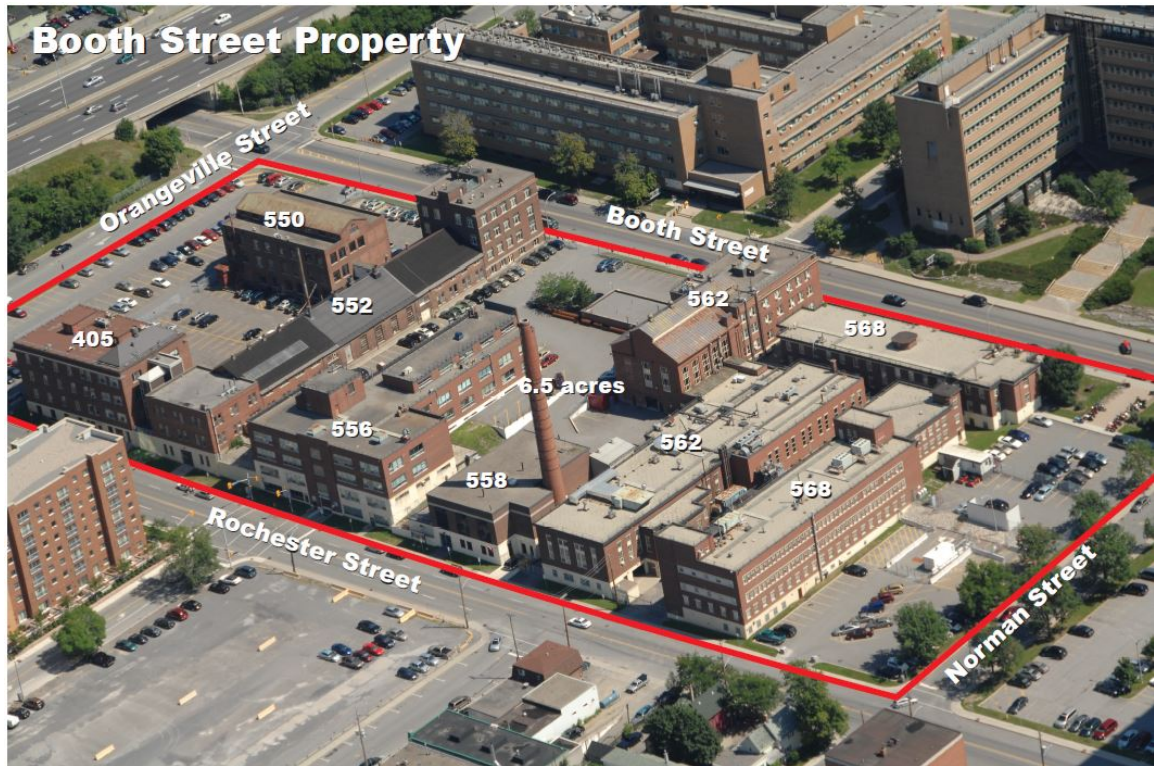


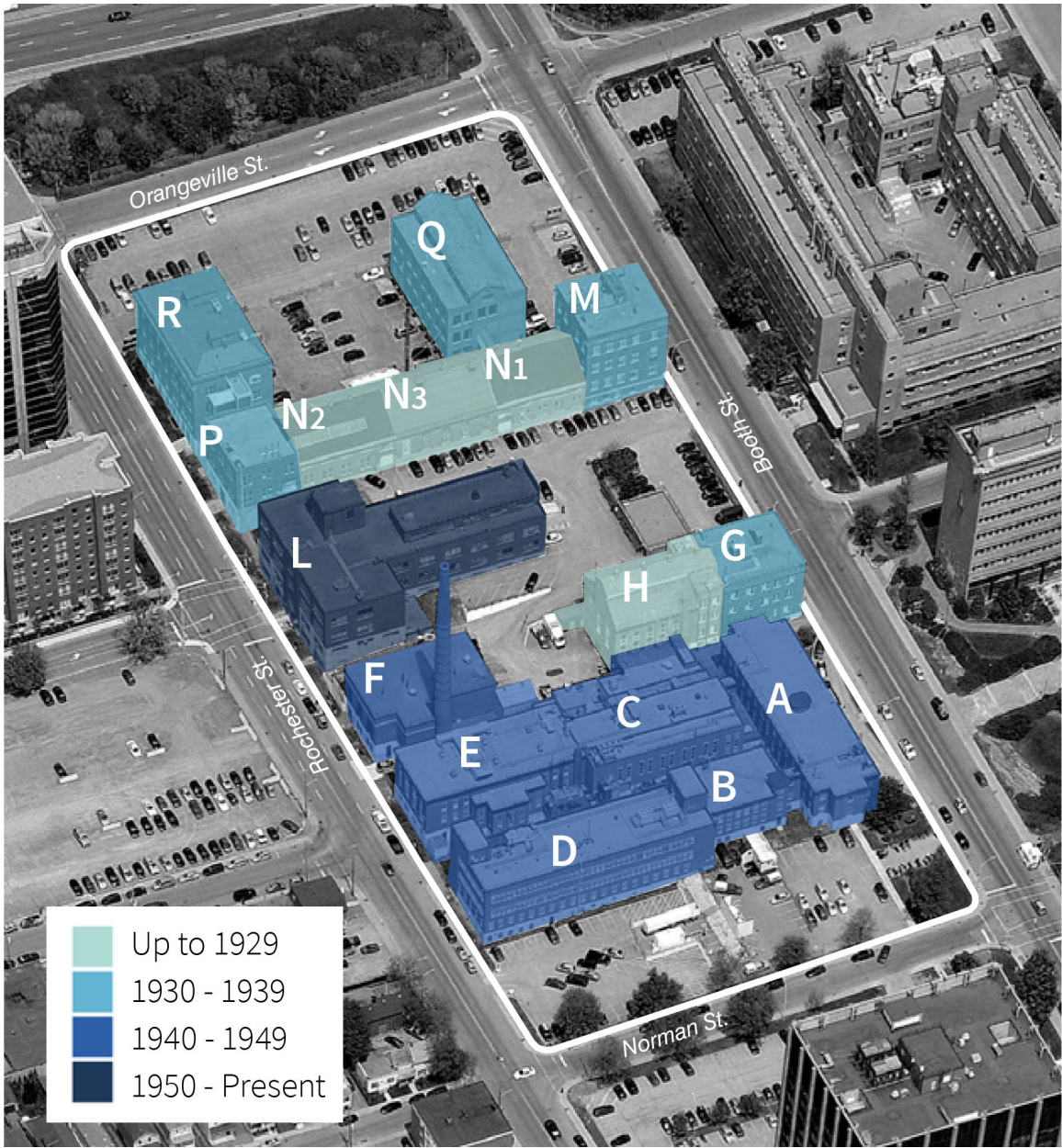
HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Building Name and Address: Booth Street Complex

Construction Date: 1909 - 1952

Original Owner: Federal government of Canada





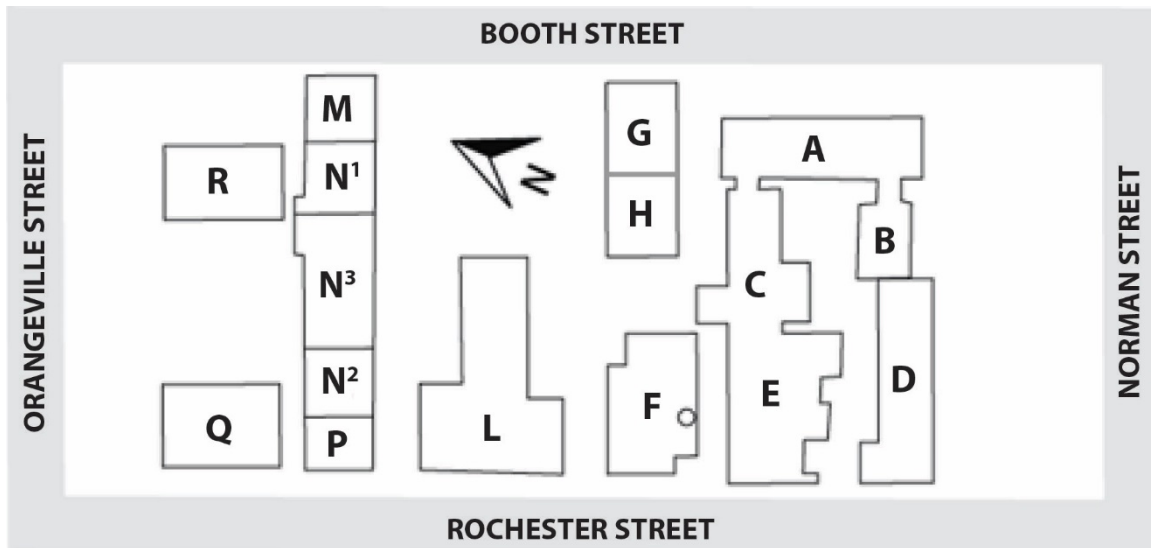
Design or Physical Value

Prepared by: Heritage Section

Month/Year: 2016 - 2019

Architecture

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES NO



The Booth Street Complex is a collection of federal laboratories and associated structures, constructed between 1909 and 1952, which occupy a site bounded by Orangeville Street to the north, Booth Street to the east, Norman Street to the south and Rochester Street to the west.



Building M

Although the laboratories were built one at a time, over a long time period, they convey the impression of a group of buildings consistent in style and scale. This cohesion was achieved because the earlier laboratories are enclosed within a ring of structures facing outwards to Booth, Lydia and Rochester Streets that

were built in the 1930s and 1940s. These exterior buildings (A, G, M, Q,R and F) are simple, flat roofed structures with classical-inspired details, of red brick with stone or concrete detail, which feature stone entablatures around the front entrances supported by scrolled brackets, and panels



Building A

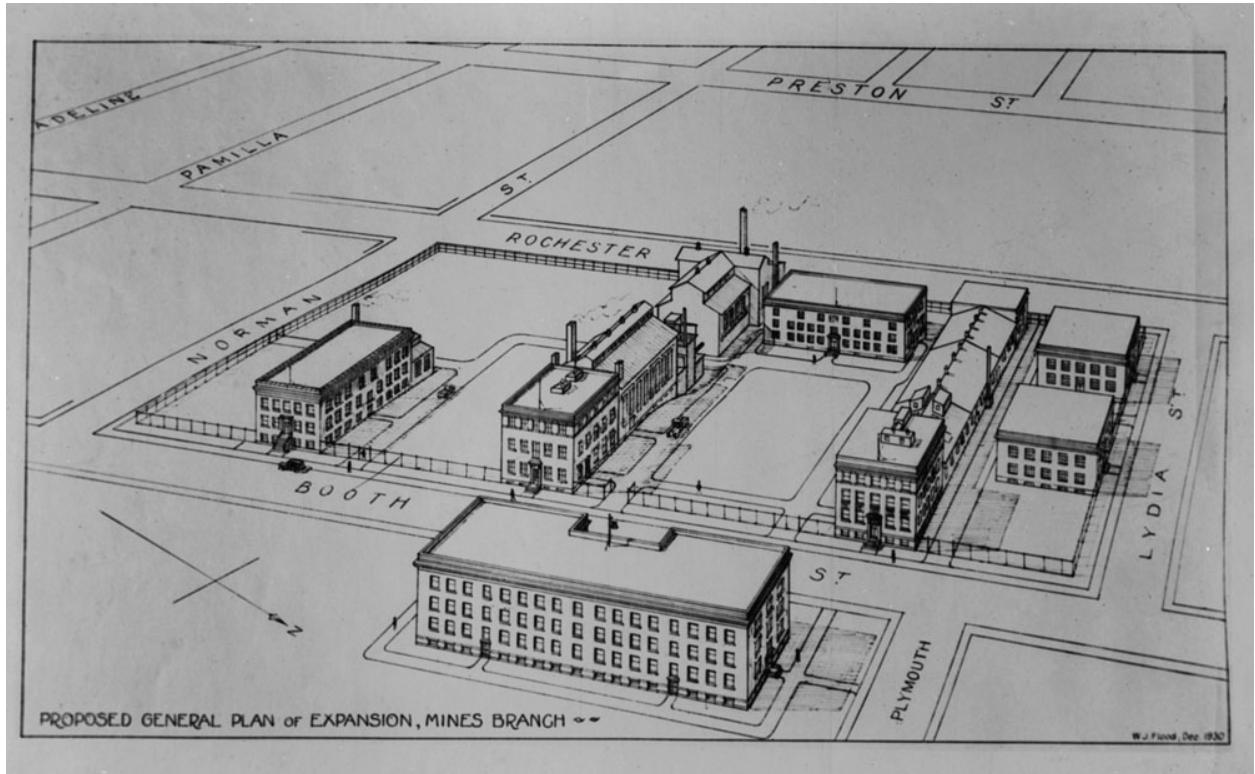
which present the name of each laboratory to the public. These buildings were constructed under the supervision of Ottawa architect W.E. Noffke, a well-known local architect who worked throughout Ottawa and was contracted to expand the Booth Street Complex from the late 1920s into the 1940s.

When the buildings were constructed, the Department of Public Works issued extremely precise instructions to their contract architects, so whether Noffke was the actual designer or simply a supervising architect for the construction of these buildings is not known. The designs may have originated almost entirely from the Chief Architect's Branch of the Department of Public Works, and the simple, rectilinear style of the laboratories certainly suggest federal design – or at least very strict guidelines set down for the architect. They all share the characteristics of Modern Classical style commonly used for federal buildings in Ottawa in the 20th century.

The earlier laboratories, which predate Noffke's involvement on the site, are attached in a row of structures (Buildings N¹-N³) with characteristic metal chimneys, gable roofs and a mix of industrial and sash windows. This row contains the oldest structure on the site, Building N¹, which was an addition of the original Fuel Testing Laboratory (built in 1909 and demolished in the 1930s.)

There is some evidence of an overall plan for the Booth Street Complex, guided by the Chief Architect's branch of the Department of Public Works. As early as 1925 the Chief Architect's branch of the Department of Public Works produced a site plan which indicated the proposed new fuel testing laboratory. In 1931, the *Canadian Mining Journal* published site plans which compared the existing layout

of temporary and permanent structures on the Booth Street Complex site to a proposed plan of permanent buildings which would replace the scattered temporary ones. This plan shows a group of classically-inspired buildings arranged in a campus-style plan that was followed in a limited way with some significant alterations in the following years.



Mines Branch Proposed Site Plan, 1931

The structures which comprise the Booth Street Complex are low, two to three-storey brick buildings. Buildings G and M, two three-storey buildings whose eastern facades are nearly identical and frame an open space were clearly set out in the Chief Architect's site plan. The planned use of twinned structures to frame a space is also evident in Buildings Q and R, that originally faced Lydia Street.

The complex has a public face on Booth Street and Orangeville Street, which is open and welcoming with its human-scaled stone entranceways and open spaces leading into the site. The complex does not appear industrial from these streets, but more institutional in nature. As seen from Norman Street, the complex presents a continuous facade of buildings, with slight changes in setback between buildings A, B and D. These buildings are well fenestrated, but clearly serve as functional rear additions Building A, that faces Booth Street. Rochester Street is



Rear of complex on Rochester Street

clearly the rear of the complex, where the buildings present a series of austere, simple elevations built almost flush to the sidewalk. The uniformity of the flat-roofed buildings is broken by variations in mass and fenestration.

Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit?

YES NO

The Booth Street Complex is a cohesive group of mid-twentieth century, federally built structures and is the only complex of semi-industrial buildings known to have been erected by architect W.E. Noffke. The complex illustrates Noffke's interest in modernism late in his career.

Technical/Scientific Merit

Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

YES NO

The buildings of the Booth Street Complex were purpose-built as research and laboratory facilities and their form and layouts are indicative of their long-term scientific use.

Summary

The Booth Street Complex is a cohesive group of mid-twentieth century, federally built structures and is the only complex of semi-industrial buildings known to have been erected by architect W.E. Noffke.

Sources

Ricketts, Shannon. "Four Structures on the EMR Complex, Booth Street, Ottawa, Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office, Report No. 86-61,"

Ricketts, Shannon. "Physical Metallurgy Laboratories, Booth Street, Ottawa, Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office, Report No. 87-108,"

Historic Places.ca, EMR Complex, Booth Street, Ottawa

Hennessey, Mark Best Efforts Report, 2014

Leslie Maitland, Jaqueline Hucker and Shannon Ricketts, [A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles](#).

Stantec, Canada Lands Company, Booth Street Redevelopment, "Planning Rationale, Section 7.0, Heritage Character Analysis and Section 11, Heritage Conservation Strategy

Historical and Associative Value

Prepared by: Heritage Section, 2016-2019

Date of Construction: 1909 - 1952

Historical Associations

Does the property have direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community?

YES NO

The Booth Street Complex played an important role in the development of the Canadian mining and energy industries during the first half of the twentieth century. From an initial laboratory built in 1909, the complex grew to a multi-building, state-of-the-art research and development centre.

The federal government began purchasing land for what would become the Booth Street Complex in 1908. The first laboratory built on the site was the original Fuel Testing Laboratory, constructed in 1909 largely to test the use of peat as a fuel for use by the iron and steel industry. The 1912 Fire Insurance Plan lists the structure as the “Peat Experimental Plant”. The Fuel Testing Laboratory was one of several locations the Department of Mines operated in Ottawa.



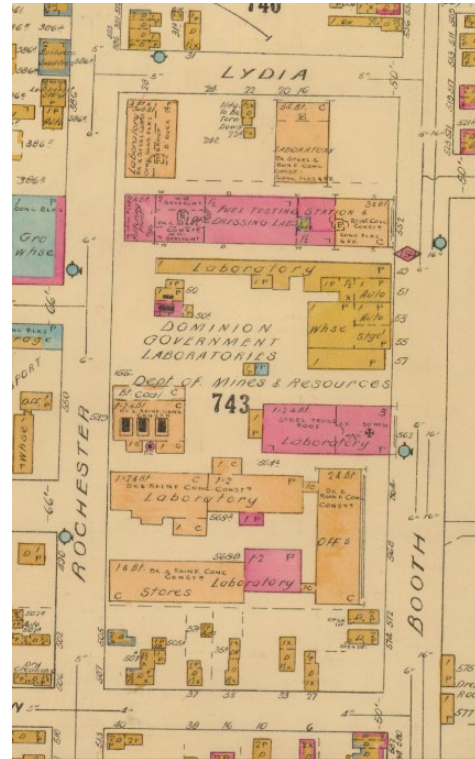
The Original Fuel Testing Laboratory (1909)

Growth in the Canadian mining industry over the following decades resulted in the federal government continuing to purchase adjoining land to build temporary and permanent research laboratory facilities on the site. Additions to the site were made gradually until the 1930s when a large expansion was carried out to designs by well-known architect W.E. Noffke. With the Great Depression of the 1930s, the federal government engaged local architects. W.E. Noffke's first federal contract was to design the new Fuel Testing Laboratory on Booth Street for the Department of Mines. From the late 1920s to the 1940s Noffke continued to design additions to the Booth Street Complex (Buildings A, F, G, I, N, O).

During the Second World War, urgent demands from the Armed Services to expand and enlarge facilities for metallurgical testing and research resulted in further expansions of the complex (Buildings, A, B, C, D and E). By 1945, the expansions prompted the construction of a new Central Heating Plant (Building F), designed by W.E. Noffke.

The final permanent building to be erected on the Booth Street Complex site was the Mechanical Shops and Stores (Building H) between 1950-1952.

From 1909-1952 the complex grew from a single building into a semi-industrial research plant housing laboratories and offices, with its own heating plant as well as storage and mechanical shops. These buildings, with minor alterations, continued in use up until the facility closed in XXXX, attesting to the efficiency of their design.



1948 Fire Insurance Plan

Community History

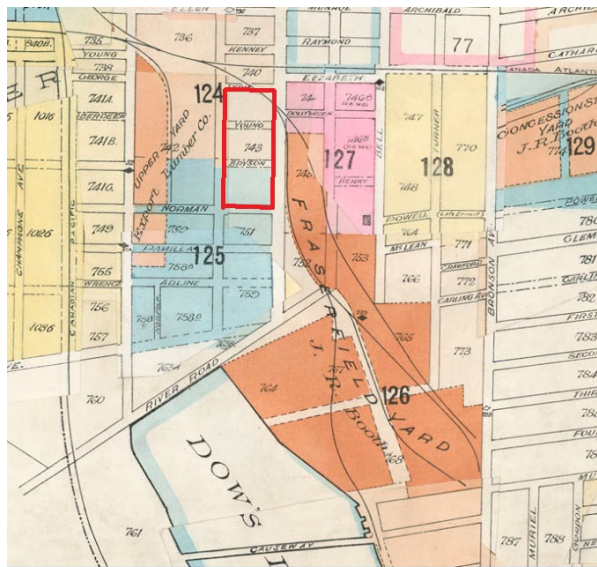
Does the property yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture? YES NO

The Booth Street Complex is just south of the present Queensway Highway, originally the railway tracks. In the early twentieth century this area was on the outskirts of the city. Lumber and railway yards, commercial enterprises and a scatter of working class housing co-existed when the first Fuel Testing Laboratory was built in 1909. The toxic nature of the work carried out at the Laboratory required a relatively isolated area but, despite this, working-class families lived in direct proximity to the growing industrial complex.



Facing south on former Lydia Street, c. 1932, the connected laboratories of 552 Booth are visible (Buildings N¹ – N³) between working class housing which was cleared when Buildings Q and R were constructed in the 1930s.

The Fire Insurance Plan of 1912 reveals how the future Booth Street Complex site was once wedged between two massive lumberyards with the J.R. Booth Lumber Co. Fraserfield Lumberyards to the east between Booth and Lebreton and stretching south to Dow's lake and the Export Lumber Co, Upper Yard immediately to the west between Rochester and



Preston Streets.

Fire Insurance Plan of 1912

The land around Dow's Lake was reclaimed as an extension of the Federal District Commission's Driveway System in the 1930s and because the Booth Street

Complex site was on the outskirts, expansion through the purchase of abutting property was done with little difficulty. By 1937 the complex occupied the entire block west from Booth to Rochester Street and South from Lydia to Norman Street.

The block is now bordered by buildings to the south and east, developed during the 1950s. This site features three massive, rectangular buildings which housed the Geological Survey, Surveys and Mapping, technical groups and the library of the Mines Branch. To the south, a new headquarters building was completed at 558 Booth Street in 1960.

Representative Work

Does the property demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, building, designer or theorist who is significant to a community? YES NO

Werner Ernst Noffke, one of Ottawa's leading and most prolific architects of the 20th century, was known for his residential buildings, churches, commercial and public buildings which are familiar throughout the city. Noffke was contracted as part of the federal government's accelerated building program in the late 1920s and oversaw all of the permanent buildings erected on the site from this time until the mid 1940s.

Summary

The Booth Street Complex, with its visible evolution over the early 20th century, clearly defines the changing and expanding areas of development within the energy and mining sectors and the government's involvement with them during an incredibly important period in Canada's technological history.

Sources

Ricketts, Shannon. (n.d.). Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office, Report No. 86-61, "Four Structures on the EMR Complex, Booth Street, Ottawa"

Prepared by: Heritage Section Staff

Month/Year: 2016 - 2019

Contextual Value



Community Character

Is the property important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of the area? YES NO

The Booth Street Complex is bounded by Booth Street to the east, Orangeville Street to the north, Rochester Street to the west and Norman Street to the south. Just south of the Queensway, the site is in a mixed-use area, with residential, commercial and light industrial use. The complex features buildings along Booth and Orangeville that appear more institutional in nature with their human-scaled, elaborate entranceways, and larger, industrial buildings fronting Rochester and set back from Booth. This impression of mixed uses within the complex is completely compatible with the surrounding area.

Context

Is the property physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings? YES NO

The Booth Street Complex is historically linked to its mixed-use surroundings as one of the last remaining early 20th century industrial elements still present in the area.

The smokestack, part of Building F, the Central Heating Plant, is the most immediately characteristic feature of the complex and its prominence identifies the site. Views of the smokestack are visible throughout the complex and in the surrounding area.

Landmark

Is the property a landmark? YES NO

The Booth Street Complex is a familiar presence in the area and has a unique street presence, particularly along Booth and Orangeville, but also along Rochester with its austere, industrial facades.

The visual presence of the tall smokestack of Building F, the Central Heating Plant, is the most characteristic element of the complex viewed from a distance. With tall condos being built nearby, the complex also has a strong presence when viewed from above due to its large site, occupying a full city block with historic brick buildings. Building G and Building N have distinct building forms with their pitched roofs, monitors and ventilators, easily discerned from a distance.

Summary

The Booth Street Complex is a significant historic group of buildings in Ottawa. The complex is very compatible with the surrounding mixed-use environment of residential, commercial and light industrial buildings.

HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Building Name and Address: Physical Metallurgy Laboratory (Buildings A - E),
568 Booth Street

Construction Date: 1942-1947

Building A, frontispiece



Building B, facing Norman Street



Building D



Building E



Design or Physical Value

Prepared by: Heritage Section

Month/Year: Dec 2018/ Jan 2019

Architecture

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES NO

The Physical Metallurgy Laboratories (Buildings A - E) were built during the Second World War as the work of the Department increased because of the war effort. Upon completion, the laboratories were well equipped, state of the art structures and included a foundry, rolling mill and testing facilities. They depart from the classicized, three-storey square facades of the other laboratories on the Booth Street. Building A acts as the entrance pavilion to the more functional buildings behind it. The building is two storey, red brick structure with simple concrete details that reflect the earlier buildings on the site, while moving towards modernism.

Building A (1942-44)

Unlike the earlier buildings on the complex, Building A is very long, with a 15 bay front façade. Designed to function as the main point of access to the buildings behind it, the front entrance is highlighted by two precast stone surrounds whose form suggest giant columns that stretch the height of the building and form a shallow recess in which are set a double door, and at the second-storey level, a window.

Each bay features slightly recessed, four over four identically sized windows capped with simple, precast lintels. Above the second floor windows, the lintels join into a continuous frieze that is immediately under a simple cornice.

Building B (1942-44)

This utilitarian structure is joined to Building A by a two-storey link. It echoes the simple horizontality of Building A, and features evenly spaced, multi-paned rectangular windows with large lintels arranged in five bays. A small projection at the eastern end of the building projects slightly above the roofline.

Building C (1942-44)

Building C sits between Buildings A and E. Similar to the other 1940 buildings on the site, it is a two storey, semi-industrial building constructed of red brick with a concrete foundation, and is

Building D (1946-52)

Building D is a long three-storey structure with a high basement that is connected to Building B. It features bands of regularly sized windows, separated by brick bands, and surrounded by narrow concrete frames. The basement rises to a full storey at Rochester because of the downward slope of the land from Booth to Rochester. This wing housed offices and laboratories.

Building E (1945-47)

Building E faces Rochester Street to the south of Building D, and is linked to Building C at the rear. It features the same flat roof, red brick cladding and high concrete basement as the other 1940s buildings in the Complex. It also features long, multi-paned windows with precast lintels.

Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit?

YES NO

The Physical Metallurgy Laboratories (Building A-E) are simple utilitarian structures, designed with a specific research-related function. Their semi-industrial character and the cohesiveness of the design across the complex is noteworthy and displays a high degree of artistic merit in spatial planning. Designed under the direction of local architect W.E. Noffke, the buildings demonstrate the federal government's interest in "modern Classicism" at the time.

Technical/Scientific Merit

Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

YES NO

The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate a high degree of technical achievement. They were purpose-built to serve the Mines Branch of the federal government and, when constructed, the laboratories and research facilities housed on the site reflected the specific function for of each structure.

Buildings A-E were purpose built as research facilities and their design and layout reflect their function, with interior spaces designed for large-scale testing.

Building D was devoted primarily to office space and its fenestration pattern reflects this use.

HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Building Name and Address: Central Heating Plant (Building F), 558 Booth Street

Construction Date: 1943-45



Central Heating Plant



Chimney, Central Heating Plant

Design or Physical Value

Prepared by: Heritage Section,

Month/Year: 2016/2019

Architecture

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES NO

The expansion of the Booth Street Complex during the thirties and early forties required the construction of a Central Heating Plant and in 1943 W.E. Noffke submitted the buildings plans. The building was completed in 1945.

The Central Heating Plant (Building F) is a single-storey brick building with a main elevation on Rochester Street. The simple, square facade on Rochester features a high, concrete basement now painted white, a brick main storey, three bays of multi-paned, long, industrial windows with hoppers and a precast stringcourse which caps the windows, just below the flat roof. The industrial windows and beltcourse are repeated on the north and eastern facades. There are two pairs of industrial windows with hoppers at the basement level, facing Rochester Street.

A 39 metre, round, brick chimney rises at the southern side of Building F.

Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit? YES NO

The Central Heating Plant Fuel (Building F) is a simple utilitarian structure, designed specifically to provide heat to the other buildings on the Complex. The industrial character of the building and the cohesiveness of the design across the complex is noteworthy.

Designed under the direction of local architect W.E. Noffke, the buildings demonstrate the federal government's interest in the Modern Classical style for its public buildings at the time. The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate the style at its simplest, featuring classically inspired entablatures, simple cornices and symmetrical proportions applied to red brick buildings.

Technical/Scientific Merit

Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

YES

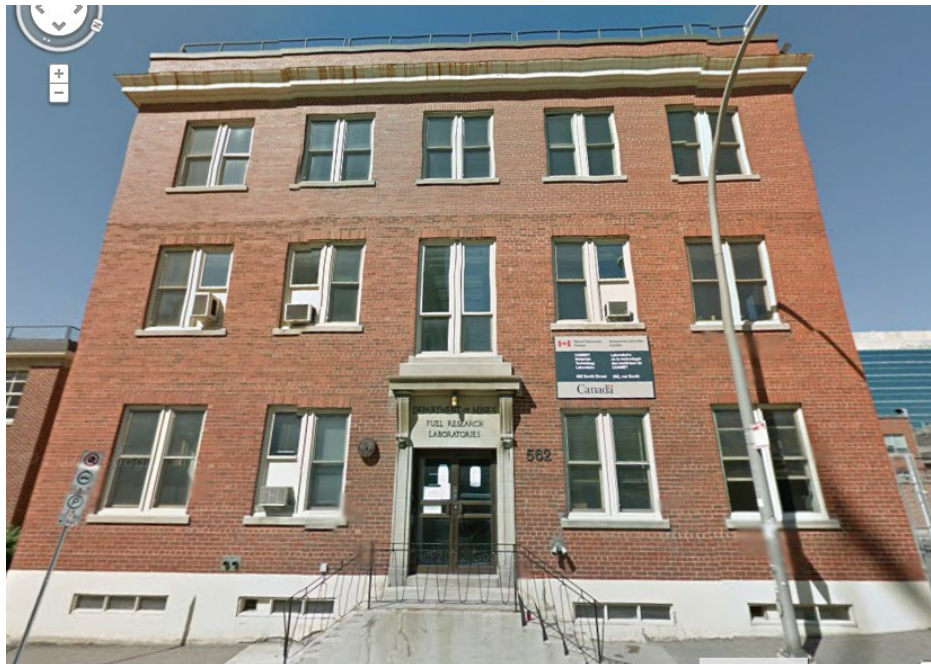
NO

The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate a high degree of technical achievement. They were purpose-built to serve the Mines Branch of the federal government and, when constructed, the laboratories and research facilities housed on the site reflected the specific function for of each structure. In the case of Building F, the Central Heating Plant, its tall brick chimney reflects its function as the central heating plant for the complex.

HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Building Name and Address: Fuel Testing Lab, 562 Booth Street, (Buildings G and H)

Construction Date: Building G, 1927, third floor 1937, Building H 1927-29



Building G



Building H

Design or Physical Value

Prepared by: Heritage Section

Month/Year: 2016-2019

Architecture

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES NO

Built in two stages, Buildings G and H reflect the adaptability of the basic cubic form of the buildings within the Booth Street Complex. When initially constructed in 1927, the building was in two sections; the portion facing Booth Street was two storeys in height, with a one-storey building with a monitor roof behind it. In 1937, a third storey housing the physics and chemistry laboratory was added to the original flat roofed building. The resulting building is a three storey red brick building with a concrete foundation and a flat roof. Its symmetrical five bay front façade with a central entrance featuring a stone surround and entablature incised with the building name is similar to Buildings M, Q and R. This symmetry is carried around to the five bay, north and south facades. The building features paired rectangular windows with concrete sills and brick lintels, a metal cornice set below the rooflines and decorative brick stringcourses in header bond every fifth course. These details are associated with the Modern Classical style, often used in Ottawa's public buildings of the 1930s.

Building H is a one storey building with a mezzanine with a concrete foundation and standing seam metal monitor roof, four-bay north and south facades with large rectangular window openings. The original multi-paned steel industrial windows have been replaced. There is a large, west-facing loading door.

Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit? YES NO

The Fuel Testing Laboratory (Buildings G-H) are simple utilitarian structures, designed with a specific research-related function. Their semi-industrial character and the cohesiveness of the design across the complex is noteworthy. Designed under the direction of local architect W.E. Noffke, the buildings demonstrate the federal government's interest in the Modern Classical style for its public buildings at the time. The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate the style at its simplest, featuring classically inspired entablatures, simple cornices and symmetrical proportions applied to red brick buildings.

Technical/Scientific Merit

Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

YES

NO

The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate a high degree of technical achievement. They were purpose-built to serve the Mines Branch of the federal government and, when constructed, the laboratories and research facilities housed on the site reflected the specific function for of each structure.

The Fuel Testing Laboratory houses offices in the flat-roofed section at the front and laboratories where investigations on oil, coal and gas were undertaken. To the rear, the large open volume houses a coke oven for experiments on coal. The building was specifically designed to houses these research functions.

HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Building Name and Address: Ore Dressing and Metallurgical Laboratory, 552 Booth Street

Construction Date: Building M (1932), Building N¹ - N³ (1911-1929),





Design or Physical Value

Prepared by: Heritage Section

Month/Year: 2016-2019

Architecture

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES NO

The Ore Dressing and Metallurgical Laboratory is a row of attached laboratories (Buildings M, N¹ – N³) which were constructed at different time periods and range in architectural character. Considered as one building, the additions to the rear of 552 Booth Street are a two-storey row of utilitarian brick buildings with gable roofs, a mix of industrial windows with hoppers, and sash windows and metal chimneys, attached to a three-storey, flat-roofed laboratory facing Booth Street (Building M).

Building M, the Ore Dressing and Metallurgical Laboratories, was erected in 1932, on the site of the original Fuel Testing Station, the first building to be built on the Booth Street Complex. This laboratory is a five bay, three-storey, brick cube with a high basement. It features decorative metal spandrel panels between the first and second storey windows, a metal cornice with dentils set below the roofline and a wide stone stringcourse separating the basement and the first floor and a narrow one between the second and third floors.

Buildings N¹ – N³

This group of buildings, built at different times are simple structures with few details. Their mix of window and door openings and chimney demonstrate their functional nature.

Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit? YES NO

The Ore Dressing and Metallurgical Laboratories are simple utilitarian structures, designed with a specific research-related function. Their semi-industrial character and the cohesiveness of the design across the complex is noteworthy. Designed under the direction of local architect W.E. Noffke, the buildings demonstrate the federal government's interest in the Modern Classical style for its public buildings at the time. The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate

the style at its simplest, featuring classically inspired entablatures, simple cornices and symmetrical proportions applied to red brick buildings.

Technical/Scientific Merit

Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

YES NO

The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate a high degree of technical achievement. They were purpose-built to serve the Mines Branch of the federal government and, when constructed, the laboratories and research facilities housed on the site reflected the specific function for of each structure.

The Ore Dressing and Metallurgical Laboratories houses offices and laboratories in the flat-roofed section at the front (Building M). The rear sections were devoted to ore treatment. The building grew incrementally to house these research functions.

HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Building Name and Address: Ore Dressing Laboratories (Building Q-

Construction Date: 1939



Design or Physical Value

Prepared by: Heritage Section

Month/Year: 2016-2019

Architecture

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES NO

The Ore Dressing Building, Building Q, is a utilitarian structure with rectangular massing, clean lines and a functional design. It features a symmetrically placed rooftop monitor extending the length of the building, large loading doors beside the main entrance and large industrial hopper windows of multi-paned rolled steel that were commonly used in early industrial building for lighting and ventilation purposes. The modest classical influence can be seen in the formal symmetry of the windows and doors as well as the pale stone entablature and pediment at the entrance with simple decorative columns and large brackets. These details are associated with the Modern Classical style, often used in federal public buildings of the 1930s.

Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit? YES NO

The Ore Dressing Laboratory, (Building Q) is a simple utilitarian structure designed specifically for ore testing. Features such as the monitor roof and large loading doors were specifically designed allow the testing of large ore samples.

Designed under the direction of local architect W.E. Noffke, the buildings demonstrate the federal government's interest in the Modern Classical style for its public buildings at the time. The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate the style at its simplest, featuring classically inspired entablatures, simple cornices and symmetrical proportions applied to red brick buildings.

Technical/Scientific Merit

Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

YES

NO

The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate a high degree of technical achievement. They were purpose-built to serve the Mines Branch of the federal government and, when constructed, the laboratories and research facilities housed on the site reflected the specific function for of each structure.

When built in 1939, the Ore Dressing Laboratories were a state of the art facility that technically advanced and 405 Rochester Street was the only laboratory in Canada that was fully equipped for investigations of industrial minerals and ceramics.

HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Building Name and Address: Industrial Minerals and Ceramics Laboratory,
(Building R), 405 Rochester Street

Construction Date: 1939



Design or Physical Value

Prepared by: Sally Coutts

Month/Year: January 2019

Architecture

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES NO

The Industrial Minerals and Ceramics Laboratory is a steel-framed, three storey, five bay, red brick cubic building with a centrally placed entry. A simple metal cornice with dentils sits slightly below the roofline, and the doorway features a classically-inspired stone surround and entablature supported by large stone brackets that hold up a simple pediment, which is similar to the stone details of Buildings M and G. The rectangular windows feature stone sills. The highly regular fenestration pattern is repeated on the long west and east facades.

The building's simple cubic form and restrained classical details are similar to the other buildings on the Complex, which together form a cohesive collection of offices and laboratories.

Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit? YES NO

The Industrial Minerals and Ceramic Laboratory (Building R) is a simple utilitarian structures, designed with a specific research-related function related to the testing of industrial minerals and ceramics. It is closely related in design to Buildings G and M, particularly in its central entranceway.

Designed under the direction of local architect W.E. Noffke, the buildings demonstrate the federal government's interest in the Modern Classical style for its public buildings at the time. The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate the style at its simplest, featuring classically inspired entablatures, simple cornices and symmetrical proportions applied to red brick buildings.

Technical/Scientific Merit

Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

YES

NO

The buildings that comprise the Booth Street Complex demonstrate a high degree of technical achievement. They were purpose-built to serve the Mines Branch of the federal government and, when constructed, the laboratories and research facilities housed on the site reflected the specific function for of each structure.

When built in 1939, the Industrial Minerals and Ceramics labs were technically advanced and 405 Rochester Street was the only laboratory in Canada that was fully equipped for investigations of industrial minerals and ceramics.