

Attachment 2

Statement of Significance

ATTACHMENT #2: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

328 Second Street

H.H. & Jane Mackenzie House

Description of Historic Place

The H. H. & Jane Mackenzie House is a two-storey, wood-framed house with a gabled roof and an enclosed front porch located in the middle of the western side of the 300 Block of Second Street in the Queen's Park neighbourhood of New Westminster, BC.

Heritage Values

Constructed in 1889, the H. H. & Jane Mackenzie House is associated with the late 1880s development boom in New Westminster, sparked in response to the announcement of the arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railway to the area.

It is further valued for its historical connection to two pioneer British Columbia families – the Mackenzie and Jennings families. For 50 years, it was home to Hugh Henry & Jane Mackenzie - H. H. Mackenzie's family were early pioneers in Clover Valley in Langley, and his wife Jane's family (née Jennings), were pioneers in Victoria in the 1860s. Built on land owned by Jane's mother, Mrs. A.M. Johnson, the house is valued for its local connections to the properties between it and the corner of 4th Avenue, where Mrs. Johnson ran a grocery store, later to be known as the Mackenzie Brothers Grocery. This house is remembered as a 50-year home to Hugh Henry and Jane Mackenzie where in 1939 they celebrated their 'at home' 50th anniversary and residence in the house, just shortly before they both passed away.

Physically, the H. H. & Jane Mackenzie House is important historically for the contribution it makes to the integrity of the Queen's Park neighbourhood, which encompasses one of the oldest collections of residential buildings in Western Canada. Its form, siting and architectural details provide an illustration of a typical, vernacular working-class family home of the Victorian-era. The house can also be seen as a being an embodiment of the social, cultural, and demographic changes of the neighbourhood over the last 130 years. Its shift from being the single-family home of a pioneer family for 50 years, to shorter-term accommodations and even its division into suites for a series of working-class couples and families, to becoming a valued and important heritage resource in the community is a direct reflection of the historical changes and developments of the Queen's Park neighbourhood since its earliest establishment.

Character-Defining Elements

- The elements that define the heritage character of 328 Second Street are:
- Continuous residential use since 1889
- Original location on Second Street in the Queen's Park neighbourhood
- Original siting in line with other historic homes on the block
- Residential design, scale and massing as expressed in its two storey height (plus basement)
- Steep pitch gable roof with overhang
- Full width front porch with hip roof (recently partially enclosed with glazing)

Original window openings on side elevations with projecting wood sills