

## Early modern furniture acquired by Ontario museum

Five pieces of furniture, recently acquired with the help of a grant from the federal Department of Communications under the Cultural Property Export and Import Act, are on view at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM). The furniture was designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh (1868-1928), an internationally renowned pioneer in the modern movement of architecture and interior design. The ROM pieces, created between 1902 and 1904, are representa-

tive of Mackintosh's most creative period.

The ROM's new suite, of white painted wood, enamel, ebony, mother-of-pearl and silver, includes a cabinet, a washstand, a bed, a chest of drawers and a mirror. Considered classics of the formative years of the modern movement, the pieces exemplify Mackintosh's elegant simplicity and geometric purity of form.

The furniture, brought to Canada in the 1930s, was to be sold at auction

## A living air museum for Canadian aircraft collection

Canada's national historic aircraft collection is to be housed in a new aviation museum that will accommodate the nation's aeronautical collection. The new museum will provide the environmental control needed to preserve the collection which dates from the early 1900s.

The museum will be built at Rockcliffe Airport in Ottawa. The existing STOL (Short Take-Off and Landing) hangar and terminal buildings will be integrated into the complex to provide maintenance facilities and office space. Existing runways and taxiways, built during the Second World War, will be retained for use during air shows and by the Rockcliffe Flying Club.

The new steel frame museum building will have a display and storage area of 14 000 square metres, and its triangular form will reflect the configuration of runways of an operational airport.

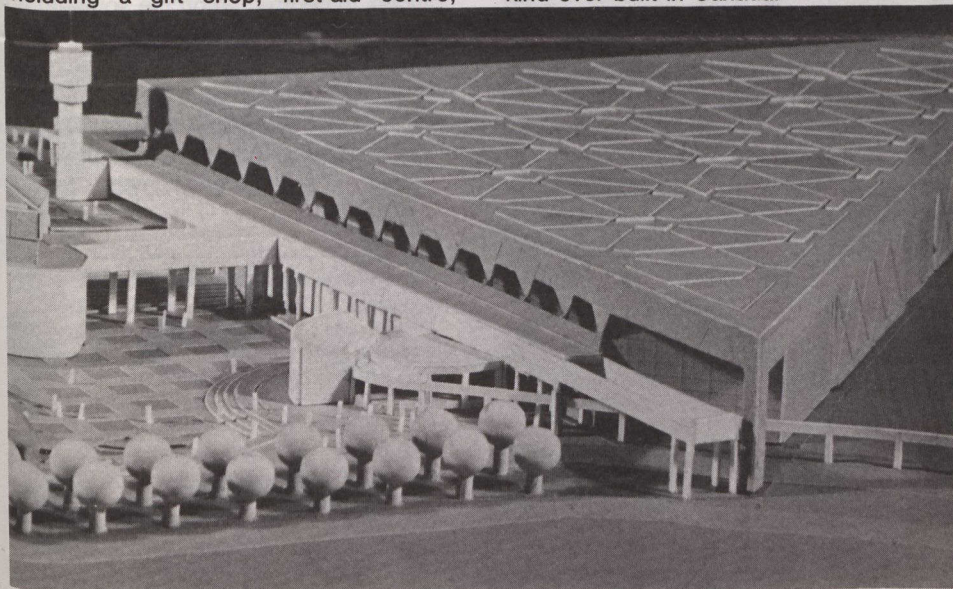
The spine portion of the display building, which is to house public facilities including a gift shop, first-aid centre,

coat room and washrooms, will have an exterior of white porcelain enamel steel panels. The remainder of the building will be faced in silver-grey panels.

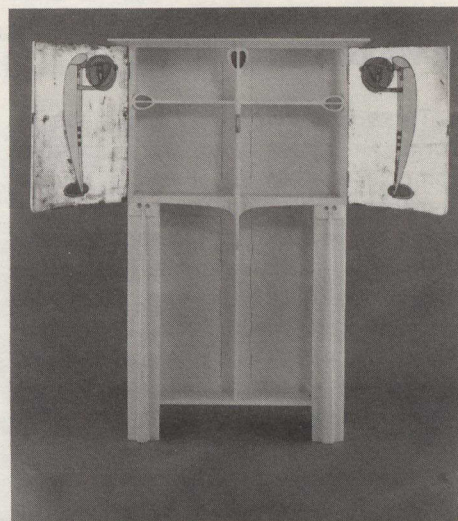
### Extensive daylighting

The building will have a structural steel frame with clear spans of up to 45 metres. Daylighting will be used extensively in the display area, and fibreglass baffles will be installed to protect the collection from exposure to direct sunlight. Planes will be able to move in and out of the building through two doorways 45 metres wide by 13 metres high.

The design reflects the National Museum's concept of a "living air museum" for this historic aircraft collection, which ranges from a full scale copy of the *Silver Dart* to the Robert McDowall monoplane, believed to be the only surviving pre-1914 Canadian built aircraft, to the *Argus*, the largest air-carrier of its kind ever built in Canada.



Model of new National Aviation Museum to be built at Rockcliffe Airport, Ottawa.



Royal Ontario Museum

Cabinet of white-painted wood with design of mosaic glass and silvered metal mounts. (Charles Rennie Mackintosh, 1902.)

abroad until the Department of Communications designated the pieces as nationally significant. In awarding the grant to retain the pieces in Canada, former Communications Minister Francis Fox described the suite of Mackintosh furniture as a cultural treasure — comparable to paintings of Old Masters — that should not be lost to Canada.

"With the acquisition of the Mackintosh furniture, the ROM actively enters into the field of collecting the decorative arts of the twentieth century," said ROM director Dr. James E. Cruise. "We hope that private collectors will add to this nucleus and that the Royal Ontario Museum becomes a centre for studies of this stylistically influential period."

## Film Canadiana catalogue

*Film Canadiana* (1980-82), Canada's national filmography containing information on over 2 700 film productions, is now available from the National Film Board (NFB).

This new edition was produced by the computerized catalogue production facility of FORMAT, the NFB's national information system for audio-visual materials. Film titles are indexed by series, producer, director and subject. There is also a directory of producers and distributors of Canadian film.

The publication of *Film Canadiana* was sponsored by the National Library of Canada, the National Film, Television and Sound Archives, and the Canadian Film Institute. Copies, costing \$20, may be purchased from the National Film Board of Canada, P.O. Box 6 100, Station A, Montreal, Quebec H3C 3H5.