

## KEENLEYSIDE, Patrick Meredith (1914 – 1987)

**P**atrick Meredith Keenleyside practiced architecture in Toronto from 1947 to 1984, specializing in the design of health care facilities. There are many hospitals in Canada, and one in the United States, that attest to his knowledge and skill in this specialized area of design. He was also very active in professional and public service, serving on the Council of the Ontario Association of Architects for six years, and as President in 1967, as well as on many boards and committees.

Keenleyside was born in Regina, Saskatchewan, on July 22, 1914. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree at Trinity College, University of Toronto, in 1936, and then enrolled in the School of Architecture at the University of Liverpool in England. Following his father's death in 1938, he returned to Canada, continuing his studies in architecture at the University of Toronto. In 1940, however, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy, in which he served as a naval architect, with the rank of lieutenant, until the end of the Second World War. He then completed his studies in architecture, graduating in 1946, and joined the Ontario Association of Architects and the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada in the same year.

In 1947, Keenleyside joined the established firm of Govan, Ferguson & Lindsay, Architects, working initially of the design of a new building on University Avenue in Toronto for the Hospital for Sick Children. The firm which went on to establish itself as one of the top specialists in hospital design in Canada. (The name of the firm changed through the years, as partners joined and withdrew, but it retained the initial "Govan" long after the retirement of its co-founder James Govan. For example, it was known as Govan Kaminker Langley Keenleyside Melick Devonshire & Wilson, Architects, for a long period of time.) In his twenty-nine years in the firm, Keenleyside was the partner in charge of a number of important hospital projects, notably the Tri-Services Hospital (later renamed the National Defence Medical Centre) in Ottawa; St. Joseph's Hospital in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia; St. Rita's Hospital in Sydney, Nova Scotia; the St. Thomas General Hospital in St. Thomas, Ontario; and St. John's Hospital in Lowell, Massachusetts.

In addition to many hospital projects, Keenleyside was the architect for a few private houses; an office building for the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario, on Price Street in Toronto; an addition to St. Hilda's College, Trinity College, University of Toronto; and a chapel for the Sisters of St. Martha, in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. He was particularly proud of this last design. In the early nineteen-eighties, as Resident Architect of Trinity College, he prepared metric drawings of the college buildings, based on existing drawings, investigation and measurement, a "labour of love" on his part.

Keenleyside was much respected by his clients for his skill in working out efficient, economical and aesthetically pleasing designs, in response to their specific and usually complex requirements. His approach to design combined the modern with the traditional, favouring the simplicity and elegance typical of Scandinavian design of the period.

In addition to his involvement in architectural practice, Pat Keenleyside was a very active contributor to the profession. He was on the Council of the Ontario Association of Architects for six years, from 1965 to 1970, and President of the Association in 1967. He served as chairman of the Conduct Committee, and on the committee which prepared an important report on the Conditions of Employment and Fees Schedule, adopted in 1967. He was a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, serving on the RAIC Editorial Board and the Committee on the Profession, which issued its report in 1964. He was also active in public service relating to architecture, including involvement with the Toronto Bid Depository, the National Research Council and the Ontario Hospital Association. He was a member of the executive of the Associate Committee of the National Building Code, and was vice-chairman of the Investigating Committee regarding the Uniform Building Code for Ontario, which reported in 1970.

Pat Keenleyside was elected an Honorary Member of the Association in 1979.

He retired from architectural practice in 1984. Sadly, his health began to fail soon thereafter, and he died on February 21, 1987.