

Residence repairs postponed until 1987

By MICHELLE LANG

Major repair work planned for the York graduate residence of #6 Assiniboine Road will be postponed until the summer of 1987.

Robert Halsall and Associates, the consulting engineers hired by York to investigate the extent of the building's decay, have determined that although the building has structural deficiencies, it is safe to live in for the present.

The engineers have cautioned, however, that the longer the repairs are deferred, the greater chances of some sort of failure. In addition, a possible danger may exist under stressful environmental conditions, such as earthquake forces.

Norman Crandles, Director of Housing and Food Services, said that the building was inspected after the tremor on January 31 and no new damage was found.

Within the last two years several structural inadequacies have been discovered in the 17-year-old building. First it was discovered that the shelf angle supports for the brickwork were incomplete. Further investigation uncovered serious cracks in some of the exterior columns. The column on the north face was stripped last year in order to investigate how serious these defects were. At that time another defect was discovered—several tie bars, required to restrain the steel reinforcing within the columns against compression forces, were missing.

York subsequently ordered a detailed structural analysis of the building which revealed no additional defects and repair of the exposed north column.

Further repairs to the apartment, such as removing the brick facing from the columns, can begin in 1986 while the building is still inhabited, Crandles said. He emphasized that

this work will be only a minor inconvenience to tenants and that unlike the construction on the recently repaired north column, this work will not be noisy and disruptive.

The major repair work will be done in the summer of 1987. It will involve drilling into the concrete frame and will render the building inhabitable for the summer. Crandles said that every effort will be made to accommodate the tenants of #6 Assiniboine elsewhere on campus. He said there will be more than enough alternative accommodation available in the undergraduate residences over the summer months.

According to Crandles, York will arrange to have all of the leases for this building expire by May, 1987. In addition the tenants will be served 120 day eviction notices. The tenants will be able to reserve their old apartments for the fall of 1987 if they so desire. York expects that the construction will be completed by the time classes resume in September and at the present time no arrangements for emergency accommodation, should there be a delay, have been made.

The cost of the repairs has not yet been determined, but J.M.A. London, Projects Manager for York, said that they could reach \$1.5 million. However, "the university is exploring avenues of litigation for cost recovery," Crandles said. The shelf angle supports and tie bar problems are latent construction deficiencies for which York is seeking compensation. According to London, the contractor cannot be held responsible for the cracks in the exterior concrete columns. Apparently they are the result of the use of calcium chloride in the concrete at the time of construction. This was a common construction practice at the time and York was aware of its use.



Major repair work will be done on the above Assiniboine residence in the summer of 1987.

The details of the litigation are still being worked out by the University's lawyers, Crandles said, but it is likely that York will have to sue the provincial government in order to receive compensation.

The corporation that built #6 Assiniboine also built #4 and #8 Assiniboine Road, as well as Stong and Bethune College residences. There is no evidence of deficiencies in any of these other buildings, London said.

CYSF sponsors week devoted to women's issues

By PAULA ZARNETT

Sex and the problems and challenges it creates for women will be the focus of CYSF's Women and Sexuality Week, to be held from February 10-13.

The upcoming eight-part seminar series, to be held in S122 and S103 Ross, will feature distinguished speakers addressing such topics as the "Negative Effects of Pornography on Women," "Growing up Gay," and "Female Heterosexuality and Relationships."

Elise Hallewick, CYSF's Director of Women's Affairs and the organizer of the event, hopes it will be as successful as the first annual Women's Film Festival that was held during the first week of November.

"There seems to be a need for Women's Affairs, and hopefully at these women-centred lectures, individuals will be able to express their concern and have a better understanding of these issues that are prevalent in our society," Hallewick said.

Last year Women's Affairs offered a self-defence programme, and this year are offering a Wendo Defence Course.

CYSF's Women's Affairs portfolio was created five years ago.

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SPRING BREAK '86

EXCALIBUR February 6, 1986 3

AYN RAND'S PHILOSOPHY: OBJECTIVISM

Objectivism is the philosophy dramatized in Ayn Rand's novels **Atlas Shrugged** and **The Fountainhead**. For those wishing to know more about the philosophy, a forum will be held on February tenth. The forum will be conducted by Dr. John Ridpath and Dr. Harry Binswanger. Dr. Ridpath is an associate professor of economics and of intellectual history. Dr. Binswanger is the editor of **The Objectivist Forum**, and taught philosophy for many years at the City University of New York. To set the context, Dr. Binswanger will briefly outline the central principles of Objectivism then, the floor will be turned over to questions from the audience on any aspect of the philosophy.

SPONSORED BY:

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