

**FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT
FORT CHAMPLAIN CADET DORMITORY, RMC KINGSTON (00-35)**

FHBRO number: 00-35
DFRP number: 09405
Resource name: Fort Champlain Cadet Dormitory
Address: RMC Kingston
Construction: 1965
Designer: George E. Bemis and Associates
Original function: Dormitory
Current function: Dormitory
Modifications:
Custodian: Department of National Defence
FHBRO status: Recognized Federal Heritage Building

Reasons for Designation

Fort Champlain is a Recognized Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values:

Historical value:

Built during a period of expansion at RMC, the Fort Champlain Cadet Dormitory illustrates the important theme of military expansion after the Second World War, in particular the additional training requirements imposed by Canada's NATO and NORAD obligations during the Cold War. These commitments, along with the college's development as a post-secondary academic institution for officer training, necessitated the construction of the dormitory.

Architectural value:

The building is a late, restrained example of the Collegiate Gothic style of architecture, blending the elements of traditional ornamentation associated with the style, with the modern functional program of a dormitory.

Environmental value:

The building was conceived, in its style, massing, materials, and detailing to consciously harmonize with the adjacent dormitory buildings and complete the quadrangle begun with Fort Haldiman. This relationship of the building with its setting, as well as its unchanged immediate site, reinforce the institutional character of the RMC campus.

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Character-Defining Elements

The following character-defining elements of Fort Champlain should be respected.

The expression of the Collegiate Gothic idiom, as expressed in:

- the massing of the C-shaped building, with its **projecting basement coping and the** symmetrical composition of wall projections, stepped gable parapets, entrance porticoes and overhead passages;
- the regular rhythm of the window openings; and,
- the use and handling of limestone for the wall surfaces, copings, door/window surrounds, **corner “buttressing”** and ornamental carvings of entrance porticoes.

The manner in which the building reinforces the academic character of the RMC campus is evidenced in:

- **its completion of the quadrangle begun by Fort Haldiman; and,**
- the building’s massing, materials and detailing which emulate those used on the earlier buildings on the RMC campus.

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

June 2002

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