## Project Overview \& Key Goals

The current residential structure requires a major renovation to fully replace the foundation and update the electrical, plumbing, and energy efficiency. These improvements are needed to improve the longevity and livability of the residence, as much of the foundation is failing, plumbing and electrical problems are commonplace, and the residence is extremely drafty. We intend to double the living space (from $\sim 2300 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ to $4122 \mathrm{ft}^{2}+575 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$ secondary suite) to accommodate our growing family, as well as open up the interior layout to improve functionality and flow (currently very maze-like).

In the process of the renovation, essential goals are to improve the exterior aesthetics of the residence with improved finishings and make the structure more prominent on Cadder Avenue, while honoring the significant heritage value.

Photos of the existing residence, trees, and neighborhood are provided at the end of the rationale. Design drawings and colour palates (two colours being considered for the horizontal siding and shingles) are provided after the photos.

## Architecture

We intend to maintain the current overall character, form, and massing as observed from Cadder Avenue, including the following character defining elements:

- One and one-half storey vernacular Edwardian era wood-frame structure (Photos 1-4).
- Hipped roof with front gabled projections (Photo 1) and side shed dormers (Photo 3).
- Clad with horizontal wooden drop siding, custom-milled to match the existing unique profile (Photo 5).
- Wooden cornerboards.
- Decorative wooden corbels along horizontal eves on the first and second floors (currently on the first floor only), refurbished and/or custom-milled (Photo 6).
- Front internal red brick chimney (unused rear chimney to be removed, with red bricks repurposed on the property) (Photo 1).
- Double-hung wooden sash windows (metal clad) (Photo 2).
- Early garage at the front of the property, re-clad with the same wooden siding that will be custom-milled for the residence (Photo 7).
- Protection of the large mature maple tree along the western property line (Photo 8), and the mature cedar tree facing Cadder Avenue (Photo 9) (birch trees to be removed, as over-mature and decaying).


## Positioning

The existing residential structure will be moved south to more-or-less align with the residence to the east (Photo 10), and moved west to centre the residence on the property, giving it greater prominence along Cadder Avenue. In doing so, the main yard space will be flipped from the front (south) of the property to the back (north), making it quieter and more private.

## Additions

To increase the living space, an addition will be constructed off the northwest corner of the existing residential structure. It will replicate the same form and character of the existing structure. While the peak will be slightly higher and the gable larger on the addition, compared to the existing structure, the addition will be set back (north) $\sim 27$ feet and partially obscured by a large maple tree, ensuring the addition appears subordinate to the existing structure when viewed from Cadder Avenue. The addition will be offset to the west of the existing structure to allow easy flow from the proposed kitchen area to the rear yard.

The rear addition will include a double garage (Photo 11) and a secondary suite ( 1 bedroom, $575 \mathrm{ft}^{2}$, separate smaller veranda). The location of the suite is designed to allow easy access for elderly residents (e.g., our parents and, eventually, ourselves).

We find the roof structure on the existing residence quite dominant in the overall appearance of the residence from Cadder Avenue. To break up the roofline, a second slightly larger gable will be added to the west of the existing gable, but set back slightly to ensure the existing gable is not overshadowed. This second gable will increase the living space on the second floor of the existing structure and facilitate easier second floor access between the existing structure and the rear addition.

## Alterations to Existing Structure

The existing structure will be fully gutted to the studs and floorboards, and jacked up, for dropping it on a new foundation and updating the electrical, plumbing, energy efficiency, and interior layout. Approximately one-third of the rear of the existing structure will be removed to tie-in the addition and create efficient flow between the proposed kitchen area and the rear yard. The portions being removed include a bedroom that was an add-on, and a large rear porch that was
converted into living space - both completed many years after initial construction of the residence (Photo 4). The bedroom has a flat tar-and-gravel roof that does not fit the character of the residence. The converted porch has a sloping floor and no foundation under it. Both have ceiling heights that are $\sim 2$ feet lower than the main portion of the residence ( 9.5 feet). Thus, neither space is part of the original residence, nor is well suited to attaching an addition and/or creating a nice flow between the main living area and the rear yard.

Several homebuilders have raised significant concerns about satisfying the insulation and structural requirements of the BC Building Code with the existing roof structure. As a result, most or all of the roof structure will be replaced.

## Accessory buildings

The property currently has two early accessory buildings - a shed in the northeast corner (Photo 12) and a small garage in the southeast corner (Photo 7). The northeast shed is dilapidated and will be removed. The southeast garage is structurally sound. It will be re-clad with the same wooden siding that will be custom-milled for the residence. This garage will be used as storage for bikes, garden tools, etc., as it is too small for parking most modern vehicles.

## Parking

The new double garage off the northwest end of the rear addition will change our main property access to Doryan Street from Cadder Avenue (Photo 11). Suite parking will be provided to the west of the double garage, also off Doryan Street.

While Doryan is our preferred option for regular family access, we want to maintain guest parking for one vehicle in the current location off Cadder Avenue. We recognize the City wishes to reduce private access from arterial roads; however, Cadder Avenue is our actual street address and, therefore, most guests will continue navigating to our residence via Cadder, which is limited to 2 hour on-street parking. Moreover, access to the residence has been from Cadder Avenue for $\sim 110$ years. We would like to maintain continuity in this access for historical purposes.

## Variances Requested

## Rear Setback

A variance is requested for the rear setback between the double garage and Doryan Street. The proposed residence could fit fully between the front and rear setbacks if it is positioned further south. However, for street appeal, we want to avoid having the front (south) of the residence located substantially closer to Cadder Avenue than the neighbors' residences (Photos 10 \& 13). As proposed, the front of the existing structure will be two feet further south than the residence
to the east, and $\sim 20$ feet further south than the residence to the west. The front of the suite will be $\sim 7$ feet further north than the residence to the west. Although our residence will be slightly closer to Cadder than the east residence, the presence of the early garage and a mature dogwood tree in the southeast corner of our property (Photo 7) will minimize any direct comparison between the two residences with respect to their proximity to Cadder.

## Side Yard Setback

A variance is requested regarding the side yard setback for the proposed covered patio. Our property consists of two land parcels. The main parcel is $\sim 100$ feet wide, and a $\sim 10$ foot wide parcel runs up the east side of the property. The covered patio fully satisfies the setback requirement of the eastern parcel, but not the main parcel, though it does not straddle the property boundary. The covered patio is positioned to maintain good sightlines between the proposed kitchen area of the residence and the pool, for safety reasons.

We have inquired about the feasibility of merging the two land parcels, but have not yet completed the process. If we succeed in having the parcels merged, there will no longer be a side yard setback issue. In the meantime, we need to request this variance.

## Cadder Avenue Access

A variance is requested to maintain vehicle access from Cadder Avenue for one guest parking space. Additional details are provided under the Parking section above.

## Photos



Photo 1. View of Smith residence from southwest (Cadder Avenue).


Photo 2. View of Smith residence from south (Cadder Avenue).


Photo 3. View of Smith residence from southeast (Cadder Avenue).


Photo 4. Rear view of Smith residence from northwest (Doryan Street). Flat roof bedroom add-on shown in foreground, with converted porch to the left of the bedroom.


Photo 5. Profile view of siding.


Photo 6. View of detail in the eves, including corbels.


Photo 7. Early garage in southeast corner of property facing Cadder Avenue. Will be re-clad with same siding as the residence.


Photo 8. Large maple along west property line to be protected.


Photo 9. Large cedar along south property line facing Cadder Avenue to be protected.


Photo 10. Neighbor's residence directly to the east facing Cadder Avenue.


Photo 11. Entrance to rear of property from Doryan Street. Proposed double garage will be located near the rear of the blue truck.


Photo 12. Dilapidated shed in northeast corner of property to be removed.


Photo 13. Neighbor's residence directly to the west facing Cadder Avenue.


Photo 14. Neighbor's residence directly to the south across Cadder Avenue.


Photo 15. Neighbor's residence directly to the north, accessed from Doryan Street.


Photo 16. Neighbor's residence to the northwest across Doryan Street.





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