

## ALLWARD, Hugh Lachlan (1899 – 1971)

**H**ugh Allward was born on Christmas Day 1899, the son of the distinguished Canadian sculptor Walter S. Allward who created the Vimy Ridge Memorial in France. Hugh Allward became a prominent Toronto architect and designed many distinctive and progressive buildings throughout the city.

He attended courses at the Department of Architecture, School of Practical Science at the University of Toronto from 1917 to 1922. In 1923 he began work for the firm of Chapman and Oxley, Toronto where he remained for five years. He set up his own practice in September 1929 and then joined in partnership with George R. Gouinlock in 1936 as Allward and Gouinlock.

In the early years of his practice he was known for designing many fine residences, most notably the A.H.C. Proctor Residence in Rosedale which won the First Award in Residences over \$50,000 category in 1933 from the Toronto exhibit of Architecture and the Allied Arts. It is an extremely well proportioned Rosedale townhouse which presents a modest Georgian facade to the street saving the flamboyance of a Scottish Baronial turret for the garden front.

One of Allward and Gouinlock's first major commissions was the Royal Trust Building on Bay Street (1938), built in a stripped down classical style which was conservative enough for his patrons yet modern enough for Art Deco tastes. In 1947, the firm designed the Mechanical Building at the Uni-

versity of Toronto, one of the finest "modern" style buildings of the postwar period. Its strip style windows and corner cutaways on an asymmetrical facade anticipated contemporary attitudes toward composition while utilizing subtle integration of horizontal and vertical planes. Allward and Gouinlock designed the sales and engineering building for Massey-Harris Ltd., King St. West, Toronto (1947) in a more stripped-down modern style.

Perhaps his most significant contribution to architecture was his design for Sunnybrook Hospital, Bayview Avenue, Toronto (1944-47) built as a huge complex for the treatment of disabled Canadian soldiers. Sunnybrook is the result of a design developed over seven years in collaboration with the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Its effect is almost monumental due to the size and homogeneity of the modern design with its many pavilions and large clock tower.

Allward also designed Grace Church-on-the-Hill, Lonsdale at Russell Hill Road, Toronto (1938) with Chapel (1944); Eaton Hall (family residence) at King, Ontario (1938); McIntosh Art Gallery, University of Western Ontario, London (1940-42); and McLean Hunter Publishing Company, Yonge Street near Franklin, North York (1947-48). The classic Department of Veterans' Affairs Building, Wellington Street, Ottawa (1949-58) is a grand Beaux Arts design with finely wrought stone friezes amongst the Gothic spires of Parliament Hill.