

2564 Graham Street,
Victoria, BC
V8T 3Y7

August 23rd, 2020

Dear Mayor and Council,

Attached please find an application for the Heritage designation of the house at 2564 Graham Street. It is a nice house that has been pretty well maintained over its long life. It has undergone some changes: the “gingerbread” decoration on the front porch and under the eaves was removed many years ago, as was the front transom window (which has since been replaced); dormers were added on the north as south sides of the roof in the 1980s; the rear of the house was extended in the 1990s. Except for the lack of gingerbread, from the street the house looks very like the working class cottage that was built for John and Mary Latham. It is one of a small group of working class homes built after the streetcar line extended to Douglas and Hillside – most of the houses on the north half of the block of Graham between Bay and Kings are the original buildings.

I have lived here since 1983 and have tried to preserve the integrity of this tiny piece of Victoria’s history. Designation would enable me to apply for funding that would help replace the missing details. When we scraped the woodwork prior to painting in 1984, we could see the outlines of the missing decorations – it would be wonderful to see them re-instated. Interest in this neighbourhood is likely to increase with the completion of the bicycle corridor in the next year. Heritage designation of this house would help ensure that the special character of this area is preserved.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Colleen Wilson