

Museum Musings: Central Avenue Walking Tour 10th Street to River Street

Great to have you join me again for the Downtown walking Tour.



I noticed some of you get off the bus just down 10th Street on the south side of the CB Department Store. If you could gather here on Central, we can start the final leg of our tour. This is one of the oldest shopping districts in the city, and you should take a good look at the facades of the buildings, particularly those on the west side of the avenue.

So, let's go across to the east side to where Eagle's Stationery is owned and operated by John Eagle. Camera buffs will be familiar with his son, John Junior, and those of you who attend school, or have children attending school, will likely have purchased many of your school supplies here.

Looking back across Central we can get a better view of the CB Department Store which is managed by Hugh Craig, son of the founder, John Alexander MacDonald Craig. The Craig family also own the next building, the Knox Block. Much of this block is taken up with suites, but Beulah Blair will do your hair at Erickson's Beauty Salon.



On our first leg of the tour, we saw an OK Economy Store. Well, here is the second OK Economy located on Central Avenue. This one is managed by Don Wood. While your wife is doing the grocery shopping, the gentlemen, you can get their haircut next door at Midtown Barbers, operated by George Glowasky. And after getting your hair cut, you might want to drop in to Miller Men's Wear for a visit with Ernie Beggs. Upstairs in that block are more suites, including one occupied by Garnet Hewitt of Blue Cab.

Back on the east side of Central, beside Eagle's, is BAPCO Paint Supply, managed by Richard Dumont. Next to it you will find Roy Martin the manager of Singer Sewing Machines. Beside that shop, is Burkitt's Flowers. Fred Burkitt was responsible for persuading the Province of Saskatchewan to adopt the Prairie Lily as its provincial flower.

Next door is The Coffee Shop, owned and operated by John and William Mills. They also run the neighbouring business, a confectionery and magazine shop.

Crossing over again to the west side, Fern Driver owns Town and Country Real Estate. Beside it is Tony Kwan's Wings Café, and then Morgan's Career Girl, a ladies' ready to wear store with the necessary accessories. Also in the Morgan Block is Robert Keith Coiffures, run by Robert Cummings, and Alcoholics Anonymous Club Rooms.

Next, in the Sanderson Block, is Craig Brothers, managed by Charles Mooney, and several suites. Tony Kwan lives in one of them, and Ruby Johanson from the Canadian Bank of Commerce lives in another. Next door is Dorothy Morgan of Voldeng's Studio, and The Star Billiards and The Strand Theatre, both run by Jack Mahon. The Star Barber Shop is operated by Tom Settee.

As we return to the east side of the avenue, we pass by Eugene Jackow's Ladies Town. Next is City Market and Fred's Meats owned by Fred Whitter. Lacroix Agencies, managed by James Lacroix, sells insurance of all types. Next to that business is David Segal's and Allan Barsky's Fabric Centre, and then Ray's Diner, operated by Ray and Fred Pastuck. Finally, on the corner is Binsky's Department Store, owned and operated by Harry Binsky.



Three vacant store fronts in a row are an indication of the preparation for the forthcoming Prince Albert Cooperative development. Ralph Richard's Parkway Flowers, Gifts and Selkirk Sales is still open next door selling flowers and gift hardware, as well as fireplaces and chimneys.

The Horne Block has six suites, all occupied by women. Next is another paint and wallpaper company, Sherwin Williams Paint and Wallpaper Store, managed by Ted Wilcox. Their neighbour is Prince Albert Plumbing, Heating and Gas, managed by Ivor Johnson, and City Electric, operated John Balon. In the same building is McCabe and Perrin Agencies, managed by Carl Perrin.

Back on the west side of Central, north of Tm Settee's Star Barber Shop is Palay's Men's Wear owned and operated by Abe and Sam Palay. Beside them is Chad Brothers Sports Shop, run by Frank and Vic Chad. The Blue Chain Store, managed by Allan Barsky, is between them and Zubrack's Drug Store, operated by Ludwina Zubrack. Another barber shop, De Luxe, owned by Joseph Chatlain, comes next, alongside Pauline's Beauty shop, operated by Pauline Bilinsky.



L & A Plumbing and Heating, operated by David and George Andrusek and Roy Lix, is next, beside which resides Sam Palay. Then, Bodnar Agencies, Thomas Bodnar's Insurance firm, sits between a couple of shoe repair shops. The one to the south, Halayka's Shoe Repair, belongs to Peter Halayka, while the one to the north, Fred's Shoe Repair is owned and operated by Fred Mateleg. In suites above reside Abe Palay and Fred Samborski. The next two store fronts before we reach River Street are vacant.

On the main floor at 700 Central, on the east side of the Avenue, is United Office Machines, owned by Steve Paslowski. The block, known as the McLeod Block, has suites upstairs, four of which are occupied.

We have now completed our 1960 Central Avenue walking tour. If you have enjoyed it, think about dropping in to the firehall across River Street, and perhaps make a donation to the Historical Society.



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 Prince Albert Historical Society
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