

## The Buildings of Dalhousie University

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Electrical Engineering, n.d.

# Electrical Engineering (C) Building

Address: 1360 Barrington St.

Start Date: November 20, 1959      Completion Date: 1961

Architect: C.A. Fowler and Company (architectural firm)      Renovation Date(s): January 1965; 1969; 1975; 1978-81; 1992

Contractor: Foundation Maritime Limited

## Building History

Work began the Nova Scotia Technical College's A, B and C Buildings on November 20, 1959; provincial Minister of Public Works Stephen T. Pyke had announced the awarding of the contract earlier in the week. This 58,000 square-foot, three-wing addition to the Macdonald (D) Building was designed by the Halifax architectural firm C.A. Fowler and Company - which was formed by an alumnus of the College - constructed by Foundation Maritime Limited and budgeted at \$830,000.

Completed in 1961, the two-story C Building is the most western of the A-B-C building complex and it is joined to the southern end of the Macdonald Building. It is of a curtain wall steel frame construction, with industrial glazing and a brick exterior. Its ground floor was originally divided between the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Departments while its upper floor was dedicated to the Electrical Engineering Department and split into five rooms, for Electronics, Communications, Honours Work and Special Projects.

In the summer of 1963, a Heat Transfer Laboratory was established by the Department of Mechanical Engineering on the ground floor. In January 1965, a third floor addition to house the College's new Computer Centre, plus a classroom and the offices of the Electrical Engineering and General Studies Departments, was completed.

In 1968, after the H.R. Theakston (C1) Building for Mechanical Engineering laboratories was completed, the Mechanical Engineering Department vacated the C Building - save for the Heat Transfer Lab - and new teaching and research laboratories for electrical power systems and control engineering were designed to occupy the newly-vacant space on the ground floor. The required renovations were finished by 1969.

In 1975, a new High Voltage Laboratory was completed and soon received extensive use.

In September 1978, the College established the Campus Design Centre (originally called the 'Campus Design Studio'), headed by Campus Design Coordinator Prof. Larry Richards (of the School of Architecture) and official Assistant Mr. Eric Fiss, aided by architecture students in the School's co-operative program. This new department was mandated to design the College's new physical and aesthetic developments (i.e. buildings, renovations, outdoor space, interior design) in a manner consistent with a Comprehensive Campus Plan developed by the Centre's staff.

One of the renovation projects based on the Centre's designs which began during the 1978/79 academic year was the provision of the Fisheries Research and Technology Laboratory, a related process and engineering pilot plant and office space for the College's new Fisheries Engineering program. Part of the overall Laboratory operation was a computer-controlled low-temperature facility, funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and a \$90,000 equipment grant from the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), constructed on the north end of the C Building's roof and extending into the MacDonald (D) Building, was completed in 1981. The Laboratory was officially opened by Federal Labour Minister Gerald Regan on February 27, 1981, the first day of a two-day event during which the facility opened its doors to the press, the public and representatives from the fishing industry. The opening, chaired by Technical University of Nova Scotia President J. Clair Callaghan, also featured remarks from Nova Scotia Minister of Fisheries Edmund Morris and Mr. Ken Campbell, President of the Fisheries Council of Canada.

In July 1992, as part of a \$3 million campus construction project, the C and MacDonald (D) Buildings received a shared foyer which linked their classrooms, labs and offices and gave access to the parking area to the west. The official opening on December 9, 1992 was attended by Nova Scotia Premier Don Cameron, President of the TUNS Alumni Association Mr. Garth Mallett and members of the business community.

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## References

### Photographs

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- [1340 Barrington Street - Hart House - Front Entrance]. n.d. UA-10, 86.30.2.
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- [Hart House - Exterior - 2]. c1990s. UA-10, 84.5.3.

## Publications

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- TUNS Annual Report. 1980/81, p. 32. Killam Library, call no. T 173 N613.
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## **Textual Records**

### **Drawing**

- "Jairus Hart House Halifax NS." n.d. UA-10, 4.5.

### **Nova Scotia Technical College/TUNS (Administrative) Newsletter**

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- Nova Scotia Technical College/TUNS (Administrative) Newsletter. May 1970, p. 4. Box 59, Sexton Design & Technology Library Stored Records Room (Sexton Campus, A Building).

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- "Jairus Hart House[,] 1340 Barrington Street[;] Sarah Moren House[,] 1334 Barrington Street." n.d. UA-10, 4.5.
- "Two buildings granted heritage property status." [February 1990]. UA-10, 8.5.
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