

Yellowknife Heritage Building Project

City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee

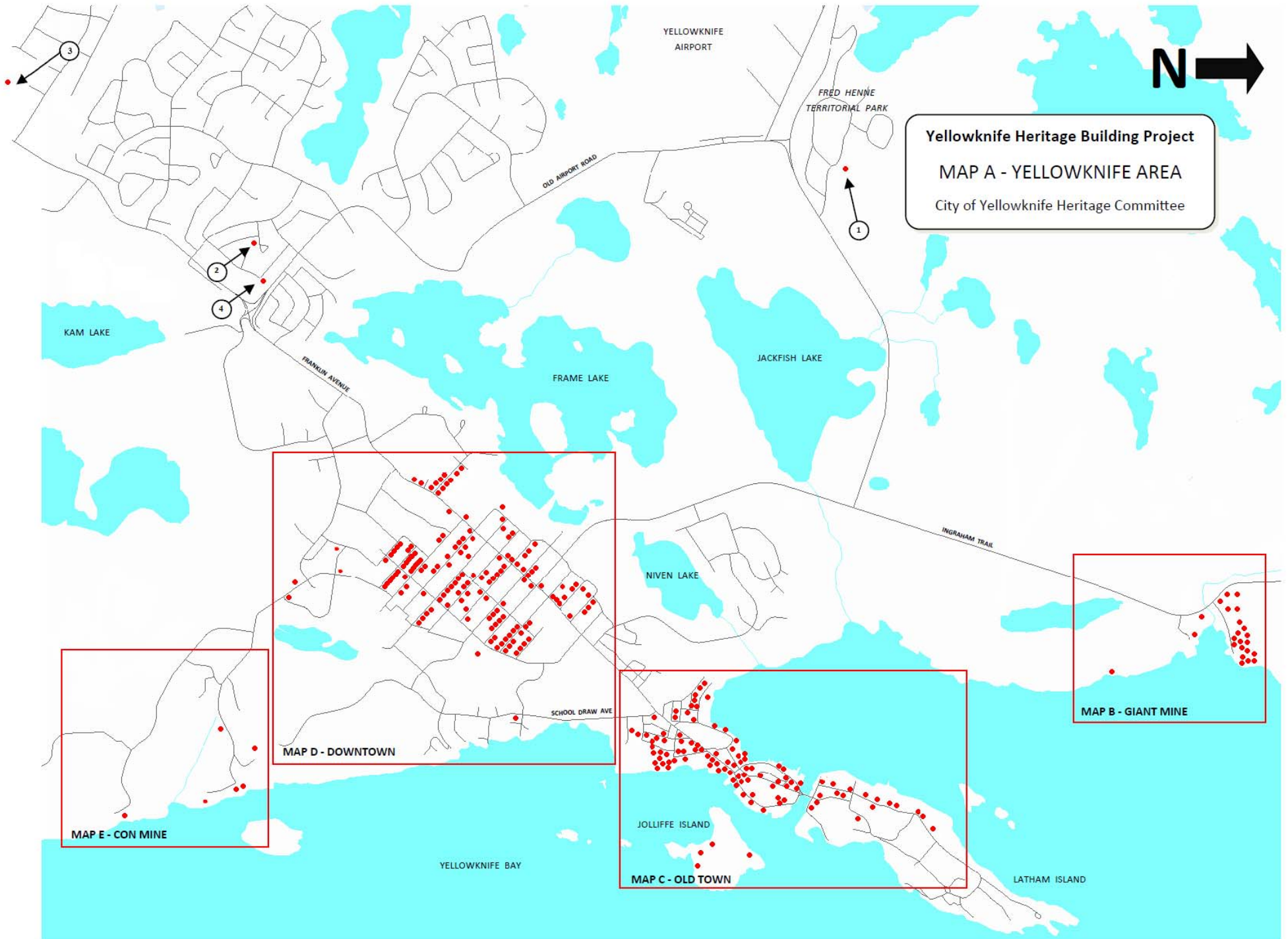
Compiled by Ryan Silke

Updated September 2018 by R.S.

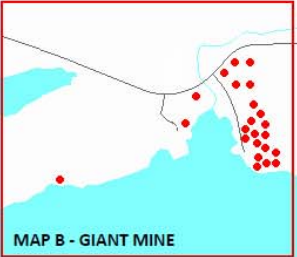
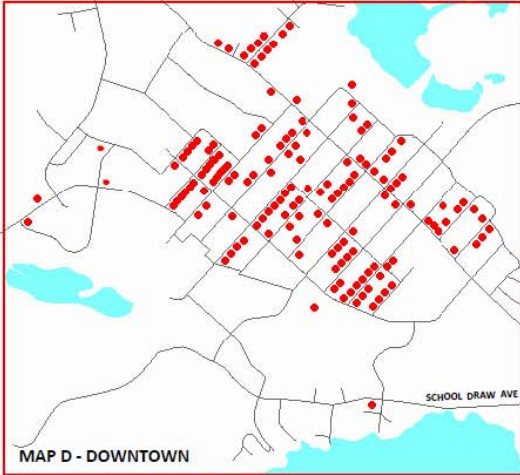


Yellowknife Heritage Building Project

Part A – Yellowknife area



Yellowknife Heritage Building Project
MAP A - YELLOWKNIFE AREA
City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee



McMeekan Cabin

MAP ID: A-1

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Fred Henne Territorial Park

CURRENT OWNER: GNWT Industry, Tourism and Investment

OCCUPANT: None

CURRENT USE: None

BUILT: 1939

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This cabin was built by prospectors Jim Turner and Morris Evans in 1939 from logs that were cut and floated down the Yellowknife River, and erected on the east side of Latham Island. This land was unsurveyed in the 1940s-1950s (adjacent to Lot 26, Block 153), but later became Lot 5, Block 202, located near the public boat launch just off Otto Drive (Turner Point).

Jock McMeekan acquired the cabin, possibly from George Blyler, and it was from here that he and his wife Mildred (Hall) McMeekan produced The Yellowknife Blade newspaper which began in October 1940. McMeekan lived in Yellowknife and wrote the newspaper sporadically until he left for Uranium City, Saskatchewan in 1953. Bill Loutit was the owner of the cabin from 1965 to the 1980s. Beatrice & Pat Woods were living here in the 1970s.

Susan Cross was the owner of the cabin in the early 1990s. Plans were made to redevelop the lot and remove the log cabin, which required significant work to make it livable again. The City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee took the lead to find it a new home, and a call went out to anybody with an interest or a plan for relocating and restoring the old log cabin. It was carefully loaded onto the back of a transport truck and moved to a temporary location at the City impound yard in 1992 thanks to the assistance of Les Rocher and Wayne Morrison. Many plans were put forward, including one by the NWT Chamber of Mines and Spirit YK to operate a mining museum. Ultimately the only party able to commit to restoration and a permanent home was the GNWT Department of Economic Development and Tourism who in 1993 acquired the structure for one dollar and moved it to Fred Henne Territorial Park. Substantial work was planned to turn it into a small museum to display Yellowknife history. An all-new roof was put on and windows and doors replaced. Despite the good intentions, the Park has not fully restored the building for any use other than a static outdoor display of an old log cabin, and no museum was ever opened. Today the building sits empty near the start of the Prospector's Geology Trail.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

The Yellowknifer, October 16, 1992; February 19, 1993; June 16, 1993
Northern News Services Ltd., June 26, 2009
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
City Files
James Larouque, Helen Acikahte

House (formerly Yellowknife Power Co. Office)

MAP ID: A-2

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 120 Knutsen Avenue (Lot 43, Block 508, Plan 1160)

CURRENT OWNER: Kathleen Matthews & Robert Swan

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was originally located on 50th Street in the downtown core of Yellowknife (Lot 16, Block 30) and was the offices of the Yellowknife Electric & Power Company, beginning in 1947. This company had the franchise to provide electric utilities for the community. In June 1947, the company applied for a permit to construct an office on Lot 16, Block 30 and the premise was advertised as open by September 1947, with Will Smith as manager of the Yellowknife Power Company. It is presumed that he also lived here. Smith was manager from 1947 to 1950. He was followed by Lloyd Bruce (1950-1952), Ralph Lovlin (1952-1955), and Tommy Albers (1955-1960s).

Plains Western Gas & Electricity Company, a subsidiary of Great Northland Utilities of Edmonton, acquired Yellowknife Power as part of its division in June 1955, and took over the franchise for power in Yellowknife. Tommy Albers was the manager of Plains Western for many years into the 1960s and lived here. A new office was eventually built in the late 1950s on the adjacent lot (Lot 15, Block 30, next to original Town Hall). The house remained here for many years but it is unclear if the Plains Western continued to use it for its staff. Mike Maybroda was also living here in the 1960s, probably when Albers moved to 56th Street. Title was with the City of Yellowknife in 1970. In May 1979, the house was moved from its original location in downtown, to its current lot in the new Frame Lake South subdivision. There have been many subsequent owners, including Kenneth Cram who was Co-op manager in the 1980s.

The back section that protrudes above the original house is a more recent addition. The house underwent renovations and alterations in the spring of 2012 and no longer holds its original appearance.

Certificates of Title (Lot 16, Block 30, Plan 65): Plains Western Gas & Electricity Ltd., February 10, 1958 > Corporation of the City of Yellowknife, May 15, 1970

Certificates of Title (Lot 43, Block 508, Plan 1160): City of Yellowknife, August 2, 1977 > John C. McLean, November 23, 1979 > CanNor Enterprises Ltd, November 23, 1979 > Mervyn Homenuik, February 3, 1981 > Harold Critch, April 10, 1981 > Toronto Dominion Bank, July 19, 1982 > Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, November 16, 1982 > Wayne & Jessie Balanoff, April 22, 1983 > Kenneth & Valerie Cram, December 18, 1985 > Murray & Terri-Lee Backlin, March 26, 1987 > Don & Catherine Routledge, May 2, 1988 > Stewart & Linda Jakacs, September 20, 1991 > Kathleen Matthews and Robert Swan, July 11, 2000

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, September 12, 1947; November 3, 1950; June 10, 1955; May 30, 1979
GNWT Land Titles
Gordon Piro, Liz Maybroda

Pepsi Cola Plant

MAP ID: A-3

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 18 Melville Drive (Lot 23, Block 530)

CURRENT OWNER: Michael Magrum

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Steelox prefab, 52' x 20'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This was the first pop bottling facility in the Northwest Territories, built in the summer of 1946 to produce marketable soft drinks under the popular brand Pepsi-Cola. Original location was in downtown Yellowknife (Lot 5, Block 24). Earle G. Kelly, former mining engineer, was the first manager of “Yellowknife Bottlers” and erected the plant in the new downtown core of Yellowknife in July-August 1946 with the assistance of Norman Shaw, Pepsi-Cola technician. Equipment was shipped up on winter tractor road in early 1946 and the lot prepared with a concrete pad. The prefabricated steel building (52' x 20' Steelox) was initially delayed, so the equipment was installed and the building erected around the plant when it arrived.

The plant was capable of producing sufficient pop for 500 cases of 24 bottles per day. The first case of pop was shipped to Aklavik, NWT. Kelly had one truck for local deliveries. Plant equipment included a single-spout semi-automatic filler, four-wide soaker, semi-automatic labeler, water pressure tank, filters, and carbonators. The plant was oil heated. Bottling was conducted at full-speed during the two summer months, while winter-bottling operations were limited to two hours each day. “Yellowknife Bottlers” was also the local agent for Canada Dry Gingerale products during 1949. In 1951, the business was going by the name of “Arctic Bottlers” and was under the management of Roland Massey. The business appears to have closed sometime in the early 1950s. In August 1953, “The News of the North” newspaper moved its offices to the old Pepsi-Cola plant and stayed here for a few years.

By 1957, the building was occupied by the “Haddow & Maughan Plumbing & Heating” company, managed by Bernie Drinkwalter – renamed “Drinkwalter Plumbing Company Limited” in 1959. They used it until December 1963, when Imperial Oil began to use the building for a town office. Lindsay Sparks was local agent for Imperial Oil in the 1960s, followed by Jack Decker beginning in 1967. The address was 4910 50th Street in the 1970s. The Northern Canada Power Commission, who were on the adjacent lot on 49th Avenue (Lot 4, Block 24), later used the building for storage. Building was moved to Kam Lake Industrial Park and its current location sometime in the 1980s.

Certificates of Titles (Lot 5, Block 24, Plan 65): Graden William Ltd., June 14, 1960 > Imperial Oil Ltd., November 13, 1967 > Mildred Edith Decker, March 1, 1979 > Range Lake Developments Ltd., October 9, 1984

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North newspaper, May 16, 1946; July 11, 1946; June 10, 1949; March 30, 1951; August 20, 1953; June 1, 1956; July 2, 1959; Dec. 12, 1963
The Pepsi Cola World Magazine, November 1946
GNWT Land Titles
Gord Piro

Old House (Discovery Mine)

MAP ID: A-4

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 28 Bromley Drive (Lot 15, Block 507, Plan 1080)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1955

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house is one of only two houses to have been removed from the Discovery Mine townsite after the gold mine was closed in 1969. Discovery Mine is located 90 kilometers north of Yellowknife on the west shore of Giauque Lake, and produced gold from 1950 to 1969. In 1966 there were about 128 employees working at the operation, with 37 family dwellings available for senior staff. The population of the townsite at that time was approximately 250.

It was built in 1955 and was occupied between 1955 and 1958 by Gerry Reimann, a miner at Discovery. Robert Stedman, mine accountant from 1960 to 1969, may have also lived here. In Discovery Mine documents, the house is identified as Dwelling #17. It was on the north side of the townsite overlooking the wharf and docks on Giauque Lake.

After the mine closed, this house was moved to Yellowknife – probably in the early 1970s, before building codes in the city became more strict and renovations of old housing like this was not practical.

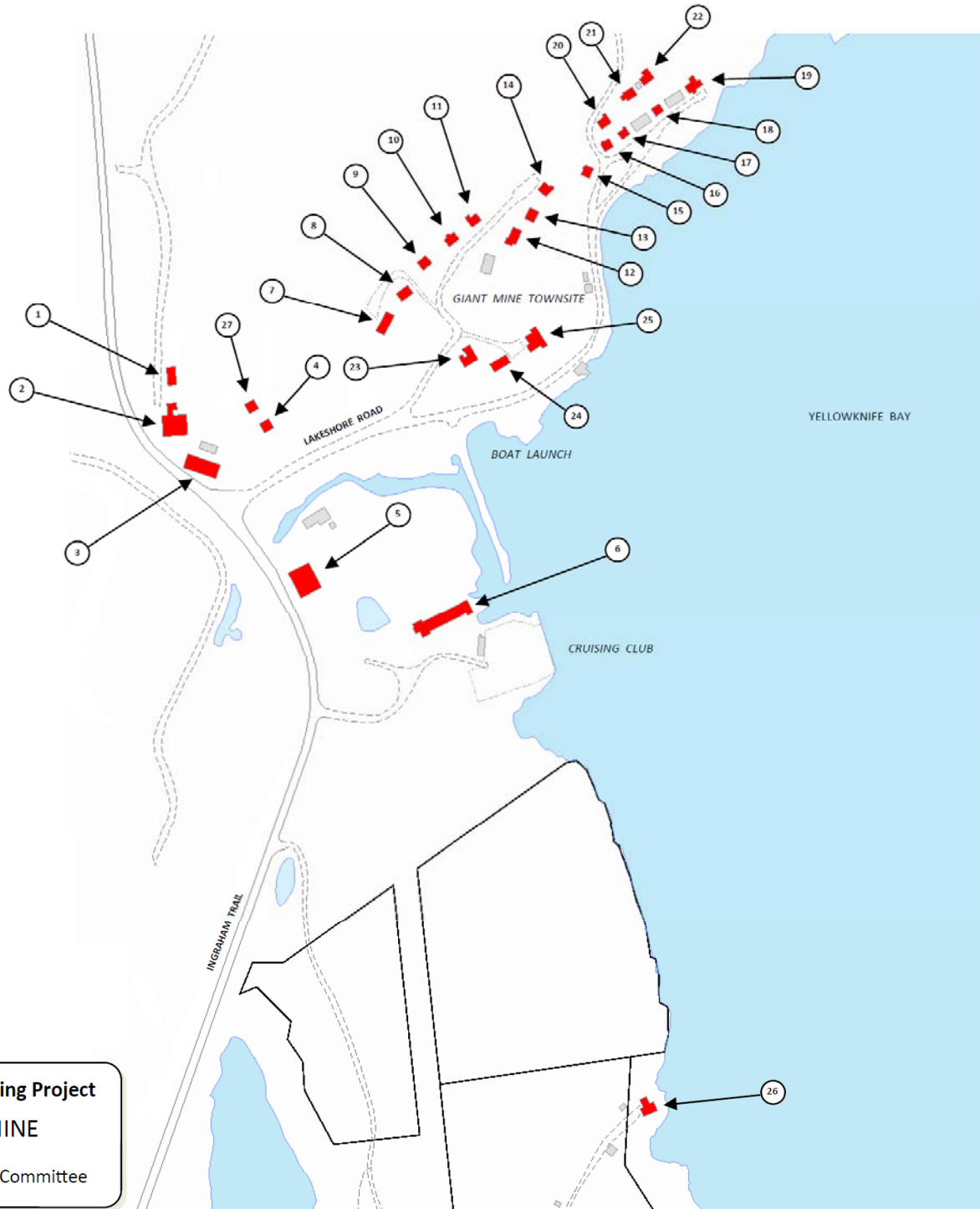
NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Discovery Mine reports
Robin Weber, Derek Lovlin

Yellowknife Heritage Building Project

Part B – Giant Mine area



Yellowknife Heritage Building Project
MAP B - GIANT MINE
City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee

Giant Mine A-Shaft Headframe

MAP ID: B-1

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite (Building No. 24)

CURRENT OWNER: NWT Mining Heritage Society (GNWT MACA land)

OCCUPANT: DEMOLISHED

CURRENT USE: DEMOLISHED

BUILT: 1945 & 1951

CONSTRUCTION: Timber structure 55' high.
17' x 14' orebin. 31' x 27' shaft house. Asbestos tarpaper.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The A-shaft headframe was erected in September of 1945. Sinking of A-shaft began on September 24th 1945. The headframe was originally an open skeletal design and was partially sheeted in during 1945. The headframe was completed to its present appearance in 1951 when it was fully enclosed and the ore bin constructed. A-shaft operations ceased in 1957 upon completion of mining, but the headframe remained intact and was fitted with a vent duct connected to the heating plant in the A-dry. Operations resumed in 1972 when lower-grade ore within the workings became more profitable with rising gold prices. A-shaft was reopened to provide service entrance and emergency escapeway from the underground workings in this area. In September 1976 an explosion on the first level of A-shaft damaged the headframe. It required repairs and realignment, but was back into normal operation within a few months. Mining operations ceased in the A-shaft underground workings in December 1982 due to lack of ore, and the hoisting conveyances were mothballed in March 1983. The building has not been used for hoisting since that time, although a ventilation duct was installed through the shafthouse and down the A-shaft in 1987 and used until 1994.

With the bankruptcy of the mine in 1999, the structure was donated by new owners, Miramar Mining Corporation, to the NWT Mining Heritage Society, as part of a proposed mining heritage centre. The building is not in use at the moment. It is maintained by the NWT Mining Heritage Society who conduct patch-work repairs as needed. Major repairs to the timber support beams were conducted in 2005. They do not own the land.

The Giant Mine cleanup team evaluated the structural stability of the headframe structure in 2014-2015 and concluded that it posed a significant hazard. A contract was awarded for the dismantling of the structure in the summer of 2016, and the headframe was demolished during September 2016.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Giant Mine Townsite Report, 2005



Giant Mine A-Shaft Powerhouse and Hoist

MAP ID: B-2

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite (Buildings No. 58 and 2)

CURRENT OWNER: NWT Mining Heritage Society (GNWT MACA land)

OCCUPANT: NWT Mining Heritage Society

CURRENT USE: No use. Proposed mining heritage centre.

BUILT: 1945 (hoist room), 1947 (powerhouse)

CONSTRUCTION: Frame on concrete. 60' x 70' (powerhouse), 29' x 22' (hoist)



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The foundation for the primary diesel plant was first cleared during 1946, although erection of the powerhouse building did not take place until 1947. Two Dominion diesel engines of 400-hp each were installed to supply the camp and future mill plant with power while awaiting the introduction of hydropower from Snare River. The A-shaft powerhouse supplied power to Giant Mine when mill operations began in May 1948. In October 1948, hydro power from Snare River was introduced, and the Dominion generators at A-shaft were kept as a standby plant. The A-shaft powerhouse building also housed a 1000-cfm Canadian Ingersoll-Rand air compressor during these years.

Mining in the A-shaft area ceased in August 1957 with all further work accessed through tunnels from C-shaft. The powerhouse building continued to be used as a standby diesel plant. The need for additional power at the expanding Giant Mine and the lack of output at Snare River hydro resulted in the purchase of a MacIntosh-Seymour diesel generator and was commissioned in 1957-1958 in the A-shaft powerhouse. The MacIntosh-Seymour unit was manufactured by the American Locomotive Company at Auburn, New York in the late 1920s, and was used on a B.C. Electric Railway Company development at Bridge River, British Columbia. It was then installed at a powerhouse for the BC Power Commission in 1932 at Port Alberni, B.C, and was used until 1934. It again ran between 1945 and 1947. It was then sold to Giant and shipped to Yellowknife during 1957. The A-shaft powerhouse was maintained as a standby diesel plant for many years. A new diesel plant was installed at C-shaft in the 1980s. It is said that the MacIntosh-Seymour engine was last started up in the early 1980s (A-shaft operations again ceased in 1982). The building has not had a purpose in Giant operations for a number of years.

The A-shaft hoist room was first built in 1945 during sinking of the A-shaft. It was used sporadically until 1957, and then again from 1972 to 1982 during mining operations in the area. The hoist is a two-drum Canadian Ingersoll-Rand 36"x24" electrically powered unit.

With the bankruptcy of the mine in 1999, the structures were donated by new owners, Miramar Mining Corporation, to the NWT Mining Heritage Society, as part of a proposed mining heritage centre. The buildings are not in use at the moment. They are maintained by the NWT Mining Heritage Society who conduct patch-work repairs as needed. They do not own the land.

The Giant Mine cleanup team evaluated the structural stability of the adjoining hoistroom structure in 2014-2015 and concluded that it posed a significant hazard. A contract was awarded for the dismantling of the structure in the summer of 2016, and the hoistroom was demolished during August-September 2016. The powerhouse building remains standing at this time.

NOTES:

Hoist room demolished August-September 2016.

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Giant Mine Townsite Report, 2005

Giant Mine Commissary/Warehouse

MAP ID: B-3

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite (Building No. 3)

CURRENT OWNER: NWT Mining Heritage Society (GNWT MACA land)

OCCUPANT: NWT Mining Heritage Society

CURRENT USE: Under renovations for mining heritage centre

BUILT: 1946 with 1950 addition

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on timber cribs. 120' x 40', one storey.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The building was constructed during 1946 and completed in 1947 and was used as the main warehouse (No. 1 Warehouse) for Giant Mine when operations were centered around the A-shaft area. In 1950, a 20' addition on the west side of the building was constructed to increase the capacity of warehousing. At this time mine services were moving to the new central shaft (C-shaft) at the mine and the warehouse stock was moved to a new facility during September-October 1950. This building was then used to store items for the commissary and cookery operations.

In 1951, the mine's commissary relocated to the building and renovations converted it into a grocery store, post office, first aid station, and warehousing. It was a focal point of the Giant Mine community where employees and their families could purchase groceries, dry goods, clothing, and special order items in, at discount prices, cheaper than through Yellowknife retailers. The manager of the commissary throughout almost its entire operation was Curt Halladay who ran it from 1951 to 1964, with the help of a small staff (including Frank Crozier, Neil Orser, and Moe Weiderspiel in the 1950s). The building was used as a commissary and post office until 1967 when the store was phased out of Giant Mine operations, probably because of local competition.

The exploration department at Giant Mine then used the building to store gear that had previously been scattered throughout the property. The department later moved all of its technical services into the structure, converting the building in a shop, core-cutting room, warehouse, and office. Large racks were installed for storing drill core. With the closing of Giant Mine in 1999, the building was no longer in use. New owners, Miramar Mining Corporation, donated the structure to the NWT Mining Heritage Society for use as part of its mining museum facilities.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Giant Mine Townsite Report, 2005

Con Mine Log Cabin

MAP ID: B-4

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: NWT Mining Heritage Society (GNWT MACA land)

OCCUPANT: NWT Mining Heritage Society

CURRENT USE: Storage and outdoor exhibit

BUILT: 1938

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This log cabin was built for use as an explosive storage magazine at Con Mine in 1938. It was originally located on Con Road near the entrance to Con Mine's C-1 shaft, south of Rat Lake on that side of the road. It continued to be used as storage by Con Mine for many years, but in the 1980s it was no longer in use and was to be demolished until a group of Con employees decided to rehabilitate it and set up an outdoor display at the C-1 shaft gate entrance across the road from Rat Lake. The display was set up in about 1988 or 1989, around the time of the mine's 50th anniversary celebrations. The cabin was placed on a steel tubing supports and a new roof was built using original materials. The cabin was surrounded by various pieces of vintage mining machinery.

In 2003, with the closure of Con Mine, the machinery and cabin was offered to the NWT Mining Heritage Society for setting up an outdoor display at the Giant Mine Townsite parking lot. The cabin was moved to its present location in the summer of 2005 with the support of Miramar Con Mine Limited, Weatherby Trucking Limited, and NWT Mining Heritage Society volunteers, and placed on timber cribbing. A new deck was built, the logs were chinked with burlap, and new windows installed. The cabin is again surrounded by various items of historical interest and is maintained by the mining museum society. Some repairs to the cabin were conducted in the summer of 2012.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

NWT Mining Heritage Society

Giant Mine Recreation Hall

MAP ID: B-5

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite (Building No. 8)

CURRENT OWNER: NWT Mining Heritage Society (Sub-lease from City of YK)

OCCUPANT: NWT Mining Heritage Society

CURRENT USE: Under renovations for mining heritage centre

BUILT: 1953 with many additions

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete, single storey with attic and basement crawlspace. 80' x 67'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Giant Mine recreation hall was built in 1953 to accommodate an increased camp population and expansion of mining operations. The structure was a temporary solution of the need for more recreation at the site. Construction contractor was Ivor Johnson of Yellowknife. It was built to house the theatre, billiard tables, and a small snack bar. It was intended to use the building for only a short period and then convert it into a cold storage warehouse when a permanent recreation hall was built. But soon after completion it was decided to keep the original structure as the recreation hall and several additions were made to add to the features of the hall. The original 1953 structure is now the gymnasium section.

Additions over the years included a 1955 addition on the east side to provide separate space for two billiard tables. Washrooms and an office were also added behind the snack bar on the north end of the building. The following year, in 1956, the library room was added on the southeast side with large windows giving a scenic view of Back Bay. In 1959, interior decorating and expansion of the main hall/gymnasium on the west side of the structure was completed to provide space for café tables. An addition was completed in 1963 when the north side additions were completed to house more office space, post office, cloakroom, and storage. The last major additions were on the northwest and east corners in 1965. On the west, a new post office was put in place; on the east, a storage room and new office partition.

The recreation hall contained the gymnasium, eating lounge/snack bar, kitchen, cloakroom, mail room/post office, theatre, library, and a two-table billiard room and was used extensively during its time of operation. It provided daily recreation for the single-men coming off the shift and special functions for children. Many staff parties were held and the centre was rented out for community events. The facility was managed and run by the membership-run Giant Mine Recreation Association. Recreation supervisors at Giant during the mines life included: J. Frazier (1953-1954), Dragi Jovanovic (1954-1965), Robert Hayward (1965), Peter Cook (1966), Roy Feather (1967), Donald Scott (1967-1969), Bernie Boyd (1969-1974), Len Spratt (1974), and Clemie Salo (1975-1981). Long-time snack bar attendants included Elda Dundas (1956-1967), Doris Clegg (1963-1969), and Clemie Salo (1969-1975). Bill and Olga Choma were cooks at the rec hall in the final years of its operations (1981-1983), and Olga was the postmaster for many years.

Regular use of the recreation hall by Giant employees appears to have ceased in the 1990s, once Royal Oak took control of the mine. One of the last company social functions was a wedding. In 1991 it was reported that the recreation hall would no longer be heated during the winter months. Beginning in 1993, the local Boy Scout and Army Cadet groups used the hall for meetings and other events, but then a sprinkler malfunctioned in 1998-1999 causing water damage on the interior of the building. In 2003, following structural assessment, it was decided by the NWT Mining Heritage Society to use the recreation hall as the main building for the future mining museum at Giant A-shaft area. The roof was replaced in the summer of 2007 and new concrete foundations were prepared in 2010 and 2012. More construction and alterations are proposed in the future as the Society continues work to build a mining museum at this location.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Giant Mine Townsite Report, 2005



Giant Mine Curling Rink

MAP ID: B-6

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife (Townsite Lease)

OCCUPANT: DEMOLISHED

CURRENT USE: DEMOLISHED

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on timber posts. Asbestos tarpaper.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Giant Mine curling rink was built in November 1947. It contained one sheet of ice and a club room. It received a new roof in the mid 1980s, and new bathrooms were built. The original bathrooms were elevated from the rest of the building to accommodate gravity flow of the sewage pipes. The curling rink and club was one of the social hot-spots at Giant Mine. The league was gender-mixed and was pretty much exclusively for employees, but there was other non-employees who took part in the teams. Regular games were four nights a week Mondays to Thursday, 2 draws a night with 8-end games. There was also the weekend 4-end bonspiels which took place on Saturdays, attracting teams from all over Yellowknife. It was an open bonspiel for everybody. They were usually followed by potluck dinners in the evening. The curling club building also contained a small bar and café. Early day sport events were heavily supported by the company, both financially and logistically. Volunteers made up an important part of the activities. The facility was managed by the membership based Curling Club.

The curling club ceased operations in the late 1980s due to lack of support and the shift towards Yellowknife recreational services. The ice plant at the end of the rink was only added in the last few years of operation in the early 1980s, and throughout most of the life of the rink, the ice was made by simply flooding the floor. It has been abandoned for several years.

The Giant Mine cleanup team evaluated the structural stability of the building in 2014-2015 and concluded that it posed a significant hazard. A contract was awarded for the dismantling of the structure in the summer of 2016, and the curling rink was demolished during August-September 2016.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Giant Mine Townsite Report, 2005

Giant House (#289A/B)

MAP ID: B-7

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1950

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, 24' x 64'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A duplex house built in 1950 for senior staff at the Giant Mine. Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Suite A:

Gordon & Alice Brown, chief geologist (1952-1956)

Blake Kellar, mine captain (1957-1963)

Dave Emery, geologist (1963-1965)

Horst & Elsa Wist, mine captain (1966-1973)

C. Sra, chief mine engineer (1973-1975)

Trevor & Susanne Kelley, accountant (1977-1980)

Ralph Creed, mill shift boss and refiner (1981-2000)

Suite B:

William Gilchrist, mine superintendent (1950-1951)

D.C. McDonald, mine superintendent (1951-1955)

Edison Foster, metallurgist (1955-1964)

George & Beryl Espley, planning engineer (1964)

G. Dziny, engineer (1964-1965)

John Boyd, mechanical superintendent (1965-1967)

M.J. Lye, mine engineer (1968-1969)

G.P. Legagneur, geologist (1969-1974)

Borge & Esther Bergersen, chief electrician (1974-1981)

Robin Imbeault, open pit supervisor (1982-1992)

Brian Kellet, mine superintendent (1995-1996)

Ted Bienias, mine captain (1996-1998)

Bruce Graney, safety supervisor (1998-1999)

NOTES:



REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#254)

MAP ID: B-8

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Loxstave prefab, two-1/2 storey, 24' x 32', plus 10' x 22' addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1946 for senior staff at the Giant Mine. Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Archie Freakes, general superintendent (1946-1949)

Pete Pitcher, general superintendent (1949-1951)

Gordon & Merrill Allen, chief accountant (1952-1957)

Ken & Edith Grogan, general superintendent (1957)

Jack & Marg Smith, general superintendent (1957-1962)

Don Delaporte, general superintendent (1962-1963)

Lorne & Bunny Wrigglesworth, chief geologist (1963-1964)

Bill & Joan Case, general superintendent (1964-1968)

John Boyd, mechanical superintendent (1968-1969)

Menno Friesen, chief engineer (1969-1970)

Bob & Therese Brown, mine superintendent (1973-1975)

Bill Moore, mine manager (1976-1981)

Ken Blower, mine manager (1982-1984)

Sadik El-Alfy, chief mine engineer (1984-1986)

Dave Jarvis, warehouse (1987-1992)

Robert & Nancy Steinke, mine superintendent (1992-1995)

Brian Shaw, mine shift boss (1995-1997)

Paul Bedard, mine shift boss (1997-1998)

Rob Moore, mine superintendent (1998-2003). Rob continued to live here as mine superintendent at Con Mine, 2000-2003.

The house was abandoned in 2004.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#255)

MAP ID: B-9

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Loxstave prefab, two-1/2 storey, 24' x 32'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1946 for senior staff at the Giant Mine. Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Dan & Mavis Bateman, chief geologist (1946-1952)

Clarence E. Anderson, geologist (1952-1956)

Gordon & Alice Brown, chief geologist (1956-1964)

Robert & Ruth Spence, exploration geologist (1964-1982)

Tony Ransom, head exploration geologist (1982-1985)

Ken Baxter, mechanical superintendent (1985-1990)

Rob Moore, mine shift boss (1991-1998)

Ted Benias, mine captain (1998-2000)

The house was abandoned in 2000.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#257)

MAP ID: B-10

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Loxstave and frame, two-storey, 24' x 36'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1947 for senior staff at the Giant Mine. Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Ken & Edith Grogan, mill superintendent (1947-1957)
David G. Adams, chief mine engineer (1957-1962)
George & Eleanor Muscroft, chief mine engineer (1962-1965)
George & Beryl Espley, mine superintendent (1965-1969)
Bob & Therese Brown, mine superintendent (1969-1973)
Brian & Phyllis Watson, chief geologist (1974-1977)
Wilf Meyer, chief geologist (1977-1981)
Borge & Esther Bergersen, chief electrician (1981-1989)
Sharon Kerr, nurse (1993-1994)
Erik Pakkala, Colomac mill superintendent (1994-1995)
Don & Jackie Patterson, mine captain (1995-1998)
Rob Johnson, mine shift boss (1998-1999)

The house was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#247A/B)

MAP ID: B-11

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame and loxstave, three-storey, 24' x 32', plus porch additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A duplex house built in 1948 for staff at the Giant Mine. Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Suite A:

J.F. 'Mitch' & Emma Mitchell, purchasing agent (1952-1960)

George Ekins, maintenance superintendent (1960-1961)

George & Beryl Espley, planning engineer (1961-1964)

Brian & Phyllis Watson, geologist (1964-1966)

Tony Klemenchuk, planning engineer (1966-1968)

Ernie Ladds, accountant (1968-1972)

Mike & Susan Tettenborn, refiner (1973-1996) Archie Stewart, purchasing agent (1997) Doug Keating, chief assayer (1998-1999)

Suite B:

Gordon & Merrill Allen, chief accountant (1948-1952)

Murray Pickard, mine engineer (c.1956)

George & Eleanor Muscroft, chief engineer (1956-1962)

George & Tobi Taylor, mine captain (1962-1967)

Ron Kapicki, surveyor (1968-1970)

Mike Tettenborn, refiner (1971-1972)

Ernie Ladds, accountant (1972-1973)

Jim Walton, underground maintenance foreman (1973)

John & Connie Turchinsky, warehouseman (1975-1977)

Dave & Sandra Dickson, mill shift boss (1978-1980)

Maurice Lowden, safety supervisor (1980-1982)

Steve McAlpine, planning engineer (1982-1984)

Don & Susan Lewis, geologist (1984-1986)

Wolfgang Vogel, tailings retreatment plant shift boss (1986-1988)

Karl Meyer (1988-1989)

Sharon Kerr, nurse (1991-1992) Archie Stewart, purchasing agent (1995-1996)

Steve Schultz, environmental superintendent (1998-1999)



REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#213)

MAP ID: B-12

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1959

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, one-1/2-storey, 26' x 42'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1959 for staff at the Giant Mine.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Rod & Margaret McLeod, mill superintendent (1959-1970)

Archie & Anne Campbell, general superintendent (1970-1975)

George & Aino Aaltonen, general superintendent (1975-1983)

Steve McAlpine, mine superintendent (1984-1987)

Don Cooper, tailings retreatment plant superintendent (1988-1989)

Mark Mitchell, mine superintendent (1989-1990)

Paul Nesbitt, mine shift boss (1991-1993)

Dave & Trish Anthony (c.1995)

Bill Dodds, Colomac mine superintendent (1996)

Yvone Jeanotte, controller (1997-1999)

The house was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#212)

MAP ID: B-13

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey with half basement, 26' x 34'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1956 for staff at the Giant Mine.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Murray Pickard, chief engineer (1956)

Robert & Janet Tait, mill superintendent (1957-1961)

Gordon & Anne Ekins, mechanical superintendent (1961-1965)

Dave Emery, chief geologist (1965-1969)

Hal Pawson, mill superintendent (1970-1977)

Kent Morton, mill superintendent (1977-1985)

Tim Riorden, mine superintendent (1985)

Ken Thomas, mill superintendent (1985-1986)

Sadek El-Alfy, chief engineer (1986-1988)

Gary Halverson, mill superintendent (1989-1993)

Kim Kiedock, mill superintendent (1994)

Phil McIntyre, mill superintendent (1994-1996)

Kent Morton, mill superintendent (1996-1999)

The house was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.

NOTES:



REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports

Various former Giant Mine staff and families

NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#211)

MAP ID: B-14

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1953

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, 24' x 32'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1953 for staff at the Giant Mine.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Robert & Janet Tait, metallurgist (1956)

Dymytro Laschuk, engineer (1957)

Lorne & Bunny Wrigglesworth, chief geologist (1957-1963)

Edison Foster, metallurgist (1964-1966)

Brian & Phyllis Watson, chief geologist (1966-1974)

Nick & Doreen Majacich, mine foreman & later Salmita project manager (1974-1984)

Tim Riorden, mine superintendent (1984-1985)

Ken Thomas, mill superintendent (1985)

Ray Braconier, mine superintendent (1987-1989)

Terrance Hodson, chief geologist (1989-1992)

Terry Byberg, mine superintendent (1992-1993)

Stephen & Laura Piercey, chief surveyor & purchasing agent (1993-1995)

Don Loupret, Colomac mill foreman (1996)

Bill Henry, administration manager (1996-1999)

The house was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books



Giant House (#207)

MAP ID: B-15

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite, Lakeshore Road

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1951

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, 26' x 30'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1951 for staff at the Giant Mine.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Albert Mack, electrical foreman (1951-1957)

George & Nora Florence, electrical foreman (1957-1976)

Alec & Yukona McBeth, mill shift boss (1977-1980)

Dave & Sandra Dickson, mill foreman (1980-1995)

Allen Jones, mill foreman (1995-1998)

The house was not in use after 1998 due to water damage and was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#206)

MAP ID: B-16

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite, Lakeshore Road

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1951

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, 26' x 30'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1951 for staff at the Giant Mine.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Hugh & Peggy McLean, electrical foreman (1951-1980)

Earl Dempsey (1981-1982)

Dwayne Fobes, assayer (1982-1990)

Terry Frank, mill supervisor (1997)

Bryan Cross, metallurgist (1998-1999)

The house was briefly used as the townsite post office in the early 1990s.

It was abandoned in 1999 following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines.

NOTES:



REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports

Various former Giant Mine staff and families

NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#200)

MAP ID: B-17

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite, Lakeshore Road

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1950

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, 24' x 28'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A prefabricated house built in 1950 for staff at the Giant Mine. The structure likely came from Norman Wells on the Mackenzie River where it has previously been used as staff housing for Imperial Oil crews working on the Canol Project during World War II.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

John & Terry Nuss, mine shift boss (1950-1952)

Curt & Daisy Halladay, commissary supervisor (1952-1964)

Albert & Hilya Hall, mill foreman (1965-1986)

William & Barb Hall, mill shift boss (1986-1990)

Barry Jones, exploration geologist (1991-1994)

Exploration geologists working for Royal Oak Mines used the house from 1995 to 1998 as a bunkhouse.

The house was abandoned in 1999 following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#201)

MAP ID: B-18

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite, Lakeshore Road

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1950

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, 24' x 28'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A prefabricated house built in 1950 for staff at the Giant Mine. The structure likely came from Norman Wells on the Mackenzie River where it has previously been used as staff housing for Imperial Oil crews working on the Canol Project during World War II.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Lloyd & Aubrey Ross, mill foreman (1951-1972)

Alec McBeth, mill operator (1973)

Jim Helyer, electrician (1978-1991)

Dan Olaveson, mill maintenance foreman (1994-1995)

John Orr, project engineer (1997)

Burt Folkes, maintenance foreman (1998-1999)

The house was abandoned in 1999 following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#203)

MAP ID: B-19

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite, Lakeshore Road

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1949-1950

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, 24' x 36', plus 10' x 13' front addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A prefabricated house built in 1949-1950 for staff at the Giant Mine. The structure likely came from Norman Wells on the Mackenzie River where it has previously been used as staff housing for Imperial Oil crews working on the Canol Project during World War II.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Emile & Simone Dagenais, surface foreman (1950-1973)

Doug Stoodley, construction foreman (1975-1989)

Dwayne Fobes, assayer (1990-1995)

Tom & Barb Wall, controller (1995-1996)

Jerome Tobin, mine accountant (1996-1997)

Wayne Vollans, maintenance planner (1998)

The house was abandoned in 1999 following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Book

Giant House (#208)

MAP ID: B-20

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite, Lakeshore Road

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1951

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, 26' x 34', plus 7' x 11' porch addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1951 for staff at the Giant Mine.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Robert & Janet Tait, metallurgist (1952-1956)

George & Inez Runnings, mill mechanical foreman (1957-1967)

Howard & Eileen Bye, master mechanic (1967-1981)

Maxwell Turner, security and fire chief (1982-1985)

John Hobbs, instrument technician (1986-1988)

Mike Collins, instrument technician (1989-1990)

Kim Kiedock, metallurgist (1993)

Paul DePiero, mine captain (1993-1995)

Paul LaFramboise, Colomac general mill foreman (1995-1996)

Gary & Sherry Stiles, Colomac safety supervisor (1996-1997)

Brad Mercer (1998-1999)

The house was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#209)

MAP ID: B-21

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite, Lakeshore Road

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1953

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, one-1/2-storey, 26' x 34', plus veranda addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1953 for staff at the Giant Mine.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Chet Wilkinson, chief electrician (1953-1962)

George Bilton, shop foreman (1962-1967)

Charles E. Spencer, mechanical superintendent (1968-1972)

Bruce & Pat Nikiforow, timekeeper (1973-1986)

Doug McIntosh, chief warehouseman (1986-1987)

Donald Lewis, chief geologist (1988-1989)

Gerald Wolfe, chief engineer (1989-1993)

Chris Thomas, chief engineer (1996-1997)

Dennis Gratton, chief engineer (1997-1999)

The house was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Giant House (#210)

MAP ID: B-22

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite, Lakeshore Road

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1953

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, one-1/2 storey, 26' x 34' plus 10' x 17' addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in 1953 for staff at the Giant Mine.

Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

William Smith, master mechanic (1953-1962)

Chet Wilkinson, chief electrician (1962-1973)

Jim & Eileen Walton, underground maintenance foreman (1974-1979)

Max & Denise Rivett, underground maintenance foreman and later master mechanic (1980-1989)

Boyd Timler, chief geologist (1990-1994)

Dan Rousseau, mine engineer (1994-1995)

Erik & Bonny Madsen, environmental superintendent (1995-1996)

Brian Penny, assistant mill superintendent (1997)

Murray Randall, electrical foreman (1998-1999)

The house was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books



Giant House (#216A/B)

MAP ID: B-23

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Prefabricated frame, 60' x 24' original, 16' x 11', 24' x 14', and 32' x 11' additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A prefabricated style of house (Loxstave), it was first built in 1945 as a men's staffhouse for Giant salaried employees. It held several double-rooms and a common lounge area. In 1949, it was renovated into a duplex residence for staff and their families. Some of the Giant Mine staff who have lived at this house include:

Suite A:

Jim & Jackie McKay, warehouse purchasing agent (1956-1985)

Lloyd Buckingham (1986-1988)

Sam Gibson, safety superintendent (1988-1989)

Donald Goodman, safety coordinator (1989-1991)

Dan Rousseau, mine engineer (1992-1994)

William Smith (1994-1995) Jim Helyer, chief electrician (1996-1998)

Suite B:

George & Elda Dundas, mine superintendent (1949-1967)

M.J. Lye, chief engineer (1967)

A.T. Rivett, personnel manager (1969)

Martin Quick, mine engineer (1970)

Ron Kapicki, surveyor (1970)

Roy Feather, safety supervisor (1971-1973)

Mike Ekins, fire chief (1973)

Chet Wilkinson, chief electrician (1974-1977)

Warner Durocher, warehouse (1980)

Colin & Gerri Hudson, personnel superintendent (1980-1987)

Robert Moore, mine shift boss (1987-1991)

George Coombs, Boart contractor (1995-1998)

The house was abandoned following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines in 1999.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books



Giant Guest House (#168)

MAP ID: B-24

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: None

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1958

CONSTRUCTION:

Pan-Abode log cabin, 24' x 50' on concrete foundation

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This cabin was built as an executive residential suite for guests at Giant Mine, in 1958, replacing an older log cabin on this site that served the same purpose. It housed special dignitaries during visits to Yellowknife or the mine operation itself, including Giant company presidents or executives. It was also used as temporary housing for mine employees or staff as required. Special dignitaries who have stayed here include the Governor-General Vanier in 1961 during his visit the Giant.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports

Giant House (#217) Mine Manager

MAP ID: B-25

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 42' x 32', 13' x 16', 10' x 18', and 10' x 21' sections (1942 square feet)



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A small portion of this house dates back to the late 1930s when it was a log cabin in use as a staffhouse during early exploration at Giant Mine. This section is the residence's kitchen area. In 1944, the building became an engineering office and was then renovated into a residence for the manager of the property in 1945. The building has had seven additions over the years. It became the regular house in which the mine manager of Giant Mine occupied. The only mine manager not to live here was Bill Moore (1975-1982), during which time Dave Emery as Giant managing director was living there. The house was the social center of not only the mine but Yellowknife. Mine managers often entertained local dignitaries, such as political visitors and RCMP chiefs. Staff would retreat to the house for parties on the weekends. Managers that lived in this house included:

Ken & Kay Muir (1945-1951)
Pete Pitcher (1951-1956)
Murray & Janet Pickard (1956-1963)
Don DeLaporte (1963-1968)
William & Joan Case (1968-1969)
Dave & Sisko Emery (1969-1984)
Ken Blower (1984-1987)
Steve McAlpine (1987-1990)
James Moore (1990)
Mike Werner (1991-1993)
Kevin Weston (1993-1994)
Bill Heath (1994-1995)
John Stard (1995-2004)

The house was abandoned with the departure of John Stard in 2004, who continued to act as mine manager with Miramar Mining following the bankruptcy of Royal Oak Mines.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
Various former Giant Mine staff and families
NWT Phone Books

Martin Bode Cabin

MAP ID: B-26

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Back Bay, towards Giant Mine (Lot 754, Group 964, Plan 146)

CURRENT OWNER: Christine Bayly

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1939 or 1940

CONSTRUCTION:

Log with frame additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Martin Bode was the first to establish a successful market garden in Yellowknife proving the possibilities for gardening in this part of the sub-arctic. It is said his first garden was established in the summer of 1939. First mention on record was a business license by Martin Bode to operate a 'truck garden' in June 1940. The location was described as 1.5 miles north of Yellowknife settlement near the Giant property. That first season, he grew a wide variety of vegetables, including: cucumbers, tomatoes, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, beets, turnips, potatoes, radishes, lettuce, parsley, peas, beans, onions, rhubarb, spinach, and swiss chard. After much speculation, it was learned that Bode's garden had indeed survived that first winters frost, and from then on business continued very successfully by Martin and his wife Alice. Other market gardens followed Bode including Denis O'Callaghan's on Frame Lake and Oliver's in Peace River Flats. Martin Bode signed a 21 year lease on the property on April 1, 1954 and acquired title in June 1954.

Bode was also a prospector and beginning in 1947 he was a partner and financial backer to Louis Garskie who developed a gold claim northeast of Yellowknife. Bode eventually sold out his share in the gold claims and focused on his market garden in 1957. Martin Bode died on July 14, 1961 after suffering a series of strokes, thus ending Yellowknife's original market garden operation. Subsequent owners of the property were Alix Heddon (July 1964), Ulysses Clifford Quesnell, prospector (1967 until his death in 1974), and John and Christine Bayly, lawyer (1975). John Bayly lived here until his death in February 2004. Bayly was a retired lawyer, and ran a dog-sled team and part of the property was a dog-pen area. The family put the property up for sale in 2016.

Certificates of Title (Lot 754, Group 964, Plan 146): Martin Bode, June 18, 1954 > Jack Emmanuel Bode, administrator of estate for Martin Bode, deceased, July 10, 1962 > Alix Hedden, July 15, 1964 > Ulysses Clifford Quesnell, December 5, 1967 > Patricia Flieger, administrator of estate for Ulysses Quesnell, deceased, February 6, 1975 > Christine Bayly, February 6, 1975 > Christine Bayly, January 28, 2003

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

The Northern Miner, October 10, 1940
The Yellowknife Blade, May 22, 1941
News of the North, July 20, 1961; September 18, 1974
AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles



Brock Shaft Headframe

MAP ID: B-27

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Giant Mine Townsite

CURRENT OWNER: NWT Mining Heritage Society (GNWT MACA land)

OCCUPANT: NWT Mining Heritage Society (GNWT MACA land)

CURRENT USE: Static heritage display

BUILT: 1939

CONSTRUCTION:

Log timber poles, steel rods

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This timber pole headframe was built in 1939 at Giant Mine during exploration of the Brock gold vein. The Brock shaft was an inclined opening 33 degrees west, sunk a length of 126 feet with a short tunnel driven at the 55-foot level. Underground work was conducted between April and August 1939 by a crew of up to 14 men. Quartz ores were mined and hoisted to the surface and cobbled (hand-picked) to recover the highest grade gold samples for shipment. In 1939 and 1940, two shipments totaling 121 tons were sent to Trail, British Columbia for treatment, containing 908 ounces of gold. All work at the property stopped in June 1940 due to war-time conditions. Giant Mine entered full gold production in 1948 using more attractive ore deposits on the property and the small Brock vein was not mined again until the 1980s. At that time, the old headframe over top of the Brock shaft was moved to preserve the historic structure next to the Main Office building at Giant Mine.

There it remained until being moved by Weatherby Trucking Limited to the Giant Mine boat launch parking lot display in May 2016 to preserve it for static display near the NWT Mining Heritage Society site. The Society plans to restore it and fix sections that are in poor shape.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

NWT Mining Heritage Society
“The Operational History of Mines in the NWT” 2009

Yellowknife Heritage Building Project

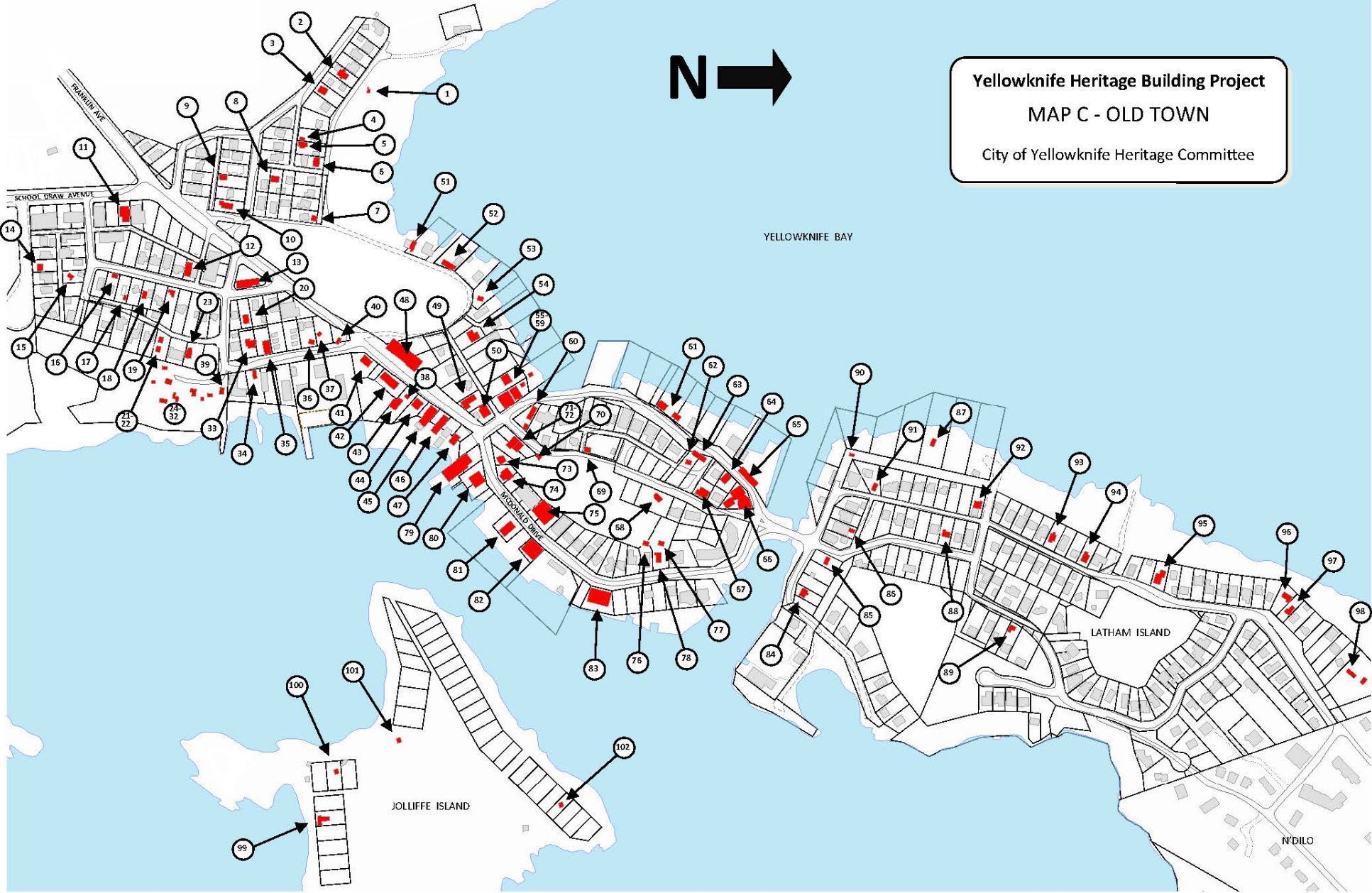
Part C – Old Town area



Yellowknife Heritage Building Project

MAP C - OLD TOWN

City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee



Shack (Stan Larouque)

MAP ID: C-1

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4709 Anderson-Thomson Blvd (unsurveyed land)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Stan Larouque

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s-1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

An old shack that was likely first built here in the 1950s or 1960s. Joe Powder and George McLaughlin were some of the early residents. Stan “The Man” Larouque was the last to call it home, purchasing the shack for \$600 in about 1996. Larouque died at the age of 95 in February 15, 2014. The building was demolished soon thereafter.



Demolished

NOTES:

Demolished in 2014 after the passing of Stan Larouque.

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NNSL February 21, 2014; April 17, 2014
The Globe and Mail, December 29, 2007
James Larouque

House

MAP ID: C-2

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4710 Anderson-Thomson Blvd (Lot 15, Block 13, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Aggie Brockman & Terry Woolf

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house originates on Latham Island (Lot 22, Block 6 – 31 Morrison Drive). Horst Pietsch bought the house at its original location in 1963 and built a 10' x 20' addition. Barb Bromley owned the property in the 1970s and rented the dwelling out to various tenants. Gerry & Maxine Avery lived here in 1971. The house was moved from its original location on Latham island in 1978 when the Bromley's built a larger house. Rick Burry of Braden-Burry Expediting moved it to its current location in Peace River Flats across Back Bay in the winter.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 6, Plan 68): Sam Otto (trapper), November 8, 1952 > Frederick Schwaiger (pipefitter), July 18, 1955 > John Arthur Wood (pilot), August 17, 1966 > Horst Pietsch (carpenter) & Edeltrud Pietsch, March 15, 1968 > Edeltrud Pietsch, August 8, 1969 > Barbara Muriel Bromley, June 25, 1971

Certificates of Title (Lot 22, Block 6, Plan 1240): effective August 16, 1978

Certificates of Title (Lot 15, Block 13, Plan 68): Rick Burry (pilot), August 12, 1977 > Richard Dale & Carmela McQuillan, November 16, 1981 > Aggie Brockman & Terry Woolf, September 26, 1984



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House (formerly Giant Staff Housing)

MAP ID: C-3

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4714 Anderson-Thomson Blvd (Lot 13, Block 13, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Steve Schwarz

OCCUPANT: Steve Schwarz

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 28' x 28'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Based on material evidence obtained by owner Steve Schwarz during renovations to the building many years ago, this is a prefabricated structure brought to Yellowknife in 1947 and consigned here on a barge owned by Northern Transportation Company Limited. It is timber framed, using wide-spaced 2x2 vertical studs on the interior of boxed 2x4 frames, and sheeted with shiplap. Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited had ordered a number of prefabricated homes in 1947, some from Norman Wells, where they had been used by Imperial Oil Limited during World War II exploration for oil in that area. It is likely this was one of those prefabricated homes.

The original location of this house is not clear as Giant Mine had erected a number of residences of similar design. They were located on 48th Street (Blocks 28 and 35) in the 1950s, but before that two of them were located on Block 62 on the corner of Matonabee and Franklin. As the original location is uncertain so are the early inhabitants but they were staff housing for people that worked at Giant Mine in the downtown core. The house was moved to its current location in the 1970s when Giant sold a few of their downtown properties.

Certificates of Title (Lot 13, Block 13, Plan 68): John Rocher, October 17, 1969 > Peter Beauchamp (truck driver), July 3, 1970 > Igloo Real Estate Limited, November 5, 1975 > Diane Abele Jones, October 14, 1976 > Paul Jones (pilot), February 14, 1979 > Eugene Anthony Florio, June 22, 1981 > Donald Desire-Tesar, August 15, 1985 > Clive Desire-Tesar & Catherine MacQuarrie, May 3, 1989 > Linda Zachariasson, May 28, 1996 > Miles Davis & Deborah Cooke, May 22, 1997 > Steve Schwarz & Michelle Culhane, December 17, 2002

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles
Steve Schwarz



Chippy's Cabin

MAP ID: C-4

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4720 Anderson-Thomson Blvd (Lot 10, Block 13, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Karen Gochnauer

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: c.1936 or 1937

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin, 13' x 25'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Colin 'Chippy' Loutit, wood cutter and prospector, built this log cabin in the early years of the Yellowknife settlement, possibly as early as 1936. The logs were floated down from the Yellowknife River. It was used as a residence for many years. Otto Berg had a lease on Lot 10, Block 13 until 1942. Robert Lee Hansell held a 5-year lease from August 1, 1945, assigned to Peter Kelmo in February 1946 and William Rossing in April 1946, and Rock Dubois, prospector, in January 1951. Dubois attained land title in July 1952. Joe Major, welder, held title for many years in the 1960s-1970s, followed by Otto Stabel painter, and Mitch Taylor, wildlife biologist who in 1986 moved the cabin to the rear of the lot to make room for a new house.

Some of the tenants of the cabin before it was moved included: Susie King, Joe Powder, Tom Klaine, Mr. McCrimmon, Winnie Kaptein (1970s), Joyce Thierry (1980-1981), Jude Lalanne (1981-1984), and Leslie Treseder (1984-1986) who was the last person to live in the cabin. Karen Gochnauer now uses it for storage and sealed the roof with tar in recent years.

Certificates of Title (Lot 10, Block 13, Plan 68): Rock Dubois, July 23, 1952 > Joan Banke, January 15, 1959 > Dean Rossmorn, January 15, 1959 > Julius Walter Major, September 29, 1959 > Otto Stabel, August 26, 1976 > Marku Pirjo Vanonen, September 8, 1978 > Wilhelmina Kaptein, October 31, 1980 > Mitch Taylor, April 11, 1986 > Marie-Claude Lebeau, August 12, 1996 > Karen Gochnauer, August 6, 2009

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles, AANDC Lands Office
Karen Gochnauer

House (formerly Peg Tantalum Warehouse)

MAP ID: C-5

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4722 – 38th Street (Lot 9, Block 13, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Andrew Jossa

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 20' x 40' original

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Peter Racine held the first lease on this property, five-years from June 1, 1945. Diversified Mining Interest Limited was assigned the lease in October 1945. Peg Tantalum Mines Limited used this building as a warehouse and town office during 1946-1947 with J.C. Finnan as field manager. It is possible that Peg Tantalum rented from or shared the premise with Diversified. The Diversified gold project, located 150 kilometers north of Yellowknife, changed hands many times and Indigo Consolidated Gold Mines Limited signed a new 21-year lease on this property in June 1950, eventually acquiring it in a land sale in May 1952. Keith Silvester, a pilot for these mining companies, was living here, but it appears to have primarily been used as an office and warehouse for field operations.

Susie King lived here in the 1970s, followed by Don Jossa until his death in 2008. Jossa & Associates Limited (architects) was listed at this address in the 1980s-1990s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 9, Block 13, Plan 68): Indigo Consolidated Gold Mines Limited, May 23, 1952 > Alaska Canadian Corporation, July 18, 1962 > Frenchy's Transport Limited, July 18, 1962 > Frenchy's Transport (NWT) Limited, May 4, 1970 > Frank C. Avery, May 5, 1975 > Stephen Iveson & Debbie Tatti, September 9, 1977 > Donald Jossa, May 27, 1983



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Phone Books
Kettlewells 1946 Photo Album from Yellowknife

House (Lois Little)

MAP ID: C-6

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4724 Anderson-Thomson Blvd (Lot 8, Block 13, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Lois Little

OCCUPANT: Lois Little

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1941

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The early history of this house is not clear. Susan Jackson disseminated information various people told her, and determined that it may have come from Negus Mine's village in the 1940s, and had been built by Lanky Muyres, miner, in about 1941. When the mine closed in 1952, Muyres moved the house to near its present location in Peace River Flats. It had been located in many spots in this neighborhood before being placed where it now sits. Hank Koenen, pilot, acquired Lot 8, Block 13 in March 1960 and applied for a permit to move a building to here from Latham Island (Lot 14, Block 6). The relationship to the current building is not clear. House was probably moved here after 1964, but before 1972. Owners of the property have included Merrill Muttart, teacher (1967), Jack Boyd, Giant Mine mechanical superintendent (1968), Frank Avery, businessman (1973), and since 1980, Lois Little.

Residents during the 1970s when it was being rented out included: Lee Christensen, Ross McKinnon, Mary Curtin, John Potts, and Stuart McLean.

The house was renovated in recent years and now has a large second-story addition on the north side that cuts through the original house.

Certificates of Title (Lot 8, Block 13, Plan 68): Henry Koenen, March 14, 1960 > Merril Edmund Muttart, October 18, 1967 > Jack Boyd, February 29, 1968 > Frank C. Avery, October 30, 1973 > Lois Little & Cynthia Chambers, July 31, 1980 > Lois Little, April 30, 1985

NOTES:

Visible in 1972 aerial photo at this location.



REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Lois Little, Trevor Teed

House (formerly Carl Jensen)

MAP ID: C-7

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4808 38th Street (Lot 1, Block 13, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Dave Jones

OCCUPANT: Dave Jones

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: c.1937

CONSTRUCTION:

Log, frame addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This old house began as a log cabin apparently in the late 1930s (c.1937). Early owners are unclear but it was thought that Carl F. Jensen, one-time owner of the Wildcat Café and a taxi driver and miner in the 1940s, had been the first to live here. However, government lease-hold records suggest Robert Earl Robertson held a 5-year lease beginning July 1, 1941 for this property, assigned to Jack Demore in June 1944 and renewed to June 30, 1951. Carl F. Jensen was assigned the lease in May 1950, and acquired the property in a land sale in January 1953. In 1958, Jensen built an addition. He died in May 1966 at the age of 72. John Rocher acquired the property from the estate of Jensen in 1967, followed by mechanic Henry Lupien and then Joe Major in 1973. The house was rented out to various tenants in the 1970s, including Walter Bijou and John Allan. Dave Jones acquired the property in 1980 and built the newer house on the same lot, and has used the older building for storage.

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block 13, Plan 68): Carl Jensen (miner) February 13, 1953 > Mark DeWeerd (administrator of estate for Carl Jensen, deceased) January 13, 1967 > John Rocher, March 29, 1967 > Henry Lupien (mine mechanic), October 8, 1968 > Julius Walter Major (welder) April 11, 1973 > Robert Leo Fitzgerald, September 19, 1975 > Dave Jones & Sandra Auchterlonie, July 15, 1985 > Dave Jones, April 11, 2000

NOTES:

In November 1960, the local newspaper advertised that Carl Jensen was selling a 4-room house in Peace River Flats, but this may have been an unrelated building.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 19, 1966
AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House (formerly Cominco Staff Housing)

MAP ID: C-8

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3812 Lois Lane (Lot 25, Block 13, Plan 1750)

CURRENT OWNER: David Miller

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The original location of this house is not clear as Cominco had built two residences of similar design in about 1952. They were located on 53rd Street (Lots 3 & 4, Block 41) in the 1950s. Cominco acquired these lots in a land sale in April 1952. The occupants are not clear but they were senior staff at the Con Mine in the 1950s-1970s. Dusty Miller bought the house in 1985 and moved it to its present location where he lived for many years, and now his son David Miller lived here.

Certificates of Title (Lot 25, Block 13, Plan 1750): Accommodations North Limited, March 22, 1985 > David Miller, May 9, 1986



NOTES:

Previously Lot 7, Block 13

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House (formerly Knutsen's Blacksmith Shop)

MAP ID: C-9

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4712 Hamilton Drive (Lot 3, Block 14, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Therese Maries Boullard

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 22' x 32'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Negus Mines Limited built this structure in 1947 as a new refinery, where the gold bars were poured at the mine. Negus closed in September 1952 and the assets were sold to Rayrock Mines Limited who were tasked with selling off the equipment and buildings. They used it for storage at the old mine for many years, until 1960 when it was sold to Andrew Knutsen, blacksmith, who was looking for a new shop. It was moved to its current location in Peace River Flats in that year, and continued to use it for his blacksmith, heating, autobody, and later sheet metal business. He operated the shop along with his brother George. Andrew Knutsen left Yellowknife in October 1974 and his business, "Knutsen Sheet Metal" was acquired by Reginald Lafleur, construction contractor, who retained the name. In 1980, Lafleur moved his operations to a new location in Old Town, and this property was advertised for sale, and soon sold to Johnny Rocher who used it as storage for many years. In 1992 to 1994, the building was extensively renovated by new owner Kevin Hodgins, and converted into a residential suite which it remains today.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 14, Plan 68): Andrew M. Knutsen, May 12, 1959 > Reginald Lafleur Construction Ltd., October 7, 1974 > John P. Rocher, October 3, 1980 > Kevin Hodgins & Dorothy Van Vliet, October 14, 1992 > Charles Laird & Bronwyn Henry, August 28, 1996 > Scott Duke & Yvonne MacNeill, March 19, 2003 > Phillip Jackson & Jessica Patterson, May 20, 2004 > Therese Maries Boullard, March 3, 2006



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, March 1, 1962; December 6, 1962; September 18, 1974
The Yellowknifer, August 9, 1979; September 10, 1980
GNWT Land Titles, AANDC Lands Office, City Files
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House (formerly Negus Mine)

MAP ID: C-10

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4716 Hamilton Drive (Lot 1, Block 14, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Robert Norton & Florence Gordon

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 24' x 28', plus back addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house was built at the Negus Mine campsite on the shore of Yellowknife Bay, south of Yellowknife, in the summer of 1947. It is understood that Ev Rudd, the mine superintendent at Negus, moved into this house upon its completion, staying here until he left Yellowknife in 1951. C.J. Coulson, mine geologist, may also have lived here at one point. The mine closed in September 1952.

In April 1953, the newspaper reported that the Ev Rudd house at Negus Mine had been purchased by the Northern Transportation Company (1947) Limited and it was to be moved downtown next to Del Curry's house (on 52nd Street). The house was moved in June 1953 to Lot 3, Block 33 (address 5006 – 52nd street), and was occupied by George Ingles, local manager for NTCL, for many years. Byers Transport Limited acquired the property from NTCL in 1964, followed by Pacific Western Airlines Limited in 1975, who used it for staff housing. William & Marion Jenkins were living at 5006 – 52nd street in 1977. Jenkins was terminal manager for Byers Transport at that time.

In 1985, the house was moved to its current location in Peace River Flats, Old Town.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 33, Plan 65): John Michelson (prospector), July 14, 1952 > Northern Transportation Company Limited, March 2, 1953 > Byers Transport Limited, April 2, 1964 > Pacific Western Airlines Limited, May 5, 1975 > RMC Resource Management Consultants NWT Limited, March 17, 1981 > Igloo Real Estate Limited, July 8, 1985

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block 14, Plan 68): Gerald Patrick Read, October 8, 1985 > John Williston, December 13, 1988 > Yvon Gionet, December 13, 1988 > 912973 NWT Limited, October 18, 1993 > Robert Norton & Florence Gordon, April 22, 1996

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, April 17, 1953; June 26, 1953
GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Yellowknifer City Directory 1977-1978
Frank Crozier, Bill Featherstone, Billy McCann



The Woodstove Shop (formerly Sutherland's Drugs and Rex Cafe)

MAP ID: C-11

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3919 School Draw Avenue (Lot 14, Block 76, Plan 72)

CURRENT OWNER: 6165 NWT Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Various tenants

CURRENT USE: Residential apartments (four suites)

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey. 42' x 20' original, with additions on south side.



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

“Sutherland’s Drug Store”, in business in Yellowknife since 1938, decided to expand its stores in the post-war period. In 1947, Sutherland’s built this structure to replace the original store which was moved to a downtown location. Location was on The Rock, above the Wildcat Café (Lot 24, Block 2). The new store opened October 1947 with Art Murphy as manager. It was a two-storey structure with storage and a three-room staff suite upstairs. Sutherland’s operated two stores in Yellowknife until January 1954, when the Old Town store was closed permanently and all business was carried out from the downtown location. This building was then rented out for residential apartments. In May 1956, the building was gutted by fire. At the time it was being occupied by Pacific Western Airline staff and family members. In early 1957, the building was hauled to Latham Island (Lot 11, Block 5), renovated, and reopened as Louis and Marie Lessard’s new “Rex Café” in July 1957. It was a popular place for Latham Island residents to hang out especially the native families who lived there. It also saw at least one big celebrity when Prime Minister Diefenbaker visited Yellowknife in July 1961. His itinerary included having coffee at the Rex Café in the company of Mayor Ted Horton and a group of native customers. The building was advertised for sale in 1962-1963. It is believed the Rex Café ran until 1963 when Marie Lessard passed away and Louis Lessard retired because of health issues. Rooms were advertised for rent in the suites upstairs during 1964. In October 1966, the Rex Café was reopened under new management – Ray Keating – serving dinner and light lunches but the revival – serving dinner and light lunches but the revival was short lived and the building was again for sale in 1967.

It was eventually acquired by Brian Laramee. It became a party house and the scene of many wild gambling parties. In February 1972, the building was raided by RCMP and 19 people charged for frequenting a gaming house, and Mr. Laramee was charged for keeping a gaming house and possessing liquor for re-sale. Then in April 1972, the building was again gutted by fire. Laramee planned to renovate the premise under orders of the fire marshal, and it appears he did so, but it again became a gambling haven and Laramee faced more liquor offences in 1972 and 1973. Meanwhile, Laramee asked for permission to operate a licensed tavern on Latham Island in the summer of 1973 which local residents spoke out against. He was unable to obtain a liquor license and the plans fell apart. During 1973, Laramee rented the building to “The Tree of Peace” as a location to hold native adult education classes. In August 1974 the building was sold to Jack Sigvaldson and Jack Adderley and moved to its present location on School Draw Avenue (Lot 14, Block 76), for use as a new office for “The Yellowknifer” newspaper. They built the addition on the south side and added the shack on the back in 1976. In July 1978, “The Yellowknifer” moved its offices and printing press to Kam Lake. The building has since held various commercial tenants including “Touchstone Gallery” (1980-1981), “The Woodstove Shop” (1981-1990), Qaivvik Ltd/Blachford Lake Lodge office (1982-1987), Mackay Lake Lodge and True North Safaris office (1990-2004), tattoo parlour (2005), and many residential tenants. Wayne Guy, current owner, completed foundation repairs and significant interior renovations in recent years.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 76, Plan 72): Northern News Services, March 6, 1975 > W.J.F Investments, January 31, 1979 > The Woodstove Shop, March 26, 1985 > 861969 NWT Ltd., April 14, 1986 > SaCho Development Ltd., November 30, 1989 > Wayne Guy, June 27, 2003 > 6165 NWT Ltd, January 18, 2010

NOTES:

The original 1938 Sutherland Drug store was moved downtown from its original lot facing Back Bay in 1948. In 1956, Sutherland Drugs built a larger modern store which still exists on the corner of 50th St and Franklin Avenue today. The original store, adjacent to the new one, was rented out to various businesses and was eventually sold to Jim McAvoy of Latham Island Airways and moved to Latham Island, in about 1968. The abundance of Sutherland stores and their movements around town has caused some confusion in the history books.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 10, 1947; January 3, 1954; May 11, 1956; November 16, 1956; July 4, 1957; July 20, 1961; August 29, 1963; November 3, 1966; February 24, 1972; April 6, 1972; July 13, 1972; December 28, 1972; August 15, 1973; November 21, 1973; February 6, 1974; June 12, 1974
The Yellowknifer, August 22, 1974, October 10, 1974; August 3, 1978

Warehouse (formerly Negus Mine)

MAP ID: C-12

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3908 Bryson Drive (Lot 4, Block 76, Plan 72)

CURRENT OWNER: Lisa Jean Lorenzen

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 24' x 56' two storey

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In October 1945, the original warehouse at the Negus gold mine, south of Yellowknife, was destroyed by fire, and this structure was built to replace it in the summer of 1946. It was used as heated storage for mine supplies until the closure of Negus in September of 1952. The surface lease at Negus Mine including this building was acquired by Cominco (owners of the adjacent Con Mine) in 1953, and they probably used it for storage. Cominco advertised several buildings for sale during 1969 including one that fits the description of this warehouse. It was sold to Albert Marceau and E.H. 'Red' Olsen of "Territorial Electric Limited" but it does not appear to have been moved off the Negus Mine site until 1971, when that company required new storage and shop space. It was moved to its present location in Willow Flats, Old Town. Barry Hickey of "Hickey's Plumbing and Heating" owned the building using it as warehouse and office space from 1974 to 1979. By the late 1980s, it had been converted into apartments and has undergone extensive renovations including new siding and roofing in 2010.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 76, Plan 72): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Albert Marceau (businessman) and Edward Olsen (engineer), April 19, 1973 > Michael Kachkowski (businessman) May 15, 1973 > Robert Edwin Jenkins (publisher), May 2, 1974 > Barrymore Hickey (plumber) June 3, 1974 > Igloo Real Estate Ltd, April 18, 1979 > Roderick Murphy, January 11, 1985 > Brian and Veronica Puskas, December 2, 1987 > Gabriel McDaniel, June 12, 2008 > Lisa Jean Lorenzen, October 28, 2010

NOTES:

Susan Jackson reported the date of the move to be 1974, but looking at aerial photos it was gone from Negus Mine and at its current location before 1972.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, April 3, 1974
Negus Mine files
GNWT Land Titles
Air Photo A22709-36 (1972)
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Warehouse (formerly Bartle & Gibson)

MAP ID: C-13

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3905 Franklin Avenue (Lots 1-2, Block 75, Plan 72)

CURRENT OWNER: John Rocher

OCCUPANT: NWT Brewing Company

CURRENT USE: bar and brewery

BUILT: 1968

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

“Bartle & Gibson” wholesale plumbing and heating supplies was first advertised for business in September 1968, with the opening of a new office and warehouse in Old Town. Richard Black was the local representative. It is unclear if Bartle & Gibson was located at this address this early. Wilbur Nelson, mechanic, was listed as owner in 1968, and the building was located on this lot as early as 1970. Capital Industrial Limited may have been located here around this time. Bartle & Gibson did not own title to this property until 1972. Property was listed for sale during 1976, but Bartle & Gibson retained ownership and continued to occupy this address until 1999 when they moved to its correct location on School Draw Avenue.

The building was completely renovated in 2014-2015 and opened as the NWT Brewing Company ‘Woodyard’ pub in October 2015. Local beer was finally made commercially available on December 31, 2015 in time for New Year’s celebrations. Fletcher and Miranda Stevens are the owners of the brew pub.

Certificates of Title (Lots 1-2, Block 75, Plan 72): Wilbur Ole Nelson (mechanic), June 14, 1968 > Richard James (businessman), November 23, 1971 > Great Slave Holdings Limited, November 23, 1971 > Bartle & Gibson Company Limited, January 17, 1972 > John Peter Rocher, December 10, 1999



NOTES:

Visible in 1970 air photos

REFERENCES:

News of the North, September 19, 1968; November 10, 1976
GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Gateway Aviation Barn)

MAP ID: C-14

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5206 Lundquist Road (Lot 14, Block 77, Plan 72)

CURRENT OWNER: Amanda Mallon

OCCUPANT: Amanda Mallon

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 32' x 40'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house was originally a warehouse built by Finnish carpenter Rolf Hellenius, on Lot 7, Block B on Macdonald Drive, in about 1946. The distinctive barn-shaped building was a landmark along Yellowknife Bay for many years. Bear Exploration and Radium leased the property (5-year lease signed November 1, 1947) and acquired title in a land sale in September 1953. The building sat empty for a number of years. At one time Al Oeming kept six baby muskoxen in the building for about a week in the 1960s until they could be transported to his game farm in Edmonton. The Department of National Defense also used the building for storage as they owned the adjacent lot. Gateway Aviation Limited who had their float base on Macdonald Drive used the warehouse as a shop and storage from 1964 to 1979 when Gateway was dissolved. Gateway used the building as a general warehouse for storing spare airplane parts, heaters, and sometimes hanging moose meat to dry. Employees also used the upper loft for personal storage. Base managers for Gateway were Neill Murphy, Ray Weber, Jean Buck, and Bob McLarnon in the 1970s. Turn-Air Limited (owner Fred Turner) then used the building as part of its float base operations which succeeded Gateway Aviation from 1979 to 1985. Turn-Air operated a Single Otter and a Cessna 185.

In 1985, the building was moved from its original location on Macdonald Drive to its current location on Lundquist Road. It was moved across Yellowknife Bay in the winter months. Sheila Hodgkinson acquired the building from Stephan Simek in exchange for three of her paintings. Hodgkinson renovated the warehouse into a residence and studio for her painting business. Amanda Mallon has lived here since 1993.

Certificates of Title (Lot 7, Block B, Plan 70): Yellowknife Bear Mines Limited, October 30, 1953 > John Anderson-Thomson, August 15, 1961 > Gateway Aviation Limited, August 4, 1966 > Turn Air Limited, December 5, 1979 > Ferguson, Simek, Clark Limited, September 12, 1983

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 77, Plan 72): Frank Ramsay, May 6, 1985 > Sheila Hodgkinson, May 10, 1985 > Amanda Mallon, July 19, 1993

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 14, 1979
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Phone Books
GNWT Land Titles
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Amanda Mallon, Fran Hurcomb, Ray Weber

House (formerly John Brand)

MAP ID: C-15

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5207 Brock Drive (Lot 8, Block 77, Plan 72)

CURRENT OWNER: Cynthia Upton

OCCUPANT: Peter Leask & Andrea Edmunds

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was probably built in the 1940s. John Brand was living here as early as 1948 and signed a 21-year lease on December 1, 1948, followed by a land sale through the City of Yellowknife in 1954. Ralph "Slim" Warren, a mill oiler at Giant Mine, was living here from 1967 until his death in 1969. John Rocher owned it briefly, and then Alex Jamieson, fisherman, acquired title in 1969. Jim Kearney, mechanic, owned it from 1975 to 1977, and then Greig Upton, carpenter, acquired title. Many people have rented the shack from Mr. Upton, including Chris Holloway (c.1977-1978), Alex Borowieksa, Mary & Jesse Evans, Dot & Kevin Hodgins, Agnes Billa, Line Gagnon, Meg McCluskey, Craig Yeo, and Peter Leask and Andrea Edmunds in recent years.

Certificates of Title (Lot 8, Block 77, Plan 72): John Brand, April 14, 1954 > Charles Vaydik, August 19, 1963 > Ralph Warren, March 6, 1967 > John Rocher, June 5, 1969 > Alex Jamieson, October 17, 1969 > Jim Kearney, September 10, 1975 > Richard Fader, May 17, 1977 > Greig Upton, May 17, 1977 > Cynthia Upton, June 19, 1987



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

City of Yellowknife tax sale documents
Peter Leask, Andrea Edmunds, Amanda Mallon, Fran Hurcomb
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles

Warehouse (formerly James Kelly)

MAP ID: C-16

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3919 Bryson Drive (Lot 11, Block 12, Plan 72)

CURRENT OWNER: Randy & Edna Mae Hiebert

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1938 or 1939

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This warehouse originated at the Negus gold mine south of Yellowknife, and was probably built in 1938 or 1939. A building of this size and design appears in photographs located adjacent to the original log cookshack at the mine's campsite on Yellowknife Bay. According to old mine plans, this was a tractor garage. It is reported that the building was moved off the Negus site in 1948, which corresponds to the building's disappearance in photos and mine plans after that date. It was moved to its present location and was used by James Kelly, diamond drilling contractor, for storage (5-year lease signed April 1, 1948), and is visible in a 1948 insurance map of Yellowknife and labeled as drill storage. Subsequent owners are listed below. A warehouse was advertised for sale on this lot in June 1962.

Certificates of Title (Lot 11, Block 12, Plan 72): City of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > James C. Kelly (diamond driller), November 3, 1958 > George Magrum (prospector), August 14, 1959 > Erdman Hiebert (heavy equipment operator), August 24, 1965 > Larry Henry Pontus, administrator for estate of Erdman Hiebert, January 26, 2005 > Edna Mae Hiebert & Randy Hiebert, January 26, 2005

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 7, 1962
City of Yellowknife tax sale documents
GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Negus Mine files and plans

Ragged Ass Road Shack

MAP ID: C-17

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3917 Bryson Road (Lot 12, Block 12, Plan 72) (faces Ragged Ass Road)

CURRENT OWNER: Bob and Maryanne Bromley

OCCUPANT: Bob and Maryanne Bromley

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This small house was built in the 1940s and was a residence for Jim and Margie Fitzpatrick from about 1945 to 1960, when they moved downtown. According to another source, land title to Lot 12, Block 12 was to Heidi Hoefler in December 1954. Hilda Noehring was living here in the 1960s-1970s. Other residents include Dave Morwood, and Jeannette Fish. It is also thought that Kendall Kidder, manager of the Yellowknife Telephone Company (c.1948) lived here at one point. Kendall was father to Margot Kidder, who later became a very famous Hollywood actor and played Lois Lane in Superman films.

The original house is facing Ragged Ass Road. The larger house facing Bryson Road was built in 1977 by Dave Morwood. The property has been owned by Bob Bromley since 1982 and he recently 'remodeled' the older home. According to neighbor Mike Byrne, Bromley actually dismantled the old house and built a new addition.

In 2012 Bob Bromley dismantled the house and rebuilt it, essentially destroying the original character.

Certificates of Title (Lot 12, Block 12, Plan 72): Heidi & Fritz Hoefler (cagetender) January 18, 1955 > Raymund Kamer (machinist) June 13, 1955 > Siegfried Noehring (timberman) May 21, 1957 > Ruby Young (bar attendant) November 6, 1964 > Hilda Noehring (clerk) November 6, 1964 > Roger Stephen Kimmerly (lawyer) March 11, 1976 > David Morwood (physician and surgeon) October 4, 1977 > Anne Cubitt (psychologist) and David Morwood, January 6, 1978 > Jeannette Fish and Mitchell Krupp, December 22, 1980 > Barb Bromley (health nurse), May 26, 1982 > Robert Graham Bromley (biologist) and Marianne Bromley, October 20, 1982

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Mike Byrne

House

MAP ID: C-18

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3909 Bryson Drive (Lot 21, Block 12, Plan 3688)

CURRENT OWNER: David Smith

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 16' x 28' plus addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This residence originated downtown at address 5011 – 48th Street (Lot 19, Block 28), probably built in the late 1940s. Not visible in the 1948 Insurance Map. Carl Calland held a five-year lease on its downtown location beginning August 1, 1946. Johnny Rocher moved the house from downtown to its current location in Willow Flats in about 1965. Subsequent owners/occupants of this house have been Frank Kelly, Stan Christensen, Katherine McKay, and David Smith.

Certificates of Title (Lot 16, Block 12, Plan 72): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > John Rocher, September 23, 1970 > Victor Sorochan (electrician), February 8, 1971 > Frank Patrick Kelly (electrician), June 22, 1973 > Andrie J. Gedye & Katherine McKay, June 5, 1979 > Katherine McKay, November 6, 1985 > Steve D. Monk, September 28, 1993 > David Smith, April 28, 1995

Certificates of Title (Lot 21, Block 12, Plan 3688): David Smith, January 17, 2002

NOTES:

Property was previously Lot 16, Block 12

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House

MAP ID: C-19

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3913 Bryson Drive (Lot 14, Block 12, Plan 72)

CURRENT OWNER:Carolynn Kobelka

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 18' x 34'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Auggie Wilson, a trammer at one of the local gold mines, built this house in 1945. It was originally located in the School Draw area. Wilson's wife continued to live here after his death, followed by Red Hodgson in the 1950s, and Chink McDonald, a cook. The house was sold to Lou Rocher in 1973 and moved from School Draw to its present location. It was subsequently remodeled and continues to be used as a residence.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 12, Plan 72): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Dorene Rocher, December 30, 1982 > Susie Leblanc, September 24, 1984 > Carolynn Kobelka, April 11, 1990



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly 'The Ottawa House')

MAP ID: C-20

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5011 Bryson Drive (Lot 21, Block 11, Plan 2201)

CURRENT OWNER: Danny Beaulieu and Susan Fleck

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 20' x 34' plus addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Built in the 1940s, possibly 1945, by Sam Hansen, a prospector and mechanic. Apparently the proceeds to build the house were earned from selling the gold claims that became the Beaulieu gold mine ('Norma' claim group sold to Beaulieu Yellowknife Mines Ltd. in 1945). Sam Hansen held lease title for five-years from Dec. 1, 1945. He left Yellowknife around 1950 and died in Regina in 1952. Johnny Bourassa, pilot, was assigned the lease in March 1950, and cancelled on June 3, 1955. The property may have reverted back to the Hansen family as Sam's son Jimmy K. Hansen was listed as owner in the 1960s. Other owners included Wilbert Nelson (1968), Norman Hill (1969), Ted Yaceyko (1970s), and Barb Britton (1977-1980s). In the mid 1970s, the house was being rented out to several tenants, including Fran Hurcomb, Dave Cox, P.K. Hamilton, and Ted & Ginnette Kidston. Many of the tenants were from Hull, Quebec where there was a seedy bar called "The Ottawa House", so the house also became known locally as "The Ottawa House".

Susan Fleck was owner of the property by 1992. The house has since been significantly remodeled.

Certificates of Title (Lot 10, Block 11, Plan 68): James Kenneth Hansen (mechanic), October 2, 1967 > Lanky Agencies Limited, February 15, 1968 > Wilbur O. Nelson (mechanic), February 26, 1968 > Norman K. Hill (bus manager), June 11, 1969 > Barbara Jean Darkes, February 17, 1977 > David Gordon Cox & Barb Jean Britton, March 18, 1981 > Barb Jean Britton, August 26, 1983 > Elizabeth Susan Fleck, November 26, 1992

Certificates of Title (Lot 21, Block 11, Plan 2201): Elizabeth Susan Fleck, October 26, 1993 > Elizabeth Susan Fleck & Danny Beaulieu, September 21, 2007



NOTES:

Originally Lot 10, Block 11

REFERENCES:

News of the North, January 23, 1952
GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Fran Hurcomb

Ragged Ass Road Shack

MAP ID: C-21

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3910 Ragged Ass Road (Lot 8, Block 201, Plan 3116)

CURRENT OWNER: Donna Marie Pitt

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This shack began life as a Cat Train caboose and was apparently located a short distance south on Lot 6, Block 12. Ernie Holstein, prospector, lived here for many years. Lease holders of Lot 6, Block 12 included Fred Reid (5-years from Sept. 1, 1945), A.W. Densmore assignment (Jan. 1946), Fred Reid assignment (May 1947), Thomas Scurfield assignment (November 1949), and Thomas Scurfield land sale (May 1952). Lou Rocher moved the shack to this location in 1969 or 1970, and has rented it out to various people. Some of the occupants have included Mark Rocher, Craig Yeo, Claire Holloway, and Raymonde Carpenter (1979). John and Patti Garbutt were residents here in the 1990s and operated 'Three Bears Furniture' shop from the premise.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 12, Plan 68): Merwin Wayne Malin (painter), January 20, 1969 > Dorene Rocher (student), May 31, 1973 > Mark Alvin Rocher, February 14, 1984 > Donna Marie Jacqueline Pitt, April 8, 1993

Certificates of Title (Lot 8, Block 201, Plan 3116): Donna Marie Jacqueline Pitt, March 19, 1998

NOTES:

Previously Lot 4, Block 12, Plan 68, re-surveyed as Plan 3116 in 1998

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Fran Hurcomb

Ragged Ass Road Shack

MAP ID: C-22

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3910 Ragged Ass Road (Lot 8, Block 201, Plan 3116)

CURRENT OWNER: Donna Marie Pitt

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

There are two parts to this shack with different origins. The rear, shore facing part originated at the Ptarmigan gold mine east of Yellowknife in the early 1940s, and was probably a staff residence. It was moved to this location by Ray Miron after the mine closed in 1942. The front, street facing section originated on Lot 26, Block 68 (corner of 45th Street and Franklin Avenue downtown). Lease holders of Lot 26, Block 68 included Marcel Mouelle 1-year lease (August 1, 1947), Marcel Mouelle 5-year lease (August 1, 1948), and Ruth Mouelle assignment (October 1950). The house was later owned by Jim Magrum and Bruce Weaver. In 1967, the house was moved to its present location and adjoined to Ray Miron's shack. The combined shack was owned by the Rocher family for many years and they rented the house out. John & Patti Garbut were living here in the 1990s while operating their furniture store which was located in the adjacent building on the same lot.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 12, Plan 68): Merwin Wayne Malin (painter), January 20, 1969 > Dorene Rocher (student), May 31, 1973 > Mark Alvin Rocher, February 14, 1984 > Donna Marie Jacqueline Pitt, April 8, 1993

Certificates of Title (Lot 8, Block 201, Plan 3116): Donna Marie Jacqueline Pitt, March 19, 1998



NOTES:

Property was previously Lot 4, Block 12, Plan 68. Don Sheck held a lease here in the 1940s.

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Fran Hurcomb

Old Bank of Commerce Staffhouse

MAP ID: C-23

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Ragged Ass Road (Lot 6, Block 201, Plan 3116)

CURRENT OWNER: Mark Rocher

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The building originated in Old Town facing the narrows of Jolliffe Island on Lot 19, Block 4, and opened as Syd Sherriff's general store in July 1946. In 1948, Sherriff moved the building to the new townsite on 50th street, opposite the Yellowknife Hotel. The Canadian Bank of Commerce acquired the building and began a part-time service in March 1948. Two years later in 1950, the Bank began full-time service in conjunction with its original Old Town branch, but in 1952 the Bank began construction of a permanent branch on the same lot downtown, closing the Old Town branch in February 1953 with the grand opening of its new branch. This building was then converted to a men's staffhouse located adjacent to the new bank on Lot 1, Block 31, facing Franklin Avenue. In 1961, the Imperial Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce were merged, becoming the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC). There the building remained as a men's staffhouse until 1972 when the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce expanded yet again with a modern branch on the same lot, and the staffhouse was acquired by Johnny Rocher who moved it to Willow Flats-Ragged Ass Road where it is today. It was used as a residence for some years but is now used as storage by the Rocher family.

NOTES:

The original Bank of Commerce was located in Old Town on Lot 3, Block 2 and was built in 1938. That bank remained a full-time service branch, in conjunction with the building in this inventory, until February 1953 when the permanent downtown location was completed and the Old Town branch closed permanently.

REFERENCES:

News of the North July 25, 1946; February 6, 1948; March 5, 1948; January 27, 1950; February 13, 1953; April 20, 1972
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Woodyard Shack (Greg Loftus)

MAP ID: C-24

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201)

CURRENT OWNER: Lou Rocher

OCCUPANT: Vacant

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This shack began life as a Cat Train caboose in the 1940s owned by Sheck Brothers Transport. It was then used as a residence during the operation of Einer Broten's Woodyard in the 1940s-1960s. Anton 'Snoose' Olsen was an original resident of the shack from about 1948-1967. The original shack has had many additions over the years. Residents have included Richard Cadieux, Barb Britton, Tim Turner, Frank Metclaffe, Carol Kobelka (c.1985), and Greg Loftus (since the 1990s).

Greg Loftus died in September 2016 and the shack was demolished shortly thereafter in October 2016.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985
Fran Hurcomb, Greg Loftus

Woodyard Shack (formerly Cliff Slugget)

MAP ID: C-25

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Mike Kachkowski ('Black Mike') either built this shack, or moved it in from another location (in 1960 or 1962). It is best known as the home of Cliff Slugget, more commonly known as 'Slugger', or as 'The Mayor of Old Town'. When Slugger first came to Yellowknife, he worked at Giant Mine underground, and later in the bush as a diamond driller helper and a camp cook. He worked with K.G. 'Curly' McDonald blasting rock for various projects in Yellowknife. He also cut wood in the Woodyard where he lived, and lost a thumb because of a circular saw accident. He was a kind man but liked to drink rum and on more than one occasion there were mysterious things happening from his Woodyard shack and a few fires attributed to drunk partying. The shack had no power and Slugger could often be seen through the window reading books by candlelight. He had a pig named Porkchop which was at first penned up, but eventually ran loose through the neighborhood with a pack of dogs.



NOTES:

Cliff Slugget told Susan Jackson the shack was built in 1960

REFERENCES:

The Yellowknifer, January 22, 1986

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985

Fran Hurcomb

Woodyard Shack (formerly Gunner Frederickson)

MAP ID: C-26

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This shack was originally a tent frame in the 1950s. Diamond driller John Larsen bought it from two sisters. Larsen then sold it to prospector Gunner Frederickson who lived here in the 1960s and enclosed the tent frame into a permanent structure. Michael Ahearn lived here for 20 years following Frederickson, and in 1985 John Alexander was resident. Other residents have included Chris and Claire Holloway.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Fran Hurcomb
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985

Woodyard Shack (Janna Graham)

MAP ID: C-27

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201, Plan 2396)

CURRENT OWNER: John Rocher

OCCUPANT: Janna Graham

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The original part of this shack was an ice fishing hut on Great Slave Lake. Harold Broadhead, a fisherman, may have been the original occupant while it was a fishing hut. A wood cutter named Nielson relocated the shack here. Other occupants have included Albert Gagnon, Andi Gedye (c.1985), Tim Shandruk (who built the log section), and Denise 'Frankie' Parker for the past many years. Alison McCreesh and Pat Tremblay were renting the shack from Parker in 2011-2012. Janna Graham has been a tenant since 2014.

There are porthole windows on the building, relic of the days when bootleggers operated from here and passed bottles of rum out the windows to customers.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Fran Hurcomb
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985

Woodyard Shack (Walter Brown)

MAP ID: C-28

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201)

CURRENT OWNER: Walter Brown

OCCUPANT: Walter Brown

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1970s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Dating from the 1970s, this building was formerly a warehouse and moved to the Woodyard in 1979. It was moved again to this spot from a short distance away in 1981. Matthew King and Fran Hurcomb lived here from 1981 to 1988. Walter Brown has been living here for a number of years and has made numerous improvements.

The white shed in front of the house with all the old signage, was the original porch from a residence at 5011 Bryson Drive, known as the Ottawa House, moved here when the house was renovated.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985
Fran Hurcomb

Woodyard Shack (formerly Walter Bird)

MAP ID: C-29

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Dating from the 1960s this shack was moved in from another unknown location, but has been home to Pete Pagonis who delivered water in the 1960s, and Walter Bird, a fisherman from the mid 1960s to the 1980s when he retired to Hay River. Mark Rocher has also lived here.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985

Fran Hurcomb

Woodyard Shack (Andrew Spalding)

MAP ID: C-30

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201)

CURRENT OWNER: Rochers

OCCUPANT: Andrew Spalding

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This was originally a Cat Train caboose or skid shack (6' x 18', two room) and has been added onto over the years. It was probably moved here in the 1960s. Residents have included Bob Poffenberger, Gord McLellan, Susie Edmunds, Fran Hurcomb (1977-1980), Scott Mitchell, Joannie Cooke, Raymonde Carpenter, and Bill Kearns. Andrew Spalding now lives here.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985
Fran Hurcomb

Woodyard Shack (formerly Chris Tronsen)

MAP ID: C-31

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201)

CURRENT OWNER: Rochers

OCCUPANT: Miranda Currie

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s-1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

An original Woodyard residence, Chris Tronsen built it in the late 1940s or early 1950s while employed at Einer Broten's Woodyard. Wilfred Smith and Barb Mackenzie, commercial fishers, lived here in the 1970s to 1990s, and sold fish in the front yard. They also grew very impressive gardens. Wilfred Smith came north in 1950/1951 and worked for many years as a commercial fisherman and diamond driller. He died in October 2001.

Miranda Currie has been living in this residence for the past few years.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985
Fran Hurcomb
The Yellowknifer, October 24, 2001

Woodyard Shack (formerly Jonas Johnson)

MAP ID: C-32

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Woodyard (Lot 3 REM, Block 201)

CURRENT OWNER: John Rocher

OCCUPANT: Ryan McCord

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s-1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This shack began life as a Cat Train caboose and has been added onto over the years. Some of the residents have included Scott Dickie, Bob Poffenberger, and Jonas Johnson, a fisherman and water delivery man in the 1970s-1980s. Ryan McCord now lives here and has done considerable upgrades.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
An Historical Evaluation of the Willow Flats-Woodyard, 1985
Fran Hurcomb

House (formerly Charlie Sanders)

MAP ID: C-33

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3814 Bretzlaff Drive (Lot 7, Block 11, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Sandra McDaniel

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 20' x 18' original, 16' x 6' side additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Charlie Sanders, fisherman, trapper, and tug boat operator, was a long time resident of this house, located originally on Jolliffe Island (Lot 8, Block 17) and moved later to its present situation in Willow Flats. Title to Lot 8, Block 17 was originally held by Karl Skrecek (Charlie Sanders birth name until it was changed in 1944) in the early 1940s. A 5-year renewal lease was signed by Charlie Sanders for Lot 8, Block 17 in February 1949. Sanders originally lived in a log cabin on this lot. Sometime in the 1940s (before 1947), this house was constructed. Slim Campbell may have helped built it. Lot 8 was sold to Sanders in a land sale on May 23, 1952. In the winter of 1952-1953, Charles and Mira Sanders (pregnant at the time) moved the family to the larger house from the original log cabin. Children of the Sanders family include Nancy, Xenia, Mira, and Roy.

Lot 7, Block 11 in Willow Flats was sold to Charlie Sanders in June 1958. In 1962, he moved the frame house from Jolliffe Island to Willow Flats. It is believed that he did not immediately live in this house and either remained on the Island or was staying in another residence in Old Town. It is said that he moved his family, wife Mira and three children, into this house in 1967. Charlie continued to operate a trap line in the Birch Lake area of the North Arm of Great Slave Lake into the 1970s, at which time he was in his 80s. He ran a small tug boat to haul freight on contract and in the 1960s-1970s he worked at Giant Mine as a carpenter. The house received some additions after it was moved from Jolliffe Island.

Raymonde and Bob Carpenter owned the house and property in Willow Flats after Sanders passed away in 1982.

Certificates of Title (Lot 7, Block 11, Plan 68): Charles Sanders, August 5, 1958 > Xenia Osetsky, administer of estate of Charles Sanders, deceased, June 10, 1982 > Mira Sanders, June 10, 1982 > Robert & Raymonde Carpenter, August 17, 1982 > Sandra Jean McDaniel, July 6, 2010

NOTES:

Visible in a 1947 aerial photograph of Jolliffe Island.



REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
News of the North Directory 1948
Fran Hurcomb, Mike Mitchell, Nancy Perry, Xenia Osetsky
The Yellowknifer, June 24, 1976

Warehouse

MAP ID: C-34

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3813 Bretzlaff Drive (Lot 14, Block 19, Plan 66)

CURRENT OWNER: Mary Rocher

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Warehouse

BUILT: 1940s original? 1960s front addition

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 14' x 36'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This warehouse shack has an unclear history but apparently was once located on Jolliffe Island on Charles Sanders property (vicinity of Lot 8, Block 17). In 1961 and 1962, Sanders applied to move a building from Jolliffe Island to the current lot which was at first denied but presumably authorized the second time. He also applied to construct a 15' x 20' addition to the structure which is probably the street-side plywood section. John Rocher acquired the property from Sanders in the 1970s. In 1984, Dave Fraser owned the building and pulled it to an island south of Jolliffe (Dog Island), but he did so without a moving permit and the City made him put it back.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Yellowknifer newspaper, May 2, 1984

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Old Woody's Barber

MAP ID: C-35

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3812 Bretzlaff Drive (Lot 6, Block 11, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Les Rocher

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1961

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Built in March 1961, the structure was an addition on the west side of "Elliot-Hayes Northern Limited", a general store in downtown Yellowknife. Original location was on Franklin Avenue, Lot 13, Block 24. It is believed to have been used primarily as storage space for Elliot-Hayes, with additional space for commercial tenants. The first tenants included: stockbrokers Bongard & Company Limited whose local agent was Earl Curry (1961); McKitrick, Farren & Co. accountants and Farren Insurance Services (1961–1962 only); and The Men's Style Shop, owned by Ann Warren (1961–1962 only). The longest tenant was "Woody Woodrow's Barber Shop", who moved here on December 15, 1962. Ted and Chris Hartley's "The Rock & Gem Shop", specializing in jewelry, collectible minerals and souvenirs, was located in the same building, next to Woody's Barber, from 1964 to 1968. Woody's Barber was the longest tenant, remaining here until the Bromley's decided to redevelop the lot in 1972.

Bromley & Son Limited acquired the property with the acquisition of Elliot-Hayes Northern Limited in January 1963. Other tenants of the combined structure included The Yellowknife Miners Co-operative Association store (1963-1964), Emile's Shoe Shop (1964), Eldonn's Jewelry (1967-1968), Crown Cleaners (1968-1972), Simpson-Sears (1969-1970), and "The Hobby House".

In October 1972, the building (1961 addition only, not the original) was moved to its current location in Willow Flats, Old Town, to make way for new commercial developments downtown (Graham Bromley building). Bromley & Son used the building for storage for many years and was eventually sold to Charlie Sanders who lived in the adjacent house (Lot 7, Block 11). When Sanders died in 1982, it was sold to Raymonde Carpenter in the estate sale. Les Rocher now owns the property.

NOTES:

Previously reported to have been constructed in 1958 as an addition to the Elliot-Hayes store, but new research reveals it was not constructed until 1961.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, March 9, 1961; April 27, 1961; May 4, 1961; Dec. 6, 1962; January 3, 1963; March 5, 1964; August 22, 1968; October 5, 1972
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Cabin

MAP ID: C-36

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3804 Bretzlaff Drive (Lot 15, Block 11, Plan 2201)

CURRENT OWNER: John Rocher

OCCUPANT: None

CURRENT USE: None

BUILT: c.1938-1939

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This log shack may have originally been used as a prostitution abode as this area of Willow flats was notoriously known for this type of activity. John Stakston, a carpenter, may have built it, or was an early owner. Land lease documents show that Danny Bagon held a 5-year lease on Lot 2, Block 11 beginning October 1, 1941, assigned to Stakston in January 1945. Stakston was living here for many years. In 1958, John and Mary Rocher bought the cabin from Stakston and this was their first family home.

The cabin was rented out to a number of commercial businesses in the 1980s, including “Precision Sound” (1983-1986), and “Gold Rush Manufacturing” (1987-1991).

Renovations were begun in 2010 to replace foundation logs, but the cabin remains jacked up and awaiting new logs. Rick Muyres was to help with repairs using logs recovered from the Wildcat Café renovations.

NOTES:

Property was originally Lot 2, Block 11

Cabin must have been oriented differently on this lot originally, as photos and the 1948 Insurance Map do not match the current structure.

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Phone Books

Dutchy's Shack

MAP ID: C-37

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3609 Franklin Avenue (Lot 6, Block 9, Plan 591)

CURRENT OWNER: John Rocher

OCCUPANT: None

CURRENT USE: None

BUILT: 1947 or 1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 16' x 16'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building originated on Lot 22, Block 83 (corner of Franklin Avenue and 47th Street downtown) and was a part of Emile 'Dutch' Enzenauer's garage business, which operated from 1947 to 1949 when Dutchy moved to Hay River. It is not clear what purpose this structure had in the business – a structure appears to be attached to the rear of the main garage in the 1948 Insurance Map.

Jack Glick has acquired the property by 1953 and operated a Second Hand Shop out of Dutchy's old garage from 1953 to 1958. Again, it is not clear if this building served any purpose in that business. John Rocher later acquired the building and moved it to 3804 Bretzlaff Drive (Lot 15, Block 11, Plan 2201) for use as a shed and workshop.

The asbestos was removed from the building in August 2017 and soon thereafter the building was moved to a new location, onto the former Johnson's Lumber yard on Franklin Avenue where the Rocher family may intend on preserving and fixing it up for another use.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, January 31, 1947; October 28, 1949
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Phone Books
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

Cabin

MAP ID: C-38

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3609 Franklin Avenue (Lot 6, Block 9, Plan 591)

CURRENT OWNER: John Rocher

OCCUPANT: None

CURRENT USE: None

BUILT: c.1938

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The early history of this log cabin is unclear. It originated at the rear of Lot 18, Block 11 on Bretzlaff Drive and probably dates to at least 1938. It has been rumoured that this cabin, located in the area of Willow Flats reputed as the Red Light District in 1938-1939, had been used by prostitutes, but there is no direct proof of this. A diamond drilling company may have been early occupants but the proper name of the company is unclear (see **Notes**). Diamond driller Jim Kelly may have also used it in the 1940s, followed by Don McDonnell who operated “Mac’s Bakery” on an adjacent lot and used this cabin to store flour.

Lot 18, Block 11 was originally Lot 5, Block 11. Alfred Feldman held a five-year lease on that property starting June 1, 1945, which was assigned to Jelmur Lund in January 1946. Norman Lund was assigned the lease in April 1948 and acquired title in October 1952. Norm Lund operated “Northern Laundry” from 1946 into the 1950s and used the cabin at the rear of the lot for wood storage which fed the boilers.

The old cabin was used for storage by many subsequent owners and in 2005 the lot was redeveloped by the Rocher family. The building was re-braced in preparation for movement, which took place in September 2009 when the shack was moved to Franklin Avenue (Lot 15, Block 11, Plan 2201) and renovated in the summer of 2010. During a Ramble and Ride event in August 2014, the log cabin was being used to view movies.

In August 2017, the log cabin was moved once again onto the Johnson’s Lumber Yard property (Lot 6, Block 9, Plan 591) so that the Rochers could redevelop Lot 15, Block 11. Its intended use there is unknown at this time. The Rochers have not been able to find a suitable use for the old cabin and it sits vacant today.

NOTES:

Susan Jackson reported that John Larsen said a diamond drilling company called Smitzen Traveller Diamond Drilling Co. used the building in the 1930s, but there is no record of such a company operating in Yellowknife. Jackson admitted that she may have misunderstood Larsen’s heavy accent.

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Warehouse/Garage

MAP ID: C-39

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: The Woodyard (Lot 3, Block 201, Plan 2396)

CURRENT OWNER: John Rocher

OCCUPANT: None

CURRENT USE: None

BUILT: 1940s?

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This warehouse shack has an unclear origin, but was located in Willow Flats on Lot 14, Block 19 (3811 Bretzlaff Drive facing the waterfront). The building was moved around a few times in that area. Johnny Rocher acquired the building from either Alex Loutitt or Charlie Gellineau. In 2009, the warehouse was moved to Franklin Avenue (Lot 15, Block 11, Plan 2201) and the roof was re-shingled with plans for a new use. But it has never been occupied except as a static old building.

In August 2017, the building was again moved to make way for new development, to the northern end of The Woodyard (Lot 3, Block 201, Plan 2396) next to Les Rocher's trailer.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Panabode Cabin

MAP ID: C-40

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Franklin Avenue (Lot 15, Block 11, Plan 2201)

CURRENT OWNER: John Rocher

OCCUPANT: Dennis Hudson

CURRENT USE: Residential and Commercial

BUILT: unknown

CONSTRUCTION:

Panabode cabin

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This prefabricated panabode style cabin was erected here after 1966 but before 1972. The history is generally unknown, but it has had many occupants over the years – renting from the Rocher family. Dennis Hudson currently lives here while operating a sculpting business.



NOTES:

Previously Lot 1, Block 11

REFERENCES:

Old News of the North

MAP ID: C-41

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3615 Franklin Ave. (Lot 9, Block 19, Plan 591)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 30' x 45' two-storey, on timber cribs



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The building was constructed in the summer and fall of 1945 as the offices for “Rolf Hellenius & Sons Ltd.” construction contractors, and Duke Decoursey’s “News of the North” newspaper and publishers as an office and printing plant. Rolf Hellenius built the structure. “Great Slave Wood Products” took over the Hellenius business in 1947. A series of delays in being able to acquire the necessary lumber meant that the building was not actually open for business until November 1945, when ads appeared to promote News of the North’s commercial printing facilities in Yellowknife. In April 1946, the plant installed typesetting and printing machinery to enable printing the newspaper in Yellowknife, expanding the publication from six to eight pages (previously, the newspaper was printed in Stoney Plain, Alberta). George Saunders was the first linotype operator.

News of the North installed a cylinder printing press in October 1946 and formed a new spin-off business began called “Northland Printers” in 1948. Other early subtenants of the building included “Charm Beauty Shoppe” (1948), “Henry Busse Photo Studio” (Feb. 1948-Sept. 1953), and “W.B. Ritch & Associates” accountants (1946).

Rolf Hellenius acquired a five-year lease on this lot on April 1, 1946, which was assigned to News of the North on December 9, 1947. News of the North was the longest tenant and had taken over the entire building by 1953. Duke DeCoursey was the original editor of News of the North followed by Ted Horton in May 1949. Under Horton, the newspaper moved to a new premise downtown in August 1953 and ultimately into a larger centralized location on 50th street in September 1957. The Old Town property then reverted to the City of Yellowknife.

In August 1959, the city advertised the building for sale by tender. Oscar Johnson, owner of Johnson’s Building Supplies next door, made a successful bid for the structure and renovated it into storage knocking out all the interior room partitions. The structure was realigned on the lot to parallel Franklin Avenue as it had previously been angled and interfered with plans to widen and straighten the street. Johnson’s continued to use it for storage until they went out of business in 2009. Les Rocher of Homes North Ltd acquired the Johnson properties and have completed repairs to the sinking foundation of this structure and installed new metal siding in 2010. They continue to use the building for storage.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 17, 1945; December 1, 1945; April 30, 1946; October 25, 1946; October 3, 1947; February 20, 1948; June 18, 1948; August 6, 1948; August 20, 1953; September 11, 1953; September 5, 1957; August 20, 1959; September 10, 1959
GNWT Land Titles; Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Johnson's Building Supplies (Shop)

MAP ID: C-42

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3611 Franklin Avenue (Lot 6, Block 19, Plan 591)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1954

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This structure was completed in 1954 as a new warehouse and shop for Oscar Ivor Johnson's construction business. A 14' x32' addition was made to the structure in 1961. Johnson originally focused on construction contracting. In 1968, Johnson decided to retire from the contractors business and opened a retail hardware and lumber business called "O.I. Johnson's Building Supplies". This building served briefly as a storefront until the Quonset Hut was completed across the street in November 1968. From that date on, this building was again used as shop and storage space. It was also used for woodworking, cabinet making, and glass workshop.

Ivor Johnson sold his shares of the business to Karl Lust and Doug Finlayson in May 1971. Eventually Karl Lust became majority owner of the business and it continued under his management until his death in 2002. His daughter, Sandra Gellenbeck, took over the business but it struggled, especially after Gellenbeck was arrested on drug trafficking charges in 2005. By June 2007, the property owed City taxes to the amount of \$1.1 million but the debt was paid off by associate Wallace Finlayson. Johnson's Building Supplies continued to operate only briefly after that and the company was reported bankrupt by 2009.

Les Rocher acquired the Johnson properties in Old Town in 2010 and uses the building for storage. It was repaired and resided with metal siding in 2010.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 14, 1968; November 28, 1968; December 3, 1970; June 3, 1971
Northern News Services Ltd., June 29, 2007
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Johnson's Building Supplies (Shed)

MAP ID: C-43

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3611 Franklin Avenue (Lots 5-6, Block 19, Plan 591)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1961

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This structure was completed in 1961 as a new warehouse space for Oscar Ivor Johnson's construction business. Johnson originally focused on construction contracting. In 1968, Johnson decided to retire from the contractors business and opened a retail hardware and lumber business called "O.I. Johnson's Building Supplies". Ivor Johnson sold his shares of the business to Karl Lust and Doug Finlayson in May 1971. Eventually Karl Lust became majority owner of the business and it continued under his management until his death in 2002. His daughter, Sandra Gellenbeck, took over the business but it struggled, especially after Gellenbeck was arrested on drug trafficking charges in 2005. By June 2007, the property owed City taxes to the amount of \$1.1 million but the debt was paid off by associate Wallace Finlayson. Johnson's Building Supplies continued to operate only briefly after that and the company was reported bankrupt by 2009.

Les Rocher acquired the Johnson properties in Old Town in 2010 and uses the buildings for storage.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 14, 1968; November 28, 1968; June 3, 1971
Northern News Services Ltd., June 29, 2007
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Johnson's Building Supplies (Shop)

MAP ID: C-44

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3609 Franklin Avenue (Lot 4, Block 19, Plan 591)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This structure was built by Oscar Ivor Johnson in 1945 and was the first shop and office for his construction business. In 1968, Johnson decided to retire from the contractors business and opened a retail hardware and lumber business called "O.I. Johnson's Building Supplies". Ivor Johnson sold his shares of the business to Karl Lust and Doug Finlayson in May 1971. Eventually Karl Lust became majority owner of the business and it continued under his management until his death in 2002. His daughter, Sandra Gellenbeck, took over the business but it struggled, especially after Gellenbeck was arrested on drug trafficking charges in 2005. By June 2007, the property owed City taxes to the amount of \$1.1 million but the debt was paid off by associate Wallace Finlayson. Johnson's Building Supplies continued to operate only briefly after that and the company was reported bankrupt by 2009.

Les Rocher acquired the Johnson properties in Old Town in 2010 and uses the building for storage. It was repaired and resided with metal siding in 2010.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 14, 1968; November 28, 1968; June 3, 1971
Northern News Services Ltd., June 29, 2007
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Warehouse (formerly Discovery Mines Limited)

MAP ID: C-45

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3607 Franklin Avenue (Lot 4, Block 19, Plan 66)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1953

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The origin of these adjoined metal buildings are not clear. It is clearly two adjoining buildings which may have been moved here from another location.

Norman W. Byrne held original lease title on this lot for five-years beginning September 1, 1945. There were originally two or three structures here; a house located on the street front, miscellaneous sheds, and a long, frame warehouse at the back of the lot on the waterfront. Byrne rented the property as Yellowknife warehouse space to Discovery Mines Ltd for many years, and the company was assigned the lease title on February 15, 1951. The current steel structures appear to have been erected here in the 1950s, probably in 1953, when Discovery announced plans to erect new warehousing in the area of its storage yard (which stretched along the waterfront behind the Johnson's buildings). The original frame warehouse remained on the waterfront back of the lot but was later moved up the winter road to Discovery mine site in the 1960s, cut into two sections and remodeled into new uses.

"Johnson's Building Supplies Ltd." acquired the property in 1980 and used this building for warehouse space until bankruptcy in 2009, and is now owned by Les Rocher of Homes North Ltd.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 19, Plan 66): Discovery Yellowknife Mines Ltd., July 17, 1952 > Mackenzie Management Ltd., July 15, 1976 > Johnson's Building Supplies Ltd., September 3, 1980 > Sutherlands Drugs Ltd., October 20, 2009 > Homes North Ltd., October 30, 2009



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 13, 1953
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
AANDC Land Office
GNWT Land Titles

Warehouse (formerly Boyles Brothers Diamond Drilling)

MAP ID: C-46

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3605 Franklin Avenue (Lot 3, Block 19, Plan 66)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Ltd.

OCCUPANT: vacant

CURRENT USE: Commercial, for rent

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The origin of these adjoined metal buildings are not clear. It is clearly two adjoining buildings. It is said that the front part was built on this location, while the back part was moved in from the airport around 1956 by Curry Construction.

Boyles Brothers Diamond Drilling Co. held original lease title on this lot for five-years beginning September 1, 1945. They used the warehouses for storage into the 1970s by which time the company had been taken over by Inspiration Drilling Co. Ltd. (a division of Dresser Industrial Products) and then Connors Drilling Ltd. (a division of Bow Valley Industries) in 1974. Connors Drilling was listed at this address in the 1983 phone book.

The building was later acquired by Les Rocher and has been rented out to numerous businesses, including "Pier 1 Marine" (1996-c.1999), "Sail North" yacht club (1995-2005), and North Star Engine Repair. The metal building has been resided with split logs to make it more aesthetic. Interior and exterior renovations were conducted in the summer of 2012 and the building is currently for rent.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 19, Plan 66): Boyles Brothers Drilling (Alberta) Ltd., June 26, 1953 > Dresser Industrial Products Ltd., July 5, 1974 > Bow Valley Industries Ltd., August 21, 1974 > 109530 Canada Ltd., February 22, 1983 > John P. Rocher, November 10, 1989



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
AANDC Land Office
GNWT Land Titles
Dave Lovell

Old Ptarmigan Mine Warehouse

MAP ID: C-47

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3510 McDonald Drive (Lot 1, Block 19, Plan 66)

CURRENT OWNER: Nadji Holdings Ltd

OCCUPANT: Nadji Architects

CURRENT USE: Residential & Commercial

BUILT: 1938

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This structure was built at the Ptarmigan gold mine by Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. of Canada Limited, in about 1938, as a heated warehouse for its project 15 kilometers east of Yellowknife. The Ptarmigan Mine produced gold during 1941 and 1942 before closing due to economic conditions attributed to World War II. The mine remained on care and maintenance for many years with a caretaker living on the property. In 1969, Consolidated Mining (Cominco) decided to dismantle and sell off the assets of the old mine site. A warehouse was advertised for sale at the mine in December 1969 by contacting Sven Lund, a local contractor who had acquired many of the assets for resale.

Frame & Perkins arranged to have the building moved into Yellowknife for use as storage. Ken Miller and Gord Piro moved the structure down the road and across Yellowknife Bay over the ice to its current location in Old Town. Ken Miller was Fred Henne's brother in law (general manager of Frame & Perkins). Frame & Perkins used the warehouse to store outboard boat motors and other gear. Fred Henne also had a boat house on the adjacent waterfront lot.

Pete Baker may have also used the building at one point. It was used by George Pieper and Wayne Gzowski of "Arctic Divers Ltd." in the 1980s. Arctic Divers was formed by the two men in 1970 and they had many interesting diving contracts including salvaging in 1974 silver concentrate that went through an ice road on Hottah Lake, artifact recovery from the Arctic Ocean, deep wharf construction, and tailings pipeline maintenance at the high arctic Polaris Mine in the 1980s.

For the past few years it has been rented out to commercial and residential tenants. It was given a new (green) paint job in 2005.

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block 19, Plan 66): Frame & Perkins Ltd, September 21, 1973 > Fred W. Henne, December 19, 1977 > George Pieper, September 3, 1980 > Todd & Denise Burlingame, October 22, 1998 > Wayne Guy, November 25, 2004 > DBW Investments Ltd, June 1, 2007 > Nadji Holdings Ltd, November 17, 2009

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 11, 1969; December 19, 1973; April 10, 1974; May 8, 1974
City Files; GNWT Land Titles
Gord Piro, Vic Waugh, Cam Foreman, Greg Loftus



Johnson's Building Supplies (Quonset Store)

MAP ID: C-48

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3611 Franklin Avenue (Lots 5-6, Block 1, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Homes North Ltd.

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1968

CONSTRUCTION:

Laminated wood Quonset hut



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This structure was completed in November 1968 as a new warehouse and store front for "O.I. Johnson's Building Supplies", operated by Oscar Ivor Johnson and his son North Johnson. Grand opening event was held on November 22 to 23, 1968. Johnson was a major construction contractor in Yellowknife and the completion of this structure was his foray into expanded hardware retail for the community, and the winding down of his construction business. The new store provided for 11,000 square feet of storage, shop, and retail space. The structure is an arched hut design built of laminated wood ribs covered with plywood and sheet metal. A large office was located above the store area. The store included sections for paints, wall paper, flooring, and builders hardware. Johnson's was the local agent for Benjamin-Moore paints, Inland Cement products, and Stanley Tools.

Ivor Johnson sold his shares of the business to Karl Lust and Doug Finlayson in May 1971. Eventually Karl Lust became majority owner of the business and it continued under his management until his death in 2002. His daughter, Sandra Gellenbeck, took over the business but it struggled, especially after Gellenbeck was arrested on drug trafficking charges in 2005. By June 2007, the property owed City taxes to the amount of \$1.1 million but the debt was paid off by associate Wallace Finlayson. Johnson's Building Supplies continued to operate only briefly after that and the company was reported bankrupt by 2009.

Les Rocher acquired the Johnson properties in Old Town in 2010 and uses the buildings for storage.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 14, 1968; November 28, 1968; June 3, 1971
Northern News Services Ltd., June 29, 2007

Boyles Brothers Diamond Drilling Shop

MAP ID: C-49

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3604 Franklin Road (Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Jean Rocher

OCCUPANT: Danny Hudson and Laura Love

CURRENT USE: Commercial and Residential

BUILT: c.1940s (see notes)

CONSTRUCTION:

Prefabricated frame (Loxtave), L-shaped building, two 24' x 40' sections attached



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Boyles Brothers Diamond Drilling Company Limited held major drilling contracts in the Yellowknife area beginning in the spring of 1944, when it began exploration at the Giant Mine claims. Giant was Boyles' longest and most important contract, arranged without the signing of any documents and based only on a hand shake between company officials in 1944. It is unclear if Boyles built this structure or acquired it, nor exactly when. Camlaren Mines Limited (a subsidiary of Mining Corporation of Canada) held the original title with a 5-year lease effective August 1, 1938. Boyles Brothers Drilling was assigned the lease on January 15, 1941. See **Notes** for a discussion on the buildings early history.

The building was Boyles' main base of operations, serving as a town office and shop facility for repairing its drill equipment, with a full compliment of lathes, bit sharpeners, and required tools. It was the only heated garage in the Old Town for many years and the local RCMP detachment, which at that time was located down the road on McDonald Drive, parked their Willy's Jeep here in the cold winter months. Boyles Brothers local managers including D. MacEwan (c.1944), Mel Ashley (1946-1949), Louis Swiggum (1950-1951), Charles Tremblay (1952-1956), R.L. Robertson (1956-1960), and Russ Lovell (1960-1969). Inspiration Drilling Ltd. acquired Boyles Brothers in 1968, and local manager in the early 1970s was Paul Kaczan. Inspiration (a division of Dresser Industrial Products Ltd) continued important contracts with Giant and Con Mines in the 1970s. In 1972, Inspiration crews celebrated the completion of three million feet of core at Giant Mine. There is a water well drilled below the building from where all the water used in the shop was pumped. Inspiration was acquired by Connor's Drilling Ltd. in 1974 (a division of Bow Valley Industries) and Connors was still using the building in the early 1980s. Roger Zarudski and Gord Piro acquired the property in 1983 and used it for storage. Unico Contractors Limited were renting it in the late 1980s. In 2003, it was acquired by the Rocher family. The City wanted it torn down because it was an eyesore, but Les Rocher began foundation and interior renovations in the summer of 2011, reopening in the spring of 2012 with Danny Hudson and Laura Love as tenants. They live in the renovated front section and operate an art studio and gallery. The rear shop section remains unfinished.

Certificates of Title (Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 68): Boyles Brothers Drilling, February 19, 1953 > Dresser Industrial Products Ltd, July 5, 1974 > Bow Valley Industries Ltd, August 21, 1974 > 109530 Canada Ltd, February 22, 1983 > Gord Piro & Roger Zarudski, December 1, 1983 > Leslie & Jean Rocher, February 12, 2003

NOTES:

It has been suggested that the building was erected in the late 1930s and served as a recreation hall and bunkhouse for Mining Corporation of Canada, and then briefly (in 1939-1940) as a temporary school house. While that schoolhouse had indeed been located on this lot, this is very probably not the same structure and was erected later.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, July 24, 1974
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Dave Lovell, Robert Carroll, Danny Hudson

Rocher's Old Second Hand Store

MAP ID: C-50

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3602 Weaver Drive (Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: John P. Rocher

OCCUPANT: storage

CURRENT USE: storage

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 40' x 20' original, 40' x 16' side addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The structure is understood to have been built in 1945 and was originally a warehouse for A.S. Hodgson's store across the street. Hodgson was assigned the lease (originally held by Camlaren Mines Limited) in April 1946, renewed with a 21-year lease in November 1948. It began as a canvas-roofed structure and was soon after finished with a frame roof.

Paul Jacob operated a machine shop from this location from 1946 to 1948. Jacob's was the local Ford, Monarch, and Lincoln dealer at that time. In March 1948, F.B. Knibbs took over the garage and called it "Knibbs Motors". Hodgson was again using the building for storage in the 1950s and in 1959 the business was purchased by Weaver & Devore Trading, including this property. Weaver also used the building for storage and then in 1975 Johnny Rocher, who had operated a second hand store in an adjacent building since 1965, renovated this into an expanded second hand store which was only open on Saturday afternoons. "The Second Hand Swap Shop" next to Weaver & Devore was advertised under new management during 1980. Bill Coleman later ran the store for Rocher in the 1980s. The Rocher family have continued to use the building for storage in recent years.

"Yellowknife Refrigeration" (later "North Star Refrigeration and Appliance Services Limited") was located in the left portion of the building from 1976-1978.

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 68): A.S. Hodgson Limited, November 20, 1953 > John Rocher, October 9, 1975

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, March 12, 1948, March 23, 1972; May 19, 1976; April 20, 1977
The Yellowknifer, April 9, 1980
City files; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Phone Books



Buffalo Airways Float Base

MAP ID: C-51

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3630 McAvoy Road (Lot 1, Block F, Plan 70)

CURRENT OWNER: Wilson C. McBryan

OCCUPANT: Buffalo Airways Ltd.

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: ?

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel prefab

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Unknown history. Previously thought to have been Pepsi Cola building (see A-3) as reported in the Heritage Building Inventory for 1986, but now believed to have come from the Airport. In 1984, it was moved to its current location on Back Bay, Old Town, and has been used as storage since that time. Buffalo Airways Limited uses the building as part of its Back Bay float base operations.

Certificates of Titles (Lot 1, Block F, Plan 70): Bear Creek Hills Estates Ltd, August 13, 1985 > Wilson C. McBryan, October 30, 1989



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles
Joe McBryan, Gord Piro

Warehouse (formerly Salmita Mines)

MAP ID: C-52

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3626 McAvoy Road (Lot 7, Block E, Plan 70)

CURRENT OWNER: Roderick & Sasha McBryan

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE:

BUILT: 1948 or earlier

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Steel warehouse used by Salmita Northwest Mines Limited – a company with a gold project at Courageous Lake, about 170 kilometers northeast of Yellowknife – beginning in about 1948. It may have originally been located on Lot 6, Block 7 as it is visible at that location in the 1948 insurance map for Yellowknife (Salmita owned both Lots 6 and 7 during this time). Salmita Northwest Mines Limited acquired a 5-year lease on this property on April 1, 1948, being assigned to Salmita Consolidated Mines Limited in November 1950. The company acquired the property in a land sale in June 1952. They used it as their Yellowknife sea-plane wharf, offices, and warehouse. Salmita ceased field operations during 1953, but its successor company, Mack Lake Mining Corporation, may have continued to use it in the late 1950s before that company also went defunct. John McAvoy later used the property and building for Wildcat Rentals, which was advertised in the mid 1960s as a office for supplying drilling and exploration gear.

Buffalo Airways Limited have been using the building since the 1990s as part of its float base operations in Old Town.

Certificates of Title (Lot 7, Block E, Plan 70): Salmita Consolidated Mines Limited, July 15, 1952 > Banton Mining & Operating Corporation Limited, October 15, 1956 > John Rocher, July 26, 1968 > Wilson J. McBryan, July 22, 1991 > John Rocher, November 15, 1991 > Bernie Kapalka, March 8, 1993 > Wilson C. McBryan, May 21, 1997 > Roderick McBryan, April 20, 1999 > Roderick & Sasha McBryan, July 24, 2007

NOTES:

Heavily remodeled since the 1980s.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 20, 1964
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

Jim McAvoy Office

MAP ID: C-53

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3613 Pilots Lane (Lot 9, Block E, Plan 4227)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 18' x 16'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This was office of James McAvoy, pilot and prospector, beginning in about 1945. McAvoy operated a diamond drilling and air charter business during the 1940s and 1950s together with brother Chuck McAvoy. McAvoy Diamond Drilling & Development Company held a five-year lease on Lot 4, Block E beginning October 1, 1947 which was the waterfront float base. A portion of Lot 7, Block 1 adjoining on the mainland was assigned to James McAvoy in May 1945 and renewed as a five-year lease on August 1, 1946 – where the office and original residence was built. McAvoy later ran Wildcat Diamond Drilling from this property in the mid 1960s.

The McAvoy residence that was located nearby was demolished in about 1971 by Glen Warner when he bought the property from the McAvoy family, and built the new house. Warner operated Bathurst Inlet Lodge's local office from here in the 1970s. He currently uses the building for storage.

Certificates of Title (Lot 7, Block 1, Plan 68): City of Yellowknife, January 30, 1957 > Charles M. McAvoy (pilot), May 30, 1962 > Gwendalyn McAvoy, administrator of estate of Charles McAvoy, December 27, 1966 > Glen Boyd Warner, March 13, 1972 > John Anderson-Thomson, March 13, 1972 > Glen Boyd Warner, December 30, 1985

Certificates of Title (Lot 9, Block E, Plan 4227): Glen & Patricia Joan Warner, February 27, 1990 > 5803 NWT Limited, September 12, 2008 > Glenn & Patricia Warner, August 14, 2009

NOTES:

Originally bordered between Lot 4, Block E (water lot) and Lot 7, Block 1.



REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House (formerly John Anderson-Thomson)

MAP ID: C-54

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3612 Pilots Lane (Lot 19, Block 1, Plan 2017)

CURRENT OWNER: Benjamin Sabine

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1944

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 45' x 44', plus 13' x 26' back addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The original lumber was first brought to Yellowknife in the late 1930s by Bear Exploration & Radium Limited, for the purpose of building a warehouse, but when war started the company folded up operations and left the lumber in storage. In 1944, gold exploration resumed in the region, and Bear Exploration & Radium decided to build a house and office for its resident engineer. Bear Exploration & Radium applied for a permit to erect a 13' x 25' addition to its dwelling in August 1946.

N.H.C. "Hugh" Fraser became the resident engineer for BEAR in July 1946. When the company ceased field operations and Fraser left town in 1948, John Anderson-Thomson, mining engineer and surveyor, bought the house. John and Janet lived here until John's death in 1985. Glen Warner bought the property after the Anderson-Thomson's passed. The house was damaged in a fire in October 1958 while owned by the Anderson-Thomson's.

Camlaren Mines Limited held the original 5-year lease effective August 1, 1938 on Lot 8, Block 1, assigned to Gordon Ingram in January 1941 and renewed with another 5-year lease in August 1943. Bear Exploration & Radium were assigned the lease in August 1946. John Anderson-Thomson acquired the property in a land sale in May 1953.

Certificates of Title (Lot 8, Block 1, Plan 68): John Anderson-Thomson (mining engineer), July 21, 1953 > Glen Boyd Warner & Patricia Joan Warner, May 26, 1972



NOTES:

Originally Lot 8, Block 1

REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 30, 1958
AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Archives N-1991-048 File 2-11

Weaver's House (formerly Rayrock Mine)

MAP ID: C-55

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3604 Pilots Lane (Lot 11, Block 1, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.

OCCUPANT: unknown

CURRENT USE: unknown

BUILT: 1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 30' x 40'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Built in 1956 at the Rayrock uranium mine (140 kilometers northwest of Yellowknife), this house was occupied by Walter Clarke, the mine manager, until the mine's closure in 1959. When the mine closed most of the housing was sold and removed. The City of Yellowknife was offered the former mine managers house at Rayrock Mine but the offer was refused. Instead, the Weaver's bought the house and moved it to town in the winter of 1962. In 1964, the Weaver's added the concrete basement. Bruce and Irma Weaver were residents as owners of Weaver & Devore Trading. Bruce died in 1975, and his sons took over the business. Irma and son Bob were living at this address in 1977. Various members of the Weaver family have since called it home.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Rayrock Mine files

Weaver & Devore (formerly Mining Corporation Warehouses)

MAP ID: C-56

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: (Lot 13, Block 1, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.

CURRENT USE: storage

BUILT: 1937

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Mining Corporation of Canada Limited arrived in Yellowknife in the summer of 1937 to commence development of a gold project on Gordon Lake, called Camlaren. These double warehouses were constructed in 1937 (one of which was possibly completed in early 1938) together with oil storage tanks and several smaller structures in this area, as a base of operations to commence winter freighting into the project (70 kilometers northeast of Yellowknife) via tractor train and sleigh in the winter of 1937-1938. They were among the first permanent structures in this area of Old Town and one of the first frame structures erected (Yellowknife Supplies Limited was the first).

Camlaren Mines Limited held the first 5-year lease on Block 1, Lot 13 beginning August 1, 1938. The lease was later extended and assigned to A.S. 'Slim' Hodgson on April 10, 1946, for use as warehouse space for his expanded store in Old Town (located nearby). In June 1959, A.S. Hodgson went out of business and his stock was sold to the Hudson's Bay Company. These warehouses were sold to Weaver & Devore Trading Limited, and in August 1961 they relocated their store front to here. Weaver's store became the new Yellowknife sub-post office which was previously held by A.S. Hodgson. In 1969, Weavers built a new Quonset Hut warehouse addition to the buildings' north side and moved the store front here in April 1970, retaining the old warehouses as storage space. In 2003, the building was re-sided with green sheet metal and continues to be used today by the Weaver business.

Harry Weaver passed away in 1957 and his son Bruce took over the business with the help of his sons, Ken, Bud, and Dave, and wife Irma, who took on full management with Bruce's death in 1975. They dropped out of the fur trade business in the 1980s and now focus on general merchandise, outfitting bush orders, camping gear, fresh produce, and clothing - the only remaining store in Old Town that caters to these products or services.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 28, 1959; August 24, 1961; April 9, 1970
The Yellowknifer, January 9, 2002
Up Here Magazine, May/June 2000



Weaver & Devore Quonset Hut

MAP ID: C-57

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3601 Weaver Drive (Lot 13, Block 1, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.

CURRENT USE: storage

BUILT: 1969

CONSTRUCTION:

Metal quonset

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In 1969, Weaver & Devore Trading Limited built a new Quonset Hut warehouse addition to its existing store's north side and moved the store front here in April 1970. The main floor is the grocery and dry good section, with outdoor clothing sold from the upstairs loft. Harry Weaver passed away in 1957 and his son Bruce took over the business with the help of his sons, Ken, Bud, and Dave, and wife Irma, who took on full management with Bruce's death in October 1975. They dropped out of the fur trade business in the 1980s and now focus on general merchandise, outfitting bush orders, camping gear, fresh produce, and clothing - the only remaining store in Old Town that caters to these products or services. The store was Yellowknife's sub-post office in the 1970s-1980s serving Old Town residents.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 28, 1959; August 24, 1961; April 9, 1970; October 29, 1975
The Yellowknifer, January 9, 2002
Up Here Magazine, May/June 2000

Old House next to Weaver & Devore

MAP ID: C-58

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3601 Weaver Drive (Lot 13, Block 1, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.

OCCUPANT: unknown

CURRENT USE: unknown

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This shack has an unclear history. Susan Jackson (Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986) reported that A.S. Hodgson, who owned this lot from 1945 to 1959, had moved this building here in 1946 (from Lot 1, Block 20) and rented it out as a residence. The structure is not visible in a July 1947 photograph taken from the air as presented in *Yellowknife: An Illustrated History* book (pg. 256). It is also not clearly identified on the 1948 insurance map, although there is a building of different orientation located in this vicinity identified as a "Boot Repair" shop (probably James Swanson shoe repair shop, which opened in 1947 opposite Weaver and Devore store).

Earliest photo evidence of a house on this lot is from 1945 when again, a different shaped house (oriented at a perpendicular angle) is located here. It had been removed by 1947 photography. It is again not clear when this specific house was brought to this spot as photo evidence is sparse. The house is also not visible in the vicinity of Lot 1, Block 20 (the lot that Yellowknife Hardware was built on) in 1940s photography.

Weaver & Devore acquired title to the property in 1959 when A.S. Hodgson sold his local interests. Some of the tenants have included Michael Piche, a Giant Mine mill shift boss in the 1950s; Hazel Drappo (later Demelt) who worked at Weaver & Devore store in the 1960s and 1970s; and a man named Ziggy, who was a mechanic at Frame & Perkins in the 1980s.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Yank Magazine, December 7, 1945

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Log Cabin

MAP ID: C-59

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Weaver Drive (Lot 13, Block 1, Plan 68 or Lot 11, Block E, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.

OCCUPANT: unknown

CURRENT USE: unknown

BUILT: 1937

CONSTRUCTION:

Log, 12' x 14'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The log cabin shack was built in the summer of 1937 as a warehouse for Mining Corporation of Canada Limited, who was developing a gold project at Gordon Lake in 1937-1938. It was a temporary shed until the larger double-frame warehouse was erected later in the fall of 1937. George Midgley later used it followed by A.S. Hodgson Limited in the 1950s. Louie Broadfoot, life insurance agent, may have used it as an office during the fall of 1945 as he was advertised an occupant of a log cabin owned by George Midgley located behind the government signal station (which was located nearby).

The Weavers (Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd) have owned the shack since 1959.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 10, 1945

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Bullock's Bistro (formerly Weaver & Devore Trading Post)

MAP ID: C-60

DESIGNATION: HERITAGE SITE

ADDRESS: (Lot 17, Block 2, Plan 179)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Bullock's Bistro restaurant

CURRENT USE: restaurant

BUILT: 1936 or 1937 (see Notes), foundation rebuilt 1993

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin with frame addition on rear.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Harry Weaver and Ellis 'Bud' Devore arrived in Yellowknife Bay in the summer of 1936 and established a trading business, "Weaver & Devore Trading Ltd.", the first such commercial enterprise in the Yellowknife mining district. The two men operated the only fur trading post until 1938 when the Hudson's Bay Company arrived. The log cabin post was erected in 1936 or 1937 (see Notes) and constituted only the front log section; the second log section was added in July of 1938, and the very rear frame section sometime later in the 1940s. Apparently the floor of one of their barges was dismantled and formed the original floor of the trading post. The upstairs was storage and living space for the Weaver family.

Harry E. Weaver obtained first lease to Block 2, Lot 17 on August 1, 1938; this was renewed to July 31, 1968 but under a land sale agreement in October 1950 the property was held under an annual free-hold tenure through the town administration.

Weaver & Devore continued as a very successful general merchant and outfitting business during the post-war gold boom in the 1940s, and continued to thrive in the 1950s after most of the other business moved to New Town. Bud Devore sold out of the business in 1954. In June 1959, the adjacent A.S. Hodgson Limited, another long-term Old Town general merchant, closed down, and Weaver acquired its warehouse building (the former Mining Corporation warehouses). Weaver & Devore relocated to A.S. Hodgson's renovated premise across the street in August 1961. The old log cabin was from then on used only as storage by the Weaver business and slowly deteriorated until the Weaver family with City support replaced the foundation logs in 1993. Ken Kimble, Bill Leard, and Andrew Spalding completed the log work. From 1993-1994, a gift shop called "The Willows" was located in the renovated cabin.

In May 1998, "Bullock's Bistro" restaurant (Sam and Renata Bullock) moved its business to here from Latham Island, and it thrives today as a very popular local eatery and bar serving fish and chips, and is a well-known tourist landmark. The front façade was replaced in 2003, removing the original asbestos clad tiles and "Weaver & Devore" sign, replacing it with a similar tile material. A side porch entrance was added in 2011.

NOTES:

The date of construction is not clear. While it is certain that Weaver & Devore made their first trade run to Yellowknife Bay in 1936, it is likely that they did not erect this post until the summer of 1937. No building is visible at this location in photographs taken of the nearby Mining Corporation double warehouse (which were built in 1937). Shack at the rear of the property dates from the late 1930s and has been used as a warehouse by Weaver since it was built.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 24, 1961
The Yellowknifer, October 13, 1993; May 22, 1998; January 9, 2002
AANDC Land Files; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Wardair Float Base Shop

MAP ID: C-61

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: (Lots 12-13, Block D, Plan 70)

CURRENT OWNER: Max Ward

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage, float base

BUILT: 1955

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame 28'x36', on steel beams and pads.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Wardair float base was expanded in 1955 with the construction of this shop and maintenance building to service its growing aircraft fleet. Offices and shops were downstairs and staff were housed in upstairs suites. Max Ward called it "the finest maintenance facility in Yellowknife". Haener-Anderson Limited had the contract to build the structure.

Wardair grew to be a national, public airline in the 1960s but continued to operate a northern charter and freight business out of Yellowknife. But the increasingly complex business of operating an airline in the competitive north was a major strain on Wardair and in 1979 the company withdrew from northern service and sold its bush fleet. Max Ward kept the Old Town float base in his name and continues to use it today.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 24, 1979

The Max Ward Story

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Mike Haener

Wardair Float Base Office

MAP ID: C-61

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Wylie Road (Lots 12-13, Block D, Plan 70)

CURRENT OWNER: Max Ward

OCCUPANT: Seasonally used by Max Ward and others as a float base

CURRENT USE: Storage, float base

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 23' x 37', on steel beams and pads.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building originated at Negus gold mine campsite and was a four-room bunkhouse for mine employees. It was constructed in 1947 to replace the large bunkhouse destroyed by fire in December 1946. The new facilities, totaling nine individual units, were designed to be safer than the original mine bunkhouse. With the closure of Negus Mine in September 1952, several buildings were sold off including all of the bunkhouses. Max Ward of "Wardair Limited" – incorporated in June 1953 – acquired this bunkhouse and moved to its new Old Town float base during the year, for use as a dispatch office, waiting room, two other offices, and a 10'x10' staff suite. A large window double-glazed was cut out of a wall to let the light in, and was unique as the largest paned window in Yellowknife, unusual for the time period as heat-loss in buildings necessitated small windows.

Wardair originally operated with a single Otter float plane whose productivity exceeded any other bush plane operating out of Yellowknife. Its main client was Discovery Mine and the companies that Norm Byrne provided engineering services to. In 1954 he added a Beaver to the fleet and in 1955, a second Otter. Business was focused on uranium exploration and DEW Line construction. Wardair also later operated Bristol freighter aircraft. The float base was expanded in 1955 with the addition of a shop and maintenance building, also used for offices and staff suites upstairs. George Curley was the first base manager and accountant, until 1968. George Bell was master mechanic and Don Braun chief pilot. Fred Dornan was base manager from 1968 to 1975, followed by Larry Sukut as manager of northern operations from 1976 to 1978, and Jean Buck in 1978-1979.

In 1961, Wardair began expansion plans for a scheduled international airline service and its operations grew to be among the largest carrier in Canada based from Edmonton. Northern charter and freighting operations continued based from Yellowknife during the 1970s. Turbo-prop Twin Otters were added to the fleet in 1967 and new contracts were arranged with exploration projects in the high arctic. By 1973, Wardair operated a fleet of six Twin Otter 300 Series. A new hanger and base was opened at the Yellowknife Airport in October 1975. But the increasingly complex business of operating an airline in the competitive north was a major strain on Wardair and in October 1979 the company withdrew from northern service and sold its bush fleet.

Max Ward kept the Old Town float base in his name and continues to own it today and frequents the base in the summer months on the way to his Coppermine River camp. Ward allows community groups to use the dock and facilities for summer celebration events, including the bi-annual Float Plane Fly-In and the annual Beer Barge party

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 24, 1979

The Max Ward Story

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986



Log Cabin (formerly Betty Nussell and Tom Doornbos)

MAP ID: C-62

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Wiley Road (Lot 4, Block 2, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1937

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This log cabin originated on Latham Island, on Lot 14, Block 6, and its early history is not well documented. It is said to be built by Art Arbour in about 1937. Art Arbour was a prospector and miner, and worked at Giant Mine in 1949-1950. According to lease documents, Betty Nussell was assigned the original lease in July 1945, and Arbour did not acquire title until February 1954. We do know that Betty Nussell operated a laundry business ("Maytag Laundry") in the 1940s, and in 1948 the address of her laundry was at #14 Grant Street (which corresponds to this lot). Thus, we can confidently say that Nussell ran a laundry from this cabin while it was on Latham Island in the 1940s.

Occupancy of the cabin after Arbour is unclear but Tom Doornbos acquired title in 1969. Ted and Ginette Kidston were living here at one point. Glenn Smith lived in it during 1973-1974 and Tom Doornbos was his landlord. Soon thereafter, the log cabin became associated with Gordon and Ruth Bailey's Latham Island Pentecostal Chapel church which was located on the adjacent lot. The church was a prefab trailer erected in 1974. The log cabin may not have actually been used for church services but did serve as transient housing for the people the Bailey's looked after. Advertisements show that church services were held four times a week, with Bible study on Tuesdays, informal family service on Friday, and two services plus school on Sundays. In the 1980s, services were held on Sunday's and Wednesdays. The Bailey's church building was destroyed by fire in April 1990 and they left Yellowknife the following year. In 1987, the log cabin was owned by Bernard Cassidy who wanted to build a new house and remove the cabin. In September 1987, Cassidy offered the cabin to the Old Stope Association. The City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee provided support to move the structure off the property. The cabin was first moved to the front of the lot on Latham so that the owners could begin construction, and then in 1988 the cabin was moved to its current location next to the Wildcat Café and repaired by the Old Stope Association for use as storage in Wildcat Café operations. For a brief time in the 1990s it was used as a gift shop for the Old Stope Association.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 6, Plan 68): Arthur Arbour (prospector), April 7, 1954 > The Montreal Trust Co, administrators for estate of Arthur Arbour, December 1, 1958 > City of Yellowknife, November 6, 1962 > Tjaart Doornbos, December 12, 1969 > Public Trustee, administrators for estate of Tjaart Doornbos, May 15, 1984 > Bernard George Cassidy, October 1, 1985

NOTES:

The Anglican Church, which had began a regular service on a nearby lot in June 1939, is said to have rented this log cabin from Arbour in the 1940s as a rectory but the record is not clear. In June 1939, Rev. Cecil Randall held the first non-denominational service at Mrs. Sorenson's house on Latham Island. The only lots on Latham Island that refer to Sorenson in old land lease ledgers would be Lot 19 of Block 6, five lots north of Art Arbour's property, where Karen Sorenson cancelled her lease in September 1939. The Synod of Diocese of Athabasca subsequently held a lease for that lot until April 1945. The 1948 Insurance Map shows a log cabin on Lot 19. The Synod of Diocese of Athabasca also held a lease on Lot 18, Block 6 around the same time. I believe that the Anglican Church did not actually use this cabin and the history is confusing a similar cabin. In any case, this was certainly never an "Anglican Church" as is often said.

REFERENCES:

The Prospector, June 10, 1939; July 29, 1939
News of the North, November 25, 1955; March 13, 1974
The Yellowknifer, September 2, 1987; September 23, 1987; October 14, 1987;
January 20, 1988; April 6, 1990; August 10, 1990
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986; AANDC Lands Office,
GNWT Land Titles
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

The Wildcat Cafe

MAP ID: C-63

DESIGNATION: HERITAGE SITE

ADDRESS: 3507 Wylie Road (Lot 4NW/5NW, Block 2, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: Wildcat Café restaurant

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1937. Repaired 1976-1977. Rebuilt in 2011.

CONSTRUCTION: Original log. New steel pile foundation in 2011. New log addition and frame roof in 2011.



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Wildcat Café was the first permanent restaurant operation in Yellowknife. It was built in the fall of 1937 by Willie Wylie and Smokey Stout with the help of Margaret Wylie and Colin Wylie. The café served good meals for a dollar. In 1939, Carl and Dorothy Jensen bought the cafe and added the front ice-cream and soft-drink parlour. They also operated a steam bath in an adjacent structure. It was the scene of many important community events including a November 11, 1939 war veteran banquet, for which the café was able to obtain a liquor permit, the earliest record of a licensed drinking function in Yellowknife at a time when the liquor laws were very strict in the NWT. Carl Jensen decided to focus on his taxi business and sold the restaurant to Mah Gow in June 1941. Gow was likely the first Chinese entrepreneur in the community. The Wildcat Café was very successful in the post-war gold but the activity soon died down and with the development of the new downtown core, Old Town businesses had to either relocate or close down. Mah Gow was an older man of poor health, and in April 1951 he closed the business and left Yellowknife.

Tungsten Corporation of Canada Limited appears to have acquired the property during 1951 and may have used the building for storage. Red Hamilton then acquired the building and planned to demolish it in 1956, with City approval. A group of history-minded citizens recognized the historical significance of the old cafe and arranged for the Yellowknife town council to buy the building. Legal issues prevented any work from being done until September of 1960, when the now incorporated Yellowknife Museum Society and students from Sir John Franklin high school cleaned up the grounds and boarded-up the windows and doors to prevent further vandalism. The hope was that the building could one day be rehabilitated but the Museum Society had other priorities at the time. An attempt to reopen the café in 1967 was unsuccessful as health authorities had concerns about the state of the building. By 1970 the structure had visibly deteriorated and the City threatened to knock it down. A proposal then came from Territorial Hotels Limited in 1972 to restore the building and operate a licensed year-round restaurant. The City of Yellowknife Historic Sites, Restoration and Acquisition Board approved the project. Although the Wildcat Café was advertised for business during 1973, the rejuvenation was but brief and the building was again boarded up. The community banded together and formed a new society, The Old Stope Association, who took over the task of fixing up the building under the lead of Christine Bayly in 1976. Rehabilitation was done in stages, with the “Wild Kitten”, a confectionary stand in the front of the building, opened in June 1976. Repairs continued during summers of 1977 and 1978 with Andie Gedye as project manager. The City provided grant funding and local businesses and citizens volunteered time and material. After a series of delays, the Café was opened in time for the summer season of 1979 with Stephen Fancott as manager.

The Wildcat Café became Yellowknife’s most famous restaurant and a major tourist draw. It was managed at first by the Old Stope Association, followed by many groups under contract with the City. Progressive deterioration of the foundation logs continued after 1978 without intervention and in 2010 repairs were authorized by the City at a budget of \$500,000. Rick Muyres won the bid to rebuild the Wildcat Café log-by-log, re-roof, and construct a new steel-pile foundation. Work began in summer of 2011 and continues in 2012.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

NWT Council Minutes, Nov. 4, 1939
The Yellowknife Blade, June 29, 1941
News of the North, April 13, 1951; Feb. 24, 1956; April 27, 1956; September 8, 1960; May 7, 1970; May 4, 1972; May 26, 1976; June 23, 1976; June 30, 1978; August 25, 1978; June 15, 1979 The Yellowknifer, March 23, 1978
CNT Phone Directory, 1973

Old Burns Meat Store

MAP ID: C-64

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3503 Wylie Road (Lot 32, Block 2, Plan 1875)

CURRENT OWNER: Dorothy Carseen

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 30' x 30'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In October 1946, "Burn's & Company" opened a meat market in this location. It is unclear how long the market was open for but appears to have closed in the early 1950s when Burn's decided to focus on its downtown location. During 1957-1958, "L.B. Stationary & Business Machines", owned by Lloyd Bartlett, occupied it. From 1966 to 1968, David Watson, depot manager for "Byers Transport", owned the building. "The Tree of Peace", formed as a society in June 1970, was located here. The Tree of Peace mission was to encourage, support, and develop programs of education and community development (native language courses, drum dance, hand game, and sewing activities), and to circulate and promote information and sponsor discussion of aboriginal traditions and culture. Volunteers fixed up the building in 1971. The society ran with a volunteer staff ('senate') of nine, and was supported by income from renting office space to the Department of Education and the Company of Young Canadians (who were the volunteer staff), government grants, and fundraising activities. The Tree of Peace ran at this location until 1976. Wayne Gzowski of Arctic Divers acquired title in 1981 and renovated it into a residence and office for the business. The house was advertised for sale in early 1986 and acquired by Lee Selleck.

The house was demolished in 2013.

Certificates of Title (Lot 2, Block 2, Plan 68): Burns & Co. Ltd, September 7, 1956 > David Watson, July 5, 1967 > Lanky Agencies Ltd., July 14, 1970 > Tree of Peace, December 4, 1970 > Wayne Gzowski, November 6, 1981 > Lee Selleck & Dorothy Chocolate, June 12, 1986

Certificates of Title (Lot 32, Block 2, Plan 1875): Dorothy Carseen, July 17, 2007

NOTES:

(formerly Lot 2W, Block 2, Plan 68)

REFERENCES:

The News of the North, October 3, 1946; 1957 ads; July 9, 1970;
October 7, 1971
GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Old Canadian Pacific Airlines

MAP ID: C-65

DESIGNATION: HERITAGE SITE

ADDRESS: 3502 Wylie Road (Lot 1, Block C, Plan 70)

CURRENT OWNER: Alain & Ghislaine Rossignol

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 20' x 96'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Canadian Pacific Airlines built this as a floatbase (offices and staff quarters) in the summer of 1946 to service the booming community of Yellowknife and its active gold mining exploration. The original layout was four large bedrooms and several offices upstairs, and the general office and express rooms downstairs. In 1946 CPA had a local staff of 40 including mechanics and pilots. Ken Razzel was local manager (1945-1946), followed by Gord Scramstad (1946-1948), Fred Miller (1948-1949), and Don Thompson. In 1947, the offices of Amalgamated Transportation Limited, managed by A.E. Tuck, was also located here. In October 1949, the float charter of Canadian Pacific Airlines was taken over by Yellowknife Airways Limited when CPA decided to focus on commercial service using wheeled aircraft between Edmonton and Yellowknife. Jake Woolgar was local agent for Yellowknife Airways and Matt Berry was manager. They moved their offices into this building in December 1949. Associated Airways Limited acquired Yellowknife Airways in July 1951 and took over the Old Town floatbase. Tommy Fox was president of Associated, and Harry Herbert was local agent/manager, followed by A.N. Westergaard (1951-1953), Merv Hardie (1953), Dave Floyd (1954-1955), and Syd Jacklin (1955-1956). Associated was acquired by Pacific Western Airlines in May 1956. Both Associated and PWA also maintained a large fleet of land-based aircraft at the YK Airport and float charter operations were a relatively small part of their business. A.C. Campbell became base manager in 1958, followed by Lorne Brown in 1959. Pacific Western Airlines eventually created a spin-off company to deal with float plane operations, and Northward Aviation Limited was formed by PWA in March 1966, with Stan McMillan as general manager. Northward operated Twin Otter aircraft with scheduled services up the Mackenzie River Valley and to the booming Coppermine River mineral district. Brian Robertson was base manager in 1970. The company was renamed Northward Airlines Limited in 1972 and continued bush flying service until it declared bankruptcy in 1980. Northward had earlier sold the Old Town float base to Arnie Steinwand of Air Dogrib in 1978 who continued to occupy it in the 1980s.

David Metcalfe bought the property in 1988 after it had sat vacant for some time and had been occupied by transients. He proposed making repairs to utilize it as a historic floatbase once again, but the City of Yellowknife at first refused to allow renovations unless the building was moved 50 feet off the Wylie Road right-of-way, so that the road could be widened into a two-way street. Metcalfe argued the cost to move the building was substantial and the building would lose its historic character, and the City agreed to negotiate an encroachment agreement, and it was designated a Heritage Site in 1992. The building was renovated and Metcalfe leased it to Venture Air for a short time. He then leased it to Victor MacIntosh and Doug Strader who opened the "Arctic Brewery Company Limited" in May 1993, the NWT's first micro brewery. The bar was called "The Bush Pilot Brew Pub". It featured an airplane wing as the serving bar. Twenty-five local investors bought into the plan, but the business could not make enough money and the quality of beer was poor, closing in October 1995. John Dalton then leased the building and opened "The Old Town Pub" in May 1996 without the brewery. It too could not make enough money as a summer-only venture and closed in June 1997. David Metcalfe converted the building into a family residence and lived here until he left town in 2011.

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block C, Plan 70): Associated Airways Ltd, April 2, 1954 > Northward Airlines Ltd., June 20, 1975 > Steinwands Transport Ltd., April 27, 1978 > Anvid MacBeaver Ltd, August 25, 1988 > Alain & Ghislaine Rossignol, June 13, 2011

NOTES:

The building was resided with vinyl siding in 2014-2015 and no longer holds its original character.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, March 30, 1946; October 21, 1949; Dec. 9, 1949; July 20, 1951; Feb. 10, 1956; March 11, 1956; March 10, 1966; March 21, 1980
The Yellowknifer, May 4, 1978; August 24, 1988; February 15 & March 1, 1989; August 5 & 12, 1992; May 21, 1993; November 3, 1995; May 29, 1996; June 11, 1997; National Archives of Canada RG 85 Volume 911 File 10744
GNWT Land Titles; Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Hudson's Bay Company Store and Warehouse

MAP ID: C-66

DESIGNATION: HERITAGE SITE

ADDRESS: 3501 Wylie Road (Lot 1, Block 2, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Limited

OCCUPANT: Homes North Limited (Les Rocher)

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 50' x 70' main section



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Hudson's Bay Company arrived in Yellowknife in 1938 and erected a post and warehouse on Lot 3, Block 2, a short distance up the hill of the current post location. When this post was destroyed by fire in January 1945, the HBC made immediate plans to rebuild a larger post as the community was booming with gold exploration at this time. The original 1938 warehouse, which was not destroyed in the fire, was moved to its new location at the rear of the new post on Lot 1, Block 2. Also forming a part of the new store was a slope-roofed structure used by Yellowknife Supplies Limited as a warehouse, built in the early 1940s. Carpenter Rolf Hellenius built the new warehouse in the summer of 1945. The combined structure was completed and opened for business November 29, 1945 featuring men and ladies wear, groceries, and bush supplies. One of the largest in Yellowknife at that time, the building had 50 feet of street frontage and was two stories. The second floor was originally warehouse space for reserve stock, until August 1947 when a second-storey sales floor opened featuring ladies wear and babies clothing. The post was primarily designed for prospector's bush orders during the gold boom years. With the opening of a new downtown HBC store in 1947, the Old Town post catered almost exclusively to bush orders, fur trappers, and prospector supplies. In 1945, it had a staff of 15 under the direction of Alexander "Sandy" Scott. Richard Garnet was assistant manager until he left town in 1948. Scott left Yellowknife in 1950 and was succeeded as local HBC manager by Dick Howell (1950-1951), Ernest "Scotty" Gall (1951-1966), Alan Thorburn (1966-1973), Dick Hoole (1973-1975), and Don Russ (1975-1979).

A small office addition on the southwest side was removed from the structure in the late 1950s and sold to a fellow who moved it to Latham Island. All HBC retail operations were diverted to the expanded downtown store in 1960 and the Old Town store closed on March 31, 1960. It was only to be used as a warehouse after that date. In 1987, the Hudson's Bay Company transferred its retail outlets in the NWT to Hudson's Bay Northern Stores Inc. In 1990, The Bay department store in Yellowknife was rebranded as "Northern Store" and in 1992 it sold its store including the Old Town warehouse. Les Rocher acquired the building and has used it as storage for his business interests. It was re-sided with brown metal siding and other repairs were conducted to stabilize the foundation. The structure was designated a Heritage Site in Yellowknife in 1993.

It has been difficult to find a commercial use for the building due to the lack of servicing and the expense of installing a pump-in and out sewage and water system. Lack of parking availability in the Old Town is also a deterrent to creating new stores. For these reasons, the building has only been used as warehouse space despite intentions of the City and Les Rocher to find a more suitable use for the heritage structure. However the building is often loaned to groups in need of temporary indoor space, for example in the summer of 2009 a local band called 'GiantCon' filmed a music video here making use of the vintage interior to produce a historical reenactment of early Yellowknife.

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block 2, Plan 68): Hudson's Bay Company, January 13, 1953 > 155191 Canada Inc., July 20, 1987 > Homes North Ltd., April 13, 1992

NOTES:

Warehouse at the rear, with galvanized clad siding, was built in 1938 as a warehouse for the original post, and moved to this location following the fire that destroyed the original post in January 1945. Sloped roof structure attached to the main building at the rear was a structure built by Yellowknife Supplies Ltd as a warehouse in the early 1940s. A concrete pedestal under the deck behind the building is the foundation for a power generating plant installed by YK Supplies Ltd. in 1939.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 8, 1945; November 24, 1945; December 1, 1945; December 8, 1945; August 15, 1947; May 19, 1950; March 3, 1960
The Yellowknifer, February 4, 1987; March 23, 1990
GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
National Archives of Canada photo A-101821

House (formerly HBC Men's Staff House)

MAP ID: C-67

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3506 Ingraham Drive (Lot 34, Block 2, Plan 1875)

CURRENT OWNER: Tim and Marni Durkan

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 30' x 48'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built during the summer of 1945 as a staff residence for Hudson's Bay Company male employees. It was built on the location of the original HBC post that burned down in January 1945. There were fifteen staff at the Old Town HBC post in 1945, not all of which were necessarily men, so it could be assumed that the staff house could accommodate no more than 15 tenants. It was the scene of much socializing with the early HBC employees and their friends.

By the late 1950s, most of the HBC staff were living in their own accommodations, and the HBC rented out some of the rooms to transients for \$2 per night. Tom Doornbos eventually acquired the property (through a land-trade deal with HBC) and was advertising rooms for rent in the old HBC staffhouse throughout the 1960s. In April 1965, he advertised the building for sale, but it is believed he retained ownership at that time. The house was divided into two sections, front and back, and in the 1970s there were a group of teenagers living in the back section under the direction of Terry Lewis, a catholic minister. Some of the young fellows living at this transient housing included Trevor Teed, Jim Warren, Bill Balsillie, Yves Bonin, and Greg Brown. Tenants of the front section in the 1970s were more stable, employed young men, and included Rick Fader, Ted Mehler, and Pat Hungle. It was a popular social landmark in Old Town and residents erected a sign above the front entrance "The Old Hudson Bay Staff House" which was later stolen. Some later day tenants included Marie and Frank Ruman, who kept live goats and chickens in the building.

Tom Doornbos died in 1981 and his many property assets were dispersed on the open market. Chris Simmons was owner in 1985. A legal dispute ensued because Ted Mehler, a long term tenant, argued tenancy rights which was settled in court some time later, granting Simmons ownership. By 1991, the house had been completely converted into a private residence, and Dorothy Mellor was the owner. The back section of the staffhouse, which was slightly below the elevation of the front section, was demolished. Marni and Tim Durkan have been the owners for many years.

Certificates of Title (Portions of Lot 2 & 3, Block 2, Plan 68): Tjaart Doornbos, April 13, 1972 > Public Trustee of NWT, estate of Tom Doornbos, March 22, 1985 > Chris & Lorie Simmons, January 5, 1987

NOTES:

Previously Lots 2 & 3, Block 2
Unoccupied in 2014?



REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 1, 1945; April 29, 1965
The Yellowknifer, November 4, 1981
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Rick Fader, Amanda Mallon, Trevor Teed

House (formerly Curly McDonald)

MAP ID: C-68

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3509 Ingraham Drive (Lot 13, Block 3, Plan 2324)

CURRENT OWNER: Ray Decorby

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1937-1938

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin original, frame addition 16' x 12'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Originally of log construction with a frame addition on the south side, this house was built by Willie Wylie, first owner of the Wildcat Café, in 1937 or 1938. George Pappas, who arrived in 1950 to manage the nearby “Yellowknife Bakery” from Bert Anderson, owned the property and probably lived here until 1956 when Pappas bought “Mac’s Bakery” downtown and moved into the upstairs apartment. In 1963, K.J. ‘Curly’ McDonald, a local prospector and mining contractor, acquired ownership of the property through a land sale from the City of Yellowknife. He added the frame addition on the rear by moving a 16’ x 12’ building to the lot. Curly always colorfully decorated the house during the Christmas season and competed in the local light contest, winning in December 1970. McDonald was still living here in the late 1980s and died in 1997.

NOTES:

Previously Lot 9, Block 3

REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 1, 1950; December 31, 1970
GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House of Horrors (Cyr's Bunkhouse)

MAP ID: C-69

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Ingraham Drive (Lot 29, Block 2, Plan 1424)

CURRENT OWNER: Bond Street Properties Inc.

OCCUPANT: Abandoned

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1938

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey with half basement. 20' x 20' original, 4' addition on rear



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The "House of Horrors" was built by Alphonse Cyr during 1938. Cyr's signed a 5-year lease on Lot 12, Block 2 on August 1, 1938 (later extended to July 31, 1958). It was originally a one-storey structure as evident by old photos and the second-storey was added in the 1940s. It operated commercially as "Cyr's Bunkhouse" which charged 50 cents per night during 1939. Cyr's was also part-owner of nearby Yellowknife Quick Lunch during 1939.

Its role as a rooming house continued for many years although no further commercial ads or business licenses can be seen in the historical record. Cyr operated a taxi stand from this building in 1948 and it was also the listed address for the office of Massive Yellowknife Mines Limited.

Building became known locally as "The House of Horrors" or "The Snake House" because of the wild card parties held here by the various men staying at the rooming house in the 1940s-1950s. In June 1957, Benny Melanson drowned accidentally in the basement when he fell down the stairs head-first into a water barrel used as a cooler. Alphonse Cyr died at the age of 68 in January 1961. It was advertised for sale as part of Cyr's estate in April 1964.

It was occupied by various residents into the 1960s. These include Peggy Digness (c.1963), bodyman Henry Cyrenne (1966), and mechanic Mike Kachkowski (certificate of title, August 1966). The Catholic Church may have used the house as a transient center at one point. It was last occupied regularly in about 1972 when Jean-Francois Deslaurier and Andre Genereux were living here with some transients. It is also said that a barber shop was occupying the building at one point but there is no record of this. Construction contractor Reg Lafleur had the building in the late 1970s and may have run Northwest Electric Ltd. from here in 1977. By 1985 it was unoccupied. The building was finally demolished in 2013

Certificates of Title (Lot 12, Block 2, Plan 68): Alphonse Cyr, September 15, 1958 > Frederick Fournier (executor of estate for Alphonse Cyr, deceased) June 27, 1966 > Aurora Fournier, June 27, 1966 > Henry Cyrenne, July 20, 1966 > Mike Kachkowski, August 4, 1966 > Reginald Lafleur, June 28, 1979

Certificates of Title (Lot 29, Block 2, Plan 1424): Reginald Lafleur, August 24, 1980

NOTES:

Previously Lot 12, Block 2, Plan 68

REFERENCES:

The Prospector, April 22, 1939; News of the North Directory, 1948; News of the North, July 4, 1957; January 26, 1961; April 23, 1964
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles
Jean-Francois Deslaurier, John H. Parker

House (formerly Pete Racine)

MAP ID: C-70

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3254 Ingraham Drive (Lot 22, Block 4, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Limited

OCCUPANT: Pat Braden & Laurie Nowakowski

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1938

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Pete & Florence Racine were first residents of this house. It was probably built in 1938 and is visible in an aerial photo of Old Town taken during the winter of 1938-1939. Pete was an early operator of the Corona Inn and in 1940s was a general haulage (draying) contractor using a team of two horses. He left Yellowknife in 1945 and died in 1960. Subsequent owners/occupants are uncertain. The property is barely on surveyed land (Lot 22 North, Block 4) but has been administered under that legal survey, held by Elliot-Hayes Limited under a 21-year lease effective October 31, 1948. A.S. Hodgson Limited and later Weaver & Devore Trading Limited acquired land title in the 1960s.

Jean Piro remembers living here briefly in the summer of 1948 when she first came to Yellowknife to work at the Busy Bee Cafe. At that time it was a staffhouse for girls working at the café.

Stan Bertrand and family lived here in 1951-1952 when he advertised a house for sale across the road from the Yellowknife Bakery. Johnny Rocher later bought the house, in about 1962. Other occupants have included: Frank Nyeste (a taxi owner, 1940s), possibly Sam Daigle, Frank Wouters (c.1957), J.G. Roy (c.1964), Henry Gauthier, Jimmy Arden, George Erasmus (1970s), Amanda Mallon (1970s), Mary Lou Hendry, Tassalie & Johanna Dent, Shelagh Smith (1977-1978) David Haggart, Janice & Rebecca Hendry, Bill Lorenzen, and Cynthia Chambers. Pat Braden & Laurie Nowakowski have been living here since the 1980s.



NOTES:

Visible in an aerial photograph taken of Old Town in the winter of 1938/1939 (Yellowknife: An Illustrated History, pg. 48)

Pat Braden inaccurately promotes in his music that the house was built in 1936.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, September 29, 1960
The Yellowknife Blade, November 20, 1945
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Amanda Mallon, Fran Hurcomb, Jean Piro

Garage (formerly Sam Hansen)

MAP ID: C-71

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4301 Ingraham Drive (Lot 22, Block 4, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The northerly garage, with the higher roof line, was built in 1946 as part of Sam Hansen's auto garage, on the Macdonald Drive waterfront facing Jolliffe Island (Lot 3, Block 20). The garage opened in December 1946 (building then had dimensions of 30' x 42'). Hansen advertised his building and property for sale in July 1948, and died in 1952. Hansen held Lot 3, Block 20 under a five-year lease affective November 1, 1947. James K. Hansen held title to the property after Sam died. In 1957, the building was acquired by Ted Cinnamon who moved it to its current location to add onto his existing garage. Mike's Moving and Trucking and Weaver & Devore, current owners, have used the garage over the years.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 13, 1946; July 30, 1948; January 25, 1952
AANDC Lands Office
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Garage (formerly Ted Cinnamon)

MAP ID: C-72

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4301 Ingraham Drive (Lot 22, Block 4, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Weaver & Devore Trading Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The most southerly garage, with the lower roof line, was built at this location in 1947 for Ted Cinnamon as a place to park Imperial Oil fuel delivery trucks. The property was historically identified as Lot 22C, Block 4, and was held under a 21-year lease to Vicky Lepine beginning November 1, 1949. Other groups that have used the garages include Yellowknife Bakery which was across the street (George Pappas), Pete Baker who lived in part of the garage briefly, Mike's Moving and Storage, and Weaver & Devore Trading who still hold title today.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House (formerly Ted Cinnamon)

MAP ID: C-73

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3542 McDonald Drive (Lot 20, Block 4, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Randy & Leslie Straker

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Norman Cinnamon had an early lease on this property in the 1950s, but it is believed that Ernie Boffa, pilot, was the first owner of this house, which was built in about 1945. While Norman is on the land title documents, it is understood that Ted & Dorothy Cinnamon were living here in the 1950s. Ted was the local Imperial Oil agent from 1938 to 1959 when he left Yellowknife. In September 1959, Ted Cinnamon advertised a house for sale in Old Town, across from Imperial Oil shop, and the following month Ted and Dorothy Cinnamon left Yellowknife. Hank Koenen, pilot, owned the house in the 1960s, followed by Giant mill shift boss Alex McBeth, lawyer Brian Purdy, and Robert Kosta, miner at Giant Mine.

Certificates of Title (Lot 20, Block 4, Plan 68): Norman Cinnamon, June 27, 1952 > Henry Koenen, September 29, 1959 > Donald & Norah McArthur Scott, November 15, 1968 > Alexander & Yukona McBeth, November 15, 1968 > Brian Purdy & Patricia Lynne Palmer, April 24, 1975 > Allan Wilcox, March 6, 1980 > Robert Jerry Kosta & John Michael Wozak, October 19, 1983 > Robert Kosta, November 29, 1992 > Robert & Mary Kosta, May 29, 1998 > Stuart & Louise Berry, July 25, 2000 > Chris Weber & Deborah Reid, April 6, 2005 > Randy & Leslie Straker, March 19, 2007



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, September 10, 1959; October 8, 1959
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles

Territorial Beverages

MAP ID: C-74

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3540 McDonald Drive (Lot 19, Block 4, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Territorial Beverages Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Weaver & Devore Trading

CURRENT USE: storage

BUILT: 1947 or 1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 20' x 48'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

First used as a warehouse for Imperial Oil Limited, the structure was built in 1947 or 1948 on Jolliffe Island (Lot 14, Block 16) on the waterfront below its oil storage tanks. Imperial Oil moved the building across the narrows to its present location on Lot 19, Block 4 in April 1956 and continued to use it for storage until its fuel distribution operations were moved to Negus in the 1960s. Territorial Beverages Limited began distributing Pepsi-Cola in Yellowknife in December 1969 and operated from this location for over 30 years. Owners/managers of Territorial Beverages Limited included former RCMP chief Bob Ward (1969-1978), Pat Deman (1971-1978), and Bob Weaver (1978-current).

Certificates of Title (Lot 19, Block 4, Plan 68): Imperial Oil Limited, April 5, 1956 > Sproule Projects Limited, August 24, 1965 > Territorial Beverages Limited, August 9, 1971



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 18, 1969
The Yellowknifer, July 6, 1978
NWT Phone Books
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles

Quonset Shop

MAP ID: C-75

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3530-3532 Macdonald Drive (Lot 14-15, Block 4, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: FYW Space Development Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Elias Saravanja, "Active Service & Maintenance Limited"

CURRENT USE: Commercial auto garage

BUILT: 1970

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel building, Quonset-style, 50' x 80'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This Quonset Hut was originally built in 1969 by Max Macara, and was located downtown at Lot 11, Block 21. It is not clear what Macara used it for at that location. In August 1970, Max Macara advertised a large Quonset Hut for sale, size 50' x 80' and began construction of The Professional Building (what is now the Jan Sterling Health Centre) on the corner of Franklin Avenue and 47th Street. The Quonset Hut was moved to its present location in Old Town by Mike Kachkowski, a mechanic, who started Mike's Trucking and Moving Ltd. It later became a division of NorthAmerica Van Lines in the late 1970s, and in 1979 Kachlowski sold the business to Richard Whitford but they kept the name "Mike's Moving & Storage" (a division of Whitford Holdings Ltd.). In 1982, the business moved to Kam Lake.

The Quonset hut garage was advertised for sale in the summer of 1983. "Active Service & Maintenance Limited" (owned by Elias Saravanja) has operated an auto garage at this address since 1983.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14-15, Block 4, Plan 68): Municipality of Yellowknife, November 27, 1968 > Theresa Paul, April 8, 1969 > David Lorenzen, September 24, 1970 > Darcy Arden, November 26, 1970 > Max Macara, December 15, 1970 > Mike's Trucking and Moving Limited, December 24, 1971 > Whitford Holdings Limited, July 27, 1979 > Active Service & Maintenance Limited, November 1, 1983 > FYW Space Development Limited, December 12, 1995



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 20, 1970
The Yellowknifer, February 16, 1983; August 17, 1983
NWT Phone Books
GNWT Land Titles
Pablo Saravanja

House

MAP ID: C-76

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3512 McDonald Drive (Lot 3, Block 4, Plan 4185)

CURRENT OWNER: Wayne Guy

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: unknown

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The history of this house is unknown. It was probably moved to this location in the 1960s or 1970s. Some names that appear in the historical record associated with this property include John Richardson and Janice Laycock. Wayne Guy dismantled part of the house and rebuilt it in 2008.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Old Town Glass Recyclers Shack

MAP ID: C-77

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3510 McDonald Drive (Lot 4 adj, Block 4, Plan 4185)

CURRENT OWNER: Matthew Grogono

OCCUPANT: Old Town Glass Recyclers

CURRENT USE: Residential & Commercial

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This small house was built in the 1940s and is located to the rear of Lot 4, Block 4. It may have been used by the Hudson's Bay Company as a girl's staffhouse in the 1940s-1950s. Otto & Sherri Kurz lived here from about 1957 to 1963, followed by Esther Malmsten from 1963-1969. Alix Bode, who owned Lot 4, Block 4, moved into this house after she rented her larger adjacent house to Chris Christensen. Bode sold the house to Ted Cinnamon and Knud Rasmussen rented the dwelling for a short time. Matthew Grogono of Old Town Glass Recyclers has used the house as part of its business operations since 1998.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 4, Plan 4185): Alix Bode, March 10, 1955 > Christian Christensen, February 23, 1968 > George Collier, January 7, 1972 > Fred & Helen Curtis, November 16, 1973 > Donald Lyons and Mary Anne Peddle, August 14, 1981 > Kathryn and Susan Irving, September 5, 1984 > Susan Irving, December 12, 1986 > Susan Irving & Matthew Grogono, April 30, 2000 > Matthew Grogono, August 8, 2005



NOTES:

1948 Insurance Map shows the structure on unsurveyed land to the rear of Lot 4, Block 4. It is said that the Hudson's Bay Company used it as a staffhouse, however this is unverified. They could have rented the house from early owners. May be confused with Lot 6, Block 4 two doors down, which was the location of the HBC staffhouse in the 1940s-1950s.

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Susan Irving

Old Town Glass Recyclers

MAP ID: C-78

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3510 McDonald Drive (Lot 4, Block 4, Plan 4185)

CURRENT OWNER: Matthew Grogono

OCCUPANT: Old Town Glass Recyclers

CURRENT USE: Residential & Commercial

BUILT: c.1943

CONSTRUCTION:

Log original, frame front addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house, or the portion with roof line parallel to the road, may be an original log cabin as evident from old photos and the 1948 Insurance Map. Carl Hansen held the original title to the lease in the early 1940s. On November 24, 1943 this was assigned to James Bryson. Bryson may have built the house. Alix Bode acquired the property through a land sale in 1955. Subsequent owners of title included Christian Christensen in 1968 and George Collier a taxi driver in 1972. Susan Irving acquired the property in 1986 and lived here for many years, and then rented it out. One of her tenants included Steve Schwarz. Matthew Grogono has operated a glass recycling business here since 1998, first called Yellowknife Glass Recyclers, and renamed Old Town Glass Recyclers in 2011.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 4, Plan 4185): Alix Bode, March 10, 1955 > Christian Christensen, February 23, 1968 > George Collier, January 7, 1972 > Fred & Helen Curtis, November 16, 1973 > Donald Lyons and Mary Anne Peddle, August 14, 1981 > Kathryn and Susan Irving, September 5, 1984 > Susan Irving, December 12, 1986 > Susan Irving & Matthew Grogono, April 30, 2000 > Matthew Grogono, August 8, 2005

NOTES:

1948 Insurance Map shows the structure on this property is built of log and some photographic evidence suggests there was a log building here in the 1940s.



REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Susan Irving

House (formerly Yellowknife Hardware)

MAP ID: C-79

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3543 McDonald Drive (Lot 1, Block 20, Plan 66)

CURRENT OWNER: Yellowknife Hardware Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Pat and Robert Winter

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1941

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This extensively renovated building originated on Outpost Islands, Great Slave Lake (94 kilometers southeast of Yellowknife), built in 1941 as a recreation hall for the small gold and tungsten mine operated on the island by Slave Lake Gold Mines Limited. The mine closed in September 1942. In the winter of 1945-1946, the structure was moved from Outpost Islands to its current location in Yellowknife and converted into a storefront for Walter England's "Yellowknife Hardware Limited". The building was originally perpendicular to the road front and was later turned 90 degrees to its current orientation. The main floor was retail space with large glazed windows (where the bay windows are now) and the upstairs was living quarters for Walter and Carolyn England and family. In 1960, Yellowknife Hardware opened a new store front in downtown Yellowknife, and this building was used primarily for storage.

The building was extensively renovated to its current appearance in 1970 for use as a family residence for the England's. Carolyn England together with daughter Pat and her husband Robert Winter were living here in the 1980s-1990s while managing Yellowknife Hardware.



NOTES:

The flat-roofed waterfront warehouse at the rear of the building was built in 1947 as a warehouse. The section that connects the two structures was built in 1958.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, Sept. 29, 1960; November 5, 1970
NWT Phone Books
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Old Capitol Theatre Lobby

MAP ID: C-80

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3541 McDonald Driver (Lot 2-3, Block 20, Plan 66)

CURRENT OWNER: Yellowknife Hardware Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two storey, 50' x 50'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Construction of a new modern theatre in the downtown core of Yellowknife began in July 1947 by W.V. Cole. Location was Lots 10 to 12, Block 25 (address 5110 - 50th Avenue in the 1970s). "The Capitol Theatre" opened with its first movie on November 22, 1947. This building was the street facing lobby (on Lot 12), with commercial space on the ground floor and residential suites on the top floor. The theatre hall itself was in a long adjoining building on Lots 10-11. Tenants in the lobby building included the offices of the local doctor beginning in January 1948, including Dr. Oliver Stanton (1948-1960), Dr. Art Bickford (1948-1953), and Dr. F.F. Fitch (1953-1961). The doctor offices moved to the W.H. Bromley building in 1962. Many of the early dentists were also practicing in the theatre building, including Dr. A.G. Wong (1948-1949), Dr. Henry Deering (1949-1950), Dr. Carl Yaskowich (1959-1960), Dr. H. McKinnon (1961-1962), Dr. Harris Wood (1963), Dr. Ian Calder (1965-1967), and Dr. D. Green (1967-c.1970...?). The Bank of Toronto opened a part-time branch here in May 1949 (2-3pm, Mon-Fri) and inaugurating a full-time service in April 1951, until August 1951 when the bank left Yellowknife. "Mardale Shoes" was located in the Theatre building during 1969-1973. "Frenchy's Transport Limited" also had an office in the building from 1965 to c.1970.

W.V. Cole handed over management of the theatre to his cousin, Bill Cole and wife Kitty, in August 1953. In 1955, the theatre installed Cinemascope widescreen technology. Interior renovations were conducted in 1963 by Ivor Johnson and again in 1974, when the lobby was expanded into the former retail/office area, a new roof was built, washrooms renovated, and the front exterior facade was altered. Mike & Elsie Slemko were managers of the theatre for many years (and lived upstairs) until they left town in 1975. W.V. Cole and wife Mary then came back to Yellowknife to resume management of the theatre.

Bellanca Developments Limited (Shorty Brown, Bill Knutsen) acquired the theatre from W.V. Cole in 1976. New commercial development in the downtown core led to the construction of a new theatre one block to the west in 1977. The last show at the old theatre was 'Dolomite' on May 25, 1977. During the winter of 1977-1978, Bob Olexin ran "Mini Vegas Arcade" in the building but it was only a temporary location as Bellanca planned to redevelop the downtown lot into a commercial plaza (opened in 1979 as the Scotia Mall). In the summer of 1978, the large theatre hall was demolished and the lobby section was sold to Walter England, owner of Yellowknife Hardware, and moved (by Ron Mix) to its present location in Old Town and converted to apartments. There were various commercial tenants at this address in the 1980s-1990s, including: Bathurst Inlet Lodge (c.1983), Thomson-Underwood McLellan Surveys Ltd. (1983-1998), Western Photogrammetry (1990-1995), Multi-Imaging (1993-1997), UMA Engineering and Geomatics (1994-c.1999), Spantec Constructors Ltd (1996-c.1999), and Kate Thompkins Architects Ltd. until recently.

NOTES:

The lake facing side of the building was the original street-front side of the theatre.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, Nov. 21, 1947; January 2, 1948; May 20, 1949; March 24, 1950; Aug. 24, 1951; Aug. 13, 1953; Aug. 26, 1953; January 7, 1955; October 8, 1959; Aug. 21, 1974; May 14, 1975; March 10, 1976; May 18, 1977; June 21, 1978
The Yellowknifer, May 19, 1977; October 6, 1977
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986; NWT Phone Books

T.J.'s Nut Hut (formerly Northern Transportation Co. Warehouse)

MAP ID: C-81

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3533 McDonald Drive (Lot 8, Block A, Plan 70)

CURRENT OWNER: Wayne Guy (6125 NWT Ltd)

OCCUPANT: Rental suites

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel, 32' x 62', 12' x 14' addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

“Northern Transportation Company Limited” built this steel warehouse in 1956 to replace older Nissen metal huts. Grimshaw Trucking & Distributing, a subsidiary of NTCL until 1984, used the warehouse for many years. Imperial Oil’s “Decker Oil Services” parked their trucks in the garage that used to face the waterfront. Northern Transportation advertised the property for sale in February 1979. Grimshaw Trucking then acquired the title.

“Frank’s Household Maintenance Services” operated from the building 1982-1986. “Seafood Outlet” wholesale and retail store was listed at this address (1986-1990), “FMC Lavalin Inc” (1987), “Geocon Inc” geotechnical consultants (1987-1989), “EBA Engineering” (1989-1997), Soon Architects (1993-1994), and Autodraft Inc (1992-2001).

John Alexander bought the property from Harvey Walsh in 1990. He lived in the upstairs suite. Alexander was an avid collector of fossils and related-paraphernalia and had been to many paleo digs in Drumheller, Alberta. His dream was to open a museum showcasing the collection. In December 2002, “John A’s Paleo-Emporium” opened, with displays of fossils, prehistoric hair tufts, and dinosaur eggs. It was a Yellowknife tourism hit but the Emporium, which ran more as a charitable museum than a business, closed in August 2006.

From April 2007 to April 2008, Daron Letts rented a small corner of the building and moved his “Squatterz Books & Curiosities” here. It was a popular used book store and musician café. Terry Pamplin’s “Headspace Studios” was also located here in 2007. John Alexander sold the property to Wayne Guy in the summer of 2010. “TJ’s Nut Hut” was located here from 2010 to 2013. It is now being used only as a rental residence.

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block A, Plan 70): Northern Transportation Company (1947) Ltd., June 27, 1952 > Grimshaw Trucking & Distributing Ltd., October 17, 1980 > Quantum Development Ltd., May 13, 1985 > Franks Household Maintenance Services Ltd., July 23, 1985 > John Alexander & Toni Riley, May 31, 1990 > John Alexander, May 25, 1998 > 6165 NWT Ltd., July 15, 2010

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Northern News Services Ltd. December 6, 2002; August 18, 2006; April 13, 2007; April 4, 2008; July 13, 2010
GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Phone Books

Woodworks (formerly Yellowknife Transport Warehouse)

MAP ID: C-82

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3529 McDonald Drive (Lot 2, Block A, Plan 70)

CURRENT OWNER: William Leard

OCCUPANT: William Leard "Woodworks"

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: 1950 or 1951

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The original section of this warehouse (sloped section added later) was built in about 1950-1951 for "Yellowknife Transportation Company Limited", who signed a lease for title on this property on August 1, 1950. Yellowknife Transportation Company was owned by Earl Harcourt and operated a number of diesel and gas tugs for transporting freight to Yellowknife from Fort Smith or Hay River, via a well-established water network across Great Slave Lake. The pride of their fleet was the *Expeditor*, a former military landing craft from the war converted into a freight and passenger liner between Hay River and Yellowknife, launched in 1949. By 1951, Yellowknife Transportation was operated four boats and 20 barges, competing directly with the Crown-owned "Northern Transportation Company Limited" up and down the Mackenzie River all the way to the Arctic Ocean. Their major contracts were with "Imperial Oil" for transporting diesel and other oil products from Norman Wells to NWT communities, moving nearly three million gallons of petroleum products on average each shipping season. The company was based in Hay River, and this facility in Old Town Yellowknife, at the government dock, was the receiving warehouse for significant freight coming into the community. Yellowknife Transportation was sold to NTCL in 1965.

Bromley & Son Ltd. purchased the warehouse from YK Transportation in 1958 and used it for lumber storage and a location to distribute propane sales. Carter Fisheries, based in Hay River, was occupying the building in 1963 and applied for a permit to renovate it into a fish packing plant. "Grimshaw Trucking Ltd." then used it for a warehouse for many years beginning in 1965, followed by "Fitzgerald Carpeting" who rented the premise from Grimshaw from 1975 to 1983. Other tenants included "The Upholstery Shop" (1983), and "Braden-Bury Expediting". Since 1985, it has been home to a woodworking shop run by Bill Leard, cabinet maker, called "Woodworks".

Certificates of Title (Lot 2, Block A, Plan 70): Yellowknife Transportation Co. Ltd., August 12, 1953 > Mackenzie-Slave Lake Supply Co. Ltd., June 2, 1958 > Bromley & Son Ltd., June 2, 1958 > Carter Fisheries Ltd., July 10, 1964 > Grimshaw Trucking & Distributing Ltd., November 24, 1965 > William Leard, May 15, 1985

NOTES:

Building is not here in 1947-1948 photos, but is here in a 1952 photo by Don Hurd.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 15, 1977
The Calgary Daily Herald, November 3, 1951
The Financial Post, May 8, 1965
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

Arctic Sunwest Float Base (formerly Ptarmigan Airways)

MAP ID: C-83

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 3517 McDonald Drive (Los 1 & 2, Block B, Plan 70)

CURRENT OWNER: Arctic Sunwest Charters Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Arctic Sunwest Charters Ltd.

CURRENT USE: Commercial float base

BUILT: 1970

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel quonset

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Ptarmigan Airways Limited bought this lot in May 1961 from the City of Yellowknife. It was a new floatplane charter company organized by Ken Stockall and Les Mullins, operating Cessna 140 and 180 aircraft on floats and skis. The original float base office was a small 10' x 14' frame shack. Stockall died in a plane crash in 1962, and in 1963 Clem Bekar and Bill Hettrick began to work for Ptarmigan as pilots and eventually acquired an interest in the company split three ways between Mullins, Bekar, and Hettrick. In 1967, Les Mullins left the company, leaving it under control of Bekar and Hettrick. Expansion followed, and in 1970 a larger Quonset hanger was constructed, and the fleet grew to include Twin Otter aircraft. Its success was largely attributed to a resurgence of gold prospecting in 1973, when the company made over \$3 million gross in business. In the mid 1970s Ptarmigan Airways operated ten aircraft and were making plans to expand into a hanger at the Yellowknife Airport.

Ptarmigan Airways continued to operate successfully and in 1995 the business was sold to First Air, and in 2001 First Air sold the assets to Marv Robinson's aviation enterprise Arctic Sunwest Charters Ltd.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 1, 1970; May 1, 1974
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife: An Illustrated History

House (formerly Del & Rose Curry)

MAP ID: C-84

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 8 Mitchell Drive (Lot 4, Block 9, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Gregory Robertson

OCCUPANT: Gregory Robertson

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 32' x 24'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 at a downtown location (Lot 4, Block 33, 5008 – 52nd Street). Florence Ingraham held the first lease for five-years beginning October 1945, which was assigned to Rose Curry on November 7, 1946. Del & Rose Curry lived here into the 1970s. Del was the owner and operator of Curry Construction Limited with Smokey Heal. They were the Chevy, Oldsmobile and GMC car and truck dealers until 1967 and then focused on construction. Del's son Wayne Curry took over the business in 1979 and Del died in 1981. In 1985, the house was moved to its current location on Latham Island. Daniel & Julia Boychuk were living here in the late 1980s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 33, Plan 65): City of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Rose Helen Curry, August 7, 1957 > Bellanca Developments Limited, October 22, 1985

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 9, Plan 68): Daniel & Juliana Boychuk, August 7, 1985 > Gregory Robertson, February 28, 1994



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Forestry Warehouse on Latham Island

MAP ID: C-85

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 2 Mitchell Drive (Lot 1, Block 9, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Commissioner of the NWT

OCCUPANT: unknown

CURRENT USE: storage

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This warehouse has been used by the government since the mid 1950s at the earliest. Lot 1 and 2, Block 9 were reserved by the Federal Government (Department of Resources and National Development) in the 1940s when its government offices and liquor store buildings were located on this property. The Forestry and Games offices were occupying these lots in the 1950s and 1960s, and this particular building appears in photographs dated c.1955-1958. It appears to have been used as a garage and warehouse. The federal Games and Forestry department were still using the building in the late 1960s. In the 1970s, the property was transferred to the Government of the NWT with official transfer to the GNWT Commissioner in June 1976. The Fish and Wildlife Division of the GNWT was using it for storage in the 1970s-1980s. The Hunters and Trappers Association and the Metis Local 55 used the building in the early 1990s. It has not been used for many years and now appears abandoned.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Phone Books

Shack behind CKLB

MAP ID: C-86

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4 Lessard Drive, behind CKLB Radio (Lot 11, Block 5, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: CKLB Radio

CURRENT USE: Residential/Commercial

BUILT: 1948 or earlier

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 16' x 24'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building was located on 50th Street for many years (Lot 3, Block 31) but may have originated on Lot 7, Block 22, and was moved to the 50th Street location in May 1948 by Joe Cairns, who used it as a barber shop until 1951. During that time, it was located across from the Yellowknife Inn Cocktail Lounge entrance and between the Yellowknife Bakery building (now The Diner) and the taxi stand on 50th Street. It held many commercial uses, including: Joe Cairns barber (1948-1951), Bill DeNike's clothing store (1952-1953), Rita Dunn's "The Rainbow Shoppe" clothing store (1953-1958), "Northern Auto Supply" (1956), Wally Hoff's "Yellowknife Jewelry & Gift Shop" (1956-1958), Melba Mogenson's "Northern Beauty Salon" (1958-1961), "Emile Worobec's Shoe Repair" (1964-1965), International Mine Services Ltd. (1967), a watchmaker, and a sewing shop.

Midwest Properties Ltd. came to own the property in the early 1970s. In 1973-1974, Dave Smith, who operated a pawn shop in the old taxi stand next door (also on Lot 3, Block 31) moved his operation to this building. "Pawn Shop" was advertised in January 1974 also providing Income Tax Returns. New city bylaws prevented Smith from continuing with the pawning business, so he focused on the tax accounting business. It continued to operate there until the summer of 1974 when Dave Smith moved the building to near its present location on Latham Island. Dave Smith dragged the building down the hill on wood skids using his International 4x4 Truck but had inadvertently moved it to the wrong lot and got into a legal tangle with the adjacent properties owners, but it was all sorted out eventually. Dave Smith was the principal of NWT Wilderness Cruise Lines Limited who offered tourist cruises on Great Slave Lake, using Smith's two boats, the *Silverbelle* and the *Hearne Channel*. In the summer of 1975 they advertised weekend jet-boat tours up the Yellowknife River, and in 1976 trips to the East Arm, canoe rentals, and freight hauls. Chris Holloway was in charge of the jetboat, which was actually just a plywood craft but it held up to 20 people comfortably. Business was not very good, despite regular attempts to drum up American tourists at trade conventions, and Dave Smith decided to focus on prospecting and sold the property in about 1982. "Yellowknife Trading Post" occupied this lot until 1995, followed by "Bullock's Bistro" (1993-1998) and "The Trapper's Cabin" (1994-2002).

NOTES:

The bay window was added in recent years

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 27, 1951; September 5, 1952; September 19, 1953; October 2, 1953; June 1, 1956; July 20, 1956; May 15, 1958; November 27, 1958; December 25, 1948; September 28, 1972; July 18, 1973; January 23, 1974; June 12, 1974; May 28, 1975; July 2, 1975; June 2, 1976
City files; AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles; NWT Phone Books
Dave Smith, Fran Hurcomb

House (formerly Joseph Herriman)

MAP ID: C-87

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Unsurveyed shoreline, Latham Island, Back Bay

CURRENT OWNER: Spencer Decorby

OCCUPANT: Vacant

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: c.1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house was built sometime after 1948. Joseph Herriman, prospector, signed a one-year lease November 1, 1947 for this property (Lot 5, Block 5), followed by a 21-year lease on November 1, 1948. Herriman was awarded the property in a land sale on December 17, 1953 with certificate of title in 1954. Herriman was a long-time prospector, being involved with the Ragged Ass gold mine on Hidden Lake and several other gold projects in the Yellowknife region. He was awarded a life-time prospector's license in 1961, offered by Northern Affairs Minister Walter Dinsdale to men who have held a license for 25 or more years in the NWT.

Joe Herriman lived in this house until he built a larger house on the adjacent lot (now demolished). Herriman then rented the house out and it had many tenants in the 1970s, including Susan McDonald, Brenda Kolson, and Lois Little. Joe Herriman worked at Giant Mine as a shaftman until an injury forced him to retire in 1991, and sell his property in 1995. He died in 1999. In 2009, the old shack was moved to the rear of the lot – it has previously been parallel to the street at the front of the lot. It is now used for storage by Michael Murphy.

In 2015, the house was moved to the shoreline of Back Bay on unsurveyed land, re-roofed and repainted. Spencer Decorby is the owner of the building.

Certificates of Title (Lot 5, Block 5, Plan 68): Joseph Herriman, January 26, 1954 > Howard Peever, September 22, 1959 > Joseph Herriman, July 14, 1987 > James Murphy, November 3, 1995 > James & Michael Murphy, December 29, 1995 > Michael Murphy, February 28, 2003

NOTES:

Not visible in 1948 insurance map.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, April 13, 1961
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Lois Little, Trevor Teed
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

Old Cabin (formerly Antoine Liske)

MAP ID: C-88

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 16 Hearne Hill Road (Lot 3, Block 5, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1943

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin (21' x 21') with frame addition and new exterior

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This log cabin was built in 1943 by Pierre Liske, a Dene trapper. The Liske family had at least three buildings in this area in which the family members lived – this was the newer house and the older log homes have since been removed. Pierre's son Antoine, trapper and chief of the Yellowknife Band Council in the 1970s, then lived here with his wife Elsie, and it has remained in the Liske family since it was built. The house underwent major renovations in 1992, with a new exterior and new foundation.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 5, Plan 68): Antoine Liske, October 18, 1972 > Antoine Liske, March 27, 2002 > Public trustee of the NWT, estate of Antoine Liske, deceased, September 18, 2009 > Michel Samuel Liske, September 18, 2009 > Michel & Tony Liske, December 3, 2009



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles, City Files

Bank of Toronto Log Cabin

MAP ID: C-89

DESIGNATION: HERITAGE SITE

ADDRESS: 7 Otto Drive (Lot 19, Block 10, Plan 1598)

CURRENT OWNER: Toni Riley

OCCUPANT: rental suite

CURRENT USE: Residence

BUILT: c.1939

CONSTRUCTION: Log cabin with frame addition. 24' x 16' original cabin



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Bank of Toronto operated from this log cabin in the commercial centre of Old Town, on The Rock (Lot 10, Block 2), from October 1944 to August 1951. The bank arrived in Yellowknife in response to new financial activity brought about by the intersection of gold in shear zones at Giant Mine and the resulting staking spree around the region. The property was originally owned by John Stakson who may have built the cabin in 1939. Stakson sold the property to the Bank of Toronto who was acquired the lease on November 1, 1944.

It opened on October 2, 1944 under arrangements through W. Kerr of Edmonton. J.E. "Pat" Boyle was the first bank manager and only staff for the first year or two of operation. Bank managers included: Pat Boyle (October 1944 to April 1946), Alan Lambert (April 1946 to November 1947), Percy Atkinson (November 1947 to March 1951), and W.G. "Mac" McDonald (March 1951 to August 1951). The bank was staffed by two employees and kept flexible hours so as to never turn down a customer. An example of their business hours was 5 am to midnight. The building was divided into the bank office and sleeping quarters with little privacy, and heated with wood and oil stoves. The original small safe was replaced in 1947 with a large walk-in vault that required an addition to the cabin. Ultimately, the volume of business was insufficient to make operations profitable and the bank closed at the end of August 1951.

Gordon 'Smokey' Hornby was living in the old Bank of Toronto in the summer of 1953 and was planning to move the cabin to a downtown lot, but this never did occur. The cabin was temporarily used by Frenchy's Transport as an office during April 1961 until its own building was moved downtown. It was listed for sale beginning in 1962. Sam Otto purchased it in 1964 and moved it to Latham Island (Lot 19, Block 10) across the street from his own home, and it has been rented out as a residence since that time. It was designated a Heritage Site in 1998.

NOTES:

Date of construction (c.1939) is unconfirmed. Building does not appear in 1938 photos. Popular belief is that this was Yellowknife's first bank and opened in 1938 or 1939 but this is unfounded. The Bank of Commerce was the city's first bank in February 1938. The Bank of Toronto did not come to Yellowknife until October 1944.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, April 30, 1946; November 28, 1947; March 30, 1951; August 24, 1951; August 26, 1953; January 4, 1962
The Globe and Mail, October 3, 1944; October 21, 1944
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
AANDC Lands Office

Latham Island Airways Building

MAP ID: C-90

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Lessard Drive, Latham Island (Lot 4, Block G)

CURRENT OWNER: Ray Decorby

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: none

BUILT: unknown

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The origin of this building is not clear. Pilot Jim McAvoy began consolidating structures to operate a commercial floatbase on Latham Island in the late 1960s and this structure was only one of several located on the Island side of the Narrows. They included an old Sutherlands Drugs building which had been located downtown and moved here in about 1968 (not to be confused with another Sutherland Drug store building which became the Rex Café and was located only a short distance from here). The small brown shack was located beside the Sutherland Drugs building on the narrows water front. Building is visible in its original location in a 1972 air photo. Where this structure may have come from before being brought here is unknown. It is believed the brown shack was already located on the property as it seems visible in 1958 photographs from the air of Latham Island at its original spot fronting the narrows. Knud Rasmussen lived in the shack in the early 1960s. He thinks he may have bought it from Joe Herriman. Frank Moyle applied for a permit to move a building to this property in 1969, while Jason Explorers were to build something here in 1970. The relationship to the Latham Island Airways buildings is unknown.

In 1970, Jim McAvoy applied for a license to operate an air charter business through the Canada Air Transport Committee, but was refused a license as the Committee believed there was already enough commercial services in Yellowknife. A community-wide petition was quickly circulated in support of McAvoy but Air Transport did not budge on making a decision. In the meantime, McAvoy began commercial services without approval and was quickly brought up on several charges. Most of these were later dropped, but McAvoy was still fined \$150. On October 28, 1970, McAvoy was granted a charter license for his business, Latham Island Airways, but it took almost another year (September 1971) for McAvoy to finally receive a certificate authorizing his commercial business as legal. McAvoy's charter planes in the 1970s were a Cessna 185 on wheel skis or floats, and the E.P. 9 on skis.

Jim McAvoy sold a controlling interest of the business to Bill Knutsen in June 1978. Jan Uhryn was base manager, with pilots Ray Baert, Don McMillan, and Ed Rinn, who lived on the property. The company had two Cessna 185's and a Beaver. Norm Case was base manager in the 1980s.

The brown shack was eventually moved (c.1979) to its present location at the rear of the property. Ivan Rand was owner of the business in 1981, followed by Jeff Rocher in 1987. Latham Island Airways was sold to Air Tindi Ltd. in 1991 and all operations were moved to Air Tindi's float base on the other side of Latham Island. Jeff Rocher retained ownership of the shack and rented it out. In 2009, the property was sold to Ray Decorby.

NOTES:

The area is being redeveloped as part of a public float plane dock in the summer of 2012, and the future of this shack is uncertain. The older warehouse structure on this lot was demolished in September 2012.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 21, 1970; July 9, 1970; September 10, 1970; September 2, 1971; September 16, 1971; June 19, 1978
The Yellowknifer, March 13, 1991
Air Photo A22709-38 (1972)
City files; NWT Phone Books; Ray and Spencer Decorby; Knud Rasmussen

Caboose

MAP ID: C-91

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 16 Morrison Drive (Lot 27, Block 5, Plan 3098)

CURRENT OWNER: Kris Schlagintweit

OCCUPANT: Kris Schlagintweit

CURRENT USE: storage

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This shed was an original Cat Train caboose, which was towed on a sled as part of a winter road convoy operating in the Yellowknife-Great Slave Lake region during the 1940s-1950s.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the caboose was located on Hank Koenen's air base on Back Bay, fronting Wiley Road between the Wardair float base and Weaver & Devore (location of present day Cruising Club docks. Hank's company was called Koenen's Air Service, operated by Hank from 1949 to 1975 when he sold the business to Trevor Burrows. It continued to operate into the 1980s. Hank Koenen died in 1985 in Edmonton. Hank used the caboose for storage and may have rented it out as a residence to various people. It was common to renovate old caboose shacks into homes.

Sometime after 1969, the caboose was moved to its present location on Latham Island. Owners of the current lot since the 1970s include Dario Tomasi, Tony Shearcroft, Tom Penberthy, and Penelope Johnson, who have used the old caboose as a storage shed. The second shack at the front of the caboose was built in more recent years.



NOTES:

There are photos of the Old Stope Hotel burning down on January 1st, 1969 that shows this caboose on the rock slope immediately below the hotel, on present day Wiley Road, when it was being used by Hank Koenen.

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

House

MAP ID: C-92

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 30 Morrison Drive (Lot 24, Block 5, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Nicole Anne Radziminski

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 22' x 26' original, plus 7' x 22' back addition and 8' x 28' side addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house originated at a downtown lot, possibly on 47th Street (Block 67) behind the Keewatin Building (now Quality Furniture). It was moved to its current location probably in the 1960s by Paul Kazan and K.J. McDonald. Some of the residents of the house at its current location include Paul Kaczan, Rick Bolivar (Ryfan Electric), John & Wendy Stephenson, and Rose Smith.

Certificates of Title (Lot 24, Block 5, Plan 68): George Daniels (grader operator) February 19, 1962 > Victor Case (taxi driver) April 19, 1968 > John G. Robertson (prospector) December 29, 1971 > Paul Kaczan (drill foreman) July 15, 1975 > Paul Kaczan & Patricia Flieger, December 21, 1977 > John Richard Bolivar & Frances Hunter, December 14, 1978 > John & Wendy Stephenson, June 29, 1984 > Roslyn Smith, July 19, 1989 > Sean Levenson & Savanna Hayes, September 6, 2005 > Nicole Anne Radziminski, November 1, 2010



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly Gordon & Ruth Bailey)

MAP ID: C-93

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 42 Morrison Drive (Lot 15, Block 6, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Michael Scott

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house originated at a downtown lot on 50th Street (Lot 8, Block 38). Address was 5116 – 50th Street in the 1950s. Dr. Lorne Carson operated a dental clinic from that address from 1955 to 1959 when he left town. The building at 5116 – 50th Street was advertised for sale during May 1959. Around that time, the building was moved to its present location on Latham Island, and eventually used as a Pentecostal Church residence. Reverend Gordon & Ruth Bailey lived here from 1963 to 1991 and conducted services from an adjacent chapel building. They were known to open their home to destitute and homeless people in the 1970s and 1980s, offering a meal and home-made blankets. Sometimes there were 18 people or more sleeping in their living room. Additions to the structure were made in 1964 and 1985 when the second storey was added.

Certificates of Title (Lot 15, Block 6, Plan 68): Victor Leslie Hookins (prospector), June 2, 1958 > Howard Peever (miner), June 26, 1961 > The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, July 31, 1961 > Roy Ferrier, July 7, 1993 > Michael Scott, July 14, 1993



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 11, 1955; December 2, 1955; April 30, 1959;
May 7, 1959
The Yellowknifer, Sept. 6, 1991
Northern News Services Limited, November 22, 1996; January 29, 1997
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly Del Weber)

MAP ID: C-94

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 48 Morrison Drive (Lot 18, Block 6, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Ray & Patricia Weber

OCCUPANT: Ray & Patricia Weber

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1959

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In March 1959, Red H. Hamilton obtained a moving permit to move a 16' x 26' building from unsurveyed land to Lot 18, Block 6 on Latham Island; in September of the same year, Hamilton applied for a permit to construct a residence. The relationship is unclear. Perhaps Hamilton remodeled the building that was moved here into a residence. According to Ray Weber, the house was constructed from salvaged wood from the old Lakeview Café and Corona Inn and new lumber during the fall of 1959. Red Hamilton (wife Mary) worked at Giant Mine as a boilerman until his death in 1970. They did not actually live on this property, but built it for Mary's parents, Del & Emma Weber, who bought it from Red. Glenn Cinnamon rented the house from the Webers in 1961-1963. Del & Emma Weber's son Ray moved in September 1963. Ray Weber is a pilot and has worked for many air companies in the NWT, including Jim McAvoy, Gateway Aviation, Wardair, Ptarmigan Airways, NWT Air, First Air, and Buffalo Airways.

Certificates of Title (Lot 18, Block 6, Plan 68): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 3, 1956 > Edna Marjorie Hookins (stenographer), June 2, 1958 > David Maxwell Lewellin (miner), July 20, 1959 > Robert Henry Hamilton, September 21, 1959 > Raymond G. Weber (millman) April 2, 1964 > Raymond G. Weber (pilot) & Patricia Weber, August 5, 1970

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
City Files; GNWT Land Titles
Sandy Hamilton; Ray Weber; Robin Weber

House

MAP ID: C-95

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 58 Morrison Drive (Lot 18, Block 7, Plan 2070)

CURRENT OWNER: Michael Beaudoin & Karin Binder

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 25' x 30' original, plus 24' x 22' back additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The original portion of this house dates to the 1940s. Property was originally Lot 14, Block 7. Lease-hold documents for that parcel shows that Archibald William Boland held a 5-year lease starting January 1, 1945, assigned to Arthur Misener in December 1945, and Albert Gagnon before 1949. Red Hamilton owned the lot in the mid 1950s, followed by Gordon Greenway in 1957. In 1961, Greenway built a 10' x 20' addition. Another section apparently originated from a dismantled section of the Hudson's Bay Company building in Old Town, moved here in about 1956. The house was damaged by fire in 1963, but it was renovated and rebuilt.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 7, Plan 68): City of Yellowknife, October 3, 1956 > Gordon Henry Greenway, August 7, 1957 > Anthony Theodore (geologist) & Maria Rykes, August 3, 1976 > Bruce Ed James & Jocelyn Delisle, June 23, 1983 > Leslie John Lee & Susie Wetselaar, July 9, 1987 > Susie Wetselaar, May 9, 1989 > Robert A.W. Butler, June 28, 1989

Certificates of Title (Lot 18, Block 7, Plan 2070): Robert A.W. Butler, February 20, 1990 > Robert A.W. Butler & Tannis M. Hushagen, January 21, 1994 > Joseph Michael Beaudoin & Karin Binder, July 20, 2005



NOTES:

Previously Lot 14, Block 7

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
City Files

House (formerly Gerry Reimann)

MAP ID: C-96

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 78 Morrison Drive (Lot 4, Block 7, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: Bob & Judy Wilson

OCCUPANT: Bob & Judy Wilson

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 24' x 30' plus 12' x 28' and 14' x 10' additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The original portion of this house dates to the 1940s. Jake Woolgar, prospector and pilot, held a 5-year lease effective November 1, 1945, followed by a 21-year lease to Mary Woolgar on September 1, 1949 which was surrendered in 1951. Esko Autio acquired title in October 1952 through a land sale. Gerry Reimann, a partner in Henry's Busse's photography business, bought the property in 1958 – at that time the house was only a small cottage. In 1962, Reimann built a 10' x 18' garage from salvaged lumber. Also in 1962, Reimann took over Busse's photo shop and renamed it Yellowknife Photo Limited. He continued to run the business until retirement in 1983, when Bob Wilson took over the business. The Reimans left Yellowknife in 1989, and Bob Wilson acquired the house. Wilson continues to live here today.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 7, Plan 68): Esko Autio (geologist), November 8, 1952 > Mary M. Woolgar, July 16, 1956 > Gerhardt Reimann (photographer), April 13, 1965 > Robert & Judy Wilson, September 28, 1990 > Robert Wilson, March 29, 1996



NOTES:

Previously Lot 14, Block 7

REFERENCES:

The Yellowknifer, August 3, 1983
AANDC Land Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
NWT Phone Books
City Files

House (formerly Jake & Mary Woolgar)

MAP ID: C-97

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 80 Morrison Drive (Lot 21, Block 7, Plan 4028-D)

CURRENT OWNER: Colin & Melanie MacIntyre

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1945

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 25' x 20' original

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The original portion of this house dates to about 1945. George Midgley held a 5-year lease for this property affective July 1, 1945, assigned to Jake & Mary Woolgar in March 1946. The Woolgar's continued to live here into the 1970s. The structure started off as a one-room shack but the Woolgars added onto it over the years. In June 1961, a 18' x 28' addition was added on the north side, and another addition built in 1971. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 7, Plan 68): John R. Woolgar (prospector), March 16, 1960 > Mary M. Woolgar, June 10, 1965 > Murray Sigler (lawyer) & Judy Ann Sigler, July 13, 1974 > Judy Ann Sigler (educator), June 11, 1975 > Veryan N.G. Hayson (lawyer), June 19, 1975 > Peter Paul Ayotte (lawyer), June 4, 1976 > Michael J. Moore, June 16, 1982 > Susan & Norman Glowach, June 21, 1989 > Brian & Deborah Bruser, December 27, 1991 > Brett Olsen & Corrie Layher, July 21, 2005

Certificates of Title (Lot 21, Block 7, Plan 4028-D) Brett Olsen & Corrie Layher, December 16, 2005 > Colin & Melanie MacIntyre, May 28, 2009



NOTES:

Formerly Lot 3, Block 7, Plan 68

REFERENCES:

AANDC Land Office, GNWT Land Titles
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
City Files

Old Trout Rock Church

MAP ID: C-98a

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 88A Morrison Drive, heading towards N'Dilo

CURRENT OWNER: Roman Catholic Diocese Church

OCCUPANT: Jennifer Potten

CURRENT USE: Residence

BUILT: 1960

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 17' x 33'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This was originally a Catholic Church built at “new” Trout Rock (Enodah), a small native settlement located west of Yellowknife on the North Arm towards Behchoko. Trout Rock was a camping place where Dene from Behchoko and Yellowknife would come to fish in the winter months, and some families lived there year round. Father Gabriel Duchessois said the church was built shortly after he arrived at Trout Rock in August 1960. It was only used for a short time, as the last priest visited the village in September 1965 with Trout Rock being essentially abandoned by the late 1960s.

In April 1978, Father Duchessois hired L&B Construction Limited to move the old church from Trout Rock to Yellowknife’s Latham Island, and it was placed at its current location on Latham Island and renovated into a residence for Father Rene Fumoleau, who stayed here for many years until he moved to Lutselk’e. Since then, the Catholic Church has rented the house out to various tenants.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

The Yellowknifer, May 4, 1978

Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986

Rene Fumoleau, Eric Binion

Old Church

MAP ID: C-98b

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 88-B Morrison Drive, heading towards N'Dilo

CURRENT OWNER: Roman Catholic Church

OCCUPANT: Eric Binion

CURRENT USE: Residence

BUILT: 1962

CONSTRUCTION:
Frame, with additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In May 1962, it was reported that the Catholic Church had set up a mission for Dene people living on Latham Island. Fathers Marrec and Duchessois were involved in the planning. It was described as located halfway between Jake Woolgar's house and the N'dilo settlement. The new church was opened in August 1962 by Rev. Father Amourous. It is presumed this was the church building. Father Rene Fumoleau was later living here until 1978 when he moved into the adjacent building (which was moved in from Trout Rock (see C-98a))

The Catholic Church has rented the house out to various tenants since the 1980s. The structure has one main addition on the north side, and recently (c.2013) the roof was rebuilt.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 24, 1962; August 9, 1962
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Rene Fumoleau, Eric Binion

Jolliffe Island Shack

MAP ID: C-99

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Jolliffe Island (Lot 5, Block 17, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: Andrea Bettger & Mike Mitchell

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s?

CONSTRUCTION:

Old cabin original, many frame additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

An old log cabin on Jolliffe Island that has received many additions over the years. Robert M. Wynn, lumberman, held an early lease for this property which was cancelled October 18, 1944. Subsequent lease holders include: Walter Rasmussen lease 5-years from Nov 1, 1944 > Jesse Ward Tremblay assignment May 11, 1945 > James Frederick Gaud assignment November 15, 1946 > Andrew Swanson assignment October 3, 1949. Eric Holmes (known as "The Beast") acquired the property in a land sale in November 1962. The property was again for sale in 1967 as part of a City tax sale. Other people that have occupied this shack since the 1970s include Ted Mehler, Charlie Deringer, Warren Magrum, Ted & Ginette Kidston, Mary McCready, Stephen Fancott, and Andrea Bettger and Mike Mitchell since 2008. While the City of Yellowknife owns the lot, tenants currently pay tax under an arrangement with the City although they do not hold title.

Certificates of Title (Lot 5, Block 17, Plan 68): Robert Rosche, November 25, 1968 > City of Yellowknife, July 28, 1969 > City of Yellowknife, August 25, 2005

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Susan Jackson Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
GNWT Land Titles, AANDC Lands Office

Charlie Sanders Log Cabin



MAP ID: C-100

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Jolliffe Island (Lot 8, Block 17, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: None

CURRENT USE: Abandoned

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Charlie Sanders, fisherman, trapper, and tug boat operator, was a long time resident of this cabin. Sanders did not build the cabin and it is not clear who did or when. Title to Lot 8, Block 17 was originally held by Karl Skrecek (Charlie Sanders birth name until it was changed in 1944) in the early 1940s. A 5-year renewal lease was signed by Charles Sanders for Lot 8, Block 17 in February 1949. The cabin and a newer frame house located behind the cabin (moved to Willow Flats in 1962) is visible in a 1947 air image of Jolliffe Island. Lot 8 was sold to Sanders in a land sale on May 23, 1952. Sanders moved his family from the log cabin to the larger frame house in the winter of 1952-1953 to accommodate his growing family.

In 1960, Charlie Sanders advertised a 4-room house for sale on Jolliffe Island. In 1962, he moved his frame house from Jolliffe Island to Willow Flats and became a permanent resident of the mainland with his wife Myrna and children. Sanders maintained his name on the Jolliffe Island lease and the family often spent the summer months cottaging on the island into the 1970s. His son once spent a weekend partying in the cabin and was subsequently late for work on Charlie's tug boat, making him so angry that Charlie threatened to burn the cabin down to prevent it from ever happening again - but Myrna talked him out of it.

John Mudie acquired the lot in 1981 soon after Charlie's death, and rented the old cabin out. Stephen Fancott was one of the last tenants under Mudie. Mudie then sold the lot to the City of Yellowknife in 1984, but the existing tenants were able to stay until a time when they decided to leave and then the city would prevent anyone else from doing so. In the summer of 1985, the City began to evict tent squatters from Jolliffe Island. Mark Bogan was one of these people, and was forced to find a new home so made an arrangement with the departing tenants of Sanders cabin, without the City's permission. On finding out, Bogan was evicted from the cabin and the City removed all windows and doors to prevent anybody else from moving in. The Willow Flats/Jolliffe Island Community Association hoped that it could be repaired and made livable again, but the City would only permit the Association to use the cabin for cold storage at a rate of \$1 per year. The Association under Bill Leard and Andrew Spalding fixed up the roof and foundation logs but no permanent use for the cabin has ever been agreed upon and it continues to sit vacant. Insurance is believed to be one reason why the City would not arrange to have the Association renovate the building into a more permanent use, such as a residence.

Certificates of Title (Lot 8, Block 17, Plan 68): Charles Sanders, May 23, 1952 > John & Judith Mudie, December 14, 1981 > City of Yellowknife, November 21, 1984

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, January 6, 1956
The Yellowknifer, September 30, 1987
AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles, City Files
News of the North Directory 1948
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Fran Hurcomb, Mike Mitchell, Nancy Perry, Xenia Osetsky

Spud Arsenault's Shack

MAP ID: C-101

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Jolliffe Island unsurveyed land between Block 16 and Block 17

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residence

BUILT: before 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Prospector U.J. "Spud" Arsenault was living in this shack during 1946 and 1947 before he left Yellowknife after striking it rich by selling gold claims at Macdonald Lake (near Gordon Lake) to Beaulieu Yellowknife Mines Limited. Art and Louise Fortens rented the shack from Arsenault and lived here briefly in 1946.

Bill McDonald, prospector and naturalist, who lived on the titled lots adjacent to the west (Lots 19-20, Block 16), used it during the 1960s as a workshop and storage, until his death in 1971. Rick Fader lived here from 1974 to 1979 having got tenancy rights through the McDonald family. Other people who have lived here include: Jim Kall, Fran Hurcomb, Joaquin Obst, and Peter Verstraten.

Susan Jackson reported in the 1986 Heritage Building Inventory that fisherman Johnny Knault and Jane Mayo were living here. They may have actually lived in a nearby shack.



NOTES:

Shack is seen in photographs collected for Yellowknife Tales during 1999-2000 and identified by Louise Fortens as the home of Spud Arsenault in 1946-1947. Refer to photos Fortens 11 and 12 on the Yellowknife Tales CD.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 11, 1971
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
Yellowknife Tales photo CD
Rick Fader, Fran Hurcomb

Jolliffe Island House Ruins (formerly Axel Johnson)

MAP ID: C-102

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Jolliffe Island northeast tip (Lots 4-6, Block 15, Plan 68)

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: None

CURRENT USE: None

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Concrete foundation, cement chimney, and large rock gardens



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Ruins of concrete and a cement chimney mark the spot of a former house on Jolliffe Island's northeast shore near its most northern tip. The property was historically Lots 4,5,6 Block 15 and were originally owned by several different people until Axel Johnson acquired surface title to these lots in 1952 and 1953. Johnson was a carpenter and an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company, and had lived on Jolliffe as early as 1948 (presumably on another lot). It is believed Axel built this house after obtaining title or rebuilt an existing structure (see notes for previous titles).

Axel and his wife lived here throughout the 1950s. His wife passed away in 1959, but Axel remarried that same year. In the summer of 1960 Axel advertised a 3-lot property for sale on Jolliffe Island. It was described as a 5-room house with 2/3 basement, cement chimney, glassed-in porch, and large garden. Axel Johnson left Yellowknife in June 1961 for Prince Edward Island with his wife, dog, and cat. It is possible that Ken Stockall, a pilot with Ptarmigan Airways Limited across the narrows, lived here with his wife and five children, until his death in September 1962. Lot 5, Block 15 was advertised in an estate sale for Mike Peskoff's during 1963. Earl & Lois Dean eventually came to own the property and held title beginning August 4, 1964. The house burned down at some point, before summer 1967, when a photograph taken from over the island towards The Rock shows the foundation ruins of the house. Block 15 Lots 5 & 6 were listed for a Tax Sale by the City of Yellowknife in 1966, while Lot 4 was listed for a Tax Sale in 1967. However, the lot title was still held by the Deans into the 1980s and was eventually transferred to the City of Yellowknife in 1984.

Certificates of Title (Lot 5, Block 15, Plan 68): Axel Johnson, February 18, 1953 > Earl & Lois Dean, August 4, 1964 > City of Yellowknife, December 17, 1984

Certificates of Title (Lot 6, Block 15, Plan 68): Axel Johnson, June 4, 1952 > Earl & Lois Dean, August 4, 1964 > City of Yellowknife, December 17, 1984

NOTES:

Title to Block 15, Lot 4 was held by Edward Loney prior to October 1946. Thomas R. McPhillamy was awarded title in October 1947 and planned to erect a house, but by January 1950 McPhillamy had yet to occupy the lot with a residence and the lease was cancelled.

Block 15, Lot 5 was first awarded to E.J. Stewart in 1939. Magistrate Jack Gibben rented a house from Stewart in 1940-1941. Stewart transferred title to Elizabeth McCallum in 1944. McCallum transferred title to Cecil Oulton in 1945. Oulton transferred title to Beaulieu Yellowknife Gold Mines in 1947. Beaulieu transferred title to William Peters in 1948 who applied for a 21-year lease in November 1949. Peters subsequently transferred title to A.D. Wilmot who surrendered the lease in December 1952. Axel Johnson acquired new title shortly thereafter.

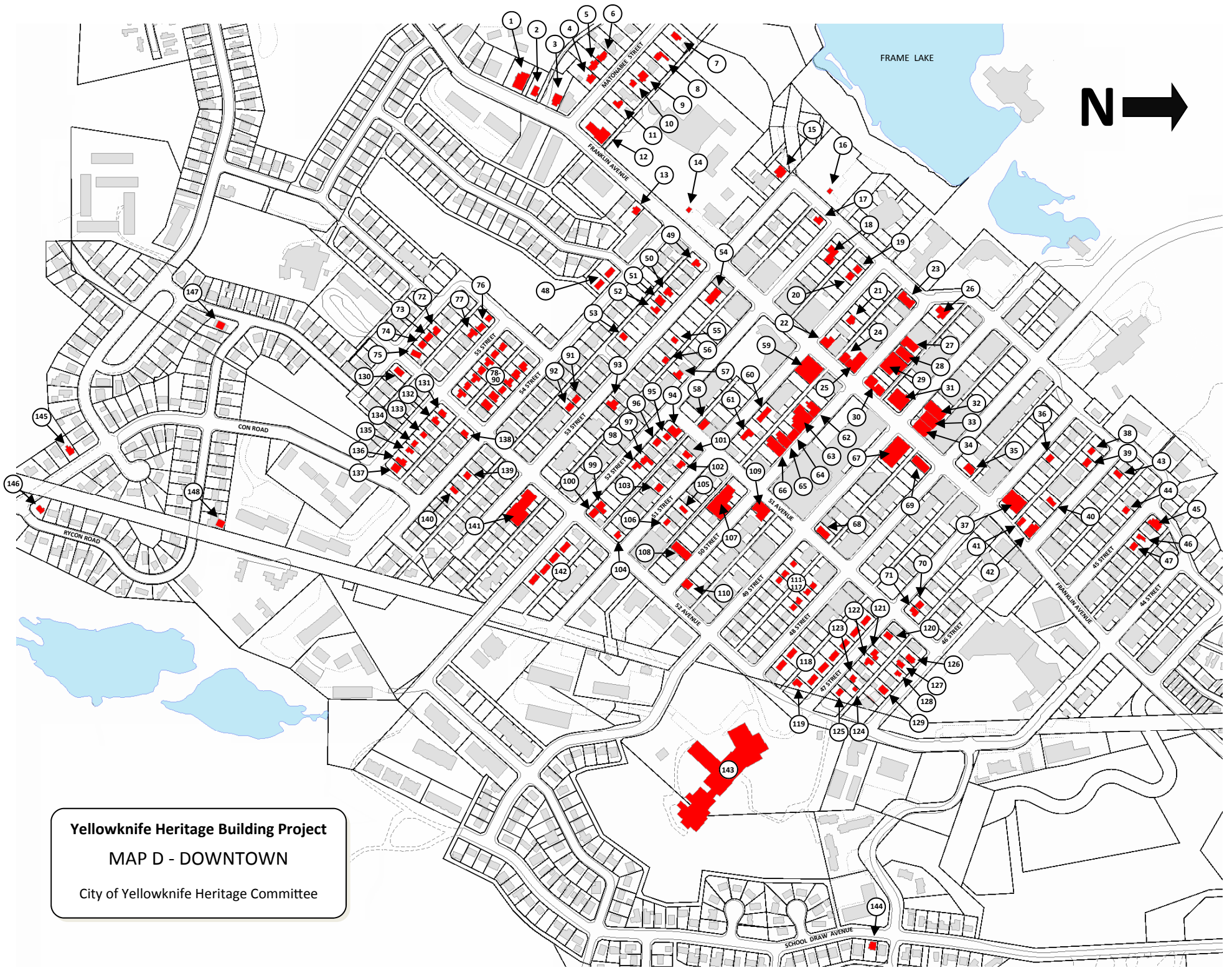
Block 15, Lot 6 was held by Herman Lange until May 1950, and sold to Axel Johnson in 1952.

REFERENCES:

News of the North Directory 1948; News of the North, March 12, 1959; Nov. 12, 1959; July 14, 1960; August 25, 1960; June 8, 1961
Heritage Building Inventory for Old Town, 1986
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles

Yellowknife Heritage Building Project

Part D – Downtown area



Yellowknife Heritage Building Project
MAP D - DOWNTOWN
City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee

Centre for Northern Families (formerly Detox Clinic)

MAP ID: D-1

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5610 Franklin Avenue (Lot 13-1, Block 62, Plan 1230)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Centre for Northern Families

CURRENT USE: Commercial and Residential

BUILT: 1969

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building was originally built in 1969 and was Yellowknife's medical clinic operated by Dr. Pearse O'Donoghue and Dr. Lloyd Powell at address 5616 Franklin Avenue, near the entrance to the Stanton Hospital (which at that time was where the Avens Senior Complex is now located). The clinic opened in May 1969 and remained at this location until May 1971 when the new medical clinic moved downtown (then called the "Professional Building", now the Jan Sterling Medical Office).

In March 1974 the City of Yellowknife granted permission to renovate the former O'Donoghue Medical Clinic into a Detoxification Centre. The Detox Centre had previously been located in a small renovated house downtown which was unsuitable. The Centre was opened in June 1974 at address 5610 Franklin Avenue. It was run by the Committee of Concern on Alcohol Problems (CCAP) funded by annual grants to the amount of \$100,000 provided by the Government of the NWT. Its first executive director was Jerry Busch, who was supported by nurse and program coordinator Dorothy Heward and a staff of seven. Originally run as a place for drunks to come and find a safe place to dry out, the CCAP was renamed the Northern Addiction Services in 1975 and began to offer formal 28-day rehabilitation programs.

By the 1980s the centre was being run by the Northern Addiction Services, funded entirely by the GNWT, with Thelma Tees as executive director. In 1991, Northern Addiction Services (with GNWT funding) opened a larger rehabilitation program on the highway to Dettah, and the two facilities operated in conjunction providing different levels of service. The Yellowknife Centre contained 8-beds and the program was temporary with most people staying between 5 and 10 days before being transferred to the Dettah facility where there were more programs available for clients that required isolation. In 1991/1992, the Detox Centre received \$725,000 to renovate and upgrade the building on Franklin Avenue. Government funding was pulled in 1999 and Northern Addiction Services was forced into debt and closure.

In January 2001, the Yellowknife Women's Society acquired a lease on the building from the NWT Housing Corporation to operate a women's shelter, known as "The Centre for Northern Families". Arlene Hache is the executive director. Some of the programs/services include: drop-in medical centre, emergency shelter for women and families, day-care, lunch program, food depot, and advocacy on social justice issues.

NOTES:

The front half if the original portion built in 1969.The back half of the structure was built some time later while it was the Detox Centre.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 1, 1969; May 13, 1971; March 27, 1974; June 26, 1974; August 14, 1974; November 12, 1975
The Yellowknifer, March 27, 1991; June 28, 1991
Northern News Services, July 2, 1999; January 12, 2001
Arlene Hache

House (formerly Signal Corp)

MAP ID: D-2

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5608 Franklin Avenue (Lot 12, Block 62, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: J.V. Developments Inc.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 36' x 27' plus porch



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 (one of three) and was staff housing for the Royal Canadian Corp of Signals. It was originally located on Lot 10-11, Block 61 (now Block 160, Mildred Hall school grounds). The Department of Transport took over the responsibilities of the RCCS in 1959 and continued to use these houses until 1962 when the property was reserved for the new school (Mildred Hall). The three houses located in this area were sold and moved from the property in the 1960s. Orville Zilkie, a mechanic with Frenchy's Transport and later (1970s-1980s) at Giant Mine, moved this house to its current location on Lot 12, Block 62 in about 1963, and continued to live here until 1992. The address in the 1970s was 5606 Franklin Avenue. Zilkie was also minister of the local Jehovah Witnesses church congregation in the 1960s-1970s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 12, Block 62, Plan 140): Orville Zilkie, August 19, 1963 > Jack & Kathy Marinic, July 31, 1992 > Les Rocher & Gwichin Development Corporation, April 20, 1994 > Les Rocher & Gwichin Properties, August 29, 1997 > J.V. Developments Inc., March 1, 2002

NOTES:

This house was the 'middle' of the three houses on Block 61, Lots 9-12, and is visible as having been removed from the site and at its current location in 1964 photography.

The house was destroyed by fire on November 7, 2015.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, January 31, 1963
GNWT Land Titles
City Files
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

Government Apartment

MAP ID: D-3

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Kam Lake Road, Arctic Farmer Nursery compound past Grace Lake

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1956-1957

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 37' x 41'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In December 1956, a “school apartment” was under construction on Lot 9, Block 62. The fourplex apartment was completed in 1957 for teachers that were hired to work at Sir John Franklin High School (opened in 1958). The lot was a reservation of the Department of Northern Affairs in May 1958, transferred to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. There is little record available of families who lived at this address. The federal Department of Public Works sold the building in 1994.

The building was vacated and boarded up in 2012. It was dismantled into two sections in 2013 and moved to the Arctic Farmer compound at the end of Kam Lake Road past Grace Lake for future use as a club house at the proposed new golf course.



NOTES:

Previously Lot 9, Block 62
5604 Franklin Avenue (Lot 18, Block 62, Plan 5602)

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Town Council Minutes
Dave Lovell

House (formerly YWCA Residence)

MAP ID: D-4

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4916 Matonabee St. (Lot 15, Block 62, Plan 1516)

CURRENT OWNER: Government of Canada

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1959

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In July 1959, Max King applied for a permit to build a house on Lot 8, Block 62. Max King was an insurance agent and manager of the Yellowknife Telephone Company. He was also secretary-treasurer of the Yellowknife Public School Board for many years. In 1963, King resigned from the School Board and closed his businesses. A year later, Max King was charged with fraud in connection to his dealings as secretary with the School Board. Scotty Stewart came to acquire the property after King left, and in 1966 Stewart sold the house to the YWCA for use as a women's hostel to provide some relief for the lack of suitable accommodations for graduates looking for local jobs. Grand opening of the shelter was on September 12, 1966, and Madam Vanier, wife of the Governor-General at the time, officiated the opening ceremony. Helen Law was executive director of the local YWCA chapter. The building was only meant for temporary use until the YWCA could build a more permanent hostel. The residence accommodated seven girls on a room and board basis, and most of the tenants were local girls employed by government. In 1967 capacity was expanded to 11 tenants. It had a relaxed home-like atmosphere and the large stone fireplace was a great spot for communal socializing. After many years of planning and fundraising, a new hostel was opened in December 1970 on the corner of 51st street and 51st avenue (old RCMP building). The old hostel on Matonabee Street (also called 56th St) was un-serviced without heat or power in December and during an attempt to thaw out pipes, a small fire broke out which damaged part of the house.

The house was ultimately repaired and converted into a residence for the RCMP 'G' Division senior staff administration that arrived in Yellowknife in August 1974. Residents have included: Superintendent A.M. Cart (1974-1975), Superintendent A.H. Butler (1975-1976), Superintendent Hugh Feagan (1981-1985), Superintendent Robert Head (1985-1987), and chief superintendent Ed Wilson (1988-1993).

While Hugh Feagan was living here in the early 1980s, he grew spectacular flower gardens which were commonly used in wedding photographs.

Certificates of Title (Lot 8, Block 62, Plan 140): Maxwell Oliver King, August 5, 1958 > Alexander Stewart, January 7, 1966

Certificates of Title (Lot 15, Block 62, Plan 1516): Commissioner of the NWT August 12, 1966 > Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada, August 14, 1972

NOTES:

Originally Lot 8, Block 62, Plan 140

REFERENCES:

News of the North, February 13, 1964; August 11, 1966; September 1, 1966; September 8, 1966; September 15, 1966; December 10, 1970; Jan. 28, 1971; August 28, 1974
City files
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles; Robin Weber
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Charles Callas)

MAP ID: D-5

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4914 Matonabee Street (Lot 7, Block 62, Plan 4367)

CURRENT OWNER: Judith Murdock

OCCUPANT: Judith Murdock and family

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Panabode log

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Chic Callas said that this house may have been built for a Wardair accountant. A building permit was issued for this lot to George Jullion, accountant, in August 1956. It is a prefabricated log design called panabode, but the exterior has been resided to mask the original design. Charles 'Edgar' and Wynne Callas bought the house in about 1967. Callas worked for the GNWT as a game officer and later as an accountant. Their son Chic grew up in the house and eventually bought it from his parents in 1983 together with wife Judith. The house remains in the Callas family today.

Certificates of Title (Lot 7, Block 62, Plan 140): Lindsay Sparks, November 10, 1952 > George Jullion (accountant), August 17, 1956 > Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, November 4, 1958 > Charles Edgar Callas (auditor), March 7, 1979 > Chic Charles George Callas (electrician), February 11, 1983 > Chic Callas & Judith Ann Callas, January 24, 1986 > Judith Anne Callas, April 29, 2005

Certificates of Title (Lot 7, Block 62, Plan 4367): Judith Murdock, October 12, 2011



NOTES:

Previously Lot 7, Block 62, Plan 140

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Town Council Minutes
Chic Callas, Judith Murdock

House

MAP ID: D-6

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4912 Matonabee Street (Lot 25, Block 62, Plan 3606)

CURRENT OWNER: David Tucker

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 by Graham Peter Bromley and was originally located on Lot 22, Block 33 (5005 – 53rd Street). When the Bromley family built a larger house on Lots 22 and 23 in 1956, the house was relocated to the current lot on Matonabee Street. Additions were made after the relocation. The house was acquired by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and was used as a manager's house for many years. It was thought that bank managers were living here since the 1950s, although land title documents suggest that Paul Frang was owner of this lot in the 1960s.

Bank managers who presumably lived here included: Don Oddie (1956-1963), and Bill Hladky (1963-1968), while it is confirmed that bank managers Alex Sinclair (1968-1972), Gerry Martin (1972-1973), Doug Sparrow (1973-1976), Barry Hill (1976-1978), Don Bossert (1978-1982), John Russell (1982-1985), and Richard Impett (1985-1987) were living here.

Certificates of Title (Lot 6, Block 62, Plan 140): Paul Frang (carpenter), February 10, 1964 > Paul & Joanne Frang, March 26, 1965 > Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, October 18, 1968

Certificates of Title (Lot 25, Block 62, Plan 3606): Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, December 5, 2000 > David & Jennifer Tucker, January 6, 2005 > 5508 NWT Limited, May 15, 2009



NOTES:

Previously Lot 6, Block 62, Plan 140

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Barb Bromley, Chic Callas, Judith Murdock
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Floyd Bartesko)

MAP ID: D-7

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4901 Matonabee Street (Lot 34, Block 61, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Carol Ann Johnson

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 26' x 38' plus back addition 12' x 8'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house was located here in 1947 as one appears in aerial imagery from that summer, and the 1948 insurance map. Floyd Ingles may have been the first holder of this lot under lease agreement. From 1948-1951, he held the garbage disposal contract for the settlement of Yellowknife and in November 1949 asked permission to move a garage from Lot 3 Block 13 to this property (Lot 29, Block 61). Daniel Leary held an early lease that was cancelled in 1951. Miles Stephens was living here in the late 1950s. Floyd Bartesko, a truck driver with the Town of Yellowknife, was living here in the 1960s. John & Lilliam Roy were living at this address in 1970. John was a truck driver with Frenchy's Transport. The front section was built in about 1972 and the entire house was jacked up and placed on a concrete basement. The property was listed as part of a judicial sale in October 1973. Robert & Irene Johnson were living here in 1977 and later acquired title. House is currently (2012) being re-sided from its original mustard yellow aluminum siding.

Certificates of Title (Lot 29, Block 61, Plan 140): Eleanor Matilda Morden (cook) October 13, 1953 > Miles Stephens (manager) January 17, 1956 > Municipality of Yellowknife, November 9, 1961 > Mary & Florian Sigmund Bartesko (heavy equipment operator) October 6, 1967 > Nikolaj Treeshin, March 3, 1971 > J.J. Holdings Limited, July 14, 1978 > Robert & Irene Johnson, December 30, 1985 > Irene Johnson, March 27, 1987 > Carol Ann Boothe, July 28, 1997

NOTES:

Previously Lot 29, Block 61



REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Barb Bromley, Jean Piro, Chic & Judy Callas
Town Council Minutes

House (Brock Parsons)

MAP ID: D-8

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4905 Matonabee Street (Lot 27, Block 61, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Brock & Mary Parsons

OCCUPANT: Brock & Mary Parsons

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

James Elliot, owner of Elliot-Hayes hardware stores, acquired a 21-year lease for this property on February 1, 1949. The property must have been mortgaged through the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation who were assigned the lease in June 1949. The Imperial Bank of Canada acquired title in 1957 and around that time Hugh McCaskill arrived as Bank of Commerce manager, and he probably lived here from 1957 to 1961 (when Imperial Bank merged with Canadian Bank of Commerce). Brock Parsons, a pilot with Wardair, has lived here with wife Mary since the 1960s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 27, Block 61, Plan 140): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Imperial Bank of Canada, March 1, 1957 > Brock & Mary Parsons, July 25, 1969



NOTES:

House is not in the 1948 insurance map.

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Barb Bromley, Jean Piro, Chic Callas, Judith Murdock

House (formerly Emile Lamoureux)

MAP ID: D-9

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4909 Matonabee Street (Lot 25, Block 61, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Robert & Susan Hawkins

OCCUPANT: Robert & Susan Hawkins

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 36' x 36'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Emile 'Frenchy' Lamoureux signed a 21-year lease for this property on April 1, 1949. Lamoureux was a construction contractor and owned "Frenchy's Transport" which had major contracts for construction, rock haulage, and expediting of supplies in the 1950s-1960s. It is unclear when the house was built but it was during the early 1950s. Frenchy Lamoureux died in 1970 and Frenchy's Transport was sold to Ritchie Mechanical Contractors. Joseph Severn was local manager of Frenchy's Transport during the 1970s and lived here until about 1986. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Robert Hawkins (owner since about 2003) conducted significant alterations to the structure during 2009-2010, adding a large second storey, and it no longer holds its original appearance.

Certificates of Title (Lot 25, Block 61, Plan 140): Central Mortgage Housing Corporation, August 20, 1953 > Emile J. Lamoureux (contractor) January 17, 1955 > Mary & Joseph Severn, June 19, 1970 > Caroline & Brian Gorman (dentist), August 26, 1987 > Kerry Gavan & Jay Saint (lawyer) March 8, 1989 > Robert & Susan Hawkins, June 13, 2003



NOTES:

House has had significant alterations and no longer holds original appearance.

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Chic Callas

House (formerly Peter Parker)

MAP ID: D-10

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4911 Matonabee Street (Lot 24, Block 61, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Didier Bourgois & Barb Hall

OCCUPANT: Didier Bourgois & Barb Hall

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s, 2002

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Hudson's Bay Company held first lease-hold tenure on this property, but it was cancelled in 1948. The RCMP held the property as a reservation from May 1951 to June 1957, followed by Department of Public Works from 1957 to 1976 when the property was transferred to the Government of the NWT. Thus, the house – probably built in the 1950s – was always a government staff house, although early residents are unknown. NWT Chief Magistrate Peter Parker (and wife Marion) was living here from 1962 to 1974. Didier Bourgois built the front addition in 2002.

Certificates of Title (Lot 24, Block 61, Plan 140): Commissioner of the NWT, September 30, 1980 > Peter J. Hart & Sheila Hart, May 7, 1987 > Didier Bourgois & Barb Hall, July 19, 2002



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

The Yellowknifer, August 22, 1974
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Didier Bourgois, Chic Callas

House (formerly Elliot Hayes Staffhouse)

MAP ID: D-11

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4915 Matonabee Street (Lot 22, Block 61, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Shaun Dean & April Taylor

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Elliot Hayes Limited, owner of a hardware store in Yellowknife, built this house for its staff. Dave Richards, manager of the store, was likely the first to live here in 1949. James Elliot acquired the first lease before 1948, followed by Dave Richards' one-year lease on April 1, 1948, renewed under a 21-year lease on February 1, 1949. The property must have been mortgaged through the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation who were assigned the lease in June 1949. Richards acquired title in 1953, but it was shortly transferred to the Canadian Bank of Commerce, possibly again through a mortgage arrangement. However, it is known that Richards left Yellowknife in 1956. The Bank of Commerce was using the house as a female staff residence in the 1960s. Fred Henne, a Yellowknife mayor, probably lived here in the late 1960s. Robert Hornbrook was a resident of this address in 1970 and sold potatoes.

Certificates of Title (Lot 22, Block 61, Plan 140): Dave W. Richards (hardware merchant) October 29, 1953 > Canadian Bank of Commerce, December 21, 1953 > Fred W. Henne, February 17, 1970 > Gunter & Elaine Richinger (electrician) February 17, 1970 > Gordon & Lynda Humphreys, May 30, 1984 > Wayne & Marilyn Barraclough (surveyor) December 14, 1988 > Don & Karen Tattrie, August 29, 1995 > Shaun Dean & April Taylor, March 15, 1999



NOTES:

House is visible in 1948 insurance map.
The front section is a more recent addition (1970s).

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Jean Piro, Chic Callas, Hans Vooros

Calvary-Baptist Church

MAP ID: D-12

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5502 Franklin Avenue (Lot 32, Block 62, Plan 1508)

CURRENT OWNER: Calvary Community Church

OCCUPANT: Calvary Community Church

CURRENT USE: Church

BUILT: 1947 & 1962, 1977 expansion

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Calvary-Baptist church was first established in 1947 by Reverend Ken Allaby on the corner of Matonabee St. and Franklin Ave. Opening services were held in August 1947. The church was expanded in 1962 with the construction of a 36' x 48' addition, supervised by Dewey Devries who arrived in Yellowknife as construction foreman in August 1962. Over 19,000 man hours of volunteer labour went into the construction. The new facility was open for its first service and dedication in December 1962. It now included a bible study, kitchen, nursery, and Sunday School. The original 1947 building remained as part of the new facility. Leaders of the church have included: Rev. J.K. Allaby (1947-1950), Rev. Judson Stade (1950-1954), Rev. John Milton (1955-1959), Pastor William Davidson (1961-1963), Pastor F. Dean Annis (1963), Pastor Ray Price (1964-1972), Rev. Ralph Easter (1972), Rev. Allen McPhedran (1972-1982), Pastor Gene Howard (1982-1984), Pastor Brad Crossley (1984-1989), Chris Mathisen (1989-1990), and Rod McLeish (1990-?).

The hall was also used for a short time as a classroom for special need children, run by the Retarded Children Association. First classes were held in June 1962 at the mine rescue station, and in 1963 classes were moved to the Calvary Church which was more suitable. The classes remained here until 1966 when the original Abe Miller Centre was completed. Moms & Tots daycare was using the church basement in the 1980s.

Further expansions were made in 1977 with the completion of an all new hall, expanding the capacity to 300 people. The old hall was converted into Sunday school classrooms, library, and meeting rooms. In 1983, the official name of the church was changed to 'Calvary Community Church'.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 22, 1947; November 15, 1962; December 13, 1962; January 3, 1963; Sept. 5, 1963
The Yellowknifer, June 16, 1977
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948



House (formerly Signal Corp)

MAP ID: D-13

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5405 Franklin Avenue (Lot 24, Block 60, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: NWT Community Services Corp.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 36' x 27' plus porch

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1948 and was staff housing for the Royal Canadian Corp of Signals. It was built the year after its two other sister houses were built. It was originally located on Lot 9, Block 61 (now Block 160, Mildred Hall school grounds). The Department of Transport took over the responsibilities of the RCCS in 1959 and continued to use these houses until 1962 when the property was reserved for the new school (Mildred Hall). The three houses located in this area were sold. This house was moved sometime after 1964.

The house was demolished in 2014 to make way for a new parking lot for the adjacent Northern United Place building.

Certificates of Title (Lot 24, Block 60, Plan 140): City of Yellowknife, February 6, 1980 > Yellowknife Education District #1, March 13, 1981 > James & Emily Murphy, October 11, 1985 > Serge Pilote, May 2, 2003 > NWT Community Services Corp., March 13, 2006



NOTES:

This house was still on Mildred Hall school grounds in a 1964 photograph. It was the most northerly of the RCCS houses on Lot 61, and was built in 1948 the year after the other two.

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
City Files
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

Log Cabin School

MAP ID: D-14

DESIGNATION: City of YK Heritage Building

ADDRESS: Franklin Avenue

CURRENT OWNER: YK School District #1

OCCUPANT: YK School District #1

CURRENT USE: Summer tourism

BUILT: 1937

CONSTRUCTION:

Log cabin, 16' x 18', hip roof



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This log cabin was built by Ray McPhee and Jim McDonald in about 1937 and was occupied by the Mining Corporation of Canada as a bunkhouse or kitchen. It was originally located in Old Town, Lot 10 North, Block 1, near the Mining Corporation warehouses and oil tank storage. In 1938, it was being used as an office for the Northern Exploration Company (who held title on this lot beginning on August 1, 1938 with a five year lease). During November 1938 a provisional school board for the community was organized with Charles Perkins as secretary, and D.T. Munroe, Walter Hill, and Bill Williams as directors. The group was tasked with finding a location for a school house in Yellowknife. Vera Lane's house was the first classroom, and in January 1939 this log cabin was acquired on a rental basis from Mining Corporation to be used as a semi-permanent school. D.A. Davies was the first school teacher. Twenty pupils were enrolled at the start of classes on January 31, of varying ages. The school followed the Alberta Curriculum. In March 1939, Mildred Hall arrived in Yellowknife to take over as full-time teacher, replacing Mr. Davies. The first season of classes ended in June with nine graduates. One of the early challenges to operating a school at the Old Town location was its proximity to the trail to the Glamour Alley district so there were always drunk miners snooping around the premise.

School reopened for a second season on September 5, 1939 with 21 pupils under the direction of Mrs. Hall, located in the same log cabin. Soon thereafter, it moved to a larger facility. The School Board elected a permanent slate of directors in August 1939 under Bill Williams, chairman, Albert Mercer, secretary, and director Fred Buckley. Motions were made to acquire a larger structure, owned by Mining Corporation and previously used as a bunkhouse. It is uncertain the exact date of the move, but Mildred Hall wrote that the second year of schooling (1939/1940) was held at the new building.

It is said that Francis McGurran and Denise Bouvier operated a laundry business in the log cabin in 1939 or 1940. In February 1940, Sid & Dorothy MacAulay, a radio operator with the Signal Corp, was living in the cabin. Its occupants and use after that date are unclear. The lease for Lot 10 North was assigned to Garnett Chambers on October 5, 1945, and a new-five year lease was signed by Chambers on August 1, 1948. Frank W. Anderson, mining engineer, then held title beginning in July 1952. With the transfer of property administration to the Municipality in the 1950s, the property was sold to Mr. Anderson under the new free-hold system in February 1955. The property was eventually owned by John Anderson-Thomson and he used it for storage. In 1987, because of the historical significance of the log cabin, it was decided by the City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee to preserve the building. It was moved from Old Town to beside the current Abe Miller Centre. In 1998 it was designated a City Heritage Building. In 2000, it was moved again to its current location in front of the new Mildred Hall School and the YK School District #1 made plans to renovate it to showcase early education in the city. No work was completed at that time however, and it took a group of community-minded women of the Red Hat Society (Yvonne Quick, Mildred Wilke, and BJ Miller) to open the cabin for summer-time educational programs in 2009 and 2010.

NOTES:

The second school was located on Lot 2, Block 1, where the Boyles Brothers shop is now. It was also only a temporary location, until the School Board could raise the funds to erect a permanent school. This facility was completed in November 1940 and was located at the so-named School Draw Avenue area. Mildred Hall did not live in this cabin and apparently lived in a rented house on Jolliffe Island and then in The Rock area. She did however live in the second schoolhouse which was larger.

REFERENCES:

The Prospector newspaper, January 28, 1939; February 18, 1939; March 4, 1939; July 1, 1939; July 8, 1939; September 3, 1939; September 9, 1939
Yellowknife: An Illustrated History
The Edmonton Journal, Nov. 5, 1938; The Calgary Herald, Jan. 6, 1940
News of the North newspaper, March 16, 1961; November 3, 2008
AANDC Lands Office, City Files

Yellowknife Apartments

MAP ID: D-15

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4906 – 53rd Street (Lot 28, Block 27, Plan 1388)

CURRENT OWNER: Lymar Management Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1958

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Yellowknife Apartments was built in 1958 by Denis O’Callaghan who operated a farm next door. The first advertisements were published in December 1958, renting one-bedroom suites. O’Callaghan used the concrete walls of an old root cellar used by his old farm as a foundation for part of the building. A cheap alternative to housing in early Yellowknife, the apartments were popular suites for government employees and specifically school teachers who worked at the nearby Public School.

In the 1960s the apartment was occupied primarily by teachers working at the nearby Public School, and the Yellowknife School District #1 was renting suites for their employees from O’Callaghan. In 1966, the School Board purchased the property from O’Callaghan to secure stable housing for the teachers. Clayton McChesney was living here for some years as a caretaker for the apartment on behalf of the School Board. In 1972, the apartments contained eight one-bedroom suites fully occupied by staff of the Yellowknife School District No. 1. At that time, the building was in need of renovations to bring it up to the new fire codes, including installing a new fire exit and extensive repairs to the structure and heating system and replacing windows. These renovations were completed in March 1973.

Probably around the same period, the roof was replaced with the current sloping roof line. The original roof was flat.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 4, 1958

The Yellowknifer, August 9, 1972

Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

Yellowknife School District No. 1 meeting minutes

David Lovell

Fireweed Studio (formerly Giant Mine explosive storage)

MAP ID: D-16

DESIGNATION: HERITAGE SITE

ADDRESS: 49th Avenue (City Hall grounds)

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: Fireweed Studio (YK Guild of Crafts)

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1939

CONSTRUCTION:

Log

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This cabin was built in 1939, at the Giant Mine property, during shaft sinking operations on the Brock gold vein by Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited. The Brock vein was developed during 1939-1940, and this cabin was located a short distance down the hill from the shaft, being used as a powder magazine where dynamite explosives were stored in a secure and dry shed. The magazine continued to be used in the 1940s during renewed mining operations at Giant, but it was no longer used for storage of explosives with the construction of modern magazine bunkers nearer to the new mine workings in the late 1940s. Later, the cabin was the location of reagent storage and other supplies as required.

In 1973, Giant Mine sold the old cabin to the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce for one dollar, and it was moved into Yellowknife. The Chamber planned to renovate the old cabin into a summer tourist cabin. Some work was completed in the summer of 1974, with the assistance of Poole Construction Limited who had the contract to build the new City Hall in the winter of 1974-1975. In exchange for storing some of their construction materials in the old cabin, Poole agreed to help restore the cabin. However, the building continued to be used for storage purposes until the summer of 1976 when the Chamber of Commerce, under executive director Ronne Hemming, opened the cabin to tourists. Some repairs were conducted to replace interior dry wall and flooring in 1988, and with the completion of a new visitor's centre in 1992 the cabin found alternative seasonal uses including the "Fireweed Studio" arts and crafts store operated by the Guild of Crafts since 1994. It was designated a City of Yellowknife Heritage Site in 1998.

The structure was removed from its foundation during landscaping at the new City Hall park in the summer of 2009 and given a new cement foundation, being relocated slightly to the north in the process. It continues to be used today as a summer tourist shop operated by the Yellowknife Guild of Crafts.

NOTES:

The official plaque is incorrect as this building was never used as a blacksmith shop. The Brock shaft shop was adjacent to the shaft in a frame building, while this building was located a fair distance from the Brock site.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 12, 1973; November 13, 1974; May 26, 1976; June 9, 1976
The Yellowknifer, April 18, 1974; April 6, 1988
Giant Mine maps and files

House (Dave Lovell)

MAP ID: D-17

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4908 – 52nd Street (Lot 4, Block 26, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: David Lovell

OCCUPANT: David Lovell

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Loxstave frame, 24' x 32' original, plus 12' x 20' back addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This original loxstave-style prefabricated house was erected in April 1947. The building was first ordered in the spring of 1946 and arrived in the fall of that year, but erection of the structure was delayed until the following spring because the lot had not been properly surveyed. It was built by Boyles Brother's Diamond Drilling Limited as staff housing, and was one of three identical houses built on this street for its employees. This specific house was the local manager's dwelling. Boyles managers who lived here included Mel Ashley (1946-1949), Louis Swiggum (1949-1952), Charles Tremblay (1952-1956), and R.L. Robertson (1956-1960).

Joseph "Russ" Lovell became local manager of Boyles Brothers in 1960, having previously been a shop foreman. He moved into the house with his family (wife Goldie, children David, John, and Laurie) in 1960. Lovell acquired the property in a land sale in July 1964 after it was relinquished by Boyles Brothers. Lovell continued as manager of Boyles Brothers (and later Inspiration Drilling) until he retired in 1977. His eldest son David subsequently purchased the property. David Lovell was mayor of Yellowknife from 1994-2000, and still lives here today.

When it was put up in 1947, Boyles did not expect that the gold boom would last long and did not plan on making a large investment in its staff housing. Although a basement was dug there was no permanent foundation and the house rested on timber blocks. Russ Lovell decided to invest after buying the lot and in 1964 he renovated the house and built a rear addition, and also dug out the rest of the basement and Haener & Anderson poured a cement foundation.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

The Yellowknifer, March 3, 1977
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
David Lovell; Laurell Graff

Holy Trinity Anglican Church

MAP ID: D-18

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4911 – 52nd St. (Lot 19-20, Block 25, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Holy Trinity Anglican Church of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: Holy Trinity Anglican Church of Yellowknife

CURRENT USE: Church

BUILT: 1950 & 1955

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Yellowknife's first Anglican service was held on Latham Island on June 11, 1939 in a small tent. By 1943, a permanent church had been erected in Old Town. The growth of the community in the post-war period suggested the need for a larger Anglican church and in 1949 Rev. Tom Greenwood made plans for construction of a larger facility in the downtown core. First sod-turning event was held in June 1950. A basement was built originally and in December 1950 the first service was held. Expansions followed with the completion of the facility in 1955, with a December 4, 1955 ceremony to christen the new church. The facility was again dedicated in April 1956 by the Bishop of the Arctic, High Reverend D.B. Marsh. Art Caldicott designed the church under the direction of a committee composed of Ken Grogan and Oliver Stanton, while Ivor Johnson was the contractor for both 1950 and 1955 construction. The basement became a parish hall with a kitchen and space for Sunday school activities. The original design was interior woodwork in a light natural finish, with amber-tinted cathedral glass in all windows, linoleum-tile flooring, and red-oak pews. The altar-table, rails, credence shelf, prayer desk and hymn boards were all built with local craftsmanship. The hand-carved pulpit was the work of George Clayton, mine superintendent of Con Mine. Hand-woven hangings were loomed by Ruth Stanton, and a large painting was the artwork of John McMullan. Chancel paneling was a memorial to the late Eleanor McNiven.

Alterations and additions (in 1980) increased capacity to 150 persons. In 1987, the electronic bell system was installed and still chimes throughout the day. Community groups have often run programs from the basement of the church. These included the Tree of Peace society in 1970, the YWCA Day Care in the 1970s, Boy Scouts, and the Side Door Youth Centre operated from the basement of the church from 1996-2002.

Leaders of the church at this location have included: Rev. Tom Greenwood (1949-1952), Rev. Robert Douglas (1952-1962), Rev. Ken Genge (1962-1968), Rev. Russ Ferrie (1969-1974), Rev. John Sperry (1974), Rev. Roger Briggs (1974-1978), Rev. Chris Williams (1978-1987), Rev. Terry Buckle (1987-1993), Rev. David Butterworth (1994-1998), Rev. Don Flumerfeldt (1999-2005), Rev. Ron McLean (2005 to 2012), and Rev. Joey Royal (2012-2015)

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 9, 1950; November 25, 1955; April 20, 1956
The Yellowknifer, July 26, 1995
Yellowknife Tales book
Barb Bromley

House (formerly John Parker)

MAP ID: D-19

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4910 – 51st Street (Lot 5, Block 25, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Bishop of the Arctic

OCCUPANT: Bishop of the Arctic

CURRENT USE: Office

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in the summer of 1947 and was residence of John Parker (and wife Claire), a local lawyer with the law firm “Parker & Parker”. When Parker left Yellowknife in 1958, the Government of Canada purchased the property for use as a staff residence. Frank & Grace McCall lived here from 1959 to 1961, and then again in the late 1960s-early 1970s. Frank was INAC mining recorder and later district administrator. They again left Yellowknife in 1971. George & Jackie Robertson were living at this address in 1977 – George was a civil servant with the Government of Canada as well. The Bishop of the Arctic, Catholic Church diocese, acquired the property in 1995 and have used it as office and guest house for visitors. It was resided with red vinyl in 2005.

Certificates of Title (Lot 5, Block 25, Plan 65): John Parker, April 10, 1957 > Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, March 31, 1959 > City of Yellowknife, November 22, 1995 > The Bishop of the Arctic, November 22, 1995



NOTES:

House is visible in 1947 aerial imagery (Yellowknife: An Illustrated History)

REFERENCES:

News of the North, January 22, 1959; March 30, 1961
AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife: An Illustrated History
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978

House (formerly Walter Cleland)

MAP ID: D-20

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4912 – 51st Street (Lot 6, Block 25, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Kevin Mackie

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residence

BUILT: 1954

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 24' x 36'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built by Walter Cleland, a local carpenter, in 1954. Cleland acquired the property in a land sale in June 1952. He applied for a permit to construct a residence on this lot in February 1954. The Government of Canada bought the property in 1957 and used it for many years as a staff house for civil servants stationed in Yellowknife. It was the residence for the officer in charge of the local Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment, including Sergeant R.E. Guy in 1958-1961. Other residents are not clear.

Certificates of Title (Lot 6, Block 25, Plan 65): Walter Cleland (carpenter) July 23, 1952 > Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, December 2, 1957 > Kevin O'Brien, December 19, 1996 > 974190 NWT Limited, September 19, 2001 > Kevin Mackie, October 15, 2003



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife: An Illustrated History
Town Council Minutes, Feb. 10/54

House (formerly Lanky Muyres)

MAP ID: D-21

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4917 – 51st Street (Lot 16, Block 24, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Lesley Muyres

OCCUPANT: Lesley Muyres

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1953

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 25' x 28'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Contractor Marcus E. “Lanky” Muyres built this house in 1953 following a successful contract to erect hydro power line from Bluefish Lake to Discovery Mine, the income from which went towards construction of the residence. Lanky and wife Joyce (“Smitty”) lived here for many years; Lanky died in 1972, and Smitty in 1998. Daughter Lesley has lived here ever since. A new roof was built in 2007.

Certificates of Title (Lot 16, Block 24, Plan 65): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Marcus E. Muyres, May 9, 1958 > Joyce Muyres, April 17, 1974 > Lesley Joyce Muyres, October 1, 1996



NOTES:

Marcus E. Muyres was assigned the lease on this lot in October 1949

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Rick Muyres

Harley's Hard Rock Saloon (formerly La Gondola)

MAP ID: D-22

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5018 Franklin Avenue (Lot 26, Block 24, Plan 1850)

CURRENT OWNER: Bromley & Son Limited

OCCUPANT: Harley's Hardrock Saloon (basement) and The Shirt Shack (upstairs)

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1970

CONSTRUCTION:



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

"The Sportsman", Ted Yaceyko's sporting goods store, was originally located on this lot, but not in this building. In August 1969, Jack Glick evicted Yaceyko from the property and Dario Tomasi began construction of a new licensed restaurant. After several delays, construction continued in April 1970 when the frame of the building was erected. Grand opening was held on August 15, 1970. The cocktail lounge and restaurant featuring Italian and Canadian cuisine, was called "La Gondola". Address in 1970 was 5010 50th Avenue. Dario Tomasi was the proprietor. In September 1970, the "Cantina Cocktail Lounge" opened in the basement of the building. Both "La Gondola" and "Cantina" operated together into the 1970s and was a very popular place to eat and watch live entertainment. The bar/restaurants underwent many changes over the years as new owners came and went. The following is a summary of tenants.

Upstairs Tenants:

"La Gondola" (1970-1973), "Brief Encounter Steak Loft" (1973-1975), "La Gondola Steak Loft" (1975-1977), "Mike Marks Chinese Restaurant" (1977-1995), "Hong Kong Garden Restaurant" (1995-1996), "Pan Asian Gourmet House" (1996-2008), and "Shirt Shack" (2008-present).

Downstairs Tenants:

"Cantina Cocktail Lounge" (1970-1975), "La Gondola Lounge" (1975-1977), "Cantina Cocktail Lounge" (1977-1978), "Cantina Lounge & Steak Pit" (1978-1979), "The Float Base Cocktail & Dining Lounge" (1980-1995), and "Harley's Hardrock Saloon" (1995-current)

"Harley's Hard Rock Saloon" opened its bar and strip club in the basement in 1995. The paintings of two scantily clad women miners drew more than a dozen complaints. Chris Flannagan acquired the Harley's business when Fred Squires left town in 2007. "Shirt Shack" is a Harley's clothing store, located above the bar.

Certificates of Title (Lot 26, Block 24, Plan 1850): Bromley & Son Ltd, September 1, 1978

NOTES:

Pan Asian Gourmet House was listed at 5014 Franklin in the 1990s

REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 21, 1969; October 16, 1969; April 16, 1970; August 13, 1970; September 24, 1970; October 10, 1973; November 14, 1973; June 18, 1975; May 11, 1977 The Yellowknifer, August 27, 1980
CNT Phone Directory 1973; Yellowknife City Directory 1970
GNWT Land Titles; NWT Phone Books

Old Power Commission Offices

MAP ID: D-23

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4908 – 50th St. (Lot 4, Block 24, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: NWT Metis-Dene Development Fund

OCCUPANT: Edge YK magazine office

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1964

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel building

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Northern Canada Power Commission operated the Snare River Hydro Station, which opened in 1948. The plant was originally operated at a site facility but in 1964 it was decided to move most of the staff to Yellowknife and operate the hydro from a remote control center. This one-storey steel structure was built in the fall of 1964 as a control centre, offices, and vehicle garage for NCPC personnel. Full commissioning of the remote control system was completed in the summer of 1965. Graham Tench was NCPC manager from 1964 to 1966, followed by Ed Newcombe (1966-1973), Joe Pine (1973-1974), Tony Yewchuk (1974), Ed Jones (1970s), and John Allen (1978). Northern Canada Power Commission (later Northwest Territories Power Corporation) continued to use this as an area office until August 1998 when its administration offices were moved to Jackfish Lake. Raven Tours occupied the building for a short time after that.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 24, Plan 65): Frame & Perkins Ltd, March 22, 1965 > Her Majesty The Queen in the Right of Canada, March 22, 1965 > Aurora Properties Ltd, September 29, 1998 > Aurora World Corporation, December 19, 2002 > NWT Metis-Dene Development Fund, July 17, 2009

NOTES:

Underwent roof repairs in 2012.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 22, 1964

The Yellowknifer, August 5, 1998

Annual Report of the Northern Canada Power Commission, March 31 1965 and 1966

GNWT Land Titles; NWT Phone Books

Old Northern Groceries & Meats

MAP ID: D-24

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5008-5010 Franklin Ave. (Lot 25, Block 24, Plan 1850)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Hairada Hair Design, A-1 Financing and Loans

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey, original building 26' x 40'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

From 1947-1950, this building housed Ed Berg's "The Style Shop" clothing outlet and was located in Old Town on Franklin Road (Lot 1, Block 75). Grand opening of The Style Shop was on July 14, 1947. It closed in June 28, 1950 and Ed Berg left town. Ken and Bill DeNike may have then operated their clothing store from the building. In May 1952, the building was purchased by Dennis O'Callaghan and moved to its present location in the downtown core and opened as "O'Callaghan's Cash & Carry Groceries" store in August 1952. In May 1955, the business was acquired by Eric Sanders who renamed it "Northern Groceries & Meats". John and Shirley MacDonald bought the store from Sanders in June 1959 and continued to operate for about a year. Dennis O'Callaghan remained owner of the property.

During 1962, the building was advertised for sale. It held many commercial tenants in the 1960s-1970s at address 5004 Franklin Avenue. One of the early tenants was Yellowknife Laundry and Dry Cleaners who ran a coin-operated laundromat service here beginning in August 1962 until about 1968. "Pantastic" clothes may have been located here in the early 1970s. Other known tenants included "Arctic Real Estate (1973-1978)", "Northern Rubber Stamps", "Watkins Health Foods" (1979) and as a campaign office for Western Arctic MP Dave Nickerson. The building was renovated by owners Harold Glick and Liz Maybroda in 1980 to house new commercial tenants. Some of the longest tenants after the 1980 renovations were: "Realistic Realty" (1980-1992), Gary Boyd's law office (1980-1982), "The Split Pea" café (1986-c.1996), "On The Avenue Hair Design" (upstairs, 1987-1994), and "Hairada Hair Design" (upstairs, 1995-current). Address in the 1980s-1990s was 5004 Franklin Avenue.

The stone façade was built in 2000 during a downtown beautification project.



NOTES:

Formerly Lot 12, Block 24

Building was known as the Dawn Building in the 1970s-1980s.

Original address was 5004 Franklin Avenue until sometime in the 1990s.

REFERENCES:

News of the North June 6, 1947; July 18, 1947; July 27, 1947; June 23, 1950; May 23, 1952; August 1, 1952; May 27, 1955; June 11, 1959; August 2, 1962; June 8, 1980

The Yellowknifer, August 6, 1980

NWT Phone Books

50-50 Mini Mall (former Yellowknife Radio)

MAP ID: D-25

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5002-5006 Franklin Ave. (Lot 25, Block 24, Plan 1850)

CURRENT OWNER: Bromley & Sons Limited

OCCUPANT: Various commercial tenants

CURRENT USE: Commercial and offices

BUILT: 1968

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The mall complex was constructed in 1968 to house three businesses – Harold Glick’s new “Yellowknife Radio” electronics and furniture store (1968-1991), Liz Maybroda’s “The Tog Shop” clothing store (1968-1986), and “Eldonn’s Jewelry” (1968-1972). Solar Construction Limited was the contractor. Official opening was in December 1968. For a brief period in 1978-1979, “The News of the North” ran its newspaper printing business from an office in the top floor after its own building had been destroyed by fire.

In 1984, Harold Glick renovated the building and converted it into a mini mall. Grand opening of the “50/50 Mini Mall” (sometimes referred to as “50 Centre”) was on November 17, 1984. The mall was again renovated in 1986 to allow several new shops. Some of the original tenants of the 50/50 Mini Mall included: “Norm’s Stationary & Office Supplies” (1984-1993), “Toy House” (1984-1987), “Our Place” cocktail lounge (1984-2008), “Flowers by Manuella” (1984-2012), “Western Arctic Video” (1984-1986), “Sasha’s Jewelry” (1986-2012), “Foot Steps” (1986-1990), “Cheshire Cats” (1986-1992), “Fabrics N Sew On” (1986-1991), “Top of the World Travel” (1986-1987), and “Eva of Europe” (1986-1987).

Harold Glick of “Yellowknife Radio” was the original owner of the building. When the Glick family retired from business in 1986, the building was sold as was “Yellowknife Radio”, which became part of Ron William’s Home Electronics Ltd. “Radio Shack” franchise, and moved to the Centre Square Mall in 1991. Harold and son Murray Glick installed the ‘Franklin Flasher’ sign on the outside of the building in the summer of 1985. It was a very popular feature in the downtown core.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 8, 1968; December 12, 1968
The Yellowknifer, November 14, 1984; July 31, 1985; May 28, 1986
NWT Phone Books

Side Door Youth Centre (formerly Mine Rescue Station)

MAP ID: D-26

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4903 – 50th St. (Lot 30, Block 23, Plan 2509)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Side Door Youth Centre

CURRENT USE: Youth recreation centre

BUILT: 1950. Extensive renovations and additions 2001

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, two-storey with full basement, 63' x 36' original with new front addition 2001



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Plans for a mine rescue station for Yellowknife gold mines was first seriously proposed during 1947 in meetings between mines and the Federal Government, through the NWT Mine Safety Association. A proposal was approved in 1949 with the government agreeing to pay for construction of a building provided that the mining companies provide equipment and pay for its operations on an annual basis. A location central to the operating mines in the community (Con, Giant, and Negus) was chosen, located in the downtown core of Yellowknife. The station was constructed during 1950 and 1951. It was designed by Art Caldicott, an architect employed by Con Mine. On April 15, 1951, Fred Dunn was appointed mine rescue superintendent responsible for safety training in the NWT. It included a two-bay ambulance garage, meeting rooms, storage, and a family-suite upstairs for the superintendent.

Mine rescue and first aid training was offered to all mine employees and the first classes began in 1951. Starting in 1955, the NWT mines began organizing first aid teams for competition, and in 1956 the first mine rescue mock competitions were held and have been an annual event ever since. The building was damaged in a December 1957 fire but repairs were completed with little interruption to operations. The building was a popular place to rent for socials and parties and was also a location for community x-rays. The hall was also used for a short time as a classroom for special need children, run by the Retarded Children Association. Barbara Searle was the teacher of four kids when classes started in June 1962.

Mine rescue superintendents were: Fred Dunn (1951-1958), Leo Comeau (1958-1971), Noland Boss (1971-1982), and Ed Castillo (1982-1996). A committee of mining companies and government officials helped to organized training and events, through the NWT Mine Safety Association and later the Territories Mine Accident Prevention Association. In 1982, responsibility for mine rescue training was transferred from the Federal the Territorial governments and by 1990 the station was no longer in regular use and was used only for storage by the GNWT. The building was vacated by the GNWT in 1995/1996.

In 2000, the building was acquired for use as a youth recreational centre. The property was transferred from the GNWT to the Side Door Youth Centre. Asbestos removal and hydrocarbon decontamination were completed. Diavik Diamond Mines Inc and the City of Yellowknife helped sponsor the project (over \$500,000 raised) and it opened after extensive renovations in April 2002.

NOTES:

Previously Lots 22-24, Block 23, Plan 65

REFERENCES:

News of the North, Dec. 12, 1957; June 14, 1962
Northern News Services, Sept. 22, 1999; July 14, 2000; April 10, 2002
Heritage Building Inventory for New Town, 1990
History of the NWT Mine Rescue Program, Ryan Silke 2008

A Taste of Saigon (formerly Coca-Cola Bottling Plant)

MAP ID: D-27

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4913 – 50th St. (Lot 18, Block 23, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Taste of Saigon restaurant

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1949

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame. Two-storey. 28' x 48' original. 50' x 40' back additions.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In 1948, Sam Peterson and Mr. Auger were awarded the contract to represent the Coca-Cola franchise in Yellowknife and "Peterson & Auger Limited" was incorporated. Title to Lot 18, Block 23 was acquired with a one-year lease on February 1, 1948, followed by a 21-year lease on February 1, 1949. Bottling operations began in September 1948.

Sam Peterson acquired the business interests of Mr. Auger in 1951. An addition in 1952 provided room for improved bottling machinery, while an addition on the rear of the lot became apartments and commercial space. Some of the commercial tenants during the 1953-1955 period included the Yellowknife Travel Agency run by Bob Borden, a public stenographer, and Bill Holden's insurance company. In 1961, the business was sold to Neil Orser who retained the name Peterson & Auger Limited because he was too lazy to change it. They also bottled Sprite and Fanta soft drinks in the 1960s which were Coca-Cola products. By the 1980s, Clare Berube was plant manager, with bottling operations producing Fanta, Coke, Sprite, Fresca, and Canada Dry Products. Northern Vending Limited and Northern Snack Foods (distributor of Old Dutch food products) was also operating from this address in the 1980s.

By 1986 the bottling plant was running with very old equipment and it was difficult to replace parts and acquire supplies that worked with the obsolete system. It was considered too expensive to modernize the bottling operations, especially considering the cost-saving benefits of trucking pre-bottled pop to Yellowknife from the south. Neil Orser announced the shut down of bottling operations in November 1986. The company then focused on local distribution of soft drinks and chips. Peterson & Auger Limited was bought by Roger and Jack Walker in 1988 and it continues to operate today as only one of a few independent Coke distributors in Canada.

Subsequent tenants of the main building have been "The Side Pocket" pool hall (1993-1999), "Chic Chik" clothing store (2000-2003), and "A Taste of Saigon Vietnamese" restaurant (2004-current).

Recent tenants in the upstairs apartments have included "The Centre for Northern Families" who organized English-language courses for new immigrants during 2006, "Dave Brosha Photography" (2009-2012), and "The Artist Run Community Centre" (2012-2015).

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North September 17, 1948; October 8, 1948; May 23, 1952; August 1, 1952; July 1, 1955 The Yellowknifer, November 26, 1986
Northern News Service, October 29, 2003
Heritage Building Inventory for New Town, 1990
NWT Phone Books



Twist Bar (formerly Legion Hall, and The Office Cocktail Lounge)

MAP ID: D-28

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4915 – 50th St. (Lot 17, Block 23, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: 953754 NWT Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Twist Bar (upstairs), Fuego Lounge (downstairs)

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1952, 1967

CONSTRUCTION:

40' x 80'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The structure was first used by the local Royal Canadian Legion, Local #164, Vincent Massey Branch in 1952. The Legion Branch was first formed on November 21, 1945, and operated from the old community hall in Old Town. A new hall was eventually required, and this structure on the downtown lot was financed by Legion membership in 1952. The first club function was held in the new hall during Christmas 1952, with grand opening – and inauguration as the Vincent Massey Hall, the governor-general of Canada at the time – in February 1953. It started off as only a basement. Additions were made in late 1953 for new pool tables, and in July 1955 there was another official opening of an expanded hall. In 1966, the Legion announced a plan to double the size of the hall at a \$40,000 budget, to be financed by a 5% debenture over nine years. The renovated and expanded Legion (encompassing an elevated ground floor) opened in December 1967.

The Royal Canadian Legion remained at this location until 1978 when it moved to a larger building on Franklin Avenue. A group of Yellowknifers made ambitious plans to open a Disco Dance Hall in the building during 1979, but funding and planning fell through. The owners of the building, Carol Denison and Dan Wilde, were trying to sell the property at the same time.

“The Office Cocktail Lounge” took over the basement from December 1979 to 2008, followed by “Fuego Lounge” (2008-current). The upstairs of the building was converted to rental commercial offices and there were several businesses operating from this address in the 1980s-1990s (called the Denison Building at that time) including: “MacKay & Partners” chartered accountants (1980-1981), “Polar Painting Limited” (1983-1986), “Sunshine Realty Corp.” (1984-1993), “Mackenzie Media” cable television provider offices (1983-1992), and Wilde United Corporation Limited. “Twist Bar” operated by Kavin Paradis opened in the renovated upstairs section in 2008. The street front was rebuilt in the summer of 2009 to provide room for an outdoor patio.

NOTES:

The address was known as the Denison Building in the 1980s.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, July 4, 1952; September 5, 1952; December 19, 1952; February 27, 1953; November 20, 1953; July 29, 1955; May 26, 1966; December 21, 1967; February 14, 1979; December 14, 1979
The Yellowknifer, October 26, 1978; December 19, 1979
NWT Phone Books

Telephone Exchange Building

MAP ID: D-29

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4919 – 50th St (Lots 15-16, Block 23, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Northwestel Inc.

OCCUPANT: Northwestel Inc.

CURRENT USE: Telecommunications, offices

BUILT: 1968-1969

CONSTRUCTION:

Concrete and steel

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This structure was built during 1968-1969 by Canadian National Telecommunications to house its expanded offices and telephone exchange network for Yellowknife and the Northwest Territories. The new offices opened for business in February 1969. New telephone networks were installed in the City and placed into service effective July 13, 1969, requiring that all telephone users dial a full 7-digit number. The established exchange for Yellowknife in 1969 was prefix 873. Subscribers to telephone service were 1400 in 1969, compared to 513 in 1960 when CNT first took over the telephone system. Official opening, with NWT Commissioner Stuart Hodgson master of ceremony, was held in October 1969.

Northwest Telecommunications was incorporated as a wholly-owned subsidiary of CNT in July 1978 and began telephone service in the western arctic on January 1, 1979. The company was renamed Northwestel Inc. in 1980 and continues to provide services in the NWT today using this building as part of its network systems.

The office was the location of Yellowknife's first outdoor pay phone in June 1982. In 1985, Northwestel installed a new digital telephone exchange system to replace the old electromagnetic exchange.

Offices of the company moved to the Northwestel Tower upon completion in February 1990.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, February 13, 1969; June 26, 1969; October 16, 1969; October 30, 1969
The Yellowknifer, June 16, 1982; February 28, 1990
www.northwestel.net
NWT Phone Books

Sutherland's Drug Store

MAP ID: D-30

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4908-4910 Franklin Avenue (Lot 25, Block 23, Plan 1850)

CURRENT OWNER: W.J.F. Investments Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Sutherland's Drugs, The Cellar bar, Sushi North

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1956, 1968

CONSTRUCTION:

original 50' x 45', addition 40' x 55'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Sutherland's Drug Store was started in Fort McMurray in 1917 by Angus Sutherland. Mineral activity around Great Slave Lake resulted in the opening of a Yellowknife store in 1938 in Old Town. Walter Hill and Angus Sutherland were owners until 1951 when Doug and Wilma Finlayson bought the business, with Andrew Blackberg as a partner. Finlayson was a graduate pharmacist from the University of Saskatchewan. The current Sutherland Drug store was built in 1956 as a new downtown location, a much larger and brighter storefront than the building it replaced. Grand opening of the store was in November 1956. It was decorated with white and pastel shades and the all-metal counters were the latest design in pharmaceutical dispensary. Roy Giles joined the business as pharmacy manager in 1962 and became partner in 1967. Doug Finlayson died in 1975 and his son Wallace took over management of the store.

An addition on the alley-side of the lot was completed in 1968 to provide additional commercial tenants (in the basement and upstairs) and an expanded storefront on the main floor. The first businesses here (at address 4908 Franklin Avenue) were Doug Finlayson's 'The Hoist Room' restaurant and lounge in May 1969 (in the basement), Brian Purdy law office (main floor), and Wardair's town office in January 1969 (upstairs). Owners of the business have included: Doug Finlayson (1951-1975), Andrew L. Blackberg (1951-1963), Roy Giles (1967-1989), Wallace Finlayson (1975-current), and Stephen Gwilliam (1986 to current).

Commercial tenants of the expansion (4908 Franklin Avenue) have included:

Basement: "The Hoist Room" restaurant and bar (1969-1990), former NHL hockey player Vic Mercredi's "Overtime Sports Bar" (1990-1991), "Bistro on Franklin" (1992-2000), "Jose Locos" Mexican restaurant (2000-2005), "Surly Bob's Sports Bar" (2006-2012), and "The Cellar" bar (2013-current).

Main Floor: Brian Purdy barristers & solicitors (1969-1976), Cooper, Johnson, Wilson barristers & solicitors (1977-1984). In 1984, Sutherland Drugs expanded into the remainder of the commercial space on the main floor.

Upstairs: Wardair (1969-1976), Lanky Insurance Agencies (1969-1975, 1976-1977), Loberg Agencies (1978-1979, 1984-1991), NWT Chamber of Mines (1992-1999), Centurion Security Services (2000-2005), and Sushi North (2006-current)

NOTES:

Originally Lot 13, Block 23, Plan 65



REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 16, 1956; June 20, 1963
The Yellowknifer, October 31, 1984; January 23, 2002
NWT Phone Books

Post Office (formerly Federal Building)

MAP ID: D-31

DESIGNATION: HERITAGE SITE

ADDRESS: 4902 Franklin Ave. (Lot 11-12, Block 23, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: 6133 NWT Limited

OCCUPANT: Canada Post

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1955-1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A downtown post office and government office had been planned for Yellowknife for many years, and Lots 11-12 Block 23 had been reserved for this purpose as early as 1950. The need for a “Federal Building” was at the forefront of downtown planning but a lack of funding delayed the project until 1955. C.H. Whitham Ltd. was awarded the contract to build a post office in July 1955 and construction began. The post office opened for business on April 30, 1956 and the grand opening ‘ribbon-cutting ceremony’ was held on July 18, 1956. In 1958, Ivor Johnson was awarded a contract to make alterations to the building, including changes to the post office, and the addition of the small third floor section which sits like a box on the top of the centre of the building. A fire in January 1968 gutted parts of the upstairs which caused fire and flood damage to offices throughout the structure. Postmasters of the new Yellowknife office included Art Umbach (1956-1963), Al Mitchell (1963-1966), Nick Komisar (1967-1971), Doug Fraser (1971-1975), Alan G. Mitchell (1975), Janet Thompson (1975-1979), Edward Sphur (1979-1980), Norm Achtzener (1981-1987), and Keith Miller (1987-1996). The post office began delivering residential parcels in 1976 and Ed Boxer was the first delivery manager using a fleet of three van trucks. Another proposal in the 1970s was mail carrier delivery, but this did not prove feasible. Most residents had their mail come directly through the post office for pickup using a general delivery system - this also proved unfeasible with a larger city population in the 1980s. Site post office boxes based on uniform street address was begun during 1982-1983, while the old X0E-1H0 postal code was phased out and replaced by X1A prefixes.

Federal government offices and the new court house were located on the second floor. It was the official courthouse for the Northwest Territories for many years, until the new courthouse was completed in June 1978. Some of the government offices located here in the 1960s included the Canadian Wildlife Service (c.1960-1961), the Resident Geologist of INAC (1958-1962), Department of Energy and Mines (c.1968), Canada Manpower Centre (c.1968), and private apartments.

The building was fitted with a coal chimney although the building never had a coal furnace installed. Later the chimney was filled with sand and dirt when the government “finally realized that no coal was coming.” Significant exterior changes and renovations were conducted in the 1990s and the building lost much of its original appearance with the completion of a new façade and windows. In 2010, the Government of Canada sold the building on the open market as part of a national property surplus. 6133 NWT Limited acquired the building. Canada Post continue to lease space in the building and it remains Yellowknife’s primary post office. The building was designated a Heritage Site in Yellowknife during 2010.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, July 15, 1955; April 27, 1956; July 13, 1956; July 20, 1956; September 18, 1958; Dec. 12, 1963; Feb. 1, 1968; December 17, 1975; September 28, 1977; June 23, 1978 The Yellowknifer, July 14, 1982
Sandy Louitit in Yellowknife Tales book, pg. 49
NWT Phone Books

Elks Hall

MAP ID: D-32

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4919 – 49th Street (Lot 15, Block 22, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Yellowknife Elks Club

OCCUPANT: Yellowknife Elks Club

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1950 basement, 1959 top floor

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete, 100' x 50' plus 10' x 15' side entrance addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Yellowknife Elks Local #314 was formed on August 19, 1948 and its first club house was the Negus Mine recreation hall. After a year of fundraising the Elks were able to begin construction of their own clubhouse, which opened in the summer of 1950 as a basement in the downtown core, 49th Street. That first stage was built by Slim Domgaard. In May 1959, a building permit was issued to finish the structure, which was built by Billy Wilson of Yellowknife Builders & Suppliers Limited, with labour donated by Elks club members. Grand opening was held in November 1959. In the basement were club rooms and a private members lounge. On the main floor was a dance floor which was rented out for special occasions. Harry Pysmenny was manager of the Elk's Lodge in the 1960s.

After the Yellowknife Stanton Hospital was destroyed by fire in May 1966, the Elks Hall was converted into a temporary hospital. From May to November 1966, it served this important community function. The basement club rooms were converted into an operating room and offices, while the main floor was divided into hospital wards. Pool tables were used as hospital beds, medicines were dispensed from behind the bar, the nursing station was on the dance stage, and patients were laid on every available floor. Babies born at this make shift hospital became known as “bar-room babies” or “Elks babies”. A new hospital opened by the end of the year and the Elks was returned to the club.

The Elks Hall has also played a very important political role in the community and the NWT as a whole, having served as the seat of government beginning in 1968. The NWT Council continued to sit at the Elks into the 1970s when the Council Chambers were moved to the basement of the Yellowknife Inn. The first Annual Commissioners Ball (the government's official party held in the honour of the NWT Commissioner Stuart Hodgson) was held at the Elks in January 1969. The first televised session of Council debates was held at the Elks Hall in January 1972. By 1973, the NWT Council was meeting at the renovated Yellowknife Inn. The Elks was also the early location of the Daughters of the Midnight Sun Annual Spring Dance. The Elk's Hall basement was renovated during 1980 to provide new offices, dance floor, and washrooms.

It continues to serve an important role in community social affairs and is a popular spot for Bingo Games, annual Halloween parties, and weekly bar socials such as Steak Night or Scotch Night.

NOTES:

Renovations to the Legion Hall were initiated in late 2012 to improve services.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 4, 1950; December 3, 1959; November 17, 1966; January 16, 1969; January 13, 1972
The Yellowknifer, April 16, 1980
Harry Pysmenny, Dave Lovell, Jean Piro

NWT Commerce Place (formerly Cunningham Building)

MAP ID: D-33

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4921 – 49th St. (Lot 14, Block 22, Plan 417)

CURRENT OWNER: Northern REIT

OCCUPANT: YK Bookseller, YK Chamber of Commerce

CURRENT USE: Commercial and Office

BUILT: 1967

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel and concrete. Three storey.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This was originally called the “Cunningham Building” and was the first offices of the Territorial Government when it arrived in Yellowknife in 1967. Construction began in July 1967 by O.I. Johnson, construction contractor. Newton Wong and Randy Pon of “YK Food Centre” orchestrated the construction which was part of an expansion of its adjacent grocery store. The Government of the Northwest Territories signed a lease to occupy the office building and moved their departmental offices in during November 1967. The building was three stories tall with 8,000 square feet of space, and had the first elevator in Yellowknife. It was commissioned as the “Cunningham Building”, named after Colonel F.J.G. Cunningham, magistrate in Yellowknife during 1946-1948. The fourth floor was added in 1968 under contract with Solar Construction Limited.

In 1970, it held a number of GNWT regional offices, including the Department of Public Works, Territorial Treasurer, Liquor System, and Purchasing & Supply. With the expansion of the Laing building in 1971 most remaining GNWT offices moved there and only Administration offices remained in the Cunningham building in 1971.

The ground floor has held many commercial tenants as part of the YK Mall development in the 1970s-1980s, including “The Gallery of Time” and in more recent year “The Yellowknife Bookcellar”. The tower has housed the offices of the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce since the 1990s and also contains the NWT Protected Areas Strategy office.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North November 29, 1967; February 22, 1968; August 8, 1968
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

Toronto Dominion Bank (formerly YK Food Centre)

MAP ID: D-34

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: (Lot 13, Block 22, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Toronto Dominion Bank

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1962

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Built in 1962, this structure was originally the “YK Food Centre”, opened on October 4, 1962, by the same business partners who operated the Gold Range Café – Newton Wong, Randy Pon, Jimmy Pon, and Calvin Mark – all Chinese businessmen. It was the first modern ‘supermarket’ in Yellowknife with large produce and meat departments. When first opened there was also retail space for small commercial tenants near the entrance to the grocery store, and in 1962-1963 a clothing outlet called ‘Variety Fashions’ was located here.

Expansions and alterations to the YK Food Centre were completed in 1964 with an expansion as part of the new Cunningham Building in 1967. Floor space increased from 2500 to 7500 square feet. It was linked with Alberta Grocers “Super A” Food Stores although independently operated by Newton Wong and partners. The supermarket grew with the expansion of the City of Yellowknife itself, and in November 1972 the YK Centre shopping and office complex was completed, including an all-new supermarket under the name “Super A Foods”. The old grocery store was remodeled as tenancy space, and rented to the GNWT and the Toronto Dominion Bank which opened its all-new Yellowknife branch in February 1973, managed by J.E. Ellison. The bank has remained at this location since that time. There was additional tenancy space in the bank area, and in 1973 Eaton’s Store operated a catalogue ordering service here.

The structure has been significantly altered over the years, including exterior façade rehabilitation carried out as part of YK Centre upgrades in 2007.

NOTES:

Lot 13 Block 22 was purchased from Jim MacDonald by the Wongs in 1962. The Canadian Pacific Airlines (later PWA) staffhouse was previously located on this lot facing Franklin Avenue, and moved in 1962 to a location on 49th street where Shopper’s Drug Mart is today.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 4, 1962; March 26, 1964; Jan. 26, 1967; Dec. 14, 1967; February 22, 1968; November 30, 1972; February 21, 1973; September 26, 1973

Coldwell Banker

MAP ID: D-35

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4710 Franklin Avenue (Lot 13, Block 21, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: 912973 NWT Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Coldwell Banker & John Howard Society

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1971

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

“Frosty’s Drive In” was first established in 1965 by Alphonse and Jeannie Labossiere as a place to pick up hamburgers, ice cream, and milk shakes. It was a summer snack bar and a popular hangout for Yellowknife kids. The original building was a small shack on this lot which was torn down in 1971 and rebuilt as the current structure. In April 1973, the Labossiere’s announced that due to illness, they would be closing “Frosty’s” and it would reopen soon as “A&W Restaurants”. A&W was here from 1973 to 1976, and then Len Jason opened “Lenny’s Great Canadian Hamburger Store” in August 1976. Jason also owned the adjacent Kentucky Fried Chicken through the authorized franchise dealer Northern Canadian Food Services Limited. “Lenny’s” was an opportunity for Jason to corner the hamburger fast-food market because at that time KFC only offered chicken products on its menu. The restaurant expanded into a larger full-seating establishment in 1979, but closed in June 1981 when Northern Canadian Food Services consolidated its fast food operations, now being permitted to include burgers on the KFC menu. The building was sold to the NWT Public Service Association as a northern headquarters (later renamed the Union of Northern Workers).

“National Real Estate Service, Northern Bestsellers” relocated its offices to here in August 1991. The business was rebranded as “Coldwell Banker” in 1996. Other tenants have included, on the top floor, “Top Deck Sports Cards” (1991-1992), “Investors Group” (1993-1994), and “The Pog Shop” (1995-1996).

Certificates of Title (Lot 13, Block 21, Plan 65): Alphonse Labossiere, May 17, 1967 > Northern Canadian Food Services Ltd., April 15, 1976 > Union of Northern Workers, June 30, 1981 > John P. Rocher, October 12, 1989 > 912973 NWT Ltd., May 24, 1996

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

The News of the North, July 8, 1965; November 5, 1970; August 5, 1971;
March 14, 1973; May 2, 1973; August 4, 1976
The Yellowknifer, June 17, 1981; August 30, 1991
GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books



House (Gallery on 47)

MAP ID: D-36

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4911 – 47th Street (Lot 19, Block 67, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Colin Dempsey

OCCUPANT: Colin Dempsey's "Gallery on 47"

CURRENT USE: Residential & Commercial

BUILT: 1950s?

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

It is not clear if this house was built on this lot, or moved in from somewhere. Photographs from the late 1950s reveal a house with a much shorter height at this location. In the early 1960s, the lot was owned by Eastwood Clayton and was rented out to Les Mullins of Ptarmigan Airways Ltd. This house was either an addition to that original house, or brought it from another location. Lorne Alexander Robbins, a carpenter, owned the lot in 1970. In a 1973/1974 postcard photograph taken by Gerry Reiman, the house has its current appearance. Vlado Sertic, a trackman at Giant Mine, was owner in 1971. George Erasmus and Sandra Knight were listed as residents of this address in the 1977 phone directory. House was listed for sale in June 1980 and was advertised as a duplex.

Dawn Oman ran her art studio from this location from 1999 to 2010, and is now owned by Colin Dempsey who runs "Gallery on 47".

Certificates of Title (Lot 19, Block 67, Plan 69): Eastwood Clayton, June 3, 1959 > Merwin Malin, December 16, 1966 > Lorne Alexander Robbins, August 19, 1970 > Vlado Sertic, August 26, 1971 > Omera Pasara, October 29, 1971 > Vivian Demelt, July 6, 1989 > Dawn Marie Oman, December 19, 2003 > Colin Dempsey & Ainsley Zock, September 14, 2010



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Yellowknife: An Illustrated History
GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978

Quality Furniture (formerly Keewatin Building)

MAP ID: D-37

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4610 Franklin Ave (Lots 13-14, Block 67, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Jeannie Rocher

OCCUPANT: Quality Furniture

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1963-1964

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel building

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Lot 14, Block 67 was sold by the City to Spiro Schembri in May 1963. Immediately, Spiro advertised that a new bowling lane and billiards hall for Yellowknife would be opening soon. The plan was for a major community centre housing bowling, billiards, snack bar, table tennis, and a day nursery. However it took two years for the business to finally open to the public. Grand opening of "Golden Bowl & Billiards" was advertised during March of 1965. The bowling centre held eight lanes with automatic pin setters. League bowling was scheduled to begin March 15. Bowling in Yellowknife had previously only been available at the Con Mine recreation hall.

The Golden Bowl operated into the summer of 1966, but in September 1966 Spiro Schembri and his family moved to Nova Scotia. A judicial sale of the building and property (Golden Bowl Rec Centre, Block 67 Lots 13-14) was advertised almost immediately, suggesting that Schembri owed taxes or money on a loan. Ideas floated around about what to do with the structure, including turning it into a community centre as part of Centennial Celebration funding.

In 1967, the building was acquired by the Government of the Northwest Territories and converted into an office building. It was christened the "Keewatin Building" in 1968 and housed the offices of the Welfare Office and the Territorial Printing Plant into the 1970s. The Probation Department moved here in 1972.

The Rocher family (mother Mary, father John, son Les, and daughter Jeannie) bought the building in December 1996 and relocated their furniture business, "Quality Furniture" here. Les Rocher's "Les's Second Hand Swap Shop" was located in the basement. An arsonist set fire to the building on August 26, 1997, gutting the interior and destroying all of the stock. Although the inventory was protected by insurance, repairs to the building were not fully covered. Quality Furniture moved to a new location downtown while repairs of the building continued into 2001. By 2004, the building had been completely repaired and the store reopened. It continues to operate today under the direction of Jeannie Rocher and her daughters.

Certificates of Title (Lots 13-14, Block 67, Plan 69): Spiro Schembri, June 24, 1963 > First Investors Corporation Ltd., January 19, 1967 > Commissioner of the NWT, June 12, 1967 > John P. Rocher, December 18, 1996

NOTES:



REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 16, 1963; March 4, 1965; May 26, 1966; Sept. 1, 1966; Sept. 22, 1966; Nov. 24, 1966 The Yellowknifer, April 19, 1972
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Northern News Services Ltd. August 27, 1997; Dec. 19, 1997; April 15, 1998
GNWT Land Titles

House

MAP ID: D-38

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4906 – 46th Street (Lot 3, Block 67, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Ozgur Oner

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House probably built in the 1950s, although it is uncertain if it originated at this location. Edward Albert Hartley, an electrician, signed a 21-year lease in June 1950, and acquired land title in 1961. Gateway Aviation Limited owned the property in the 1970s and Neill Murphy, engineer, was living here in 1970. Subsequent owners are summarized below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 67, Plan 69): Edward Hartley (electrician), May 23, 1961 > Premier Electrical Limited, June 18, 1969 > Jacob Glick, June 18, 1969 > Gateway Aviation Limited, October 29, 1969 > Patrick & Bernice Kennedy, October 8, 1976 > George Erasmus, October 27, 1978 > Maureen Ross, September 24, 1982 > Keith & Tannis Grayston, August 5, 1986 > Brenda Percy & Tammy Wotherspoon, July 14, 1989 > Brenda Percy, September 12, 1996 > Janet Marie Smellie, April 6, 1999 > Ozgur Oner & Safak Culha, March 31, 2005 > Ozgur Oner, December 22, 2008



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House

MAP ID: D-39

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4908 – 46th Street (Lot 4, Block 67, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Eugene Mercredi

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House probably built in the 1950s. Chris Koch, a Yellowknife barber from 1957 to 1961, lived here. Eugene Mercredi, a truck driver with Byers Transport, lived here during the 1960s-1980s and still holds title.

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 67, Plan 69): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Christian Koch (barber), June 2, 1958 > George Bender (mill man), May 9, 1963 > Eugene Mercredi (freight handler), October 18, 1966



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House

MAP ID: D-40

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4918 – 46th Street (Lot 9, Block 67, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Laura Duncan

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House probably built in the 1950s. William Hrycan, a miner at Giant Mine, was living here in the 1950s, followed by other mine employees including Peter Kempe, assayer, and Konstanty Pietrykiewicz, steel sharpener at Con Mine in the 1960s-1980s. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 9, Block 67, Plan 69): William Hrycan (miner), January 26, 1955 > Peter & Anne Kempe (assayer), August 6, 1959 > Konstanty & Anatslia Pietrykiewicz, October 15, 1962 > Carey McKiel (mechanic), June 12, 1984 > Eric Delaney & Marilyn Newman, October 23, 1989 > Bryan Auge & Leah Laxdal, August 19, 2004 > Laura Duncan, August 16, 2006



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

Erasmus Apparel (formerly Hagel Law Office)

MAP ID: D-41

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4602 Franklin Avenue (Lot 29, Block 67, Plan 3714)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Erasmus Apparel

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1947 or earlier

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building originated in Old Town, Peace River Flats area (Lot 1, Block 13), and was moved downtown in 1947 to Lot 15, Block 23 which was owned by Peter Sheck (5-year lease title effective September 1, 1945). The building was rented to A.S. Hodgson for use as a grocery and general store. The store opened in August 1947 and only operated for about a year when in November 1948, W.V. Cole opened a meat market in the building selling Swift products. On September 26, 1949, lawyer Don Hagel opened a private barrister and solicitor practice in this building, and it continued very successfully throughout the 1950s. His wife Betty Hagel was later called to the bar and joined him in practice, calling it "Hagel & Hagel". Don Hagel was the first president of the NWT Bar Association when it formed in 1960. Betty Hagel was also founding president of the Yellowknife Credit Union and ran this organization from the law office. Don Hagel was killed following a car accident in Manitoba in June 1964 and for a short time Betty continued with the practice until October 1965 when she remarried and moved to Calgary, selling the firm to W.L.C Wuttunee, an aboriginal lawyer from North Battleford, Saskatchewan. Brian Purdy became a partner in the firm and bought out Wuttunee in June 1966, operating from the same premise.

In June 1968, the structure was moved to its current location (Lot 29, Block 67) to make way for new downtown developments, and Brian Purdy continued at this location for a short period. Alice Ostrowercha became a partner in the law firm during 1968. In May 1969, "Purdy & Ostrowercha" announced they had moved their offices to the Sutherland Drug Store block. While still owned by Hagel & Hagel, Alison J. McAteer opened an insurance broker business here in October 1964, acquired by Earl Johnson Insurance in 1967 and presumably operating from the same premise, until 1969. For a brief period in 1970, "Joan's Fashions" was located here, followed by Dr. James Miller's chiropractor office beginning in March 1970, at address 4602 50th Avenue. Dr. Robert Findlay took over the business in September 1970 and operated it part time while balancing out his job at Giant Mine, and his role as city councilor and later mayor of Yellowknife in 1974-1975. Many other commercial tenants have followed, including: "Graphics Unlimited Ltd." (1974-1976), "The Jean Shack" (1977-1979), "Phillip's Music" (1979-1980), "Inkit Graphics" (1981-1983), "Wavey's Unisex Clothes" (1983-1985), "Huffman Electric" (1986), "Yellowknife Novelties & Gifts" (1987-1989), "Diventure Sports" (1994), "New Moon Hair Saloon" (1994-1998), "Cover All Upholstery" (1998), "Herb's Christian Hangout" (c.2001), "Lil' Bear's Art Gallery" (c.2005), "Ashoona Studio" (c.2009), and "Erasmus Apparel" (2012-current)

Certificates of Title (Lot 25, Block 67, Plan 69): John P. Rocher, June 24, 1968 > Nick Treeshin, April 26, 1976

Certificates of Title (Lot 26, Block 67, Plan 1330): Nick Treeshin, December 13, 1984

Certificates of Title (Lot 29, Block 67, Plan 3714): Nick Treeshin, April 22, 2002 > Homes North Ltd., November 27, 2002

NOTES:

The buildings history prior to 1947 while in Peace River Flats is unclear. Lot 1, Block 13 was titled to Robert Earl Robertson through a 5-year lease effective July 1, 1941 (later renewed to June 30, 1951). The lease was assigned to Jack DeMore on June 7, 1944, and then to Carl Jensen on May 13, 1950.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, July 4, 1947; August 1, 1947; August 15, 1947; September 30, 1949; October 7, 1949; October 20, 1960; June 25, 1964; July 2, 1964; October 15, 1964; October 28, 1965; November 11, 1965; June 16, 1966; Sept. 7, 1967; June 20, 1968; May 1, 1969; Jan. 8, 1970; March 5, 1970; September 17 and 24, 1970; September 5, 1973
NWT Phone Books; GNWT Land Titles

Swap Shop (formerly Computer Games Arcade)

MAP ID: D-42

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4600 Franklin Avenue (Lot 27, Block 67, Plan 1330)

CURRENT OWNER: Homes North Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Second Hand Swap Shop, Residential Suites upstairs

CURRENT USE: Commercial and Residential

BUILT: 1941; 1971

CONSTRUCTION: Frame on basement. Main building 73' long x 26' wide. Side addition is 12' wide x 31' long. Con commissary building was 26' wide x 50' long.



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building was put together by Johnny Rocher in the summer of 1971. The main section was the Con Mine commissary building, which operated from 1941 to June 1968 to serve Con Mine employees with groceries at cost. Con advertised its commissary building, size 50' x 26', for sale in May 1969. Rocher removed the building from the Con Mine property in 1969 or 1970. He put the building on a basement foundation, and then removed the original roof to put on the second floor apartments. A Gerry Reiman aerial-view postcard of downtown (mid-1970s) reveals that the second-storey originally did not extend all the way to the back of the structure, and the Con commissary with white asbestos siding and original roof is still visible. Later, the second-storey was extended to the back, and additions on the southwest alley-facing side were also added to the overall building.

Nikolaj 'Nick' Treeshin later owned the building. "Treeshin's Second Hand Shop and Shoe Repair" was first advertised in October 1973, open from noon to 6pm every day. He rented out the upstairs apartments. His brother Leo Treeshin operated a heating and cooling business here in the mid 1970s. Treeshin advertised the building for sale or rent during 1974 on account of his retiring from business. It was temporarily used in June 1974 as a campaign headquarters for Wally Firth's successful incumbency as NWT Member of Parliament with an NDP platform, and was often rented to "H&R Block" during tax season. "Native Outreach", an organization to help find jobs for Dene men, rented an office in the upstairs apartments in 1977-1978. Treeshin continued to own the building and rented out the basement to "Grandma Lee's Bakery" from March 1977 to November 1979 (owned by Mel & Irene Kish), and the top floor to "MacLeod's Furniture Warehouse" in 1976-1979. Denis Gadoury promoted a plan to renovate the basement (former Grandma Lee's Bakery) into a neighborhood pub during 1980, but these plans never materialized.

Bob Penny opened a pool hall on the top floor in March 1979 called "The Snooker Shoppe". Perry and Donna Smith later took over the business. It was known as the "Computer Games Arcade" in the mid 1980s-1990s and was a popular hangout place for local kids. The basement of the building was rented to "Master TV & Electronic Services" in 1986 and "NWT Video" in 1986-1987. Don Mar also ran a Confectionary in the building in 1983. The Smith's closed the Computer Games Arcade in 2002. Les Rocher then opened his "Second Hand Swap Shop" business which still operates today.

Certificates of Title (Lot 25, Block 67, Plan 69): John P. Rocher, June 24, 1968 > Nick Treeshin, April 26, 1976

Certificates of Title (Lot 27, Block 67, Plan 1330): Gorf Holdings Ltd, December 13, 1984 > Leslie Rocher, September 4, 2003

NOTES:

Sometimes referred to as 4602 and 4604 Franklin Avenue in the 1970s-1980s
Originally Lot 25, Block 67, Plan 69

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 13, 1968; May 1969 issues, August 5, 1971; October 10, 1973; April 3, 1974; June 5, 1974; March 23, 1977; March 14, 1979; May 11, 1979; November 7, 1979; Northern News Services Ltd. January 10, 2001
The Yellowknifer, "Those Were the Days" Dec. 19, 1974; May 21, 1980
City files; GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

House (former Assay Lab)

MAP ID: D-43

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4905 – 46th Street (Lot 22, Block 68, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Robin T. Williams

OCCUPANT: Robin T. Williams

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The front part of this house has its origins as an assay laboratory in Old Town, operated by Harold McKitrick as “Yellowknife Laboratories” in 1946. The business opened in August 1946 and was located on Lot 6, Block B (on what would today be McDonald Drive near the Dancing Moose Café). Address was #189 Bay Street in 1947. It is not clear how long this assay lab operated, but by 1951 Harold McKitrick was mine manager at the Outpost Island tungsten mine. In February 1957, Ted Matijon asked permission from the Town Council to move a structure from Lot 6 Block B to Lot 22 Block 68, eventually moving it to this location on 46th street. He jacked it up on cement blocks and dug a basement, and renovated it into a home. Ted Matijon was the public school janitor and caretaker (1957-1961) as well as one of the operators of the dairy and market gardens at Kam Lake (“Bevan’s Farm” and “Dale Dairy”).

Ted Matijon advertised a 16 x 24-ft house for sale at this address in March 1959. It was advertised as new construction, with a cultivated lot and excellent garden soil. Evidently, Matijon did not actually sell the property at that time. Ted and Pearl Matijon left Yellowknife in 1966. Alphonse & Sylvia Cyrenne are listed as residents of this address in 1970. The house has been resided in recent years but still resembles its original configuration.

Certificates of Title (Lot 22, Block 68, Plan 69): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Theodore Matijon (janitor), June 2, 1958 > Bert & Vivian Langenhan (carpenter), March 22, 1966 > Paul Gordon & Donna Petry, November 8, 1972 > Richard James Bell, August 27, 1973 > Linda Weisbeck, March 17, 1976 > Wallace Finlayson, January 18, 1983 > Gordon & Joyce Humphreys, February 28, 1992 > Robin T. Williams, June 29, 2011

NOTES:

House is visible in 1962 photo at this location (N-1979-052:4236). This structure as the assay lab in Old Town is visible in a late 1940s photo taken from The Rock looking down on YK Bay (N-1995-007:0039) and had a false front design. Only the front half of the building is the original structure.



REFERENCES:

The News of the North, Sept. 12, 1946; March 19, 1959
GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Town Council Minutes
Ben Matijon

House (formerly Department of National Defense)

MAP ID: D-44

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4910 – 45th St. (Lot 5, Block 68, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Mary Broussard and Thomas Wunderlin

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential, rental suite in basement

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1946 and was originally located on Lot 4, Block 25 (corner of 51st St and 49th Avenue facing where City Hall is now). A five-year lease was awarded to Jerome Buchan, a pilot with Canadian Pacific Airlines, for this property on October 1, 1945. In August 1946, the local newspaper reported that Gerry Buchan's house on the new townsite was nearing completion, and it was considered one of the most modern in Yellowknife. The lease was transferred from Buchan to Alexander Tulk on August 6, 1948 who applied for a ten-year lease. Tulk was a manager with Amalgamated Transport Limited who initiated an early freight service between Edmonton and Hay River in the winter of 1947-1948. He was also a founding director of the Yellowknife Board of Trade in 1946.

There was an urgent need for new government housing in Yellowknife in the late 1940s, and in 1949 the Department of National Defense arranged to purchase this house from Mr. Tulk, for use as married quarters for its senior staff. The Department requested that the lot be reserved for the departments use for an indefinite period. Tulk surrendered the lease in August 1949 and the Department of National Defense acquired the property in January 1950. They used the house for its senior staff for many years. In October 1960, the property passed to the Department of Transport. Mary Bell, who was an office clerk, was the last of the federal government people to live here.

In 1967, there was again a shortage of housing in Yellowknife when the new Territorial Government arrived. Former federal government housing properties were negotiated for disposal to the GNWT, including Lot 4, Block 25. On February 15, 1968, the lot was transferred to the GNWT Commissioner with plans to build a new house for government staff. The old house, reported to be in poor shape, was to be demolished, but instead it was sold, and removed from the original lot, to where it sits today (Lot 5, Block 68). It was jacked up on a new foundation and has been kept in good repair by subsequent owners. Jim & Randy Pon, owners of YK Food Stores Ltd., owned the lot in the 1970s and it was used as staff housing. Occupants in 1970 included Lorraine Beattie, Lavina Lickoch, and Marvin Miller (employees of YK Foods Centre), and Merle Bulicz and Mark Vanderzee (employees of Bank of Nova Scotia).

Certificates of Title (Lot 5, Block 68, Plan 69): Jim & Randy Pon, October 16, 1968 > YK Foods Ltd-Central Holdings Ltd, March 23, 1972 > Irecan Ltd., May 30, 1980 > Edit Wetselaar, April 24, 1985 > Pierre Lacasse & Marilyn Mah, November 25, 1986 > Mary Broussard, May 25, 1987 > Thomas Wunderlin & Mary Broussard, October 11, 2005

NOTES:

Visible in July 1947 photos on original lot.

The original house was fitted with a large stone fireplace but according to Dave Lovell it was never used by the government when they owned it. It was in poor shape by the 1960s when it was sold off. The fireplace was removed at that time in exchange for the large window on the front right side.

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Dave Lovell
The News of the North, August 1, 1946

House

MAP ID: D-45

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4907 – 45th Street (Lot 21, Block 69, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Kwong's Holdings Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House that may have been moved in from another location sometime in the 1960s. The structure does not appear visible at this location in a 1962 photo. Contractor Dave Lorenzen was an early resident, acquiring this property in a land sale from the City of Yellowknife in October 1963. Gerald Beaudoin, a mechanic with "Frenchy's Transport Limited", was living at this address in 1970. John Oystrek who worked maintenance with the public school board was living here in the 1970s. Subsequent owners are listed below. House has had many additions to it over the years.

Certificates of Title (Lot 21, Block 69, Plan 69): David Lorenzen (contractor) December 13, 1970 > Lanky's Agencies Limited, January 20, 1971 > John Oystrek, February 1, 1971 > Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, October 26, 1971 > John Oystrek (caretaker) May 14, 1977 > Olive & Hugh Parnall (mechanic) June 30, 1977 > Neelavathi & Yoyanathan Naidoo (aircraft engineer) November 18, 1986 > Regency International Hotels Limited, November 15, 2001 > Tony & Raemee Kwong, July 17, 2008 > Kwong's Holdings Limited, September 24, 2010



NOTES:

House does not appear visible at this location in 1962 photo (N-1979-052:4236)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House (formerly Stuart & Vivian Demelt)

MAP ID: D-46

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4911 – 45th Street (Lot 19, Block 69, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Biswanath & Bula Chakrabarty

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House that may have been moved in from another location sometime in the 1960s. The structure does not appear visible at this location in a 1962 photo. City heavy equipment operator and foreman Stuart Demelt (and wife Vivian, who worked as a clerk at Weaver & Devore and later as cook at The Hoistroom lounge) were early residents in the 1960s and 1970s. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 19, Block 69, Plan 69): Stuart Raymond Demelt (equipment operator) December 17, 1965 > Vivian Demelt, October 19, 1971 > William & Tanice Turner, October 19, 1995 > Curtis Time, August 13, 1996 > Michael Scott Anderson, September 8, 2000 > Alex & Sheila Arychuk, July 26, 2002 > Leonard Curtis, February 10, 2004 > Jacob Ootes & Marg Baile, April 15, 2004 > Biswanath & Bula Chakrabarty, July 19, 2005



NOTES:

House does not appear visible at this location in 1962 photo (N-1979-052:4236)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House

MAP ID: D-47

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4913 – 45th Street (Lot 18, Block 69, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Sean & Deborah McGuire

OCCUPANT: rented rooms

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House probably built in the 1950s. The lot was sold in June 1958. House is visible at this location in a 1962 photo. Mechanic John Kavanaugh, who held the town garbage haulage contract beginning in the 1970s, was living here at an early date. Paul Kovalench an employee of Kavanaugh Brothers was living here in 1970 and acquired title shortly thereafter. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 18, Block 69, Plan 69): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > John Kavanaugh (mechanic) February 22, 1961 > Paul Kovalench (contractor) February 17, 1972 > Daniel Wasyliw, February 17, 1976 > Freddie & Lynda Koe, June 17, 1977 > Jeffrey & Lynda Titterington, September 29, 1983 > Edward & Evelyn McLeod, March 30, 1989 > Evelyn McLeod, October 13, 1999 > Orrel & Colleen Sheets, May 26, 2005 > Luke & Mary Coady, January 19, 2006 > Adam Vipond & Janice Stephani, March 21, 2007 > Sean & Deborah McGuire, December 5, 2007



NOTES:

House is visible in 1962 photo at this location (N-1979-052:4236)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
City Files

Government Apartments

MAP ID: D-48

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5012 to 5018 – 54th Street (Lots 33-34, Block 60, Plan 2437)

CURRENT OWNER: Government of Canada

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

These duplex government apartment buildings were erected in about 1956 for staff of the federal government. A complete list of government families living here during the years is unavailable, but it is known that Ed Schiller, INAC geologist, lived in one of them during the 1960s.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

NWT Archives photo N-1979-052-4183

House (formerly Chuck Vaydik)

MAP ID: D-49

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5002 – 53rd Street (Lot 1, Block 34, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Ray Decorby

OCCUPANT: none

CURRENT USE: abandoned

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house was built in 1946 probably by Frank Moyle, a prospector. It was one of the first residences in the downtown core. Tony Tennassy held the original 5-year lease signed on October 1, 1945, which was assigned to Moyle on October 8, 1946. The lease was later extended but cancelled on April 30, 1956.

Chuck & Kay Vaydik and family moved here in 1953 and remained into the 1960s. They may have originally rented from Moyle who had left Yellowknife by the mid 1950s. Chuck Vaydik obtained title in August 1965. Jim Turner, prospector, may have owned it or rented it, but his name is not listed in the title search. There is however a Paul Turner, a miner, who held title beginning in 1971. Ray Decorby was owner of the property starting in 1975 and for a few years he rented it out to a number of tenants. It has been unoccupied for many, many years.

Tenants of this address (renting from unclear owners) included Paul and Alice Conroy of Anglo-Celtic Exploration Co (c.1970) and Magnus and Bev Bourque of Polar Painting (c.1977).

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block 34, Plan 65): Charles Vaydik, September 15, 1965 > Paul Louis Turner, February 15, 1971 > Ray Decorby, March 27, 1975

NOTES:

Destroyed by fire June 11, 2018

REFERENCES:

City of Yellowknife tax sale documents
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Mike Vaydik

House (formerly Bob Baecker)

MAP ID: D-50

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5010 – 53rd Street (Lot 5, Block 34, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Polar Developments Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 34' x 21' original, 22' x 20' addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was presumably built at this location in the early 1950s. Albert W. Stephanson may have been an early resident in the 1950s. A house at Lot 5, Block 34 was advertised for rent in June 1961. Jacob Glick held title at that time. Robert Baecker, a miner at Con Mine, was living here from 1961 to 1990. Polar Developments Limited acquired the property in the 1990s and rented the house out. Herb Heinz, an engineer at Con Mine, was living here until his death in 2004.

Certificates of Title (Lot 5, Block 34, Plan 65): Jacob Glick, June 7, 1961 > Mark De Weerd, August 15, 1961 > Robert Baecker, August 15, 1961 > Polar Developments Limited, September 11, 1990



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 1, 1961
GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Harry Cinnamon)

MAP ID: D-51

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5012 – 53rd Street (Lot 6, Block 34, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Polar Developments Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Main Street Pizza

CURRENT USE: Residential & Commercial

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 28' x 35', plus back addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This structure was among the first private homes built in the new town section of Yellowknife. Harry Cinnamon signed a 5-year lease for the property on May 1, 1946. It started out as two tents, the largest being 18' x 24' with a four-foot wall. Lumber was scarce in Yellowknife because of the demand from mining projects, but Cinnamon was able to make a deal with Ivor Johnson for 1,000 feet of lumber which was supposed to go up to Discovery Mine. After several additions, the permanent building was completed in the fall of 1946.

In March 1960, Harry Cinnamon advertised a 4-bedroom house for sale at this address. Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited acquired the property in 1960 and maintained it as staff housing. Alois Andrejek, a miner at Giant, and his wife Greta, were living here in the 1970s. It was sold in 1987 and has held many commercial uses in recent years, including: "The Merry Cobbler" shoe repair (1988-1989), "Catch 24" convenience store (1989-1991), "Quality Meats" (1991-1992), "Northwest Meats" (1993-1994), "Pacific Rim Food and Variety Store" (1996-1998), "Zen's Asian Food & Variety Store" (1998-2000), "Studio 62" beauty salon (2001-2006), "Le Stock Pot" deli and store (2007-2010), and "Main Street Pizza" (2013-current). Apartment suites are on the top floor.

Certificates of Title (Lot 6, Block 34, Plan 65): Harry Hugh Cinnamon, August 7, 1957 > Giant Yellowknife Mines Ltd., July 21, 1960 > Red Neck Steel NWT Ltd., March 18, 1987 > Polar Developments Ltd., March 17, 1995

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Yellowknife: An Illustrated History
AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Loreen Lambert)

MAP ID: D-52

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5014– 53rd Street (Lot 7, Block 34, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Gohil Dental Inc.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was presumably built at this location in the early 1950s. Some of the early owners are listed below. Lyle Howe, carpenter, may have been the first (and possibly built it) having been assigned lease-hold in August 1947, and title in 1952. Lawyer Brian Purdy owned title in the late 1960s. One of the longest residents was Loreen Lambert, a legal secretary, beginning in about 1970. "L.W. Secretarial Services" operated from this address in the 1970s-1980s.

The house was demolished in 2015 to make way for a new apartment/condo building.

Certificates of Title (Lot 7, Block 34, Plan 65): Lyle Elling Howe (carpenter) September 13, 1952 > Stuart S. McLeod (clerk) February 11, 1953 > Jacob Glick, August 31, 1953 > Donald K. Wery (warehouseman) October 25, 1955 > Municipality of Yellowknife, October 25, 1955 > Donald K. Ulery, June 29, 1966 > Hans Bauhaus (mechanic) November 8, 1967 > Brian Purdy (barrister & solicitor) September 12, 1968 > Loreen Kathleen Lambert (secretary) November 19, 1971 > Gohil Dental Inc., July 13, 2012



NOTES:

House is visible in a 1956 circa photograph (N-1979-052:4183)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House

MAP ID: D-53

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5022 – 53rd Street (Lot 11, Block 34, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Charles Sanders

OCCUPANT: Charles Sanders

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House that has been here since the 1950s. Claude A. Rowand acquired a 5-year lease on June 1, 1946, later renewed. Albert Layh was assigned the lease on April 1, 1953 and bought it in a land sale in August 1964. James and Charlotte McPhillamey lived here in the 1960s-1970s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 11, Block 34, Plan 65): Albert Layh, September 8, 1964 > James & Charlotte McPhillamey, September 8, 1964 > Maureen Patricia McPhillamey, September 10, 1980 > Robert & Suzanne Zruna, May 27, 1993 > Yvonne MacNeill, August 19, 1998 > Robin Staples & Emma Pike, April 22, 2003 > Keith, Janet, & Charles Sanders, October 25, 2007 > Charles Sanders, December 2, 2010



NOTES:

Charles Sanders said that he heard the house came from Con Mine, but this house has been located on this lot since the 1950s and can be seen in old Busse photographs. It could have been occupied by Con employees but was never a company house.

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
Charles Sanders

The Quilted Raven (formerly Bromley house)

MAP ID: D-54

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5005 – 53rd Street (Lot 22-23, Block 33, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: 984221 NWT Limited

OCCUPANT: The Quilted Raven

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Built in 1956, this was the residence of the Bromley family (Graham “Peter” and Barbara), owners of Bromley & Son Limited hardware business. The house originally had an attached garage on the north end. Peter Bromley died in 1967 and the remaining family, including sons Robert, Stuart and Chris and daughter Maxine, continued to live here until the late 1970s. In 1979, the residence was converted into a medical clinic called “Great Slave Medical House”, opened in February 1980 by Dr. Peter Kallos, Dr. Robert Cronin, and Dr. Ross Wheeler. The clinic operated until 2010 when medical clinics in Yellowknife centralized in a new downtown location, and the building was again converted into new uses, and now operates as “The Quilted Raven”.

Certificates of Title (Lot 22-23, Block 33, Plan 65): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Graham Bromley (merchant) July 26, 1957 > Barbara Bromley, May 21, 1968 > Great Slave Medical House Limited, October 26, 1979 > 984221 NWT Limited, July 21, 2010



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, February 8, 1980
GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books
Barb Bromley

House

MAP ID: D-55

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5015 – 53rd Street (Lot 17, Block 33, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Jay & Marion Hutton

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 27' x 27'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in about 1948 at this location. Norman Cinnamon acquired a 5-year lease on June 1, 1946 and was still owner into the 1950s. His brother Glen later acquired title. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 17, Block 33, Plan 65): Glen L. Cinnamon, May 13, 1959 > Stanley Fiendell, May 13, 1967 > Donna & Albert Hill (air mechanic), May 14, 1973 > Steve Gillis (pilot), March 26, 1975 > John & Louise Vertes (lawyer), February 29, 1980 > Katherine Peterson & Vincent Gauthier, July 25, 1986 > Vincent Gauthier, June 22, 1989 > Karen L. Carleton, June 24, 2005 > Jay & Marion Hutton, October 9, 2008



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

House

MAP ID: D-56

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5019 – 53rd Street, rear alleyway (Lot 15, Block 33, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Daniel Auger

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A house built in the 1950s, probably first occupied by Harry Cinnamon or members of his family. Newton Wong, owner and manager of the Gold Range Café and the Yellowknife Super A Foods, owned the property and was probably living here in the late 1960s.

The house was rebuilt in the fall of 2012 and no longer holds its original appearance.

Certificates of Title (Lot 15, Block 33, Plan 65): Harry Hugh Cinnamon, December 6, 1954 > Arthur Bernard Toft, August 15, 1960 > Richard & Violet Huisson, June 11, 1962 > Newton Wong, June 13, 1966 > Giulio Francheschi, December 15, 1970 > Rosa Franchi, January 14, 1972 > Marion Lavigne, October 3, 1975 > Ronald & Lydia Terry, July 3, 1980 > John Orchard & Lorelei Andrew, September 30, 1981 > Shirley Tippett, May 27, 1982 > Elizabeth Maybroda & Bernadette Loughlin, July 17, 1986 > Footsteps Ltd., March 30, 1987 > The Split Pea Ltd., June 27, 1989 > Carol & Bernadette Loughlin, November 28, 1990 > Jillian Loughlin, July 25, 1991 > Juanita Case, February 25, 1994 > George Townsend, December 9, 1996 > Frederique DeGasquet, July 24, 2002 > Daniel Auger, July 4, 2003



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly John Lundstrom)

MAP ID: D-57

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5020 – 52nd Street (Lot 10, Block 33, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Craig Thomas Scott

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1949 or 1950

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 26' x 38'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1950 or earlier. John & Helen Lundstrom lived here for very many years. Lundstrom signed a 21-year lease for this lot on June 1, 1949. John was a construction contractor and may have built the house. The section of the house facing north (to the right of the above photo) was added in about 1956. The Lundstroms were living here into the 1990s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 10, Block 33, Plan 65): Central Mortgage Housing Corporation, August 5, 1958 > John Bert Lundstrom (carpenter) February 13, 1961 > John & Helen Lundstrom, January 3, 1969 > Helen Lundstrom, December 7, 1983 > Lorna Jean Romanko, May 6, 1993 > Shelagh Montgomery, July 4, 2002 > Craig Thomas Scott, December 15, 2010



NOTES:

House is visible in a 1950 circa photograph (N-1979-052-3941)

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
NWT Phone Books

Tru Value Hardware (formerly Yellowknife Hardware)

MAP ID: D-58

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5024 – 51st St. (Lot 12, Block 32, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Klaus Schoenne

OCCUPANT: True Value Hardware Store, Signed

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1950

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The rear portion of “Tru Value Hardware” was originally built in June 1950 as a warehouse for the downtown Hudson’s Bay Company retail store, and was located on Lot 3, Block 32. In June 1959, H.B.C. began expansion of its store, and the warehouse was moved across the alley way to Lot 22 on the same Block to make room for construction. The City was not happy with the location as it constituted a fire hazard, and asked that it be moved. In April 1960, the building was sold to W.V. Cole of The Capitol Theatre, and moved a short distance across Franklin Avenue to adjoin the theatre lobby building (Lot 12, Block 25). The new addition was to be used for additional commercial tenants and was completed in September 1960, with the opening of “Yellowknife Hardware Limited” new downtown retail store. Walt England was the owner of Yellowknife Hardware. It was a long-established hardware retailer in Yellowknife originally based in Old Town and was the local CIL paint distributor.

Walter England moved the building to its present location on Lot 12, Block 32 in 1973, reopening in December 1973. It retained the original appearance until the 1980s when the building was rotated on the lot, parallel to the rear lane, and the street-facing addition was constructed. The old store became storage and warehouse space. Yellowknife Hardware became a member of Links Hardware in the 1970s, a conglomerated buyers group that ensured a steady supply of merchandise to members. In 1981, Links merged with Home Hardware, and as a result Yellowknife Hardware became a division of Home Hardware. The business was re-branded as Yellowknife Home Hardware. In the 1970s the hardware store was an agency for Canada Post and contained drop boxes and over the counter stamp sales.

Walter England died in 1998 and his family took over management. Wife Carolyn, son Frank England, and daughter and son-in-law Pat and Robert Winter remained as operators until it was sold to Charles Corothers of Home Building Centre in 2004. Home Building Centre took over the inventory and gradually sold it off in 2005.

Klaue and Linco Schoenne bought the building during 2005 and operated “Linco’s Pottery Nook” (upstairs) and “Tru Value Hardware” (downstairs). Linco’s left in 2008 and “Signs and Designs” moved in. Tru Value Hardware continues to operate here today under management of Klaus Schoenne.

Certificates of Title (Lot 12, Block 32, Plan 65): Johan B. Lundstrom, July 8, 1960 > Byrnes & Hall Construction Ltd, March 21, 1969 > Walter & Carolyn England, August 29, 1972 > Yellowknife Hardware Ltd, July 24, 1975 > Linco’s Pottery Nook Ltd, April 20, 2005 > Klaus Schoenne, March 31, 2008

NOTES:

Building was renamed the Jake Parsons building in 2012

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 16, 1950; May 28, 1959; April 7, 1960; Sept. 29, 1960; January 7, 1976 The Yellowknifer, Dec. 20, 1973; July 29, 1981 Northern News Service Ltd, Jan. 30, 2002; October 27, 2004; April 27, 2005; August 22, 2008
GNWT Land Titles

W.H. Bromley Building

MAP ID: D-59

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5003-5009 Franklin Ave (Lot 26, Block 31, Plan 1850)

CURRENT OWNER: Bromley & Son Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Vixen Hair Design, offices

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1962 and 1967

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel. 100' x 50' original, 100' x 50' back addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Bromley & Son hardware business was first established in Yellowknife in 1946 in Old Town. In 1951, the store was moved to Lot 23, Block 31. The adjacent Lot 24 was purchased in 1958 for future expansion, which was completed in December 1962 as the Bromley Building. It contained the new storefront of Bromley & Son hardware which was the local dealer for "Marshall-Wells", plus several commercial tenants in the offices above, including: Yellowknife Photo Studio (1962-2008), Dr. Lloyd Powell and Dr. O'Donoghue's medical clinic (1962-1968), Dr. H. McKinnon's dental office (1962-1964), Premier Electrical (1963-1964), Richards & Berritti architects (1964-1970), Fashionette Beauty Lounge (1968-1987), "Hair We Are" beauty saloon (1987-c.1999), the Resident Geologist of INAC (1969-1970), De Weerd & Searle law office (1962-1972), the GNWT Liquor Office (c.1971), Canadian Mental Health Association (1973-c.1988), "McKay & Associates" accountants (1973), Reid-Crowther & Partners (c.1978-c.1980), Storefront for Volunteer Agency (1980-c.1995), Canadian Association of Smelter and Allied Workers (c.1984-1985), H & H Printing Services (1981-1988), Artisan Press (1989-1992), Films North (1982), and residential suites. Bromley's was the local propane dealer for many years, until 1966 when the contract was dropped.

The old store on Lot 23 was demolished in 1967 and the building expanded twice its size to increase capacity of the hardware store and the commercial tenants. Peter Bromley, store owner, died during the summer of 1967 during a canoe expedition in the arctic, and it was his wife Barbara Bromley and sons that continued with the business. In June 1972, Bromley & Sons became the local representative for "MacLeod's Hardware", and the store had expanded into the basement where camping gear and garden supplies were sold in the summer months. It continued in the Bromley family until October 1974 when they sold the hardware business to Jack & Chris Meckling of 2M Merchandisers Limited who retained the MacLeod's franchise. The Bromley's retained ownership of the building. Grand reopening of "MacLeod's" was in January 1975. The Mecklings sold the franchise back to MacLeod's in April 1981 and David Metcalfe eventually acquired the franchise. The MacLeod's store closed in February 1992 after the bankruptcy of the parent company. David Metcalfe continued running an independent hardware and general store that he called "The General Store" during 1992-1993.

"G.W. Business Products" was located here from 1994-1998, followed by Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. (Rio Tinto) from 1998-2014 as a corporate office for its diamond mining operations.

NOTES:

Lot 26 was original Lots 23 and 24, Block 31.
Commercial suites on the 51st facing side were listed at address 5005 - 51st street.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 8, 1962; August 11, 1966; November 2, 1967; November 9, 1967; May 8, 1974; October 16, 1974; October 23, 1974
The Yellowknifer, June 14, 1972; January 30, 1975; April 22, 1981; February 21, 1992
NWT Phone Books

Old Royal Canadian Corp Signals Station

MAP ID: D-60

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5013-5015 – 51st Street (Lots 17-18, Block 31, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Bromley & Son Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 27' x 90'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In the summer of 1947 the Royal Canadian Engineers were in Yellowknife to build a new station for the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, replacing the original Old Town station. On December 3, 1947, the furnishings and equipment from the old station were transferred to the new station, and placed into operation over the course of a single day. The new station had a telephone booth for the public to make long-distance calls to the outside, but this service was discontinued after a while. The Federal Department of Transportation took over RCC Signal responsibilities in November 1959 and also took over the building for their local offices and continued with a telegraph service. A long-distance telephone service through radio transmitters was installed at the RCCS station in May 1960 by the Yellowknife Telephone Company, with services through the Canadian National Telecommunications (CNT), allowing easier access to long-distance calls previously provided at the Gold Range Hotel. In April 1962, the Department of Transportation closed the telegraph office, and commercial radio circuits in Yellowknife were completely replaced with the new microwave and wire-line facilities set up by CNT.

Various government offices have since operated from this building. The Federal Department of Public Works was located here until March 1966, when the Department of Northern Affairs Mining Recorders Office moved in. A staff of ten under chief mining recorder Roger Simard worked here, until April 1969 when they relocated. In July 1969, the Canada Manpower Office moved in under the direction of Jane MacAskill. In 1973, the Canada Manpower Office moved out and the Department of Public Works was again using the offices. In 1974, Project Ener\$ave operated from one of the offices. The Department of Public Works was still using the building in 1990; Bromley & Son Limited acquired the property in the mid 1990s and rents it out to various commercial tenants, primarily "Ecology North" who was here for many years until 2017 when asbestos in the building forced out the tenants.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, November 12, 1959; April 28, 1960; May 5, 1960; April 13, 1961; April 5, 1962; March 31, 1966; April 3, 1969; July 24, 1969; September 5, 1973
Heritage Building Inventory for New Town, 1990



Yellowknife Day Care Association (formerly RCMP Station)

MAP ID: D-61

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5019 – 51st St. (Lots 14-16, Block 31, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Yellowknife Day Care Association

CURRENT USE: Day Care

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete, 69' x 27', plus 9' x 9' and 33' x 7' additions



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The lots (Lots 13-16, Block 31) were reserved by the government for use by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as a new police barracks in August 1946. The structure was completed during 1947 and was Yellowknife's new downtown RCMP station, replacing an original building in Old Town. The station included barracks, offices, and staff quarters. In 1964, interior renovations removed the main floor staff apartment to make space for expanded offices. The early RCMP corporals in charge of the station included: Cpl. Ivan Rolstone (1947-1948), Cpl. H.O. Humphrey (1948), Sgt. Sydney Batty (1948-1951), Cpl. Doug Betts (1951-1953), Cpl. E.R. Lysyk (1953-1954), Cpl. C.B. Sullivan (1954-1955), Sgt. Neil Lindsey (1956-1958), Sgt. R.E. Guy (1958-1961), and Sgt. Bob Ward (1969-1970).

A new RCMP station on 49th Avenue was opened in June 1970. This building became available with the vacating of the RCMP in the summer of 1970, and the government transferred the property to the local YWCA who were looking for a larger transient residence for women. It, like the original YWCA residence on Matonabee Street, was meant as an interim structure while the YWCA planned a larger, more permanent structure. In November 1970 the renovations were completed and the first women tenants moved in. Capacity was for 20 tenants. It held the offices YWCA with Ruth Spence as executive director and manager of the residence. The building also housed a common lounge for residents or guests, a cafeteria-style dining room, and bedrooms with bunk-beds accommodating either two or four persons per room. The YWCA was here until November 1976 when the offices and rooms moved to the new Northern United Place.

In 1977, the government offered the old building to the YWCA for a permanent day care. Play pens were built in the area previously used as jail cells when it was an RCMP post. YWCA abandoned the program in 1981 because of falling revenue and lack of financial support from government. A new group was then formed to manage the day care, the Yellowknife Day Care Association, to keep the centre operating. The Association was run by volunteers but later acquired a grant from government to hire full-time staff.

The day care is scheduled to close and relocate to a new building in 2018 and this structure will likely be demolished.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, February 28, 1947; March 19, 1964; June 25, 1970; December 10, 1970; Jan. 28, 1971; June 23, 1976; November 3, 1976; October 5, 1977 The Yellowknifer, December 23, 1980
City files; AANDC Lands Office
Heritage Building Inventory for New Town, 1990

The Diner (formerly Yellowknife Bakery)

MAP ID: D-62

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5008 – 50th St. (Lot 4, Block 31, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Gold Range Investments Ltd.

OCCUPANT: The Fat Fox

CURRENT USE: Commercial (Restaurant)

BUILT: 1949

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 54' x 39' two-storey section, 18' x 15' addition on rear

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building began as “Mac’s Bakery”, Don McDonnell’s new downtown bakery in 1949. It opened in November 1949. McDonnell had previously operated a bakery in Willow Flats, Old Town. Don and wife Julia lived in the suites upstairs. In September 1950, McDonnell applied for a permit to build a 24’ x 36’ addition on the back of the building for a warehouse; this was followed by an adjacent garage in 1950 and a 12’ x 14’ warehouse at the rear of the lot in June 1952.

In March 1956, George & Helen Pappas acquired the business when the McDonnell’s left Yellowknife. It was renamed “Yellowknife Bakery” and Pappas continued to own the business until 1967 when he sold it to an employee named Aubrey Van Alstyne. Theodore & Rolf Prystawik are listed as principals of Yellowknife Bakery (1968) Limited during 1970 at this address. Theodore, his wife Franke, and Rolf lived in the upstairs apartment. In February 1973, the Prystawik’s moved their bakery operations to the new IGA Food Store on 50th Street, which was built by the Prystawik’s. Yellowknife Bakery was sold to new owners and remained at this location. Sam Yurkiw was advertised as new manager in August 1973. Territorial Bakery Limited was incorporated in June 1974 to take over operations. In September 1978, Yurkiw sold the company to Herb Thiems of IGA Foods, and the group relocated the bakery business to a new location opposite the Northern United Place.

“Northern Meats Limited” was located here briefly in 1978-1979. In August 1979, Nettie Mack (Hnatiuk), Sandy Wilson, and Liz Maybroda opened “Nettie’s Pyroghy House” featuring Ukranian food. It was a very popular local restaurant and when Nettie Mack sold it to new operators in 1989, it was renamed “Good Times Family Restaurant”. However, business suffered, and the operators abandoned the venture, forcing Nettie Mack to reopen in May 1989. The rejuvenated “Netties & Co.” restaurant operated until January 1, 1991 when it was sold to Sam Yurkiw. Yurkiw renovated and opened “The Diner” coffee shop in April 1991. Yurkiw also operated a sandwich/pizza and donut shop in the premise during 1992, and “Mr. Pizza” during 1993 to 1995.

“The Diner” closed in 2015. It reopened as “The Fat Fox” café in 2016; due to water leaks and other structural issues, the café was closed in May 2018

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 31, Plan 65): George Pappas, June 2, 1958 > Yellowknife Bakery (1968) Ltd., March 15, 1968 > Territorial Bakery Ltd., August 13, 1976 > Gal Cab Investments Ltd change of name registered Feb 2, 1983 > 821469 NWT Ltd., July 17, 1984 > Gold Range Investments Ltd certificate of amalgamation, June 3, 1988

NOTES:

Building demolished on September 2, 2018



REFERENCES:

News of the North, Sep. 30, 1949; Nov. 4, 1949; Mar. 23, 1956; Feb. 7, 1973; August 1, 1973; July 10, 1974; Sep. 18, 1978; Oct. 4, 1978; Dec. 11, 1978; August 15, 1979 The Yellowknifer, August 16, 1979; March 29, 1989; May 31, 1989; Jan. 9, 1991; April 12, 1991
Heritage Building Inventory for New Town, 1990
GNWT Land Titles

Gold Range Hotel, Café, and Bar

MAP ID: D-63

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5010-5012 – 50th St. (Lots 5 & 6, Block 31, Plan 4026)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Gold Range Hotel, Café (Bistro), and Bar

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1957

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, multi-storey with cellar. 102' x 66' plus 39' addition on rear

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Gold Range Hotel replaced Jack Glick's original establishment, the "Central Apartments" and "Cave Café", which burned down in July 1956. The new establishment opened in stages: the café opened in October 1957, while the hotel and cocktail bar followed in November and December. Grand opening of the Gold Range was in May 1958. The Hotel was built largely by Italians moonlighting as carpenters after shift at Con Mine. Jack's wife, Zelda, helped oversee the construction. Lumber was salvaged from the old army camps near the airport.

The Gold Range Hotel was a modern facility for its time, with 52 rooms, 18 private bathrooms, and 7 public baths. Rooms were available at short or long-term rates, with \$60 per month advertised in 1960. It contained a Cafe featuring Canadian and Chinese cuisine, managed by Newton Wong and Randy Pon. The cocktail lounge was later expanded into a successful bar. Jack Glick offered the town's first long-distance VHF radio-phone service until the local telephone company began offering this service through Canadian National Telegraph in 1960. There was also a barber shop in the lobby run by various people beginning in 1961 (Jake's Barber 1961-1962, Pasquale Giordano 1963-1964, Dario Tomasi 1964-1970, Tony's Barber 1970s, Jack's Barber c.1973, and "The Chopping Block" 1979-1982). The hotel was also the location of the chiropractor's office who came to town regularly in the 1960s. In 1966, Fritz Pruffer became manager of the Gold Range Hotel as Jack Glick began to relieve direct control of the business. Rocky Wagner was managing director in 1968 and Harry Pysmenny had acquired part ownership as well. Pysmenny was manager during the 1970s and made significant renovations, expanding capacity of the bar to 220 and introducing draft beer (the first in the NWT) beginning June 23, 1972. A section of the bar was renovated to become the "Cabin Fever Dining Lounge" in 1978.

Sam Yurkiw acquired controlling share of the hotel, bar, and cafe in 1977. Yurkiw managed the bar during its most successful period throughout the 1980s, and in 1988 it is said the bar sold more beer than any other bar in Canada. Sam Yurkiw stepped down as manager in 2003 because of illness and his son Richard took over the business. Sam Yurkiw died in 2009. Two years before, in February 2007, the business was sold to Joel and Sam Park. There was interest in the community to designate the Gold Range Hotel a historic site during 2008 but the owners requested this proposal be dismissed because of concerns a designation would impact their ability as owners to decide the future of the business. In 2011, the City expressed an interest to acquire the Gold Range and adjoining properties as part of a downtown redevelopment scheme. Owners of the Gold Range Hotel: Jack Glick (1957-1966), Rocky Wagner, Harry Pysmenny & partners (1966-1977), Sam Yurkiw & partners (1977-2003), Richard Yurkiw (2003-2007), Sam and Joel Park (2007-current). The building has narrowly avoided total destruction at least four times in its history – the first time in 1964 when the Frame & Perkins garage across the street burned down, the heat from which singed the front facade of the hotel. Cigarettes were to blame for a March 1980 blaze that set a mattress ablaze. In June 1985, a fire engulfed the rear alley wall of the hotel but it was quickly put out. It was again almost set ablaze in September 1992.

NOTES:

Jack Glick's first commercial establishment on this property was the Veteran's Café and rooming house in 1947. Numerous additions and alterations occurred in the 1950s. In 1954, an old Negus bunkhouse was brought to the site. The first downtown post office was located here in 1953. The cafe was transferred to Florence Anton and renamed the Cave Cafe in 1953. Glick's Central Apartments was first advertised for rent in January 1955. The entire complex was gutted by fire in July 1956 and the Gold Range rose from the ashes.



REFERENCES:

Northern News Service, Feb. 16, 2007; April 17, 2009
News of the North, July 10, 1953; Dec. 11, 1953; Jan. 14, 1955; July 13, 1956; Oct. 17, 1957; Nov. 21, 1957; Dec. 19, 1957; May 22, 1958; Dec. 17, 1959; Nov. 10, 1960; June 20, 1968; Dec. 12, 1968; June 22, 1972; March 21, 1973; Oct. 19, 1977
Heritage Building Inventory for New Town, 1990
Moreno Lodovici, Phyllis & Reno Sartor, Harry Pysmenny

Smart Bee Convenience (formerly Yellowknife Radio)

MAP ID: D-64

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5012-5014 – 50th St. (Lot 7, Block 31, Plan 4026)

CURRENT OWNER: Loc Bui

OCCUPANT: Smart Bee Convenience Store and Gifts

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1948, 1952 & 1961

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame. 1952 expansion 40' x 20'. 1961 addition 40' x 26'. Street front is 48' long.



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Harold Glick first opened “Yellowknife Radio & Record Shop” is a small 14’x16’ frame shack in October 1948. In May 1952, Glick obtained permission to erect a new building on Lot 7, Block 31 for his radio shop, which opened on August 2, 1952. The building reached its current size in October 1961 with an expansion, constructed by Ivor Johnson, on the south side of the lot. Harold Glick and Liz Maybroda were the proprietors in the 1960s when it was called “Yellowknife Radio Limited”. It sold household appliances, radios, televisions, furniture, and jewelry. It was the local agent for Sony Electronics and Fairbanks-Morse appliances. With the advent of local television broadcast in 1967, Yellowknife Radio began offering an extensive line of television products and introduced Merlyn Williams as its new radio and television repair technician. Yellowknife Radio Limited operated here until November 1968 when Glick and Maybroda moved into a new building on Franklin Avenue (50-50 Mini Mall).

This building has held many commercial tenants since that time, often more than one at the same time (at addresses 5012 and 5014 50th St.), including:

5012 – 50th St: “Lizel Fabrics” (1969), “Modern Paint & Flooring Limited” (1969-1971), “Williams Electronics” TV repair (1972-1985)

5014 – 50th St: “Laurentide Financial Centre” (1969-1979), “Household Finance Corporation of Canada” (1979-1983), “Type Unlimited” graphic designs (1983-1986), “Munchkins” clothing store (1984-1986), “Gold Range Arcade” (1987-1991), “Flowers by Candlelight” (1991-1995), “Yellowknife Pawnshop” (1996-1997), “For Men Only” clothing store (1997-2005), and “Smart Bee Convenience Store and Gifts” (2008-current).

The current owners acquired the building in 2006 and had completed foundation repairs and considerable interior renovations before opening the convenience store.

NOTES:

The original 1948 store was a tiny shack apparently incorporated into the 1952 store.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 8, 1948; May 23, 1952; August 1, 1952; November 2, 1961; April 13, 1967; March 27, 1969; January 8, 1970; April 20, 1972
NWT Phone Books

Instaloan (formerly Traveler's Rest)

MAP ID: D-65

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5016 – 50th St. (Lot 8, Block 31, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1947 and rebuilt in 1975

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The early history of this building was as a rooming house establishment known as “Joe’s Rooms” and later “Travelers Rest”. It originated on Lot 7, Block 38 in 1947 and may have been first built by N. Macdonald who applied to operate a rooming house at that location in August 1947. It was known as “Joe’s Rooms”, operated by Joe Pandurich, in 1948, until being renamed “Travelers Rest” in May 1957. In June 1951, D. Hagel applied to move a building from Lot 7, Block 38 to Lot 8, Block 31 and Joe’s Rooms continued to operate in the new location. It held 21 furnished rooms on the ground and basement floors. In July 1961, Joe Pandurich took a holiday to see the Calgary Stampede, the first time in nine years he had been outside of Yellowknife. In 1964, Joe advertised the business for sale because of his desire to retire, but the “Travelers Rest” continued to operate under Pandurich. In 1967, the business advertised rooms for rent at the following rates: one day single, \$4.50; one week single, \$28; and one month double at \$120. Joe was known to give lodging to destitute men who had nothing to give him in return. It was again advertised for sale during 1970. Joe Pandurich died on January 1, 1972, and Travelers Rest was advertised under new management in April 1972. George Langlois and Nick Majacich, mine shift bosses at Giant Mine, owned the property in 1972 and continued operating the transient business. Rates in 1973 were \$35 per night for a single room, and \$25 per night for a double room.

“Langlois Hand Carved Frames” was advertised open for business in the “Travelers Rest” building in the winter of 1972/1973, manufacturing frames for pictures or paintings. “Traveler’s Rest” closed in June 1975 after a fire that killed two roomers and George Langlois renovated the premise to focus on his Gallery business. Much of the building was reconstructed during September and October 1975. George Langlois sold “Langlois Picture Framing” in 1977 to Ralph Froment who sold to Russ Heslop in 1979. After being rebuilt in 1975, tenants of 5016 50th street have included: “Langlois Picture Framing” (1975-1977), “Langlois Gallery” (1977-1979), “Langlois Picture Framing Ltd.” (1979-1986), “Touchstone Gallery” (1981-1985), “Just Furs” (1986), “The Woolright” (1986), “The Chopping Block” hair salon (1986-1994), “Wolverine Sports” (1987-1992), “Why Not Casuals” ladies wear (1992-1994), “Langlois Picture Framing & Arts Emporium” (1989-1994), “Webster Galleries (1994-1996), “Langlois” clothing store (1994-2006), “For Men Only” (1998-2004), “Chic Chik” (2004-2006) and “Chez Patricia” (2006-2007). The last tenant was “Instaloan\$”. Property acquired by the City of Yellowknife in 2011 with plans for redevelopment. The building was demolished in 2013.

Certificates of Title (Lot 8, Block 31, Plan 65): Joe Pandurich, January 26, 1954 > Nick Majacich, January 10, 1972 > George Langlois, February 6, 1975 > Yellowknife Radio Ltd, March 16, 1977 > 821465 NWT Ltd, March 22, 1985 > RMH Enterprises Ltd & WJF Investments Ltd, October 6, 1988 > 913050 NWT Ltd, October 21, 1991 > City of Yellowknife, January 4, 2012

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Town Council Minutes 1947-1951; News of the North Directory, 1948
News of the North ads 1952-1960; News of the North, May 17, 1957; July 13, 1961; September 3, 1964; September 14, 1967; January 6, 1972; April 6, 1972; January 4, 1973; June 6, 1973; June 25, 1975; October 1, 1975
GNWT Land Titles NWT Phone Books

Corner Mart (formerly Roy's Confectionary)

MAP ID: D-66

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5018 – 50th St. (Lot 9, Block 31, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: City of Yellowknife

OCCUPANT: Corner Mart plus

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This was the first pool hall to be built in the down town section of Yellowknife. It was built in 1952 by Frank J. Blachut and opened for business in December 1952. A naming contest was held in 1953 and the establishment was christened “Hardrock Billiards”. Blachut also operated “Hardrock Electric” from this building during 1953-1958. In May 1955, the pool hall changed ownership when it was acquired by D. McDonald, and renamed “Yellowknife Billiards”. It held three billiard tables. It is uncertain how long the pool hall operated as no further advertisements appear in the local newspaper after 1955. In December 1959, Lorne W. Carr opened a store in this location. It was a jewelry, shoe shop, and drug store and went by the name “Carr’s Northern Stores Limited” in the mid 1960s. Carr’s store was apparently the first in Yellowknife to be open on Sundays. In 1967 the store began to focus on drug sales, and hired D. Kelly as registered pharmacist.

In August 1969, Carr sold his business to Roy Nergaard and after renovations, reopened as a drug and general store called “Roy’s Drugs & Confectionary” on August 26, 1969. It stopped dispensing pharmacy drugs in 1970 and was renamed “Roy’s Confectionary”. Rod and Al Woods acquired the business in 1979 and closed it in 1990, selling the property to Cory Wong. “Corner Mart plus” convenience store was located here from 1994-2013 and was a very popular pizza joint in Yellowknife. The property was acquired by the City of Yellowknife in 2011 with plans for redevelopment. The building was demolished in 2013.

Certificates of Title (Lot 9, Block 31, Plan 65): Frank Blachut, May 13, 1959 > Lorne W. Carr, September 17, 1960 > Herman Schultz Finance Ltd, September 18, 1969 > Roy’s Confectionary Ltd, July 2, 1975 > Roalco Ltd, March 2, 1979 > SD Holdings Ltd, February 8, 1985 > Cory & Pauline Wong, July 6, 1990 > Corner Mart Produce Plus Inc, April 2, 1991 > YK899328 Convenience Ltd, Aug 16, 1991 > City of Yellowknife, January 19, 2012

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Town Council Minutes, 1952; News of the North ads 1952-1960s;
News of the North, July 18, 1952; May 13, 1955; Dec. 17, 1959; July 28, 1960;
Oct 12, 1967; Aug 14, 1969; August 21, 1969; Feb. 26, 1970;
The North Star, Dec. 1952 The Yellowknifer, Feb. 1, 1979; July 18, 1990
NWT Phone Books
GNWT Land Titles

Laing Building

MAP ID: D-67

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: (Lots 22-24, Block 29, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Commissioner of the NWT

OCCUPANT: Government of the Northwest Territories offices

CURRENT USE: Offices

BUILT: 1969 (6th floor added 1971)

CONSTRUCTION:

Concrete and steel

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Laing Building was constructed in 1969 as permanent offices for the Government of the Northwest Territories. It originally only had five-stories with the ability to add a 6th floor. It was designed and built by Batoni Humford Ltd and Solar Construction Ltd. One the main floor were commercial tenants, while on the upper floors were offices of the Territorial Government. Official opening was on June 13, 1969, presided by Arthur Laing, former Northern Affairs Minister from 1962 to 1968, for whom the building was named. The first commercial tenants included “News of the North Stationary Store”, “Pacific Western Airlines” ticket office, “Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation”, “The Bank of Montreal”, and the “Northern Lights Cafeteria”, managed by Helene Dusseault. The cafeteria did not last long and in 1970, “Joan’s Fashions” clothing store moved to this premise (1970-1972). The Bank of Montreal was located in the building from 1969-1991 when it moved to the Centre Square Mall.

Government (GNWT) departments or divisions located in the Laing building in the 1970s included: Personnel Department, Management Services, Municipal Services, Town Planning, Legal Services, Department of Education, Department of the Executive, Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Department of Information, Department of Public Works, Social Development, and Department of Planning. The Territorial Council offices were located in the Laing building although the Council Chambers were located at the Elk’s Hall. The Government of Canada also had a few offices here in 1970, including the Offices of the Magistrate’s Court. In 1971 the 6th floor was added to the Laing building to increase the offices of the GNWT.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 5, 1969; June 12, 1969; June 19, 1969
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory



Polar Parkas (formerly Precambrian Mining Office)

MAP ID: D-68

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5023 – 49th Street (Lot 13, Block 29, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: 861958 NWT Ltd

OCCUPANT: Homeless day shelter

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1955

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete, 60' x 30', two storey with full basement



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Norman W. Byrne arranged to construct this building in 1955 as offices for his consulting engineering and geology firm. Staff apartments were on the top floor, where mining engineer John and Helen Parker lived with their children in the mid 1950s. It was originally located on 50th Street, Lot 7, Block 24 (the present site of the Bellanca Building). Byrne had been in business in Yellowknife steady since 1945, but with the hive of gold and uranium exploration in the early 1950s there was a major need for a well-organized engineering service with full staff and resources, which this new building could house. Byrne was also an active community advocate through his work with the Catholic Church and Separate School and hockey clubs. He was consulting engineer for some important mining projects, including all of the mines (Discovery, Rayrock, Tundra) that his father and brother (J.J. and Jerry C. Byrne) operated north of Yellowknife. By 1962, the business was known as “Precambrian Mining Services Limited”. In April 1964, Norm Byrne sold his interest in the business to John H. Parker and George McConnell. Parker resigned in March 1967 when he accepted a role as Deputy Commissioner of the NWT. George McConnell became president, with Bill Knutsen as director and Shorty Brown as expeditor. These were the major principals of Precambrian until 1970 when McConnell left the company, and Brown and Knutsen remained as principals. Lot 7, Block 24 was redeveloped in 1972 with the construction of the Bellanca Building. Precambrian Mining relocated to a new office and Tom Pagonis bought the old building for a dollar, moving it to its current lot (Lot 13, Block 29) during April 1972. Ron Mix ‘The Mover’ was hired to perform the actual move. The “Igloo Health Spa” owned by Gus Gade and Rocky Weaber opened here in February 1973. It featured a sauna, whirlpool, sun room, massage, health food bar, belt vibrators, and an exercise area. It was the city’s first membership-based gymnasium business.

The St. John Ambulance organization rented the building from 1972 to 1975. “The Tree of Peace” took over the premise in May 1976. After a few years the facility was too small for the growing programs, and the Tree of Peace moved out in 1980. “The Salvation Army” bought the property from Tom Pagonis and set up a church, alcohol counseling office, and 10-room boarding, with grand opening in August 1981 under the direction of Eric & Eva Henderson. The Salvation Army moved to its present quarters on 45th street in May 1991. “Toa-Chen’s Art Gallery” operated from the basement during 1977 to 1979. “Polar Parkas” clothing store (Garth and Lynda Woods) was located here from 1992 to 2006, and “Chez Patricia” and “Langlois” clothing store from 2006 to 2009. The Scouts Used Bookstore, run by Alf Silke, was located here from 1999 to 2006 and occupied the basement free of charge as a fundraiser for the local Boy Scout troop. Other recent occupants have included “Frostbyte Café” internet café (2006-2011), “Yummy” café (2008-2011), and “Chic Chik” and “Borderline” clothing and skateboard stores (2007-2012). Since 2015, it has been a homeless day shelter.

Certificates of Title (Lot 13, Block 29, Plan 65): Darcy Arden, August 25, 1969 > Tom Pagonis, March 13, 1972 > Salvation Army, June 27, 1980 > Polar Parkas Ltd, October 13, 1992 > 861958 NWT Ltd, September 30, 2011

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 3, 1955; April 23, 1964; March 23, 1967; April 9, 1970; April 13, 1972; October 5, 1972; February 21, 1973; February 28, 1973; May 19, 1976; June 2, 1976; April 11, 1980
The Yellowknifer, May 27, 1976; August 19, 1981; May 17, 1991
GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

Northern Images Art Gallery (formerly Museum of the North)

MAP ID: D-69

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4801 – 50th Avenue (Lot 1, Block 29, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Northern Images Art Gallery

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1960-1963

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete basement

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Yellowknife Museum Society was formed in 1957 to promote the history of the town. One of its early ideas was to rehabilitate the old Wildcat Café in Old Town. By 1960 the Society began to focus on construction of a structure to house a heritage centre for the region and the NWT as a whole. Lot 1, Block 29 was purchased in 1960. The Society was funded partially by an annual grant obtained from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Directors of the Society during the formative years of 1962-1963 were A.J. Boxer (president), Didi Woolger, W.P. Johnson, M. Barton, Dusty Miller, John H. Parker, and Mrs. B. Barager. Early curators were R. Eamonde (1962-1963), P. Peipenburg (1963), and geologist Ed Schiller (1964). These were all unpaid, volunteer positions.

Construction began in the fall of 1960 and continued slowly over the course of three years with available funding. The plan was to open the museum in stages and a gift shop was foreseen for the summer of 1962. However, the project was delayed until the next summer, and grand opening of the “Museum of the North” was on July 6, 1963. A number of government dignitaries joined the ceremony including Gordon Robertson, NWT Commissioner, and Ted Horton, mayor of Yellowknife. The museum was built largely by local volunteers including shop students from Sir John Franklin high school. Donations were accepted from various corporate (HBC and mining companies) and government grants. Scotty Gall, local HBC manager, who was also a member of the NWT Council, was an advocate for government support of the project. The Museum of the North began as a seasonal operation to coincide with the summer tourism season. Opening day for the 1964 season was on June 24. The museum opened for the summer season of 1965 on July 12 with expanded exhibit space on the main floor and new features, including the town’s first telephone switchboard used at the Gold Range Hotel, and George Pinsky’s Model-T Ford car. The Canadian Handicraft Guild ran a gift shop in the museum and a small visitor’s information centre occupied the front entrance.

The centre was run by a volunteer board of directors who had other jobs, and even the curator was in an unpaid temporary position. The Yellowknife Museum Society began to look for ways to expand its activities while at the same time soliciting interest from government to take over management of the heritage facility. The Society board approved a motion to begin negotiations in 1968, and in 1971 the GNWT took it over under the Historic Sites Committee. In 1974, planning for a new Territorial Museum was begun, and at the end of the summer season, the museum artifacts were boxed up and put in storage until the new facility was completed. Meanwhile the old building was converted into the new public library which opened in 1975. Jeanette Fish was the first full-time librarian in 1979, managing a staff of four. The library remained here until 1990 when the current library was established in The Centre Square Mall. Marg Bailes then renovated it for her “Arctic Art Gallery” (1990-1998), followed by “Northern Images Art Gallery” (1998-current). From 1980 to 1990, the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce operated an office in the basement of the building, while the Consumer Association of Canada had an office in the basement from 1978 to 1982.

NOTES:



REFERENCES:

News of the North, September 8, 1960; May 18, 1961; May 17, 1962; May 9, 1963; July 4, 1963; July 11, 1963; July 9, 1964; July 15, 1965; May 23, 1968; April 30, 1970; September 30, 1971; October 2, 1974
The Yellowknifer, Oct. 4, 1979; April 9, 1980; Oct. 12, 1990; Dec. 12, 1990
NWT Phone Books
Jean Piro, Barb Bromley

House (formerly Arved Pohlak)

MAP ID: D-70

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5021 – 47th Street (Lot 14, Block 85, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Tony Chang

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1955

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 28' x 32'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Arved Pohlak was granted a building permit for this lot in May 1955. Mr. Pohlak advertised a house for sale in October 1962 at this address. Gerald Carter, engineer with Wardair, was living here in 1970, followed by Dvao Laurell, a miner in 1977. Other owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 85, Plan 69): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Arved Pohlak (miner) August 7, 1957 > William Henry Monaghan (pilot) April 2, 1965 > Gerald Gordon Carter (aircraft engineer) March 21, 1967 > Tolvo & Marjatta Laurell, November 20, 1973 > Douglas Maybroda, June 12, 1981 > Edward & Joanne Desrochers, June 13, 1985 > Tony Chang, June 26, 1987



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 4, 1962
GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978

House (formerly Wade Magrum)

MAP ID: D-71

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5023 – 47th Street (Lot 13, Block 85, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Catherine Boyd

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: after 1958

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

It is unclear based on available records who first owned this house nor when, but it appears to have been constructed in the early 1960s. Wade Magrum, an employee of Lanky Agencies insurance beginning in 1961, was living here in the mid 1960s to 1972, followed by Doug Ross, local manager of Lanky's Agencies until 1978. Wade Magrum returned to replace Ross as Lanky's manager and may have been living here again.

Certificates of Title (Lot 13, Block 85, Plan 69): Gerald Leonard Mogenson (mill operator) November 22, 1954 > Director, The Veterans Land Act, August 2, 1961 > Blair Henry Dewar (diamond driller) September 9, 1963 > The Central Mortgage Housing Corporation, December 21, 1965 > Lanky Agencies Limited, May 3, 1966 > Catherine Boyd and Thomas Willoughby, March 23, 1999



NOTES:

Lot 13, Block 85 was without a house until early 1960s photographs

REFERENCES:

News of the North, January 4, 1973
GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978

House (formerly Slim Argue)

MAP ID: D-72

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5119 – 56th Street (Lot 16, Block 58, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Tasha Stephenson

OCCUPANT: Tasha Stephenson

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Horace “Slim” Argue was the first owner of this house. Bush pilot Max Ward may have been living here at one point. The Hudson’s Bay Company acquired title in 1965 and its staff occupied it for many years. John Love, HBC office clerk, and his wife Barbara, were living here in 1970, followed by Wayne Warner in 1977 who was an HBC store manager.

Certificates of Title (Lot 16, Block 58, Plan 140): Horace Argue, June 2, 1958 > Horace & Hilda Argue, August 18, 1958 > Hudson’s Bay Company, September 21, 1965 > Northwest Company Inc., June 22, 1990 > Gerardo Schiavone, April 2, 1992 > Adrian Boyd, June 14, 1994 > Tasha Stephenson, December 13, 2002



NOTES:

House is visible in photo N-1979-052:4183, dated c.1956.

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles, City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Hans Vooros

House (formerly Tommy Nuttall)

MAP ID: D-73

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5121 – 56th Street (Lot 15, Block 58, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Judith Krause

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Tommy Nuttall was the first owner of this house. Nuttall was an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company, Frenchy's Transport, Pacific Western Airlines, and as assistant manager with Northward Airlines. He also ran an insurance agency part time with Lanky Muyres in the early 1960s, and was a big sportsman through hockey and curling. The family (with Eleanor, and four daughters) left Yellowknife in 1966 and moved to Edmonton to work for Northward Aviation. Norm & Florence Embleton then lived here. Norm was an employee of the liquor store into the 1970s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 15, Block 58, Plan 140): Tom Nuttall, August 5, 1958 > Norm Embleton, June 24, 1966 > Mike & Elize Zatelny, October 19, 1979 > Fred Krause, June 26, 1981 > Judith Krause, May 25, 2009



NOTES:

House is not visible in photo N-1979-052:4183, dated c.1956.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, February 12, 1975
The Yellowknifer, April 18, 1974, February 13, 1975
GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Hans Vooros

House (formerly Tommy Albers)

MAP ID: D-74

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5123 – 56th Street (Lot 14, Block 58, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Rowena Roflo

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house was probably built by contractor William Wilson. It was a staff residence for Plains Western Gas & Electricity Ltd. in the 1960s, and Tommy Albers, manager, was living here for many years, followed by manager Dan & Joanne Wilde until 1970. Hans Vooros, a taxi driver, lived here from 1971 to 1978.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 58, Plan 140): William Wilson, May 9, 1958 > Plains Western Gas & Electricity Ltd., November 7, 1958 > Hans Vooros, August 19, 1971 > Hans & Alex Boychuk, December 21, 1978 > 144367 Canada Inc., July 31, 1991 > Nedzad Hasanbasie, September 23, 1991 > Kristen & Donald Cameron, May 19, 1993 > Julie Baxter, July 26, 2002 > Julie & Jeff Baxter, November 28, 2007 > Rowena Roflo, June 15, 2010



NOTES:

House is not visible in photo N-1979-052:4183, dated c.1956.

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Hans Vooros

House (formerly Jack Decker)

MAP ID: D-75

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5125 – 56th Street (Lot 13, Block 58, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Elise Maltinsky

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house was probably built by contractor William Wilson. It was a staff residence for the local manager of Imperial Oil for many years, including Lindsay Sparks (1959-1967), and Jack Decker, who had the Imperial Oil distributing contract 1967-1987. Pat Deman, manager of Territorial Beverages Ltd., owned the title in the 1970s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 13, Block 58, Plan 140): William Wilson, March 1, 1957 > Lindsay Sparks, October 18, 1967 > John Decker, July 9, 1968 > Pat Deman, April 29, 1971 > Roger & Kathleen Regnier, June 9, 1977 > Dr. Peter Slinger & Shelia Stewart, June 30, 1978 > Joanne Allison & Doug Heard, May 2, 1980 > Cathy & Steven Thicke (doctor) July 26, 1980 > WJF Investments Ltd., July 31, 1987 > Mark & Sandra Schmalz, September 29, 1988 > Bruno Jarnell & Denise Gagnon, November 29, 1993 > Charles Thompson & Dawn Spencer, April 23, 2001 > Elise Maltinsky, May 31, 2004



NOTES:

House is not visible in photo N-1979-052:4183, dated c.1956 but may have been under construction at that date as there are trailers and supplies on the lot.

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Hans Vooros

Houses (Government Panabode)

MAP ID: D-76

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5110 to 5112 – 55th Street (Lot 5&6, Block 58, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1959

CONSTRUCTION:

Log panabode

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

These two identical houses were built in 1959 by students at Sir John Franklin high school as part of a carpenter class. They were built for the purpose of federal government housing. It is not clear who all was living here over the years, but in 1970 Ken Williams, Department of Transport airport manager was living at 5112, followed by Ed Zewyrucka, RCMP corporal, in c.1977. Floyd Bartesko, GNWT equipment operator, was living in 5110 in 1970 with wife Irene.

Certificates of Title (Lot 5&6, Block 58, Plan 140): Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, October 31, 1958



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978

House (formerly Max Anderson)

MAP ID: D-77

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5114 – 55th Street (Lot 7, Block 58, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Scott Wright & Lisa Tesar

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1958

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was probably built in 1958, as Max Anderson bought the lot in June 1958. Max Anderson and Mike Haener were partners in the construction business and dealt primarily with concrete, later forming Capital Transit Mix, a division of Haener & Anderson Limited. Reverend H.G. Cook of the Anglican Church was living here in the 1960s-1970s, followed by federal government (DIAND) geologist and regional administrator Robert Hornal in the 1970s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 7, Block 58, Plan 140): Mike Guibert Haener (contractor) August 5, 1958 > Max Anderson (contractor) January 19, 1959 > Opal May Cook, August 4, 1964 > Robert & Joan Hornal (geologist) December 6, 1973 > Elaine Kasteel, August 7, 1981 > Matonabee Holdings Limited, June 24, 1983 > Dave & Debra Jepson, October 30, 1984 > Steve Gwilliam (pharmacist) November 9, 1988 > Premium Homes Limited, December 12, 1996 > Scott Wright & Lisa Tesar, May 12, 1997

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory 1977-1978

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-78

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5113 – 55th Street (Lot 19, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Terry & Ronald Kunji

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 19, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in July 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. Oluf & Edna Hansen were living here from the 1950s until Oluf's retirement from government in 1968. For many years, the Hansen's competed in the annual Christmas Light contest and won first prize in 1965, while in the summers they maintained an impressive front yard garden. Steve & Sherry Hook, with the CBC, were living here in 1970.



Oluf and Edna Hansen with children Lloyd and Rick showcasing their award-winning gardens, 1960s.
(photo courtesy Carol Maclean)

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, January 6, 1966
AANDC Lands Office
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Carol Maclean

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-79

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5115 – 55th Street (Lot 18, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Guenther Golchert

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 18, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in July 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. From about 1963 to 1965, the G.R. Bukowiecki family were living here, followed by Eric & Jenny Drake, DOT maintenance, until about 1970. William & Maria Simpson were living here in 1970 (William was fire chief of the Department of Transport airport operations), followed by Myron & Grace Erickson with the RCMP in 1977.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknife City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

Carol Maclean

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-80

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5117 – 55th Street (Lot 17, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: William Hodson

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 17, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in July 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. Bryan & Elaine Dierk, with the Northern Canada Power Commission, were living here in 1970, followed by James & Doreen Lambert with the RCMP in 1977.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-81

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5119 – 55th Street (Lot 16, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Paul Cressman & Rebecca Chouinard

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 16, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in May 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. A.T. Ferguson was living here in the 1950s. Charlie & Adeline Overvold were living here in 1970. Charlie was a radio operator with the Department of Transport. Harvey & Helen Linklater, DPW carpenter, was living here in 1977.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-82

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5121 – 55th Street (Lot 15, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Government of Canada

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 15, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in May 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. J.R. Bryson was living here in the 1950s. Doug & Mona Cranna with the DOT and later DPW were living here from about 1961 to 1969.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office

City Files

Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

NWT Phone Books

Carole Maclean

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-83

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5123 – 55th Street (Lot 14, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Deborah and Edward McLeod

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 14, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in May 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. Michael & Larose Gillis was living here in 1970 as employee of the Department of Health and Welfare. Maurice & Shirley Myers, employee of the Government of Canada, were listed at this address in 1977.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-84

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5125 – 55th Street (Lot 13, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Benjamin Russo

OCCUPANT: Benjamin Russo

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 13, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in May 1947. Andrew L. Blackberg, the manager of the Yellowknife airport, lived here from 1947 to 1963 when he and the family left Yellowknife. Ken & Mary McGinley then lived here until Ken's death in 1971. Ken was the chief chemist at the government assay lab in Yellowknife. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. Alex & Millie Nitsiza, employees of the Government of Canada, were listed at this address in 1977.

Certificates of Title (Lot 13, Block 57, Plan 140): Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, January 12, 1995 > Benjamin Jeremiah Russo, January 28, 2011



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-85

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5112 – 54th Street (Lot 6, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Wayne Pye & Chantelle McDonald

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in the 1950s and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 6, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in May 1947, transferred to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. Paul & Elsie Lemieux, DOT airport, lived here from about 1960 to 1965. Geoff Hutchinson, Department of Transport telecommunications area manager was living here in 1970, followed by Bill & Colleen Stephens, airport traffic controller, in 1977.



NOTES:

Not here in 1948 Insurance Map

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Carol Maclean

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-86

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5114 – 54th Street (Lot 7, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Government of Canada

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in the 1950s and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 6, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in May 1947, transferred to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. Donald & Ruth Maclean, DOT airports, lived here from October 1962 to August 1966. David & Phyllis Gairns, INAC mining recorder, lived here from 1966 to 1971, followed by Robert & Dorothy Williams, INAC mining recorder from 1971 to c.1979. Dragi & Louise Jovanovic, Government of Canada employees, were listed at this address in the 1980s.



NOTES:

Not here in 1948 Insurance Map

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office

City Files

Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978

Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

NWT Phone Books

Carol Maclean

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-87

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5116 – 54th Street (Lot 8, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Kevin O'Keefe

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 8, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in May 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. H.E. Cook was living here in the 1950s, followed by Whit & Diane Fraser (with the CBC) in 1970, and Dragi & Louise Jovanovic with the Government of Canada in the 1970s.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-88

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5118 – 54th Street (Lot 9, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Leslie Wilson

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 9, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in May 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. Ronald & Gail Kingdon, with the RCMP, were living here in 1977.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office

City Files

Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978

Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-89

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5120 – 54th Street (Lot 10, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Allan Ross

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 and was staff housing for the Department of Transportation. Lot 10, Block 57 was reserved for the Department of Transport in April 1947. The lot was transferred from DOT to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. C.D. Fisher was living here in the 1950s. Harry & Eliza Lawrence were living here in 1970 (Harry was DOT airport foreman) followed by Donald Leedham, RCMP, in 1977.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Yellowknifer City Directory, 1977-1978
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948

Department of Transport Garages

MAP ID: D-90

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5122 – 54th Street (Lot 11, Block 57, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Family Funeral Services Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: c.1947-1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

These two back-to-back (one facing street, one facing alley way behind) three-bay garages were used by the Department of Transport employees who lived in the area in the 1950s-1960s. The back garage facing the alley was built first in 1947 or 1948 (visible in 1948 Insurance Map), and the garage facing 54th street was built after. The Department of Transport first held Lot 11, Block 57 in reserve on May 16, 1947, and eventually transferred title over to another party in the 1970s.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
Insurance Plan, Yellowknife NWT, 1948
Carol Maclean

House (formerly Liquor Superintendent's)

MAP ID: D-91

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5110 – 53rd Street (Lot 5, Block 41, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Ardith Dean

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1954

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This lot was held in reserve for the Department of Resources and Development on October 17, 1950. In March 1954, the government announced it would construct new housing for liquor staff in Yellowknife, and it is assumed that Lot 5 and 6 on this block were built for this purpose. In October 1954, it was further announced that W.W. "Bill" McClellan, the NWT liquor superintendent, was in his new house near the Catholic School (located across the street in those years). McLellan retired in March 1964 and was replaced by Thomas C. Robinson as liquor superintendent, who also lived in this house. The lot was transferred to the Commissioner of the NWT in September 1959.

In 1967, Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited bought the property to increase its number of staff housing in the city. Some of the Giant employees and their families who lived here included: David & Patricia Dennis (c.1970), Ron and Nancy Kapicki (c.1977-1987), and Harry Seeton (1980s). Giant eventually sold off its housing properties and offered the renters the chance to buy the land. Harry Seeton acquired title in 1989. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 5, Block 41, Plan 65): Thomas C. Robinson (liquor superintendent), December 11, 1967 > Giant Yellowknife Mines Ltd, December 11, 1967 > Harry Seeton, October 21, 1989 > Katherine Thompkins, April 7, 1992 > Milford & Gladys Brigham, April 7, 1992 > Ardith Dean, August 18, 1994

NOTES:

House is here in 1956 photo (N-1979-052:4183)



REFERENCES:

News of the North, March 5, 1954; October 29, 1954; February 13, 1964; March 12, 1964
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Liquor staff house)

MAP ID: D-92

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5112 – 53rd Street (Lot 6, Block 41, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Donald Worrall

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1954

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This lot was held in reserve for the Department of Resources and Development on October 17, 1950. In March 1954, the government announced it would construct new housing for liquor staff in Yellowknife, and it is assumed that Lot 5 and 6 on this block were built for this purpose. It is not clear who from the liquor staff was living at this address, although in March 1954 J.F. O'Connor and his family arrived as accountant for the NWT liquor system, so he may have been the first resident. The superintendent of liquor (Bill McLellan 1954-1964, and Thomas Robinson 1964-1967) was living in the house next door on Lot 5. The lot was transferred to the Commissioner of the NWT in September 1959 and sold to Harvey Pohlak in September 1965 through an agreement in sale. Pohlak was an employee of the liquor division of the GNWT until 1973 when he resigned after winning a bid, together with Albert Eggenberger, for the private liquor sales contract. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 6, Block 41, Plan 65): Arved Pohlak, May 15, 1970 > Gerald & Loretta Janelle (P. Harbin & Co. construction contractors), June 13, 1970 > Jennifer & Doug Ouilette, June 26, 1985 > Donald Worrall, January 5, 1989

NOTES:

House is here in 1956 photo (N-1979-052:4183)

REFERENCES:

News of the North, March 5, 1954; March 19, 1954; October 29, 1954;
February 13, 1964; March 12, 1964
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly Gerry Hordal)

MAP ID: D-93

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5105 – 53rd Street (Lot 23, Block 40, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: David & Diana Mathisen

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 12' x 38' plus 14' x 28' side addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was presumably built at this location in the early 1950s. An early owner was Alphonse Coene in the 1950s-1960s, followed by Gerry & Lynne Hordal in the late 1960s to the 1980s. Gerry was an electrician and worked for CBC for many years. Owners are summarized below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 23, Block 40, Plan 65): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Alphonse Ivor Coene (miner) June 2, 1958 > Thomas Clinton Pickell, August 18, 1964 > Gerald Hordal (electrician) & Lynne Hordal, July 31, 1967 > Deb Dobson (teacher) June 13, 1983 > Andrew Hammond (archaeologist) May 26, 1989 > David & Diana Mathisen, March 19, 2003



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Parker & Parker Law Office)

MAP ID: D-94

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5103 – 52nd St. (Lot 24, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Sunrise Real Estate

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1946

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 35' x 28'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house began as the law office of “Parker & Parker”, run by brothers John and Peter Parker in Old Town during 1946. Original location was behind the Hudson’s Bay Company store, on Lot 2, Block 2. Peter Parker left the business in 1947. A relocation of businesses to the new downtown section of Yellowknife took place in the late 1940s. In May 1950, Parker & Parker moved the structure to a new downtown location. The building was moved by Red Dusseault over the course of a week to its new lot on the corner of Franklin Ave and 51st Street (Lot 13, Block 24). John Parker continued to run Parker & Parker here until 1958, when he left Yellowknife for the Yukon. Lawyer Mark de Weerd took over the business in October 1958 and continued to operate from this location. David Searle joined up as a partner in 1962, and in December of that year their offices were relocated to the new W.H. Bromley building across the street.

The building was moved to its current location sometime during 1963-1964, with title to this lot held by Francescho Cagnoni since 1956. A number of the Cagnoni families owned title to the lot in the 1960s-1970s, all of whom worked as miners at Con and Giant Mine. Marco Cagnoni held title beginning in 1969. He made an addition on the 51st Avenue facing side.

George Valeras bought the property in 1991 and eventually renovated it into a pizza restaurant “Canadian Pizza Limited” from 1998 to 2007. His family lived in the original building while the restaurant operated out of a newer addition on the street-alley-front.

Certificates of Title (Lot 24, Block 39, Plan 65): Jean Heal, September 21, 1954 > Francescho Cagnoni, November 22, 1956 > Pietro & Ivano & Francescho Cagnoni, August 18, 1964 > Pietro Cagnoni, January 23, 1969 > Marco & Dominique & Albano Cagnoni, April 10, 1969 > Marco Cagnoni, June 25, 1981 > George & Kiriaki Varelas, August 28, 1991 > Sunrise Real Estate, January 27, 2012

NOTES:

The building with a roofline parallel to 51st Avenue is the original 1946 structure – the section facing the Avenue is the later addition.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, February 16, 1946; May 19, 1950; August 28, 1958; October 16, 1958; July 6, 1962
GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly Al & Helen Dusseault)

MAP ID: D-95

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5105 – 52nd Street (Lot 23, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Dane Mason

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 26' x 20' plus 16' x 11' back addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A residence that has been here since the early 1950s. Joseph Alphonse “Al” Dusseault was assigned title on October 3, 1949 from Jack Bromley. Al and Helen Dusseault lived here for a few years. Helen (nee Graber) ran a number of coffee shops and restaurants over the years, and also operated a beauty counseling service from her 52nd Street home in 1961. Al Dusseault was Yellowknife fire chief from 1960-1969 and an avid curler. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 23, Block 39, Plan 65): Joseph Alphonse Dusseault, January 20, 1960 > Frank Incrocci, July 8, 1965 > Ross MacInness, August 29, 1969 > Sven Gustafson, June 6, 1971 > Patrick Stanton (insurance broker), July 15, 1976 > James Doug Ross, September 14, 1977 > Irecan Ltd, January 21, 1980 > Denis & Maurice Alain (electricians), October 7, 1980 > Denis & Donna Alain, July 8, 1985 > Tom Evans (pilot), October 30, 1987 > John Evans (pilot), March 25, 1988 > M.C. Editorial Services Ltd, November 29, 1990 > Marie Coe & George Baird, December 18, 1997 > Luke Wood, March 29, 1999 > Nalyrose Sayong, November 30, 2000 > Pedro Teemsma, June 8, 2006 > Dane & Aaron Mason, April 27, 2010

NOTES:

House is here in 1956 photo (N-1979-052:4183)

REFERENCES:

News of the North, July 14, 1960; July 20, 1961
AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly NCPC Residence)

MAP ID: D-96

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5107 – 52rd Street (Lot 22, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Randy & Aubin Waddell

OCCUPANT: Randy & Aubin Waddell

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947 or 1948

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 33' x 23' plus 8' x 15' side addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This was originally a staff house located 100 kilometers northwest of Yellowknife at the Snare River Hydro facility, which began operations in 1948. The Northern Canada Power Commission was the operator of the hydro. The house was built in 1947 or 1948 – the exact date is unclear. It was likely a senior staff residence and his family would have been living here with him. In 1964, the Northern Canada Power Commission decided to relocate most of its staff to Yellowknife and operate the Snare River Hydro via a remote control centre. The houses were also moved into Yellowknife for staff housing, so it is likely that the family who lived here at Snare continued to live here at the new location in Yellowknife. In August 1964, NCPC announced it would start moving the houses to Yellowknife on the winter road. John Dennison of Byers Transport made the move – made more difficult by the top-heavy nature of the structure. Lot 22, Block 39 was sold to the NCPC in May 1965. Graham Tench, NCPC manager, may have been the first resident here, followed by Edward & Valerie Newcomb who was NCPC plant superintendent from 1966 to 1973. Joe Pine replaced him as NCPC superintendent, followed by Tony Yewchuk in 1974. By 1977, William & Jackie Deveau, who also worked for NCPC, was living at this address.

Northern Canada power Commission eventually sold its staff housing on the open market and in 1984, Randy & Aubin Waddell purchased the property and continue to live here today.

Certificates of Title (Lot 22, Block 39, Plan 65): Archibald McCallum, March 6, 1961 > City of Yellowknife, September 24, 1964 > Northern Canada Power Commission, December 13, 1965 > Randy & Aubin Waddell, November 30, 1984

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 13, 1964; September 5, 1973
Annual Report of the Northern Canada Power Commission, March 31 1965
GNWT Land Titles
Roger Zarudski, Dave Lovell, Jean Piro
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House (formerly Negus Mine Bunkhouse)

MAP ID: D-97

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5111 – 52rd Street (Lot 20, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Roger Zarudski

OCCUPANT: Roger Zarudski

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 23' x 37' plus front porch

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building originated at Negus gold mine campsite and was a four-room bunkhouse for mine employees. It was constructed in 1947 to replace the large bunkhouse destroyed by fire in December 1946. The new facilities, totaling nine individual units, were designed to be safer than the original mine bunkhouse. With the closure of Negus Mine in September 1952, several buildings were sold off including all of the bunkhouses. It is unclear who brought the bunkhouse into the downtown area (Lot 20, Block 39), but Consolidated Discovery Yellowknife Mines held first title to this lot in 1954. The Roman Catholic Separate School Board held title from 1961-1965; the original Catholic elementary school was located across the street in those years, so it may have been a staff house for teachers. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Stan and Judy Gehring are listed as residents of this address in 1970. Stan worked at Bartle & Gibson heating and plumbing.

Certificates of Title (Lot 20, Block 39, Plan 65): Consolidated Discovery Yellowknife Mines Ltd, August 16, 1954 > Roman Catholic School District No. 2, January 31, 1961 > David Gale (miner) June 13, 1965 > Thomas Dale, November 21, 1968 > John Majoras, November 21, 1968 > Leon Sokolowski (fridge mechanic) April 10, 1970 > Gordon Roy Lamb, March 5, 1971 > City of Yellowknife, September 7, 1972 > Lyle Finlayson, September 27, 1974 > Velimir Stanojevic (taxi driver) May 9, 1975 > Margery Rose Jewsbury, January 25, 1979 > Roger Zarudski, July 30, 1981



NOTES:

House is here in a 1956 photo (N-1979-052:4183)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Roger Zarudski

House (formerly James Murphy)

MAP ID: D-98

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5113 – 52nd Street (Lot 19, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: James Watson & John Carlsen

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 21' x 32', 11' x 13' back addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Residence probably built in the 1950s (may have been moved to this location). Origin is unclear but it was not on this property before 1962. Earliest land title was to James "Jim" Murphy in 1970, who was living here throughout the 1970s and 1980s while working as a maintenance caretaker with the Catholic school. His wife was Emily Murphy, both of whom died in 2002.

Certificates of Title (Lot 19, Block 39, Plan 65): James Murphy (caretaker) March 18, 1970 > James & Emily Murphy, January 22, 1988 > Elaine and David Grundy (RCMP) May 27, 1988 > T.C. Oil Distributors Limited, July 7, 1989 > Jose, Eleanor, & Pedro Tolentino, October 22, 1990 > James Watson & John Carlsen, January 19, 2011



NOTES:

House is not yet built in a 1956 photograph (N-1979-052:4183), nor does it appear in a 1962 photograph (N-1979-052:4236).

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
City Files
NWT Phone Books
Yellowknife 1970 Phone Directory

House (Hans Bauhaus)

MAP ID: D-99

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5123 – 52nd Street (Lot 14, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Hans Bauhaus

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Residence probably built in the 1950s (after 1956). The lot was sold by the Town of Yellowknife to Hans Bauhaus in 1960. Bauhaus was a mechanic with Frame & Perkins and later went into business for himself (City Motors). He was living at this address in the 1970s and 1980s.

The house was demolished in August 2016 to make way for new developments in this area.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 39, Plan 65): RC Episcopal Corp of Mackenzie, August 4, 1955 > Municipality of Yellowknife, September 4, 1958 > Hans Bauhaus (mechanic) November 15, 1960 > Hans Bauhaus, March 18, 2002



NOTES:

House is not yet built in a 1956 photograph (N-1979-052:4183)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
City Files

House (formerly Ted Horton)

MAP ID: D-100

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5125 – 52nd Street (Lot 13, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Chris & Gloria Taylor

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1960

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 24' x 40'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was probably built in 1960 by Joe Driscoll who acquired title with the support of the Veterans Land Act (a program to give war veterans priority for residential lands), which had acquired the property in 1958. Joe Driscoll was the manager of Northern Maid Dairy Limited in the 1950s and also worked as a liquor vendor for a short period. Ted and Alberta Horton bought the property in 1963. Ted was mayor of Yellowknife (1958-1963) and editor of the News of the North newspaper, and Alberta ran the News of the North Stationary Store. Ted sold his interest in the newspaper in October 1967 and got a job with the Government of the NWT working as director of information services, until his retirement in June 1970. The GNWT appears to have bought the property from the Horton's after they left Yellowknife and used it for staff housing. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 13, Block 39, Plan 65): RC Epis Corp of the Mackenzie, August 4, 1955 > City of Yellowknife, September 5, 1958 > Director of Veterans Land Act, October 14, 1958 > Joe Driscoll, May 12, 1960 > Alberta Horton, March 11, 1963 > Commissioner of the NWT, November 9, 1970 > Daniel & Catherine Costache, June 2, 1987 > Chris & Gloria Taylor, September 9, 2010



NOTES:

Not here in 1956 photo (N-1979-052:4183)

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly Alfred Azzolini)

MAP ID: D-101

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5104 – 51st Street (Lot 2, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: 6357 NWT Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 39' x 26'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House built in the late 1940s. Roland Forand held a 5-year lease beginning Sep 1, 1945, which was assigned to Herve Guimont in October, 1947. Subsequent owners of the lot include Merve Guimont (c.1951), Joe Servant (c.1953), Leo Steinkellner (c.1955), Jack Chichake (1957), Gianfranco Mosna, miner (1960), Gordon Gould, miner (1965), and Alfred Azzolini, miner (1966). Azzolini also ran a part-time second hand store from this location from June 1972 to November 1973, when he moved to a new location next to Yellowknife Hardware just down the street. Azzolini later also operated a deli and coffee shop in the adjacent commercial building in the mid 1980s (5102 – 51st St.).

The front section is the original, while the tall back section was added sometime after 1970, possibly when it became Azzolini's second hand store in 1972.

Certificates of Title (Lot 2, Block 39, Plan 65): Jack Chichake (clerk) August 7, 1957 > Gianfranco (miner) & Lydia Mosna, November 1, 1960 > Gordon Gould (miner) September 10, 1965 > Alfredo (miner) & Annunziata Azzolini, November 25, 1966 > Peter Radicchi (electronic technician) August 7, 1986 > Yellowknife Motors Ltd., December 3, 1987 > 6357 NWT Ltd., May 8, 2012



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 22, 1972; November 21, 1973
AANDC Lands Office, GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Giovanna Doria)

MAP ID: D-102

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5106 – 51st Street (Lot 3, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Hue Lieu

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Residence probably built in the 1950s. Frank Rioux signed a 5-year lease September 1, 1946, assigned to William Stein in December 1950. Guy Pollack, Harry Maybroda, and Ivan Cagnoni subsequently held title in the 1950s. Giovanni Doria, a trammer at Con Mine from 1961 to 1985, was living here.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 39, Plan 65): Guy William Pollock (miner) August 7, 1957 > Harry Maybroda (miner) October 14, 1959 > Ivano & Pietro Cagnoni (miners) October 14, 1959 > Luigi Sacco (miner) July 29, 1964 > Imola & Giovanni Doria (miner), November 13, 1964 > Giovanni Doria, September 12, 2000 > Paul Tanner & Francine Labrie, September 12, 2000 > Hue Lieu & Tai Tran, October 16, 2002 > Hue Lieu, January 4, 2011



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House (formerly Signal Corp)

MAP ID: D-103

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5112 – 51st Street (Lot 6, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Stephen Outlet & Miriam Wideman

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 36' x 27' plus porch

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1947 (one of three) and was staff housing for the Royal Canadian Corp of Signals. It was originally located on Lot 12, Block 61 (now Block 160, Mildred Hall school grounds). The Department of Transport took over the responsibilities of the RCCS in 1959 and continued to use these houses until 1962 when the property was reserved for the new school (Mildred Hall). The three houses located in this area were sold and moved from the property. This house was moved to its current lot, Lot 6, Block 39, in about 1966, when John Burnstad and Nick Lukianchuk purchased the lot from the City of Yellowknife. John and Iona Burnstad lived here briefly. John worked with the NWT Government Liquor Store from 1966 to 1976. Max Braden and Steve Parsons were living at this address in 1977. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 6, Block 39, Plan 65): John Burnstad (clerk) October 21, 1966 > Gateway Aviation Limited, October 15, 1970 > James Murphy (custodian) October 7, 1971 > Henning Kristiansen, February 12, 1973 > Yellowknife Motors Limited, September 27, 1983 > Susan & Peter James Ferguson (engineer) August 9, 1984 > Raymond Lam (businessman) March 11, 1986 > James Tennant (dentist) April 28, 1987 > Bernard Joseph & Hazel Fedoroff, December 2, 1988 > Stephen Outlet & Miriam Wideman, July 29, 2004

NOTES:

This house was the 'southern' of the three houses on Block 61, Lots 9-12.

Renovated and resided in 2014 by Stephen Outlet



REFERENCES:

The Yellowknifer, "Those Were the Days" July 1, 1976
GNWT Land Titles
City Files

House (formerly Knut Skibstad)

MAP ID: D-104

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5124 – 51st Street (Lot 12, Block 39, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Alan & Glen Skibstad

OCCUPANT: Alan & Glen Skibstad

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 26' x 26' plus 16' x 6' addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

A portion of this house may have originated at Negus Mine, but it also apparently spent some time on Lot 16, Block 32 (52nd Street) – Eugene Bell held a lease on Lot 16, Block 32 starting May 1, 1946, and then Alf Olafson acquired it in a land sale in June 1953. In May 1955, Alf Olafson applied for a moving permit to relocate a house from Lot 16, Block 32 to this property on 51st Street. The history is then confusing, because in April 1956 a permit was issued to move a house from this property to Lot 10, Block 31 – this is the lot on 50th Street that George Pawluk's jewelry was located in the 1950s, so the relationship is unclear or if the move actually took place.

John Kavanaugh held the property in the late 1950s. Knut Skibstad acquired the property in the 1960s and being a carpenter he made significant improvements, erecting the south facing addition. The house has remained in the Skibstad family since that time.

Certificates of Title (Lot 12, Block 39, Plan 65): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > John Kavanaugh (mechanic) June 2, 1958 > Knut Skibstad (carpenter) May 17, 1965 > Fenja Skibstad, December 30, 1991 > Alan Skibstad, September 27, 2010 > Alan & Glen Skibstad, October 25, 2010



NOTES:

House is visible in a 1956 photograph (N-1979-052:4183)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
City Files
Alan Skibstad

House (formerly Walter Senkiw)

MAP ID: D-105

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5113– 51st Street (Lot 19, Block 38, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: John Best

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Residence probably built in the 1950s. John Melville and Harry L. Sykes held early lease-hold rights, the former of which was cancelled in June 1955. Walter Senkiw, a miner, obtained title in 1955. Senkiw worked at Con Mine from 1960 to his death in 1980, as a miner, drill bit sharpener, and powerhouse operator. Widow Anne continued living here until she passed away in 1989. They often rented out rooms to transients and other residents. Irwin Redekop, who was an office clerk with Canadian Pacific Airlines, lived with the Senkiw's in 1958.

Certificates of Title (Lot 19, Block 38, Plan 65): Walter Senkiw (miner) October 24, 1955 > Walter & Anne Senkiw, September 11, 1970 > Dennis Wayne Kosowsky & Frances Marian Palmer (executors of estate of Anne Senkiw, deceased) May 19, 1989 > Marvel & Edwin Holmes, May 19, 1989 > Raymond Li, Thomas Ngaij, & Peter Lau, July 5, 1989 > John & Cheryl Best, September 30, 1996 > John Best, October 31, 2001

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Irwin Redekop

House (formerly Tony Scozzafova)

MAP ID: D-106

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5117– 51st Street (Lot 17, Block 38, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Ted's U Drive Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Residence probably built in the 1950s. Elai and Mary Sachik signed a 21-year lease on December 1, 1950. Mike Vrklan, a miner at Giant, acquired title in 1953. He died in an underground accident in December 1956. The property was advertised for sale numerous times – 1966, 1971 and 1973. Tony Scozzafova, a blacksmith at Giant Mine, owned the house for many years until his death in 1991. Ted Yaceyko, owner of Diamond Cabs Limited, used the building for a few years as a dispatch office for the taxi company.

Certificates of Title (Lot 17, Block 38, Plan 65): Frances & Mike Vrklan (miner) March 21, 1953 > Nick Majacich, August 15, 1967 > Don Pavelich (miner) August 15, 1967 > Ada & Luciano Fortini (miner) August 15, 1967 > Giuseppina & Antonio Scozzafova (miner) January 10, 1974 > Giuseppina Scozzafova, July 18, 1994 > Ted's U Drive Limited, May 8, 1995



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books

Northern News Services (formerly Frame & Perkins)

MAP ID: D-107

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5102 – 50th Street (Lot 1-4, Block 38, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Northern News Services Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Northern News Services Ltd. & Canarctic Graphics Ltd.

CURRENT USE: Commercial printing plant

BUILT: 1964

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel on concrete

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In August 1964, the original Frame & Perkins garage and service station located on Lots 18-20, Block 30 burned to the ground in a massive accidental fire. Frame & Perkins was the local “Ford” car and truck dealership (opened in 1948) owned by Fred Henne and Mike Piro. Construction of the new shop began right away on the present location, and opened in grand fashion on February 20, 1965. It included expanded offices and shops, and a car show room. The new shop was very high tech for its day, including the wheel alignment system which used cameras to ensure perfect alignment with picture being projected onto a screen. Frame & Perkins held the local bus service (town schedule and school buses) and was also the ticket and depot office for Canadian Coachways Limited from 1966 to 1969.

In the 1970s, Frame & Perkins was the Ford-Mercury car dealership, the Avis Rent-a-Car business, was agent for Michelin and Good Year tires, operated the local school and charter bus, operated an Esso Service Station, and a body shop. They also carried seasonal sporting equipment such as boats and motors. Fred Henne was general manager, with Mike Piro as sales manager and Norton McLean as office manager. In June 1979, Frame & Perkins moved to a new location on Old Airport Road.

A wholesale store called “Grocery Order Cash & Carry and Wholesale” operated by Richard Oldfield was located here during 1979-1980, with an Esso gas station, bottle depot, and farmer’s market in the summer. Frame & Perkins continued to operate the Esso gas bar here until July 1981. “Northern News Services Limited”, owned by Jack Sigvaldson, who produced *The News of the North* newspaper, *The Yellowknifer* newspaper, the *Northern News Report*, and *Arctic in Colour* magazine, set up their printing plant and newspaper offices here in 1981. Mike Scott became a partner in the business in 1984 and is general manager today. Canarctic Graphics Limited was purchased in 1989 and also occupies a large portion of the facility. The building was expanded and altered in the 1990s to provide an extended ad production department and systems area to manage new technological demands.

NOTES:



REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 6, 1964; February 11, 1965; September 29, 1966; September 19, 1973; June 8, 1979
The Yellowknifer, May 6, 1981; July 15, 1981
The Yellowknifer 25 Year Anniversary edition, November 26, 1997
NWT Phone Books

The Sportsman

MAP ID: D-108

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5116-5118 – 50th Street (Lot 9, Block 38, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: The Sportsman (Ted Yaceyko)

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: c.1956

CONSTRUCTION:

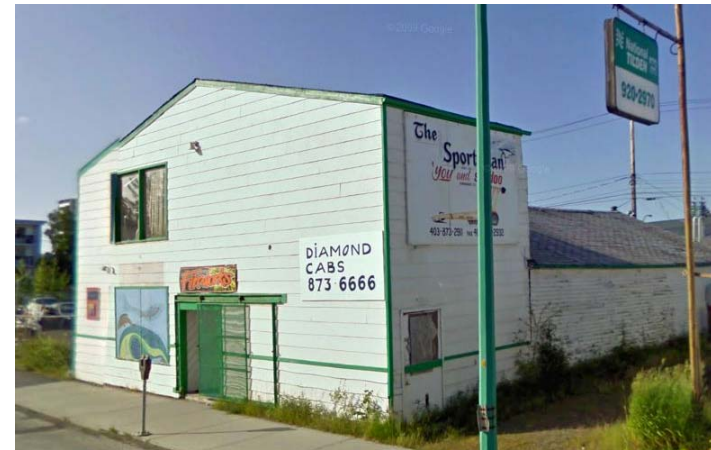
Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

It was originally built in the mid 1950s (about 1956) by Billy Wilson and Bert Lundstrom to house a hardware and lumber yard for “Yellowknife Builders and Suppliers Ltd”, one of the major construction contractors in town. In October 1965, the business was acquired by I. Golob. They began to market prefab homes (‘Muttart Homes’) in 1967 but competition with large outside building contractors like Solar Construction and local hardware businesses like Bromley’s and Johnson’s forced a closure in August 1968. Ivo Golob continued to hold title to the property until his death in 1972.

Ted Yaceyko opened “The Sportsman” at this location in October 1969. Yaceyko was also awarded the Tilden Rent-a-Car franchise in 1969 and operated it as “Mel’s U-Drive Ltd”. The Sportsman was also the local “Canada Coachlines” bus depot and ticket office. It had the town’s first snowmobile repair shop in 1970, and a Nordic Ski Shop garage in the late 1970s. The Sportsman continued to operate into the early 2000s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 9, Block 38, Plan 65): Giles Root, June 2, 1958 > Yellowknife Builders & Suppliers Co., December 29, 1964 > Ivo Golob, February 8, 1966 > Brian Purdy as administer of estate for Ivo Golob, November 20, 1972 > The Sportsman NWT Ltd, November 24, 1972



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, June 15, 1956; October 21, 1965; August 1, 1968; August 21, 1969; October 2, 1969; October 16, 1969
GNWT Land Titles
Roger Zarudski

Subway Restaurant (formerly Hornby Building and CBC)

MAP ID: D-109

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5103 – 50th St. (Lot 26, Block 37, Plan 2327)

CURRENT OWNER: Megsie Developments Ltd.

OCCUPANT: Subway Restaurant

CURRENT USE: Commercial

BUILT: 1962

CONSTRUCTION:



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Canadian Broadcast Corporation (CBC) arrived north in 1958 with the acquisition of the local Yellowknife radio station, CFYK. Expansion of broadcast services continued in the 1960s and necessitated a permanent studio facility. This building was completed in September of 1962 as offices for Gordon Hornby's "Yellowknife Electric" company (electricians) and also for the new Northern Services branch ("CBC Mackenzie") of the CBC radio studios. It became locally known as the Hornby Building. Yellowknife Electric was renamed "Territorial Electric" in 1964 with the partnership of Gordon Hornby and Al Marceau. Hornby's 10-year old son, Dusty, was an avid contributor to the CFYK radio programs and had his own children's program from 1964-1968, the youngest radio announcer in Canada. CBC upgraded its equipment in 1965 with a new 1000-watt radio receiver (formerly 250-watts) to increase the range and remove local interference. The original focus of the station was on radio programs. In 1967, pre-taped television programs were introduced for local broadcast through the CBC after significant public demand for these services that were enjoyed throughout the rest of Canada. Broadcast began on May 14, 1967. The system used programs in four-hour segments taped from the daily CBC-TV schedule, and shipped by air to Yellowknife on a one-week delay basis. Equipment consisted of a small television transmitter, provided with a videotape playback unit and a transmitting antenna 75 feet high. The station originally served 800 households, broadcasting on Channel 8 with black and white footage. Practically overnight, Yellowknifer's bought television sets from local retailers and a new form of entertainment was available. Some of the early staff at CBC-CFYK included managers Sandy Stewart (1958-1959), Sheldon O'Connell (1959-?), John Vanderbie (1964-1967), technician Peter Radcliffe (c.1967-c.1970), Wally Firth, announcer (1962-1969) and program director Barry Kelsey (until 1968). "Lee's Beauty Salon & Florists", operated by Lee Waddell and later Judi Klem, was located here from 1966-1973. Northern Enterprises, a janitorial service operated by Roy Galloway, operated from this address in 1969-1970. Galloway also operated a freelance film and photography business at this address ('Northern Films'). Territorial Electric was still here in 1970 but eventually moved out to make way for expansions at the CBC, although the company continued to hold title.

In 1977, CBC moved to its new location on Forrest Drive. The building was renovated to allow two commercial tenants. The Mackenzie Dental Clinic (Dr. Peter J. Mackenzie-Herridge and Dr. H. Adam) was at on the street corner space from 1978-1992. The second commercial space on 51st Avenue (4909 51st avenue) was occupied by "North Star Refrigeration & Appliances" (1978), the "North Star Candle Shop" (1978-1983), "Aurora Northern Sales" and "Dunrite Cleanitors" (1983-1992), and "Back Stage Hair Design" (1992-1996). "Subway Restaurants" opened in 1996 and occupies the entire building.

Certificates of Title (Lot 24, Block 37, Plan 65): Yellowknife Electric Ltd, August 29, 1962 > Jeremiah & Peter O'Donoghue, February 22, 1988 > Arnulf Steinwand, June 28, 1988
Certificates of Title (Lot 26, Block 37, Plan 2327): Arnuf Steinwand, November 22, 1993 > City of Yellowknife, January 29, 1999 > Donna Williston, October 3, 2000 > Megsie Development Ltd, December 8, 2003

NOTES:

Originally Lot 24, Block 37, Plan 65
Known as the Hornby Building in the 1960s-1990s.

REFERENCES:

News of the North December 18, 1958; July 20, 1962; August 16, 1962; June 18, 1964; September 16, 1965; August 25, 1966; May 11, 1967; July 18, 1968; July 2, 1970; March 28, 1973; March 9, 1977; March 1, 1978
The Yellowknifer, September 14, 1978; March 26, 1980; Dec. 7, 1983
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
GNWT Land Titles NWT Phone Books

Frenchy's Transport

MAP ID: D-110

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5123 – 50th Street (Lot 14, Block 37, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: 902800 NWT Ltd

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE:

BUILT: 1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 42' x 42'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Originally the offices of Frenchy's Transport Limited, an expediting and trucking business owned by Emile "Frenchy" Lamoureux, it was first located in Old Town on Block C, Lots 2 and 3 (across the street from the Wildcat Café). It was built in about 1956. Frenchy's Transport had major expediting contracts with the Byrne mining companies and also had the waste rock and road building contract at Giant Mine. It was the International-Harvester truck dealership and the Consumer Welding and Gas Supplier starting in 1960. In April 1961, the building was moved to the downtown core of Yellowknife to Lot 6, Block 24 (4912 – 50th Street, adjacent to present day Bellanca Tower). Frenchy's continued to use the building for its offices and was also renting out office space, included to lawyer Ted Williams in 1961-1962. In December 1965, Frenchy's Transport moved its offices to the Capitol Theatre building. Beginning in 1966, various government departments were renting the building for offices, starting with the Welfare Office of the Department of Indian Affairs & Northern Development. This was followed by the Department of Fisheries & Forestry and Department of Public Works in c.1970-1972.

Precambrian Mining Services Limited acquired title to Lot 14, Block 37 (5123 – 50th Street) in June 1974. In September 1975, they moved the building from 4912 – 50th Street to its present location at 5123 – 50th Street. A week later, Precambrian Mining Services, Discovery Mines Limited, and Arctic Real Estate announced their offices were now located at this address. Arctic Real Estate moved to a new location in July 1976.

From 1977 to 1978, George Gibson ran his medical clinic from this building. Other tenants included Storefront for Volunteer Agencies (1978-1980), Planned Parenthood (1978), Triple D Printing, and the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce. The building was advertised for sale in January 1980. The "NWT Metis Association" (later NWT Metis Development Corp) was located at this address beginning in 1980 and they continued to occupy the building to 1996. "North Slave Housing Corp" also had an office here from 1992 to 2009. For a short time in 1985, New Life Health Foods had a retail store in the building.

Certificates of Title (Lot 14, Block 37, Plan 65): Precambrian Mining Services Limited, June 21, 1974 > George Gibson, April 28, 1977 > 841769 NWT Ltd., February 26, 1985 > New Life Health Foods Ltd change of name, January 30, 1986 > Jeremiah O'Donoghue and Doug Devlin, January 30, 1986 > NWT Metis Development Corporation Ltd., July 15, 1986

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, April 6, 1961; December 14, 1961; January 6, 1966;
January 5, 1967; September 10, 1975; September 17, 1975; May 10, 1978
NWT Phone Books

Old Giant Town House (#531)

MAP ID: D-111

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5107 – 49th St. (Lot 22, Block 36)

CURRENT OWNER: Don McNenly

OCCUPANT: Don & Hazel McNenly

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 1½ storey, full basement, 24' x 25'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house, and many others on Block 36, was built in the summer of 1952 as downtown staff housing for workers and their families at Giant Mine.

It was designated as House #531 by Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited. Some of the mine employees who lived in this specific house included:

Bud Weatherby, mechanic (1953-1963)

Blake Kellar, mine captain/assistant mine superintendent (1963-1964)

Jim Shaw (1964)

Howard Bye, hoistman (1964-1967)

Luigi & Maria Dionesese, miner (c.1970)

Don McNenly, mill and roaster operator (1970-current)

Giant Mine disposed of its town housing in the downtown core of Yellowknife in 1987, selling to mine employees who were then living in them or on the open market. Don McNenly bought the house from the company and has lived here ever since. He advertised the house for sale in 2012.



NOTES:

House is in excellent shape and maintains all 1952-vintage appearance.

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports

Old Giant Town House (#530)

MAP ID: D-112

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5109 – 49th St. (Lot 21, Block 36)

CURRENT OWNER: Michael Marykuca & Terry Cassell

OCCUPANT: ?

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, full basement, 24' x 29'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house, and many others on Block 36, was built in the summer of 1952 as downtown staff housing for workers and their families at Giant Mine.

It was designated as House #530 by Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited. Some of the mine employees who lived in this specific house included:

Albert & Hilya Hall, mill shift boss (1956-1965)

B. Brisch (1965)

Joe Zupan, crusher operator (1966-1968)

Frank Pelechaty, assay lab (c.1970-1986)

Giant Mine disposed of its town housing in the downtown core of Yellowknife in 1987, selling to mine employees who were then living in them or on the open market.

House was renovated in 2016-2018 and no longer holds its original appearance.



NOTES:

House is in excellent shape and maintains all 1952-vintage appearance.

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
NWT Phone Books

Old Giant Town House (#529)

MAP ID: D-113

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5111 – 49th St. (Lot 20, Block 36)

CURRENT OWNER: Andrew Gamble

OCCUPANT: Rental tenants

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, full basement, 24' x 29'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house, and many others on Block 36, was built in the summer of 1952 as downtown staff housing for workers and their families at Giant Mine.

It was designated as House #529 by Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited. Some of the mine employees who lived in this specific house included:

Roy Woods, mine shift boss (1957-1981)

Slim Lubesedar, mine shift boss (1984-c.1988)

Giant Mine disposed of its town housing in the downtown core of Yellowknife in 1987, selling to mine employees who were then living in them or on the open market.

The house was extensively renovated in 2006 with a new roof, windows, and siding. Current owner rents out the house.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports

Old Giant Town House (#512)

MAP ID: D-114

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5106 – 48th St. (Lot 3, Block 36)

CURRENT OWNER: The Executive Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, full basement, 24' x 29'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house, and many others on Block 36, was built in the summer of 1952 as downtown staff housing for workers and their families at Giant Mine.

It was designated as House #512 by Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited. Some of the mine employees who lived in this specific house included:

Ed Sader, u/g shift boss (1957-1963)

Paul Chechotko, miner (1963-1966)

C. Rinaldin, miner (1966-1968)

Antti & Markitta Kuusisto, miner (c.1970)

Melvin Brewer, cagetender (c.1974)

Carl Olesen, environmental technician (c.1977)

Bruce Bye, pipefitter (c.1984-c.1988)

Giant Mine disposed of its town housing in the downtown core of Yellowknife in 1987, selling to mine employees who were then living in them or on the open market.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports
NWT Phone Books

Old Giant Town House (#513)

MAP ID: D-115

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5108 – 48th St. (Lot 4, Block 36)

CURRENT OWNER: TC Enterprises Ltd.

OCCUPANT: ?

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, full basement, 24' x 29'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house, and many others on Block 36, was built in the summer of 1952 as downtown staff housing for workers and their families at Giant Mine.

It was designated as House #513 by Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited. Some of the mine employees who lived in this specific house included:

W. Schlosser (1958-1959)

D. Irvine, mill engineer (1959-1962)

W. Jeffrey, mill engineer (1962-1963)

Horst Wist, mine shift boss (1963-1966)

William Hall, mill operator (1966-1970)

Ronald Sutherland, electrician (c.1974)

Jim Keenan, electrician (c.1977-c.1984)

Barry Chomick, welder (c.1986)

Giant Mine disposed of its town housing in the downtown core of Yellowknife in 1987, selling to mine employees who were then living in them or on the open market.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports

Old Giant Town House (#514)

MAP ID: D-116

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5110 – 48th St. (Lot 5, Block 36)

CURRENT OWNER: TC Enterprises Ltd.

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 1½ storey, full basement, 24' x 25'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house, and many others on Block 36, was built in the summer of 1952 as downtown staff housing for workers and their families at Giant Mine.

It was designated as House #514 by Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited. Some of the mine employees who lived in this specific house included:

Arnold & Rose Smith, mill shift boss (1952-1960)
Horst Wist, mine shift boss (1960-1963)
Wendelin Bernhard, mine shift boss (1963-c.1970)
Mustafa & Milena Mujcin, miner (c.1973)
John Lanteigne, miner (c.1974)
Paul Bugg, geologist (c.1977)
Keith Murray, open pit shift boss (c.1984-c.1988)

Giant Mine disposed of its town housing in the downtown core of Yellowknife in 1987, selling to mine employees who were then living in them or on the open market.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports

Old Giant Town House (#515)

MAP ID: D-117

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5112 – 48th St. (Lot 6, Block 36)

CURRENT OWNER: TC Enterprises Ltd.

OCCUPANT: ?

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, full basement, 24' x 29'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house, and many others on Block 36, was built in the summer of 1952 as downtown staff housing for workers and their families at Giant Mine.

It was designated as House #515 by Giant Yellowknife Gold Mines Limited. Some of the mine employees who lived in this specific house included:

Max Chinneck, metallurgist (1952-1954)

George Taylor, mine shift boss (1954-1962)

Art Inch, geologist (1962-1963)

Mike Bertleson (1963)

Art D. Coggan, mill engineer (1964-1969)

Mike & Carole Lane, mill engineer (1969-1973)

Bozo Skupajack, planning engineer (1974-c.1975)

Lyle Bexson, warehouseman (c.1977)

Robert Pellerin, mine shift boss (c.1984-1990)

Giant Mine disposed of its town housing in the downtown core of Yellowknife in 1987, selling to mine employees who were then living in them or on the open market.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Giant Mine plans and reports

Government Apartments

MAP ID: D-118

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5119 to 5123 – 48th Street (Lots 25-26, Block 35) and 5104 to 5120 – 47th Street
(Lots 27-32, Block 35, Plan 2716)

CURRENT OWNER: Government of Canada

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1958-1959

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

These duplex government apartment buildings were erected during 1958-1959 for staff of the federal government, probably teachers and administrators working at the Sir John Franklin High School. The lots were transferred to the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources in August 1958 as a site for teachers residences. A complete list of government families living here during the years is unavailable.



NOTES:

Originally Lots 1-9 and 15-24, Block 46

REFERENCES:

News of the North, May 1, 1958
AANDC Lands Office

House (formerly Negus Mine bunkhouse)

MAP ID: D-119

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5122– 47th Street (Lot 11, Block 35, Plan 65)

CURRENT OWNER: Ditab Enterprises Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 24' x 37' plus third gable roof addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building originated at Negus gold mine campsite and was a four-room bunkhouse for mine employees. It was constructed in 1947 to replace the large bunkhouse destroyed by fire in December 1946. The new facilities, totaling nine individual units, were designed to be safer than the original mine bunkhouse. With the closure of Negus Mine in September 1952, several buildings were sold off including all of the bunkhouses. This one was sold to the Town of Yellowknife in 1953 for \$1600. It, together with another bunkhouse, were relocated to the site of the water and sewage treatment plant, located where the Watermark Tower is now on 52nd Avenue (Lots 2-3, Block 167). Here they were used for only a year as staff housing for staff of the Water and Sewer system (including Ken McDonald, engineer). In August 1954, the town advertised tenders for moving two houses from the water and sewer plant site to Block 35 (lots 11 and 13) where they continued to be used as staff housing for the town. John Buck, secretary-treasurer for the city (1957-1963), was living in one of them, and Giles Root an employee of Public Works was living in the other. In March 1960, the town sold the two lots in an attempt to get out of employee housing business.

Albert Marceau purchased Lot 11 in November 1960. Marceau was owner of Territorial Electric Limited and lived here in the 1960s. Albert & Gladys Eggenberger, operators of Red Cap Dairy and later the liquor store and J.J. Hobbies, were living here in the 1970s-1990s, followed by their daughter Jennifer until 2003.

Certificates of Title (Lot 11, Block 35, Plan 65): Albert Paul Marceau (contractor) December 13, 1963 > Albert Eggenberger, April 10, 1972 > Yellowknife Dairies Limited, July 28, 1988 > Linda Gail Benedict, November 26, 2003 > Ditab Enterprises Limited, November 18, 2010

NOTES:

The house on Lot 13 was demolished many years ago.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, August 27, 1954; February 11, 1960
Town Council Minutes
GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House

MAP ID: D-120

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5105 – 47th Street (Lot 23, Block 86, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: 6118 NWT Limited

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Gaston Toschi applied for a permit to move a building to this property from Lot 11, Block 32, in June 1959. Several people rented the house from Tosche, including Silvio & Kay DaCorte and Bob Richards (c.1968). A number of miners then lived here. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 23, Block 86, Plan 69): Gaston Toschi (labourer) June 12, 1959 > Malcolm Fraser (administrator of estate for Gaston Toschi) August 30, 1968 > Stephen Giobron (miner) March 19, 1969 > Mario Cagnoni (miner) September 8, 1969 > Marjatta & Toivo Sakari Laurell (miner) June 28, 1972 > David & Lois Sexsmith, July 10, 1975 > Virginia Labelle (accountant) December 31, 1981 > Guy & Rachel Bradet, April 6, 1983 > Ronne Heming, January 27, 1984 > Siginig Holdings Limited, May 5, 1994 > Suzie Napayok, September 15, 2000 > Jillian & Roger Wah-Shee, March 27, 2008 > Rojer Wah-Shee, January 21, 2010 > 6118 NWT Limited, December 13, 2011



NOTES:

House is visible in 1962 photo (N-1979-052:4195).

History of structure while on Lot 11, Block 32 is unclear.

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Reno & Phyllis Sartor
City Files

House

MAP ID: D-121

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5109 – 47th Street (Lot 21, Block 86, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: James Heron

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House probably built in the 1960s (before 1962). House was listed for sale in May 1966. Milford Sweetman, who worked at the post office, was living at this address in 1970. Other owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 21, Block 86, Plan 69): Haener Anderson Limited, September 8, 1959 > Henry Koenen (pilot) May 2, 1962 > Milford & Mary Sweetman, March 13, 1972 > Dale & Carole Eccleston, March 13, 1972 > James & Wendy Climie, July 6, 1976 > James Douglas & Norah Jean Patriquin (civil servants) July 29, 1977 > John & Joanne Dunlop, May 29, 1979 > Phillip & Joanne Blau, January 27, 1983 > Alan & Nancy Loutitt, July 28, 1983 > NWT Metis Development Corporation Limited, April 11, 1985 > James & Hazel Heron, September 26, 1986 > James Heron, March 2, 2006



NOTES:

House is visible in 1962 photo (N-1979-052:4195)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
City Files

House (Settimo Marrai)

MAP ID: D-122

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5111 – 47th Street (Lot 20, Block 86, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Settimo & Fortunata Marrai

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House probably built in the 1960s (before 1962). A number of Italian families have lived here, most of which worked at Con Mine in the 1960s. Settimo Marrai, a trammer at Con Mine, lived here in the 1970s-1990s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 20, Block 86, Plan 69): Jean Vergez (miner) June 2, 1958 > Spiro Schembri (plumber) September 8, 1959 > Sebastiano Renato Signorini (miner) September 15, 1961 > Luciano Morson (cagetender) May 18, 1967 > Settimo & Fortunata Marrai, May 19, 1972



NOTES:

House is visible in 1962 photo (N-1979-052:4195)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Liliano Marrai
City Files

House (formerly Frank Baisi)

MAP ID: D-123

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5115 – 47th Street (Lot 18, Block 86, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Norma Baisi

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

In May 1960, V. Mracek applied for a permit to move a building to this property from Lot 7, Block 25. It is unclear how this relates to the history of the house that exists here today. Peitro Trombi, a miner at Con Mine, was living here in the 1960s. A house at this address was listed for sale in August 1964. Frank Baisi, a miner at Giant Mine, purchased the house and lived here with wife Norma until his death in 1997. Norma still lives here.

Certificates of Title (Lot 18, Block 86, Plan 69): Harold Glick (merchant) June 2, 1958 > Ernesta & Peitro Trombi (miner) April 26, 1960 > Frank & Norma Baisi, August 10, 1965 > Norma Baisi, December 19, 1997



NOTES:

House is visible in 1962 photo (N-1979-052:4195)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Reno & Phyllis Sartor
City Files

Old House

MAP ID: D-124

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5113 – 47th Street, rear alley way (Lot 19, Block 86, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Liliano & Patricia Marrai

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The garage behind along the alley-way is the original house, probably built in the late 1950s (before 1962). The property was listed for sale in November 1967 with Art Bedford (an employee of Con Mine) as the contact person. Ptarmigan Airways Limited owned the property in the late 1960s, and in 1970 Alan Sideen, a chief engineer with Ptarmigan Airways, was living at this address. Liliano Marrai, a surveyor at Con Mine until 2003 and now a corrections officer, has lived here since about 1978. The new yellow house is a later addition to the property.

Certificates of Title (Lot 19, Block 86, Plan 69): Michael Wittman (miner) August 7, 1957 > Paul Raymond Cyril Devescher (taxi driver) January 17, 1958 > Max Macara, September 24, 1964 > Ptarmigan Airways Limited, December 8, 1967 > Liliano & Patricia Marrai, October 6, 1978



NOTES:

House is visible in 1962 photo (N-1979-052:4195)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Liliano Marrai
City Files

House (Gail Cyr)

MAP ID: D-125

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5119 – 47th Street (Lot 16, Block 86, Plan 69)

CURRENT OWNER: Gail Cyr

OCCUPANT: Gail Cyr

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Pan-abode log cabin

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House possibly built in the late 1950s (before 1962). It is a pan-abode log design which was popular in the late 1950s. The lot was sold to Doris Marceau in March 1959. Mike & Julia Funk were early residents in the 1960s. Brian Purdy, lawyer, acquired title in 1970 and lived here until 1973, followed by his ex-wife Marilyn. Dr. Ross Wheeler bought the house in 1975 and lived here for many years together with Gail Cyr.

Certificates of Title (Lot 16, Block 86, Plan 69): Municipality of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > William Nick O'Brien (millman) June 2, 1958 > Julia Funk, March 13, 1962 > Michael Rokovetsky (diamond driller) December 21, 1966 > Darrel Gordon Mattern (diamond driller) April 18, 1967 > Patrick Robert Parker (geologist) October 11, 1968 > Gordon Brian Purdy (barrister & solicitor) November 13, 1970 > Richard Ross Wheeler (doctor) August 27, 1975 > Richard Ross Wheeler & Gail Cyr, June 8, 1990 > Gail Cyr, March 10, 2003



NOTES:

House is visible in a 1962 photo (N-1979-052:4195)

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
City Files
Reno & Phyllis Sartor, Brian Purdy

House

MAP ID: D-126

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5104 – 46th Street (Lot 2, Block 86, Plan 215)

CURRENT OWNER: Aaron Jacque

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House probably built in the 1960s. Patrick Power, a hoistman at Con Mine, was a long-time resident in the 1960s-1980s. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 2, Block 86, Plan 215): Municipality of Yellowknife, June 7, 1960 > Howard Peever (miner) September 17, 1962 > Patrick Power (hoistman) May 31, 1967 > Edward & Mary McPherson, July 31, 1985 > Mary McPherson, November 4, 1997 > Mark Pirogowicz & Marilyn Pike, December 15, 1997 > Jon & Laurel Jacque, October 21, 2010 > Aaron Jacque, February 28, 2011



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
City Files

House

MAP ID: D-127

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5106 – 46th Street (Lot 3, Block 86, Plan 215)

CURRENT OWNER: Darryl Anderson

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House probably built in the 1960s. John Serafinchon, a janitor at Sir John Franklin and Akaitcho Hall, was living here in the 1960s-1970s. Paul Nind acquired the property in the late 1970s and rented the house out to many people including Earl Johnson (lawyer) in c.1977. Alex Kiszenia, a mill operator at Giant Mine, was living here in the 1980s-1990s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 3, Block 86, Plan 215): John Serafinchon (janitor), September 7, 1962 > John & Sophie Serafinchon, March 11, 1963 > Donald Roline (real estate agent), June 2, 1976 > Paul & Hendricka Nind, September 2, 1976 > Hendrika Nind, December 19, 1983 > Alexander Kiszenia (mill operator) & Betty McColl, January 25, 1984 > Alexander Kiszenia, December 21, 1989 > Darryl Anderson, December 6, 2011



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory

House

MAP ID: D-128

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5108 – 46th Street (Lot 4, Block 86, Plan 215)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house originated from Lot 20, Block 28 on 48th Street, downtown Yellowknife, and was owned by George Alex Robertson, who signed a 21-year lease on January 1, 1950. He still owned the property in 1961 when he acquired it through land sale and signed title. George Robertson worked at various times for Bromley & Son, Yellowknife Radio, and Con Mine.

Norman Byrne came to own this and adjacent lots in 1966 and made plans to redevelop into an apartment complex through Mackenzie Development Corporation Ltd. (now called Franklin House). The house was moved to its current location on 46th Street at about that time. Accountant Paul Nind came to Yellowknife in 1967 and worked for Mackenzie Development so it is assumed that he moved the house to Lot 4, Block 86 which he owned. Norman Byrne acquired first title to Lot 4, Block 86 in July 1967. In the 1970s, Nind was renting the house out. Nind lived next door at 5110 – 46th Street. In 1970, W.A. Jennings and R.R. Minion, employees of the Canadian Security & Police Academy, were living at this address.

Certificates of Title (Lot 20, Block 28, Plan 65): George Alex Robertson, May 25, 1961 > Norman Byrne, June 29, 1966 > Mackenzie Development Corporation Ltd., May 29, 1967

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 86, Plan 215): Norman W. Byrne (professional engineer), July 20, 1967 > Hendrika Nind, October 8, 1970 > Angela Carruthers, June 23, 1995 > J. David Tyson, October 2, 2001 > Robert Dobson, May 25, 2006

NOTES:

Lot 4, Block 86 was without a house until late 1960s photography.



REFERENCES:

News of the North, February 26, 1975
GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Hans Vooros, Reno & Phyllis Sartor

House (Moreno Lodovici)

MAP ID: D-129

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5112 – 46th Street (Lot 6, Block 86, Plan 215)

CURRENT OWNER: Aaron Jacque

OCCUPANT: Moreno Lodovici

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1960s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House built in the 1960s, sometime after 1959. Barney Cooper may have built it. Lilio Lodovici, an Italian miner and timberman at Con Mine, began living here in the early 1960s and raised a family. Lilio retired from Con Mine in 1984. His son Moreno, a drill bit sharpener at Con Mine from 1969 to 1998, also lived here, and continues to call it home today.

Certificates of Title (Lot 6, Block 86, Plan 215): Lilio Lodovici (miner) & Anna Baisi Lodovici, September 17, 1962 > Lilio Lodovici, July 20, 1999 > Lilio & Moreno Lodovici, August 17, 1999 > Moreno Lodovici, June 29, 2010



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
Yellowknife 1970 City Directory
Moreno Lodovici, Reno & Phyllis Sartor

House (formerly Emerson & Allison McAteer)

MAP ID: D-130

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5203 – 56th Street (Lot 24, Block 55, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Ken & Laura Dies

OCCUPANT: Ken & Laura Dies

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1956

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

House built in the 1950s, probably around 1956. Emerson McAteer was probably the first owner. Emerson was a cagetender and hoistman at Giant Mine from 1956 to 1978. His wife Allison was an insurance agent in the 1950s-1967, a community activist, and was involved with the early stages of the YWCA in Yellowknife, and was a City Councilor from 1974 until her death. She disappeared in December 1976 and her body was found in the spring of 1977 on Tin Can Hill. No foul play in her death was suspected by the authorities at the time.

Certificates of Title (Lot 24, Block 54, Plan 140): Emerson McAteer, March 1, 1957 > Mary Connelly (teacher), November 6, 1978 > Anthony & Cheryl Waiter, & Ken Dies, April 9, 1986 > Ken Dies, May 23, 1989 > Ken & Laura Dies, July 27, 2006

NOTES:

House is visible in photo N-1979-052:4183, dated c.1956.

REFERENCES:

News of the North, January 12, 1977; January 19, 1977; May 25, 1977; July 6, 1977
GNWT Land Titles; City Files

House

MAP ID: D-131

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5201 – 55th Street (Lot 24, Block 54, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Kathleen Mullin

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 26½' x 32'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built at this location in 1952 by Negus Mines Limited as town staff housing. The houses were not occupied by Negus employees for very long because the mine closed in September 1952. Aurel Lemay said that office staff were living here, and when the mine closed Jock McNiven, mine manager, was living here in the winter of 1952-1953 while organizing the closure and selling off the assets. Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited acquired the title and used it for staff housing for many years. Some of the staff living here included: Horst & Elsa Wist, mine shift boss (c.1958), Ekkhart & Brigitte Holzer, pipefitter (c.1970), Bill and Barb Hall, mill shift boss (c.1977), and Klaus Schoenne, expeditor (c.1980s). When Giant sold off its staff housing in 1987, Klaus Schoenne bought the property. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 24, Block 54, Plan 140): Negus Mines Ltd., November 13, 1952 > Negus Mines Ltd., May 12, 1954 > Albert & Patricia Wyss, January 13, 1959 > Giant Yellowknife Mines Ltd., September 16, 1960 > Klaus Schoenne, October 16, 1987 > Bradley & Caroline Robertson, November 30, 1987 > Laurie Buckland, November 25, 1992 > Cooper & Judy Langford, June 18, 1999 > Eva Alexandra Diveky, August 20, 2004 > Kathleen Mullin, February 2, 2009

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
City Files
Giant Mine files
Aurel Lemay

House (formerly Negus Mine Bunkhouse)

MAP ID: D-132

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5203 – 55th Street (Lot 23, Block 54, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Linda Maus

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 23' x 37' plus gable addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building originated at Negus gold mine campsite and was a four-room bunkhouse for mine employees. It was constructed in 1947 to replace the large bunkhouse destroyed by fire in December 1946. The new facilities, totaling nine individual units, were designed to be safer than the original mine bunkhouse. With the closure of Negus Mine in September 1952, several buildings were sold off including all of the bunkhouses. Mine manager John McNiven acquired title to this lot in either 1953 or 1955, and then sold it to William Hingsburger who moved the bunkhouse here (in 1954?) and converted it into a residence. Cecil Tippet, a miner at Giant Mine, and his wife Clarice, lived here beginning in 1957. Cecil died in 1992, but Clarice continued to live here until 2002. The house was repainted in 2008.

Certificates of Title (Lot 23, Block 54, Plan 140): John McNiven, February 22, 1955 > William Hingsburger, April 12, 1956 > Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, April 12, 1956 > William Hingsburger, June 10, 1958 > Cecil Tippet, September 24, 1959 > Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, September 24, 1959 > Cecil Tippet, July 28, 1970 > Clarice May Tippet, October 21, 1992 > Linda Maus, September 25, 2002

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
City Files
Clarice Tippet, Aurel Lemay

House (formerly Negus Mine)

MAP ID: D-133

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5207 – 55th Street (Lot 21, Block 54, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Pate & Heidi Kane

OCCUPANT: Pat & Heidi Kane

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1941

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 24' x 26', garage 28' x 12'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house was built at the Negus Mine campsite on the shore of Yellowknife Bay, south of Yellowknife, in the summer of 1941 and was occupied by mine superintendent Ev C. Rudd from 1941 to about 1947 when he moved into a newer house on the Negus property. Tommy Dawson, mill superintendent, then moved into the house. The house was moved into Yellowknife after the closure of the mine in the fall of 1952 to its present location on 55th street where it was sold on the private market. Eckhart Augustiny was owner of this property in the 1950s. A 3-bedroom house was listed for sale at this address in June 1967. Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited acquired the property for use as staff housing in Yellowknife. Eckhart & Inge Krahn, surveyor at Giant Mine, were living here in 1970. Giant sold most of its town staff housing in 1987 and subsequent owners are listed below.

The garage in the back yard may be an old warehouse also brought in from Negus Mine in the 1950s.

Certificates of Title (Lot 21, Block 54, Plan 140): John McNiven, April 5, 1954 > Eckhart Augustiny, August 23, 1960 > Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited, July 18, 1967 > Bryony Desire-Tesar, January 12, 1988 > Robert Trudeau, March 29, 1988 > Lorraine Villebrun & Theo Buracas, October 31, 1988 > Nora Sanders, July 21, 1994 > Kathy Fibish, July 17, 1998 > Cyril Mercure & Kathy Fibish Mecure, May 31, 2005 > Maria Santos & Yose Cormier, June 27, 2007

NOTES:

While at Negus Mine the house was located on a high rock above the camp where the Imperial Oil tank yard is now. It was positioned just above the old log cookhouse at Negus which has since burned down. A long wooden staircase and gangway was built to access the front porch from the path below.

REFERENCES:

The Yellowknife Blade, July 20, 1941
News of the North, November 2, 1951
GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Aurel Lemay, Billy McCann, Frank Crozier

House (formerly Aurel & Annette Lemay)

MAP ID: D-134

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5209 – 55th Street (Lot 20, Block 54, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Ryan Silke

OCCUPANT: Ryan Silke

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1947

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 24 x 30 feet. Cement dug out basement.

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The house was built at the Negus Mine campsite on the shore of Yellowknife Bay, south of Yellowknife, in the summer of 1947 and was occupied by Jim Dunn, the master mechanic at the mine, until the operation shut down in 1952. All the staff housing was then sold privately, and in May 1953 Aurel Lemay, former Negus hoistman and then working at Con Mine, purchased the house and moved it to its current location on 55th Street, moving in on September 3, 1953 with his wife Annette. In 1955, they dug the basement and made other renovations (including converting the back bedroom into a larger kitchen), but much of the interior and exterior design has remained untouched since the 1950s. Aurel retired from Con Mine in 1983.

In 2008, the City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee approached the Lemay's to designate the house a heritage building, but it was not possible to strike a deal which would have seen this property become the city's first residential heritage building.

Aurel Lemay passed away in 2015 and the family put the house up for sale later in the year. Ryan Silke bought the house as of Dec. 15, 2015.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

City Files
Aurel & Annette Lemay

House (formerly Negus Mine)

MAP ID: D-135

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5213 – 55th Street (Lot 19, Block 54, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: John & Donna Williston

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1938

CONSTRUCTION:

Log with frame additions, 18' x 20' original structure plus 12' x 16' front



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This small house originated at the Negus Mine Camp on Yellowknife Bay and was the first office and staffhouse. It is originally of log construction and was later added onto with a frame extension and resided. It was located directly south of the camp recreation hall. In the 1940s it was being used primarily as a staff house for female office staff at the mine. Peggy, who worked in the office at Negus as a clerk, was living here in the late 1940s. It was also often used as a guest cabin for visitors to the mine. The mine closed in September 1952, and buildings were offered up for sale during 1953 and 1954. It is thought that the house was moved to this location in 1954 by Edward Sader who was the first to live in it at its current spot (on 55th Street). Sader was a miner at Giant in the 1950s. Subsequent owners are listed below. For a short time it was used as a staff residence for employees of Giant Mine. Frank & Jean Wouters (GNWT employee) were living at this address in 1970.

Certificates of Title (Lot 19, Block 54, Plan 140): Edward Sader (miner) August 4, 1955 > Bohden Hradowry (miner) December 22, 1958 > Austin Rawcliffe (civil servant), May 10, 1965 > Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited, July 18, 1967 > Guido Taddei (trammer), September 8, 1970 > Alex & Carol Repchuk, June 16, 1972 > Luciano Morson (surveyor), July 24, 1973 > Laszlo Matyus & Peter Keszthelyi, October 16, 1981 > David & Judi Zinck (cab driver), May 27, 1985 > John & Donna Williston, October 15, 1993

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
NWT Phone Books
Negus Mine files
Don McDonald report for Rayrock Mines Ltd, 1955
Aurel Lemay, Frank Crozier

House (old Signal Corp Warehouse)

MAP ID: D-136

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5215 – 55th Street (Lot 18, Block 54, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Marie Adams

OCCUPANT: Marie Adams

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 16' x 52', plus 12' x 12' side addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Built in the early to mid 1940s, this house was originally a warehouse used by the Royal Canadian Corp of Signals, and was located in Old Town at Lot 12, Block 1 (behind the current Weaver & Devore store). The long section is the original building. Portions of the building were later converted for use as staff quarters for single RCCS employees. In the early 1950s, it was moved from Old Town to 55th Street, Lot 3, Block 55, across the street from where it currently sits. RCCS operations and later Department of Transportation (after 1959) continued to use it for warehouse and workshop space. In 1976, it was moved from that lot and brought across the street (Lot 18, Block 54) by Tom Pagonis, and converted into a residence. Alois Andrejek, a miner at Giant, was living here until he died in 1985.

Certificates of Title (Lot 18, Block 54, Plan 140): Terrance Carroll, February 19, 1974 > Tom Pagonis, June 2, 1976 > James & Marianne Herringer, May 30, 1978 > Alois & Greta Andrejek, November 16, 1981 > Greta Andrejek, April 4, 1986 > Harold Andrejek, July 9, 1993 > Marie Adams, March 31, 1994

NOTES:

Moved up from Old Town after 1949 but before 1952.

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
City Files
Yellowknife: An Illustrated History
Marie Adams, Aurel Lemay

House (formerly Sven Gustafson)

MAP ID: D-137

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5217 – 55th Street (Lot 17, Block 54, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: John Westergreen

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: unknown

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 25' x 36' original, plus 16' x 36' back addition



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The origin of this house is uncertain. It was presumably moved in from another location as it is not visible in 1950s photographs at this location although the design of the structure suggests an older vintage house. It was brought here before 1964 when it is first visible in aerial imagery. Sven 'Gus' Gustafson acquired title in February 1964. In 1973, Gustafson suggested running a Detox facility from this location but he ran into public opposition. It was an informal transient residence in the 1970s instead and Gustafson rented rooms to taxi drivers. It was popularly known as "The Sugar Shack". Subsequent owners are listed below. Jerry O'Donoughue may have been living here in 1977.

The back addition was built in 1986 and the structure was resided in 2002 after being purchased by John Westergreen. The house was listed for sale in 2012.

Certificates of Title (Lot 17, Block 54, Plan 140): Jack Sargeant Robinson, June 2, 1958 > Sven Gustafson, February 27, 1964 > Darlene Ann Atasoy, January 4, 1977 > Igloo Real Estate Ltd, January 4, 1977 > Jay Ra Holdings, March 14, 1979 > Sandra Dolan & Jean-Francois Pitre, November 27, 1990 > John Westergreen, September 13, 2002

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Hans Vooros, Roger Zarudski

House

MAP ID: D-138

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5202 – 54th Street (Lot 1, Block 54, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Felicita Santos

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1952

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 27' x 35' plus porches

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built at this location in 1952 by Negus Mines Limited as town staff housing. The houses were not occupied by Negus employees for very long because the mine closed in September 1952. It was then a government house for many years, followed by staff housing for employees of Harold Glick's Yellowknife Radio. Harold & Zelda Glick were living here followed by Merlyn & Joyce Williams in the 1970s - Merlyn worked for Yellowknife Radio as television repair man. Subsequent owners are listed below.

Certificates of Title (Lot 1, Block 54, Plan 140): Negus Mines Limited, November 13, 1952 > Negus Mines Limited, May 12, 1954 > Harold Glick (merchant), July 26, 1954 > Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, July 26, 1954 > Harold Glick (merchant), June 17, 1965 > 821465 NWT Limited, May 30, 1985 > Alfonso Delfine Santos (security officer), February 16, 1988 > Felicita Santos, November 17, 2009



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
City Files
NWT Phone Books

House (formerly Angello Coltelli)

MAP ID: D-139

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5209 – 54th Street (Lot 21, Block 48, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Kelly Cumming

OCCUPANT: Kelly Cumming

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1950s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was probably built in the 1950s. An early if not original owner of the property was Angello Coltelli. He listed a small house for sale on 54th Street in April of 1960 but it is unclear if this was related to this specific lot. The property was listed as a tax sale to A. Coltelli in July 1964. Coltelli was a miner, and a long serving bouncer at the Elk's Club in Yellowknife, and worked there for 14 years until retiring in 1973. Roy Desjarlais, an early member of the Indian Brotherhood and secretary-treasurer with the Metis Development Corporation (1978-1979), lived here for many years, and sold the property to Kelly Cummings in 2010.

Certificates of Title (Lot 21, Block 48, Plan 140): Angello Coltelli, July 21, 1964 > John & Verna Carey, March 16, 1976 > Roy Desjarlais, October 5, 1978 > Kelly Cumming, September 15, 2010



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

City of Yellowknife tax sale documents
Kelly Cumming
GNWT Land Titles

House (formerly Government Office on Latham Island)

MAP ID: D-140

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5213 – 54th Street (Lot 19, Block 48, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER: Jacque & Glenna Lamarche

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 22' x 36'



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The Federal Government operated its Northern Affairs offices from this building when it was located on Latham Island (Lot 2, Block 9) facing the narrows of Old Town. In May 1940, the government reported it was purchasing property of Ed Jones for the use of a mining recorder's office. The government had previously, since 1939, been leasing the property and adjacent building from Jones for use as a liquor store, and the lot was purchased for \$4400. It is possible that the government did not build this, and that it was preexisting on the lot when government acquired it from Jones which suggests that Jones had built both false-front buildings on Latham. In any case, from 1940 to 1946, the government mining recorder and administration offices for the Yellowknife region were located here. Jack Gibben was magistrate from 1939 to 1941 with offices here. Paul Trudell and Lloyd Bonnyman were the early mining recorders, followed by Fred Fraser, magistrate and mining recorder, in 1944-1946. In 1946, new government offices were built in the downtown section and the Federal departments responsible for mining services moved there.

Many other government departments later occupied this building. In 1946, there was a small office of the Department of Veteran Affairs run by Albert Johnson. In 1949, the Indian Affairs Agency moved from Fort Resolution to Yellowknife and used this building as an office and Indian Agent residence from 1949 to 1959. Ivan Kirby was the first Indian Agent in Yellowknife from 1949-1956. He was followed by Robin Kendall (1956-1958), and John McGilp (1958-1959). In March 1959, the Indian Affairs offices moved to the Post Office building downtown. The Indian Affairs agency may have continued to use the building for staff housing. Ed & Wynne Callas, for example, were living in the upstairs apartment when they first came to town in 1958.

Archie Mandeville, an NWT game warden and old prospector, bought the building in about 1964 and moved it to its current location in the downtown core, and converted it into a residence for him and his family. The property was sold in 1975 to Rosemary Cairns and friends. In 2004 it was again sold and underwent major renovations.

Certificates of Title (Lot 19, Block 48, Plan 140): Archie Mandeville, December 13, 1963 > Peter Gorrie, Sandra Somerville, & Rosemary Cairns, October 23, 1975 > Rosemary Cairns, Sandra Somerville, and Roland Semjanovs, June 23, 1982 > Rosemary Cairns & Roland Semjanovs, December 21, 1999 > Roland Semjanovs, August 27, 2001 > Matthew Spence & Barb Lee, November 16, 2004 > Jacque & Glenna Lamarche, May 26, 2011

NOTES:

There is a photo of the house under renovations in News of the North, July 23, 1964

REFERENCES:

News of the North, October 24, 1947; January 9, 1953; March 6, 1953; January 7, 1955; June 10, 1955; March 19, 1959; July 7, 1960; July 23, 1964
NWT Council Minutes, May 23, 1940; July 23, 1940
GNWT Land Titles; City Files
Heritage Building Inventory for New Town, 1990

St. Patrick Church

MAP ID: D-141

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5203 – 53rd St. (Lots 21-24, Block 47, Plan 140)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT: Catholic Church

CURRENT USE: Church

BUILT: 1958, 1987

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel. 46' x 81' original church, 53' x 81' hall additions

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The new Catholic Church to replace the original located in Old Town was a long-standing project of the local Reverend, Father Maurice Beauregard, and the parish followers, including Norman Byrne and many others, who solicited support for the facility which opened with first mass December 8, 1958, on 'Immaculate Inception Day'. Max Anderson was the construction contractor. The parish was served by the OMI Missionary Fathers and Brothers, the Grey Nuns, and the Sisters of St. Joseph who taught at the nearby Catholic schools. The rectory for the new church was an old duplex house from Rayrock Mine, hauled to Yellowknife on ice road and onto an adjacent lot in 1960 (since demolished). In 1987 the new front lobby was constructed together with interior renovations.

Leaders of the Catholic Church at this location have included Father Maurice Beauregard (1958-1963), Father Jean L'Helgouach (1963-1971), Father Gabriel Duchaussois (1971-1981), Father Leo Boyd (1982-1984), Father Jim Lynn (1986-1989), Father Joe Daley (1989-1991), Father Francis Ebner (1991-1992), Father Al Roy (1994-1995), Father Basil Boudreau (1996-1998), Father Pat Murphy (1998-2001), Father Joe Daley (2002-2007), Father Theodore Nnorom (2008-2009), and Angelo Benedict Ubanni (2011-current).



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, December 4 & 11, 1958
The Yellowknifer, September 9, 1987
Yellowknife Tales book
Yellowknife: An Illustrated History

Government Apartments

MAP ID: D-142

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 5207 to 5217 52nd Street (Lots 28-31, Block 46, Plan 2962)

CURRENT OWNER: Government of Canada

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1959-1960

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

These duplex government apartment buildings were erected during 1959-1960 for staff of the federal government. The lots were transferred to the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources in May 1959. A complete list of government families living here during the years is unavailable.



NOTES:

Originally Lots 1-9 and 15-24, Block 46

REFERENCES:

News of the North, September 10, 1959
AANDC Lands Office

Sir John Franklin High School

MAP ID: D-143

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4701 – 52nd Avenue

CURRENT OWNER: Yellowknife Education District #1

OCCUPANT: Yellowknife Education District #1

CURRENT USE: High School

BUILT: 1957-1958, 1963-1964, 1968-1969, 1975-1976, 1999-2000

CONSTRUCTION:

Steel

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

Sir John Franklin High School (originally called Federal Composite School) was built during 1957-1958 under funding from the Federal Government to provide the NWT with a centralized education facility at the high school level – required for the growing population of Yellowknife and the wider region. It operated in conjunction with the Akaitcho Hall residential dormitory so that children from various NWT communities could graduate to higher standards than available through smaller institutions. It opened in time for September 1958 classes. First principal was J. M. Black, and D.F. Wattie as vice principal. The school was known for its trade's courses, and shop class, carpentry, mill operator, and heavy duty mechanic were just some of the programs available to students wanting to pursue a career in industry in the 1960s. Ed Jeske was a long time teacher who was in charge of the mechanic and shop classes, from 1958 until his retirement in 1989.

Numerous additions were added over the years, including a 1963-1964 addition of 5-classrooms (2-storey, 87' x 34') and maintenance shops (1-storey, 109' x 40'). In 1968-1969, an addition for 8-classes, two home-economic rooms, library, and Industrial Arts extension was built, which officially opened in November 1969. A third addition in 1975-1976 provided a new gymnasium (Devitt Hall) and science laboratories. The Northern Arts and Cultural Centre (NACC) was built in 1983 in the original gymnasium space, and major interior and exterior renovations were completed to the school in 2000. Yellowknife Education District #1 acquired official control of the High School from the GNWT on April 1, 1995. The Akaitcho Hall dormitory closed in June 1994 and was demolished in 2006.

Principals of the school have included, Jack M. Black (1958-1961), Art McBeth (1961-1962), Norm McPherson (1962-1964), Reed Shields, Gene Maglio (1967-1968), Ron Toutant (1968-1976), Glen Dies (1976-1977), Stan Korchuk (1978-1979), Glen Dies (1979), John Rouble (1979-1986), Malcolm Farrow (1986-1987), John Rouble (1987-1988), Will Kunder (1988-1991), Van Zwaneburg (1991-1994), Bryan Imray (1994-1995), Mieke Cameron (1997-2008), Patricia Teskey (2008-2011), and Ed Lippert (2011-current).

Albert J. Boxer was superintendent of Akaitcho Hall hostel from 1958 to 1975, followed by Charles Bell (1975-1977), Marvin Marykuca (1977-1981), Roy Menaugh (1981-1983), Melody McLeod, and Myra Mercredi.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

News of the North, September 11, 1958; September 25, 1958; March 19, 1964; August 8, 1968; November 13, 1969; June 4, 1975; November 19, 1975
Dreams and Visions book, 1984



House (formerly Jock McNiven, Negus Mine)

MAP ID: D-144

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 4403 School Draw Avenue (Lot 2, Block 95, Plan 482)

CURRENT OWNER: Glen Abernethy

OCCUPANT: Glen & Carolyn Abernethy

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in 1940 for John 'Jock' McNiven and his family at the Negus Mine Campsite on Yellowknife Bay, south of town. Wife Eleanor, son John, and daughter Jane arrived in Yellowknife in December 1940 and took up residence here. It was one of the more elaborate houses at Negus. Jock McNiven was mine manager at the Negus Mine, together with his official duties on the local community council and NWT Council after 1947. He also became Yellowknife's first municipal mayor in 1953. Negus Mine closed in September 1952 and McNiven and family uprooted from their home. The house and many other original camp residences at Negus Mine were privately sold and moved into Yellowknife. This house was acquired by Jack & Betty Stevens and moved to its current location on School Draw in 1955. A large amount of waste rock was required to slide the house down the hill onto Yellowknife Bay, from where it was dragged across the ice to the Draw. A basement was excavated and the house placed on top, and the Stevens moved in during Christmas 1955. It was the largest house on School Draw in the 1950s until the area was resurveyed and new government housing was built in the late 1960s, early 1970s. Jack Stevens was a gold prospector and would spend his summers in the bush north of Yellowknife. Jack & Betty continued to live here until the 1990s when both passed away.

Glen Abernethy bought the house from the Steven's estate in 2001. They have remodeled the house while keeping its historic charm. The basement of the house is a well-used musician performance studio known as the 'Boom-Boom Room' that has seen many parties.

Certificates of Title (Lot 2, Block 95, Plan 482): Robert Jack Stevens (prospector), February 4, 1969 > Beatrice Renee Stevens, August 19, 1970 > Glen R. Abernethy & Sandra Pringle, February 26, 2001 > Glen Abernethy, September 6, 2007

NOTES:

Address was 4401 School Draw Avenue in the 1970s.

REFERENCES:

GNWT Land Titles
The Yellowknife Blade, December 7, 1940
Negus Mine files
Glen Abernethy, Jane McNiven

House (formerly Department of Transport)

MAP ID: D-145

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 63 Con Road (Lot 20, Block 146, Plan 863)

CURRENT OWNER: Joe and Shannon Ferreira

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: c.1950

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 36' x 27' plus porch

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in about 1950 and was staff housing for various Federal government departments. It was originally located on Lot 12, Block 58, the NW corner of 55th Street and 52nd Avenue. It is identical in design to the three houses built by the Royal Canadian Corp of Signals at the Mildred Hall school grounds. Lot 12, Block 58 was reserved for the Department of National Defense in April 1948 for use as residence, workshop, and garage, and was transferred to the Department of Transport in October 1960, and then to the Department of Public Works in September 1967.

Address of the original location was 5124 - 55th Street in the 1970s. In 1970, Mike and Liz Maybroda, technician with the Northern Canada Power Commission, was living at this address. It is unsure when the house was moved to its current location on Con Road, but it must have been in the mid to late 1970s.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files

House (formerly RCCS radio station)

MAP ID: D-146

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 64 Rycon Road (Lot 35, Block 150, Plan 863)

CURRENT OWNER: Joan Kelly & Clark Marcino

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1937, 1940

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house originated as Yellowknife's first Royal Canadian Corp of Signal radio station in 1937. In the fall of 1937, the Signal Corp relocated its radio equipment from Fort Rae to Yellowknife, the centre of mining and aircraft activity. Communications were established on October 13, 1937 by SSgt. Sid McAulay and LCpl. Burgess and by year end a prefab structure housing office and living quarters was set up. The original section of this building (the right hand side in the above photograph) was built in 1937 and was located in Old Town, Lot 12, Block 1, on current day Pilots Lane behind Weaver & Devore store. By 1940, the building was expanded to its current footprint. In 1946, a new RCCS radio station and office was constructed in the downtown core of Yellowknife, and the original station was converted into staff housing.

In the late 1940s or early 1950s, the building was moved from Old Town to the new downtown residential area of 55th street (Lot 2, Block 55, at address 5204 55th Street). It became staff housing for various Federal government departments. Lot 2, Block 55 was reserved for the Department of National Defense in April 1948 for use as residence, workshop, and garage, and was transferred to the Department of Transport in October 1960, and then to the Department of Public Works in May 1968. It is not clear who the families were that lived in this house at its original location.

It is not clear when the house was moved to its current location on Rycon Road, but it must have been in the mid to late 1970s. The building has underwent numerous renovations over the years.

NOTES:

See Yellowknife Tales photo collection for building in its original location in Old Town: Slater04 and 05
And these NWT Archives photos for its new location to 55th street in the late 1940s:
N-1979-052: 4253

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office
City Files
www.nwtandy.rcsigs.ca

House

MAP ID: D-147

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 2 Rycon Road (Lot 4, Block 145, Plan 864)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1958

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The two-storey section of this house is the original, built in 1958 on the corner of Franklin Avenue and 52nd Street, on Lot 12, Block 26, Plan 65. Oldrich Janele, a powderman at Con Mine from 1951 to 1964, built it. Certificate of title was signed by Janele in May 1961. He lived in another house on the same lot, while renting out this building as a duplex apartment. It continued to be used as a duplex house by subsequent owners.

It is not clear when the house was moved to its current location on Rycon Road, but it would have been before 1976 when Bellanca Developments started redevelopment of Lot 12, Block 26 as part of the Precambrian Building and Capitol Theatre complex. The newly renovated house was advertised for sale during the summer of 1980.

Certificates of Title (Lot 12, Block 26, Plan 65): City of Yellowknife, October 1, 1956 > Oldrich Janele (powderman) May 4, 1961 > Mary Melanie Paul, August 23, 1965 > Carlo Poli (miner) & Anne Poli, May 28, 1968 > Norman W. Byrne, Sept. 21, 1973 > Mackenzie Management Limited, January 23, 1975 > Bellanca Developments Limited, March 30, 1976

Certificates of Title (Lot 4, Block 145, Plan 864): City of Yellowknife, February 21, 1975 > Reginald Lafluer & Max Macara, November 30, 1976 > Reginald Lafluer (contractor) November 30, 1976 > Robert & Judith Bacchus, January 21, 1983 > Kherj Enterprises Limited, September 12, 1988

NOTES:

Visible under construction in a photo dated c.1958 (N-1979-052-4260)

REFERENCES:

AANDC Lands Office; GNWT Land Titles
City Files
David Lovell
News of the North, August 28/1958

Storage Shed (formerly Shoe Repair Shop)

MAP ID: D-148

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: 13 Rycon Drive (Lot 4, Block 148, Plan 863)

CURRENT OWNER:

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Storage

BUILT: c.1949/1950

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This building was originally located downtown on 50th street (Lot 19, Block 23, Plan 65) where Overlander Sports is located today, and was a shoe repair shop. Joseph Laurent Legnault obtained a 5-year lease on Lot 19, Block 23 on November 1, 1948. It was known as “Lawrence’s Shoe Service”, and J.L. Legnault was the proprietor. Advertisements for this business appeared in The News of the North newspaper between 1951 and 1953, but it was likely open in 1949 soon after Legnault obtained the lease. It was only open during the summer and fall months, and closed for the winters. The business reopened in May 1954 under the proprietorship of Walter Rehia and Dieter Franklin and was called “Yellowknife Shoe Repair Shop”. From 1955 to 1962, it was called “Renaudine Shoe Store”, next to the Coke Plant (now Taste of Saigon restaurant). The building’s use after 1962 is not clear.

It is also not clear when the building was moved to its current location on Rycon Drive but it would have been before the IGA store (now Overlander Sports) was erected on the downtown lot in 1972. The building was originally twice as long based on old photos, and it appears that only the front, street facing half was moved here.

NOTES:

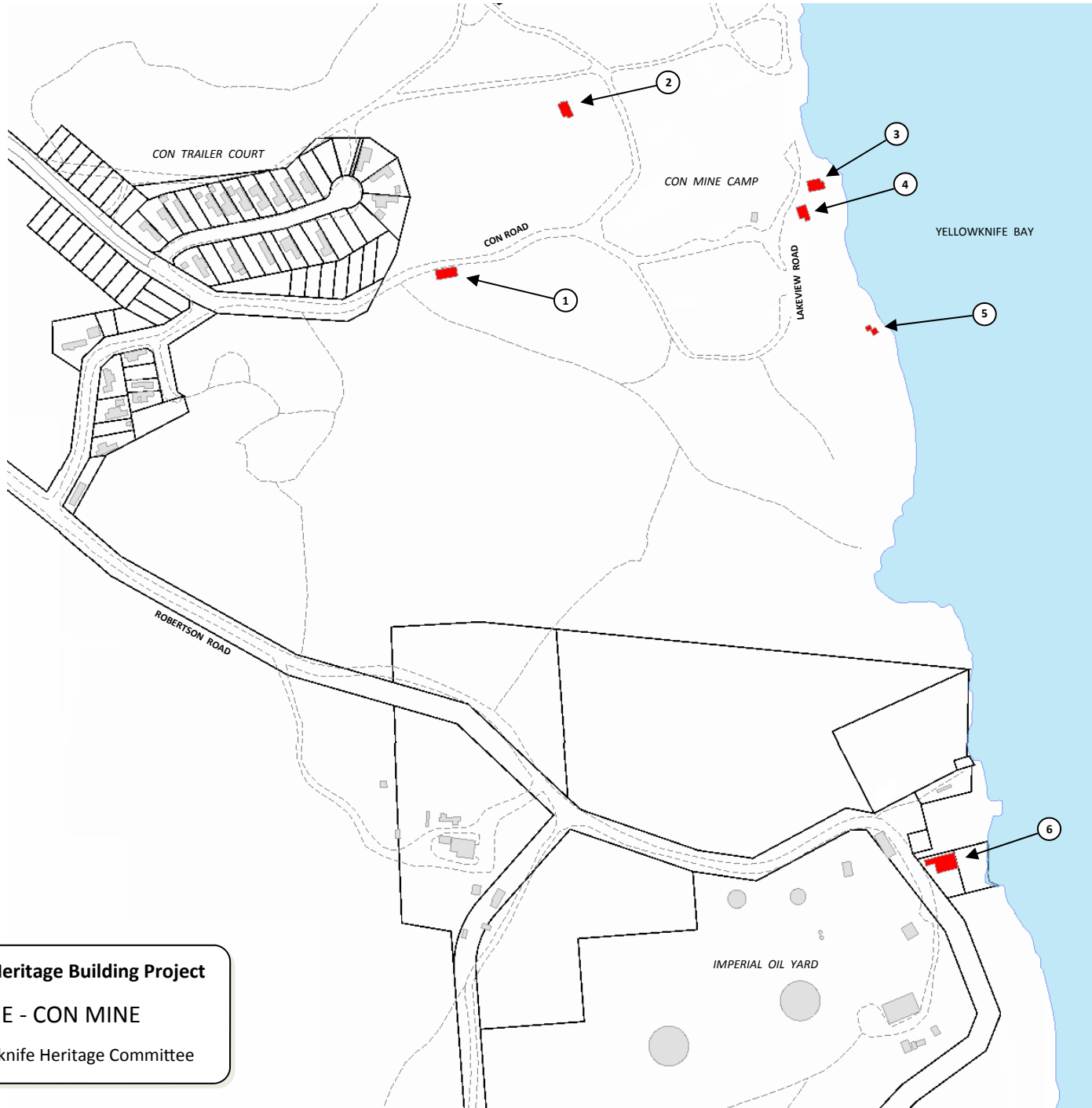
Front half of building visible in 1950 photograph (N-1979-052:3941). Not in 1948 Insurance Map. Front façade of building is clearly visible, including front sign “Lawrence’s General Shoe Service”, in Mildred Young Hubbert’s book “Into Canada’s North, Because It Was There”

REFERENCES:

The News of the North, September 28, 1951; November 21, 1952; October 23, 1953; April 30, 1954; August 26, 1955; July 6, 1962
Mildred Young Hubbert, “Into Canada’s North” page 85
AANDC Lands Office

Yellowknife Heritage Building Project

Part E – Con Mine area



Yellowknife Heritage Building Project

MAP E - CON MINE

City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee

Masonic Lodge (old Con Mine Theatre)

MAP ID: E-1

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Con Mine Camp

CURRENT OWNER: Masonic Lodge #162

OCCUPANT: Masonic Lodge #162

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1941

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 28' x 62'

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This was originally the Con Mine theatre, built in the summer of 1941. It was originally operated by the company's recreation association, but was eventually taken over by Ed Groot, the local theatre operator. It ran in conjunction with the movie theatre in Yellowknife for many years usually showing the same movies on different nights to service both residents of town and Con and Negus mines. In January 1947, Ed Groot sold the theatre businesses to William V. Cole, who continued to operate the Con theatre together with the Old Town and a new theatre built in downtown Yellowknife during 1947.

The local chapter of the Mason's (Yellowknife Lodge #162), which was formed in February 1946, took interest in this building as a permanent hall during 1948, by which time Con was looking to discontinue theatre operations (likely due to the completion of the new Recreation Hall and the new Capitol Theater in Yellowknife). The Yellowknife Masonic order bought the building in 1949 for \$2,000 and have used it ever since as its meeting hall. The throne chair inside has a history dating back to the Parliament buildings of Ottawa. It is made of oak and was original furniture from the Parliamentary Library when it was originally opened in 1876. The lodge purchased this in 1955. Some of the founding members of the Yellowknife Lodge #162 included Jock McNiven, Negus Mine manager and Yellowknife's first Mayor, and Oliver Stanton, the region's pioneer doctor.

NOTES:

The Masons historically paid Con Mine a monthly rent to use the building on the mining company's property.



REFERENCES:

The Yellowknife Blade, July 13, 1941

The News of the North, January 17, 1947

Con Mine records and plans

Con Mine Camp and Waterfront Historical Building Inventory 2004

Con Mine House (formerly Burn's Manager's House)

MAP ID: E-2

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Con Mine Camp

CURRENT OWNER: Newmont Mining Corporation

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1940s

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

It is not known when this house was erected but it was probably in 1941. The house was built for the Burns & Company regional manager and was occupied by the company into the 1980's when the Burn's Meat Plant and Warehouse closed. Burn's managers included: Bill McGruther (1939-1956), Johnny Sherman, Bert Wood, Ted Ackerman (c.1970), Ken Jeske, and David & Patricia Muirhead from 1975 to 1993. Con Mine took over the house in the 1990s and its senior staff have lived here since that time. Malcolm Green was living here in 2003-2004.



NOTES:

REFERENCES:

Con Mine records and plans
Con Mine Camp and Waterfront Historical Building Inventory 2004
NWT Phone Books

Con Mine Lakeshore House

MAP ID: E-3

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Con Mine Camp – #8 Lakeview Road

CURRENT OWNER: Newmont Mining Corporation

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1938

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete, 31' x 38', plus 20' x 8' screened porch

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The original mine manager's house at Con Mine was the first substantially designed and built residence in Yellowknife when it was completed in the summer of 1938. With running water, steam heat, sewage, and spacious living accommodations, it may have been the more elaborate and modern house in the entire Northwest Territories at that time. It was originally built for Henry Geigerich, superintendent of operations (mine manager) for the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company of Canada (Cominco) and its new Con gold mine. Eventually the mine manager moved into the adjacent house and this became the residence for other senior mine staff, including: Howard Carruthers (accountant 1944-1946), R.H. Ross (mill superintendent 1946-1952), and later Dr. Oliver and Ruth Stanton for many years until they left Yellowknife in 1960. Many other senior staff at Con Mine have resided here although a complete list is not available. They include: Jim M. Griffin (purchasing agent 1983-1984). Jim Gowans (general superintendent 1984-1986), Holger Krutzelman (surface and mill superintendent 1986-1989), Tim & Maureen Hall (geologist 1990-1994), Cliff Robertson (mill superintendent 1995-1996), and Robert Steinke (mine superintendent 1996-1997).

Scott Stringer, senior manager at Newmont's Con Mine in the past ten years (2000-2012) has been living here. There has been an interest in the occupants in establishing a land lease through the City of Yellowknife for this waterfront property. The land is currently NWT Commissioner's Land and is subject to land claim negotiations with the Yellowknives Dene. Thus, the future of the old house is uncertain.

The house was removed from the central utilidor services of Con Mine during remediation, and is now using a pump-in and out septic and water system.

NOTES:

Historically Building #46, House #2 (1940s), House #8 (1980s)



REFERENCES:

Con Mine records and plans
Con Mine Camp and Waterfront Historical Building Inventory 2004
NWT Phone Books

Con Mine Lakeshore House

MAP ID: E-4

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Con Mine Camp – #9 Lakeview Road

CURRENT OWNER: Newmont Mining Corporation

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1942

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame on concrete, 35' x 28', plus 12' x 9' screened porch



DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This house was built in the summer of 1942 and was intended for Bill Jewitt, a senior official with the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company of Canada (Cominco) who frequented the Yellowknife region as chief engineer of exploration projects. The house has been occupied by various senior staff of Con Mine during the life of the mine, primarily the mine managers: Henry Giegerich (1944-1947), Claire White (1947-1953), John E. McMynn (1953-1955), E.J. Colthorp (1955-1966), John McKay (1966-1968), Alec Richardson (1969-1974), Dave McPhail (1974-1980), John van Brunt (1984-1985), and Tony Keen (1985-1986). Daryl Spilde, Nerco manager, was living here in 1988, Clint Nauman in 1989-1991, and Jason McKenzie in 1992-1993. Dave Egli, general superintendent, lived here from 1980 to 1983. Mine managers with Miramar, Ian Berzins (1994-1996), and Gord McDermid (1997-1999), were residents, followed by Ted Rutherglen in 1999 who was superintendent of human resources.

It is now occupied by Newmont staff concentrating on remediation efforts at the closed mine site. There has been an interest with the current occupants to establish a land lease through the City of Yellowknife for this waterfront property. The land is currently NWT Commissioner's Land and is subject to land claim negotiations with the Yellowknives Dene. Thus, the future of the old house is uncertain.

The house was removed from the central utilidor services of Con Mine during remediation, and is now using a pump-in and out septic and water system.

NOTES:

Historically Building #71, House #3 (1940s), House #9 (1980s)

REFERENCES:

Con Mine records and plans
Con Mine Camp and Waterfront Historical Building Inventory 2004
NWT Phone Books

Con Mine Lakeshore House

MAP ID: E-5

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: Con Mine Camp – #19 Lakeview Road

CURRENT OWNER: Steve Robertson

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: Residential

BUILT: 1941

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

This waterfront house was built in 1941 as senior housing for Con Mine staff. Gerry Clayton, a mining engineer, may have been the first to live here. In 1956, P. Sykes was living in this house known on property plans as Residence #30. In the 1970s the building was sold to a Con Mine employee. Cliff Robertson owned the house and he rented it out. In 1989, Steve Robertson bought the house and continues to live here. He built the upstairs addition. As far as is known, Mr. Robertson does not own land title and was living here under an occupancy agreement with the mining company.



NOTES:

Historically House #30 (1940s), House #19 (1980s)

REFERENCES:

Con Mine records and plans
Con Mine Camp and Waterfront Historical Building Inventory 2004

Negus Mine Recreation Hall

MAP ID: E-6

DESIGNATION:

ADDRESS: (Lot 1, Block 606, Plan 1272)

CURRENT OWNER: The Executive Limited (Tony Chang)

OCCUPANT:

CURRENT USE: storage

BUILT: 1942

CONSTRUCTION:

Frame, 28' x 62' (two storey) plus 18' x 90' bowling addition

DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY:

The structure was built in 1942 under the supervision of Emil Geithus, Negus Mine carpenter. To ensure its completion by New Years 1943, the Negus Athletic Association appealed to members to provide volunteer work to get the job done on time. In spite of the winter cold and the busy work shifts of Negus employees, construction proceeded through the evening. Arnold Smith once wrote that saws and hammers could be heard nightly until 11:00pm. The building was officially opened on November 28, 1942 at a total cost of \$35,000. The Negus Athletic Association paid a monthly rent of \$50. Money was raised by fundraising and through a monthly deduction from employee paychecks of \$1. It was an excellent facility for its time, and it outclassed the small recreation hall built at Con Mine a few years earlier. It became the most popular center for not only Negus but also Yellowknife in general. The recreation hall contained a 2-lane bowling alley that was extensively used because it was a new form of recreation in the north. There was a small lunch counter, a library, billiard room, barber shop (run by Les Gray) and commissary on the ground floor, and a large dance hall and upper stage on the second floor, which doubled as a music stage, ping pong, and darts area. There were also modern bathrooms facilities and a first aid station. One of the unique programs offered was the babysitting service, located in the library room. A designated babysitter was put in charge of looking after a group of children while the parents attended dance and other social functions.

The recreation hall was used extensively throughout the remainder of the mine's life. Normal operations were interrupted briefly in the winter of 1946-1947 when the Negus bunkhouse burned down, and the recreation hall was required to provide temporary accommodation until the new bunkhouses were built.

When the mine closed in 1952, the recreation hall ceased to be. Briefly in 1953, the bowling alley section of the building was used as an indoor gun range by a local shooting club. The building was acquired by Rayrock Mines Limited in 1955 and used as a warehouse. When Rayrock was required to sell its assets in 1960, Tundra Gold Mines Limited (then Taurcanis) bought the warehouse. They too used it for warehouse space until 1965 when it was sold to Johnny Rocher. Final title to the land this building sits was awarded to Mr. Rocher in 1979 after a lengthy legal battle between the City and the Territorial government surrounding ownership of this parcel. Mr. Rocher used the building for storage for many years until it was sold to Tony Chang of T.C. Distributors, who held the Imperial Oil franchise for many years starting in 1987. He used the building for storage and continues to use it today for storage.

NOTES:

REFERENCES:

The Yellowknife Blade, December 1, 1942
News of the North, February 25, 1965
The Yellowknifer, April 24, 1975
Aurel Lemay, Frank Crozier, Tony Chang

