

Regina, Saskatchewan  
**RCMP Building 13 - Chapel (Former Mess Hall)**

**HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT**

Building 13 was constructed as a mess hall in 1883 and converted into a chapel in 1895 after being damaged in a fire. The building was renovated in 1924, enlarged in 1939 and structurally upgraded in the late 1940s. The interior has been restored to the appearance of the original chapel. The chapel is a municipal heritage structure designated in 1983 because it is the oldest known building in Regina, and for its association with the arrival of the Mounted Police in Regina. An exclusively Anglican chapel until 1973, it continues in regular use today as an interdenominational facility. The building is the property of the RCMP. See FHBRO Building Report 86-22.

**Reasons for Designation**

The RCMP Chapel has been designated a Classified heritage building because of its strong historical association with the presence of the mounted police in Regina, because of its symbolic representation of a spiritual force which played a continuing role in the development of the institution and finally, on the basis of its role as a distinctive heritage landmark valued not only by the RCMP community at the national scale but also by the residents of Regina.

**Character Defining Elements**

The heritage character resides in the building as a whole. The progressive alterations, additions and improvements all contribute to the rich symbolic significance of the chapel. The restored interior, its humble appearance, its rustic wooden pews, its dedicated stained glass windows and the many memorial plaques dotting the walls, should be respected and preserved. Changes and alterations should be done in the spirit of the existing character.

The chapel's prominent siting is most important since it is the only structure which relates directly to the founding of the depot.

The relationship of the building to the barracks square, the landscape and the plant material (trees and shrubs) surrounding the chapel should be religiously maintained and preserved.

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