



# Town of Nanton

## BYLAW NUMBER: 1392/24

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**A BYLAW OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE TOWN OF NANTON IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA TO AMEND LAND USE BYLAW 1389/24 TO INTRODUCE A DIRECT CONTROL LAND USE DISTRICT AND REGULATIONS FOR THE AREA USED BY THE CANADIAN GRAIN ELEVATOR DISCOVERY CENTRE.**

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### **1. PURPOSE:**

- 1.1 *WHEREAS Pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, Chapter M-26, Revised Statutes 2000, Council of the Town of Nanton in the Province of Alberta (hereinafter called the "Council") has adopted Land Use Bylaw 1389/24;*
- 1.2 *WHEREAS, Council deems it desirable to amend Land Use Bylaw 1389/24;*
- 1.3 *WHEREAS the purpose of the proposed amendment is to redesignate and provide regulations for a Direct Control District (Direct Control District 1) for the Nanton Grain Elevators;*
- 1.4 *AND WHEREAS Council has held a public hearing as required by Section 692 of the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c.M-26 as amended;*
- 1.5 *NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Municipality of the Town of Nanton in the Province of Alberta duly assembled enacts as follows:*

### **2. ENACTMENT**

- 2.1. The Land Use Bylaw, being Bylaw 1389/24 of the Town of Nanton, is hereby amended by the addition of Bylaw 1392/24, including any land use designation or specific land uses and development regulations or guidelines contained therein.

- 2.2 That the Lands, be legally described as:

Block 114, Plan 831 1702, Lot 2, Block 121, Plan 081 1102, and a portion of Lot 5, Block 121, Plan 081 1102

be redesignated from "Direct Control – DC" to "Direct Control District 1 – DC-1"; and

- 2.3 That the Land Use District map of the Town of Nanton land Use Bylaw 1389/24 be amended to reflect this redesignation as per the attached Schedule 'A'.

### **3. INTERPRETATION**

- 3.1 This Bylaw will be cited as the "Town of Nanton Direct Control District 1: Nanton Grain Elevators";

**4. EFFECTIVE DATE AND READINGS**

4.1 This bylaw comes into effect upon the date of final reading and signing thereof.

4.2 Read a **first** time this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024

TOWN OF NANTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

5.3 Read a **second** time this 21 day of May, 2024.

TOWN OF NANTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

5.4 Read a **third** time this 21 day of May, 2024.

TOWN OF NANTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



# DIRECT CONTROL DISTRICT 1: Nanton Grain Elevators

**TITLE:** This Bylaw may be cited as Bylaw No. 1392/2024.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Direct Control District is to accommodate the preservation of Provincial Historic Resources and a diverse range of uses for community, cultural, and commercial purposes at the Nanton Grain Elevators site.

**DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:** The Development Authority for Direct Control District 1 shall be the Development Officer for Permitted Uses and Council for Discretionary Uses.

**DEFINITIONS:**

- a) The following definitions apply to this Direct Control District:
  - i. **AREA A** – means a geographically limited area where development is allowed as identified in Schedule A of this Bylaw.
  - ii. **AREA B** – means a geographically limited area where above grade improvements are not permitted as identified in Schedule A of this Bylaw.
  - iii. **MOTION PICTURE FILMING** – means a use where motion picture filming takes place onsite on a temporary basis for less than 10 days.
  - iv. **PROVINCIAL HISTORIC RESOURCE** – means a historic resource that is designated as a Provincial Historic Resource under Section 20(1) of the *Historic Resources Act*. Buildings in the Direct Control District designated as a Provincial Historic Resource include the Pioneer Grain Company Grain Elevator and the Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator, as identified in Schedule B of this Bylaw.
  - v. **INTERPRETIVE IDENTIFICATION SIGN** – means a use that may provide the name, address, and information related to a Provincial Historic Resource.
  - vi. **PRIVATE EVENT** – means an event held privately at the Nanton Grain Elevators site.
- b) Those terms and uses not otherwise defined in this bylaw are defined by Land Use Bylaw No 1389/24, as amended.

PERMITTED USES:	DISCRETIONARY USES:
Establishment (Eating & Drinking)	Accessory Building/Structure >10 m <sup>2</sup>
Interpretive Identification Sign	Accessory Use
Market	Motion Picture Studio
Office	Parking Facility
Parks and Playgrounds	Moved-in Building
Provincial Historic Resource	Establishment (Entertainment)
Retail (Small)	Surveillance Suite
Recreation (Culture & Tourism)	
Shipping Container	
Utilities	

**MAXIMUM LOT SIZE:** As required by the Development Authority

**MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT:** As required by the Development Authority

**MAXIMUM PARCEL COVERAGE:** As required by the Development Authority

**MINIMUM SETBACKS:**

Front Yard	Side Yard	Side Yard (Corner)	Rear Yard
1 m	1 m	1 m	1 m



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#### AREA A AND B REGULATIONS:

- a) For the purposes of this Bylaw, the Lands shall be divided into Area A and Area B, the boundaries of which are indicated in Schedule A.
- b) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 of Land Use Bylaw No.1389/24, as amended, shall apply unless otherwise specified in this Bylaw.
- c) There shall be no direct vehicular access from the 'Mile 56' area (Lot 1MR, Block 117, Plan 8311702) which is directly adjacent to the Nanton Grain Elevators site.
- d) There are no minimum number of parking spaces required for any use within the Nanton Grain Elevators site.
- e) All areas of the Nanton Grain Elevators site not covered by a building, structure, parking stall, driveway, or pedestrian walkway shall be landscaped in alignment with the character defining elements described in Schedule B, to the satisfaction of the Development Authority.
- f) The Development Authority shall consider the following matters when reviewing a Development Permit Application:
  - i. Site access is not unreasonably encumbered;
  - ii. Underground public infrastructure is not encumbered so as to make repair or replacement logistically challenging; and
  - iii. Character-defining elements, as identified in Schedule B, are considered.
- g) All fences and gates must be visually permeable chain-link.
- h) Gates may be provided to prevent vehicular access to the principal driveway access.
- i) A Recreational Vehicle may be stored within the Nanton Grain Elevators site for a maximum of 72 hours.
- j) The Development Authority may require a Geotechnical Report and/or an Environmental Impact Assessment to be conducted prior to excavations deeper than 1.0 m.
- k) A Development Permit is not required for:
  - i. 'Motion Picture Filming';
  - ii. 'Private Event'; and/or
  - iii. Any sign associated with an approved 'Special Event' or a 'Private Event'.
- l) Any other proposed signage will align with Signs for a 'Special District' as noted within Land Use Bylaw No.1389/24
- m) All buildings and structures designated as a 'Provincial Historic Resource' shall be maintained in accordance with the *Alberta Historic Resources Act*, as amended.

#### AREA B SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:

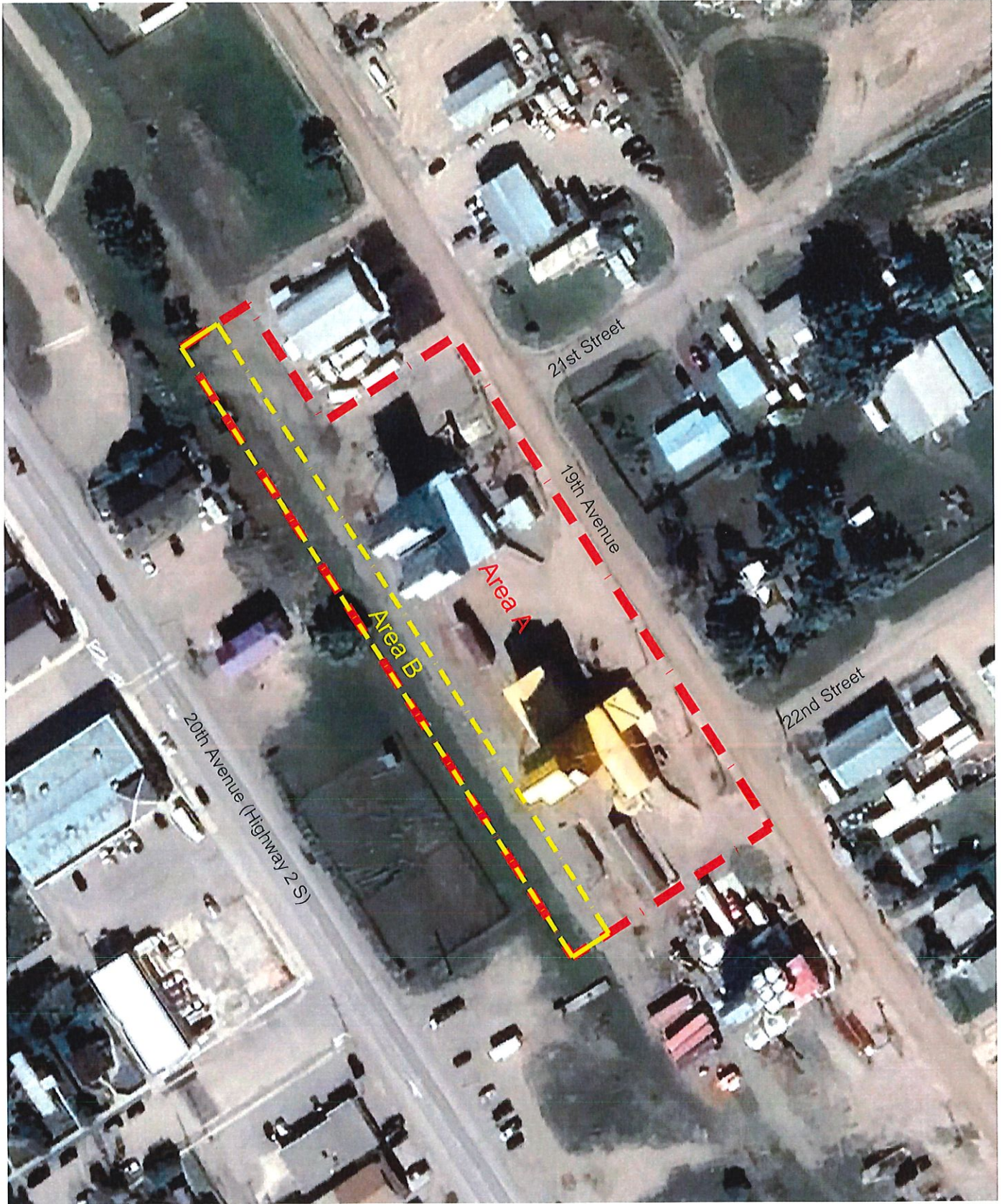
- n) No above grade improvements shall be located within Area B, with the exception of:
  - i. Interpretative identification signs;
  - ii. New rails for display purposes;
  - iii. Accessory buildings/structures <10 m<sup>2</sup>
  - iv. Landscaping, including walls for decorative or retaining purposes; and
  - v. Fences and gates.
- o) Accessory Buildings/Structures, fences and gates located within Area B shall not exceed a height of 2.75 m.

# Schedule A

Direct Control District 1 Area



**Town of Nanton**  
*Direct Control District 1*  
Bylaw No 1392/24



--- Project Boundary

Direct Control District 1



0 25 50 m

1:1250



Integrated Expertise, Locally Delivered

Town of Nanton  
Bylaw # 1392/24

May 2024

# Schedule B

Alberta Register of Historic Places



Town of Nanton  
Direct Control District 1  
Bylaw No 1392/24

*Handwritten signature*



## Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator

### Nanton

Other Names: Alberta Pool Elevators Ltd. Grain Elevator Twin

### Statement of Significance

#### Description of Historic Place

The Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator in Nanton is a twinned wood-cribbed grain elevator. The two elevators are situated side-by-side and are nearly identical in appearance. Both have the tall, slope-shouldered form typical of grain elevators. A shed-roofed driveway and dust removal equipment are attached to the east side of the elevator and a detached office is located a few feet away. The, equipment and office are all painted in the light blue/teal colour scheme characteristic of Alberta Wheat Pool elevators after 1972. The grain elevator is located alongside the former railway right-of-way on the east side of the Town of Nanton.

#### Heritage Value

The Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator in Nanton is significant as an example of a rare twinned grain elevator; for its role in the economic and social economies of rural Alberta; for its iconic and symbolic status; and for its association with the Alberta Wheat Pool.

The Alberta Wheat Pool grain elevator in Nanton is an excellent example of a twinned grain elevator. Alberta Wheat Pool built a grain elevator in Nanton in 1927 and, in 1936, salvaged a wrecked elevator at Strangmuir and re-erected it alongside the one in Nanton. Both are standard wood-cribbed elevators. A shed-roofed driveway containing the weigh scale is attached to the elevator's east side and a small office is located slightly to the east. This rare variation of grain elevator allowed grain elevator companies to substantially increase capacity at certain sites while maintaining a small footprint and avoiding the expense of building a new grain elevator.

Like all grain elevators, the Alberta Wheat Pool grain elevator in Nanton filled an essential economic and social role in the community. Farmers would deliver their grain to the elevator for eventual transport by rail to markets. Due to the large number of farmers needing to use grain elevators to conduct their business, these sites became places for farmers from the district to meet and discuss events; agricultural issues; common concerns such as weather and soil conditions, crop problems, wheat prices, freight rates, and politics; or to simply socialize. While most socialization likely moved to other nearby venues in the community, grain elevators played an important role in day-to-day social activities and a transition point between the town and its surrounding rural district.

Although the Nanton Alberta Wheat Pool grain elevator, being a twinned elevator, does not have the classic, grain elevator silhouette, it is still representative of the iconic symbolism grain elevators have across the Prairies. These structures represent the region's economic and social connections to agricultural life and their vertical orientation provides a striking contrast to the flat horizons of western landscape. At one point there were thousands of these grain elevators across western Canada with nearly all railway communities boasting at least one, but usually multiple grain elevators. These elevator rows were highly noticeable and marked a community's location; they also had a wall-like presence that defined communities' physical boundaries, often defining either the edge of town or physically separating a community's business and residential areas from the rougher, industrial areas. Wood-cribbed grain elevators began to be decommissioned and demolished through the 1980s and 1990s, and their disappearance from the landscape reinforced concerns being had by agricultural producers, such as the rise of agri-business and the decline of the family farm and accompanying changes in the rural way-of-life.

The twinned elevator in Nanton was built by Alberta Pool Elevators, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Alberta Wheat Pool, which was a significant farmer-owned, co-operative company. The Alberta Wheat Pool aimed to even out the vagaries of world grain prices following the end of the First World War by marketing members' grain produce and providing a fair and reasonable price to its producer members from the revenues generated. The pools were popular with many farmers who preferred them to the private companies, which had reputations of sharp practises. The Alberta Wheat Pool was the first of the three Prairie Provinces' wheat pools and it grew to be Alberta's largest grain marketing company and Canada's second largest co-operative wheat pool. The elevator was originally painted reddish-brown, but ended its active life in the characteristic teal green used on Alberta Wheat Pool grain elevators in the latter decades of the twentieth century.

Source: Alberta Culture and Status of Women, Historic Resources Management Branch (File: DES 2214)

#### Character-Defining Elements

Key elements that define the heritage value of the Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator, Nanton include its:

Grain Elevator, driveway and office

Wood cribbed construction;

Iconic profile formed by the vertical orientation of the two elevator towers, both with shed roofs and gable-roofed cupolas;

Shed roofed driveway attached to the east side of the elevator, accessed by concrete and earth ramps with metal rails and sliding doors;

Small, detached, gable roofed office located slightly to the east of the driveway;

Wooden siding material on the elevator, driveway and office;

Cyclone dust removal equipment attached to the east side of the elevator;

Typical, post-1970s Alberta Wheat Pool teal green colour scheme;

Town name (NANTON) painted on the east and north sides of the northernmost tower and the west side of the southernmost tower;

Signage visible on the west side of the northernmost elevator showing both Alberta Pool Elevators Co. and Alberta Wheat Pool Elevators names;

Extant exterior augers with metal access stairs on the track side of the elevator

Augers linking the two towers;

Small trackside loading areas with sliding doors on both towers;

Minimal overall fenestration pattern;

Presence of grain distribution machinery in the elevator and driveway, including scale, pulleys, drive belts, scale, delivery bin, leg with cups, gerber spouts, hopper and bins for grain storage.

General and Landscape

Location alongside the now abandoned Canadian Pacific Railway (Calgary and Edmonton Railway) line and yard on the east side of the town;

Remnants of the rail siding and other concrete footings and equipment on the track side of the elevator.

## Location

Street Address: 2219 - 19 Avenue  
 Community: Nanton  
 Boundaries: Pt. Block 114, Plan 8311702  
 Contributing Resources: Building  
 Landscape(s) or Landscape Feature(s)

ATS Legal Description:

Mer	Rge	Twp	Sec	LSD
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PBL Legal Description (Cadastral Reference):

Plan	Block	Lot	Parcel
8311702	114	N/A	

Latitude/Longitude:

Latitude	Longitude	CDT	Datum Type
50.348336	-113.769456		NAD 83

UTM Reference:

Northing	Easting	Zone	CDT	Datum Type
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## Recognition

Recognition Authority: Province of Alberta  
 Designation Status: Provincial Historic Resource  
 Date of Designation: 2021/10/07

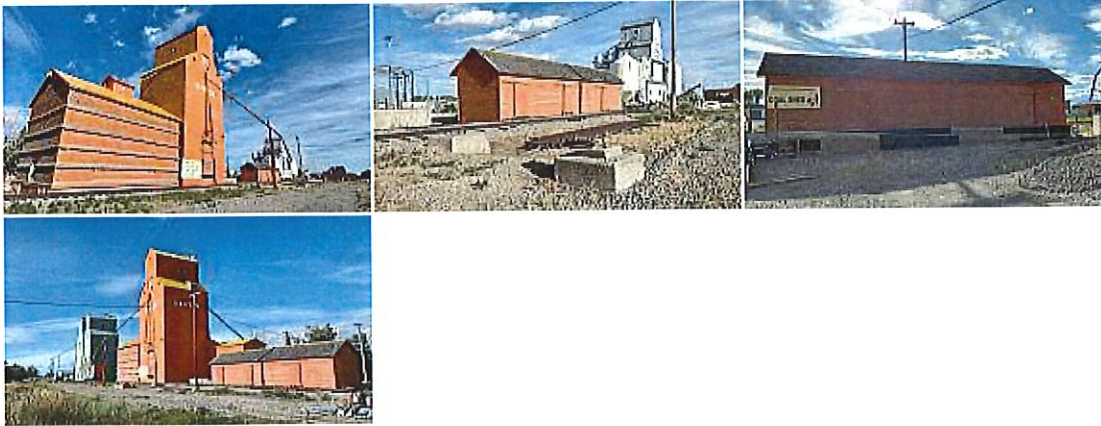
## Historical Information

Built: 1927 to 1936  
 Period of Significance: 1936 to 2001  
 Theme(s): Developing Economies : Communications and Transportation  
 Developing Economies : Extraction and Production  
 Developing Economies : Trade and Commerce  
 Historic Function(s): Food Supply : Grain Elevator  
 Current Function(s):  
 Architect:  
 Builder:  
 Context:

### Additional Information

Object Number: 4665-1399  
Designation File: DES 2214  
Related Listing(s):  
Heritage Survey File: [HS 68220](#)  
[HS 68221](#)  
[HS 68222](#)

Website Link:  
Data Source:



## Pioneer Grain Co. Grain Elevator, Nanton

### Nanton

Other Names: Independent Grain Co. (1929) Grain Elevator  
Independent Grain Co. Grain Elevator

### Statement of Significance

#### Description of Historic Place

The Pioneer Grain Co. Grain Elevator, built in Nanton in 1929, is a typical wood-cribbed grain elevator with a balloon annex. It is a tall, sheet metal-clad, mostly windowless structure with a gable-roofed cupola. A shed-roofed driveway with a shed-roofed office is attached to the east side, a wooden balloon annex is located immediately to the north and a long, narrow former coal storage shed is situated a few metres to the south. All of the structures are painted in an orange shade and the elevator has yellow roofs, characteristic of Pioneer's grain elevators after 1962. The grain elevator is located alongside the former railway right-of-way on the east side of the town of Nanton.

#### Heritage Value

The Pioneer Grain Co. Grain Elevator is significant for its association with the Pioneer Grain Co.; as an example of a collection of once common, but now rare types of grain handling structures; for its role in the economic and social economies of rural Alberta; and for its iconic and symbolic status.

The Pioneer Grain Co. grain elevator in Nanton was acquired in 1954 by the Pioneer Grain Co, which is Canada's most significant privately owned grain company. Established in 1913, Pioneer grew rapidly across western Canada by building its own grain elevators and by absorbing many smaller rivals, including the Independent Grain Co., which had built the Nanton elevator in 1929. Although Pioneer never equalled the farmer-owned co-operative elevator companies in size, it successfully competed alongside them, becoming Canada's largest private grain elevator company by 1972. While all grain elevators were seen as landmarks, Pioneer's elevators particularly stood out due to their distinctive orange paint scheme and bright yellow roofs, which were applied to the company's elevators after 1962.

The Pioneer Grain Co. grain elevator represents a collection of structures associated with the handling, storage and transportation of grain. The elevator itself is typical, being vertically oriented and of wood-cribbed construction, giving it the volume, durability and the structural strength necessary for holding tonnes of grain. Like most grain elevators, an associated office and shed-roofed driveway with large doors is attached to the east side. The driveway on this elevator was upgraded, likely in the 1960s or 1970s, to accommodate larger grain trucks, reflecting the evolution of farming equipment. A balloon annex, likely built in the 1950s, is located to the elevator's north. Simply but solidly built and reinforced internally for strength, balloon annexes were a relatively easy way for elevator companies to expand capacity of older facilities without the necessity of constructing a new elevator. Also associated with the grain elevator is a small gable-roofed coal shed to the south. Coal sheds were built by railway and grain elevator companies to allow flammable materials, such as coal and other fuels, to be stored close to, but physically separate from the wooden grain elevators.

Nanton's Pioneer Grain Co. elevator provides structural evidence of the role grain elevators played in the economic and social life of their communities. As depots for farmers to deliver their produce for storage and eventual transfer by rail to markets, grain elevators were often hubs of social activity, where grain producers would meet with grain elevator agents and other producers to do business and to discuss other matters pertinent to rural and small town life. These commercial and social transactions took place at over a thousand grain elevators built throughout the province.

The central role of grain elevators in rural Alberta life is echoed in their physical appearance and their symbolic place in the psyche of Albertans. Grain elevators like the Pioneer Grain Co. elevator have become seen as icons of the western Canadian landscape, representing the region's social and economic connections to agricultural life. Their tall and imposing silhouettes provide a striking contrast to the wide Prairie horizon and are visible from a great distance, marking the locations of communities and rail facilities and linking agricultural producers to their region's social and economic centres. Starting in the 1980s, changes in technology and the operations of grain handling companies resulted in hundreds of older, wood-cribbed elevators being closed and torn down. The loss of these grain elevators echoed concerns through Alberta's agricultural sector about a perceived decline of the province's farms and agricultural way of life.

Source: Alberta Culture and Status of Women, Historic Resources Management Branch (File: DES 2213)

#### Character-Defining Elements

<https://hermis.alberta.ca/ARHP/DetailsPrint.aspx?DeptID=1&ObjectID=4665-1400>

Key elements that define the heritage value of the Pioneer Grain Co. Grain Elevator at Nanton include its:

#### Grain Elevator

Wood cribbed construction;

Iconic profile formed by its vertical orientation, gable roof with gable-roofed cupola;

Modernized driveway with combination gable and shed roofs, attached to the east side of the elevator, accessed by concrete and earth ramps and overhead doors;

Small office attached to the east side of the driveway;

Metal cladding on the exterior walls of the elevator, driveway and office and metal clad roof on the elevator, driveway and office;

Typical, post-1962 Pioneer Grain Co. colour scheme (orange with yellow roofs);

Town name (NANTON) painted on the east, south and west sides of the elevator;

Extant exterior augers, metal access stairs and grain handling equipment from the elevator to annex, track side and road side;

Small loading area on the track side of the elevator;

Minimal overall fenestration; and

Presence of grain distribution machinery, including scale, pulleys, drive belts, scale, delivery bin, leg with cups, gerber spouts, hopper and bins for grain storage.

#### Annex

Location to the immediate north of the elevator;

Clapboard-clad wood frame construction with walers and interior grids of steel reinforcement rods;

Gable roof with small cupola; and

Concrete foundation.

#### Coal Shed

Location slightly to the southwest of the grain elevator;

Physical separation from the grain elevator;

Long narrow footprint;

Gable roof with cedar shingles;

Wood frame construction with exterior drop siding and shiplap interior sheathing; and

three plywood sliding doors on the west and east sides.

#### General and Landscape

location alongside the now abandoned Canadian Pacific Railway line and yard on the east side of the town;

Remnants of the rail siding and other concrete footings and equipment on the track side of the elevator; and

Two large circular, concrete foundations showing the location of earlier grain silos/annexes.

## Location

Street Address: 2219 - 19 Avenue  
 Community: Nanton  
 Boundaries: Pt. Block 114, Plan 8311702  
 Contributing Resources: Buildings: 3  
 Landscape(s) or Landscape Feature(s)

#### ATS Legal Description:

Mer	Rge	Twp	Sec	LSD
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#### PBL Legal Description (Cadastral Reference):

Plan	Block	Lot	Parcel
8311702	114	N/A	

#### Latitude/Longitude:

Latitude	Longitude	CDT	Datum Type
50.347846	-113.768969		NAD 83

#### UTM Reference:

Northing	Easting	Zone	CDT	Datum Type
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## Recognition

Recognition Authority: Province of Alberta  
 Designation Status: Provincial Historic Resource  
 Date of Designation: 2021/10/07

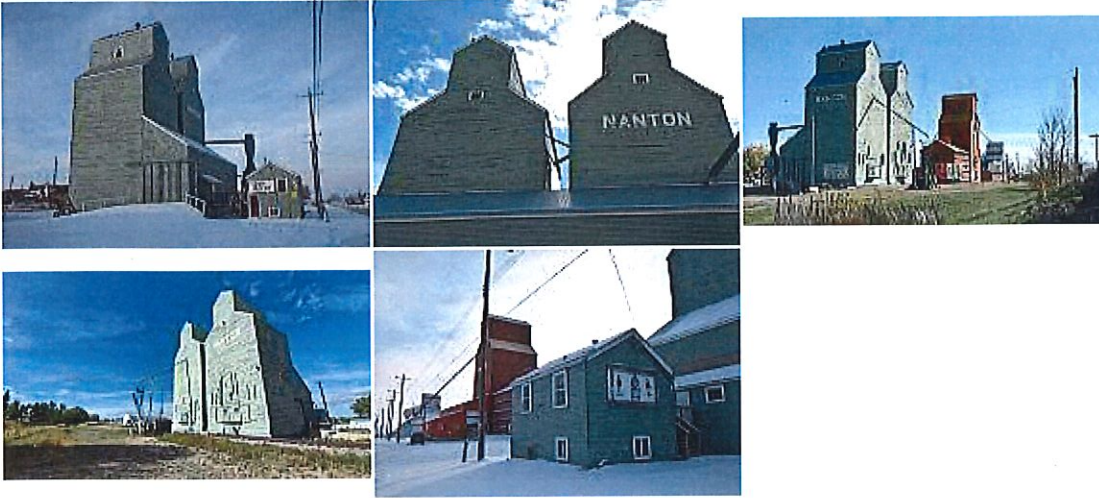
## Historical Information

Built: 1929 to 1929

Period of Significance: 1929 to 2001  
Theme(s): Developing Economies : Communications and Transportation  
Developing Economies : Trade and Commerce  
Historic Function(s): Food Supply : Grain Elevator  
Current Function(s):  
Architect:  
Builder:  
Context:

### Additional Information

Object Number: 4665-1400  
Designation File: DES 2213  
Related Listing(s):  
Heritage Survey File: [HS 68216](#)  
[HS 68214](#)  
Website Link:  
Data Source:



## Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator

### Nanton

Other Names: Alberta Pool Elevators Ltd. Grain Elevator Twin

### Statement of Significance

#### Description of Historic Place

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Although the Nanton Alberta Wheat Pool grain elevator, being a twinned elevator, does not have the classic, grain elevator silhouette, it is still representative of the iconic symbolism grain elevators have across the Prairies. These structures represent the region's economic and social connections to agricultural life and their vertical orientation provides a striking contrast to the flat horizons of western landscape. At one point there were thousands of these grain elevators across western Canada with nearly all railway communities boasting at least one, but usually multiple grain elevators. These elevator rows were highly noticeable and marked a community's location; they also had a wall-like presence that defined communities' physical boundaries, often defining either the edge of town or physically separating a community's business and residential areas from the rougher, industrial areas. Wood-cribbed grain elevators began to be decommissioned and demolished through the 1980s and 1990s, and their disappearance from the landscape reinforced concerns being had by agricultural producers, such as the rise of agri-business and the decline of the family farm and accompanying changes in the rural way-of-life.

The twinned elevator in Nanton was built by Alberta Pool Elevators, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Alberta Wheat Pool, which was a significant farmer-owned, co-operative company. The Alberta Wheat Pool aimed to even out the vagaries of world grain prices following the end of the First World War by marketing members' grain produce and providing a fair and reasonable price to its producer members from the revenues generated. The pools were popular with many farmers who preferred them to the private companies, which had reputations of sharp practises. The Alberta Wheat Pool was the first of the three Prairie Provinces' wheat pools and it grew to be Alberta's largest grain marketing company and Canada's second largest co-operative wheat pool. The elevator was originally painted reddish-brown, but ended its active life in the characteristic teal green used on Alberta Wheat Pool grain elevators in the latter decades of the twentieth century.

Source: Alberta Culture and Status of Women, Historic Resources Management Branch (File: DES 2214)

#### Character-Defining Elements

Key elements that define the heritage value of the Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator, Nanton include its:

Grain Elevator, driveway and office

Wood cribbed construction;

Iconic profile formed by the vertical orientation of the two elevator towers, both with shed roofs and gable-roofed cupolas;

Shed roofed driveway attached to the east side of the elevator, accessed by concrete and earth ramps with metal rails and sliding doors;

Small, detached, gable roofed office located slightly to the east of the driveway;

Wooden siding material on the elevator, driveway and office;

Cyclone dust removal equipment attached to the east side of the elevator;

Typical, post-1970s Alberta Wheat Pool teal green colour scheme;

Town name (NANTON) painted on the east and north sides of the northernmost tower and the west side of the southernmost tower;

Signage visible on the west side of the northernmost elevator showing both Alberta Pool Elevators Co. and Alberta Wheat Pool Elevators names;

Extant exterior augers with metal access stairs on the track side of the elevator

Augers linking the two towers;

Small trackside loading areas with sliding doors on both towers;

Minimal overall fenestration pattern;

Presence of grain distribution machinery in the elevator and driveway, including scale, pulleys, drive belts, scale, delivery bin, leg with cups, gerber spouts, hopper and bins for grain storage.

General and Landscape

Location alongside the now abandoned Canadian Pacific Railway (Calgary and Edmonton Railway) line and yard on the east side of the town;

Remnants of the rail siding and other concrete footings and equipment on the track side of the elevator.

## Location

Street Address: 2219 - 19 Avenue  
 Community: Nanton  
 Boundaries: Pt. Block 114, Plan 8311702  
 Contributing Resources: Building  
 Landscape(s) or Landscape Feature(s)

ATS Legal Description:

Mer	Rge	Twp	Sec	LSD
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

PBL Legal Description (Cadastral Reference):

Plan	Block	Lot	Parcel
8311702	114	N/A	

Latitude/Longitude:

Latitude	Longitude	CDT	Datum Type
50.348336	-113.769456		NAD 83

UTM Reference:

Northing	Easting	Zone	CDT	Datum Type
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## Recognition

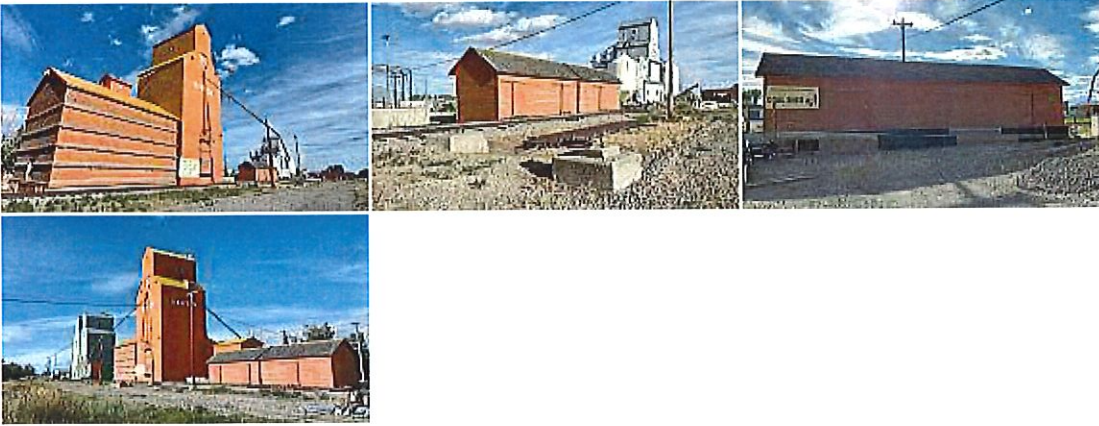
Recognition Authority: Province of Alberta  
 Designation Status: Provincial Historic Resource  
 Date of Designation: 2021/10/07

## Historical Information

Built: 1927 to 1936  
 Period of Significance: 1936 to 2001  
 Theme(s): Developing Economies : Communications and Transportation  
 Developing Economies : Extraction and Production  
 Developing Economies : Trade and Commerce  
 Historic Function(s): Food Supply : Grain Elevator  
 Current Function(s):  
 Architect:  
 Builder:  
 Context:

### Additional Information

Object Number: 4665-1399  
Designation File: DES 2214  
Related Listing(s):  
Heritage Survey File: [HS 68220](#)  
[HS 68221](#)  
[HS 68222](#)  
Website Link:  
Data Source:



## Pioneer Grain Co. Grain Elevator, Nanton

### Nanton

Other Names: Independent Grain Co. (1929) Grain Elevator  
Independent Grain Co. Grain Elevator

### Statement of Significance

#### Description of Historic Place

The Pioneer Grain Co. Grain Elevator, built in Nanton in 1929, is a typical wood-cribbed grain elevator with a balloon annex. It is a tall, sheet metal-clad, mostly windowless structure with a gable-roofed cupola. A shed-roofed driveway with a shed-roofed office is attached to the east side, a wooden balloon annex is located immediately to the north and a long, narrow former coal storage shed is situated a few metres to the south. All of the structures are painted in an orange shade and the elevator has yellow roofs, characteristic of Pioneer's grain elevators after 1962. The grain elevator is located alongside the former railway right-of-way on the east side of the town of Nanton.

#### Heritage Value

The Pioneer Grain Co. Grain Elevator is significant for its association with the Pioneer Grain Co.; as an example of a collection of once common, but now rare types of grain handling structures; for its role in the economic and social economies of rural Alberta; and for its iconic and symbolic status.

The Pioneer Grain Co. grain elevator in Nanton was acquired in 1954 by the Pioneer Grain Co, which is Canada's most significant privately owned grain company. Established in 1913, Pioneer grew rapidly across western Canada by building its own grain elevators and by absorbing many smaller rivals, including the Independent Grain Co., which had built the Nanton elevator in 1929. Although Pioneer never equalled the farmer-owned co-operative elevator companies in size, it successfully competed alongside them, becoming Canada's largest private grain elevator company by 1972. While all grain elevators were seen as landmarks, Pioneer's elevators particularly stood out due to their distinctive orange paint scheme and bright yellow roofs, which were applied to the company's elevators after 1962.

The Pioneer Grain Co. grain elevator represents a collection of structures associated with the handling, storage and transportation of grain. The elevator itself is typical, being vertically oriented and of wood-cribbed construction, giving it the volume, durability and the structural strength necessary for holding tonnes of grain. Like most grain elevators, an associated office and shed-roofed driveway with large doors is attached to the east side. The driveway on this elevator was upgraded, likely in the 1960s or 1970s, to accommodate larger grain trucks, reflecting the evolution of farming equipment. A balloon annex, likely built in the 1950s, is located to the elevator's north. Simply but solidly built and reinforced internally for strength, balloon annexes were a relatively easy way for elevator companies to expand capacity of older facilities without the necessity of constructing a new elevator. Also associated with the grain elevator is a small gable-roofed coal shed to the south. Coal sheds were built by railway and grain elevator companies to allow flammable materials, such as coal and other fuels, to be stored close to, but physically separate from the wooden grain elevators.

Nanton's Pioneer Grain Co. elevator provides structural evidence of the role grain elevators played in the economic and social life of their communities. As depots for farmers to deliver their produce for storage and eventual transfer by rail to markets, grain elevators were often hubs of social activity, where grain producers would meet with grain elevator agents and other producers to do business and to discuss other matters pertinent to rural and small town life. These commercial and social transactions took place at over a thousand grain elevators built throughout the province.

The central role of grain elevators in rural Alberta life is echoed in their physical appearance and their symbolic place in the psyche of Albertans. Grain elevators like the Pioneer Grain Co. elevator have become seen as icons of the western Canadian landscape, representing the region's social and economic connections to agricultural life. Their tall and imposing silhouettes provide a striking contrast to the wide Prairie horizon and are visible from a great distance, marking the locations of communities and rail facilities and linking agricultural producers to their region's social and economic centres. Starting in the 1980s, changes in technology and the operations of grain handling companies resulted in hundreds of older, wood-cribbed elevators being closed and torn down. The loss of these grain elevators echoed concerns through Alberta's agricultural sector about a perceived decline of the province's farms and agricultural way of life.

Source: Alberta Culture and Status of Women, Historic Resources Management Branch (File: DES 2213)

#### Character-Defining Elements

<https://hermis.alberta.ca/ARHP/DetailsPrint.aspx?DeptID=1&ObjectID=4665-1400>

Key elements that define the heritage value of the Pioneer Grain Co. Grain Elevator at Nanton include its:

#### Grain Elevator

Wood cribbed construction;  
 Iconic profile formed by its vertical orientation, gable roof with gable-roofed cupola;  
 Modernized driveway with combination gable and shed roofs, attached to the east side of the elevator, accessed by concrete and earth ramps and overhead doors;  
 Small office attached to the east side of the driveway;  
 Metal cladding on the exterior walls of the elevator, driveway and office and metal clad roof on the elevator, driveway and office;  
 Typical, post-1962 Pioneer Grain Co. colour scheme (orange with yellow roofs);  
 Town name (NANTON) painted on the east, south and west sides of the elevator;  
 Extant exterior augers, metal access stairs and grain handling equipment from the elevator to annex, track side and road side;  
 Small loading area on the track side of the elevator;  
 Minimal overall fenestration; and  
 Presence of grain distribution machinery, including scale, pulleys, drive belts, scale, delivery bin, leg with cups, gerber spouts, hopper and bins for grain storage.

#### Annex

Location to the immediate north of the elevator;  
 Clapboard-clad wood frame construction with walers and interior grids of steel reinforcement rods;  
 Gable roof with small cupola; and  
 Concrete foundation.

#### Coal Shed

Location slightly to the southwest of the grain elevator;  
 Physical separation from the grain elevator;  
 Long narrow footprint;  
 Gable roof with cedar shingles;  
 Wood frame construction with exterior drop siding and shiplap interior sheathing; and  
 three plywood sliding doors on the west and east sides.

#### General and Landscape

location alongside the now abandoned Canadian Pacific Railway line and yard on the east side of the town;  
 Remnants of the rail siding and other concrete footings and equipment on the track side of the elevator; and  
 Two large circular, concrete foundations showing the location of earlier grain silos/annexes.

## Location

Street Address: 2219 - 19 Avenue  
 Community: Nanton  
 Boundaries: Pt. Block 114, Plan 8311702  
 Contributing Resources: Buildings: 3  
 Landscape(s) or Landscape Feature(s)

#### ATS Legal Description:

Mer	Rge	Twp	Sec	LSD
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#### PBL Legal Description (Cadastral Reference):

Plan	Block	Lot	Parcel
8311702	114	N/A	

#### Latitude/Longitude:

Latitude	Longitude	CDT	Datum Type
50.347846	-113.768969		NAD 83

#### UTM Reference:

Northing	Easting	Zone	CDT	Datum Type
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## Recognition

Recognition Authority: Province of Alberta  
 Designation Status: Provincial Historic Resource  
 Date of Designation: 2021/10/07

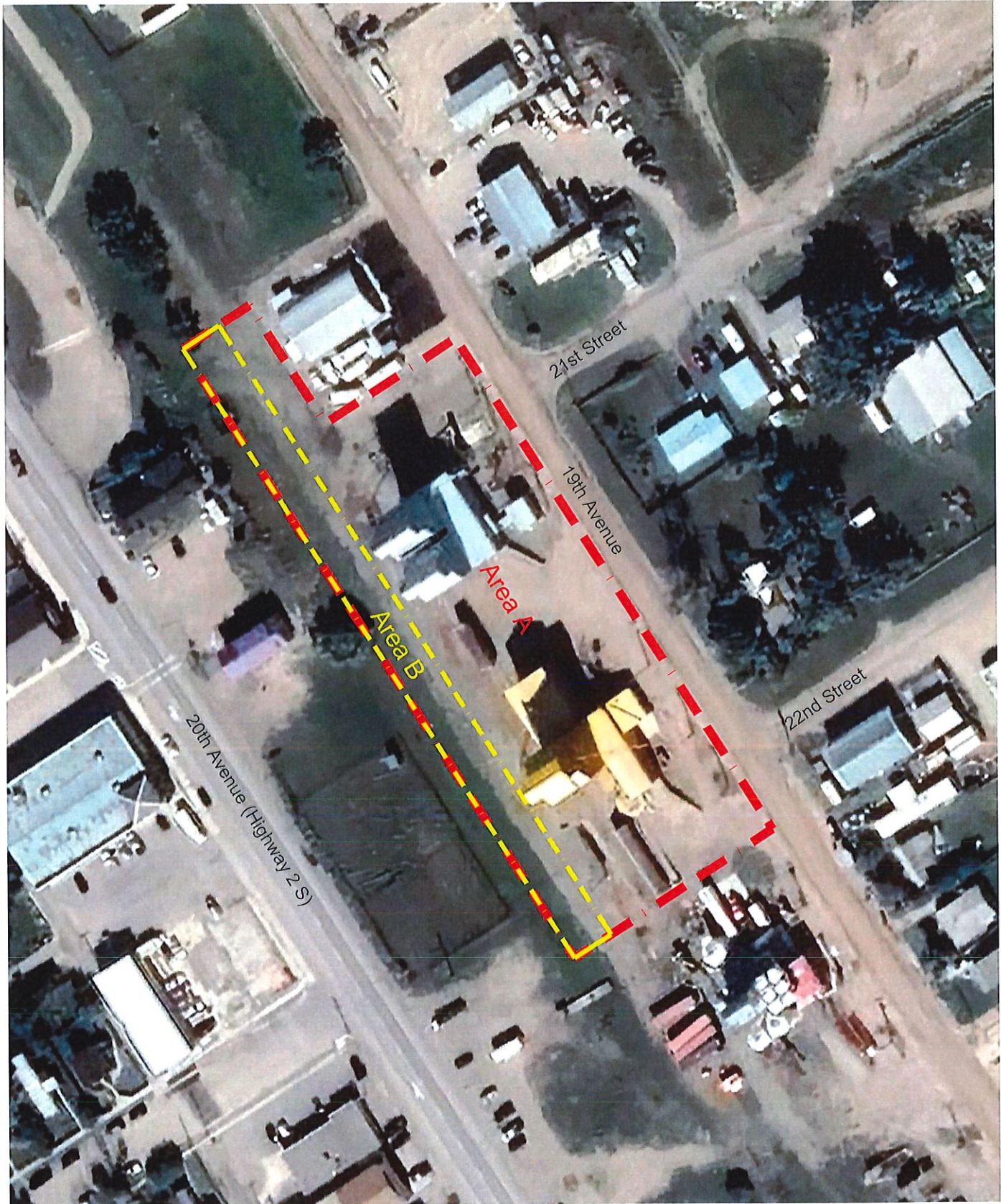
## Historical Information

Built: 1929 to 1929

Period of Significance: 1929 to 2001  
Theme(s): Developing Economies : Communications and Transportation  
Developing Economies : Trade and Commerce  
Historic Function(s): Food Supply : Grain Elevator  
Current Function(s):  
Architect:  
Builder:  
Context:

### Additional Information

Object Number: 4665-1400  
Designation File: DES 2213  
Related Listing(s):  
Heritage Survey File: [HS 68216](#)  
[HS 68214](#)  
Website Link:  
Data Source:



--- Project Boundary

### Direct Control District 1



0 25 50 m

1:1250



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Bylaw # 1392/24

May 2024