

FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

FHBRO number:	97-051
DFRP number:	18637
Resource name:	Brigadier Angle Armoury
Address:	720 Lawrence Ave., Kelowna, B.C.
FHBRO status:	"Recognized" Federal Heritage Building
Construction:	1904
Designer:	not confirmed; likely British Columbia Department of Lands and Works
Original function:	public school
Current function:	armoury for local militia unit (since 1935)
Modifications:	Sections added to front and rear of building (ca. 1977); handicapped access ramp added; major interior renovations (1935 and 1995); aluminum siding added over existing cedar siding and trim.
Custodian:	Department of National Defence

Reasons for Designation

The Brigadier Angle Armoury is a "Recognized" Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values:

Historical value:

The Brigadier Angle Armoury is associated with the history of public school education in the early 20th century. It was built as a four-room public school in 1904 and used as such until 1929. It illustrates the rural consolidation movement, in which small, multi-room school houses were erected in towns and villages to create better facilities and a broader curriculum. It also illustrates the effect of the British Columbia Department of Lands and Works, which influenced the architecture of consolidated schools by issuing standard plans and controlling finance and construction.

The Armoury is also associated with the history of the British Columbia Dragoons (BC Dragoons), which purchased the building in 1935 for use as a drill hall. The BC Dragoons date to 1908, when they were formed as a cavalry militia unit. The unit continues as a reserve armoured regiment, and trains at the Brigadier Angle Armoury.

Architectural value:

The Brigadier Angle Armoury retains many design features associated with early 20th-century rural school buildings, including: a hipped roof; a contiguous row of windows on one side of the classroom for better light; windows with moveable sashes for better ventilation; separate exterior entrances to each classroom for easy access and fire safety; and a basement for recreational space and to permit the installation of a furnace. The one storey Armoury appears to have been built to a standard plan prepared by the British Columbia Department of Lands and Works.

FEDERAL HERITAGE BUILDING REVIEW OFFICE
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Environmental value:

The Brigadier Angle Armoury reinforces the institutional and residential character of the setting where the original setback of the front schoolyard has been retained, but the rear of the site has been altered by the addition of paved areas and new buildings. The surrounding neighbourhood and streets have been altered as a consequence of development over 100 years. The Armoury is well-known in the Kelowna area by virtue of its function as a drill hall and as the home of the BC Dragoons.

Character-Defining Elements

The following character-defining elements of the Brigadier Angle Armoury should be respected:

Its role as an illustration of early 20th-century public school education is reflected in:

- its multi-room size, and construction according to a standard schoolhouse plan.

Its role as an illustration of the history of the BC Dragoons is reflected in:

- the removal and addition of interior walls to accommodate its function as a drill hall.

Its institutional design features, typical of early 20th-century rural schoolhouses, as manifested in:

- its wood construction; hipped roof; contiguous windows along the front facade; sash windows; separate exterior entrances; and basement.

The manner in which it reinforces the institutional and residential character of the setting as evidenced in :

- its one-storey height and schoolhouse scale;
- its setback from Lawrence Street;
- its prominent and visible location within the neighbourhood.

For guidance on interventions, please refer to the FHBRO Code of Practice. For further information contact FHBRO.

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January 2003.

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