

**750 BANNATYNE AVENUE – MANITOBA MEDICAL COLLEGE BUILDING
(UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA FACULTY OF MEDICINE BUILDING)**

*James H. Cadham, 1906; John H.G. Russell, 1909 addition; and
Edmund W. Crayston, 1913 addition*



This well-designed brick and stone structure was opened in January 1906 as the Manitoba Medical College (MMC), a crucial step in the development of the training of professional doctors in Manitoba and Western Canada.

The first permanent hospital, Winnipeg General Hospital, built in this area of Winnipeg opened in 1882, the precursor of today's Health Sciences Centre (HSC). It wasn't long before large additions were necessary to keep up with patient demand and advances in medical science.

For local doctors in the late 19th century, education meant leaving the region, either to the United States, Europe or Eastern Canada to earn their University degrees. In the summer of 1883, a

group of 13 local doctors petitioned the Manitoba Legislature to charter the Manitoba Medical College (MMC) as a private medical college, to be affiliated with the University of Manitoba which would grant the actual medical degrees.

While this affiliation did not occur until well into the 20th century, the first lecture of the MMC occurred on the night of November 19, 1883. After several years in temporary facilities, the College opened its original building at the corner of McDermot Avenue and Kate Street in early 1885 and the first graduating class of 6 received their diplomas from the University of Manitoba in May 1886.

But increased enrolment forced another move to the present building in 1906, in the heart of the growing General Hospital complex. The new structure was built in the Neo-Classical or Classical Revival style, typical for large public buildings at the time.

The original building (the front section of today's structure) cost \$40,000 to complete and is oriented east/west and faces Bannatyne Avenue. It is symmetrically designed with a centrally placed raised arched entrance set in a projecting stone section that includes a large arched window on the second floor and a flat-roofed tower with Palladian window on the third floor. Rusticated and smooth-cut stone is used to accent the brick walls around window and door openings, most of which are rectilinear in shape.

In 1909, a small enclosed staircase was added to the southeast corner of the building and in 1913, a large addition was completed to the rear of the original structure.

On the interior, the original building included classroom and lecture space, offices and a laboratory.

The architect of the original structure was James H. Cadham (1850-1907). Cadham was an influential and early architect in the City, responsible for the design of dozens of warehouse in the downtown district as well as residences, office structures and other buildings. Two other

local architects, John H.G. Russell (1862-1946) and Edmund W. Crayston (1871-1940) were responsible for additions in 1909 and 1913 respectively.

The building's exterior and interior have undergone numerous changes, including the construction and later removal of pedestrian walkways, the replacement of the original window units and the removal of accenting at the roofline. The building also finds itself within the growing HSC complex. Demolition of older buildings near the MMC Building has occurred and large replacement structures now surround and partially cover the 1906 building.

On the interior, beyond a few areas with original ornamental tin ceiling, the space has been completely renovated.

Elements of the building that would require approval if alterations were planned are:

Exterior-

- The two-storey brick and stone structure with raised basement, its main façade facing north onto Bannatyne Avenue, its south and east façades covered by additions, its west façade facing another building and an open greenspace;
- The front (north) façade with three-storey central tower with stone detailed arched entrance, arched main floor window and Palladian window on the top floor, wings with windows in rectilinear openings in the basement, arched openings with stone keystones and continuous stone heads on the main floor and rectilinear openings with continuous stone sills and wide stone lintels on the second floor and patterned brickwork between the first and second storey windows and overhanging eaves with bracketing; and
- Front portion of the west façade with grooved brick wall on the ground floor, windows in arched openings with stone keystones and continuous stone heads on the main floor and rectilinear openings with continuous stone sills and wide stone lintels on the second floor and patterned brickwork between the first and second storey windows and overhanging eaves with bracketing;
- Rear portion of the west façade with raised stone foundation, windows in arched openings on the main floor with stone key stones and stone lug sills and the second floor with rectilinear openings and stone lug sills and lintels.

Interior-

- Examples of the original ornamental tin ceiling.