

**MUNICIPALITY OF CROWSNEST PASS**

**BYLAW NO. 901-2014**

**A BYLAW OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CROWSNEST PASS, TO DESIGNATE**

**BLAKE/BURGMAN RESIDENCE LOCATED AT LOTS 24-27, BLOCK 11, PLAN 2347BS**

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**AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE**

WHEREAS Section 26 of the *Historical Resources Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, c.H-9, as amended, permits Council to designate any historic resource within the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass whose preservation Council considers to be in the public interest, together with any land in or on which it is located, as a Municipal Historic Resource.

AND WHEREAS the preservation of the Blake/Burgman Residence in the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass appears to be in the public interest;

AND WHEREAS the owner of Lots 24-27, Block 11, Plan 2347BS has agreed to waive compensation now and in the future;

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CROWSNEST PASS, DULY ASSEMBLED, HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

The Blake/Burgman Residence, located on Lots 24-27, Block 11, Plan 2347BS in the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, is hereby designated as a Municipal Historic Resource. Refer to Schedule A – Location Map and Schedule B Statement of Significance.

This Bylaw shall come into effect on the date of the final passing thereof.

Read a first time this 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014.

Carried

Read a second time this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014.

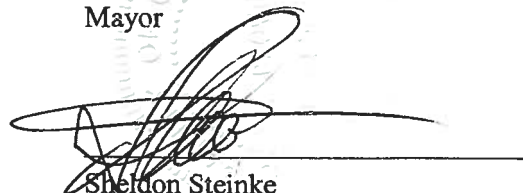
Carried

Read a third and final time this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014.

Carried

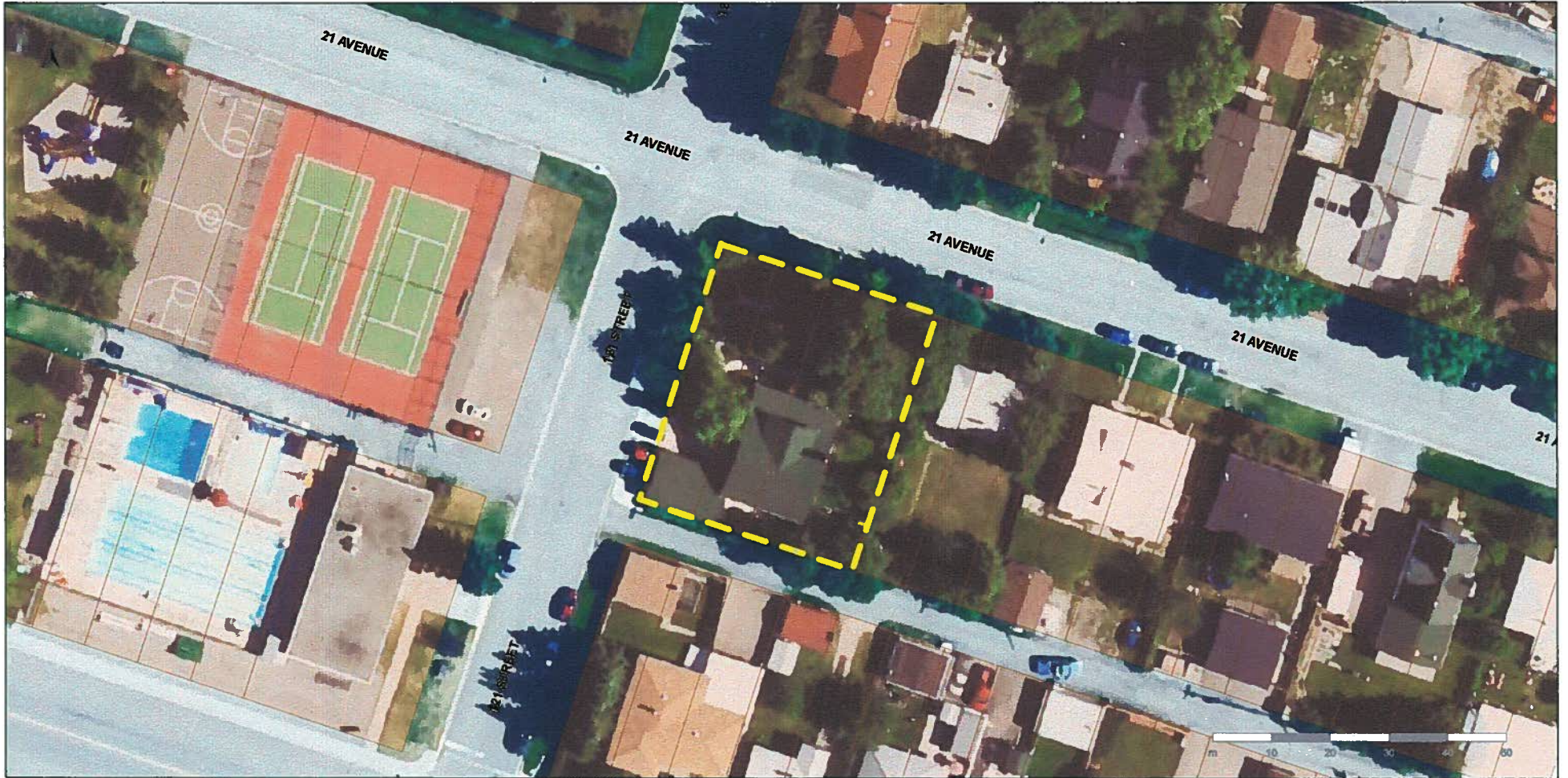


Blair Painter  
Mayor



Sheldon Steinke  
Chief Administrative Officer

# Schedule A Location of Blake/Burgman Residence



Plan 2347BS, Block 11, Lots 24-27

### BLAKE/BURGMAN RESIDENCE

12106 21 AVENUE  
Blairmore, Alberta



#### Description of Historic Place

The Blake/Burgman Residence is a 1940, Arts and Crafts-inspired, one-and-a-half storey bungalow with a medium-gable roof that carries a gabled dormer above a substantial enclosed-verandah across the front of the house. The building features arched verandah windows, corner quoins, and key courses over the verandah windows. The house is located on a grassed corner lot, in the block south of the main downtown commercial street.

#### Heritage Value

The municipal heritage value of the Blake Residence lies in its association with the urban residential development of Blairmore; its association with West Canadian Collieries; its association with Henry Blake; its association with Robert and Jean Burgman; and in its architectural design and construction.

Blairmore's beginnings are similar to other pioneer communities in that the community just provided the basic services and facilities for the miners to work, and for their families to live. As more people and families settled in the Pass, schools and churches were built, entrepreneurs opened retail businesses, hotels were built, a post office opened, and banks began serving the needs of the population. The miners' first homes were commonly small, one-storey cottages or shacks which were simple designs, and could be quickly built by people with limited construction skills. There was, however, a shortage of housing deemed suitable for senior mine officials. To this end, the mine companies often had accommodations constructed specifically for their senior staff. In Blairmore West Canadian Collieries had a variety of housing built including duplexes, an apartment building, and several single family homes for their managers, superintendents, and engineers. The Blake residence was built in 1940, by the company for its mine superintendent.

The West Canadian Collieries (WCC) was the principal mine company in the Crowsnest Pass, and operated mines at Lille and Bellevue. Eventually, WCC took over two mine properties adjacent to Blairmore and moved their headquarters from Lille to Blairmore in 1907. The northern mine became the company's very prosperous Greenhill Mine, and the mine to the south was closed. Work at the Greenhill mine started in 1911, with the first deliveries coming in 1914. With the railway demanding more coal, WCC opened two strip mines in the Grassy Mountain area. By 1947, more than 500 miners were employed, producing 3,000-tons of coal per day. However, in 1958, the peak production passed causing the Greenhill Mine to eventually be closed.

Henry Blake was a Welshman who arrived in Canada in 1905, and found work at the WCC mine in Bellevue. He worked his way up to the position of Mine Superintendent for the Greenhill Mine, at which time the house was built for him in 1940. The house was conveniently located on the road to the mine, just up the slope north of Blairmore. The WCC headquarters was located one-block east, and one-block south, of the house. The Art Deco-inspired interior provided a relaxed space for Blake and mine officials to entertain investors, and to negotiate with coal customers. Blake worked for WCC for 42 years.

In 1946, the house was purchased by dentist Robert Burgman and his wife Jean. After serving during WWII in the Royal Canadian Dental Corps, he bought the dental practice of H.B. Hoar, located on the upper floor of the F.M. Thompson Store. He retired in 1987. His wife, Jean (nee Cruikshank) was a music teacher who provided lessons in the house, and she was a member of the Crowsnest Pass Symphony Orchestra for 45 years.

# Schedule B

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## HERITAGE INVENTORY PROJECT – PHASE 2

The bungalow's Arts and Crafts-inspired design and construction, but has interior elements that are reminiscent of the Art Deco influence. The one-and-a-half-storey building is covered with pebble-dash stucco. The enclosed verandah is approached by a wide stair flanked by a closed railing, and has two half-arched window sashes on each side of the centre entry, each containing three two-over-one window units with an arched key course detail above. The fenestration opening on each side of the verandah contains one arched window sash divided into four two-over-one window units with a broad arched key course above. There is a gable roof dormer over the entry, with three four-over-four windows and wood storms. There are projecting eaves, and the projecting verges have exposed purlins, and decorative fascia. On the east side is an exterior fireplace chimney. The windows are wood trim, double-hung, with storms. On the interior, there is moulded wood trim on all windows and doors. The trip at the top corners is rounded in a smooth curve. The fireplace has a wide moulded wood mantel, and the floor in front of the fireplace, has a faux-stone stamped concrete floor. On either side of the fireplace are built-in wood shelves, under fixed four-over-four windows. The house is heated with floor mounted radiators, which once were connected to the boiler house up the hill at the Greenhill Mine. The floors are narrow-slat hardwood. The walls are smooth cement on wire mesh, and most ceilings are flat stucco. There are crown mouldings, and wood baseboards in all rooms. There is a pair of three-panel pocket doors between the two front rooms. Many of the ceiling and wall sconce light fixtures are Bakelite. The dining room and living room are connected by a pair of five-pane doors. There is wainscoting on the verandah walls.

### Character-Defining Elements

The key elements that define the heritage character of the Blake Residence include its:

#### Exterior:

- Mass, scale, and form of the one-and-a half storey building;
- Enclosed verandah, with two half-arch window sashes containing two-over-one windows and an arched key course above, the two-over-one windows on either side of the entry, and the arching window sash divided into four two-over-one window units with a broad arched key course above on both sides of the verandah;
- Front stair with a flanking closed rail;
- Gable roof dormer above the entry with three four-over-four windows and wood storms;
- Projecting eaves; projecting verges, with exposed purlins, and decorative fascia with a bird's beak termination; pebble-dash stucco finish; exterior fireplace chimney on east side; quoins on main building corners, and dormer corners; all window and door fenestrations; double-hung windows and storms; all wood trim on doors and windows; flagpole; and
- Location in block south of downtown; and setback from avenue and side-street.

#### Interior:

- Art deco-influenced moulded wood window and door trim, with curved upper corners; and wood window sills;
- Radiators; brick fireplace, with a moulded wood mantel, and a faux stone floor in front of the fireplace;
- Built-in wood shelves on either side of the fire place, under the four-over-four fixed windows;
- Cement on wire mesh walls; narrow-slat, hardwood floors;
- Crown moulding and baseboards;
- Flat-finished stucco ceilings; two three-panel pocket doors between the front rooms;
- Bakelite ceiling light fixtures, and wall sconces;
- Three-panel closet doors; eight-light, three-panel back porch door;
- Two-leaf, five-glass pane doors between the living room and dining room; and
- Wainscoting in the front veranda.

#### Sources:

1. Crowsnest Pass Historical Society, *Crowsnest and Its People*, (Calgary: Friesen Printers, 1979), 418.
2. Crowsnest Pass Historical Society, *Crowsnest and Its People: Millennium Edition*, (Lethbridge: Robins Southern Printing, 2000), 537.