In the late 1950s, the St. Boniface Parks Board made a small piece of property in Provencher Park available to the St. Boniface Public Library Board, who was seeking to modernized and expand its facilities.

On this piece of property at the northeast corner of Avenue de la Cathédrale and Langevin Street, the City built a new public library, the Provencher Park Branch. It was one of three libraries the city opened in 1960-1961, along with Windsor Park, Cottonwood Road and St. Boniface (Coronation Park), Eugenie Street.

The one-storey, reinforced concrete and red brick structure is built with an internal structural system of steel posts and laminate wood beams. The main (south) façade includes the main entrance, smaller rectilinear window openings, clerestory windows (encircling the entire building), and larger glass panels. The flat roof extends beyond the walls above the window openings, supported by the extension of the east and west walls, the laminate wood beams extending from the interior, and thin metal supports.
It does not appear that any major changes have been made to the original exterior design.

The interior features a full basement with stairs at the southeast and southwest corners. Original laminate wood beams and ceilings are found throughout. Only five years after construction, the basement floor heaved because of poor drainage, which also caused problems with the piles. Repairs were completed which included the replacement of the original basement floor.

The designer of the Coronation Park Branch was the local partnership of Nikola Mathew Zunic (1921-2006) and Victor Sobkowich (1923-2013). The pair were responsible for a number of fine modern buildings located throughout the city and province, including the other two St. Boniface libraries, St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, 341 Munroe Avenue (1958), Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Church, 1001 Grant Avenue (1963), St. James Civic Centre, 2055 Ness Avenue (1965-1966), and Transcona Police & Fire Hall, 730 Pandora Avenue West (1966). F.W. Sawatsky, contractor, built the library.

This library is a good example of the International Style, a modern architectural movement of the post-World War II era that lasted into the late 1960s and can be identified by its use of hard, angular edges, severely plain surfaces, large areas of glass and square or rectangular modules.

Contextually, this library was planned as St. Boniface’s French-language branch, the Coronation Park Branch serving the Anglophone community. Even after 1970, when the City of St. Boniface was amalgamated into the City of Winnipeg, the two small branches continued to fill this area role, with this branch become the City of Winnipeg’s main French-language centre – referred to as “the only French municipal library west of Quebec.” In 1985, after several years of study and consultation, a new bilingual branch was planned for St. Boniface, opened on Taché Avenue in 1987. The building at 255 Avenue de la Cathédrale is now used as a senior citizen centre.
Elements of the building that would require approval if alterations were planned are:

A. Exterior:
   i. One-storey, face brick structure with flat roof with main (south) façade facing Avenue de la Cathédrale, west façade facing Langevin Street, west façade facing a recreational centre, and rear (north) facing recreational facilities;
   
   ii. The front (south) façade with its west end entrance surrounded by large single-pane glass panels, smaller rectangular window openings, large single-pane glass panels at the east end, set of thin clerestory windows running the entire length of the façade and encircling the entire structure, and extensions of the east and west walls, laminate wood beams and thin metal posts supporting the overhanging roof;
   
   iii. The rear (south) façade with its band of clerestory windows;
   
   iv. The west façade with five rectilinear window openings; and
   
   v. The east façade with five rectilinear openings and entrance door.

B. Interior-
   i. Examples of the original laminate wood beams and ceilings.