This appendix is intended to be attached to a proposed reprint of N.E. Cameron’s *The History of Queen’s College*. QCAA (Toronto) is seeking to contact the owner of the rights to this book, and would appreciate receiving contact information for Joan Cameron or other relevant persons by email to patchanmail@sympatico.ca.

**Appendix: Queen’s College – Post 1951**

The copy of the Illustrated London News containing the article that follows this introduction was presented in 2003 to QCAA (Toronto) by Dr. S.R.R Allsopp (1944-1963), outstanding Queen’s alumnus, senior master, and author of the monumental *Dictionary of Caribbean English Usage*. We like to think that he had carefully preserved the newspaper all those 40 years for just our purpose at hand, and the original resides proudly as an archival piece in Toronto. We append this piece to give an overview of life at Queen’s following the move in 1951 to the new site at Thomas Lands.

In 1960, Queen’s officially won three of the six U.W.I. open scholarships available to the entire West Indies. “The school was informally notified that it had indeed won all six of these scholarships, but it was not politically possible for all to be awarded to Guyana. The Guyanese Government subsequently provided scholarships to the other three students not earlier granted the U.W.I. award.” ¹ A mere decade after moving to its new home, Queen’s had clearly and dramatically surpassed the previous academic pinnacles of the Caribbean region.

Queen’s had long been a hallmark of educational excellence in Guyana. The expansion of Government scholarships and the increased accommodations made Queen’s accessible to larger numbers of the brightest boys, and by 1963, the student body numbered 650. The increased confluence of brilliant students, outstanding teachers, including N.E. Cameron himself (1934-1962), superb facilities, and an encouraging Principal, Mr. V. J. Sanger-Davies (1952-1962), further elevated an already remarkable centre of excellence.

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¹ *Queen’s College of Guyana: Records of a Tradition of Excellence (1844-1994)*, Laurence Clarke, 1994
Queen’s excelled in far more than academics; student and staff combined their efforts in many other areas to produce outstanding results. Debating, under the guidance of Dr. R. J. Moore², alumnus of Central High School, UWI open scholarship winner and later, Guyana High Commissioner to Canada, reached remarkable heights both internally and in public competition;³ the Lictor student newspaper flourished under the guidance of Dr. S.R.R. Allsopp; student/staff drama productions⁴ attracted general audiences to the largest auditorium with the best equipped performing stage then available in Georgetown; students excelled in music⁵ and the choir set the standard for boys with the leadership of Ms. L. De W. Dolphin and Mr. V.J. Sanger-Davies; the cadet corps led by Capt. C.E. Barker was a source of national pride⁶, and spawned several police cadet officers who later rose to become Chief of Police; students and staff mounted exhibitions in arts and science; Queen’s was a formidable force in the national football⁷ and hockey leagues; students and staff⁸ combined in Queen’s cricket teams that competed worthily with the best in the first division league in Guyana - which at the time was providing more than its fair share of legendary talent to the mighty West Indies teams - and had the depth to field another team in the second division.

² Dr. (Bobby) Moore remains a constant friend of Queen’s College and of the Toronto Alumni Association, which honoured him in 2003 for his outstanding contributions.
³ One notably avid debater and U.W.I. open scholarship winner, Walter Rodney (1953-1960), later met a tragic and untimely end in the pursuit of high ideals.
⁴ We recall Mr. C.E. Clayton directing the actors, and Mr. E.R. Burrowes painting the scenery. The Burrowes portrait of Mr. E.O. Pilgrim hung from the walls in honour of EOP’s fiftieth year (1955) of teaching at Queen’s.
⁵ Ray Luck (1954-1961), who repeatedly won in both piano and violin at the national Music Festival, and who went on to become a world class concert pianist, gave an outstanding piano performance in 2000, sponsored by QCAA (Toronto) in honour of, and in the presence of Ms. Lynette De W. Dolphin, our celebrated music teacher from 1943-1969.
⁶ In 1966, the Corps was inducted into the Second Battalion of the Guyana Defence Force.
⁷ In this period, the football team was coached by one of Guyana’s best, Mr. Stanley Moore, and staff member Mr. Pryor Jonas who emphasized a character-building experience. Mr. Jonas wrote cricket articles for a local newspaper and was described (windiescricket.com) after his death in 2005 as an icon and authority in the history and analysis of cricket.
⁸ Staff players in this period included B.A. Eyre, E.W. London, T.B. Richmond, R.D. Rock, and V.J. Sanger-Davies.
Students from other schools entered the sixth form for Advanced Level studies\(^9\), and some science students joined specific classes to benefit from the laboratories and outstanding teachers like Mr. C.I. Trotz and Mr. M.T. Lowe, who each went on to be Principal at Queen’s. The auditorium was a public resource made available for concerts\(^{10}\) and plays, for the national music festival, for national basketball league indoor games, and even for indoor tennis. National table tennis competition was held in the dining hall. The extensive playing fields hosted regular competition against external teams, and the track was used for training by both internal and external athletes.

The school compound was an after-hours haunt for students training or competing in sports, doing cadet training, debating their peers, playing chess in the balcony, and table tennis or badminton in the dining hall, working on the student newspaper, rehearsing a play, working or assisting in the library, attending public concerts free of charge, participating in all manner of societies from photography and stamp collection to bee-keeping and gardening, or simply lingering in the inspired atmosphere (some admittedly in detention) to work or to chat with their favourite masters and with their colleagues.

How swiftly had Queen’s achieved the prophetic words of N.E. Cameron that “The new Queen’s College will be not merely a College but an Educational and Cultural Centre”!

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\(^9\) James P. Croal (1960-1961) entered from Tutorial High School and went on to win the Guiana Scholarship.

\(^{10}\) The legendary Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong gave an amazing performance in the late 1950s, and the Theatre Guild held several productions. The construction of the National Arts Centre and other venues in later years provided suitable alternatives. The newly-constructed auditorium which opened in 2004 is expected to be made available to the public.

\(^{11}\) It is reported that the fire was set by an enraged student.
replacement was (largely) completed in 2004 following many project delays. It is a tribute to the staff and students that they continued to achieve notable academic success in very difficult circumstances.

Today, several decades of emigration from Guyana sustain six alumni associations that extend the fabric of Queen’s across the hemisphere, and provide tangible school support towards maintaining an excellence that is indelibly theirs. Last year, as the new Queen’s auditorium rose painfully from the ashes of the disastrous fire, the Toronto Chapter provided an elaborate audio and public address system, and the UK and Washington Chapters provided (through ICQC) 800 auditorium chairs for the opening. When the flood disaster struck Guyana a few months ago, each Chapter provided a modicum of financial assistance for the worst-hit students and staff. The Toronto Chapter is currently delivering a drum set to the school, and plans to provide laboratory equipment in the near future.

Pic. 4 Fire damage in 1997

Pic. 5 Conrad Griffith of QCAA (Toronto) presents audio system to the Principal Mrs. Rolehr, while Laurie Lewis (QCOSA President) and Ronald Alli (Board Chairman) look on. The system includes a 500-watt amplifier, an audio exciter for clear and bright sound, a 16-channel mixer, a wireless microphone system with five microphones and stands, four 400-watt wall mounted speakers, complete with racks, cables and manuals. This highly functional system has a retail value of CS16,000, excluding the installation, training and consultation effort put in by Conrad.
Pic. 6 First General Assembly in the new auditorium using the audio system donated by QCAA (Toronto), and 800 chairs donated through ICQC with funds from QCAA (UK & Washington).

Pic. 7 The new administrative block and auditorium 2004
Since its founding in 1990, the Toronto association has made significant contributions to the school, from a piano and other musical instruments to a high speed photocopier and training material. The association also provides scholarships to qualified children, including those of our Toronto alumni, and donate to a Canadian charity.

Beyond these contributions, the association celebrates and extends Guyanese life in the new Canadian home. Our 12th Night dance held jointly with the Bishops’ High School Alumni Association has been an outstanding event in the holiday calendar for the last 6 years. Our annual Cultural Evening is a stimulating and entertaining occasion. The association participates with four others in holding the Last Lap Lime, which is now an established 10-year tradition drawing thousands each year from the Greater Toronto Area and abroad for a Guyanese day of celebration. Our Father’s Day Brunch provides entertaining Guyanese and West Indian fare. This year, we are holding our second joint golf tournament jointly with the St. Stanislaus association, and a joint family picnic with the Bishops’ association.

These activities raise funds for our donations, and create a familiar and comfortable Guyanese environment in Toronto. Participating in Association business is an opportunity to interact with fellow Guyanese, to live closer to home, and to contribute to the well-being of our school. With this re-publication of the history of our school, we honour the legacy of Queen’s.

The Editorial Committee of QCAA, Toronto - July 2005
Queen’s College, The Buildings and Activities at this Multi-Racial School
Article by paid permission from Illustrated London News of July 6, 1963

Queen’s College, British Guiana, was founded in 1844 by Bishop Austin, then Bishop of Guiana. In 1870 it became a government school. Queen’s College started as a very small grammar school, and since then it has changed its site twice and now occupies a fine wooden building which cost nearly £200,000 under the Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme 1949-1950. The new building is over 800 feet long and has three floors – the school library and six laboratories on the ground floor, while the other two floors have 24 classrooms, including special rooms for history, geography, art and music; and a spacious hall and dining room.

There are now about 650 boys who joined at about eleven or twelve years old. The English 11 plus exam is used for competition for scholarships and places to this and other secondary schools in British Guiana. The boys take the Oxford and Cambridge G.C.E. “O” Level and the London G.C.E. “A” level and many qualify for admission to universities. For some years now the record of scholarship at the University College of the West Indies (now the University of the West Indies) has been outstanding, and Queen’s College is acknowledged by them as contributing as good an academic record as any school in the Caribbean.

In addition to academic activities, the school has had its Cadet Corps for many years. Membership of the Corps is absolutely voluntary for those over 14½ and there are about 100 members. There is a large range of societies; the oldest is the Q.C. Literary and Debating Society, which runs a series of debating competitions among the ten Houses. The Music Society runs school choirs which compete at the British Guiana biennial Music Festival. The Dramatic Society puts on an annual play and sponsors an inter-house one-act play competition. Last year Queen’s College won the junior section of the National Drama Festival. Cricket, football (soccer), hockey, volley ball and athletics are the school games, and since the climate is practically constant throughout the year, it is common to see all five activities taking place on the school playing field at the same time.

The student body and the staff are as mixed in race as the population of British Guiana, mainly African and Indian in origin, with a good number of Chinese, a few Amerindians (the indigenous population of British Guiana) and some Portuguese, English, Canadians and Americans. The headmaster seen in the illustration, Mr. V.J. Sanger-Davies, has just retired and his place has been taken by Dr. S.R.R Allsopp, and old boy of the school. Many old boys have risen to positions of importance in the community. These include the first Premier of British Guiana, the leader of the Opposition, the Speaker of the House of Assembly, the Chief Justice, the Chief Education Officer, the Director of Public works, the Director of Agriculture, and the Chairman of the Public Service Commission. In addition to the hundred or so old boys who are attending the University of the West Indies, a number are studying for degrees at British Universities, particularly at London, Cambridge and Edinburgh.
Pic. 9 Pictures from The Illustrated London News, July 6, 1963

The Students’ Entrance to the School. A great majority of the boys come to school on their bicycles.

Queen’s College, Georgetown, from the Air: The main building is over 800 feet long and houses all the various departments.
The junior choir rehearsing in the auditorium with the Headmaster conducting and Miss Lynette Dolphin, M.B.E, G.R.S.M, the music mistress, at the piano.

The Queen's College Sports Day: A relay race is in progress. There is a permanent track on the playing fields and firms and old boys contribute prizes for the meetings.
STAFF HOUSING IN THE QUEEN’S COLLEGE COMPOUND. THERE IS HOUSING FOR THE HEADMASTER AND EIGHT SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE STAFF ON THE PREMISES.

THE VOLUNTARY CADET CORPS MARCH OFF TO CAMP. THE VOLUNTARY CORPS USUALLY HAS A MEMBERSHIP OF ABOUT 100. IT WAS FORMED IN 1932 AND IS AT PRESENT COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN BARKER, E.D., OF THE STAFF.
In the Chemistry Laboratories: Students working for their General Certificate Examination “A” Level. Over 40 enter the sciences annually.

A Sixth Form Physics Lesson in progress. Additional Physics and Chemistry laboratories are at present being constructed to cope with more “A” Level work.
THE HEAD OF SCHOOL, A.R. BACCHUS (RIGHT), AND HIS DEPUTY, L.S. BIRKETT, IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL.

THE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY IN THE AUDITORIUM AND ON STAGE ARE MASTERS. THE AUDITORIUM CAN SEAT 1100 PARENTS AND BOYS.
THE SCHOOL OFFICE: MR. WINSTON BLACKETT (JANITOR) WITH MISS DORIS WAN PING (BURSAR), WHO HAS SERVED WITH THE SCHOOL FOR MANY YEARS.

MR. V. J. SANGER-DAVIES, THE HEADMASTER JUST RETIRED, TAKING A TUTORIAL CLASS IN HIS OFFICE. HIS SUCCESSOR, DR. S. R. N. ALLDOPP, IS A GHANIAN AND OLD BOY.