

McLaren House

3225 Mathers Ave, West Vancouver

The house has been in continuous occupancy by the McLaren family since construction in 1952.

The house was designed in 1951 by James B. McLaren P. Eng. for his brother T. A. McLaren. [James B. had a long career at Dominion Construction of Vancouver.] T. A. McLaren, P. Eng. was the founder and principal of Allied Shipbuilders Ltd. of North Vancouver.

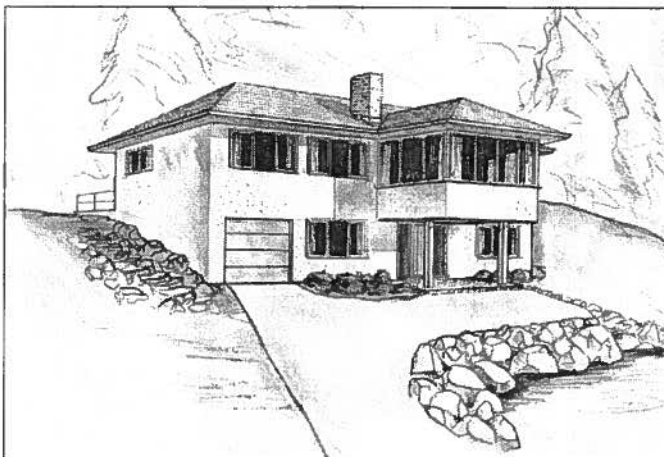
The house was built by Don Berry, a carpenter, who was the brother in-law of James and T. A. Don built many homes on the North Shore and later worked as a building inspector. Much of the interior joinerwork, such as doors, windows, and wood stair treads, were custom milled in Allied's wood shop.

T. A. McLaren and his wife Dorothy raised their three sons: James, Douglas and Malcolm in the house. The house stayed as original until 1971 when a sundeck was added, again to the design of James B. McLaren. The backyard was landscaped and planted in the style of a Japanese garden.

The elder McLarens moved out in the late 1990's and Malcolm and his wife Roberta took over the family home. A major renovation in 2001, under West Vancouver Municipal Inspection, was done by Chris Janeway, a Carpenter / Contractor. He has built and renovated a number of waterfront homes on the North Shore.

The layout of the kitchen, dining room and related areas was changed to the open plan style, with double doors opening onto the updated deck. The entire electrical system and all domestic water piping were removed and replaced. The interior structure was inspected and repaired as needed. New cabinets, manufactured by Nor – West, of North Vancouver, were fitted in the kitchen, dining room, bathrooms and laundry room. Heated tile floors were fitted in the "wet" rooms.

Drawings of the original construction, 1971 Porch addition and 2001 renovation are available.



M. B. McLaren February 2014