

2104-2110 Columbia Avenue - Jordan Block



Jordan Block 2020

Heritage Register - Building

- 1) **Historical Name:** Jordan Block
- 2) **Common Name:**
- 3) **Address:** 2104- 2110 Columbia Avenue
- 4) **Date of Construction:** 1898 - 1901
- 5) **Design, Style, Architecture, Architect:**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Description:

The Jordan Block is located on the northeast corner of Columbia Avenue and Queen Street in downtown Rossland, B. C. The Jordan Block actually includes two adjacent buildings that have different heights, facade treatment and commercial usage. The building on the corner has signage for “Feather Your Nest” on the 2nd floor, and an entrance off Queen Street and “The Grind” occupies the main floor. Next door, with second storey oriel windows, there is a commercial business on the main floor and apartments on the second floor. Both buildings have gently sloping shed roofs. The addresses are 2104 and 2110 Columbia Avenue.

Heritage Value:

The Jordan Block includes two of the commercial buildings built in 1896 which continue to exist today and are still in use with business premises. It is the western anchor of one of three blocks in downtown Rossland with a dense concentration of heritage buildings that escaped the disastrous fires of 1927 and 1929.

Extensive renovation and restoration efforts have been made over many years by owners to keep and enhance the heritage ambience presented by the facades of the buildings in the Jordan Block as can be seen comparing the current photo with the photo from 1983.

Character Defining Elements

- Original location and building footprint.
- A heritage plaque beside the entrance identifies this Block as an important heritage place in Rossland.



Jordan Block 1983

HISTORY

The most western portion of the Jordan Block was on the first 1898 Assessment Roll, as being owned by Mr. Smith and Mr. Scott. Between 1898 and 1900, this corner building was exempt from taxes because it was the Fire Hall for Rossland. The building was used for storage purposes only as volunteer firemen were never housed there.

In 1911, Mr. J. M. Jordan purchased the two buildings (on lots 1 and 2) and established the “biggest furniture store in the Interior of B. C.”. The first floor of the western most building held dining room furniture and bedding while the second floor had kitchen ensembles and the third floor was for storage. The main floor of the adjacent building was used for chesterfield and living room suites and the second floor was converted into apartments.

In 1933, Mr. McTeer and Dr. Daly bought Jordan’s buildings and McTeer opened a hardware store in both, keeping the apartments. Although, the hardware business was closed in the mid-1950’s, Mr. McTeer remained the owner of the building and continued to live upstairs. From 1956 to 1962, Mr. LaFace opened a pool hall called “Nonis” in the corner building. Next door was the Sears mail order outlet. After the pool hall closed down, Mr. McTeer sold the building to Mr. Wayne Eyres. Mr. William Haden, Mr. Eyres’ father-in-law opened a photography studio until October 1979. On February 26, 1980, Mrs. Treva Hinchcliffe opened Treva’s Fashions which became a popular women’s boutique in the corner building. The adjacent building was the Colonial Flower Shop. Thereafter, various other businesses occupied these two buildings. Most recently the corner building is occupied by The Grind Coffee House & Eatery on the main floor and Feather Your Nest on the second floor. The adjacent building is home to various businesses including Nature’s Den a health food store, Worldsource Securities, WSP Engineering & Survey and Trinity Massage.