

## Filumena Losandro

On May 2, 1923, Filumena Losandro was the last woman hanged in Alberta.

Being in the wrong place and in the wrong company brought her life to an early end, even though Filumena Losandro was not a flashy gangster's moll, but a good Catholic girl, shy and deeply religious.

Only a child when her parents immigrated to the Crowsnest Pass, Filumena married Carlo Sanfidele who worked for Emilio Picariello. Their name

change (to Charles and Florence) reflected the discrimination that Italians faced. They suffered a troubled marriage, and the Picariello family took Filumena in as housekeeper and trusted family friend.

While her life has been much embroiled with speculation about a romantic relationship with Steve Picariello, we know little about Filumena except that she asked to go along with Emperor Pic (Emilio Picariello) on that fateful drive. She wore a green coat and a red tam o'shanter hat, and she was present when Constable Steve Lawson was shot.

The stuff of legend, her life has even become the subject of the award-winning opera *Filumena* by John Murrell and John Estacio.

Also Known As: Florence Lassandro  
Born: 1900 – Died: May 2, 1923



Mrs. Florence Lassandro (Filumena Losandro)  
Glenbow Archives NA-3282-2

## Additional Resources

- **Calgary Herald**  
<https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/restoration-of-historic-police-barracks-stirs-memories-of-notorious-murder-and-hanging>
- **The Canadian Encyclopedia**  
<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/calgary-operas-filumena>

## Our Collections

### Glenbow Museum

<https://www.glenbow.org>

### Glenbow Western Research Centre | Glenbow Library and Archives

<https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/glenbowlibraryandarchives>

### Glenbow Library and Archives | Digital Collection

<https://digitalcollections.ucalgary.ca/asset-management/2R340826N9XM?WS=PackagePres&Flat=1>