

**527 Murphy Street
Campbell House – 1933**



Front Elevation



Front and South Elevation



Front and North Elevation

Description

Campbell House is an exceptional example of a single storey log house built in 1933 located on the west side of Murphy Street in North Quesnel, BC. The historic place includes the building and the parcel of land it occupies.

Heritage Value

Campbell House is located in North Quesnel which is an older residential neighbourhood in the city. While not in its original form, the house is a physical reminder of the people who shaped the development of Quesnel.

The house is named for Duncan and Eva Campbell who built this house. Duncan was born on an Ontario farm in 1890. Eva was also born in Ontario in 1896 but was raised on the prairies. In 1913, at the age of seventeen, Eva married Duncan in Saskatchewan. Duncan answered an advertisement placed by Lloyd Champlain who required a handyman to clear his land holdings in the Quesnel area. The couple arrived in the Cariboo in 1921 where Duncan went to work clearing Champlain's land with only a shovel and an axe. Eva cared for their children and tended to the milk cows. The Campbell family moved a short time later to Dog Prairie, south of Quesnel, to work on another farm. Duncan raised sheep, turkeys, and chickens and cleared the land with very little machinery. Their older children attended the Dragon Lake School.

Duncan and Eva moved into Quesnel in 1927 when Duncan was awarded the contract to supply 1,800 poles for Yukon Telegraph. Duncan also worked for Pacific Great Eastern Railway at the same time. Their children were involved in local sports and community activities. Duncan was known in Quesnel as a 'jack-of-all-trades', a skilled carpenter, labourer, blacksmith, and farmer. Duncan was one of the last stage coach drivers to Barkerville. Eva was a well-respected seamstress.

In 1933, Duncan built this large one storey log house that had eight rooms for themselves and their fifteen children, six girls and nine boys. The family lived in tents on their property for eighteen months until the house was complete. The property was large enough to have a small farm to grow food for the family. Duncan died in 1945 and Eva in 1977. The Campbell family is recognized for their contribution to the development of the community with a street named in their honour.

Character-Defining Elements

The character-defining elements of Campbell House include:

- a rare style of house on the street;
- a strong relationship with its surrounding buildings;
- a positive addition to the streetscape;
- an excellent example of a log house built in Quesnel during the 1930s;
- its heritage value for its architectural and historical contribution;
- its log construction, dormer, large roof with eaves, off-center front entrance, and central chimney;
- heavily framed windows.