

The Buildings of Dalhousie University

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Bernard N. Cain (Q) Building

Address: 1360 Barrington St.

Start Date: 1967

Completion Date:
1968

Architect: Robert J. Flinn

Renovation
Date(s):

Contractor: MacDonald Construction
Co. Ltd.



Bernard M. Cain Building - Timber Structures Laboratory - Excavation
Photo - 1, 1967



Bernard M. Cain Building - Timber Structures Laboratory - Excavation
Photo - 2, 1967



Bernard M. Cain Building - Timber Structures Laboratory - Excavation

Building History

The Bernard N. Cain (Q) Building was built as an extension of the A.L MacDonald (D) Building, as a new timber structures engineering laboratory which would replace the older, unsatisfactory one on the Nova Scotia Technical College's campus and thus keep pace with the then-rapid growth of timber structure research. The building was designed by architect Robert J. Flinn, with planning by Dr. S.J. Mazur of Nova Scotia Technical College's Civil Engineering Department; the construction work was contracted to MacDonald Construction Co. Ltd. of Bedford, NS.

The building was originally 5,520 square feet, two stories and designed for vertical expansion. The building's 30' by 10' floor is three feet thick and its two original loading systems and jacking devices could withstand up to 20 tons of force, up or down. The timber laboratory was also originally equipped with a 10-ton crane. Its construction cost \$204,153, with its equipment valued at \$90,000 and all but \$7,335 of the funding coming from an Atlantic Development Board grant.

The building's official opening was held during a brief ceremony held during the College's Annual Convocation in May 1967, with the building's completion occurring in 1968. The official opening was held on Friday, 1 November 1968; dignitaries present included Mr. R.F. DeGrace, P.Eng and executive director of the Canadian Wood Council, who delivered a special public lecture entitled "Research in Timber Structures".

The Q Building was named after Bernard N. Cain, who graduated from the Nova Scotia Technical College with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in 1935 and joined the faculty of Acadia University's School of Engineering in 1938, serving as the school's Dean from 1953 until his death in 1961.

Photo - 3, 1967

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Nova Scotia Technical College/TUNS/DalTech/Sexton Files

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