

Explore Historic Cranbrook

(Printed 2011)

OFF THE HIGHWAY

You will find a very different Cranbrook with an interesting history and surviving heritage buildings and other landmarks in three distinct areas.

I. THE DOWNTOWN CORE

* Although there have been many changes in the downtown since the railway arrived, Baker St. with its 'trees and surviving older buildings add greatly to the overall character of the central core of the city. Churches, stores, hotels, government buildings, parks, and some homes converted to businesses also enrich this area.

* The downtown serves a specific niche market with a unique character relying on personalized service. It is distinct, but complimentary to the large service stores and malls along the highway. It also has a rich mixture of cultural activities and services that no other area has. The Downtown Business Association (DBA) is a group working to maintain and improve the vitality of the area, and can be contacted at the Chamber Office at 250-426-5914.

II. THE BAKER HILL RESIDENTIAL HERITAGE AREA

* This area is named after Col. James Baker, the founder of the City, who had built his home on the eastern part of a hilly area to the south and east of the downtown. The Home and the immediate lands surrounding it now make up "Baker Park". This early residential neighbourhood was surveyed in 1897, and today is the largest and most distinct heritage area in the City, with many styles of early residential architecture and mature landscaping.

* Baker Hill is still a vital area without highways or commercial development in it, and contains a healthy mix of families, singles, middle aged, and some elderly. Some of the larger older buildings were converted many years ago from single residential to multiple units, but many have been restored, others are in process & others are waiting.

* The "Baker Hill Residential Heritage Area Association" can be contacted through the City of Cranbrook or the Museum. This is now a protected heritage area with certain exterior development guidelines that are intended to maintain the flavour and character of a by-gone era for future generations to enjoy.

"BAKER HILL HERITAGE "BED & BREAKFASTS"

- Several of the larger homes on the hill have been converted to stylish and comfortable heritage B&B's with all the modern conveniences expected by today's travelers. A current list of the Baker Hill B&B's can be obtained at the Museum (250-489-3918) or Chamber (426-5914).

III. THE RAILWAY HERITAGE AREA (SEE DETAILS ON REVERSE OF MAP)

* This area contains several surviving original buildings and landscapes of the early Canadian Pacific Railway infrastructure dating from 1898. It also provides a unique context for the Canadian Museum of Rail Travel, which is the premier public attraction in this area.

(11)-(15) lists heritage structures in this area which are shown on the back of this map. The tours of downtown & the Baker Hill area start below at #16.

(16) HIGHWAY ARCH (1930's) - replication 2010



This beautiful real-stone faced arch gracefully spans the entrance from the Highway into the downtown near Baker St. It is a slightly wider replica of one of the two 1903's arches that originally spanned the highway at the SW and NE city limits. They were demolished by the Province in the late 1950's to allow the widening of Arterial Highway #3 through Cranbrook. (See also #86 & 87)

BAKER STREET (views to left & right of 9th)

(17) IMPERIAL BANK BUILDING 1909



A very good example of commercial Edwardian architecture, with fine brick, sandstone trim, and heavy top cornice. It was reconditioned and restored for commercial use in the early 1980's. A new rear addition in the late 1990's was designed to harmonize with the old. It is the major downtown heritage building visible from the highway.

Commercial Heritage Award 1981

(18) "CRANBROOK ED" (1926) - sculpture 2008 (this sculpture to right of intersection by Imperial Bldg.)

This small metal sculpture is located beside the Imperial Building at the west end of Baker St. overlooking the former site of the Railway Museum. It commemorates the story of the elephants which escaped from the Sels-Floto Circus in 1926, with some them running down the railway tracks and engineers being advised to be on the lookout. Cranbrook Ed & Myrtle were later found, but did not survive.

(19) FINK MERCANTILE BUILDING 1906

909 Baker Street (to left of 9th Ave intersection)

This was Cranbrook's first large department store and still stands out on Baker Street in commercial use.

Commercial Heritage Award 2001

(20) THE RAWORTH BLDG (By 1912)

915 Baker Street (to left of 9th Ave intersection)

1986 Commercial Heritage Award

(21) THE CLOCK TOWER (1983)

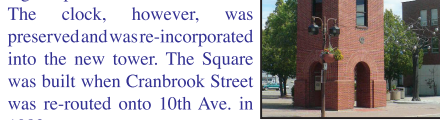
In Clock Tower Square (to left of 9th Ave intersection)

Replicated by the Rotary Club in 1983, this clock tower is an exact replica of the old Post Office Tower built in 1912, but demolished in 1971. The original tower stood

across Baker Street at the corner of 10th Avenue, where it was a well-known landmark. It's destruction kindled a strong spirit of preservation in the community, resulting in the City Heritage Report of 1975.

The clock, however, was preserved and waste-incorporated into the new tower. The Square was built when Cranbrook Street was re-routed onto 10th Ave. in 1982.

***Special 1989 Recognition Award for replicated heritage.**



(22) SPIRIT TREE sculpture 2008

In the Clock Tower Square -

Created by artist Paul Reimer of Cranbrook, this beautiful 25' high metal sculpture is located beside the Clock Tower. It's design symbolizes the diversity of the community through its many "roots" which break into a myriad of branches, many containing stainless steel balls that reflect the viewer and the surroundings.

ARMSTRONG AVENUE (9th AVE S)

(23) 1998 RAILWAY CENTENNIAL MURAL



Joseph Cross, under contract with the City, did this large mural depicting many images of city development spawned by the arrival of the railway to Cranbrook.

(24) THE NOBLE HOME 1903

33 Armstrong Avenue (9th)

Originally sheathed in wooden clapboard, this home was bricked over in 1924, and today is used for business use.

Comm Heritage Award 1991

(25) 106 Armstrong Avenue (9th Ave S)

1994 Commercial Heritage Award

(26) 224 Armstrong Avenue (9th Ave S)

2005 Residential Heritage Award

(27) 234 Armstrong Avenue - (9th Ave S)

2002 Residential Heritage Award

(28) 327 Armstrong Avenue (9th Ave S)

2010 Residential Heritage Award

NORBURY AVENUE (10th AVE S)

(29) THE "WHITE" RESIDENCE Before 1904

913 - 4th Street South

This house stands impressively at the south end of the 4-block long 10th Avenue (Norbury Avenue). It is placed strategically looking downhill to the downtown area. Notable are the very large Maple trees of unusual size for this dry climate.

Residential Heritage Award 1982

(30) The Dave Kay House

921 - 4th Street South

This house is the 2nd to east of the White House above.

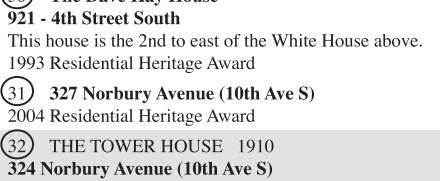
1993 Residential Heritage Award

(31) 237 Norbury Avenue (10th Ave S)

2004 Residential Heritage Award

(32) THE TOWER HOUSE 1910

324 Norbury Avenue (10th Ave S)



ments in the Clock Tower square across Baker St. from the north end of 10th Ave.

(33) ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 1927

(34) St. Mary's "MANSE" 41 Norbury Avenue (10th Ave S)



This fine brick building and its accompanying quarters replaced the first Catholic Church built in 1898 on this site. Located at one of the primary corners in the downtown, it can be seen from several directions, including Rotary Park.

Commercial Heritage Award 1979 (Church)

Commercial Heritage Award 1990 (Manse)

(44) CITY HALL 1911

40 Norbury Avenue (10th Ave S)

Still serving as the City Hall, this building was constructed of "Cranbrook Brick". The original spire

(35) Site of the former Catholic School (1913) and High School (1928)

308 Norbury Ave. (10th Ave S)

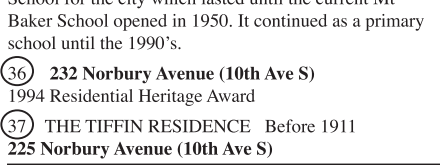
The school was altered on the exterior and closed in the early 1990's, now being used for other purposes. The back part is the Catholic Parochial School of 1913, while the front part was added in 1928 to make this the High School for the city which lasted until the current Mt. Baker School opened in 1950. It continued as a primary school until the 1990's.

(36) 232 Norbury Avenue (10th Ave S)

1994 Residential Heritage Award

(37) THE TIFFIN RESIDENCE Before 1911

225 Norbury Avenue (10th Ave S)



This home is notable for its originality and uniquely-shaped veranda, the only such example in Cranbrook.

Residential Heritage Award 1978

FENWICK AVENUE (11th AVE S)

(46) MOUNT BAKER HOTEL 1925

1017 Baker Street

This succeeded the "Cranbrook Hotel" (corner of 8th Ave & Baker Street built 1900-1910) as Cranbrook's finest hotel during the 1920's era. Good brick finish, and corner location.

Commercial Heritage Award 1984

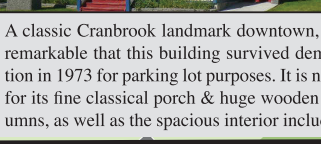
(47) THE STUDIO & STAGE DOOR

(formerly the "Masonic Temple") 1909

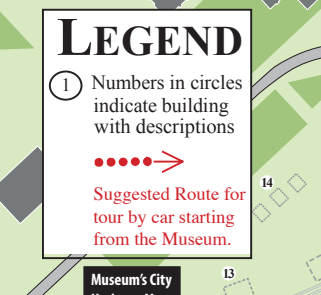
11 Fenwick Avenue (11th Ave S)



A classic Cranbrook landmark downtown, it is remarkable that this building survived demolition in 1973 for parking lot purposes. It is noted for its fine classical porch & huge wooden columns, as well as the spacious interior including



This was constructed as part of the "Spirit Square" development to celebrate the Province's 150th birthday. It is not a replica of the original small wooden one that existed in the park into the late 1950's, but its design is in the same spirit of the original, and carries some of the features of City Hall brick and roofing across the street. The two blocks of 10th Ave from 2nd St. S to Baker were also reconstructed at this time to provide trees, benches, special street lights with connections to improve



Museum's City Heritage Map Location

1. RAILWAY HERITAGE AREA

2. DOWNTOWN CORE

3. BAKER HILL RESIDENTIAL HERITAGE AREA

4. RAILWAY HERITAGE AREA

5. BAKER HILL RESIDENTIAL HERITAGE AREA

6. RAILWAY HERITAGE AREA

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12. RAILWAY HERITAGE AREA

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14. RAILWAY HERITAGE AREA

15. BAKER HILL RESIDENTIAL HERITAGE AREA

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52. RAILWAY HERITAGE AREA

53. BAKER HILL RESIDENTIAL HERITAGE AREA

54. RAILWAY HERITAGE AREA

Heritage Buildings & Monuments Tour Map

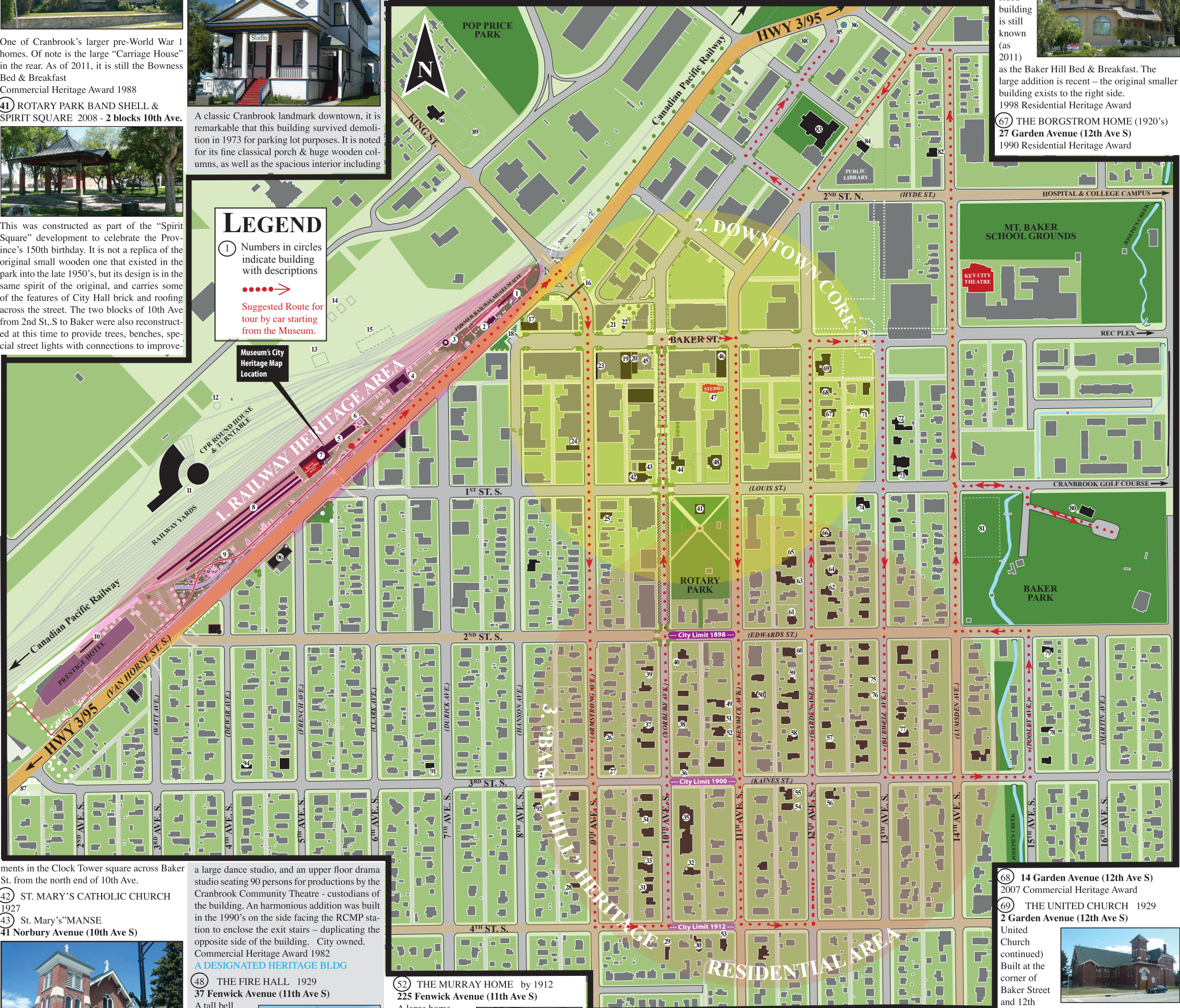
These are FREE self-guided tours by car and/or on foot.

* It is not possible in the space provided to give a complete history of buildings and their residents, but the material here to 2011 provides a guide to some of the history.

* Future research in the Cranbrook Archives will add to this material & correct inaccuracies found.

* A copy of this map can be found on the Museum Website: www.trainsdeluxe.com

An online interactive version with additional detail on each listing will be available in the future.



Street). It is the only major railway heritage infrastructure located outside the Railway Heritage Zone and is a major symbol of the railway's role in Cranbrook's ascendancy over all other cities in the Kootenay region.

As of 2011, it is still the "Cranbrook Premiere Residence (CPR) House" (B&B) 2006 Commercial Heritage Award

A DESIGNATED HERITAGE BLDG

(66) THE FERGIE HOUSE

110 Garden Avenue (12th Ave S)

This multi-sided building is still known (as 2011)

as the Baker Hill Bed & Breakfast. The large addition is recent - the original smaller building exists to the right side.

1998 Residential Heritage Award

(67) THE BORGSTROM HOME (1920's)

27 Garden Avenue (12th Ave S)

1990 Residential Heritage Award

Public Library

2nd St. N. (Hyde St.)

Hospital & College Campus

MT. BAKER SCHOOL GROUNDS

RECREATION

CRANBROOK GOLF COURSE

BAKER PARK

City Limit 1988

City Limit 1900

City Limit 1912

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small structure, and the addition of a very modern, but harmonious addition. It is well-known for its beautiful wood interior and stained glass windows.

1999 Commercial Heritage Award

(74) 103 Burwell Avenue (13th Ave S)

1992 Commercial Heritage Award

(75) THE BALMENT HOME By 1909

211 Burwell Avenue (13th Ave S)



A smaller home, but almost entirely original. Of particular note is the front 2nd story window detail.

1983 Residential Heritage Award

(76) 215 Burwell Ave (13th Ave) by 1909

A fine example of a small house in "Baker Hill".

1985 Residential Heritage Award

(77) 224 Burwell Ave (13th Ave)

2001 Residential Heritage Award

POOLE AVENUE (15th AVE S)

(78) 228 Poole Avenue (15th Ave S)

1988 Residential Heritage Award

(79) 202 Poole Ave (15th Ave S)

2004 Commercial Heritage Award

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