271 PORTAGE AVENUE

HAMPLE BUILDING

City of Winnipeg
Historical Buildings Committee

August 2005
271 PORTAGE AVENUE – HAMPLE BUILDING

Mere rumours of a downtown T. Eaton Company store in Winnipeg at the turn of the century were enough to send shock waves through the local real estate market and retail sector. Quietly, the retail leader began to assemble land. Finding the property along Main Street, then the centre of the commercial sector, too expensive, the retailer chose Portage Avenue as the logical alternative. The thoroughfare was only sparsely developed between Main Street and the massive Wesley College (University of Winnipeg) to the west. Land prices along the avenue soared in advance of the formal sod-turning ceremony for the massive department store that took place on July 15, 1904.

Also in 1904, the Dominion government announced plans to build a new Post Office at the corner of Portage Avenue and Garry Street, replacing the 1886 building located on the northeast corner of Main Street and McDermot Avenue. Many citizens and businessmen saw this as an abandonment of the traditional retail section of the city along Main Street. The editorial comment in the *Winnipeg Morning Telegram* no doubt echoed the sentiments of many when it labelled the decision “a political land deal and without doubt cut and dried long ago.” Merchants and wholesalers, who were concentrated on both sides of Main Street north of Portage Avenue, objected to the inconvenience of the building’s location – so far removed from Main Street and their shops and warehouses.

In 1906, as part of the new development on Portage Avenue (see Appendix I, Table One for a list of Portage Avenue construction, 1900-1906), a new three-storey mixed retail/office structure was completed on the north side of the thoroughfare, named the Hample Building.

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STYLE

The Hample Building is one of several modestly adorned commercial structures built along Portage Avenue prior to World War I. Even with the severe alterations to its main (south) façade at grade, it remains as an excellent example of a two-part commercial block with classical detailing, one of the most familiar and versatile building types on the urban landscape.

Prevalent in communities as far back as the 1850s, the two-part commercial block is based on Roman models of shops with upper living quarters. Most obvious is the horizontal division of the façade into two distinct zones, corresponding to different interior uses. The ground floor holds the public space, a banking hall or retail space. The generally private upper floor or floors could include offices, hotel rooms or meeting halls. Exterior cladding could be ornamental, as was the case with the original design of the Hample Building, or plain.

These buildings became extremely popular throughout North America. While several were built on Portage Avenue before 1915, banking halls, large retail stores and towering terra-cotta-clad office buildings would soon be occupying lots as well.

CONSTRUCTION

The Hample Building is an early example of the use of the reinforced concrete support system. Architect J.D. Atchison, with his training and experience in Chicago, would have been familiar with the then new technology and as such, was one of its leading practitioners locally. The three-storey structure measures approximately 13.4 x 33.6 metres (44 x 110 feet) and cost $50,000 to complete (see Appendix II for construction information). Brick and stone are used for the exterior walls, two of which (east and west) are shared.

DESIGN

As originally designed, the ground floor of the main (south) façade featured two recessed entrances to the retail shops, both framed by large show windows set in cast iron frames and

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detailing. Oak doors gave access to the interior, a double opening for #271 Portage Avenue and single doors for #273 and the opening giving access to the upper floors at the west end of the building (#273½ Portage Avenue). All three entrances featured transom lights, the openings above the ground floor store entrances were still filled with the original leaded beveled glass in 1945. By 1945, however, the original cladding at the base of the building had been replaced by vitrolite, although no City of Winnipeg Building Permit describes this work. In 1952, the vitrolite cladding on the entrance at #273 Portage Avenue was covered. In the early 1960s, two additional Permits were taken out for alterations to the exterior (Plate 1) and in 1972 the entire ground floor was altered, with aluminum windows and doors added. At present, the original recessed entrances of the main floor have been updated, replaced by a more open space clad in smooth-cut material (Plate 2).

As originally designed, a wide, light-coloured belt course separated the ground floor space from the brick walls of the upper two floors. Above the ground floor, the façade was originally divided into three bays, each bay consisted of large mullioned windows, square headed on the second floor and arched on the top level. Spandrels between the floors were filled with decorative, diamond-shaped stone inserts. The brick at the corners of the upper floors was laid in a quoin-like pattern to accentuate the corners of the building and were originally topped by what appears to have been large ornamental shields or cartouche-like elements (Plate 3). Other design features of the original front included round elements above the arched windows, ornate heads for the pilasters separating the bays and a complete entablature with oversized parapet. Known for his attention to detailing, architect J.D. Atchison also added a line of brick with delicate molded embellishments framing the upper storey windows (Plate 4). These upper floors have been painted but remain unchanged from the original design, although weathering and lack of upkeep are affecting the original materials such as window frames and mullions (Plate 5).

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4 City of Winnipeg Assessment Record, Roll No. 521510-12-2. Below as AR.
5 Ibid.
6 Ibid; and City of Winnipeg Building Permit (below as BP), #534/1952.
7 BP #3099/1972.
8 AR.
The roofline has also been seriously altered – gone are the ornamental shields, pilaster heads and entablature, replaced by an unadorned concrete band (Plate 6).

The east and west walls are hidden by neighbouring structures. The rear (north) façade features plain brick walls interrupted by matched round-headed window openings with stone lug sills (Plate 7). Painted signage is located at the roofline including the two original tenants of the ground floor retail space, Semi-Ready Tailoring and Stark’s Shoes partially covered by later tenant Chevrier’s (Plate 8). This elevation also includes a small, one-storey projection added to its west end. Some window openings are presently filled with glass block.

INTERIOR
The interior of the Hample Building has suffered due to its long vacancy (Plates 9-13). The extensive list of interior alterations found in Appendix II describe the numerous alterations, upgrades and renovations completed on the original layout and finishes by owners and tenants prior to this vacancy.

The ground floor, originally two stores, is now one large, open space. A metal staircase leading to the mezzanine at the rear of the floor and the rear loading area appear to be the only elements or spaces that have remained relatively intact on this level.

Stairs to the second and third floors are found on the west side of the building. The second floor, converted to a billiards hall in 1924, includes a small office area at the rear. As with the second floor, the original partitioning on the third floor has been replaced and/or removed during its mid-1920s conversion to a bowling alley and subsequent alterations in use.

INTEGRITY
This structure stands on its original site and alterations have changed its original exterior appearance. Although interior finishes are deteriorating, the building appears to be in good structural condition.
STREETSCAPE
The Hample Building, and others like it, has been an important part of the Portage Avenue streetscape since the turn of the century (Plates 14 and 15). Even with the changes that have occurred over time, this block still contributes to the existing historical character of Portage Avenue (Plate 16).

ARCHITECT/CONTRACTOR
The architect responsible for the 1906 structure was John Danley Atchison (1870-1959), an American-born designer educated in Chicago who, after setting up his office in Winnipeg in 1905 (Plate 17), established himself as one of the most talented architects in Western Canada (see Appendix III for biographical information & Plate 18). He has been given 20 points by the Historical Buildings Committee.

PERSON/INSTITUTION
The Hample name has long been connected with the commercial history of Winnipeg, beginning in the mid-1880s when Adolphe G. Hample was listed as a hide dealer in the city. In 1890, he was operating a butcher shop at 351 Main Street and by 1895, his butcher and catering business was carried on with the help of his wife Martha J. Hample from a shop at 271 Portage Avenue, the site of the present Hample Building. It appears A.G. Hample died ca.1900, but his widow continued to run the family catering business until 1906 when she demolished the old building and had the new Hample Building constructed on the same site. She sold this property in 1918 to merchant Horace Chevrier, who owned the property until 1932 (see Appendix I, Table Two for a partial list of tenants of the building from 1909-1999). Chevrier was the long-time owner of the Blue Store on Main Street and was an M.L.A. for St. Boniface from 1903-1907. For a short time, Chevrier and Sons, clothiers, operated out of the Hample Building.

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9 Henderson’s Directory, 1884-1900.
10 Ibid., 1900-1910.
11 City of Winnipeg Assessment Rolls, Roll No. 521510-12-2 (below as ARo), 1905-1940.
12 Biographical information from http://www.gov.mb.ca/legislature/members/bios_deceased.html#C.
People’s Credit Jewellers was the next long-term owner (and a ground floor tenant of the Hample Building) from 1947 to ca.1989. Founded in 1919 as a family business, People’s Credit Jewellers (it dropped the word “Credit” from its name ca.1984) was the first company in Canada to sell jewelry on a time payment plan. By 1957, it had become the largest credit jeweler in the British Commonwealth.

The building has stood vacant for approximately the last 10 years.

**EVENT**

There is no known significant event connected with this building.

**CONTEXT**

The construction of the Hample Building is representative of several patterns of development in Winnipeg. Principally, it highlights the early development of Portage Avenue as a primary artery in the city. Since the street’s rise in stature as the centre of commerce and location of so many business offices was not complete until well into the 20th century, the Hample Building can be viewed as a precursor for things to come.

Its mixed use, retail space at grade and offices on the upper floors, scale and its original owner is also illustrative of type of capital investment was being made throughout Winnipeg and especially in the downtown from 1900-1915 during the city’s major expansion era.

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13 ARo, 1940-1990.
LANDMARK
The Hample Building is located on one of Winnipeg’s busiest streets. It is not as aesthetically prominent as other retail/office structures and its scale, compared to neighbouring buildings, reduces its conspicuousness.
# APPENDIX I

## Table One –

Portage Avenue Buildings Constructed Between 1900 and 1906
From Main Street to Colony Street (Demolished Buildings Highlighted)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUILDING NAME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>YEAR BUILT</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clements Block</td>
<td>South side between Fort &amp; Garry streets</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y.M.C.A. (Birks/Musiplex)</td>
<td>Southeast corner Smith Street (#276)</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>$68,500</td>
<td>GRADE II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail/residential block</td>
<td>Northwest corner Colony Street</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>$2,300</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurtig Building</td>
<td>South side between Garry &amp; Smith streets</td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>NO HERITAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurtig Building</td>
<td>South side between Garry &amp; Smith streets</td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>NO HERITAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weldon &amp; Co. Building</td>
<td>Northeast corner Donald Street (#301-03)</td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail/residential block</td>
<td>South side between Donald &amp; Hargrave streets</td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Bank of Montreal Branch</td>
<td>South side between Hargrave &amp; Carlton streets</td>
<td>1901-02</td>
<td>$2,325</td>
<td>NO HERITAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Life Assurance Block</td>
<td>Southwest corner Main Street (#208-14)</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail/residential block</td>
<td>North side between Carlton &amp; Edmonton streets (#375)</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba Hall</td>
<td>North side between Smith &amp; Donald streets</td>
<td>1903</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steele Block (SAAN Store)</td>
<td>Southwest corner Carlton St. (#364)</td>
<td>1903</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail/residential block</td>
<td>South side between Kennedy &amp; Vaughan streets</td>
<td>1903</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba Free Press Building</td>
<td>Southeast corner Garry Street (#250)</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avenue Block</td>
<td>North side between Garry &amp; Smith streets</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$31,000</td>
<td>ON INVENTORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKay Block</td>
<td>North side between Smith &amp; Donald streets</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Eaton Co. Store</td>
<td>South side, Donald to Hargrave streets (#320)</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dismorr Building</td>
<td>Northeast corner Hargrave (#329)</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glines Block</td>
<td>South side between Hargrave &amp; Carlton streets</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>NO HERITAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail block</td>
<td>Northwest corner Edmonton Street (#383-89)</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail block</td>
<td>South side between Colony &amp; Vaughan streets</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winnipeg Post Office</td>
<td>South side between Fort &amp; Garry streets (#240)</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>$529,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kensington Block</td>
<td>Northeast corner Smith Street (#275-77)</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fit-Reform Block</td>
<td>North side between Smith &amp; Donald streets</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grundy Block</td>
<td>North side between Hargrave &amp; Carlton streets</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING NAME</td>
<td>LOCATION</td>
<td>YEAR BUILT</td>
<td>COST</td>
<td>STATUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanton Block</td>
<td>Northwest corner Main Street (#201-03)</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hample Building</td>
<td>North side between Garry &amp; Smith streets</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>ON INVENTORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(##271-73½)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset Block</td>
<td>Southeast corner Donald Street (#294-302)</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>$225,000</td>
<td>ON INVENTORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennedy (Affleck) Building</td>
<td>North side between Donald &amp; Hargrave streets</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>NO HERITAGE STATUS (ONLY FRAGMENT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(##317-21)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail block</td>
<td>Southeast corner Carlton Street</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>$6,500</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail block</td>
<td>North side between Edmonton &amp; Kennedy streets (#391-93)</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unnamed retail block</td>
<td>North side between Kennedy &amp; Vaughan streets (#417-21)</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>$4,200</td>
<td>DEMOLISHED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Bank of Commerce (Mitchell-Copp)</td>
<td>North side between Donald &amp; Hargrave streets (#315)</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>GRADE II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - Source: City of Winnipeg Building Permits, 1900-06; and City of Winnipeg Assessment Records.
Table Two –

Partial List of Tenants of the Hample Building, 271-273½ Portage Avenue, 1909-1999*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>TENANT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>#271- Semi-Ready Clothing &amp; Peace &amp; Co., tailors; #273- Stark’s Shoe Store; #273½- 2nd floor (five tenants including): H.R. Tweed, dentist, MacDougall &amp; Norton, coal and wood dealers, Winnipeg Camera Club, &amp; London School of Oratory &amp; European Arts; 3rd floor: Winnipeg School of Curative Physical Culture &amp; The Clef Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>#271- Semi-Ready Clothing; #273- Rannard Shoe Ltd. No. 2; #273½- 2nd floor: H.R. Tweed, dentist, Austin &amp; Weber, manufacturers’ agents, and others; 3rd floor: The Concordia Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>#271- Semi-Ready Wardrobe; #273- Occupied; #273½- 2nd floor: Piccadilly Billiards Co.; 3rd floor: Prince Edward Bowling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>#271-273- Chevrier &amp; Sons, clothing; #273½- 2nd floor: Piccadilly Billiards Co. &amp; Piccadilly Lunch; 3rd floor: Prince Edward Bowling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>#271- Sterling Drugs Ltd.; #273- Tip Top Tailors; #273½- 2nd floor: Frank Russell, barber, Piccadilly Billiards Co.; 3rd floor: Prince Edward Bowling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>#271- People’s Credit Jewellers; #273- W.H. Cooke &amp; Son, tailors; #273½- Prince Edward Billiards &amp; Bowling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>#271- People’s Credit Jewellers; #273- Bond Clothes Shop; #273½- Prince Edward Billiards &amp; Bowling and Wasson’s Recreations (office)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>#271- People’s Credit Jewellers; #273- Bond Clothes Shop; #273½- Vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>#271- People’s Credit Jewellers; #273- Vacant; #273½- Marvel Hairdressing School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>#271- People’s Jewellers Ltd.; #273½- Marvel Hairdressing School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>#271- Musiplexx Records; #273½- Vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>#271- Vacant; #273½- Kung Fu, martial arts school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>#271-273½- Vacant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPENDIX II

CITY OF WINNIPEG - Preliminary Report

Assessment Record

Building Address: 271 Portage Avenue (271-273½)
Building Name: Hample Building

Original Use: mixed (retail/office)
Current Use: mixed (retail/office)

Roll No. (Old): 521510 (9366)
R.S.N.: 155459

Municipality: 12
Ward: 2
Property or Occupancy Code: 33

Legal Description: 1 St. John, Plan 24208, Lot 5 (Original: 1 St. John, Plan 129, Block 3, east 43’3” Lot 209)

Location: north side between Smith and Garry streets

Date of Construction: 1906
Storeys: 3
Heritage Status: ON INVENTORY

Construction Type: brick, reinforced concrete and stone foundation

1482/1906 $50,000 (original); 1672/1924 $1,900 (Interior alterations); 562/1927 [A] $8,000 (Interior alterations); 1745/1927 $500 (Alterations); 2562/1936 [A] $15,000 (Interior alterations); 65/1947 [A] $10,000 (Interior alterations); 534/1952 $2,500 (Alterations, #273); 247/1960 $2,000 (Interior alterations); 299/1960 $2,000 (Store front alterations); 1770/1964 $500 (new store fronts); 1847/1966 $500 (repairs); 3099/1972 [M-192] $85,000 (Interior alterations); 1610/1991 [4th-M12D05] $18,000 (Interior alterations)

Information:
- 43 x 114 x 56 + = 274,512 cu. ft.
- ceiling heights- B- 8’4”; 1st- 16’8”; 3rd- 12’8”
- Permit 247/1960- new interior rear stairs to 2nd & 3rd; Permit 1770/1964- new plate glass store fronts; Permit 1847/1966- extra concrete beam under side walls; Permit 3099/1972- main floor & mezzanine “completely renovated,” new store front (aluminum & thermo windows & doors), carpeting
- 1965 inspection- “normal condition for age”

ARCHITECT: J.D. ATCHISON

CONTRACTOR: VOLKMAN & COMPANY
APPENDIX III

John Danley Atchison (1870-1959)

Unquestionably one of the city's most talented architects, J.D. Atchison was born in Monmouth, Illinois in 1870. Educated in Chicago, he studied architecture at the Chicago Art Institute and the Chicago Manual Training School. After graduation he worked in the offices of W.G. Barfield, as well as for the firm Jenney and Mundie. William Le Baron Jenney was considered by many to be one of America’s leading architects and Atchison participated in the planning of buildings utilizing the latest technology in steel skyscraper construction.

In 1895, he opened his own practice that continued until the early 1900s. He worked on the staff of the World's Columbian Exposition and for the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad. His commissions brought him to Winnipeg and by 1905 the prosperity and future prospects prompted him to relocate his business here.

A list of some of the more prominent local buildings designed by J.D. Atchison over his career includes:

- Alexandria Block, 389-93 Graham Ave. (1901) – demolished
- Wardlow Apartments, 544 Wardlaw Ave. (1905) – Grade II
- Kennedy Building (Mitchell-Copp), 315 Portage Ave. (1906) – Grade II
- Hample Building, 271 Portage Ave. (1906)
- Concordia (Bon Accord) Block, northeast corner Main St. and Logan Ave. (1906) – partially demolished
- Stone Block, 650 Main St. (1907) – demolished
- Nanton Stables, 61 Roslyn Cres. (1908) – converted to residence
- Dennistoun House, 166 Roslyn Rd. (1908) – Grade III

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3 Compiled from City of Winnipeg Historical Buildings Files; J. Wade, Manitoba Architecture to 1940 (Winnipeg: University of Manitoba Press, 1976); Winnipeg Telegram, September 18, 1906, p. 55; Winnipeg Tribune, December 21, 1907; and F.H. Schofield, op. cit., pp. 374-75.
J.D. Atchison designs, continued:

A. Matheson House, Kildonan (1908)\(^4\)
Devon Court, 376 Broadway (1908) - demolished
Men’s Own of the City of Winnipeg Shelter Mission, 181 Logan Ave. (1908) - demolished
N.W.C.T.A. Building, 291 Garry St. (1908) – Grade III
Paterson Block, 54 Donald Street (1909)
Oldfield, Kirby and Gardner Building, 234 Portage Avenue (1909) – Grade II
Canada Permanent Building, 296-98 Garry St. (1909) – Grade II
Edmonton Block, 383-89 Portage Ave. (1909) - demolished
Maltese Cross Building, 66 King St. (286 McDermot Ave.) (1909) – Grade III
Grosvenor Court, 161-65 Stafford St. (1910)
Eastern Townships Bank, 367-69 Main St. (1910) - demolished
Orpheum Theatre, Fort St. (1910) - demolished
Chamber of Commerce Building (Great-West Life Building), 177 Lombard Ave. (1911) – Grade II
Allan, Killam and McKay Block, 364 Main St. (1911) - demolished
Winnipeg Development and Industrial Bureau Exposition Building, southeast corner of Main St. and Water Ave. (1911-12) - demolished
Carlton Building, 354 Portage Ave. (1912) – Grade III
Cadomin Building, 280 Main St. (1912)
Mac’s Building, 585 Ellice Ave. (1912)
Boyd Building, 384 Portage Ave. (1912) – Grade III
Union Tower, 191 Lombard Ave. (1912-13) – Grade II
Merchants’ Bank Branch, 1386 Main St. (1913) – Grade III
All Souls' Unitarian Church, Furby St. (1913)
Curry Building, 233 Portage Ave. (1915) – Grade II
Willys Overland Building, 686 Portage Ave. (1916)
Bank of Hamilton Building, 395 Main St. (1916-18) – Grade I
Red Cross Lodge, Fort Osborne Barracks, Tuxedo (1919) - demolished
Manitoba School for the Deaf, Tuxedo (1922)
Medical Arts Building, southeast corner Graham Ave. and Kennedy St. (1922-23) - demolished

Atchison also designed structures in other western provinces. He won the design competition for the Moose Jaw City Hall, c.1912-13 (not built) and planned the Moose Jaw Collegiate (1908-10), Saskatchewan Presbyterian Boys’ College and Principal's Residence (1911-12), and Hammond Building, Main St., Moose Jaw (1912).

Atchison was also intimately involved in promoting the concept of The Mall or Capitol Approach from Portage Avenue to the Legislative Building along Memorial Boulevard. He prepared proposals for the City Planning Commission (1911) and later the Winnipeg Town Planning Commission (1913). He also made proposals to the Greater Winnipeg Plan Commission (1917; 1919) which he became chairman of in 1919.5

In 1923, Atchison left Winnipeg for Pasadena, California, and continued to practice there, adopting the Spanish Colonial style for his residential work. He died in 1959.6

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6 The Emerson Court House and Town Hall Building (Winnipeg: Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Recreation, Historic Resources Branch, 1985), pp. 8-11.
Plate 1 – The Hample Building, 1964. (City of Winnipeg, Planning and Land Use Division.)
Plate 2 – Detail of front (south) façade. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
Plate 3 – Hample Building, 1964. (City of Winnipeg, Planning and Land Use Division.)
Plate 4 – Detail of front (south) brick ornamentation. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
Plate 5 – Detail of front (south) façade. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
HAMPLE BUILDING – 271 PORTAGE AVENUE

Plate 6 – Front (south) façade. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
Plate 7 – Rear (north) façade. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
Plate 8 – Signage on rear (north) façade. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
Plate 9 – Mezzanine staircase. (M. Peterson, 2005.)

Plate 10 – Ground floor retail space. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
Plate 11 – Second floor. (M. Peterson, 2005.)

Plate 12 – Second floor staircases. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
Plate 13 – Third floor. (M. Peterson, 2005.)
Plate 14 – Portage Avenue looking east from Carlton Street, ca.1912. The approximate location of the Hample Building is at the arrow. (Provincial Archives of Manitoba, N12608.)

Plate 15 – Portage Avenue between Smith and Garry streets, ca.1925. (Provincial Archives of Manitoba.)
HAMPLE BUILDING – 271 PORTAGE AVENUE

Plate 16 – Portage Avenue looking east from Smith Street. (M. Peterson, 1999.)

Plate 17 – John D. Atchison, ca.1913. (Archives of Manitoba, N5240.)
Plate 18 – Selected Winnipeg designs of J.D. Atchison: #1- Carlton Building, 354 Portage Avenue (1912); #2- Boyd Building, 384 Portage Avenue (1912); #3- North West Commercial Travellers’ Association Building, 291 Garry Street (1908); and #4- Union Trust Building, 191 Lombard Avenue (1912-13)