

MCDONNELL, Reginald Edwardes (1887 – 1963)

Reginald McDonnell, a Canadian architect who designed many banks, homes, commercial and industrial buildings in Hamilton, lived and worked in several Canadian provinces during his long career. He was a member of the Ontario Association of Architects, being its treasurer in the 1940's and very active in the Hamilton chapter.

A native Englishman, McDonnell was born in Liverpool on February 8, 1887 and was educated at Kings College, Rock Ferry, Cheshire, England. He attended the Technical School at Birkenhead, England from 1903-1908 while serving an apprenticeship with H. A. Matear & F. W. Simon, Architects of Liverpool and later as an architectural assistant with them until 1911.

McDonnell came to Canada early in 1911 and

first worked for Brown & Vallance, Montreal until 1912 when he moved to Calgary for three years where he became a member of the Alberta Association of Architects in 1913. While there he worked for the architectural firm of Burrell & McDonnell and won the competition for the Ranchman Club.

He was an architect for the Merchants Bank of Canada from 1919 to 1923 and lived in Montreal where he practiced with Harold Little. In 1923 he moved to Hamilton, Ontario where he spent the remainder of his life. He formed the firm Warren & McDonnell under which he practiced from 1923 to 1928 before opening his own office.

Along with his wife Alice he was a member of the Hamilton Tennis Club and the Hamilton Thistle Club.

Important work:

The Ranchman's Club, 13th Ave. at 6th St, Calgary, Alta.	1914
Residence for Fred R. Niblett, Bay St. S., Calgary Alta.	1933
Refectory for the Niagara Parks Commission, River Rd., Queenston Heights Park, Queenston, Ont.	1939-1940
<i>(McDonnell & Lenz)</i>	
Peace Memorial School, East 36th St., Hamilton	1946; addition 1948
New Westminster Presbyterian Church, King St. E. at Melrose Ave., Hamilton	1950