



154 RUE DUMOULIN DR. CHARLES LAMBERT HOUSE

Date of Construction: ca.1900

Building Permit: N/A

Architect: Unknown

Contractor: Unknown

ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST:

This home has been part of the building stock of St. Boniface for over 100 years and is one of many large, well-built single-family homes in the community.

This clay-brick veneer house rests on a stone foundation, is 2½-storeys in height and measures approximately 6.6 x 13.4 metres.¹ The front (north) façade features a projecting central area with windows on both floor and the raised basement. An oval window with stone keystone and a band of ornamental brickwork between the first and second storey windows are the only detailing. The area is topped by a gable end with heavy overhanging eaves and a newer deck at the window. The west end of the front holds the entrance and a small, newer wood porch that replaced the original wrap around element. The building is topped by a modest gable roof.



Front (north) and west façades, 2009

The building is a reduced example of a Queen Anne style structure.² The style borrowed heavily from English architecture of the 15th century, blending classical and medieval motifs into a picturesque form. Asymmetry was achieved through combinations of porches, bay windows, projecting wings, balconies and other devices. Roofs were usually irregular and complex, with dormers, gables and ornamental chimneys. Variations in materials and colours were also used to animate the façades. Given this freedom of design, however, accomplished designers were still able to create balance in the structures, offsetting busy surfaces by placing calmer elements nearby.³

The popularity of the style in Canada began in the 1880s and lasted until World War I. On the prairies, pre-1900 examples of the style were not numerous because large-scale development occurred after the turn of the century. Post-1900, it was quickly adopted for use in the growing residential districts, especially the more affluent neighbourhoods where its showy qualities were greatly admired.

The home stands on its original site and appears to be in good structural condition. The major alteration to the building is the replacement of the original front porch.



Front (north) and east façades, 2009

HISTORICAL INTEREST:

Dr. Charles Lambert was the son of Dr. Joseph Lambert, who was one of St. Boniface's earliest doctors and had run his practice out of his house, which was next door at 158 Rue Dumoulin (demolished). Dr. Charles Lambert also ran his medical practice out of his home, which was owned and occupied by his daughter into the 1980s.⁴

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 turn-of-the-century single-family home built for a professional man of above average means and his family in St. Boniface;
- its associations- its long-term connections to early St. Boniface physician Dr. C. Lambert;
- its design- a reduced example of the Queen Anne style;
- its architect- N/A;
- its location- contributes to its historic streetscape; and
- its integrity- its main façades continue to display some of their original elements and design.



Front (north) façade, 1978

ENDNOTES:

- ¹ S. Grover, "Old St. Boniface: A Study of its Urban Growth and Historic Built Environment," report for the City of Winnipeg Historical Buildings Committee, 1991, p. 86.
- ² Identifying Architectural Styles in Manitoba (Winnipeg: Department of Culture, Heritage and Citizenship, 1991), p. 17; L. Maitland et al., A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles (Peterborough: Broadview Press, 1992), p. 102; and L. Maitland, The Queen Anne Revival Style in Canadian Architecture (Ottawa: Environment Canada, 1990), p. 64.
- ³ L. Maitland, op. cit., p. 98.
- ⁴ City of Winnipeg Assessment Rolls, Roll No. 06-060300000, 1910-1990; and S. Grover, op. cit., p. 86.