

# EXPLORE THE FORKS!

Indigenous peoples have been gathering at the fork of the Assiniboine and Red rivers for over 6,000 years. In the 1700s, European fur traders arrived and began trading with Indigenous peoples. By the late 1800s, Canadian railway companies took over the area and The Forks became a major railway centre connecting Eastern and Western Canada. The use of the area as a railway hub ended by the early 1970s. The Forks was designated a National Historic Site in 1974 because of its importance to Canadian history. It continues to be an important meeting place for Canadians.

## Alloway Arch (1910)

The Alloway Arch was originally part of a bank located at 362 Main Street. When the building was torn down, the arch from the front of the bank was saved. For decades the arch sat in storage, but in 2015 it was placed at The Forks. Now it's part of the Broadway Promenade, a pedestrian path that connects Union Station to the Esplanade Riel bridge.

# Canadian Museum for Human Rights (2014)

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR) is the world's first museum dedicated to human rights. Architect Antoine Predock designed the building so that visitors would be taken on a journey from the ground to the sky. Predock was inspired by Canada's natural landscapes, from grasslands and snow to mountains and water.

## **Rail Cars**

To celebrate the area's railway history, these rail cars are housed beside The Forks Market. Rail cars would look different inside depending on what they were used for. Some rail cars were used to transport goods and others to transport passengers. Some of them, like the red rail car here, were used as a place where passengers could eat and drink.

# The Forks Market (1909-1912)

The Forks Market used to be two separate buildings, originally built as stables for horses. The horses were used to pull wagons of goods. Together the stables could house 220 horses! The two stables were joined to make one building in 1989. The Forks Market now houses shops and restaurants.

#### The Forks Historic Port (1991)

This area was once the traditional meeting place of Indigenous peoples and fur traders who would arrive by canoe or York boat to meet and trade goods. Now, The Forks Historic Port connects the connects the waterway with The Forks Plaza. In the summer, you can take a boat tour or water bus from the port. In the winter, you can skate or ski on the rivers!

#### Oodena Celebration Circle (1993)

Oodena Celebration Circle is an amphitheatre, an outdoor space that can be used performances, ceremonies, and gatherings.

Oodena is Ojibwa for "heart of the community." The space honours the Indigenous peoples who have gathered in the area for over 6,000 years. It was designed by HTFC Planning + Design who worked closely with Indigenous elders on the project.

# Manitoba Children's Museum (1889)

This building used to be the Northern Pacific and Manitoba Railway Repair Shop. It is the oldest building at The Forks! Built as a train repair shop, the building is now home to the Manitoba Children's Museum. In 2011, Syverson Monteyne Architects designed a colourful addition to the original structure.

### Play Area at Forks National Historic Site (2013)

The Play Area was designed by HTFC Planning + Design for Parks Canada. This one of a kind park is inspired by different aspects of the area's history. You can learn about trade, immigration, transportation, and much more at the park's different play zones. The park is an adventure in every season!

## Niizhoziibean

Niizhoziibean means two rivers in Ojibwa. This area has been renamed by Indigenous elders to honour our city's heritage and its prominent place alongside the Red and Assiniboine Rivers.

The Winnipeg Architecture Foundation is a non-profit, registered charitable organisation dedicated to advancing the awareness and appreciation of Winnipeg's built environment through public education.

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