

The Peterborough Normal School

On Benson Avenue 300 metres up the hill stands the former Peterborough Normal School, opened in 1908 and renamed the Teachers' College in 1953. The Provincial Architect, F.R. Heakes, designed it as one of four identical structures built about that time for teacher education in Ontario. A significant example of the Edwardian Classical style, it features a pressed red brick and stone exterior, including an impressive west façade, and is surmounted by a metal-clad dome. During its lifetime the school enrolled well over ten thousand students. After its closure in 1973 the Peterborough County Board of Education acquired and extended the building, and used it as its offices until 1998.