This building features one of downtown Winnipeg’s most intricately designed stone façades, a reflection of its stone mason designer’s skill and expertise.

While retail and wholesale businesses in the early 20th century clamoured to locate their facilities in Winnipeg expanding warehouse district on both sides of Main Street, other ventures also built in the district. Theaters, hotels, stables, retail shops and even residential space were built. This structure, located at the foot of Rupert Avenue on Princess Street, one of the warehouse district’s premier thoroughfares, was the new headquarters for one of Winnipeg’s numerous social institutions, the Orange Order. This Protestant fraternal organization was established in Ireland in 1795, pro-British monarchy group that has established lodges throughout the world. In Canada, the group also attracted Scottish and British immigrants and organized in Manitoba in 1870 with the coming of the mainly British Wolseley Expedition. The Order grew, necessitating
this permanent meeting space, named for Thomas Scott (ca.1842-1870), the Irish-born Orangeman who was killed by Riel’s men during the Red River Rebellion of 1869-1870.

The construction of the building was officially announced in August 1899 and its cornerstone laid in a ceremony on July 12, 1900, attended by an estimated 5,000 people followed by an “Orange” parade from the site to Fort Garry Park on Main Street. But after the ceremony, little was done on the building and it wasn’t until 1902 that a City of Winnipeg Building Permit was taken out and the building’s original design had been simplified and scaled back. The three-storey brick building included a stone-clad front (east) façade, measured 15.3 metres wide and 27.5 metres deep and cost $21,000 to complete.

The building’s design is an excellent example of the Neo-Classical or Classical Revival style, which was a redefinition and revisiting of classical architecture form and ornamentation. Popular from 1900 into the 1930s in North America, its designs included columns, capitals, pediments and Greek or Roman embellishments. Main façades were normally symmetrical, cladding smooth and rooflines flat. Windows and doors were placed in both lintelled and arched openings. Winnipeg has many examples of the style both more ornate and plainer than the Orange Hall.

The symmetrical main façade boasts a wealth of ornamental detailing, including two arched ground floor entrances, carved cornices with ornate bracketing with acanthus leaves, a projecting portion of the second and third floors with the top level embellished with a central arched window with acanthus leaf keystone framed by attached Corinthian order columns and four larger, flat, unfluted Ionic order attached columns supporting a flat stone panel carved with the words “SCOTT MEMORIAL HALL”. Two circular stone elements below this signage feature carved lettering “AD” (southern) and “1902” (northern) and the entire structure is finished with a flat roof with raised ends with acanthus leaf detailing and a large central pediment with semi-circular window and wood flag pole. Much of the original design and ornamentation of this façade remains.

The building’s south wall is covered, the north includes painted commercial signage of various ages and the rear (west) façade includes many boarded up openings and a metal fire escape.
The interior was used as showroom/warehouse space on the ground floor, rented to a variety of tenants. The second floor was the Order’s formal meeting hall and still exhibits high tin covered ceilings and symbols of the group – painted scenery and portraits – on the walls. The third floor, which was destroyed by fire in 1943, was used for many years as a dance hall.

The building was owned by the Provincial Grand Orange Lodge of Manitoba into the 1990s and beginning in the 1980s, the Winnipeg Irish Association Organization also occupied space in the building. Today, the building is used for commercial and storage purposes.

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

**Exterior-**
- Three-storey stone clad building with flat roof located mid-block on the west side of Princess Street north of Ross Avenue, its main facade facing east onto Princess Street, its south facade hidden by neighbouring building, its west facade facing the back lane and its north facade facing an empty lot (surface parking);
- Its symmetrical main (east) façade with four ground floor windows in tall, thin rectilinear openings with transoms flanked on either side by arched entrances, a stone cornice with ornamental brackets at each end, second storey projecting slightly in the centre section with windows in rectilinear openings topped with a stone cornice with acanthus leaves embellishing the end brackets which are topped by semi-circular elements and the top floor with the projecting central area holding a large window in arched opening, embellished with attached Corinthian order columns and an acanthus leaf keystone, flanked by windows in rectilinear openings, four larger, flat, unfluted Ionic order attached columns topped by a flat stone panel carved with the words “SCOTT MEMORIAL HALL”, two circular stone elements below this signage with the letters “AD” (southern) and “1902” (northern) and the outer portion with windows in arched openings, and the flat roof with raised ends with acanthus leaf detailing and large centrally-placed pediment with semi-circular window and flag pole;
- The uninterrupted brick north elevation with painted signage; and
- Its rear (west) façade with doors and windows in arched openings and metal fire escape.

**Interior-**
- Its high ceilings covered in ornamental tin;
- The volume of space and ornamentation in the west side meeting room on the second floor; and
- North side staircase from first to second floor.

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