

## MASSON, George Yule (1895 – 1982)

**G**eorge Masson, former President of the Ontario Association of Architects, was a prominent Windsor architect who, over a 40-year career, designed many of the buildings and monuments that dominate the city of Windsor and Essex County.

An American by birth, Masson spent most of his life in Windsor and attended that city's Collegiate Institute. He served with the Canadian Forces during World War I and saw active service in France. He attended the School of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia in 1920-1921, graduating from special courses with the Certificate of Proficiency in Architecture. After graduation he returned to Windsor where he worked as a draftsman for J. C. Pennington in 1915. The following year he worked for Smith, Hynchman & Grylls, Architects of Detroit, Michigan. For six months he had a partnership under the

name Beaton & Masson and right after practiced on his own for the same period of time.

The architectural firm Nichols, Sheppard & Masson was formed in 1925 and re-organized under Sheppard & Masson in 1931 and it was as a partner in these firms that Masson's architectural legacy was created. Masson's commissions include the public housing high-rises Glengarry Court, the Essex Golf and Country Club, the cenotaph at Windsor's City Hall Square, three Bell Telephone Company buildings, seven provincial police detachments and the Windsor chapter of the Red Cross.

Masson and his wife Alice were very active in their community. He was involved with the Windsor Chapter of the Red Cross, the Windsor Art Gallery and the Rotary and Torch Clubs. He was also President of the Ontario Association of Housing Authorities, and was made an honorary lieutenant-colonel for his meritorious military service.

### **Important work (Sheppard and Masson):**

Dominion Public Building, Ouellette Ave. at Pitt St., Windsor	1932-33
Greyhound Bus Terminal, London St. E. at Chatham St., Windsor	1940
Timmins Daily Press building, Cedar St. South, Timmins	1939-1940