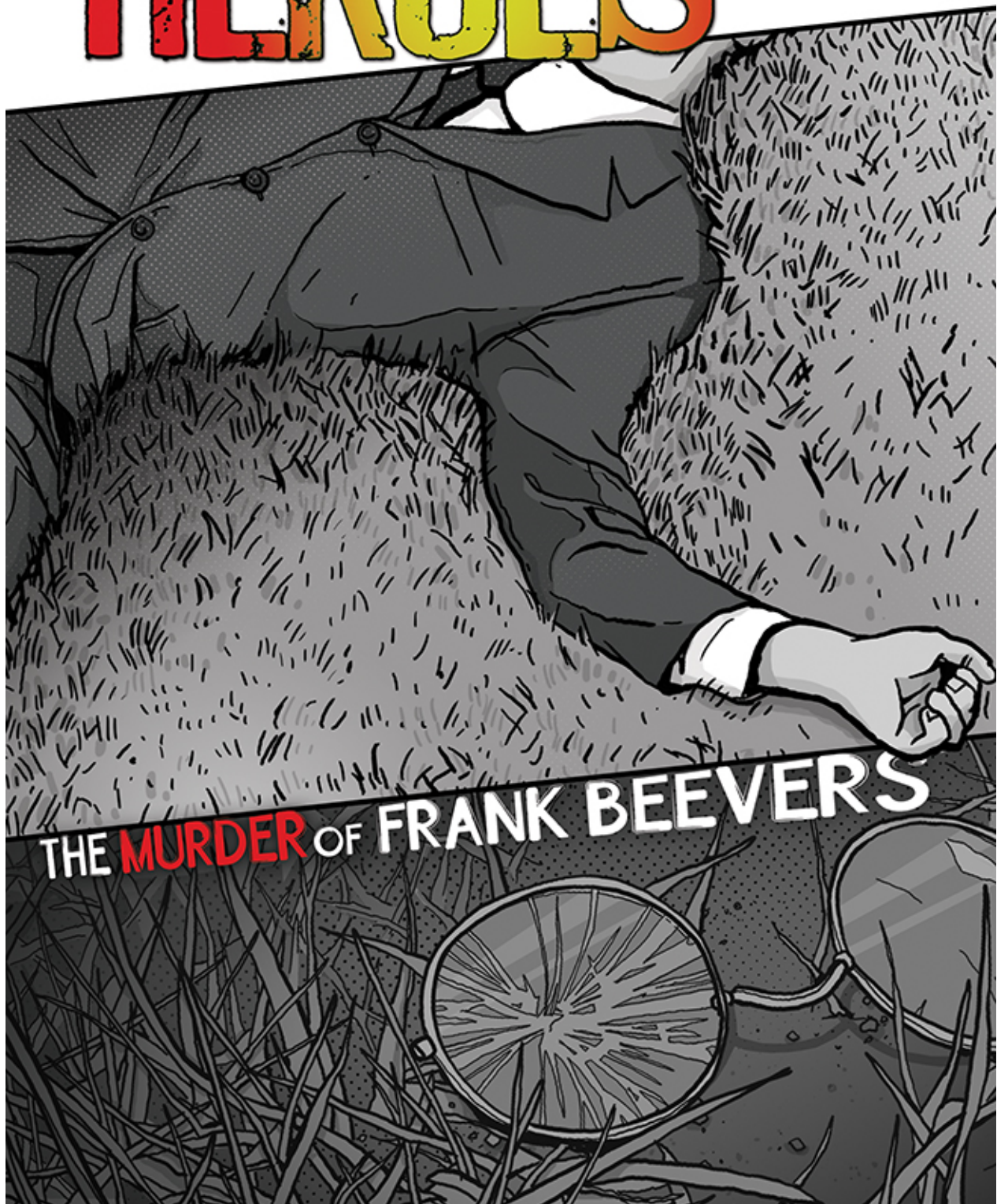


LEGACY OF HEROES



LEGACY OF HEROES

WRITTEN BY JEFF AWID
ILLUSTRATED BY JARED ROBINSON

Frank Beevers worked as a janitor for the Edmonton Police Department. On October 17, 1918, Frank became the victim of a crime while helping the police. His friends in the police department wanted to honour Frank so all Edmontonians would know about the sacrifice he made to keep them safe.



Perpetrator of Double Murder in City Has So Far Baffled Efforts of Police to Arrest Him

THURSDAY
A BLA
FOR

With the closely woven meshes of the police net spread far and wide throughout the whole province, with every possible avenue of escape watched with lynx-like keenness by determined men, with every hole and corner which might afford opportunity for concealment being searched with the most painstaking thoroughness, chances are believed to be bright for the capture, dead or alive, of "Joe" Cameron, gunman and general bad egg, who on Thursday morning shot two men in Edmonton and managed to make a remarkably successful getaway.

Allies Garr
Crop
S
GO BE

Up to a late hour this morning the murderer had not been caught, but several promising clues were being followed up and Chief Hill was confident that within a short time there would be a successful capture of the whole city.

Counter -
—Several
on

STEWART
MOURNED BY
THE PATRICIAS

Now, with two murders re-
against him, it is felt by the
that it may be a case of shoot
if he is cornered. Every
gent concerned in the chase
and the result of the pursuit
decided on who is the quicker
igger.

murder of Beevers, particularly,
red the whole force with a
ation to "get" the criminal,
ost. The popularity of the
is inoffensive and sterling
has made every man of
solve that the slayer shall
ay.

authorities of all the
owns in Alberta and nearby
ve been notified, together
y and automobile men,
ing housekeepers and all
might be able to assist.
on of the murderer being
Chief Hill is personally
of the matter, assisted
Shaw, Haig and Shute.
force of the uniformed
department and is de-
Cameron shall be ap-

ooting at 7:30 a.m.
30 a.m. Thursday that
s believed to have been
ry recently, shot and
Sam Zappier, better
Morgan, who, with his
ando, ran the Liberty
rnishings, at 10234
shooting took place
near the corner of
eastern part of the
died in the Royal
late in the after-

victim the



FRANK BEEVERS, janitor at city
police station, who was killed on
Thursday morning by Joe Cameron
in a lane at the rear of the Northern
Hotel.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MURDERER

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city of

FRANK BEEVERS WAS BORN DECEMBER 5, 1866,
IN YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND.

HE GREW UP BETWEEN THE
VILLAGE OF AUCKLEY AND
THE CITY OF LEEDS.



IN 1899, FRANK MARRIED MARIA FARROWS.
THE COUPLE SETTLED IN LEEDS, WHERE
FRANK WORKED AS A GREEN GROCEER.

THEIR ONLY CHILD, HILDA, DIED AT A YOUNG AGE,
LEAVING THE GRIEVING COUPLE HEARTBROKEN.



IN 1911, FRANK AND MARIA IMMIGRATED TO CANADA.

THEY FARMED A PLOT OF LAND NEAR LACOMBE...



...BEFORE MOVING TO EDMONTON
TO WORK AT A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS.



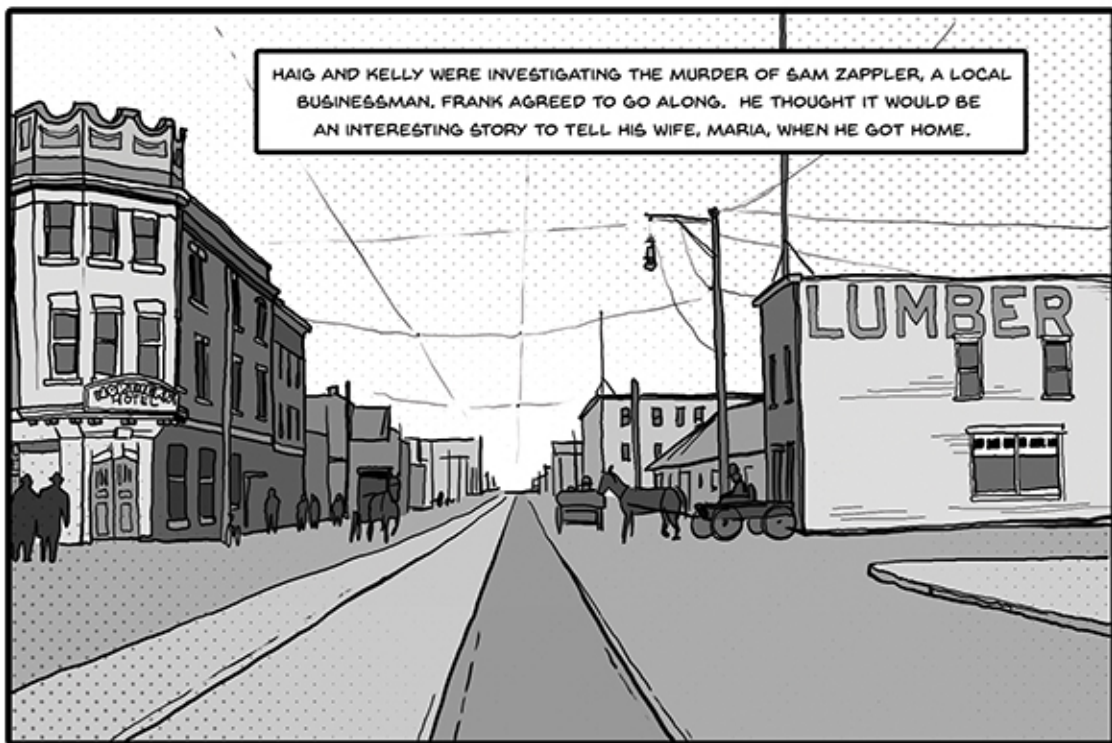
FRANK WAS THE JANITOR. MARIA WAS THE COOK.



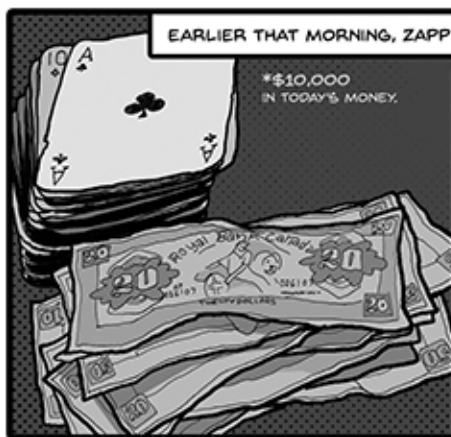
1915. FRANK STARTED WORKING AS A JANITOR FOR THE EDMONTON POLICE DEPARTMENT.



ON OCTOBER 17, 1918, TWO POLICE OFFICERS, INSPECTOR HAIG AND SERGEANT KELLY, NEEDED HELP WITH AN INVESTIGATION. WHEN NO OTHER POLICE OFFICERS WERE AVAILABLE, THEY ASKED FRANK.



HAIG AND KELLY WERE INVESTIGATING THE MURDER OF SAM ZAPPLER, A LOCAL BUSINESSMAN. FRANK AGREED TO GO ALONG. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE AN INTERESTING STORY TO TELL HIS WIFE, MARIA, WHEN HE GOT HOME.



EARLIER THAT MORNING, ZAPPLER HAD WON \$650* IN A CARD GAME.

*\$10,000
IN TODAY'S MONEY.

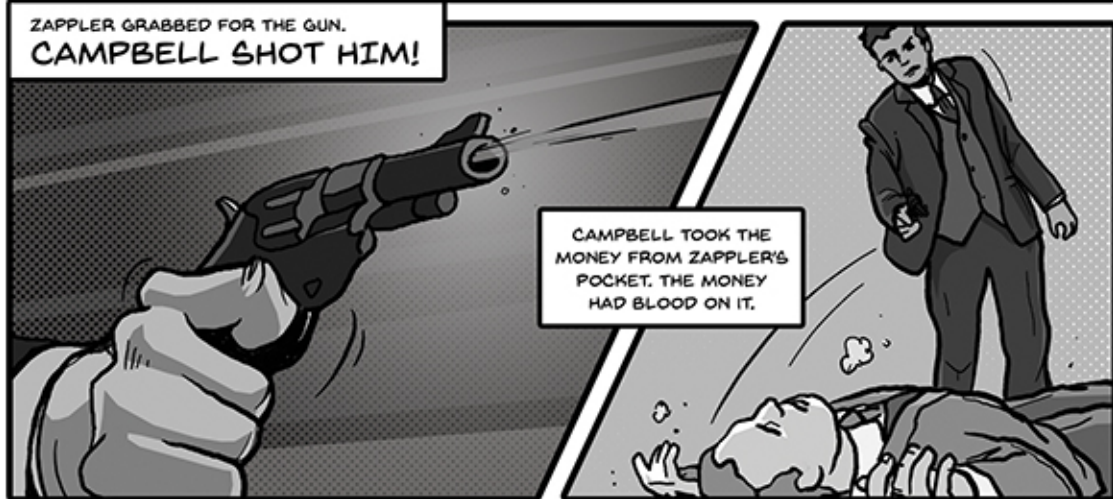


WHEN THE GAME WAS OVER, ZAPPLER AND TWO OTHER PLAYERS, CURLEY KRAUSE AND JOE CAMPBELL, DROVE TO THE CITY'S EAST-END TO VISIT A FRIEND.



WHEN THEY ARRIVED, CAMPBELL POINTED A GUN AT ZAPPLER AND KRAUSE. HE DEMANDED ZAPPLER GIVE HIM ALL OF THE MONEY HE HAD WON.

GIVE ME
MY DOUGH!



ZAPPLER GRABBED FOR THE GUN.
CAMPBELL SHOT HIM!

CAMPBELL TOOK THE
MONEY FROM ZAPPLER'S
POCKET. THE MONEY
HAD BLOOD ON IT.



CAMPBELL FORCED CURLEY KRAUSE
TO DRIVE HIM BACK DOWNTOWN.

JOE CAMPBELL WAS 33-YEARS OLD. HE SOMETIMES USED THE NAME JOE CAMERON TO FOOL PEOPLE. HE HAD A LONG CRIMINAL RECORD.



ONE MONTH EARLIER HE HAD BEEN RELEASED FROM THE PENITENTIARY IN PRINCE ALBERT, SASKATCHEWAN, AFTER SERVING THREE YEARS FOR STEALING \$700*.

*\$13,000 IN TODAY'S MONEY.



WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVED AT THE NORTHERN HOTEL, FRANK STOOD GUARD AT THE BACK DOOR WHILE INSPECTOR HAIG AND SERGEANT KELLY WENT INSIDE.



CAMPBELL WAS IN HIS ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR.



THE POLICE KNOCKED ON HIS DOOR. CAMPBELL KEPT QUIET UNTIL THE POLICE WENT AWAY. AS SOON AS THEY WERE GONE, HE RAN DOWN THE BACK STAIRS.



WHEN CAMPBELL RAN OUT THE BACK DOOR OF THE HOTEL, FRANK WAS WAITING FOR HIM.



**STOP!
POLICE!**

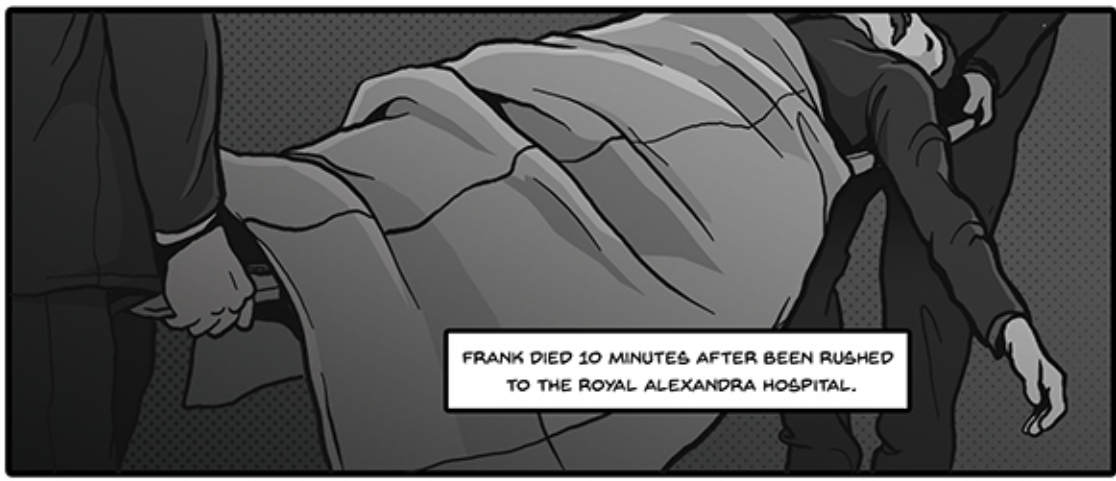


BANG!!!

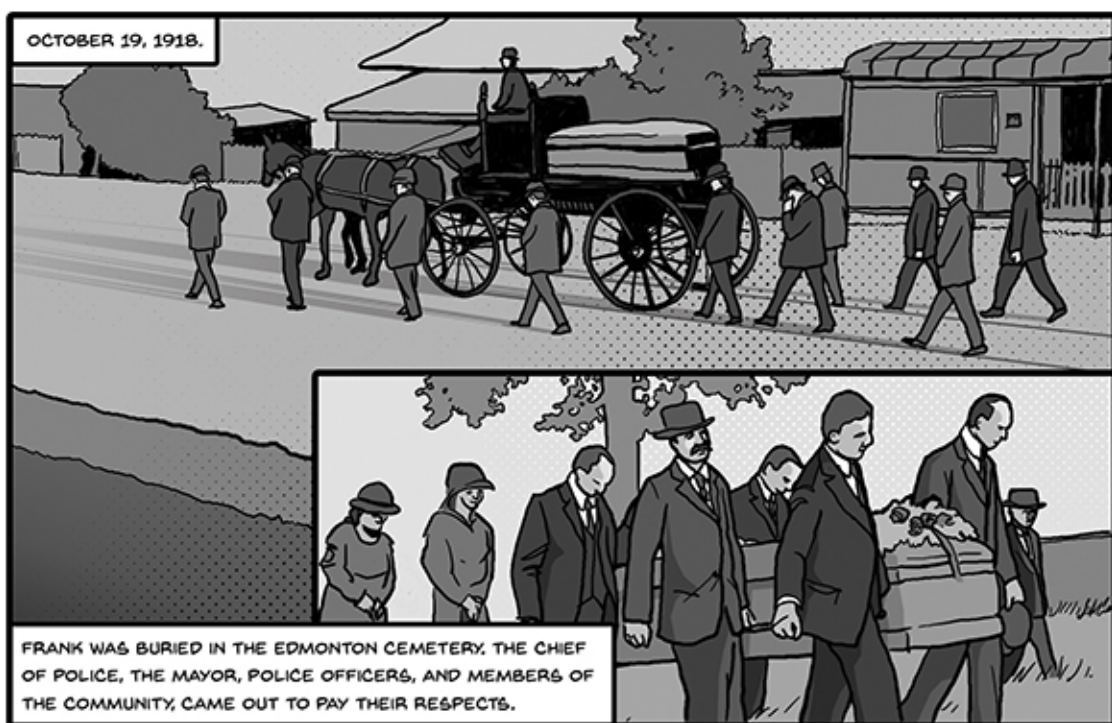
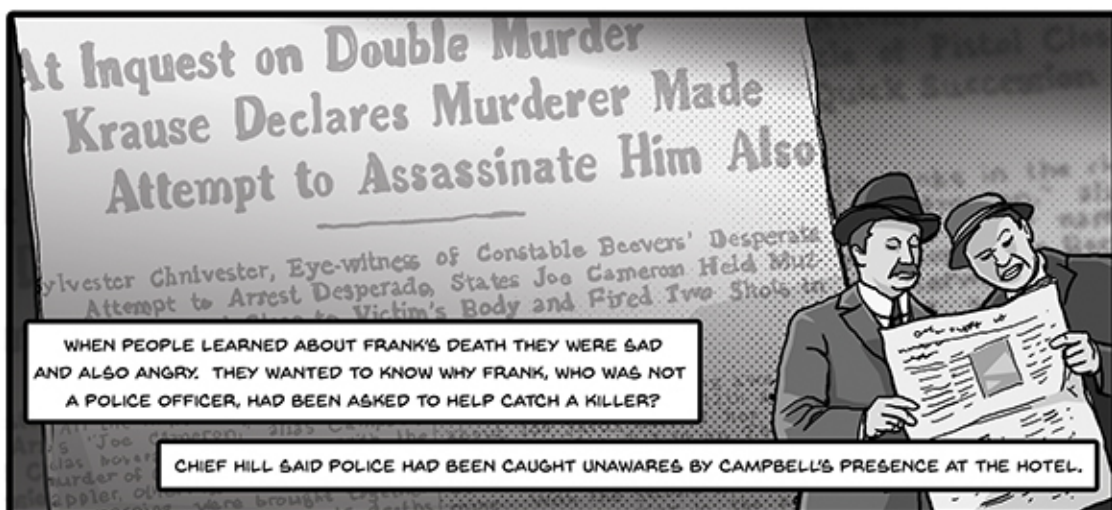
FRANK AND CAMPBELL STRUGGLED. CAMPBELL PULLED OUT HIS GUN AND SHOT FRANK TWICE!



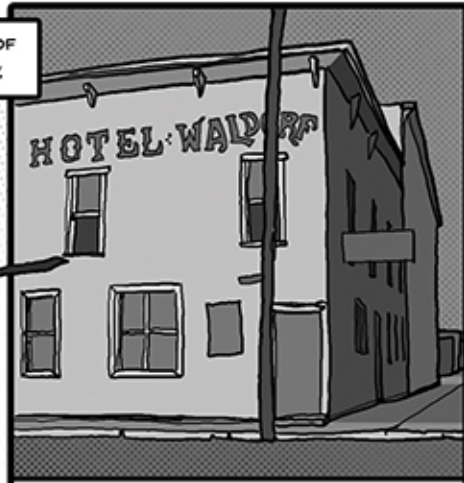
INSPECTOR HAIG AND SERGEANT KELLY CAME RUNNING DOWN THE BACK STAIRS. BUT THEY WERE TOO LATE. CAMPBELL WAS GONE, AND FRANK WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED.



FRANK DIED 10 MINUTES AFTER BEEN RUSHED TO THE ROYAL ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL.



CITY COUNCIL VOTED TO GIVE MARIA A MONTHLY PENSION OF \$50 IN HONOUR OF FRANK'S SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

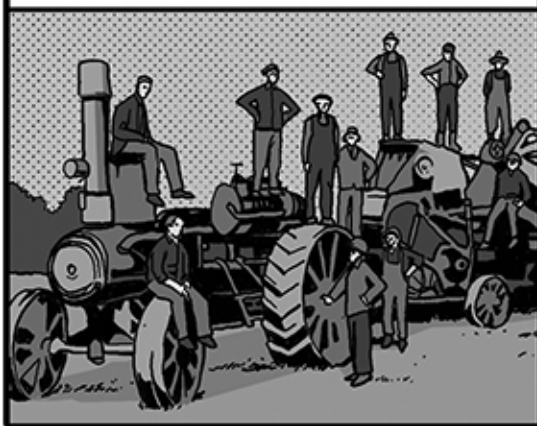


JOE CAMPBELL WAS FINALLY ARRESTED ON OCTOBER 23, 1918, AT A HOTEL IN LEDUC.



CAMPBELL REVEALED THAT AFTER SHOOTING FRANK, HE ESCAPED THE POLICE MANHUNT BY WALKING TO LEDUC.

ONCE THERE, HE FOUND WORK ON A THRESHING CREW.



POLICE SEARCHED CAMPBELL'S HOTEL ROOM, AND FOUND THE MURDER WEAPON AND THE STOLEN MONEY.

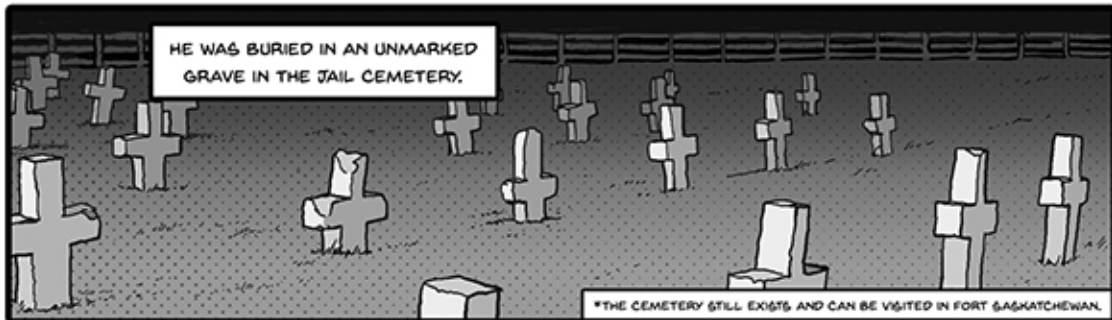


CAMPBELL'S TRIAL
LASTED ONLY TWO DAYS.

HE WAS FOUND GUILTY
OF THE MURDERS OF SAM ZAPPLER AND FRANK BEEVERS.

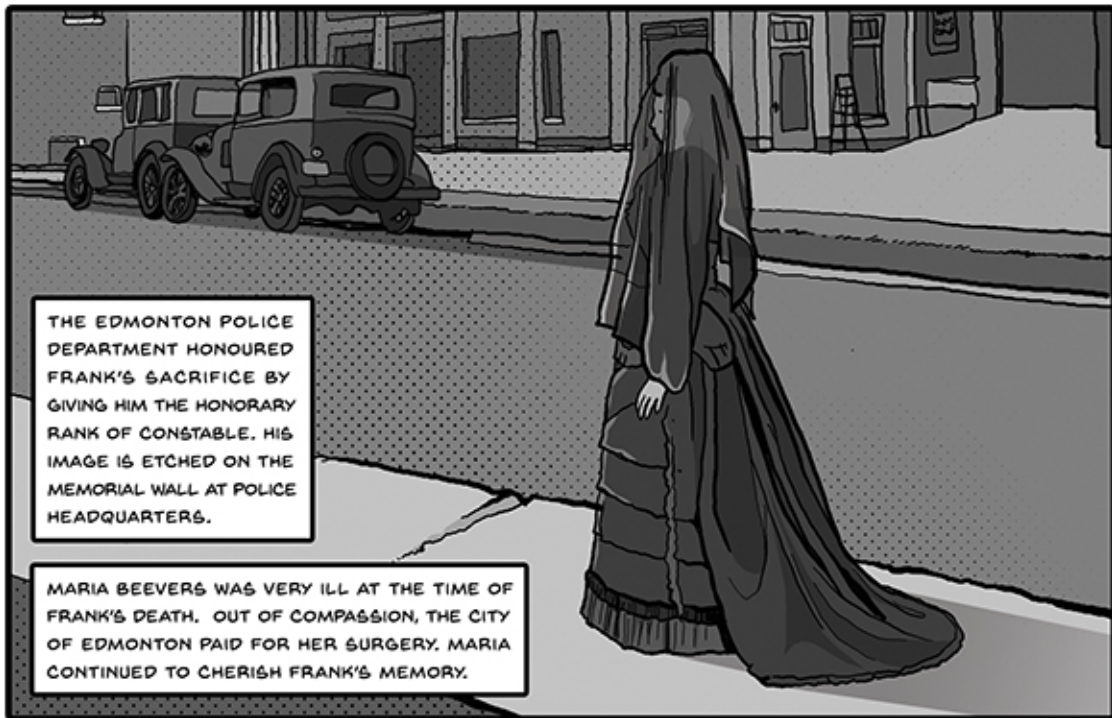


FOUR MONTHS LATER,
ON APRIL 23, 1919, JOE CAMPBELL
WAS EXECUTED AT THE PROVINCIAL
JAIL IN FORT SASKATCHEWAN.



HE WAS BURIED IN AN UNMARKED
GRAVE IN THE JAIL CEMETERY.

*THE CEMETERY STILL EXISTS AND CAN BE VISITED IN FORT SASKATCHEWAN.



THE EDMONTON POLICE
DEPARTMENT HONOURED
FRANK'S SACRIFICE BY
GIVING HIM THE HONORARY
RANK OF CONSTABLE. HIS
IMAGE IS ETCHED ON THE
MEMORIAL WALL AT POLICE
HEADQUARTERS.

MARIA BEEVERS WAS VERY ILL AT THE TIME OF
FRANK'S DEATH. OUT OF COMPASSION, THE CITY
OF EDMONTON PAID FOR HER SURGERY. MARIA
CONTINUED TO CHERISH FRANK'S MEMORY.

FRANK BEEVERS BEGAN OCTOBER 17, 1918 AS A JANITOR.
HE ENDED IT AS A HERO.



IN THE LAST MOMENTS OF HIS LIFE,
FRANK DEMONSTRATED COURAGE,
INTEGRITY, AND COMMITMENT TO
THE COMMUNITY, WHICH ARE THE
SAME VALUES EPS OFFICERS
ASPIRE TO A CENTURY LATER.



EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE
recognizes the sacrifice of

FRANK BEEVERS

1866 - 1918

First constable killed in the line of duty

BEEVERS

**LEGACY OF
HEROES**

"A hero is no braver than an ordinary man,
but he is brave five minutes longer.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



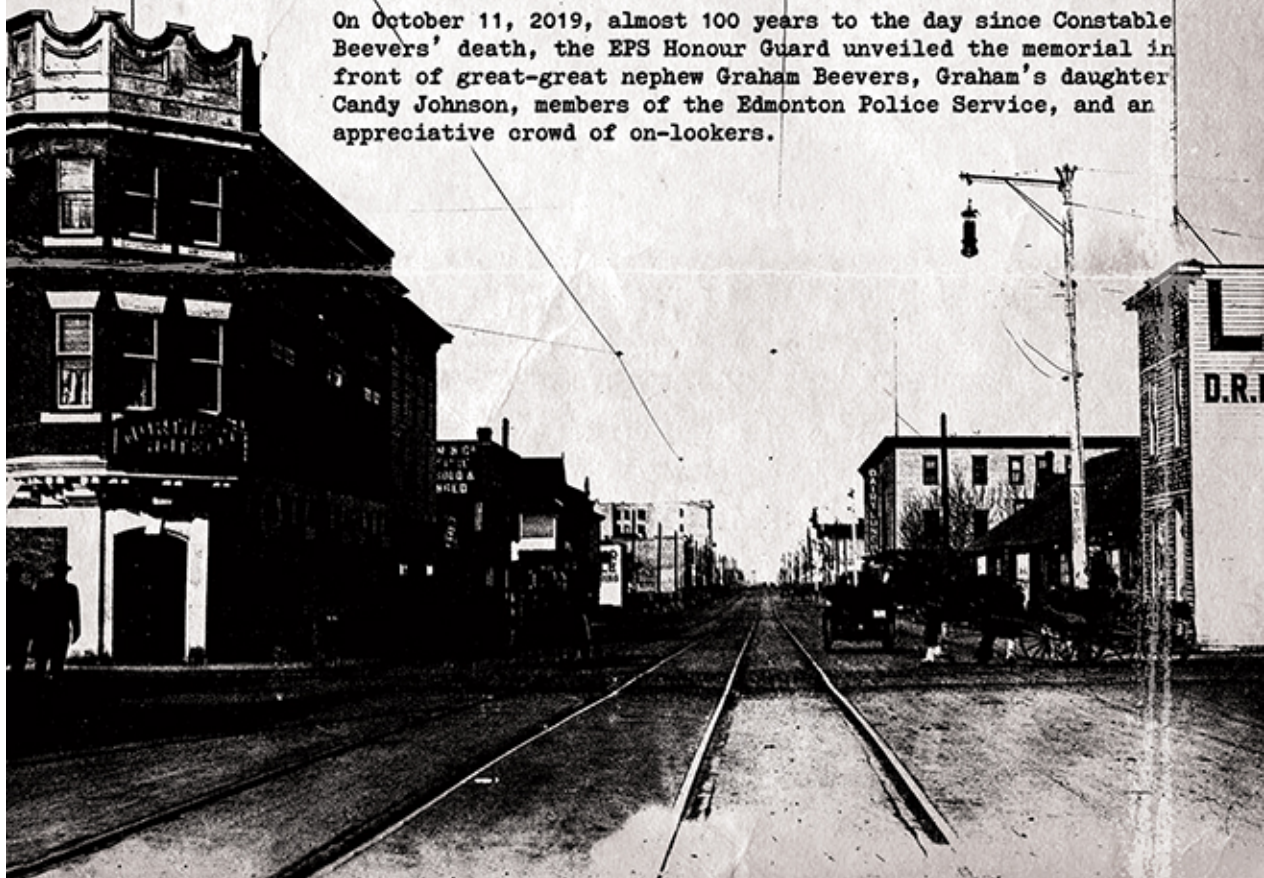
The Forgotten Grave

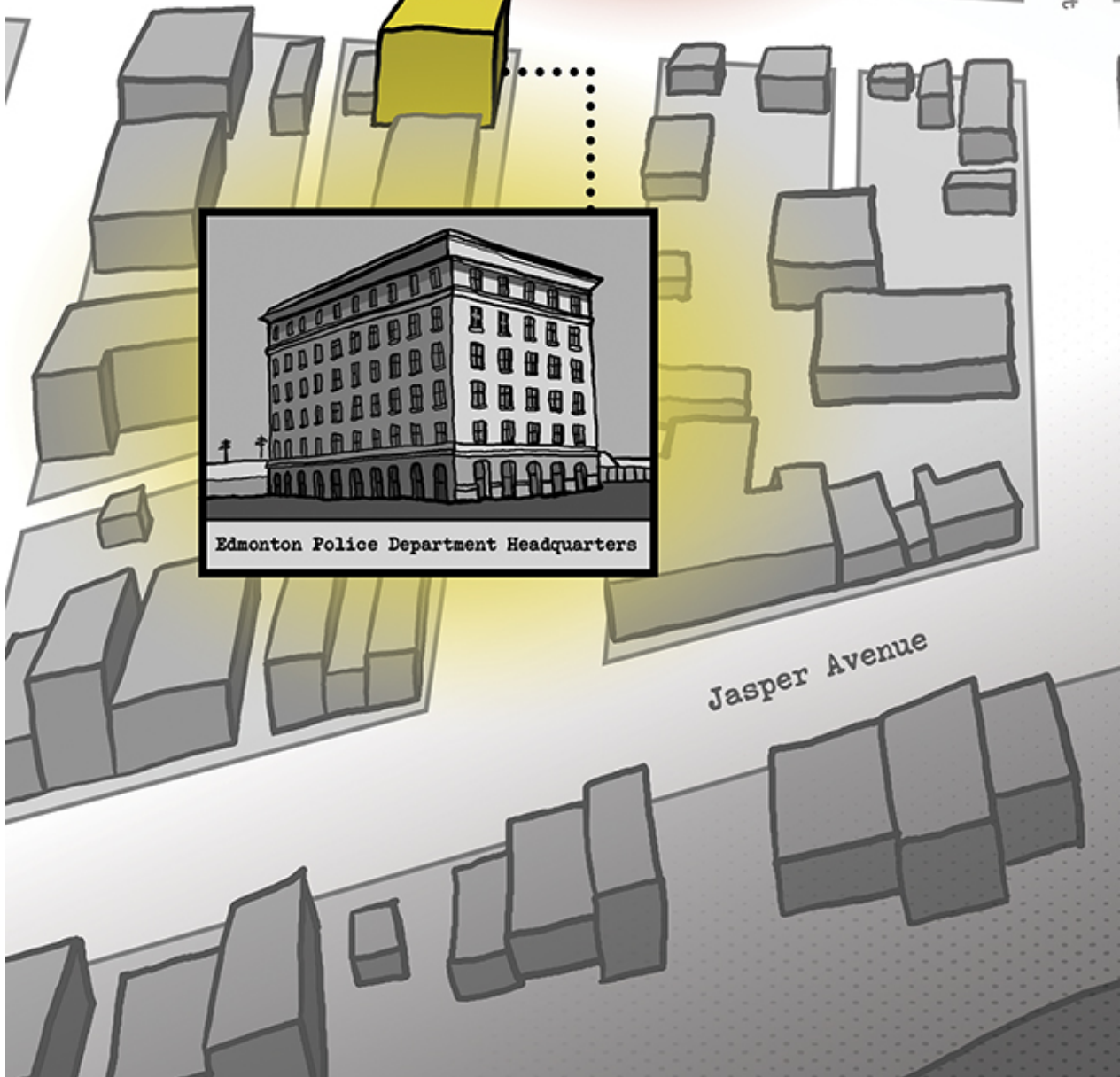
Local history enthusiast Sheila Thomas was surprised when she discovered Constable Frank Beevers' grave had no headstone. Sheila wondered why. She took her question to then Edmonton Historian Laureate Chang-Yen Phillips. Phillips contacted the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) in search of an answer.

Frank Beevers was buried in the Edmonton Cemetery on October 19, 1918. It is speculated a wood marker was installed on his grave. This was a common practice at the time since wood was more economical than stone. The wood weathered and, eventually, rotted away, leaving the grave unmarked.

Once Sheila and Chris made the EPS aware of the lack of a headstone, there was overwhelming support to provide a new monument for Constable Beevers' grave. Edmonton Granite Memorials generously donated the headstone. Genealogist Lyn Meehan contributed her time to track down members of the Beevers family in England.

On October 11, 2019, almost 100 years to the day since Constable Beevers' death, the EPS Honour Guard unveiled the memorial in front of great-great nephew Graham Beevers, Graham's daughter Candy Johnson, members of the Edmonton Police Service, and an appreciative crowd of on-lookers.





Edmonton

October 1918.

Rice Avenue - 101A Avenue





Special thanks to:
Shella Thomas, Lyn Meehan,
Terry Wright, Shirley Lowe,
Superintendent Debbie Jolly,
Staff Sergeant James Clover,
Sergeant Barb Clover,
Darren Zimmerman,
Chad Orydzuk, Larry Snidal,
Pauline Lancaster,
Fort Heritage Precinct Museum,
City of Fort Saskatchewan,
Provincial Archives of Alberta,
City of Edmonton Archives,
Edmonton Cemeteries,
Edmonton Granite Memorials.

