

St. Albert Heritage Finders' Guide

History

“St. Albert celebrates a rich history that dates back over 150 years and has often been called Alberta's Finest City. Founded in 1861 by Father Albert Lacombe, St. Albert is the oldest, non-fortified community in Alberta and was the largest agricultural settlement west of Winnipeg.



Father Lacombe, one of the earliest missionaries in the west, proclaimed Mission Hill home to the St. Albert mission settlement. He built a log chapel for ministering to the Cree and Métis. Father Lacombe Chapel, the oldest building in Alberta, is now a Provincial Heritage Site and has been restored to its original appearance. It is located on the north hill of the river and is open to tours from June to September.

St. Albert was incorporated as a village in 1904 followed by town status in 1962. St. Albert officially became a city in 1977.

Today, St. Albert is a bustling city with more than 63,000 residents. With more than 85 kilometres of trails, 1,100 acres of green space, the Arden Theatre, the visual arts studios, the Musée Héritage Museum and numerous special events - it's easy to see why St. Albert is renowned for its rich heritage, artistic community and natural environment.”

(Taken from The City of St. Albert 2015 <http://stalbert.ca/living-here/botanical-arts-city/st.-alberts-history/#sthash.rBo7cv7b.dpuf>)

Places

The City of St. Albert

Find information and directions for St. Albert.

Visitor Welcome Centre (at St. Albert Chamber of Commerce)

71 St. Albert Trail

St. Albert, AB T8N 6L

<http://stalbert.ca/experience/explore-st.-albert/>

REP:

10, 50 Bellerose Drive

1st Floor - Recreation and Parks

St. Albert, AB T8N 3L5

Phone: 780-418-6063

Fax: 780-459-6070

St. Albert Public Library

Borrow history books, access online catalogue, find digitized records of historic St. Albert newspapers.

Downtown Location

St Albert Place, 5 St Anne Street

St Albert, AB T8N 3Z9

P: 780-459-1530

<http://sapl.ca/>

REP:

Musée Héritage Museum

“The Musée Héritage Museum, located in St Albert Place, explores the story of St Albert through a variety of exhibits and programs, preserving the community’s history to enjoy now and for the future.

We also manage St Albert’s Heritage Sites: the Little White School, St Albert Grain Elevator Park, River Lot 24 and its associated houses and agricultural buildings. The heritage sites offer unique programs and tours for all ages.

Explore St Albert’s past at the Grain Elevator Park and train station, where our interpreters will take you on a guided tour of two of Alberta’s provincially designated grain elevators, the 1906 Alberta Grain Company Elevator and 1929 Alberta Wheat Pool Elevator.



The Little White School began operating in 1948 and is an integral part of St Albert's history on its prominent hillside location. Step back in time with a visit to the School where our classroom will take you back to 1948 when the Little White School first opened." (Taken from the Musée Héritage Museum 2015 <http://museeheritage.ca/>)

Musée Heritage Museum: The Archives

The Musée Héritage Museum Archives acquires and preserves archival material significant to the memory of St Albert and area. Our holdings include over 100 metres of material including personal papers, oral histories, municipal records, business and community organization records. The material includes thousands of photographs, negatives and slides as well as ledgers, manuscripts, letters, maps, cassette tapes, videocassettes and digital files. Archival holdings are rare, original and unpublished so much care is taken to preserve the material. The archives is also in the process of digitizing its holdings so the material can be more easily accessible to the public.

In addition to the archives, the Musée Héritage Museum has a special library. This library consists of over 1000 books that are unique to the history of Alberta and St Albert. The books are non-circulating but available for reading at the museum.

To get information about archives in general, the Archives Society of Alberta has created a tutorial to explain the many aspects of archives:

www.archivesalberta.org/webtutorial/openme.html

(Taken From the Musée Héritage Museum 2015)

St Albert Place, 5 St Anne Street

St Albert, AB T8N 3Z9

P: 780-459-1528

E: archives@artsandheritage.ca

E: museum@artsandheritage.ca

<http://museeheritage.ca/>

REP:

St. Albert Grain Elevator Park

"Explore St Albert's past at the Grain Elevator Park and Train Station, where our interpreters will take you on a guided tour of two of Alberta's provincially designated grain elevators, the 1906 Brackman Ker Elevator and 1929 Alberta Wheat Pool Elevator. Complete the experience with a visit to the 1920's replica Train Station where you can try your hand at Morse Code and see how the station agents lived.

[For a complete list of educational programs offered at the St Albert Grain Elevator Park, click here.](#)" (Taken From the Musée Héritage Museum 2015)

See more at:

<http://museeheritage.ca/heritage-sites/grain-elevators/#sthash.Gb3RQBUY.dpuf>

4 Meadowview Drive
St. Albert, AB
P: 780-419-7354
E: museum@artsandheritage.ca

REP:

Father Lacombe Chapel

“In 1861, Father Albert Lacombe and his Métis helpers constructed a log building to serve the new St. Albert Roman Catholic Mission.

This simple chapel, Alberta's oldest building, became the centre of the thriving French speaking Metis settlement of St. Albert. Today the chapel has been restored to look much as it did in the early 1860s. Drop in to the chapel and let the historical interpreters take you back to an earlier time.

Visit the crypt where Father Lacombe and Bishop Grandin are buried. Take a stroll through the cemetery, the resting place of some of St. Albert's first residents.

Interpretive guides lead tours through the chapel and the historic Mission Hill site and demonstrate activities and skills of the time. Education programs and special events are offered as well. Tours are available in English or French.” (Taken From History Alberta 2015)

Mission Hill, St. Vital Ave
St. Albert, AB
P: Summer: 780-459-7663
P: Winter: 780-431-2300
E: father.lacombe@gov.ab.ca
<http://history.alberta.ca/fatherlacombe/>

Little White School

“Experience what it was like to go to school in a two-room schoolhouse! Step back in time with a visit to the Little White School where our classroom takes you back to 1948 when the school first opened.

For a complete list of educational programs offered at the Little White School, click here.” (Taken From Musée Héritage Museum 2015)

See more at:

<http://museeheritage.ca/heritage-sites/little-white-school/#sthash.zuVsVxoq.dpuf>

2 Madonna Drive
St. Albert, AB
P: 780-459-4404
E: museum@artsandheritage.ca

Visual Arts Studios/ Art Gallery of St. Albert

“Located in the historic Banque d’Hochelaga building, the Art Gallery of St Albert features contemporary and community exhibitions, brought to life with public programs and events. Education programs offer visual arts opportunities for thousands of children, youth and adults throughout the year.

Art Gallery of St Albert’s mandate is to provide enriching educational experiences that celebrate visual culture and artistic achievement through research, exhibition and interpretation. Exhibitions celebrate diversity, providing vision, inspiration and education for the community.” (Taken From Art Gallery of St. Albert 2015)

See more at: <http://artgalleryofstalbert.ca/about-us/#sthash.GAMhXjX5.dpuf>

19 Perron St.
St. Albert, AB
P: 780-460-4310
E: ahfgallery@artsandheritage.ca
<http://artgalleryofstalbert.ca/>

Founders walk

“While following the walk you will learn about some of the rich culture and history that shaped our community and will be able to enjoy the sights and sounds at the heart of the City.

- Extends from the top of Mission Hill along St. Vital Avenue to the Grain Elevators on Meadowview Drive.
- The final phase of Founders' Walk will continue along the existing trail from the Grain Elevators along the Sturgeon River to the Perron Street Bridge, and is scheduled for 2016 (design) and 2017 (construction).”

(Taken from The City of St. Albert 2015)

See more at:
<http://stalbert.ca/experience/arts-and-culture/museums-and-heritage/founders-walk/#sthash.PyULgr0f.dpuf>

<http://stalbert.ca/city-hall/have-your-say/public-consultations-calendar/founders-wall-phase-2-open-house-2015>

Provincial Archives of Alberta

Contains historical Alberta documents.

8555 Roper Road

Edmonton AB T6E 5W1

780-427-1056

<http://provincialarchives.alberta.ca>

Other

Our Roots

Black Robe's Vision

<http://www.ourroots.ca/e/toc.aspx?id=4372>

Family and Community Twining Society

St.Albert Heritage Resources

<http://sahistoryn.blogspot.ca/>

<http://sacfr.blogspot.ca/>

<https://www.blogger.com/profile/02725200205549764990>

St.Albert Churches:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Rfl7v2j8WbZn5qOkQv9PmRIWgT5OMBtB68myWYOSwVI/edit?usp=sharing>

factsc@gmail.com

St. Albert & Sturgeon County GenWeb Site

Genealogy and Local History

<http://ukrainiangenealogist.tripod.com/sturgeon/>

Centralta Tourism Society

Find Francophone history in Alberta.

Francophone Corridor St. Albert-Morinville-Legal

P: 780-460-1034

<http://centraltatourism.blogspot.ca/>

<http://caltahist.blogspot.ca/>