



DAME ELIZA CHENIER RESIDENCES

CITY OF EDMONTON
HISTORIC RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Edmonton

9926 - 112 STREET NW

DESCRIPTION OF HISTORICAL PLACE

The Dame Eliza Chenier Residences, built in 1911, is a two storey home with a hipped roof, clapboard siding, full-length front porch and a central balcony on the second floor. It is located on a single city lot in the Edmonton community of Wihkwentowin and is part of a contiguous group of similar homes built in the early 1900s.

HERITAGE VALUE

The Dame Eliza Chenier Residences is significant for its association with the theme of early residential development in the Edmonton neighbourhood of Wihkwentowin and its early foursquare duplex design.

Built in 1911 as a duplex by Eliza Chenier, the Dame Eliza Chenier Residences is valued as an example of working-class residential development in Wihkwentowin. One of Edmonton's earliest communities, Wihkwentowin had a diverse population, and was home to people of a range of socio-economic backgrounds.

The Dame Eliza Chenier Residences is representative of the more modest housing developments for working-class residents in Wihkwentowin. The easily built simple frame design, inexpensive wood cladding and sparing use of brick made this home an affordable option for residents of modest means. Furthermore, the multi-dwelling design was more typical of housing for lower income Edmontonians, differentiating it from the nearby brick mansions on Victoria (100th) Avenue, and contributing to the heterogeneous character of the neighbourhood.

The Dame Eliza Chenier Residences is significant as an early duplex with a foursquare design. The building was constructed using elements characteristic of foursquare homes, including a low hipped roof and hipped roof dormers, clapboard siding and trim boards, and full-length open front porch with square tapered columns and solid balustrade. The second-storey corner windows are an unusual, though particularly striking element. While multiple foursquare residences remain in Edmonton, this is a rare surviving example of a foursquare duplex.

The houses on this street form one of the few remaining contiguous streetscapes of older homes in Wihkwentowin, along with the adjoining heritage homes from the same era on 99 Avenue. These multifamily and less opulent residences have become relatively rare in the Wihkwentowin context and help retain a tie to the original middle-class and working-class roots of the area.





CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

Key character defining elements of the Dame Eliza Chenier Residences include:

- + symmetrical proportions;
- + hipped roof with bell cast flared edges;
- + timber clapboard siding and timber detailing;
- + flaring of clapboard siding between first and second floors;
- + full length ground floor veranda and smaller raised porch above with a gable ended roof, both with simple flared columns supporting solid entablatures and boxed eaves. The lower porch is enclosed with timber clapboard and the upper porch has balustrade;
- + boxed eaves with a simple frieze board;
- + central roof dormer with hipped roof, clad in clapboard with boxed eaves and double windows with decorative panes;
- + brick at basement level separated from the siding above by a timber belt course;
- + timber paneled front doors with glazing and a smaller window (9 panes) set to the inside of the door;
- + timber panelled doors on upper balcony;
- + brick chimney with corbelled capping;
- + openings which feature wide wooden casing with decorative crowns;
- + sash windows (1 over 1) on the upper floor;
- + 2 sash windows (2 over 2) and a multipaned picture window on the main floor;
- + interior timber trim and moulding;
- + interior staircase between the first and second floors with wooden balustrade and newel post; and
- + light well above stairs.

Designated as a Municipal Historic Resource through Bylaw 14664 in November 2007.



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