



1982

THE YEAR PAST

REPORT OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

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### Cover/Opposite

*Front elevation of Isbister School.*

*(Illustration courtesy of Winnipeg School Division No. 1)*

**1982: The Year Past** is designed and produced by the Urban Design Branch, City of Winnipeg, Department of Environmental Planning.

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## 1. PREFACE

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The conservation and preservation of our architectural heritage provides a vital link with the past and a familiar bridge to the future. Appreciation and respect for the past are essential in order to maintain Winnipeg's unique identity and sense of place. The protection and rehabilitation of individual buildings and districts are tangible ways to recognize the past; to explore and understand where we came from and who we are; and to provide a foundation for future change.

The City of Winnipeg's Historical Buildings By-law 1474/77, passed in February, 1977, and amending By-law No. 2032/78, passed in August, 1978, established the Historical Buildings Committee, enabled it to draw up a list of buildings or structures of significant architectural or historic interest, and established the criteria, priorities, and procedures for placing buildings on the Buildings'

Conservation List. This designation represents the legal protection placed upon heritage buildings by City Council.

The goal of heritage conservation is to retain, where possible, the original character of a building while encouraging those changes which will make it useful. Heritage conservation is an increasingly important factor in the development of Winnipeg as an interesting, attractive, and cosmopolitan city.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bill Norrie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*WILLIAM NORRIE, Q.C.*  
*MAYOR*

## 2. CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION



I am pleased, once again, to have the opportunity of presenting the annual report of the Historical Buildings Committee for 1982, being the fourth year during which heritage buildings have been designated by Council.

The procedures followed by the Committee have been described in earlier reports, especially the first, but for those readers who may not have access to those earlier reports, it may be useful to review briefly what those procedures are.

The Committee maintains an extensive inventory of buildings which may, because of their historical or architectural significance, at some time or another merit assessment by the Committee. In any given year most of the buildings assessed will be drawn from the inventory although inevitably others from time to time will be considered because of owner's requests, fear of imminent loss, or other factors. Once it has been decided,

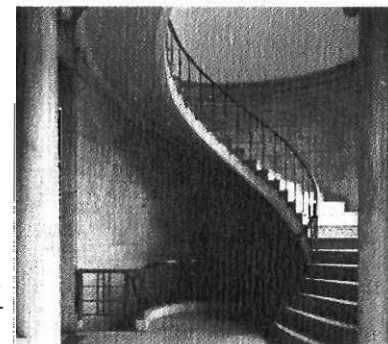
however, that a building will be assessed, a research historian is assigned to prepare a report on the building in question. This is followed by an on-site inspection of the building and culminates in an evaluation by the Committee. A grading system in which points are assigned for specific architectural and historical interest is used to determine the classification of the building. The designation procedures are outlined in Chapter 3.

In 1982, the Committee on Environment had before it recommendations concerning 17 buildings evaluated by the Historical Buildings Committee. Of these, eight were subsequently placed on the Buildings Conservation List, bringing the total number of buildings designated as of 31 December, 1982, to 48.

In addition to making recommendations on specific buildings, a good deal of the Committee's time during 1982 was spent in completing an extensive review and revision of the Historical Buildings By-law. The object of the review was to improve the By-law in light of several years' experience with its operation and, where possible, to simplify and make more intelligible the process by which designation proceeds. In October, City Council adopted By-law 3284/82, a new Historical Buildings By-law which, it is hoped, will streamline the process while offering greater protection to Winnipeg's built heritage.

A very happy event during 1982 involved the Bank of Hamilton Building. This very fine building had been designated by Council in 1978 as a Grade I building; but as with a number of such buildings, its owners had no immediate use to which it could

be put and it had long stood vacant. City Council, however, provided a significant example of leadership by deciding to re-locate the City's own Department of Environmental Planning into the Hamilton Bank Building. Mayor Norrie presided at the official reopening of the building in 1982 at an event attended by many civic and community leaders. The restoration has since been the subject of a good deal of attention throughout Canada.



G. Kopelow

*The unique spiral staircase of the Hamilton Building*

Last year's Report noted a significant staff change in the departure of Mr. Chuck Brook as Historic Projects Co-ordinator. He has been succeeded by Mr. Steve Barber who has been extremely conscientious in his assistance to the Committee. Indeed without his help and that of Ms. Sheila Grover, our Research Consultant, and Ms. Mae Morgan, our Secretary, the Committee could not function. However, I am bound to observe that a reduction of City staff in the conservation area has occurred at a time of increased City commitments in the same area, substantially in Core

Area programming. The enlarged commitment is most welcome but it cannot help but impose an increasingly heavy burden on a very small staff unless the commitment to new programs is matched by a like commitment of resources.

The substantial heritage component in the Core Area program is but one indication of the extent to which so many communities and governments -and ours, in particular - have become increasingly sensitive to the value - social, cultural and economic - of sensible heritage conservation policies. The present report reflects and illustrates one part of that on-going commitment to, and pursuit of such policies. Our hope is that this report, like its predecessors, will deepen that commitment and broaden our knowledge of the rich architectural heritage around us which such policies are designed to protect.

Finally, it is a singularly pleasant task, as Chairman, to offer some words of thanks. Expressions of appreciation often have a **pro forma** quality but in the present case, the achievement is real and the appreciation genuine. The citizens and Council of Winnipeg are fortunate to have in their service a Committee and staff of great devotion and commitment. We are all much in their debt and, as a Chairman who must depend heavily on their efforts, I offer grateful acknowledgement.

*Bill Neville*

William Neville,  
Councillor,  
Chairman, Historical Buildings Committee.



G. Kopelow

*The Bank of Hamilton (with Bank of Commerce at right) was officially opened as The City of Winnipeg, Department of Environmental Planning in October, 1982.*

### 3. THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS BY-LAW

#### A. BACKGROUND

On February 2, 1977, Winnipeg City Council adopted **By-law No. 1474/77** "a By-law for the conservation and preservation of buildings of an architectural and historical interest in the City of Winnipeg." By-law 1474 established the **Buildings' Conservation List** and an advisory committee known as the **Historical Buildings Committee**, consisting of seven members appointed or nominated from the following:

- (a) *One Member of The Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba;*
- (b) *One Member from The Manitoba Association of Architects;*
- (c) *Two Members from The Province of Manitoba,*
- (d) *Two Members from The City of Winnipeg,*
- (e) *One Member from The Government of Canada, from Parks Canada;*

In August, 1978 an amending by-law **By-law 2032/78**, was adopted. This by-law set forth in detail: the **criteria** for determining buildings of heritage significance; priority ratings of designated buildings; listing procedures; appeal provisions and certificate requirements.

In October, 1982 a further amending by-law, By-law 3284/82 was adopted by Council. This amending by-law recognized amendments to the City of Winnipeg Act which enabled the City to regulate and prohibit the issuance of demolition permits.

By-law 3284/82 streamlined designation procedures as well as simplifying and clarifying many components of the Historical Buildings By-law.

#### B. CRITERIA FOR LISTING

In deciding whether or not a building is worthy of designation, the Historical Buildings Committee takes the following criteria into account:

- significance in illustrating or interpreting history in the City
- association with important historic persons or events
- illustration of the architectural history of the City
- distinguishing architectural characteristics of a style or method of construction.

#### C. GRADES

There are three categories of heritage buildings:

**GRADE I** buildings are those of outstanding architectural or historic merit which are to be preserved in perpetuity. This would apply to the entire building, both interior and exterior. A Grade I listing ensures that all repairs or alterations are appropriate.

**GRADE II** listing preserves the exterior of a building and may include a significant interior element such as a handsome marble staircase, a particularly significant room, etc. and alterations to the exterior and such interior elements are monitored to ensure compatibility.

**GRADE III** listing prevents the demolition of a building where the demolition is deemed by the Community Committee and Committee on Environment to be "unnecessary", based on individual circumstances. Where a demolition is approved, a Grade III listing may regulate the manner in which the building is dismantled, and record or preserve, where possible, building components of interest.

## **D. LISTING, NOTICE AND APPEAL PROCEDURES**

There are basically two methods in which a building may be placed on the Buildings' Conservation List:

### **METHOD 1: LISTING BY CITY COUNCIL**

- i) The Historical Buildings Committee recommends to Committee on Environment that a Grade I or Grade II building be placed on the Buildings Conservation List. In the case of Grade III recommendations, the report is sent to both the Committee on Environment and the Community Committee representing the district in which the building is located. (A building is selected for recommendation in one of three ways: by choice of the Committee; by request by the owner or other party; or by application by the owner for a demolition permit for a building tabulated on the Historical Buildings Inventory. See Section 4)
- ii) For Grade I and II buildings, Committee on Environment then notifies the owner of the proposed listing, affording him the opportunity to object by delivering a letter to the City Clerk. If no letter of objection is received within fourteen days of the notification, the building is considered to be listed by Council.
- iii) Upon receiving a letter of objection, Committee on Environment holds a hearing as part of its regular business. The Committee on Environment then forwards its recommendation to Council.
- iv) After again notifying the owner, Council hears representations on the matter and then may list the building on the Buildings' Conservation List under the Grade recommended or any other Grade, or may reject the listing.

For Grade III buildings, Committee on Environment normally awaits the advice of the Community Committee before notifying the owner of the proposed listing.

### **METHOD 2: LISTING BY THE COMMISSIONER**

The Commissioner of Environment is empowered under the By-law to list buildings on the Buildings' Conservation List, with or without the recommendation of the Historical Buildings Committee. Upon listing a building, the Commissioner notifies the owner, and in the instance of a Grade III building, the Community Committee is notified as well. Committee on Environment then holds a hearing as part of its regular business. The same procedures as those in Method I then apply.

## **E. REMOVAL FROM THE LIST, OR CHANGING OF GRADING**

An owner or the Commissioner may apply to have a building removed from the Buildings Conservation List, or listed under a different grade, by writing to the City Clerk. A procedure, similar to that of listing the building, would then apply.



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## **F. PROHIBITION AND REGULATION OF ALTERATIONS, REPAIRS, DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL**

### **i) Certificate of Suitability**

Except for ordinary maintenance, no permit shall be issued for the alteration, repair, demolition, removal or occupancy of any building on the Buildings' Conservation List without prior issuance of a Certificate of Suitability. Applications for certificates are submitted to Committee on Environment on recommendation of the Historical Buildings Committee. Application forms for Certificates of Suitability are available through the Department of Environmental Planning, Historic Projects Branch, 985-5390.

Department of Environmental Planning,  
Historic Projects Branch, 985-5390.

Further information on the Historical Buildings  
By-law may be obtained from:

### **iii) Sandblasting, etc., Prohibited**

No masonry or wood surface of any building, erection or structure listed on the Buildings Conservation List shall be cleaned or treated by sandblasting or any other similar process (involving abrasives applied under pressure) and no Certificate of Suitability shall be issued for such work.

Historical Projects Co-ordinator  
Department of Environmental Planning  
City of Winnipeg  
395 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3B 3E1

PH: 985-5390

Where the Historical Buildings Committee recommends to Committee on Environment that a Certificate be refused, the reasons are forwarded to the owner, who has the right to appear at a hearing at Committee on Environment as part of its regular business. The decision of Committee on Environment is final.

If it is established to the satisfaction of the Designated Committee that such masonry or wood surface can be so cleaned or treated without damage to it, that Committee may authorize issuance of a Certificate of Suitability for that work.

### **ii) Certificate of Ordinary Maintenance**

A Certificate of Suitability is not required for ordinary maintenance or repair of a building certified by the Commissioner not to involve a change in any element of design which affects the appearance of the building or its architectural or historical interest. Applications for Certificates of Ordinary Maintenance may be made through the

## **G. PENALTIES**

Any person who contravenes or disobeys, or refuses or neglects to obey any provision of the Historical Buildings By-law is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction, to the penalties provided in Section 138 of The City of Winnipeg Act.

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#### 4. THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE - 1982

ORGANIZATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE MEMBER
City of Winnipeg	Councillor W. F. W. Neville (Chairman) Councillor H. Smith	
Province of Manitoba	Mr. P. Diamant Mr. J. D. McFarland	Mr. B. Brown Mr. N. Einarson
Manitoba Historical Society	Mr. E. C. Nix	Mrs. J. Irvine
Parks Canada	Mr. T. Heggie	Ms. G. Hammerquist Mr. L. Dick
Manitoba Association of Architects	Mr. M. Haid	Mr. R. Gregoire

#### THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE - 1983

ORGANIZATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE MEMBER
City of Winnipeg	Councillor W. F. W. Neville (Chairman) Councillor A. Skowron	
Province of Manitoba	Mr. P. Diamant Mr. J. D. McFarland	Mr. P. Walton, Mr. B. Brown Mr. N. Einarson
Manitoba Historical Society	Mr. E. C. Nix	Mrs. J. Irvine
Parks Canada	Mr. T. Heggie	Ms. G. Hammerquist Mr. L. Dick
Manitoba Association of Architects	Mr. R. Gregoire	Mr. M. Haid
Staff Advisor	Mr. S. Barber	Secretary
	Ms. M. Morgan	Research Consultants
		Ms. S. Grover Mr. G. MacDonald

## 5. TABULATION - THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS INVENTORY

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In order to assess the overall scope of the Winnipeg conservation program, the Historical Buildings Committee has compiled an Inventory of approximately 750 buildings including commercial, educational, financial, public, religious, residential and miscellaneous structures. When a demolition permit application is made for a building on the inventory, the application is referred to the Commissioner of Environment, who awaits the advice of the Historical Buildings Committee which then evaluates the subject property.

It is *very* important to distinguish between the **BUILDINGS CONSERVATION LIST** and the **HISTORICAL BUILDINGS INVENTORY**. The **INVENTORY** is simply a tabulation of buildings which *may* have architectural or historical significance. Buildings on the Inventory have *not* been designated (i.e. - placed on the Buildings Conservation List) and carry no restrictions other than the delay in the issuance of the demolition permit so as to allow the Historical Buildings Committee to closely examine the structure's architecture and history. The Committee may recommend that the building be placed on the Buildings Conservation List, or they may simply recommend that the building be thoroughly photographed prior to demolition.

*Further information on the Historical Buildings  
Inventory may be obtained from:*

*Historical Projects Co-ordinator  
Department of Environmental Planning  
City of Winnipeg  
395 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3B 3E1*

*PH: 985-5390*

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## 6. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

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### A. DESIGNATED HISTORICAL BUILDINGS - 1982

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ADDRESS	NAME	GRADE	PAGE
88 Adelaide Street	Kelly Residence	III	17
104 Arthur Street	Gault Building	II*	19
Assiniboine Park	Assiniboine Park Pavilion	II	21
375 Rue Deschambault	Maison Roy	III	25
109 James Avenue	James Avenue Pumping Station	II*	27
160 Newton Avenue	Fraser House	II	37
596 St. Mary's Road	Firehall	III	47
310 Vaughan Street	Isbister School	II	49

*\*An asterisk following a classification signifies that the building is of particular importance as a component of a streetscape.*

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**B. BUILDINGS CONSERVATION LIST -1979-1981.***(See 1979, 1980 and 1981 Annual Reports for respective building summaries)*

In addition to the above buildings, the following were designated in 1979, 1980 and 1981:

<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>YEAR LISTED</b>
48 Albert Street	Royal Albert Arms Hotel	III*	1981
63 Albert Street	Hammond Building	III*	1980
70 Albert Street	Telegram Building	II*	1980
91 Albert Street	Imperial Dry Goods Block (Trend Interiors)	III*	1980
184 Alexander Avenue	The Bible House (Ukrainian Cultural Centre)	III	1980
115 Bannatyne Avenue	Donald H. Bain Warehouse (The Brokerage)	II*	1980
283 Bannatyne Avenue	Traveller's Building (Townsite)	II*	1979
291 Bannatyne Avenue	a) Sanford Building (Old Spaghetti Factory) b) Maw's Garage (Old Spaghetti Factory)	II* III*	1979
222 Broadway	Hotel Fort Garry	II	1980
61 Carlton Street	Macdonald House (Dalnavert)	II	1980
270 Cockburn Street	Earl Grey School	III	1981
176 Higgins Avenue	Ross House	I	1980
171 Main Street	Empire Hotel	III*	1979
335 Main Street	Bank of Montreal	II*	1980
389 Main Street	Bank of Commerce	I	1978

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<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>YEAR LISTED</b>
395 Main Street	Bank of Hamilton	I	1978
457 Main Street	Confederation Life Building	II*	1980
1637 Main Street	Inkster House	II	1979
180 Market Avenue	Playhouse Theatre	II	1981
60 Maryland Street	Woodsworth House	III	1981
214 McDermot Avenue	Criterion Hotel	II*	1981
221 McDermot Avenue	Lyon Block (Bate Building)	II*	1981
Morley Avenue	Nurses' Residence	III	1981
169 Pioneer Avenue	Commercial Building	III	1980
259 Portage Avenue	Paris Building	II	1981
388 Portage Avenue	Boyd Building	III	1981
146 Princess Street	Benson Block (Drake Hotel)	III*	1979
148 Princess Street	Bawlf Block (House of Comoy)	III*	1979
154 Princess Street	Harris Building (Hochman Building)	III*	1979
160 Princess Street	Exchange Building	II*	1979
164/166 Princess Street	Utility Building	II*	1979
219 Provencher Boulevard	St. Boniface City Hall	II*	1981

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<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>YEAR LISTED</b>
141 Regent Avenue	Toronto Dominion Bank (Transcona Municipal Offices)	III	1980
171 River Avenue	House	III	1981
430 River Avenue	House	IV	1980
432 River Avenue	House	IV	1980
229 Roslyn Road	Nanton Estate Gates	II	1981
310 St. Charles Street	St. Charles Novitiate	III	1980
71 Xavier Drive	Caron House	III	1981

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**C. RECOMMENDATIONS - 1982**

In addition to the designated buildings listed in 1982, Committee on Environment considered the following recommendations:

ADDRESS	NAME	COMMENTS	PAGE
223 James Street	Winnipeg Police Court	Pending	29
54 King Street	Winnipeg Hydro Substation No. 1	Pending	33
551 Magnus Avenue	Lubavitcher Synagogue	Pending	35
552 Plinquet Avenue	St. Boniface Waterworks Pumping Station	No recommendation	39
379½-381 Portage Avenue	Thompson & Pope Building	Recommended Grade III <i>No listing</i>	41
221 Rupert Avenue	Salvation Army Citadel	Pending	43
160 Water Avenue	Northern Pacific Railway Station	No recommendation <i>Demolished 1982</i>	51
393 Wellington Crescent	Fortune Residence	Pending	53
442 William Avenue	Provincial Normal School	<i>See Note 1</i>	55

NOTE 1: The Province of Manitoba owns the Provincial Normal School, therefore The City of Winnipeg does not have jurisdiction with respect to this property.

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# RESEARCH SUMMARIES

## GLOSSARY

**CLASSICISM -**

a revival of or return to the principles of Greek or (more often) Roman art and architecture. Neo-classical buildings are solid and rather severe. Decoration, including classical enrichments, is restrained.

**CORNICE -**

the top projecting section of an **entablature** (see below). Also any projecting ornamental moulding along the top of a building, wall, arch, etc. finishing or crowning it.

**CUPOLA -**

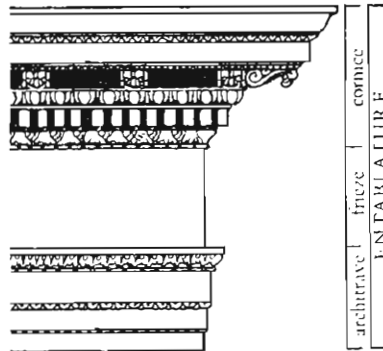
a small dome on a circular or polygonal base crowning a roof or turret.

**DENTIL -**

a small square block used in series in cornices.

**ENTABLATURE -**

the upper part of an "order" (in classical architecture, a column with base, shaft, and capital)

**FINIAL -**

a formal ornament at the top of a canopy, gable, pinnacle, etc.

**FRIEZE -**

the middle division of an **ENTABLATURE** (see illustration above).

**GAMBREL ROOF -**

a roof terminating in a small gable at the ridge.

**LINTEL -**

a horizontal beam or stone bridging an opening.

**MANSARD ROOF -**

roof having a double slope, the lower being longer and steeper than the upper.

**PALLADIAN -**

an archway or window with three openings, the central one arched and wider than the others.

**PEDIMENT -**

a low-pitched gable above a roofed space forming the entrance and centrepiece of the facade.

**PORTICO -**

a roofed space forming the entrance and centre-piece of the facade, often with detached or attached columns and a pediment.

**QUOINS -**

the dressed stones at the corners of buildings, usually laid so that their faces are alternately large and small.

**RUSTICATION -**

masonry cut in massive blocks separated from each other by deep joints, employed to give a rich and bold texture to an exterior wall and normally reserved for the lower part of it.

**TERRA COTTA -**

fired but unglazed clay, used mainly for wall covering and ornamentation, as it can be fired into moulds.

**VOUSSOIR -**

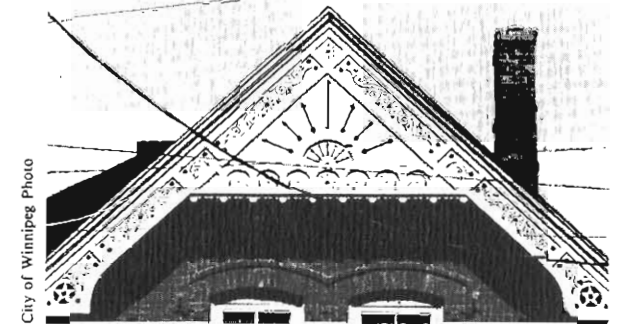
a brick or wedge-shaped forming one of the units of an arch.

**TRIGLYPHS -**

blocks separating the spaces in a frieze.



abounded, and in 1914 a Royal Commission was called for to investigate allegations of graft against Thomas Kelly. Kelly fled to the United States only to be arrested in Chicago six months later and extradited to Canada. The final judgment ruled that Kelly had defrauded the Province of Manitoba of \$1,400,000. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment at Stony Mountain Penitentiary.



*Detail illustrating some of Winnipeg's most decorative verge boards and gables.*

*The Kelly House, photographed in 1982*

Once part of a thriving neighbourhood, the house at 88 Adelaide Street stands alone amidst large warehouse buildings which have grown around it over the past 80 years. Built in 1882, the masonry-veneered house provides a subdued example of the exuberant "Queen-Anne Style" popular at the time. Perhaps the most prominent feature of the structure is the highly decorative verge boards at the front and side gable eaves. The brick quoins at the front corners of the building and the carefully-detailed arched window openings with raised voussoirs indicate the skill of the craftsmen involved. The house was, in fact, built by local contractor Michael Kelly for himself and served as both a home and as a prominent advertisement of the young firm's capability.

Michael Kelly moved to Winnipeg from New York State in 1877. In 1881, together with two of his younger brothers, Thomas and Martin, formed the building contracting firm of Kelly Brothers. Over the next thirty years he guided the company into a position as one of the largest and most reputable firms in the province. Kelly Brothers undertook such prestigious construction projects as the St. Andrew's locks, the Shoal Lake Aquaduct, and the Agricultural College. Michael Kelly allowed Thomas to gradually take control as the older brother approached retirement in 1910. In 1912 the company, then Thomas Kelly and Sons, having submitted an unusually low bid, was awarded its most significant contract, the new Manitoba Legislature. Rumors of corruption

In 1922 proceedings were taken against Kelly on behalf of the Crown. Twenty-one parcels of land in Winnipeg were transferred to provincial ownership, including the 88 Adelaide Street property. The house which in its youth accommodated men such as the reputable Michael Kelly and his brother Thomas, and James H. Cadham, an important local architect, passed to various owners while the surrounding neighborhood was supplanted by warehousing. The house stands today virtually as it did a century ago.



state of masonry construction and foreshadow the even larger openings to be offered by steel frame construction.



*Albert Street, circa 1910. This view looking north from McDermot Avenue shows The Gault Building at left, with the old Number One Firehall and Central Market beyond.*

When in 1903 Gault's expanded their facilities by building a six-storey addition onto the south wall and adding two storeys to the original structure, architect James H. Cadham approached the project in a manner sympathetic to the original building. For the first four floors of the new building he repeated the order of the original facade, with the addition of a driveway through the building which sheltered the loading docks. For the top two floors required over both buildings he repeated the order of the top floor of the original building. It is virtually impossible to tell that the Gault Building is in fact two separate buildings.



Manitoba Archives Photo

*The Gault Bros. Co. Ltd., Wholesale Dry Goods, circa 1903.*

**B**uilt in 1900 to accommodate the expansion of Montreal wholesalers A. F. Gault and Company into Winnipeg, the four-storey stone and brick building at 104 Arthur Street was applauded as one of the most commodious warehouses in the City. Designed by architect George Brown of Toronto, the building was based on the "Richardson Romanesque" structures of H. H. Richardson, erected in Chicago during the 1870's and 1880's. The building is an example of the use of masonry construction at its peak, soon

to be dwarfed by the masonry-clad steel-framed buildings of the early 20th century.

The original four-storey facade expresses the nature of masonry construction as a "stacking up" process, and indicates the varying wall thickness required at each level to support the weight of the floors above. Within the structure a simple wooden post and beam system is used. The large window openings which provide daylighting to the interior were made possible by the advanced



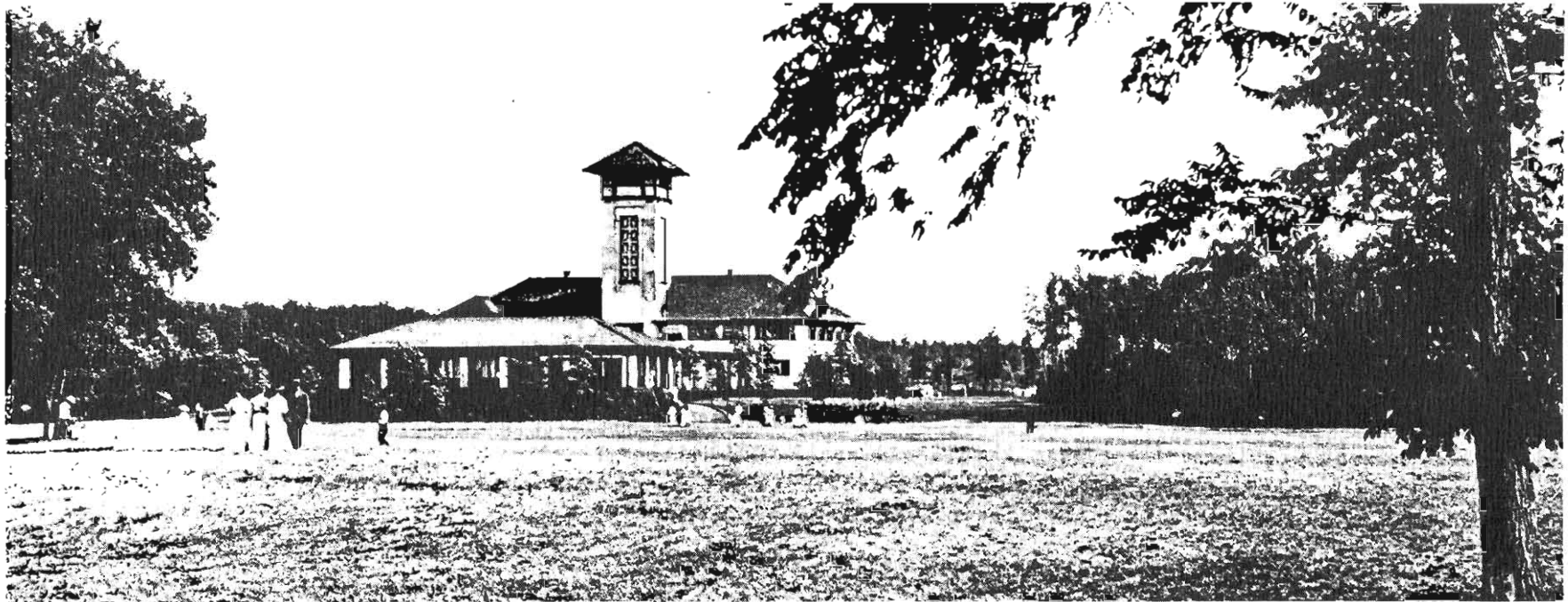
Manitoba Archives Photo

*View of Winnipeg's warehouse district, taken from the Old City Hall. The Gault Building is prominent at the center right of this photograph. The old Number 1 Firehall is seen at the far right.*

## THE ASSINIBOINE PARK PAVILION

The formal opening of Assiniboine Park in 1909 was the culmination of sixteen years of effort by the Winnipeg Public Parks Board. Based on the formal parks developed in England and Europe in the 19th century, winding paths and roads were laid out, fields levelled, and thousands of trees, shrubs, and flowers planted. A focal point in the new park was the tower of the pavilion, built in 1908 and designed by Winnipeg architect John D. Atchison. The tower, which housed a large water tank, punctuated the low sweeping profile of the two-storey pavilion and was visible throughout the park. The pavilion contained dining and dance halls featuring loggias overlooking the park. Immediately behind the pavilion, a lily pond offered one a quiet walk beneath the vine-covered pergola.

*The original Assiniboine Park Pavilion, circa 1915.*



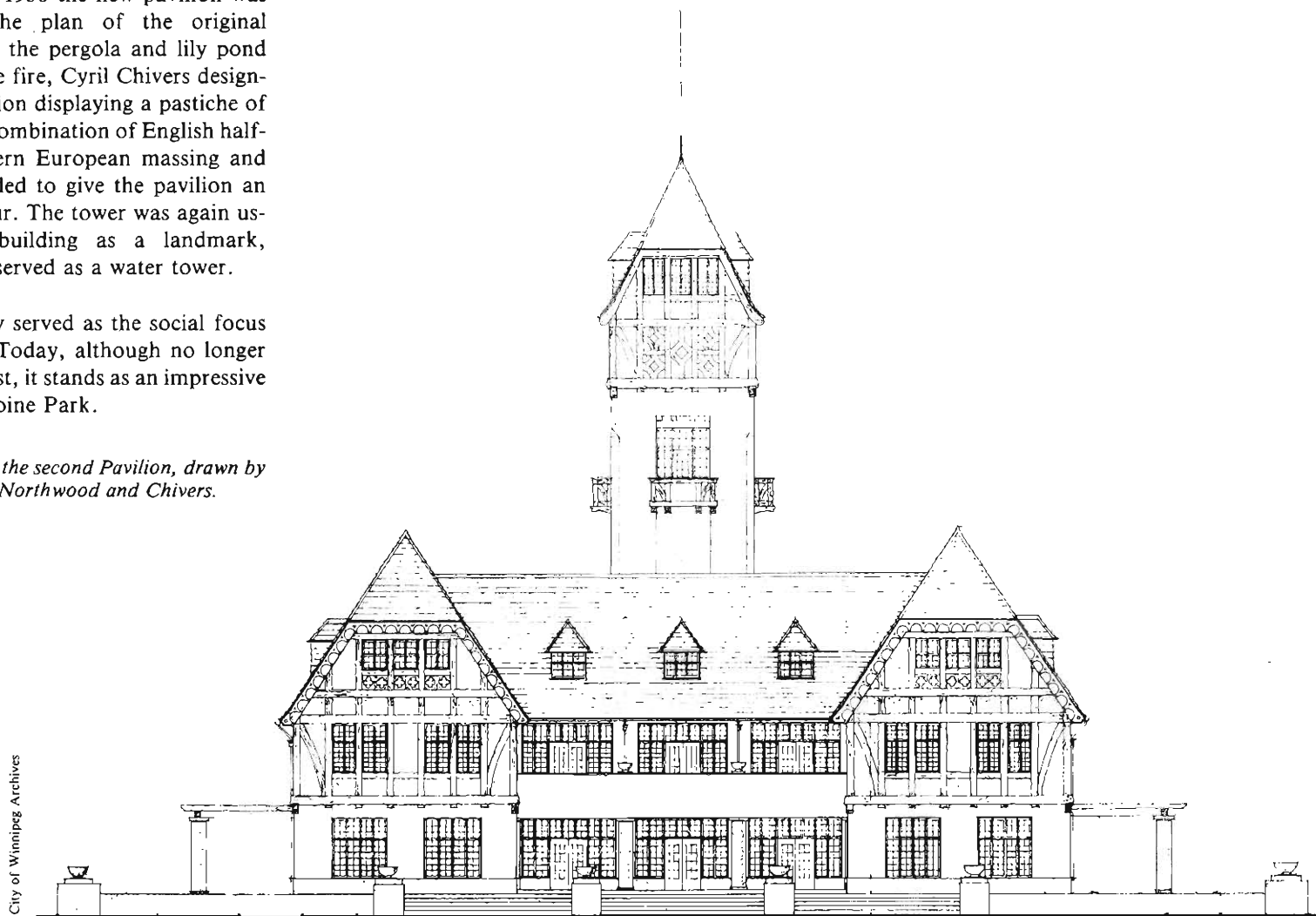
When the pavilion, suffering from neglect as the Parks Board expanded, burned to the ground in an early morning fire on May 27, 1929 the Board responded quickly by commissioning local architects Northwood and Chivers to design a new pavilion. On May 29, 1930 the new pavilion was opened. Following the plan of the original pavilion and retaining the pergola and lily pond which had survived the fire, Cyril Chivers designed a three-storey pavilion displaying a pastiche of European styles. The combination of English half-timbering with Northern European massing and roof form were intended to give the pavilion an "international" flavour. The tower was again used to identify the building as a landmark, although it no longer served as a water tower.

The pavilion originally served as the social focus of Assiniboine Park. Today, although no longer used as it was in the past, it stands as an impressive centrepiece of Assiniboine Park.

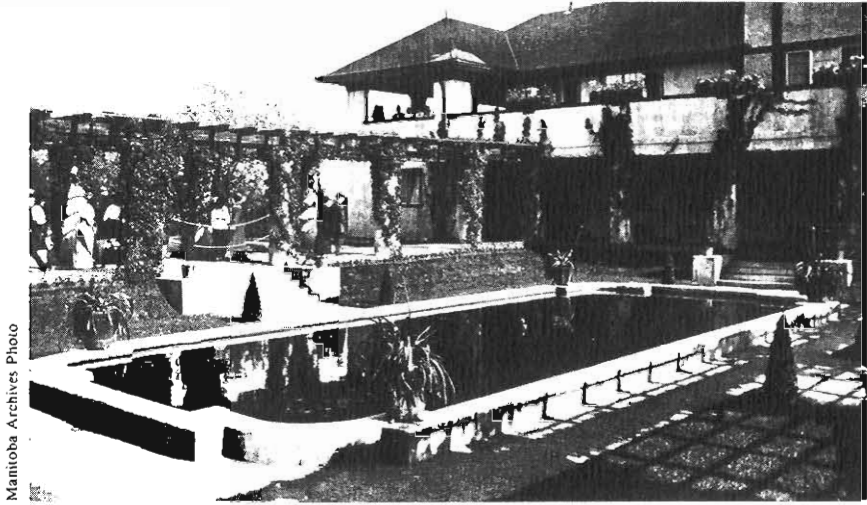
*Right: Front elevation of the second Pavilion, drawn by the architectural firm of Northwood and Chivers.*

*Opposite left:  
The original pergola and lily basin, circa 1914. The pergola and the basin have been incorporated into the new pavilion.*

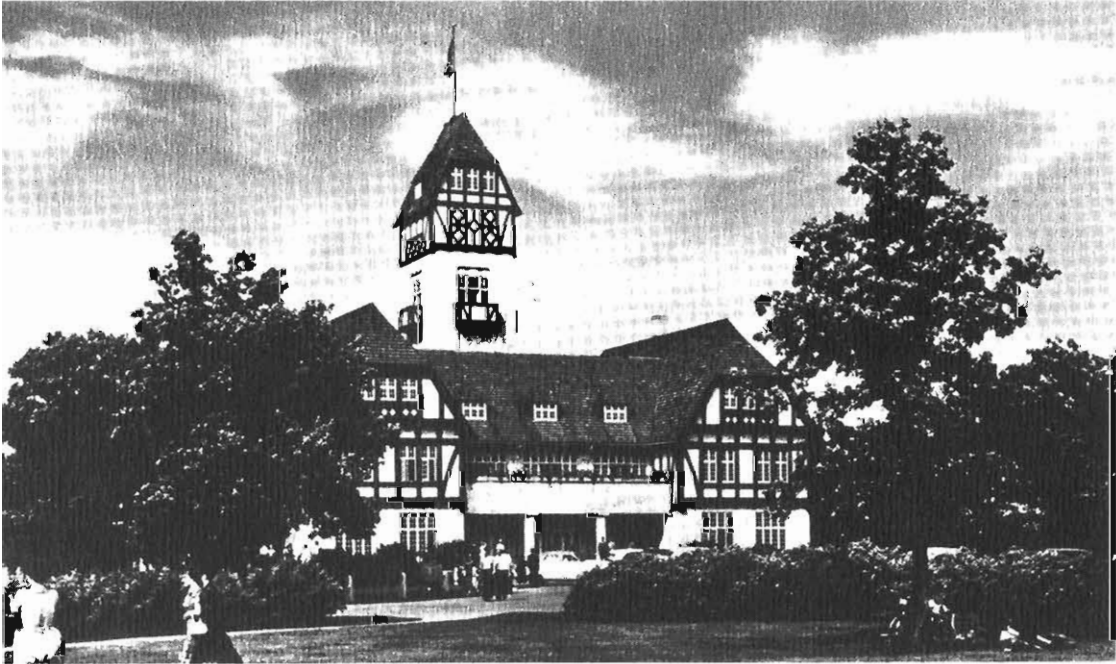
*Opposite, lower right:  
The Assiniboine Park Pavilion, circa 1956.*







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Manitoba Archives Photo



## 375 RUE DESCHAMBAULT MAISON ROY



City of Winnipeg Photo

375 Rue Deschambault, circa 1915.

Gabrielle Roy, one of Canada's great novelists, was born and raised in St. Boniface. The youngest child of Leon and Melina Roy, Gabrielle was born in 1909 and grew up in this two and one-half storey frame house at 375 Rue Deschambault. After teaching school in St. Boniface, she left home at the age of eighteen to study drama in England. She grew discouraged with the interpretive role of the actor, however, and moved to Paris where she began writing articles for French weekly journals. For nearly two years she lived in France, learning about the country and developing her writing skills until the imposing shadow of World War II caused her to return to Canada in 1939.

Settling in Montreal, she continued to write magazine articles. From 1941 to 1943 she authored her first and most famous novel, *Bonheur d'Occasion* (*The Tin Flute*). Centering on the effects of the war in the Montreal district of St. Henri, near her home, the novel was dedicated to her mother Melina and was published in 1945, shortly after her mother's death. *Bonheur d'Occasion* won the Prix Femina in France and the Governor General's Award for fiction in Canada, establishing its author's reputation. Gabrielle Roy never returned to live in St. Boniface, but her fourth novel, *Rue Deschambault* (*Street of Riches*), published in 1954, is based on her youth in St. Boniface and includes descriptions of the

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house. The 1905-vintage home featured a sweeping veranda supported by white corinthian columns, a gabled attic and a large garden.



Photograph of Gabrielle Roy, taken from the cover of her biography.

Gabrielle Roy became an important figure in the development of French-Canadian culture. She died in 1983 at the age of 74 years.



**B**uilt in 1906 to remedy an inadequate fire-fighting water supply system that had been linked to an outbreak of typhoid fever in 1904, the high pressure pumping system serving the downtown area was lauded as one of the most sophisticated of its kind in the world. The system, completely isolated from domestic service, drew water from the Red River and pumped it at high pressure through eight miles of mains supplying over seventy hydrants in the downtown area. The mains system was controlled from the Central Fire Hall located on Bannatyne Avenue and King Street, while City Waterworks operated the pumping station at 109 James Avenue. Most of the \$1,000,000 cost was raised through taxation of the downtown businesses which benefitted from the security and reduced fire insurance premiums provided by the new service.

City Engineer Lt. Col. H. N. Ruttan designed much of the pumping station which consisted of three main components; a coal gas producer plant, a large gas storage tank, and the pumps themselves, each housed in separate buildings. The contract to supply the machinery went to W. Jacks and Company of Glasgow, Scotland, and the six pumps installed were built by Glenfield and Kennedy of Kilmarnock while the engines and gas producer plant were manufactured by Crossley Brothers of Manchester. When completed, the system had a capacity of 9,000 gallons per minute at 300 psi pressure. The facility was acclaimed as the largest in the world.

The building itself is a good example of early industrial architecture and, like the machinery it accommodates, is designed in a straight-forward and

functional manner. The two long adjoined-gable bays correspond to the organization of the pumping system into twin mains and to the two large beam cranes which run the length of the structure. The open interior and large windows provide as much light as possible. The pumps are located in two trenches running the length of each bay twelve feet below the engine room.

In 1962 the engines were converted to natural gas and electricity while the gas producer plant and storage tank were demolished. The pumping station continues to operate, responding to fire alarms received in the downtown area. Together the large and sophisticated pumping system, and the functionally planned facility housing it, provide one of the most impressive examples of the "golden age" of machinery.



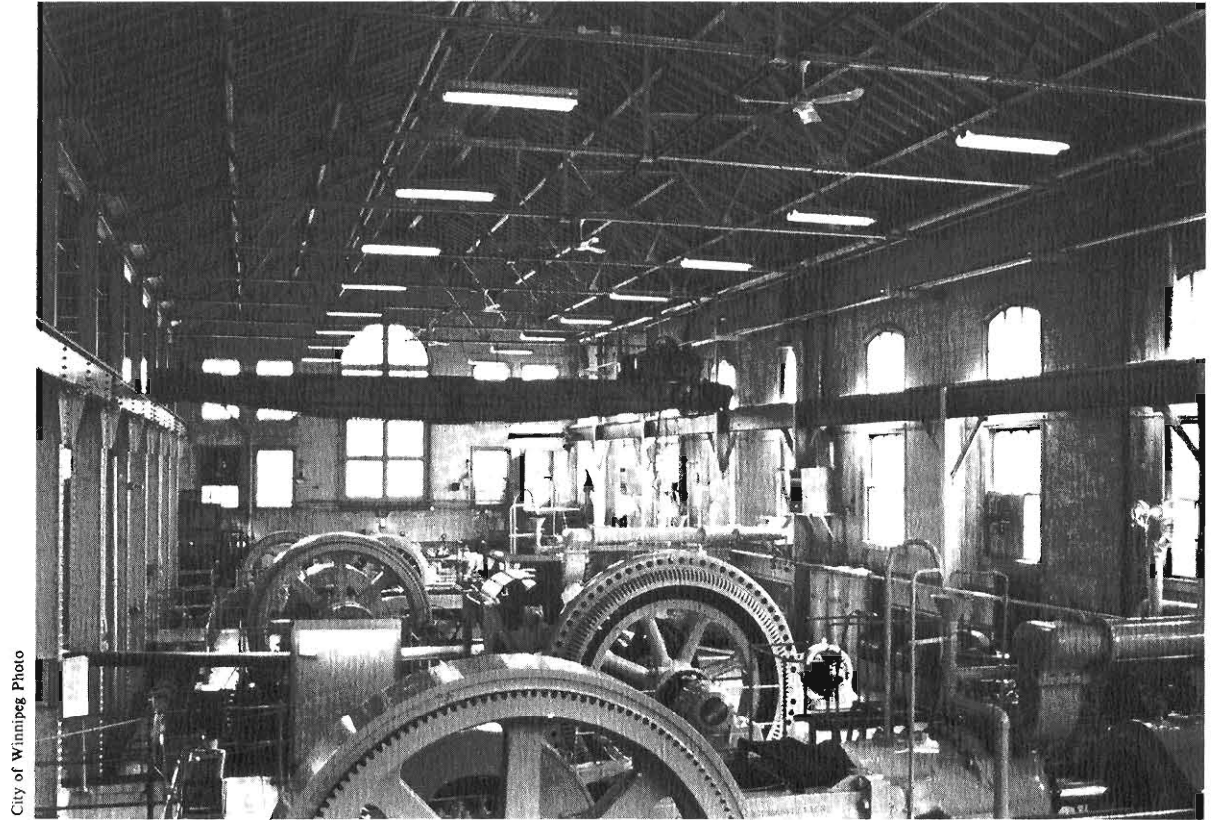
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*The High Pressure Pumping Station, east elevation.*



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*Lt. Col. Henry Norlonde Ruttan. Portrait from **Collective Personalities**, circa 1914.*



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*Interior of the Pumping Station, 1982. The building is divided into two bays, each spanned with an overhead crane. The engine-house floor is situated eighteen feet below grade. All six engines can be started and pumping at full capacity within 3½ minutes of receiving an alarm.*



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*The Winnipeg Police Court Building, circa 1886.*

With the doubling of the population of Winnipeg between 1880 and 1882, the crime rate in the booming city rose dramatically. The existing jail on Main Street, built ten years earlier, became obsolete. It provided primitive conditions in a limited number of underground cells. In 1882 the Main Street property was sold and a temporary jail was established in the North Ward School on King Street. The following year, it was decided to construct a new Police Court Building to be located at the corner of James Avenue and King Street. The local firm of Barber and Barber was appointed project architects.

Perhaps best known for his exuberant City Hall design, Charles A. Barber was the most prominent architect of Winnipeg's "boom" period. Although only five Barber-designed buildings remain today, the much-altered Police Court still speaks of his consistently lavish style, so appropriate to the booming city. Most likely altered to its present form in 1908 when the facility was replaced and renovated as civic offices, the original structure remains only to the top of the second floor windows. The elaborately-pedimented roof, complete with a widow's walk and large central tower, has been removed. The carved stone pediment over the bricked up central entrance, and the elaborate masonry detailing including stone and brick voussoirs over arched window heads remain, demonstrating the extravagance of the original design.

The facility originally provided 18 cells on the main floor adjacent to a large courtroom. Large offices for the courts occupied the second floor, and the full attic served as a dormitory for several of the 15 men on the force in 1883.

The cells were vulnerable to escapes, and newspaper reports speak of prisoners caught in the process of breaking the locks or bending the soft iron bars of their cells.

Over its 25 year service as the Police Court Building enormous changes occurred in the court system as the city boomed. Police Chief John McRae (1887-1911) had increased the once-tiny force to 108 men when the new Rupert Street Station was opened in 1908. Police Magistrate

Thomas Mayne Daly (1904-08), exemplary in his compassion and strength when dealing with youths, was a major force in shaping the National Juvenile Delinquents Act and in making Manitoba the first province to bring the new law into effect. The first Police Court Building and those early law-makers played an important role in the development of today's court system.

*View north from City Hall, circa 1895. The Police Court Building is at the lower left.*





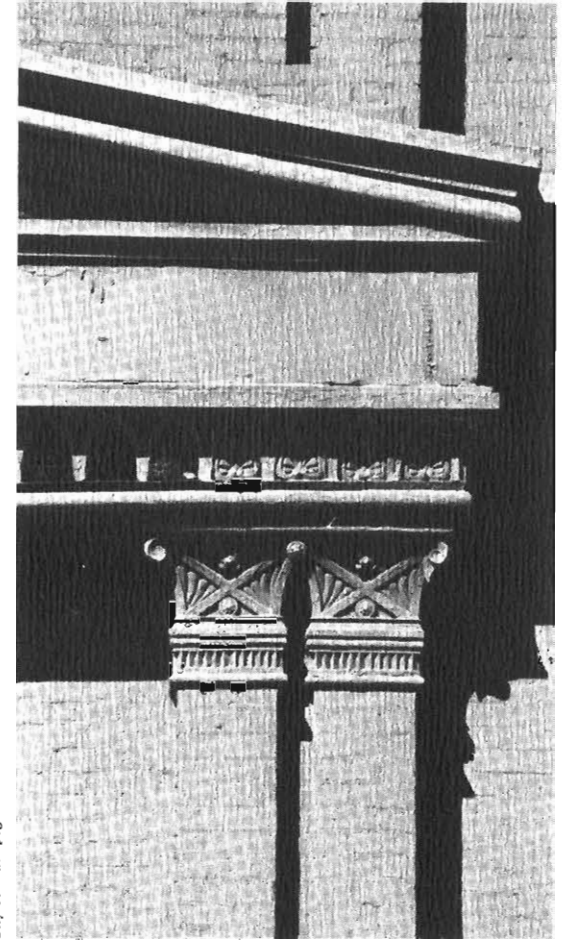
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Upper left: The Winnipeg Police Force, 1892.  
 Lower left: The Police Court Building as it presently appears.  
 Above: Detail at former entryway.



*Below: King Street elevation of Hydro Substation No. 1. Drawing of addition by James Chisholm and Sons, Architects.*



City of Winnipeg Archives

When the City of Winnipeg Hydro Electric System began operation in 1911 it was not the first such service offered to the citizens of Winnipeg. The Winnipeg Electric Railway Company had been operating a generating station on the Pinawa Channel since 1903. Prior to that time, gas lamps and coal-fired steam plants generated light, heat and electricity as well as powering the street-car system. The new public utility drastically undercut the private company, dropping the cost of electricity from 20 cents to 3 cents per kilowatt hour. The initial Winnipeg Hydro system consisted of a generating station at Pointe du Bois on the Winnipeg River, a terminal station on Rover Avenue in Point Douglas, and three sub-stations; one at the same Rover Avenue site serving Point Douglas, one on McPhillips Street serving the north end, and one on King Street serving the downtown area. Although the new rates were a boon to industry, the effects appeared most dramatically in the residential areas as almost all homeowners could now afford electricity. A rush of applications for new service inundated the 54 King Street station which also held the utility's head offices.

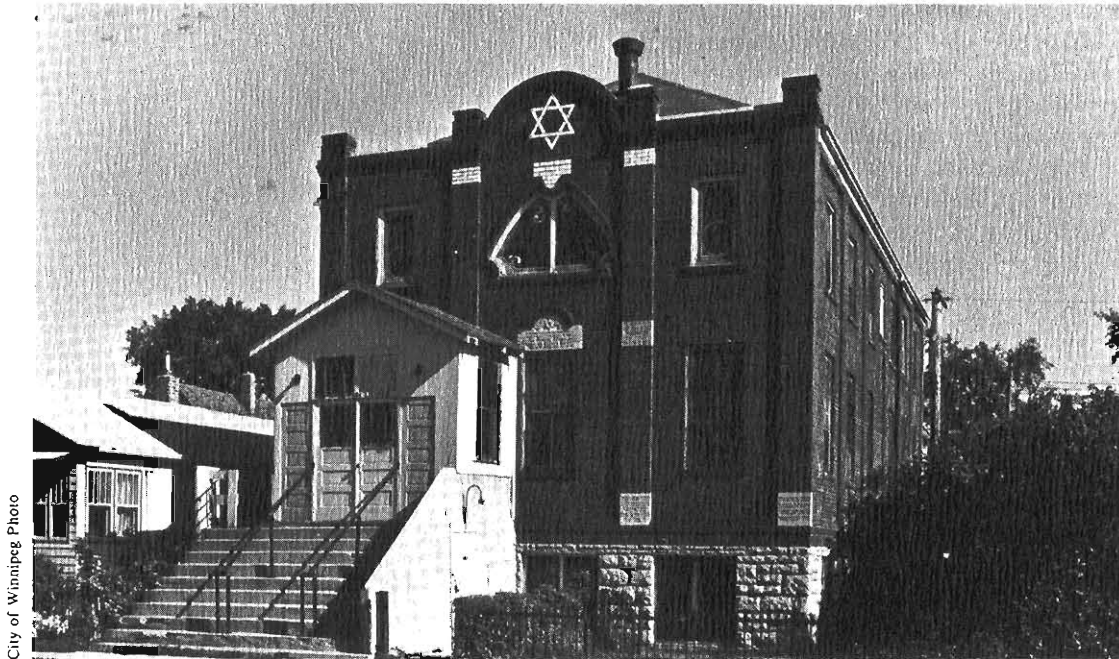
Designed in 1910 by Smith, Kerry and Chace the King Street Station, Sub-Station No. 1, is actually two connected buildings; the sub-station itself, and the public offices to the north. The facade of the concrete and steel structure has been designed to unify the two parts of the building. In 1915, a third storey was added to the southern portion, adding to the interest of the structure. The relatively extravagant use of sandstone and high-quality ochre brick for the facade owes to the public profile and downtown location of the building.

In 1919 the sub-station was extended through to Princess Street and in 1927 a large two-storey addition was made to the south of the structure. In 1924 the station became a distribution centre for the new downtown steam heating system. In 1964 the building became vacant with the opening of the new City Hall at 510 Main Street, which contained the new offices of Winnipeg Hydro. The automatically-operated sub-station and steam distribution system remained in use. The City of Winnipeg Police Department recently moved into the offices in the Princess Street addition. The building, sensitively renovated and cleaned, remains as a symbol of Winnipeg's hydro utility, the first in Western Canada.



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*Winnipeg Hydro Substation No. 1, circa 1917.*



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*Lubavitcher Synagogue, 1982.*

Jewish immigration from Eastern Europe to Western Canada had begun in the 1870's, but it was not until during and after the First World War that large numbers of Jews arrived in Winnipeg. Vicious pogroms forced evictions and the pressures of the Russian Revolution led to a dramatic migration of the Jewish population from Russia, Poland, and Austria to America. Those who came to Winnipeg found a Jewish community already established in the North End with its own schools and synagogues. Understandably, they chose to live within this familiar atmosphere. However, many of the established families had developed a comfortable "Jewish-Canadian" identity which they felt to be threatened by the more traditional ways of the new immigrants. As small rifts began to form in the community, smaller individual synagogues began to appear.

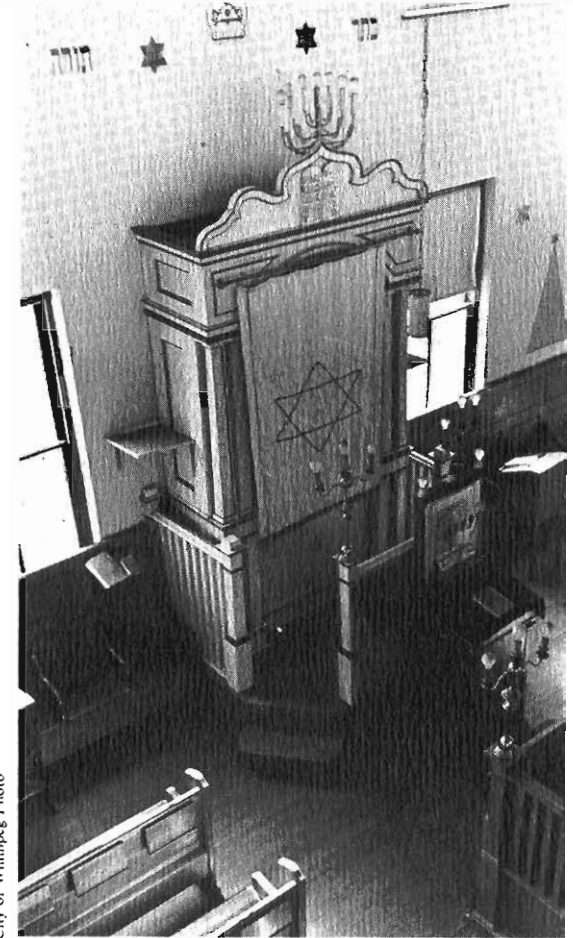
The Lubavitcher Synagogue at 551 Magnus Avenue is one such structure. Its founders were Lithuanian immigrants, most likely coming from the same district of the small Baltic-Russian state, who had arrived in Winnipeg around 1921. Bound together by inter-relation and dependency, the original congregation of twelve pooled its modest resources to build a synagogue in 1922. The congregation grew to over one hundred families and individuals in the 1940's, but declined as the Jewish population spread throughout the city after the 1950's. Today, the congregation is made up of remnants of the larger group, and continues to worship at the institution.

Designed by D. B. Hirshfield, a C.P.R. draughtsman, the almost purely functional two-storey brick structure, was finished by the congregation. Lubavitcher Synagogue presents an interesting picture of the adoption of a general

structure to a set of specific liturgical requirements.

The congregation, separated by gender, is provided with 240 seats for men on the main floor, and 150 relatively cramped women's seats in a balcony. The north-south orientation of the 50 foot by 30 foot structure, combined with the requirement of having the "aron Kodesh" (a wooden cabinet containing the Torah) on the east wall, results in the main processional aisle running across the building and dictates the unusual "U-shaped" arrangement of the balcony.

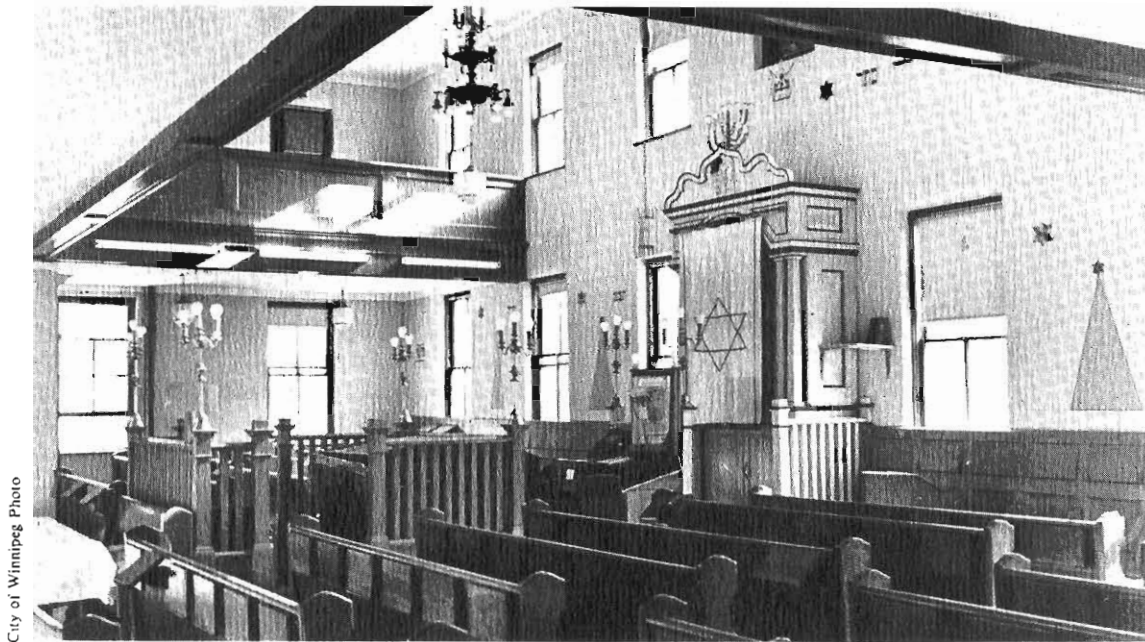
The prominent Star of David featured in the arched central bay was common to synagogues in Western Canada. Elaborate stained glass windows at the balcony level and stone plaques set in the brickwork bear symbols and excerpts from sacred texts. This building, one of the few pre-war synagogues left in Winnipeg, represents the life and faith of a group of first generation immigrants to Western Canada.



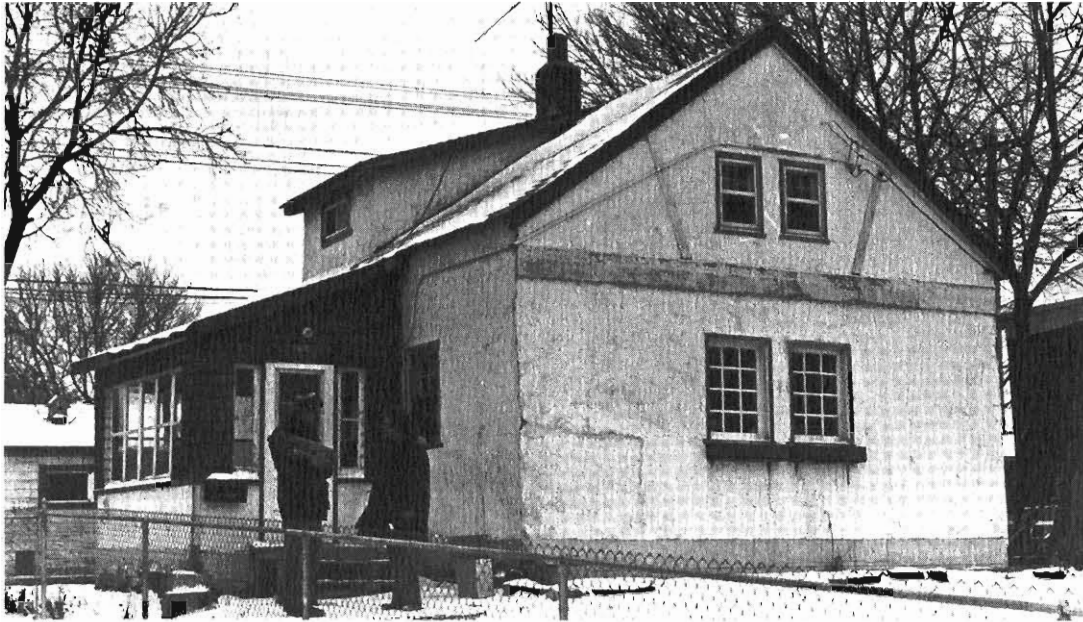
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*Left: Interior showing the balcony where women are required to be seated.*

*Above: The "aron kodesh" or wooden cabinet containing the Torah.*



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*The John Fraser House, 1982.*

The Scottish and Irish crofters who came to settle in the colony at Red River, established in 1812 by the Earl of Selkirk, left behind a life of persecution and poverty. They arrived in the harsh frontier to face the challenge of establishing an agricultural community where previously there had been only fur trade and prairie. These early settlers, devout in their faith, withstood the hardships of the “New Kildonan” to establish a remarkably self-sufficient community. In 1854 they built Kildonan Church, the first Presbyterian church in the colony, fulfilling a dream kept alive since their arrival 42 years earlier.

In 1830 John Fraser and Jane Matheson were wed. This event marked the first union of two people

each born and raised within the Red River community. The Frasers were a large farming family of fourteen children. Although not a family of particularly noteworthy achievements, the Frasers typified the lifestyle of Selkirk settlement families. They participated in the building of the new church in 1854, and John Fraser became a trustee of the church in 1855. When the Municipality of the Parishes of Kildonan and St. Johns was formed in 1876, John Fraser entered government service and witnessed the rapid growth of the settlement through the 1880’s. John Fraser died in 1898, having been predeceased by his wife in 1896.

The John Fraser house stands today in the same location as it has since 1860, when it was apparently moved to be closer to the newly-built Kildonan

Church. The house, built in 1841, is of Red River frame construction, a method originating in Scandinavia and Northern Europe, brought to America by French settlers and adopted by the Selkirk Settlers.

Over the past 120 years the house has seen considerable change in the neighbourhood which has grown up around it. It speaks of its past in contrasts; its small size, its ceilings barely seven feet in height, and its unusual orientation towards the river instead of the street. Since its construction the house has been re-roofed with shed dormers added, the log walls have been stuccoed over, and a porch has been added, but beneath these changes much of the original construction and interior organization remains as it has for well over a century. The John Fraser house is probably the oldest single-family dwelling in Winnipeg still in private use.



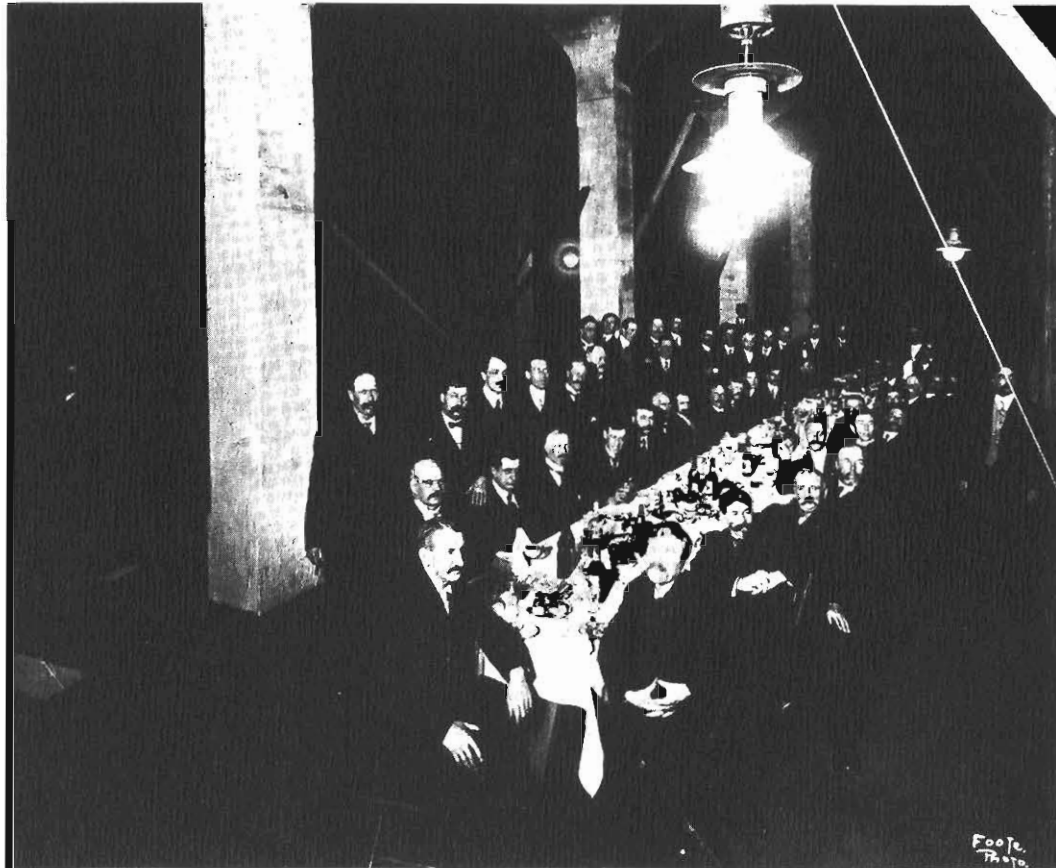
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*Wall detail showing a modified “Red River Frame” style of log construction.*

The James Fraser House, built by John Fraser’s father in 1835, has been moved to the Lower Fort Garry Museum where it is on display.







*Above: A banquet in the St. Boniface sewer system in celebration of the completion of the construction project.*

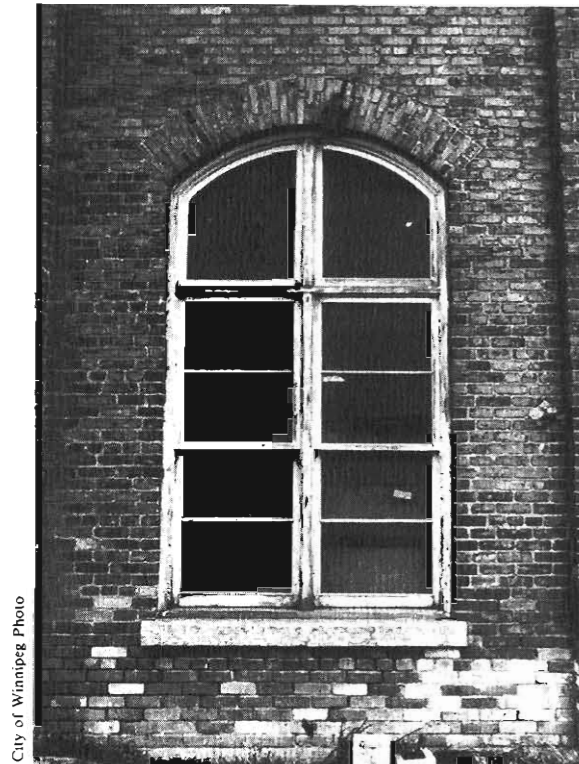
*Right: The Waterworks Pumping Station and tower, 1982.*

Since the 1850's St. Boniface has served as the center of both French Canadian culture and the Roman Catholic Church in Western Canada. Culturally isolated from Winnipeg, the town, which was not incorporated as a city until 1908, did not share the rapid growth of its neighbour through the 1880's and '90's. It was not until the early part of this century that the town council initiated a campaign to attract industry. St. Boniface offered significantly lower property values and taxes and the resultant growth of the town necessitated a number of improvements. Streets were paved, the hydro service was expanded and water supply and sewage systems developed.



Built in 1904 under the direction of engineer Cecil Goddard, the water supply system was the first source of pure water available to the citizens of St. Boniface. Fed by a number of artesian wells, pumps raised the water 140 feet to an 86,000 gallon storage tank, which provided the pressure to serve the original twelve miles of mains. However, the service was plagued by instability, as the artesian wells could not be relied upon to provide a steady supply of pure water. Recognizing the inadequacy of the system to meet future requirements, St. Boniface entered the Shoal Lake Development Plan with Winnipeg in 1913 and continued to operate the artesian well system until the aquaduct opened in 1919. The pumping station at 552 Plinquet Avenue was converted to pump the Shoal Lake water directly into the mains system with the water tower boosting the pressure in the mains as required. Although initially maintained as an auxiliary system, the artesian wells have long been abandoned.

*Right: Window detail, Pumping Station.*



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The Thomson and Pope Building at 379 - 381 Portage Avenue is a prime example of the small commercial buildings which once lined the north side of the street. Named after the Winnipeg-based men's wear company which had occupied the prominent corner site from 1927 until the late 1970's, the building provided two shops opening onto Portage Avenue and four facing Edmonton Street. This was the second downtown building designed by architect William Fingland for developer Charles H. Enderton. It followed a very successful three-storey commercial block built in 1909 at the south-west corner of Portage Avenue and Hargrave Street.

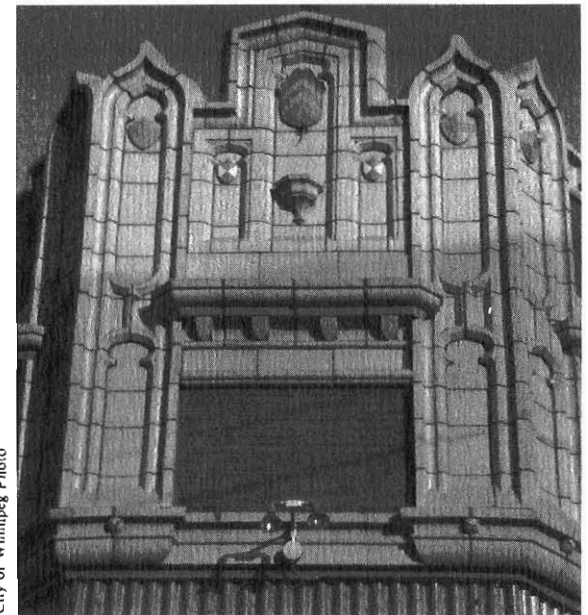
Built in 1914, the Thomson and Pope Building is notable for both the design of its facade and the craftsmanship of the materials used. Although only a single storey in height, the building echoes the order of the earlier commercial block by using two distinct construction types. Built around a structural steel frame; the storefronts are light metal and glass curtain walls which hang from the structure while heavy masonry construction envelops the framing above. The large plate glass and lattice windows are framed by intricately-detailed metal mullions which have been detailed as columns and given capitals, even though the load they appear to carry would surely crush them.

The crafting of these materials signify contemporary changes in construction technology. With World War I imminent mass production methods would rapidly outdate many of these labour intensive materials, particularly the beautifully-coloured terra cotta. Although the curtain wall was the mainstay of "Modern" architecture, the intricate detailing of these mullions would quickly disappear, as would the minute scale of the leaded glass lights, replaced entirely by single sheets of plate glass. Thus the Thomson and Pope Building presents an image of the dramatically changing technological world of the early 20th century.



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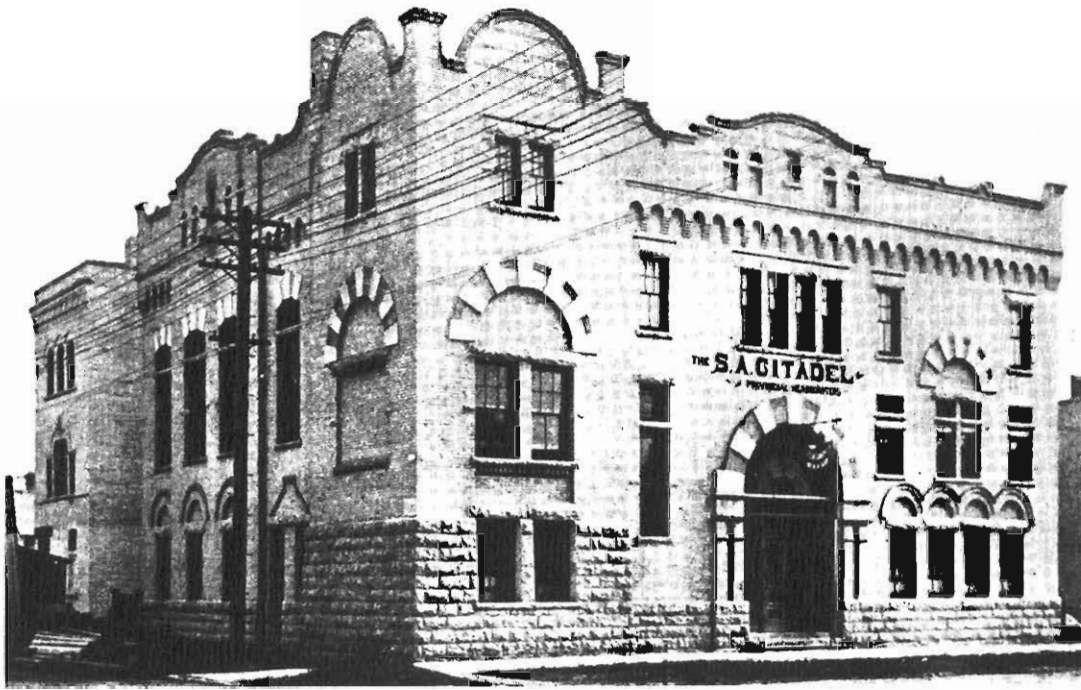
*Above: The Thomson and Pope Building, 1982.  
Right: Corner detail illustrating elaborate terra cotta ornamentation.*



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Manitoba Archives



The eventful arrival of the Salvation Army in Winnipeg during December 1886 began at the C.P.R. Station with a prayer of thanksgiving for the safe delivery of its six members from Toronto. A colourful parade down Main Street was led by the Salvation Army flagmaster. The evangelical nature of the group's presence emphasized its removal from "formal" religion in the provision of a "poor man's church" open to all. Founded in England in the 1860's by evangelist William Booth, the Army, operating on a belief that the hunger and ill health of poverty blocked the word of God, offered both soup and spiritual aid.

The Salvation Army opened a Canadian headquarters in Toronto in 1882 and, attracting a segment of the urban population not reached by other churches, grew rapidly. In 1886 depression-ridden Winnipeg was the Army's "frontier". Prayer meetings were first held in the Opera House, but soon were moved to an old Baptist church at Rupert Avenue and King Street. The role of the Army was split into two major tasks: working with criminals, derelicts, alcoholics, and the unemployed by giving them work and lodging; and the "rescue" of "fallen women" and homeless children who were sheltered in a group home on Ross Street. Medical care was also provided with the opening of the Salvation Army Grace Hospital in 1904.

Footie Collection. Manitoba Archives



*Upper left:*

*The Citadel, circa 1903.*

*Lower left:*

*The Salvation Army Band in front of the Bank of Montreal at Portage and Main, circa 1915.*

The old church at Rupert Avenue and King Street proved too small for the growing organization, and in 1899 the decision was made to build a new building on the site. Plans were drawn by architect J. Wilson Gray of Toronto. The new Citadel was complete in 1901. The facility contained a large hall which could seat 900, a smaller hall for 250 people, a band room, offices, and officer's quarters. All central work was done at this Citadel until 1960 when the new Provincial Headquarters opened on Colony Street. At that time the Rupert Avenue building became the Harbour Light Center for the care and rehabilitation of alcoholics, a role which it has fulfilled ever since.

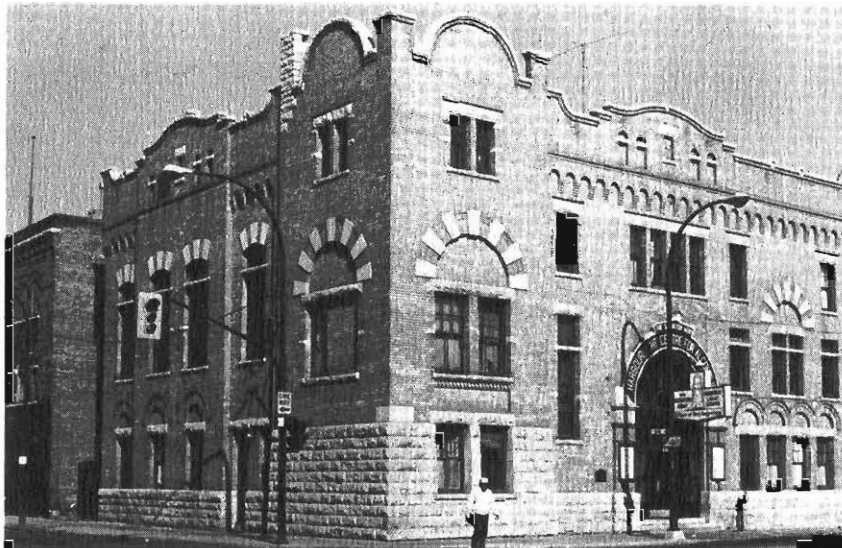
Designed to avoid the intimidation of either religious or military architecture, the Citadel projects an exuberance unequalled in the neighbourhood. The diverse composition of the facade presents an image which, although appearing "hodge-podge", reveals an interesting order. The building's exterior features an undulating parapet, an arcaded cornice, and powerful stone and brick voussoirs above the unusual blind arches. The overall diversity of the structure creates an image well-suited to the many charitable projects operated by the Salvation Army, and seems a meaningful symbol of its first century in Winnipeg.

*Upper right:*  
*The Salvation Army Red Shield Campaign, north of*  
*City Hall on James Avenue, 1918.*  
*Lower right:*  
*The Citadel in 1982.*

Foote Collection. Manitoba Archives

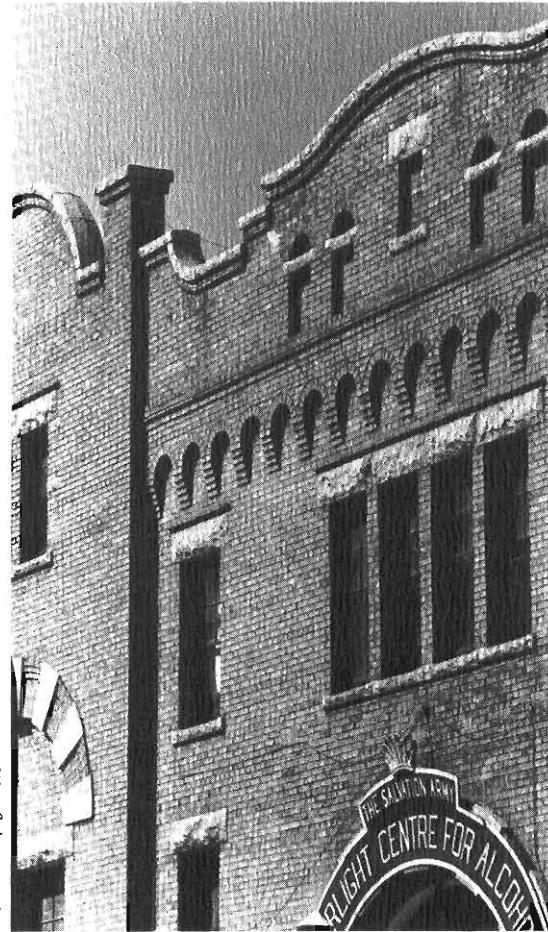


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*Above:*  
*A crowd in international costumes gather at the Citadel, circa 1915.*  
*Right:*  
*Facade detail shows rich masonry detailing.*







Until 1912 the traditionalist French-Canadian Council of the Rural Municipality of St. Vital had effectively resisted attempts by Winnipeg land developers to establish residential neighbourhoods along the banks of the Red River south of St. Boniface. However, in 1912 the provincial government annexed the west side of the river from St. Vital to create the municipality of Fort Garry. The ensuing municipal elections saw a more "progressive" English-speaking council in place and within a few months the municipality was incorporated as a town with residential neighbourhoods beginning to appear near the boundary of St. Boniface.

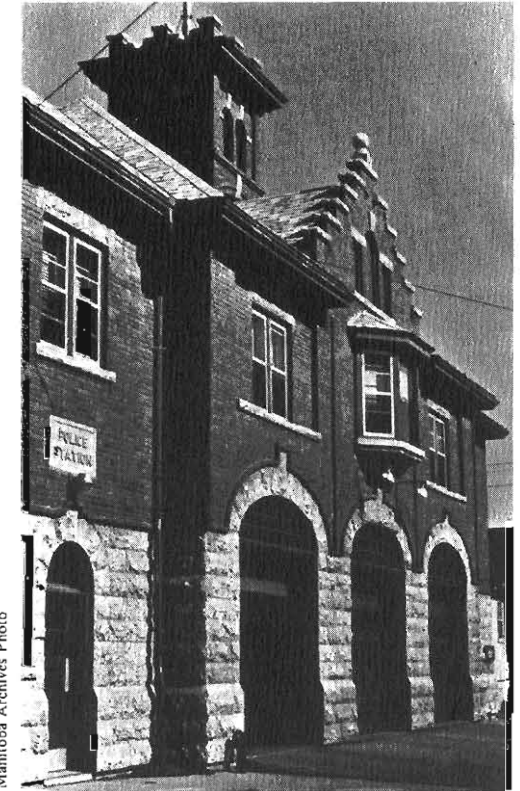
St. Vital gradually grew southward along two main roads: St. Mary's and St. Anne's. The town began building newly-required services; a street and sidewalk paving program was initiated, the electric railway lines were extended to the southern boundary of the town, sewer and water mains

systems were laid along the two main roads, and the hydro service was expanded. The new town also required Police and Fire Departments, which were housed together in a station built in 1914 at the intersection of St. Mary's and St. Anne's Roads in the heart of the community.

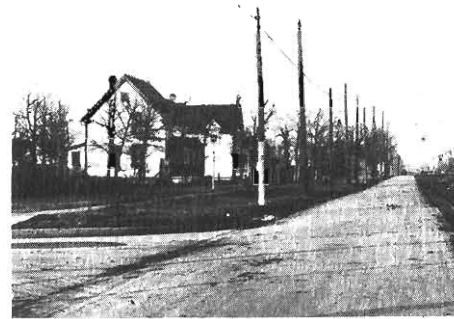
The station is a two-storey brick structure with stone facing on the main level. The building is organized around the central coach hall which had three large glazed doors corresponding to the three structural bays of the hall. At the rear were stables for horses which drew the wagons and sleighs until the 1930's. Set two feet behind the hall on the St. Mary's Road (east) facade are wings housing the fire and police stations to the north and south respectively. The second floor originally provided living quarters for the firemen, and the oriel window lit the central lounge. A full-height attic for storage is provided beneath the wood-framed roof.

The station was retired after the amalgamation of services under Unicity in 1974. It has been adapted as a center for the City Health Department and an ambulance station. Although minor modifications have been made, the building still stands virtually as it did in 1914 when it marked the birth of St. Vital as a suburb of Winnipeg.

*Below: The St. Vital Fire Station, 1970.*



Manitoba Archives Photo



Manitoba Archives Photo

*Above: An early photograph of St. Mary's Road.  
Left: The St. Vital Fire Station in 1970.*



Manitoba Archives Photo



Manitoba Archives Photo



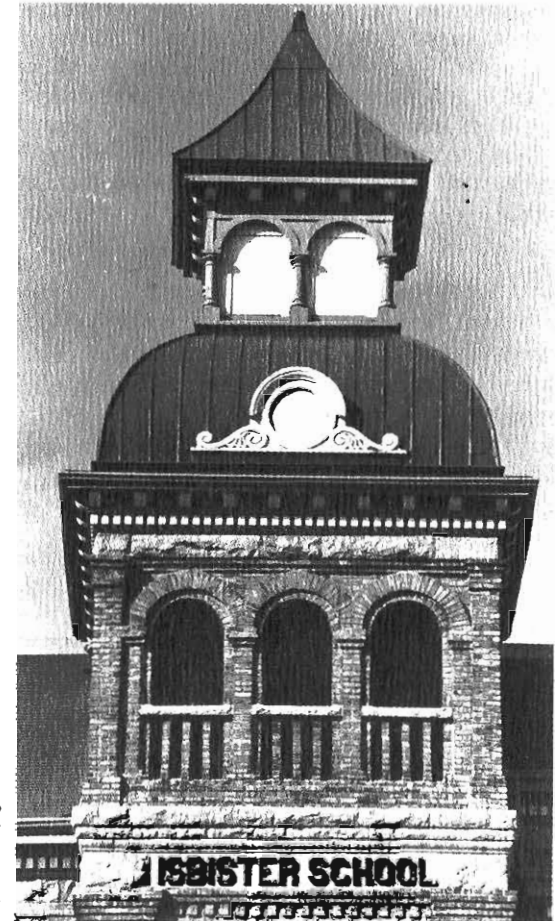
*Isbister School, circa 1900.*

**B**uilt during 1898-99, Isbister School is the oldest public school building in Winnipeg, having survived a purge of the public school system initiated by a 1948 report which condemned fourteen school buildings as “out-moded”. The other two schools to have survived are Somerset School (1901) and Pinkham School (1902-03). Together these schools mark a period of dramatic reformation of the public school

system. Changes such as mandatory attendance and new teacher training programs were paralleled by the construction of larger school facilities.

Isbister School was one of the first three-storey school buildings in Winnipeg. Providing ten classrooms and an auditorium, it was among the largest facilities of its day. Finely finished with detailed woodwork, metal ceilings, and stained

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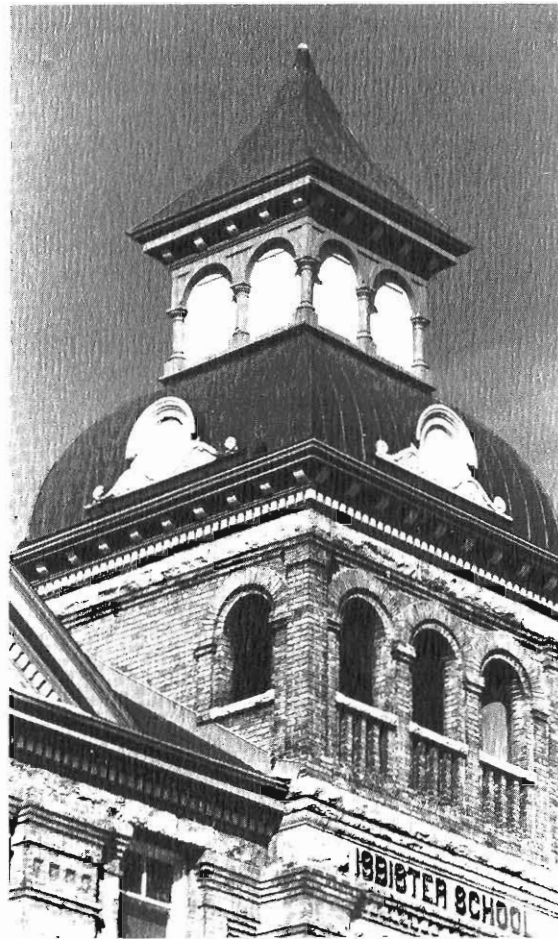


*Bell tower detail.*

glass - all materials new to public schools - the school embodied the new attitudes towards education. Even the central ventilation and heating system was of superior quality and was a source of pride. Isbister School served as a model for other schools, with its symmetrical three-storey massing and gabled roof forms.

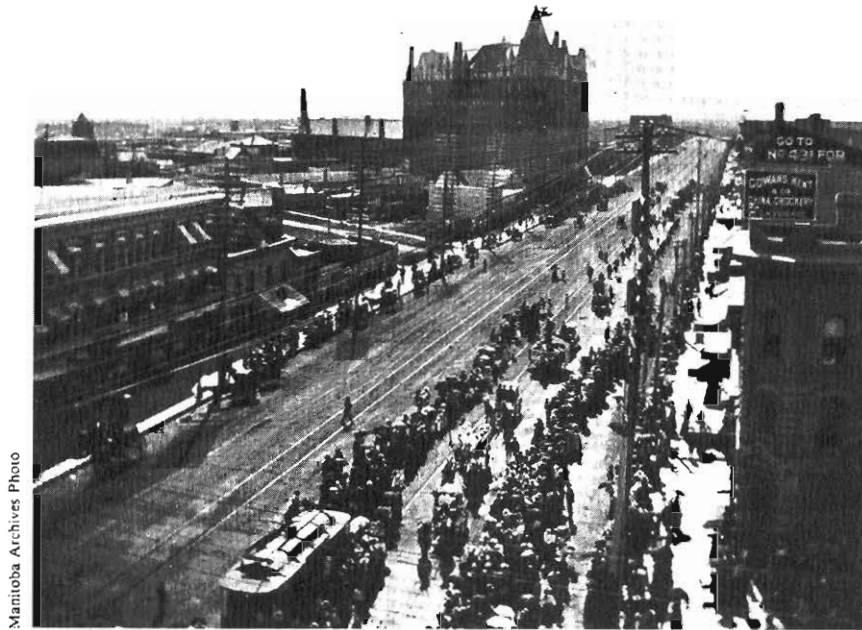
Designed by Samuel Hooper before he became Provincial Architect in 1904, Isbister School exhibits the same restrained eclecticism which appears in his later work. The nearly-perfect symmetry of each facade lends an appearance of stability to the building which is reinforced by the pedimented gables' allusion to classical architecture.

Isbister School functioned as a public school from 1899 until 1966. The school has served as the Winnipeg Adult Education Centre since 1967. Although obscured by portable classroom additions, the building retains its original form. Much of the interior, including the magnificent stairway, is largely in its original condition, presenting a rare image of a Winnipeg school at the turn of the century.



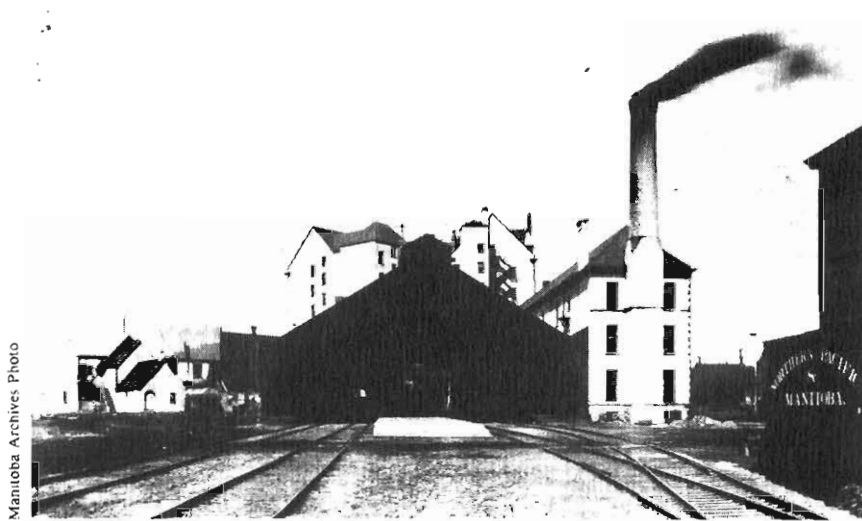
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*Right: Samuel Hooper's tasteful eclecticism is reflected in masonry details.*



Manitoba Archives Photo

View south along Main Street, 1897. The massive Manitoba Hotel dominates the streetscape. The station is immediately to the left of the hotel.



Manitoba Archives Photo

The construction of the trans-continental Canadian Pacific Railway in 1881 did little to foster agricultural development in the west. The reluctance of the C.P.R. to establish branch lines, coupled with its monopoly on rail traffic in Canada, served to stall growth on the prairies as farmers could not afford to haul their produce long distances to the main line. In 1887 the frustrated Manitoba government began construction of a line south from Winnipeg to the American border. Built as a “public work” the Red River Valley Railway effectively side-stepped the C.P.R. monopoly. When, however, the provincial railway found itself in financial difficulties in 1888, the Liberal government of Thomas Greenway arranged a take-over of the line by the Northern Pacific Railway, an American trans-continental railway, and the Northern Pacific and Manitoba Railway was formed. When legally sanctioned in 1889, the new company effectively broke the monopoly which had nurtured the C.P.R. through its infancy.

The Winnipeg station of the new line was built in 1888, together with a large attached train shed, facing Water Street near Main Street. The complex was completed in 1889 with the construction of the Manitoba Hotel facing Main Street. The grand hotel was linked to the station and the shed. It was said to be the most elegant accommodation between Montreal and Vancouver, and was designed by architect C. E. Joy of Minneapolis. Together these buildings formed an impressive railway complex, with the large hotel dominating the Winnipeg skyline until 1899, when it was gutted by fire and demolished.

Left: The train sheds of the Northern Pacific and Manitoba Railway Station, circa 1895. (Photo courtesy of the Montana Historical Society).

In 1915, the Northern Pacific and Manitoba Railway was amalgamated into the Canadian National Railway network. In 1911 Union Station was completed and the old station was renovated to serve as offices for the Canadian Northern Railway. For a brief period in the early 1920's the station served as a convention hall and auditorium for the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition. In 1926 it was converted into dormitories and a dining hall serving first as an immigration hall, then as a hostel for the unemployed in the '30's, and as an army barracks during the war years.

In 1951 the C.N.R. undertook drastic renovations in converting the station to office use. The slate roof and entire third storey were removed, the large smoke stack was demolished and the entrance altered once again. The train shed was leased as a garage to a car dealership on Main Street. The two structures were barely recognizable as the 1888 station except for the large, arched driveway which, sealed in 1926, was still visible.

City of Winnipeg Photo



*The former station building, 1982. The bricked-in archway is visible at the lane.*

Manitoba Archives Photo



*The magnificent Manitoba Hotel, circa 1895.  
(Photo courtesy of the Montana Historical Society)*



Manitoba Archives

MARK FORTUNE

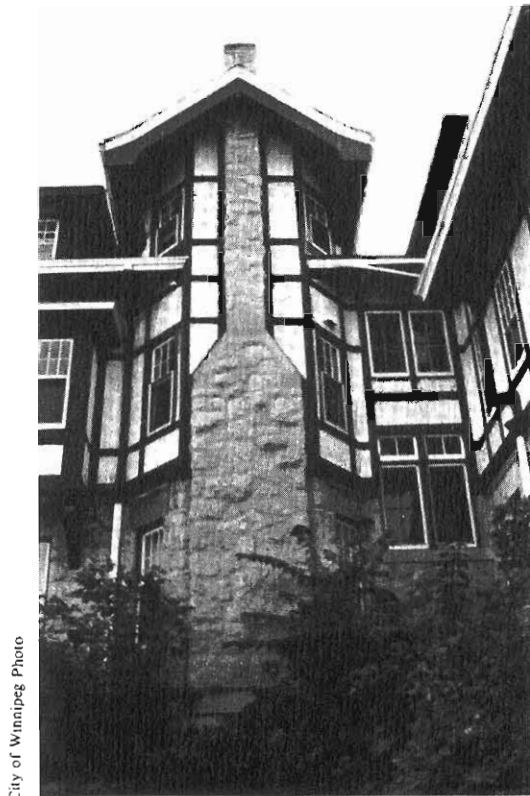
*A sketch portrait of Mark Fortune from Manitobans As We See 'Em, 1908-09.*

Built for local realtor Mark Fortune in 1911, the expansive residence at 393 Wellington Crescent is prominently located in one of Winnipeg's most elegant neighbourhoods. The landscaped estate tiered down to the riverbank and included a coach house with chauffer's quarters. Winnipeg architect William Wallace Blair, architect of the house, was trained in Ireland and worked in Toronto and Chicago. His previous projects in Winnipeg included the Warwick Apartments (1908), the Princeton and Roslyn Apartments (1909) and the Victory Building (1910). The exterior of the Fortune residence bears a striking resemblance to the retirement home the architect built for himself in Victoria's exclusive Oak Park in 1912.

Mark Fortune came to Winnipeg from his native Ontario in 1874 and, soon after, entered into land speculation. He successfully invested in property on Portage Avenue only to barely survive the harrowing land bust of the mid-1880's. From 1890 onwards his investments steadily prospered so that by 1911 the Fortunes were one of the wealthiest families in Winnipeg. Tragedy, however, befell the family the very next year. Returning from a European holiday on the maiden voyage of the Titanic, Fortune and his son perished along with 1300 others. Mrs. Fortune and her two daughters were rowed to safety. Returning to Winnipeg the surviving family lived in the house until 1920 when it was sold to grocery magnate W. P. Riley.

W. P. Riley established Western Grocers Ltd. in 1913, shortly after moving to Winnipeg from Port Arthur. From 1943 and 1951 he served as president of The Great West Life Assurance Company. Riley and his wife raised three sons while living in the large house, then moved to another Wellington Crescent address in 1948, six years prior to his death.

The house was sold and subdivided into six suites. It has stood vacant since 1981.



City of Winnipeg Photo



City of Winnipeg Photo

*Left: Chimney detail at the rear of the Fortune House.*

*Above: The Fortune House, 1981.*



442 WILLIAM AVENUE  
PROVINCIAL NORMAL SCHOOL

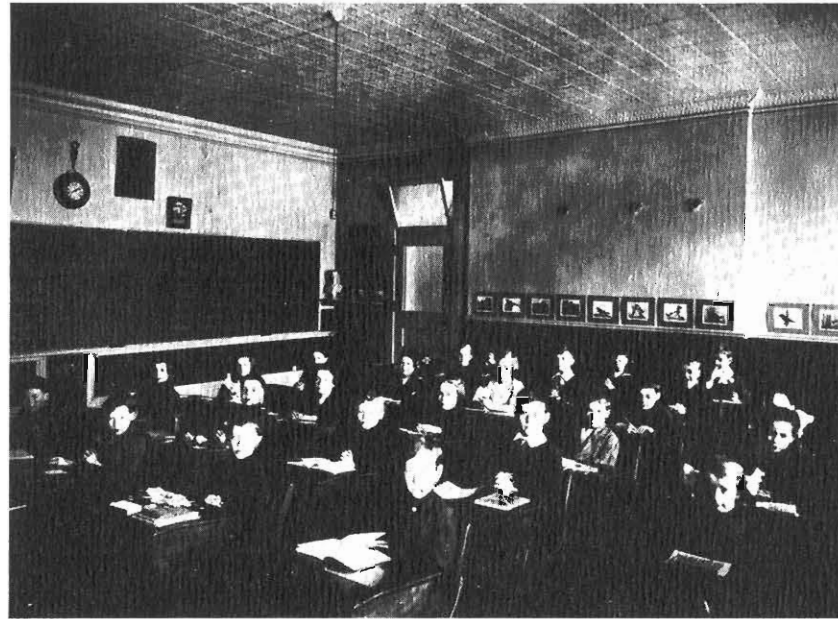
With the large influx of European immigrants after 1880, Winnipeg's fledgling school system was able to cope with neither the size nor diversity of its student population. This condition, exacerbated by the perceived threat to foreign cultures of assimilation by the British majority, led to a situation in which many children were educated at home in their national language or not at all. Poorly attended, ill equipped public schools were staffed by instructors who had received little or no formal training. The resulting chaos brought about a number of reforms to the education system, including mandatory attendance and the establishment of a series of "normal schools" which functioned as teacher training facilities. The first of these "normal schools" began in 1882, and by 1916 attendance was mandatory for any new teacher.

The first Provincial Normal School building in Winnipeg opened in 1906 on William Avenue. Previously, normal sessions had been held in downtown schools. The most important feature of the Normal School was its "model school". Seven classes of thirty students utilized the most up to date teaching methods. This "school-within-a-school" was new to Winnipeg and was highly successful. In 1913, increased normal school attendance left no room for the model school, and practise-teaching sessions were begun at schools throughout the province. In 1949 the Provincial Normal School was moved into the former Manitoba School for the Deaf in Tuxedo, with the William Avenue building relegated to housing a series of provincial agencies. The universities assumed the responsibility for teacher training and normal schools became obsolete.



*The Provincial Normal School, circa 1907.*

Samuel Hooper designed both the Provincial Normal School and the Carnegie Library, at 442 and 380 William Avenue in 1903 and 1904 respectively. Although similar in construction, the size and the use of classical references the two buildings appear strikingly different. The library clearly follows the classical tradition, exhibiting a strict frontal symmetry, while the Normal School has been designed around a prominent corner entrance.



Manitoba Archives Photo

*Left: Detail of entryway and cupola, 1982.*

*Above: A "model class" circa 1910.  
Opposite: The Normal School 1982.*

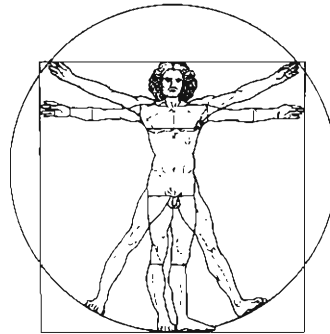
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Samuel Hooper, the first Provincial Architect in Manitoba, also designed Isbister School (1899), the Land Titles Office, the Agricultural College in Tuxedo, and both the Asylum and the Courthouse in Brandon.

Marked by a large cupola above, the entrance to the Normal School is defined by paired columns supporting a heavy carved entablature. The mannered interpretation of a classical ideal is typical of neo-classical architecture and expresses the interpretive role of the architect in his modern use of classical references.







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Therefore when we build let us think that we build forever — let it not be for present delight nor for present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for and let us think as we lay stone on stone that a time is to come when those stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them and that men will say as they look upon the labour and the wrought substance of them “See! This our fathers did for us.”

John Ruskin

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