

This Old Calgary House Essential Research Sources

Key to locations

CA = City of Calgary, Corporate Records, Archives

CPL = Calgary Public Library

GB = Glenbow Museum and Archives

UC = University of Calgary

Item	Years Available	What information will it give me?	Where is it?
Air photos	1924 -	Overhead view of property, can use air photos to observe changes in property and area over time	CA (1951-1991) CPL (1924) UC
Atlases	varies	Street atlases, site maps and plat books show the location of buildings and the layout of streets and neighbourhoods	CPL (1981, 1983, 1992-present)
Architectural Plans and Blueprints	Limited plans and blueprints are available	Plans of layout of the house	UC (some) GB (some) CA (some)
Assessment History Cards	1930s – 1950s	Brief description, date of construction, dimensions, construction materials, etc	CA
Residential Assessment Cards	1950s-1999	Same as above, but may include a sketch of the building footprint	CA
Assessment Rolls	Circa 1885-2009	Owner's name, assessed value of property and buildings; Original amenities (electricity, sewer, water, etc.)	CA
Building Inventories		Lists of buildings evaluated for historic significance. Often include date of construction, architect, etc.	CPL GB

Building Permits	Limited years	Date of application, legal description, applicant or builder, architect (if applicable), value of the project. Best to have an approximate date of construction.	CA
Calgary City Directories	Telephone 1903-present Henderson's 1906-1991 Gronlund's 1902	Names of residents in order by last name; Houses listed by address	CPL GB
Clippings files	Varies	Ephemera and clippings from newspapers and magazines about districts, buildings and people	CPL GB
Fire Insurance Maps	1908-1972	Layouts of buildings, their location on the lot, roof type, construction materials, number of storeys, property lines, fire walls, elevators, etc.	CA (1908-1947, 1954-1972) GB (1908-1972)
Historical Maps	varies	Street layouts, districts (proposed and actual), location of buildings	CPL GB UC
Newspapers	1885-present	Articles on buildings under construction, ads for lots and houses	CPL GB
Photographs and postcards	varies	Pictures of buildings, street scenes, districts, events	CPL GB CA (some) UC

