

Parkdale Founder Alfred Sidney McKay's
Great Granddaughters Visit Parkdale 2015
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History has to start somewhere... Alfred Sidney McKay had a vision. When did the Parkdale community start? He bought land for the Parkdale Addition in 1902. In 1910 the subdivision was approved and soon 5 red brick houses lined 37th Street.

His great granddaughters, Jan (Chaloner) and Lynne, recently made a visit to the home their father was born in - #134.—37 St. NW. It's currently owned and lovingly cared for by Darcy and Donna Morgan.

We've heard about the highlights of our Parkdale community history. Let's think about some of the people who made that history happen and take an imaginary peek into what happened during Jan and Lynne's visit.

Jan and Lynne stand in the sunshine and take in the wide-open steps, the well-manicured lawn and cheerful flowers.

JAN: What fun! Can you imagine what Papa would think about us visiting?

LYNNE: (Smiles) No.

They ring the doorbell. The door opens and they step back in time.

LYNNE: Oh my. It's more beautiful than any photo.

JAN: It feels like home.

Jan runs her hand along the dark wood of the bannister and looks up the stairs leading to the second floor.

LYNNE: It was a mansion in its time – 610 square feet on each of the two floors!

JAN: And everything they needed.

They drift toward the sitting room where a series of antique black and white photographs catches Jan's eye.

JAN: Aren't these wonderful.

LYNNE: They look like our parents.... so serious.

JAN: Can you imagine Grandpa nervously pacing in this room?

LYNNE: Why?

JAN: As they prepared for Papa's arrival!

JAN: It was time to start school and they were moving to the city.

LYNNE: Gosh, that must have been about 1925. The tramline was in place and open for adventure.

JAN: Remember Papa said Grandma was nervous about taking the tram – all those people she didn't know. She insisted he hang onto her hand the whole time.

LYNNE: (chuckles) He said not to worry. He'd take care of her!

Parkdale later became West Hillhurst and Parkdale Addition became our own present day Parkdale.

The good old days!