448 HARGRAVE STREET

CLARK BROTHERS WAREHOUSE

City of Winnipeg
Historical Buildings & Resources Committee
Researcher: M. Peterson
October 2015
The first printing operation in what is now the Province of Manitoba dates to 1841 at a mission near Norway House where Methodist minister James Evans’s makeshift equipment produced 100 copies of his 16-page Cree translation of hymns.\textsuperscript{1} Eighteen years passed before the area’s first newspaper, The Nor’Wester, began publishing in the Red River Settlement. Beginning in the mid-1880s, the increase in economic activity and population combined to heighten the demand for all types of printed materials – newspapers, pamphlets, advertisements, magazines, business cards and directories – and this material soon found its way beyond the local market to national and international audiences.

The printing and stationary business grew rapidly in the early 20\textsuperscript{th} century, mirroring the economic growth seen throughout Western Canada. In Winnipeg, companies like Stovel’s, Bulman Brothers, Willson Stationery, W. D. Davis Stationery and Love, McAlister and Company, as well as businesses dealing in printers’ supplies like Miller and Richard Type Foundry Company, Toronto Type Foundry Company and several wholesale paper suppliers, began to occupy rented space in the downtown. Most of these companies would see rapid growth in sales, necessitating the construction of their own sales room/warehouse/printing factories.

This was the case for Clark Brothers and Company, a paper-distributing firm founded in the late 1890s which expanded, incorporated and outgrew its rented premises in the heart of the warehouse district (Plate 1). In 1912, the company took out a permit and began construction of large warehouse on the north edge of the warehouse district (Plate 2) and occupied the new building in the spring of 1913, which was originally known as 48-50 Charlotte Street.

\textsuperscript{1} D.C. McMurtrie, \textit{The First Printing in Manitoba} (Chicago, IL: Eyncourt Press, 1931), p. 8.
**STYLE**

The Clark Brothers Warehouse is a good example of the Romanesque Revival style, very popular in warehouse and commercial districts throughout North America from the 1880s well into the 20th century. The buildings were nearly always built of brick with a raised basement and utilized rusticated stone for accenting around windows and doors and at roof level. Other elements include towers flanking the main façade, quoins, belt courses, corbelled brick panels, chevrons and flat rooflines, with or without cornices and entablatures. The most obvious feature of these structures was the use of the arch above windows and doors. Often, straight-topped windows located on the middle storeys were grouped under large arches on the upper floors.² Although the style was applied to private residences and on large public buildings, in Winnipeg it was almost exclusively used in the warehouse district, where the designs were somewhat more subdued. The massiveness and sturdiness of the style appealed to wholesalers and retailers looking to promote their businesses and portray the stability of their firms through the design of the structures they occupied.

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³ *City of Winnipeg Building Permit* (below as BP), #3654/1912.

⁴ *City of Winnipeg Assessment Record*, Roll No. 600625-12-2 (PC 50). Below as AR.

⁵ BP #5098/1952 and Architect’s plans, #5098/1952.
DESIGN
As designed, the front (east) façade was divided into three bays by brick pilasters (Plate 3). The ground floor was filled with a centrally placed display window and a large opening to the interior loading dock (south) and main entrance (north). All three openings are square headed; however, evidence on the building suggests that these were actually built as they now appear – arched with stone keystone for the outer openings and rectilinear for the display window (Plate 4).

The upper floors of the main façade feature banks of large windows in rectilinear openings finished, on the top storey, by stylized brickwork on the outer two bays (Plate 5) which is slightly different than the 1912 plans. The brick cornice includes corbelled bands and raised sections atop the pilasters.

The north façade is partially hidden by the neighbouring buildings, the visible upper storeys were windowless (there is now one window on the top floor) and the reinforced concrete frame is unclad (Plate 6). The south façade originally a small number of irregularly spaced windows in rectilinear openings in the front section of the building (Plate 7) and a regular grid of openings in the rear section (Plate 8). The rear (west) elevation appears to have been windowless.

Changes to this building’s exterior have been extensive. The 1952-era loading dock (Plate 9) was removed in favour of an elevator and staircase/balcony system after 2006 (Plate 10). Window units, originally multi-paned (Plate 11), have been replaced throughout the building and new openings added to the south and west façades (Plate 10). The upper floors in the southeast corner have been opened and converted into balconies (Plate 12).

INTERIOR
As originally planned, the building’s basement held the fuel room and boiler and open storage space, the ground floor held an interior loading bay with two raised doors and a rear shipping room – the remainder of the floor was open except for the staircase in the northeast corner (Plate 13). The
second floor held the general office in the front and open storage behind, the upper three floors left open for storage (Plate 14).

Over the past decade, the building has been converted into a multi-tenant mixed use facility. The basement and first two floors are designed for commercial tenants (Plates 15 and 16), the third and fourth floors for residential suites/offices and the fifth floor is an occupied residential suite (Plate 17). Much of the space is open, with the original concrete columns and corrugated concrete ceilings exposed.

**INTEGRITY**
The building stands on its original site and appears to be in good structural condition for its age. Recent alterations to the building have affected all elevations.

**STREETSCAPE**
Five storeys high and featuring unusual detailing, this warehouse is one of the more uniquely designed in Winnipeg and is located just north and west of the Exchange District National Historic Site boundary – a transitional area between the large warehouses to the east and the blocks of single-family dwellings to the west. It has been a contributor to its streetscape for over 100 years (Plate 18).

**ARCHITECT/CONTRACTORS**
John Woodman (1860-1944) and Raymond M.-E. Carey (1883-1975), a successful local architectural partnership, designed this structure. The pair worked together from 1911-1916 and were responsible for several large projects (see Appendix II for biographical information). The partnership has been given 20 points by the Historical Buildings and Resources Committee.
Contractors for the building were the local firm, John Gunn and Sons. John Gunn (1850-1936) was born in Scotland, arriving in Canada in 1870. He and his family came to Manitoba in 1878 and settled in Stonewall where he soon developed and managed a local quarry (1888) as well as similar ventures in Stony Mountain, Tyndal, and Gunton (Plate 19). By 1900, he had founded a construction firm, John Gunn and Sons that included, at various times, at least five of his six sons: William (1875-1921), long-time quarry manager; John A. (1878-?), bookkeeper, 1903; Robert R. (1880-1943), long-time employee and vice president in the 1930s; Ewart S. (1881-?), 1906; James B. (1884-1945), bookkeeper in 1906; and Cecil H. Gunn (1894-1941), president and general manager, 1930s and early 1940s. The company it grew to be a major builder and construction material supplier in Western Canada, with contracts from Northwestern Ontario to British Columbia (Plate 20). John Gunn moved to Winnipeg in 1917, retired from active participation in the firm in 1920 and died in 1936. The company continued to operate until the 1960s, although the Gunn family appears to have sold it in the early 1950s. The firm’s list of structures includes the Winnipeg Hydro plant at Pointe du Bois, Manitoba (1909-1926), Winnipeg Beach Breakwater (1911), Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street (1912), Winnipeg Free Press Building, 300 Carlton Street (stonework) – 1913, Amy Street Steam Plant, 21 Amy Street (1923-1924 – demolished), Calvary Evangelical Church, 590 Alverstone Street (1925), T. Eaton Company Track Warehouse, 130 Galt Street (1926) and the Royal Court Apartments, 277 River Avenue (1928), the 1931 post-fire reconstruction of the Avenue Block, 265 Portage Avenue, Lombard Service Station and Garage, Portage & Main (1934) and the Lions’ House, Assiniboine Park (1939).

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8 Manitoba Free Press, April 13, 1929, p. 10.
10 City of Winnipeg Building Permit Ledger Books, 1899-1926; Historical Buildings and Resources Committee and author’s files; Manitoba Free Press, various dates.
Douglas Alexander Clark, president of Clark Brothers and Company, wholesale paper dealers, was the original owner of this building. Clark was born in Montreal in 1872, graduating from McGill University before coming west to Winnipeg, ca.1894. With a background in the paper business, he joined the firm of Love, McAllister & Company, wholesale stationers and paper dealers. He bought the company in 1898, changed its name to Clark Brothers & Company (to include his brother John H.A. Clark), and incorporated in 1904 (Plate 21).11

At the time of his death in 1954, Clark Brothers had four western branches and D.A. Clark was also the president of National Cartage and Storage Limited, the director of Chipman Chemicals and a life governor of the Winnipeg General Hospital.12 After D.A. Clark’s death, the company was sold out of the family and ultimately became part of Crown Zellerbach Paper Company Limited, a national firm which operated locally out of a building a 1320 Ellice Avenue.13

In late 1936, the warehouse was also home to the newly formed Western Engraving Bureau Limited, printers and engravers.

The building was sold in the 1950s to the Hargrave Investments Limited, care of Moser Manufacturing Company Limited, which occupied space in the building.14 Moser Manufacturing (Israel Moser, president), manufactured auto fabrics and remained in the building into the 1970s. Other occupants of space in the warehouse included Prolith (Western) Incorporated (graphic arts), Display Photo-Graphic (1974) Limited (advertising, fashion, industrial and commercial photography), Pratt and Lambert Incorporated (paint manufacturers) and Great Western Graphics (1980s).15

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12 Winnipeg Free Press, December 6, 1954, p. 1
13 Winnipeg Free Press, various dates; and Henderson’s Directory.
In the early 2000s, part of the building was used as a photography studio and school for Prairie View School of Photography. Beginning in 2005, the building was converted into residential condominiums under the name Hargrave Lofts Condominiums.

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

CONTEXT
This warehouse was built in the middle of Winnipeg’s early 20th century growth phase that lasted until World War I. With over $16 million in building permits issued in 1912, the Clark Brothers Warehouse was one of hundreds of fine new buildings completed during the construction season, which by then, lasted the entire year. Its location underlined the growth of the downtown warehouse district, which continued to expand west through this period.

LANDMARK
This warehouse, given its scale, is conspicuous in the area.
APPENDIX I

CITY OF WINNIPEG - Preliminary Report

Building Address: 448 Hargrave Street  
Building Name: Clark Brothers Warehouse

Original Use: warehouse  
Current Use: residential

Roll No. (Old): 600625/610/611 (9715)  
R.S.N.: 151953

Municipality: 12  
Ward: 2  
Property or Occupancy Code: 50

Legal Description: 5 St. John, Plan 17702, Lot 1 (old- 5 St. John, Plan 13, Lots 45/46 & 51/52)

Location: west side between Notre Dame and McDermot avenues

Date of Construction: 1912  
Storeys: 5 and basement

Construction Type: reinforced concrete and brick

- 3654/1912 [CS] $55,000 (original); 6102/1948 [CS] (interior alterations); 5098/1952 [CS] (loading dock addition); 4745/1971 $5,000 (interior alteration); 4410/1983 [CS] $10,000 (interior alterations); 227714/2002 $990 (interior alteration to main floor); 138306/2005 $400,000 (convert to residential); 110061/2006 $400,000 (additional work for conversion); 132987/2009 N/A (additional permit for conversion); 165783/2012 $50,000 (garage addition to south side); 110977/2013 $25,000 (additional permit for garage)

Information:
- 37½ x 98 x 71½ = 327,787 cu. ft.
- Hargrave was originally Charlotte St. (building originally #48-50)
- columns with mushroom capitals, 18-22” concrete basement walls, 13-22” brick walls above
- front – cut stone to 2½’, menomini brick above, brick cornice
- Permit 227714/2002 – photography studio & school
- Permit 138306/2005 - 1 suite in basement/main floor, 1 on 5th and 2 each on 3rd and 4th, elevator/balcony addition on south side

ARCHITECT: WOODMAN & CAREY

CONTRACTOR: JOHN GUNN & SONS

--- HARGRAVE STREET ---
APPENDIX II

John Woodman and Raymond Carey

The Winnipeg architectural partnership of Woodman and Carey had a successful, albeit short career, designing numerous buildings of every size, description and use.

John Woodman was born in Oshawa, Canada West (Ontario) in 1860, moved to Winnipeg in the employ of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) in 1880, and by 1897 had risen to the post of chief engineer, western division, a position he held until March 1903. In the late 1880s, he also worked for the Northern Pacific and Manitoba Railway as an engineer and superintendent of construction.1

In 1901, he retired from the railway to establish a private practice. He was a pioneer in the new technique of reinforced concrete construction, new in the sense that it was not popular in Winnipeg, although it was being used extensively elsewhere in North America.2 He formed a partnership with Raymond Carey in 1911 and over the next five years they designed many structures in the city.3 In 1917 Woodman entered a new partnership with A.E. Cubbidge. From 1904-1920, he was also one of the Hudson Bay Company's principal architects.4

He, along with fellow architect J.H.G. Russell, submitted technical reports to the 1915 Commission investigating the scandal surrounding the construction of the Manitoba Legislative Building. He retired from active practice in 1927 and died in Winnipeg in 1944.5

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1 Manitoba Free Press, March 19, 1903, p. 16 and April 10, 1903, p. 10.
4 City of Winnipeg Building Permit Ledger Books (below as Ledger Books), 1910-1917.
5 Hudson's Bay Company Archives, “Architectural Drawings in the Hudson's Bay Company Archives.”
6 Winnipeg Tribune, May 18, 1944.
Raymond Marwood-Elton Carey was born at Guernsey, Channel Islands in 1883, growing up in the Bath region, noted for its excellent examples of Georgian style architecture. Carey moved to Detroit, MI in the early 1900s and designed a number of fine mansions utilizing this Georgian style. He moved to Winnipeg in 1911 and partnered with John Woodman. After this partnership, Carey worked alone in 1917 and 1918 and from 1919 to the early 1920s, he formed a partnership with George Northwood.

In 1923, Carey returned to Detroit and was once again designing large, Georgian style mansions. He remained in that City until after World War II when he returned to England and set up practice on the Isle of Man. He died there in 1975.

An incomplete list of structures designed by one or both these men includes:

J. Woodman:
- Northern Pacific and Manitoba Railway Engine House, The Forks, 1889
- Winnipeg Electric Street Railway Complex (various buildings), Main Street at Assiniboine Avenue (1900-1904)- demolished
- T. Eaton Company Store, 320 Portage Avenue, 1904- demolished
- Allen or Wilson Building, 288 McDermot Avenue, 1905- Grade III
- Grace Hospital (Salvation Army), 200 Arlington Street- demolished
- Layton House, 101 Stradbrook Place, 1905
- G.F.R. Harris House, 117 Stradbrook Place, 1905
- McLean’s Block, 592½ Main Street, 1905
- Somerset Building, 294 Portage Avenue, 1906


“An Englishman in Grosse Pointe.”

Compiled from Ledger Books, 1899-1926; J. Wade, op. cit.; Winnipeg Tribune, May 18, 1944; and Western Canada Contractor and Builder, July 1920, October 1922, September 1923 and May 1927.
J. Woodman designs (continued):
- Breadalbane (Ambassador) Apartments, 379 Hargrave Street, 1909- Grade III
- Manitoba Cold Storage Building (2 additional storeys), 151 Higgins Avenue, 1910- demolished
- T. Eaton’s Company Printing Plant and Track Warehouse, 130 Galt Avenue, 1926-1927 (Woodman)
- Graham Apartments, 399 Graham Avenue, 1929 (Woodman) 13
- Vaughan Apartments, 219 Vaughan Street, 1929 (Woodman) 14

Woodman and Carey:
- Sidney E. Lang House, 967 Grosvenor Avenue, ca.1911
- Hudson's Bay Company Wholesale Building, 77 Main Street, 1911
- Hudson’s Bay Company Garage, 115 Garry Street, 1911
- Lorne Cameron House, 265 Dromore Avenue, 1912
- G.H. Miller House, 638 McMillan Avenue, 1912
- Lindsay Building, 228 Notre Dame Avenue, 1911 and 3-storey addition in 1912- Grade II
- C.P.R. Station (addition), 181 Higgins Avenue, 1911 – demolished
- Winnipeg Free Press Building, 300 Carlton Street, 1911-1913 – Grade II
- Goldin and Company (Blackwood's Ltd.) Building, 415 Mulvey Avenue East, 1912- demolished
- J.B. Carter (Blackwood's Ltd.) Building, 421 Mulvey Ave. East, 1912- demolished
- Clark Brothers Warehouse, 50 Charlotte Street, 1912- demolished
- Union Stock Yards, Administration Building and Powerhouse, 780 Marion Street, 1912-1913- demolished
- Smart Woods Company Warehouse, 145 Pacific Avenue, 1913- Grade II
- Dominion Express Company Stable, Alexander Avenue, 1913
- Rodgers (Heubach) house, 64 Nassau Street, 1913- Grade III- demolished
- St. Luke’s Anglican Church School House, Stradbrook Avenue, 1914
- Paris Building, 257 Portage Avenue, 1915-1917- Grade II
- Stovel Printing Company Building, 365 Bannatyne Avenue, 1916- Grade III

R.M.-E. Carey:
- Union Bank, 409 Selkirk Avenue, 1917
- Walter Moss House, 218 Roslyn Road (major renovations), 1917
- C.C. Heubach House, 43 Roslyn Road, 1917
- Paris Building, 259 Portage Avenue (six-storey addition), 1917
- Children’s Hospital Nurses’ Home, 131 Aberdeen Avenue, 1918 15
- J.H. McDonald House, Tuxedo Park (1926)
- G. Harold Aikens House, Balmoral Avenue (ca. 1939) – demolished

13 Manitoba Free Press, April 21, 1928, p. 19.
14 Architect’s Plans, #251/1929.
Northwood and Carey: 16
- Dominion Bank, 650 Portage Avenue (alteration), 1919 – demolished
- J.K.L. Ross garage, Lombard Avenue (southeast corner of Rorie Street), 1919 - demolished
- Winnipeg Paint and Glass Company Warehouse, Notre Dame Ave. E, 1919 (alterations)
- Hudson’s Bay Company Building, 208 Main Street, 1919 (alterations) - demolished
- B.M. Armstrong House, 212 Kingsway, 1920
- Union Tower Annex, 500 Main Street, 1921 – Grade II
- Toronto General Trust Building, 363 Main Street (alterations), 1922
- Dominion Bank, 1126 Main Street (alterations), 1922 – demolished
- R.A. Rodgers House, 64 Nassau Street (alterations), 1922 – demolished

16 Compiled from Ledger Books, 1918-1926.
Plate 1 – Gault Brothers Company Warehouse, 92-100 Arthur Street, with Clark Brothers and Company offices and warehouse entrance in the northwest corner, ca.1906. (Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, N1552.)
Plate 2 – Picture of the construction of the new warehouse for the Clark Brothers Company, Charlotte Street (now Hargrave Street), 1913. (Reproduced from the Manitoba Free Press, January 4, 1913, p. 11.)
Plate 3 – Architect’s plan #3654/1912, “Front Elevation,” Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, 2015. (City of Winnipeg.)
Plate 4 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, detail of front (east) façade, 2015. (M. Peterson, 2015.)
Plate 5 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, front (east) façade, 2015. (M. Peterson, 2015.)
Plate 6 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, rear (west) and north façades, 2015. (M. Peterson, 2015.)
Plate 7 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, front (east) and south façades, 1998. (M. Peterson, 1998.)
Plate 8 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, rear (west) and south façades, 2006. (M. Peterson, 2006.)
Plate 9 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, south façade with 1952 loading area (arrow), 2006. (M. Peterson, 2006.)
Plate 10 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, rear (west) and south façades, 2015. (M. Peterson, 2015.)
Plate 11 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, front (east) and south façades, 1978. (City of Winnipeg.)
Plate 12 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, southeast corner balconies, 2015. (M. Peterson, 2015.)
Plate 13 – Architect’s plan #3654/1912, “Plan of First or Main Floor,” Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, 2015. (City of Winnipeg.)
Plate 14 – Architect’s plan #3654/1912, “Plan of 3rd-4-5th Floor,” Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, 2015. (City of Winnipeg.)
Plate 15 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, ground floor, 2016. (M. Peterson, 2016.)

Plate 16 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, second floor, 2016. (M. Peterson, 2016.)
Plate 17 – Clark Brothers Warehouse, 448 Hargrave Street, fifth floor, 2016. (M. Peterson, 2016.)
Plate 18 – Hargrave Street looking south from McDermot Avenue, 2015. (M. Peterson, 2015.)
Plate 19 – Advertisement for stone supplied by John Gunn and Sons. (Reproduced from Manitoba Free Press, August 3, 1903, p. 2.)

Plate 20 – Advertisement for John Gunn & Sons Limited, Engineers and Contractors. (Reproduced from Manitoba Free Press, April 27, 1929, p. 13.)
Plate 21 - Advertisement for Clark Brothers, 1927. (Reproduced from Henderson’s Directory, 1927, p. 62.)