



**McLaughlin Hall
1 Hospital Court**

City of Oshawa

Prepared For: Heritage Oshawa
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McLAUGHLIN HALL
1 HOSPITAL COURT, OSHAWA, ON

I. LOCATION

This building is located on the northeast corner of the hospital property on the corner of Simcoe St. N and Hospital Court. The original address was 362 Simcoe Street North.

II. EARLY LOT HISTORY

In 1946, as a result of a generous offer from Col. and Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, McLaughlin Hall, a nurse's residence, was built. The location selected was the northeast corner of the hospital property where the first civic water tower was located and adjacent to what was once a lawn bowling green (no longer there).

In November of 1947, the new nurses residence, McLaughlin Hall, opened.

III. INDIVIDUALS SIGNIFICANCE

Colonel R. S. McLaughlin

The Honourable Colonel Robert Samuel McLaughlin was well known for his position of President of General Motors of Canada and for the numerous contributions that he made to the City of Oshawa. He took a deep interest in the welfare of Oshawa and he gave generously to it throughout his life. One of the main objects of his benevolence was the hospital. He donated money to build the nurse's residence, maternity wing and continuously made monetary contributions to the hospital extension campaigns. He also donated money to aid in the creation of many establishments in Oshawa, including Camp Samac, McLaughlin Band Shell, Union Cemetery War Veterans Plot, McLaughlin Library, Girl Guide House, Adelaide House and with his brother George McLaughlin purchased the Lakeshore properties (Lakeview Park) and donated the property to the City of Oshawa to use as a public park.

Mrs. Col. R.S. McLaughlin

Oshawa's General Hospital was started by a group of public-spirited women of the community; headed by Mrs. R.S. McLaughlin. When the Oshawa Hospital Women's Auxiliary came into being in 1906, Mrs. R.S. McLaughlin became President. The women's auxiliary raised the funds to purchase the land that the hospital now stands on. Mrs. R.S. McLaughlin was also responsible for the establishment of the YWCA in Oshawa.

IV. ARCHITECTURE

Style and Construction Date

Three story modern redbrick building. It was originally constructed as a nurse's residence and it is currently used for administration offices, and the head of Lakeridge Health Oshawa is located in this building. The Georgian style is reflected in the design of the original entranceway that faces Simcoe St. North.

Window Openings

The window openings have brick heads. The window frames are wood and the windowsills are concrete. The window sashes are 4 x 4 panes on the east façade and 6 x 6 panes on the south and north façade. There is a simple brick band between each row of windows on the South and North façade of the building. Each façade has 3 simple brick bands.

Original Entrance

The original front entrance staircase has been removed. The door surround has a simple classical cornice and entablature and the sides are framed in unfluted pilasters. The door is paneled. These features are reflective of the Georgian design.

Architects & Contractors

The firm of *Mathers and Haldenby* of Toronto drew up the set of plans that was adopted for McLaughlin Hall. The contract to construct the building was given to *Bathe and McLellan* of Oshawa.

Original Interior Design/Layout

The residence had fifty single bedrooms, a reception parlour on the main floor and a lounge on the second floor, with a kitchen. In the basement was a large recreation room with a piano, and a radio, a large kitchen, laundry for personal laundry, trunk storage rooms, and washrooms. There were fire extinguishers and fire hoses on each floor and steel staircases at each end of the building.

Additions

There is an addition on the west side of the building that is linked with the hospital. This is where individuals enter McLaughlin Hall. The original entrance that faced Simcoe Street North is no longer used and the staircase has been removed.

V. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

As the Oshawa General Hospital continued to progress and more students were coming to OGH to train as nurses, the need for a nurse's residence became apparent. Realizing this need, Colonel and Mrs. R.S. McLaughlin, donated the funds to build a nurses residence. McLaughlin Hall, nurse's residence, was at one time, one of the finest of its kind in Canada. This building reflects one of the many additions that have been made to the Oshawa General Hospital (now known as Lakeridge Health Oshawa), illustrating the 97 years of service and progress in the community.

APPENDICES



1. McLaughlin Hall, South façade, April 2006



2. McLaughlin Hall, Original Entrance, East façade, April 2006

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3. McLaughlin Hall, South façade, April 2006



4. McLaughlin Hall, Window Sash – East façade, April 2006



5. McLaughlin Hall Entrance, South façade, April 2006



6. McLaughlin Hall, South West façade (showing addition that links McLaughlin Hall with Lakeridge Health Oshawa. April 2006

*NOTE: Could not photograph the north façade due to construction.

Announcement

THE COMPLETION of Oshawa's New NURSES' RESIDENCE

The citizens of Oshawa and district may well be proud of the new McLaughlin Hall, the Nurses' Residence of the Oshawa General Hospital... this is indeed a beautiful structure, comfortably equipped, and is a structure which will endure as a useful adjunct of this great humanitarian organization for many generations.



of The
**Oshawa
General
Hospital**



F. P. Bathe

As the General Contractors for the construction of McLaughlin Hall, the new Nurses' Residence of the Oshawa General Hospital, we are indeed proud to have had the opportunity of superintending the construction and to be in the position today to say: "It is finished." The citizens of Oshawa will be ever grateful to Mr. and Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin for this grand contribution to the Oshawa General Hospital. We are happy to have been chosen as the General Contractors of such a useful and worthwhile edifice.



Frank M. McLellan

BATHE & McLELLAN

81 King St. W.

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

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FOR THE ERECTION OF THIS MAGNIFICENT STRUCTURE

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