

# SELF - GUIDED WALKING TOUR

MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, GROUNDS,  
MEMORIAL PARK AND MEMORIAL BOULEVARD



# THE MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

The Manitoba Legislative Building is a priceless monument in the true sense of the term, since it is unlikely that it could ever be reproduced today. Construction of the neo-classical style building began in 1913, based on a collective vision to erect an imposing structure “not for present delight nor use alone... but such as our descendants will thank us for.”

As the primary physical focus for Manitoba’s sense of its history and identity, it is natural that a number of statues and plaques commemorating notable people, events and historical themes are located on the grounds.



With this leaflet as your guide, we invite you to take a walk through our history.

## A WALKING TOUR THROUGH MANITOBA’S HISTORY

Welcome to your journey through the richness of Manitoba’s history

offered by this tour of the scenic grounds of the magnificent Legislative Building. We hope that it will help you to understand the story of the development of Manitoba and to celebrate the cultural diversity which makes up Manitoba’s mosaic. Begin your journey through time by touring the statues and plaques, numerically listed in this guide. Use the map provided to locate the sites on the grounds. Your tour begins at the front of the Legislative Building and takes a counter-clockwise route around the grounds and concludes at Memorial Boulevard.

*(Please refer to maps on Pages 18 and 19)*

*Your journey begins at the Queen Victoria Statue.*

**1. Queen Victoria**

*(North Grounds)*

In front of the Legislative Building sits George Frampton's sculpture of Queen Victoria, holding a sceptre in her right hand and an orb in her left. This statue was officially unveiled on October 1, 1904 in front of the second Legislative Building. Behind her throne, facing south, is St. George, England's patron saint. He stands crowned with a dove

(symbolizing peace) and holds a sword, ready to defend what was then the British Empire and to protect religious freedom. The statue, recognizing Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897, was completed in 1904, cost \$15,000, and was paid for by public and private funds (truly a provincial memorial, with no individual being allowed to donate more than \$5.00). Queen Victoria was ruler of the British Empire for much of the 19th century, a period when Manitoba became a province and treaties were negotiated with the Aboriginal peoples of Western Canada. This statue was erected to commemorate the gratitude of the Canadian people for political liberties obtained under her reign.



**2. Manitoba Legislative Building Pediment**

*(from the Queen Victoria statue look up to the front of the Legislative Building).*

The Pediment, the triangular portion immediately above the six ionic columns fronting the main entrance, symbolizes the

ideals upon which the Province of Manitoba and the Nation of Canada were built: tolerance, justice and hard work. Similar to the Canadian Coat of Arms, which proclaims Canada as stretching "from sea to sea," the pediment extends from the nautical wheel signifying the Atlantic Ocean on the left to Neptune's trident representing the Pacific Ocean on the right, and with a female figure representing Manitoba in the centre (in a position of authority).

### **3. Rhind's Interpretation of Industry, Art, Agriculture and Science/Learning**

High above the pediment and the sphinxes, resting on top of the 24 corinthian columns around the base of the dome, and below the Golden Boy, are the four sculptural groups representing Industry, Art, Agriculture and Science/Learning.

**INDUSTRY** – group of three men representing various types of labour such as a carver of wood, a stone sculptor, and a fisherman – guiding the forces of labour in the production of new sources of wealth.

**ART** – man holding a compass high in his right hand representing the significance of art as a drawing; woman holds forth what appears to be some sort of manuscript, symbolizing art in its written form, and a crouched woman is weaving a great blanket.

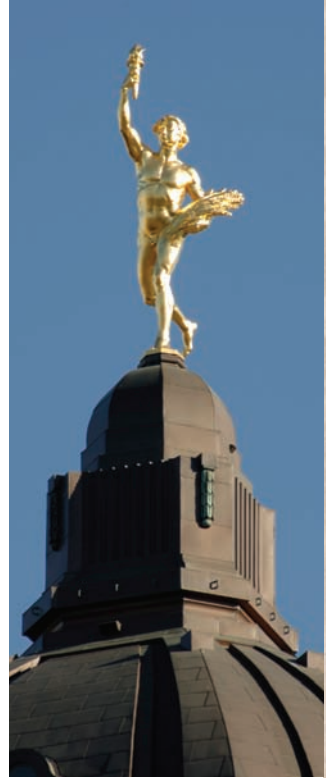
**AGRICULTURE** – man and woman each with arms laden with the bounty offered by mother earth, and a man in the middle stands amid a wheat field holding a scythe in his right hand. These figures represent the wealth that nature offers, and are symbols of the labour needed to grow and harvest the food necessary for survival.

**SCIENCE/LEARNING** – three women, each representing a different aspect of the learning process – learning that can be achieved through exercising one's mind and using one's hands to create, and a woman holding the orb of wisdom and the lamp of guidance.

#### 4. **The Golden Boy**

The inspiration for the Golden Boy comes from a 16th century statue of Mercury (or Hermes) by Giovanni da Bologna, an Italian sculptor. Manitoba's Golden Boy, a magnificently gilded 5.25 meters tall (17.2 ft) figure, is probably Manitoba's best known symbol.

Embodying the spirit of enterprise and eternal youth, he is poised atop the dome of the building. He faces the north, with its mineral resources, fish, forest, furs, water for hydroelectric power and seaport, where his province's future lies. He carries a sheaf of golden grain in his left arm, while his right hand holds high a torch, calling youth to enter the race. The figure was sculpted by Georges Gardet of Paris, and cast at the Barbidiennne Foundry in France.



The Barbidiennne Foundry, 112 km (69.6 miles) northeast of Paris, France, was partially destroyed during World War I. However the statue was not harmed. As a precaution, the Golden Boy was transported to Le Havre. Once in Le Havre, the Golden Boy was placed in the bottom of a freight steamer, but before the French ship could transport the Golden Boy to North America, it was commandeered for use in the war and to transport allied troops and supplies. The Golden Boy was used as ballast (weight) in that ship and made two trips across the Mediterranean Sea and at least two Trans-Atlantic crossings before finally being unloaded in North America and transported to Winnipeg by train in August 1919.

In 2002, the Golden Boy was brought down from the building for restoration, which included repairs to his internal support structure, removing the light from his torch and re-gilding the

statue at a total cost of \$1.1 Million. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II officially rededicated the Golden Boy on October 8, 2002 during her visit to Manitoba celebrating her Golden Jubilee.

**5. Next of Kin** (*Northwest Grounds*)

Designed by Winnipeg architect Colonel J.N. Semmens, and sculpted by Manitoba artist Marguerite Taylor, the “Next of Kin” monument shows the names of the 1,658 men and women from Winnipeg who lost their lives in the First World War, 1914-1918. The names are in alphabetical order with no distinction of class or rank. Manitoba had the highest per capita enlistment of all provinces, and therefore suffered proportional losses. The Winnipeg Soldiers’ Relatives’ Memorial Association was responsible for erecting this monument, unveiled in 1923.

**6. Winnipeg Receiving Station** (*Northwest Grounds*)

Erected in 1998 by the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko, and the Ukrainian Canadian community of Manitoba, this plaque and cairn recognizes Ukrainian and other Eastern European immigrants, who began their internment from 1914-1916 at Winnipeg’s Receiving Station at the Fort Osborne Barracks, Fort Garry and in Brandon at the former Brandon Winter Fair Building.

**7. Taras Shevchenko** (*Northwest Grounds*)

A Ukrainian poet and artist of the nineteenth century, Taras Shevchenko expressed through his works the longing for justice and freedom in Ukraine. The statue stands as a symbol of the contribution that Ukrainians, one of the largest ethnic groups in Manitoba, have made to Canada. Andrew Daragan’s sculpture of Shevchenko was erected by the Ukrainian Canadian community in 1961 to mark the 70th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada.

*Proceed to the west entrance of the Legislative Building to the two statues on either side of the stairs.*

**8. Major General James Wolfe** (*West Entrance*)

Major General James Wolfe was the British commander at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham in September 1759, shortly after which French rule in Quebec was surrendered to Great Britain. Sculpted by the well-known American firm of the Piccirilli Bros. of New York in their New York City studio, this statue was installed in 1920.

**9. Lord Dufferin** (*West Entrance*)

This statue is of Frederick Temple Blackwood, the Earl of Dufferin, Governor General of Canada from 1872-1878. In 1877, he was the first Vice Regal Representative to visit Manitoba, which he described as Canada's "Keystone." The statue was also sculpted by the Piccirilli Bros. of New York and installed in 1920.

High above these two statues is Hodge's Portrayal of Peace, designed by Albert Hodge of Glasgow, Scotland and carved by the Piccirilli Bros. of New York. Peace is represented by two women.

**10. Nellie McClung Memorial**

(*Southwest Grounds*)

The famous five are depicted in a realistic bronze sculpture by Winnipeg artist, Helen Granger Young. Standing around the table are Louise McKinney, Irene Parlby and Emily Murphy, while Henrietta Muir Edwards is seated opposite McClung. Nellie McClung believed

that "a few committed women could bring about change" and proved it on January 27, 1916, when she helped Manitoba women become the first in Canada to win the right to vote.



*Continue to the southwest grounds of the Legislative Building where you will notice three plaques and a large memorial in the shape of a broken star.*

**11. Holocaust Monument** (*Southwest Grounds*)

In remembrance of victims of the Holocaust in the Second World War, this memorial, in the shape of a broken Star of David, was erected in 1990. The walls also reflect the sunlight, a sign of hope for rebirth and rebuilding. The 3,700 victims, who are memorialized on its wall, had surviving family members in Manitoba. The monument is a symbolic resting place for the lost. The names are of those whose ultimate resting place is unknown.

**12. Manitoba-Japanese Student Exchange Program**

(*Southwest Grounds*) Erected in 1996, this plaque commemorates the 10th anniversary of the Manitoba-Japanese student exchange program which allows Japanese and rural Manitoba students the opportunity to learn about each others' cultures.

**13. Victims of War Monument, Granite Boulder**

(*Southwest Grounds*) In honour of the victims of war, this commemorative cairn was dedicated on August 6, 1985, marking the 40th anniversary of the Hiroshima nuclear bombing. The plaque and adjacent peace garden represent the need and desire for peace among all people.

*Explore the magnificent Manitoba Plaza situated on the south grounds.*





**14. Manitoba Plaza** (*South Grounds*)

This spectacular Italian-style plaza features a fountain that can shoot water 18 metres into the air. It serves as a meeting place for Manitobans. The Manitoba Plaza was officially dedicated in October 1995 by the Governor General of Canada, His Excellency, the Honourable Roméo Le Blanc, to celebrate Manitoba's 125th year as a province in Canada. The plaza, designed by architect Étienne Gaboury, is part of the central walkway which begins at the dock on the Assiniboine River and continues up a set of stairs in line with the Golden Boy on top of the Legislative Building.

*Continue your journey by walking toward the scenic Assiniboine River Walkway.*

**15. Father Noël-Joseph Ritchot** (*South Grounds, River Walkway*)

This Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque commemorates Father Ritchot who took part in the Red River Settlement's resistance and led the delegation negotiating Manitoba's entry into the Confederation.

**16 and 16A.**

**Louis Riel Statue and Plaque**  
(*South Grounds, River Walkway*)

On May 12, 1996, the 126th anniversary of the passing of the Manitoba Act, a new statue of Louis Riel was dedicated. It replaced a controversial statue, erected in 1970 and moved to St. Boniface College in 1995. Sculpted by Miguel Joyal, the new statue portrays Riel, the leader of the Red River Resistance



and President of the Provisional Government, 1869-1870. Riel is holding The Manitoba Act in his left hand, dressed in formal attire fitting for his era, and wearing a voyageur sash and moccasins to represent his Métis heritage. A nearby provincial plaque recognizes Riel as a Founding Father of Manitoba.

**17. Assiniboine River Walkway** (*South Grounds, River Walkway*)

This beautiful Assiniboine River Walkway, an uninterrupted pedestrian path, extends from The Forks, at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, to the Manitoba Legislative Building.

**18. John Norquay** (*South Grounds, River Walkway*)

This Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque commemorates John Norquay who sat in the Manitoba Legislature from 1871 until 1889 and was the fifth Premier of Manitoba serving from 1878 to 1887.

***Follow the path leading to the Polar Bears and Kwakiutl Totem Pole.***

**19. Kwakiutl Totem Pole** (*River Bank, South Grounds*)

This Kwakiutl Totem Pole was a gift from the Aboriginal peoples of British Columbia to the people of Manitoba in 1971 to commemorate the centenary of British Columbia's entrance into Confederation. This totem pole was carved from a trunk of a single western red cedar.

**20. Polar Bears**

Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of CancerCare Manitoba in 2005, 62 sponsored polar bears were designed and created by 51 Manitoba artists and assorted technical, construction and building experts. They were displayed on Broadway and then moved to their current locations with 18 of them on display at the Manitoba Legislative Building.

*Cross the street and follow the sidewalk along Assiniboine Avenue and Kennedy Street.*

**21. Queen Elizabeth II**

*(East Grounds, north of Government House)*

Created by Manitoba artist, Leo Mol, this statue commemorates Her Majesty The Queen's address to the Manitoba Legislative Assembly during its provincial centennial in 1970. Originally the



statue was situated in the Steinkopf Gardens at the Centennial Concert Hall and was relocated to its present site on the grounds of Government House in 2010. It was unveiled by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, accompanied by His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, at a ceremony on July 3, 2010.

**22. Amber Jubilee Ninebark Shrub**

*(East Grounds, 10 Kennedy Street)*

This shrub is the 500,000th planted in Manitoba's Trees for Tomorrow Program that will see five million trees planted in Manitoba between 2008 and 2012, the Diamond Jubilee Year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth II. This shrub was planted and plaque unveiled by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during her visit on July 3, 2010.

**23. Government House Plaque** (*East Grounds, 10 Kennedy Street*)

Government House has been the official residence of Manitoba's Lieutenant Governor since 1883, and the site of numerous political and social functions. In 1978, a plaque was erected recognizing 10 Kennedy Street as a site of provincial heritage significance. This is the oldest building in western Canada still serving its original purpose as the official residence of the Lieutenant Governor.



*Continue walking along the path, and turn left toward the east entrance of the Legislative Building.*

**24. Thomas Douglas, Fifth Earl of Selkirk** (*East Entrance*)

The Red River Settlement was founded in 1812 by a Scottish nobleman, Lord Selkirk, when the first group of colonists arrived at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. The Province of Manitoba evolved from this agricultural settlement. A statue of Lord Selkirk honours his leadership and role in attracting Scottish and Irish settlers to Red River.

**25. Sieur de La Vérendrye** (*East Entrance*)

Pierre Gaultier de Varennes Sieur de La Vérendrye, a French military officer, farmer, fur trader and explorer, was one of the first European explorers to reach the junction of the Red and Assiniboine rivers in 1738. His journey overland from Quebec led to further explorations and settlement. Sculpted by the Piccirilli Bros. of New York, this statue was installed in 1920.

High above these two statues is Hodge's Portrayal of War, designed by Albert Hodge of Glasgow, Scotland and carved by the Piccirilli Bros. of New York. War is portrayed as an Aboriginal and a Roman warrior bringing together two entirely different cultures under one particular theme.

*Follow the sidewalk leading to the statue of Robert Burns.*

**26. Robert Burns** (*East Grounds*)

Donated by members of the Winnipeg Burns Club, this 2.75 meter statue, based on a design by George A. Lawson, was erected in 1936. This statue represents the importance of the great Scottish poet, Robert Burns, but it also recognizes the great contribution Scottish people have made to the Province of Manitoba and to the Nation of Canada.

**27. Women's Grove** (*East Grounds*)

Designed by Cynthia Cohlmeier, a Winnipeg landscape architect, and dedicated in 1995, the Women's Grove was designed as a space of permanence, growth and resilience in which men and women alike could gather to look forward as well as to remember. This Women's Grove memorial has 14 sitting stones that represent the 14 women who were murdered at École Polytechnique in Montreal, Quebec in 1989.

*Proceed to the northeast grounds and learn more about Manitoba's history and culture.*

**28. Sir George Étienne Cartier** (*Northeast Grounds*)

This statue of George Étienne Cartier, a Father of Confederation, was originally intended for St. Antoine-sur-Richelieu, Québec, Cartier's native town. The original statue was lost and when it was found, the duplicate was offered to Manitoba. Unveiled in 1922, this bust recognizes Cartier's role in negotiating The Manitoba Act with representatives of Riel's provisional government in 1870 and overseeing its passage through the Canadian Parliament.

**29. Jon Sigurdsson** (*Northeast Grounds*)

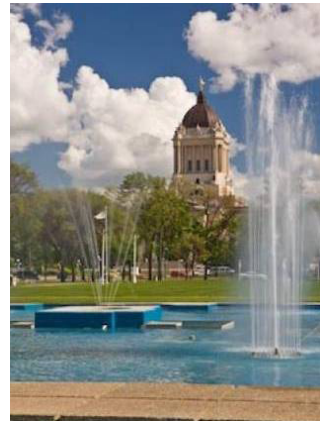
Jon Sigurdsson was a great Icelandic statesman who spearheaded the movement to secure Icelandic independence from Denmark. This was the first statue to be erected on the current Legislative Building grounds after Queen Victoria's statue was repositioned in front of the building. The local Icelandic community commissioned this statue, sculpted by Einar Jonsson which was unveiled in 1921, to symbolize the contribution of Icelandic people to Manitoba. In 1875, 275 Icelanders arrived in Winnipeg and settled along the west shore of Lake Winnipeg in Gimli, and today the province has the largest Icelandic community outside of Iceland.

*Now take a short walk across  
Broadway to Memorial Park*

**30. Marc-Amable Girard**

(*Memorial Park*)

Marc-Amable Girard was the first Premier of Manitoba chosen according to the principle of ministerial responsibility and served from July to December 1874. He was among those who developed the draft constitution of Manitoba.



**31. Memorial Park Dedication** (*Memorial Park*)

On September 28, 1962, The Honourable Duff Roblin, Premier of Manitoba, dedicated the park in memory of the honoured dead. This park was dedicated in memory of their sacrifice in war and peace to create this province and preserve this nation. Facing this plaque, is one that recognizes the City Hydro Fountain.

***Now proceed to the monuments on the median of Memorial Boulevard***

**32. Centennial Flame** (*median on Memorial Boulevard*)

The flame was lit on December 13, 1966 and was extinguished in December 1967. It was erected in honour of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation for Canada and to reflect the progress and growth Manitobans have enjoyed for the past 100 years. "Friendship torches" lit from this centennial flame were taken by municipal officials back to their municipalities to help ignite bonfires of friendship ceremonies.

**33. British Commonwealth Air Training Plan Memorial – Airmen in Training** (*median on Memorial Boulevard*)

In 1939, Canada agreed to provide men and facilities for the training of aircrew from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. This was erected to honour the memory of those young airmen and instructors who lost their lives in the cause of freedom while training under this plan.

**34. Cenotaph** (*median on Memorial Boulevard, north of York Avenue*)

Dedicated on November 11, 1928, the stone is inscribed on all four sides with the names of battles in which Canadians fought in World War I. There is a bronze lion's head at each lower corner and a bronze sword higher up on each corner, and the top has four bronze wreaths on it. There are numerous other bronze plaques that have been mounted on various dates. The monument honours all fallen soldiers of conflicts in which Canada has been involved.

**35. Flag Poles** (*median on Memorial Boulevard, north of York Avenue*)

The three stainless steel flag poles are located directly north of the cenotaph. At the foot of the middle post is a small bronze plaque mounted on a stone base with an inscription related to the cenotaph.

**36. Centennial Survey Monument** (*north of Memorial Park*)

This monument is the result of a federal-provincial centennial project sponsored by the Canadian Advisory Council of Cadastral Surveys in 1967. It is the only centennial project of its kind coordinated as a national project. The marker is one of 12 that was placed on the grounds of the Legislature of each of the provinces and the Northwest Territories to commemorate accurate mapping in Canada. Time capsules, incorporated in each of the 12 monuments, are to be opened in the year 2067. Its plaques reflect the surveyors' contribution to the exploration, mapping and development of this country, and the charting of our nation's future.

**37. Stephenson Monument "Intrepid"** (*north of Memorial Park*)

Sir William S. Stephenson – the man they called "Intrepid" – monument was crafted by Leo Mol, a Winnipeg artist. Stephenson was also the inspiration for James Bond.

*"James Bond is a highly romanticized version of a true spy. The real thing is William Stephenson."* – Ian Fleming (James Bond creator). Stephenson was a Winnipeg-born World War I aviator, who during World War II was instrumental in forming the American secret service or Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A.). He was knighted in 1945 for his efforts. A smaller but identical statue of Stephenson stands in the C.I.A. headquarters in Langley, VA.







**38. Tri-Service Monument** (*north of Memorial Park*)

The monument commemorates the women who served during the two World Wars. The monument was placed by the Women's Tri-Service Association World War I and World War II Veterans of Winnipeg. The statue portrays women from each of the former three separate services - army, navy and air force.

**39. Peacekeepers' Cairn** (*north of Memorial Park*)

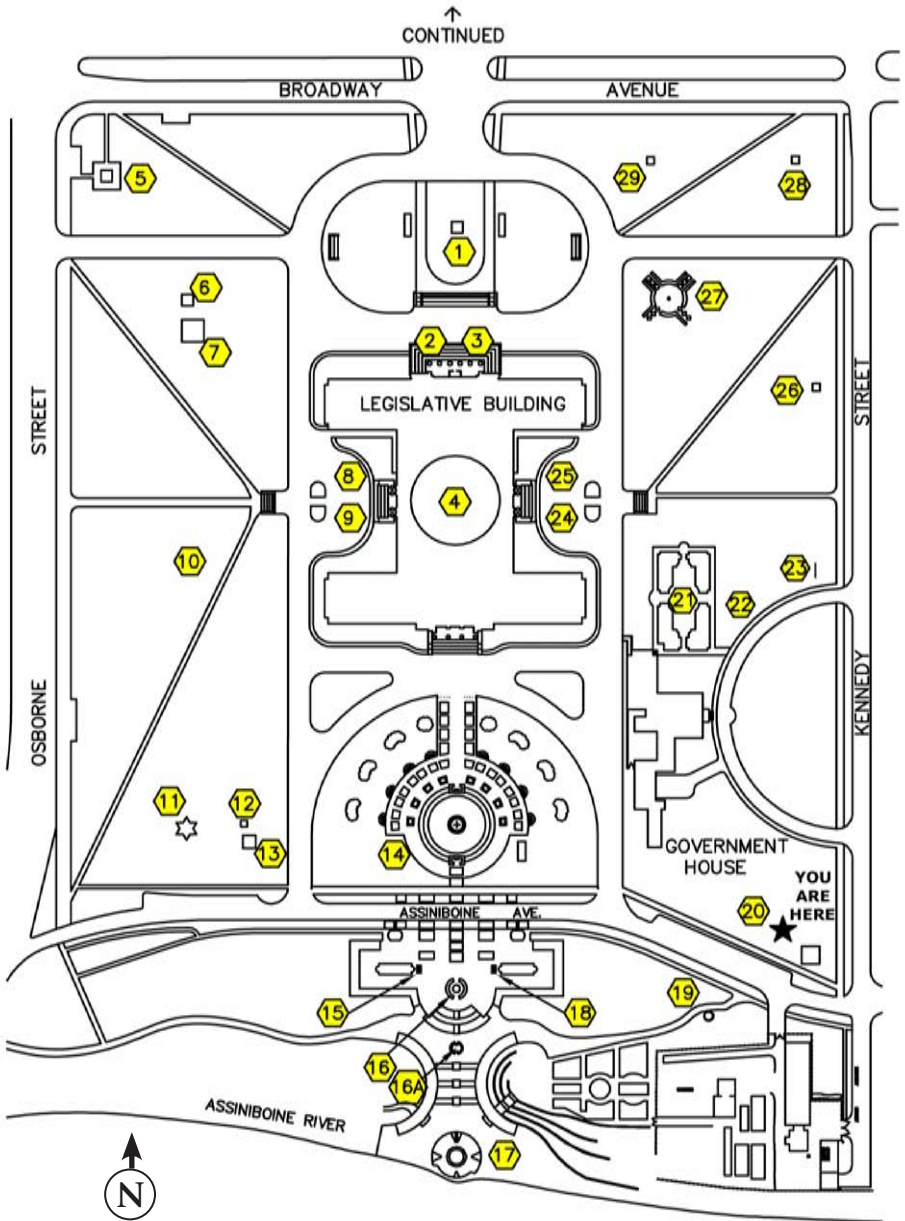
This monument, dedicated August 9, 2004 with full military honours, was placed to remember the sacrifice of Canada's peacekeepers of the past, present and future who have died in peacekeeping missions around the world. August 9 is Peacekeeping Day in Manitoba.

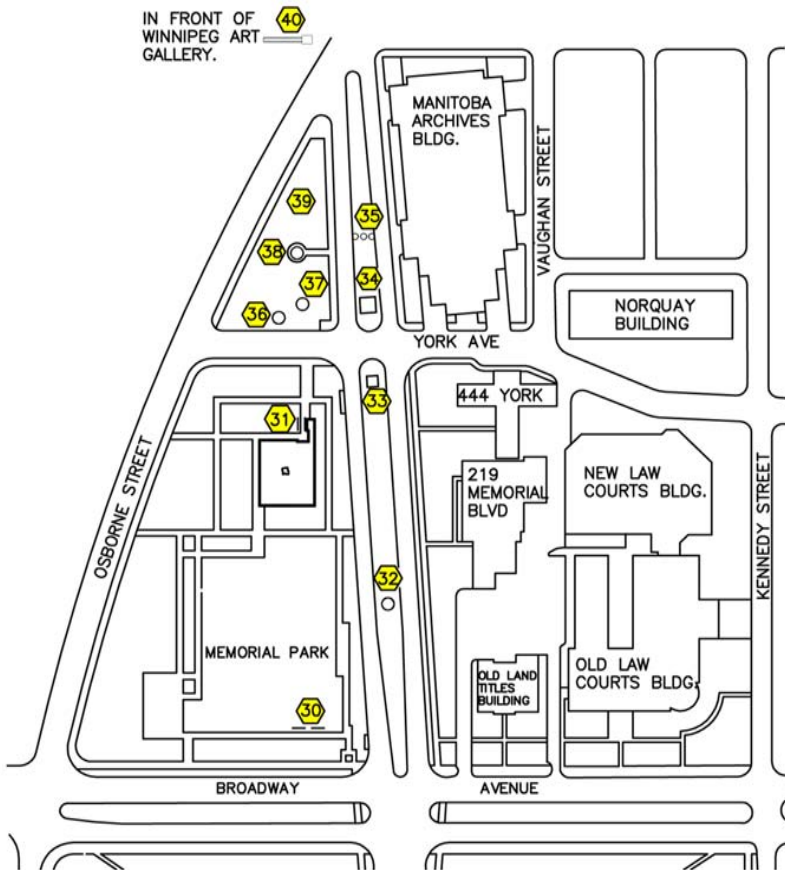
**40. Lord Selkirk Monument**

*(north of the Winnipeg Art Gallery, across from The Bay)*

This Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada monument commemorates Thomas Douglas, 5th Earl of Selkirk, founder of the Red River Settlement in 1812.

# MAPS OF THE LEGISLATIVE GROUNDS





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## GUIDED TOURS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

The Legislative Building offers guided tours year round. For a tour inside the Legislative Building, appointments are required from September to June. During the period from July 1st to Labour Day, tours are offered daily every hour from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information on guided tours of the Legislative Building, please call the Visitor Tour Program at 945-5813.

## DID YOU KNOW THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING HAS SPHINXES?

Sculpted by Albert Hodge, the sphinx on the Legislative Building faces west above the pediment. In Egypt, a sphinx was regarded as a sentinel or guardian whose role was to protect valuables such as the pyramid tombs of ancient Egyptian pharaohs. It was also recognized as the representative of the god Horus, the Egyptian god of wisdom. In Greek mythology, the sphinx was a creature who sat on a high rock near the city of Thebes and interrogated each passerby with a riddle. Those who could not answer the riddle of the Universe were strangled. Oedipus, however, solved the riddle and the sphinx killed herself.

