66 CHANCELLORS CIRCLE

ADMISTRATION BUILDING –

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA (MANITOBA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE)

City of Winnipeg
Historical Buildings & Resources Committee
Researcher: M. Peterson
January 2018
This building embodies the following heritage values as described in the *Historical Resources By-law, 55/2014* (consolidated update July 13, 2016):

(a) It is one of the original structures completed and opened in the fall of 1913 on the new Manitoba Agricultural College site in what would become the Fort Garry Campus of the University of Manitoba;

(b) It is associated with the dramatic growth of higher education in Winnipeg, Manitoba and Western Canada, first in the agricultural sector and then in all aspects of education;

(c) It is an excellent example of the Neo-Classical or Classical Revival style as applied to a large public building and is part of the large body of work completed by the Provincial Architect’s Office under the leadership of Samuel Hooper and Victor W. Horwood;

(d) Built of red pressed brick with stone accenting, the 1911-1913 Administrative Building is an excellent example of the type of educational building developed and built during this period;

(e) It is a highly conspicuous building within its campus setting; and

(f) Much of the building’s exterior has suffered little alteration.
By 1900, Manitoba was in the midst of an unprecedented settlement and development boom based on a rapidly expanding agricultural economy. To further encourage productivity and diversification, government officials recognized the need to support agricultural research and education.

Beyond individual farmers sharing their experience, agricultural societies organized to increase the success of local members through sharing of information and crops (Plate 1). By the mid- to late-1800s, this was supplemented by government directed agricultural colleges and institutes, first in the United States and then, in 1880, in Ontario. This was augmented by the establishment of five experimental farms across the country in 1887-1888 in Ottawa, ON; Nappan, NS; Brandon, MB (Plate 2); Indian Head, NWT; and Agassiz, BC. Among their key functions was the study and testing of crops and livestock housing, management and nutrition.

In 1894, the Manitoba Department of Agriculture began a dairy school and in 1901 a provincial commission into agricultural education advised the provincial government to organize a college. In 1903-1904, the Manitoba Agricultural College was established to provide a broad range of courses in crop and livestock production, farm management and, eventually, home economics. Two undeveloped river lots (47 hectares) were selected for this purpose south of the Assiniboine River and west of Winnipeg in an area later incorporated as the Town of Tuxedo.

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2 “Agricultural Research Stations,” in Canadian Encyclopedia, online edition (http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/agricultural-research-stations/), Historica Canada, no date. The first three Canadian experimental farmers were all connected with the Selkirk Settlers: an 1821 dairy farm; an equipment demonstration farm in 1831; and a sheep production farm in 1838. All were “abandoned shortly after their establishment.”
When the College officially opened in November 1906, it was the first of its type in the West and only the third such institution in Canada (Plate 3). Full-time and short-course enrolment from across the Prairies grew quickly – from 85 students in 1906 to over 200 by 1909 – resulting in the need for additional teachers, departments and land for expansion (Plate 4). The Tuxedo site filled quickly with a range of buildings: a dormitory (Roblin Hall), Dairy & Science, Engineering & Mechanics and Horticulture (Plate 5).

But shortly after the institution opened its doors west of the City, there were calls to move to a larger site with more room for experimental plots than could be laid out on the approximately 50-hectare Tuxedo site. The search for a new site by the Provincial Government of Sir Rodmond Roblin continued for many months, culminating in front page coverage in one of the local daily papers in September 1910 accusing the government of “secretly” purchasing 243 hectares of land south of the city in the St. Vital Municipality:

Incidentally the cause of the profound secrecy in connection with the matter was discovered when it was learned that a swarm of real estate brokers have been working night and day recently to secure options on adjoining property for clients on the inside.

The government purchased the property for $175,000 ($720/hectare) and six months later, the government had planned the initial construction and put much of it to tender. The original opening for the estimated $1-million campus was slated for the fall of 1912 but was delayed a year because of labour shortages. The campus, which became part of the Rural Municipality of Fort Garry when it incorporated in April 1912, boasted a fine collection of buildings (Plates 6 and 7) still used today:

- Home Economics Building (Horticulture and Biology Building, now Faculty of Human Ecology), 35 Chancellors Circle
- Tache Hall, 150 Dafoe Road

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4 *Manitoba Free Press*, September 15, 1910, p. 1. The fact that Tuxedo was growing as a popular residential district also limited the ability for the College to expand its holdings in the area.

5 Loc. cit. The official announcement did result in dozens of newspaper advertisements selling new residential lots “near the new Agricultural College” only days later.

Agricultural Engineering Building, 75B Chancellors Circle  
Barn (Art School Barn), 21 Service Street 3S  
President’s House (Chancellor’s Hall, now National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation), 177 Dysart Road  
Earth Sciences Building (Fitzgerald Building, School of Art), 55 Chancellors Circle  
Dairy Building (Dairy Science), 110 Dafoe Road  
Stock Judging Building (Agriculture Lecture Block, now SIMTRec [Structural Innovation and Monitoring Technologies Resource Centre] Canada Building), 96 Dafoe Road

Central to the new campus was its Administration Building, reported to be the closest to completion in the spring of 1913 (Plate 8) and officially opened October 29, 1913.7

STYLE

This building stands as one of Western Canada’s finest examples of the Neo-Classical or Classical Revival style that rose to popularity in the early 1900s as a reaction to the picturesqueness of the designs of the late 19th century. Common elements include columns, pediments, capitals and other Greek- and Roman-based detailing. Designs were usually symmetrical, surfaces were smooth and rooflines were often flat. Door and window openings were square headed rather than arched.8 Much of the design work coming out of the Provincial Architects Office in the pre-World War I period utilized this style, therefore, examples of it are found throughout the province for land titles buildings, courthouses and other provincial facilities.

Examples in Winnipeg are numerous and include the Thomas Scott Memorial Orange Lodge, 216 Princess Street (completed in 1903), Imperial Bank of Commerce, 441 Main Street (1906), the Bank of Nova Scotia, 254 Portage Avenue (1910) and the Bank of Montreal, 335 Main Street (1913). Government buildings also used the style extensively: Provincial Land Titles Building, 433

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7 Manitoba Free Press, October 29, 1913, p. 11.  
Broadway (1903-1904), Law Courts Building, 411 Broadway (1912-1916), the Legislative Building, 450 Broadway (1913-1920) and Powerhouse, 219 Memorial Boulevard (1914).

CONSTRUCTION
According to local reports, the College’s Administration Building, as well as the other buildings, was built of light red pressed brick with Manitoba limestone accenting. Resting on a raised foundation, the estimated cost of construction was $229,000.9

DESIGN
The building was designed with two identical main façades (east and west – Plates 9 and 10). They are symmetrically designed with red brick cladding and limestone accenting throughout. The projecting central sections hold the magnificent pedimented stone porticos with unfluted stone columns with plain bases and composite capitals and attached square unfluted columns with composite capitals at the façades (Plate 11). “THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA” is carved in the west side frieze and “AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE” on the east. Both pediments are filled with carved stone vines.

Window openings in the porticos are a varied – arched, rectilinear and circular – with pointed and Swans neck pediments and a shield with date gracing the arched entrance openings (Plate 12). Above is the brick and stone octagonal cupola finished with a variety of stone accents including round finials, scrolled bracketing and balustrades and a metal cornice (Plate 13).

The side wings are divided into bays by attached brick columns with stone bases and capitals and are also found on the central section (Plate 14). In each bay are rectilinear window openings set in wide stone frames. The low-pitched roofs of these sections are highlighted with a complete entablature.

9 Manitoba Free Press, March 17, 1911, p. 10.
The end façades (north and south) are also identically designed, continuing the architectural language of the main façades – brick and stone pilasters, projecting stone entrances, rectilinear window openings with stone surrounds and complete entablatures (Plates 15 and 16).

The most obvious alteration to the exterior of the building is the replacement of all of the original window units. The original red tile roofing has also been replaced.

**INTERIOR**
According to the construction updates given in the local press, the Administration Building included a grey marble rotunda, dark woodwork, hardwood floors and arched openings. A large lecture theatre was located in one of the wings, with classrooms and offices filling the remainder of the original interior.¹⁰

Today, renovations and alterations have occurred in many of the spaces. However, there are still examples of the original dark wood trim and accenting on all floors (Plates 17 and 18), the marble clad entrances are intact (Plate 19), and the building’s most architectural feature, the cross-plan staircase with stained glass dome remains in excellent condition (Plates 20-23).

**INTEGRITY**
The building stands on its original site and appears to be in good structural condition. Window replacement throughout has affected the appearance of the exterior, although most of the remainder of the exterior’s design, architectural features and materials are unaltered.

¹⁰ Manitoba Free Press, March 17, 1913, p. 28.
STREETSCAPE
The Administration Building has, since the initial planning of the Fort Garry Campus, held a central and conspicuous place. It was designed to be visually prominent (Plate 6) and its visual presence continues to be protected despite considerable construction and expansion around it.

ARCHITECT/CONTRACTORS
Built between 1911 and 1913, the Administration Building was designed and its construction overseen by the Manitoba government’s Provincial Architect’s Office, headed by Samuel Hooper (1851-1911) until his death and then headed by Victor W. Horwood (1878-1939) – see Appendix II and III for biographical information on these architects. Both men have received 20 points from the Historical Buildings and Resources Committee.

Carter-Halls-Aldinger Company, one of Western Canada’s premier construction companies, was responsible for all of the 1911-1913 work (see Appendix IV for biographical information).11

PERSON/INSTITUTION
The University of Manitoba was created on February 28, 1877, Western Canada’s first university. It was a federated institution comprised of autonomous denominational colleges – St. Boniface College, incorporated in 1871; St. John’s College, founded in 1866; and Manitoba College, created in 1871.12 Under the new arrangement, each of the colleges would pay for both the secular and theological education of its students; the University was responsible for testing and conferring degrees.13

Over the next three decades, other educational institutions affiliated with the University: the Manitoba Medical College in 1882; Wesley College, which became the University of Winnipeg in

11 Manitoba Free Press, July 13, 1912, p. 11.
13 Ibid., pp. 28-30.
1967, in 1888; the Manitoba College of Pharmacy in 1902; and the Manitoba Agricultural College in 1907.

In 1900, the University moved to become a teaching university, completing a three-storey science building on Broadway (Plate 24) and by 1904 included a Faculty of Science with six professors: A.H.R. Buller, botany and geology; Frank Allen, physics and mineralogy; M.A. Parker, chemistry; R.R. Cochrane, mathematics; Swale Vincent, physiology; and Gordon Bell, bacteriology.

Later in the decade, the University wrestled with a decision on expanding its curriculum to include liberal arts education, until then the purview of the associated institutions. The question of curriculum was hotly debated from 1907 until 1909 when chairs in English, History and Political Economy were created and a new structure, the “Arts Building” was completed immediately north of the Science Building (Plate 25).

The University’s location was another ongoing debate as the institution expanded; a report in October 1910 to the Manitoba University Council recommended it purchase and relocated to the Tuxedo site, in the process of being abandoned by the Agricultural College. This recommendation was not acted upon and the University’s enrolment and curriculum continued to grow, through World War I and after. The University’s “downtown campus” reflected this growth, other buildings were utilized including: the south wing of the old Court House Building (used for Arts, Law, Engineering and Administration); the former Parliament Building, Kennedy Street, used for Political Economy, Architecture and Philosophy; the Deaf and Dumb Institute, Portage Avenue between Sherbrook and Maryland Streets; Fort Osborne Barracks buildings (vacated when the military unit moved to the old Tuxedo Agricultural College site); and even rented houses on Vaughan Street where “lectures were given in all the rooms from parlour to

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15 R.A. Johnson, op. cit.
16 Manitoba Free Press, October 7, 1919, pp. 1 & 18.
kitchen.” An “Emergency Building” was constructed in 1919-1920 (and later added to) to house the overflow.

By 1920, the University of Manitoba had grown to Canada’s fifth largest, with the faculties of Arts, Science, Law, Medicine, Engineering, Architecture, Pharmacy and Agriculture, 1,654 male students, 359 female students and 184 academic staff, including 6 women.18

In 1923, the Provincial Government of John Bracken organized the Murray Educational Commission to study the government’s funding of higher education. The final report, tabled early in 1924, recommended the amalgamation of the two entities, the Agricultural College and the University, at the Fort Garry site.19 The province moved quickly on the recommendations, introducing a bill to amalgamate the institutions as the University of Manitoba in February.20 It was passed into law on March 3, 1924.21

But this was not the end of the Broadway site, which was not officially abandoned until the 1950s.22 Over the next 20 years, the University continued to lead a “double life” with courses and students attending facilities at both campuses, including temporary classrooms or “huts” built in Fort Garry. In the early 1930s, however, the University of Manitoba sought to build more modern and spacious accommodations in Fort Garry. In 1932, the Tier Building (Arts) –

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18 Canada Year Book 1921 (Ottawa, ON: Dominion Bureau of Statistics, 1922).
19 Manitoba Free Press, January 3, 1924, p. 7, January 17, 1924, p. 4 and January 26, 1924, p. 10. The Commission estimated an annual savings of $200,000 by amalgamating the two entities.
20 Manitoba Free Press, February 9, 1924, p. 3; and University of Manitoba website, http://umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/uhistory/chronol.html, 2013. The Act allowed the Agricultural College to retain its name but the “government, management and control of the college, together with property, revenue, business and affairs are vested in the board of governors of the University of Manitoba.” In actual fact, the College became the Faculty of Agriculture and Home Economics.
22 R.A. Johnson, op. cit. In October 1950, the Board of Governors of the University approved the vacating of the Broadway campus in favour of the Fort Garry site. The last remaining buildings on the Broadway site, the original Science Building and the Emergency Buildings, were demolished in 1962 to allow for the twinning of Memorial Boulevard from St. Mary Avenue to Broadway and the creation of Memorial Park.
Plate 26 – and the Buller Building (Science) were completed, housing the Senior Divisions of the two faculties (the Junior Divisions remained on the Broadway campus).23

The University of Manitoba has continued to thrive at its Fort Garry Campus location (Plate 27), the Administrative Building, like the other original Agricultural College structures of the pre-War era, continue to serve the modern institution.

EVENT
There is no known important historical event connected with this building.

CONTEXT
The Administration Building was originally the central building of the Manitoba government’s new Agricultural College built south of the city just prior to World War I. The building has been witness to many changes including the College’s amalgamation with the University of Manitoba and the extensive growth of its building stock, curriculum and student body. Through all these changes, the Administration Building continues to be one of the most important buildings on campus.

LANDMARK
The Administration Building is visually one of the most conspicuous structures at the University of Manitoba, Fort Garry campus.

23 Ibid.
APPENDIX I

CITY OF WINNIPEG - Preliminary Report

Building Address: 66 Chancellors Circle  Building Name: University of Manitoba Administration Building

Original Use: offices  Current Use: offices

Roll No. (Old): 03091643600 (---)  RSN: 194521

Municipality: ---  Ward: ---  Property or Occupancy Code: ---

Legal Description: Part River Lot 122/124 St. Norbert, Plan 3762; Part River Lot 1/4 St. Vital; 4/7 St. Vital, Plan 22535, Lots 5/6 and Plan 21133, Lots 119/121

Location: middle of Chancellors Circle

Date of Construction: 1911-1913  Storeys: 4 & B  Heritage Status: NOMINATED LIST

Construction Type: brick and stone


Information:

ARCHITECT – HOOPER, SAMUEL & HORWOOD, VICTOR WILLIAM

CONTRACTOR – CARTER, HALLS, ALDINGER CO.
APPENDIX II

Samuel Hooper

One of Manitoba's most prolific and well-known architects, Samuel Hooper, was born in Hatherleigh, County Devon, England, in 1851. After attending school, he became an apprentice architect for his uncle. In 1869 the Hooper family immigrated to Canada, settling in London, Ontario. After nine years, the entire family returned to their native England but the 27-year-old Samuel came back to Canada the next year, choosing Emerson, Manitoba, as his new home. The lure of opportunities in the big city prompted his move in 1881 to Winnipeg.

Together with Winnipegger David Ede he set up the Hooper Marble and Granite Company a successful statue and monument manufacturer. Hooper remained as president of the company for many years (Ede left in 1883), while his son, John S. Hooper, managed the business. Works designed and carved by the firm included the decorative Tyndall stone ornaments on the Merchants’ Bank (1903), since demolished; a bust of Queen Victoria for the 1898 Jubilee Fountain in Assiniboine Park; and a commemorative monument of the Hon. John Norquay in St. John's Cemetery. Probably the most famous work was a monument to the fallen soldiers of the 1885 Riel Rebellion. This piece was originally placed in front of City Hall but later moved.¹

In 1893, Hooper became an architect in the public works department of the provincial government. Together with this employment and the presidency of the granite company, he began a private architectural practice in ca.1905 with Albert Lee Houkes (Hooper and Houkes). This partnership dissolved shortly after and Samuel then formed his most successful partnership – that of Hooper and Walker (Charles H.). Hooper’s final partnership was with his son, Samuel Lawrence Hooper (Hooper and Hooper). S.L. Hooper was born in Winnipeg in 1888. After his father’s death, Samuel L. became president of the granite company and formed the architectural firm of Hooper and Davis (William T.).² He died during the influenza epidemic in January 1919.³

¹ Manitoba Free Press, October 20, 1911; and Winnipeg Tribune, June 10, 1967.
² Henderson's Directory.
³ Manitoba Free Press, January 9, 1919, pp. 5 and 12.
In 1904 the provincial government created the office of provincial architect to oversee the design of numerous public buildings being planned in the province. Samuel Hooper was appointed to this position and held it until his death of bronchitis and asthma in England in 1911.

A list of work completed by Hooper and his various partnerships includes:

**Samuel Hooper**-

- St. Mary’s Roman Catholic Cathedral, new front façade, 353 St. Mary Avenue (1896)
- Grain Exchange Building II, 156 Princess Street (1898) – Grade II
- Isbister School, 310 Vaughan Street (1898) – Grade II
- Provincial Deaf and Dumb Institute, Portage Avenue (1900) – demolished
- Western Building (Schmidt Foundry), 90 Albert Street (1901) – Grade III
- Provincial Gaol, 444 York Avenue (1901)
- M. McMannus House, Edmonton Street (1902)
- Icelandic Lutheran Church, Sargent Avenue (1902)
- Thomas Scott Memorial Orange Hall, 216 Princess Street (1902)
- St. Mary’s Academy, 550 Wellington Crescent (1902)
- Holman Meat Company Abattoir, Logan Avenue (1903) – demolished
- St. Mary’s Roman Catholic School, St. Mary Avenue (1902-1903) – demolished
- Carnegie Library, 380 William Avenue (1903-1905) – Grade II
- Knox Presbyterian Church, Selkirk, MB (1904)
- Avoca Apartments, 329 Sargent Avenue (1905) – demolished

**Hooper and Walker**-

- Winnipeg General Hospital, Bannatyne Avenue, veranda addition (1905)
- R.C. McDonald House, 26 Amherst (now Avonherst) Street (1905)
- Marshall-Wells Warehouse, 136 Market Avenue (1905-1906) – Grade III
- Icelandic Good Templars Lodge, 635 McGee Street (1906)
- St. Joseph’s Orphanage, Portage Avenue (1906) – demolished
- Sherwin-Williams Warehouse, Catharine Avenue (1906)
- Central Police Station, Rupert Avenue (1906) – demolished
- St. Jude’s Church, Wellington Avenue (1906) – demolished

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Hooper and Walker (continued)-

Adelaide Block, 107 Osborne Street (1906)
Black Warehouse addition, 80 Lombard Avenue (1907)
Carnegie Library addition, 380 William Avenue (1908) – Grade II
Hon. Robert Rogers House, 197 Roslyn Road (1908) – demolished

Provincial Architect's Department-

Provincial Land Titles Building, 433 Broadway (1903-1904)
Neepawa Land Titles Office, 329 Hamilton Street, Neepawa, MB (1905)
Manitoba Agricultural College (1905-1907), 139 Tuxedo Avenue
Provincial Normal School, 442 William Avenue (1906) – Grade II
Provincial Telephone Building (Freed Building), 474 Hargrave Street (1907-1909)
Brandon Court House, 1104 Princess Avenue, Brandon, MB (1908-1911)
Minnedosa Court House, Minnedosa, MB (1909)
St. John’s Telephone Exchange, 405 Burrows Avenue (1910)
Provincial Law Courts Building (with V.W. Horwood), 411 Broadway (1911-1916)
University of Manitoba, Administration Building (1911-1913)
University of Manitoba, Taché Hall Men’s Residence (1911-1913)

Hooper and Hooper-

McClary Building, 185 Bannatyne Avenue, addition (1909) – Grade III
St. Vital Municipal Hall, St. Mary’s Road (1911) – demolished
Assiniboia Municipal Hall, 3180 Portage Avenue (1911)
Cycel Court Apartments, 195 Furby Street (1911)
Stores, 837-847½ Main Street (1911)
Winnipeg Garage Company Garage, 253 Edmonton Street (1912)
Panama Court Apartments, 785 Dorchester Avenue (1912)
Pasadena Apartments, 220 Hugo Street North (1912) – Grade III
Canada Paint Company Warehouse, Sutherland Ave., southwest corner May Street (1912)
Carman Apartments, 423 Burrows Avenue (1913)

Hooper and Davis-

Midtown Building, 267 Edmonton Street (1912) – demolished
Garrick Hotel addition, 287 Garry Street (1913)
H. Hirsch House, Manitoba Avenue (1913)
Rivera Court, 161 Cathedral Avenue (1914)
Maple Leaf Apartments, 915 Corydon Avenue (1914)
St. George’s Hall Building, 1575 Alexander Avenue (1914)
Stores, 161-169 Lilac Street (1914)
Public Press Building addition, 275 Sherbrook Street (1914)
Empress Hotel, Winnipeg Beach
APPENDIX III

Victor William Horwood

V.W. Horwood was born in Frome, Somersethshire, England on February 27, 1878 and came to Canada in 1884, settling with his family in Prescott, Ontario. Horwood’s father, a stained glass artist, is credited for having installed the decorative glass in the House of Commons Building in Ottawa. Victor Horwood studied art in New York City, after which he worked in Ottawa in a local architectural firm. In 1904, he came to Winnipeg and set up his private practice.

A partial list of his private contracts includes:

- St. Boniface City Hall, 219 Provencher Boulevard, 1905 (Grade II)
- St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church, Notre Dame Avenue, 1906 (demolished)
- Chaffey and Verhoeven Building, 289 Garry Street, 1906
- Moxam Court, 280 River Avenue, 1907
- Rev. C. Mackinnon House, 114 Balmoral Street, 1907
- Waldron Court Apartments, 544 Broadway, 1909 (demolished 1979)
- Ryan Brothers Building, 110 James Avenue, 1910
- C.D. Stovel House, 6 Ruskin Row, 1910
- Macmillan Court Apartments, 421 Kennedy Street, 1910
- Haselmere Apartments, 559 Ellice Avenue,
- Collegiate Institute, Virden, Manitoba

His designing of the St. Boniface City Hall caused much controversy, as the finished product was considerably different from the original design and the project was marred by a number of cost overruns – the original $40,000 total increased to $60,000 by its completion in April of 1906.2

In 1911, he was appointed assistant to the provincial architect, Samuel Hooper, and assumed the head position upon Hooper’s death only a few months later.3 As the province’s chief architect, Horwood controlled the office during one of its most productive periods and oversaw the construction of some of Manitoba’s most spectacular buildings including: Brandon’s Normal

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3 F.H. Schofield, op. cit., p. 664; and Manitoba Free Press, November 1, 1911, p. 5.
School; Stonewall’s Town Hall; Agricultural College, Tuxedo (Winnipeg); and Winnipeg’s Law Courts.4

As with the St. Boniface City Hall, Horwood became embroiled in controversy over his role in the Legislative Building scandal. It was Horwood’s suggested changes to the structure’s foundation in 1913 that allowed contractors to embezzled from the government. Subsequent Royal Commission hearings and court proceedings determined that Horwood had not only known about the illegal activities, but had perjured himself as part of an early cover-up attempt.5 Horwood, however, bargained with the courts and was not charged in return for testimony that placed the blame on Premier Rodmond Roblin and three of his cabinet ministers. After the affair, Horwood was dismissed as provincial architect.6

Horwood would return to private life, in later years he authored and illustrated many books about life in Manitoba. He died at his home in Matlock, Manitoba on March 15, 1939.7

4 Various Public Buildings (Winnipeg: Manitoba Department of Public Works, 1912).
6 “219 Boulevard Provencher,” p. 3.
Carter-Halls-Aldinger Company

The principals of the Carter-Halls-Aldinger Company (CHA) were William Henry Carter (1874-1962), a contractor; Frank Ernest Halls (1872-1950), a fire-proofing expert; and Albert Henry Aldinger (ca.1876-1942), a civil engineer. ¹ CHA had its origins with the arrival in Winnipeg in 1903 of Carter, who was representing the William Grace Company, a Chicago contracting firm that was building the Bank of British North America, 436 Main Street. Carter worked for Grace until February 1907 when he joined with Halls and Aldinger to found the new firm. By 1915, CHA was well-known throughout Western Canada with such Winnipeg buildings to its credit as the McArthur (later Childs) Building, 211 Portage Avenue (1909 – demolished); Confederation Life Association Building, 457 Main Street (1912 – Grade II); the Winnipeg Electric Railway Building, 213 Notre Dame Avenue (1912-1913 – Grade II); the Manitoba Free Press Building, 300 Carlton Street (1913 – Grade II); the Olympia (later Marlborough) Hotel, 331 Smith Street (1913 – Grade II); and the Minto Armouries, 969 St. Matthews Avenue (1914). The firm also had contracts in Moose Jaw and Saskatoon, SA, Calgary and Edmonton, AB and Prince George, BC.

Their clients included the Dominion Government, as well as the Canadian Pacific, the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Northern railways. They also worked on the new Hudson’s Bay Company stores in Calgary (1912), Vancouver (1913), and Winnipeg (1926), the Banff Springs Hotel, Alberta and later the Winnipeg Civic Auditorium (1933). The firm specialized in bridges, subways, railway works, steel frame and other fireproof construction, as well as heavy masonry foundations and caisson work as found in the new Hudson’s Bay Company store at Winnipeg. CHA was placed in voluntary liquidation in 1944, and was reorganized as two firms, Commonwealth Construction Company Limited and the Carter Construction Company of Toronto. This latter firm relocated to Winnipeg in 1950, being managed by W.H. Carter after his

¹ R.R. Rostecki, “450 Portage Avenue – Hudson’s Bay Company Store,” report for the City of Winnipeg Historical Buildings Committee, October 2002; Historical Buildings and Resources Committee files; and M. Peterson, personal files.

Major Winnipeg projects:

Security Storage Building, 583 Ellice Avenue (1909)
Campbell House, 140 Roslyn Road (1909)
Childs (McArthur) Building, 211 Portage Avenue (1909) – demolished
Casa Loma Building, 644 Portage Avenue (1909)
Oldfield, Kirby Gardner Building (North West Trust), 234 Portage Avenue (1909) – Grade II
Grand Garden Restaurant, 224 King Street (1910) – demolished
Hudson’s Bay Co. Mail Order Building, 111 Fort Street (1910) – demolished
Sterling Bank Building, 283 Portage Avenue (1911)
Richards and Brown Warehouse, 132 James Avenue (1911)
Manitoba Agricultural College (St. Vital), 139 Tuxedo Avenue (1911) – portions designated

University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College), 1911-1913:
- Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle
- Home Economics Building (Horticulture and Biology Building, now Faculty of Human Ecology), 35 Chancellors Circle
- Tache Hall, 150 Dafoe Road
- Agricultural Engineering Building, 75B Chancellors Circle
- Barn (Art School Barn), 21 Service Street 3S
- President’s House (Chancellor’s Hall, now National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation), 177 Dysart Road
- Earth Sciences Building (Fitzgerald Building, School of Art), 55 Chancellors Circle
- Dairy Building (Dairy Science), 110 Dafoe Road
- Stock Judging Building (Agriculture Lecture Block, now SIMTReC [Structural Innovation and Monitoring Technologies Resource Centre] Canada Building), 96 Dafoe Road
- De Laval Co. Warehouse, 128 James Avenue (1912) – List of Historical Resources
- Strand (Beacon) Theatre, 559 Main Street (1912) – demolished
- Confederation Life Building, 457 Main Street (1912) – Grade II
- Osborne Theatre, 108 Osborne Street (1912)
- Western Glove Building (Finnie and Murray Block), 321 McDermot Avenue (1912) – Grade III
- Turner-Walker Block, 425 Henry Avenue (1912) – Grade III
- Winnipeg Electric Railway Co. Building, 213 Notre Dame Avenue (1912-1913) – Grade II
- Quebec Bank Building (Montreal Trust Building), 216 Portage Avenue (1913) – demolished
- St. Charles Hotel, 235 Notre Dame Avenue (1913) – Grade III
- Marlborough (Olympia) Hotel, 331 Smith Street (1913) – Grade II
- YMCA, 301 Vaughan Street (1913) – Grade II
- Free Press Building, 300 Carlton Street (1913) – Grade II
- Minto Armouries, 969 St. Matthews Avenue (1914)
Carter-Halls-Aldinger Company contracts (continued):

Ford Motor Company Plant, 1181 Portage Avenue (1915)
Paris Building, 259 Portage Avenue (1915) – Grade II
Eaton’s Mail Order Building (Eaton [City] Place), 333 St. Mary Avenue (1916)
Union Bank Building (Musker Engineering Institute), 1515 Main Street (1919) – demolished
Santa Furs (former Merchants’ Bank), 842 Corydon Avenue (1919)
Marshall-Wells Co. Warehouse, 490 Des Meurons Street (1919)
Portage Village Inn (Clarendon Hotel), 311 Portage Avenue (1920) – demolished
Grain Exchange Annex, 153 Lombard Avenue (1920) – demolished
Manitoba School for the Deaf, 500 Shaftsbury Boulevard (1921)
Nurses' Residence, 1 Morley Avenue (1921) – demolished
Union Bank Annex, 500 Main Street (1921) – Grade II
Albert Street Burger, 58 Albert Street (1921)
Winnipeg Film Exchange Building, 361 Hargrave Street (1922) – Grade III
Hudson’s Bay Company Store, 450 Portage Avenue (1926)
Johnston Terminal Building (National Cartage Bldg.), 25 Forks Market Road (1928) – Grade III
Power Building, 428 Portage Avenue (1928)
Northern Electric Building, 65 Rorie Street (1928) – Grade III
SS Kresge Store, 368 Portage Avenue (1929)
Greater Winnipeg Gas Building (CGE Building), 265 Notre Dame Avenue (1930) – Grade III
Winnipeg Civic Auditorium, 200 Vaughan Street (1933)
Federal Building, 269 Main Street (1936)
Cinema Centre Building, 281 Colony Street (1937)
Mall Hotel, 465 Portage Avenue (1938)
Plate 1 – The St. Vital Agricultural Society, formed in 1909 and still active today, proudly displaying its member’s produce at the Winnipeg Amphitheatre, 1915. (Archives of Manitoba, Foote Collection No. 516.)
Plate 2 – Brandon Experimental Farm, ca.1905. (Archives of Manitoba, “Brandon Collection-Experimental Farm-6, N3869.)
Plate 3 – Manitoba Agricultural College, Tuxedo site, ca.1912, looking from south of Piper (Tuxedo) Avenue. Buildings pictured are: #1 – Roblin Hall; #2 – Administration Building; #3 – Dairy Science Building; #4 – Power House; #5 – Principal’s Residence; #6 – Gates. (Archives of Manitoba, Foote Collection #1328, N2251.)
Plate 4 – Manitoba Agricultural College students, ca.1912. (Archives of Manitoba, Foote Collection #22, N1622.)
Plate 5 – Map of the Manitoba Agricultural College, Tuxedo site, no date. (Reproduced from D. Butterfield, “Fort Osborne Barracks, Formerly Manitoba Agricultural College,” report for the Manitoba Department of Culture, Heritage and Recreation, Historic Resources Branch, 1988, Plate 1.)
Plate 6 – A view of the Manitoba Agricultural College, Fort Garry campus, ca.1919. (Photography by C.I. Meyers, Gordon Goldsborough Collection, 2014-0294.)
Plate 7 – Manitoba Agricultural College, Fort Garry Campus, looking west, ca.1925. (Gordon Goldsborough, M. F. F. Burgess Collection, Manitoba Historical Society.)
Plate 8 – Administration Building (with Principal’s Residence in the background), Manitoba Agricultural College, ca.1919. (C. I. Meyers Photograph, Gordon Goldsborough Collection, 2013-0176.)
Plate 9 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, east façade, 2018. (M. Peterson, 2018.)
Plate 10 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, west façade, 2018. (M. Peterson, 2018.)
Plate 11 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, detail of entrance portico, west side, 2018. (M. Peterson, 2018.)
Plate 12 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, detail of entrance portico, west side, 2018. (M. Peterson, 2018.)
Plate 13 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, cupola, 2017. (M. Peterson, 2017.)
Plate 14 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, detail of south end of west façade, 2018. (M. Peterson, 2018.)
Plate 15 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, south façade, 2018. (M. Peterson, 2018.)
Plate 16 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, north façade, 2018. (M. Peterson, 2018.)
Plate 17 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, doorway with wood trim and multi-paned arched transom, 2017. (M. Peterson, 2017.)
Plate 18 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, third floor hallway, 2017. (M. Peterson, 2017.)
Plate 19 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, marble clad entrance, 2017. (M. Peterson, 2017.)
Plate 20 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, staircase, 2017. (M. Peterson, 2017.)
Plate 21 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, staircase, 2017. (M. Peterson, 2017.)
Plate 22 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, stained glass dome, 2017. (M. Peterson, 2017.)
Plate 23 – University of Manitoba (Manitoba Agricultural College) Administration Building, 66 Chancellors Circle, stained glass dome from cupola, 2017. (M. Peterson, 2017.)
Plate 24 – University of Manitoba, Science Building (built 1900-1901), Broadway near the present-day Law Courts Building and Provincial Land Title Building, 1910. (Reproduced from Manitoba Pageant, Autumn 1977, Vol. 23, No. 1.)
Plate 25 – Looking south from the Hudson’s Bay Store, Portage Avenue, ca.1932. University of Manitoba buildings pictured are: #1- Science Building (built in 1900); and #2- Arts Building (built 1909). (Reproduced from R.A. Johnson, “The Broadway Site of the University of Manitoba: Origins and Demise” in Manitoba History, Number 51, February 2006.)
Plate 26 – Tier Building, University of Manitoba Fort Garry Campus, 1935. (M. Peterson Collection.)
Plate 27 – Aerial view of the University of Manitoba’s Fort Garry campus, ca.1942. (Gord Goldsborough Collection, 2014-0006.)