

---

FHBRO Number 97-30

DFRP Number 13721

### **Recognized Federal Heritage Building**

REGINA, Saskatchewan

#### **Regina Armoury**

1600 Elphinstone Avenue

The Regina Armoury was constructed in 1928. It was designed by the leading Regina architectural firm of Storey and Van Egmond. The building was altered in 1989, when new doors and windows were installed and security grills were added to main floor and stairway windows, and in 1995, when an elevator and exterior wheelchair ramp were added. The Regina Armoury is home to four local regiments and the Saskatchewan Military Museum. It also serves as a facility for the staging of community events. The Department of National Defence is the custodian.

### **Reasons for Designation**

The Regina Armoury has been designated “Recognized” because of its historical, architectural and environmental significance:

#### **Historical Significance**

The Regina Armoury was constructed as part of federal program to encourage the construction of drill halls in the interwar period. Under the program, the federal government funded construction of drill halls initiated by local regiments.

#### **Architectural Significance**

The restrained ornamentation, simple form and Tudor Revival references of the Regina Armoury are typical of drill halls erected in the interwar period. The building’s fortress-like appearance is reinforced by crenellated rooflines, stone-trimmed parapets and brick detailing. The placement of the main entrance along the side of the hall emphasizes the building’s immense size. Office bays at either end match the size and massing of the main entrance. The large scale of the building reflects its function as a training facility for large numbers of recruits.

Fine craftsmanship is evident in the stone detailing of the building. Carved shields in high relief around the main entrance depict the national, provincial and municipal coats of arms. These motifs emphasize the role played by the local community in the building’s construction and in the support of the militia in the interwar period.

#### **Environmental Significance**

The Regina Armoury is located in a modern residential neighbourhood. Due to its scale, its prominent location adjacent to the Regina Exhibition Grounds, and its use for community events, it is a well-known landmark in the community.

### **Character-Defining Elements**

The heritage character of the Regina Armoury resides in the following character-defining elements:

- The imposing fortress-like appearance, expressed through its immense scale, the symmetrical placement of the monumental entrance and office wings along the length of the drill hall, and the use of Tudor Revival elements. These elements include crenellated rooflines, brick pilasters, stone parapets, and an elaborate stone arch entry.
- Carved stone reliefs around the main entrance depicting national, provincial and municipal coats of arms, reflecting the role played by local organizations in the building's construction.
- The immense scale of the building in relation to the surrounding neighbourhood and its prominent location adjacent to the Regina Exhibition Grounds.

All maintenance and repair work, as well as future interventions, should respect these character-defining elements.

For further guidance, please refer to the *FHBRO Code of Practice*.