

88 ARTHUR STREET – ANNE (BLUE RIBBON) BUILDING
James H. Cadham, 1901



Unusual in that this warehouse stretches across an entire Exchange District block and originally boasted two identical main façades fronting the two streets, the Anne (Blue Ribbon) Block was completed in 1901. It was designed by Ontario-born architect James H. Cadham, one of the City's most prolific late 19th and early 20th century practitioners who was responsible for many warehouses in Winnipeg's downtown.

The Arthur and King street façades were originally symmetrical designs, with raised, rusticated stone bases, a large, arched centrally-located entrances with three bays of recessed, paired and arched window openings with radiating brick heads and heavy stone lug sills. The top floors were highlighted by arches with delicate brick drip moulding and overhanging cornices. Several alterations to the east façade have been completed, including the partial filling of the original entrance in 1946 and a window opening being converted into the door at the south end of the façade

in 1948. A metal fire escape is now located on the upper floors of the middle bay. Similar alterations have occurred to the building's west façade. The south wall of this warehouse faces a back lane and includes large loading doors and the north wall abuts the neighbouring building.

The interior of the building, like so many other warehouses in the district, originally featured upper floors for storage and office/public space on the ground floor. The building now functions as Pan Am Place, a hostel-like residential/training complex for at-risk men.

The building was constructed for the Blue Ribbon Manufacturing Company, a division of G.F. & J. Galt Company, cousins and wholesale grocers whose company at one time had branches from Toronto, ON to Vancouver, B.C. The Blue Ribbon Company packaged and distributed teas (both loose and packaged), coffees, spices and baking supplies. Other occupants of the building included the Great West Electric Company and O. Mondell Importers Limited.

Elements of the building that would require approval if alterations were planned are:

Exterior:

- Four-storey brick and stone warehouse with raised rusticated stone basement with its primary façade facing east onto Arthur street
- Symmetrical main (east) façade with square headed basement and arched ground floor windows in opening and central opening (original entrance), recessed and arched upper floor windows in openings with stone lug sills topped by brick drip moulding and brick corbelling at the flat roofline
- Unadorned south façade with arched door and windows in openings
- Original windows

Interior:

- Heavy timber mill structural system
- Original elevator grate
- Cast iron posts on the fourth floor