

Regina, Saskatchewan
RCMP Gymnasium/Pool Building

HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

The gymnasium was constructed in 1937-38 while the swimming pool structure was completed in 1940-41. The original architectural plans for this complex were completed in May 1935 by the Regina firm of Reilly, Warburton and Reilly before their replacement by the firm of Van Egmond and Storey. The Reilly firm's plans for the execution of a complex in a Gothic-derived style harmonizing with the other newer depot training and barracks facilities were largely retained by Van Egmond and Storey when they completed their plans for the gymnasium and swimming pool structure. The building is the property of the RCMP. See FHBRO Building Report 86-22.

Reasons for Designation

The gymnasium/pool building has been designated a Recognized heritage building on architectural grounds as an innovative functional design for an indoor training facility of the 1930s era and on the basis of its contributing role to the overall heritage character of the RCMP complex.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage character is determined by the massing of the structure, its fenestration, its exterior materials and detailing, its construction, its interior layout, finishes and training equipment.

Constructed of red brick with low-pitched gable roofs masked by raised and stepped end gables capped by decorative white stonework, the two units and their linking entryway echo the stylistic forms of the other major buildings on the site. Historic form and fabric should be protected and maintained.

The interior training installations, most notably the reinforced concrete swimming pool laid in yellow, gray and green terrazzo, the acoustically excellent battened ceiling and sound-deadening wall finish and the upper level gallery, make the structure an innovative and useful facility for its period of construction. These features should be retained.

All maintenance and repair work should respect the existing vocabulary and design. Continued use of the building as a training facility would ensure its preservation.

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