**272 COCKBURN STREET NORTH**  
**KING GEORGE COURT APARTMENTS**

**Date of Construction:** 1913  
**Building Permit:** 2733/1913 (Plans at City Storage)  
**Architect:** Abramovitch, D.  
**Contractor:** Day labour

**ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST:**

Another of Winnipeg’s three-storey, modestly detailed apartment blocks of the 1900-1915 era.

The structure’s front (east) façade features a recessed main entrance and glazed porches on each floor. The dark brick cladding of the superstructure is accented with smooth-cut stone around windows and other openings and as belt courses. The flat roof also includes overhangs covered in red Spanish tile-like material. The sides and rear are plainly built with few details. Final cost of construction is listed at $100,000, expensive for the time.\(^1\)

The architect for this block was David Abramovitch, a local contractor/designer. Also spelt Abramovich, he designed and built only a few homes during his short career in Winnipeg (he is only found from 1907-1915 in the City of Winnipeg Building Permit Ledger Books).
His name is also found as the contractor for the Winnipeg Canoe Club clubhouse in River Park built in 1910.²

This block appears to be in good structural condition and sits on its original site. Exterior alterations have been few and of the minor variety.

HISTORICAL INTEREST:

The Levi Brothers, Alexander and John, local contractors, are listed as the original owners of the property. Other owners included Mary G. and F.E. Lee (1929-1940) and G.B. and Carson C. Rizer (1957). Tenants of the building have been extremely varied in terms of background, employment and length of stay.³
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 the type of multi-tenant block built throughout the City in the pre-World War I era;
- its associations- N/A;
- its design- an excellent example of a modestly designed and detailed multi-tenant facility;
- its architect- D. Abramovitch was a known practitioner;
- its location- defines an important intersection and contributes to the historic streetscapes; and
- its integrity- its main façades continue to display many of their original elements and design.

ENDNOTES:

1 City of Winnipeg Building Permit, #2733/1913.
2 City of Winnipeg Building Permit Ledger Books, 1899-1926.