

611 FOUL BAY

Background

The last home Samuel Maclure designed; It was designed after he? died October 28, 1930.

- . Home was built for the William P.D. Pemberton's and is currently occupied by relatives.
- . Style of house is Tudor Revival.
- . The house was not built exactly to the plans.
- . The only area rennovated in the house is the bathroom in the front entrance.
- . The wood on walls throughout is fir.
- . The staircase is not a typical Maclure; could be attributed to his partner Lort.
- . The stained glass is from the local firm O'Neils.
- . Lighting - all ceiling fixtures have been replaced but the wall sconces are all original.
- . The house and garden were designed for the vista of the ocean view - house rotated on lot to face view not Foul Bay Road.

Study

- . One bookcase has been removed that is like the others and one is freestanding, the others are built-in.
- . Fireplace is faux marble on cement board, which was more expensive than real marble when installed. Has a german silver insert.
- . Oak flooring in all rooms downstairs except for fir floors in kitchen and back hallway.
- . Maclure actually laid out the plan of the garden.
- . Maclure climbed a stepladder to visualize what the view would be like from the second floor.

Living Room

- . Has original french sconces.
- . The plaster work is a Maclure trademark.
- . Georgian fireplace.
- . The wooden coving was designed onsite by Maclure.
- . Note the detail on the tops of the fireplace columns.

Sun Room

- . Original.
- . The floor was originally supposed to be tile to grow geraniums.
- . Original light sconces with chain pull.

Dining Room

- . Sconces are made from cedar painted gold.
- . The heating has been changed, freestanding radiators removed.
- . The chandelier is not original.
- . There is 3/4" plaster on all ceilings; there are expansion marks now showing.

Pantry

- . Has old wooden drainboard, although the sink has been taken out.
- . Original wood drawers and cupboards.
- . The silence door has been removed but the hinge pin remains.

Kitchen

- . Eating nook was on original plan.
- . A renovation is planned in the kitchen including a solarium where the greenhouse now is. The addition will be sympathetic.
- . The greenhouse in the backyard is original.
- . Pemberton planted the azaleas and rhododendrums.
- . Garden is 9/10 of an acre.
- . The walls in the house are 6" thick.
- . Kitchen floor is fir.
- . The old elm kitchen cabinet is a family heirloom from Quebec.

Servants Staircase

- . Sideporch for deliveries made by tradespersons.
- . Rooms in basement for 2 Chinese and the maids bedroom is above the kitchen where the office is now.

UPSTAIRS

Master Bedroom

- . Balcony.
- . Original fireplace - a coal burner.
- . Two sets of drawers built-in - one removed and replaced by a cupboard, typical MacClure built-ins.
- . Columns on fireplace replicate ones in living room.
- . Sconces are original.

Sitting Room

- . Original sconces.
- . Fireplace, broken tiles, originally from O'Neils Tile and Glass.
- . The built-ins and fireplaces were not indicated on original plans.

Bathroom

- . Original tile floor.
- . Painted plaster walls.
- . Original fixtures.
- . Access from both hallway and sitting room.

Guest Bedrooms

- . One has fireplace.
- . One has balcony.

Office

- . Originally the maids room.
- . Trunk cupboard on landing.
- . Door to attic - undeveloped.
- . Original paint scheme outside was dark green where the brown now is, original specs stated fire engine red shingles.
- . Original paint scheme is retained inside.
- . The original lot included 2 houses to the south and one to east.
- . The lot was subdivided in 1950.

Built in 1921 by Wood Foyster Construction Ltd., 724 Linden Avenue is in the Craftsman Arts and Crafts idiom. It is stuccoed, with half-timbering in the gables, including that of the front verandah. Details of the style include exposed rafter ends and large brackets supporting the wide overhanging eaves. The front verandah roof is held up by squared columns. There is a massive stuccoed chimney on the south side and an inglenook bay in the living room.

The original owner was Frederick J. Williams, who was born in Victoria and died in 1937. A druggist, he owned his business for over thirty years, first in the Three Sisters Block, then at 1023 Government Street. He lived with his family at 724 Linden until 1930, when he moved into his new home directly behind, at 1161 McClure Street.

The second owner, Berkley H. Anderson, was a retired City licence inspector when he moved into the house, where he lived until 1965. His widow remained here until 1976.

1770 Rockland Avenue was designed in 1905 by Samuel Maclure in the Tudor Revival style he loved, and is one of his most impressive designs. It has a random ashlar first floor, timber-and-rough-cast upper floors and a massive hipped roof which breaks into projecting gables on all sides. Tall, handsome chimneys dominate the skyline. It is still situated in its original Edwardian garden, which has been undergoing restoration by the present owners, who are only the second since the house was built.

First owner of this house was William Biggerstaff Wilson, one of the five sons of pioneer Victoria clothier William Wilson. (Biggerstaff was named after a family friend in London who bequeathed his fortune to the son in return for the perpetuation of his name.) W. Biggerstaff Wilson founded an ice and cold-storage business on Store Street in 1901, and in 1909 built a cold-storage plant on Herald Street. He was father of Victoria Mayor Richard Biggerstaff (Dick) Wilson.

611 Foul Bay Road was designed in 1928 by Samuel Maclure. It was one of his last commissions. It is built in the Tudor Revival style most favoured by Maclure. The half-timbered structure is covered with a massive hipped roof. It has a gabled front entrance porch and a two-storey gabled bay on the south side, with a sleeping porch in the upper section. The house was angled on the lot to take best advantage of the sunlight.

The house was built for William P. D. Pemberton, who lived in it from 1929 to 1950. Pemberton was the son of Joseph Despard Pemberton, Surveyor-General of B.C., who was one of the first landowners in Oak Bay. William was president of National Motors, a Ford dealership which was located at 819 Yates Street.

At the time of the tour, an extensive addition will be under construction at the rear. It will be in keeping with the original character, style and massing of the house, and the plans will be on display.

1566 Hampshire Road was built in 1916 to the designs of architect Charles Elwood Watkins in the Tudor Revival style made popular in Victoria by Maclure. Note the massive stone main floor, with the stone continuing out along the front steps to the street. The second storey is stucco and half-timbering. The roof is hipped, with a large central gable at the front above an upper storey and attic jettied out over a gracefully curving bay window at the centre of the main level.

This impressive home was built Luney Brothers Construction, a major Victoria company which started in 1885 and continues to this day. This was the home of Walter Luney, one of the two principals of the company. (His brother William's house at 630 Foul Bay Road was also designed by Watkins around the same time.) The Luney brothers built many of Victoria's important buildings, including the Crystal Garden, several banks, schools, Dockyard buildings and the CNR railway line.

1936 Hampshire Road was built in 1892 in a severe late Victorian Queen Anne style. It is now the second oldest house in Oak Bay still in near-original condition. The architect was likely Samuel Cyrus Burris, a business partner of the original owner, William Herbert Bainbridge, a land and mining agent. Together they owned the B.C. Pottery and Terracotta Company. Decorative terracotta panels made by the company are found in the chimneys and top roof gables of the house, and the fire brick in the six fireplaces is also their product.

Bainbridge was bankrupted in the 1893 recession, so the house and contents were auctioned in 1894. In 1900, architect William Henderson moved in. He was the Dominion Government Architect for B.C. and the first elected Reeve for Oak Bay. He shingled over the original clapboard exterior and added a conservatory.

In 1912 the house passed into the hands of the William Alder family. They stayed in the house until 1960. The house was then rented out until 1983, when a demolition permit was obtained. The present owners bought the house six months later and have since been involved in a laborious ongoing restoration.

We are most fortunate to be able to present this fine house on our tour as a work-in-progress, with interpretive material on hand to document the restoration.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

HAMPSHIRE ROAD WILL BE CLOSED AT OAK BAY AVENUE ON THE DAY OF THE TOUR. ACCESS TO 1566 HAMPSHIRE CAN BE GAINED FROM THE NORTH VIA CRANMORE, OR FROM THE AVENUE VIA WILMOT AND THEATRE ROW.

DON'T GET A TICKET! PLEASE OBEY THE PARKING REGULATIONS AS POSTED.