

FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

FHBRO number: **95-60**
DFRP number: **11347**

Building F-16
Resource name: **CFB Petawawa, Petawawa, Ontario**
Address: **“Recognized” Federal Heritage Building**
FHBRO status: **1953**
Construction: **Standard Design by the Design Division, Directorate of Works, DND (Army)**
Designer: **Barracks block**
Original function: **Barracks block for the Royal Canadian Dragoons**
Current function: **Flat roof replaced with pitched roof; windows and exterior doors replaced.**
Modifications: **Minor interior modifications to finishes and fixtures.**
Custodian: **Department of National Defence**

Reasons for Designation

Building F-16 is a “Recognized” Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values:

Historical value:

Building F-1 6 is associated with the post-World War II expansion of the Canadian Armed Forces in order to meet its commitments to international military preparedness under the Charter of the United Nations and the NORAD agreements. Constructed during the post-war phase of development of the former Camp Petawawa to serve as a barracks block for the Royal Canadian Dragoons, Building F-1 6 is representative of the rapid growth of the base between 1950-59 due to the build-up of Canada’s permanent force.

Architectural value:

Building F-16 is a good example of Modern Classicist design. The two-storey, 250-man barracks block is based on a standard plan that features an E-shaped footprint. Its imposing central entrance portico connects two long, symmetrical wings. Solid and monumental, the building was designed to accommodate a simple functional layout. It demonstrates a competent level of craftsmanship and employed good quality materials.

Environmental value:

Building F-16 is located at the core of the base and is facing onto a parade square, in an area densely populated with administration buildings and living quarters. The setting has been altered by the removal of several large buildings facing onto the same parade square. The building would be familiar to those on the base due to its central location and use as a barracks.

FEDERAL HERITAGE BUILDING REVIEW OFFICE
National Historic Sites Directorate, Parks Canada
25 Eddy Street, 5th Floor, Hull, QC K1A 0M5
Telephone : 819-997-6740 / Fax: 819-953-6146/ Web Site : www.parkscanada.gc.ca/federalhb

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Character-Defining Elements

The following character-defining elements of Building F-16 should be respected.

Its role as an illustration of the post-World War II build-up of Canada's Armed Forces to meet its commitments to international military preparedness as reflected by:

- the use of a simple, functional, standard design as an efficient and cost-effective means of accommodating the rapid growth of the military.

Its Modern Classicist aesthetic, functional design, competent craftsmanship and good quality materials as manifested in:

- the simplicity of the building's overall massing and geometric volumes, its restrained form and smooth surfaces, the absence of decorative detailing, the strong horizontal emphasis created by bands of windows and by string courses on the wings, and the contrast provided by the recessed corners on each facade;
- the symmetry and monumentality of the building's facade, created by the raised, central, entrance portico, with its double-height columns and windows and oversized entablature, flanked by long, horizontal, symmetrical wings;
- the grillwork pattern in the three tall windows of the entrance portico.

The manner in which it reinforces the military character of the setting as evidenced in:

- its prominent location facing onto the Worthington Parade Square;
- its compatibility in age and style with the other surviving structure on the Square, Building F1 04, and with other buildings at CFB Petawawa, including four other 250-man barracks blocks built to the same plan (J101, L103, L104 and P102).
- the retention of its open relationship with the site and the original configuration of the landscaped areas.

For guidance on interventions, please refer to the FHBRO Code of Practice. For further information contact FHBRO.

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