

FHBRO Number 95-11

Trenton, Ontario

Building 111, Hastings Hall (Officers Quarters)

CFB Trenton

Building 111, Hastings Hall at Canadian Forces Base Trenton, was designed by the Department of National Defence, Engineer Services Branch and constructed in 1952. Built to house single officers, this three-storey building maintains its original function. The Department of National Defence is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Report 95-11.

Reasons For Designation

Building 111 at CFB Trenton was designated Recognized for its environmental significance, architectural importance and historical associations.

Planned in the late 1920s and 1930s as Canada's principal air force training base, CFB Trenton has maintained this role. Building 111 occupies a prominent site on the base between the Parade Ground to the west, onto which it faces and from which it is entered, and the Sunken Garden to the east. Due to its form, its simple, clean modern styling, and its white stucco finishes, this building integrates well with the original 1930s axial planning and ensemble of buildings around these spaces, including the Administration Building (1934) on the south side, the Barracks Blocks (1932-37) to the east side of the Parade Ground and the Officer's Mess (1936) to the south side of the Sunken Garden.

Architecturally, the building's simple, symmetrical, rectilinear plan and massing, and its functional, International Modern style reflect the clean, functional design and construction methods favoured by the RCAF in this period. This continues internally with the surviving original circulation and room layouts.

Historically, Building 111, as part of CFB Trenton (the region's most important employer), is related to the region's post-1950s economic and social development. It is also associated with Canadian military air training, particularly air transport training since 1959, and more recently with international military, peacekeeping and humanitarian missions through its role as a transportation base.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage character of Building 111 derives from its prominent location and relationship to neighbouring spaces and buildings, its International Modern design and materials, its circulation patterns and layout and its surviving original interior decorative

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treatments and stairs.

Completing the third side of the Parade Ground, Building 111 contributes to and reinforces the original grid and axial planning of the base. Its principal entrance centres on and terminates the east-west mid-block axis line passing through the Parade ground and between the barracks blocks. To the rear, the building faces onto the Sunken Garden in front of the Officers' Mess, Building 38. Any future developments or landscape alterations should respect both this planning relationship and the relationship between building 111 and the 1930's buildings facing onto the Parade Ground.

With a U-shaped footprint, Building 111 is characterized by the symmetrical planning, monumental massing and International Modern styling expressed by its flat roof and emphasized by its large, projecting eave detailing, its clean lines and its white-painted stucco surfaces. The double-height, principal entrance recess with its projecting flat roof, supported on slender black painted steel columns, the octagonal window over it and the building's name sign in black metal lettering above the window enhance the character of the building.

The building retains its regularly spaced window pattern with its original, finely proportioned, painted metal windows, which merit preservation. If these windows require replacement, the original material, dimensions, fenestration pattern, colours and operation should be matched.

Internally, Building 111 retains its original planning, volumes, finishes and trim at all floors, including the entrances, the stairs complete with balustrading, the "U" circulation plan, the layout on the main floors, the main floor room layouts and the washrooms. These features continue the symmetrical planning and design aesthetic of the building. Features including the washbasins, their recesses within rooms and the light fixtures enhance the character of the building.

1998.05.06

For further guidance, please refer to *FHBRO Code of Practice*.
