Winnipeg

The Year Past 2024

Annual Report of the Historical Buildings & Resources Committee



The restored Centennial Fountain on Broadway with a new commemoration to Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, 2025

Historical Buildings & Resources Committee
THE CITY OF WINNIPEG

2024 Annual Report of the Historical Buildings & Resources Committee

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

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Winnipeg 150

Our shared stories. Our shared future

In 2024, Winnipeg celebrated 150 years as a city. The first City Council meeting was held on January 19, 1874.

The theme “Our shared stories. Our shared future” reflects Winnipeg’s diverse community. We collectively hold stories from the past, highlighting resiliency, hope and strength. But this celebration also acknowledges, as Mayor Scott Gillingham said, “Winnipeg is also a city whose story is still being written. And in celebrating our past, we are laying the foundation for our shared future. Together, we can build a stronger Winnipeg and a future we can all be proud of. A future where we continue to embrace our differences, learn from our history, and work towards a better, more inclusive tomorrow.”

The logo for this milestone was created by local artist, Jordan Stranger of Totem Doodem who uses his life experiences and spiritual practice learned through Ojibwe teachings to drive his artistic passions.

The graphic features the current footprint of the City of Winnipeg over top a turtle shell to represent Turtle Island. The Red and Assiniboine rivers are displayed, within which we see the image of a woman, meant to represent Mother Earth. Small leaves can be seen throughout the graphic, signifying crops including sage and tobacco. It also includes an image of a crocus, which is part of the city crest. Four trees to remind us of the seasons, the four directions, and the four stages of life. The graphic also includes a tribute to our varied seasons including sun and snow, and a bright north star.

Winnipeg is located in Treaty One Territory, the home and traditional lands of the Anishinaabe (Ojibway), Ininew (Cree), and Dakota Peoples, and in the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

Our drinking water comes from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, in Treaty Three Territory.



Massey Building, 296 William Ave., main staircase, 2024



Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 256 Smith St., 1900

Vision & mission

The Year Past 2024 is the Annual Report of the City of Winnipeg's Historical Buildings & Resources Committee. The 2024 report describes work completed from January 1 to December 31, 2024.

Vision:

To make the conservation of heritage a vital part of daily life. We want to:

- Remember our history
- Instill a sense of place, space, neighbourhood, and personal connection to the built environment
- Commit to the principle of sustainable development
- Provide enduring lessons in architecture, technology and urban change

Mission:

- Maintain a commitment to excellence in research, evaluation and designation of heritage resources
- Ensure the long-term conservation of heritage resources in Winnipeg through the implementation of new incentives, integrated planning, district/area designation, regulatory reforms, well-established design standards and principled design review
- Be a catalyst for greater public awareness, education and participation in heritage conservation
- Provide effective professional advice, information and administrative assistance on heritage plans, policies and programs to Winnipeg City Council through its Standing Policy Committee



A 1925 coloured postcard showing Broadway, the Hotel Fort Garry and Union (now VIA Rail) Station

Historical Buildings & Resources Committee

The Historical Buildings & Resources Committee (HBRC) advises the Public Service and Committees of Council about:

- Designation of resources and Heritage Conservation Districts
- Heritage permit application review
- Heritage grant application review

The duties and responsibilities of the Committee are outlined in the Historic Resources By-law and include:

- Researching, assessing, and evaluating heritage resources and districts
- Making recommendations about designation to City Council's Standing Policy Committee
- Providing design review to heritage staff on alterations, repairs, and additions to designated resources and districts
- Reviewing applications to the Gail Parvin Hammerquist Fund city-wide grant program
- Providing expert advice to City Council
- Working with heritage property owners, architects, engineers, contractors, realtors, heritage, government, business organizations, students, and the general public on education, outreach, and communications initiatives

Crescentwood-Enderton Park Heritage Conservation District Advisory Committee

The Crescentwood-Enderton Park Heritage Conservation District Plan has a Heritage Conservation District (HCD) Advisory Committee. The Committee:

- Provides advice to the Public Service on issues specific to the Crescentwood-Enderton Park HCD and other districts
- Reviews applications for heritage permits

Historical Buildings & Resources Committee members

Members are appointed to three-year terms. Current members:

- Jason Schreyer, Councillor, Chairperson
- Shawn Dobson, Councillor
- Sandra Hollender, Government of Canada, member
- Jeffrey Thorsteinson, Government of Canada, member
- Jeff Gauley, Province of Manitoba, member
- Nicola Spasoff, Province of Manitoba, member
- Glen Gross, Manitoba Association of Architects member
- Gary Hawthorne, Manitoba Association of Architects member
- Ms. Rachelle Kirouac, Manitoba Association of Landscape Architects
- John Wells, Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of Manitoba
- Joe Leven, citizen at large
- Lynn Soens, citizen at large
- Mikal Sokolowski, citizen at large

In 2024, the Committee welcomed Mikal Sokolowski as a new citizen at large. Mr. Sokolowski is an associate lawyer at Restall & Restall LLP. He focuses on real estate, corporate, commercial, wills, and estates. He is also an Instructor of Commercial Law at the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba. He received his Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) and Juris Doctor degrees from the University of Manitoba. Born and raised in Winnipeg, he has a keen interest in the city's architecture.

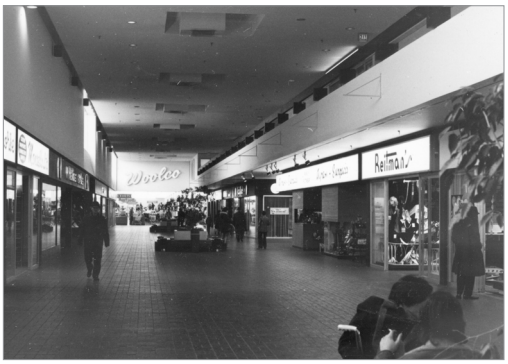
The Committee acknowledges the time and efforts of two members who retired in 2024. Lynn Soens had been a valuable member of the committee since July 2021. Jeff Gauley, Province of Manitoba, had been on the committee since September 2012. He was a consistent and knowledgeable contributor to the work of the committee and to the province.



Members of the Committee visiting the Midland Railway Building, 200 Isabel St., 2024



Jeff Gauley at a site visit to Grey Nuns' Convent (St. Boniface Museum), 2024



The interior of Grant Park Shopping Centre, 1120 Grant Ave., 1971

Heritage staff

In 2024, heritage conservation staff Rina Ricci and Murray Peterson:

- Led the designation process
- Completed design review for heritage permits
- Wrote historical reports
- Worked with HBRC and HCD Advisory Committees

Heritage lists

The Historical Resources By-law, has three types of historical resources. As of December 31, 2024:

1. List of Historical Resources (365 resources)

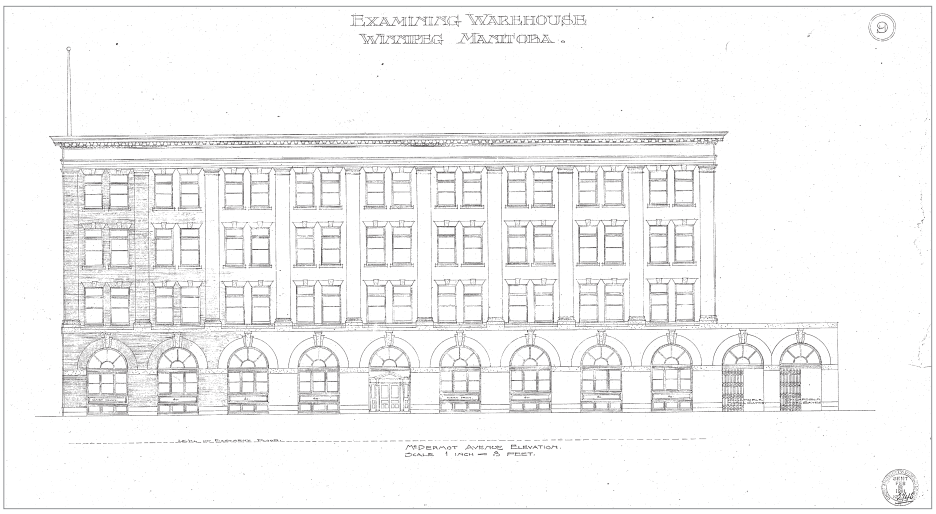
- Historical resources must be a building 40 years of age or older, or land
- Protected from demolition
- A caveat is registered on title, alerting owners and potential buyers of heritage status
- Need a Heritage Permit for alterations
- Eligible for financial assistance and heritage grants
- Designation includes an owner-approved list of Character-Defining Elements (key elements that must be protected)
- Posted on City's website

2. Nominated List (two resources)

- Owners notified of nomination
- Evaluated within 12 months of nomination (owner can request an expedited hearing for a fee)
- Demolition not permitted; alterations are allowed through a Heritage Permit
- Not eligible for financial assistance
- Posted on City's website



Terra cotta ornamentation on the Lindsay Building, 228 Notre Dame Ave., 1980



Plans for the Customs Examining Warehouse, 145 McDermot Ave., “McDermot Avenue Elevation”, 1908



St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church (Elim Chapel), 546 Portage Ave., ca. 1910, Archives of Manitoba, N10808

3. Commemorative List (361 resources)

- Must be a building or land (not person or event)
- Purely commemorative, no regulations or controls
- Managed by the Director of the Planning, Property & Development Department
- Building can remain on list if demolished
- Not eligible for financial assistance
- Posted on City's website

Buildings evaluated in 2024

Two heritage resources evaluated in 2022 were added to the List of Historical Resources in 2024 by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

Two heritage resources evaluated in 2023 were added to the List of Historical Resources by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

One resource was evaluated and added to the List of Historical Resources by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

One resource on the Commemorative List was evaluated and designated by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

Two resources were recommended for designation and were pending decisions by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

Three resources were evaluated for information only.

Three resources were placed on the Commemorative List.

Two heritage resources evaluated in 2022 were added to the List of Historical Resources in 2024.

Boy with the Boot Statue

Assiniboine Park, 460 Assiniboine Park Dr.
List of Historical Resources (July 4, 2024)
Entire statue.

For history, see The Year Past, 2022



The Boy With the Boot Statue at the entrance to the English Gardens, Assiniboine Park, 2022



Boy with the Boot Statue, Assiniboine Park, 2022

St. Boniface Library, Coronation Park Branch

120 Eugenie St.
List of Historical Resources (July 4, 2024)



St. Boniface Library, Coronation Park Branch, 120 Eugenie St., 2021



St. Boniface Library, Coronation Park Branch, 120 Eugenie St., front counter, 2021

Exterior elements:

- One-storey, red brick structure with flat roof with main (north) façade facing Eugenie Street, east façade facing Taché Avenue and the rear (south) and west façades facing Coronation Park with concrete retaining walls to the east and west
- The front (north) 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 and set of thin clerestory windows running the entire length of the façade
- The rear (south) façade with its band of clerestory windows running the entire length of the façade and brick chimney
- The west façade with four rectilinear window openings
- The east façade with four rectilinear openings and entrance door

Interior elements:

- Examples of the original laminate wood beams and ceilings

For history, see The Year Past, 2022

Fort Garry Public Library

1360 Pembina Hwy.
List of Historical Resources (July 4, 2024)



Fort Garry Public Library, 1360 Pembina Hwy., front (west) and south façades, 2021



Fort Garry Public Library, 1360 Pembina Hwy., stacks and original wood beams and ceiling, 2021

Exterior elements:

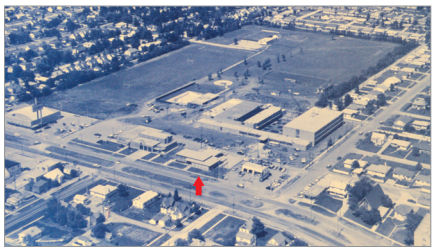
- The one-storey, stand-alone building with its west façade facing Pembina Highway, its south façade facing a small greenspace, its north façade facing a small paved area, and its east façade facing a parking lot and whose massing is formed by a combination of rectilinear blocks which include a lower projecting volume to the southwest that wraps around to the southeast, an intermediate recessed entrance pavilion, and a stepped back higher volume in the northeast corner
- The front (west) façade of the lower volume with its projecting masonry fins that frame regularly spaced L-shaped windows and its flat roofline that cantilevers over the entrance sequence where it is supported by steel columns
- The west-facing façade of the entrance pavilion with its large rectilinear window originally screened by a steel *brise soliel* (now removed) and subdivided into three structural bays with exposed wood beams capped by a projecting flat roof line that extends beyond the protruding masonry end wall
- The west-facing façade of the higher volume with regularly spaced clerestory windows and a long, thin window that continues to the main floor level
- The rear (east) façade that faces onto a parking lot with the small square window openings and clerestory windows flanked by masonry fins
- The south façade with its projecting masonry fins that frame regularly spaced L-shaped windows and that are capped by a projecting flat roofline with exposed wood beams
- The north façade that faces onto a paved area with its uninterrupted brick walls and projecting flat roof line

Interior elements:

- Wood beams and ceilings
- Exposed brick walls
- Volume of space of the main floor
- The clerestory openings in the walls that allow for the transmission of natural light between spaces



Pembina Highway at Dowker Avenue, 1961. The newly completed public library stands to the south of the municipal hall



Fort Garry Public Library, 1360 Pembina Hwy. as original built, including the *briese soliel,* 1961



Fort Garry Public Library, 1360 Pembina Hwy., rear addition with mezzanine, 2021

The Fort Garry Municipality has a long history of Indigenous settlement. In the fur trade era, much of the land was occupied and farmed by Métis families. They hunted buffalo and worked as shippers for fur trading companies. The area was incorporated as the Rural Municipality of St. Vital in 1903. The section west of the Red River became the Rural Municipality of Fort Garry in 1912. It was a community of sparsely settled market gardeners and other agricultural operations.

The municipality became part of the unified City of Winnipeg, known as Unicity, on January 1st, 1972.

Libraries in Fort Garry began with personal collections. There was also a circulating library operated by the community club. A temporary, municipally supported library opened in 1956. This new library, built to the south of the municipal hall, opened in 1960.

The building is an excellent example of the International Style. This was popular in Winnipeg and throughout North America and Europe in the 1950s and 1960s. Notable elements of the style include:

- Hard, angular edges
- Plain surfaces
- Large areas of glass
- Square or rectangular modules

The style stressed material and proportionality over ornamentation. The use of glass and steel gave the style a lightness of appearance. Winnipeg has many examples of this style designed by local architects, some of whom gained national and international recognition for their work.

The concrete block and face brick library was designed by architect George A. Stewart (1922-1944). A University of Manitoba graduate, Stewart also designed the St. Vital Library, 6 Fermor Ave. (built 1963 – List of Historical Resources) and the West Kildonan Library, 365 Jefferson Ave. (built 1967 – List of Historical Resources).

Southeast and northeast corner additions match the design of the original building. In 2013, the front was altered. Windows were replaced and the *brise soleil* (vertical slats covering the windows) were removed.

On the interior, the original wood ceiling remains intact, as does much of the original layout. A 1966 alteration enclosed the outdoor courtyard for ‘Story Hour’ located in the southeast corner. A modest mezzanine level runs the width of the addition along the east wall.

Peguis Pavilion

2015 Main St., Kildonan Park
List of Historical Resources (July 4, 2024)



Peguis Pavilion, 2015 Main St., Kildonan Park, north and east façades and pond, 2022



Peguis Pavilion, 2015 Main St., Kildonan Park, basement with original waffle-slab ceiling, 2022

Site:

- The immediate park setting is next to a constructed pond. Its landscape is nestled around the building. Paved patio spaces adjoining the walk-out basement on the north side of pavilion with the edge of the pond
- The curvilinear geometry of the retaining walls and concrete paving around the pond
- The retaining walls extending from the building into the landscape

Exterior elements:

- The two-storey concrete structure with flat roof with its north façade overlooking the pond, its south façade facing a parking lot and its east and west façades facing the park
- Each façade with heavy concrete and/or brick walls, rectilinear window openings, bands of clerestory windows, overhanging waffle-slab roof, open decks
- The exposed sunken basement and staircases of the north façade
- The brick walls and take-out window on the south façade
- The concrete retaining wall along the east façade

Interior elements:

- The concrete waffle-slab ceiling
- The location and any original materials of the fireplaces on the main and basement levels

For history, see The Year Past, 2023

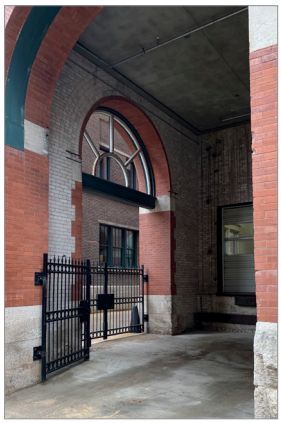
One resource was evaluated and added to the List of Historical Resources in 2024.

Customs Examining Warehouse

145 McDermot Ave.
List of Historical Resources (July 4, 2024)



Looking east on McDermot Avenue from Albert Street, ca. 1912. In the centre rear of the photograph is the newly completed Customs Examining Warehouse, 145 McDermot Ave. Winnipeg Public Library, Martin Berman Postcard Collection, number 3590.



Customs Examining Warehouse, 145 McDermot Ave., northwest corner with metal grates, 2024



Customs Examining Warehouse, 145 McDermot Ave., west and south façades, 2024

Site:

- The covered one-storey loading areas with arched entrances and steel gratings in the northwest corner and along the east end of the building

Exterior elements:

- The four-storey, rectangular red brick building with a flat roof and façades facing west onto Rorie Street, south onto McDermot Avenue, east onto a surface parking lot, and north onto a lane
- Each façade in a tripartite arrangement with a rusticated stone base, raised main storey with arched openings and stone keystones with large display windows and fanlight transoms, stone belt course dividing the main and second floors, upper three floors divided into bays by giant order pilasters with carved stone bases and heads, paired rectilinear window openings within the bays connected by stone lug sills and topped by stone keystones, and a complete entablature with heavy overhanging galvanize metal and modillioned cornice
- The flagpole atop the roof

Interior elements:

- The fireproofed steel frame, reinforced concrete floors, and iron and stone staircase

This four-storey steel-framed brick and stone warehouse was built in the early 1900s. It houses the federal government's customs collection duties. This was a major source of government income. It reinforced Winnipeg as a centre of growth and development.



Customs Examining Warehouse, 145 McDermot Ave., roof detail, 2005



Customs Examining Warehouse, 145 McDermot Ave., rear (east) and north façades, 2005



Customs Examining Warehouse, 145 McDermot Ave., sand blasting the metal to remove paint, 2000

The Customs Examining Warehouse opened in 1910. It was one of the most important warehouses in the Exchange District. Until the 1960s, it was the central receiving and examining point for goods arriving by rail from the United States. The warehouse examined spices, textiles, and machinery from Great Britain and Europe. In 1912 and 1913, duties collected on imported goods were over $11 million.

The warehouse was designed by Chief Dominion Architect David Ewart (1841-1921). Government of Canada staff also contributed to its design. Local firm J. McDiarmid Company completed construction.

Its west and south façades feature large arched openings with stone keystones and fanlights, either holding windows or doors or open to allow for covered parking (originally used for loading and unloading). The west (Rorie Street) elevation openings were filled with 'collapsible steel gates', the upper portions of which have since been removed.

A stone belt course divides the main and second floors, the keystones of the arched openings attached to the belt course by stone elements mimicking brackets. The upper three floors are divided into bays by giant order pilasters with carved stone bases and heads. The paired windows within the bays are square headed and connected by stone lug sills. Stone keystones grace all window openings that are now filled with modern window units. The roofline features a complete entablature with heavy overhanging galvanize metal, modillioned cornice. The tall flagpole still stands on the roof. This layout and ornamentation were continued on the north and east façades. The east end of the building includes a one-storey enclosed parking area (originally a loading dock) with large arched windows on its north and south elevations (the east façade is windowless).

Today, the building is in an excellent state of originality. Some arched openings in the north façade have been bricked in or converted into doorways and one bay of windows on the upper floors have been closed.

Little remains of the original interior finishes and layout beyond the original iron and stone main staircase.

After World War II, the building housed Customs Examining staff, federal government departments, and private firms. After interior renovations in 1992, the main occupants were Revenue Canada and Canadian Heritage.

One resource on the Commemorative List was evaluated and added to the List of Historical Resources in 2024.

St. Boniface Public Library, Provencher Park Branch

255 de la Cathédrale Ave.
List of Historical Resources (July 4, 2024)



St. Boniface Public Library, Provencher Park Branch
255 de la Cathédrale Ave., 2020



St. Boniface Public Library, Provencher Park Branch
255 de la Cathédrale Ave., main floor space, 2020

Exterior elements:

- One-storey, face brick structure with flat roof with main (south) façade facing de la Cathédrale Avenue, west façade facing Langevin Street, west façade facing a recreational centre, and rear (north) facing recreational facilities
- 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
- The rear (south) façade with its band of clerestory windows
- The west façade with five rectilinear window openings
- The east façade with five rectilinear openings and entrance door

Interior elements:

- Examples of the original laminate wood beams and ceilings

For history, see The Year Past, 2023

Two resources were recommended for designation in 2024 and were pending decisions by the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development.

Centennial Fountain

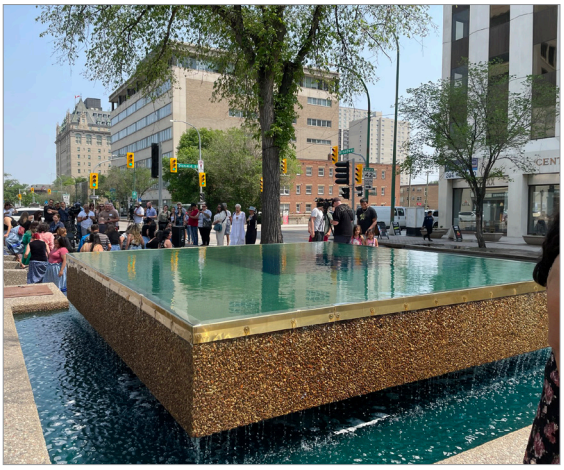
311 Broadway (at Donald Street)
Decision Pending



Centennial Fountain, 311 Broadway, 2023



Centennial Fountain, 311 Broadway, 2023



Centennial Fountain, 311 Broadway, rededication ceremony, 2023

This is one of the City of Winnipeg's rare water fountains designed in a modernist style. It has elements of the International Style. This includes its angular appearance, lack of ornamentation, and dependence on materials and colours to add interest.

The fountain was unveiled in 1970 as a celebration of the province's 100th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Shoal Lake Aqueduct.

The fountain brings water to the top table which then flows in flat, reflective curtains over the sides and down into a pool with large rocks at its bottom. The architect specifically designed these water curtains to increase the enjoyment of the drivers passing the fountain on both sides of Broadway.

The money for the construction of the fountain came from the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg, an evolutionary step in the province-mandated amalgamation of the civic governments of Winnipeg, St. Boniface, Transcona and the other municipalities surrounding Winnipeg. The other money was donated by an international property development company, Metropolitan Estate and Property Corporation Ltd., that had developed high rise office and residential blocks nearby.

The fountain was designed by local architectural firm Smith Carter Searle Associates and architect Brian Bancroft. The firm, originally founded by University of Manitoba School of Architecture graduates in 1947, rose to prominence in the 1950s and 1960s, designing many of the city's finest and award-winning modern style buildings.

In 2023, in partnership with Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, the fountain was re-interpreted to include Indigenous themes. It celebrates the band's history and the sacrifices made for Winnipeg's fresh water supply.

Midland Railway Building

200 Isabel St.
Decision Pending



Midland Railway Building, 200 Isabel St., 2021

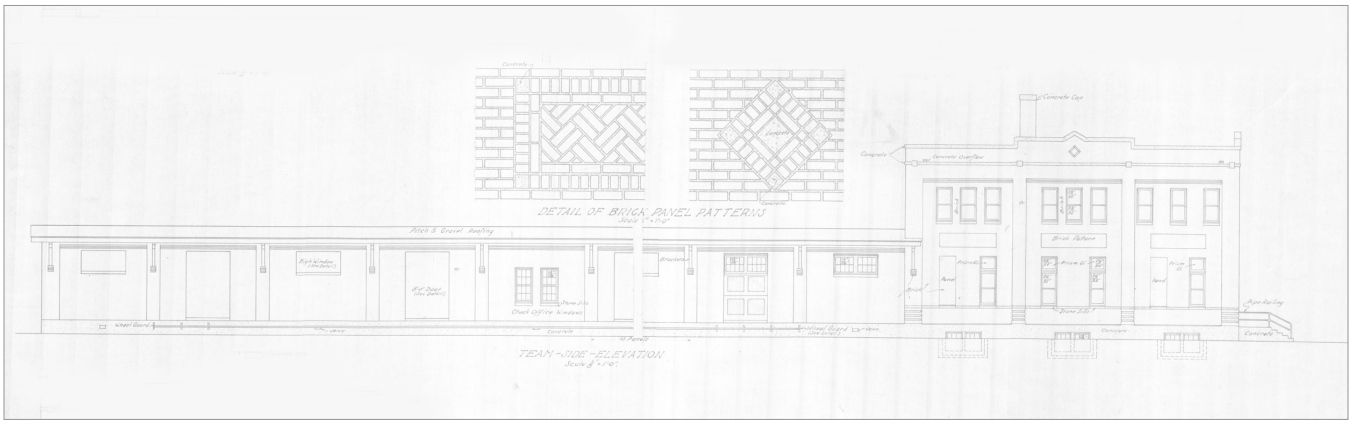


Midland Railway Building, 200 Isabel St., rear and north façades, 2021

Winnipeg's modern growth was connected to railroads. The local economy counted on the year-round transportation system for both imports and exports.

Major carriers like the Soo Line Railway (Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railway), the Northern Pacific and Manitoba Railway, and the Great Northern Railway all chartered in the U.S. in the 1880s. All would run passenger and freight into Winnipeg. They offered local customers daily overnight service to Minneapolis that ran from the early 1900s into the 1960s.

The last major U.S.-affiliated railroad to organize in Winnipeg was the Manitoba and Midland Railway Company. Its charter was announcement in 1903, with a lofty promise to built lines all over southern Manitoba. While getting a charter was relatively easy, creating the system was much more difficult. Difficult and lengthy negotiations were held with civic officials and other operating lines. By 1911, the line, called the Midland Railway (Great Northern) reached Winnipeg. In spite of promising its own 'separate terminals' in Winnipeg, it cut a deal in 1913 to use Union Station on Main Street. The company announced it was building an office/freight house on Isabel Street in August 1911. It was designed by the company architect Samuel L. Bartlett



Midland Railway Building, 200 Isabel St., "Team Side Elevation" (south), Plans number 2410/1911



Midland Railway Building, 200 Isabel St., south façade, 2021



Midland Railway Building, 200 Isabel St., interior space, 2024



Midland Railway Building, 200 Isabel St., from the east, ca. 1974

The unique facility included a two-storey section used for offices and other company uses. Ornamental brickwork and concrete are part of the architectural detailing of this portion. The elongated one-storey attached freight section measures 103.7 x 15.3 metres and designed to allow unloading of railway cars from the north side and onto waiting local transport (wagon and then trucks) from the south side. This freight section was extended another 56.4 metres shortly after initial construction. A wide overhanging roof with large wooden brackets with metal turnbuckle bracing protected the open loading dock on the building's south side. Alterations to the freight section have been extensive, while the office portion has not been significantly altered.

On the interior, the two-storey section has been converted into meeting space on the ground floor with modernized offices on the second floor.

Midland Railway operated locally until the 1970s. It was a major enterprise in Winnipeg, operating a large fruit warehouse on Ross Avenue. When the company vacated 200 Isabel St., the City of Winnipeg took over the building. It became a multi-tenant community centre known as The Freight House. Today, the centre houses offices, day care, and community spaces.

Three resources were evaluated for information only in 2024.

Redwood Bridge (Harry Lazarenko Bridge)

Redwood Avenue
For information only



Redwood Bridge, construction work on the superstructure, August 1908



Redwood Bridge, south side, 2022



Redwood Bridge, 1958. Archives of Manitoba



Redwood Bridge, swing span machinery, 2022

Built in 1908, this bridge crosses the Red River. It serves the North End (Main Street and Redwood Avenue) and Elmwood and East Kildonan (Henderson Highway). It is Winnipeg's oldest original bridge. The bridge deck was replaced in 2006.

The piers of this span were completed by Kelly Brothers, Kenora, Ontario, although because of a misunderstanding with Federal Minister of Marine, two of the four completed piers had to be removed and rebuilt in 1907. The superstructure by Dominion Bridge of Winnipeg. Total cost of construction was $139,800.

The bridge features five spans (46.075 metres, 38.268 metres, 38.268 metres, 28.958 metres, and 45.549 metres) consisting of two concrete abutments on each bank of the Red River and four concrete river piers. The second and third spans from the west are a swing-span, required by federal regulations, which rotates about the two river piers from the west to allow passage of large vessels when the swing-span was operating. The swing span was operated by people located in the overhead pilot cabin, a small, frame structure built above the bridge deck. It was demolished in 2006.

The bridge was part of the expansion of civic services undertaken by the City of Winnipeg during the expansion period of the early 20th century. Of the myriads of services supplied by the civic government, arguably none were more important than bridges. They were a permanent and modern connection that enabled development on both sides of the river and made transportation, in the expanding world of automobiles and street cars, much easier.

Assiniboine Park Footbridge

Portage Avenue (Assiniboine Park)
For information only



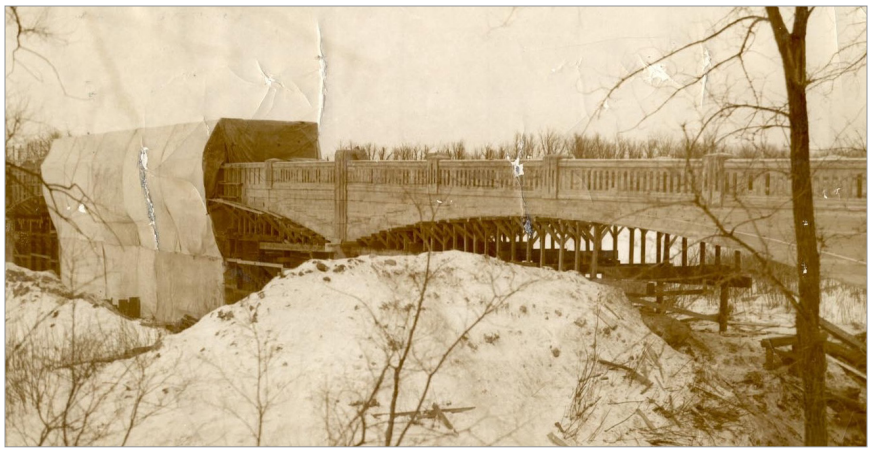
Assiniboine Park Footbridge, east side, 2021



Assiniboine Park Footbridge, ca. 1917, University of Manitoba Archives



Assiniboine Park Footbridge, 1944 showing the original lighting



Assiniboine Park Footbridge during construction, 1932

Winnipeg's Public Parks Board was created in 1893. It set out to develop public parks for Winnipeg citizens. One of the most important decisions was the 1904 purchase of a 114.53-hectare site on the south side of the Assiniboine River. Bought for $39,903, the site included:

- Homes, stables, greenhouses, and cultivated land
- The Munroe Pure Milk Company dairy farm
- An east-west highway known as the Charleswood Road
- Forested areas

The Rural Municipality of Assiniboia allowed the park property to be incorporated into City of Winnipeg limits.

The development of Assiniboine Park, originally called City Park, was based on models developed in England and Europe in the 19th century. It was popularized by the City Beautiful Movement, an early urban planning effort which had its beginning in Canada in 1893. Frederick G. Todd, a prominent landscape architect was commissioned to design the new park. Todd designed Assiniboine Park in the English Landscape Style with large open meadows, curvilinear roads and free-form bodies of water. The park officially opened on Victoria Day 1909 with a zoo with bear pits and corrals for native animals, formal gardens, and a Pavilion. It was designed by local architect J.D. Atchison, and duck pond and later a Palm House.

As one of Winnipeg's most popular parks, transportation was required and a streetcar run down Portage Avenue was soon in operation. From Portage Avenue, visitors crossed the river over a wooden footbridge. In the early 1920s, the bridge was taken down or destroyed and not immediately rebuilt. Public pressure led to the reconstruction of the span in 1925, costs shared by the Public Parks Board and the Municipality of St. James.

The City of St. James and the Parks Board signed an agreement in 1929 for St. James to transfer land on the north side of the Assiniboine River between it and Portage Avenue to create a proper entrance to Assiniboine Park and a more permanent footbridge across the river. The land, according to the agreement, had to be used in perpetuity as a park.

In the summer of 1931, the Public Parks Board requested funding to build a permanent footbridge. This was part of a federal unemployment relief project. The Assiniboine Park Footbridge opened to the public on May 21, 1932. The bridge was constructed with concrete girders, cast-in-place with a total of seven spans. Maximum span length is 26.21 metres, and the structure is 157.28 metres in total length.



Assiniboine Park Footbridge, west side, 2023



Assiniboine Park Footbridge, detail, 2023

The concrete railing features vertical grooves to mimic balusters between the raised posts which also feature ornamental vertical grooves and are rounded at both ends of the span. Ornamental lighting on tall concrete bases was placed along the bridge shortly after completion but have been replaced. This low-relief ornamentation, the geometric shapes, and smooth finish are elements of the Art Deco Style, especially popular in North America in the 1920s and 1930s.

Elm Park Bridge

Jubilee Avenue and Kingston Crescent
For information only

Elm Park consisted of 21 hectares on the east side of the Red River. The area opened to the public on August 21, 1890. A horse-drawn ferry, holding 200-250 people per trip, crossed the Red River from the west side. The Winnipeg Street Railway Company wanted to increase ridership along with River Park line. An amusement park known as River Park drew public interest. It was located on the east side of the river. Today the area is known as Kingston Crescent.

Elm Park's pavilion could hold approximately 800 visitors. It hosted corporate and institutional picnics, political rallies, seasonal camping and sporting events. Added to the park were a steam "riding gallery" (merry-go-round), a photo booth, restaurant, miniature railway, and bandstand.

A pontoon bridge was built in May 1891 because of the park's success. By 1895, the Park was one of the city's busiest, the Annual Children's Day welcomed approximately 2,000 children with free admission.



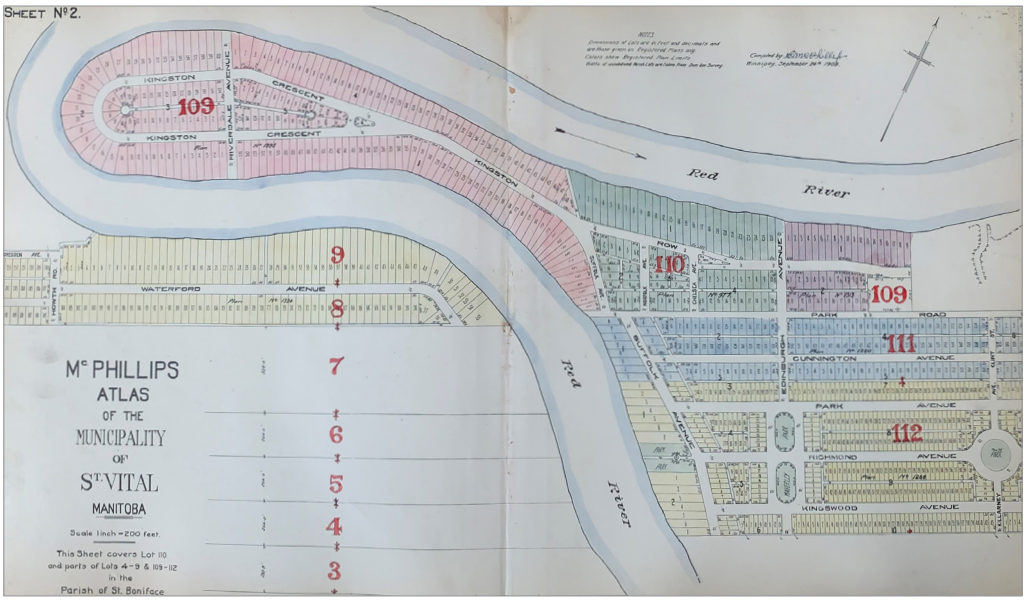
Elm Park pontoon bridge entrance, date unknown



Elm Park pontoon bridge, ca. 1901



Elm Park Bridge, east side, 2023



Kingston Crescent development, McPhillips Atlas of the Municipality of St. Vital, Manitoba, 1908

Despite this popularity, reports of its sale to developers for a residential neighbourhood surfaced in the early 1900s. After much public debate, the first announcements of the development were published in local papers in May of 1908. But sales of the lots were extremely slow, one reason was the lack of permanent connection to the area. Plans for a bridge across the Red River were announced as early as 1902. But it would be 1914 before a crossing, privately owned by the Elm Park Bridge Company, was officially opened.

The Elm Park Bridge is a four-span open steel truss swing bridge resting on concrete piers, typical construction of the time. The centre span swung at right angles to the bridge to allow large ships to pass by. It originally had a toll booth at its north end.

The main engineer on this bridge was Ernest Edmund Brydone-Jack (1871-1960). Dominion Bridge and Steel, a Montreal-based firm, was awarded the $125,000 contract for the steel and construction. The concrete piers were built by the Winnipeg-based firm Fowler and Young, which in the 1920s became known as today's Nelson River Construction Company.

Repairs to the original bridge occurred throughout its life. St. Vital City Council voted to close the Elm Park Bridge on January 3, 1966. It remained open into the spring of 1967, until a fire damaged wooden elements on the bridge's north side. This began nearly 10 years of public debate. A decision was made in 1975. City and provincial governments shared the $41,500 cost to restore the bridge. Since then, it has been used by pedestrians and cyclists.



Elm Park Bridge, west side, 2022

Three resources were placed on the Commemorative List in 2024.

Windsor Park Library

955 Cottonwood Rd.
Commemorative List



Windsor Park Library, 955 Cottonwood Rd., front and west façades, 2021



Windsor Park Library, 955 Cottonwood Rd., front counter of the former library, 2021

This 1961 International Style public library was designed by Nikola Mathew Zunic and Victor Sobkowich. It was created for the residential development of Windsor Park. Located in the heart of the community, it was next to its new fire station. Both of these 1960s facilities were demolished to make way for a modern fire station.

Fire Station No. 4

1083 Autumnwood Dr.
Commemorative List



Fire Station No. 4, 1083 Autumnwood Dr., stairs and firefighters' pole, 2021



Fire Station No. 4, 1083 Autumnwood Dr., front and south façades, 2021

The development of Windsor Park was first announced in 1955 by the Land Assembly and Development Co. (Ladco). The business planned to build 1,300 homes on a 295.4-hectare site in St. Boniface. The development was the first master-planned community in Winnipeg. It was also the largest housing development of its kind in Western Canada, and the second largest in the country during the mid 1950s. Green Blankstein Russell and Associates developed the master plan.

This fire station was built in 1969. It was designed by local architect Etienne Gaboury in the Modern Architectural style. It was demolished to make way for a modern fire station on the property.

Witch's Hut

2015 Main St., Kildonan Park
Commemorative List



Witch's Hut, Kildonan Park, part of the Hansel and Gretel terra cotta relief sculpture, 2022



Witch's Hut, 2015 Main St., Kildonan Park, 2022

Work on what would become Kildonan Park in north Winnipeg began in 1910. But it was 1914 before the real work of creating formal gardens and other landscaping began in earnest. Over the decades, the park took its place as one of the busiest parks in the city.

In 1966, the German Canadian Centennial Council of Winnipeg organized a meeting to move forward their plans to construct a gingerbread house modelled after the witch's house in the Brothers Grimm fairy tale, Hansel and Gretel. Plans had been produced, and civic officials had agreed to put the house in Kildonan Park. Designed by local architect Hans Peter Langes, the structure was built of reinforced concrete and fieldstone and officially opened in 1970.

It features an interior with elements depicting the famous fairy tale:

- A 13-step curved split log staircase to the second floor
- A field stone "chimney" running up the centre of the space
- Characters from the tale, a giant spider and "scary" furniture

The main floor features a terra cotta relief sculpture illustrating the story of Hansel and Gretel.

It has become a favourite of visiting children for many decades.

Summary of 2024 evaluations, recommendations & designations

Address	Name	Recommendation	Status	Date listed
460 Assiniboine Park Dr. (Assiniboine Park)	Boy with the Boot Statue	To add to the List of Historical Resources (2002)	Added	July 4, 2024
120 Eugenie St.	St. Boniface Library, Coronation Park Branch	To add to the List of Historical Resources (2022)	Added	July 4, 2024
1360 Pembina Hwy.	Fort Garry Public Library	To add to the List of Historical Resources (2023)	Added	July 4, 2024
2015 Main St. (Kildonan Park)	Peguis Pavilion	To add to the List of Historical Resources (2023)	Added	July 4, 2024
145 McDermot Ave.	Customs Examining Warehouse	To add to the List of Historical Resources	Added	July 4, 2024
255 de la Cathédrale Ave.	St. Boniface Public Library, Provencher Park Branch	To add to the List of Historical Resources	Added	July 4, 2024
311 Broadway	Centennial Fountain	To add to the List of Historical Resources	Pending	
200 Isabel St.	Midland Railway Building	To add to the List of Historical Resources	Pending	
Redwood Avenue	Redwood Bridge	For information		
Portage Avenue (Assiniboine Park)	Assiniboine Park Footbridge	For information		
Jubilee Avenue and Kingston Crescent	Elm Park Bridge	For information		
955 Cottonwood Rd.	Windsor Park Library	To add to the Commemorative List	Added	
1083 Autumnwood Dr.	Fire Station No. 4	To add to the Commemorative List	Added	
2015 Main St. Kildonan Park	Witch's Hut	To add to the Commemorative List	Added	

Summary of 2024 requests to de-list

None

Design review projects & updates

In 2024, the Public Service and the Historical Buildings & Resources Committee reviewed capital projects heritage resources. (see Appendix A for a list of projects).

40 St. Mary's Rd., Buena Vista Apartments



Unit 1, 40 St. Mary's Rd., stucco removed, 2024



Buena Vista Apartments, 40 St. Mary's Rd., 2009

This unusual housing development from the late 1920s boasts 16 separate, stucco-clad bungalow units, all approximately 300 cubic metres with full basements. When deterioration was discovered in units 1 and 5, work was completed to remove the rotted stucco and wood and repair or replace these materials and install new window units.

667 Main St., Alloway and Champion Bank



Main entrance, 667 Main St., Alloway and Champion Bank, 2023



667 & 669 Main St., front façades, 2018

The Alloway and Champion Bank entrance is unique. It includes storefront windows with two projecting window bays with scalloped roofs and flanking curved glass in metal frames and a prism glass transom window above. Part of the building rehabilitation includes restoring this entrance.

335 Main St., La Plas Taanshi Kaa-Ishipamachihoyaahk (Red River Metis National Heritage Centre/Centre National du Patriomoine des Métis de la Rivière-Rouge)



335 Main St., former banking hall, 2025

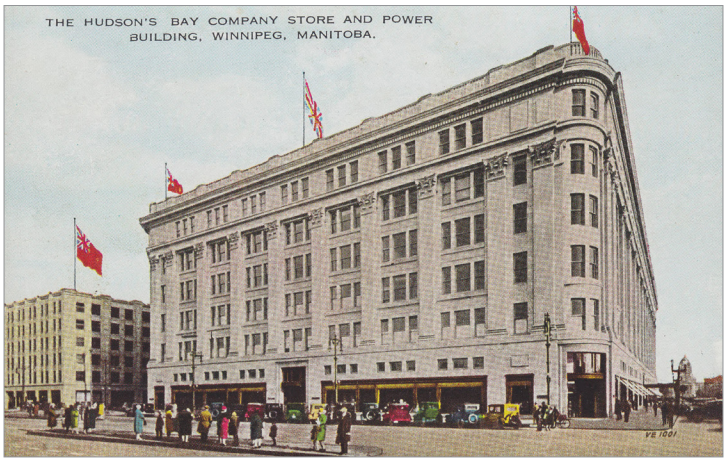


335 Main St., work continuing on the front façade, 2024

Ongoing work to transform this bank into a Métis cultural centre includes:

- Selective interior and exterior demolition
- Alterations and the retention of many of the building's character defining elements that contribute to the structure's heritage value.

450 Portage Ave., Hudson's Bay Company Building (Wehwehneh Bahgahkinahgohn, or "it is visible,")



Hudson's Bay Company Building, 450 Portage Ave., date unknown. Winnipeg Public Library, Rob McInnes Post Card Collection number 4835



450 Portage Ave., Hudson's Bay Company Building

The HBRC worked with the new owners of the building, the Southern Chiefs' Organization. They discussed the major reimagining of this iconic building. It will become a residential space and social service centre.

194 Broadway, Manitoba Club



194 Broadway, Manitoba Club, roof detail, 2024



194 Broadway, Manitoba Club, front (north) facade, 2019

Extensive exterior work includes the rehabilitation of the soffits, eaves, gutters, dormers, and decorative details and masonry repointing and cleaning.

2024 highlights

The Public Service worked on several initiatives in 2024.

Even though heritage bylaws protect Winnipeg's built heritage, we must take a wider view. This includes celebrating the city's Indigenous history. We are creating ways to honour Indigenous cultural resources.

In 2021, the Public Service started to create a list of potential heritage resources. With input from City departments, several resources were added to the Commemorative List and the List of Historical Resources. These resources include libraries, bridges, statues and a fountain. This work is ongoing.

CentrePlan 2050 is a secondary plan bylaw. It sets out direction to create a resilient and thriving downtown. The HBRC provided feedback on the bylaw.

The Public Service and the HBRC met with a company that uses a laser to remove graffiti and dirt from buildings. A demonstration ensured the laser did not affect original bricks and stone. This technology will have many uses for heritage resources throughout the city.

The Public Service and the HBRC reviewed applications to the Gail Parvin-Hammerquist Fund City-Wide Program. This grant program supports heritage research, education and restoration throughout Winnipeg.

Grants awarded in 2024 begin on the following page.

Capital Project Grants

Applicant	Property address	Project
St. Boniface Museum	494 Taché Ave.	Roof structural upgrade
Globe Property Management	40 Osborne St.	Window replacement/restoration
UWCRC 2.0 Inc.	454 Edmonton St.	Exterior Repairs
NCHT Hargrave Ltd.	379 Hargrave St.	Roof repairs
Friends of Dalnavert Museum Inc.	61 Carlton Ave.	Verandah restoration
Towers Realty	210 rue Masson	Exterior repairs & interior millwork restoration
Historic Kildonan Church & Cemetery Inc.	201 John Black Ave.	Design plans

Heritage Research & Interpretive Grants

Applicant	Project	Description
L. Stafford	GBR - A Closer Look	A for-television documentary looking at the career of one of Winnipeg's finest mid-century architectural firms, Green-Blankstein-Russell
WAF	Winnipeg Architecture History	The Winnipeg Architecture Foundation will create a series of free programming to bring exhibits, talks, and tours to communities across Winnipeg in order to reach new audiences and increase accessibility
Welcoming Winnipeg	Red River Indian Mission Panels	The production of two panels sharing the history of the Red River Indian Mission
D. Guenther	Exchange District National Historic Site Comparative Funding Study	This study will research the level and types of funding available to Winnipeg' Exchange District National Historic Site compared with heritage sites in other provinces
Heritage Winnipeg	Doors Open, 2024	The annual Doors Open event



The designated main staircase of the St. Boniface Normal School, 210 rue Masson, 2023



Committee members inspect the interior of Kildonan Church, 201 John Black Ave., 2023



Third floor joists, Grey Nun Convent (St. Boniface Museum), 494 Taché Ave., 2025



Development at Henri Benard House, 454 Edmonton St., 2024

The Heritage and Economic Development Incentive Program supports the rehabilitation of vacant or underused heritage buildings. It provides 80 percent of incremental municipal taxes for up to 10 years. Any conservation work must align with heritage permit requirements. In 2024, the following project was approved for a grant:

- 210 rue Masson, St. Boniface Normal School, conversion into multi-tenant residential space

Appendix A

2024 heritage permits

A Heritage Permit is reviewed under the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada. It may be referred to the HBRC for advice prior to approval.

In 2024, the Planning, Property & Development Department issued 34 heritage permits. The department also issued three heritage permits for Heritage Conservation Districts: one for the Crescentwood-Enderton Park Heritage Conservation District; and two for the Armstrong's Point Heritage Conservation District.

Heritage permit number	Building name	Address	Work	Date issued
1-2024	Uptown Theatre	394 Academy Rd.	Installation of wireless communication antennas on the roof and upper south wall	January 9, 2024
2-2024	House	20 East Gate	Install a unit-paved semi-circular driveway and walking paths to the front entrance stairs and north side yard	February 15, 2024
3-2024	St. John's Church	250 Cathedral Ave.	Remove and replace three windows on the east elevation due to fire damage	February 2, 2024
4-2024	C.P.R. Station/ Neeginan Centre	181 Higgins Ave.	Interior alterations to construct a new ramp within the rotunda	March 22, 2024
5-2024	Wesley Hall, University of Winnipeg	515 Portage Ave.	Interior renovation in Convocation Hall	February 16, 2024
7-2024	Roslyn Court Apartments	40 Osborne St.	Rehabilitate windows	February 27, 2024
8-2024	Alloway and Champion Bank	667 Main St.	Restoration of the storefront window system that includes two projecting window bays with scalloped roofs and flanking curved glass in metal frames and a prism glass transom window above; Restoration of the 2nd and 3rd storey windows; Structural reinforcement of the parapet; Replace rear windows; Replacement of existing roof structure and assembly; and Interconnect with building next door to aid circulation.	March 11, 2024
8-2024	Zimmerman Block	669 Main St.	Construct a new two-storey rear building addition; Replacement of existing roof assembly and structure; Window replacement of the front upper storeys and all rear windows; Replacement of existing roof structure and assembly; and Interconnect with building next door to aid circulation	March 11, 2024

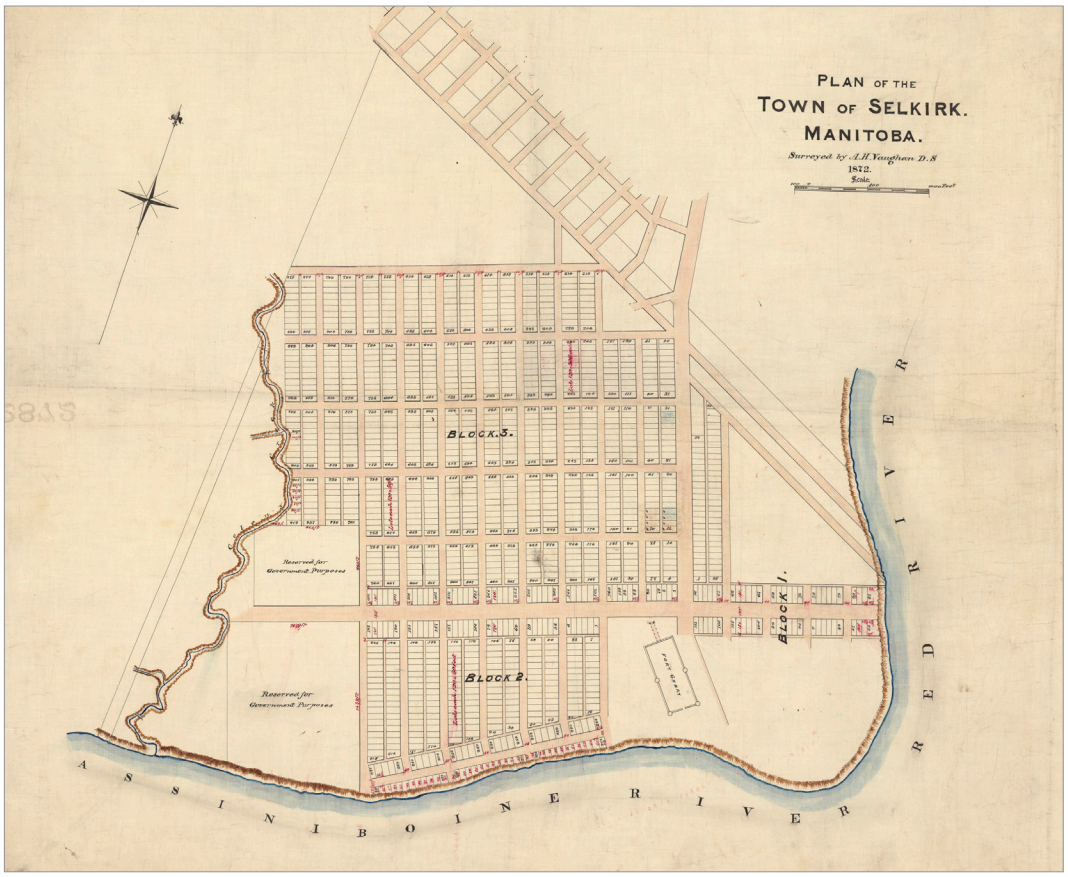
Heritage permit number	Building name	Address	Work	Date issued
9-2024	Jacob-Crawley Building/Keewayden Block	138 Portage Ave. East	Rehabilitate the vacant heritage building to support new multi-family residential uses. Work includes: Construct a 7-storey, new multi-family residential building addition to the east of and interconnected with the heritage building; Replace all windows; Convert the main entrance to a window that recalls the original arched entrance surround; and Modify to the concrete floor to accommodate the new uses.	March 25, 2024
10-2024	Manitoba Club	194 Broadway	The rehabilitation of the exterior soffits, eaves, gutters, dormers, and decorative details; and Masonry repointing and cleaning	May 21, 2024
11-2024	Walter P. Moss / Max Kantor and Mireille Granpierre-Kantor House	218 Roslyn Rd.	Foundation underpinning from the interior	March 20, 2024
12-2024	Ukrainian Cultural Centre	184 Alexander Ave.	Interventions to the exterior walls to accommodate the installation of new mechanical equipment	May 10, 2024
13-2024	Phoenix Block	388 Donald St.	Erect sign	April 15, 2024
14a-2024	Bank of Montreal	335 Main St.	Selective demolition of interior walls, doors, ceilings, flooring and millwork on all levels; Existing escalator to concourse level to be removed; and New opening for access door in east wall to be created	May 22, 2024
14b-2024	Bank of Montreal	335 Main St.	Interior and exterior altera-tions	January 8, 2024
15-2024	Royal Bank of Canada Building	460 Main St.	Reconstruct missing elements of the exterior brass doors	April 26, 2024
16-2024	Sparling Sales Ltd. Carruthers Building	120 King St. 124 King St.	Masonry restoration	September 17, 2024
17-2024	Crane-Ordway Building	93 Lombard Ave.	Remove a portion of a brick masonry wall to create an opening beneath an existing segmented brick arch	May 31, 2024
18-2024	Ross House Museum	140 Meade St. North	Replace existing roofing materials on both buildings with cedar shingles; Replace cladding materials that are beyond repair on the dormers in kind to match existing and paint faces	May 15, 2024

Heritage permit number	Building name	Address	Work	Date issued
19-2024	Assiniboia Municipal Hall	3180 Portage Ave.	Replace existing roofing materials with asphalt shingles; Replace the asphalt shingle cladding materials on the gable ends with cedar shingles, painted to match the existing trim	May 15, 2024
20-2024	CPR Post Office Building	765 Main St.	Along the south exterior wall, install a new window, infill wall, and mechanical equipment within a former loading dock area	December 13, 2024
21-2024	Warwick Apartments	366 Qu'Appelle Ave.	Maintain 5 non-conforming PVC windows installed post fire; Structural repairs to remediate damage due to a fire	June 14, 2024
23-2024	Osborne River Building	100 Osborne St.	Signage	June 20, 2024
24-2024	C.P.R. Station/ Neeginan Centre	181 Higgins Ave.	Replacement of approximately 310 windows and three (3) hollow metal doors; Removal of existing fire escapes; Mechanical and electrical upgrades	October 22, 2024
25-2024	St. Boniface Museum	494 Taché Ave.	Install new exterior doors at north-east entrance; Reconfigure 2 main floor washrooms into one UTR; Install a new UTR on the second floor	September 5, 2024
26-2024	Corbett Block	611 Main St.	Maintain a recently installed exterior door and surround	July 17, 2024
27-2024	Leckie Building	216 McDermot Ave.	Signage	August 1, 2024
28-2024	Buena Vista Apartments	40 St. Mary's Rd.	Units 1 & 5: Replace rotted wood sheathing as required; Replace stucco finish and decorative detailing; Replace parapet walls in kind to the originals; Replace roofing and install pre-finished metal parapet cap flashing; Repair as necessary and paint wood trim Unit 5: Replace window with previously purchased PVC window	July 12, 2024
29-2024	Macdonald House	61 Carlton St.	Wood repairs to the verandah	July 15, 2024
31-2024	Osborne River Building	100 Osborne St.	Signage	August 21, 2024

Heritage permit number	Building name	Address	Work	Date issued
34-2024	Wehwehneh Bahgahkinahgohn/ Former Hudson's Bay Company Store	450 Portage Ave.	Demolition work to accommodate a new future central atrium within the central portion of the building, including: On the main floor, the demolition of the curved elevator lobby and escalators; from levels 2 to the roof, the demolition of the roof including the concrete slab and timber higher roof, concrete floor slabs on levels, columns, curved elevator lobby walls, and escalators; The construction of temporary insulated and weatherproofed walls and roofing around the perimeter of the new opening; The removal of two windows, one on the south wall and one on the west wall, to assist with planning for future window rehabilitation work	October 25, 2024
35-2024	St. Mary's Cathedral	353 St. Mary Ave.	Along the west elevation, towards the north of the building: Reconstruction of three storm windows and sills to match existing	November 14, 2024
37-2024	St. Boniface Museum	494 Taché Ave.	Structural reinforcement of roof; Demolition of 3rd floor partition walls and removal of mechanical equipment in the mezzanine to accommodate work	November 26, 2024
38-2024	Massey Building	294 William Ave.	Demolish and reconstruct a portion of the roof above the elevator shaft to accommodate new elevator structure and equipment	January 22, 2025

2024 heritage permits for Heritage Conservation Districts

Heritage permit number	Building name	Address	Work	Date issued
22-2024	House (Armstrong's Point Heritage Conservation District)	166 West Gate	Along the front façade, modify an existing window opening to accommodate a new door	June 27, 2024
30-2024	House (Crescentwood-Enderton Park Heritage Conservation District)	60 Harvard Ave.	Construct a 2-storey, 644 sq. ft. addition to the west side of the heritage building; Remove and replace one tree and a portion of a hedge to accommodate the construction	December 20, 2024
36-2024	House (Armstrong's Point Heritage Conservation District)	50 Middle Gate	Construct detached garage	November 15, 2024



Although the 1872 map on the cover is titled "Plan of the Town of Selkirk" it's actually the original survey of the "Hudson's Bay Reserve". This is the land around the company's fur trading post Upper Fort Garry, located at the south end of what is now Main Street. The wide roadway at the bottom (south) of the plan is Broadway and the meandering waterway that the left-hand side (west) is Colony Creek.

In 2024, we updated the heritage conservation section of the City's website. The updated website address is at the bottom of this page. The website features:

- Search function for architect, building, and street address
- Information on the Historical Buildings & Resources Committee
- Incentive programs
- Publications, including back issues of *The Year Past*
- List of heritage resources
- Individual building histories

Winnipeg

Planning & Land Use Division
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Updated: July 2026

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this publication. If there is a discrepancy between this document and the related City of Winnipeg By-law, refer to the bylaw.