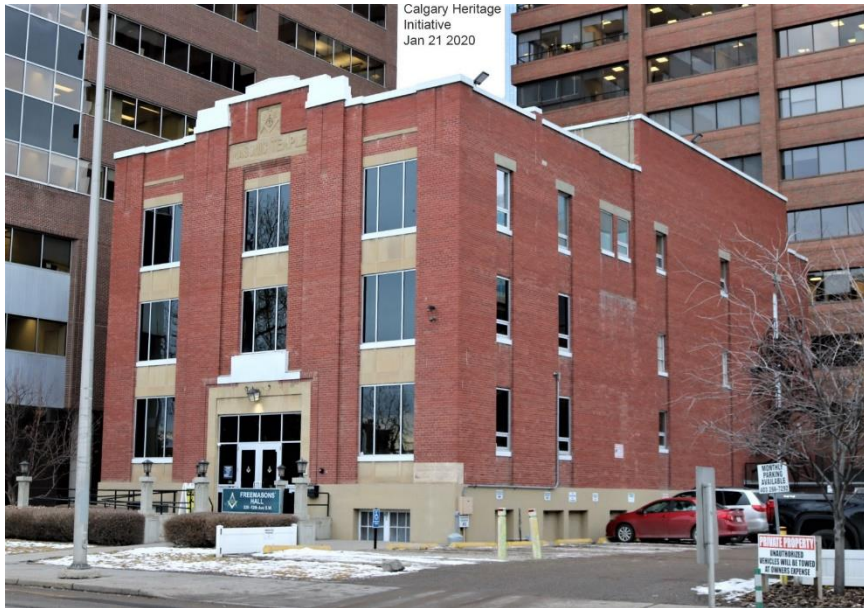


Masonic Temple



Address	330 12 AV SW Google Maps Masonic
Community	Beltline Ward 8
Year Constructed	1928
Type	A community club
Current Owner	Property is for sale
CHI Watch Risk¹	At risk (3 out of 5)
Designation²	None
City Inventory	Heritage Inventory Masonic
Significance³	The Calgary Masonic Temple is a rare monumental public building with City-wide significance in the Stripped Classical style, a variant of Art Deco. The 17,000 sq ft building is faced in red brick with sandstone trim and features flat surfaces with minimal, low-relief ornamentation. The temple is a community landmark, located across from Memorial Park with its library and war memorial. It is set back on a .56-acre parcel that includes a 50-stall surface parking lot to the east. Intact interior features include the Blue and Red Lodge's arched ceilings and built-in daises and side tiers; and the Blue Lodge's organ loft, and columns and pilasters with gilded capitals. Finely crafted oak doors, doorway surrounds, and built-in cabinetry, ceiling ornamentation and brass light fixtures and hardware are found throughout.
Who³	Calgary's British settlers brought Freemasonry with them: an international structure of fraternal/charitable organizations that promote positive social action and personal growth. The building has been in continuous use by the Masons since its dedication in 1928. The temple was design by David Suttie McIlroy (1872--1952), a Scottish-born and -trained architect who, during his long career in Calgary, designed notable downtown

	buildings including the YWCA, Oddfellows' Temple, First Baptist Church, Lougheed Building (all built between 1908-12), and St. Stephen's Anglican Church (1951-52). It was constructed by Cawston and Tweedle.
Status	Property is listed for sale by CBRE Masonic Brochure
CHI's Position Statement	CHI advocates for the retention and repurposing of this historic, inventoried building. Chi also advocates for designation of this building as a historic resource. The Masonic Temple showcases a level of craftsmanship and a relationship to a historic group responsible for much of the world's retained heritage. CHI advocates for adaptive reuse of this building, for example adapting the meeting rooms for religious space, the performing arts or community programming. It could be retrofitted for public administrative space or incorporated into a residential seniors or a live/work studio complex, similar to cSpace King Edward , by developing the adjacent parking lot and applying a heritage density transfer incentive. Because high property taxes associated with this location have been identified as a reason for putting the property on the market (and potential demolition if sold to an unsympathetic developer), an owner or tenant that qualifies for tax exemptions would be an ideal candidate. The City and Province need to do a better job of protecting our heritage assets and recognizing the economic, environmental and social benefits they provide to our citizens. For example, the City could take an active role in promoting this site to potential buyers/tenants/developers or even internally for administrative use. The potential loss of the Masonic Temple highlights the need for heritage retention tools and incentives, including tax breaks, density transfer and expedited bylaw relaxations for alternate uses and parking.
Upcoming	If a sale occurs, plans for repurposing or redevelopment may be forthcoming.
Public Call to Action	Watch for updates on any public consultations, and possible Land Use, Development Permit and demolition notices. Write to your City Councillor and ask them to support the Heritage Conservation Tools and Incentives Report. Cite the Masonic Temple as a building that needs to be preserved. A public hearing on this report is scheduled for the Standing Policy Committee on Planning and Urban Development on April 1, 2020.
Related articles & posts	Dec 31 2019 CBC Nov 24, 2019 The Star Calgary Nov 7 2019 CTV
Historic Photos	Glenbow Photo Archives PA-3105-2

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1. CHI Heritage Watch Rating

5	Imminent loss	Active plans for demolition
4	High Risk	Risk factors + negative intentions / dormant demolition plans
3	At Risk	Risk factors
2	Possible Risk	Unknown intentions or mix of negative and positive factors
1	Monitoring	Positive intentions but still possible risk

2. A designated Municipal Historic Resources is legally protected against demolition or inappropriate changes.

3. Primary Source: City of Calgary Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources