

#5 - Thoughts of Alumni, Students, Faculty & Friends  
on a Petition to  
Save the Mount Allison Memorial Library



It is inconceivable that a University, a place that prides itself on knowledge and honest discussion, a place that calls itself the best undergrad school in Canada, would lift itself up by its roots and destroy its history - a history built with the blood of fellow Allisonians who never had the chance to return to Mount Allison so fair... What would they say? Student, Class of 2012

It is extremely important! These buildings are what make Mt A beautiful and warm and inviting. They are a big part of why I chose to attend Mount Allison.

I feel it is very important for Mt A where it is possible to preserve the beauty and history of the Mt A campus. Having just returned from a tour of England, Scotland and Greece, I have come to appreciate in a new way how buildings have been and can be used to convey the story of a people - the good, the bad and the ugly. It would be a grave mistake to tear down this building. Alumni 1968

Hopefully this is a trick question... some of my best memories and friendships came from that beautiful building. Alumni Class of '70

We need to protect our heritage buildings as they are what make Sackville such a beautiful place to live and study. History is a living entity that is embodied in the places that surround us. We must be caretakers of this history or risk losing it through absence. Alumni Class of 2006

One of the things that convinced me to even go to Mount Allison was the beautiful campus, the highlight of which was the old buildings that showed the great history of the University. It would be horrible to take that history away. Alumni Class of 2005

It is an abomination to destroy what was so lovingly built as a memorial to those who gave their lives in the Great War. Many of us are still alive whose fathers and uncles fought in that war. The Memorial Library is a physical reminder of the history of Mt A's past, and should be incorporated into the new Arts Centre. Four Years in School for Girls 1941-1945. Alumna Music Class of 1949.

Two thoughts to consider: 1. Destruction of cultural heritage impoverishes the future. 2. The greenest buildings are ones that are already built. Friend

Part of the graceful and historic profile that is the appeal of Mt A lies in its lovely old sandstone buildings. Tearing them down indiscriminately to save a few dollars is as short-sighted as it is intellectually shallow. Tradition, once destroyed, cannot be recovered. Alumnus Class of 1969

This handsome building, designed by one of Canada's finest architects of the early 20th century, Andrew Cobb, should be preserved for other uses. Of course it's not suitable as an arts centre as it is, but it is hard to believe that such a building should be demolished for this reason. Older buildings become part of our history and culture. Is there no restoration architect who could not remodel it for university uses? Alumni Class of 1955

Yes! Mt. Allison attracted me because of its beauty! Student

It is extremely important to retain historic structures such as the Mount Allison Memorial Library both in regard to the character of the building fabric of the university campus and for its commemorative significance for those who have sacrificed so much for the benefit of generations that follow them. I am a professor of architecture in Ontario and have visited Mount Allison University and greatly admired the Memorial Library as an important part of the beautiful campus.