

## **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value**

### **Description of Property – 73 Britannia Road**

73 Britannia Road is a side gabled one and a half storey vernacular style residence located on the east side of Britannia Road south of Cassels Street in Britannia Village, Ottawa.

### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

73 Britannia Road has design value as a representative example of Britannia's vernacular style cottage built during Britannia's peak as summer resort from 1900-1914. Constructed circa 1912, the cottage exemplifies the vernacular cottage with its simple square form, side gable, typical massing at one and a half storeys, and horizontal lap siding. The Craftsman style elements including the prominent central gable dormer and wide verandah with thick columns and cobblestone bases were added around 1922, satisfies Britannia's vernacular style, which prominently feature verandahs and decorative ornamentation around the verandah and roof.

73 Britannia Road has associative value due to its connection to the Murphy family, who significantly contributed to the Britannia community. From 1910 to 1912, the property was owned by Edward E. Murphy, son of William Murphy, and co-owner of the Murphy Brother's contracting and bricklaying. Edward was born and raised in Britannia, and he built 127 Britannia Road and 175 Britannia Road, both Part IV designated houses in Britannia, along with other houses and buildings around Britannia and Ottawa. The house was built around 1912 and until 1917, Edward's sister, Emma Murphy and her husband James Edmund Hodgins, owned and resided at 73 Britannia Road. Emma was highly involved in her community, volunteering throughout her life with local organizations.

73 Britannia Road contributes to the early cottage character of Britannia as a late nineteenth and early twentieth century summer resort. Built circa 1912, the architectural features of the house, retention of its original form, use of natural

materials, along with the lot's mature trees backing onto Mud Luke, and the original setback, contribute to supporting Britannia's early cottage stock.

The building contributes to the historical context of Britannia as one of Ottawa's most popular summer resorts. The period between the Ottawa Electric Company's streetcar extension to Britannia Bay in May 1900 and in turn the opening of Britannia Park, to the advent of the First World War, demarcate Britannia's golden period. 73 Britannia Road was built during this flourishing period as a year-round residence, therefore the homeowners from 1912 onwards likely used the streetcars to commute for work in the city. Therefore 73 Britannia Road exemplifies how the streetcars brought about the increased development of Britannia as a suburb, and the shift to constructing year-round residences from past trends of permanent homes converted from seasonal cottages.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the heritage value of 73 Britannia Road as a representative example of Britannia's vernacular cottage built during its peak as a summer resort include:

- Simple, square form
- Side gable roof with central gabled dormer
- One and a half storeys
- Wood horizontal lap siding
- Craftsman style influences with its prominent wood verandah with decorative gable ornamentation providing a symmetrical façade with thick columns, square capitals and bases, and slightly tapered cobblestone piers

Key attributes that demonstrate 73 Britannia Road contextual value are:

- The property location on the east side of Britannia demonstrates the early growth and development of Britannia as a cottage community.

The interior of the building and any additions or outbuildings are excluded in this designation.