

## *The Buildings of Dalhousie University*

# Computer Science Building

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Address: 6050 University Av.

Start Date: September 1998 Completion Date: October 1999

Architect: Brian MacKay-Lyons

Renovation Date(s): 2003

Contractor:

## Building History

Dalhousie's Computer Science Building was the first new building constructed on campus for over a decade and provided the first home for the Computer Science department, which formerly rented space in the Maritime Centre. In 1997 when the Technical University of Nova Scotia (TUNS) and Dalhousie amalgamated, the decision was made to construct a new Computer Science building on the Studley campus. Construction was to be on a "fast track" process, with architects continuing to work on the plans as building was begun, in order to discontinue the old (million dollar) lease and still have the building ready in time. Construction began in September 1998, and though the opening was delayed, it was only by three weeks, taking place on October 12, 1999.

The Computer Science Building was designed by architect Brian MacKay-Lyons and reflected the campus plan he had helped develop in 1991. The new building added to the parade of university buildings lining the "ceremonial garden boulevard" of University Avenue leading up to the Studley quadrangle ([www.cs.dal.ca/news/news-1022.shtml](http://www.cs.dal.ca/news/news-1022.shtml)).

With 70,000 square feet, the Computer Science building equips the department's faculty and students with a large auditorium, classrooms and seminar rooms, study carrels, offices, two "playgrounds" for research and development, high-tech equipment, full and fast hardwiring, and an atrium with a coffee shop.

The Computer Science building won the Lieutenant-Governor's Design Award in 2001. Its design features plentiful open space and a generous use of windows, creating a brightness and spaciousness that "reflect the Faculty's progressive view of the discipline and its integral role in modern technology" (<http://www.dal.ca/virtualtour>).

Renovations of the fourth floor took place in 2003-2004.

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## References

### Publications

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