

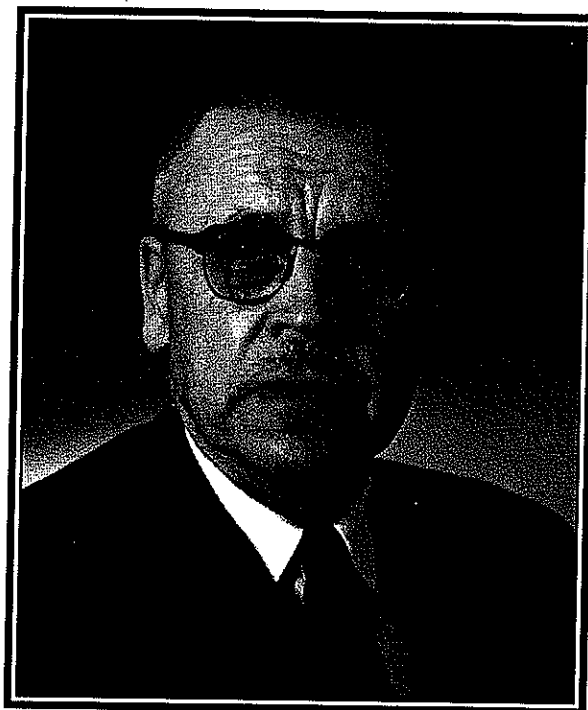
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ABRAM LELAND STANLEY NASH

Col., O.B.E., M.M., P. Eng., O.L.S.

1894 - 1992

Honorary Vice President of the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors, Pioneer of Town Planning in Ontario, Stanley Nash, formerly Assistant Deputy Minister for Planning and Development in the Department of Municipal Affairs and former President of the Town Planning Institute of Canada, died at Toronto Western Hospital on May 11th, 1992, in his 98th year. Before his final career as a planner, he served with distinction as an artillery officer in both World Wars and as an Ontario Land Surveyor in Ontario, Quebec and Michigan. Col. Nash also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the International American Society of Planning Officials.

Born in Dunnville in 1894, he worked as a surveyor in Brantford, and received his O.L.S. commission in 1915. Almost immediately, he joined the army and went overseas with the 40th Battery, Canadian Field Artillery. Serving as a signaller at the front in several battles, including Vimy Ridge, he was later awarded the Military Medal for bravery.

Graduating from the University of Toronto in Civil Engineering in 1922, he continued as a surveyor, doing preliminary work for the St. Lawrence Seaway

and laying out subdivisions in Detroit. During the Depression from 1933 to 1939, he worked as County Engineer in Haldimand County in southwestern Ontario.

During those years, he helped to reorganize the 54th Field Battery in Brantford so that by 1939 it was ready to be part of the Canadian Army's First Division. As Major, he was second in command of the 1st Field Regiment, serving overseas in England and France. In Canada, as Colonel, he directed the army training centres at Winnipeg, Petawawa and Camp Shilo, receiving for his wartime work the Order of the British Empire.

In 1945, he joined the new Community Planning Branch of the Department of Planning and Development in Toronto. He brought to the Community Planning Branch a wealth of experience as an Ontario Land Surveyor and Professional Engineer and was largely responsible for the drafting and implementation of the Planning Act in Ontario during the boom years of the 50's and 60's. A man of warmth and understanding, he brought a great sense of dedication to the planning profession. He was always ready to listen and regarded his role in planning administration as a great mission.

In his leadership role in planning, Col. Nash recommended legislative changes in the Planning Act and instituted modifications in procedures to accommodate the ever increasing urban development which was sweeping Ontario. He understood the problems facing municipalities and sought greater appreciation and knowledge for those with professional planning responsibilities.

Throughout his busy professional life, Mr. Nash was a faithful member of a series of churches, in Dunnville, in Brantford, and especially at Leaside United Church which he joined after the war and where he served as elder steward, trustee and chairman of the general board.

Colonel Stanley Nash was one of those unsung Christian laymen who have built this country.

Based on material provided by Bill Dempsey, Mary Lou Johnston, Bill Stretton and the Toronto Star.

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