

# MORDEN'S MANSIONS

A Self-Guided Architectural/Historical Tour  
Morden, Manitoba — Celebrating Centennial 1882-1982



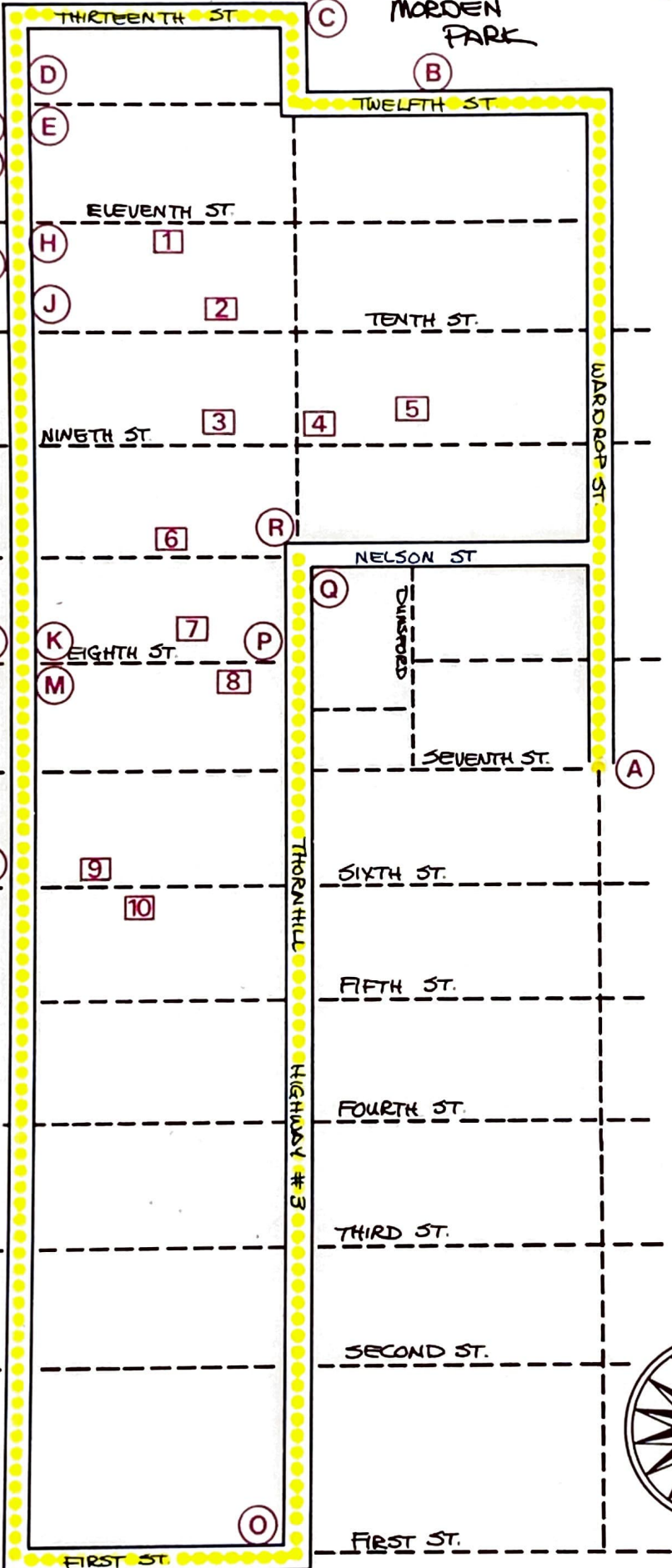
This illustrated tour of some of the heritage buildings of Morden has been prepared by the Morden Historical Society. However, you will not find any historical photographs in this publication. All the buildings located on this tour are here now; all are contemporary photographs. Morden has a wealth of fine old buildings, but there used to be more. It is the hope of the Morden Historical Society that this brochure will help to protect those heritage buildings which remain. We hope to impress visitors with our lovely buildings, and we hope to create a new awareness among our own residents.

The tour is in two parts. The main tour is outlined on the map with a yellow-dotted line and the buildings are indexed alphabetically. This portion of the tour begins at the Court House. There is ample parking at the Court House if you wish to proceed on foot. The main route will highlight the most impressive structures. However, there are a multitude of other interesting buildings which are worth viewing. Mostly these are private homes of early frame construction. These houses provide a charming relief from today's unadorned structures. The tour suggests ten examples, but by simply proceeding up and down Morden's lovely treed streets you will find many more.

Please respect private property and enjoy your tour.

DEAD HORSE CREEK

MORDEN PARK

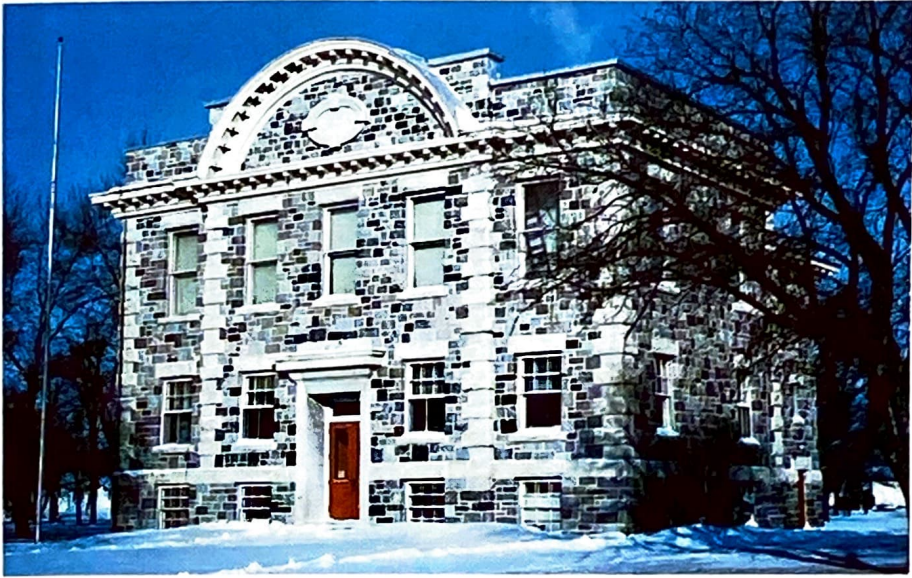


DOWN TOWN STOPPING AREA

HOSPITAL

RESEARCH STATION





**A. 301 Wardrop St.**

It is appropriate to start the tour of Morden's heritage buildings at the Courthouse. This is one of the finest examples of fieldstone construction anywhere in Manitoba. The Courthouse was built in 1904 as its impressive datestone attests. The structure is a neo-classical design with Georgian (18th century England) origins. Note the attractive quoins (corners) and cornice (upper ledge). The stones for this and other buildings have come from the beach of ancient Lake Agassiz.



**B. 236-12th St.**

A gracious frame home bears its age well amid another of Morden's attractions — lovely trees. The house was built in 1930 by lawyer Archie MacAulay.



***C. 13th & Thornhill***

Known as the McElroy House, this utilitarian, fieldstone structure was built in 1895.



***D. 619 Stephen St.***

Built in 1895, this well preserved frame house boasts a fascinating design, intricate wood trim and an interesting semi-round window. Such effort is not often seen in today's homes. The house was built for Walter Haley, Banker and Broker.



**E. 577 Stephen St.**

Formerly owned by Dr. J. B. McConnell, an M.L.A. for Morden from 1907-1910, this neo-classical Renaissance style mansion was built in 1899. The cylindrical tower in its most obvious feature. Note also the sigmental (arched) windows. Originally a verandah with a second storey wrap-around balcony adorned the exterior, and a graceful curved staircase and stone fireplace were a part of the entrance hall.



**F. 586 Stephen St.**

This house with Germanic styling was built from fieldstone in 1898 for Benjamin Porter, a grain merchant. Note the original metal roofing on the clipped gable roof.



**G. 572 Stephen St.**

One of Manitoba's most elegant mansions, this house was built in 1902 for lawyer J. H. Black. It has an unusual datestone, a unique 3 window dormer and a charming oval parlour. The wrap-around porch emphasizes the chateau-like design.



**H. 11th and Stephen Street**

The massive frame house was built in 1892 by John J. Lane, a lumber merchant. The master bedroom has an adjoining dressing room and in the clothes cupboard are high set rods to accommodate long gowns. The double vertical bay windows on the East wall are an interesting feature.



***I. 522 Stephen St.***

This cottage-style, fieldstone house has been tastefully re-modelled as a clothing store — proof that heritage preservation can be functional. It was built about 1895 by Scottish stone masons for William Hall, a baker.



***J. 10th & Stephen St.***

This traditional style church is the oldest non-residential building in Morden. It was erected by a Presbyterian Congregation on its present site in 1885 — a pivotal year in Canadian history which saw the Riel Rebellion and the completion of the transcontinental C.P.R.



***K. 8th & Stephen St.***

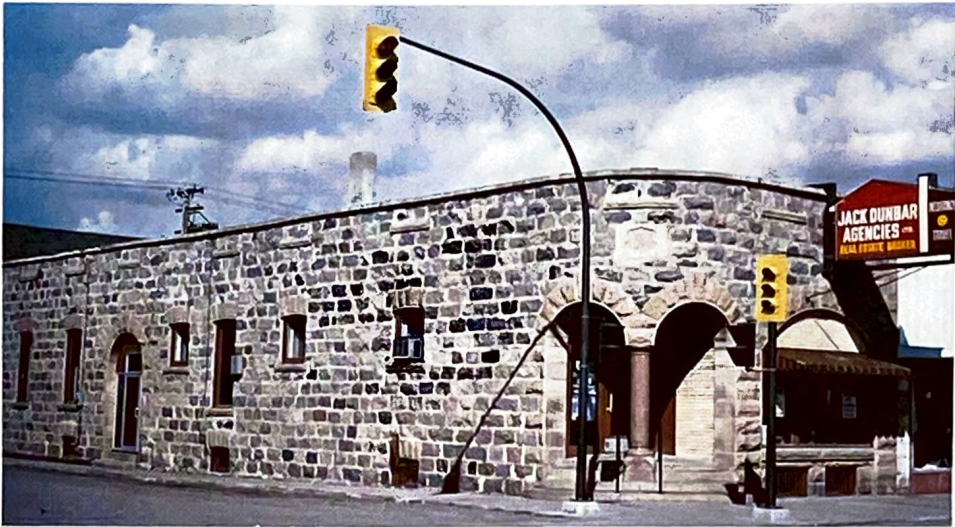
What is now the Morden Land Titles Office was erected as the general store of H. Meikle. Maud Fawcett (Coppinger) and Ella McClain (Stevenson) had their dressmaking business on the second floor. The Community Hall was also on the second floor. The original store front windows have been filled with stone. Note the interesting detail on the metal cornices.

***L. 8th & Stephen St.***

The old post office, which now houses the library and chamber of commerce, boasts a 70 foot clock tower still in daily use. The impressive datestone records 1913 as the year of construction. Note also the inlaid limestone and interesting roof lines.







***M. 8th & Stephen St.***

The most impressive feature of the Jack Dunbar Agencies 1901 building is the entrance. An ornate datestone combines with Romanesque arches and a rare polished granite pillar to invite the customer. This was originally known as the Heckels Block with the Alexander Hall on the second floor. The second storey was removed in the early 1940's.



***N. 6th & Stephen St.***

The imposing Arlington Hotel was built in 1902 by John Kennedy. The front verandah with 2 upper balconies has been removed and the lobby entrance moved from the North-east corner to the centre front. A horse drawn lorry provided transportation for guests to and from the C.P.R. station.



***O. 1st & Thornhill***

A rare castleated tower and a stick-style porch adorn this fieldstone mansion built in 1901 for James Scott, retired farmer and "Watkins" distributor.



***P. 180-8th Street***

The neat frame house was built by William Bell, a carpenter, in Nelson in the early 1880's, and shortly thereafter moved to Morden.



**Q. 375 Thornhill**

A fine example of simple yet graceful frame design. This house was built in 1926 and has been in the same family for over 50 years.



**R. 180 Nelson St.**

This 1895 brick mansion contains a multitude of interesting features including impressive iron cresting, an octagonal tower and a round stained glass window. The house was built of locally manufactured bricks for David Stodders, a grain merchant.



**5. 216-9th St.**

A quaint and well-kept house with an interesting second level window. It was built for Edward Oke, a retired farmer, by his brother Sam, around 1895.



**6. 160 Nelson St.**

The elaborate frame mansion was built in 1890. Note the ornate porch. It was the home of W. J. Sutton, a banker and broker.



**7. 164-8th St.**

This 1888 structure is small, yet big enough to boast an attractive second level window. It was the home of Southern Manitoba's first Presbyterian missionary and school inspector — Rev. Hugh J. Borthwick.



**8. 167-8th St.**

The intricate trim on this house has survived since 1903 when it was built by G. W. McLaren, a druggist. For many years it served as the Presbyterian manse.



**9. 142-6th St.**

Interesting roof lines and wood trim are features of this residence built about 1905. The interior shows that it is composed of two houses, one of which was built in 1888 by T. J. Warnken, a machinist.



**10. 151-6th St.**

A French-Canadian style of porch is an interesting feature of this house. It was built about 1900 for Robert Livingston, a retired farmer.

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