50 BALMORAL STREET

WILLIAM F. HULL HOUSE

PREPARED BY PETERSON PROJECTS – FEBRUARY 2008
50 Balmoral Street
William F. Hull House

Date of Construction: 1905
Building Permit: 1559/1905
Architect: New, H.H.
Contractor: Pound, J.

ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST:

This large, unadorned single-family dwelling was built just after the turn-of-the-century in the midst of Winnipeg’s frenetic growth phase. Residential neighbourhoods grew quickly to supply the demand for modern housing as new citizens arrived daily from Eastern Canada and Europe.

The front (east) façade features a raised stone foundation and a plain door accessed atop a short flight of stairs. A transom and a small covering hood accent this element. A variety of window sizes and shapes are found on this elevation, all set in plain wood frames with lug sills. A hipped roof covers the main building and a front facing gable roof covers the southeast corner. A small hipped dormer is found on the front slope of the main roof.
The south elevation an attached chimney and large rectangular windows on both floors. The north elevation is similarly designed; both have side dormers with windows. The rear (west) façade includes a newer one-storey lean-to.

The 2½-storey brick building stands on its original site and appears to be in good structural condition. Alterations do not appear to have severely affected its originality, although a more ornate front porch may have been part of the original design.

Nothing is known about the architect of this home, H.H. New. He is only listed twice in the City of Winnipeg Building Permit Ledger Books, 1899-1926, this house on Balmoral Street and a large foundry for the North West Brass Company on Henry Avenue, completed in 1907. The contractor was J. Pound, who like New, saw very limited work in Winnipeg. Pound built a large house in 1909 and an apartment block in 1910 and then his name does not appear again.
HISTORICAL INTEREST:

William F. Hull was a senior partner in the law firm Robinson and Hull when he had this home built for his family. By 1920, he had formed Hull, Sparling and Sparling. Annie Hull (relationship unknown) owned the property until 1929 when she sold it to railway conductor G.A. Brunton and his wife Lillian M. This couple owned the home until 1945. Adam (cabinet maker) and Nellie Lysionok lived in the home in the 1950s; the Klaus family (Eduard and Emilie and Danella) owned and lived in the house from the 1960s to the 1990s.²
RECOMMENDATION TO HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE:

Under the Historical Buildings By-law, this building meets a number of important criteria:

- its historical importance - an example of a single-family dwelling built for an influential and well-to-do family in the early 20th century;
- its associations - its long-term connections to lawyer W.F. Hull;
- its design - N/A;
- its architect - H.H. New was a named local practitioner;
- its location - contributes greatly to its extensive historic streetscape; and
- its integrity - its main façades continue to display many of their original elements and design.
Endnotes: