



293 ST. JOHN'S AVENUE

WILLIAM H. REID HOUSE

PREPARED BY PETERSON PROJECTS – DECEMBER 2009



293 ST. JOHN'S AVENUE WILLIAM H. REID HOUSE

Date of Construction: 1903

Building Permit: 1165/1903

Architect: Reid, William H. (owner)

Contractor: Reid, William H. (owner)

ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST:

Built on the northwest corner Charles Street in the St. John's neighbourhood of West Kildonan, this 2½-storey house has stood for over 100 years.

The front (south) façade features a projecting section on its west end finished by a front-facing gable end embellished with ornamental shingles and carved wood elements. A two-storey open deck, replacing an original element, features metal railing on the upper portion. The hipped roof is interrupted by cross-gables and several dormer windows. The rear (north) façade includes a narrow, 2-storey addition.

The original City of Winnipeg Building Permit describes a brick-veneer exterior cladding which has since been completely covered by stucco.



Front (south) and west façades, 2009

The building stands on its original site and appears to be in good structural condition. The stuccoing of the exterior and the replacement of the front porch have negatively affected the originality of the exterior.

Little is known about the building's owner/architect/contractor William H. Reid's professional career. He is listed in the City of Winnipeg Building Permit Ledger Books, 1899-1926 only from 1903 to 1908 and only for seven houses all in this St. John's area.

HISTORICAL INTEREST:

Local contractor William H. Reid built this home but only stayed in it until he built a larger house for his family on the other side of Charles Street in 1906. The next occupant of this house was Emma Good, however, she too remained for only a short time and George E. Brown, proprietor of the People's Meat Market lived in the home from 1913 into the early 1920s. Randolph D. Bruce, owner of St. John's Pharmacy is listed in the house in 1925 and the residence was duplexed in the 1940s.¹



Rear (north) façade, 2009

RECOMMENDATION TO HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE:

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

- its historical importance- a good example of a well-made, modestly-designed single-family dwellings built in one of Winnipeg's growing residential neighbourhoods in the pre-World War I era;
- its associations- N/A;
- its design- N/A;
- its architect- W.H. Reid was the named designer;
- its location- defines an important intersection and contributes greatly to the historic streetscape in its neighbourhood; and
- its integrity- its main façades continue to display some of their original elements and design.



Front (south) façade, 1978

ENDNOTES:

- ¹ City of Winnipeg Assessment Rolls, Roll No. 14042161000, 1910-1990; and Henderson's Directory, 1910-1970.