

# EXCHANGE MARKS THE SPOT

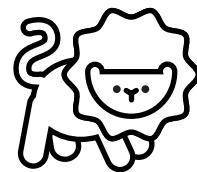
RESOURCE GUIDE

an architectural treasure hunt of the  
Exchange District National Historic Site



The Exchange District treasure hunt is a chance for children to learn about the history and architecture of this unique area. Exploring stories, materials, and structures, children will have a chance to think inquisitively and creatively about the neighbourhood. These notes are intended to support parents and educators in engaging children through explanations, questions, and activities. The hunt starts in the courtyard of City Hall and lasts about ninety minutes. Washrooms and water fountains are accessible in a number of public buildings along the way. Bring along pencils, crayons and rulers to help complete the activities in the accompanying Activity Booklet.

#### Activity



Keep your eyes and ears open for lions! Rorie the Lion is also exploring the district and might pop up in the pages of the activity booklet or in the stories you hear about the neighbourhood!

# The Exchange District

Welcome to the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation's Architectural Treasure Hunt of the Exchange District National Historic Site!

Q: WHAT IS ARCHITECTURE?

Architecture is the design of buildings and landscapes to create spaces for life to happen in and around. Materials, structures, and stories are all an important part of architecture.

Q: WHAT IS AN ARCHITECT?

An architect is someone who does the designs for buildings. There are also landscape architects who design gardens, parks, and public spaces.

This architectural treasure hunt is a chance to think like a detective, a storyteller, an artist, and an architect to discover this National Historic Site!

A National Historic Site is a Canadian place which is important for its history and architecture. The Exchange District has been chosen for the large number of historic buildings which were a part of Winnipeg's early history. The name *Winnipeg* comes from the Cree words for *muddy waters*. For thousands of years, the Forks was an important place for trade among Indigenous communities. This meeting place of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers later became a major trading point for settlers in Winnipeg. A French fur trading fort was built in 1738 and in 1812 a Scottish settlement, the Red River Colony, was established. Winnipeg was incorporated as a city in 1873, but it was still very small.



## Q: WHY WAS THE EXCHANGE DISTRICT GIVEN THIS NAME?

*Exchange* is another word for *trade*. Winnipeg is in the centre of Canada and also North America. At first this made it a very isolated place. With the arrival of steamships and trains, specifically the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1881, the city became a central gateway to the West. The trade of grains such as wheat brought prosperity and growth. More and more people, products, businesses, and banks transformed the city from a tiny town into a mega metropolis. As the city grew, businesses set up further from the Forks and trade shifted to what is now the Exchange District. The area became a centre for making, storing, and hauling products that would travel

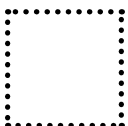
across the country. Many incredible buildings were constructed for the new people and businesses coming to the city. This building boom eventually ended as growth slowed down before the First World War.

Cities are always changing. Throughout its history Winnipeg has experienced major booms and busts. Looking at different buildings is a way to see the changes that have happened over time. Buildings are clues to the mysteries of the past!

For example, did you know that City Hall is hiding clues older than dinosaurs?

### Activity

Find City Hall, #1, on the treasure map! City Hall is made of local Tyndall limestone that is 450 million years old. There are fossils from ancient creatures hiding on the walls. Fossils are the remains or imprints of prehistoric plants or animals that have been preserved in stone. Rubbings can be done by placing a piece of paper over a texture and colouring above the surface with a crayon to show its texture. Can you find a fossil and make a drawing or rubbing of it?



Fossil

## Q: CAN YOU THINK OF OTHER IMPORTANT BUILDINGS IN THE CITY THAT ARE MADE OF TYNDALL STONE?

The Manitoba Legislature, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, and many buildings in the Exchange District are made with Tyndall stone. Keep your eyes open for more!



# 1. City Hall

The Winnipeg City Hall was constructed in 1964 to replace the previous City Hall building. It was based on a design by architects Green Blankstein Russell.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS AT CITY HALL?

City Hall is a place where elected leaders gather to make decisions so that the city works and people get what they need. They make choices about schools, buses, police, firefighters, water, buildings, and more. This is a tough job since cities are always changing.

The City Hall building also changed over time. The last City Hall looked like a gingerbread house and was built in 1886. There was an open-air market right behind it because food and hay were an important part of the early district.

Q: HOW DOES THE OLD CITY HALL LOOK DIFFERENT FROM THE NEW CITY HALL BUILDING?

The differences in the buildings are part of their different styles. The gingerbread building was a Victorian style that used ornate details while the current building is a Modern style that uses simple lines. By the 1960s many Canadian cities were building modern city halls. The City of Winnipeg was growing and the old City Hall was falling apart. Citizens voted in favour of a new City Hall and politicians decided to build it on the site of the old one. The old City Hall was torn down and this one was built in its place.

Q: HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOUR SCHOOL WAS TORN DOWN?

### Activity

Buildings are made of different materials for different reasons. Although this building is newer, the architects chose beautiful materials to match the older buildings in the area. Feel the light Tyndall stone walls, the dark granite benches, and the concrete bases. Is each material smooth or rough? Imagine if it was a different texture. What is the silliest thing you can imagine? Why is it made of stone, granite, or concrete? Rub, draw, and write the textures, colours, and qualities in your Texture Tracker!

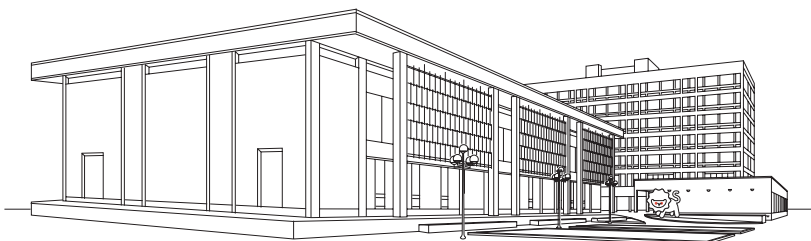
Tyndall stone feels ____.	Granite feels ____.

Q: WHAT DOES *SOLEIL* MEAN IN FRENCH?

It means *sun*! Just like material, light is another very important part of architecture. Rooms filled with sunlight help us to see and make us happy. In City Hall, the glass blocks allow light and privacy. There are about 62 000 glass blocks in the building! Winnipeg is a very sunny place and sometimes this makes buildings too hot. The unusual screens on the sides of City Hall are made of bronze. The colour is brown at first but turns a bit green over time. The screen is called a *brise-soleil* and it blocks heat from entering the windows while still allowing light in.

### Activity

Colour the brise-soleil green in the drawing of City Hall!



Look at the treasure map to find the next building. Stay in the park in front of City Hall and look across Main Street at it.

## 2. Centennial Concert Hall

The Concert Hall was built in 1967 just after City Hall.

It is a place for performances by groups like the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and more! Arts and culture are an important part of the city and give Winnipeg a sense of identity that is different from any other.

Q: HOW DO YOU EXPRESS YOUR CULTURE?

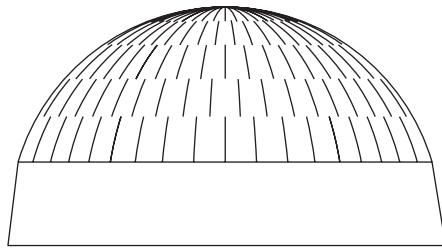
Buildings can be specially designed to sound great! *Acoustics* are the qualities of a room that impact how the sound is heard. About 100 000 people see shows here each year! The auditorium is large and can seat 2243 people. It has been designed with no columns or aisles, to keep the view clear to the stage. The roof of the theatre is steeply angled. This is partly to allow for a fly tower above the stage where lights and special tricks can happen way up high. The fly tower is 33 metres tall! The slope also helps to focus sound for the audience. The Centennial Concert Hall had some of the best acoustics in North America when it was built!



The Concert Hall was part of a large building project to revitalize downtown and modernize areas east of Main Street. A whole vision of the area was created, but only parts of it were completed. The project was also to celebrate the Centennial (100 years) of Canada and Manitoba. An ambitious plan was made for the area, and this resulted in the Museum, Concert Hall, and Planetarium being built.

### Activity

The planetarium shows movies about outer space. Its copper dome turned green over time. It almost looks like an alien spaceship. Can you draw some aliens? What would an alien think about what it sees in the neighbourhood?



Q: WHAT ABOUT THE CONCERT HALL LOOKS SIMILAR TO CITY HALL?

City Hall and the Concert Hall are both built in the Modern style. The outside of the Concert Hall uses Tyndall stone, like City Hall, but it also has cream coloured concrete. It can be difficult to tell the difference! For example, Tyndall stone covers the towers on each side of the building, but the canopy floating above the entrance is made of concrete. Pyramid-shaped glass lets light through the canopy. Both buildings are sitting on dark grey stone. They also both have brise-soleils. This brise-soleil looks very different but works in a similar way.

### Activity

The huge precast concrete forms on the front of the building look like alien eyes. The 45 “eyelids” shield the inside from the sun. Can you draw one?

*City Hall and the Concert Hall were built at the same time. Use your map and look across the street to the Pantages Theatre, which has both an old and a new section.*

### 3. Pantages Playhouse

The earlier part of the Pantages Playhouse Theatre was built in 1914, while the later part was added in 1992—after 78 years! The original theatre was used for Vaudeville acts which included music, dance, comedy, magicians, and plays. The shows would play all day long!



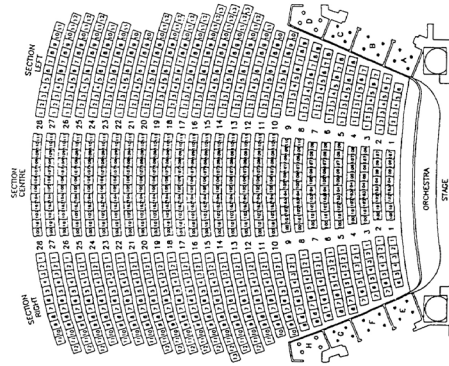
Q: WHICH IS THE OLD PART OF THE BUILDING AND WHICH IS THE NEW PART? WHAT ARE THE CLUES?

The original theatre was one of the first concrete theatres of its size in North America. The simple brick and terra cotta outside makes the fancy plaster, wood, and gold decoration on the inside a surprise. Terra cotta is baked earth that can be sculpted into beautiful designs. The new addition is connected to the old theatre by a glass atrium. The curving copper wall of the addition is made to mimic the stage curtain of the theatre.



### Activity

A *plan* is a map that shows buildings from above. Architects draw plans to design buildings. Look at this plan of the Pantages Playhouse. Can you see where the seats are? Where is the stage? Imagine what play you would like to see and draw the set from above. Can you follow the curving line of the copper wall to close the stage curtain?



Theatres were very popular in the neighbourhood as Winnipeg grew and people had money to spend on entertainment. People could walk to many theatres in this area to see anything from expensive opera to cheap Vaudeville acts. These silly Vaudeville variety shows cost only 10¢.

Alexander Pantages got his start in the Klondike Gold Rush by charging people money to listen to someone read the newspaper! He owned theatres across North America with acts that would travel between these theatres. He used Winnipeg as a place to try out new performers.

Vaudeville theatre became less popular with the invention of movies. Today the Pantages Playhouse is the last Vaudeville theatre in Canada. Many of Winnipeg's old theatres have been lost to demolition and neglect. An example is the former Bijou Theatre, which is now Bijou Park, that you will walk through soon.

### Activity

Very famous performers like Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton performed at the Pantages. The theatre also saw all sorts of weird Vaudeville acts from Madame Adgie and her Twelve Dancing Lions to Felix the Mind Reading Duck. Do your best impression of Felix the Mind Reading Duck!

*Check out the map and turn around one more time to look at the next building.*



### Activity

The terra cotta trimmed portholes at the top of the building look like the windows of a ship. How many portholes are there? What sea creature does the terra cotta decoration above the lower windows remind you of? Can you draw it?

## 4. Union Bank Tower

Q: WHAT IS A SKYSCRAPER?

A skyscraper is a very tall building of many stories. The Union Bank is the oldest skyscraper in western Canada! Built in 1904, it is \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

Q: DOES THE BANK LOOK LIKE A SKYSCRAPER TO YOU? WHY? CAN YOU SEE A BUILDING THAT IS TALLER?

The Union Bank Tower is not the tallest building in the area, but it was the first to use new technology for constructing skyscrapers. The steel frame and reinforced concrete of the building are strong and flexible enough to go higher than the traditional wood frame and stone base of early buildings in the neighbourhood. This technology started in Chicago, so many of the city's early skyscrapers also follow the Chicago style with a middle grid of windows between decorative bottom and top parts.

It can take time for styles to catch up with technology. The small window openings and the use of brick, stone, and grey stone-coloured terra cotta make the building look more traditional. During construction, the sight of such heavy materials floating in the air scared people who thought the building might fall on them. Later skyscrapers often used larger windows and lighter materials.



Winnipeg experienced great prosperity with the arrival of the railway and the growth of the grain trade. More banks came to Winnipeg as the population and wealth of the city grew. Still, cities are always changing. Winnipeg has experienced major booms and busts. The Union Bank was the last to keep its national headquarters in Winnipeg. It joined with the Royal Bank. In 1975, the Royal Bank moved to a smaller building, leaving the building empty.

The building set the stage for some unusual events. A stuntman named the Human Fly once climbed the outside of the building. In 1922 the International Brotherhood of Magicians, a worldwide organization dedicated to the art of magic, was founded here. In 2013, Prairie Architects worked their magic to turn the then empty building into a lively cooking school and residence for Red River College students.

Q: WHAT LOOKS OLD? WHAT LOOKS NEW?  
HOW DOES THIS LOOK SIMILAR  
OR DIFFERENT TO YOUR SCHOOL?

*Go find the "X" that marks the spot in front of the arch. The open space through the arch is the former site of the Bijou Theatre. Look across the street to the next amazing building!*

## 5. Confederation Life Building

This is another old Chicago-style skyscraper made of steel and reinforced concrete. It was built in 1912 and is \_\_\_\_\_ years old. The Confederation Life Company was a financial business office. The building is different from the Union Bank because the lighter style shows the amazing possibilities of steel frame technology. The front has a gentle curve and is more window than wall! The base is made of much lighter granite than the pediment of City Hall. The rest of the front is covered in white terra cotta.



A cornice is a decorative top that is like the crown of a building. The Confederation building has the biggest terra cotta cornice in Winnipeg! It sticks out 3 metres!

### Activity

Stretch out your arms and measure the distance from one fingertip to the other. Join hands with your fellow treasure hunters to show how far out the cornice goes!

### Activity

Imagine if this all-white building was part of a giant colouring book. Colour the drawing the way you would colour the building on Main Street!



Take another look at the "X" that marks the spot. What do the letters on each side of the compass stand for? Follow the "W" to go to the strange metal box that is the next building on your map!

## 6. Old Market Square

Old Market Square is a public space at the heart of the Exchange District. Public space is free and open to everyone. Festivals like the Jazz Festival and Fringe Festival bring big crowds here for music, theatre, and more. This piece of art transforms into a stage!

Q: IS THE CUBE OLD OR NEW? WHY?  
HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM MOST  
OF THE BUILDINGS SO FAR?

The OMS Stage or “Cube” was built in 2010, so it is only \_\_\_\_\_ years old. The differences in the building are part of their different styles. This building is more contemporary while others have generally been Chicago or Modern style buildings made primarily of stone, brick, or terra cotta. The architects, 5468796 architecture, wanted to design a stage that would be attractive as a piece of art year-round, not only while serving as a stage.



### Activity

Feel the concrete base and aluminum screen.  
Are they smooth or rough? Record each material  
in your Texture Tracker!

Concrete feels _____.	Aluminum feels _____.

### Activity

The building has a concrete structure that is strong and good for acoustics. A *section* is a drawing of a building cut open. It is like a *plan* looking sideways through a building instead of down. Imagine you are playing in a band on the stage. Draw the stage with all of the musicians and their instruments. How might the sound bounce off of the concrete building so that the audience can hear the music better? Draw the sound waves coming out of the instruments!

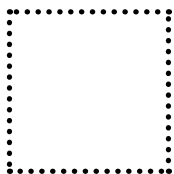
The metal screen is another brise-soleil that also acts as a mirror to project colourful light out. It is made of many small metal pieces tied together by cables. There are 18 000 pieces in total!

Q: WHAT 2D SHAPE IS EACH SIDE OF THE STAGE? WHAT 3D SHAPE IS THE STAGE? ARE THE METAL PIECES ALSO CUBES?

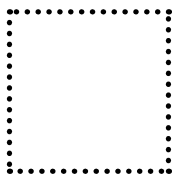
Although the sides of the building are squares, the metal pieces are not cubes. They are made from square metal cut at an angle. They fit together like a flexible square puzzle that changes shape when the cables are pulled.

### Activity

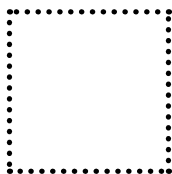
Can you draw these 2D shapes?



Circle



Square



Triangle

Can you name these 3D shapes?



\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Old Market Square (continued)

### Activity

Put your hands together and push. How does it feel? This force is called *compression*. Hook your hands together and pull. How does it feel? This force is called *tension*.

Buildings work with compression and tension to stay up.

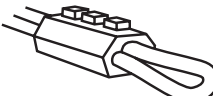



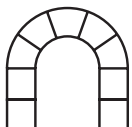


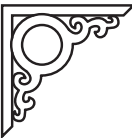
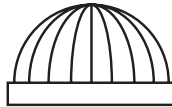
The *compression* is a pushing force while *tension* is a pulling force. The Cube uses metal cables to pull the light metal pieces up. Meanwhile, the next building on the hunt uses heavy stones that push down on each other.

Different shapes deal with compression and tension differently. These shapes are found in strong building parts.

For example, a triangle transfers weight from one point to two points. A truss is a building part made of many triangles that share weight at many points.

### Activity

Building Bingo! Can you find these strong structural parts to make a line of three? Write the name of the building where you find each part. Try to remember buildings you have seen already too! Show how each part is strong by drawing arrows to show where the force goes.

 Tension Cable _____	 Truss _____	 Doric Column _____
 Corinthian Column _____	 Arch _____	 Beam _____
 Turret _____	 Bracket _____	 Dome _____

In the past many companies would paint signs on walls to advertise their company and their products. Many also put signs on fences at the top of buildings. Today advertising is done very differently. The Artspace sign is one of the last roof fence signs left. Many of the wall paintings are disappearing and are now called *ghost signs*! Keep your eyes open for these mysterious signs!

This park is called Old Market Square because it was once across from the market behind the old City Hall. It was the site of the central fire station. Many buildings burned down in the neighbourhood because there was not enough water pressure for fire hydrants. Even the fire hall and the fire truck once burned down! Later the James Avenue Pumping Station was built to pump water. The machines were so heavy that the building was built around them and they are still there today even though it is not in use. Services and utilities are important buildings to keep people healthy and safe.

Q: CAN YOU THINK OF OTHER BUILDINGS THAT  
HELP PEOPLE GET THE SERVICES THAT THEY NEED?

Many helpful services are in the Exchange District,  
including a police station, a school, a museum,  
theatres, restaurants, shops, and apartments.

Q: IF YOU LIVED IN THE AREA  
WHAT ELSE MIGHT YOU NEED?

### Activity

Go to the curving concrete  
benches and look around.  
Can you see a sign for the  
Royal Bank? J.H. Ashdown?  
Artspace? What other signs  
do you see?



*Cross the street towards  
the next building and  
find the outside of  
the tunnel. Imagine  
it is a tunnel back  
through time as you  
look again at some  
older buildings!*



## 7. Gault Building (Artspace)

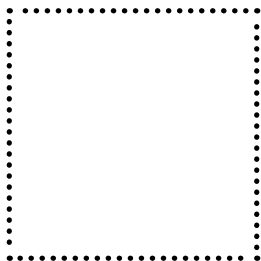
Although both are made of limestone, the rusticated stone base of the Gault Building is much rougher than the smooth-cut stone of City Hall. The huge blocks are connected by joints. This is a common base for older buildings in the Exchange District. The building was made in 1901 and is \_\_\_\_\_ years old.



Arches allow heavy stones to sit above air! Imagine how strong the arch needs to be to hold up the entire building above it without falling down! Stones change shape to fit the curve of the arch like a puzzle as they are stacked. The last piece of the puzzle at the top of the arch is called a *keystone*. It fits like a key in a lock!

### Activity

Use your Texture Tracker to record the stone base!



Stone feels \_\_\_\_\_.

### Activity

With a partner, have one person make an arch over their head with their arms. Have the other person press down on the top of the arch. Feel how the force travels down your arms. Now switch places!

The tunnel between the buildings is called a *dray-way*. It was a covered loading area for horse-drawn carts called *drays*. Later moving was done by railways and trucks.

### Activity

As you go through the tunnel, count how many loading docks you see!



Q: HOW DID YOU GET HERE TODAY?

Transportation is a very important part of the story of Winnipeg, which is in the centre of Canada and North America. Originally the Red River settlement was very isolated and horses or oxcarts were the fastest way to the nearest settlements. Even the city bus was pulled by horses! New technology made Winnipeg a central place to move products.

The Canadian Pacific Railway came to Winnipeg in 1881. Eventually there were 24 different railway lines in Winnipeg! Wholesalers took the opportunity to build huge warehouses like this to store and sell their products such as groceries, clothing, or hardware. The Exchange District was full of small railway tracks called spur lines to move products from rail lines to warehouses. There was even a kind of city bus on rails called a street car. Imagine this whole area as a web of metal!

Wholesalers wanted to show off and sell their products. Lots of light and space was needed to do this. The building has big windows to allow natural sunlight in and a strong structure to support floors full of goods.

The structure is a heavy timber frame with a heavy stone base. These materials are strong but they weigh too much to stack very high. This is different from the versatile steel frames of skyscrapers. Still, the Gault Company was so successful that in 1903, just two years after construction, two floors were added to the top of the building along with an extra building connected by the dray-way on the side.

Today the building is a centre for artists called Artspace. There is an art gallery, studio space, and even a movie theatre inside. Usually the building is open. Check out the movie theatre and gallery on the main floor! There is also a bathroom and water fountain if needed.

### Activity

Take a rest in the bike nook beside the Gault Building entrance. For the rest of the hunt, keep a tally of all the bikes you see in the Bike Booker!

### Activity

Can you find the lines between the older and newer parts of the building? Can you see the extra floors? Many warehouses were designed to have additions. Imagine how extra floors would look if they were added on your house or your school! Draw it!

*Go to the corner of Arthur and McDermot and look across at the next building.*

# TREASURE MAP



1. City Hall



2. Centennial Concert Hall



3. Pantages Playhouse Theatre



4. Union Bank Tower



5. Confederation Life Building



6. The Cube



7. Gault Building



8. Whitla Building



9. Stovel Building



10. Telegram Building



11. Bate Building



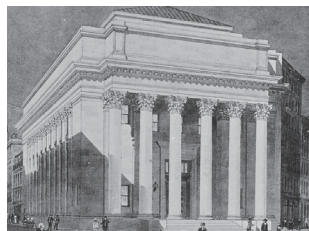
12. Lake of the Woods Building



13. Criterion Hotel



14. Bank of British North America



15. Bank of Montreal



16. Union Trust Tower



17. Bank of Commerce



18. Bank of Hamilton



19. Bank of Toronto



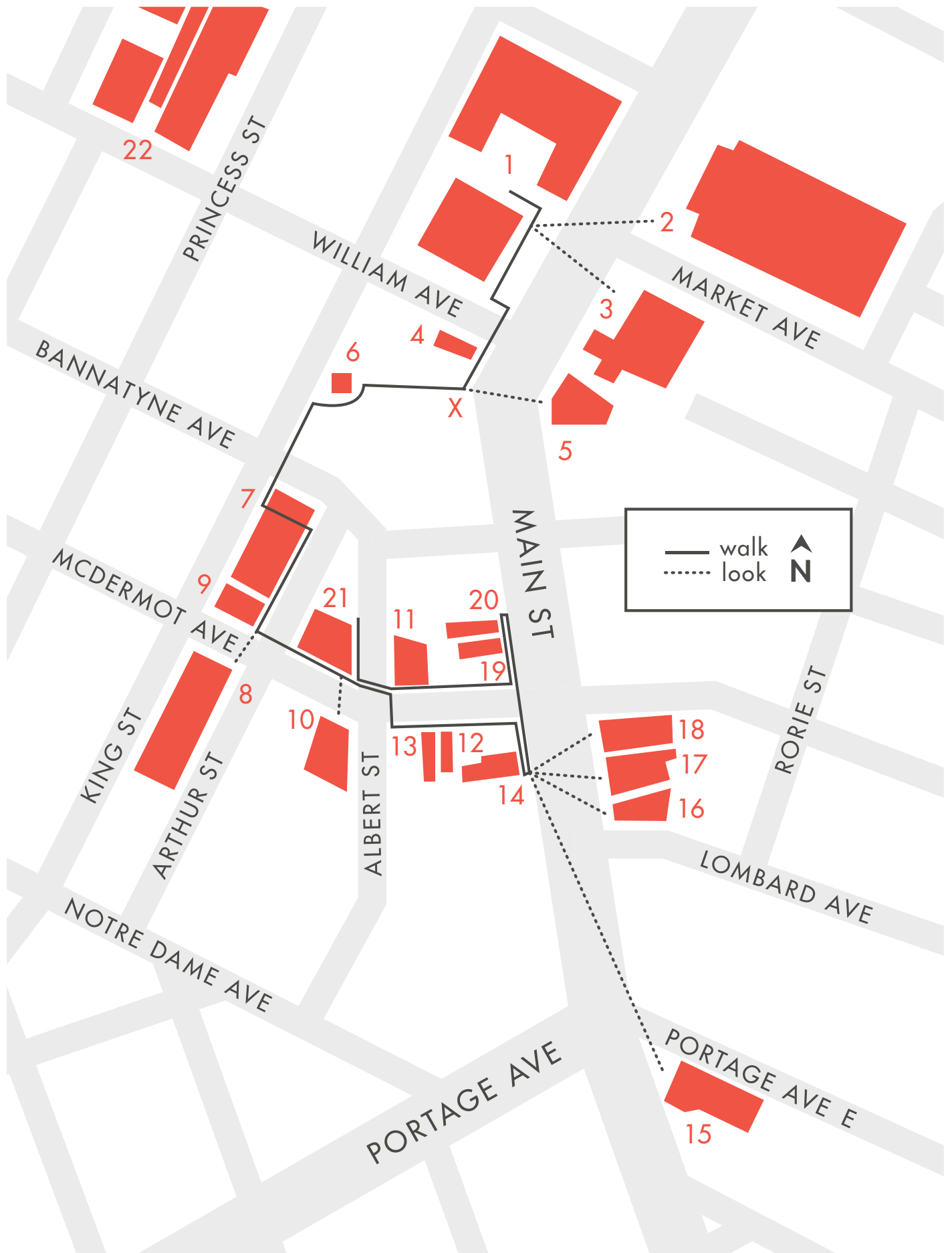
20. Royal Bank



21. Albert Block



22. Red River College





## 8. Whitla Building

Originally built in 1899, the Whitla Building is another former dry goods warehouse that had additions made to it, as its company expanded. The building was constructed with brick and a rusticated stone base.



In 1904, similar to the Gault Building, two floors were added to the top of the building at the same time as an extra building at the back was linked by a dray-way. Then, in 1911, a whole other section was added to the West side of the building! This is still one of the largest warehouses in the district.

Additions to buildings were very common, especially as Winnipeg was in a period of great growth. Buildings were made higher and sometimes wider, usually using the same materials. As you walk through the Exchange District, you can watch for these changes.



### Activity

Can you see where the West addition was added to the building?

Look at the difference between the arched and squared north entrances for a clue!



*Look at your map to find the red building  
with painted window surrounds.*

## 9. Stovel Building

The Stovel Building is older than all of the others on the tour so far. It was built in 1893 and is \_\_\_\_\_ years old! It is on McDermot Avenue, which became known as Newspaper Row. As the city of Winnipeg grew quickly, more people needed to know the news. Eventually there were 22 newspaper companies on this street and even more supporting businesses. Today they are all gone.

### Activity

Newspapers often print fun puzzles.

Find words about Newspaper Row in the word search.

r	b	w	k	a	c	r	w	x	r	e	q
t	e	l	e	g	r	a	p	h	k	g	j
x	m	c	d	e	r	m	o	t	r	w	c
c	k	o	f	z	e	d	d	e	h	a	d
o	c	r	b	g	j	f	p	g	o	d	u
l	b	n	r	j	s	a	e	g	s	d	o
u	r	i	y	s	p	p	y	q	k	i	p
m	i	c	f	s	i	f	b	v	i	t	y
n	c	e	w	n	y	v	r	o	r	i	e
w	k	e	n	i	y	x	m	a	z	o	y
r	n	i	m	k	e	y	s	t	o	n	e
f	w	n	i	q	c	w	c	l	i	a	f



Stovel Printing was a factory where they made newspapers and books. The company had so much success with new technology like colour and electric printing that they also added extra floors.



### Activity

Can you see where the addition was added? This one is sneaky!

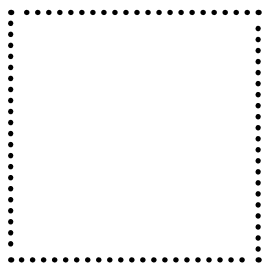
The lintels (the tops of the windows) provide a great clue!

Notice the keystones in the arches.

The building needed a strong structure to support heavy printing machines. The building has a post and beam wood frame with a brick exterior. Brick is very versatile since it is smaller and lighter than the big chunks of stone of some buildings. Sometimes bricks are load bearing. This means they are strong and carry weight. Other times they are more for decoration and are not load bearing. In this building both the wood and bricks work to keep the building up. The bricks are load bearing.

### Activity

The Stovel Building is made of bricks similar to the Whitla Building, but it has been painted red. Use your Texture Tracker to record this painted brick. How might it feel different from unpainted brick?



Stone feels \_\_\_\_\_.

*Walk down McDermot and look across  
to the yellow brick Telegram Building.*



## 10. Telegram Building

This building is even older than the last.

It was built in 1882 and is \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

Before the internet, newspapers got information by talking with people, receiving letters, or using telegraphs.

Telegraphs were a way of sending text over wires. Some kids had jobs selling newspapers and yelling the news to everyone else on the street! They were able to use extra newspapers like money to buy a treat or go to a show.

With so many newspapers in the area, there was fierce competition between many of the companies. The *Manitoba Free Press* was started by William Luxton in 1872. Luxton had very strong opinions and was not afraid to share them. Eventually he had to leave the *Free Press* and start a new one called the *Winnipeg Telegram*.

The Telegram Building is unusual and fancy in both plan and elevation. An elevation is a drawing of the side or front face of a building. This Italianate style building is very decorative with ornate doors and windows. There are also *pilasters*, which are square columns that are attached to the wall. They are more for decoration than structure since the building already has a wood post and beam system with cast iron columns inside. The building has a triangular plan since it is at the meeting place of two differently angled street systems.

Cross the street again to  
touch the next building.





## 11. Bate Building

Like the Stovel and Telegram buildings, the Bate Building has a wood post and beam structure with load-bearing brick.

This was a grocery warehouse that became the home of the *Manitoba Free Press* newspaper. The *Manitoba Free Press* became the *Winnipeg Free Press*, which is now the oldest newspaper in Western Canada. Originally the building was called the Lyon Block but it was renamed the Bate Building. Often buildings change names as new owners and uses happen.

Q: CAN YOU THINK OF AN EXAMPLE OF A PLACE  
CHANGING NAMES IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?

### Activity

Can you find the word "Bate" written twice on the building?  
*It is written above the entry and below the cornice of the building.*

*Find the next buildings that are side by side.  
Carefully cross the street to touch them!*



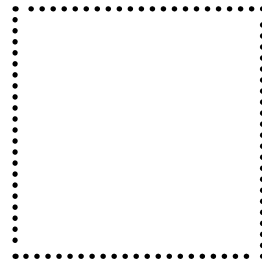
## 12. Lake of the Woods Building

This was the office of a flour milling company. The Prairies had a special kind of wheat that was very popular. Winnipeg grew as a centre to trade this grain around the world. This trading happened at a place called the Grain Exchange. This is part of the reason the area is called the Exchange District.

The Lake of the Woods Building has a beautiful facade of red brick and sandstone. Inside the arch is a stained glass window. The sandstone front has an interesting texture and colour. However, like sand on a beach, the stone is slowly starting to erode. It was built in 1901 so it is \_\_\_\_\_ years old. It can be difficult to protect this material over such a long time.

### Activity

Record the sandstone in your Texture Tracker!



Sandstone feels \_\_\_\_\_.

### Activity

Today the building is an art gallery. What animal is outside? Draw it! Maybe there is a knight in the turret! Get artistic in turning the building into a castle!



*Look next door to  
find the next building.*

# 13. Criterion Hotel

The Criterion was constructed in 1903 and is \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

Many newcomers came to Winnipeg in search of opportunity.

At one point 17 trains a day would bring new people to the

Canadian Pacific Railway

Station! There were many

hotels and clubs for travellers

and newcomers who were

waiting to find homes. The

Criterion Hotel had 30 very

small rooms that were

about 3 by 3 metres each.

Many newcomers are still

arriving in Winnipeg today.

Q: LOOK AT THE FRONT  
OF THE BUILDING.  
WHAT PLANTS AND  
SHAPES DO YOU SEE?



The front of the hotel is decorated with plants and other shapes. This material is called *terra cotta*, which means *baked earth* in Italian. This is the same material used to make flower pots and pottery. There are many ways to make bricks and some are made from baked earth. Terra cotta is baked clay that is sculpted into beautiful designs and sometimes painted.

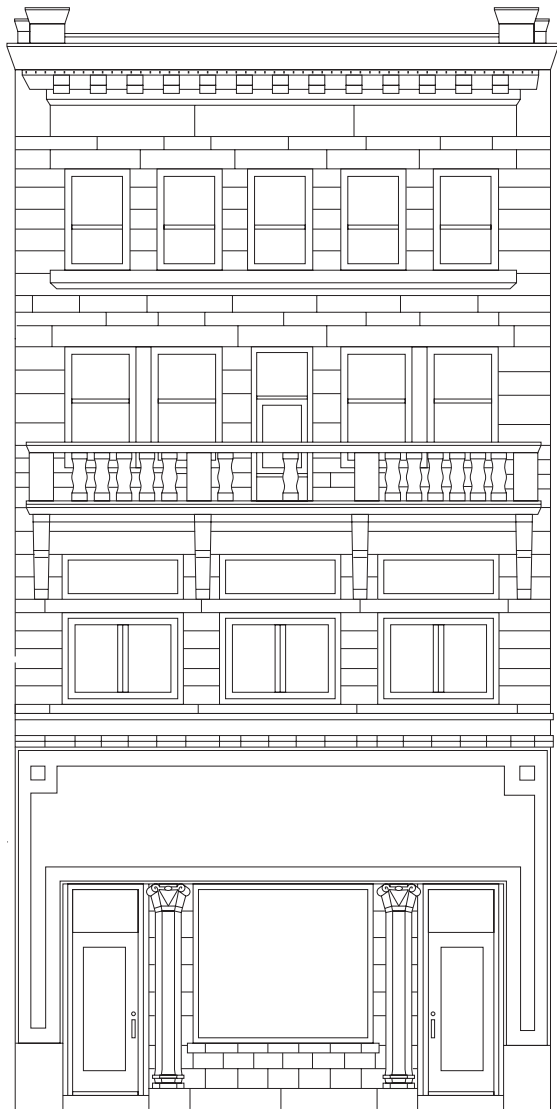
Terra cotta can be a very beautiful but fragile building material. It is not part of the main structure of the building because it is not load bearing. This terra cotta was added to the rough limestone facade twelve years after the building

was built. The lions on the Electric Railway Chambers building are also for decoration rather than structure.

The front of the building is called the facade. Often the main facade is more beautiful than the other sides of a building since it is the side most people will see. The Criterion is between two buildings so it was important to “add a face”. The main two sides of the Electric Railway Chambers are much more decorated than the others. This difference shows that parts of the facade are often more for decoration than for structure.

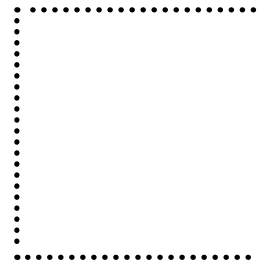
### Activity

Draw and colour the terra cotta around the edges of the entry!



### Activity

Record the terra cotta in your Texture Tracker!



Terra cotta feels \_\_\_\_\_.

*Head to Main Street to find the next building on the map. Can you tell what it is from the side? From the front?*



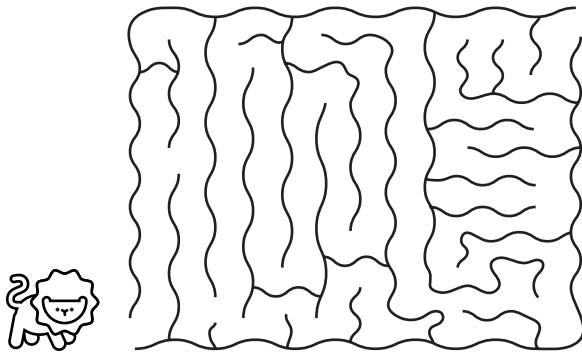
## 14. Bank of British North America

The Bank of British North America is the oldest building still standing on Banker's Row. It was built in 1903 and is \_\_\_\_\_ years old. Other banks are still standing.

This former bank also has a sandstone facade. The winding pattern on the front is called *vermiculation*. *Ver* means worm in French! The pattern does look like a slimy winding worm!

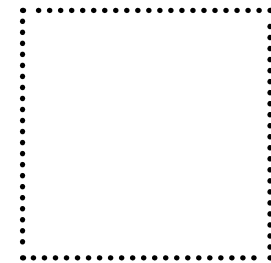
### Activity

Help Rorie the Lion find his way out of the vermiculated maze!



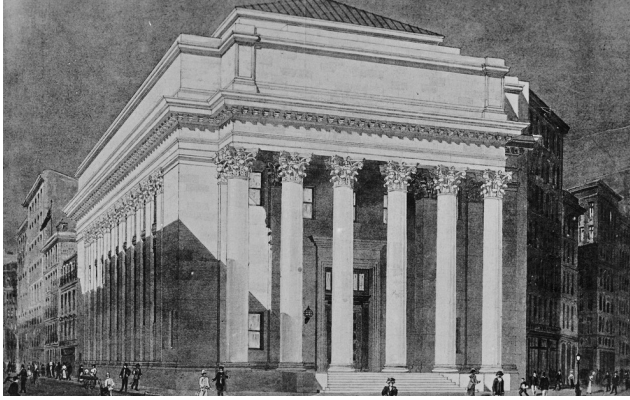
### Activity

Draw the vermiculated sandstone in your Texture Tracker!



Vermiculation feels \_\_\_\_.

Look across to Portage and Main,  
then across Main street for the  
next four buildings on the map.



## 15. Bank of Montreal

Q: WHAT IS THE BUILDING ACROSS PORTAGE AND MAIN? WHY DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS? HOW DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL? WHY?

Banks used neoclassical facades to show customers that they were strong, powerful, and trustworthy. *Neo* means *new*. *Classical* refers to ancient Greek and Roman art and architecture. This was a golden period when incredible buildings were made to honour powerful gods and goddesses or hold important new institutions like democracy. For example, the Parthenon was made about 2500 years ago with such high quality materials and methods that it is still standing today! Banks used similar styles and materials to show that they would last just as long and keep customers' money safe forever.

The money from the grain trade, wholesale, and manufacturing in the city made some people very rich. This part of Main Street was called Bankers' Row since there were more than 20 financial institutions here.





## 16. Union Trust Tower

Built in 1913, the Union Trust Tower is an early skyscraper. Similar to the Confederation Life Building, it has a white terra cotta facade;

however, the base is marble rather than granite and there is a simpler concrete cornice. The building has some very fancy details.

The building has a strange trapezoid-shaped plan. A trapezoid is a four-sided shape with one set of parallel opposite sides. Main Street was a very impressive location for banks. The building has only 9 metres of frontage but this was enough to give it an address on Banker's Row.

There were many banks in the area but only some people became very rich during this boom period. There were still many poor people at this time. Many non-British immigrants settled in the North End and were segregated in poverty by the CPR train tracks that cut through the city. Women and people of colour often experienced unequal treatment. In the Winnipeg General Strike of 1919, workers protested for better working conditions and the right to form unions. *Unions* are groups of workers who unite to improve their jobs through better standards of safety, pay, and more.

### Activity

Remember the length of your arms? Show the length of the building by adding up and stretching out your arms with your friends or family!

Q: HOW CAN THE CITY HELP EVERYONE GET  
WHAT THEY NEED TO BE HAPPY AND HEALTHY?





## 17. Bank of Commerce



## 18. Bank of Hamilton

The Bank of Hamilton is much taller than the Bank of Commerce.  
Built in 1918, it was one of the first skyscrapers in the city.

Unlike the clunky wood and stone structures of the old warehouses, the strong steel frame can support many floors. Also, unlike the rough stone base of these warehouses, the smooth Tyndall stone is strong but not load bearing. The building has a beautiful arched entry.

*Cross to the other side of McDermot Avenue and check out two other banks on Main Street.*



## 19. Bank of Toronto

This bank was built in 1907. The double facade is made of marble, cast iron, and glass.

The top of a column is called the *capital*. The capitals of *Corinthian* columns are much fancier than the plain capitals of *Doric* columns like the ones on the Bank of Commerce.

### Activity

What plant parts are at the top of the column? Draw them in!



## 20. Royal Bank

This bank was built in 1909. The facade is made of pink granite and bronze grills.

### Activity

What fiery animal is on the front gate? Draw it!

### Activity

There is an empty parking lot beside the bank! Many of the beautiful buildings that stood along Main Street were neglected and demolished with nothing built in their place. What does Main Street need? Imagine and draw what you would build instead of a parking lot. Use the shapes to the right to help you. What is your facade made of?



*Head back to McDermot Avenue and on to Albert Street to find the last building on this part of the hunt!*

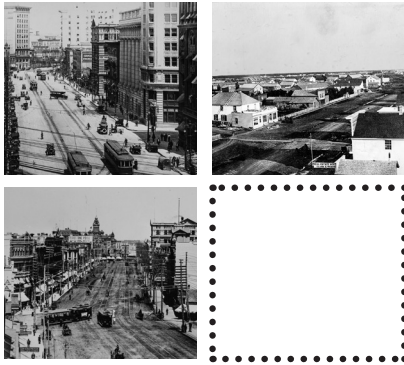


## 21. Albert Block

Cities are always changing and buildings are often shifting their use. This building went from being an apartment to a hotel to an apartment and back to a hotel again. Originally many people lived in the neighbourhood. There were apartments on the upper levels and stores on the lower levels. This gave people on the street access to what they needed. The smaller decorated entries welcome people in to the stores. Mixed-use buildings and neighbourhoods allow people to get what they need easily. Today more and more people are starting to live in the Exchange District again.

### Activity

The streets of the Exchange District have changed a lot over the years. Look at these pictures of Main street from the past. Imagine how Main Street might look in the future and draw it!



Q: WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR HOME? WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD? WHAT ARE THREE THINGS PEOPLE NEED IN A HEALTHY NEIGHBOURHOOD?

### Activity

Draw your dream community of the future. What buildings and services do you need to make sure that everyone gets what they need?

*Finish your adventure by heading back to Old Market Square or continue on to the Red River College Campus on Princess Street.*

## 22. Red River College

Red River College, opened in 2004, is a school specializing in communication and technology.



Q: DOES THE BUILDING LOOK LIKE  
IT IS ONLY A FEW YEARS OLD? WHY?

The architects of the building saved the old *facades* (building fronts) and added new parts to make the school. The Bawlf, Benson, and Harris buildings are some of the oldest in the Exchange District. They were built in 1882 and are over 100 years old. Using old buildings is a way to remember the past and create a more sustainable future. Saving the energy and materials that have gone into making old buildings is usually better for the environment.

### Activity

How many old buildings are parts of the Princess Street facade of the new building? Watch out for buildings that look very similar! Can you draw the new building behind the old facades?



## A. Bawlf Building

## B. Benson Building

The Bawlf and Benson buildings had many different uses as the owners wanted to make money from the city's boom. They both have wood post and beam frames with elaborate details!

### Activity

These buildings are twins but there are some differences between them. How many differences can you find?  
Circle them on the drawing!

## C. Harris Building

The Harris Building was a farm machine warehouse with tools that made farming faster and easier.

### Activity

Like the Golden Boy at the top of the Manitoba Legislature, the Harris Building had a beautiful statue of Ceres, the Roman Goddess of Agriculture, in the little red cave at the top. One day the statue disappeared! Where could she be? Write a story about what happened to the missing statue. Imagine if someone returned the missing statue and draw it in.

## D. Grain Exchange Building II

## E. Grain Exchange Building I

Winnipeg was right at the centre of the booming grain trade. The first Grain Exchange Building was a place for people to trade money for grains like wheat. It was built in 1892. The trading floor was a bustling place with people calling out offers and writing down numbers on chalk boards all around the room. Business grew so quickly that an entire building was added right beside the first in 1898.

Both buildings have a wood post and beam structure. The first is made of white brick and the second is made of red brick. The second building has a more elaborate facade with terra cotta molding and an iron balcony. Eventually an even bigger Grain Exchange was built on Lombard Avenue!

## 22. Red River College (continued)

### Activity

Finish the facade of the first Grain Exchange Building by drawing with the shapes below. Start with the biggest shapes and then add the smaller ones!



The school is open Monday through Friday from 8 to 4. If you can go in, look out for the painted bank vaults and the numbered loading docks from the back of the original buildings. Notice how the facades are connected to the new building! Washrooms are available if needed.

### You did it!

Way to go! Today you have learned more about the history of the Exchange District and why it is an important part of the city. You have seen how different materials with different textures are put together to make strong and beautiful buildings. You have also discovered how shapes are used to make sturdy structures or interesting facades. Buildings are an important part of our communities. Now you can take what you know and help make your community stronger!





# DRAWING BOARD

Draw your favourite building or any other interesting sights you see during the hunt!



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