

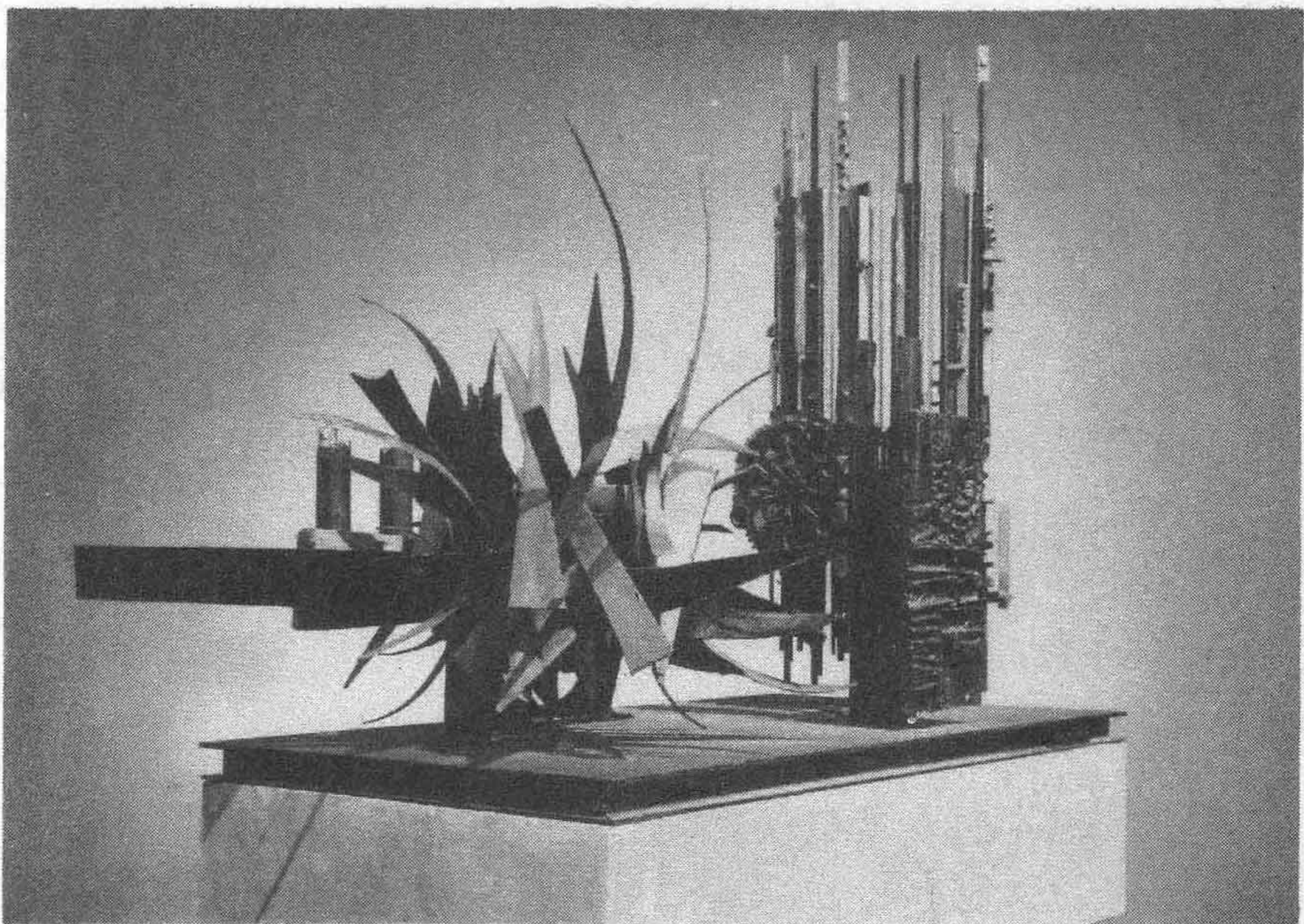
Halifax City Regional Library Board

OFFICIAL OPENING

of

HALIFAX NORTH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Monday, October 24, 1966 at 2:30 p.m.



HALIFAX NORTH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2285 Gottingen Street

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PROGRAMME

Invocation - Rabbi Joseph Deitcher.

Chairman's remarks - Judge Nathan Green, Q.C.,
Chairman, Halifax City Regional Library
Board.

Greetings from Halifax Relief Commission
Chairman, Deputy Mayor A. M. Butler.

Greetings from Federal Representative
Mr. Robert McCleave, M.P.

Greetings from the Province of Nova Scotia
The Honourable Donald M. Smith,
Minister of Mines.

Address - The Honourable H. P. MacKeen, C.D., Q.C.,
Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

Dedication - Reverend W. P. Oliver, D.C.L.,
Regional Representative, Adult Education Division

OFFICIAL OPENING - Presentation of building to citizens of
Halifax by His Worship
Mayor Charles A. Vaughan.

PRESENTATION OF KEY - Contractor to Architect to Chair-
man to Chief Librarian.

BENEDICTION - Reverend Gibson Hallam, S.J.,
Librarian, Saint Mary's University.

When the Halifax Memorial Library opened on November 12, 1951, it was known that a branch building in the north end of the city would be required immediately if equitable library service was to be provided. From that time the Library Board has worked indefatigably to obtain this objective.

As a result of the Board's efforts, the interest and financial support of City Council, and the generous gift of \$100,000 from the Halifax Relief Commission it was decided to build the library branch as a memorial to those who lost their lives in the Explosion of 1917. Realization of the project came on September 8, 1965, when, as Chairman of the Halifax City Regional Library Board, the late Alderman Abbie Lane turned the sod for this building.

Area: 24,000 sq. ft.

Building costs:	\$571,616.00
Furnishing and equipment:	\$ 58,653.00
Architect's fees:	\$ 40,165.00
Total cost:	\$670,434.00

Total book capacity: 63,540 volumes main floor; storage 51,400 volumes.

Population of the City: 92,511 (1961)

Building materials: brick and concrete, red cedar decoration and teak wood entrance doors.

Architects: Keith L. Graham & Associates
J. D. Solomon & Associates Ltd.

General Contractor: Fundy Construction Co., Limited.

Sculpture by Jordi Bonet

The Sculpture is symbolic of the Halifax Explosion and the City's rebirth after the catastrophe. It is made up of four parts.

Facing the street (west) is the explosion which wrecked Halifax on December 6, 1917, snuffing out 1600 lives and causing hardship and suffering to thousands of citizens.

The north side depicts the human aspect of the tragedy. Polished bronze, strong brass, and battered wood are used. The faint outline of a doll is indicative of the hundreds of children who lost their lives. An authentic piece of the ammunition ship, the Mont Blanc, is seen in the davit at the base. Curved iron strips encircling the shattered bronze symbolize the fraternal embrace of the nation to the stricken city.

On the south side facing the entrance walk, is industry represented by the classical symbol of a wheel, shattered but recognizable. Here also, appears the symbol of life, a flower.

On the east side (facing the building) appears a vertical symmetric and orderly form which depicts the rebirth of the City.

Halifax City Regional Library Board

Appointed by City of Halifax

Judge Nathan Green, Chairman (Building Committee)

Mayor Charles A. Vaughan

Alderman Allan O'Brien (Building Committee)

Alderman L. E. Moir

Mrs. Angus L. Macdonald

Mr. A. L. Caldwell (Building Committee)

Mrs. W. C. Dunlop

Appointed by Province of Nova Scotia

Mrs. J. J. Powell

Mr. Walter M. Piers

Mary E. Cameron, *Chief Librarian & Secretary.*

In addition to the Building Committee, consisting of Chairman, Judge Green, Alderman O'Brien and Mr. Caldwell many others have devoted much time and thought to making the building functional as well as attractive. These participants are Mr. Lincoln Cheng of the City Planning Department, and from the Library staff, Miss Mary E. Cameron, Miss Ellen P. Webster, Miss Pauline Home, Miss Kathleen Currie, Miss Edith Clare and Miss Adelia Amyoony.

The library will be open regular hours for inspection and registration of borrowers October 25 - 29. Books may be borrowed November 1 and after.

HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 1:30-5:30 P.M. and 6:30-9:00 P.M.

Wednesday 10:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. and 1:30 - 6:00 P.M.

Saturday 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.