



Heritage Property – Reitzel House



147 Avondale Ave. S.

Built 1925; designed, C.P. Mueller

Designated March 30, 1992: bylaw 92-39, "The Reitzel-Grierson House"

Ed Reitzel was a member of a family that began a construction business in the early 1900s and later established the Reitzel Furniture Factory on Allen Street West. Mr. Reitzel was himself a house builder and used his skills to build his own home on Avondale Avenue West in 1925.

The 1½-storey bungalow is designed in the craftsman style. That style originated in England with the arts and crafts movement, and was based upon structural clarity and composition linked with natural forms of decoration. To display the structure's parts clearly and express their organic harmony, the designer of the Reitzel house used such visible architectural details as wide overhangs of the roof, extended fascia boards, projecting corbels under the front gable end, gable ends and fieldstone walls with their outer joints free of mortar. Likewise, heavy wooden posts in the front porch and pseudo rafter-ends on the front and side porches contribute to the craftsman style in the Reitzel house.