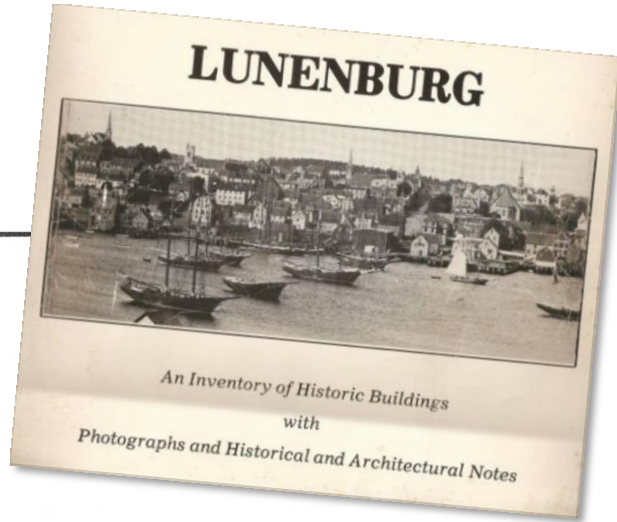




## 66 McDONALD STREET, LUNENBURG

### Historic & Architectural Notes

From Lunenburg: An Inventory of Historic Buildings



TUPPER STREET

GREEN STREET

This stately house was built in 1911 for William Duff, a notable local historical figure and it occupies half of this New Town block.

The house is prominently situated on a knoll and appears grand and gracious, surrounded by a spacious clipped lawn. It has a truncated hip roof, which was originally capped with a balustrade or exterior widow's walk, and there are hipped dormers which add interest to the roof slopes. The upper windows consist of symmetrically placed pairs of mullioned, one over one sashes and their regularity and balance is an important component of the good design of the house. The hood mouldings over the windows are tied in with the eaves fascia by delicate moulding lines, and the elevations are framed and unified by wide cornerboards.

At the first floor level, the house is surrounded by a broad, open veranda, divided into four sections on each face by wooden, Tuscan style columns. This veranda provides a strong horizontal element to the design of the house and makes it appear to be firmly and solidly rooted to its site.

William Duff was born in Carbonnear, Newfoundland in 1872 and was educated in Newfoundland

and Falkirk, Scotland. He came to Nova Scotia in 1895 at the age of 23 and he married Jennie Oxner, daughter of J. L. Oxner of Bridgewater, who was associated with the dry goods business. In 1903, he became interested in the Bridgewater Enterprise and the Lunenburg Progress newspapers and he purchased and amalgamated them to form the Lunenburg Progress Enterprise (see #164 Lincoln). Mr. Duff worked as manager of the Atlantic Fish Company (Robin, Jones and Whitman) (see #250 Montague) and later went into business for himself, his firm being known as the Lunenburg Outfitting Co. (see #138 Montague). He was mayor of Lunenburg from 1916-21 and he also entered the House of Commons in 1917 representing the constituency of Lunenburg and later that of Guysborough-Antigonish. The height of his political career came in 1936 when he was appointed to the Canadian Senate.

Senator Duff died in 1953 and was survived by his three daughters; Mary, who lived in the Duff family home until 1980; Jean, (Mrs. Ray Lohnes) who lived across the street at #59 MacDonald; and Agnes, (Mrs. Dana Sweeney), who lived next door at #52 MacDonald.



#66 MacDonald 1911

