Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

Origins of the Campus Planning and Design

Greg Whistance-Smith, Architect AAA David Murray, Architect AAA

The Evolution of Alberta's Institutes of Technology

PAGE EIGHT EDMONTON DAILY BULLETIN

One University For Province, And One Only, Recommendation Made by Special Commission

Report of Three University Presidents, Tabled in the House This Afternoon, Recommends That Application of Calgary College for Degree-Conferring Powers Be Not Granted, But Suggests That an Institute of Technology and Art, Jointly Controlled and Supported by Calgary City and the Province, Be Established, Making Calgary Technical Education Centre of Province — Commissioners Say Province Is Not Justified in Diverting Any of Its Resources to the Support of a Second University

SATUR

A sale of such
lines—Odds a
quickly have beer

Lounge and
Negligee

Edmonton Bulletin February 2, 1915

No university for Calgary in 1915. But they will get an Institute of Technology and Art.

The Institute of Technology and Art will open on October 1, 1916

Premier Accepts Report of Royal Commission On Calgary College; Approves Institute of Technology

Long Fight Over Southern Alberta Educational Institution Brought to Climax by Sifton—Suggestions Are Offered—Prominent Calgarians Wait Upon Government

Edmonton Journal March 24, 1915

DR. J. C. MILLER WILL ORGANIZE SCHOOL

Expected to Get Institute of Technology Under Way by October 1st

Hon. J. R. Boyle has given out the following statement with regard to the Institute of Technology to be established at Calgary:

"It has been decided to appoint Dr. James C. Miller, director of technical education for the province. He will be charged with the responsibility of organizing the school.

"It is expected that an arrangement will be made with the Dominion authorities to undertake vocational instruction to returned, disabled or partially disabled soldiers. Dr. Miller at the present time, is devoting part of his time to organizing this instruction for the Dominion Hospitals Commission.

"It is expected that the institute will be open for work by October 1st."

Edmonton Journal May 20, 1916

CALGARY "TECH" IS NOW PROVING OF GREAT VALUE

Is of Great Assistance : Vocational Training of Alberta's Disabled Soldiers

The provincial institute of technology and art, which is now in operation at Calgary, is proving of great assistance in the vocational training of Alberta's soldiers who return disabled from active service. While it is im-

Edmonton Bulletin November 6, 1916

1925

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

The provincial university, starting with three rented rooms and an enrolment of 45 shortly after the province was formed, has now a plant valued at over $4,000,000 and an enrolment of 1300. It has attained a world-wide reputation through its high educational standards and administrative efficiency and the outstanding character of special work of its president and other members of its staff.

The Institute of Technology and Art at Calgary, established at a later date, has already an enrolment of 1,000.

In the public and high schools enrolment has increased five-fold while the increase in value of school properties has been 20-fold.

Regular classes in these institutions have been supplemented by correspondence and lecture courses and travelling libraries arranged by the University of Alberta.

A provincial research council has been established for the purpose of promoting scientific knowledge and scientific research, particularly with regard to Alberta's natural resources.

The Edmonton Bulletin, January 14, 1925

1930

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TO OPEN SEPT. 20

Aim Is To Assist Young Men and Women in Industrial Life

The Provincial Institute of Technology and Art opens for the fall term on September 29. This Educational Institution has been rendering service since 1920, its constituency being that unserved field lying between the graduating classes of the High School and the University. Its program is designed to assist young men and women who are planning on entering industrial life in Alberta. No academic requirement is insisted upon for admittance to its classes which are open to young people over 16 years of age.

Many Services

A large variety of services are offered, in such departments as: Industrial Electricity; Automobile Servicing; Steam Engineering; Railway Station Agents and Telegraphy; Tractor operation, repair and maintenance; Carpentry; Machine Shop Practice; Mechanical Drafting; Survey Drafting; Architectural Drafting; Commercial Art; Drawing and Painting; Dressmaking and Millinery. Special classes of short term duration are organized in: Radio Servicing; Automobile Body and Fender Servicing; Automobile Painting and Finishing; Vulcanizing; Electric and Acetylene Welding; Tractors and Gas Engines; Automotive Electricity; Battery Building and Servicing; and so on.

In general the plan of operation in the longer courses is half time in the shop and half time in the classroom on the theoretical phase of the work. In the short courses the work is almost wholly taken in the shop where shop talks and instructions are given while actually working on the jobs.

Heavy Enrolment

The interest of the Alberta public in the Institute of Technology and Art has been very marked, as evidenced by the heavily increasing enrolments that have characterized the past few years, until in the year 1929, the enrolment reached a maximum of 2,023 receiving service.

The Institute is primarily a man's school, the average age being 21 years and there being men in some courses between 40 and 50 years of age.

The Art Department is particularly interesting this year, inasmuch as the Institute has been fortunate in retaining the services of Mr. A. C. Leighton, R.B.A., a noted English artist and instructor, who will work out an extremely interesting program, set under way last season. Mr. Leighton will offer in his Art Classes as fine an instruction to Commercial Art and Painting as can be had anywhere in Canada, and it is anticipated that there will be a heavy enrolment in appreciation of the offering of this service.

The Edmonton Bulletin, September 23, 1930

1935

Provincial Institute Of Technology and Art

Calgary

Opens September 30

A Provincial Government institution with excellent equipment and low fees. Expert instruction in practical subjects: Motor Mechanics, Welding — Acetylene and Electric, Electricity, Automotive Electricity, Machine Shop Practice, Geology and Prospecting, Aviation Mechanics, Diesel Engines, Building Construction, Mechanical Drafting, Dressmaking and Millinery, Art. Short Courses in Diesel Engines, opening Nov. 18th.

Excellent facilities in Fine and Applied Art.

A. C. LEIGHTON, R.B.A. — H. G. GLYDE, A.R.C.A.

WRITE FOR PROSPECTUS.

HON. P. E. BAKER, Minister of Education.

W. G. CARPENTER, Principal.

The Edmonton Bulletin, August 24, 1935

1939

The Provincial Institute of

TECHNOLOGY and ART

IN CALGARY

Opens for Term October 2nd, 1939

AVIATION

A 2-year course in aeronautical mechanics. Theory with shop practice on planes and engines. Classes open September 5th and close June 21st, 1940. Annual Fee: $50.00.

1. DAY COURSES

Aeronautics, Electricity, Auto Mechanics, Auto Electricity and Batteries, Oxy-Acetylene Welding, Electric Welding, Machine Shop Practice, Building Construction, Drafting, Mechanical Drafting, Survey Drafting, Diesel Engines, Farm Mechanics including Tractors, Diesels, Blacksmithing, Cement and Plaster, Carpentry; General Shop for Teachers; Vulcanizing; Dressmaking and Millinery; Art, including Normal Art for Teachers, Landscape, Commercial Craft Work, Life and Still Life. Fees are nominal.

2. Evening Courses

A comprehensive program of night courses is being organized for the winter months. This will include Motor Mechanics, Batteries, Welding, Carpentry, Electricity, Machine Shop Practice, Aviation, Mechanical, Survey and Building Drafting; Art in all its branches; Dressmaking, Cooking, Show Card Writing, Mathematics, and any other course for which there is a sufficient enrolment and a competent instructor may be found.

3. Home Study Courses

(a) Coal Mining: Fire Boss, Pit Boss and Mine Manager; Coal Mining Mathematics, Mine Surveying.

(b) Steam Engineering; Fireman, Third, Second and First; Mathematics.

A Government School--Standard Courses

Write for an Announcement

HON. WM. ABERHART,
Minister of Education.

W. G. CARPENTER,
Principal.

The Edmonton Bulletin August 19, 1939

City Centre Airport in 1943 – **the eventual location of NAIT**

S1-1688 Edmonton Airport Alta 20.30 G.M.T.N 10 November 1943 5000 Confidential
Negative REA 290-36

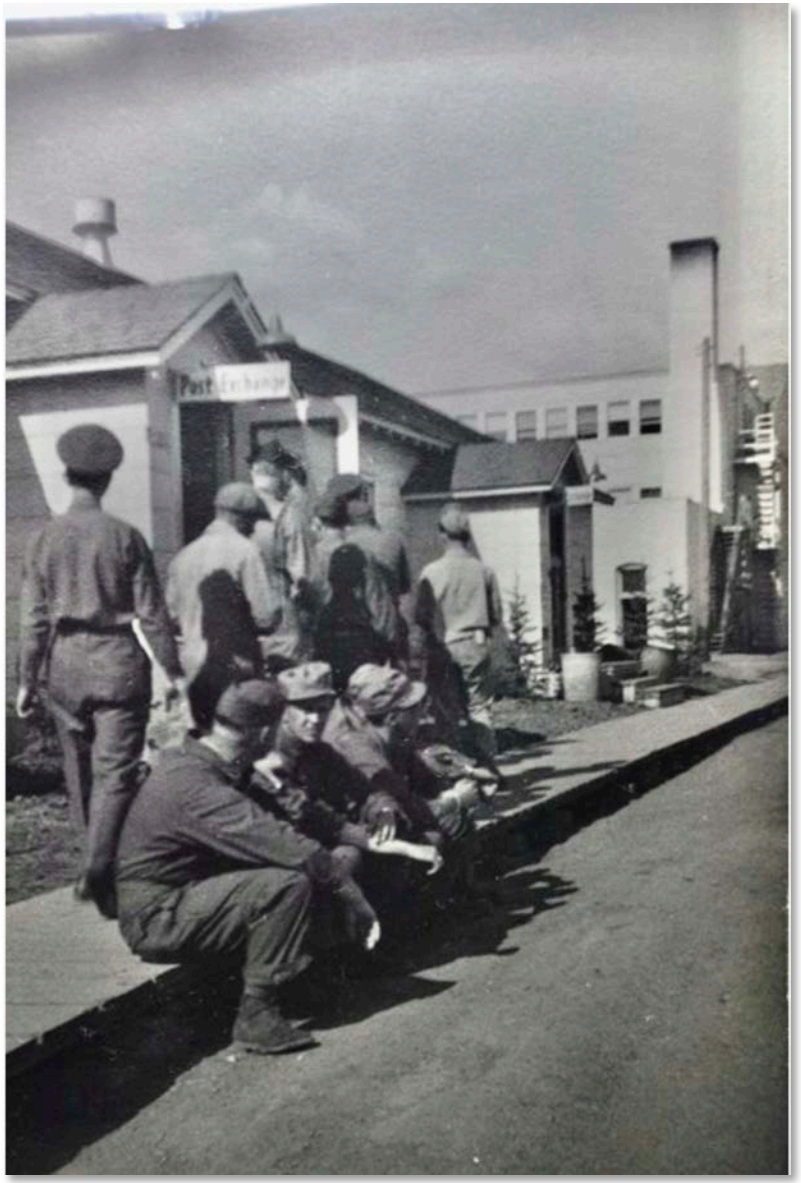
National Aviation Museum, Ottawa

NAIT campus was formerly a field of barracks for the American WW2 soldiers

City Centre Airport post 1943 Negative 5450

National Aviation Museum, Ottawa

City Centre Airport was the nucleus for construction of the Alaska Highway and allied protection of the west coast from Japanese invasion during WW2.



Hangar 11 in the background

Alberta Aviation Museum Duncan R Kennedy collection

Aircraft Repair Ltd. hangar. Ansons, Harvards, Lend-lease Bell P-39 Aircobras en route to Russia via Alaska. Courtesy, Alberta Aviation Museum, from *For King and Country*.

Northwest Industries - Hangar 11

1946

Fall Opening in Our Own Home

Provincial Institute of Technology & Art

AFTER spending six years in temporary war-time premises the PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ART has returned to its own buildings at 13th Avenue and 10th Street N.W., Calgary. These buildings have been completely renovated and re-equipped.

OPENING DATES for 1946-47

September 3rd

Commercial Wireless Operating
Air Engineers
Aeronautical Engineering

October 28th

Automotive Electricity
Tractors
Farm Construction and Mechanics

November 11th

Welding

September 30th

Industrial Electricity
Radio Technician
Machine Shop
Automobile Mechanics
Building Construction and Drafting
Mechanical Drafting
Surveying and Drafting
Industrial Dressmaking and Millinery
Fine and Applied Art

Write for Free Illustrated Booklet

HON. R. E. ANSLEY,
Minister of Education.

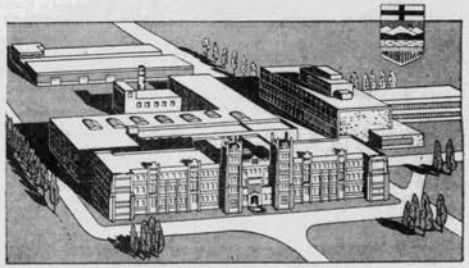
J. FOWLER
Principal.

Edmonton Journal, September 14, 1946

1958

The Provincial Institute Of Technology and Art

TECHNICAL TRAINING



The purpose of the Provincial Institute of Technology and Art is to train men and women for semi-professional positions as assistant engineers and technicians in industry. These positions require specialized knowledge and skills in specific fields. Courses are terminal and provide the necessary theoretical knowledge and skills for students to qualify ultimately for responsible, supervisory positions.

Apply now for fall and winter term

TUITION FEES ARE AS LOW AS $51.00 PER YEAR

• 2 YEAR COURSES
Agricultural Mechanics (Starts Oct. 27)
Aircraft Maintenance Technology (Starts Sept. 15)
Architectural Drafting Technology (Starts Sept. 29)
Automotive Service Technology (Starts Sept. 29)
Construction Technology (Starts Sept. 29)
Clothing and Design (Starts Sept. 29)
Drafting Technology (Starts Sept. 29)
Industrial Electrical Technology (Starts Sept. 29)
Industrial Laboratory Technology (Starts Sept. 29)
Land Surveying Technology (Starts Sept. 29)
Mechanical Technology (Starts Sept. 29)
Radio and Electronic Technology (Starts Sept. 29)

• 3 WEEK COURSES
Welding (Oxy-Acetylene and Electric) (Starts Sept. 29, Oct. 20, Nov. 10, etc.)

• 10 WEEK COURSES
Tractors (Starts Oct. 27)

• CORRESPONDENCE COURSES
Power Plant Engineering
Practical Mathematics

• 1 YEAR COURSES
Commercial Wireless Operating (Starts Sept. 29)
Diesel Mechanics (Starts Oct. 27)
Food Service Training (Starts Sept. 29)
Refrigeration and Appliance Servicing (Starts Sept. 29)

• 3 YEAR COURSES
Aeronautical Engineering (1st, 2nd and 3rd year starts Sept. 29)
Art, Applied and General Crafts (Starts Sept. 29)
Art, Pottery and Ceramics, Industrial Design (Starts Sept. 29)

• 4 YEAR COURSES
Art, Commercial, Advanced (Starts Sept. 29)
Art, Fine, Advanced (Starts Sept. 29)

• SPECIAL SHORT COURSES
Dressmaking, Elementary (Starts Oct. 14)
Dressmaking, Advanced (Starts Oct. 14)
Tailoring, Ladies and Men (Starts Oct. 14)
Slip Covers, Drapes and Upholstery (Starts Oct. 14)

THE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ART

AFFILIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE DEPT. OF EDUCATION — GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
HON. A. O. AALBORG, MINISTER OF EDUCATION — E. W. WOOD, M.E.I.C., M.I. MAR. E., PRINCIPAL

CLIP AND MAIL or Phone AVenue 97878

TO DEPT.— "E.J."
Provincial Institute of Technology & Art,
Calgary, Alberta.
Please send me your FREE booklet outlining complete details of all courses.
PLEASE PRINT NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS.

NAME _____ AGE ____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ HIGHEST SCHOOL GRADE ____

Edmonton Journal, June 7, 1958

1960 Announcement: A new institute

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

Technology School Given New Name

The Provincial Institute of Technology and Art in Calgary has been renamed the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, effective immediately.

The school offering two and four-year diploma courses in a wide range of subjects, has an enrolment of 6,000 students.

It also was announced the new Institute planned for Edmonton will be known as the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology.

Edmonton Journal, December 27, 1960

The planning and design of the NAIT campus was undertaken in the Alberta Department of Public Works

The Department of Highways and Public Works was established in 1905 to design all of Alberta's public buildings. Many architects and technologists played an important part over the years. For example:

The first Provincial Architect was A.M. Jeffers (1905 to 1910) who designed the Alberta Legislative Building & the Courthouse at Wetaskiwin.

The second Provincial Architect was Richard P. Blakey (1911 to 1926)
1913 Government House

The third Provincial Architect was F. (Fred) H. MacDonald (1927 to 1929)
1930-31 natural Resources Building adjacent to the Legislature

The fourth Provincial Architect was W. (Bill) W. Butchart (1929 to 1946) who left to go with the Edmonton Public School Board where he supervised the design of many schools.

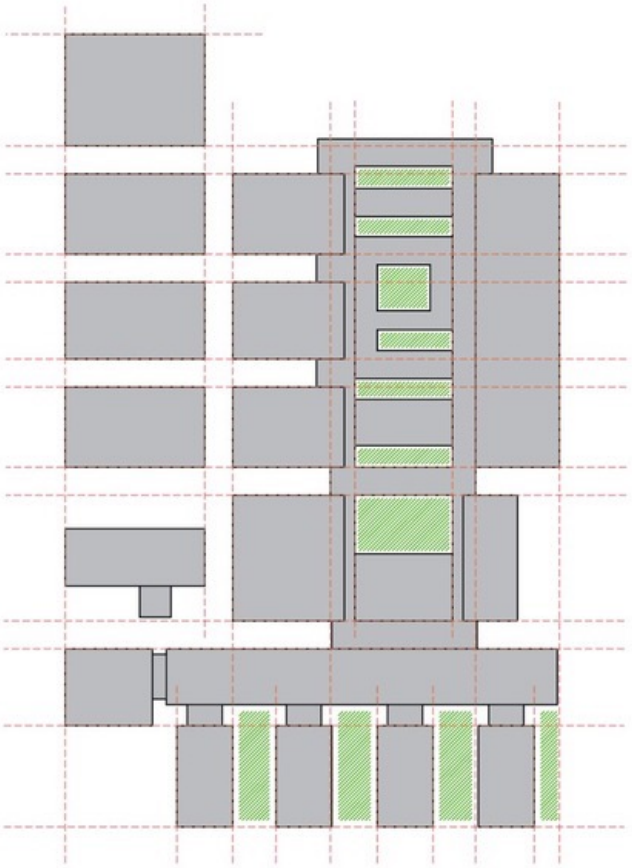
The Provincial architect at the time of design of the NAIT campus was architect Art Henderson who held this position from 1958 to 1966.

The NAIT campus plan and buildings were designed by

George A. Jellinek, Dipl, AAA, MRAIC
and opened in 1963

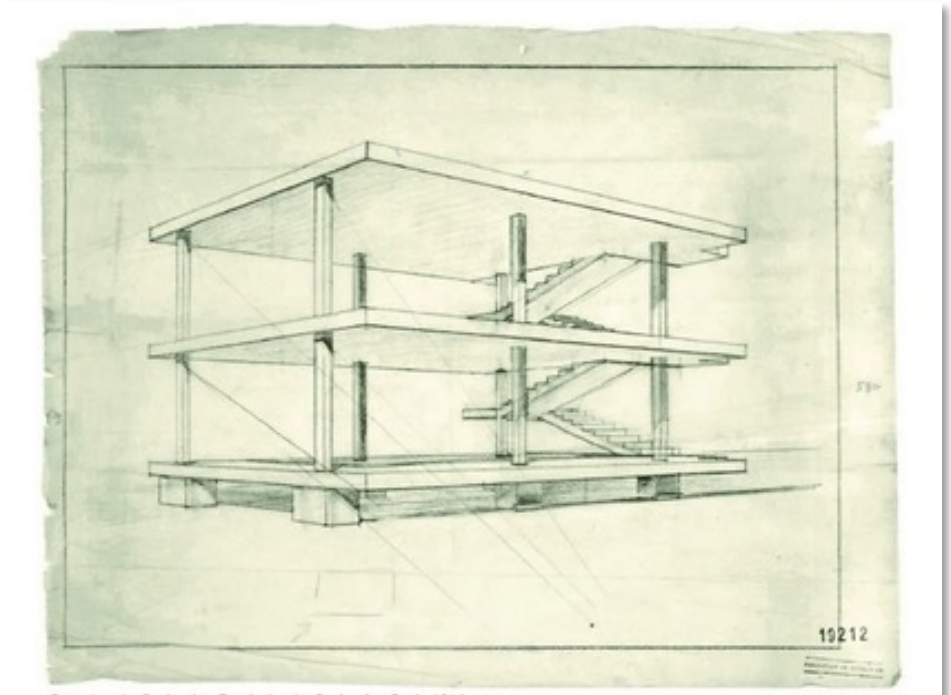
George Jellinek was from Austria and came to Alberta in the 1950s to work in the Department of Public Works. There is little record of his background, but we assume that he completed his architectural education in Austria.

He was not a registered architect when he joined APW, but became registered on February 2, 1962 while working at APW.

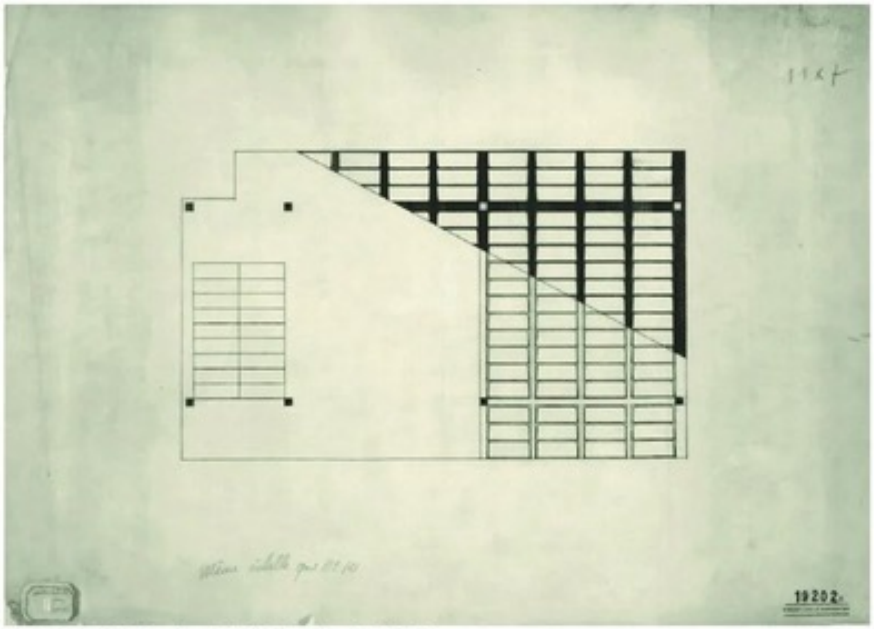


The Design of the NAIT Campus and Buildings

NAIT Photo Archives



Dom-Ino. Le Corbusier, Fondation Le Corbusier, Paris, 1914.



Dom-Ino. Le Corbusier, Fondation Le Corbusier, Paris, 1914.

NAIT's Design Origins
in the
Post WW1 Modern Movement

Inspired by the industrial revolution, Le Corbusier imagined prefabricated component sets of monolithic material consisting entirely of concrete and steel construction. The fundamentals of the structural organization lie in the slab and pilotis construction.

Samuel Capozza, Rhode Island School of Design

Origins of the Modern Movement

Modular Design Precedent

Japanese House Framing

Katsura Imperial Villa, Kyoto *- Wikipedia*

"A key point of reference that struck a cord with modernist thinkers in Europe and beyond was the Katsura Imperial Villa in Kyoto, Japan. Among the characteristic features of the Imperial Villa are its simple, recurring, three-dimensional structures, the tatami mats that cover its floors, the frames of the sliding panels and their various in-fills, alongside the ceilings' visible beam constructions. From a Western perspective, it is unsurprising that Katsura's open, minimalistic rooms immediately conjure up images of modern architectural classics such as the Case Study House by Eames or buildings designed by Egon Eiermann and **Mies van der Rohe**. Documented during the 1950s, photographs of the Imperial property by Ishimoto Yasuhiro capture bold, graphic grids that form lightweight constructions and stark contrasts between a variety of patterned surfaces."

"How Japan's Imperial Architecture influenced the Bauhaus" by Keshav Anand

VerSeid AG Faactory, Krefeld Germany 1931-1935

by Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe

Architectuul

Architectuul

This factory was designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe 1931 for the silk weaving company VerSeid AG. It was one the early buildings associated with the Bauhaus and the Modern Movement.

It is noteworthy for its steel frame modular composition and construction.

Between the Bauhaus' final closure and Mies' emigration to the United States, he built very little. Like Gropius, he entered the 1933 Reichsbank competition, but otherwise seemed determined to wait out the Nazis, drawings criticism from former Bauhaus colleagues who had left the country with far more haste. Reluctantly, in 1937, he moved to America.

In the United States, post-Depression, Mies found plenty of corporate clients willing to realise ideas that had seemed impossible in Germany – Modern Architecture: International Exhibition at New York's Museum of Modern Art in 1932 had already made Mies' name known.

He redesigned and taught at the IIC from 1938 to 58, and would become an American citizen in 1944, defining, for better or worse, what would become the accepted mode of building cultural, educational and corporate architecture for decades.

Dezeen's Bauhaus 100 series explores the enduring influence of the school

Mies settled in Chicago, Illinois, where he was appointed head of the architecture school at Chicago's Armour Institute of Technology (later renamed Illinois Institute of Technology). One of the benefits of taking this position was that he would be commissioned to design the new buildings and master plan for the campus. All his buildings still stand there, including Alumni Hall, the chapel, and his masterpiece the S.R. Crown Hall, built as the home of IIT's School of Architecture.

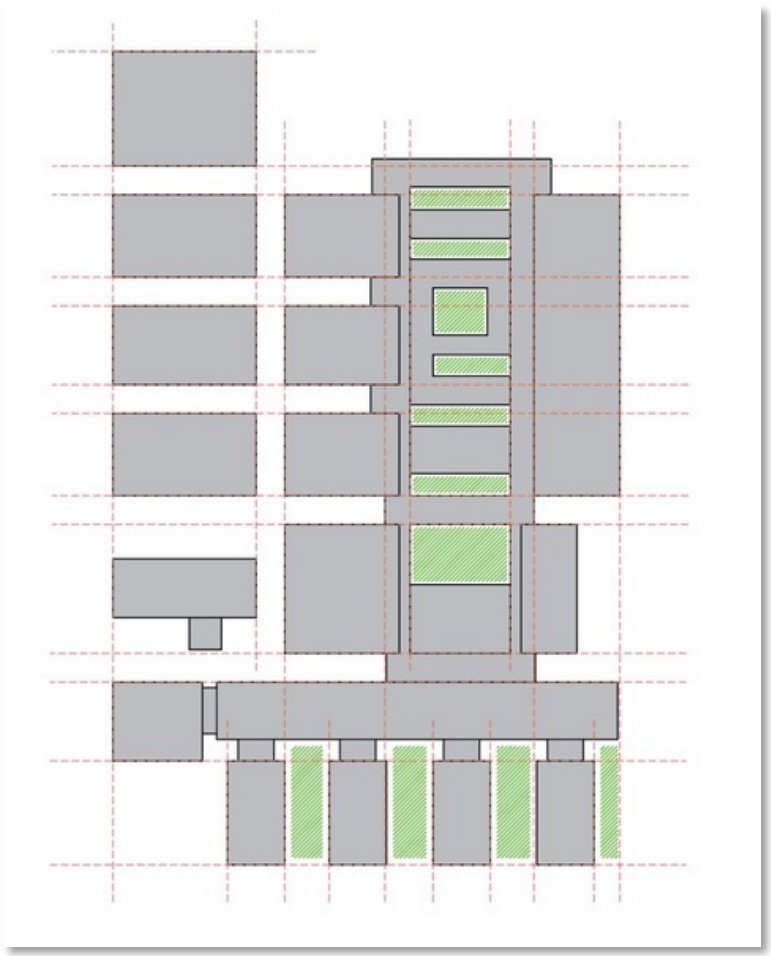
Wikipedia

Mies van der Rohe taught at IIT for 20 years, from 1938 to 1958, serving as the head of the architecture department during that time. He not only developed the university's curriculum based on Bauhaus principles but also designed the campus itself, creating a collection of influential buildings with minimalist design elements.

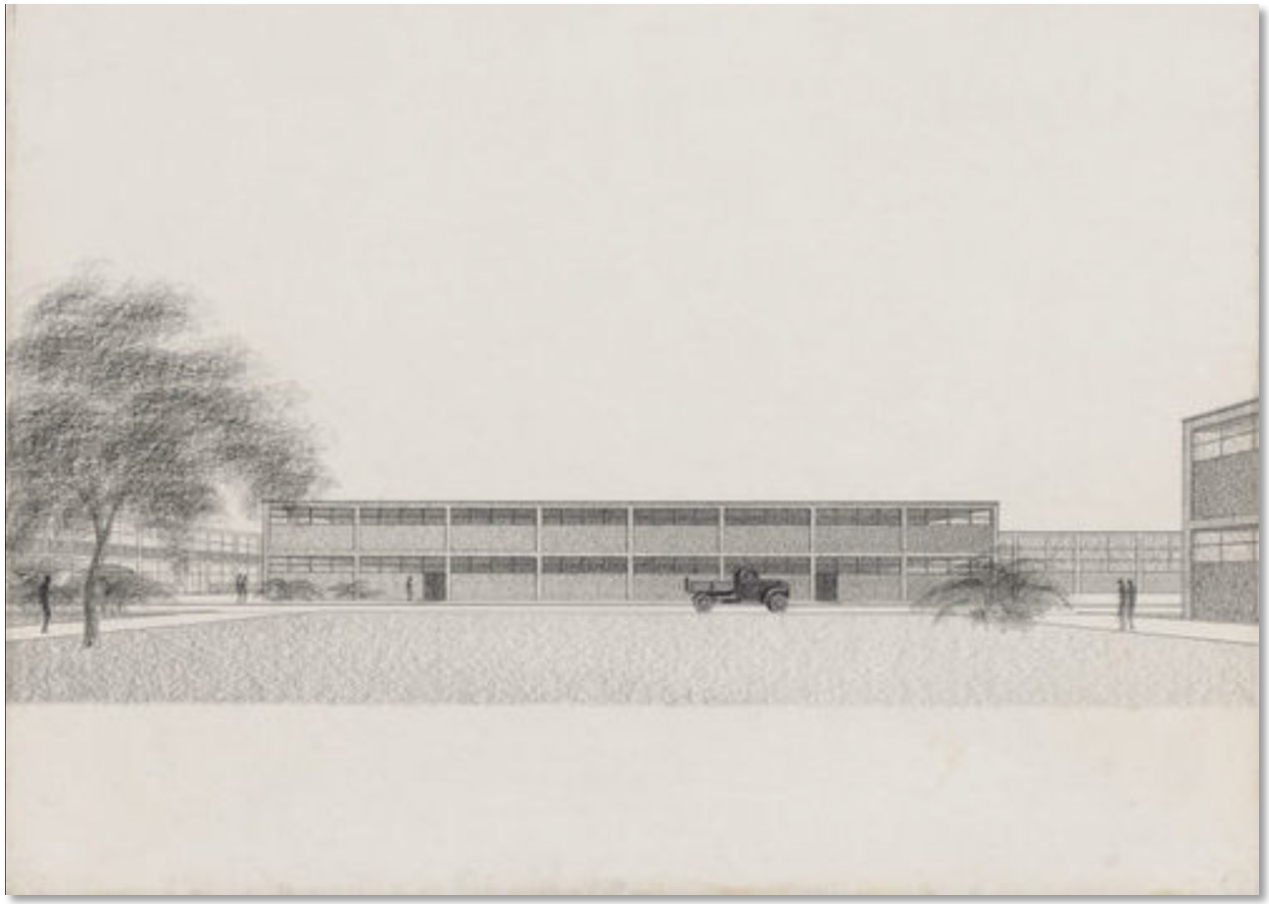
AI Overview

Model of Plan for Illinois Institute of Technology

Chicago History Museum



Plan for NAIT Campus



Sketch for Illinois Institute of Technology by Mies Van Der Rohe *Courtesy MoMA*

“Mies did not design buildings with a particular style in mind. For him, the philosophy came first. How a building looked was purely an expression of its era and its materials. As he explained, “I am not interested in the history of civilization. I am interested in our civilization. We are living it. Because I really believe, after a long time of working and thinking and studying that architecture...can only express this civilization we are in and nothing else.” *Chicago Architecture Centre*

Wishnick Hall

Nov 11

Built 1946

Chicago, Illinois, USA

The stylistic consistency of Mies van der Rohe's classroom buildings on Illinois Institute of Technology's campus was established in his design of Wishnick Hall (originally planned as the chemistry building). The exterior relates visibly to Alumni Memorial Hall and Perlstein Hall differing only in height (three stories as opposed to two) and minor distinctions can be seen in plan rather than structure. The entrance and auditorium occupy the central three of nine bays with the auditorium's foyer boasting a single curved white oak millwork surface.

Mies van der Rohe Society

About Mies Restoration News Events Contact

Engineering Research Building

Nov 9

Built 1945

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Institute of Gas Technology Building

Nov 15

Built 1950

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Located on Illinois Institute of Technology's campus, the Institute of Gas Technology Building was designed by Mies van der Rohe, and originally part of a five building complex for the Institute of Gas Technology. This building is modernist in its expression of materials and proportions. It is currently utilized by the university for classrooms and is home to the College of Architecture's Ph.D. program.

Mies van der Rohe Society

About Mies Restoration News Events Contact

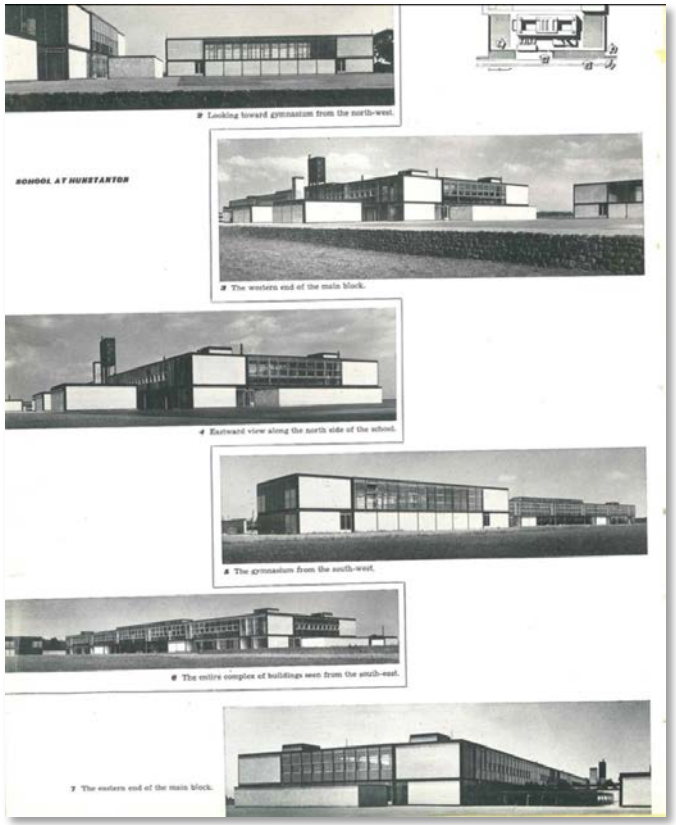
Mechanical Engineering Research Building I

Nov 21

Built 1952

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Mies' Influence Around the World



The Architectural Review, August 1954

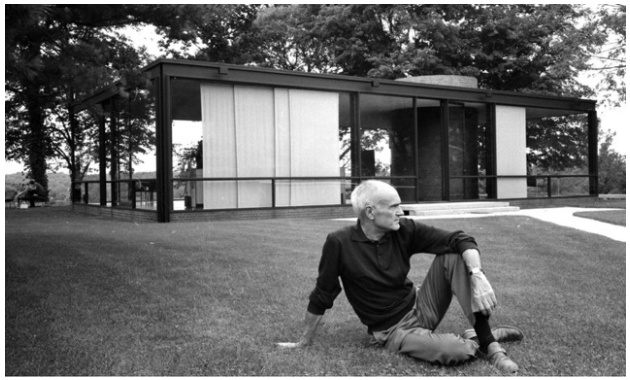
School at Hunstanton (1949-1954), Norfolk by Alison and Peter Smithson

Comment by **Philip Johnson**, as an American follower of Mies van der Rohe:

This is an extraordinary group of buildings. To an American architect like myself, and especially to a Mies van der Rohe follower such as I have been, it seems probably more extraordinary than to an Englishman or a Frank Lloyd Wright boy. For many reasons:

The plan is not only radical, but also very Mies-like in its nature. Yet the architects have never seen Mies's work. And though the Smithsons may not agree, much of the excellence of their work is a tribute not only to themselves but also to the genius of Mies van der Rohe. For it is Mies who has codified the exposed steel-glass-and-brick-filled-frame grammar for the rest of us to use. …The Mies vernacular is not good by chance. Mies believes that architects should seek to create generally applicable ideas, not 'sports' or exciting individual buildings. He will create so that others may build well."

Alison and Peter Smithson school to be refurbished "before it is too late"



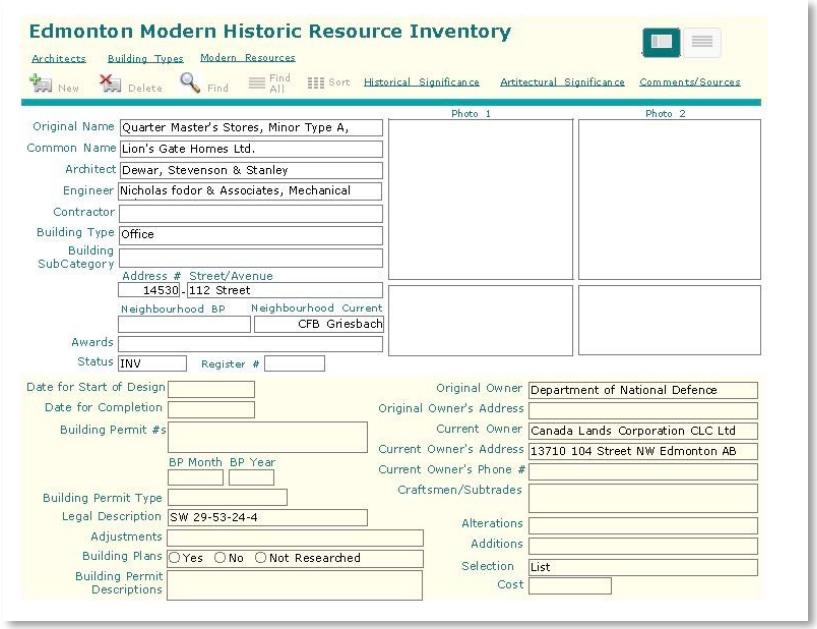
Philip Johnson Photo by David McLaine
NY Daily News, Getty

Miesian Design Precedent In Edmonton

1955
Quarter Masters Stores At Griesbach

Dewar Stevenson Stanley Architects

Photo by James Dow



Edmonton Modern Historic Resource Inventory

Architects | Building Types | Modern Resources

New | Delete | Find | Find All | Sort | Historical Significance | Artitectural Significance | Comments/Sources

Original Name	Quarter Master's Stores, Minor Type A,
Common Name	Lion's Gate Homes Ltd.
Architect	Dewar, Stevenson & Stanley
Engineer	Nicholas fodor & Associates, Mechanical
Contractor	
Building Type	Office
Building SubCategory	
Address # Street/Avenue	14530 - 112 Street
Neighbourhood BP	
Neighbourhood Current	CFB Griesbach
Awards	
Status	INV
Register #	

Photo 1 | Photo 2

Date for Start of Design	
Date for Completion	
Building Permit #s	
BP Month / BP Year	
Building Permit Type	
Legal Description	SW 29-53-24-4
Adjustments	
Building Plans	○ Yes ○ No ○ Not Researched
Building Permit Descriptions	
Original Owner	Department of National Defence
Original Owner's Address	
Current Owner	Canada Lands Corporation CLC Ltd
Current Owner's Address	13710 104 Street NW Edmonton AB
Current Owner's Phone #	
Craftsmen/Subtrades	
Alterations	
Additions	
Selection	List
Cost	

George Jellinek's Design for the NAIT Campus

Premier To Open NAIT On Monday

Architect Adopts Functional Design

The design of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology is functional, according to George Jellinek, the architect who designed the buildings.

Formerly with the provincial department of public works and now in private practice in Edmonton, Mr. Jellinek gives this description of the 15-acre complex of buildings:

"The functional layout of the plan and the simple lines of its exterior and interior resulted in a design of almost "under one roof." Our climatic conditions favor this type of planning. The seven landscaped courtyards open up approximately 15 acres of floor area, creating an atmosphere of space.

"Precast concrete was the material best suited to provide the large clear spans for the shops, library, cafeteria and administration area. Poured in place concrete was more economical for the technical wings, where classrooms and laboratories take the largest part of the floor area.

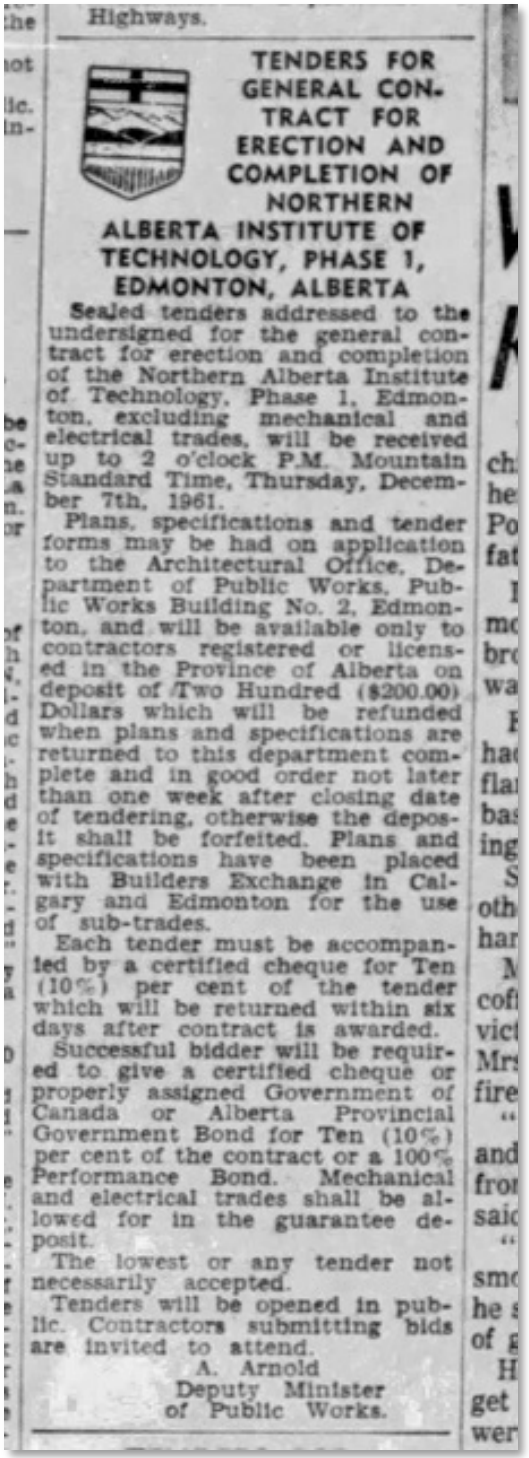
163 SHOPS

"The room requirements for the institute were impressive: 163 major shops, laboratories and classrooms with 164 auxiliary work and storage units, 114 staff offices and, in addition, library, gymnasium, auditoria, dining facilities, lounges for students and staff, activity areas, etc.

"Brick veneer was the finish for the exterior throughout, exposed concrete block at the interior, with intention no expensive exterior or interior materials was applied."

Finally — many planners look for appreciation from their clients. In the case of the institute, the clients will be the thousands who will be working there on their education. It will be the place which made the most marked impression in their lives — the knowledge that their skilled experience, gained there by hard work, will give them a better place in life and will enable them to make a contribution to the development of our country.

Edmonton Journal, May 25, 1963



Highways.

TENDERS FOR GENERAL CONTRACT FOR ERECTION AND COMPLETION OF NORTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, PHASE 1, EDMONTON, ALBERTA

Sealed tenders addressed to the undersigned for the general contract for erection and completion of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Phase 1, Edmonton, excluding mechanical and electrical trades, will be received up to 2 o'clock P.M. Mountain Standard Time, Thursday, December 7th, 1961.

Plans, specifications and tender forms may be had on application to the Architectural Office, Department of Public Works, Public Works Building No. 2, Edmonton, and will be available only to contractors registered or licensed in the Province of Alberta on deposit of Two Hundred ($200.00) Dollars which will be refunded when plans and specifications are returned to this department complete and in good order not later than one week after closing date of tendering, otherwise the deposit shall be forfeited. Plans and specifications have been placed with Builders Exchange in Calgary and Edmonton for the use of sub-trades.

Each tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque for Ten (10%) per cent of the tender which will be returned within six days after contract is awarded.

Successful bidder will be required to give a certified cheque or properly assigned Government of Canada or Alberta Provincial Government Bond for Ten (10%) per cent of the contract or a 100% Performance Bond. Mechanical and electrical trades shall be allowed for in the guarantee deposit.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Tenders will be opened in public. Contractors submitting bids are invited to attend.

A. Arnold
Deputy Minister
of Public Works.

Edmonton Journal, November 20, 1961

Construction of the campus of
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

begins in 1961

Construction of the NAIT Campus and Buildings

1963, NAIT Archives

Construction of the NAIT Campus and Buildings

1963, NAIT Archives

NAIT - concrete precast construction

Double "T" precast roof construction

precast edge beams over columns

College Plaza

Precast concrete construction in Edmonton – Peter Batoni

He was born in 1922, in Florence, Italy. Peter studied architecture in both Florence and Lousanne, Switzerland. After traveling throughout Europe, Peter came to Canada in 1955 and settled in Edmonton. His pre-cast concrete business was one of the largest in Canada. His greatest passion was designing and constucting buildings which included many bridges in Alberta, the Coliseum, **College Plaza**, Renaissance Place plus many other buildings in Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Denver, Florida, and Los Angeles. *Extracted from Peter's obituary March 2010*

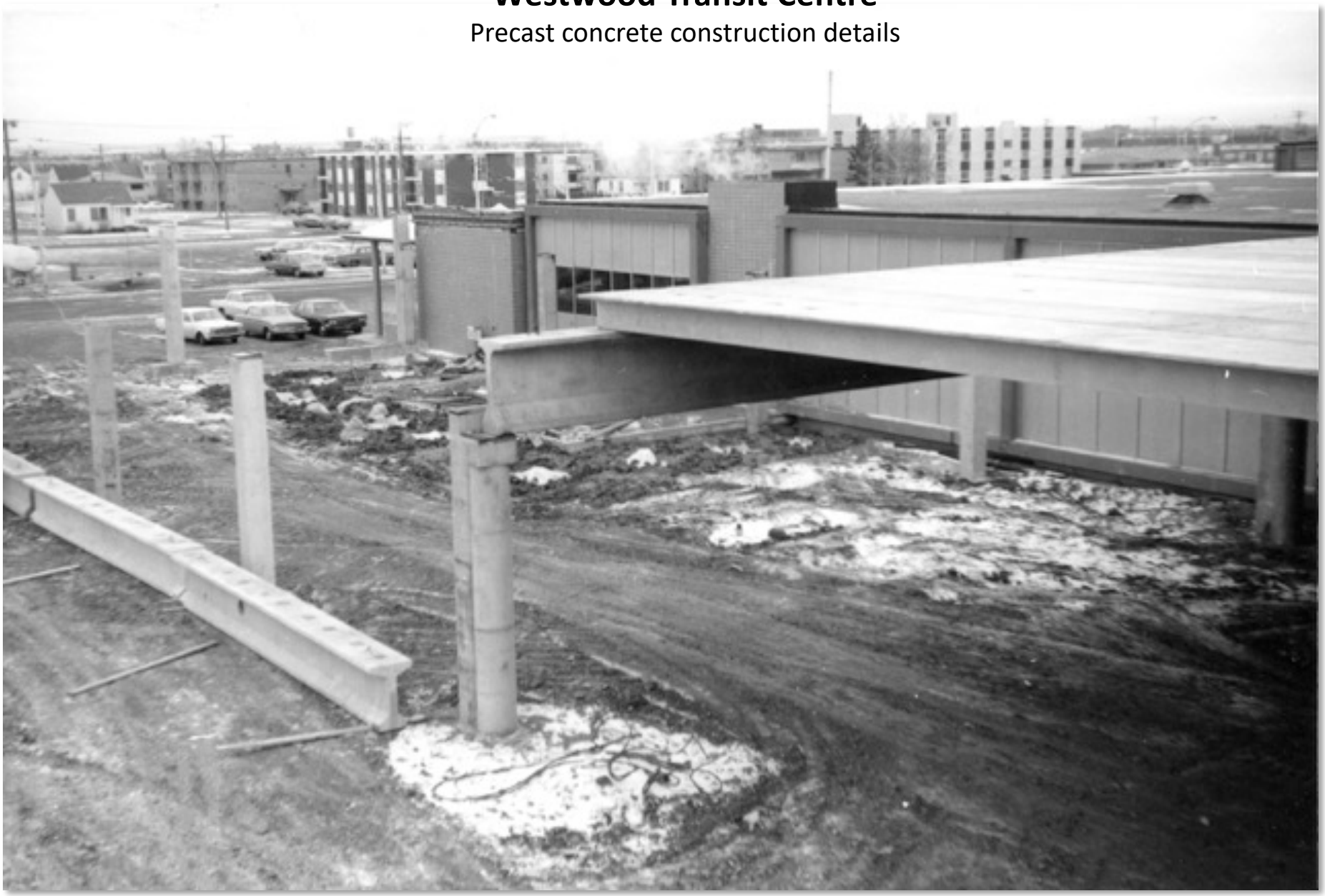
Nearby Westwood Transit Centre under construction

a concrete pre-cast precedent for the NAIT campus

Edmonton Archives

Westwood Transit Centre

Precast concrete construction details

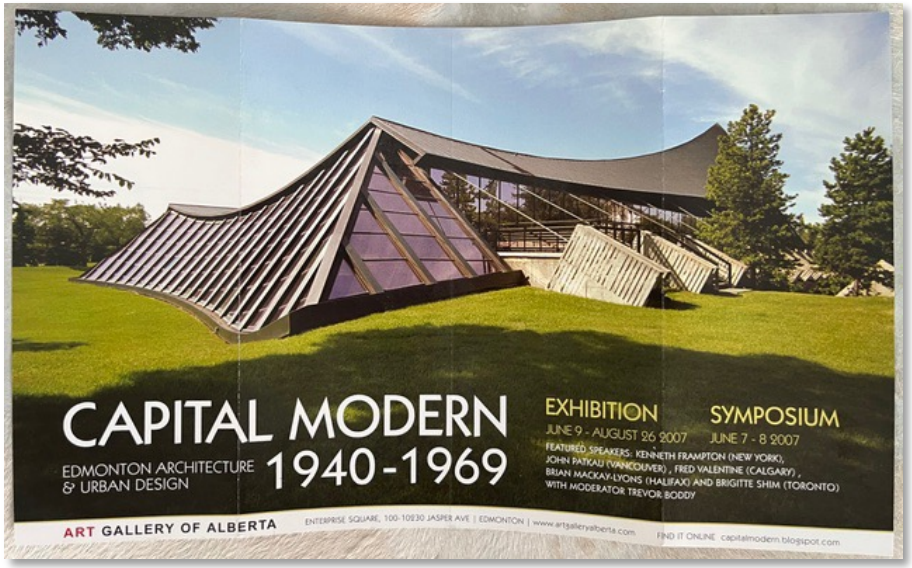


Edmonton Archives

Westwood Transit Centre

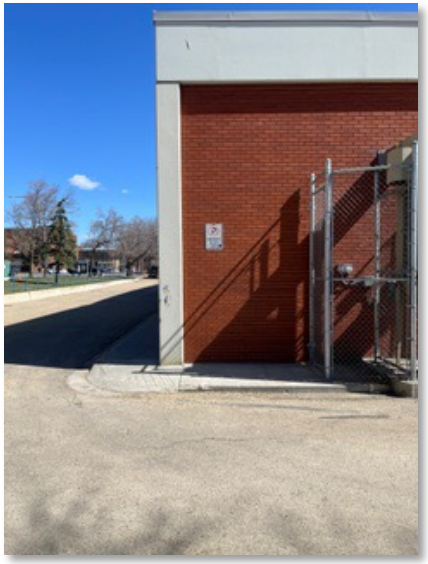
Edmonton Archives

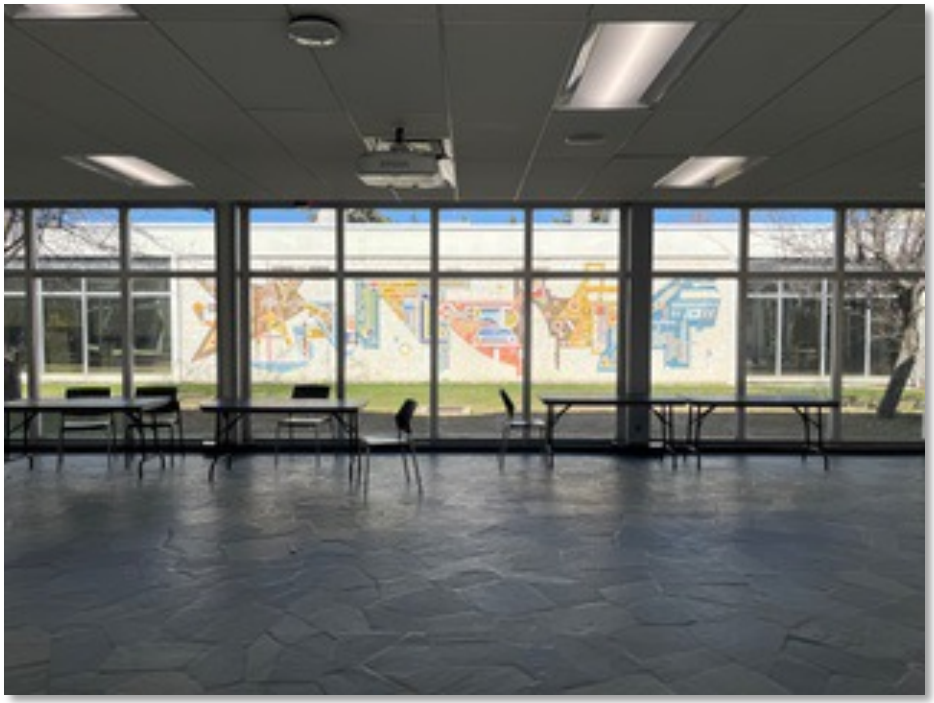
2007 Capital Modern Exhibition at the Art Gallery of Alberta



Photos by James Dow

NAIT Campus in 2025





NAIT Architectural Technology Program

Architect **Orest Holubitsky** established the first architectural technology program at NAIT, probably in 1963 with the opening of NAIT. He became a member of the Alberta Association of Architects on February 13, 1963, while working at the office of architect Eugene Olekshy. He eventually became a partner with architect William Hnidan in 1967.

Receives Degree In Architecture

Daryl C. Jorgenson, son of Alberta's minister of welfare, Hon. R. D. Jorgenson, recently graduated with a degree in architecture from University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

Another Edmonton man, Orest B. Holubitsky, son of Dr. and Mrs. N. D. Holubitsky, 10725 125 St., received the Architectural Institute of British Columbia prize of books and an award of merit in the same commencement ceremonies.

Mr. Holubitsky also won the Canadian Pilkington award for his thesis on architectural designs.

FISHING POPULAR

LONDON (CP) — More people are taking up fishing. The River Board reports a record total of 52,000 angling licences were sold last year, compared with 46,000 in 1958.

Edmonton Journal, May 18, 1960

WILLIAM HNIDAN
Architect
is pleased to announce that as of August 1, 1967
OREST B. HOLUBITSKY
Architect
will be associated in the firm of
HNIDAN-HOLUBITSKY Architects
Room 6 10830 - 107 Ave.
Ph. 424-6093 422-3864

Edmonton Journal, August 12, 1967

HOLUBITSKY, Orest Bohdan
March 1935 – November 2023

Our beloved Ori is now at peace. He was predeceased by his mother Lucy (nee Niewchas), father Dr. Nicholas, and older brother Myron.

The family moved from Radway to Edmonton when Ori was 9. He was blessed with a curious mind, exceptional mathematical skills, and an aptitude for academics at which he excelled. Ori loved telling stories about playing trombone in the Edmonton School Boys Band, working on the highways near Drumheller, and in the dining car of the train from Edmonton to Vancouver where he discovered not only the wonderful world of food but also the beautiful city he would eventually call home.

He originally studied to be a doctor but quickly realized his mistake. He followed his love for Vancouver, numbers and design, and completed a degree in Architecture at UBC in 1960. Ori returned to Edmonton after graduation to article and soon opened his own architectural practice. Through a chance encounter, Ori was invited to develop the Architectural Technologies program at N.A.I.T. where he remained as department head for several years while simultaneously running his practice, opening two restaurants, and partnering in an art gallery.

Ori was a true entrepreneur; he had a unique
ideas and no matter how challenging or at wh
he found a way to make it work. He was bra
and as a result he created and went on to o
restaurants, hotels, and apartment developmen

Ori eventually settled in his true home, Van
pursue his passions for food and business. He
in a busy restaurant or sitting by the fireplac
truly was the consummate host and loved se
his restaurants as much as welcoming family ar

Ori lived a great life and was fortunate to be a
He will be fondly remembered by the friends he made, the associates he had, the students he led and foremost, his family.

He is profoundly missed by his wife Fuschia, his daughter Dori, his son Gregg (Silvia), and his beloved grandson Liam.

At Ori's request, there will be no funeral.

He originally studied to be a doctor but quickly realized his mistake. He followed his love for Vancouver, numbers and design, and completed a degree in Architecture at UBC in 1960. Ori returned to Edmonton after graduation to article and soon opened his own architectural practice. Through a chance encounter, Ori was invited to develop the Architectural Technologies program at N.A.I.T. where he remained as department head for several years while simultaneously running his practice, opening two restaurants, and partnering in an art gallery.

Ori was invited to develop the Architectural Technologies Program at NAIT in 1963

Edmonton Journal, December 2, 2023

Killarney Drugs To Hold 7-Day Opening

Space Doubled In New Store At 97th St., 129th Ave.

Door Prize Awarded Daily For Seven Days, Coffee Served

OWNER WILLIAM STORCHUK
. . . in cosmetics department

Store Carries Varied Stock

Killarney Pioneer Had First Store

Grand Opening SA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1st

ONE WEE

STORE HOURS:
9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Mon. - Sat.
12 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Sun. and Holidays

KILLARNEY DRUG

12913 - 97 Street

Phone 479-898

DOOR PRIZES

CHRISTMAS CARDS
BY RUST CRAFT

TOILETRIES SAVIN

HAIR SPRAYS

KILLARNEY SHAMROCK SPECIALS

MEDICINE CHEST & FIRST AID

COUGH & COLD REMEDIES

FILMS

KILLARNEY DRUGS
OUR QUALITY IMPRINT LINE

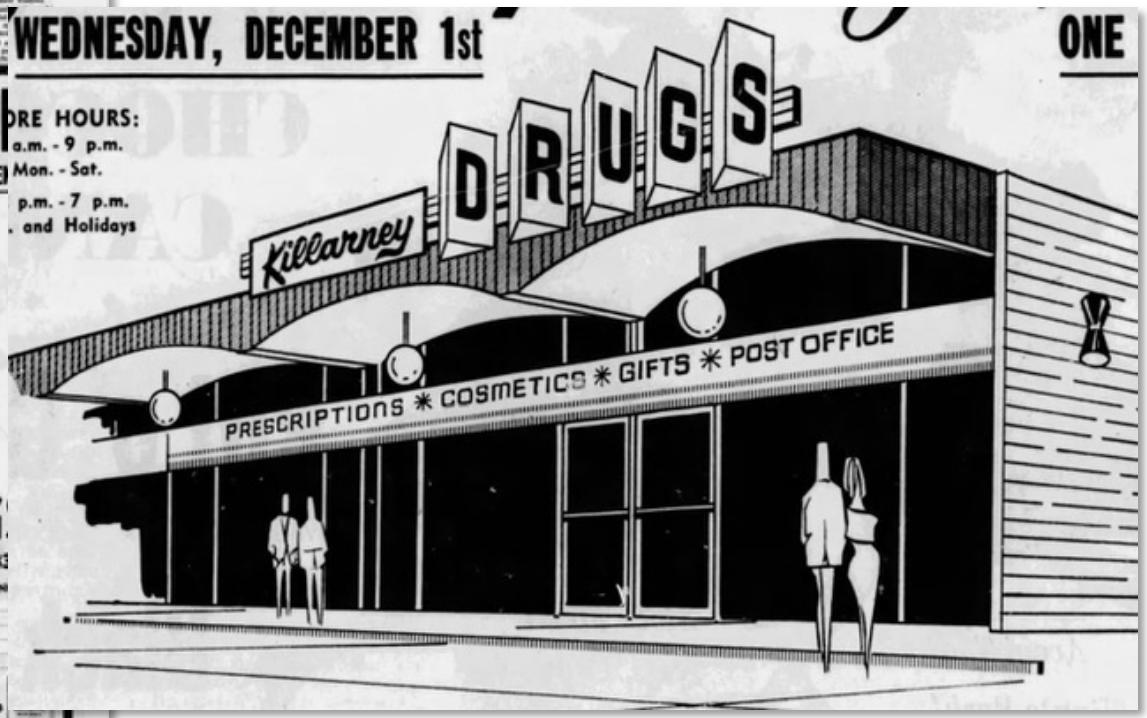
FAMILY BARGAINS

VITAMINS & TONICS

Congratulations to
KILLARNEY DRUGS
on their opening
. . .
X-L NEON SIGNS

Wishing Killarney Drugs Continued Success
. . .
See the TEXAMA carpet
sold by
SYDNEY FLOORS LTD.

Orest Holubitsky designed this Drug Store building in 1967.



NAIT's neighbour, 1959 Westwood Transit Centre, a possible design influence at the time.

(Whatever Happened to) George Jellinek?

George left Alberta Public Works to form his own architectural practice in 1962.

The Journal For WOMEN

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, Wednesday, June 19, 1963 21

Ruth Bowen
WOMEN'S EDITOR

Green Highways

Highways are greenest in June.

New leaves, sweet scented are a delicate shading against the black green evergreens. Blue skies and sunshine, puffs of cloud and grey rain—wind along the highways and weather is where you meet it.

Jasper was just opening its doors. The river was rising as sun sent the snow down in waterfalls from the heights. The new water danced with adventure. "One of those drip things" said an observer at a small waterfall. But it was no drip. It leaped shouting, off the edge of a rock, scattered and sparkled, then found the river bed and trilled away in a frothy stream.

There was a delight of wild flowers in the shady places along the Athabasca river and rocks were pink and turquoise.

The camp keeper at one lodging brought a gift of flowers. He had filled a bowlful of wet moss with the tiny, wild purple mountain orchids. It was exquisite.

'Landmark' Missing

Highways are green in June, familiar and new again. But the deer had left their stance at one mountain road junction where you'd swear they lived on ice cream, candy bars and peanuts all summer. Moose and elk with patchy hides shedding winter for summer crossed the road.

Just one bear ambled out to see the passing traffic and sat down comfortably to watch the people.

At the Ice Fields a grizzly bear went over the mountain. Tracks were deep in the snow, straight up the mountain side from the lowest view point where the snow still spread.

Ancient Craft Portrays Modern Ideas

By BEVERLEY GIETZ
Journal Staff Writer

There's nothing medieval about the stained glass windows Ernestine Tahedl makes but the materials.

Traditional glass and "glue" create abstract and semi-abstract designs proving that though Ernestine Tahedl may practise an ancient craft, she is first and foremost a contemporary artist.

NEW THINGS

Miss Tahedl, who has lived all her life in Vienna, decided to come to Canada because she wanted to "see something new." She arrived in Edmonton May 12, and is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Jellinek, 10515 132nd St. Miss Tahedl will work in co-operation with her host, an architect.

Ernestine is known in European art circles as a "Wunderkindt" or "wonderchild". Vienna newspapers were lauding her efforts in oils when she was still a child.

MASTERS DEGREE

Two years ago she won her masters degree in graphic art from the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. Her paintings have had numerous showings — and sales — from Rome to San Salvador.

Making stained glass windows is an unusual profession, Ernestine admits. "There are very few who practise this craft even in Europe," she says in her soft, halting English. She knows of no one else in her business in Canada.

Ernestine learned her craft from her artist father. The most important job, from the artist's point of view, is creating the design. Size, shape, and color of each stone are indicated on the artist's scale drawing.

HEAVY STONES

The slight Austrian girl will have to content herself with supervising the rest of the process; some of the stones workmen cut and place in the frames are eight inches thick. Concrete rather than lead is used to support this thicker glass.

Miss Tahedl is prepared for opposition. "People aren't used to abstract art in buildings here yet," she says. Although stained glass is still used mainly for churches, it is becoming increasingly common as relief from the bare functionalism of some modern secular buildings.

What most impresses her about Alberta, Ernestine says, is the vastness of the countryside. "Vienna and Edmonton are so different that you simply can't compare them."

Journal Photo by Colin Price

ERNESTINE TAHEDL AND WINDOW
. . . abstract art in glass

new." She arrived in Edmonton May 12, and is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Jellinek, 10515 132nd St. Miss

Runs Radio Show

MONTREAL (CP) — Montrealer Marge Anthony is the city's only woman in charge of an all-night radio show.

The attractive blonde broadcaster is on the air from 12.05 a.m. to 6 a.m. and says she has "lots of ideas for the show."

SPECIALS THAT ALL EDMONTON

QUALITY MERCH

George and his wife Herta hosted Austrian artist Ernestine Tahedl as reported in the Edmonton Journal June 19, 1963.

20 THE EDMONTON JOURNAL, Monday, Dec. 17, 1962

400 See Church Opening

The new St. Paul The Apostle Catholic Church, 40th St. and 115th Ave., was opened and dedicated Sunday.

The new church was dedicated by Rev. Edwin Donahoe of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, archdean of the Edmonton Diocese. About 400 persons attended the service.

The new building is a modern open beam brick and frame structure with a seating capacity of 380. The rectory was built as a wing joined to the church. It features a courtyard which is enclosed by the church, the rectory hall and the rectory itself.

It is the only church in Edmonton with this feature although another one is being constructed with the court yard in Jasper Place.

Construction was started on the new structure in July and was completed last week. The building was designed by George A. Jellinek, and Edmonton architect.

Rev. Cornelius Landrigan is the minister of the new church.

INTERIOR OF NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BEVERLY

New Wing

Edmonton Journal December 17, 1962

14 THE EDMONTON JOURNAL, Saturday, October 12, 1963

Archbishop To Bless Sherwood Park School

Sherwood Park's first separate school, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, will be officially opened at a ceremony at 3 p.m. Sunday.

The $250,000, eight-room school will be blessed by Most Rev. Hugh John MacDonald, Roman Catholic archbishop of Edmonton. He will be assisted by Rev. K. Kaerns.

In February, 1963 the newly formed separate school board in Sherwood Park commissioned the architect, George A. Jellinek, to design its first project the eight-classroom elementary-junior high school suitable for a classroom extension in the future.

The board and its chairman, Dan Engel, have a high opinion of the quality of the teaching staff and the same quality was expected from the architect. Therefore, the board said it retained an architect to design a building and not to redraw old plans.

EXTREMELY FUNCTIONAL

The school is located on Fir St. and Spruce Ave. and the layout of the building is extremely functional. There is a classroom wing for 255 pupils, a general instructions wing and the gymnasium, stage and staff offices.

The centre of these areas is the vestibule with a 28-foot-long mural—a semi-abstract wall painting in secco technique of the four seasons of the year. The symbols of nature are stylized with the intention of arousing and developing the creative imagination of the children. Miss Erzsebet Tabedi is the artist. This versatile artist also installed, at the main entrance in traditional technique a mosaic glass mural of the patron saint of the school, Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

The building is constructed of concrete block with natural stone and brick veneer, laminated beams and decking. A hot water system with cooling and ventilating units are located in all instructional areas. The entire school has a most modern sound system.

COLORS NEUTRAL

All materials were selected for low maintenance both daily and over the years.

The color scheme is neutral and uniform throughout the building. All "dramatic" color combinations were avoided in order not to distract the attention and [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] steel lockers in the corridors are the only color accent.

The total floor area of the building is 20,500 square feet, the cost of the building inclusive land-caping was $256,000 which averaged $11.50 per square foot.

The simple lines of the exterior and interior created a functional building, designed efficiently and economically.

Canada To Place U.S. Orders

WASHINGTON (CP)—Canada intends to place substantial defence contracts in the United States next year, Defence Minister Hellyer said Friday.

He said the flow of orders will rise gradually over the years as Canada considers the need for aircraft and other defence replacements.

Hellyer told a press conference that it is Canada's intention that the increasing flow of orders southward will attract a greater flow of U.S. orders to Canada. He held the press conference after confidential talks with Defence Secretary Robert [illegible]

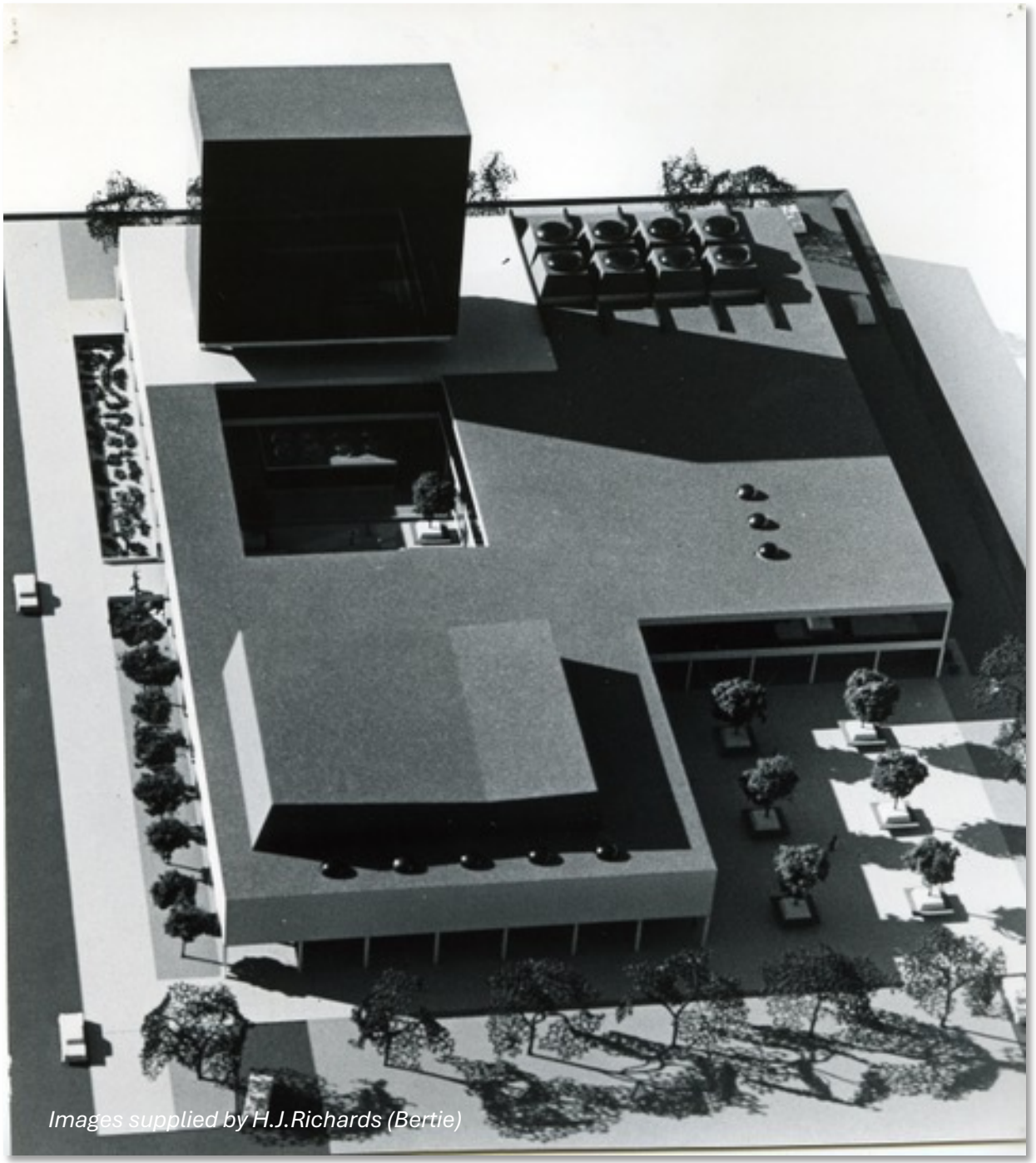
CEREMONY TO OPEN SHERWOOD PARK SEPARATE SCHOOL . . . semi-abstract mural depicts four seasons

Edmonton Journal October 12, 1963

Edmonton Journal November 20, 1963

Offices of Richards Berretti Jellinek

Designed in the 1960s, 12320 103 Avenue



1966 U of A Students' Union Building designed by Richards Berretti and Jellinek

Edmonton Public School Board Building
Capital Modern photo by James Dow

EPSB Building - adaptively reused for the King Thunderbird Center in 2025

Villa Savoye, a Modern Movement design influence

School board suit: firm denies liability

The architectural firm of Richards, Berretti and Jellinek has denied any liability in construction of the Edmonton Public School Board $1,800,000 administration building.

One of four defendants named in a $1,000,000 lawsuit by the school board, the firm has filed a statement of defence at the courthouse.

Defences already have been filed by the other defendants, Laing Construction and Equipment Ltd., Kovats and Berretti Engineering Ltd., and Phoenix Assurance Company.

In its defence, filed by solicitors Milner and Steer, the architects claim:

- They retained Kovats and Berretti, consulting and structural engineers, to design floor slabs.
- The engineers properly designed the slabs and provided adequate support.
- No deflections have occurred in the floor, but if they have occurred, which is denied, the slabs are of adequate strength.

"The plaintiff suffered neither loss nor damage," the claim states.

In answer to the statement by the board concerning supervision, the architects claim they have satisfied their obligations to supervise the floor slabs by retaining the defendant Kovats and Berretti.

In answer to the whole statement of claim, they say that if deflections have occurred, these are "wholly and solely due to defects in the work of the defendant Laing Construction and Equipment Ltd."

Examination for discovery may be held in May with the trial next fall.

The school board claims the building has portions which are structurally unsafe.

Man jailed on 'pot' charge

A 20-year-old city resident today was sentenced to nine months in jail for possession of marijuana.

Maurizio Gene Russo of 10139 75th St. was on probation for two years for another offence when he was arrested with three marijuana cigarettes in his possession Feb. 18.

Magistrate F. W. Barclay refused to suspend sentence despite the small amount of marijuana involved, because Russo had committed "a serious offence" while on probation.

Edmonton Journal, March 25, 1969

George Jellinek and his wife Herta moved to Hawaii in the early 1970s. He worked for a time with Grosvenor International, an international development company and is credited with the design of the 1164 Bishop Building, with Frank Donaldson, in downtown Honolulu.

Grosvenor International yesterday held a grand opening for its **1164 Bishop building** downtown. The 17-story structure, containing 170,000 square feet of office space and 7,000 square feet of retail space, was designed by Frank Donaldson and George Jellinek of the Grosvenor Design Group and built by Hawaiian Dredging & Construction Co.

Honolulu Star Advertiser, 1975

1164 Bishop Building, Honolulu

"Sure, we could have poured our exteriors in place–but..."

A building, like a book, is often judged by its cover. It's the outside that first catches the eye and it's the outside that best exemplifies your work.

Today more and more precast architectural exteriors are being used in better buildings around the world. Not only do these materials result in a uniform finish of high quality, but you can see for yourself just how it's going to look before ground is even broken.

Important too, precast materials are in no way limiting. There is an infinite variety of precast textures and shapes. The real beauty of it all is that precast is not only a fast, beautiful alternative–it has value.

Precast Division
Hawaiian Dredging & Construction Company
Malakole St., Campbell Industrial Park
Ph: 682-5761 Mail: P.O. Box 3468, Honolulu

- prestressed solid planks • double tees • hollowcore pla
- prestressed piles • structural precast components
- architectural precast

A beautiful improvement to the Honolulu skyline, 1164 Bishop employs the use of precast architectural exteriors.

ARCHITECTS:
DONALDSON JELLINEK/
GROSVENOR
DESIGN GROUP
DEVELOPER:
GROSVENOR
INTERNATIONAL
(HAWAII) LTD.
CONTRACTOR:
HAWAIIAN
DREDGING &
CONSTRUCTION CO.

Hawaii Architect 11/75
Journal of the Hawaii Chapter AIA

Meanwhile…
the NAIT Campus
continued to evolve

22 THE EDMONTON JOURNAL, Thursday, March 17, 1966

NAIT's Two-Day Open House Starts Friday

30,000 Visitors To Tour Complex

The Northern Alberta Institute of Technology is all set to welcome a record 30,000 visitors to its open house Friday and Saturday.

The more than 3,000 students and instructors have planned an expanded program for the third annual open house which will be held for two full days and one evening.

The entire facilities of the $13,000,000 education complex on the southeast edge of the Industrial Airport will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday.

TWO ADDITIONS

Two added attractions this year are the $1,500,000, seven-storey tower housing the business education division and the $627,000 industrial annex north of the tower.

The institute has made available large parking areas north south and east of the buildings. Visitors arriving at the main entrance on 106th St. and 117th Ave., pass into the block-long foyer. Here information booths extending the length of the spacious hall have been set up.

The guests pick up at any of the booths a floor plan of the 18-acre complex of buildings a copy of a special edition of the student newspaper, the Nugget, and other explanatory material.

DIRECTION SIGNS

Direction signs using a different color scheme for each of the four divisions of the institute, help the visitors to make their own way through the buildings.

In addition guides will be situated at strategic points throughout the buildings to help the visitors on their tours.

Each section is responsible for its own display and the sections are staffed by students who will explain the equipment and facilities on view.

For example in the X-ray technology section, students will display three types of X-ray machines in use for training technicians.

POPULAR EVENT

NAIT'S annual open house has become as popular with Edmontonians and other northern Alberta residents as the University of Alberta's Guest Weekend.

The first year 20,000 visitors toured the institute and last year the number soared to just over 24,000. The tours then lasted for one day and two evenings but this year, to take care of the increase in visitors expected to be attracted by the two additions, the visiting hours were extended.

W. A. B. SAUNDERS

BUSINESS EDUCATION TOWER OPENED

2 New Buildings Cost $3 Million

Twin celebrations are marking the completion of a $3,000,000 building expansion program at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology.

Wednesday evening, at a formal ceremony, Hon. J. Grant MacEwan, lieutenant - governor, cut the ribbon to open the $2,500,000, seven-storey business education tower.

Friday and Saturday an estimated 30,000 visitors are expected to tour the $10,000,000 complex providing 18 acres of floor space, centred on 106th St. and 117th Ave.

INDUSTRIAL ANNEX

In addition to inspecting the tower the guests will also see the $627,000 industrial annex north of the tower and completed at the same time. The general contractor was Alta-West Construction Ltd. 10330 71st Ave.

The building expansion comes only three years after NAIT was opened on a 26-acre site east of Edmonton's Industrial Airport. One of the largest such institutes in Canada, it was built to serve northern Alberta as a twin to the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary.

Starting in 1961 with 2 courses, the program has mush-roomed until this year 243 courses are offered, an increase of 121 over 1961.

10,000 STUDENTS

Total enrolment during the current year, including apprenticeship students and adult night classes, is expected to reach 10,000 by the year's end.

For the current academic year there are 2,800 students, an increase of 55 per cent over last year. This includes 1,800 students enrolled in technology, business education and vocational training programs plus up to 1,000 apprentices who attend the institute on a rotational basis.

Headed by Principal W.A.B. Saunders, the teaching staff totals 335 but this does not include instructors for the evening division.

The institute, giving academic and technical training beyond the high schools of Alberta is

Principal Welcomes Guests

A warm welcome to the public to tour the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology during the open house Friday and Saturday is extended by the principal W. A. B. Saunders.

Mr. Saunders' message follows:

If you are interested in seeing a group of young people that regularly work 60 hours a week, or more, come to our open house.

If you are unaware that there are places where it has become a real administrative problem to persuade young people to stop working and go home at a reasonable hour, such as midnight, come to NAIT. If you enjoy an atmosphere created by vibrant young people full of excellent ideas and bubbling over with enthusiasm, reserve a few hours and come to our open house.

PROUD OF NAIT

Naturally we are very proud of NAIT, the campus, the 800,000 square feet of floor space, the 145 lab and shops, the 101 classrooms and our very modern equipment. We are proud of the fact that this institute, in its short life, has created an enviable position in Canada.

From the time of initial construction in 1962 to the present, we have had the good fortune to be associated with something this city, this province, as a matter of fact, all of Canada can be justly proud.

Reputations are usually gained slowly. Our reputation seems to have been established almost instantly, through the performance of our first graduates. We are in the enviable position of guarding jealously, and building on, a fine reputation. Our National Employment Service officer tells us that the majority of graduating students already are placed in very fine positions and that we will not be able to fill all of the positions offered this year.

We want you to feel that this is your institute. It is very likely you are not fully aware of its offerings. It therefore gives me great pleasure to invite you to see the institute in operation. We are different — you won't be disappointed.

Lounge Tops 7-Storey Tower

In a glass-walled penthouse atop the seven-storey Business Education Tower is a spacious, attractively furnished students' lounge.

It is one of the features of the $2,500,000 building officially opened yesterday, that guests to NAIT's annual open house will see Friday and Saturday.

Students are given aerial views of Edmonton from the lounge which has plate glass walls facing the south, north and west. The lounge is 60 by 65 feet and is reached through a servery where 15 vending machines dispense hot and cold drinks, soups, confectionary, pastry and other snacks.

1,200 STUDENTS

While the lounge is the showpiece of the fully air-conditioned building, its main function is to teach business courses to a maximum of 1,200 students. By 1968, NAIT officials estimate the enrolment in the tower will be 1,000 students.

Including the basement there are nine floors with 132,160 square feet of floor space. The building is 80 by 192 feet and has an enclosed bridge linking the second floor with other NAIT buildings.

48 CLASSROOMS

The tower contains 48 classrooms and 19 laboratories including three data processing labs, two marketing, four typing, two office machine servicing labs, two banking, two shorthand, two office practice, two business machine and two tailoring and dress-making labs.

On the third floor is the data processing centre, another key point of interest.

Edmonton Journal, March 17, 1966

NAIT expansion

The provincial department of public works deserves some marks for imagination in considering taking over the Simpsons-Sears Park Plaza store as expansion space for Northern Alberta Institute of Technology.

As an economical alternative to orderly expansion of the NAIT campus, however, it leaves much to be desired.

The problem is a 10-acre federal defence department housing development across 106th Street from NAIT. This is the logical area for expansion (rather than leapfrogging over it to Park Plaza) but the defence department's price — $2 million plus some alternate accommodation — is more than the province wants to pay.

There is something to be said for saving money in the short term. However, NAIT would probably be far better (and probably more economically) served with facilities in the long run if the whole area east to Park Plaza were planned as a comprehensive unit.

As well, NAIT is not an island unto itself but an important element in city planning as a whole. The problems (particularly traffic problems) associated with such a major centre can be dealt with — but only if long-range planning gives enough warning of what the problems will be.

It may be unfair to blame the province for getting itself into this sort of a situation a mere decade after NAIT first opened its doors, since hardly anyone could have foreseen its spectacular success and growth rate.

It seems safe to assume that its growth will continue for some time, however, and now is certainly no time for lack of foresight.

Even if the government does buy the Simpsons-Sears store to meet the urgent need for additional space, then, it should press on with acquisition of the DND site as a high priority. It's not very likely that the price will be any more reasonable in the future.

Edmonton Journal, September 11, 1972

Simpson-Sears Park Plaza, Edmonton

The Simpson Sears Department Store, designed by Rule Wynn Rule in 1959 has been in continual use by NAIT since 1977.

Shoppers won't recognize old Simpsons-Sears store

Former shoppers at Park Plaza Simpsons-Sears will probably discover only three familiar landmarks when the renovated building opens this September.

And they won't be the furniture section, hardware department or lingerie display.

In fact, only the grey exterior, the elevators and cafeteria will be familiar.

That's because the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology has spent $1.5 million converting the building at Princess Elizabeth Avenue, 103rd Street and 118th Avenue into an extension of the institute.

Renovations by Keller Construction of Edmonton began last December They should be finished by the time school starts Sept. 12, says NAIT's shop director Ken Lindgren.

The once-spacious department store is now a maze of 164 classrooms, laboratories, seminar rooms and offices with provision for 800 students and 70 instructors.

At least 80 per cent of the rooms and hallways are carpeted. Students will sit in cushioned desks with tablet arms. The building is airconditioned throughout.

NAIT's 250 architectural technology students will take classes in a 25,000-square-foot area that was formerly Simpsons' catalogue and furniture sales section.

Four hundred brown acoustic screens will divide the space, located on the second floor. The eastern end of the floor will become the surveying technology wing.

The second-floor cafeteria will remain a cafeteria, although the kitchen has been enlarged considerably and filled with new equipment.

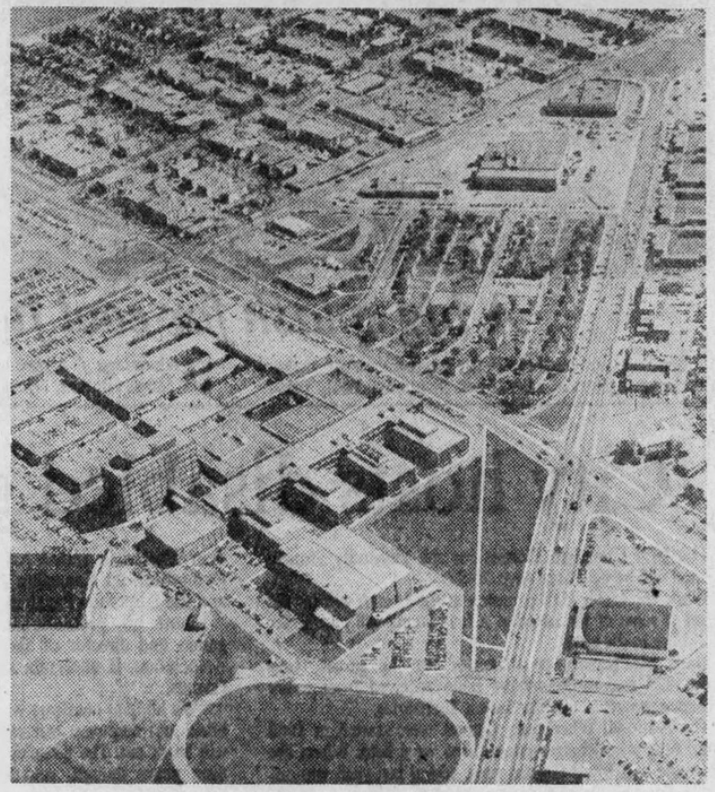
The main floor will house the civil technology department, as well as the engineering design and drafting technology wing.

Down in the basement the former sporting goods and hardware section will be home to building construction students. Hydraulic, cartography and photogrammetry labs have also been installed.

NAIT will maintain Park Plaza's 160 underground parking stalls for staff and students. The outside parking lot will be reduced to 250 stalls and the site will be landscaped.

Renovation of the Simpsons-Sears building marks the end of NAIT's major conversion work at Park Plaza. In September, 1976 the old Loblaws store to the east was opened to first-and second-year students in the electrical apprenticeship program.

Cost for that renovation job was less than $500,000. About 200 students and 12 instructors meet there.



Aerial shot with NAIT in centre foreground, with former Park Plaza shopping centre at top right

Edmonton Journal, August 18, 1977