

# GEORGE BUCHAN HOUSE

**Address:** 2755 Hammond Avenue

**Date of Construction:** 1959

**Architect:** Trelle A. Morrow

**Builder:** McKeller Construction Co.

**Adopted by the Heritage Commission:** 2019-11-7

**Last Updated:** 2020-1-21



*Courtesy of Trelle Morrow (2019)*

### Description

The Buchan house is located mid-way along Hammond Avenue in the Nechako Subdivision. This subdivision was installed in the city in 1958, on the property formerly occupied by Army Headquarters during W.W. II., between the Nechako River and Second Avenue, just west of Carney Street.

### Heritage Value

This residence is the unabashed example of the first shift in architectural design tenets in the city following W.W. II. Prior to this time, heritage values were based primarily on property ownership values in premises built in the 1920s to 1940s. Today, architectural tenets enter deliberations on heritage values.

Heritage value lies with owners, George & Lee Buchan. George was one of an influx of professional foresters entering Prince George in the 1950s. He managed Arctic Mills until it was taken over by the Pas Lumber Co. His wife, Helena, was a prominent professional artist in the city.

Specifically, the heritage value of the building lies with the introduction of the Modern Movement design traits so profusely exhibited nationally from 1947 onward. In addition, new wood products for residential work, such as glued laminated beams and wood decking, and glass walls found application in contemporary designs.

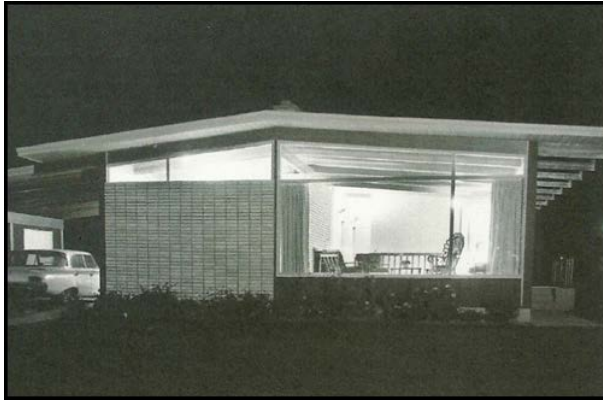
### Character-Defining Elements

- The low slope design for residences allowed the use of quality roof surfaces, particularly the use of tar and gravel surfacing.
- Glued laminated wood beams and columns of unlimited dimensions were available through the expanding laminating industry in the province. Surfaces were applied in the factory, then wrapped for shipping. Structural beams are exposed throughout the house on a modular spacing of 32 inches on centre. Ample eave overhangs are provided on the house, beams are extended out for a carport.
- Wood decking, in tongue and groove profile, were available from local mills in thicknesses from two to four inches. This substrate was ideal for applying a vapour barrier and rigid insulation above. Wood decking is exposed throughout the house and on the roof overhangs.
- Large glazing areas are installed in the living areas of the house. High glazed areas, above door height provide privacy to client requirements.

- Exterior wood siding is in keeping with the over-all theme of the house to use natural wood materials. Brick paneling is installed on the Street elevation as a contrast to the wood siding.

## Images

### 2755 Hammond Street



*Craftsman Photo (1960)*



Courtesy of Trelle A. Morrow (2019)



Courtesy of Trelle A. Morrow (2019)



Courtesy of Trelle A. Morrow (2019)



Courtesy of Trelle A. Morrow (2019)



Courtesy of Trelle A. Morrow (2019)

Living Room – Pumice Brick



Courtesy of Kathy King



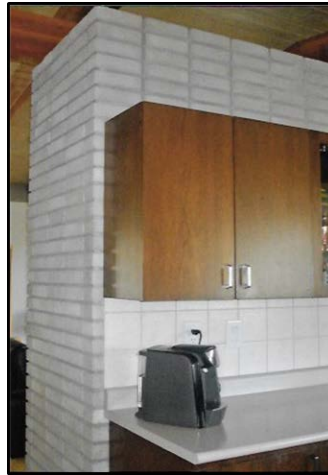
Courtesy of Trelle Morrow (2018)

**Glued Laminate Beams:  
Wood Decking**



Courtesy of Trelle A. Morrow (2019)

**Brick Return: Kitchen**



Courtesy of Trelle A. Morrow (2019)

**Brick Return: Kitchen**



Courtesy of Trelle A. Morrow (2019)

**Sources:**

- Morrow, Trelle A. *Living Legacies: 100 Years of Prince George Architecture*. 2015
- Morrow, Trelle A. *Residential Heritage: Prince George*. 2019 (Unpublished Manuscript)