

The Empire Hotel

Regina, Saskatchewan

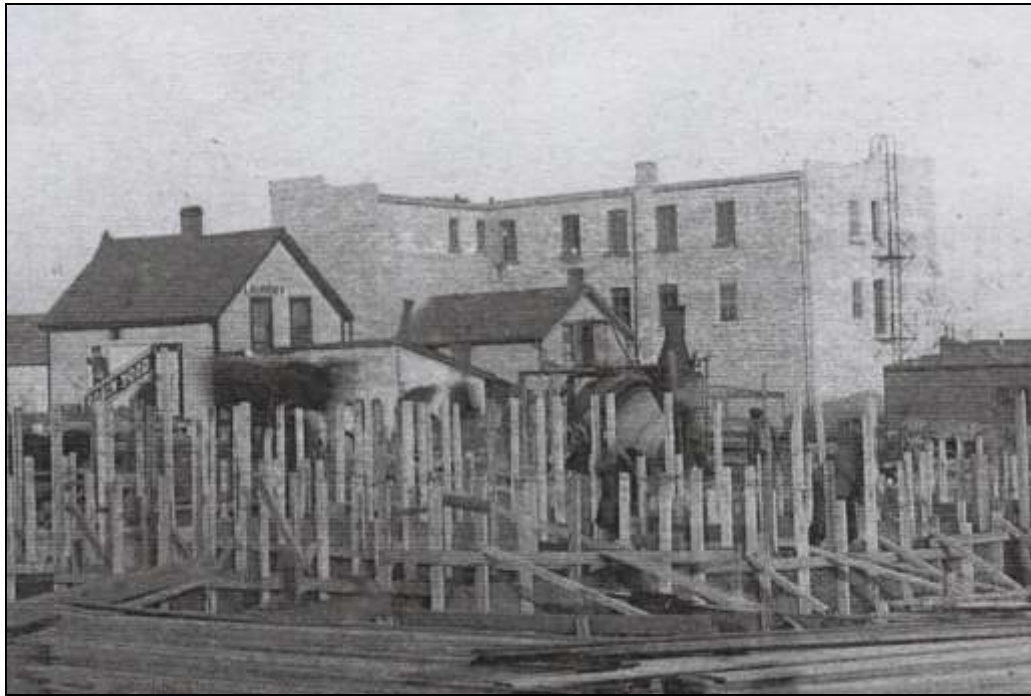


by

Frank Korvemaker

21 February 2008

Revised: 9 January 2018



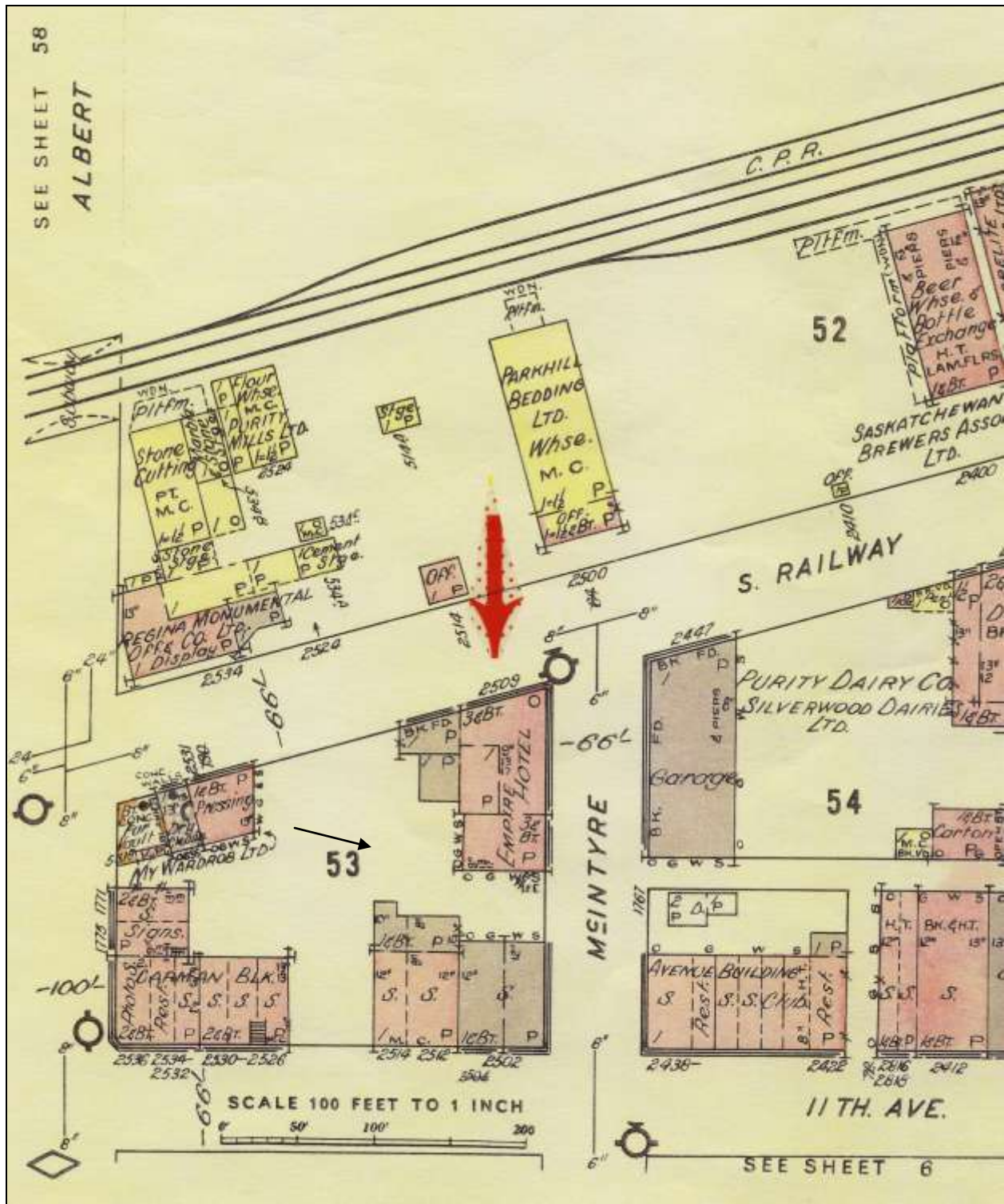
Empire Hotel, 28 Nov. 1912 – (Source: Sask. Archives: R.J. Lecky Album, p. 117)
Owners: Albert & Sam Cook (Source: Henderson's Directory for Regina – 1913 +)



Empire Hotel – 12 Jan. 2008 – arrow marks junction between original structure and the south addition. (Source: Frank Korvemaker)

SEE SHEET 58

ALBERT



Empire Hotel (red arrow), located at the SW corner of South Railway Ave. (now Saskatchewan Drive) and McIntyre Street. The small black arrow next to the number 53 points to the south addition. (Source: Sask. Archives: 1963 Fire Insurance Plan for Regina)



Empire Hotel – North and East sides - 12 January 2008.
The south addition is to the left of the arrow. (Source: Frank Korvemaker)



Empire Hotel – West and South sides - 12 January 2008.
The south addition is to the right of the arrow. (Source: Frank Korvemaker)

Henderson's Directories: 1913 – 1996:

List of owners and / or managers and number of years they owned the hotel

1913-1935	Albert G. Cook	(22 years)
1936-1948	Stanley Kraft	(12 years)
1949-1959	Harry Wasel & Nathan Friedman	(10 years)
1960-1973	Emanuel Ross	(13 years)
1974-1976	Mrs. Emma McCartney	(2 years)
1977-1986	Lloyd Minovitch	(9 years)
1987-2008	Larry Krulak	(minimum 21 years)

Note 1: It appears that Albert Cook tried twice to sell the Hotel, in 1925 to E.E. Boughner and in 1931-32 to C.E. and / or W.G. Morrison, but as Cook again appears as the owner until 1935, it is possible that those sales fell through and the hotel reverted to Cook. Also, Sam Cook was involved with the hotel in 1916-17.

Note 2: Between 1957 and 1959 the Wasel-Friedman ownership changes slightly, as Nathan died and his wife Sarah took over. Lloyd Friedman was also involved.

Note 3: Due to the fact that Henderson's is often a year behind in reporting ownership and tenants, it is possible that the starting dates listed above may actually be a year earlier. A search through Land Title records or City Assessment Records might clarify those details.

The City of Regina Archives:

1. Empire Hotel: Location: LOT: 7 – 10; BLOCK: 280; PLAN: old 33
Address: 1718 McIntyre Street, Regina
2. The 1912 Building Permits lists the following: August 17, 1912. A.G. Cook, S. Railway, Lots 9-10, Block 280, \$20,000, Brick Hotel, 3 storey; the Contractor is also listed as A.G. Cook (comment: this might indicate he served as his own general contractor, not that he actually did the work)
3. The City Archives doesn't have the original blueprints. However, it does have two blueprints for additions, one from the teens and one from 1957. The early addition (south wing) was designed by Clemesha and Portnall; the later addition is for the beverage room, designed by Joseph Pettick.

The Saskatchewan Archives Board:

1. Paula Rein, reference archivist, reports that her grandmother, Mary Ellen Connelly was a maid at the Empire Hotel in 1923, and worked there along with her friend Peggy Mills, both of whom came to Canada from Glasgow, Scotland. Both women are listed in the 1923 Henderson's Regina Directory as working and resident at the Hotel.

Compiled by:

Frank Korvemaker, S.A.A. (Hon.)

Ret'd Archivist / Construction Historian

59 Compton Road

Regina, Saskatchewan, S4S 2Y2

Tel: (306) 586-1405 E-Mail: frank@korvemaker.ca

and

Hon. Corporate Archivist for the Saskatchewan Association of Architects

For information on the Association: <http://saskarchitects.com/>