



1970-1971: Assiniboia and Athabasca close as residences

No longer housing students, the aging landmark buildings, along with Pembina, narrowly avoid destruction and are instead renovated and restored.

1973: HUB loan repayment problems

The Students' Union, faced with another deficit budget, wants to defer a payment of almost \$1 million in loans taken out on HUB. But permission to defer payment of loans must come from the board of governors and the Students' Council, and is further complicated by the terms of the \$5.5 million mortgage with Royal Trust Co, which can't be changed for at least three years.

Other alternatives examined are the elimination of the municipal tax on HUB (as HUB was a non-profit venture being taxed), rent increases, summer occupancy, and campaigns to attract more commercial business.

HUB is operating at a deficit of \$228 000, making it the primary culprit of the \$136 000 deficit in the SU's budget. The SU executive, believing HUB is on the cusp of a break-even point, hopes a deferral will give them the breathing room required.

While the loan deferment doesn't happen, the SU manages to attract more business to the project, giving it the financial help it needs.

1972: Garneau development ends

Faced with opposition from the Garneau community as well as financial issues, construction and expansion into Garneau comes to a halt. Sporadic conflict continues over the designation of historical sites for years to come.

1973: Board of Governors shuts Pembina Hall down

The Board of Governors officially decides to close Pembina Hall on 7 December, and on the same day informs the residents that they will have until 30 April, 1974 to evacuate the premises so that renovations can take place. In the meantime, the board plans to study alternative uses for the building, which is being used exclusively by senior and undergraduate female students.

Pembina is seen as having outlived its usefulness as a residence due to the restrictions placed on it. For example, due to archaic electrical wiring, tenants are forbidden to cook in the building and to use appliances in their room. Additionally, the only lightbulbs people could use were one 60- and one 30-watt, providing for dimly lit studying sessions.

Eventually the University repeals their decision, and Pembina Hall remains as is.

1975: HUB crisis averted?

A deal is reached to prevent HUB from further dragging down the finances of the Students' Union. The plan involves the Department of Education giving the Board of Governors \$300 000, with \$100 000 going to the next year's operating deficit and \$200 000 to help the Student's Union pay the loan incurred to build and maintain HUB. The Department of Education further recommends that a \$700 000 loan from the Board to the SU be forgiven.

1976: HUB sold to the University for one dollar

As it turns out, the previous year's financial plan isn't enough to keep HUB. Having exhausted all efforts to keep control of the building, the Students' Union sells HUB to the University for \$1, effectively absolving themselves of this hefty financial burden.



a different tomorrow



1984: Lister students protest conditions

The Lister Hall Students' Association sets up a booth to protest the alleged heavy-handed tactics of Housing and Food Services. Pamphlets are made outlining grievances that included general complaints of overcrowded bathrooms and raids on individual rooms, as well as very specific points such as allegations of Housing and Food officials charging \$50 to paint a door.

1991: Michener Park Opened to Non-Students

By the end of November, as many as 43 units are empty in Michener Park. To deal with the large number of vacancies, non-students are permitted to live in the neighbourhood. The move shoots fears through Michener Park residents that this would inevitably lead to the University selling the park.

These fears seem all but confirmed when David Bruch, then the director of Housing and Food Services, goes on record by saying that if Michener Park doesn't maintain financial self-sufficiency, University support may fade and the Park may be sold.

2000: Newton Place Holds its Own

Ending a month of debates and negotiations, the residents of Newton Place vote to accept the University's offer of rent reduction, given after tenants become upset over construction in the building. The new arrangement consists of 50-per-cent rent rebates for September–November and 30 per cent for December on the floors with the most disruption. As well, Newton Place residents become immune to rent increases due to a clause in their settlement.

2003: Schäffer Hall Opens

The last major extension to the Lister Centre is added. It also becomes the only Lister tower to house students in their third and fourth years.

2004: International House Opens

The University opens this residence in East Campus Village to give students from around the globe a place to stay and mingle with each other.

2005: Pembina's fate is sealed

Being used as a graduate students' residence, Pembina Hall is repurposed by the University to be converted into office space, evicting the residents despite their pleas to the contrary.



*When it opens in 1972,
HUB is the
pride of the SU.
For a time, it is the only
residence in Canada
controlled by students
and also one of the longest
mall boardwalks
in the world—
but the fiscal
headaches would plague
the SU for years.*

Plans are in the works for about 1000 new beds around campus, both at East Campus Village and South Campus. Among the plans are a proposed graduate students' residence, and a proposed aboriginal students' residence that would operate similar to I-House by including those of non-aboriginal descent.

For more information on the history of residence, check out the Gateway's online archives at www.thegatewayonline.ca