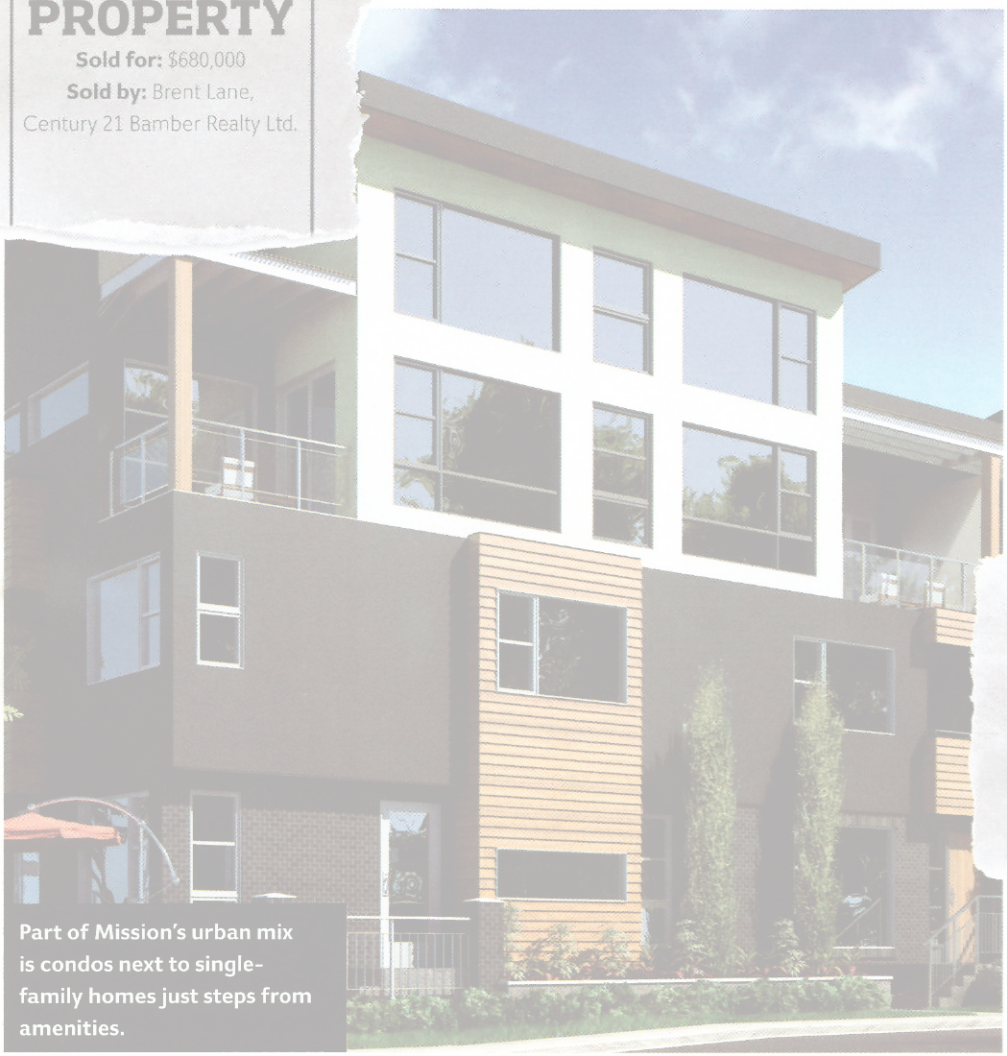
HOT PROPERTY

Sold for: $680,000
Sold by: Brent Lane, Century 21 Bamber Realty Ltd.



Part of Mission's urban mix is condos next to single-family homes just steps from amenities.

Where to buy a condo in an established community: Mission

Interestingly, several of the realty professionals we spoke to on this topic began by saying, "You'd think I'd say Eau Claire, but ..." Why the "but"? Truth is, what's bustling by day may not be as interesting once the last of the commuters has trickled out of the core on evenings and weekends.

Brent Lane says Mission has a persistent charm that lasts well beyond the end of the workday.

"Mission is really the only true urban community, with families, individuals and a nice commercial mix, too," says Lane. And he should know, it's the community he lives in — and can't say enough about. "Where else can you be 10 blocks from work, in an actual neighbourhood, and still be right in the city with nightlife, great restaurants, walking paths, the river and 17th Avenue around the corner?"

Though diminutive in size (it only encompasses about 13 blocks), Mission is a giant when it comes to amenities. Mission's main artery, 4th Street, is known as Calgary's "restaurant row" for the 30-plus restaurants serving up cuisine from all over the world, and it also offers trendy retail shopping, businesses and professional services. With all that in walking distance, the only thing you'll miss out on in Mission is time spent in gridlocked traffic.

Where to buy a condo in a new community: Quarry Park

When we think of new communities, we usually picture an ever-widening circle of suburbia springing up on what was once the edge of town. But, as an infill community, it's Quarry Park's central location that distinguishes it from the typical fringe-development model.

The riverfront community of Quarry Park built the amenities before the homes, so residents had everything they needed as soon as they moved in.

HOT PROPERTY

Sold for: $310,000
Sold by: Remington Development Corporation

Sandwiched between Glenmore and Barlow Trails, Quarry Park has great access to downtown, Calgary's south-side malls and our largest natural amenity, the Bow River. Built on a former gravel pit, the aptly named Quarry Park boasts more than 1.7 million square feet of office space, a European-style plaza and a 50-acre environmental reserve area with parks and pathways connecting throughout the community and to the Bow River Pathway system.

"We have these great natural amenities to work with, and we deliberately built the commercial and retail elements before developing the residential side," says Cody Clayton, president of Remington Development Corp. "When people moved in, they immediately had all the things you typically have to wait for in a new community."

Champagne by Remington is a four-storey riverfront residence with French countryside-inspired architecture and superior precast concrete construction. Units range from 790 square feet to nearly 1,700 square feet, offering several great options for those looking for a condo in a new area that will feel like home from the day you move in.