

ough this was supposed to be the first building on campus, controversy over its design kept it, the intended “main teaching building,” being erected by its projected completion date of 1911. It became known as the “abysmal hole,” and students joked that it was the campus swimming pool since it collected water every spring. After the original construction was blown up and a larger one was laid, the building finally construction under a new design, and it opened in 1915.

From the 1920s until the late 1960s, U of A students gathered at the Tuck Shop to eat home-cooked meals (including some famous cinnamon buns) and sit for hours at a time to socialize with friends. A home from home for generations of students, the Tuck Shop was torn down in 1970 to make room for this building. It was born in 1973—the same year as Chemistry East, Rutherford North and Education North.

The campus’ first Students’ Union Building was originally supposed to be comprised of three modules, including an auditorium and swimming pool, but only the first building ever got off the ground. Though students had been discussing such a building since the 1920s, it didn’t open until 1950. But by 1962, the building was becoming

too small to accommodate students, so it was remodelled to serve a new purpose and renamed.

**6** Under U of A President Myer Horowitz, whose leadership ran from 1979–1989, this building was intended to be a museums and collections centre. But as Paul Davenport succeeded him as president, the project took a different turn. The building opened in 1995 as the new home of Studio Theatre.

**7** In 1969, this six-wing building was the last constructed by the Alberta Department of Public Works, which was responsible for every building on campus until that point. Since several different contractors worked on the building at once, legend recounts that when it was finally complete, the floors, doors and walls didn’t line up. An unsubstantiated report claims that the University was given 26 000 floor tiles from one of the builders to make amends for the construction disaster.

**8** In the 1920s, this building was a residence for men, and over the years it has stayed consistent in this role, having housed over 4000 U of A students, including former prime minister Joe Clark. More than a

residence, this building is also used for instructional and student space. Before the first SUB was built, this was the location for Council and for other student groups to meet, and the hot spot for late-night poker games.

**9** In light of the ’70s housing crisis, the SU focused its energy and money on building a new residence for students. But only a few years after the construction of this building, which was also a centre for commercial business, a financial crisis prompted the SU to sell the building. In 1976, the University bought it for \$1.

**10** This building is named after the librarian who, upon a chance meeting with the University President, protested that a site destined to become a laboratory should instead be reserved for a library. The President agreed and the library still stands today. Though mainly a host to studious types, in 2004 a student was beaten and stabbed between the stacks.



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