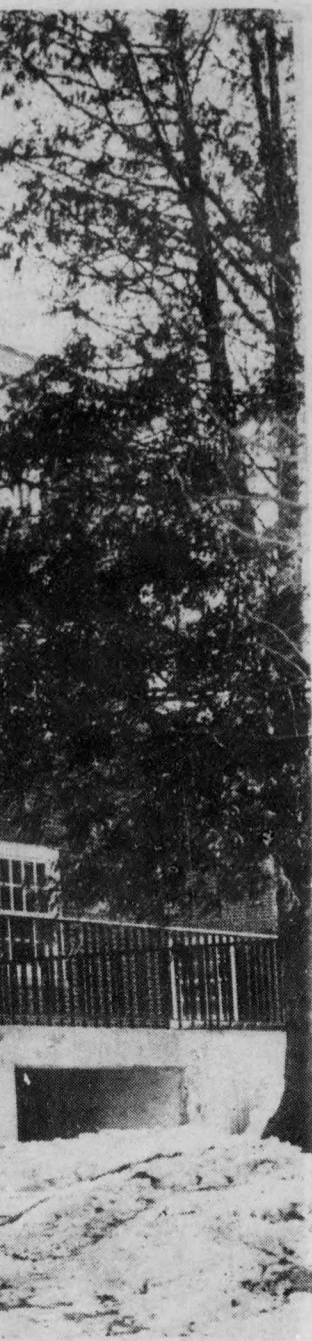


# Behind the University of New Brunswick



named in honour of UNB's first lady student. In 1886 she volunteered their Miss Florence A. Cail became the first to make UNB co-educational. Professor W. MacDonald remained until the chief superintendent of education became ex-officio member of the Senate.

Establishing the English Department in 1893, George M. Davidson introduced a more liberal education than was known. By 1899 a Bachelor of Science and a Master's degree was available at the University of New Brunswick. A foundation stone was laid in 1907, the government once again increased its financial aid. 1907, the government once again increased its financial aid. 1907, the government once again increased its financial aid.

World War I brought devastation to the University of New Brunswick. In 1914, the University of New Brunswick was closed for two years. In 1916, the University of New Brunswick was closed for two years. In 1916, the University of New Brunswick was closed for two years.

approximately 300 graduates annually for university needs today. At the same time the provincial government allocated more funds on the premise that a hall honouring the wartime dead was built and greater space was provided for the department of science. \$75,000 was provided by the government, \$25,000 by the city of Fredericton and \$40,000 through private contributions resulting in Memorial Hall and greater space for all departments of the University.

At this time, UNB basked in the adulation of the national scene, the fame brought to them by a championship football team and poets such as Carmen and Roberts.

In a positive vein, the government authorized the construction of the Forestry and Geology building as well as providing a grant for a separate library building. The same year, 1928, UNB inaugurated a new constitution to include a summer school as well as departments which taught future elementary and high school teachers.

Perhaps the most important and

generous single contributor to university finances, Lord Beaverbrook was at the height of his career at this time. A party to discussions at the highest level as well as a veritable power in the press, Beaverbrook provided 7 scholarships at an annual value of \$500.00 each for a four year term. He also provided UNB's oldest residence building in honour of his wife, the present Lady Beaverbrook Residence, and in 1940 donated the money needed to build a modern gymnasium.

The second World War drained the UNB campus. As in WWI there was a dramatic reduction in the number of students attending university. Around this time, William Kierstead, a man known as the "centre of the arts" retired and Norman A.M. MacKenzie replaced him as president of the university. It was he who decentralized the control of university curriculum and clarified the financial structure of UNB.

In 1944 Milton Fowler Gregg became president, his first duty to triple the university capacity in order to deal with the influx of war veterans. 1300 men of the Atlantic convoy came to UNB and

Gregg, in an attempt to deal with the lack of accommodations authorized the constitution of Alexander College, located in the former Army Training Centre (located near the Fredericton Exhibition Grounds).

Classrooms were full, the teaching staff quadrupled, and by 1948 the University of New Brunswick taught not only local students but a large influx of out-of-province people. To deal with this increased enrollment, renovations took place throughout the campus, with the forestry building receiving a new storey and Civil Engineering building a new wing.

By 1946 the University Senate had reorganized faculties with deans at the head, alumni were more dynamic forces and UNB clubs were forming through Canada and the United States.

The following years saw the quick expansion of the University. New buildings sprung up, faculties grew and courses of all natures were introduced. A.W. Trueman and Colin B. McKay were only two of the dynamic presidents in this era who saw a bright and shining future for UNB. Their efforts among others placed it among the ten best universities in Canada, a position it still retains according to current president John Anderson.

A two tiered university hierarchy was introduced in 1969 under a revised act, providing the current Board of Governors and Senate, the former primarily concerned with finances the latter with academics. It was this year which saw students for the first time sitting in positions as voting members of these bodies. From a classics and math basis in the 1800's the University had branched out into the Arts, Science, Business Administration, Nursing, Physical Education, Engineering, Forestry, Law and Teaching. The aims of a nationally competitive university had been fostered and encouraged by many. In 1970, E.C. Garland (president vice-president-administration) had said "the university should compete on a national level, develop its weaker departments, enhance its strong ones".

Registration at this time stood at 5,068 for both the Fredericton and Saint John campuses, while the 4 members teaching staff of the 1800's was now 340 strong.

Tibbits Hall was added to the already standing Lady Dunn Women's Residence while Carleton Hall was to provide more room to arts students as an addition to Tilley. The burgeoning number of science students necessitated the addition of new wings to the departments of geology and chemistry while the department of biology was given notice of a new wing to accommodate its numbers.

In 1969, the University of New Brunswick became the first university in Canada to offer a resident artist program with the addition of painter Bruno Bobak and poet Alden Nowlan to their staff. The famed Brunswick String

Quartet began here with musicians Andrew Benax, James Pataki, Ifan Williams and Joseph Pach.

September 13, 1973 the Faculty of Education of UNB was extended to include the teacher training division of the New Brunswick Institute of Technology, becoming the UNB Teachers College. A school of Computer Science, headed by Dr. Dana Wasson was established supporting UNB's aim to keep up with technology.

In 1974, UNB became one of the only universities in Canada to own their own research vessel with the donation of BALDPATE from the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. Library services were expanded and it was that year the recently finished University Integrated Science Complex was first instigated. Also begun in 1974 was UNB's latest addition, the Aitken Centre, its construction made possible by a grant from the Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation and the support of the Alumnae. Both complexes were completed last year.

Further residences were provided with the University takeover of former property of the N.B. Residence Co-op, McLeod House becoming a women's residence, Magee House - a married students' apartment complex.

UNB was becoming a force to contend with in the sports fields, with their women's teams winning four major regional titles that year as well as participating in the nationals in three.

John Anderson became president in 1973 and enrollment in the school of graduate studies continued to rise.

Today, critics say that UNB went too far too fast in the past few years. The addition of buildings such as the Aitken Centre and the IUC, while necessary, are sometimes seen as an extravagance. A national trend sees registration decreasing slightly each year, while scarcity of jobs prompts many students to attend commercial colleges as opposed to a general arts.

Yet anyone visiting the University of New Brunswick campus today cannot fail to appreciate the beauty of the Georgian architecture, or see the effort, determination and belief written into every brick and crease of the Old Arts Building. That belief is reflected in hundreds of men and women who thought that the UNB campus could be a good, maybe a great, institution of learning. Those people have fought and are still fighting a long history of criticism, controversy and contempt of education.

Standing on the hill with the city in fall colours spread out beneath them, the visitor can understand where and how poet Bliss Carmen wrote His Vagabonds song ...

NOTE: The above information was gathered from a variety of courses including the UNB Memorial Volume and several "President Reports" throughout the years.

Reprinted from Atlantic Life Magazine, November, 1978