1857–1934) rented out the quarries and farm operation. She sold a portion of the land to the south, but the Crescent Wood subdivision created from it was unsuccessful. Airdrie farmer Tommy Morrison later raised and trained thoroughbred horses on this property.

South of Spruce Drive lay William J. Tregillus' land, the site of his Rosscarrock Ranch and Tregillus Clay Products factory, followed in the 1930s by Robert J. Hilton's Rosscarrock Dairy.

The City annexed the future Wildwood district in two increments—west to 45 Street in 1954, and west from 45 Street in 1956. Kelwood Corporation purchased the land in 1955 in advance of development, which began the following year. The developer dedicated more reserve land than required in exchange for a concession from The City elsewhere.

The public school board opened Wildwood Elementary (120–45 Street SW) in 1957. The Wildwood Community Association was established at an unknown date in the late 1950s, and its community hall (4411 Spruce Dr SW) was completed in 1958. There were seasonal skating rinks on the grounds beginning in 1958, and tennis courts were added in 1964. The community association started an annual fair in 1997.

Wildwood Shopping Plaza (3825 Banff Coach Road) was developed in 1959 with a Jenkins "superette" as its anchor tenant.

Glenbrook

Glenbrook stretches from 26 Avenue SW south to Richmond Road SW and from 37 Street SW west to Sarcee Trail. It straddles an east-west section line (corresponding to 34 Avenue SW) that once separated the homestead farm of A.P. Patrick to the north and a CPR land grant to the south.

Allan Poyntz Patrick (1849–1948), a pioneer Dominion Land Surveyor and oilman, homesteaded the northern portion in 1886 and named it Plateau Farm. He and his wife, Margaret (née McPherson, 1865–1940), and their children, evidently lived in an extant brick farmhouse built between 1889 and 1891 and relocated to its present site (3301–37 Street SW) by 1910.

In 1910, Patrick subdivided his farm along with the adjoining CPR land, which he had evidently acquired, south to Richmond Road. The new subdivision of Holmpatrick was marketed as a residential district with the potential for an 80-acre city park. But the area was only lightly settled, and portions of the subdivision were cancelled or consolidated. Henderson's Directory included 20 residential listings for Holmpatrick in 1918 and 32 in 1954. Among others, residents and businesses included Ed Campbell (who operated Camberta Poultry Yards at 27 Avenue and 37 Street SW), dairy farmer Bert Edmunds, the Sunshine Riding Academy, and, from 1945 to 1959, Edward Thompson's Holmpatrick General Store. Residents formed a ratepayers' association in 1930.

The extant McClary Residence (2831–41 Street SW), a vernacular house built in 1929 for George and Annie (née McMullin) McClary and their family, is a remnant of Holmpatrick before it became part of Calgary. The McClary home stood on a large property before infill houses encroached in the late-1980s. Both the McClary and Patrick homes are on The City's inventory of Potential Historic Resources.

Holmpatrick remained outside the city limits until the mid-1950s, when it was annexed in two stages (west to 45 Street in 1954 and to Sarcee Trail in 1956). Intensive development began east of 45 Street, with streets and avenues generally following a grid pattern (apart from Grant Crescent). Development consisted of single family homes and duplexes, some apartment buildings, schools, and a commercial area.

In 1959, The City proposed renaming the subdivision as Glendale South, which would harmonize street-naming in Holmpatrick with nearby Glendale and Glendale Meadows. The Glendale Community Club objected, and the name Glenpatrick was chosen instead. The same year, residents petitioned for a new name, either Glenbrook or Glenview. The City chose Glenbrook. The Glenbrook Community Association was registered in 1960, and its community hall (3524–45 Street SW) was completed by 1963.

The public school board opened Glenbrook Elementary (4725–33 Avenue SW) in 1959 and A.E. Cross Junior High (3445–37 Street SW) in 1960. The Calgary Christian School (2839–49 Street SW), a private institution, opened in 1965.

In 1959, the U.S.-based Independent Grocers Association expanded its IGA supermarket chain in Alberta, and Glendale IGA opened that year as the anchor store in the new outdoor shopping centre at 26 Avenue and 37 Street SW.

The area west of 45 Street was unserved by sewer connections and therefore largely undeveloped before 1969. A gravel pit operated in the area. Intensive development, including apartment complexes, took place beginning in the 1970s. In 1978, Nu-West Development Corp. Ltd. developed and opened Richmond Square, a shopping centre at 3915–51 Street SW intended to serve residents of Altadore, Glenbrook, Glamorgan, Glendale, Killarney, Lakeview, Richmond, and the future Strathcona Heights neighbourhood. The development comprised 30 shops, including anchor tenants Safeway and Canadian Tire.