College of Emmanuel & St. Chad
1. Statement of Significance

The College of Emmanuel and St. Chad is an historic institution whose inception predates the province and the University of Saskatchewan. The institution was the first establishment for higher education founded in Canada west of Winnipeg. In 1883, an act of parliament incorporated the institution as the ‘University of Saskatchewan.’ Therefore, Emmanuel College nominally existed as the first university in the province until 1907 when the provincial university at Saskatoon was established. At that time, the College agreed to relinquish its name to the provincial university in favor of becoming ‘Emmanuel College’ and affiliating with the newly born University of Saskatchewan. Despite relinquishing its name, Emmanuel College retained its university charter and rights, and in 1914 became the University of Emmanuel College.
In 1964 Emmanuel College merged with St. Chad’s College of Regina to become the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad. The stone building that now stands as the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad was one of the first stone buildings built on the University of Saskatchewan campus and its existence represents the historical theological institution.

Note: The College of Emmanuel and St. Chad building is configured with floors numbered Basement, Ground Floor, First Floor, Second Floor, Third Floor. This report follows the same convention.

2. Character - Defining Elements

2.1 Materials

The materials used to construct the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad are characteristic of and harmonize with the rest of the University of Saskatchewan campus. ‘Greystone’ makes up the exterior of the building. Sandstone was used for accents and the exterior steps and base were constructed of granite. Figure 1 shows sandstone string courses on a field of greystone. (For further information on building stones used at the U of S, refer to ‘Appendix: Stone’) The roof of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad is clad in slate tile and is supported by wooden rafters. The rafter ends were extended as decorative elements on the exterior of the building, as shown in Figure 2. Also visible in Figure 2 are the copper eaves troughs. Copper downspouts carry rainwater to the ground.
The exterior of the building exists in a good state of commemorative integrity, with much of the original material intact. These materials are significant in that they associate the building with the rest of the University of Saskatchewan and contribute to the Collegiate Gothic architectural style of the building. The surviving limestone, sandstone and slate tile are character-defining elements. The same can be said of the materials on the building’s interior. Gothic arches and vaults in oak, fir and plaster contribute to the architectural style of the building. Also, the building’s interior materials are commonly found throughout other University of Saskatchewan interiors.

Wooden materials characterize the interior of this building to a great degree. Doors, windows and surrounds are made of oak and fir, with matching baseboards and trim. Complementing the wood is bronze and brass hardware such as doorknobs, locks, and latches. Figure 4 shows a wooden transom with brass hardware. These accents complement walls of plaster. The plaster contains horse hair as a binding agent. The staircases are wooden.

The doors and walls exist in varying states of commemorative integrity; in many cases the hardware on doors and windows has been kept in its original form. In some instances the original materials have been refinished or covered; dropped ceilings conceal upper window lites, drywall covers an original fir room partition as shown in Figure 5. The original hardwood flooring visible in Figure 6 is still existent in many places beneath carpet. Original wood flooring has also been covered with vinyl composite tile (VCT) and newer wood flooring in many instances. In these cases the commemorative integrity of the material has been maintained; however the contribution of these materials to the form and style of the building has been compromised by their obstruction.

In other cases the commemorative integrity of the material has suffered. For example, the northern staircase shown in Figure 7 retains its oak finish while the southern staircase has been painted. The same can be said of some of the bronze and brass fixtures.
2.2 Form

The form of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad, shown in Figures 8 and 9, is in keeping with the context of the University of Saskatchewan. The building consists of one three-storey volume. The floor plan is relatively narrow. The original design, shown in Figure 9, intended for the building to be larger than it was eventually built. A central house for the president was intended to be flanked by two wings. The original building was planned to accommodate 60 students. The First World War and the Great Depression intervened such that construction was never completed. Thus, the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad building, as an incomplete work of architecture, reflects its historical context and the events of its time.
2.3 Style

Numerous character-defining elements contribute to the Collegiate Gothic style of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad. This style is significant as it reflects the relationship of the College to the university; the College of Emmanuel chose to physically represent itself as part of the university.

This style is manifested in the use of dormer and bay windows, gothic arched windows and doorways. Statuary niches and narrow false windows are used as decoration. Openings are surrounded by cut sandstone surrounds. Sandstone quoins adorn corners. Figure 11 shows some of the Collegiate Gothic elements that decorate the facade of this building. Figure 12 shows a bay window decorated with sandstone quoins. The principle entry is located prominently in an archway, pictured in Figure 13. Some slabs of stone were left blank, presumably intended as locations for future ornamentation.

Figure 11 shows an interesting asymmetry on the building’s southern facade. Two of the six ground floor windows have had their arched transoms replaced by stucco panels. Today all six windows feature this treatment.

Figure 11. A photograph of the College of Emmanuel in 1925 shows elements of the Collegiate Gothic style: dormer windows, pointed arches, bay windows, and arched slots. To the left, two ground floor windows already feature a stucco treatment covering their arched transoms. Call no. B124.A.II.SB6715, retrieved from Saskatchewan Archives Board.

Figure 12. A bay window located on the south east corner of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad. Sandstone quoins surround the window.
The absence of carvings on such a typically gothic building is character-defining. Often builders left room for ornamentation on the exterior of gothic buildings with the intention that the carvings would be carried out following the building's completion. The existence of several of these stone blanks is an important element defining the character and context of this building. (See section 2.8).

The interior of this building is in an intermediate state of commemorative integrity. Figure 14 shows an example of an interior element that harmonizes with the gothic exterior. A ground floor corridor featuring a vaulted plaster ceiling, arched entries and transoms contributes to this effect. However, in many places these character-defining elements have been altered such that they no longer contribute to the heritage value of the building. (Refer to Figure 15.)
2.4 Location

The College of Emmanuel and St. Chad building is located on the University of Saskatchewan campus near College Drive (see Figure 16); however, as an institution, the College was not always located here. The College was founded in 1879 by the Right Reverend John McLean, first Bishop of Saskatchewan, and was originally housed in another building 3 miles west of Prince Albert, where the federal penitentiary now stands. In 1907 the Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan passed an act to establish a provincial university which was located in Saskatoon, and it was decided to affiliate Emmanuel College with the provincial university. The University of Saskatchewan granted the theological college 5 acres of land at nominal rent which the College of Emmanuel occupied in September of 1909.

The current location of this building is a character-defining element as it signifies Emmanuel College’s decision to affiliate itself with the University of Saskatchewan. The move from Prince Albert to Saskatoon indicated the desire of Emmanuel College to be affiliated with the University of Saskatchewan.

In 1910 the Principal of Emmanuel College, the Right Reverend George Exton Lloyd, conducted a ceremony in the English tradition of beating the grounds, in order to claim the location for the theological school. This ceremony is pictured in Figure 17.

Figure 16. The location of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad is highlighted in green on this contemporary campus map.

Figure 17. Principal Lloyd leading a procession to take possession of the site of Emmanuel College at the University of Saskatchewan, June 24, 1910. Call no. B124.A.II.SB6227, retrieved from Saskatchewan Archives Board.

Figure 18. The ground floor plan of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad. Retrieved from Facilities Management Division Asset Resource System, File EC-94-T
2.5 Spatial Configuration

The College of Emmanuel and St. Chad has three above ground storeys, and a basement. Aside from the basement, all floors consist of rooms organized linearly and connected by a corridor. As Figure 18 shows, the ground floor contains, in general, larger rooms and more common spaces. The ground floor is accessed by a single-loaded corridor with a vaulted plaster ceiling running along the north-west side of the building. The basement, shown in Figure 19, also originally featured larger rooms and common spaces. Today the basement exists as one large open space. Only the mechanical room and interior storage room from the original layout remain. Figure 20 shows the coal chute still existing in the mechanical room. This is a character-defining element as it associates the building with the time it was built, when coal was a common source of heat.

Figure 19. Top to bottom: original basement layout, basement layout after renovations. Retrieved from Facilities Management Division Asset Record System, File EC-91-P.

Figure 20. Coal chute.
The upper storeys all consist of double-loaded corridors lined with dormitory rooms. Figure 21 shows a floor plan of the second floor. As Figure 22 indicates, the rooms on the upper floor are characterized by sloped ceilings, due to their location directly underneath the gabled roof.

The narrow floor plan of this building and its numerous windows are character-defining elements as they illustrate the intention of maximizing natural light. Although this building was constructed to use electric lighting, its configuration takes good advantage of natural light. Figure 15 shows the manner in which the natural lighting of some interior spaces has been compromised.

Another alteration made to spaces in this building has been the furring out of interior walls. With advances in insulating techniques, many of the walls have been built out in order to add fibreglass insulation. In doing so, these spaces have been made slightly smaller due to the thickening of their walls. The recovering of many walls has also obscured some character-defining elements. A fireplace was found obscured by gypsum board on the ground floor. This represents another instance in which renovations have compromised an historical character-defining element of the building.
2.6 Systems

The structure of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad is hierarchical. This is apparent on the building facade as the exterior walls thicken discernibly towards the base of the building. The building’s foundation is made of concrete and concrete columns are visible in the basement; as Figure 23 shows, these columns have been underpinned to repair concrete degradation. The exterior walls of the building are load bearing and are made of stone. The interior structure consists of a wooden post and beam system which supports the floor joists. An exception to this interior system is a load-bearing brick wall in the ground floor corridor. Figure 24 shows a vaulted ceiling formed of plaster on wooden lath.

2.7 Use(s)

Emmanuel College was first founded in order to train a native pastorate. The function quickly evolved into a theological college providing education in divinity. To serve this function the College of Emmanuel building was built to provide classrooms, residence rooms for students and for the college Principal, and a refectory in the basement. Referring again to Figure 21 and 22, one can see the dormitory rooms arrayed along double-loaded corridors in the upper floors of the building.

Figure 25, a photograph of a Deacon’s class in progress, illustrates the main purpose of the building. As Figure 18 shows, the floor plan of the first floor of the building was planned to accommodate educational uses with larger lecture spaces. The basement originally housed a refectory or dining hall as pictured in Figure 26. In later years, uses were rearranged and classrooms were built in the basement. Figure 19 shows this rearrangement. As Figure 27 illustrates, a library was also housed within the building during its early years.
During 1916, the building was used as a military hospital for soldiers in World War I. Two years later the building was again used as a hospital, this time for those afflicted with influenza during the epidemic of 1918. The building's roles in these events situate it within the larger context of world history.

After being closed for educational functions for a brief period during the First World War, the building resumed its original purpose of providing divinity training. The College of Emmanuel and St. Chad building functioned as a residence until 2005, when the College moved its operations to the Lutheran Seminary. Although the uses within the building were often rearranged, it should be noted that the overall use of the building remained the same, functioning as an educational institution and a residence, up until its closure.

2.8 Cultural & Chronological Associations

As discussed in Section 2.7 ‘Uses,’ the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad can be associated with the time periods in which it served. Its use as a hospital during both wartime and the influenza epidemic is an aspect of its history worthy of recognition.

Decorative stone carvings intended to adorn the flat stones visible in Figure 13 were permanently delayed due to the more pressing need to devote resources to World War I. These stone elements, so uncharacteristic of the gothic style, have become character-defining for the way they associate the building with the events of its time.

The building can also be associated with the Right Reverend George Exton Lloyd. Lloyd was instrumental in the realization of the building as it stands on the University of Saskatchewan campus. Lloyd moved the College to Saskatoon and brought sixty students over from England to study at the College. Figure 28 shows Principal Lloyd at the sod-turning ceremony marking the start of the construction of Emmanuel College. A notable association is that the city of Lloydminster is named for the Rt. Reverend Lloyd. Lloyd served as Principal of the College until he resigned in 1916. Lloyd went on to become Bishop of Saskatchewan.

The College of Emmanuel and St. Chad is also associated with Bishop Jervios Newnham, Saskatchewan’s Bishop at the time of the building’s construction. Newnham laid the cornerstone of the building in 1911. The stone (Figure 29) still exists today in commemoration of the event (Figure 30).

Before the construction of its permanent building, the College of Emmanuel famously functioned as a ‘College of Shacks.’ In 1909, when the college first moved to the U of S campus, there was a faculty and a body of students, but no formal facilities. Until the current building was realized, the students and teachers had to study in a series of makeshift shacks pictured in Figure 31.
The College of Emmanuel and St. Chad is also associated with the late alumnus Herbert Girling. Girling is a historically significant figure as he was the first person to translate parts of the Bible into Inuktitut. Girling wrote the Gospel of St. Mark in the dialect of the Inuit of Coronation Gulf as well as translating catechisms, hymns and scripture into the Inuit language. Girling spent five years volunteering in the arctic region of Coronation Gulf before he died at 29 of influenza.

3. Associated Objects
N/A

4. Supporting Documents
Author Unknown. (October 29, 1929) Emmanuel College Celebrates Jubilee. The Saskatoon Star Phoenix, pp. 6.


Reverend Crabb. History of Emmanuel College. CFQC TV.

5. Summary of Character - Defining Elements

Materials
- ‘greystone’ walls
- sandstone details & trim
- wooden rafter ends
- copper drainage hardware
- slate tile roofing
- oak doors, surrounds, staircases and base boards
- plaster
- bronze and brass fixtures
- wooden flooring

Form
- single massing
- pedestrian scale (three storeys)
- incomplete plan

Style
- dormer windows
- bay windows
- gothic arched entries and windows
- statuary niches
- archer slits
- quoins
- stone blanks intended for future carvings
- vaulted ceilings
- arched entries
- decoratively carved staircase

Location
- main campus location
- affiliates College with University of Saskatchewan
- location of ‘College of Shacks’

Spatial Configuration
- linear arrangement around corridors
- double loaded dormitory floors
- narrow floor plate
- fireplaces
- vaulted hallway
- coal chute
Use(s)

- theological college (classrooms, residence rooms, refectory, library)
- military hospital (WWI)
- influenza epidemic hospital

Cultural & Chronological Associations

- incomplete cut stone decoration
- incomplete building plan
- Rt. Rev. George Exton Lloyd
- cornerstone laid by Bishop Jervois Newnham
- Herbert Girling