



## Heritage Vancouver

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Canada

March 31, 2016

Mayor Gregor Robertson and Vancouver City Council  
Vancouver City Hall  
453 W.12<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1V4

**Re: DE419206 – 22 East 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
Cemco Electrical Manufacturing Co. Factory**

Dear Mayor Robertson and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Heritage Vancouver Society, **we wish to support the creative retention** of the historic North and East facades of 22 East 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue within a new development, along with the addition of the site to the Vancouver Heritage Register.

Creative ideas for retention of the area's historic significance help maintain a significant link to the industrial past of the slope of Mount Pleasant. The ongoing update of heritage policy under the Heritage Action Plan recognizes the need for an approach that acknowledges broader values aside from architectural importance.

One of the identified gaps in the existing Heritage Register is a lack of identified industrial sites. As described in the report to Council, the Cemco Electrical Manufacturing Company Factory is representative of the small industries that contributed to the Second World War effort. This site is a good example of the industrial development spurred by the False Creek Shipyards, and is worthy of heritage recognition.

Its heritage value lies in its association with the development of the industrial area in Mount Pleasant, and its design as an example of Vancouver's industrial history. As a future commercial space for tech and creative manufacturing companies and a space for creativity and technological development, it can be celebrated and continued by creating a link to its historic legacy.

Despite updating the **Mount Pleasant Community Plan**, the plan has excluded the semi-industrial area north of Broadway, bounded by Main and Cambie Streets and 2nd Avenue, which still contains a rich variety of early heritage buildings. This area was zoned industrial many years ago, and is now seen as an area that has further potential for job creation, likely through denser redevelopment. The Cemco Factory is part of a continuing tradition of industrial development in the neighbourhood, that is mixed with a variety of early housing.

Creative approaches to retention such as this proposal, will help solidify the remaining heritage assets in the area, helping to maintain a varied and interesting neighbourhood area that is continuously evolving.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patrick Gunn  
Heritage Vancouver Society

Cc  
James Boldt, Heritage Planner  
Kyle Pringle, Project Coordinator  
Vancouver Heritage Commission  
PC Urban