

## SOUTER, William Russell (1893 – 1971)

**A** life long resident of Hamilton, William Souter was head of an architectural firm that traces its history in his home town back to 1888. Souter, whose firm designed many important buildings in Hamilton will best be remembered as the architect for the Burlington Skyway constructed in 1958.

William Souter received his early education at the public schools in Hamilton and later at the city's Collegiate. After high school he articulated at the prestigious architectural firm Mills and Hutton of Hamilton. In 1913 he entered the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia where he studied for two years. After graduating in 1915 he continued in Philadelphia for a year in post-graduate work before enlisting in the Royal Naval Air Force serving in England until 1919. Souter returned to Ham-

ilton and entered the firm of his former boss, Gordon Hutton. In 1920 the firm's name was changed to Hutton and Souter, when Souter became a partner. Later the firm became William R. Souter and Associates.

Souter was noted for his designs of schools, churches, banks and large residences. Among his works are the Beth Jacob Synagogue, several buildings at McMaster University including the nuclear reactor building and the Cathedral of Christ the King for which Souter was awarded the Benemerenti Medal in 1933 by Pope Pius XII.

A member of the Ontario Association of Architects and a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, Souter was married to Grace Carse in 1924.

### Important work:

Delta Collegiate, Hamilton	1923-24
Christ the King Roman Catholic Cathedral, Hamilton	1931-33
Loretto Academy, Hamilton	1933
Dominion Public Building, Hamilton	1934-36
General Motors Assembly Plant, Oshawa, Ont.	1927