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May 4, 2015

Mrs. Melynda Jarratt Association Maison Doucet Hennessy House Association Inc. 375 St. Peter Avenue Bathurst, NB E2A 2Y4

Our File No.: 423-14-C

Mrs. Jarratt:

Subject: Structural Condition Review Doucet Hennessy House, Bathurst (NB) _Rev 2

Roy Consultants was retained to perform a structural condition review of the above mentioned property. The following is our opinion on the findings and technical comments regarding the historic house.

Background Information

The property's original construction dates back to the 1800's. The structure consists of a wooden structure resting on a field stone and brick foundation. Over the years, several major renovations have been done to the building to obtain the current configuration. The property was originally owned by the Doucet family and was bought in the early 1900's by the Hennessy family. The property consists of a two (2)-storey building with an open attic and an unfinished basement.

Investigation and Findings

Our approach when performing a structural condition review is to conduct a visual inspection and identify any signs of structural deficiencies visually noticed. The evaluation of the building is based on past performance. The 2010 National Building Code of Canada has guidelines¹ allowing a structure to be evaluated based on its past performance. More precisely, the Code cites that buildings may be considered to have demonstrated satisfactory capacity to resist loads other than earthquakes, provided:

→ "Careful examination by a professional engineer does not expose any evidence of significant damage, distress or deterioration";

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¹ Commentary L - Application of NBC Part 4 of Division B for the Structural Evaluation and Upgrading of Existing Buildings, in the User's Guide – NBC 2010 Structural Commentaries (Part 4 of Division B)

- → "The structural system is reviewed, including examination of critical details and checking them for load transfer";
- \rightarrow "The building has demonstrated satisfactory performance for 30 years or more";
- \rightarrow "There have been no changes within the past 30 years that could significantly increase the loads on the building or affect its durability, and no such changes are contemplated".

During our investigation, only minor structural deficiencies were found and were man made during renovations. Hereafter is the list of minor deficiencies found during our investigation:

- 1. Structural member in the attic area were cut at the junction of the back addition of the property. This is believed to have been done to allow the chimney pipe to pass through at this area. Although it is not a critical matter, minor reinforcement/repairs of this area are recommended in future renovation;
- 2. Some floor joists and/or beams located in the basement do not have proper support. We strongly believe that adding some additional posts in some area of the basement would rectify this situation;
- 3. Field stone foundation shows signs of distress in some areas. A lateral crack has occurred which is a sign that lateral pressure of the earth is causing the mortar between field stones to crack, reducing the structural capacity of the foundation. Although it is not critical at this point, we strongly believe that a new concrete foundation will be required in the future to sustain the structural loads of the property.
- 4. In addition to the lateral crack, the field stone foundation has some areas of local distress. These area are believe to be past openings that were block and are not performing adequately. These areas should be repaired locally if a new foundation is not poured. We would recommend to install a new concrete foundation and we strongly believe that a new foundation would be the most economical and practical option to repair the deficiencies in regards to the field stone foundation.

With the above said, we strongly believe that if the property's vocation is to remain the same (i.e.: remain *Group* C – *Residential Occupancy*), only small structural reinforcements would need to be implemented to bring back the property to a sound structural state since the property's past performance has proven to be satisfactory.

Since major renovations to the property are anticipated and its vocation will change from a *Group* C – *Residential Occupancy* to a *Group* A – *Assembly Occupancy*, the property will need to be brought back to current national building code standards as per part 4 of the NBC since the occupancy classification of the building will change. This would mean the following:

- 1. The entire property will need to be repaired/reinforced to meet current standards prescribed by the National Building Code at the time of the renovation. Major items that will need to be reinforced are:
 - a. The floors would need to be reinforced to meet the live load prescribed by the



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National Building Code at the time of the renovation. We have reviewed the existing floor structure of the main floor exposed in the basement and the structure is not adequate as per current standard. The floor structure of the basement will need to undergo major reinforcement to meet with current standard. The floor of the second storey was not exposed but since it dates back to the same period, we can conclude that the floor will also need to be reinforced. In order to achieve a full structural evaluation of the second storey floor, the floor structure would need to be exposed (i.e.: all ceiling finish would need to be removed for field measurements).

- b. The roof structure will also need to be reinforced to meet current NBC requirements. A verification of the rafters shows that they also do not meet current requirements.
- c. The exterior walls were damaged to a certain extent. Since repair is anticipated for the foundation, we do not foresee any repair required to the exterior of the foundation at the moment.

Opinion of Structural Construction Cost

Our preliminary opinion of construction cost for the repairs listed above is \$220,000.00, plus HST. This cost will need to be revised once all the details of the repairs will be known (i.e.: plans are completed).

Intervention	Opinion of construction Cost
Repair/reinforcement of attic members	$3,000.00^2$
Reinforcement of floor joists/beams in basement	\$8,000.00 ²
New concrete foundation (including raising of the	\$85,000.00
property and re-installation on new foundation)	
Sub-total (Phase 1)	\$96,000.00
Reinforcement of floor joists and beams to meet	\$60,000.00
NBC requirements	
Reinforcement of roof rafters	\$12,000.00
Addition of new lintel above windows and doors	\$10,000.00
Sub-total (Phase 2)	\$82,000.00
Sub-total	\$167,000.00 ³
Contingencies (15%)	\$25,050.00
Engineering Fees (15%)	\$25,050.00
Total	\$217,100.00
Say	\$220,000.00

³ Cost to reinforce the attic member and the floor joists was not included in the sub-total since the repairs listed in Phase 2 would include repairs listed in Phase 1.



 $^{^{2}}$ We do not recommend doing these repairs if phase 2 of the work is anticipated since these repair costs are for requirements of Group C – Residential Occupancy only and not Group A – Assembly Occupancy as per the proposed future use of the building.

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Mechanical and Electrical Assessment

Enclosed to this report in appendix A is the Mechanical and Electrical assessment of the property.

We appreciate the opportunity to assist the Doucet Hennessy House Association Inc. with this business matter and we trust that this opinion meets your present expectations. However, do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions and/or concerns.



Yours truly,

Robert Roy, P.Eng.

Robert Roy, P.Eng. CIVIL Engineer STRUCTURAL Dept.

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Enc.: Picture of Site Visit

Appendix A – Mechanical and Electrical Assessment





Photo No. 1: Roof Rafter Cut at chimney



Photo No. 2: Roof Rafter Cut at Chimney



Photo No. 3: Cut Wood Framing at the Junction of the Building Addition



Photo No. 4: Questionable Framing around Basement Chimney



Photo No. 5: Old Opening in Basement Foundation



Photo No. 6: Unsupported Joist beside Basement Stair



Photo No. 6: Foundation Horizontal Crack Suggesting an Excessive Lateral Load on the Foundation

ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ASSESSMENT

DOUCETT-HENNESSY HOUSE BATHURST, NEW BRUNSWICK

> Our File No.: 423-14 April, 2015

1. ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ASSESSMENT

1.1 ELECTRICAL

1.1.1 Electrical Main Service Entrance

The main electrical service enters the building from an overhead utility line. The service entrance consists of two (2) 200A 120/240V 1ph service masts. One supplies a 200A 4-jaw meter to a 200A distribution panel located in the basement. The second service mast supplies a 100A 120/240V 4-jaw 3-meter base. From that meter base, two meters are blanked with unused panel and disconnect in the basement. The third meter supplies power to a rented apartment in the building. The service entrance is in very poor shape and is not salvageable.



Exterior View of Meters

Basement View of Distribution

1.1.2 Wiring Devices

The building wiring consists of lumex copper wires (paper and tar covered) and NMD plastic insulated. Both materials are approved building materials. However, the building wiring has seen many modifications over the years and proper care or disposal of unwanted cables has been neglected and will require inspection and removal. Some may have power and may be harmful.



Disconnect

Abandoned Wire

1.1.3 Lighting System

The existing lighting system consists of surface fluorescent and incandescent luminaires. The exterior lighting consists of incandescent wall luminaires. Some lights are wired without boxes on porcelain holders.



Typical Light Wired without Box

1.1.4 Electric Heating System

The existing heating system consists of baseboard heaters. Some sections of the building on the upper floor are not heated and are covered with insulation.



Upper Floor with Insulation to Reduce Lower Apartment Heat Loss

1.1.5 Electrical to Mechanical Equipment

There is no existing mechanical equipment installation. Any building modernisation, which involves ventilation, air conditioning and heat recovery shall require new wiring and extra service capacity.

1.1.6 Communication Tel/Data System

The existing communication system consists of an exterior surface telephone cable entry.



Telephone Line Running on the Exterior Wall to Individual Phones

1.1.7 Electrical Conclusion

The existing service entrance with all distribution panels and building wiring should be removed. An entirely new service entrance with new distribution, wiring and communication should be installed as per the new building design requirements. The work could be done directly by a licenced electrician to render the installation acceptable to current codes and standards.

Electrical Opinion of Probable Construction Costs	
Electrical Main Service Entrance	\$20,000.00
Building Wiring (Including Fixtures)	\$50,000.00
Security System	\$5,000.00
Communication System	\$5,000.00
Total	\$80,000.00

1.2 MECHANICAL

1.2.1 Water Entrance

The existing water entrance is not as per current applicable codes. The water entrance shall meet CSA B64-10.1-07, meaning the water entrance should be complete with a dual type backwater preventer. The main shutoff gate valve and meter have reached the end of their service life and should be replaced. A wye strainer should also be installed. The sequence of the water entrance should be as follows:

- 1. Main Shut-off Valve;
- 2. Wye Strainer;
- 3. Water Meter;
- 4. Backflow Preventer.



Existing Water Entrance

1.2.2 Hot Water Tank

Domestic hot water tank is not installed as per standards and should be rectified.

1.2.3 Piping

Cast iron sanitary piping located in the basement is in poor condition and has reached the end of its service life. We strongly suggest replacing said piping with new ABS type piping.

All existing copper piping located in the basement should be insulated adequately. Currently, some of it is insulated with fiber insulation and aluminum tape.



Cast Iron Piping in Poor Condition

1.2.4 Fixtures

Most fixtures in the building are old but still function. We strongly suggest incorporating new fixtures in a future renovation project. Some fixtures were found to have no closet stops, which makes it hard to perform regular maintenance on such fixtures.

1.2.5 Pipe Ventilation

Although most sanitary pipe ventilation were not visible, an in-line ventilation was observed on the washer. This is not acceptable as per plumbing code and proper sanitary pipe ventilation should be provided.



Acceptable Sanitary Pipe Ventilation

1.2.6 Ventilation

No ventilation was found in the building. If major renovations are implemented, a new HRV system would be required to be added to the project.



Fixtures without Closet Stops

1.2.7 Mechanical Conclusion

Overall, the building's plumbing is in code condition. Only small repairs need to be implemented to bring the building to its original state (without any major renovations). The work could be done directly by a licenced plumber to render the installation acceptable to current codes and standards. A new ventilation system would also be required should a major renovation be implemented.

Mechanical Opinion of Probable Construction Costs				
Water Entrance	\$6,000.00			
Piping	\$10,000.00			
Fixtures	N/I			
Ventilation	N/I			
Total	\$16,000.00			

2. **RENOVATIONS**

We have reviewed the proposed mechanical and electrical costs identified in the architectural report and feel that the costs identified in Jacques Boucher Architect's report should be revised in terms of costs as follows:

- 1. Plumbing Work: \$35,000.00
- Ventilation and Heating Work: \$60,000.00
 Electrical Work: \$80,000.00









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