



Gimli Cottage Country

Please respect the privacy of property owners.

Gimli began to develop as a summer retreat in the early part of the 20th century, shortly after the CPR arrived in 1906. Greater attention came in the 1920s with more cottages going up in the northern part of the town and in the Loni Beach area. Many of Gimli's cottages were built using kits provided by lumber companies (Brown & Rutherford, McDiarmid Lumber in Winnipeg and Monarch Lumber), as well as from Eaton's Department Store. These origins give the buildings an overall similarity - in form, plan, construction, materials and detail. It has also been observed that the cottages generally were inexpensive - and ultimately not very substantial. That so many have survived is a testament to the actual durability (and ingenuity) of those kit producers, of the carpenters who put them together, and of the following generations who have maintained them. Gimli's cottages are a vital aspect of life here, giving a light airy sensibility to the community. They are light-hearted, summery and cheerful.

C1. Thorson Cottage - 50 4th Ave. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.110 minutes W96 degrees 59.452 minutes.

Constructed before 1919, this classic example of an early cottage has been restored and updated by its present owners. The cottage is well remembered by a generation of Gimli residents who brought good report cards to the back door where they were rewarded with candies by its kindly former owner, Pearl Glendorah Ludlow. Mrs. Ludlow also loaned out the cottage's vintage piano for local dances and parties.



C1

C2. Devon Lodge - 31 5th Ave. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.210 minutes W96 degrees 59.488 minutes.

Devon Lodge is one of the best examples of a summer cottage in its original condition. Built by A. P. (Alfred) Whiteway, who immigrated to Canada from Devon, England, it has been handed down from generation to generation by his descendants over the last 87 years. Many early furnishings are still present, including portraits of the parents of its original owner, a working 1931 General Electric fridge (complete with warranty papers) and original oil lamps with wall sconces.



C2

C3. Spruce Lodge - 21 4th Ave. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.270 minutes W96 degrees 59.414 minutes.

This cedar cottage has been in the family of Dr. J.B. (Ian) Sutherland since 1921. Here, and at many other cottages, summers were an idyllic time, with mothers arriving in June to stay with the children, and fathers arriving on Fridays at 7:10 p.m., on the "Weekend Special" train.



C3



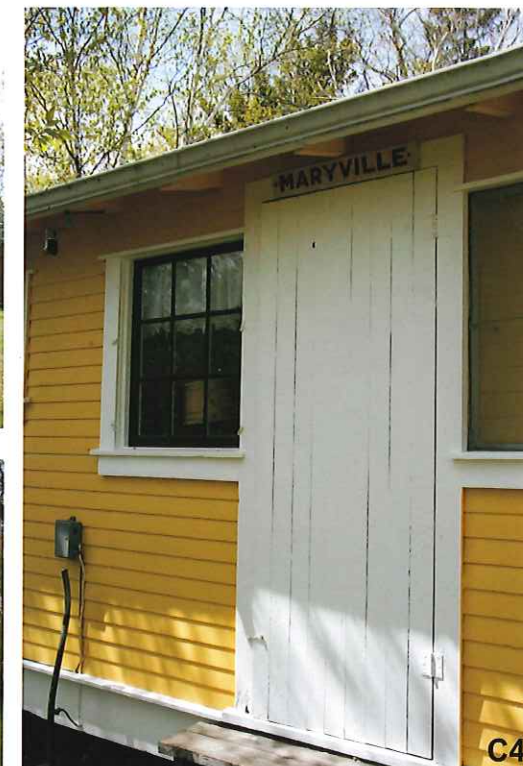
C5



C6



C7



C4

C4. Maryville Cottage - 12 6th Ave. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.337 minutes W96 degrees 59.651 minutes.

The Maryville Cottage is a well-preserved and excellent example of the basic hip-roofed cottage, typical of the Gimli Park Cottage Area. From around 1925, with typical window and door treatments (retaining much of its original hardware), floor plan, building materials (simple wood frame on stout wooden blocks), the cottage was built from a kit, possibly from Eaton's.

C5. Erindale - 21 3rd Ave. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.277 minutes W96 degrees 59.317 minutes.

Originally known as The Truesdale Cottage, this building is a lovingly-preserved hip-roofed affair and is in excellent original condition. The father of the current owner was Dr. Skuli Johnson, a Rhodes Scholar and a well-known Classics professor.

C6. Goodman Cottage - 13 2nd Ave. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.326 minutes W96 degrees 59.227 minutes.

A charming example of a small summer cottage, the Goodman cottage was built in 1918-19, along with three others, by Winnipeg contractor Carl Goodman. The building has original doors, hardware, windows, shutters and linoleum flooring. Even some of the original furnishings are apparent - oil lamps (with hand made shades), old Eaton's cabinets, an old GE refrigerator and hand cranked RCA Victor record player.

C7. Warters Cottage - 10 North Lake St. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.457 minutes W96 degrees 58.995 minutes.

A 1912 photo taken from the beach shows a line of cottages, including this one, along the shoreline of North Lake Street. The cottage, owned by the Snidal family for decades, was constructed from a catalogue kit (interestingly, the kit was put together wrong, with base plates missing on the north and south sides). The cottage is an excellent example of the side-gable cottage type. It contains original hand made furniture, is in good condition, and boasts excellent integrity. The father of the current owner played the role of Guy Maddin's dead father, lying on a door, in the movie "Tales from the Gimli Hospital."





C8. Madden Cottage - 22 North Lake St. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.510 minutes W96 degrees 58.975 minutes.

The Madden Cottage, from 1910, is a reworked side-gable type of cottage, moved to this site. While of some heritage significance, the cottage is best known for its connection to noted Manitoba film maker Guy Maddin, whose movie, *Tales from the Gimli Hospital*, was shot here, and featured local residents and children.



C9. Wigg Cottage - 47 North Lake St. GPS loc N50 degrees 38.615 minutes W96 degrees 58.917 minutes.

The Wigg Cottage is a very good example of a summer cottage at Loni Beach, recalling the development in the early decades of the 20th century. The Wigg Cottage has been in the family for three generations, beginning in 1937. The building is a typical side-gable type, with the long edge of the roof facing the front, creating a long porch, and in this case, with typical treatment of large screens in the front. The cottage is in good condition and has a high degree of integrity.



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