



RIEDER, Albert Carl (1913 – 2007)

Albert Carl Rieder of Kitchener, Ontario, made a significant contribution to the development of the Modernist style of architecture in Southwestern Ontario and in the Waterloo County region.

In a career spanning 47 years, his name can be linked to over 400 buildings, including innovative designs for collegiate and university projects, public buildings, ecclesiastical works, industrial facilities and more than 100 private residences.

Born in Alberta on July 19, 1913, Reider was educated in Kitchener and later graduated from the School of Architecture at the University of Toronto in 1938. He became a registered architect in Kitchener later that same year.

After serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force during WWII, he opened an office in 1946 in partnership with William (Ed) Barnett, FRAIC, as Barnett & Reider Architects, with joint offices in Toronto and Kitchener. During the next two decades, Rieder achieved major success with impressive

modern designs for landmarks in Kitchener, including Eastwood Collegiate Institute (1955-56), Highland Baptist Church (1958) and the Kitchener Public Library (1959-61). His completed design for Eastwood Collegiate was one of the few Canadian buildings to be featured in the issue of the leading British architectural journal, *The Architectural Review* (CXXVI, October 1959, p. 166), and in Nikolas Pevsner's book, *New Buildings in the Commonwealth*, published in New York by Frederick Praeger Pub. (1962, p. 85).

After the dissolution of the partnership in 1969, Rieder established his own independent practice as senior partner in the new firm of Rieder, Hymmen & Lobban, Architects, whose best-known work was the Centre in the Square Performing Arts Centre in Kitchener (1980), renowned for its acoustics and innovative, flexible seating configurations.

Rieder was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada in 1998, and he later died in Kitchener on August 27, 2007 at the age of 94.