

1942

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
appr'd. by B. C. P. & P. Cttee. Aug. 10.

27-E-6 P. 17 17

Minutes

September 1st, 1942.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE RE JAPANESE PROPERTY
POWELL STREET.

Present: Alderman Buscombe (Chairman), City Solicitor,
City Electrician, Building Inspector and Medical
Health Officer.

Also Present: G.W. McPherson (Authorized Deputy of the
Secretary of State and/or the Custodian).

The Special Committee met to consider the question
of the property on Powell Street owned by Japanese.

Mr. McPherson, Deputy for the Custodian of Enemy
Property, addressed the Committee and explained the operation
of his department in respect to property belonging to Japanese,
and then suggested, to avoid taking any action which would
conflict with the steps now being taken by the B.C. Security
Commission to evacuate Japanese, that any action contemplated
by the City with respect to the condition of premises owned by
Japanese, be held in abeyance until the evacuation has been
completed.

RESOLVED, in view of the suggestion by the Deputy
for the Custodian of Enemy Property, that the meeting adjourn
to the call of the Chair without making any recommendations at
this time.

The Committee then adjourned.

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
Sept. 1. by B. C. & P. C. C. C. Aug. 10.

CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN

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Aug 2 1 1942

REFERRED TO

509-10 Royal Bank Building,
Vancouver, B.C.
August 20th, 1942.

*Mr. Harden
please arrange
with chairman*

ADDRESS ALL
COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE
CUSTODIAN'S OFFICE

PLEASE REFER
TO

FILE NO.

Try Rec. 6131

Fred Howlett, J.P., Esq.,
City Clerk's Office,
City Hall,
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Re: Japanese Property - Powell Street

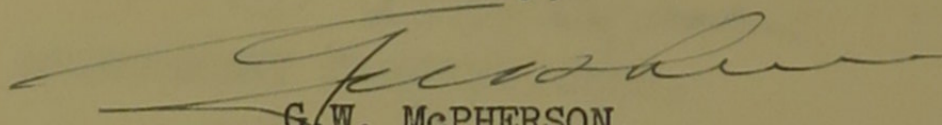
Dear Sir:

I have your letter of August 18th and am pleased to
note the steps that have been taken by your Council.

I will be available almost any day next week to see the
Special Committee, if they are ready to discuss the
matter, but would suggest that you arrange a definite
appointment with my secretary, since, as you can well
imagine, my days are pretty well taken up with meetings.

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,



G.W. McPHERSON.

Authorized Deputy of the Secretary
of State and/ or the Custodian.

GWMcP:HW.

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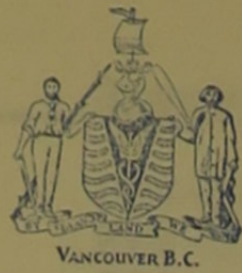
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sep

Assessment Department,
August 27th, 1942.

| | |
|---------|----|
| Jap | 38 |
| Chinese | 1 |
| White | 17 |
| Total | 56 |

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
Sept. 4 by B. C. & P. Cttee. Aug. 10.



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J.C. re Japanese Property

Assessment OFFICE

CITY HALL

August 27th, 1942.

Alderman George Buscombe,
City Hall,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

As requested please find enclosed a list of
properties on Powell Street, showing street addresses
and whether owned by Japanese or otherwise.

Yours faithfully,

C. GREEN,

Per:

DMcQueen

ASSESSMENT COMMISSIONER.

McQ:GS
Encl.

17

477

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Assessment Department,
August 27th, 1942.

| | |
|---------|----|
| Jap | 38 |
| Chinese | 1 |
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| Total | 56 |

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
septa. by B.C. & P. Cttee. Aug. 10.

Both sides of Powell Street for three blocks east of Main St.

| D.L. | Blk. | Lot. | Street Number | Ownership |
|------|------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 196 | 4 | 9-10 | 201-13 Powell St. | Jap. |
| | | 11 | 229-31 Powell St. | Jap |
| | | 12-13 | 235-237 $\frac{1}{2}$ " | Jap |
| | | 14-15 | 241-51 " | Jap |
| | | 16 | 253 " | Jap |
| | | 17 | 259-61 $\frac{1}{2}$ " | White |
| | | 18 | 267-69 " | Jap |
| 196 | 5 | 1 | 210-18 Powell St. | Jap |
| | | 27 | 226 " | White |
| | | 26 | 230-34 " | White |
| | | 25 | 236-8 " | Jap |
| | | 24 | 242-6 " | Jap |
| | | 23 | 250 " | Jap |
| | | 21-22 | 252-62 " | Chinese |
| | | 20 | 266-70 " | Jap |
| 196 | 40 | 40-42S36' | 301-11 Powell St. | Jap |
| | | 38-39 | 315-23 " | White |
| | | 37 | 329 " | White |
| | | 36 | 331 " | Jap. |
| | | 35 | 333 " | Jap |
| | | 34 | 337 " | Jap |
| | | 33 | 341 " | Jap |
| | | 32 | 347 " | Jap |
| | | 31 | 351-3 " | Jap |
| | | 30 | 355-7 " | Jap. |
| | | 29 | 359 " | Jap |
| | | 28-27 | 365-7 " | Jap |
| | | 25-26 | 377-9 " | White |
| | | 24 | 393 " | White |
| | | 22-23 | 395-7 " | White |
| 196 | 55 | 1-2 | 300 Powell St. | White |
| | | 3 | 308-14 " | Jap |
| | | 4 | 316-18 " | Jap |
| | | 5 | 324 " | Jap |
| | | 6 | 326-8 " | White |
| | | 7 | 332 " | White |
| | | 8 | 338 " | Jap |
| | | 9-11 | 344-56 " | White |
| | | 12-13 | 358-62 " | Jap |
| | | 14 | 368 " | White |
| | | 15-16 | 374-8 " | Jap |
| | | 17 | 382 " | White |
| | | 18-20 | 390-6 " | Jap |
| 196 | 41 | 30-32 | 401-15 Powell St. | White |
| | | 29 | 417-21 " | Jap |
| | | 28 | 423 " | White |
| | | 27 | 427 " | Jap |
| | | 26 | 431-5 " | White |
| | | 24-25 | 437-41 " | Jap. |
| | | 23 | 451 " | Jap |
| | | 22 | 453 " | Jap |
| | | 21 | 455-7 " | Jap |
| | | 20 | 463 " | Jap |
| | | 19 | 467-9 " | Jap |
| | | 18 | 473 " | Jap |
| | | 17 | 477 " | Jap |

Jap 38
Chinese 1
White 17
Total 56

Assessment Department,
August 27th, 1942.

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
Capt. by B. C. & P. C. C. Aug. 10.

1942

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CITY OF VANCOUVER



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REFERRED TO

Refd to the

TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION

309 ROYAL TRUST BUILDING - 626 WEST PENDER STREET

VANCOUVER, B. C.
CANADA

6th August, 1942.

His Worship the Mayor and Council,
City Hall,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sirs:

At a meeting of the Commission held today, attention was drawn to the condition of properties recently occupied by Japanese, and in some cases still occupied by Japanese.

The members of the Commission feel that many of these properties are in a serious state of disrepair, and that plumbing and other facilities are entirely insufficient. It is believed that the present time is opportune for improving these conditions, and the Commission urges that every effort be made to do so.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

F. M. Ross

(Miss) F. M. Ross,
Acting-Secretary.

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
copyd. by B. C. & P. C. C. Aug. 10.

5
J. J. Howard
July 20.
K. J. advised
ADDRESS ALL
COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE
CUSTODIAN'S OFFICE
PLEASE REFER
TO
FILE NO.

CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAN

RECEIVED
BY CITY CLERK

Enl. JUL 1 8 1942

REFERRED TO
Sldg. Cmtee
(hand to R.T.)

501 Royal Bank Bldg.,
Vancouver, B. C.
July 17th, 1942

The City Clerk,
City Hall,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

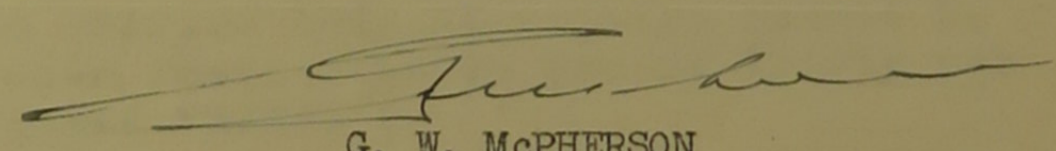
Re: Japanese Property

Newspaper reports indicate that the City Council is interested in the future of Japanese owned property in this City, with particular reference to the Powell Street area.

The Custodian, being in charge of the administration of Japanese evacuee property, is anxious to make such arrangements as may be desirable in the interests of all parties concerned in this matter.

I would be pleased to discuss the future of Powell Street with any representatives of the City that care to get in touch with me concerning this matter. The co-operation of the City and the City Officials in the past, in so far as the Custodian's work is concerned, is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,



G. W. McPHERSON
Authorized Deputy of the Secretary of State
and/or Custodian

GWMcP/CM

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
appr'd. by B. C. & P. Cttee. Aug. 10.

7A

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
(INCLUDING PLUMBING)

ANDREW HAGGART
BUILDING INSPECTOR



RECEIVED TO
274/5/1942
BY CITY CLERK

RECEIVED
TELEPHONE FAIRMONT 2711

VANCOUVER, B. C.

22nd July, 1942.

Alderman Geo. Buscombe,
City Hall.

Dear Sir:

Re Japanese District.

With reference to the suggestion that the above district does not conform generally to Building regulations let me say at the outset the majority of these buildings have been existence many years prior to existing regulations and I am not aware of any authority in the Building By-law where buildings erected under former regulations shall be remodelled to conform to present day standards unless such buildings are structurally dangerous or in other respects a source of danger.

In the event of buildings becoming structurally dangerous an order for demolition would be given but not necessarily carried out if the owners are prepared to place the building in a sound structural condition. Regarding the district in question this lies in No. 1 and 2 Fire Limits and an order for demolition would indicate any frame building in such condition that the order would have to be carried out, as repairs cannot be made in Fire Limits where repairs exceed thirty per cent of the assessed value.

An owner has the right of appeal to the Council against my decision under this clause.

In this district, apart from a few isolated cases of which the Department is aware, the buildings are not, in my opinion, structurally dangerous; true many appear dilapidated, but dilapidation is not necessarily structural danger, and the appearance of dilapidation is no worse than some other sections of the City.

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
appr'd. by B. C. & P. C. H. Aug. 10.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
(INCLUDING PLUMBING)

ANDREW HAGGART
BUILDING INSPECTOR



TELEPHONE: FAIRMONT 2711

VANCOUVER, B. C.

- 2 -

I might say that the Department has sometimes been requested to condemn buildings by interested parties in an endeavour to be relieved of certain tenants or for future expansion, but the Department will not condemn buildings which are not structurally unsafe for private gain.

Where an unsanitary or inadequate condition prevails the Medical Health Officer and the Plumbing Inspector can order such to be placed in a sanitary condition but not necessarily change the whole system to present day standards provided the condition is rectified.

Generally speaking overcrowding is not confined to this part of the City and it should be borne in mind that the broad rules of necessity and reasonableness are, in many cases, the deciding factors, and I might say that in line with the Building By-law, decisions are made in the public interest without penalizing the individual.

The Department is conversant with the district and is not aware of extensive remodelling not conforming with regulations, and can see no reason for any agitation unless there is a desire by interested parties to depress the market but if advised of specific cases such will be given attention.

Yours respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. Haggart".

BUILDING INSPECTOR.

AH/KM.

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
capt'd. by B. C. & P. C. H. Aug. 10.

7 B



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Aug 1 1942

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Bldg Office

CITY OF VANCOUVER

CITY ELECTRICIAN'S OFFICE

CITY HALL

July 31, 1942.

Mr. Fred Howlett,
City Clerk,
City Hall.

Dear Sir:-

Re:- Electrical Wiring in what is
Known as Japanese Town.

In reply to your letter of the 14th instant re the above, I would respectfully beg to inform you that I have visited this locality personally and made several inspections. I find that the work in this district is of the average, and appears to be in a fair condition. There was of course minor infractions which are common in all rooming houses, but the writer did not find anything which may be termed as serious; however, all premises that become vacant, the Power Company is notified not to reconnect until this Department has made an inspection.

Trusting this is the information you require.

Yours truly,

J. Maclellan
CITY ELECTRICIAN.

TM/MA

Japanese Property, Powell St. 17
checked by B. C. & P. C. H. Aug 10.