

1981

THE YEAR PAST

REPORT OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

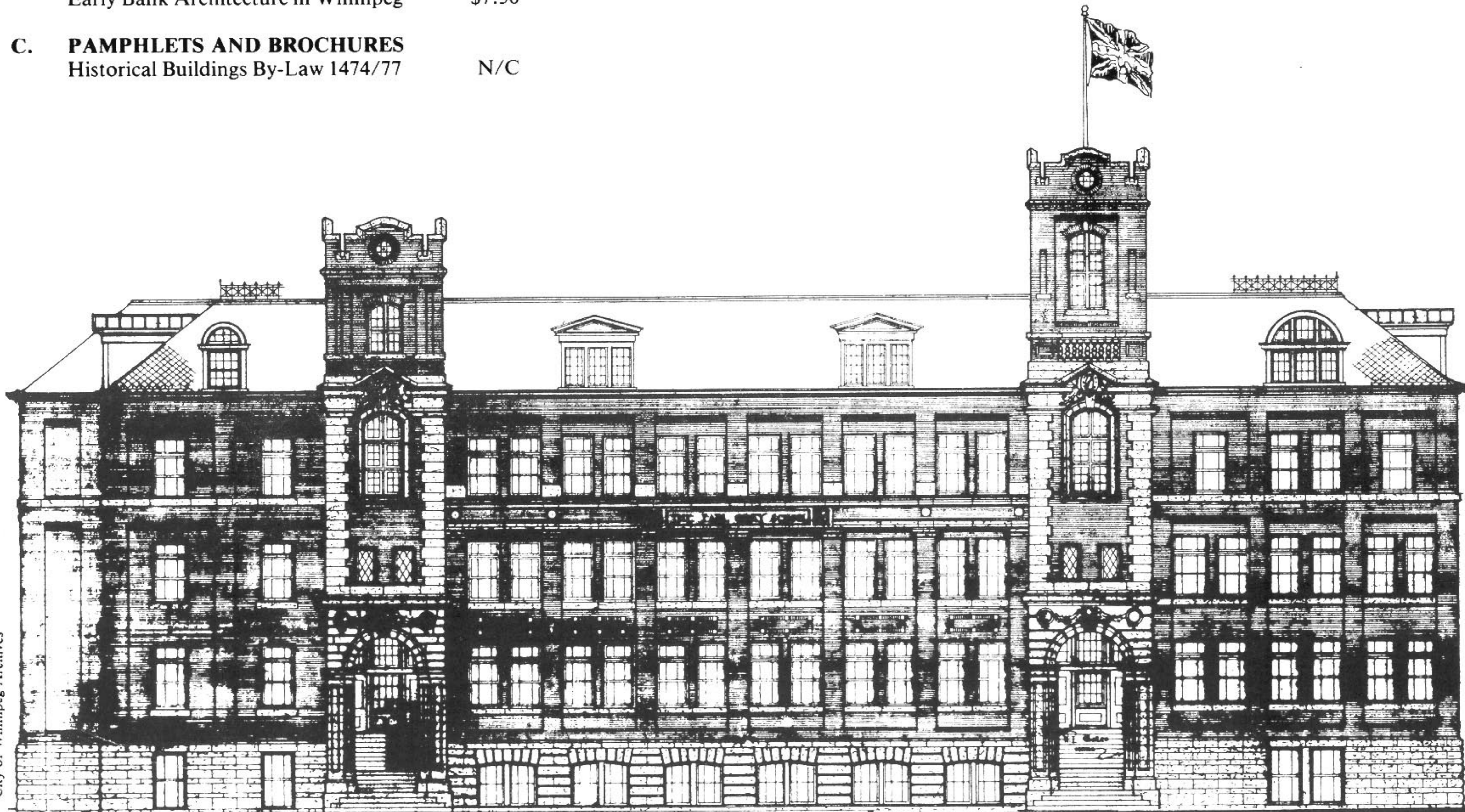
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### Cover/Opposite

Front elevation of Earl Grey School from original drawing by J. B. Mitchell.

**1981: The Year Past** is designed and produced by the Historic Projects Branch, City of Winnipeg, Department of Environmental Planning.

September 1982

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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The conservation and preservation of our architectural heritage provides a vital link with the past and a familiar bridge to the future. Appreciation and respect for the past are essential in order to maintain Winnipeg's unique identity and sense of place. The protection and rehabilitation of individual buildings and districts are tangible ways to recognize the past; to explore and understand where we came from and who we are; and to provide a foundation for future change.

The City of Winnipeg's Historical Buildings By-law 1474/77, passed in February, 1977, and amending By-law No. 2032/78, passed in August, 1978, established the Historical Buildings Committee, enabled it to draw up a list of buildings or structures of significant architectural or historic interest, and established the criteria, priorities, and procedures for placing buildings on the Buildings' Conservation List. This designation represents the legal protection placed upon heritage buildings by City Council.

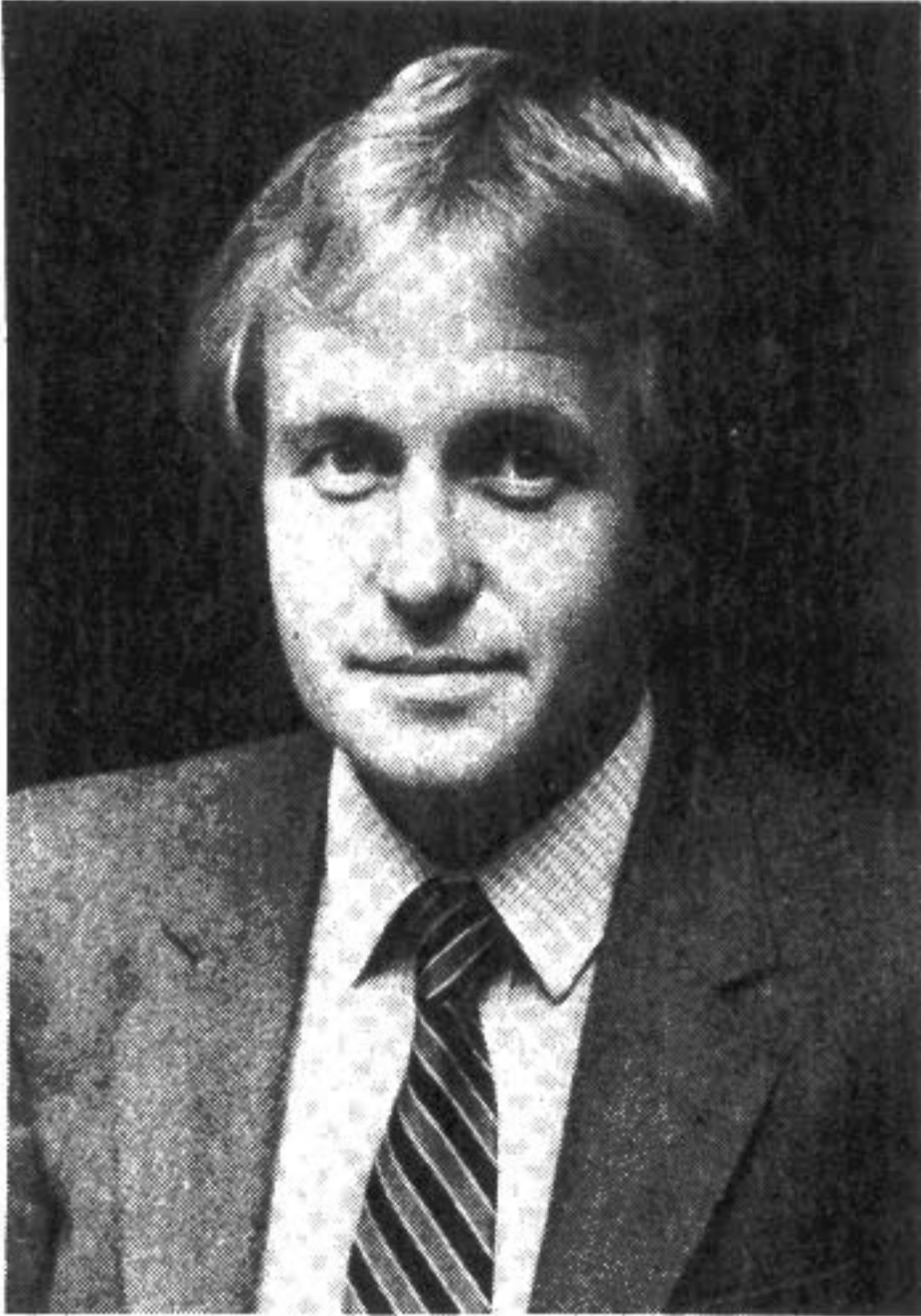
The goal of heritage conservation is to retain, where possible, the original character of a building while encouraging those changes which will make it useful. Heritage conservation is an increasingly important factor in the development of Winnipeg as an interesting, attractive, and cosmopolitan city.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bill Norrie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*WILLIAM NORRIE, Q.C.*  
MAYOR

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## 2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



It is a pleasure to present this, the third annual report of the Historical Buildings Committee covering 1981.

The Committee's procedures have been described in earlier reports but briefly they are as follows: Before making its recommendations, the Historical Buildings Committee assigns a research historian to prepare a report on each building. This is followed by an inspection of each building, culminating in an evaluation by the Committee. A grading system in which points are assigned for specific architectural and historical interest is used to determine the classification of the building. Designation procedures are outlined in Chapter 3.

During 1981, the Committee on Environment considered recommendations concerning 25 buildings evaluated by the Historical Buildings Committee. Of these, thirteen buildings were ultimately placed on the Buildings Conservation List, bringing the total number designated as of 31 December 1981 to 40.

In addition to making recommendations on specific buildings, during 1981 the Committee began an extensive review of the Historical Buildings By-Law. Out of this review, the Committee has identified a number of desirable revisions which, it believes, will improve the By-law in light of the experience of actual designation situations and which will streamline existing permit procedures. It is expected that these proposed changes will go before Council in late 1982.

Along with these major tasks the Committee has, during 1981 continued to commission detailed research reports on a number of categories of buildings; it has monitored the Inventory of Historic Buildings to ensure that architecturally significant buildings are not inadvertently demolished; and it has approved certificates for renovation work on designated buildings.

Another significant development this year involved the Empire Hotel. In July, 1981, a sub-committee was established to explore all available options with respect to the facade of the Empire Hotel. The sub-committee recommended that the pressed metal facades of the structure (north and west elevations) be carefully removed, catalogued, and delivered to the City of Winnipeg for storage. This recommendation was made in light of the poor structural condition of the hotel.

Through the offices of the Mayor, an agreement was reached among the City, the Province of Manitoba (which had also designated the building) and Great West Life Assurance Co. (the property owners) which provided for the sharing of dismantling expenses. The pressed metal facades were subsequently removed and are presently being stored by the City of Winnipeg pending, it is hoped, eventual re-erection at another site in Win-

nipeg.

Again, as last year, it is necessary for the Chairman to acknowledge with considerable gratitude the dedication and commitment of our staff and the members of the Committee. The circumstance of the Chairman of the Committee also being the Chairman of the Committee on Environment during 1981-82 placed an additional burden on the Committee and its staff which they discharged conscientiously and well. I continue to be grateful to them all.

A particular word may be appropriate respecting Mr. Chuck Brook. Mr. Brook has served as Historic Projects Co-ordinator and has been a mainstay to the Committee since its inception. His departure to take up new responsibilities in the civic administration occurred subsequent to the year covered by this report, but our indebtedness - and that of heritage conservation - to Mr. Brook should not have to await the fourth annual report to be acknowledged.

Finally it remains only to say that this report reflects the ongoing commitment of this community and its Council to a policy of sensible heritage conservation. Our hope is that the report will broaden Winnipeggers' knowledge of that policy and the architectural heritage which it seeks to protect.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Neville".

William Neville,  
Councillor,  
Chairman, Historical Buildings Committee.



### 3. THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS BY-LAW

#### A. BACKGROUND

On February 2, 1977, Winnipeg City Council adopted **By-law No. 1474/77** "a By-law for the conservation and preservation of buildings of an architectural and historical interest in the City of Winnipeg." By-law 1474 established the **Buildings' Conservation List** and an advisory committee known as the **Historical Buildings Committee**, consisting of seven members appointed or nominated from the following:

- (a) *One Member of The Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba;*
- (b) *One Member from The Manitoba Association of Architects;*
- (c) *Two Members from The Province of Manitoba,*
- (d) *Two Members from The City of Winnipeg,*
- (e) *One Member from The Government of Canada, from Parks Canada;*

In August, 1978 an amending by-law **By-law 2032/78**, was adopted. This by-law set forth in detail: the **criteria** for determining buildings of heritage significance; **priority ratings** of designated buildings; **listing procedures**; **appeal provisions and certificate requirements**.

#### B. CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE BUILDINGS

A building or structure may be listed on the Buildings' Conservation List where:

- the building may have been associated with the life of an historic person or have played a role in an important historic event;
- the building may embody characteristics of an architectural type valuable for the study of a style or method of construction of its period or area, or be a notable example of the work of an early master builder, an important designer, or a significant architect;
- the building has the potential for illustrating our heritage to a degree such that it will be possible for the visitor to gain from the building an understanding of the architecture or history with which it is associated;
- the building and its site possess integrity;
- the building is significant because of the original materials and workmanship remaining;
- the building is significant due to the factors of feeling, association and aesthetics;
- the building forms an integral part of a section of character in a given community.

#### C. PRIORITY RATINGS

There are four categories of heritage buildings:

**Grade I** buildings are those of outstanding architectural or historic merit which are to be preserved in perpetuity. This would apply to the entire building, both interior and exterior.

A **Grade II** listing preserves the exterior of a building and may include a significant interior element such as a handsome marble staircase, a particularly significant room, etc.

A **Grade III** listing prevents the demolition of a building where the demolition is deemed by the Community Committee and Committee on Environment to be "unnecessary", based on individual circumstances. Where a demolition is approved, a **Grade III** listing may regulate the manner in which the building is dismantled, and record or preserve, where possible, building components of interest.

A **Grade IV** listing regulates demolition of buildings to allow for the recording and preserving of certain components.

## D. LISTING, NOTICE AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

There are basically two methods in which a building may be placed on the Buildings' Conservation List:

### METHOD 1: LISTING BY CITY COUNCIL

- i) The Historical Buildings Committee recommends to Committee on Environment that a Grade I or Grade II building be placed on the Buildings Conservation List. In the case of Grade III or IV recommendations, the report is sent to both the Committee on Environment and the Community Committee representing the district in which the building is located. (A building is selected for recommendation in one of three ways: by choice of the Committee; by request by the owner or other party; or by application by the owner for a demolition permit for a building tabulated on the Historical Buildings Inventory. *See Section 4*)
- ii) For Grade I and II buildings, Committee on Environment then notifies the owner of the proposed listing, affording him the opportunity to object by delivering a letter to the City Clerk. If no letter of objection is received within fourteen days of the notification, the building is considered to be listed by Council.
- iii) Upon receiving a letter of objection, Committee on Environment holds a hearing as part of its regular business. The Committee on Environment then forwards its recommendation to Council.
- iv) After again notifying the owner, Council hears representations on the matter and then may list the building on the Buildings' Conservation List under the Grade recommended or any other Grade.

For Grade III and IV buildings, Committee on Environment normally awaits the advice of the Community Committee before notifying the owner of the proposed listing.

### METHOD 2: LISTING BY THE COMMISSIONER

The Commissioner of Environment is empowered under the By-law to list buildings on the Buildings' Conservation List, with or without the recommendation of the Historical Buildings Committee. Upon listing a building, the Commissioner notifies the owner, and in the instance of a Grade III or IV building, the Community Committee is notified as well. If no appeal against the listing is taken within fourteen days, the Commissioner refers the listing to Council through the Committee on Environment for confirmation. If a letter of objection is received, the Committee on Environment holds a hearing as part of its regular business. The same procedures as those in Method 1 then apply.

A listing by the Commissioner of Environment lapses if it is not confirmed by City Council within one year.

Under a 1979 amendment, the Commissioner may also list a building temporarily for a period of up to 60 days, for the purpose of determining whether or not to list the building in accordance with Method 1. At the end of the 60 day period the temporary listing expires. No appeal provisions apply to a temporary listing.



## **E. REMOVAL FROM THE LIST, CHANGING OF GRADING**

An owner or the Commissioner may apply to have a building removed from the Buildings Conservation List, or listed under a different grade, by writing to the City Clerk. Normal listing procedures, as described above, would then apply.

## **F. CERTIFICATE OF SUITABILITY/ ORDINARY MAINTENANCE**

### **i) Certificate of Suitability**

Except for ordinary maintenance, no permit shall be issued for the alteration, repair, demolition, removal or occupancy of any building on the Buildings' Conservation List without prior issuance of a Certificate of Suitability. Applications for certificates are submitted to Committee on Environment on recommendation of the Historical Buildings Committee. Application forms for Certificates of Suitability are available through the Department of Environmental Planning, Historic Projects Branch, 942-5630.

Where the Historical Buildings Committee recommends to Committee on Environment that a Certificate be refused, the reasons are forwarded to the owner, who has the right to appear at a hearing at Committee on Environment as part of its regular business. The decision of Committee on Environment is final.

### **ii) Certificate of Ordinary Maintenance**

A Certificate of Suitability is not required for ordinary maintenance or repair of a building certified by the Commissioner not to involve a change in any element of design which affects the appearance of the building or its architectural or historical interest. Applications for Certificates of Ordinary Maintenance may be made through the Department of Environmental Planning, Historic Projects Branch, 985-5390.

## **G. PENALTIES**

Any demolition, alteration, repair, removal or occupancy of a building on the Buildings' Conservation List or temporarily listed except in accordance with a permit in these specific cases is an offence and the provisions of Section 138 of The City of Winnipeg Act apply.

## **H. GRANTS**

Council may, in its discretion, grant moneys to aid in the conservation of a building listed in the Buildings' Conservation List.

Further information on the Historical Buildings By-law may be obtained from:

Historical Projects Co-ordinator  
Department of Environmental Planning  
City of Winnipeg  
395 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3B 3E1

PH: 985-5390

#### 4. THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE - 1981

ORGANIZATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE MEMBER
City of Winnipeg	Councillor W. Neville (Chairman) Councillor A. Balsillie	
Province of Manitoba	Mr. P. Diamant Mr. J. D. McFarland	Mr. F. Pritchard Mr. N. Einarson
Manitoba Historical Society	Mr. E. C. Nix	Mr. W. A. Tolboom
Parks Canada	Mr. T. Heggie	Mr. M. Soucy Mr. L. Dick
Manitoba Association of Architects	Mr. M. Haid	Mr. R. Gregoire

#### THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE - 1982

ORGANIZATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE MEMBER
City of Winnipeg	Councillor W. F. W. Neville (Chairman) Councillor H. Smith	
Province of Manitoba	Mr. P. Diamant Mr. J. D. McFarland	Mr. N. Einarson
Manitoba Historical Society	Mr. E. C. Nix	Mrs. J. Irvine
Parks Canada	Mr. T. Heggie	Mr. M. Soucy Mr. L. Dick
Manitoba Association of Architects	Mr. M. Haid	Mr. R. Gregoire

Staff Advisors	Mr. C. Brook Mr. S. Barber	Secretary	Ms. M. Morgan	Research Consultants	Ms. S. Grover Mr. D. Spector
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## 5. TABULATION - THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS INVENTORY

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In order to assess the overall scope of the Winnipeg conservation program, the Historical Buildings Committee has compiled an Inventory of approximately 750 buildings including commercial, educational, financial, public, religious, residential and miscellaneous structures. When a demolition permit application is made for a building on the inventory, the application is referred to the Commissioner of Environment, who awaits the advice of the Historical Buildings Committee which then evaluates the subject property.

It is *very* important to distinguish between the **BUILDINGS CONSERVATION LIST** and the **HISTORICAL BUILDINGS INVENTORY**. The **INVENTORY** is simply a tabulation of buildings which *may* have architectural or historical significance. Buildings on the Inventory have *not* been designated (i.e. - placed on the Buildings Conservation List) and carry no restrictions other than the delay in the issuance of the demolition permit so as to allow the Historical Buildings Committee to closely examine the structure's architecture and history. The Committee may recommend that the building be placed on the Buildings Conservation List, or they may simply recommend that the building be thoroughly photographed prior to demolition.

Further information on the Historical Buildings Inventory may be obtained from:

Historical Projects Co-ordinator  
Department of Environmental Planning  
City of Winnipeg  
395 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3B 3E1

PH: 985-5390

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## 6. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

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### A. DESIGNATED HISTORICAL BUILDINGS - 1981

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ADDRESS	NAME	GRADE	PAGE
48 Albert Street	Royal Albert Arms Hotel	III*	17
270 Cockburn Street	Earl Grey School	III	25
180 Market Avenue	Playhouse Theatre	II	33
60 Maryland Street	Woodsworth House	III	37
214 McDermot Avenue	Criterion Hotel	II*	39
221 McDermot Avenue	Lyon Block (Bate Building)	II*	41
Morley Avenue	Nurses' Residence	III	43
259 Portage Avenue	Paris Building	II	51
388 Portage Avenue	Boyd Building	III	53
219 Provencher Boulevard	St. Boniface City Hall	II*	55
171 River Avenue	House	III	57
229 Roslyn Road	Nanton Estate Gates	II	61
71 Xavier Drive	Caron House	III	71

\*An asterisk following a classification signifies that the building is of particular importance as a component of a streetscape.

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**B. BUILDINGS CONSERVATION LIST -1979-1980.***(See 1979 and 1980 Annual Reports for respective building summaries)*

In addition to the above buildings, the following were designated in 1979 and 1980:

<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>YEAR LISTED</b>
63 Albert Street	Hammond Building	III*	1980
70 Albert Street	Telegram Building	II*	1980
91 Albert Street	Imperial Dry Goods Block (Trend Interiors)	III*	1980
184 Alexander Avenue	The Bible House (Ukrainian Cultural Centre)	III	1980
115 Bannatyne Avenue	Donald H. Bain Warehouse (The Brokerage)	II*	1980
283 Bannatyne Avenue	Traveller's Building (Townsite)	II*	1979
291 Bannatyne Avenue	a) Sanford Building (Old Spaghetti Factory) b) Maw's Garage (Old Spaghetti Factory)	II* III*	1979
222 Broadway	Hotel Fort Garry	II	1980
61 Carlton Street	Macdonald House (Dalnavert)	II	1980
176 Higgins Avenue	Ross House	I	1980
171 Main Street	Empire Hotel	III*	1979
335 Main Street	Bank of Montreal	II*	1980
389 Main Street	Bank of Commerce	I	1978
395 Main Street	Bank of Hamilton	I	1978
457 Main Street	Confederation Life Building	II*	1980

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<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>YEAR LISTED</b>
1637 Main Street	Inkster House	II	1980
169 Pioneer Avenue	Commercial Building	III	1980
146 Princess Street	Benson Block (Drake Hotel)	III*	1979
148 Princess Street	Bawlf Block (House of Comoy)	III*	1979
154 Princess Street	Harris Building (Hochman Building)	III*	1979
160 Princess Street	Exchange Building	II*	1979
164/166 Princess Street	Utility Building	II*	1979
141 Regent Avenue	Toronto Dominion Bank (Transcona Municipal Offices)	III	1980
430 River Avenue	House	IV	1980
432 River Avenue	House	IV	1980
310 St. Charles Street	St. Charles Novitiate	III	1980

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\*An asterisk following a classification signifies that the building is of particular importance as a component of a streetscape.

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### C. RECOMMENDATIONS - 1981

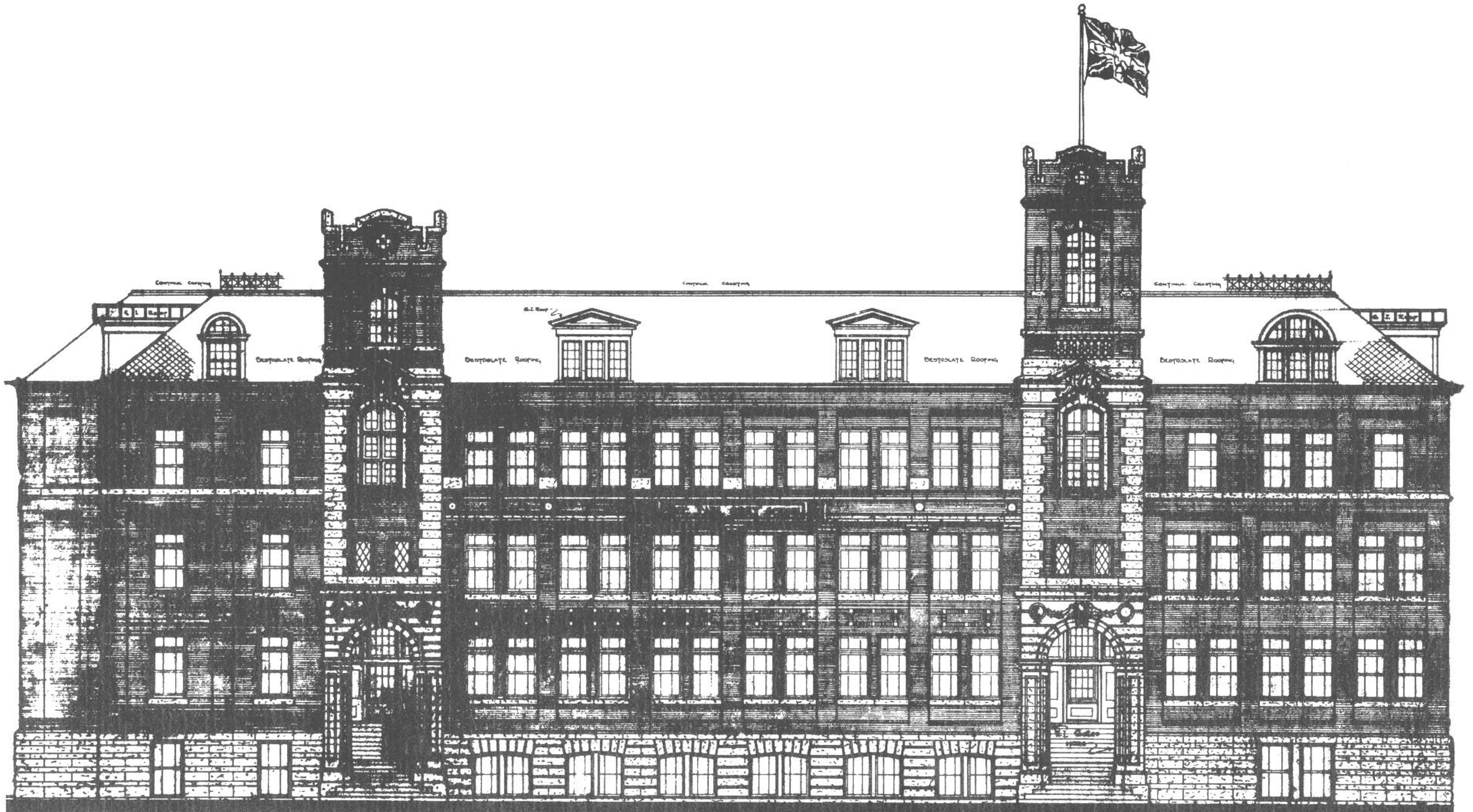
In addition to the designated buildings listed in 1981, Committee on Environment considered the following recommendations:

ADDRESS	NAME	COMMENTS	PAGE
251 Broadway	Broadway Court Apartments	No recommendation <i>Demolished 1981</i>	19
376 Broadway	Devon Court Apartments	No recommendation <i>Demolished 1981</i>	21
181 Euclid Street	Chinese Laundry	No recommendation <i>Demolished 1981</i>	27
181 Higgins Avenue	CP Station	Evaluated at Grade II <i>(see Note 1)</i>	29
858 Palmerston Avenue	Residence	No recommendation	45
201 Portage Avenue	Nanton Building	No recommendation	47
211 Portage Avenue	McArthur Building (Childs Building)	No recommendation	49
61 Roslyn Crescent	Nanton Estate - Carriage House	Recommended Grade III <i>No listing</i>	
223 Roslyn Road	Bain Residence	Recommended Grade III <i>No listing</i>	59
229 Roslyn Road	Nanton Estate - Gatehouse	Recommended Grade II <i>No listing</i>	61
645 Sargent Avenue	No. 5 Firehall	Pending	65
237 Wellington Crescent	Russell Residence	No recommendation <i>Demolished 1982</i>	67
285 Wellington Crescent	Osler Residence	No recommendation <i>Demolished 1981</i>	69

NOTE 1: The City of Winnipeg has no jurisdiction over CP Station. However, the Committee's evaluation was forwarded to CP as an informal recommendation.







# RESEARCH SUMMARIES

## GLOSSARY

**CLASSICISM -**

a revival of or return to the principles of Greek or (more often) Roman art and architecture. Neo-classical buildings are solid and rather severe. Decoration, including classical enrichments, is restrained.

**CORNICE -**

the top projecting section of an **entablature** (see below). Also any projecting ornamental moulding along the top of a building, wall, arch, etc. finishing or crowning it.

**CUPOLA -**

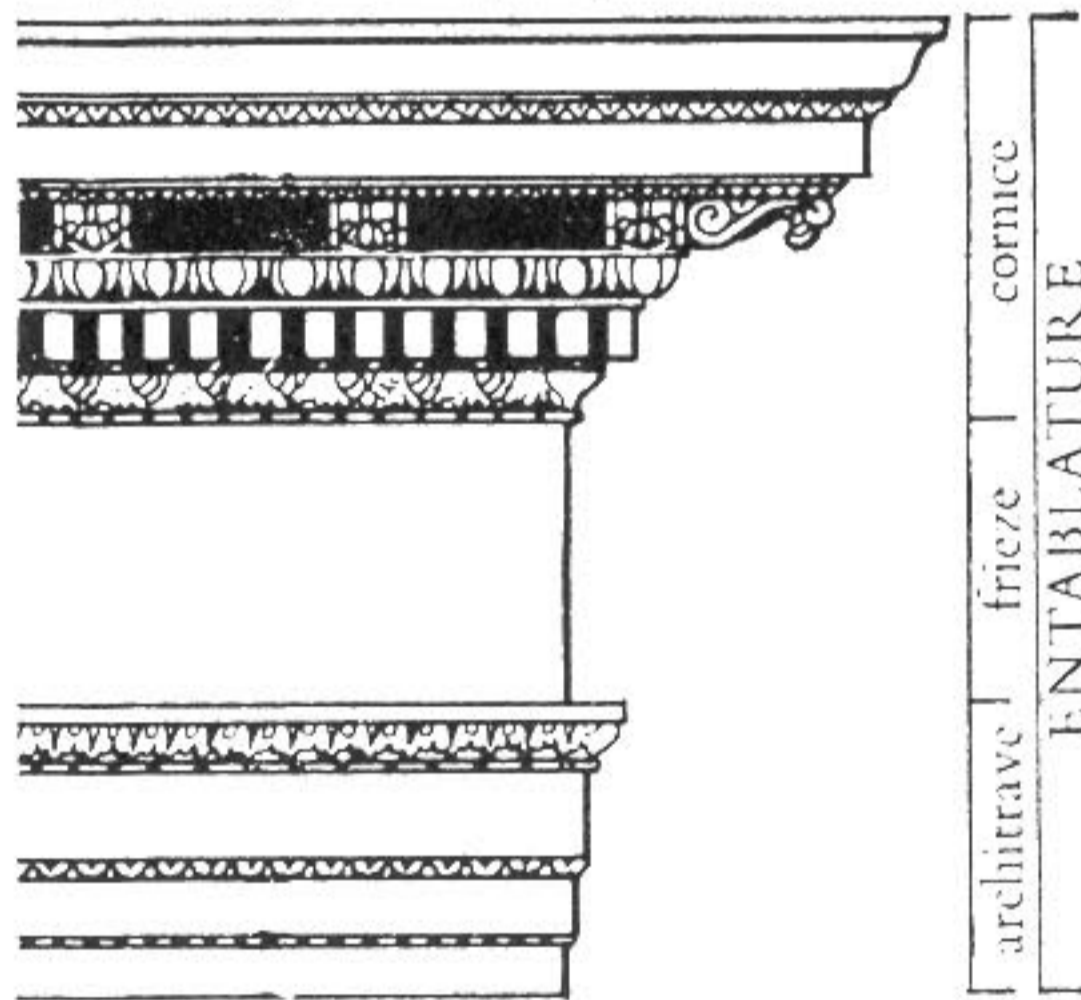
a small dome on a circular or polygonal base crowning a roof or turret.

**DENTIL -**

a small square block used in series in cornices.

**ENTABLATURE -**

the upper part of an "order" (in classical architecture, a column with base, shaft, and capital)

**FINIAL -**

a formal ornament at the top of a canopy, gable, pinnacle, etc.

**FRIEZE -**

the middle division of an **ENTABLATURE** (see illustration above).

**GAMBREL ROOF -**

a roof terminating in a small gable at the ridge.

**LINTEL -**

a horizontal beam or stone bridging an opening.

**MANSARD ROOF -**

roof having a double slope, the lower being longer and steeper than the upper.

**PALLADIAN -**

an archway or window with three openings, the central one arched and wider than the others.

**PEDIMENT -**

a low-pitched gable above a roofed space forming the entrance and centrepiece of the facade.

**PORTICO -**

a roofed space forming the entrance and centre-piece of the facade, often with detached or attached columns and a pediment.

**QUOINS -**

the dressed stones at the corners of buildings, usually laid so that their faces are alternately large and small.

**RUSTICATION -**

masonry cut in massive blocks separated from each other by deep joints, employed to give a rich and bold texture to an exterior wall and normally reserved for the lower part of it.

**TERRA COTTA -**

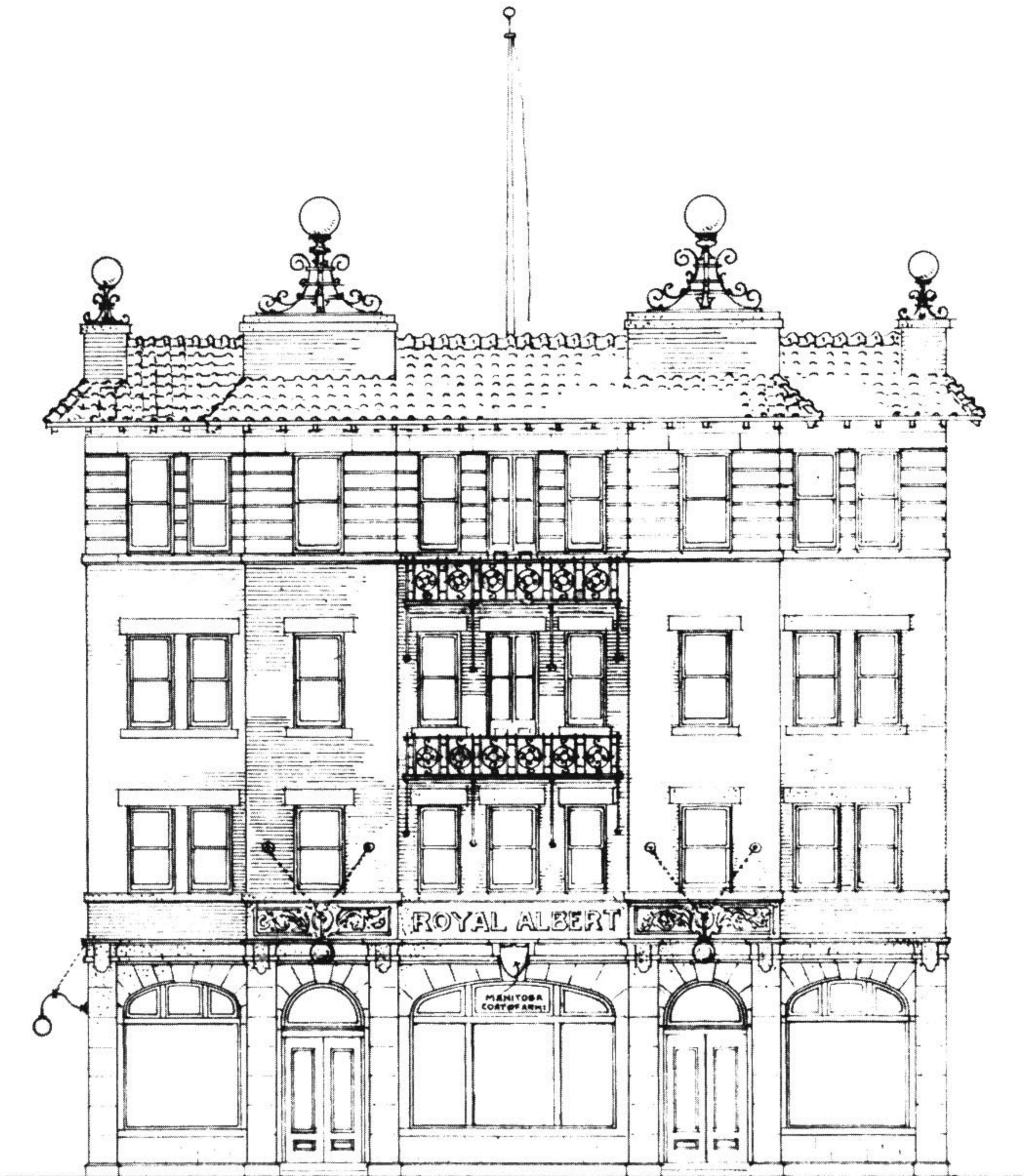
fired but unglazed clay, used mainly for wall covering and ornamentation, as it can be fired into moulds.

**VOUSSOIR -**

a brick or wedge-shaped forming one of the units of an arch.

**TRIGLYPHS -**

blocks separating the spaces in a frieze.



Constructed in the summer of 1913, the Royal Albert Hotel was one of a series of hotels built in Winnipeg's boom years between 1900 and World War I. The opening of the Royal Albert was overshadowed by the simultaneous opening of the Fort Garry Hotel, an event which naturally preoccupied the press. Following this inauspicious start, the smaller hotel quickly found its niche: its 53 private rooms accommodated salesmen, travellers and visitors on business in the booming warehouse district. A large cafe and a handsomely-fitted bar provided the patrons with service tailored on the "European plan", a mode which was popular at the time.

In keeping with this European-styled service, the facade of the hotel was designed with a continental flair. A red-tiled roof forms a cornice over a brick front accentuated with ornamental iron fretwork, elaborate iron lights and arched main floor windows and doors which combine to create an Italian effect; the first proprietor's name was Angelo Ferrari. Designed by architect E. D. McGuire, the Royal Albert was built by W. M. Scott, a consulting engineer who later became chairman of the Winnipeg Water District's Board of Commissioners. Basically rectangular in plan, the hotel is four storeys high. Aside from its facade, the principal features of the hotel are its bar and cafe which have remained essentially intact. A stained glass skylight graces the present bar area.

Over the years, the Royal Albert changed as the functions and needs of the downtown area changed. Revitalization of the hotel, following the City of Winnipeg's Old Market Square streetscaping program, has recently enhanced the prominence of the Royal Albert.

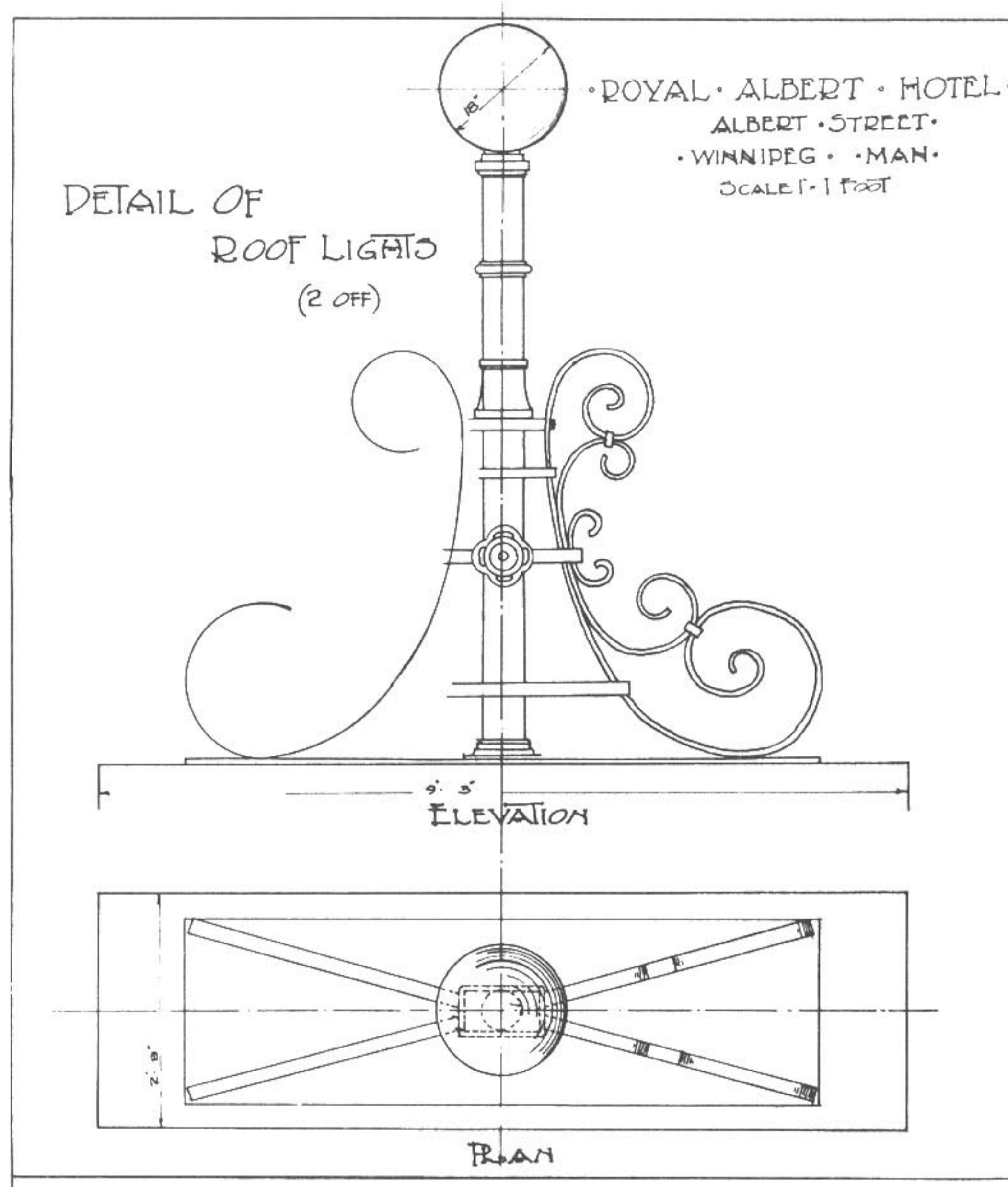
*Front elevation of the Royal Albert Hotel, from original drawings by E. D. McGuire.*



City of Winnipeg Photo

In 1979, the Royal Albert's appearance was enhanced by the Old Market Square Streetscaping Project, which widened the sidewalk to provide an area for an outdoor cafe.

City of Winnipeg Archives



Roof light detail, from original architectural drawings by E. D. McGuire.



City of Winnipeg Photo

Constructed in 1906, the Broadway Court apartments occupied a prominent site on the main street of an exclusive residential area, Broadway, which split the district into north and south. Only remnants of the southern portion endure.

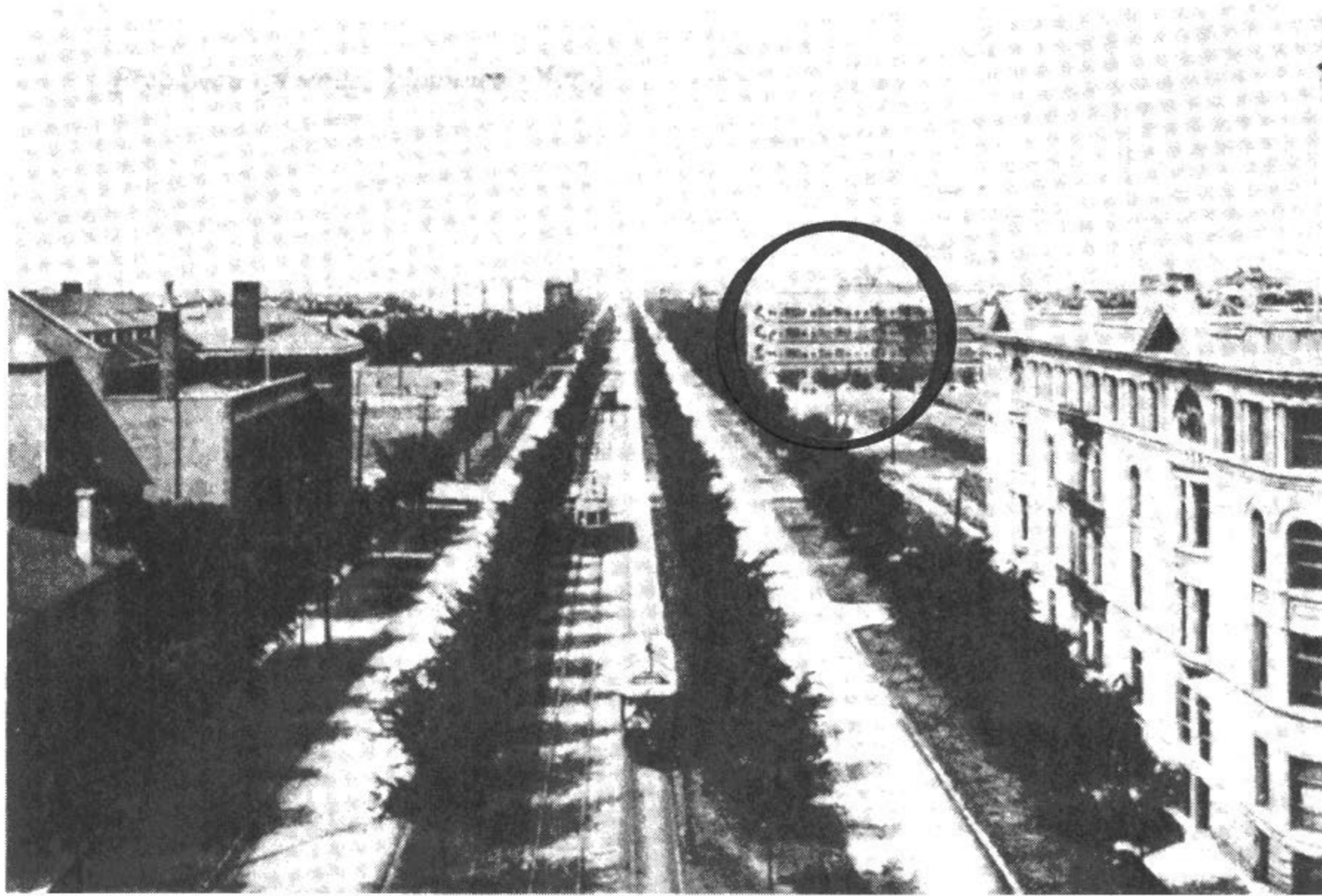
Under the terms negotiated in the formal creation of Manitoba in 1870, the Hudson's Bay Company retained a parcel of land west of the Red River and south of Portage Avenue as far west as Osborne Street. This was the Hudson's Bay Reserve. To maximize profits in this land venture, the Company only sold the lots when demand had driven up land prices in the 1880's and 1890's. Company restrictions which prohibited subdividing of the lots precluded certain types of housing so that only the wealthy could afford to build within the Reserve. As the company felt no pressure to dispose of its land holdings, the Reserve evolved slowly into an elegant district of large, comfortable homes and apartments.

The Broadway Court was built under these circumstances. It was four storeys of solid brick, built up in a U-shape around an internal courtyard. Across the Broadway face ran a great four-storey veranda of screened rooms in white wood. A less ornate veranda served the three interior sides of the courtyard. Gay striped awnings further enlivened the Broadway facade's windows. Each window had many small panes, while as a whole, the windows joined with the stone trimmings and ornamental cornice to give rhythm to the broad horizontal lines of the block.

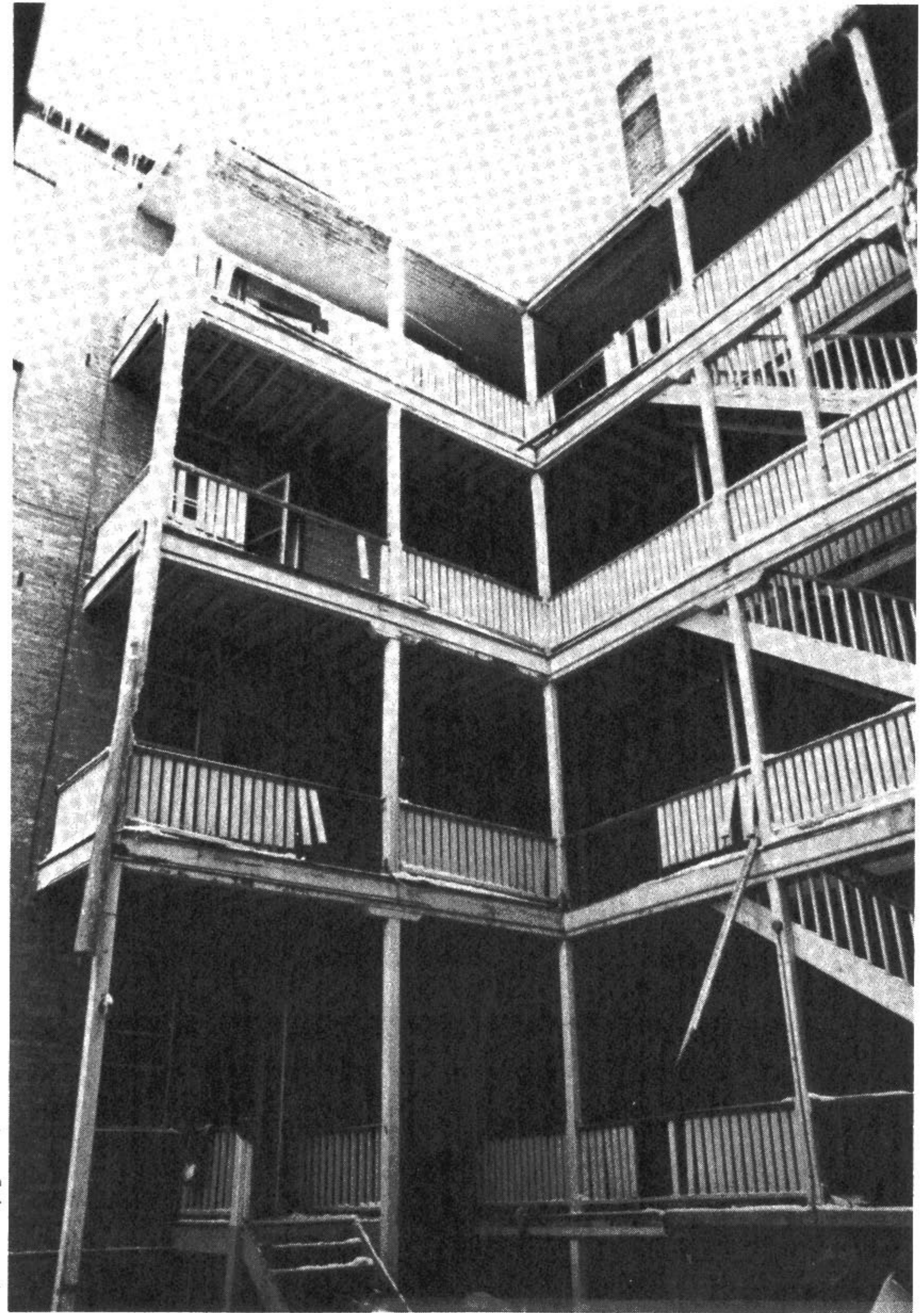
The suites were spacious, finished elegantly with oak and carved mantels. The early tenants included many professional people and small business owners, but by the 1930 depression, the apartment attracted blue collar occupants. Proximity to the CNR and CPR made the location desirable for many railway employees. East Broadway suffered from the degeneration of Main Street, causing the rents of Broadway Court to drop, casting the structure into a sorry condition.

*Right: Rear stairway of the Broadway Court just prior to its demolition in 1982.*

*Below: Broadway, looking west from Main Street, circa 1910. The Broadway Court is circled at right.*



Manitoba Archives Photo



City of Winnipeg Photo



Manitoba Archives Photo

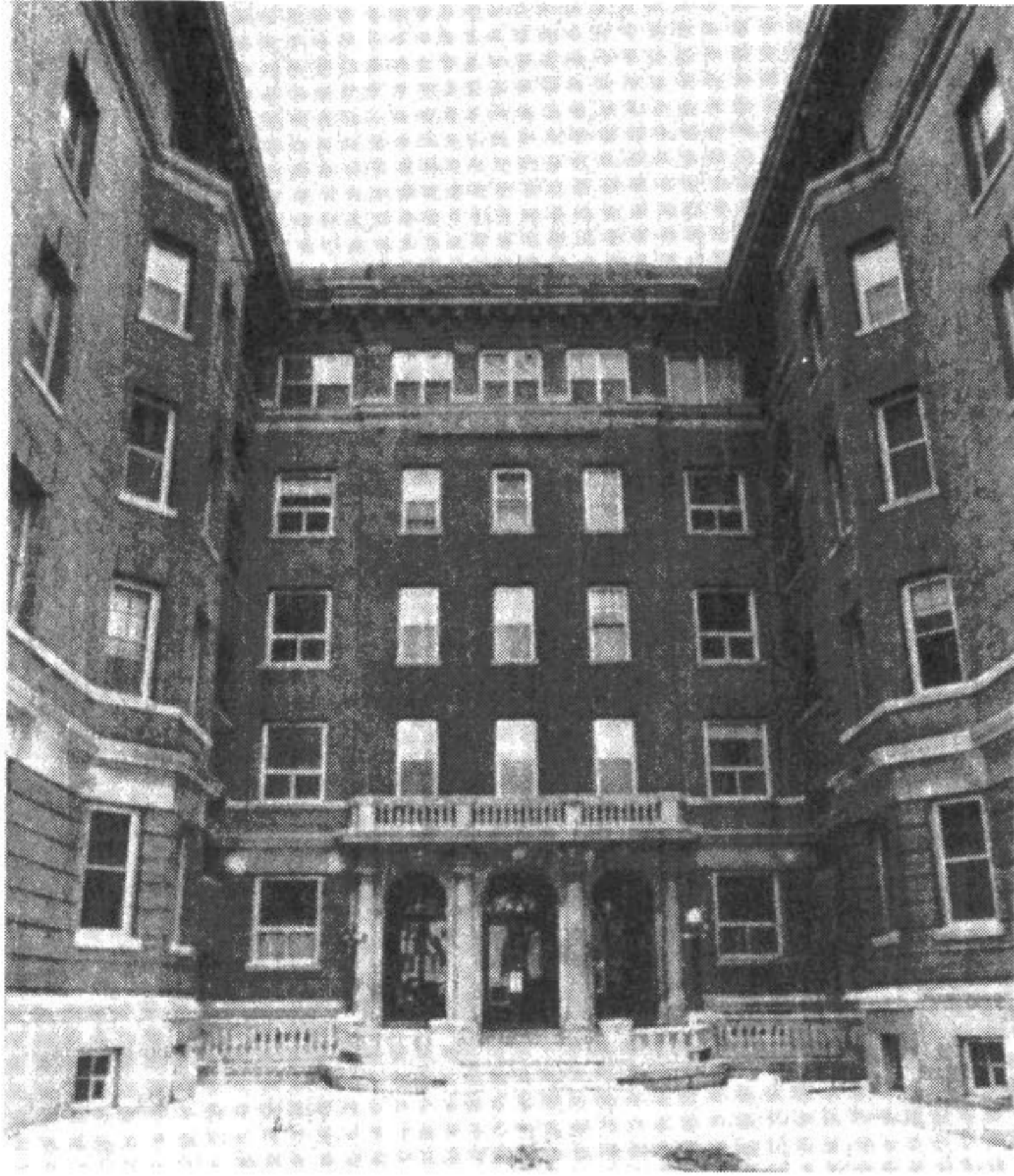
*The Devon Court Apartments, circa 1910.*

The architect of the Devon Court was John D. Atchison, trained in Chicago when that city led the world in the technology of steel frame structures. Following a move to Winnipeg in 1905, Atchison was continuously occupied in designing several outstanding local buildings, among them the Devon Court, the Alexandria Block and the Hamilton Building.

Atchison's plans for the Devon Court featured a U-shaped structure constructed around a central court, thereby resolving the pressing problems of apartment block architecture - natural lighting and proper ventilation. The suites were tastefully finished with open fireplaces, built-in mahogany cupboards with leaded glass, and generous amounts of dark-stained hardwoods in each suite. With forty-four original suites, the estimate for construction was \$110,000.

Apartment living offered attractions to Winnipeggers: easy access to downtown, gracious living at a reasonable price, and freedom from the continuous chore of stoking a furnace. Quick to appreciate these advantages, well-to-do tenants filled the Devon Court upon its completion in 1909. A Who's Who of the apartment building reveals a cross-section of managerial and professional people, as well as the sons and daughters of prominent citizens.

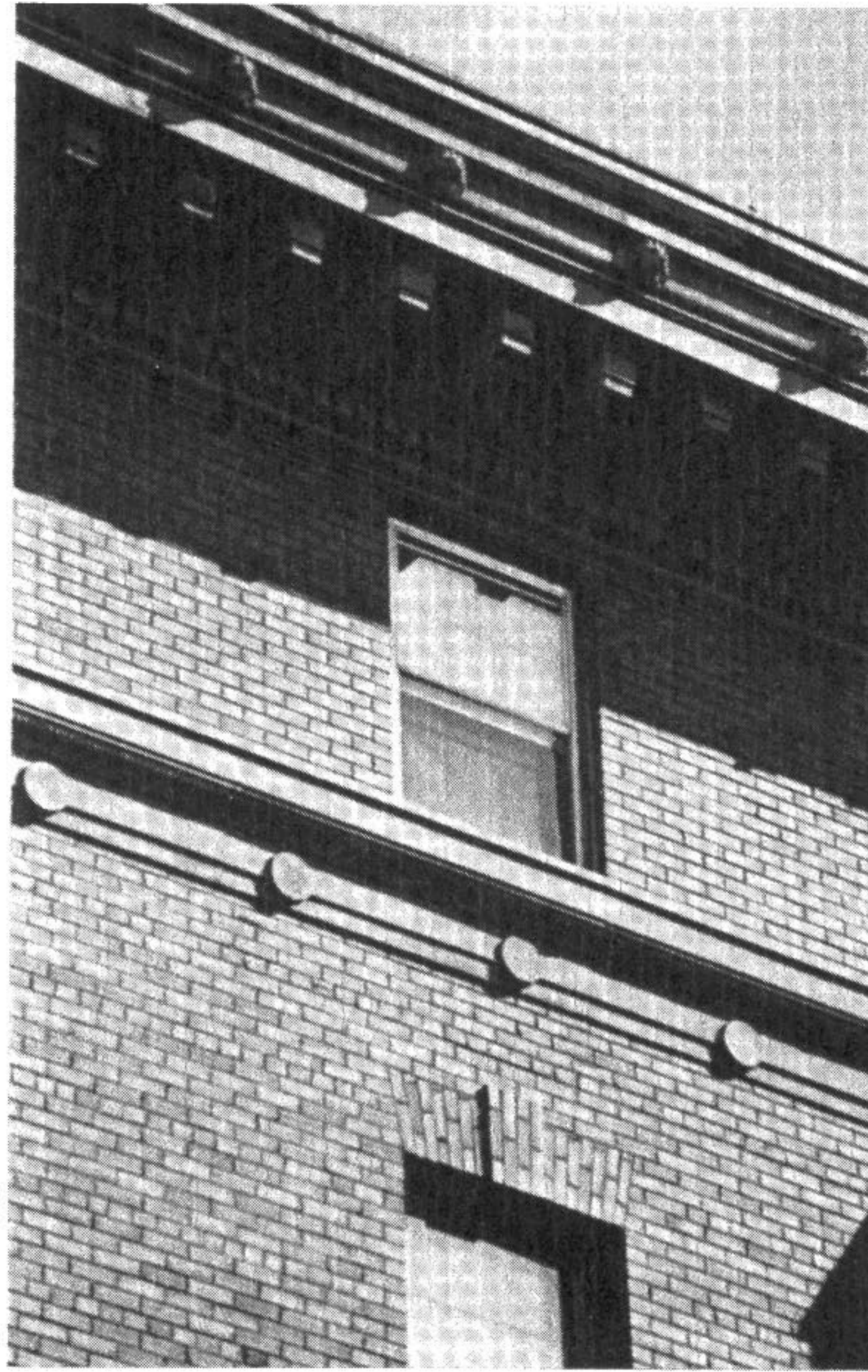
One tenant of note was the Rev. Dr. George Bryce, the founder of Manitoba College (later Wesley College) and University of Winnipeg. Bryce also organized Knox Presbyterian Church, was the first chairman of the City School Board and Inspector of Schools, co-founder of the Manitoba Historic and Scientific Society, author, and national moderator of his church in 1902.



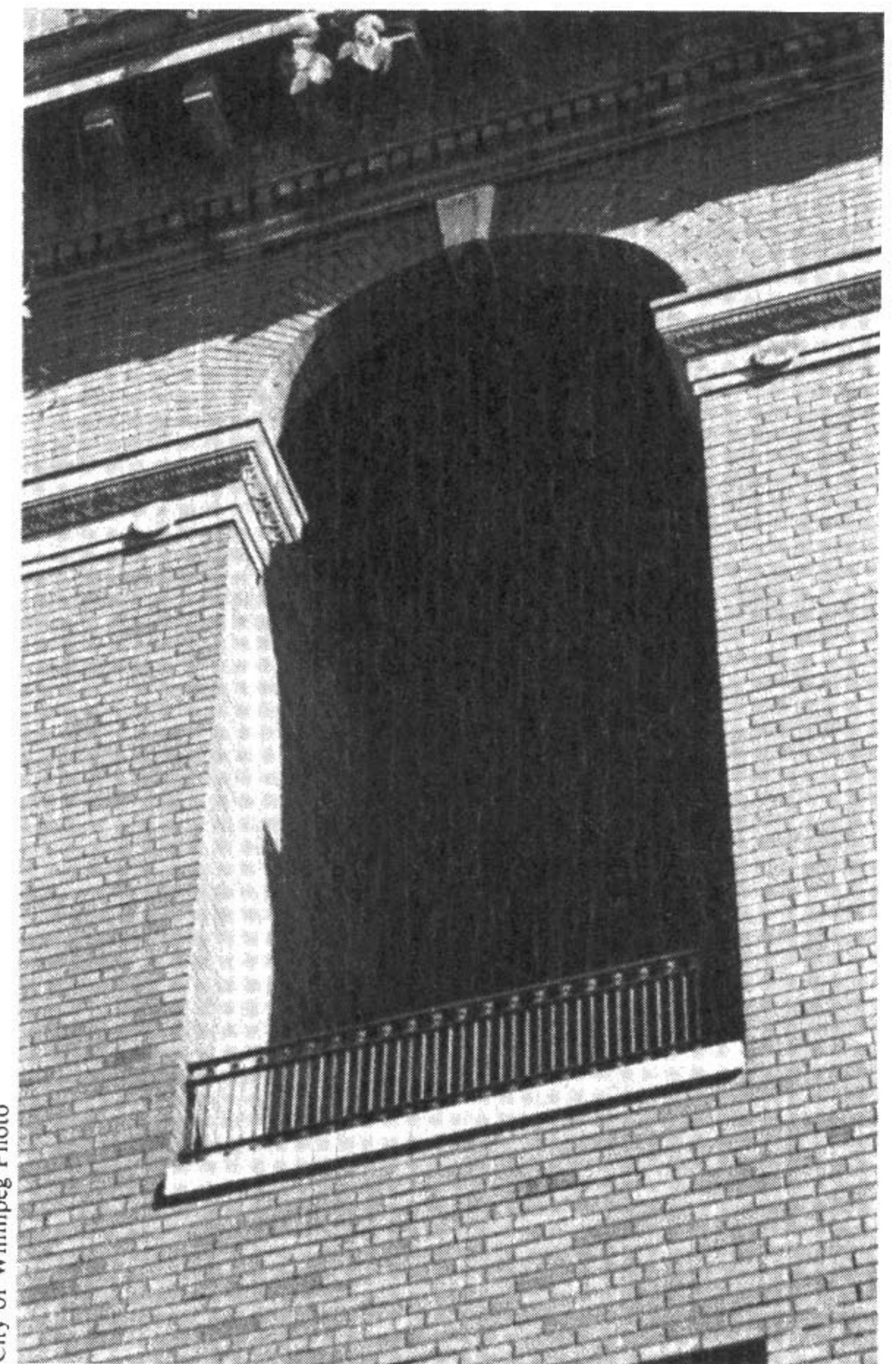
*Broadway entrance to the Devon Court, 1981.*

The Devon Court fit in well with its auspicious neighbours. Broadway was laid out as an urban boulevard in the European tradition, with the Legislature and Union Station as the terminals. The street had a centre strip for streetcars, flanked by park space and shaded by hundreds of large elm trees. The buildings lining the boulevard were built to an appropriate scale, while residences, apartments and other structures reflected the wealth and stability of the city's poshest district.

While Broadway evolved into a mixed commercial district, the Devon Court also came to be populated by a mixed tenancy with the older, wealthier occupants co-existing with professionals and blue collar tenants.



*Pressed metal cornice and fascia details, 1981.*



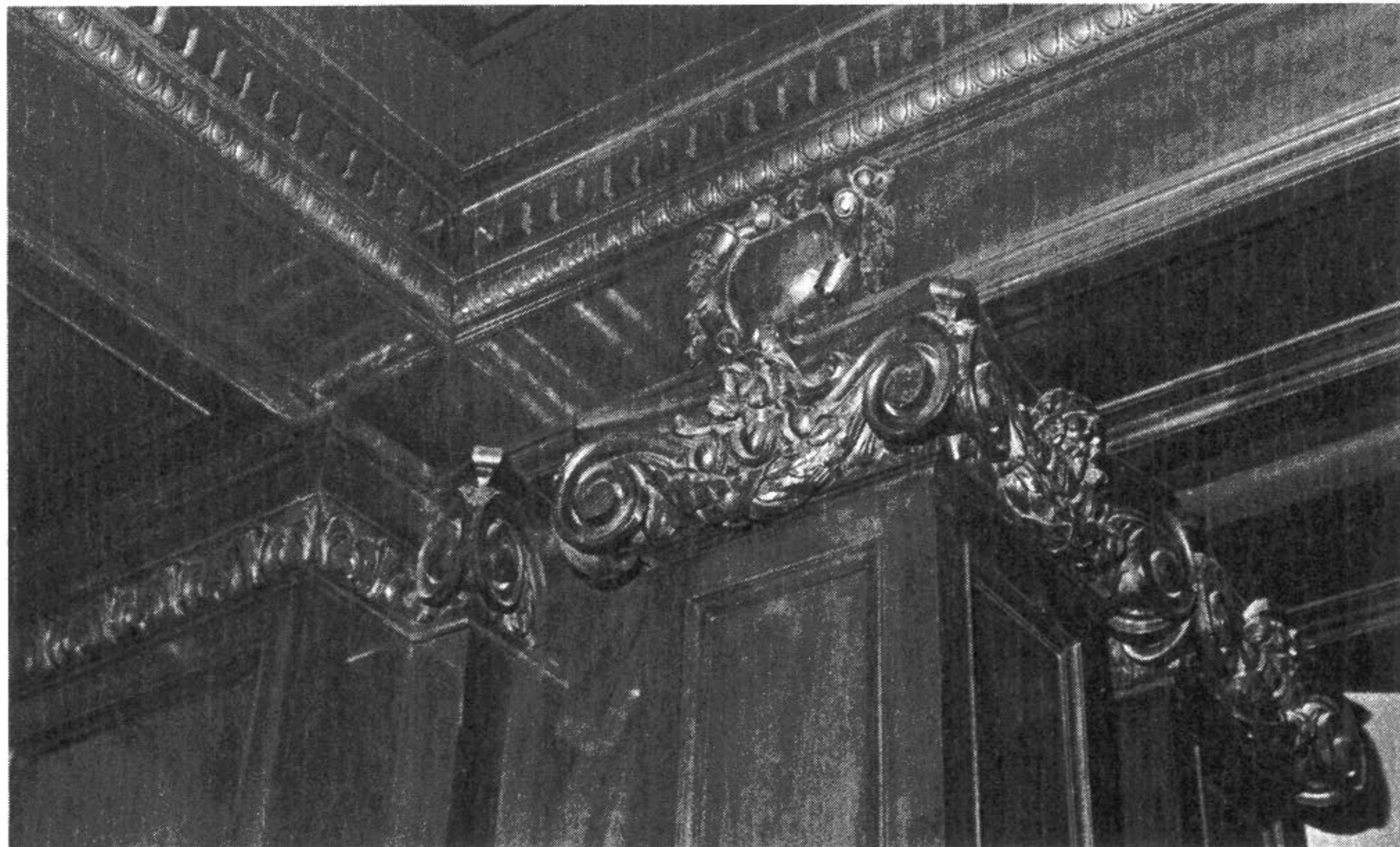
*Opening at fire escape illustrates careful attention to detail.*



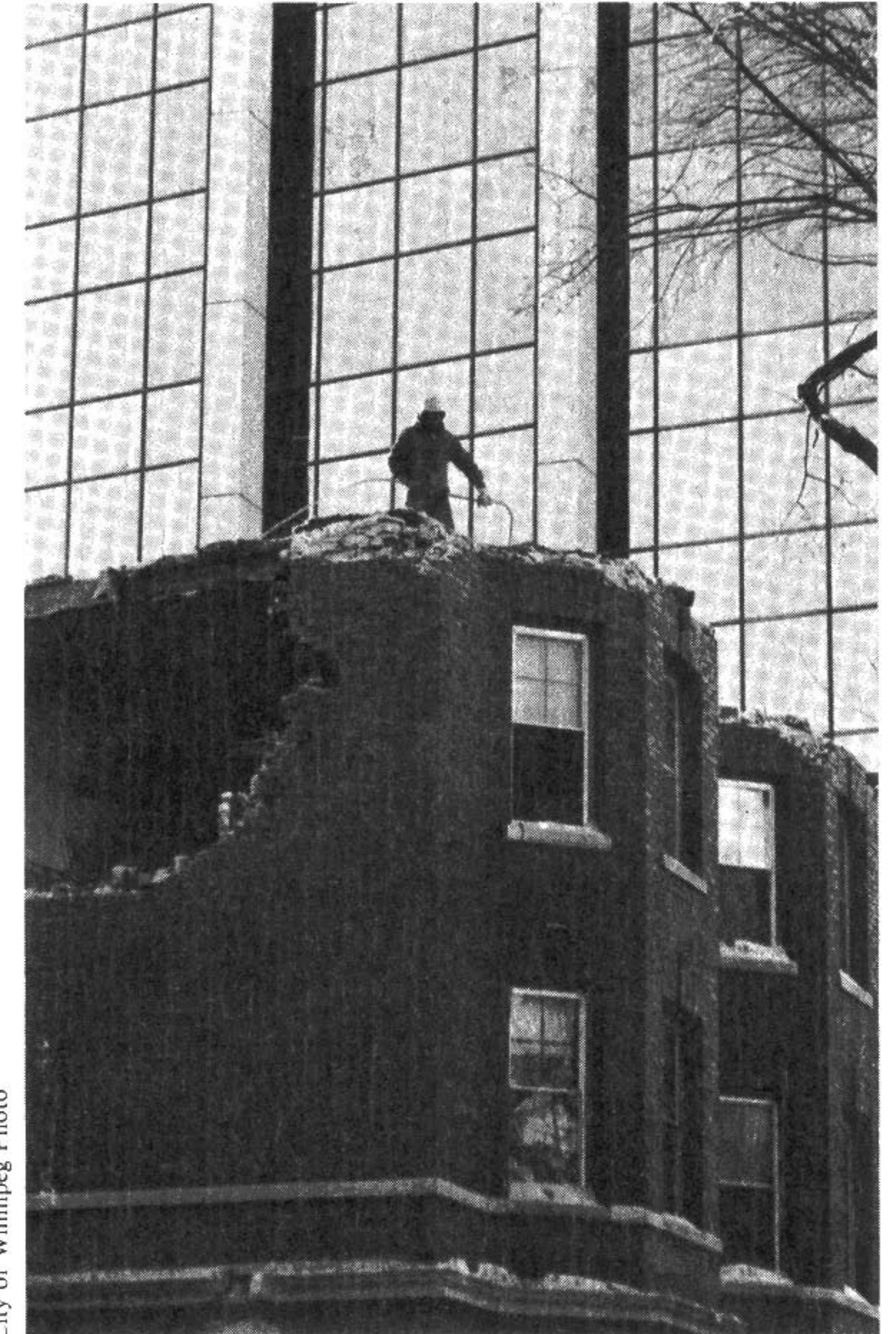
City of Winnipeg Photo



City of Winnipeg Photo



City of Winnipeg Photo



*Above left: Pressed metal fascia panel, prior to demolition in 1981.*

*Left: Mahogany detailing from the main lobby.*

*Above: Demolition underway.*





Manitoba Archives Photo

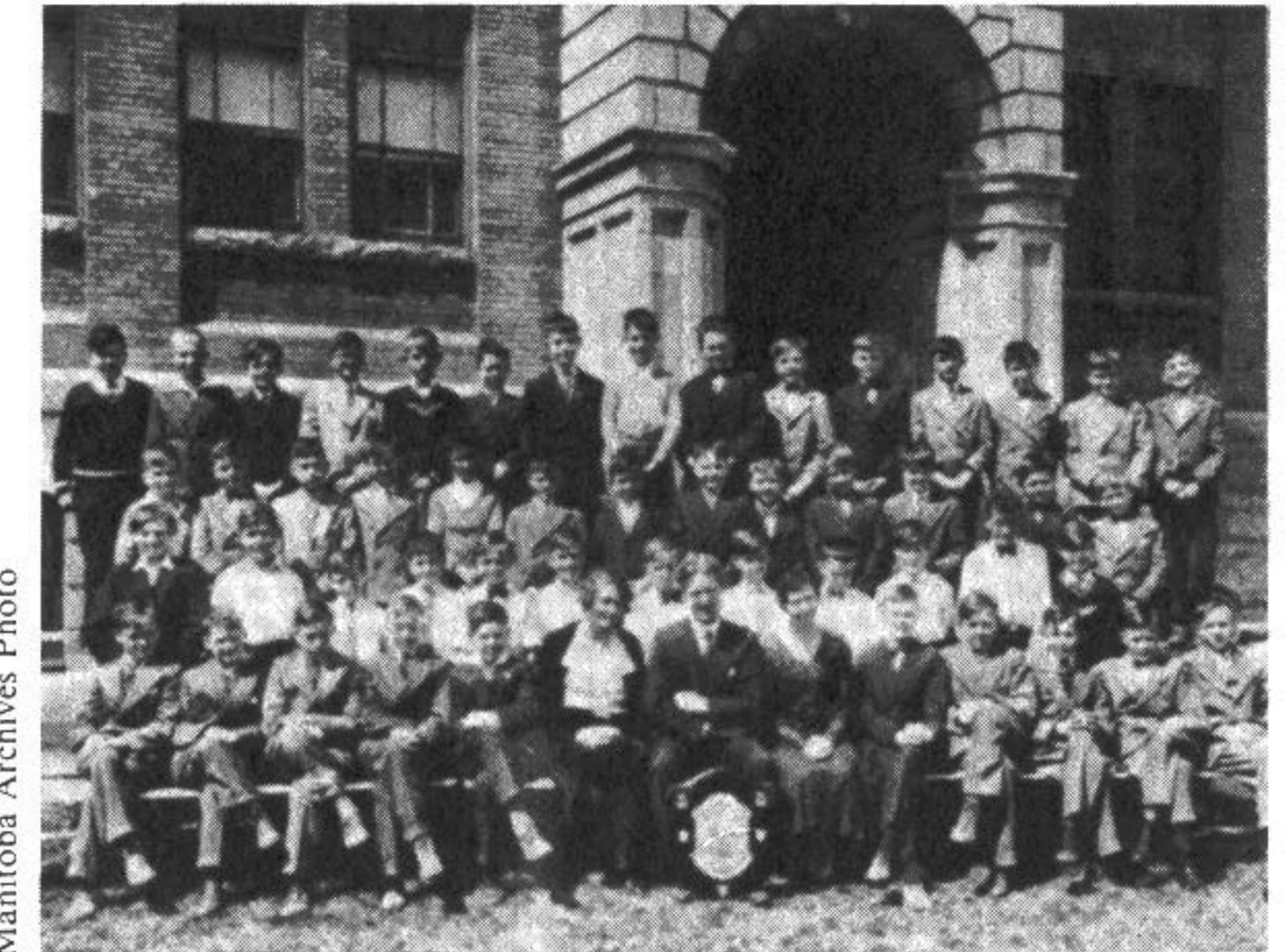
*Earl Grey School circa 1938.*

In the early years of this century, our public school system underwent massive changes to accommodate and reflect transformations in Manitoba society as a whole. The arrival of thousands of new immigrants, many of whom were regarded with suspicion, forced a measure of calculated assimilation through the schools. At the same time, Canadians' pride in the British Empire was at a peak and there was open admiration for, and adoption of, British methods.

At the time, a great enlightenment had gripped British (and most other Western) institutions, of which women's suffrage and free, universal

education were integral parts. To cope with the monstrous ills which plagued society, education was considered a panacea. This optimism permeated the specific design of large, well-lit "Board Schools", which were built by the hundreds across England. The Board Schools greatly influenced Canadian educators, particularly Winnipeg's Commissioner of School Buildings, J. B. Mitchell. Mitchell was a stalwart of Empire: he was a member of the original North West Mounted Police force, a former colonel, and a strong advocate of the values of education (enlightenment) in a healthy, pleasant atmosphere. In a forty-year career with the School

Board, he designed many schools which embodied his values. His designs include the original St. John's and Kelvin, Dufferin, Somerset, Norquay, LaVerendrye, Lord Selkirk and Earl Grey Schools. J. B. Mitchell School, opened in 1956, is named in honour of his contributions.



Manitoba Archives Photo

*Pupils of Earl Grey School posing with the Oldfield, Kirby & Gardner Shield, 1931.*

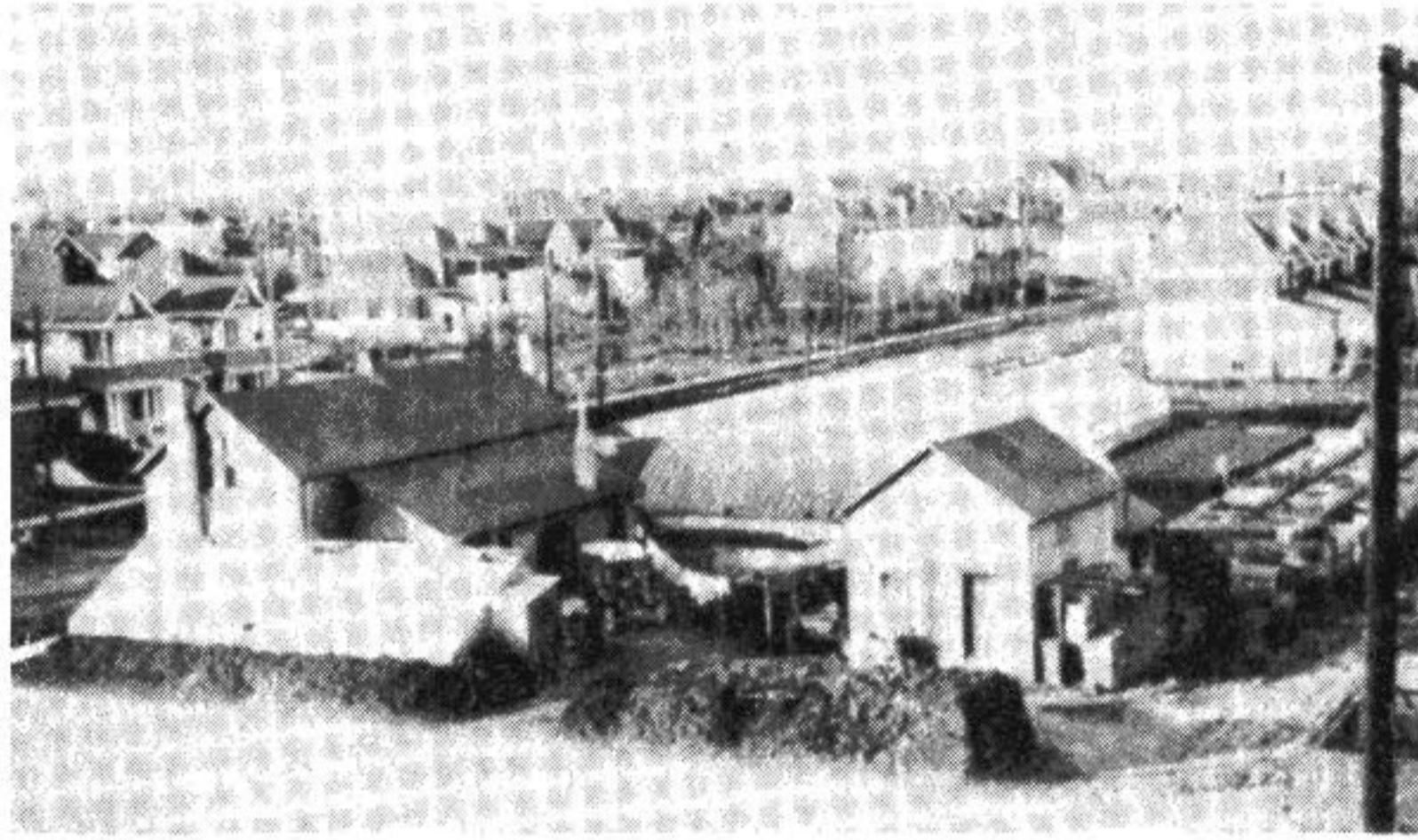
Earl Grey School, built in 1914, is a massive brick structure, named for a popular governor-general of Canada. The design is U-shaped to give maximum light while making the most of the schoolyard. Its details reflect Mitchell's study of the Board Schools-its impact is one of stability. The institution in the school proved to be equally dynamic: it was chosen for an experiment in forming the junior high school as an intermediate bridge for students of a particular age and interest. Following the success of Earl Grey Junior High School, this pattern was eventually adopted in most provinces. Elective areas of study and rotating classes in specialized rooms and labs created an interesting environment and encouraged students to complete the entire curriculum.

Earl Grey School also made a name for itself in sports, drama and music. At one time, both

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signatures on Canadian dollar bills were those of former Earl Grey students: James E. Coyne, Governor of the Bank of Canada and Robert E. Beattie, the Deputy Governor.

At present, the school remains an active, vibrant place. Its exterior is virtually intact with the exception of a gymnasium added to the rear. The interior is bright and sweeping, with large curved windows and beautiful woodwork.



Manitoba Archives Photo

*View of Fort Rouge from atop Earl Grey School, circa 1915.*

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City of Winnipeg Photo

181 Euclid Avenue, 1980.

Not far from Main Street, in the heart of Point Douglas, Winnipeg's oldest neighbourhood, stood a tiny frame building that was a Chinese laundry for over seventy years. The district developed in the 1880's and 1890's in response to the need for housing large numbers of immigrants arriving daily at nearby CPR station. This particular dwelling was built circa 1896, and was occupied by the families of labourers until 1907.

In 1905, nearly four hundred Chinese men immigrated to Winnipeg. All were from the same village in China, and almost all had the surname Lee. They settled in what was becoming Chinatown but worked in various parts of the city. Sam Lee opened his laundry in the Euclid Avenue house in 1907; a laundry was operated under that name in that house until 1979.

Chinese settlement in Canada dates back to the gold rush of 1849, but many more Chinese were brought in by the CPR in the 1880's to work on the railway. Many could not afford to return to China and dispersed throughout the prairies to find employment. With their "foreign" appearance and inability to speak English, the Chinese found prejudice and hostility attending their travels. They were forced to take menial jobs required on the frontier, but which Europeans would not do: laundry, cooking and petty commerce. Despite the hardships, the Chinese came to excel at these tasks, proving themselves to be diligent and hardworking.

In 1906, Winnipeg had many Chinese laundries scattered throughout the city. Despite the prevailing racism of the time, the Chinese and their businesses carried on. When Canada's exclusionist immigration laws were lifted in the 1940's, families and professional people came from China to round out the Chinese community. The tiny laundry on Euclid Avenue represented an era of immigration for which Canadians can be less than proud.

Manitoba Archives Photo, Foote Collection



City of Winnipeg Photo



*Upper left: Rumford Sanitary Laundry Ltd. delivery wagon at the Breadalbane Apartments, circa 1914.  
 Left: 181 Euclid Avenue, 1980.*



Manitoba Archives Photo, Foote Collection

*Immigrants arriving at CPR Station, Winnipeg, 23 February 1927.*

As part of the federal government's policy to develop the Canadian west, the CPR was formative in the nineteenth century and an established institution in the twentieth. When an aggressive immigration policy drew great numbers of settlers westward, Winnipeg became the channel for the immigrants. The railway facilities built in the 1800's became hopelessly inadequate, forcing the CPR to redesign all its Winnipeg infrastructure in 1900: shops, yard and station. From 1900 to 1904, the yards and shops from the city centre to Weston were enlarged and restructured, while an overpass was constructed across Main Street to allow passage between the north and south ends of the city.

The new CPR station was constructed in 1904-05, followed in 1906 by the luxurious railway hotel, the Royal Alexandra, to which the station was connected. In conjunction with the CPR developments, the government constructed a new Immigration Hall just north of the station to process the immigrants.

Both hotel and station were designed by the Maxwell Brothers, prominent architects from Montreal. The entire six-year project was a great boom to the construction industry.

Designed in a formal classical revival style, the station and its office wing were intended to reinforce the influence and prestige of the CPR. The interior was centered on a handsome rotunda with additional features such as marble wainscoting, ornamental plaster-work and a stained glass skylight. There was a smoking room for the gentlemen, several service facilities and a dining establishment. European immigrants and second-class passengers were confined to a waiting room in the basement - an interesting sign of the class-conscious times.

With seventeen trains daily, the CPR station was a hive of activity. Virtually all travel before the 1950's was by train: settlers, beach travellers, migrant workers, troops and even Royal visits. Winnipeg was the centre of a rail network that fanned across the prairies.

As Canada's first trans-continental railway, the CPR was a major factor in the development of the west but it had a specific impact on Winnipeg. The rails and shops intruded through the centre of a growing city, leaving two geographic solitudes. This north-south split slowed down the assimilation process, leaving the centre and north end with a distinctive personality still in evidence today.

The CPR station welcomed its last passenger train through Winnipeg in 1978, following the creation of the VIA Rail passenger system. Today the building continues to serve as the office for local CPR employees and freight services. With the decline of rail traffic and the 1971 demolition of the grand Royal Alexandra Hotel, the CPR complex on Higgins faded from the forefront of Winnipeg's urban centre.



*CPR Station, looking east from the Royal Alexandra Hotel, circa 1910.*

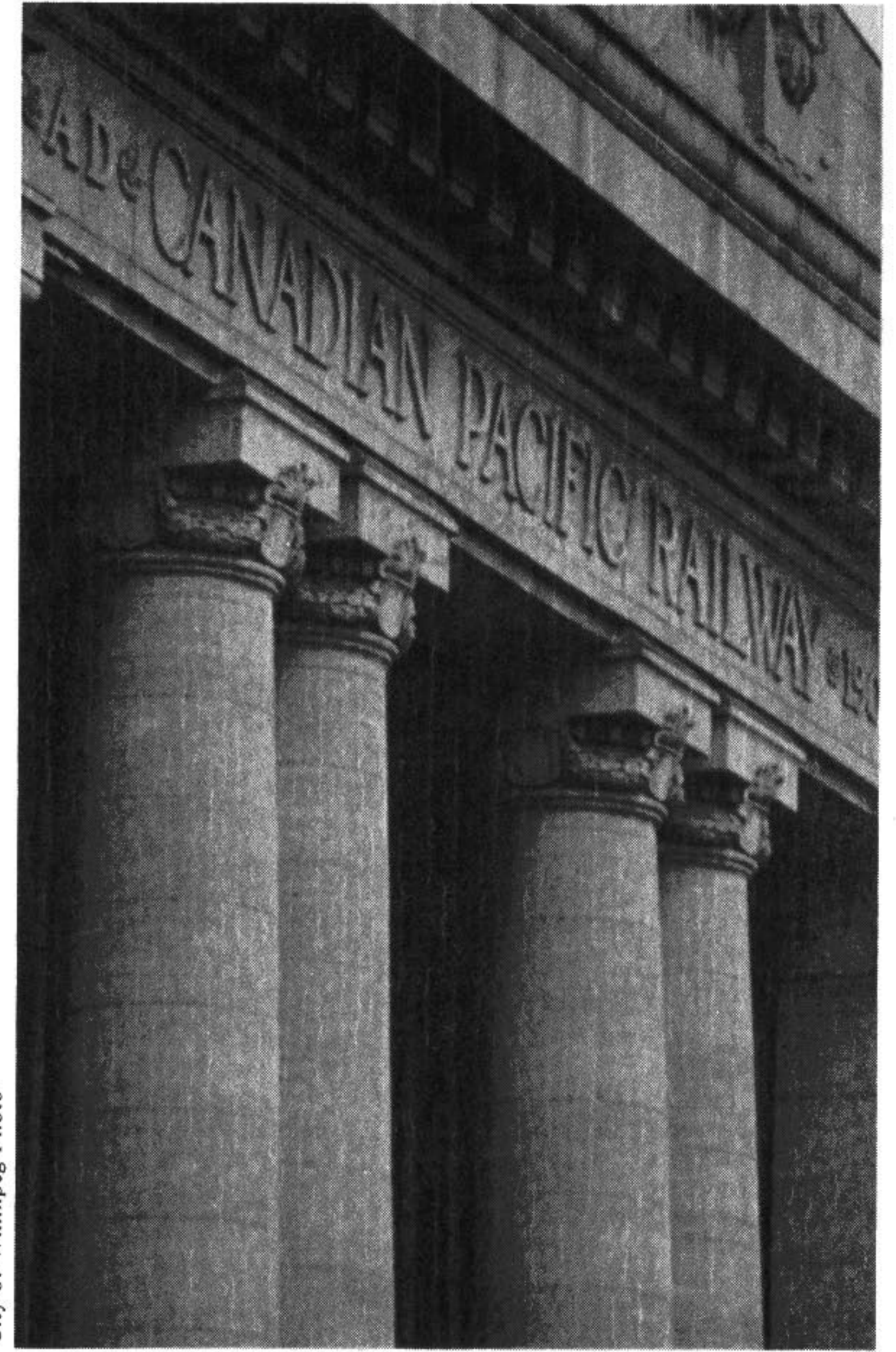


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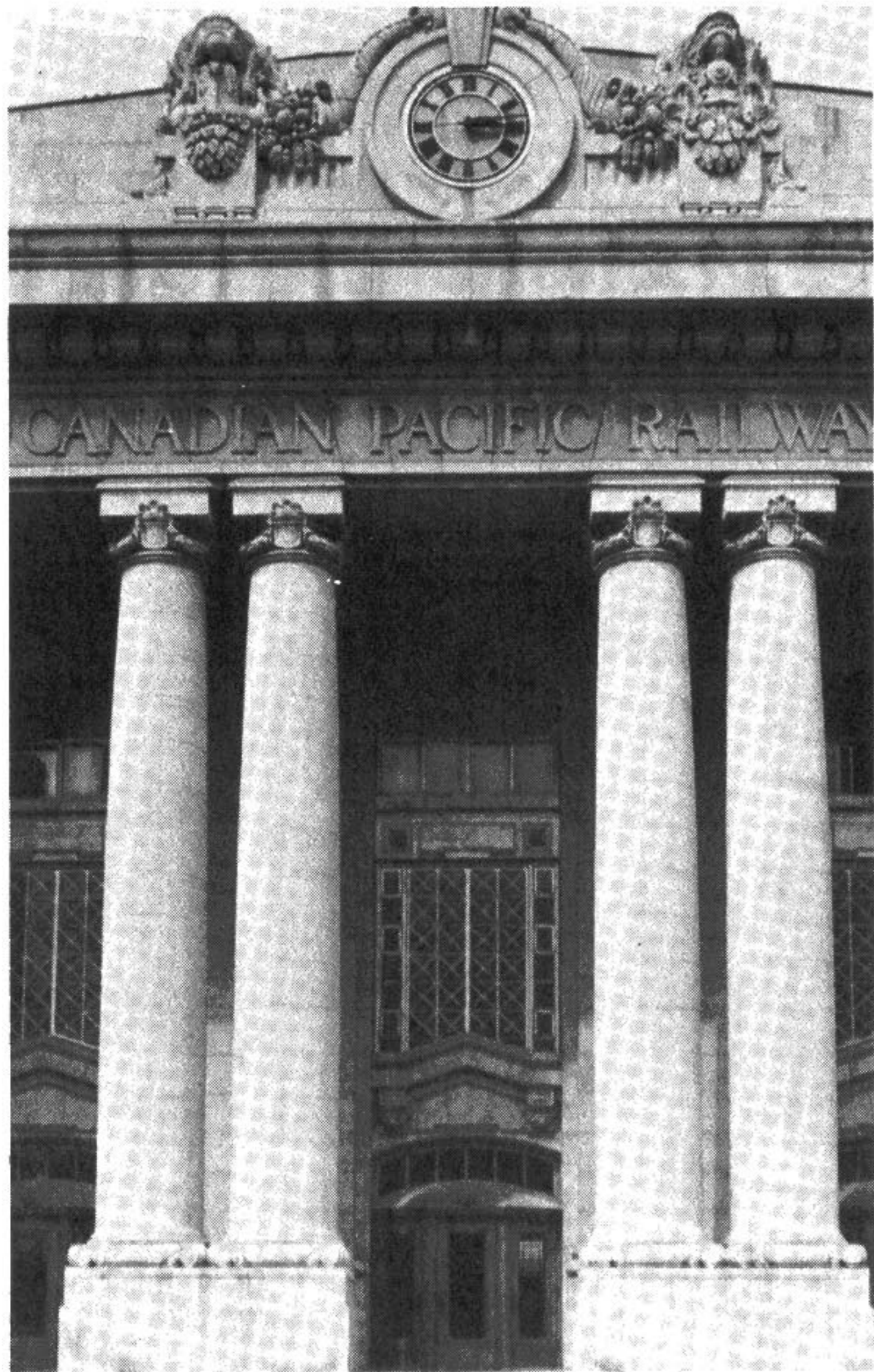


*CPR Station circa 1923.*

City of Winnipeg Photo



*Colonnade detail, 1981.*



*Exterior details of CPR Station, 1981.  
(City of Winnipeg Photos)*

Live theatre has a solid tradition in western Canada that originated in pioneer settlements, lumber camps and even railway gang bunkhouses. As early as 1866, the settlement of Red River had an amateur theatre group, although facilities in the early years left much to be desired; the theatres were often firetraps, drafty in winter and steaming hot in summer. A growing population prompted better facilities, which in turn attracted travelling stock shows and better vaudeville circuits. By 1914, Winnipeg had several good theatres, including the Dominion (former home of the Manitoba Theatre Centre), the Walker (now the Odeon Theatre) and the Pantages, across from City Hall.

Leaving more serious theatre to the Walker, the Pantages opened its doors in February, 1914 for

the sole purpose of presenting "Unequaled Vaudeville". On opening day, February 9, 1914, Mademoiselle Adgie and her twelve live lions performed in the Dance of Death, as well as the "banjo wizards", a comedian, a juggler, and a troupe in a hilarious farce. The admission prices were 10, 15 and 25 cents, the latter in the exclusive "diamond horseshoe". The Pantages provided three shows a day; it was the most exotic entertainment Winnipeg had to offer.

The Pantages Theatre was owned by Alexander Pantages, a Greek immigrant who went to the United States as a youngster, worked as a shoe shine boy and became a millionaire when he struck it rich as a gold miner in the Klondike. He loved the stage and by 1914 he had built 17 theatres across the United States and Canada.

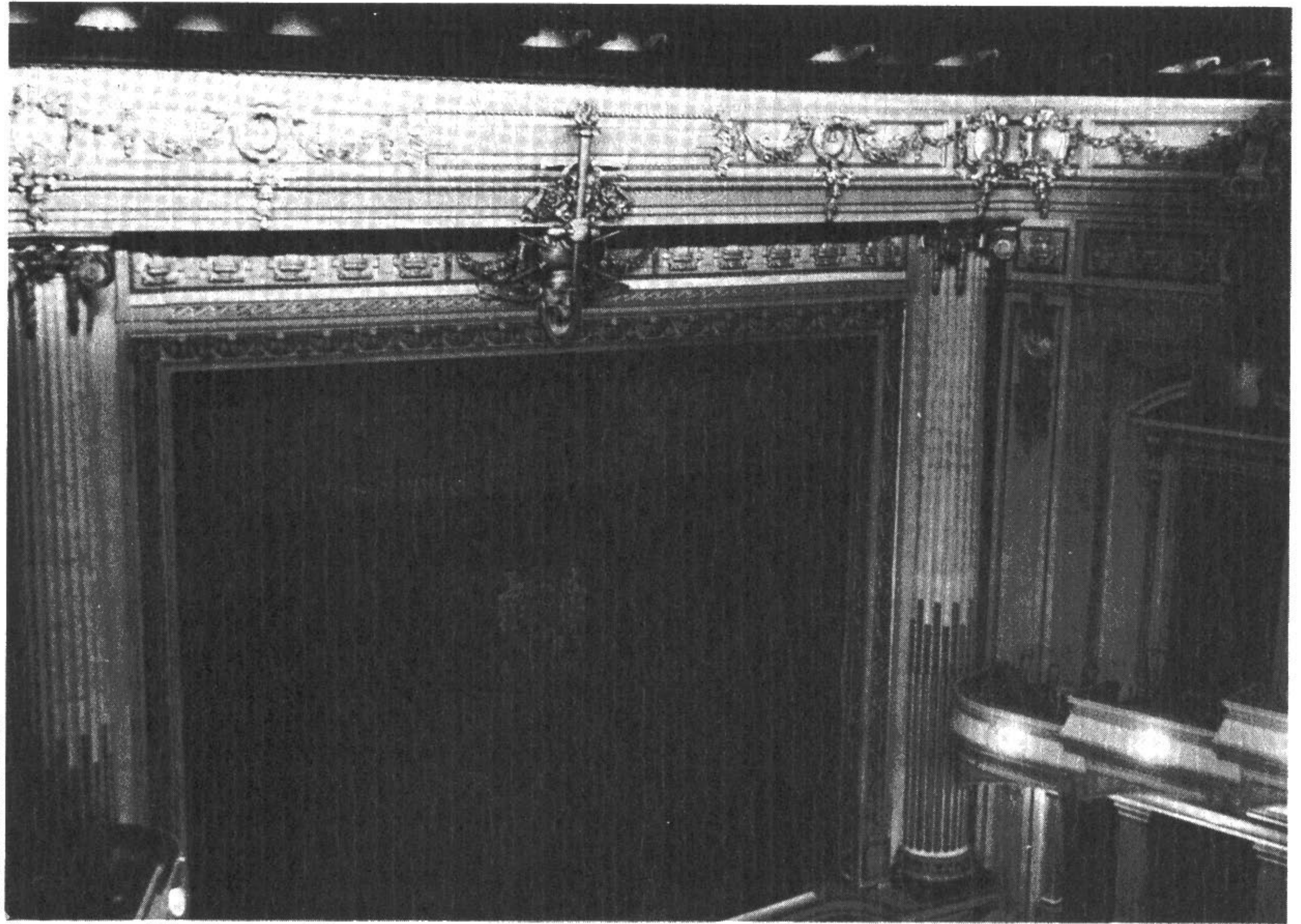


Manitoba Archives Photo

"Jess" Dandy and the Little Bathing Girls, circa 1913.

Vaudeville, however, could not compete with the advent of motion pictures. The Pantages closed in 1923 and re-opened as the Playhouse Theatre for the legitimate stage. Over the years it has been used for concerts, recitals, films, operas, school productions, the Winnipeg Little Theatre, and, at one time, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

In the 1940's, the city took over the Playhouse for tax arrears. Today its entablature still bears the name "Pantages", renewed in fresh paint. It is the only stage still in active use from the boisterous vaudeville era. Its auditorium now reduced to 1,500 seats, the Playhouse continues as a vibrant theatre and concert hall.



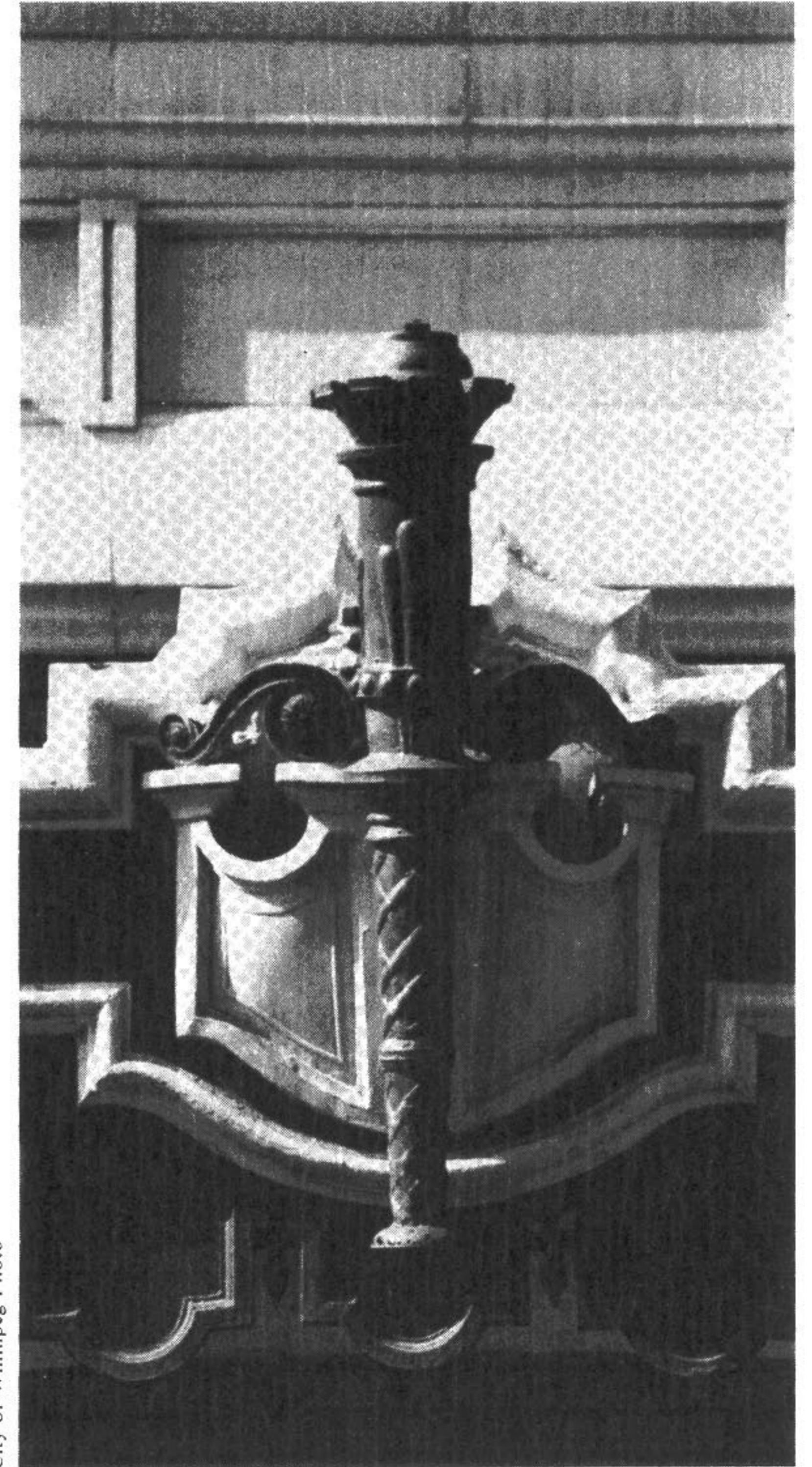
Manitoba Archives Photo

*Proscenium of the Playhouse Theatre*



City of Winnipeg Photo

*Refurnished exterior of the Playhouse Theatre, 1981.*



City of Winnipeg Photo

*Canopy detail, 1981.*



Manitoba Archives, Photo by Karsh of Ottawa.

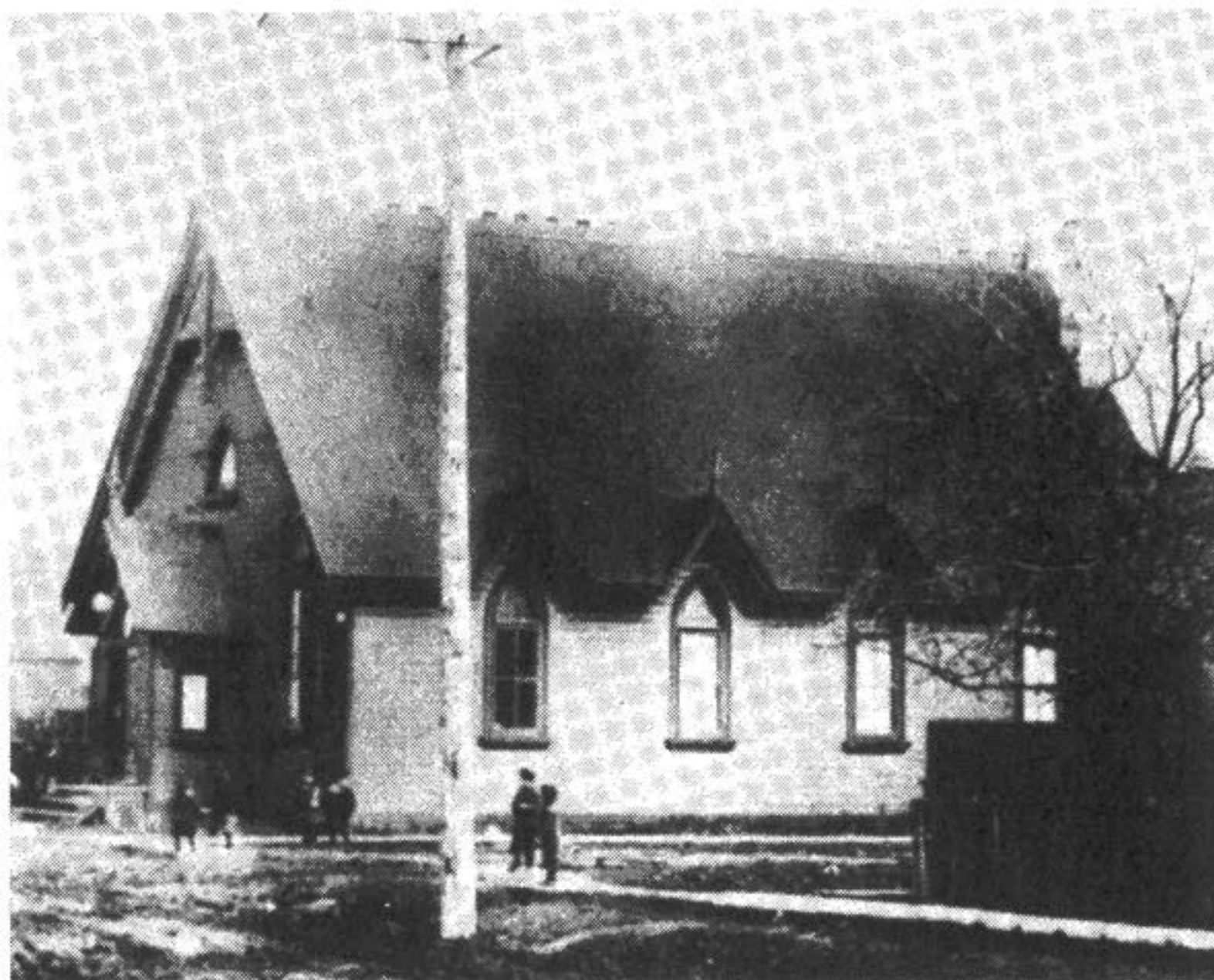


*The C.C.F. Members of Parliament meet in 1937.  
(Far left: T. C. Douglas, Centre standing: J. S. Woodsworth; second from right: Grace MacInnes).*

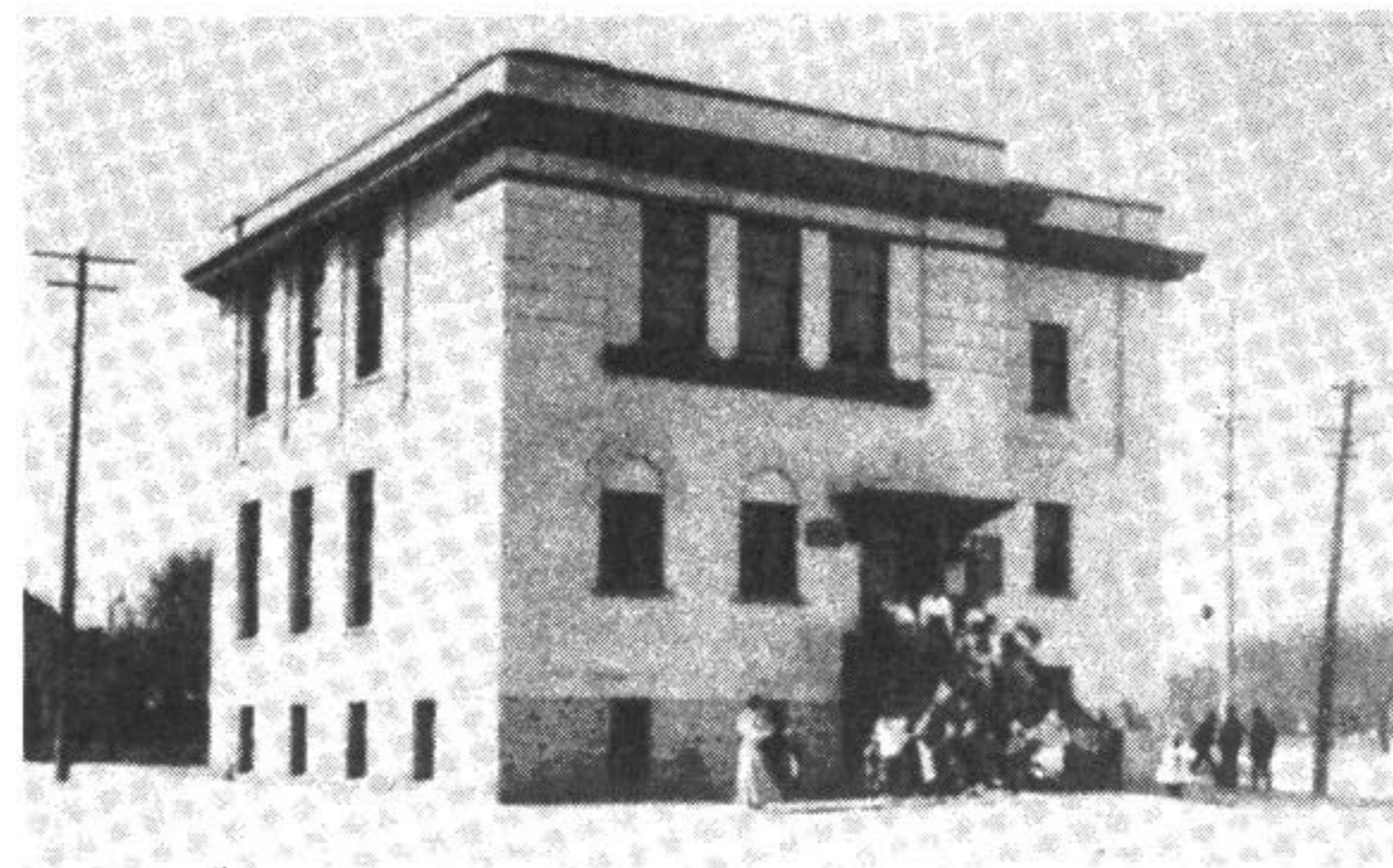
This wood frame house at the foot of the Maryland Bridge was for many years the home of James Shaver Woodsworth, founder and leader of the C.C.F. Party of Canada. Born in Ontario, Woodsworth trained at Wesley College, becoming a Methodist Minister who found his church out of touch with the harsh realities of the lives of the urban poor. Canada's aggressive immigration policy at the turn of the century attracted thousands of people from Europe; many remained in the city. Poor, bewildered, illiterate and downhearted, they had no social agencies to turn to. Woodsworth resigned from a ministerial post to work with these immigrants through the Methodist All Peoples' Mission in the north end of the city. Woodsworth's organizational skills brought the mission to prominence with programs such as civic classes, adult education, English language classes, free kindergarten, clubs and fresh air camps for boys and girls, a well-baby clinic and free legal advice.

After resigning from the All Peoples' Mission in 1913, Woodsworth worked first for the Canadian Welfare League and later as a longshoreman in B.C. He returned to Winnipeg during the General Strike of 1919 to assume editorship of a labour newspaper until he was arrested for seditious libel. The charges against Woodsworth were dropped but the issue had spurred him into political action. For the next three years he worked constantly with labour and social democracy or radical progressive groups to establish a strong working-class political party. As labour groups gained seats in several provinces, in 1921 J. S. Woodsworth became Canada's first Socialist Member of Parliament.

Manitoba Archives Photo



Manitoba Archives Photo



*Left: All People's Mission, circa 1904.  
Above: All People's Mission, Central Institute, circa 1909.*

Woodsworth worked toward many humanist reforms, the best-known of which was the Old Age Pension Act of 1927. When depression conditions in 1933 brought no sympathetic response from the Bennett government, a group of socialist radicals banded under Woodsworth's leadership to form the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the forerunner of the New Democratic Party. With solid humanist aims, the C.C.F. grew to a strength of 28 members of Parliament by 1945. An unbending pacifist, Woodsworth himself broke with his party in 1939, days before Canada declared war on Germany, although he served in Parliament until his death in 1942.

The house at 60 Maryland Street was built in 1907, and purchased upon completion by Woodsworth's father. From 1908 to 1917, the junior Woodsworth and his growing family of six children shared the house with their aging parents. From 1921 to 1929, the Woodsworth household moved to Ottawa, but from 1929 until 1942, the Maryland Street residence was again the family home. The house was often used for meetings with the party leader, and the children thrived on the intellectual stimulation. Woodsworth's daughter Grace MacInnis was a M.P. from 1965 to 1974.

After Woodsworth's death, the family home of 35 years was sold and has since remained a single family dwelling.



City of Winnipeg Photo

60 Maryland Street, 1982.





Manitoba Archives Photo

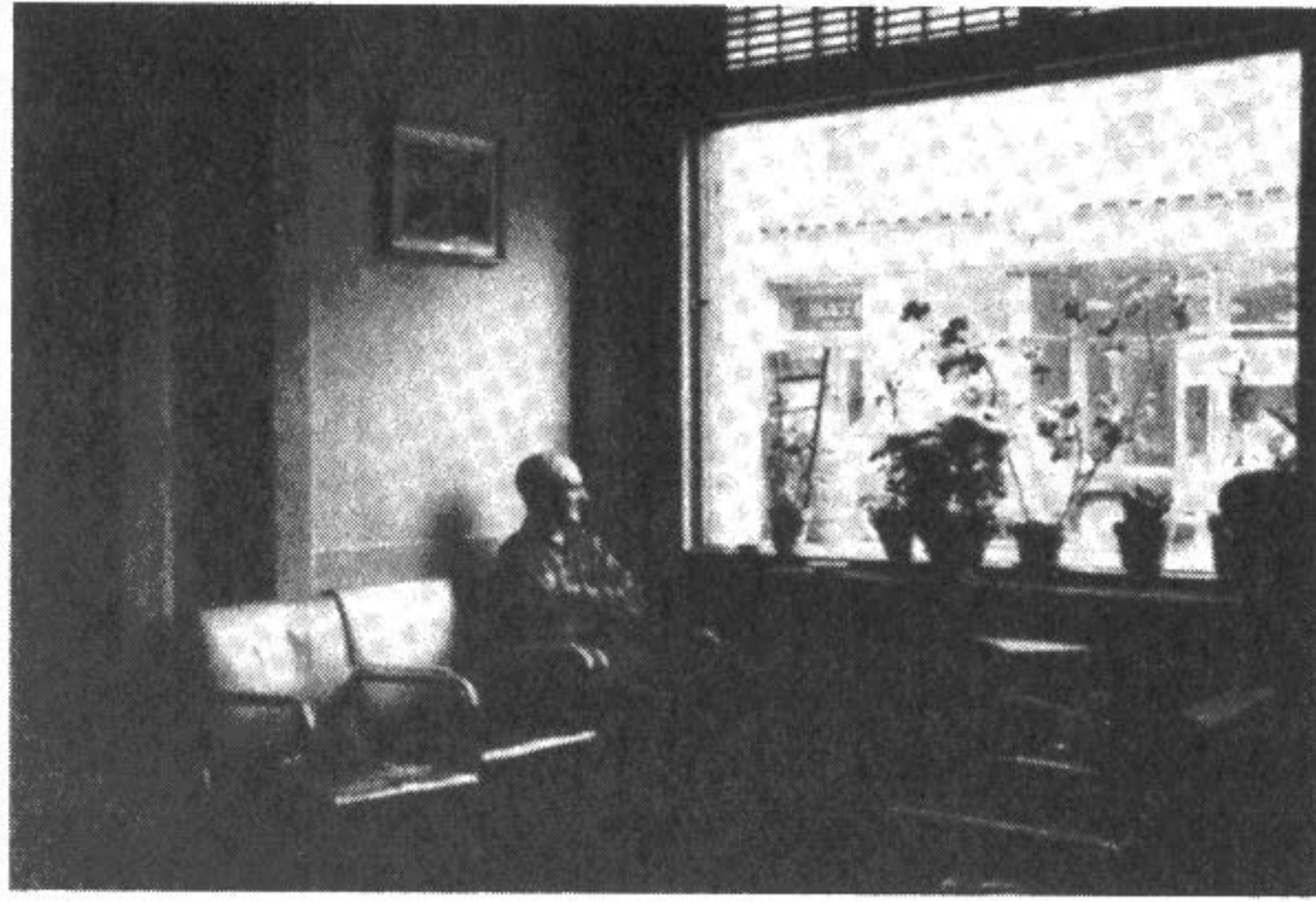
*The Criterion Hotel, photographed in 1969.*

Winnipeg's economy boomed at the turn of the century as wheat and the development of the prairie west brought on stable economic growth of real substance. Thousands of people passing through the city created a great demand for hotel space with dozens of hotels erected to fill this demand. The Criterion Hotel, built in 1903, was one of these.

The ground floor of the hotel consisted of a large bar finished with quartered oak and an equally handsome billiard room. These facilities found a ready market in members of the press who abounded in the district. McDermot Avenue between Main Street and Princess Street was known as "Newspaper Row", because the three major dailies, the **Free Press**, the **Tribune** and the **Telegram**, as well as several smaller daily, weekly and monthly publications were located there. The newsmen formed a social fraternity which met daily in the Criterion. Although the fraternity fell by the way during Prohibition, it re-emerged during the 1930's and 40's, well after the newspapers had moved from McDermot Avenue.

The second floor of the Criterion had a large dining room and parlour. The upper two floors contained the private rooms with common washroom facilities. The long, narrow design of the hotel created problems of ventilation and natural light which were resolved by the use of air shafts and skylights.

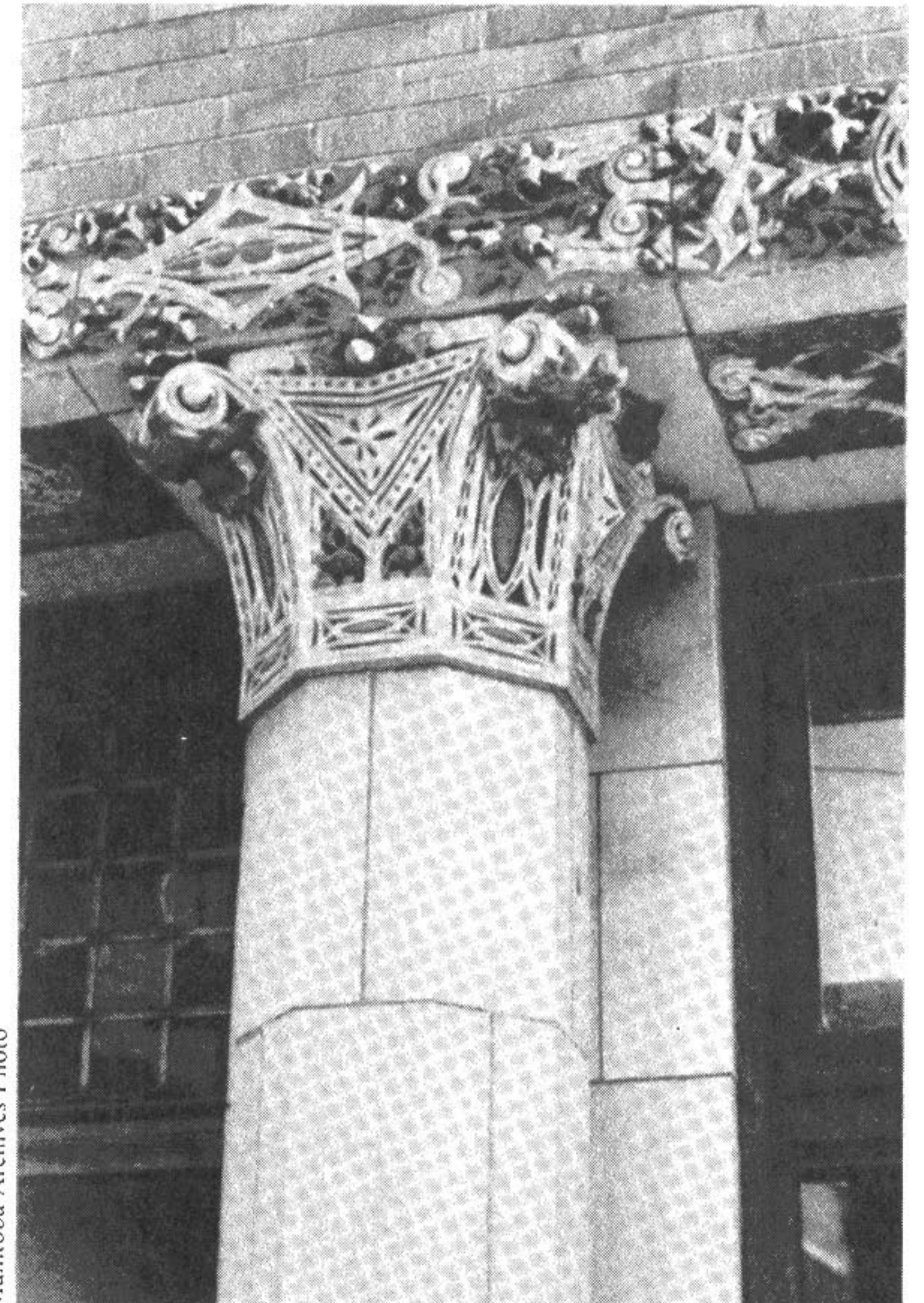
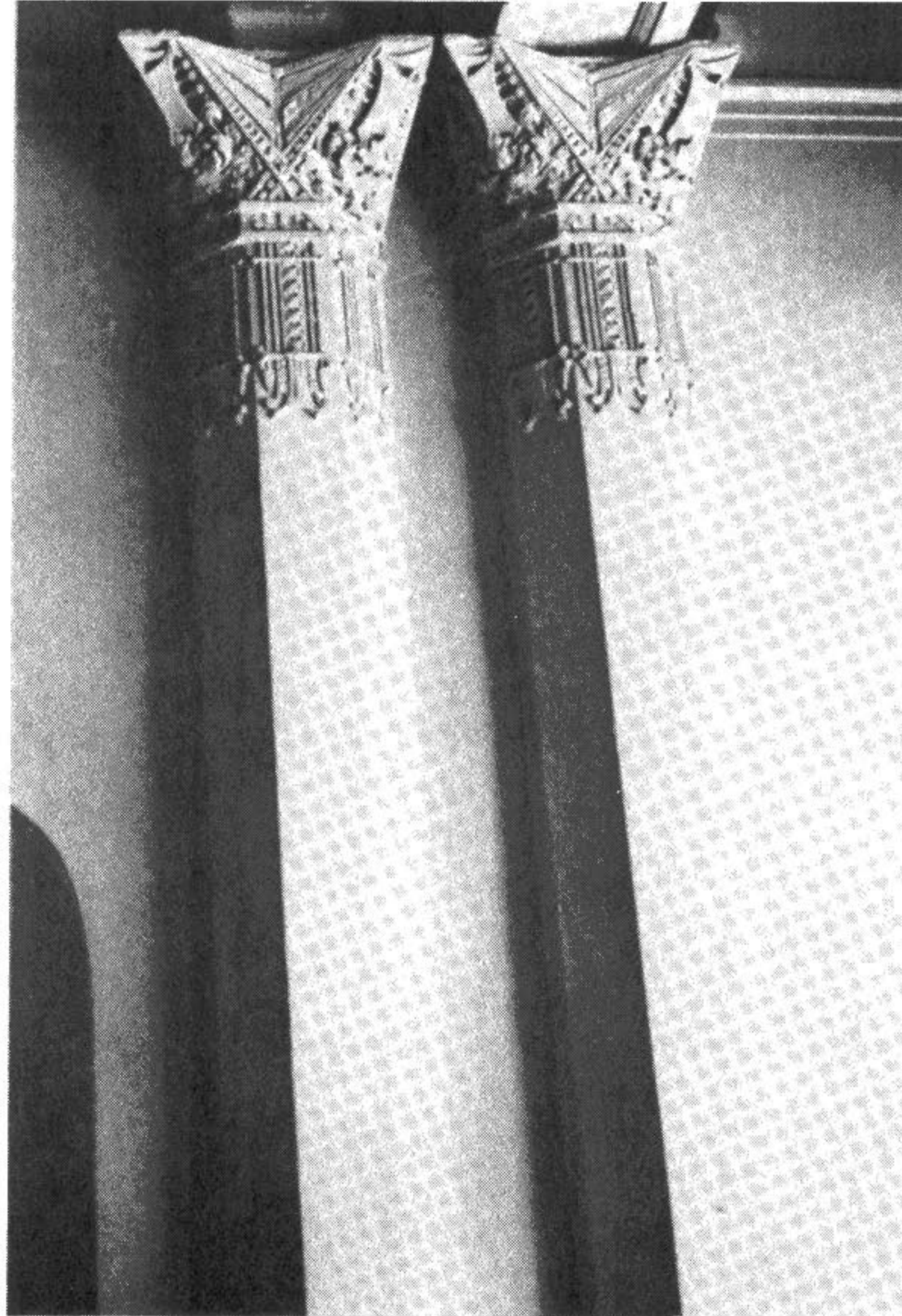
Built at a cost of \$20,000, the Criterion was designed by H. S. Griffiths, one of several British architects practising in Winnipeg. The architect used the windows to create interest in the facade and to offset the vertical shape of the four-storey hotel. It has a facing of limestone, accented by a parapet and a balconet. The outstanding feature of the facade is the multi-coloured terra cotta detailing that was added to the ground floor in 1915. This treatment is both beautiful and rare in Winnipeg.

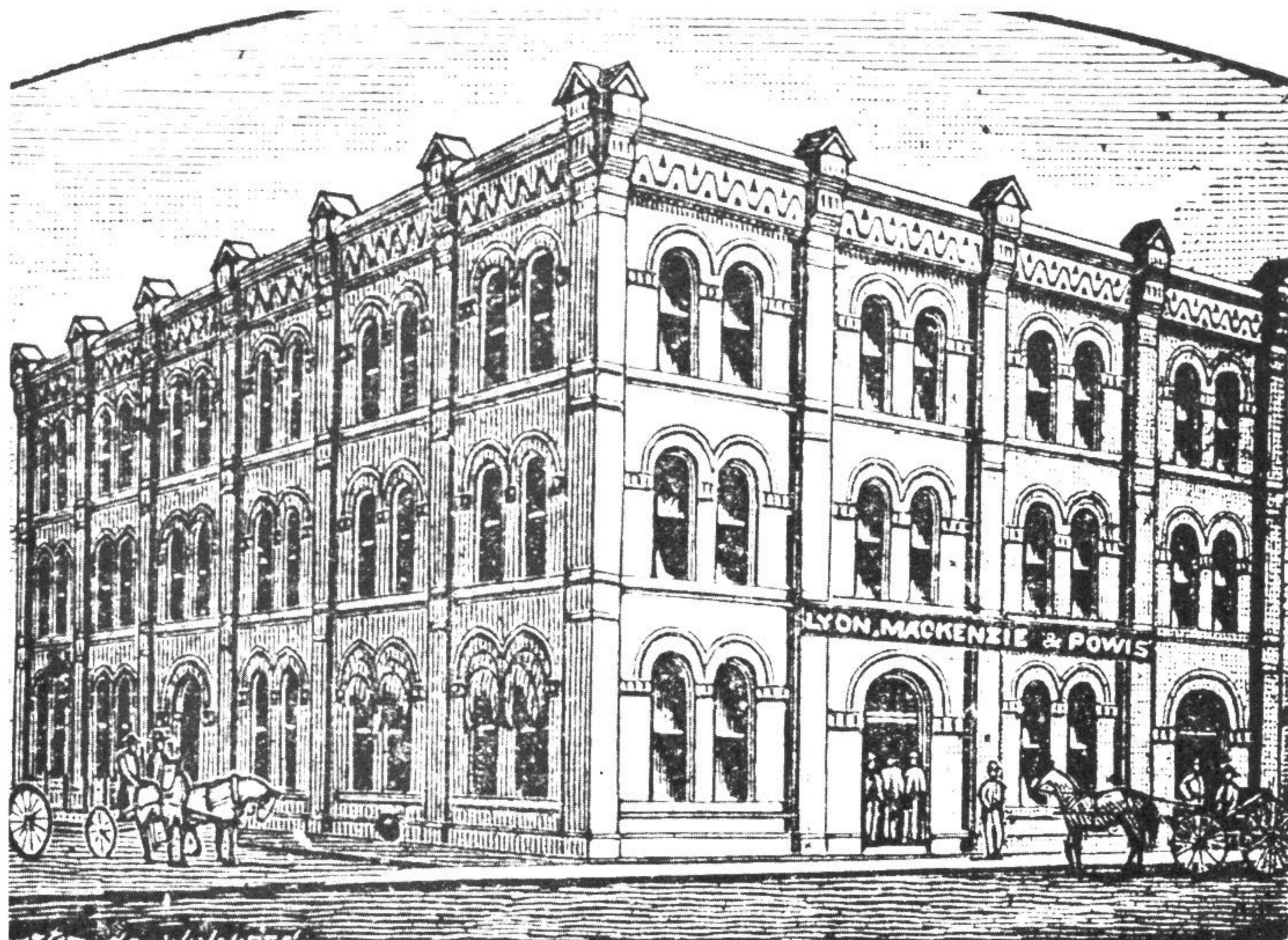


*Above: The Lobby of the Criterion Hotel in 1969. The building is now vacant and gutted.*

*Right: Interior capital detail - main floor.*

*Far right: Exterior capital features unusual terra cotta detailing.*





Manitoba Archives Photo

## LYON, MACKENZIE & POWIS,

*An advertisement for the grocery wholesale firm of Lyon, Mackenzie & Powis from The Commercial, February 2, 1886.*

This brick building was erected in 1883 to house Lyon, MacKenzie and Powis, a grocery wholesale firm. Its principal owner, William H. Lyon, had been an Indian trader before opening a store in the Red River Settlement in 1860 that eventually grew into a large and prosperous wholesale partnership.

Because of the heavy loads of wholesale goods, the Lyon Block was particularly well constructed, with oversized joists and a stone foundation. The building was a three-storey structure designed in Romanesque style similar to other buildings in Winnipeg's burgeoning warehouse district. The details and quality of the brickwork on the Lyon Block, however, made its design especially notable and successful.



Manitoba Archives Photo

*"Newspaper Row" - McDermot Avenue looking west from Main Street, circa 1903. The Lyon Block is identified by the arrow.*

In 1900, the **Free Press** took over the Lyon Block shortly before one of Canada's foremost editors, John W. Dafoe, joined the paper in 1901. Clifford Sifton, owner of the **Free Press** and a powerful Minister of the Interior in the government of Wilfred Laurier, teamed with Dafoe to make the newspaper the strongest voice in Western Canada. Dafoe joined the paper just after it had reorganiz-

ed its production system around new typesetting machines and high-speed presses. The **Free Press** grew to require even more space, and moved from its location on McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg's "Newspaper Row", in 1905.

In 1905, Sir James Aikins of the law firm of Aikins, Loftis et al (now Aikins, MacAulay), purchased the building to house his office. Aikins added two stories and converted the interior from warehouse to commercial space, with retail stores on the main floor. This addition, designed by J. H. G. Russell, was successful in matching material and styles, while giving the block a handsome cage elevator and durable, modern offices.

Aikins, the son of Manitoba's Lieutenant-Governor in the 1880's, was himself appointed to that position in 1916 after being knighted in 1914 for his community work. Intimately involved with the local Y.M.C.A., Wesley College and other organizations, Sir James also founded the Canadian Bar Association, a national forum for the legal profession, in 1914.

Besides the Aikins offices, accountants, realtors, loan companies and insurance companies occupied the Aikins Building. From 1917 to 1923, the building was a nucleus for the film exchange business in Winnipeg at a time when owners loaned private copies of Hollywood movies. Over the

years, there evolved a mixture of professional and service offices and manufacturers' agents. A clothing store and a restaurant have traditionally shared the commercial space.

In 1942, the drug wholesale firm of Bate and Bate purchased the building, changed its name, and has occupied office and warehouse space on the third floor ever since. At present, the Bate Building contains several manufacturers' agents, some professional offices and several art studios. Both the exterior and most of the interior of the Block are substantially intact from 1905.

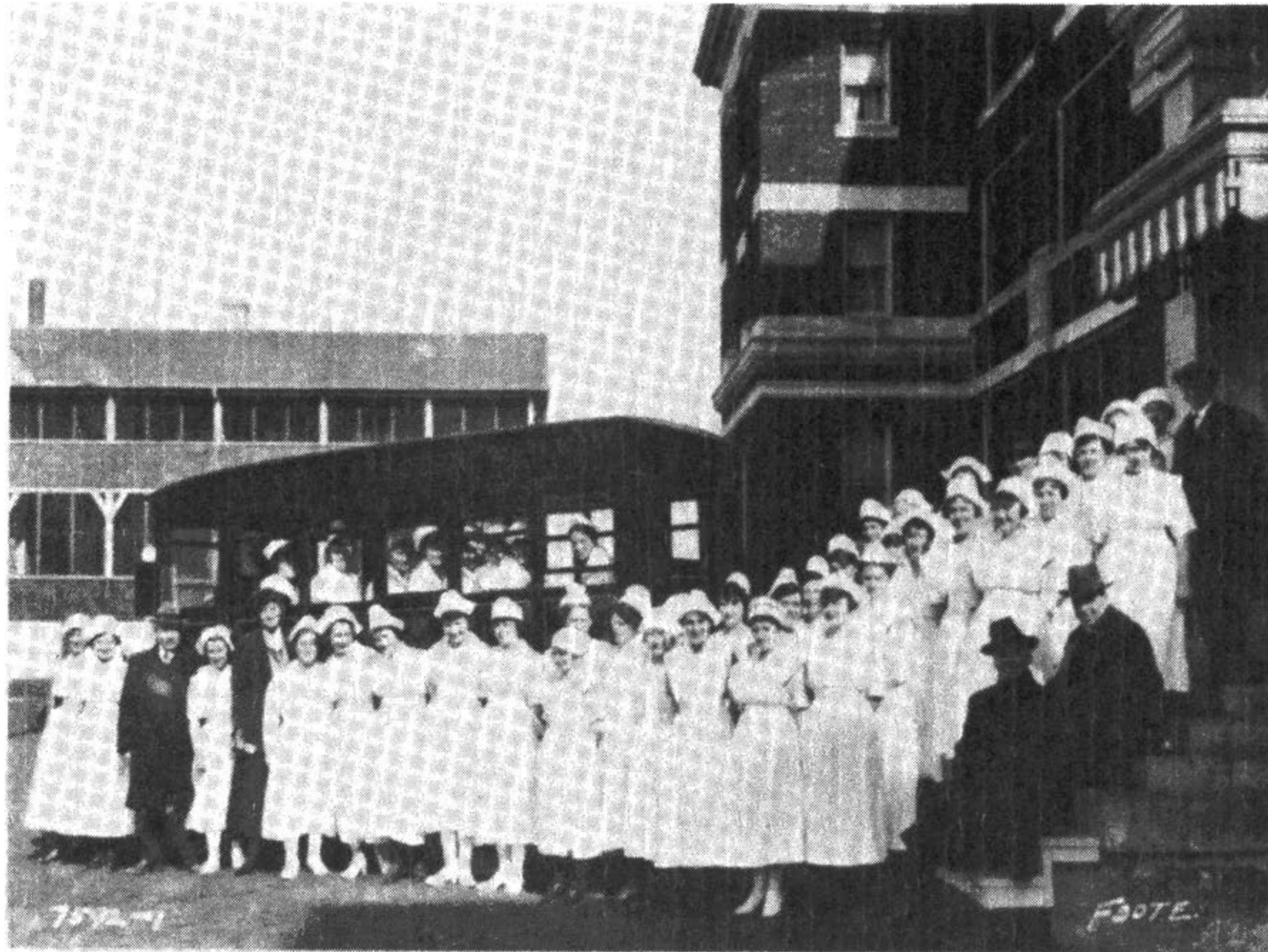


"Newspaper Row" - intersection of McDermot Avenue and Albert Street, looking east circa 1910. The Lyon Block is visible to the upper left.



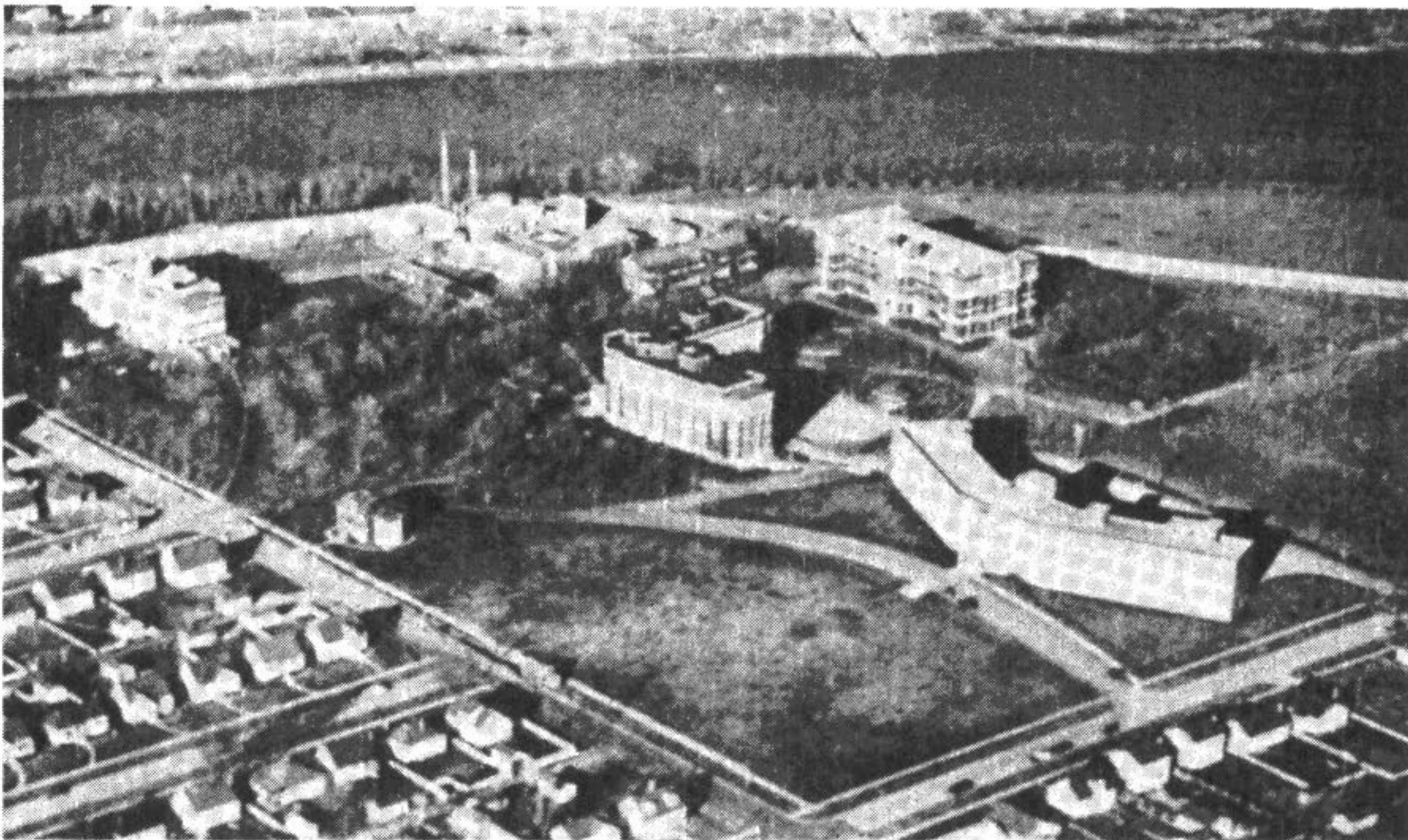
The Lyon Block, renamed the Bate Building, 1969.

Manitoba Archives Photo - Foote Collection



*Nurses at the Municipal Hospital, circa 1922.*

Manitoba Archives Photo



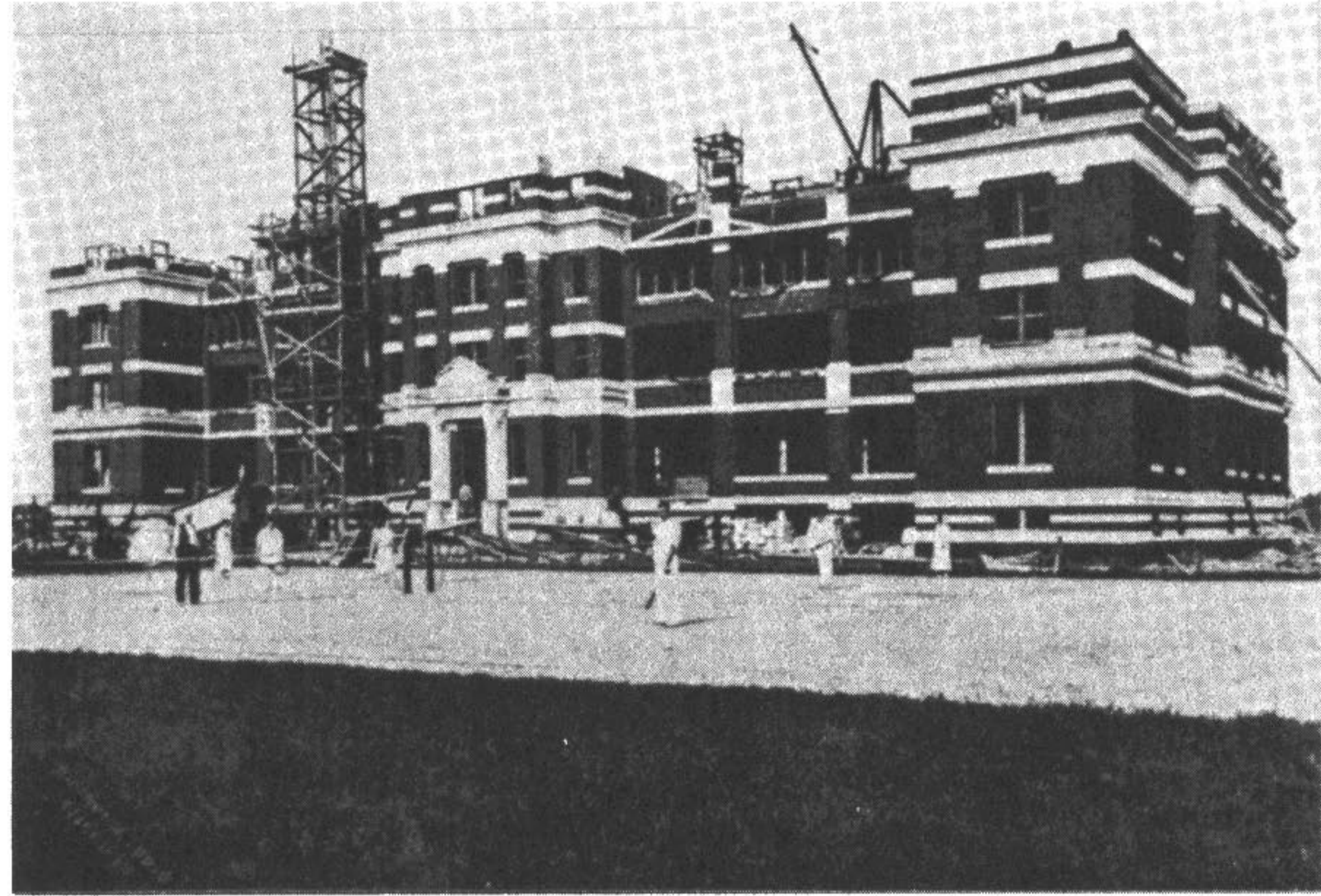
*Aerial view of the Municipal Hospital complex.*

At the turn of the century, Winnipeg's populace was especially prone to communicable diseases and epidemics due in large part to poor sanitation, overcrowding, poverty and a continuous wave of newcomers arriving on filthy immigrants' ships. Ideal conditions prevailed for the spread of smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever and typhoid. Shocked into action, civic authorities initiated a number of reforms, including the construction of isolation hospitals: the King Edward Hospital (1912) for tuberculosis victims and the King George Hospital (1914) for the treatment of other infectious diseases.

The Riverview site was reasonably private and became beautiful through an ambitious landscaping program. The hospitals were efficient and modern by contemporary standards. Tuberculosis patients filled the King Edward immediately while the King George tended to alternating waves of scarlet fever, diphtheria and typhoid. In 1919, when Spanish Influenza struck across the country, 2,300 patients were hospitalized locally in the space of five months.

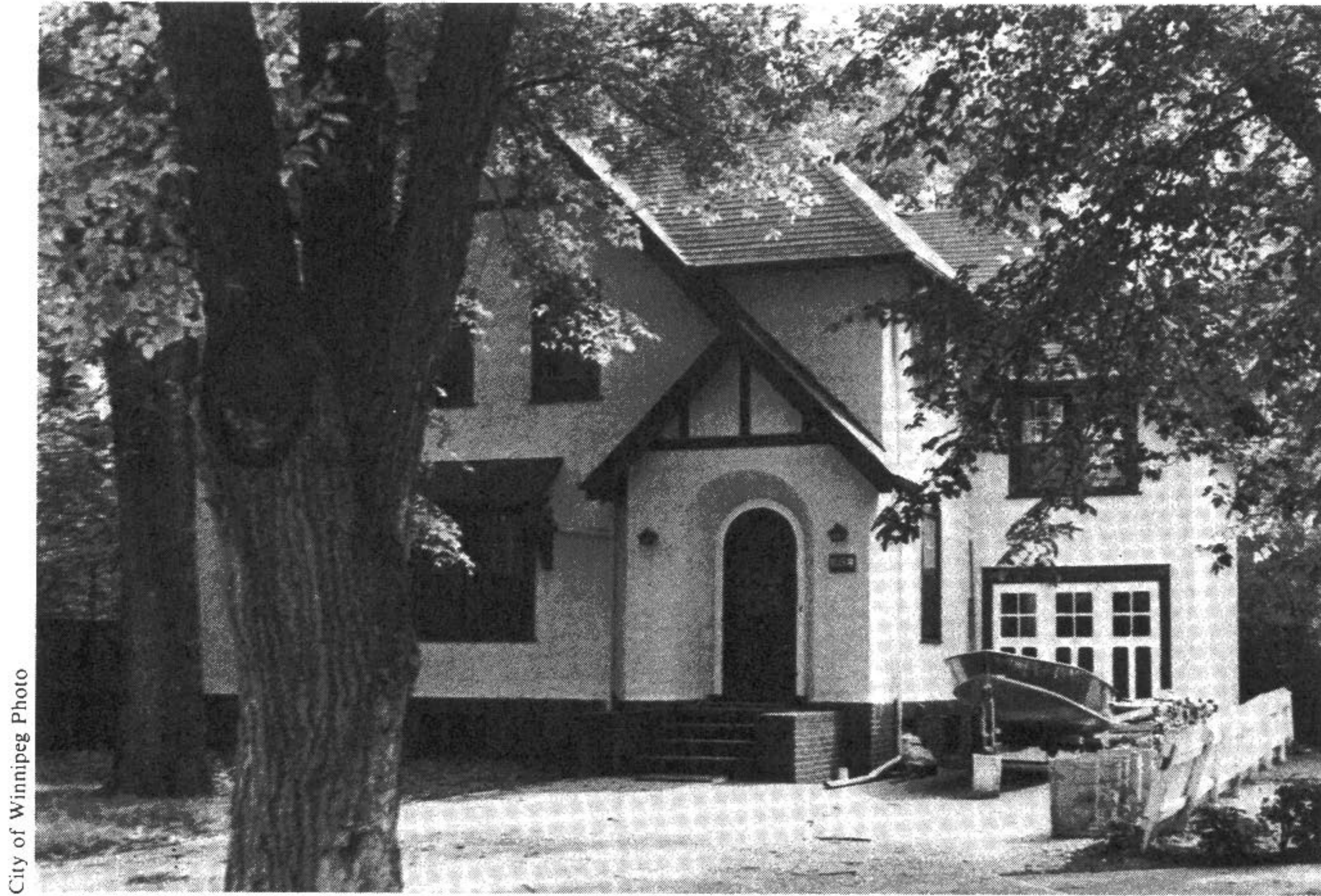
Nurses, proven essential in the War and again in the flu epidemic, were 'rewarded' locally by the construction of a large and costly nurses' residence, as it was long the tradition that nurses live at the hospitals they served. The residence was constructed of red brick, four storeys in height, and set off by bands and trim of native limestone. The new residence featured the latest word in comfort: screened verandas off each bedroom, large enough to hold the beds during hot summer nights. The residence housed graduate nurses and student nurses attending classes on disease control.

Advances in medicine such as the use of vaccinations and anti-toxins reduced the incidence of infectious disease in the years after 1920. After an outbreak of polio in the 1950's, the municipal hospitals branched into the care of the chronically ill. Since the 1940's, fewer nurses lived at the hospitals until eventually the nurses' residence became substantially vacant.



Manitoba Archives Photo

NEW NURSES' HOME UNDER CONSTRUCTION



City of Winnipeg Photo

In Winnipeg's west end, on the north bank of the Assiniboine River, runs Palmerston Avenue, a short street of large and elegant old homes. The street developed gradually from 1910 to the early 1920's, with 858 Palmerston Avenue constructed in 1924.

Built by a contractor on speculation for \$12,000, the house was initially owned by a grain merchant. In 1934, Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Warriner purchased the large home for their growing family. Dr. Warriner is best remembered for his prominent dental practice, but was also chairman of the Winnipeg School Board and Mayor of the city in 1937.

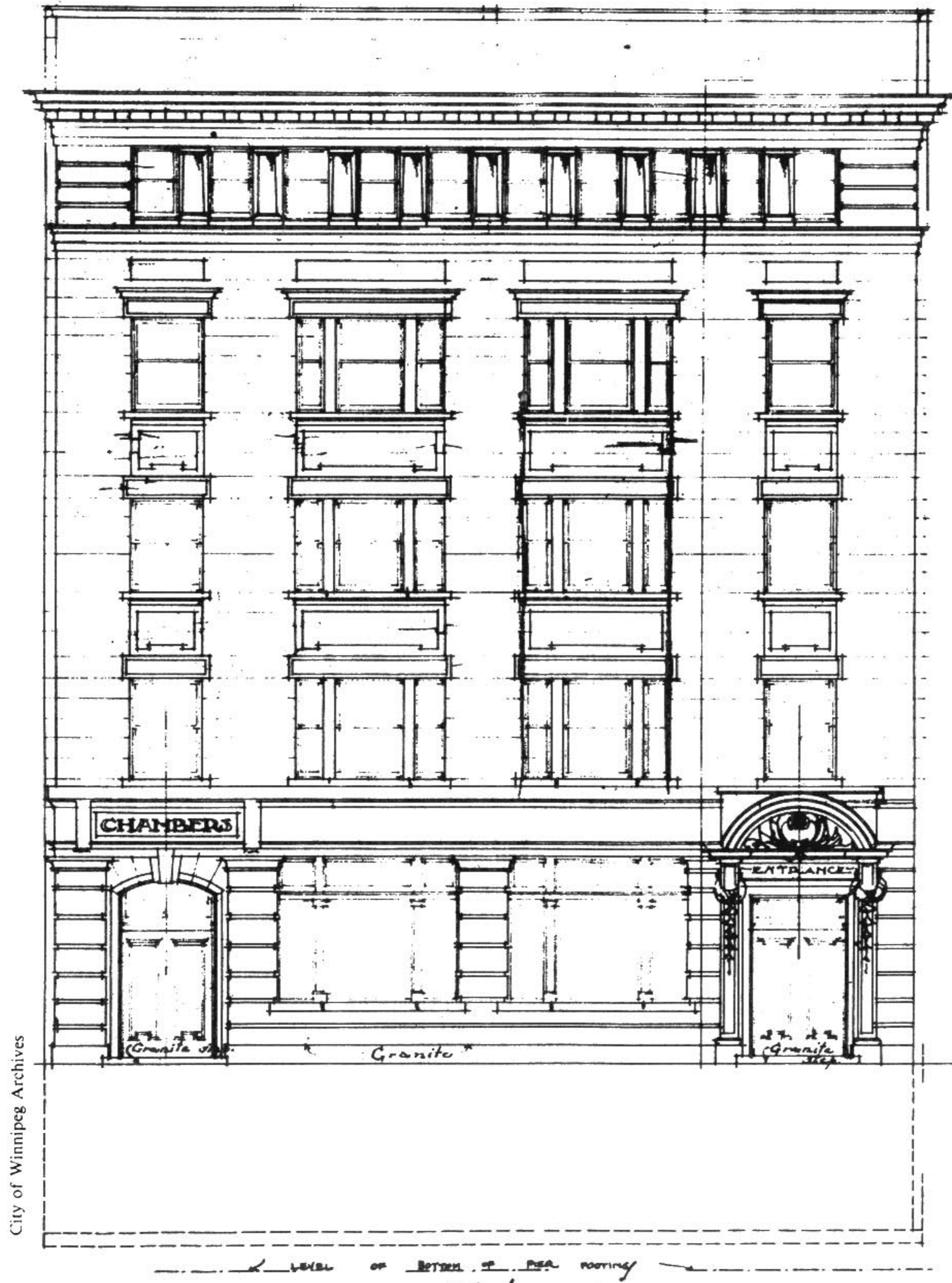
Warriner was born in Ontario, arriving in 1907 to establish his new practice in Winnipeg. He was committed to various community organizations, achieving public prominence first as the Mayor of Winnipeg Beach from 1931 to 1936 and as a member of the School Board from 1928 to 1937. An extremely popular man, Fred Warriner was elected Mayor of Winnipeg in 1937 but did not seek a second term. He returned to his practice, eventually retiring prior to his death in 1966.

From 1958 to 1973, the Palmerston Avenue house was owned by Warriner's son Jack and his young family. The present occupants purchased the home in 1978.

Built of frame covered in stucco, the house is two storeys high with a hipped roof. The concrete foundation has a brick facing, while half-timbering accents the nesting gables across the front. Further interest is created in a rounded structural entrance over the doorway. The present owners have undertaken extensive interior renovations.







City of Winnipeg Archives

*Front Elevation*

Original architectural drawing of the Nanton Building from the office of Darling and Pearson, Toronto.

Built of reinforced concrete and fireproofed steel, the Nanton Building was constructed in 1906-07. The prestigious Toronto architectural firm of Darling and Pearson designed the structure when they were among Canada's leading architects. An equally prominent contracting firm, William Grace and Company from the United States, constructed the building.

A conservative and solid appearance was achieved in the building's facade, no doubt intended to reflect the corporate image of Osler, Hammond and Nanton, a prominent firm. A facing of grey Bedford stone along the pilasters is broken by strong window details with rustication of the ground floor. Heavy Ionic columns frame the angled entranceway while a row of smaller columns spans the attic floor as a frieze below the cornice. Dignity and stability were emphasized in the building's style and appearance.

The building, five storeys in height, features an interior light well which greatly increases the natural light. The main floor, which originally contained the Osler, Hammond and Nanton offices, had a very high ceiling, with a mezzanine containing the board room. The upper floors were finished austere but with good materials; most floors have been altered considerably over the years. The stairways were built of marble and steel.

Osler, Hammond and Nanton had a great impact in the development of the prairie west. Formed in Toronto in 1867, the company expanded to Winnipeg in 1882 with A. M. Nanton as the junior partner. From the Winnipeg office, Nanton mainly dealt in land development by acting as an agent between European and Eastern Canadian investors. Land companies or individuals in need of financing, mortgages, insurance, coal supply, oil and gas rights and stocks and bonds were also clients of Osler, Hammond and Nanton. Sir Augustus Nanton was a powerful figure in

business who was knighted in 1917 for his philanthropic work. The company contributed significantly to the social, economic and political growth of the region.

*Right: The Nanton Building, with the McArthur Building to its right, circa 1910.*

*Below: The Nanton Building, 1981.*



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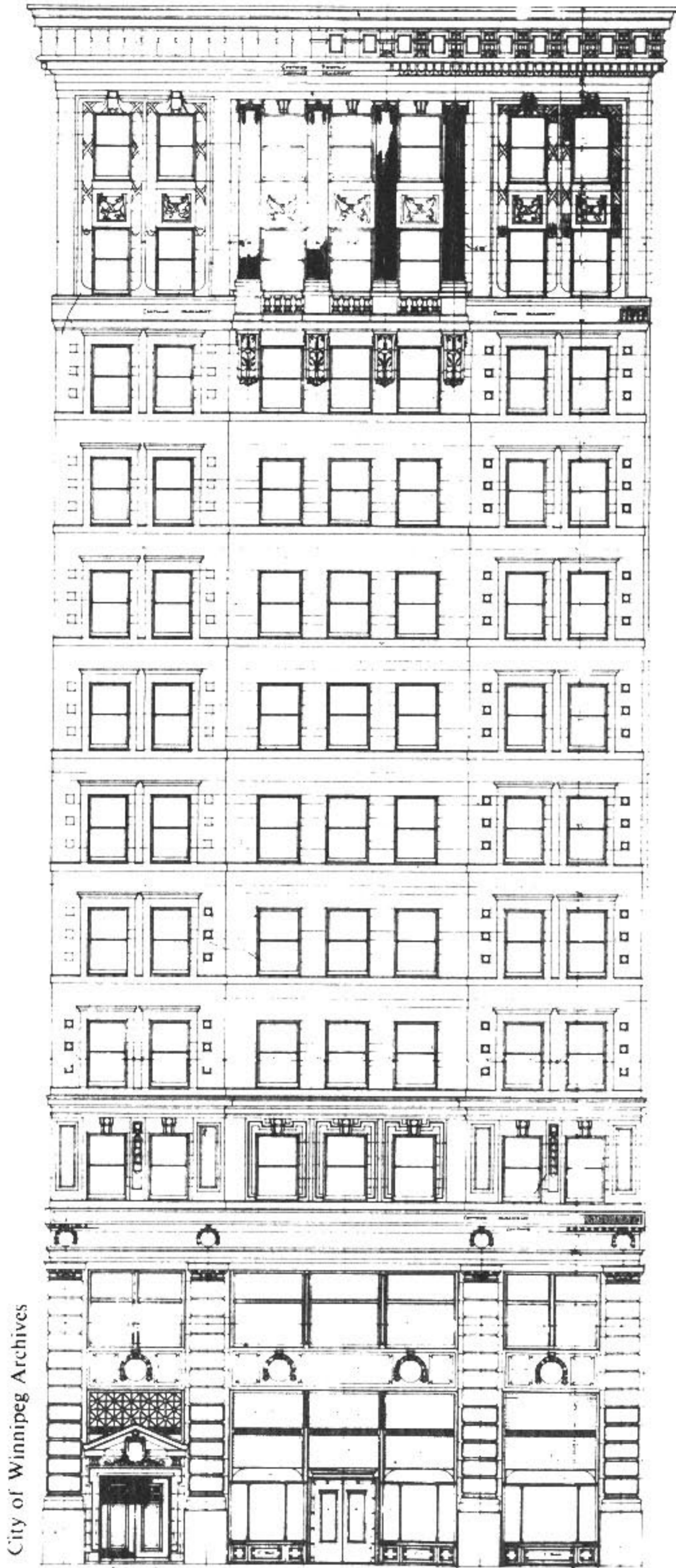
*The magnificent terra cotta balcony and cornice of the Childs Building, 1970.*

The Childs (formerly McArthur) Building occupies a trapezoidal site at the corner of Portage Avenue and Main Street. A holdover from the pioneer lots, the property lines dictated the angular shape of the Childs Building.

Portage Avenue experienced rapid development after 1900 with the construction of the Bank of Nova Scotia and Eaton's department store. The building's owner, John Duncan McArthur, invested heavily in the site knowing the potential value of Portage Avenue frontage. McArthur was an Ontario businessman who made his fortune in construction projects for various early railroads. McArthur chose John H. G. Russell, one of the city's top architects, and Carter-Halls-Aldinger, contractors who specialized in fire-proof construction. The McArthur Building was erected in 1909.

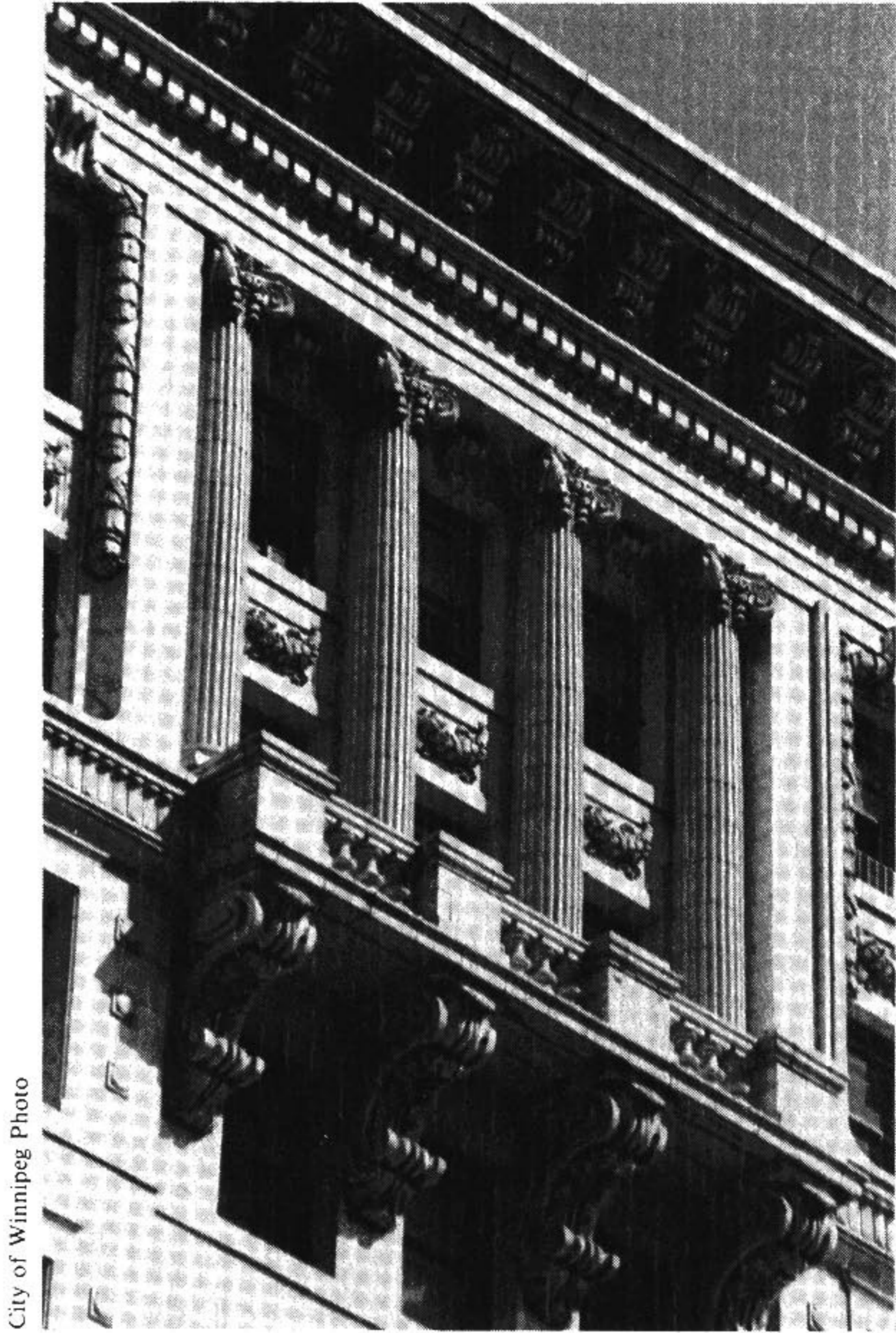
Although J. H. G. Russell had considerable experience with steel frame construction, he opted for a conservative approach to this high-rise office building. While the interior steel skeleton bore the load of the building, the facade was treated as if it were a masonry wall. Although the central portion of the facade was quite simple in design, the base had a heavy pediment over the doorway beneath four piers of channelled terra cotta. The top floor featured squat Corinthian columns, a richly ornamented cornice and a balcony supported by scroll brackets. As if to highlight this veneer, the side and rear elevations were finished in plain brick. The effect of the main facade was attractive and distinctive.

Professionals occupied the McArthur Building, including Dingwall's Jewellers, Pratt and Whitney Aircraft and the legal firm of Walsh Micay. In 1921, the building was sold to the Childs Restaurant Company but its name did not change until 1948. In 1981, the balcony and cornice were judged structurally unsound and were removed.



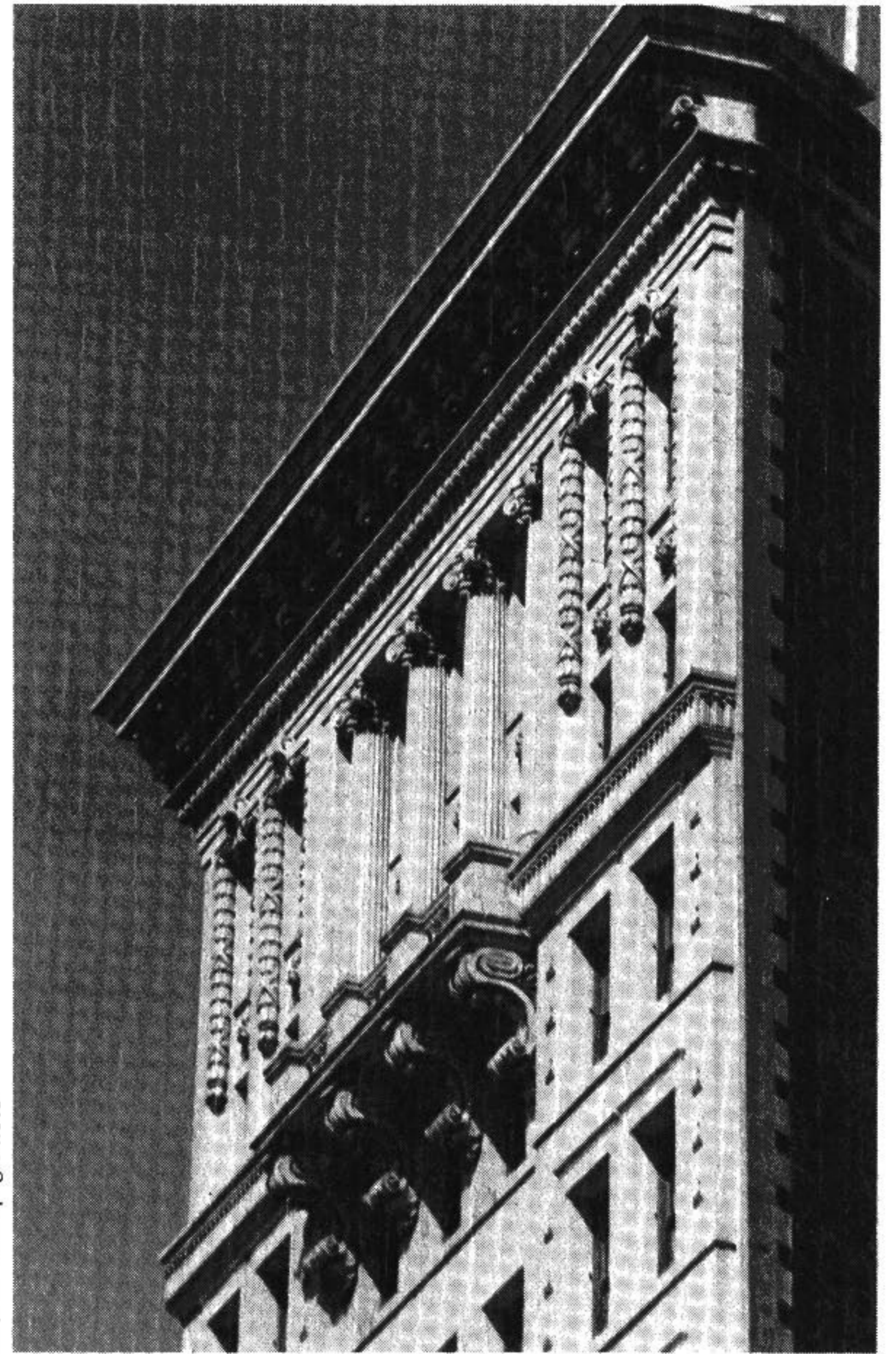
City of Winnipeg Archives

Front elevation of the McArthur Building, from original architectural drawings by J. H. G. Russell.



City of Winnipeg Photo

Above/right: balcony and cornice details, 1981.



City of Winnipeg Photo



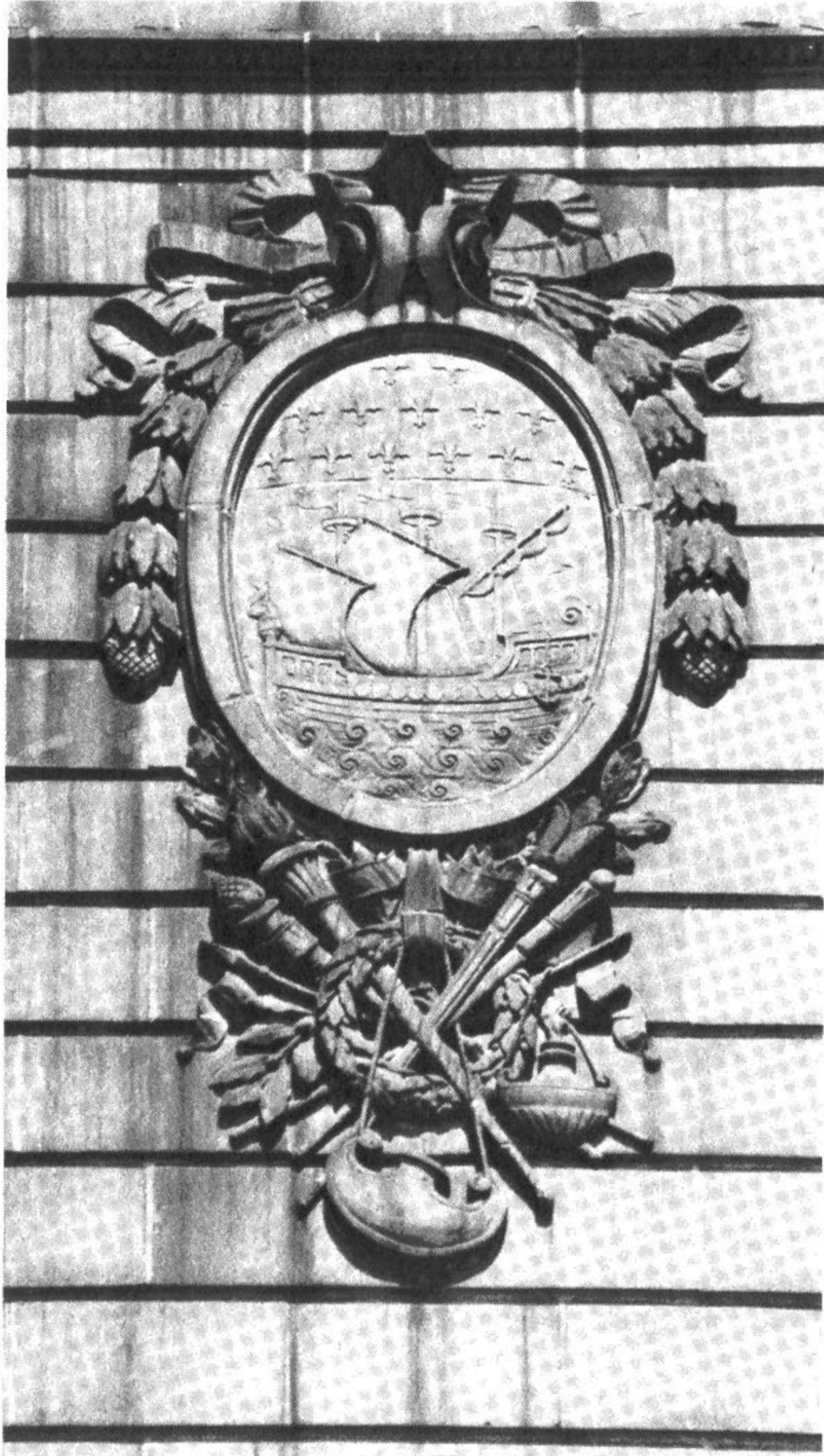
Manitoba Archives Photo

*The Paris Building, circa 1918.*

Once described as Winnipeg's "most elegantly clothed steel frame skyscraper", the Paris Building features magnificent terra cotta ornamentation and striking architectural design. Although seemingly a single design, the building was erected in two stages: the first five storeys in 1915 and the upper six in 1917. The rather large price tag of \$330,000 included rental office and retail space finished with grey marble wainscoting and stairs, with elegant woodwork and glass partitions between the airy, well-lit rooms. The Paris Building was one of the several office towers that caused Portage Avenue to rival Main Street in high rents and prestige.

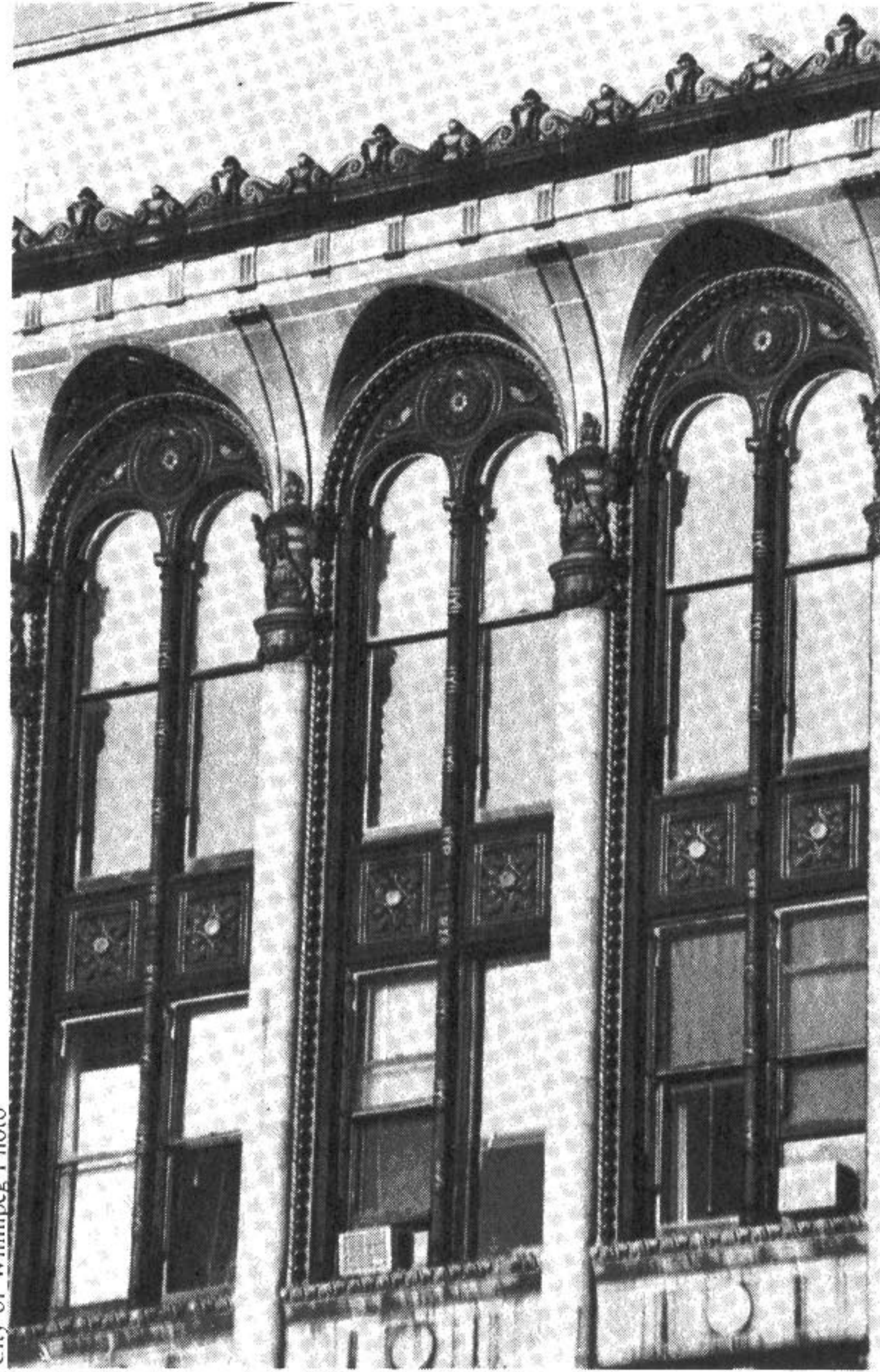
Stores such as Dingwall's Jewellers and Shea's Custom Tailors originally occupied the first two storeys. The upper storeys housed a variety of businesses including a number of insurance companies and manufacturers' agents. In recent years, many professional people shared the building with a modelling school, travel agency, architect and the offices of the **Western Jewish News**. For several decades, the Western Canada Insurance Underwriters' Association leased the entire eleventh floor.

The building was designed by architects Northwood and Carey of Winnipeg and constructed by Carter-Halls-Aldinger, both active and prominent Winnipeg firms. The facade on the main floor and some of the interior features have been modernized and altered, but by and large the Paris Building retains the same appearance as the 1915-17 period.



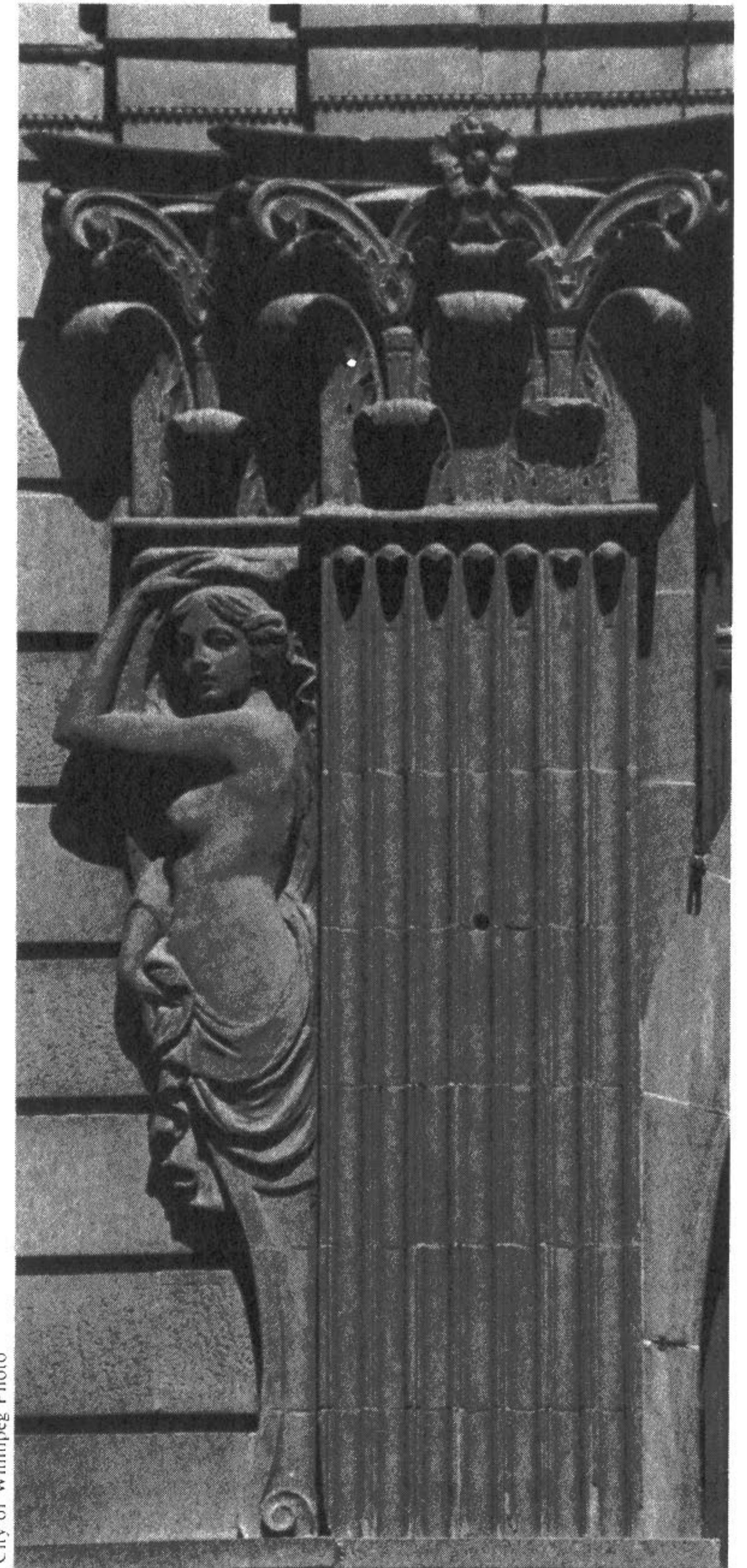
City of Winnipeg Photo

*Terra cotta detail, fifth floor, Paris Building.*



City of Winnipeg Photo

*Above: The richly-ornamented terra cotta facade features bronze and gold spandrel panels.  
Right: Capital detail, second floor.*



City of Winnipeg Photo



City of Winnipeg Photo

Erected in 1912, this building was owned by W. J. Boyd, a pioneer businessman in Winnipeg for nearly 60 years. Like so many of Manitoba's formative personalities, Boyd came from Ontario. A Conservative, Boyd was long involved with the Tories in Winnipeg but was better known for his confectionery business. He gradually took over smaller firms to become one of the city's biggest suppliers of baked goods, only to be bought out in 1912 by a national company. The sale of his business gave Boyd the capital to finance his office tower, and re-establish him in the manufacture of confectionery. Both Mr. and Mrs. Boyd had energy and talent for public-spirited endeavours for which they became well-known.

The Boyd Building was at the western periphery of the downtown district until the Hudson's Bay store was built in 1925. Its architect was John D. Atchison, who designed many of Winnipeg's familiar buildings such as the Great-West Life Building on Lombard Avenue, the Devon Court Apartments, the Medical Arts Building and the Manitoba School for the Deaf. Atchison was trained in Chicago at a time when that city led the world in the construction of steel-framed skyscrapers. His design of the Boyd Building is typical of the "Chicago School" era - a handsome ground floor, a restrained central portion of large windows with structural columns expressed, and an elaborate cornice. The entire facade is covered in cream- and bronze-coloured terra cotta. The other walls are sheathed in brick. The interior was handsome and functional but not expensively finished.

From the start, the majority of the offices were occupied by dentists and physicians with a sprinkling of professional offices and organizations. The ground floor was taken up with retail space. These patterns, established in 1913, exist today in the modernized offices of the Boyd Building.



*Cornice detail, Boyd Building*



219 BOULEVARD PROVENCHER  
L'HOTEL DE VILLE DE SAINT BONIFACE  
ST. BONIFACE CITY HALL

From the tiny settlement of French-speaking settlers huddled together on the east bank of the Red River blossomed the vibrant town of St. Boniface. Sharing in Winnipeg's boom at the turn of the century, St. Boniface grew rapidly, rewarding itself in 1905 with a new City Hall. The structure was designed by architect Victor Horwood, with the William Grace Co. as contractors. Established firms of French-speaking architects Sénécal and Smith and a Gilbert & Co. competed for the design, and the choice of an "outsider" was not particularly popular. The sub-contracting of the plumbing and heating to the firm of Dallaire and Daoust went a long way to smoothing ruffled feathers.

Horwood's design, an impressionistic water-colour sketch, proved irresistible to Council. They ignored the fact that Horwood exceeded the budget several times during the construction of the brick building, with the finished product costing \$20,000 more than the tender price of \$40,000. The new building, however, was substantially different from the softly-hued sketch.

Horwood had come well-recommended and was certainly a competent architect, having been trained in New York and Toronto. Several excellent buildings had already been erected to his credit. Following his appointment as Provincial Architect in 1911, he designed the magnificent Law Courts on Broadway as well as the Agricultural College buildings in Fort Garry. However, it was he who approved the changes in the foundations of the new Legislative Buildings in 1913 that precipitated the construction scandal which plunged the Conservative Party into a turmoil lasting two decades.

*Left: St. Boniface City Hall, circa 1911.*

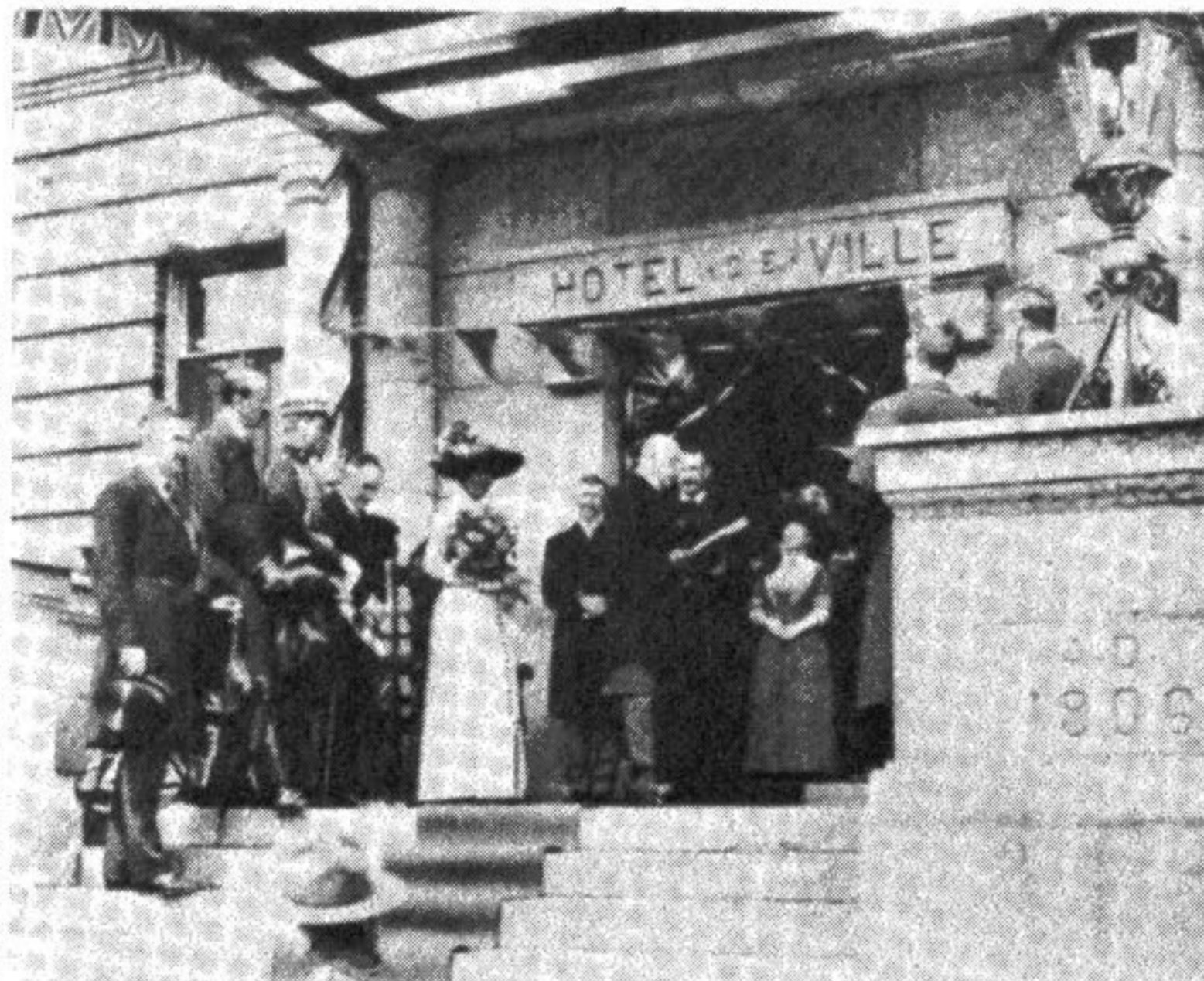


Horwood's manipulation of the St. Boniface design, and his mismanagement of the budget, did not go unnoticed. The French papers complained that the building looked different from the plans, and that the tower was ugly. While the finished building was generally acceptable, the original tower was not and Horwood redesigned it after 1907. His skills were more evident in the gracious interior: the council chambers were magnificent, the various offices functional and comfortable and the prison cells in the basement suitably stark. A double-return staircase, pressed tin ceilings and mantelled fireplaces remain to attest to the architect's talent.



*St. Boniface City Hall circa 1907 illustrating the original tower.*

While the community served by City Hall grew, so did the range of services. During the Depression, the building became hopelessly overcrowded and, by 1950, the residences on the third floor were converted to office space. The erection of a Police Station and Law Courts Building in 1966 and a City Health Unit in 1967 relieved the congestion, while the creation of Unicity eliminated the original function of the City Hall. The building now serves as facilities for the St. Boniface/St. Vital Community Committee.



*The Duke of Connaught and Princess Patricia stand at the entrance to the St. Boniface City Hall in 1912.*



ED. ANDERSON

A drawing of Edward Anderson from *Collective Personalities, "Manitobans As We See 'Em'" 1908-1908.*

Once situated in a sleepy suburb, this house now commands a view of a busy intersection. Before the Donald Street bridge and freeway were opened, the eastern portion of River Avenue was home to some of Winnipeg's wealthiest citizens, one of whom was W. A. Windatt, who built this house in 1899. Windatt owned a large coal and wood company, a business that profited not from the boom but from servicing the steady growth of the permanent population. Windatt built five speculative houses which he occupied and then sold within a span of thirteen years. After residing four years on River Avenue, Windatt and his family moved to their last home on Wellington Crescent in 1903.

Not long after, the Edward Anderson family purchased the large brick house at 171 River Avenue. Anderson was a Queen's Council lawyer from Portage la Prairie who moved his practice to Winnipeg in 1908. He served on a royal commission, a CNR freight investigation and as counsel for John W. Dafoe, editor of the *Free Press*, on a famous case of criminal libel. After serving as president of both the Manitoba Law Society and the Bar Association, he became head of the Winnipeg Electric Company in 1929. Anderson steered the company through a massive reorganization, a provincial scandal, and through the development of several new hydro-electric sites. The University of Manitoba presented him with an honorary doctorate upon his retirement in 1940.

Several owners subsequently resided in 171 River Avenue, including a car salesman who divided the house into five suites during the Depression years. Despite substantial interior alterations, the exterior is nearly identical to its 1899 appearance. The dominant features are a large turret and a sweeping balcony, both designed to enhance the corner location of the house. Decorative woodwork around the cornice, pediments and gables make the home a good example of moderately priced Victorian housing.

Manitoba Archives Photo



WILLIAM ANDREW WINDATT,  
of the firm of Windatt & Co., Coal Dealers,  
Winnipeg.

*Above: Photograph of William Windatt circa 1902  
Right: 171 River Avenue, 1981.*

City of Winnipeg Photo





Province of Manitoba Photo

Set back on its heavily-treed lot is a large brick house which once belonged to a wealthy judge who shared his quiet neighbourhood not with present-day highrises, but with large and prestigious estates. At the turn of the century Roslyn Road harboured some of Winnipeg's wealthiest families.

Judge J. F. Bain was Ontario-born of Scottish descent, characteristic of many Winnipeg pioneers who sought to mold prairie society in their own image. Bain was a hard-working, efficient and respected lawyer. He died only four years after constructing his big house in 1901.

Dr. Harvey Smith, a well known medical specialist, and his wife Annie purchased the house at 223 Roslyn Road in 1905. In 1919, Smith became the Chief of Medical Staff at the General Hospital. Dissatisfied with private doctors' facilities in the city, Smith led several other dentists and doctors to erect the Medical Arts Building in 1922. Specially designed, the Medical Arts was owned and controlled by the medical practitioners, a situation then unique in North America.

In 1929, Dr. Smith was simultaneously elected president of the Canadian Medical Association and the British (Commonwealth) Medical Association. Only the second Canadian doctor elected to this post, Smith hosted the 1930 annual convention of the BMA in Winnipeg with a reception held on the Nanton estate next to his home.

In 1940, the house was sold to a businessman and his family. Several tenants kept the house in the 1960's, and more recently it has been used as artists' studios.

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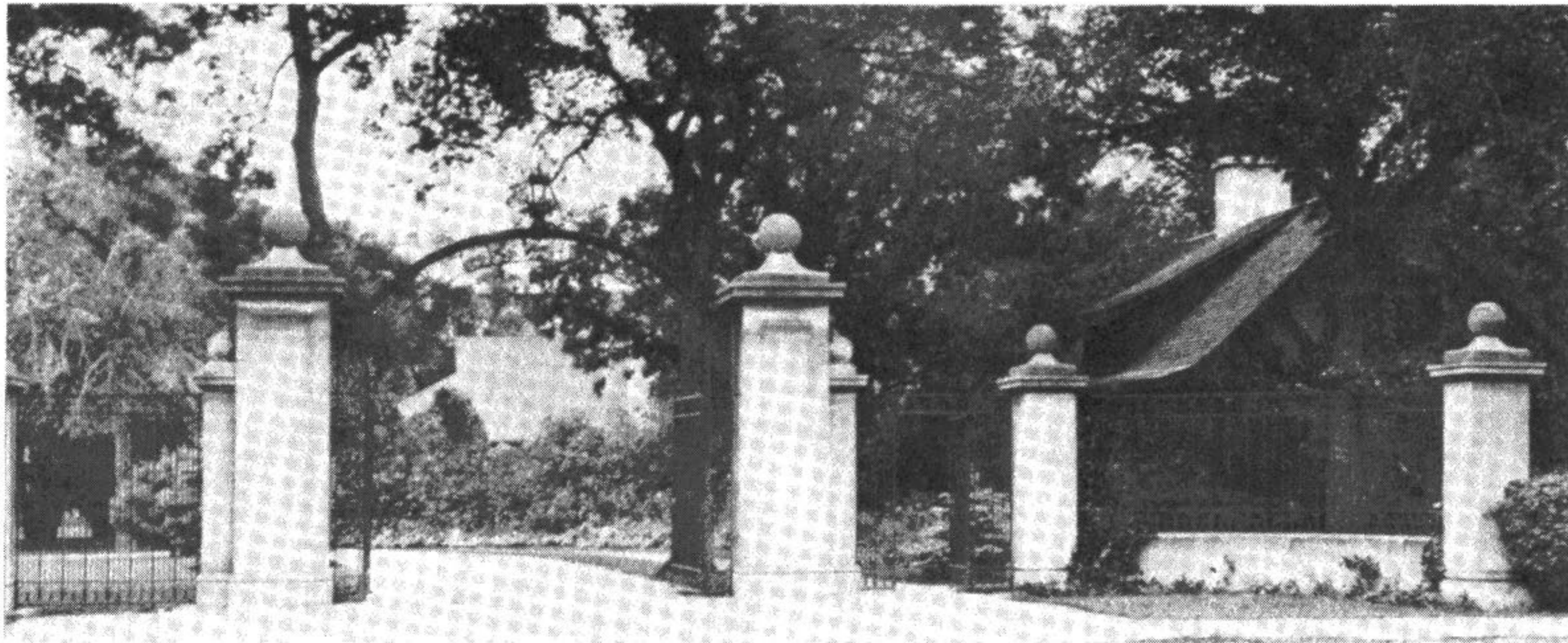
Walter Chesterton, an English architect living in Winnipeg, designed the house. His greatest work in this city was the first All Saints Church, a masterpiece of wooden trusses. He designed this house in solid brick in a square shape with a rear wing which has now become the artists' studios. Although somewhat plain, the house was not without style; great long windows light the rear wing, an oval-shaped window graces the front hall and the gable ends are decorated with Tudor half-timbering. Large wooden verandas, now removed, swept across the front and sides. Early photographs of Roslyn Road show manicured lawns and colourful flower beds where bramble and trees now encroach.



City of Winnipeg Photo

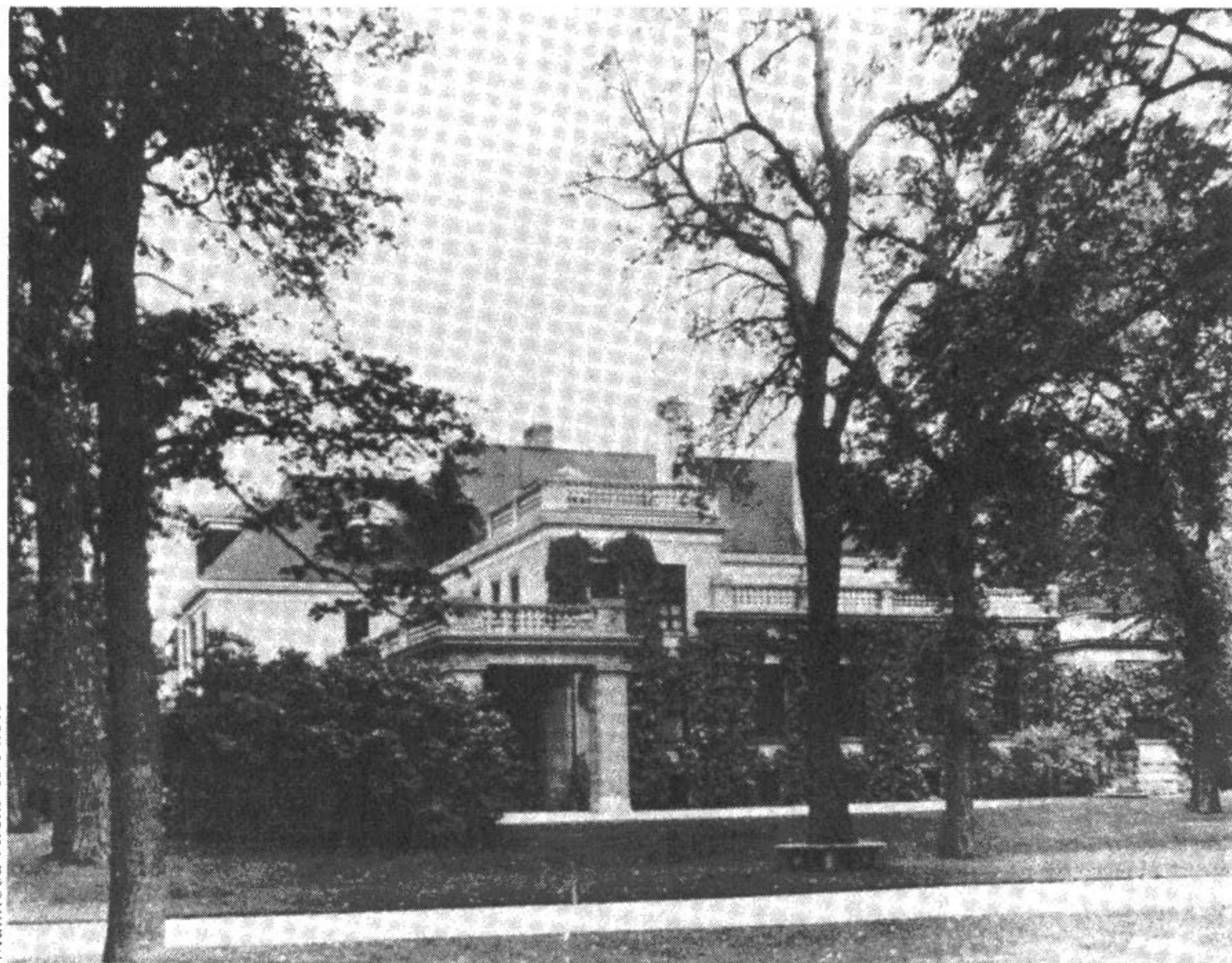
*Window detail at the rear of 223 Roslyn Road, 1981.*

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Manitoba Archives Photo

Entrance gates to "Kilmorie", the estate of Sir Augustua Nanton. The Gatehouse can be seen at right. Circa 1924.



Manitoba Archives Photo

"Kilmorie", the elegant mansion photographed in 1924. The building was demolished in 1935.

This charming gatehouse, a large stable converted to a dwelling, and a set of limestone gates, are all that remain of the massive Kilmorie estate of Sir Augustus and Lady Nanton. Kilmorie centered around a large mansion, erected in 1900 in a forest setting by one of Western Canada's biggest financiers and developers.

Augustus Nanton, a junior partner in the firm of Osler and Hammond, came west in 1883 to open a Winnipeg branch. Symbolically located on the corner of Portage and Main, Osler, Hammond and Nanton's dealings in land, stocks, grain and oil rights had a major impact on virtually every district of the prairie west.

Nanton himself was powerful in business, but earned a knighthood in 1917 for his gallant war efforts. Aside from raising millions for the Patriotic Fund, the Nantons organized workshops in their own home and turned over both their basement and their cottage at the Lake of the Woods for recreation to hundreds of soldiers.

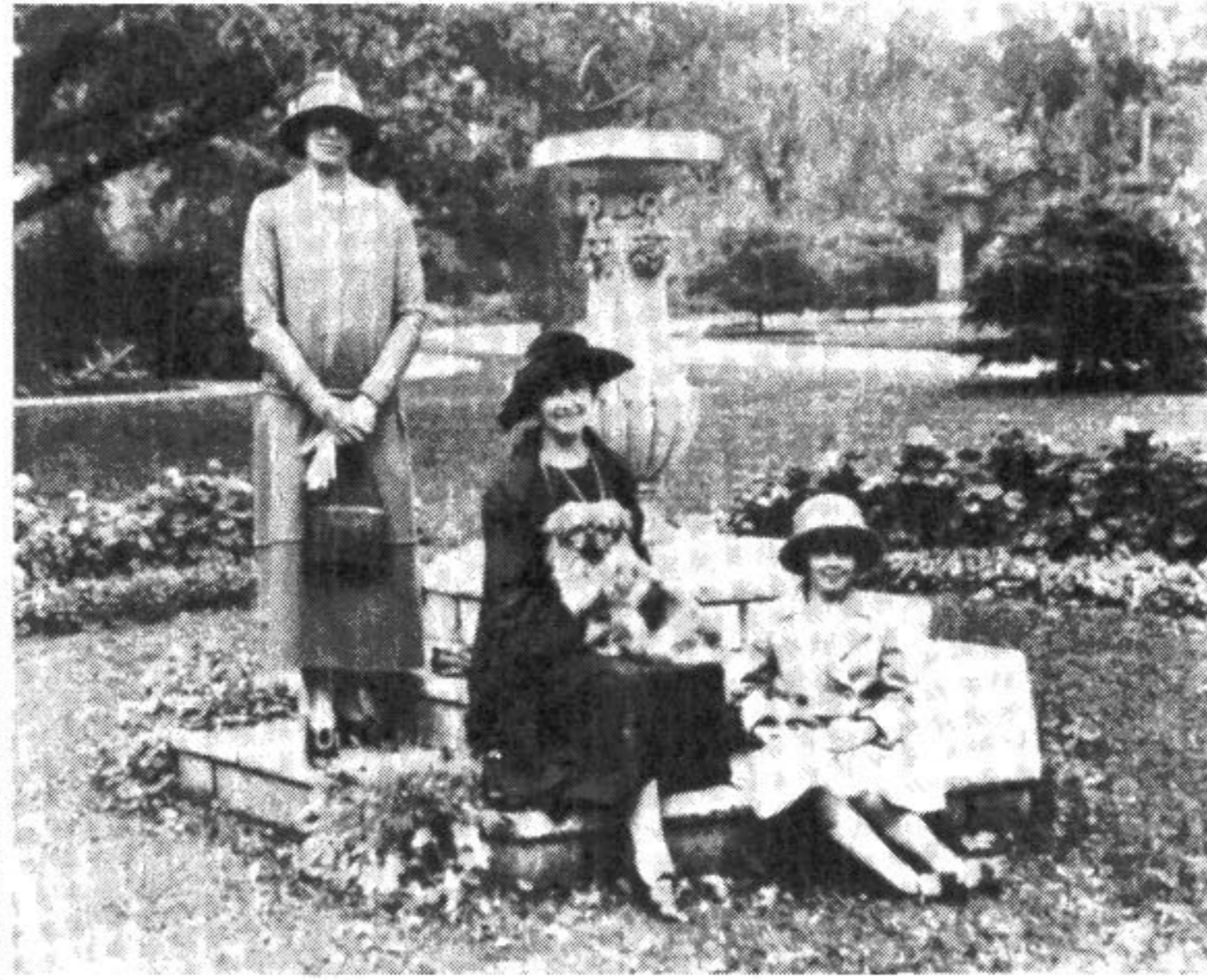
When Sir Augustus died in 1925, Lady Nanton found the great house too difficult to maintain. The building was razed in 1935, but some of its elegant oak panelling, stone fireplace, fixtures and hardware were refitted into the gatehouse. This house, built circa 1905 as a residence for the Nanton's groom and groundskeeper, was added onto and renovated to a suitable home for Lady Nanton. Here she lived in a scaled-down version of the Kilmorie mansion until her death in the mid-1940's, when the gatehouse was rented out.

The alterations of 1935 created a pleasing frame structure of brick veneer with an overlay of half-timbering in the gable. Behind this English cottage exterior are the sumptuous remains of Kilmorie and the legacy of the powerful Nanton family.

Manitoba Archives Photo



Manitoba Archives Photo



Manitoba Archives Photo



*Glimpses of life at Kilmore: Above left: the Dining Room with the Sun Room beyond; centre - Lady Nanton poses with her friends; above right: - Sitting Room illustrating lavish finishes. All photographed circa 1924.*

City of Winnipeg Photo



*Entrance gates to the Nanton Estate, 1981.*

City of Winnipeg Photo

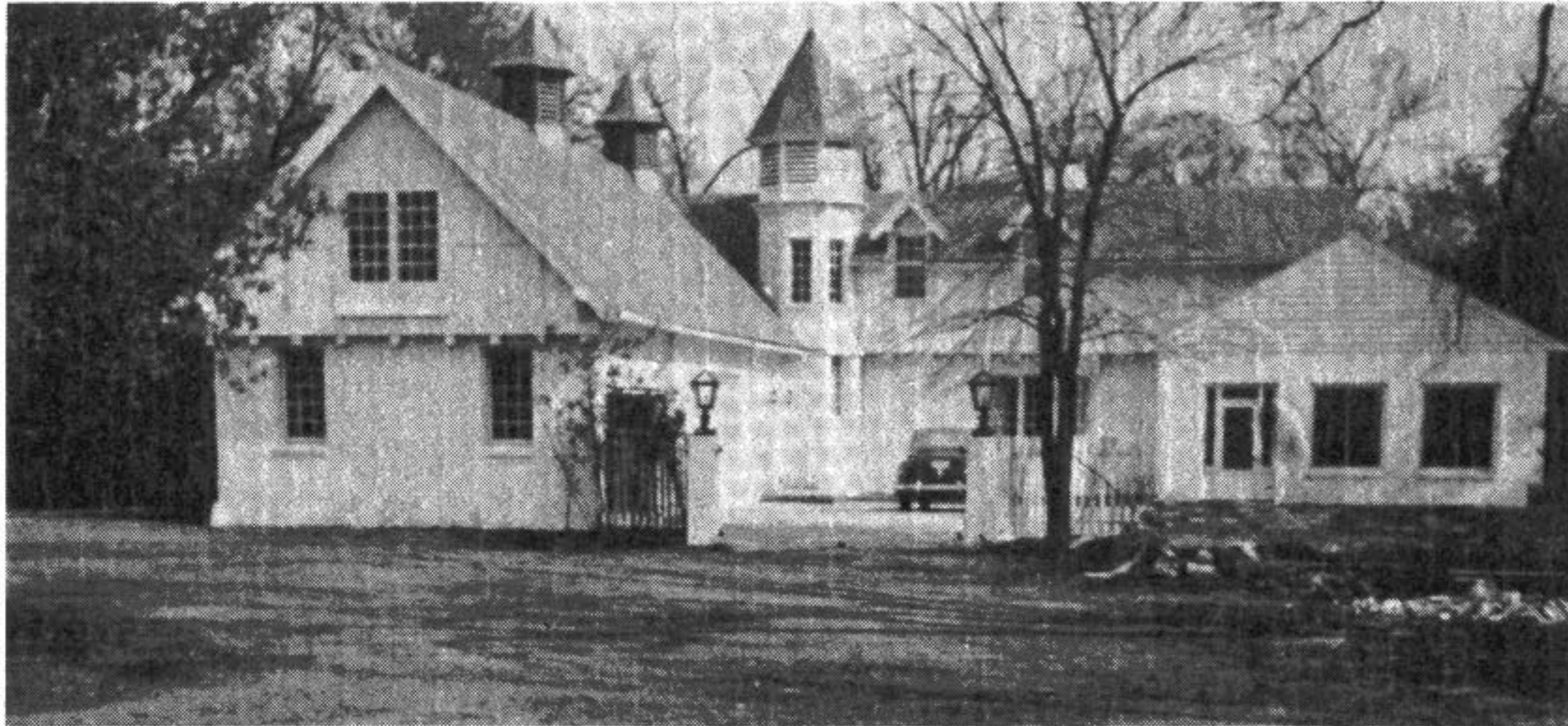


*The renovated Gatehouse, 1981.*





Demolition and Construction 1940



Photos courtesy Mr. Robert Moore

Alterations to East wing Stair tower West wing

*Photographs taken in 1940 illustrate the alterations undertaken to the Nanton stables by architect Robert Moore.*

In 1900, when Sir Augustus Nanton built Kilmorie, his massive estate on the bend of the Assiniboine, this district was substantially undeveloped. To enhance its semi-rural character, the Nantons undertook massive landscaping which created a forest, complete with bridal paths, on the five-acre estate.

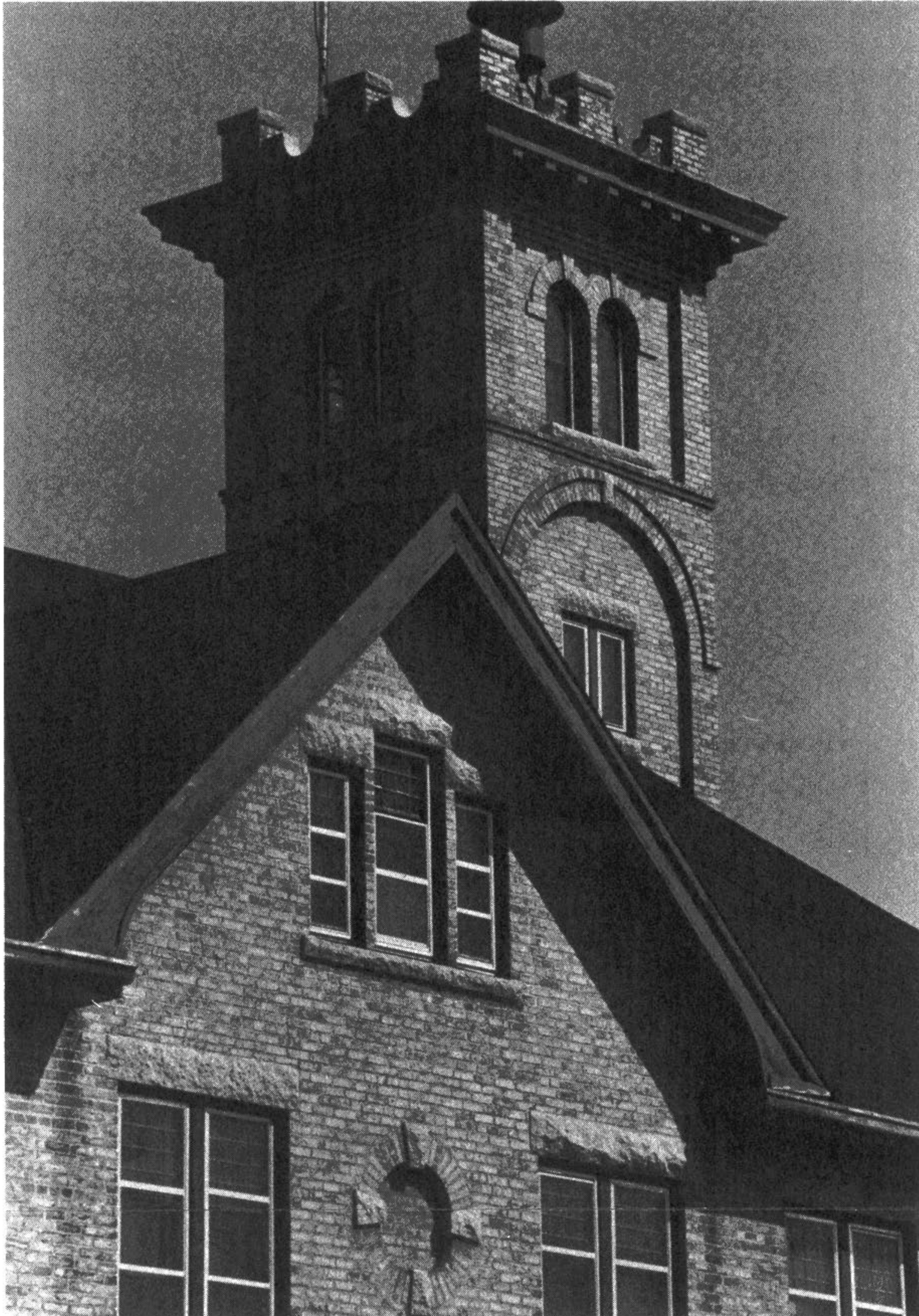
Always a lover of fine horses, Nanton kept five animals at Kilmorie, as well as several sleighs and carriages. In 1907-08, architect J. D. Atchison designed a stable for Kilmorie. With a price tag of \$10,000, the stable cost more to construct than most expensive homes. Built in a U-shape, the horses and a cow were stabled in one wing with the sleighs and carriages stored in the other. In the center, under a large cupola, was a tack room with a greenhouse attached to the rear.

Sir Augustus showed the horses in competition, and was well-known for his daily ride through the grounds and down the unpaved Roslyn Road. Eventually, the horses were replaced by automobiles, the groom became a chauffeur and the stable was converted into a large garage.

In 1940, Lady Nanton sold the stable to architect Robert Moore and his family. To make the stable/garage into a dwelling, Moore opened new windows and doors through the brick veneer walls, and sealed some of the old carriage entrances. Dormers were opened up on the second floor for living space while a full plumbing and electrical system were fitted into the new partitions. Garage space was left in the old stable, but fire regulations required a metal-lined wall to separate it from the living quarters.

The Moores lived in the former stable for forty years. Converted stables are very rare in Winnipeg. Together with the gatehouse and a pair of limestone gates, the stable is all that remains of the splendid Nanton estate.





City of Winnipeg Photo

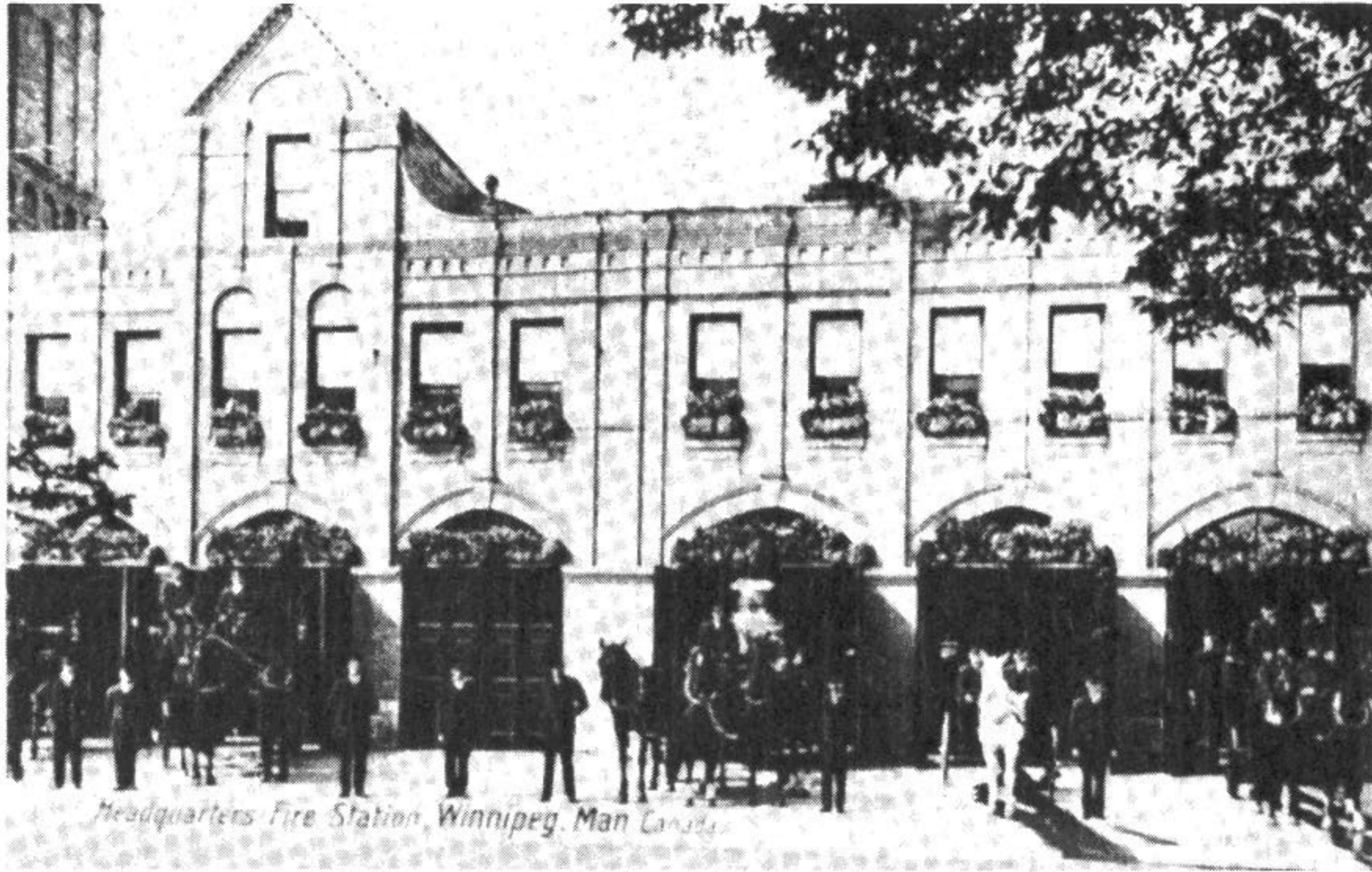
Winnipeg's first step towards a civic fire prevention system was the hiring of a salaried fire brigade in 1882. There was already some fire-fighting equipment, including a nickle-plated steamer, that is still in existence. Water was supplied by huge oak tanks sunk beneath the streets and filled by pumps from the river. When an underground water system was established in 1900, the fire department used fire hydrants, which marked the beginning of modern fire-fighting methods.

The equipment was drawn by horses and adapted to sleighs in the winter months. The horses were the pride of the firemen, kept in excellent condition, and provided excitement as they galloped through Winnipeg's streets to a fire. The firemen worked continuous shifts, finally shortened to six days of 24-hour duty per week. Aside from fire-fighting duties, games and sports filled their long hours in a life that was only glamorous to outsiders.

The Sargent Avenue firehall was built in 1910 to serve the new development of the west end. Designed by A. & W. Melville, the structure is Italianate in design, based on a pattern well established both in earlier Winnipeg firehalls and across the country. The design was inexpensive and durable. Stables were located in the rear, with exit doors in the front. Sleeping quarters and offices were located on the second floor with storage and open space on the third. The massive tower, traditional in all firehalls, endured as the best method for drying hoses.

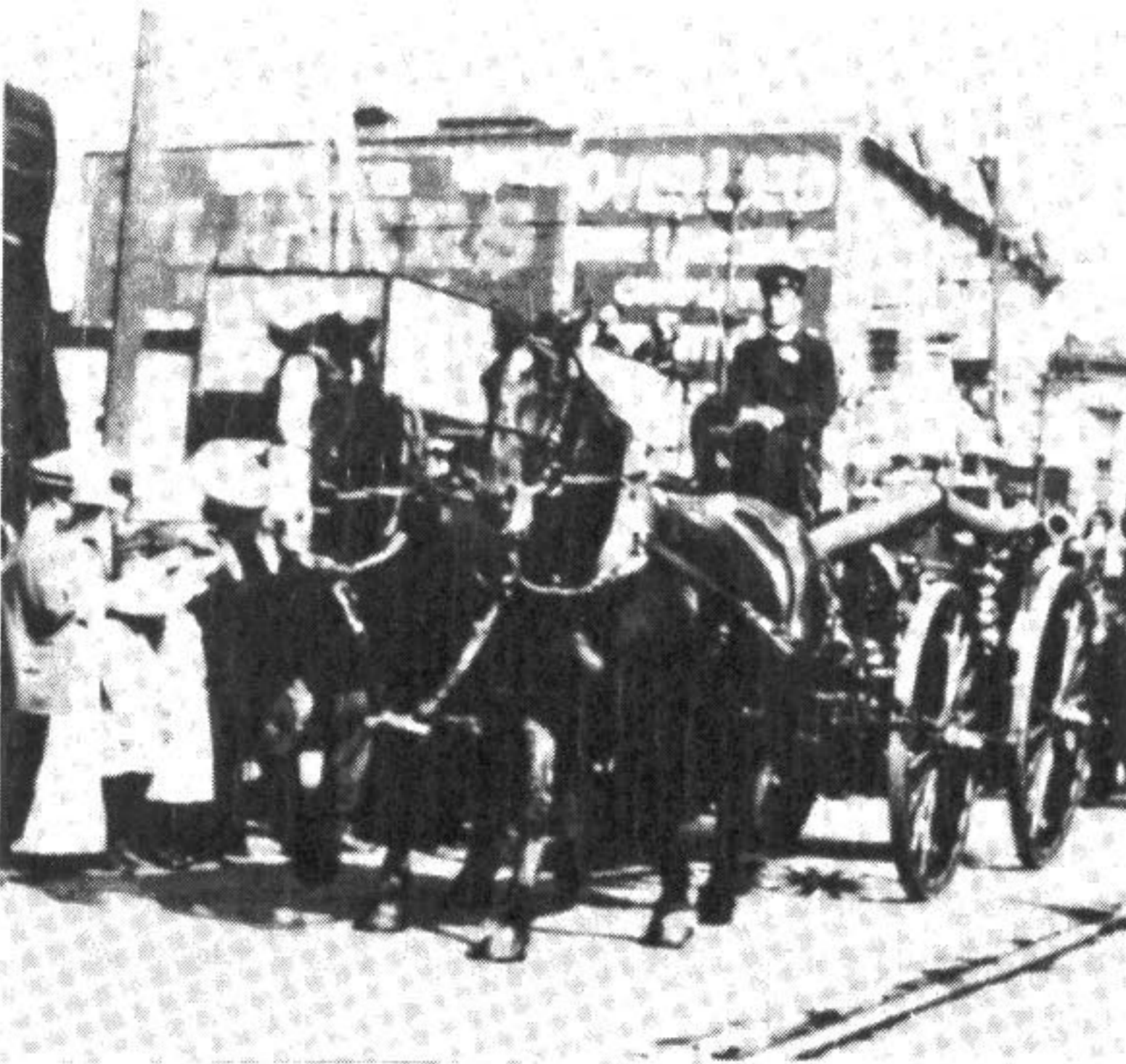
Technological changes have been made to the No. 5 firehall, but many of the interior elements and most of the exterior remain as they were when it opened in 1910.

Manitoba Archives Photo



*The No. 2 Fire Station at Smith Street and York Avenue circa 1912.*

Manitoba Archives Photo



*The Winnipeg Fire Department participates in the Labour Day Parade, circa 1915.*

Manitoba Archives Photo



*No. 5 Firehall, 1970.*



Manitoba Archives Photo

Although altered substantially over the years, this home dates to a time when Wellington Crescent was only a trail and Crescentwood a swampy wasteland. In 1887, James Russell, father of J. H. G. Russell, erected the second house built on the Crescent, a two-storey frame structure costing \$2,000.

The Russells became the second family on the trail. Eight children were raised in an austere Presbyterian environment, with the emphasis on education and personal development. The Russell offspring grew to contribute in many various fields.

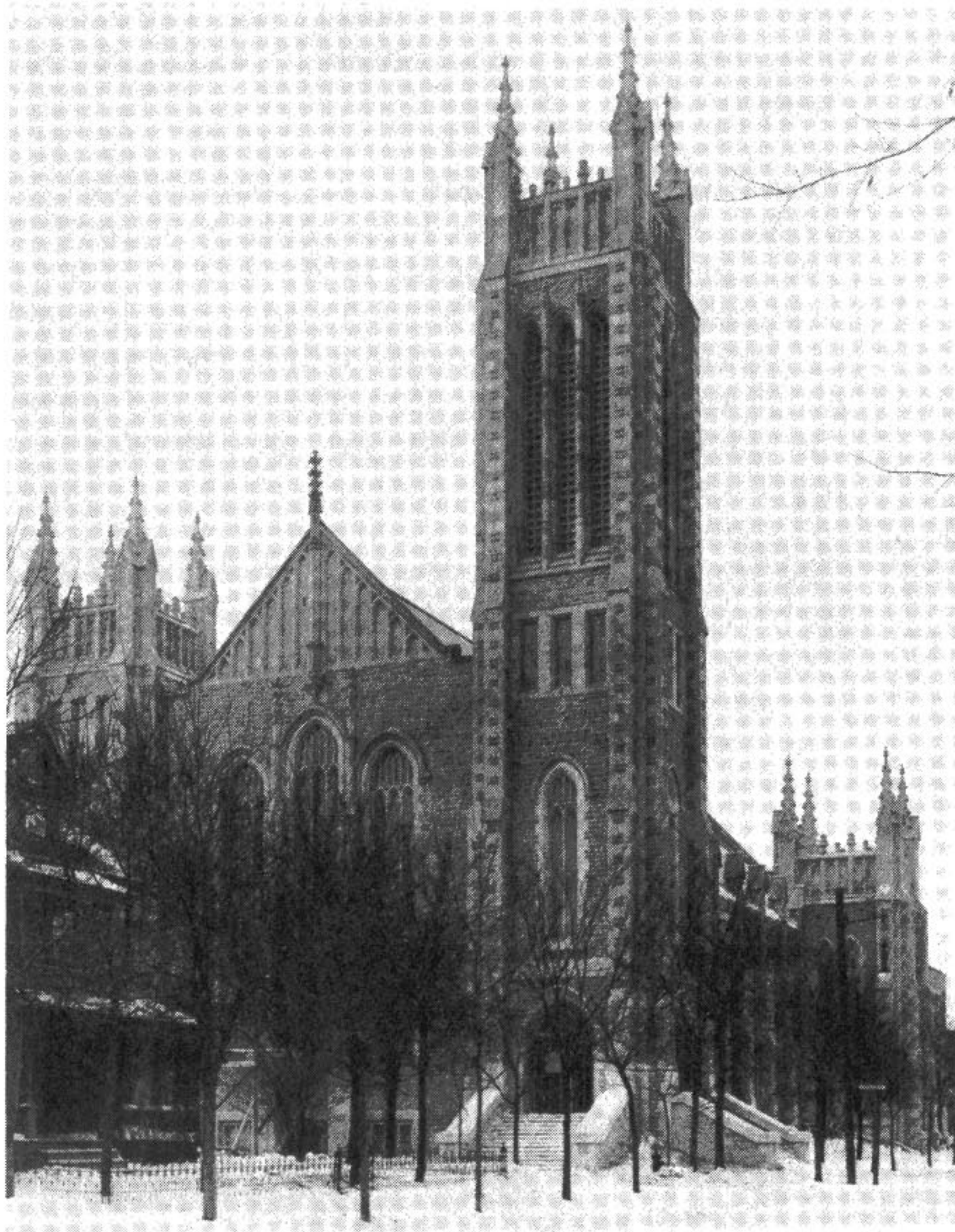
John Russell was the eldest child, born in Toronto in 1862. Rather than accompany his family west in 1882, he moved to Chicago to work in his trained field, architecture. It was here where he learned the modern style and methods that characterized his career in Winnipeg after 1893. He purchased the family home in 1900, just as Crescentwood began to develop.

The frame house was then moved back towards the river, set on a new foundation, and added on to expansively. This work of 1902-03 cost \$1,500, a price which indicates major changes. Russell added two more rooms to the east side of the house in 1906.

The Russells raised three children in their home before it was sold in 1946. This marked the termination of a sixty year residency by three generations of the family.

*Left: John Hamilton Gordon Russell, photographed circa 1913, from Collective Personalities.*

Russell was one of Winnipeg's most prominent architects. Literally dozens of his buildings remain throughout the city; his talents ranged from churches to offices to homes. It is difficult to single out his best works, but a list of these must include: Augustine Church (1903), the Child's Building (1909), Westminster Church (1912), the Ashdown house (1912) (now Khartum Temple) and the magnificent Knox Presbyterian Church on Edmonton Street (1914).



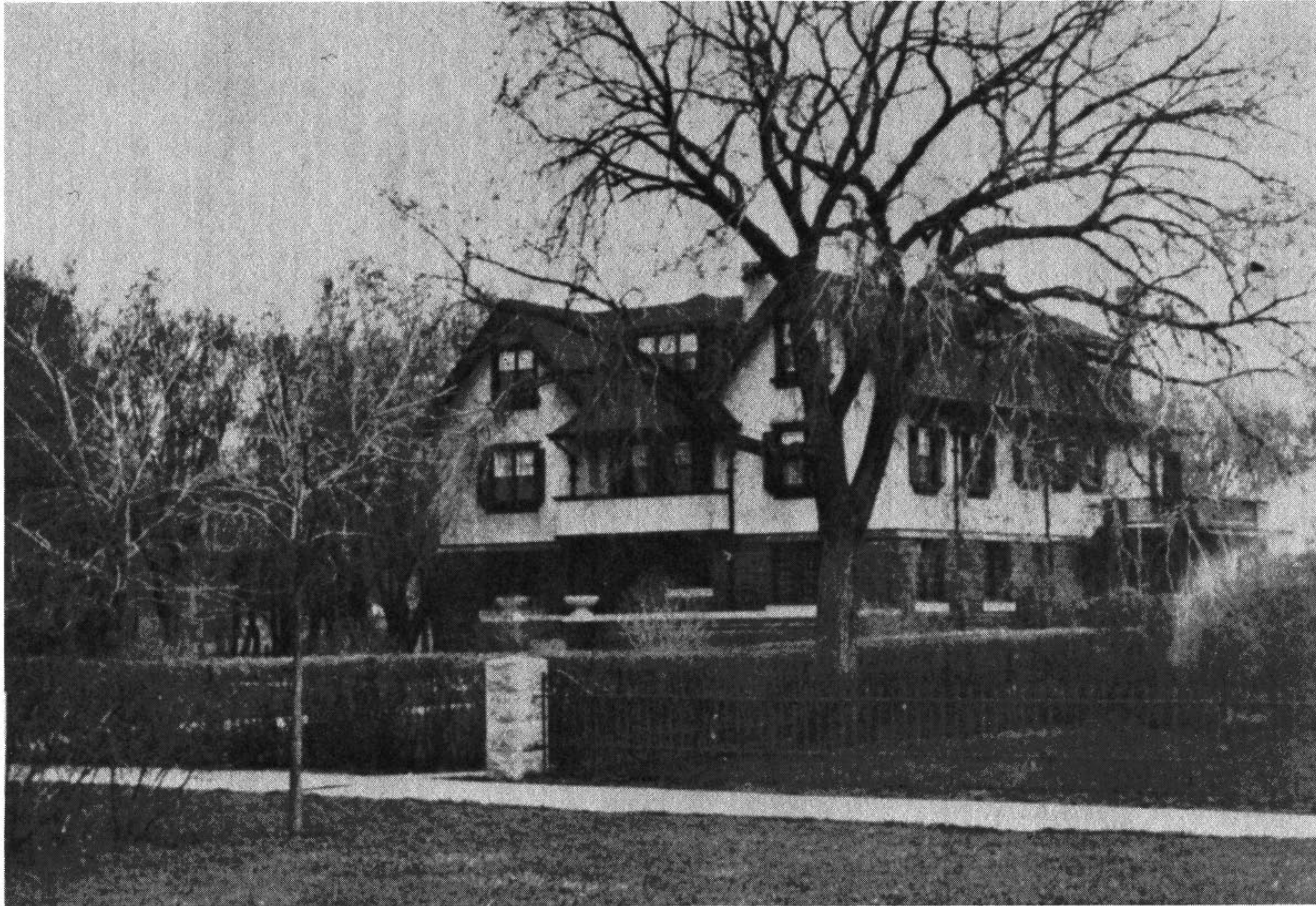
*Above: Knox Presbyterian Church, circa 1916.  
Right: The Ashdown House, circa 1914.*



*The Russell Residence, 237 Wellington Crescent, 1980.*



Manitoba Archives Photo



Manitoba Archives Photo

*The Hugh F. Osler Residence, circa 1915.*

In 1909, Hugh Osler, junior partner in the firm of Osler, Hammond and Nanton, built one of the first major houses on Wellington Crescent. The firm was based in Toronto but the Winnipeg office eventually surpassed the head office in its importance as Osler, Hammond and Nanton became one of the biggest developers in the Canadian west through its land sales, townsite development and farm mortgages. It expanded to the newly-constructed Nanton Building at Portage and Main in 1906.

Hugh Osler cast aside his business career temporarily for a military career in World War I, while his wife devoted herself to women's war organizations. Together they raised four sons in the rambling house. In 1925, William A. Anderson, the president of a grain elevator company that owned the Union Terminal in the lakehead, purchased the house from Osler. In 1945, the American Consul-General lived there, followed by the former head of the Winnipeg Humane Society, Lewis Ross Murray. In 1971, the house was rented to a group of bachelors.

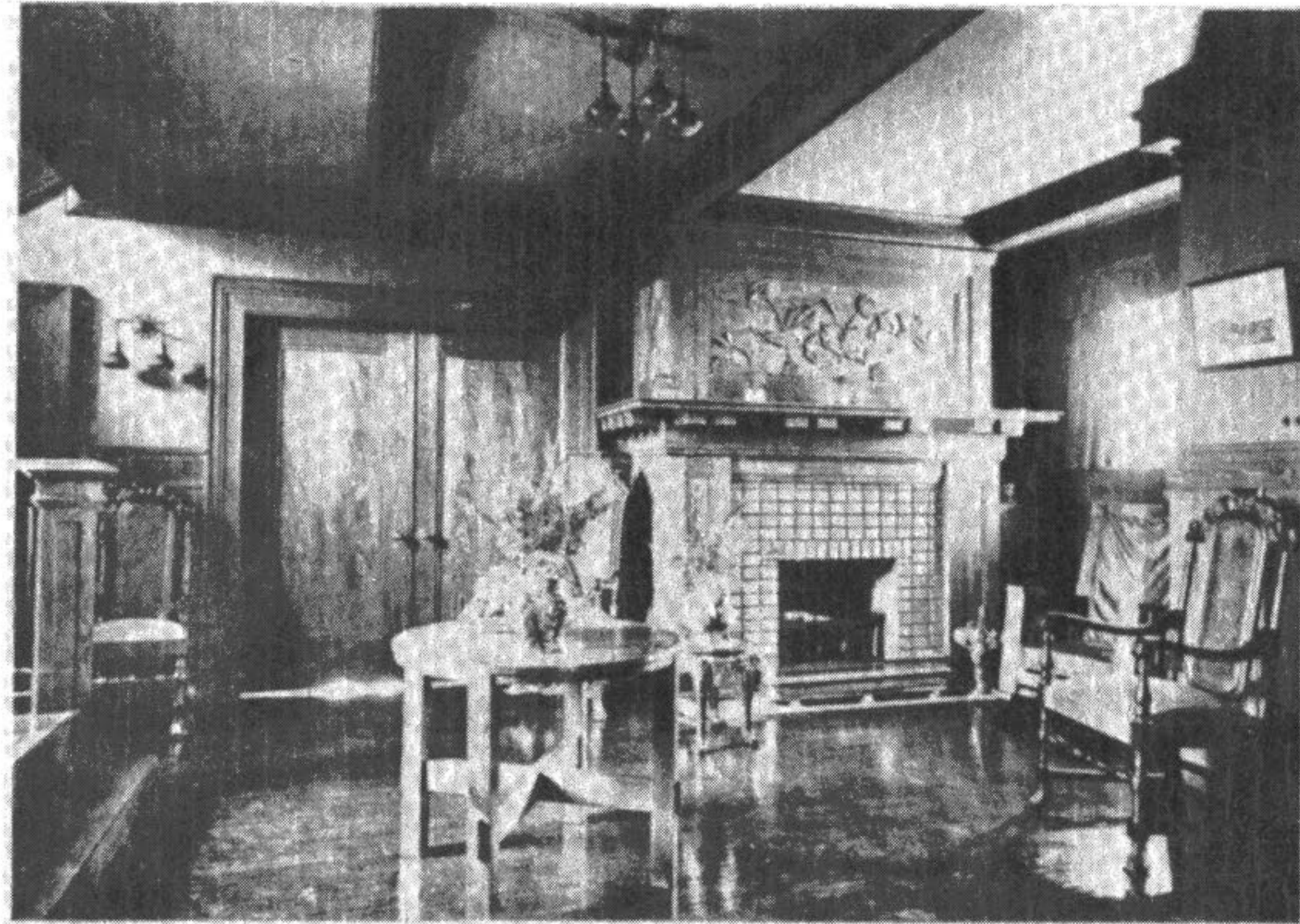
The Osler home was designed by Herbert Rugh, then one of the province's most influential residential architects. Rugh advocated the use of concrete blocks, which, in this case, he covered with brick and stucco. The house conformed to a centre hall plan, three storeys high, with large, well-lit rooms. The public areas were finished in beautiful woodwork accented by four large fireplaces throughout the building. Large beams crossed the ceilings of the ground floor rooms while built-in book cases flanked the fireplace in the livingroom.

The exterior was equally attractive. A brick terrace with stone detailing crossed the front and continued across the rear (riverbank) elevation in a screened veranda with a sleeping porch above. The upper floors were stuccoed and featured a small balcony nestled between the large gables. Formal gardens enhanced the natural riverbank landscape on the large lot.

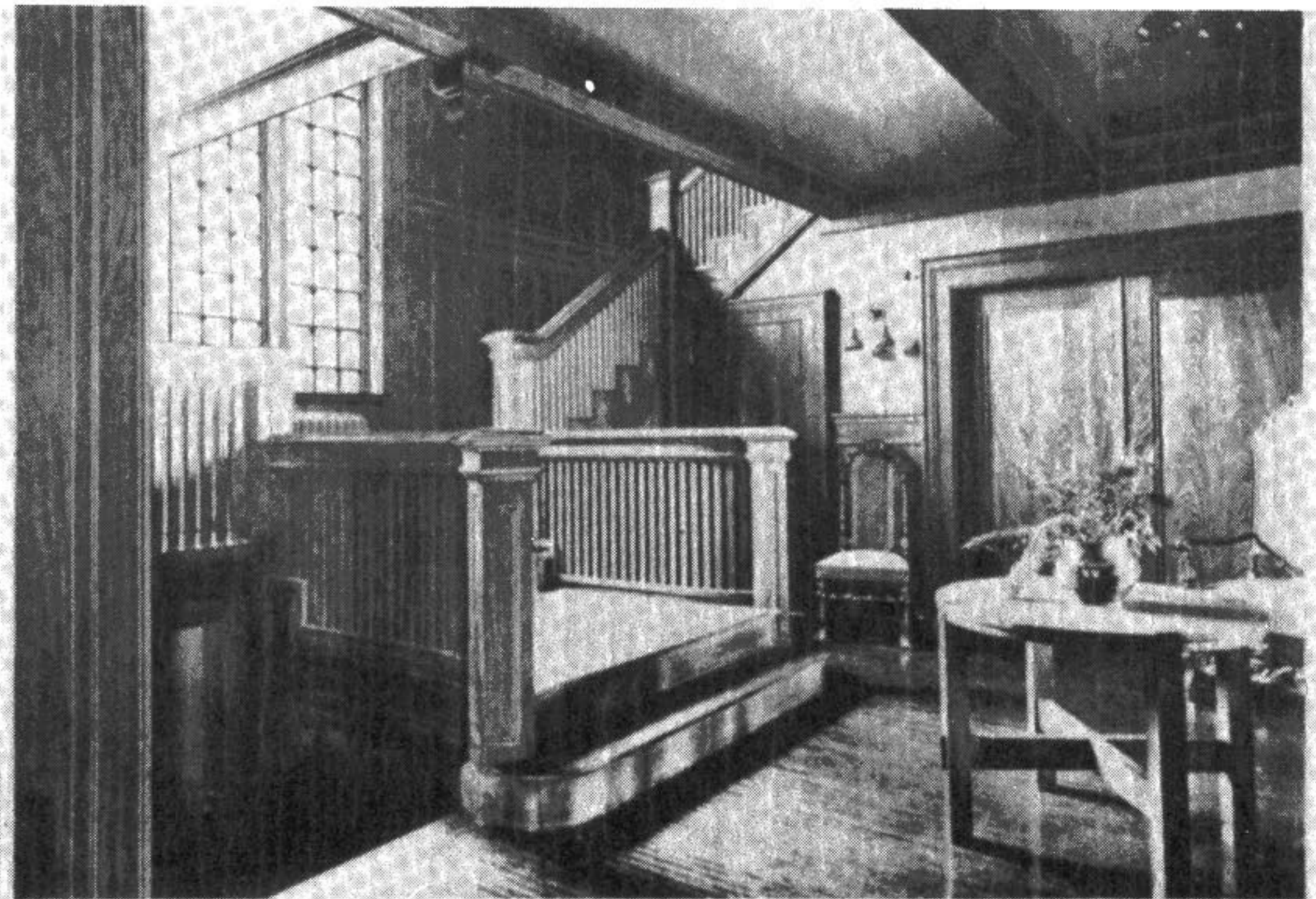


Manitoba Archives Photo

*Above: Hugh Farquharson Osler  
Right: Two interior illustrations of the Reception Hall, from  
Construction July 1910.*



View of Reception Hall, Residence of Hugh F. Osler, as it is Seen from the Living Room. Note the effective Door Paneling, the Large Open Fireplace, and Perfect Consonance of the General Scheme. Herbert B. Rugh, Architect.



Manitoba Archives Photo

Reception Hall, Residence of Hugh F. Osler, Winnipeg. One of the Distinctive Features of the Interior is the Woodwork—the Species employed Being known as Japanese Sugi. It is a Beautifully Grained Wood finished to Harmonize with the Walls and Ceiling, which are in Stippled Effect of Rusty Brown. Herbert B. Rugh, Architect.





Courtesy Charleswood Historical Society

*Watercolour painting of the Caron House following its restoration in 1982.*

The original parish of St. Charles, which included the present suburb of Charleswood, was formed by a nucleus of Metis farmers joined by French-speaking farmers from Quebec. This second group of settlers, lured by free homesteads, included two Caron families of Yamachiche, Quebec. Here they found good land and a burgeoning French-speaking community with its own church and school.

From their arrival in 1880 until 1901, the George Caron family lived in a small wood house on the south bank of the Assiniboine River directly across from the church. The Carons practised mixed and dairy farming successfully. George Caron progressed from Assessor of the Assiniboia Rural Municipality to become Reeve in 1901. In that same year, the family built their large brick home on the site of the old one. In 1907, George Caron was appointed Provincial Inspector of Public Institutions which involved the operation of Manitoba's three major institutions (in Brandon, Portage and Selkirk) as well as administering the estates of dozens of incapacitated patients. After his death in 1912, Caron's widow and children continued operating the farm until the 1940's when the house was sold and the river lot subdivided for residential development.

The house is a good example of turn-of-the-century brick farmhouses, most of which were constructed according to plan books. The absence of ornamentation was compensated by the soundness of construction, with a brick veneer. There are elements of fashion in the house, however, with a two-storey balcony finished with handsome posts and balustrades. Gables and windows provide vistas in every direction. Some fine woodwork in the interior remains also.

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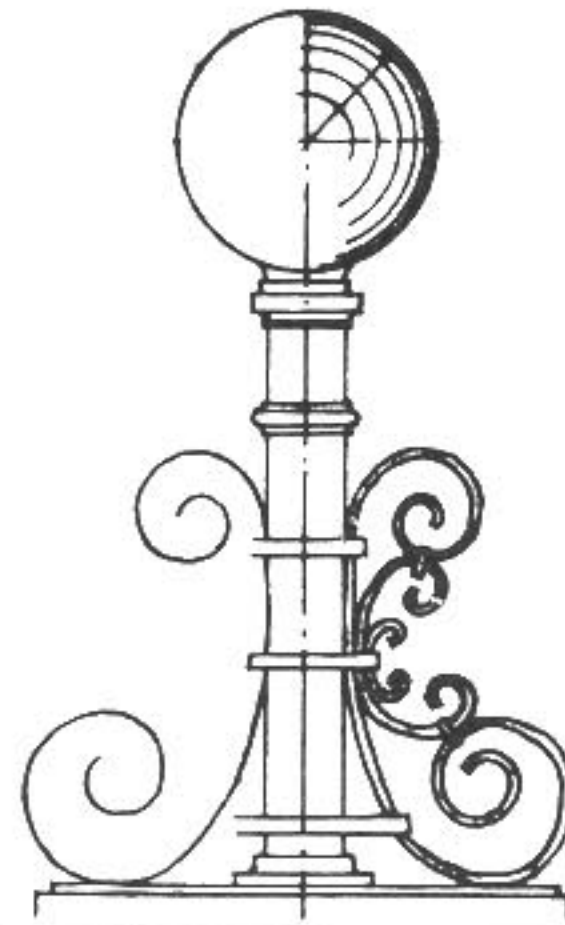
The Caron farmhouse, the last identifiable element of the early settlement which remains in the boundaries south of the Assiniboine, has been restored by the Charleswood Historical Society and stands as an important remainder of the suburb's past.



City of Winnipeg Photo

*The Caron House during its restoration, viewed from the Assiniboine River, 1981.*

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Therefore when we build let us think that we build forever — let it not be for present delight nor for present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for and let us think as we lay stone on stone that a time is to come when those stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them and that men will say as they look upon the labour and the wrought substance of them “See! This our fathers did for us.”

John Ruskin

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