

A Walk to Remember...

Carnduff Court House

In the year 1900, Carnduff was nearing a decade in its present location and was a hub of growth and prosperity for the region. Larger than the neighbouring villages, Carnduff seemed the obvious choice to become the centre of the Judicial District. Plans went ahead and a new two-storey court house was built on this location.

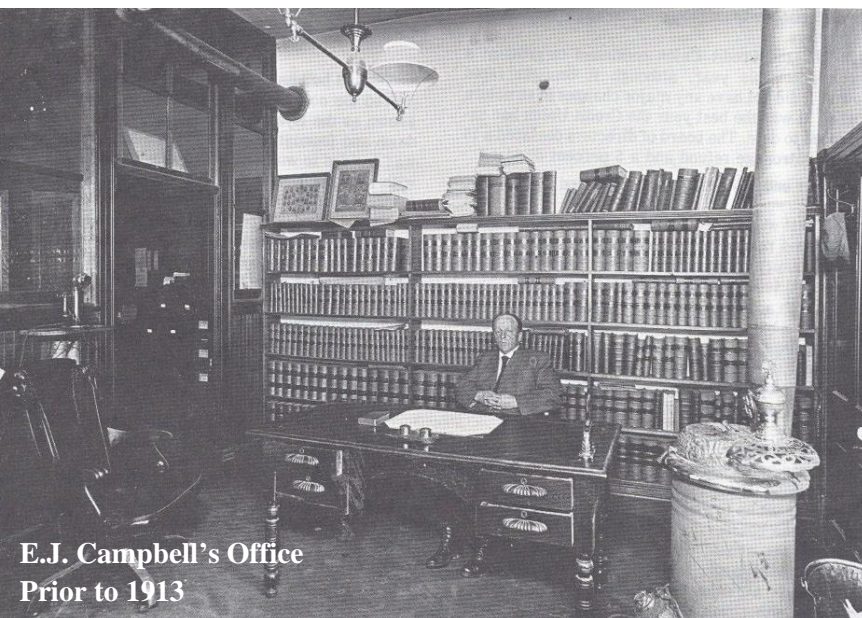
Carnduff Court House was host to both spring and fall assizes over which Judge Wetmore of Moosomin presided. In addition to providing space for the newly established RNWMP detachment, space in the building was leased to E.J. Campbell for his law offices which gradually grew to employ 6 or 7 people.

As Estevan outpaced the growth of neighbouring communities thanks in large part to the coal industry, a decision was made to move the judicial centre there. Mr. Campbell opted to move his practice as well although he maintained a satellite office in Carnduff for some time. Sadly by 1913 the Carnduff Court House stood virtually empty serving only to provide a temporary home to the 20th Border Horse Military for training purposes throughout World War I.



Court House

With no viable large-scale tenants on the horizon, a portion of the building was rented to the Kitching family as a residence from 1915-1930. Additionally, it served as home to Saskatchewan Provincial Police during their tenure in Carnduff from 1916 until 1928. The building was also offered to the provincial government for hospital services during the flu epidemic of 1918 but it was deemed unsuitable.



E.J. Campbell's Office
Prior to 1913

After a further long period of vacancy, the Court House was rented from the provincial government in 1941 by the Town of Carnduff. It became home to the town office, council chambers, and community library. The telephone switchboard was moved into the building in 1943 and remained until 1964 when the Saskatchewan government rebuilt and modernized services with the newly formed SaskTel.

The Carnduff Legion branch utilized the upper floor for meetings over the next 20 years as did the magistrate court which was held in their club room. By agreement the Legion vacated their space for a period to permit occupancy by a doctor's office and residence in addition to a

government dental clinic operated by Dr. Merriott.

A new town hall and new Legion building both arrived in 1967 leaving the Court House building vacant once more. Beginning to show its age, and with no purchases found the Court House building was demolished and the site sold for construction of a home.