



Heritage Evaluation Form

Site Number	Category
	A
Community District	Downtown
Designation	

Site Name(s): HUTCHINSON BLOCK	
Municipal Address: 623 - 3 Street SE	Date Of Construction: Y 1911
Consultant(s): Lorne Simpson and Harry Sanders	Evaluation Date: Y 0 9 M 0 3 D 1
Heritage Committee:	TOTAL
Heritage Planner: Jeanie Garly	90.0

History (H)	E	VG	G	F	P	(H) SCORE
H.1 Associations/Patterns	X					40
H.2 Age		X				10

Comments:

H.1 The building was constructed in 1911 for Thomas Hutchinson replacing an earlier 1897 wood frame building. He was an alderman (1901-02 and 1907), and mayor in 1904. He is best known for ... "getting the natural gas and refusing to sell the rights". The building was a long time saddlery business.

H.2 1911

Architecture (A)	E	VG	G	F	P	(A) SCORE
A.1 Style/Type/Design	X					40
A.2 Designer/Builder	X					20
A.3 Construction Technology					X	0
A.4 Interior Details					X	0
A.5 Alterations			X			-10

Comments:

A.1 Designed in the Edwardian Commercial style and features: load bearing brick and stone structure, engaged pilasters, large wood windows on upper level, pressed metal entablature, and an elaborate pediment with identification block. The building features a central projecting bracket with a horse figure indicative of the saddlery.

A.2 William T. Williams, architect, responsible for several buildings in Medicine Hat. The builder was J.L. Peard.

A.3 Typical example.

A.4 Not accessed.

A.5 Storefront completely renovated.

Urban Context (C)	E	VG	G	F	P	(C) SCORE
C.1 Landmark/Character	X					15
C.2 Streetscape/Landscape	X					15

Comments:

C.1 The building is a symbolic landmark of the City/district, illustrative of the ranching industry with its long time saddlery.

C.2 A well executed design, the building is of importance in establishing the dominant character of the block.

Statement of Significance		Site Number	Category
			A

Site Name:	HUTCHINSON BLOCK
Municipal Address:	623 - 3 Street SE

Description of Historic Place:

The building is a two storey, load bearing brick structure designed in the Edwardian Commercial style and features; engaged brick and stone pilasters, large upper wood windows, pressed metal entablature, and elaborate pediment. It is centrally located on a largely intact streetscape in the downtown core.

Heritage Value of Historic Place:

The building is significant because it was constructed for a prominent citizen, former mayor, and pioneer saddler -Thomas Hutchinson. Later the business was carried on by Harry R. Hutchings, the son of pioneer Calgary saddler R.J. Hutchings. The building housed a long time saddlery, illustrative of the surrounding ranching economy/district. Thomas Hutchinson, in his role as mayor, directed the town's contractor to continue drilling until they discovered natural gas; the beginning of the City's gas utility. The building housed the Empire Club as a second floor tenant. The building is a very good example of Edwardian Commercial style designed by a well known local architect - William T. Williams.

Character Defining Elements:

The character defining elements include:

- load bearing brick and stone structure
- engaged brick pilasters
- large upper wood windows
- pressed metal entablature
- elaborate pediment
- identification sign "Hutchinson Block"
- central bracket with horse figure
- dual frontage; rear entrance faced former market square