

The Killarney Safeway Store

The following photo tells us a bit about business in Killarney in the 1930's. Prominent in the foreground is the "Sam's Dairy" truck, a reminder of the days when milk was delivered to your door. A little to the right of Sam's nifty customized delivery van we see another aspect of local commerce – the Safeway Store.



In a way we see the past and the future of food marketing, with Safeway representing the first widespread attempt at placing "Chain Stores" in rural communities.

Safeway Stores were located in medium-sized towns in the early 1930's and after about a decade, most were taken over by independent businessmen and often put to other uses.

The Killarney Safeway Store – operated until 1941. It was bought by Dan Hall, Cyril Letts and Harry Powell and operated for many years as the "Fairway Store"

As of 2021, the building remains – easily identified by the standard Safeway roofline adornments, most of which have survived renovations, and can be found in main streets of other towns like Minnedosa, and Boissevain.



The former Killarney Safeway



The iconic Safeway roofline – seen here in Boissevain.