

1960's. Independence from Britain was on the horizon and Canada wanted to forge closer ties with the newly emerging South American country.

To this end, Canada posted a Commissioner to then British Guiana, on March 11, 1964. This represented the first diplomatic presence in Guyana. The then Prime Minister, Mr. William Lyon Mackenzie King appointed the Hon. Milton F. Gregg, V.C. as first Commissioner. Members of his staff were: Mr. S. Wayne Hubble, 2nd Secretary; Ms. Olive E. Hobbs, administrative officer; Ms. Shirley J. Boles, secretary, and Mr. Donald J. Larkin, accountant.

At first, the Commissioner and other Canadian officials had to move from one temporary office at the Park Hotel on Main Street to another on 91 Middle

BELOW: DORMITORY building viewed from High & Young Sts., Kingston.



NOTICE OF REMOVAL

THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION

will move to new offices at Young and High Streets, Kingston, Georgetown, effective

May 26, 1980. Telephone numbers 72081-5 remain unchanged

Canadian High Commission gets new home

Remarkable restoration of 100-year old building

THE new Chancery of the Canadian High Commission, a unique Guyanese structure, was opened yesterday at the corner of High and Young streets, Georgetown.

The building, beautiful and proportioned, was designed in 1977 from the Sisters of Mercy.

In addition, Guyanese architect, George Henry of George Henry Associates had done a remarkable job to restore the structure that now stood as a landmark of Demerara, Mr Graham pointed out.

The official opening ceremony yesterday was attended by Foreign Affairs Minister, Rasleigh Jackson, Canadians in Guyana, members of the Diplomatic Corps, and other specially invited guests.

Mr Graham, who traced the history of the building, said that it was over a century old and was constructed by M.P. Camacho, grandfather of George Camacho.

According to him, the Canadian High Commission, through Mr Allan Rogers, former High Commissioner

Foreign Ministry, the Canadian government, the Bank of Guyana, the Guyana Electricity Corporation [GEC] Guyana Stores Limited, Guyana National Engineering Corporation [GNEC], the architects, contractors, carpenters and all the Canadians who worked on the renovation project.

Special mention was made of the Head of the Chancery, Ted Fleming, the Office Manager, Dick Oastler and Communications Adviser Allan McLean of Canada who all gave stalwart services.

The Canadian High Commission had now been rehoused at the new Chancery, after 14 years at

the Bank of Guyana building.

Cde George Henry, the Architect, said that the new Chancery had helped to beautify our surroundings and to share in a revival exercise of our heritage.

He said that the restoration of the building was a deep sense of pride and achievement.

The cutting of the ribbon was done by Guyanese Lynette Heath, secretary of the Canadian International Development Agency [CIDA], Canadian High Commission. Lynette, who has been working for the High Commission for 16 years now, was among the first Guyanese to be employed by the High Commission. Suse Parasrath.