

Fountains on the Canadian Prairies
Inventory, Analysis, & Discussion

by
James A. B. Laidlaw

A Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of
MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Department of Landscape Architecture
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba

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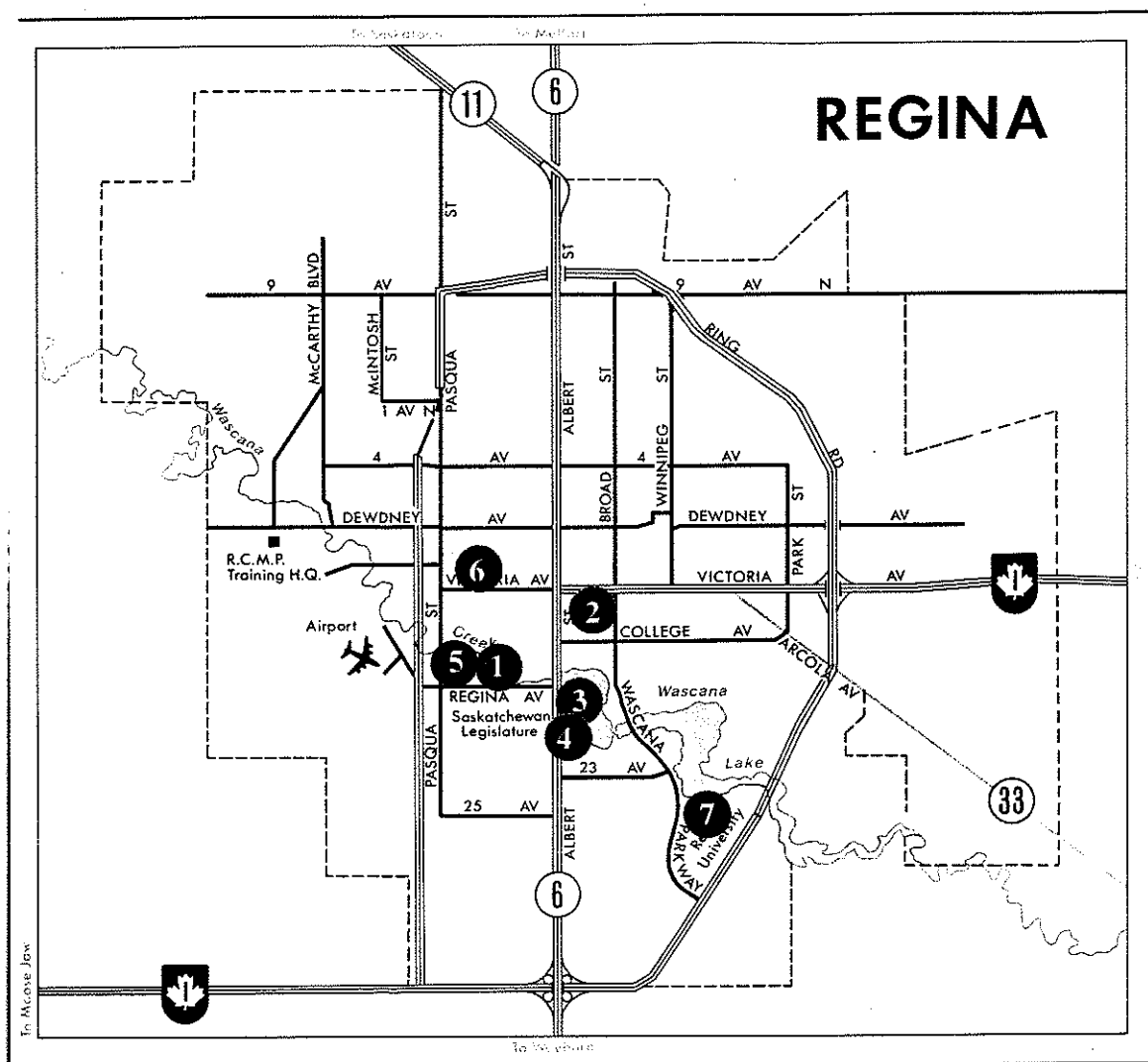
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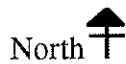
C. Regina Inventory

C. Regina Inventory

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Fountain Location Plan. n.t.s.



Regina

Fountain Name: Davin Memorial Fountain

Location: Rotary Park, Albert Street entrance to Wascana Park

Designer: Regina Machine & Iron Works Ltd. **Client:** City of Regina

Date of Construction: Victoria Park, 1909; moved to Rotary Park in 1938

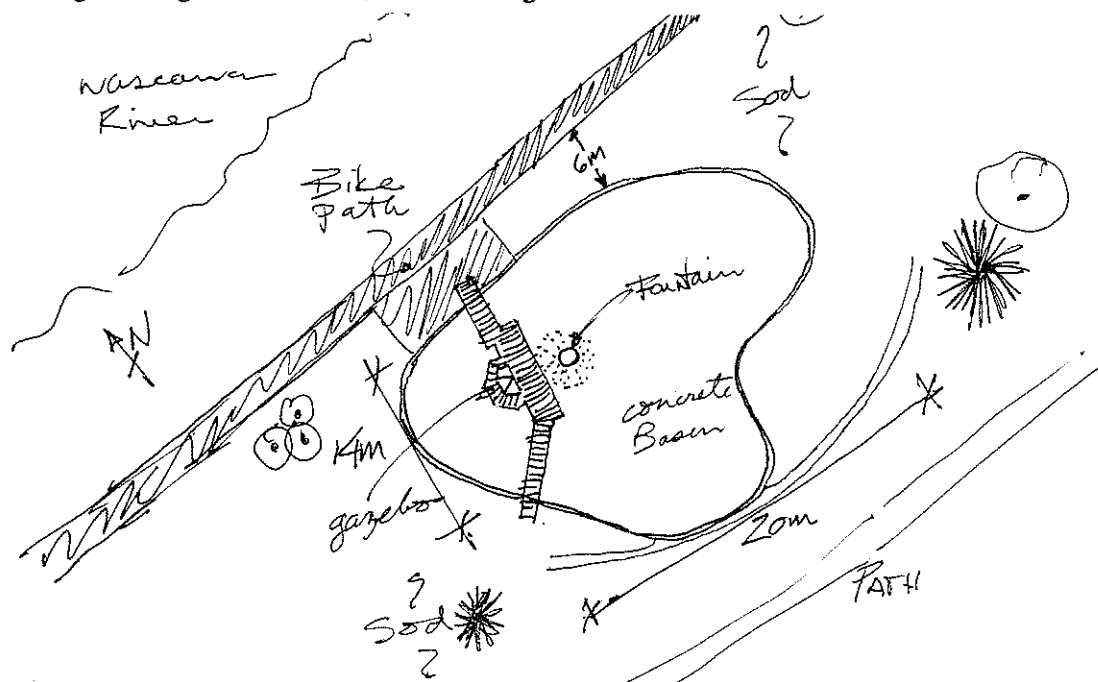
Cost of Construction: \$675 plus \$50 installation fee at Victoria Park location

Typology: Dish & stand, play pool **Water Forms:** Spout jet, spill & splash, pool

Basin Form: Curvilinear

Function: Sculptural focal point, wading pool

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located in a quiet residential neighbourhood park to the west of the Albert Street Bridge along the Wascana River. Vehicle access is obtained via a back alley off Regina Avenue. Primary access to the fountain is along a walking/bicycling path which connects to the Wascana Parkway. The park is linear in form, running along the 'Wascana River'. It is characterized by informal tree and shrub plantings, a single annual bed, and mown grass.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: The fountain honours Nicholas Flood Davin, a distinguished parliamentarian from 1887 to 1900. He is best known for establishing Regina's first newspaper, *The Leader*, in 1883. The fountain was originally installed in Victoria Park, in downtown Regina, in 1908-09 and served as the city's central focal point. It was painted dark green with light green on the inner bowls and gold trim on the edges. It stood on a rough finished black stone base in a formal pool lined with cut stone. The fountain was

later replaced by a cenotaph after the First World War (year?) and moved to the corner of the park . It was then moved to the new Rotary



Fountain, basin, and bridge viewed from south.

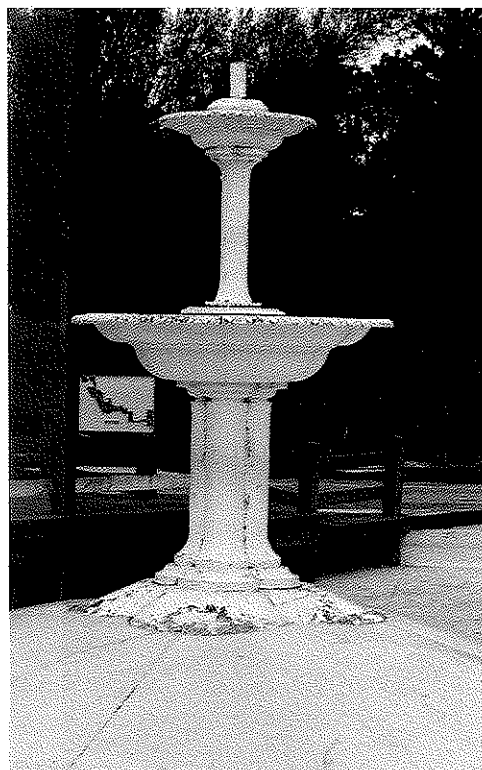
Park, in 1938, where it stands

today. A number of trees in the park were also dedicated to Davin.¹⁷²

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain itself is stately and romantic, a reference to a rigid European aesthetic. It would have been a great highlight in the turn of the century Victoria Park.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is constructed of cast iron. Today it is painted white and sits in a large kidney-shaped concrete wading pool painted bright baby blue. A large timber bridge with benches is built onto part of the pool (added in the late 70's?).

Water Assessment: The fountain has a single nozzle at the top of a central outlet from which water spouts and falls into a small bowl, then splashes into a larger bowl, and finally spills into the pool.



Fountain detail.

¹⁷²City of Regina Archives

Human Use: It is occasionally used as a play pool for children and a picnic site for families but remains relatively unfrequented.

Winter Observations: The white fountain is mercifully lost in the whiter snow of winter. A cross-country ski trail is on the path nearby. There are no activities promoted in the park other than skiing or snow shoeing in the winter.

Operation, Maintenance

& Costs: In 1993, 45.5 hours of labour went into maintenance, excluding daily site inspections and \$212.95 were spent on equipment at a total cost of \$901.08. This does not include major repair items. The cost of water is also not included as it is not metered. Maintenance involves daily inspection, and bi-weekly draining, cleaning, and refilling. Debris are



Gazebo and bridge detail viewed from north.

removed from the basin twice per week. The water is also treated with a dye to help reduce algae growth.

The fountain has been vandalized several times. The original jet at the top of the fountain was easily damaged and was finally encased with a section of steel pipe which was welded to the fountain stand.

The basin is difficult to clean and maintain because of the large size of the basin, the inaccessibility of the pump housing, and the location of the underground piping. Debris, insects, and worms are trapped in the basin as its edge is flush with the ground level. Maintenance is also increased by the high incidence of vandalism. Broken glass in the basin is the most common problem.

Remarks Fountain Rating: * * * * Basin & Site Rating: 1/2

What was once a celebrated and honoured symbol of the community is now an ornament in a horribly designed and misplaced pool in a back alley corridor. The fountain is hidden, forgotten by the community, and subject to vandalism and disrespect. It looks awkward in its setting where its fine formal details contrast sharply with its informal sloped pool and the heavy wood beam bridge which almost touches it.

Sources: 1. Interview with Al Lamb, City of Regina Parks, Regina, Saskatchewan, February 22, 1994.

2. Interview with Jeff _____, Parks Maintenance employee, Regina, Saskatchewan, July 14, 1994.

Site Visits: Sept. 3, 1993; February 22, 1994; March 14, 1994; May 20, 1994.

Fountain Name: SaskPower Fountain

Location: Saskatchewan Power Corporation, Victoria Avenue & Scarth Street

Designer: Joseph Pettick, architect **Client:** SaskPower Corporation

Date of Construction: 1963, converted to planter 1985

Typology: Tri-dish

Water Forms: _____

Basin Form: Curvilinear, circular

Function: Focal point, planter

Site Characteristics: The fountain fronts the SaskPower tower on its northwest corner along Victoria Avenue and Scarth Street. A driveway and parking lot occupy the north-central and northeast portion of the site. The fountain has been converted to a planter of junipers and annuals.

Dedications & History:

The fountain originally had a flame as well as spraying water, but the flame, continuously doused by the water spray, was removed. The fountain was converted to a planter as a result of the high projected costs for replacing the badly corroded piping. The fountain was also a constant victim of "soaping". This practical joke was repeated several times, causing maintenance staff many frustrating hours each



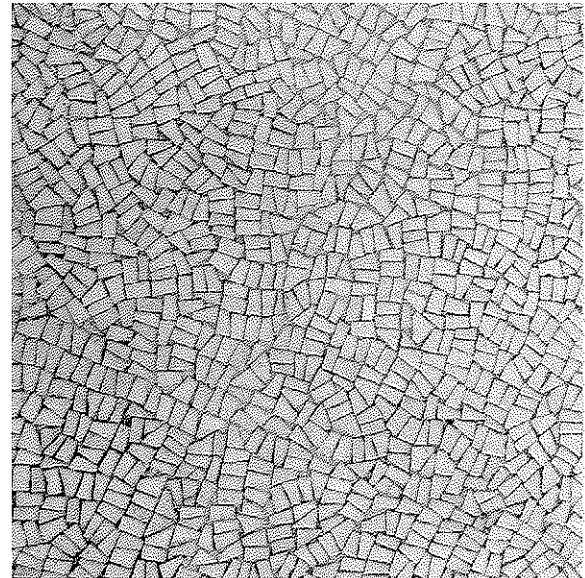
SaskPower Fountain, summer 1994.

week trying to clean up the mess (one night the fountain was soaped three times). Winds also blew spray from the fountain onto the sidewalk, drawing complaints from pedestrians.

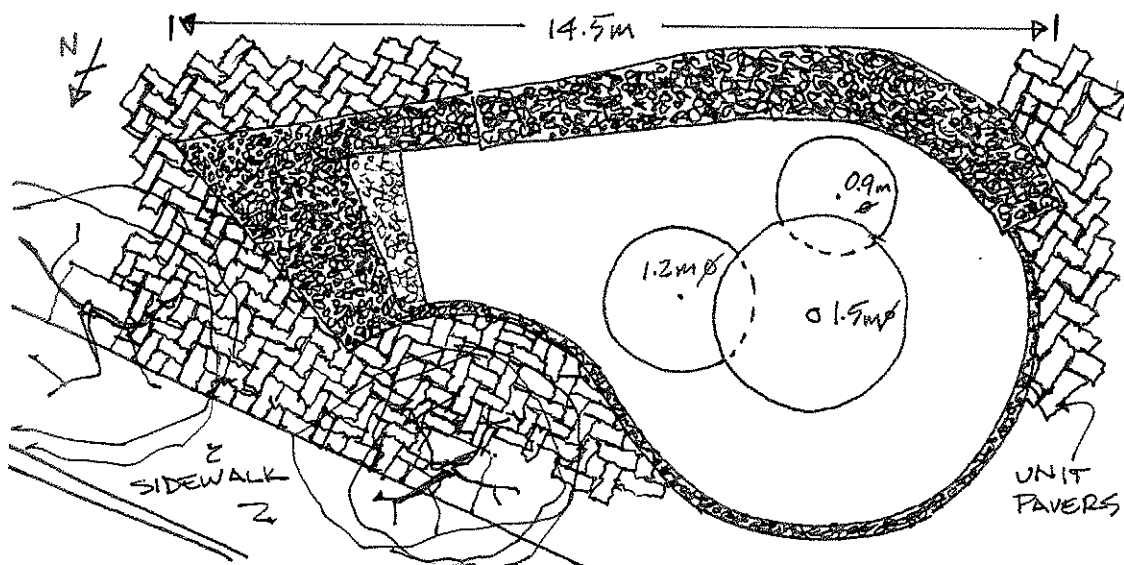
Fountain Design & Materials: The building and fountain follow a Modernist style. The fountain, built at the same time as the building, uses a complementary curvilinear form and materials. It consists of three circular basins which are staggered in level and position, overlapping one another. These are located within a large, roughly teardrop shaped basin

constructed of reinforced concrete with broken mosaic tile and cement facing. No cracks, chipping, or signs of wear are apparent. The detailing compliments the building very well. Fiberglass waterproofing sealed the basin.

Human Use: The structure acts primarily as a focal point. It draws the eye towards the entrance driveway as one drives east along Victoria Avenue and is a noticeable landmark. The broad flat walls of the fountain allow for sitting. When the fountain contained water its main use would have been visual.



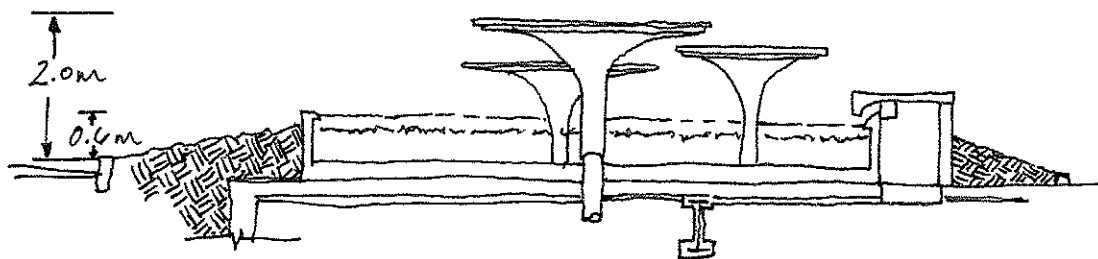
Mosaic detail on basin.



Basin and fountain plan detail and ground plain. n.t.s.

Winter Observations: Sculptural quality of the fountain would be better enhanced without the plantings as the junipers are not attractive in winter. The white tile blends in with the winter snow.

Operations, Maintenance & Costs: When the fountain was operating, the water was turned off every night to reduce water costs. The fountain was operated using 'soft' water as the city's hard water caused scaling in the pipes.



Section detail. n.t.s.

Remarks

Rating: * * *

The fountain would have been quite successful in highlighting the entrance to the SaskPower Building. It is a simple but well built and designed structure which fits nicely into its street corner context. The plantings do not work and appear out of place. The movement and splash of water are the only functions which the structure can successfully accommodate.



View from Victoria Avenue, summer 1993.

Source: Interview with Stewart Bengert, Buildings Supervisor- Head Office Inventory & Property Division, SaskPower, Regina, Saskatchewan, July 12, 1994.

Site Visits: September 3, 1993; February 22, 1994; March 14, 1994.

Fountain Name: Trafalgar Fountain

Location: Saskatchewan Legislature Grounds, east side

Designer: Sir Charles Barry **Client:** _____

Date of Construction: London, England in 1845; Erected at present site in 1963

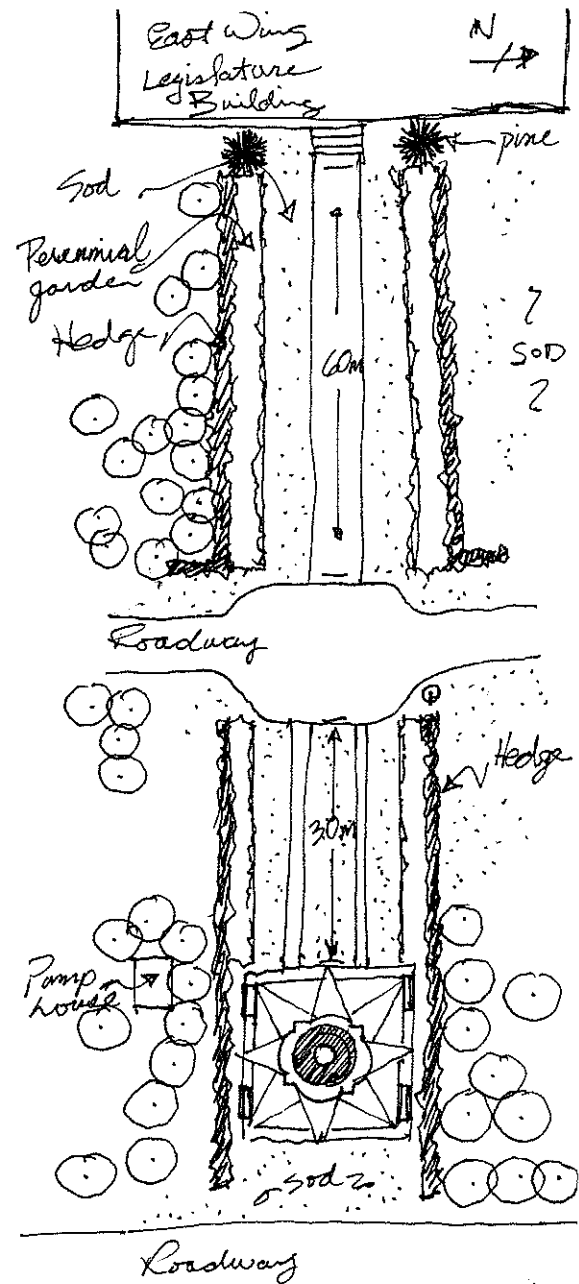
Typology: Sculpture fountain **Water Forms:** Bubbler jet, spill & splash, pool

Basin Form: Circular (with imposed square) **Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located on a formal axis on the east side of the Legislature building. The area immediately adjacent to the fountain consists of a smooth terrazzo floor with a star pattern in yellow and black with a white background. Four benches line the north and south sides of the fountain. East-west running hedges frame the plaza, creating two strong views, one to the Legislative building, and the other towards Wascana Park.

Dedications & History: The Trafalgar Fountain is one of two designed by Sir Charles Barry, an Architect of the British Houses of Parliament, for Trafalgar Square in London, England. The fountains stood in Trafalgar Square from 1845 to 1939. They were no longer needed after a renovation of the square and the National Art Collections Fund of Britain presented the pair of the fountains to Canada in 1963. The other fountain is located in Ottawa.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain honours the establishment of the headquarters of the North West Mounted Police at Regina in 1882 and the officers and



Site plan. n.t.s.

members who contributed to the orderly settlement of the western plains. It was dedicated in the presence of R.H. Viscount Amory of Tiverton, British High Commissioner to Canada, and presented to the National Gallery of Canada.

Fountain Design & Materials:

The fountain is created from solid pink and black granite. It is ornamented with four sculpted fish heads on the base stand and plain ornamental curves and striations on the bowls and upper column stand.

The 6m diameter basin is concrete with stone

facing with a 0.5m high coping about 0.3m wide. Its sculptural qualities are its strongest asset.



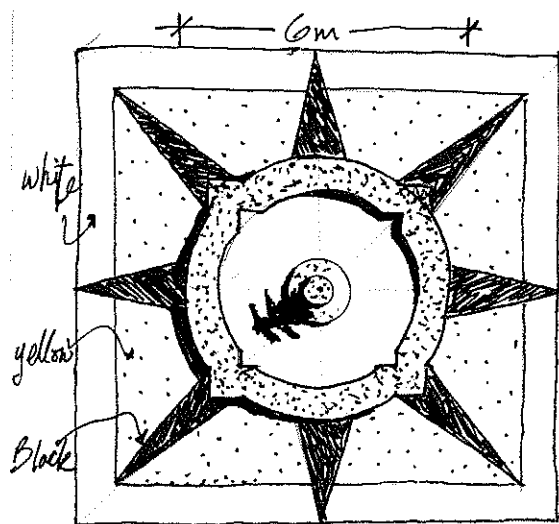
Trafalgar Fountain with Legislature building in background.



Display detail.

Water Assessment: A single bubble jet is located at the top centre of the fountain. The water flows over the first lip into the first large basin and a sheet of water spills from the basin into the pool. Its auditory effects are powerful and stimulating and maintain a majestic and stately air.

Human Use: The Trafalgar Fountain is a cultural and historical landmark, providing a valuable point of interest. It is the best known fountain in Regina and is a popular spot for wedding and family photos and for lovers in the evening. Oddly, the site is not used heavily during lunch time by visitors or employees.



Plan detail. n.t.s.

Remarks

Rating: * * * * 1/2

The Trafalgar is a visually powerful European fountain but is not out of context with the massive and stately Legislature building less than 50m away. The installation of more filter baskets would probably considerably reduce maintenance time.

Site Visits: Sept. 2, 1993; Feb. 22, 1994; Mar. 14, 1994; May 29, 1994; July 12, 1994.

Winter Observations: The sculptural quality of the fountain and the colour of the stone allow it to stand out in winter.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: Full cleaning of the fountain is done four or five times per year. The operation takes two men two full days. The water is treated with algacide. The fountain does have a filter basket to keep the circulated water free of debris. It is cleaned every day. This operation takes 1 to 1.5 hours. The fountain is relatively problem free, although it does get 'soaped' occasionally.



Fountain detail in winter. February, 1994.

Fountain Name: 'Albert Avenue' Fountain

Location: Saskatchewan Legislature, southwest corner of building

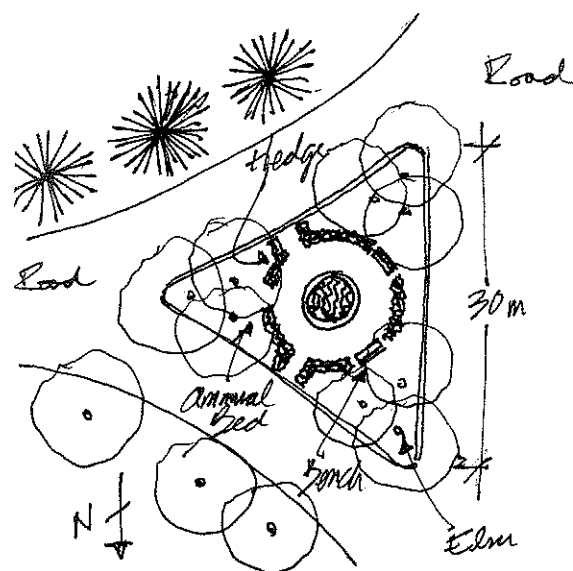
Designer: _____ **Client:** Province of Saskatchewan

Date of Construction: _____ (>30 years old)

Typology: Spray Fountain **Water Forms:** Spray jet, pool

Basin Form: Circular **Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics: The small circular pool is located at the centre of a triangular traffic island on the west side of the Legislative grounds. It is framed by a walkway and accesses from two points, three benches, and a 1m hedge. Behind the hedge are perennial beds. Three elms are located at each corner of the triangle providing the site with shade. The fountain is just noticeable as one drives past on the slow quiet service roads. It is accessed by two pathways framed by the hedge on the northeast and southeast sides of the triangle.



Site plan. n.t.s.

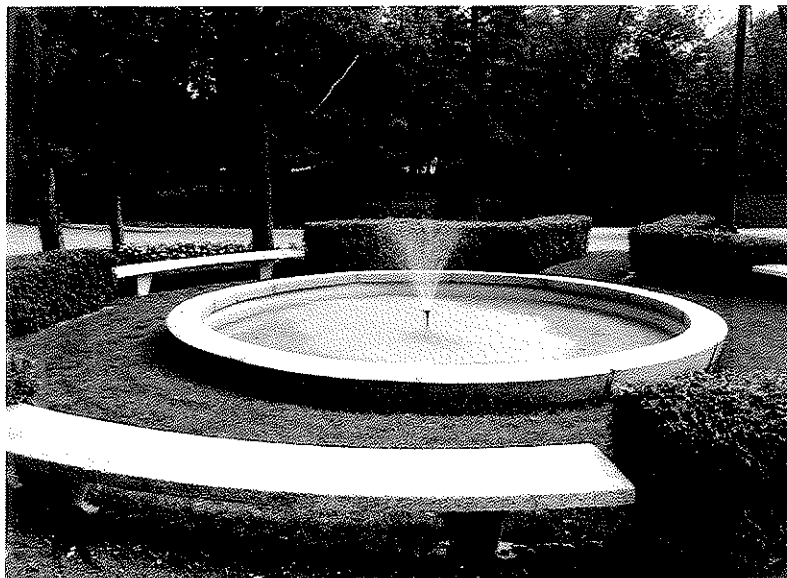
Dedications & History: The fountain is referred to by maintenance crews as the 'A Avenue' or 'Albert Avenue' fountain. It is at least 33 years old and may be several years older. It was probably refurbished in the 1960's or 70's. A more accurate history could not be obtained. Landscape architect W.H. Mawson was involved with the landscaping of the grounds for several years. He was most likely involved with the original fountain design and placement although no record of this could be found. There may also have been other fountains like it elsewhere on the grounds. Two other small fountains did exist somewhere on the south end but have been removed.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The pool may be the last of several similar fountains which were incorporated into an early grounds design but removed before the last 30 years.

Fountain Design &

Materials: The fountain consists of a circular concrete basin 3m in diameter. The interior is painted light blue and the exterior and coping lined with black and white terrazzo finish. The structure is in good condition.

Water Assessment: The simple, low volume, calyx-shaped spray produces a fine rain sound as it hits the water's surface. It is very soothing.



Fountain display with benches and clipped hedging.

Human Use & Winter Observations: The fountain and space is a quiet, cool, and inviting place good for relaxation and contemplation. It is open yet secluded and a popular spot at lunch hour. The area is calming but meditation is broken by the occasional car driving by. The fountain disappears in the winter and is rediscovered in the spring.

Operation, Maintenance

& Costs: The fountain is maintained by the Wascana Authority. Debris is cleaned off the water surface daily. The spray nozzle is adjustable to regulate spray. The pool's circulating pump operates from 8 AM till 11 PM from the May long weekend to the September long weekend.



The fountain disappears in winter.

Remarks**Rating:** * * * 1/2

The fountain and its tight surrounding landscape create a wonderful and mystical space in a very small area. It presents a unique and interesting opportunity for traffic islands.

Site Visits: Sept. 2, 1993; Feb. 22, 1994; Mar. 14, 1994; May 29, 1994; July 12, 1994.

Fountain Name: Kiwanis Park Waterfall

Location: Kiwanis Gardens, Regina Avenue

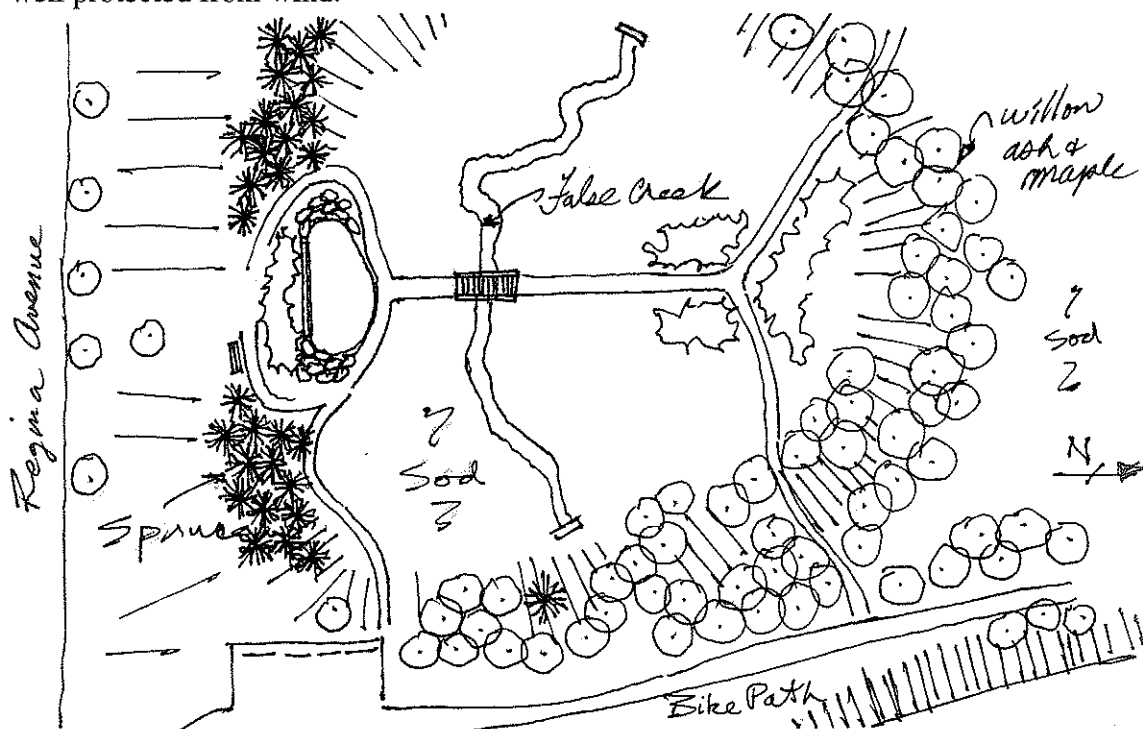
Designer: Kiwanis Club **Client:** City of Regina

Date of Construction: 1954

Typology: Waterfall (L) **Water Forms:** Waterfall, pool

Basin Form: Curvilinear **Function:** Focal point, landscape reference

Site Characteristics: The park, located about 1 km west of the Legislative grounds, is a rectangular area about 100m east to west and 140m north to south. The waterfall is located in the centre of the south side of a sunken and roughly 80m by 80m circular area. The area is surrounded by trees (willow, ash, and maple on the west, north, and east and spruce on the south) and hidden from all surrounding context. A small parking lot and a walking/bike path are located on the east edge. Spruce frame the waterfall and the site is well protected from wind.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: The waterfall's original design was quite different. In the 1950's water would spout out from pipes placed randomly in the stone wall and froth over the stones into the pool. It was later converted to a waterfall sometime in the 1960's.

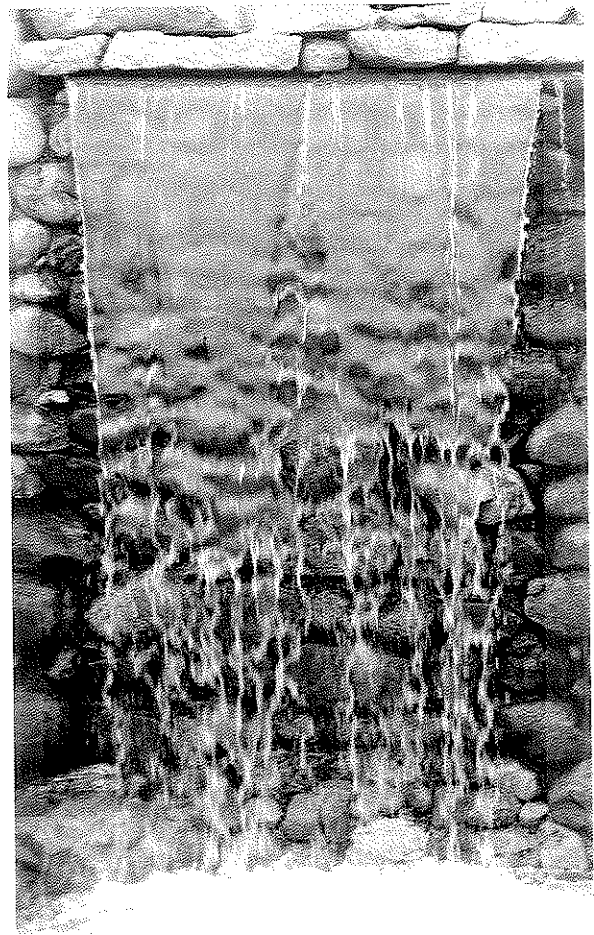
Symbolism & Design Concept:

The waterfall is completely removed from any nearby land form associations. Its intent is unclear. The overall design appears to be an attempt to create a mountain-like setting with the dark thickly planted spruce framing the powerful water element. (The closest natural visual equivalent is Waterton Falls in Waterton Lakes National Park, southwestern Alberta.)



Boulder wall and waterfall looking from north.

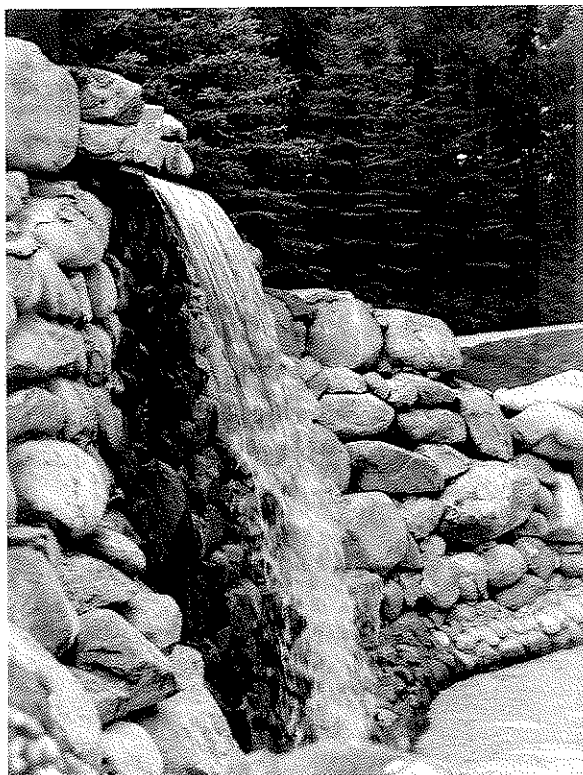
Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is framed by large river boulders which wrap part way around a roughly oval pool. Boulders are granite and sizes range from greater than 1.5m X 2m X 1.5m to about 0.3m³. They are secured with mortar. The wall reaches about 6m in height. The wall is framed by 10m spruce which form a solid dark green backdrop. The waterfall starts at the top of the wall and falls freely from a smooth metal lip slightly longer than 2m. The concrete basin in which the water falls is roughly oval and about 6m X 12m with a depth of 0.6m. It is painted white.



Waterfall detail, face view.

Water Assessment: Water pours over a 2m long metal lip and plummets 6m to a small pool. The water is generally clear. The waterfall creates a unique micro climate which affects the entire sunken area. The crashing water removes all traffic noise from nearby roads but is quiet enough to give a sense of overall serenity. It is visually attractive and dominates the area completely.

Human Use: Children are able to play safely in the waterfall. It is used heavily for photographs for several occasions, including weddings. In fact, a newspaper poll found that the waterfall was the most popular spot in Regina for wedding photos. It is also a very popular picnic spot in summer.



Display detail, view from east side.

Winter Observations: Cross-country skiing is evident on the periphery of the site. Snow is much deeper in the sunken area and snow mounding is noticeable. There are a few footprints leading to the rock feature but the area remains largely deserted.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The waterfall is quite easy to maintain. The pump is housed in the berm and easily accessed. The pumping mechanism is also easily operated and maintained. Water flows into a very large holding tank below the basin. It is then pumped up to the top of the berm to supply the source for the falls. The small pool shortens vacuum time considerably when compared to the time taken to vacuum the Davin Memorial Fountain basin.

The major source of extra costs for operation of the waterfall is vandalism. The type of vandalism was not specified in the interview but possible acts could be the dislodging of stones, damage to the area at the top of the falls from foot traffic, or soaping. It is maintained by City of Regina.

In 1993, 84.5 hours of labour went into maintaining the fountain excluding daily inspections. The total cost for maintenance

and equipment was \$1510.35. This figure does not include major repair items (source: Al Lamb, City of Regina Parks). The feature is drained, cleaned, and refilled every two weeks or as required. The waterfall operates from 8 AM to 11 PM and runs from mid-May to late September. Water is not metered.

Remarks**Rating:** * * * 1/2

The base of the falls is acceptable as a simple design solution but the area surrounding the source of water at the top of the falls has been poorly executed. Plantings have been sought as the solution but this does not work because of trampling. A hard surface solution is required. Although the waterfall is out of place geographically and its setting artificial the place is successful in several aspects: traffic sound is removed; it is a safe place for exciting adventure; it is unique to the city and region; it improves the quality of its surroundings greatly as a focal point; it creates a refreshing micro climate; it is a very popular place; and it is visually pleasing.

Frozen water in the form of a waterfall would be an attractive winter feature. The park appears to be unused in the winter. The surrounding trees prevent tobogganing and the landscape prevents other possible winter functions.

Site Visits: Sept. 3, 1993; Feb. 22, 1994; March 14, 1994; May 20, 1994.

Fountain Name: City Hall Fountain

Location: Queen Elizabeth II Court, Regina City Hall, Victoria Street

Designer: Joseph Pettick, architect **Client:** City of Regina

Date of Construction: 1978

Typology: Reflecting pool, jet fountain

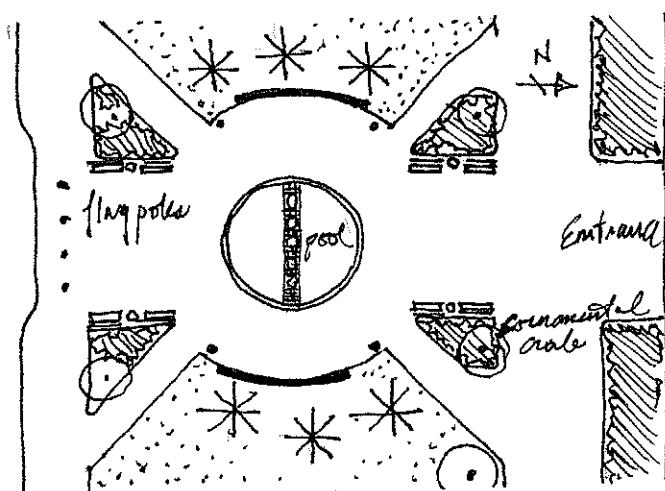
Water Forms: Columnar jets, reflecting pool

Basin Form: Circular

Function: Focal point, symbolic

Site Characteristics: The circular pool is placed on axis with the entrance of City Hall. It is located closer to Victoria Avenue than to the building and is surrounded by a relatively formal and open paving and planting plan.

Dedications & History: The court was named by Queen Elizabeth II on July 29, 1978 during the 75th anniversary of the City of Regina. A plaque on the site reads: "Queen Elizabeth II Court/ Named by her Majesty the Queen/ 29th July, 1978/ 75th Anniversary of the City of Regina".



Site plan. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain is an extension of a European tradition in which all city halls have fountains. The fountain may also be a symbol of power in Regina more than in the other prairie cities because of the scarcity of water in the area.



Fountain display viewed from south towards city hall.

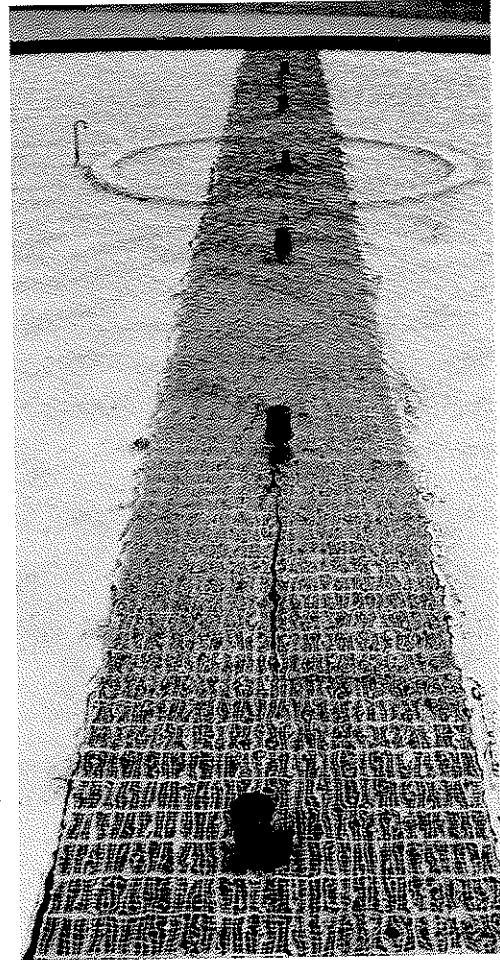
Fountain Design & Materials:

The fountain is a flat circular concrete basin 0.1m deep and 15m in diameter. Five

jets are located in a straight line through the center of the pool running from east to west in a basin which is painted light blue. The structure was designed and built as part of the original plans with the building.

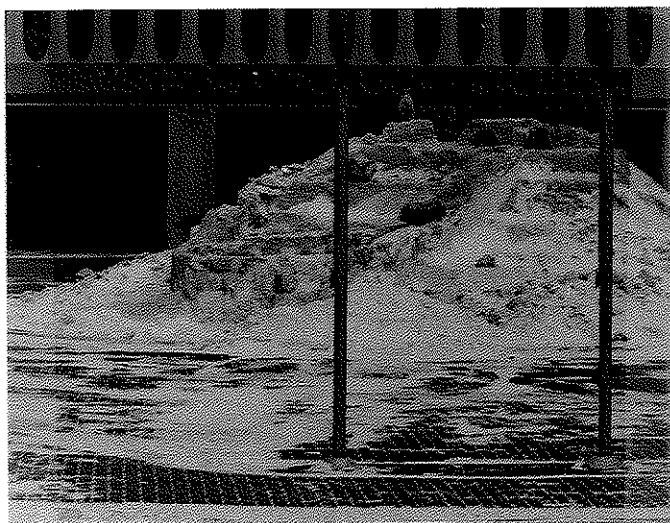
Water Assessment: The reflecting pool is shallow with a depth less than 0.15m. The five columnar jets have varying heights with the central jet being the highest at about 3m, the two on either side at 2m, and the outer two reaching 1m. When the jets are off, the basin serves as a simple reflecting pool. The jet display offers a pleasant background noise.

Human Use: Children wade and play in summer. Occasionally, adults will soak their feet in it as well. At lunch and during coffee breaks office workers sit on benches around the pool. The location is often windy which prevents further leisure activities around the fountain.



Nozzle and grate detail.

Winter Observations: The basin largely disappears in the winter. It is also used as the site for a massive snow sculpture during the Waskimo Winter Festival in mid-February.



Snow mound left from the Waskimo Winter Festival.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: Water is run at random intervals depending upon viewers, wind, and time of day. Normal operation is from 8 AM till 4 PM. The fountain is switched on and off manually by the grounds maintenance crew. Two pumps, which are replaced every two or three years, run the system. They are removed in the fall and replaced in spring. The pool is drained and refilled every two to

three weeks. In 1993, 84.5 hours were spent on maintaining the fountain with a total cost of labour and equipment of \$1, 478.30. The fountain runs from mid-May to late September. Its daily operation is sporadic and dependent upon wind. Water is not metered.

Remarks**Rating: * ***

The space demands a fountain. There is definitely an opportunity for a sculptural element to be introduced to the fountain to make it recognizable for more than its present few hours of operation during the day. The opportunity was missed to create a fountain which is much more interesting and appropriate for the site.

- Sources: 1. Interview with Al Lamb, City of Regina Parks, Regina, Saskatchewan, March 12, 1994.
2. Interview with _____, Regina City Hall maintenance crew, Regina, Saskatchewan, May 20, 1994.

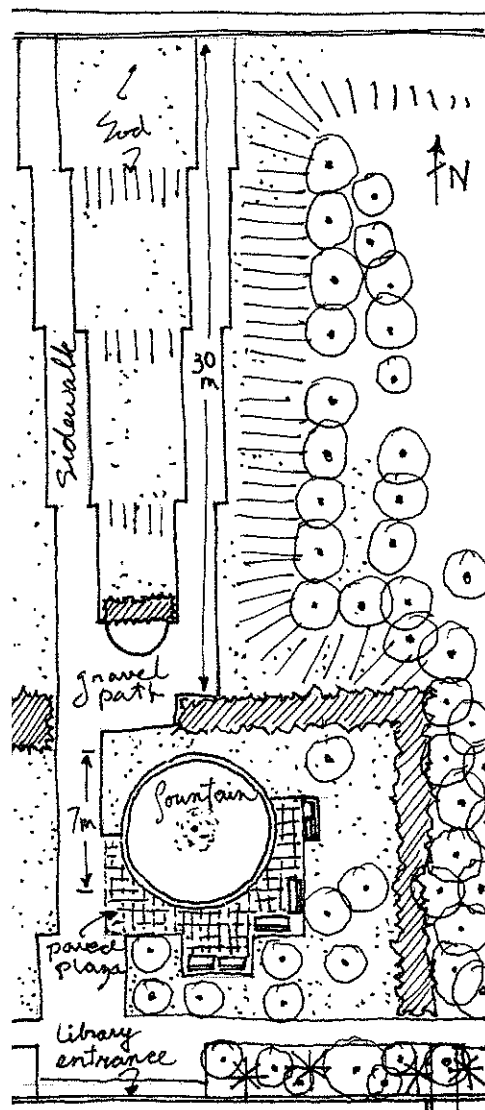
Site Visits: Sept. 3, 1993; February 22, 1994; March 12, 1994; May 20, 1994.

Fountain Name: Library Courtyard Reflecting Pool**Location:** North Library Courtyard, University of Regina, Wascana Campus**Designer:** Redesigned by Physical Plant, University of Regina**Client:** University of Regina**Date of Construction:** 1966, rebuilt in 1992**Typology:** Spray fountain**Water Forms:** Multiple finger jet, pool**Basin Form:** Circular**Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics: The pool is located to the east side of the north axial entrance to the university library. The area is sunken with parallel berms framing the axis and running from the circle road south 60m to a paved plaza at the library entrance. The plaza is approximately square and cuts into the eastern berm. Three benches are located to the east of the pool and are backed by low shrubs (junipers). The site borders the Wascana Parkway, but is largely hidden from view. The pool is in a sheltered area which gets lots of mid-afternoon sun.

Dedications & History: The pool was built with the library and was originally designed to hold a large sculpture, but it was never installed due to expense and the lack of an appropriate sculpture. This would have been the university's central showcase. It was also to be supported by two fountains inside the library. These never operated and were eventually removed.

Fountain Design & Materials: The basin is approximately 7.5m in diameter. It is constructed of poured-in-place concrete and two-tiered with sloping walls painted light blue. The basin edge is just above the plaza level. The fountain pump is a 1hp submersible and runs 30 gal/min. The circulating pool pump is housed in the basement of the library.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Water Assessment: A single central multiple finger jet emits fine strings in a circular array approximately 2m high and 2m in diameter. When the jets are off the pool acts as a reflecting pond. The success of the reflection is limited, however, as the pool is off the central axis to the building entrance.

Human Use: The fountain promotes passive activity. The spray has a cooling effect and is nice to watch. The pool has a calming effect.

Winter

Observations: The pool completely disappears in the

winter with snow cover and appears to undergo a sense of rebirth in the spring as the snow melts and its form is rediscovered.



Fountain display, viewed from northwest.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The basin water is piped into the library building where it is filtered and chemically treated. Two basket filters catch larger debris. The pool is cleaned once per week. This job takes one to two hours. An estimated cost for labour and chemicals is \$2000 per year. The fountain runs from May 24 to September 24, 8 AM to 11 PM.

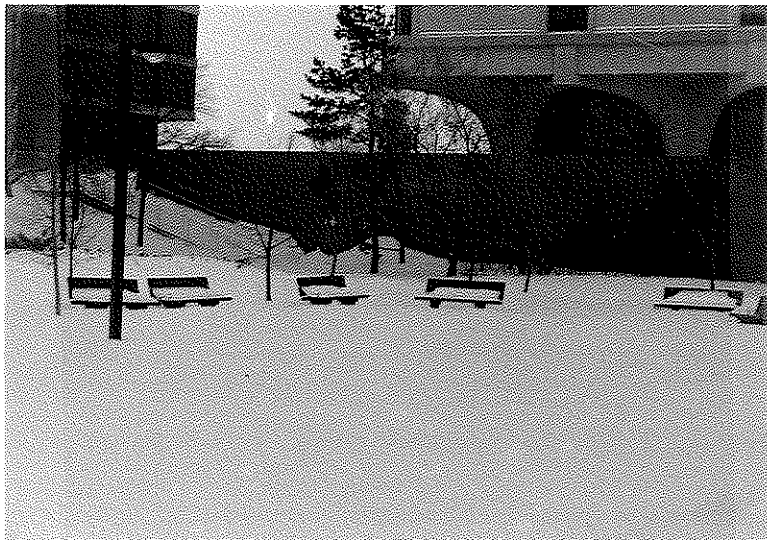


Fountain display viewed from south.

Remarks Rating: ***

Opportunities do exist for installation of a sculptural element. The original intent for the fountain as a reflecting pool with a sculpture in it still seems most appropriate. However, the present small spray is quite a nice touch.

The effect of vanishing in the



winter to be rediscovered the following spring is a positive aspect in this location.

The fountain disappears in winter.

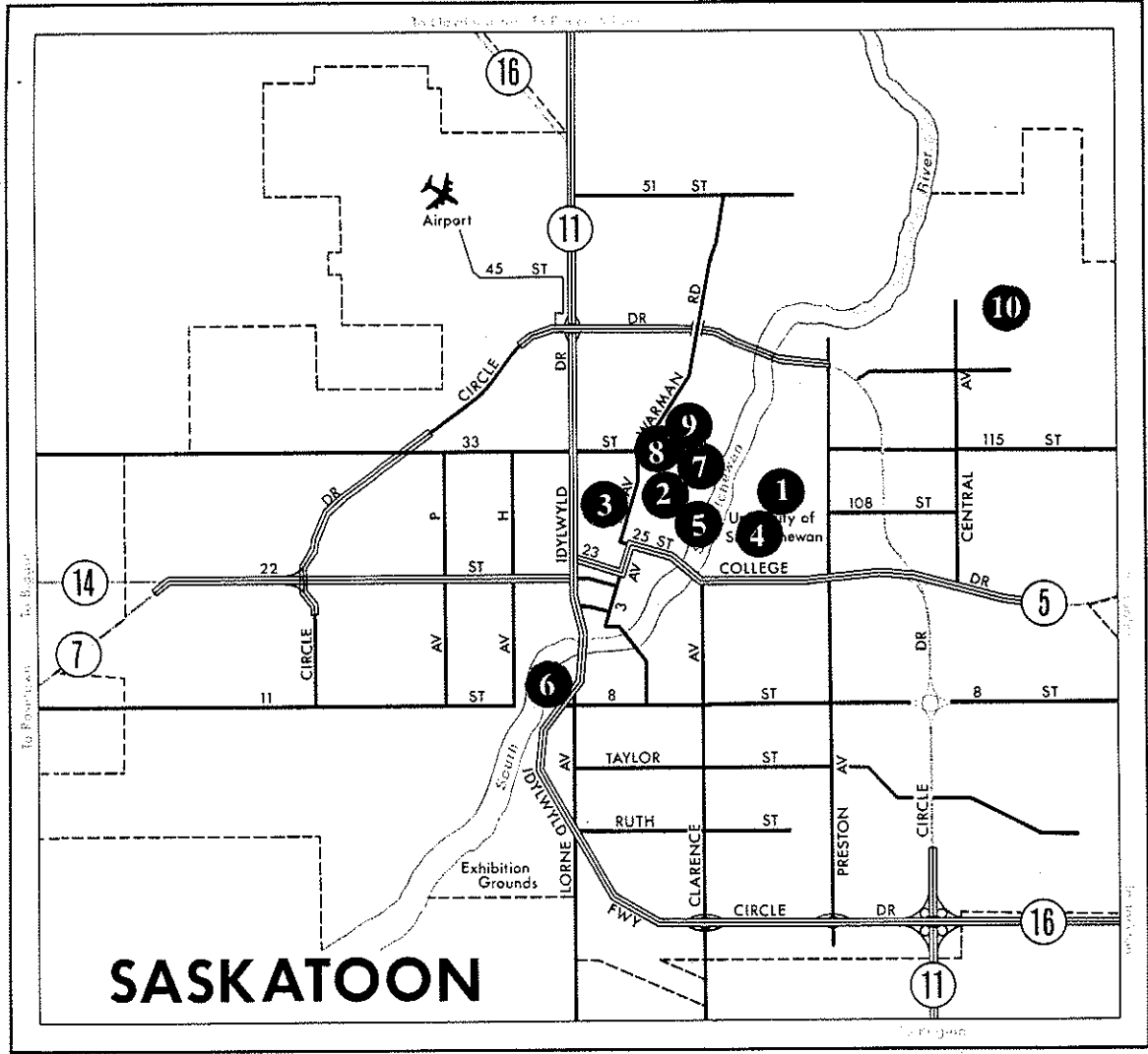
Source: 1. Interview with Ken Jackman, Mechanical Services Supervisor, Physical Plant, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, March 14, 1994.

Site Visits: Sept. 3, 1993; February 22, 1994; March 14, 1994; July 12, 1994

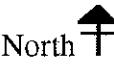
D. Saskatoon Inventory

D. Saskatoon Inventory

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Fountain Location Plan. n.t.s.



Saskatoon

Fountain Name: Innovation Place Fountain, SEDCO Bowl Fountain

Location: SEDCO Centre, Innovation Boulevard

Designer: Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, landscape architects

Client: Saskatchewan Research Council **Date of Construction:** 1987

Cost of Construction: \$625 000 (includes all landscaping)

Water Forms: Columnar jets, pool

Typology: Jet fountain, sculpture fountain

Basin Form: Polygon (66m²)

Function: Axial focal point

Site Characteristics: Innovation Place is an elegantly designed landscape. Its setting seems almost surreal with the gold windows of the SEDCO Centre framing the Bowl. Stairs from the formal circular driveway and parking area lead straight to the fountain before splitting into two paths which lead directly to building entrances. There is abundant seating and lighting in the area. Plantings are ornamental.

Symbolism & Design

Concept: The purpose of the landscaping is to create a focal point and to funnel traffic to appropriate entrances. The fountain is meant to be the beginning of a grand entry. Design requirements stated that the place was to be "unique to the province". The Bowl was to



Entrance to fountain plaza area from parking lot.

serve as an important year-

round visual feature. The area

was also to be functional for small and large group gatherings, especially at lunch time.

Fountain Design & Materials: The framing for the design is poured-in-place concrete and the walls along the walks are faced with brick. The paving surface consists of concrete and two-toned clay unit pavers. The edge of the basin is precast concrete. The basin floor is dark in colour. Bronze(?) pelican sculptures are incorporated into the pool. Lighting is an important feature in the Bowl. Non-neon lighting is used under the stairs to highlight the geometries around the fountain and lights in the basin highlight the water jets.

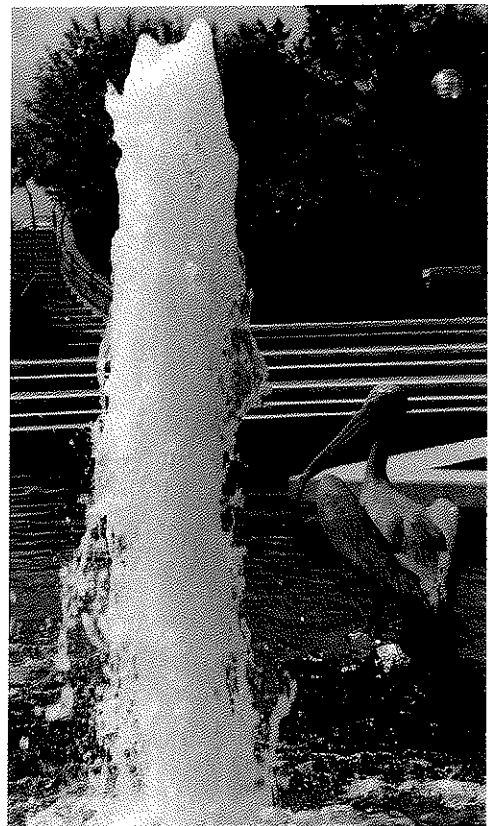
Water Assessment: There are three water jets incorporated into the fountain with 3m, 2m, and 1m heights. These heights are controlled in response to the wind which is sensed by a wind detector. The primary purpose of the water jets is visual, but they also have a cooling effect on the area and make a great sound. The basin holds 11 000 gallons.



Fountain as viewed from east.

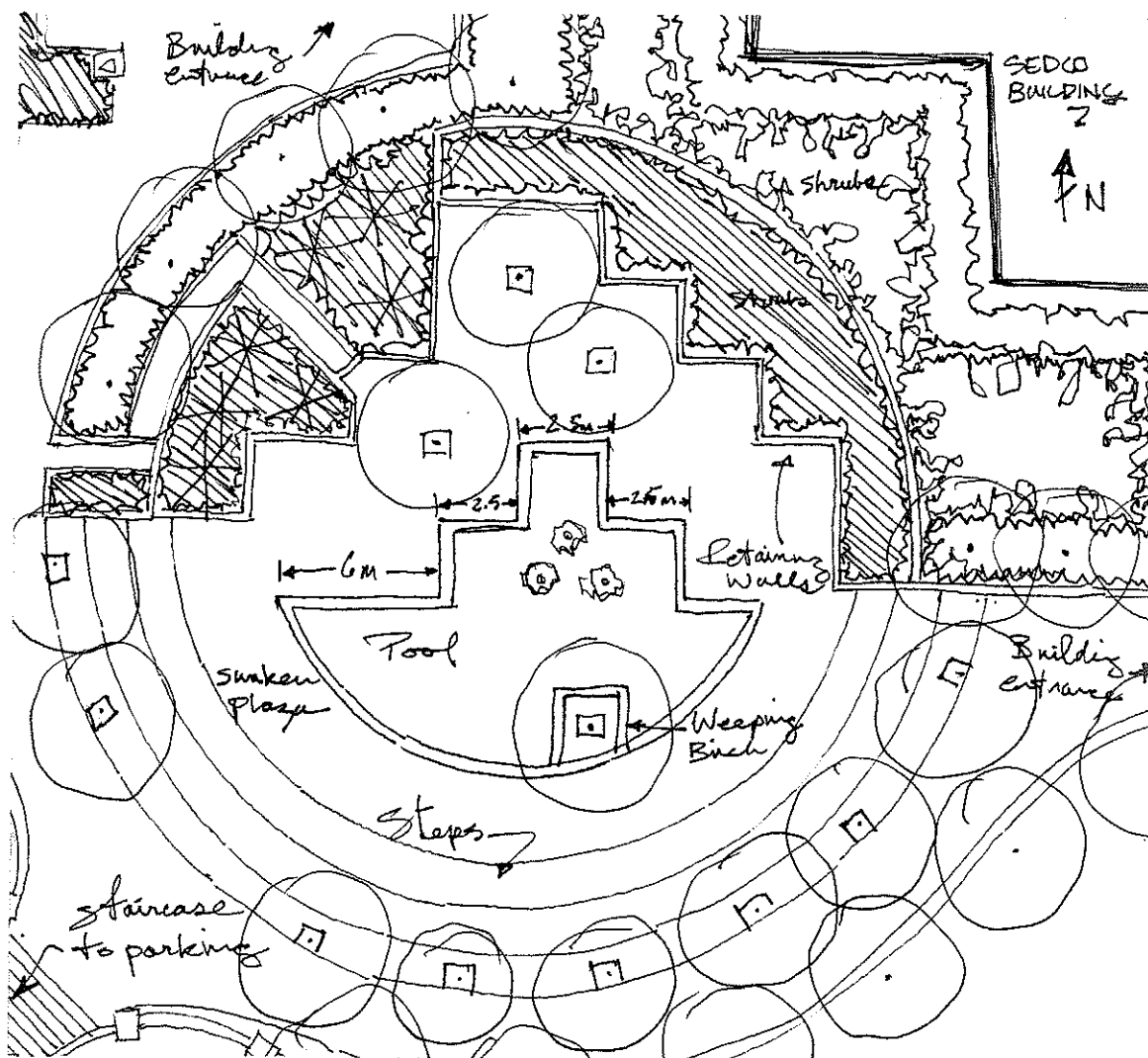
Human Use: The surreal landscape is used as a backdrop for television commercials, wedding pictures, televised aerobics classes, and other public functions. The area is also used as a gathering place for tenants of the SEDCO building. The sunken bowl and fountain are designed to cool the area and increase comfort levels. This is necessary because of the high glare and extra heat given off by the SEDCO building windows. The fountain does have a pronounced physical and psychological cooling effect.

Winter Observations: The Bowl maintains its aesthetic qualities in winter. The snow cover actually enhances the sculptural qualities of the space as it looks like an interesting painting. The materials (soft and hard landscaping) accent the white snow and the sculptures stand out.



Display detail and sculpture.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The water is recirculated through a 75mm (3in.) pipe with a 10 hp Peerless 1025A pump with a capacity of 24.25 L/s. PVC piping was used but had to be replaced after damage from freezing water. The jet fittings are standard stock from PEM Fountain Company. The pool drains to a sump in the building.



Site plan. n.t.s.

About one hour is spent maintaining the fountain each day. A major cleaning is done three times each summer. The fountain is easily drained and cleaned. The basin is drained by a central 150mm (6in.) drain, cleaned with a mop and a mixture of bleach and water, and then sprayed down. The fountain is not equipped with a filter. Debris are collected each morning by a hand-held skimmer.

Remarks**Rating:** * * * * 1/2

This is one of the most beautiful fountains in the inventory and well worth visiting. Not installing basket filters may have been a serious oversight. The lack of baskets to catch debris costs a great deal of extra maintenance time. The large drain pipe (150mm) allows for quick and easy drainage of the basin and ensures a minimum chance of clogging.

Sources: 1. Interview with Rob Crosby, Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, March 22, 1994.

2. Interview with Gary Gronsdahl, Innovation Place landscape maintenance, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, July 13, 1994.

Site Visits: February 22, 1994, March 15, 1994, March 22, 1994, July 13, 1994.

Fountain Name: Robert Murray Sculpture Fountain

Location: Civic Square, Saskatoon City Hall

Designer: Robert Murray, sculptor & Webster, Forrester, Scott & Partners, architects;

Rebuilt by Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, Landscape Architects

Client: City of Saskatoon

Date of Construction: 1966, rebuilt 1989

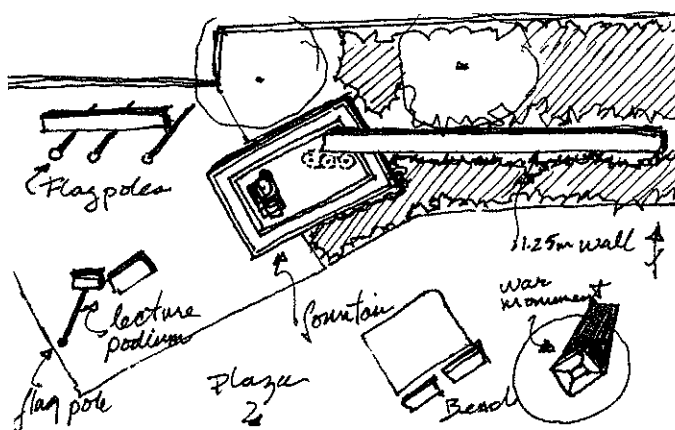
Cost of Construction: \$1600 (rebuilt cost unavailable)

Typology: Sculpture fountain, jet fountain

Water Forms: spout jet, spill & splash, columnar jet, water curtain, pool

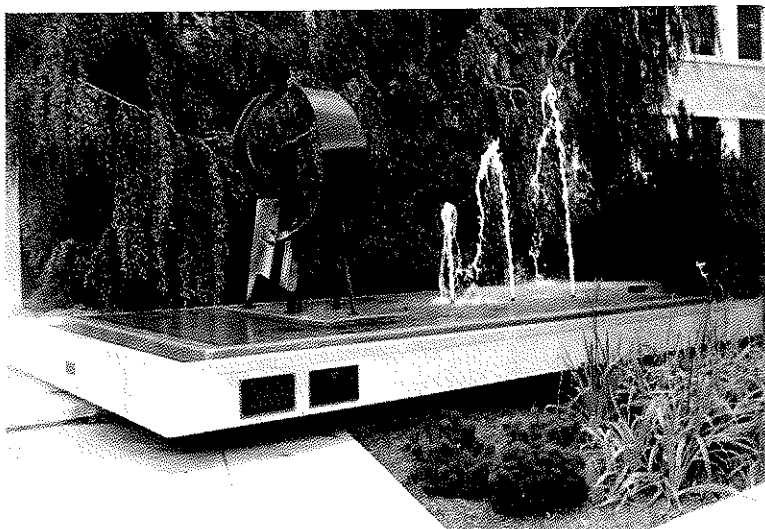
Basin Form: Rectangular (15m²) **Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located in front of a large blank wall at the northern edge of the civic square. It is placed amongst a war monument, an open plaza, a lecture podium and flag poles, and plantings. The fountain is the strongest visual attraction in the composition giving balance and life to a quiet collection of artifacts.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: The fountain is dedicated in memory of Andrew Leslie, Commissioner of the City of Saskatoon from 1921 to 1949. It is also dedicated to the 1989



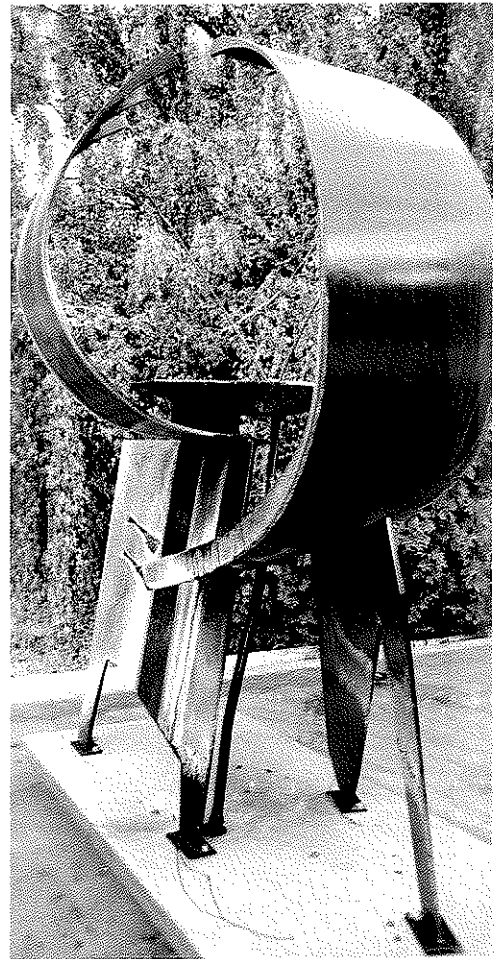
Sculpture and display with encased water curtain.

Canada Games for the contribution of refurbishing the civic square and fountain in 1989. The fountain created fantastic debate when it was erected in 1966 because of its 'modern' design. Apparently, the abstract sculpture was not appreciated by many 'down-to-earth' Saskatoon natives. Almost thirty years later, emotions have calmed and it

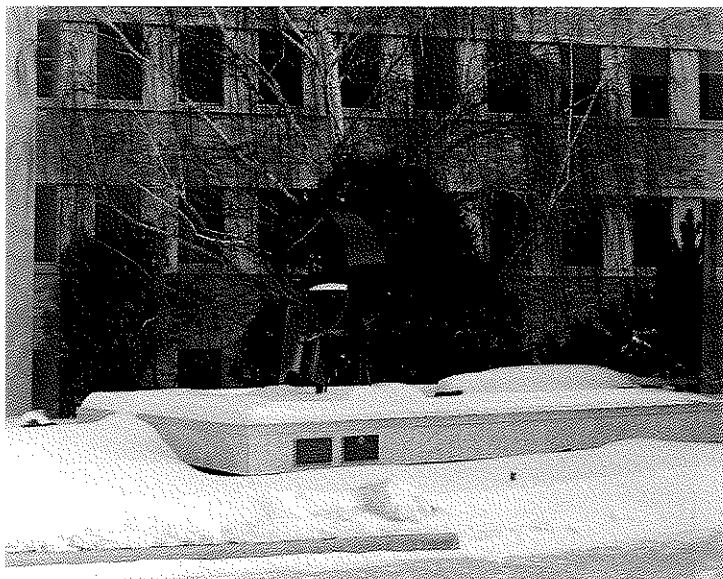
has become a largely accepted landmark. The sculpture was repainted by sculptor Douglas Bentham in 1989.

Symbolism & Design Concept: A concept of the fountain design is hands shooting water from one to the other. Its design is in the Modernist style. It is a statement of art and was meant to stimulate a discussion on art and its role in society. This stimulation of discussion was successful.

Fountain Design & Materials: The sculpture is constructed of welded steel, painted dark green, and stands 2.5m above the basin. The fountain basin is poured-in-place concrete with limestone facing. The double leveled basin is 1m in height. Water flows in a water curtain from an upper level to a narrow canal below. This creates a good finished edge to the composition as well as discouraging human interaction in the fountain. Vandex® seals the basin. The pump is a 3/4 hp Aurora Pumps Series 320 with a capacity of 2.08 l/s (33 U.S. gpm). Copper and fiberglass ASJ pipe insulation is used to protect the piping.



Sculpture detail.



Winter appearance.

Water Assessment: A small finger jet comes from one 'palm' of the sculpture and gently splashes into the pool. It was originally intended to jump from one 'palm' to another but has never worked properly. Three columnar jets 1m, 1.5m, and 2m in height drown out traffic noise. The main purpose of the jets appears to be to offset the steel structure and give

balance to the fountain composition. Water flows as a curtain over the upper pool into the surrounding trough.

Human Use: The fountain is a sculptural aesthetic and is for viewing only. It also cools the air nearby and provides a nice acoustic element.

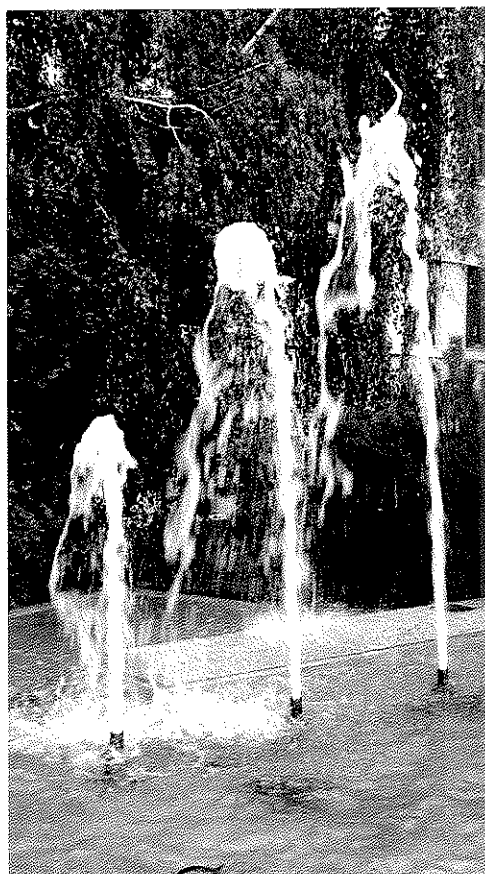
Winter Observations: In winter, the sculpture stands out well with its dark colour and is an interesting highlight against the light coloured walls of the civic center.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: There have not been any major maintenance or operation problems since the 1989 renovations.

Remarks

Rating: * * * *

The sculpture fountain is a balanced work of art. Its simple Modern design and scale are in keeping with the building and the plaza. It is interesting, visually pleasing and not too imposing. The juxtaposition of angles in the composition add further interest.



Jet display.

Source: Interview with Rob Crosby, Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, Landscape Architects & Planners, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, March 23, 1994.

Site Visits: September 3, 1993, February 15, 1994, March 23, 1994, July 13, 1994.

Fountain Name: Civic Square Wall Fountain

Location: The Civic Square, Saskatoon City Hall

Designer: Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates

Client: City of Saskatoon

Date of Construction: 1989

Typology: Wall fountain (drinking fountain) **Water Forms:** Spout jet, water wall

Basin Form: None (metal grate)

Function: Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is part of a 1m high wall which separates the plaza from the grounds on the south side of the city hall. It is located just 25m from the Robert Murray Sculpture Fountain.



Water gently bubbles and flows over the stone.

Dedications & History:

The fountain was originally designed as a drinking fountain but fears of water quality (due to contact with the stone) by officials changed the purpose of the fountain to a purely aesthetic one.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The wall fountain was originally designed to relate to the original purpose of civic squares in Europe as a place to obtain drinking water.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is constructed of polished red granite. It is sized at a height which the average person would find best to drink from.

Water Assessment: Water flows over the rock wall and into a grating at its base. The flowing water makes a very quiet murmuring sound. It is unobtrusive but quite attractive when one takes the time to look at it. The water is not recycled and is connected to the untreated irrigation water system for irrigation of the grounds.

Human Use: The wall fountain does not really have a purpose since it cannot be used for what it was intended. The original purpose is sensed in its design as the temptation is



Fountain as it appeared in February, 1994.

strong to drink from it.

Winter Observations:

The fountain behaves as a simple retaining wall directing traffic flow and holding back earth. It is noticed only as a differently finished surface along the wall.

Operation, Maintenance

& Costs: It appears that the

maintenance for this fountain would be almost negligible. (Maintenance information was not obtained.)

Remarks

Rating: * * * 1/2

Since the small but beautiful fountain is not allowed to function as a drinking fountain its purpose and allusion to the traditional European fountain is lost. It is beautifully and simply designed. It does look a little odd with the plantings on the same level behind it, but it is pleasing to look at.

Source: 1. Interview with Rob Crosby, Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, Landscape Architects & Planners, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, March 23, 1994.

Site Visits: September 3, 1993, February 14, 1994, March 23, 1994, July 13, 1994.



Display detail.

Fountain Name: School of Veterinary Medicine Fountain

Location: School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

Designer: Denis Wilkinson, landscape architect

Client: University of Saskatchewan, School of Veterinary Medicine

Date of Construction: 1969

Cost of Construction: _____

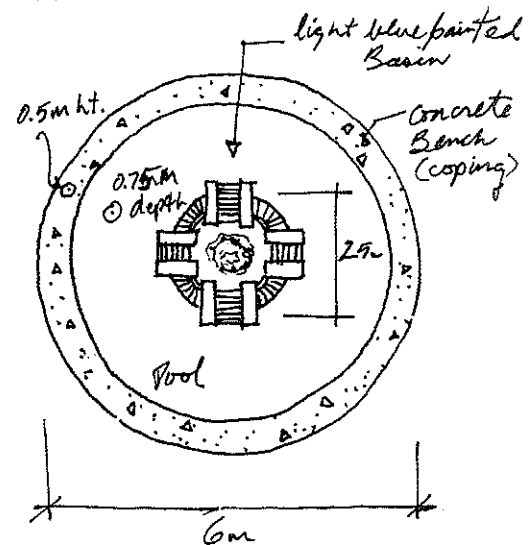
Typology: Sculpture fountain

Water Forms: Bubbler jet, complex cascade, pool

Basin Form: Circular (28m²)

Function: Focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located at the lower front entranceway to the School of Veterinary Medicine. It stands at the base of an asphalt path, which leads 25m from the entrance driveway down 6m to the fountain, and then curves around the fountain to the building doors. An upper ramp leads directly from the entrance driveway to the upper doors (which are directly above the lower doors). From the upper ramp the fountain can be viewed from above. The sunken plaza contains the fountain and bicycle racks. It is framed by the building, birch trees and a simple raised planter.



Site plan. n.t.s.

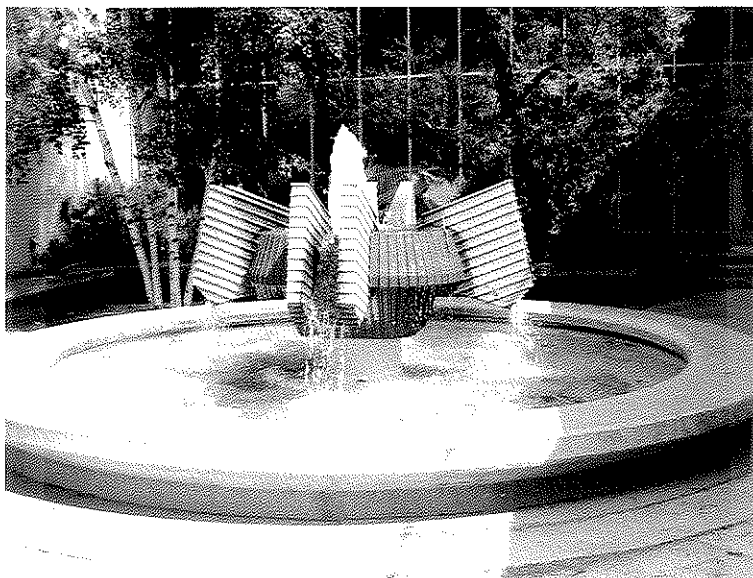


The fountain is almost hidden from the entrance sidewalk.

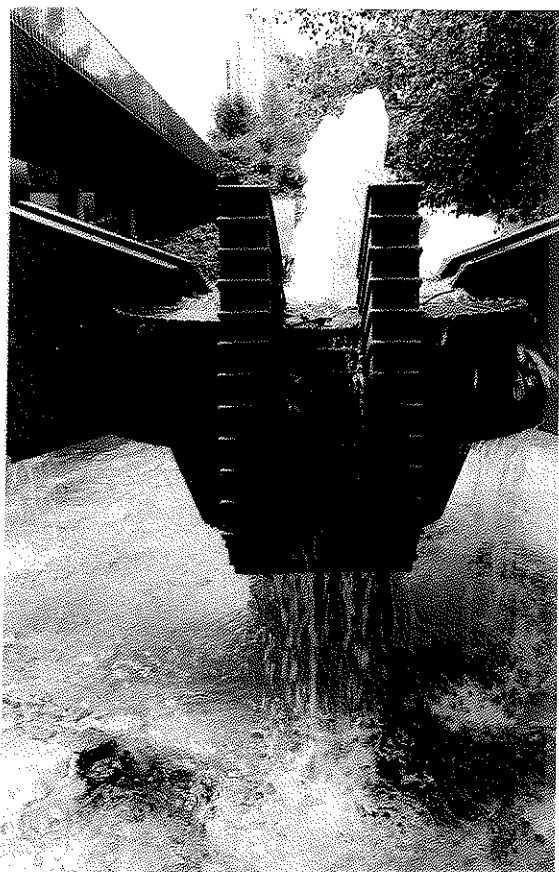
Fountain Design & Materials:

The fountain is constructed of reinforced concrete. The basin is approximately 6m in diameter with a depth of 0.75m. The central feature is a rough, wood formed, concrete cascade and waterfall fountain 1.8m in height. It has four large double winged protrusions geometrically placed on an inverted cone set

on a cylinder. Each wing frames a narrow chute. The water is supplied by a 80mm (3in) pipe and drained with a 100mm (4in) pipe. A 80mm (3in) pipe is also used for removing overflow. The fountain was originally equipped with a 'chemical feeder' but it was removed. The basin sits on 0.15m high paper mesh base. The base provides stability in the flexible clay soils.



Fountain display in partial sunlight.



Display detail.

Water Assessment: The water gushes from a 'Venturi' aerated head in the well of the sculpture, reaching a height of 0.4m above the sculpture. The water then froths and cascades through the chuted wings and splashes into the pool. The acoustic effect is powerful in the enclosed space.

Human Use: The fountain is tucked away and hidden from view. It is only visible when one is actually at the entrance of the building. The edge of the basin can be used as seating.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountain takes about 3.5 days for one man to prepare for start-up in the spring and about the same time to prepare for winter. The fountain is easily maintained. It is drained and scrubbed two times during the summer

and repainted every two years. The water is kept running continuously to prevent the buildup of debris. Problems do occur with the collection of debris in the water as mature birch trees overhang the fountain. However, the 100mm (4in) drain handles most of the floating debris without any trouble.

Remarks**Rating: * * ***

Siting is the main short-fall for this fountain. The powerful display is poorly presented in the very cramped, below ground spot and would be better suited to a larger and more prominent site. Its value as an attraction is negated by being hidden from view.

Source: 1. Interview with Herb Schultz, Maintenance Engineer, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, March 15, 1994.

Site Visits: March 15, 1994, July 13, 1994.

Fountain Name: Kiwanis Memorial Fountain

Location: Kiwanis Memorial Park

Designer: Kiwanis Club

Client: Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon

Date of Construction: 1947 **Cost of Construction:** _____

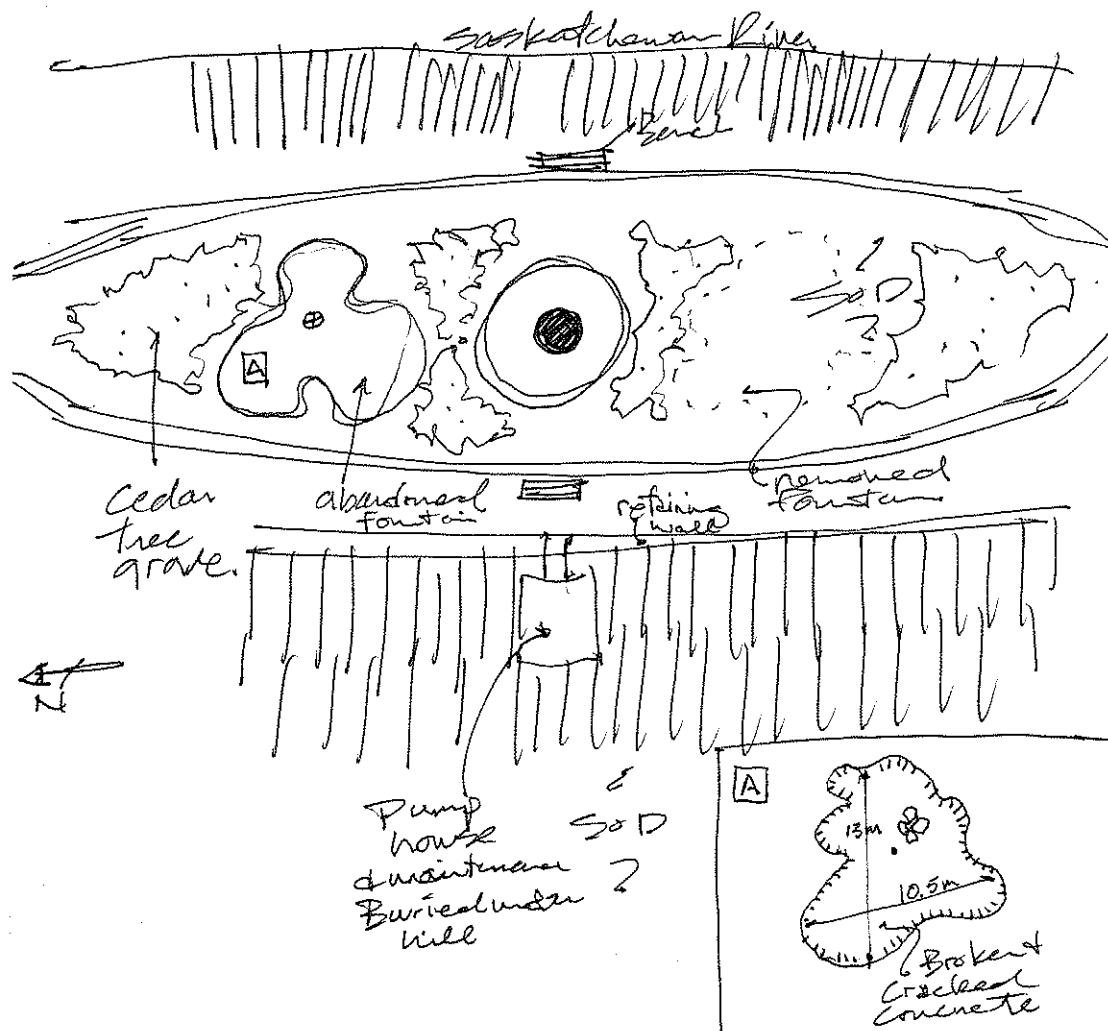
Typology: Jet fountain

Water Forms: Finger jets

Basin Form: Twelve-sided polyhedron (7m²)

Function: Focal point, symbolic, historical monument

Site Characteristics: The fountain is situated in a park separating the downtown core from the river. It is framed and protected by planted cedar groves. The fountain is located along a walking/bicycling path which splits and passes along the east and west sides of the fountain. Benches on either side along the pathways face the fountain.

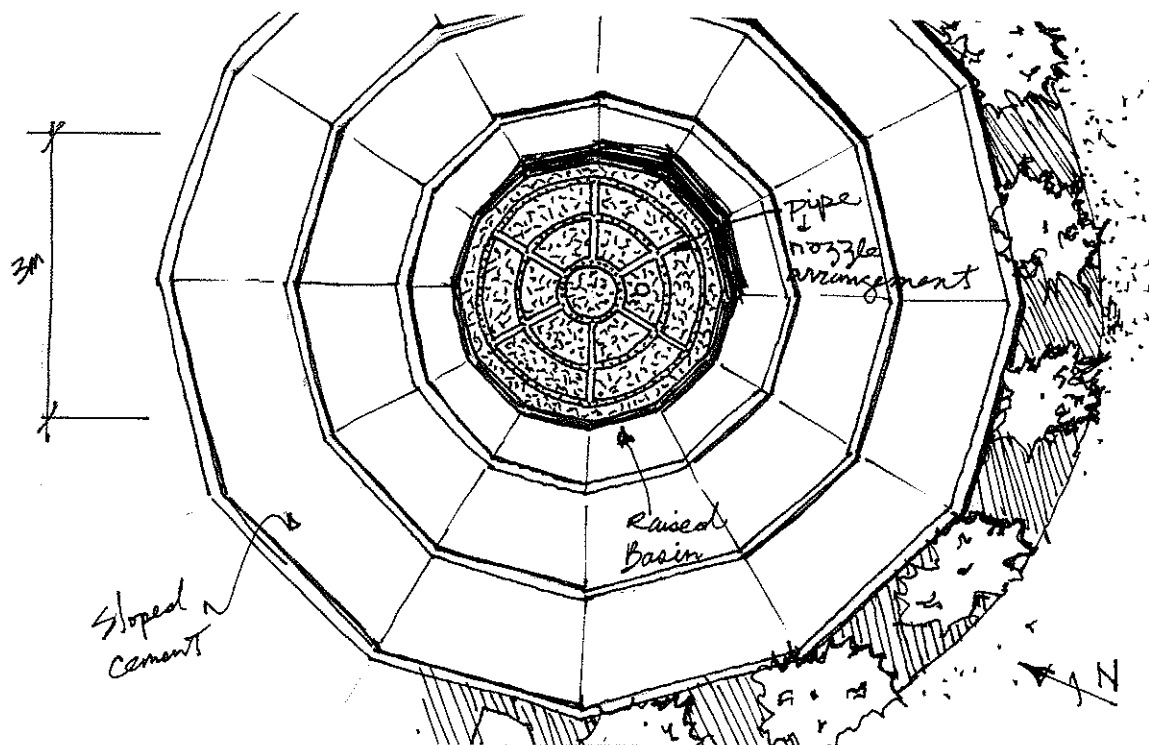


Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: The fountain was designed and constructed by the Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon as a memorial to all Canadians who gave their lives in the Second World War. It was officially dedicated on June 17, 1947 "... to the everlasting honour and glory of those who fared forth to war and died that Freedom's cause might triumph." It was also built to compliment the bandstand located 200m to the south. There were originally three fountains, the existing formal multiple jet fountain, and large informal pools which flanked it on the north and south. The southern basin has been removed in 1992 and replaced with sod. The north basin is constructed of concrete and rimmed with a broken stone edge and annual beds. The basin is cracked and unusable.

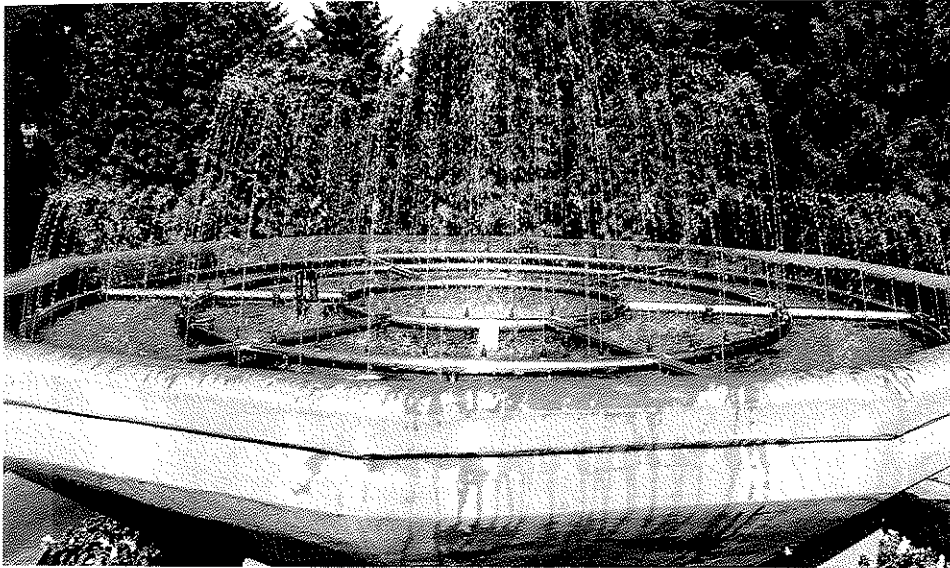


Fountain viewed from hillside pathway to the west.



Detail site plan of central fountain. n.t.s.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain's construction uses simple geometries and materials. The raised, twelve-sided, 3m diameter, concrete basin is in excellent condition. Inside the basin there are three rings of 75mm stainless steel pipes with adjustable nozzles. They are also in excellent condition. The concrete paving surrounding the fountain slopes sharply away from the basin and has many cracks.



Display detail.

Water Assessment: The water is what makes this oversized birdbath a success. More than a hundred fine arcing jets of water move through a complex computer controlled program. There is little spray from the water. Its sounds like a gentle rain. At night the ever shifting patterns are accented with changing light displays. It is quite a spectacular site.



Empty northern basin.

Human Use: The fountain is located in a highly visible and safe site. During a hot summer day it is a cool quiet place with a great view of the river. It is a major thoroughfare for pedestrians and bicyclists. The main function is as a visual aesthetic serving as a highlight for downtown. Especially in the evening, the fountain provides a very romantic setting.

Winter Observations: The fountain is covered with a 19mm (3/4") plywood sheet in the winter. There is little winter appeal as the basin has little sculptural appeal and poor colour contrast with snow. An ice rink is created every winter on the bank above the fountain.



Detail of stones placed in northern basin.

Operation, Maintenance &

Costs: The fountain is cleaned once per week. The operation takes approximately 3 hours. The under powered pump is usually replaced

every year. The fountain is tapped into city water which is circulated and fed in as the water level drops. Water levels are regulated with a sensor. The fountain operates about 3.5 months per year from 7:30 AM till midnight daily. The fountain's exposed piping is usually vandalized an average of twice each year.

Remarks

Rating: * * * 1/2

The Kiwanis Memorial Fountain is the best known and most popular fountain in Saskatoon.

Site Visits: September 2, 1993, February 15, 1994, March 23, 1994, July 13, 1994.

Fountain Name: Labatt's Appeal Fountain

Location: Labatt's Gardens, Herman Avenue & 8th Street S.

Designer: Marv Henderson, landscape designer; constructed by Don Adams Concrete

Client: Labatt's Brewery

Date of Construction: 1960-61

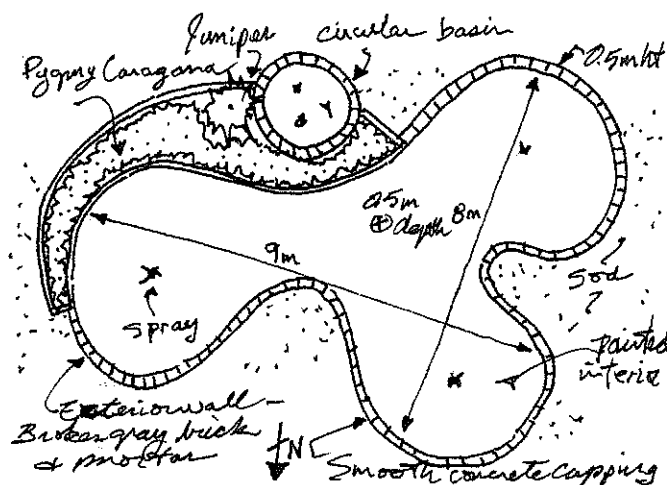
Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Spray fountain

Water Forms: Multiple finger jets, pool

Basin form: Curvilinear, circular (70m²) **Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is situated as the central attraction in a park on the edge of the recently demolished Labatt's Brewery. The Idylwyld Freeway borders the east, Labatt's brewery lands border the south and west, and an affluent residential community begins across 8th Street to the north. The park is in a protected quiet nook and is well shaded and framed by mature trees.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: Labatt's Brewery was demolished in 1993-94 but the garden was saved. Negotiations to donate the fountain and park to the City of Saskatoon were ongoing at the time of the study.

The thirty-four year old fountain does show signs of its age. The original underground piping has corroded and been sealed off. Replacement piping runs along the surface of the basin. The original columnar jet style has been replaced with a quieter multiple finger jet style. Three lights were originally located at the base of each jet. These were installed as part of the basin, lying flush with the surface. Now only one light is used for each jet and the lights and electrical wiring sit on the surface of the basin. The replacement of pipes and new wiring for the fountain in 1993-94 cost about \$60 000. Much of this cost occurred when the wiring and water was rerouted from the old Labatt's Brewery building and connected to the city's systems.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The park marks the entrance to the Labatt's Brewery lands and was developed as a neighbourhood park for the enjoyment of those who lived nearby.

Fountain Design &

Materials: The fountain basin consists of a large curvilinear concrete wall 0.7m high and forming a loose cloverleaf pattern. The outer wall is faced with rough gray brick and the wall is topped with smooth gray cement capping



View of cloverleaf basin and display from northeast.

blocks. The basin measures 9m between the furthest points of each lobe. A small circular basin, 2.5m in diameter is located within one of the folds of the larger basin and is made of the same materials. A small raised planter containing pygmy caragana and a juniper fills the gap between the two basins and lines part of the larger basin. The basin stands on a series of 1.5m (5ft) piles. Its floor is constructed of heavily reinforced 0.15m (6in) thick concrete. The basin is painted blue-gray (spring 1994).

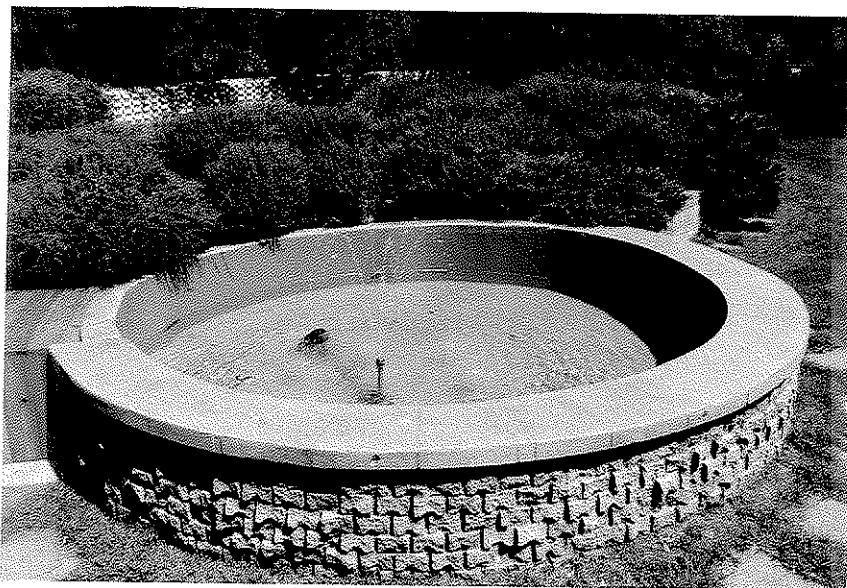
Water Assessment:

The fountain incorporates four multiple finger jets, each with seven finger sprays. Three are located in the main pool and one in the small circular pool. The three nozzles in the larger pool are located in the centre



Detail of coping, basin, and fountain display from west.

of each leaflet of the cloverleaf. The jets reach a height of 1.5m. The sound is like a gentle falling rain.



Circular basin and display. Note broken gray brick wall and smooth coping.

Human Use: The park is a quiet place to come and visit and is used often for wedding photos. The basin's coping is ideal for sitting on.

Winter

Observations: The site is decorated at Christmas by Labatt's for the enjoyment of residents in the area.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The pool is cleaned once every one to two weeks and takes half a work day to do. The original fountain did not use filters. The water level can be filled to a depth of 0.7m but is kept to a 0.25m depth as a safety precaution for children.

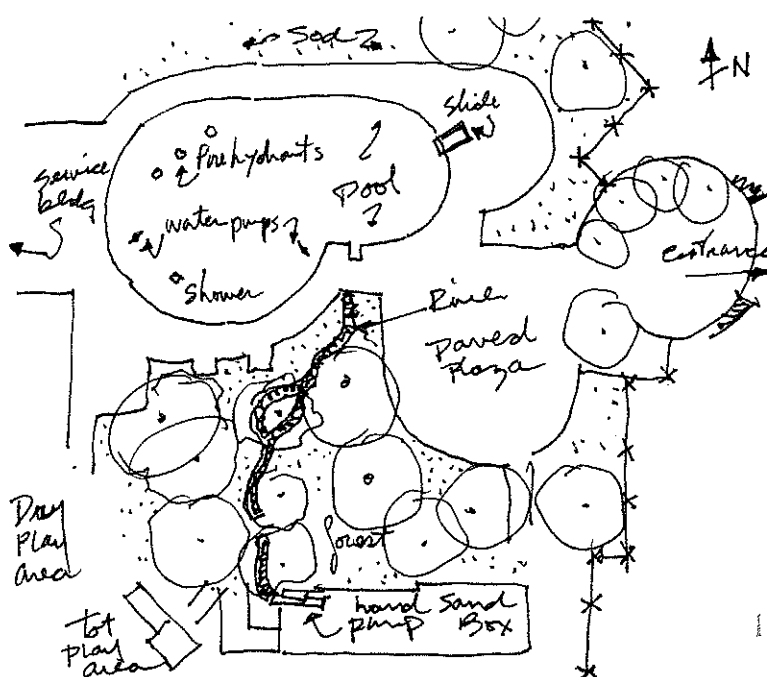
Rating: * * * 1/2

Source: Interview with Marv Henderson, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, July 13, 1994.

Site Visits: March 16, 1994, July 13, 1994.

Fountain Name: Kinsmen Park Play Village**Location:** Kinsmen Park, bordered by Spadina Crescent, 25th Street, & Queen Street**Designer:** Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates **Client:** City of Saskatoon**Date of Construction:** 1983 **Cost of Construction:** _____**Typology:** Play pool**Water Forms:** Finger jet, spray jet, pool, brook, columnar jet**Basin Form:** Curvilinear (75m²) **Function:** Play pool**Site Characteristics:**

Kinsmen Park is a multipurpose leisure park. It is designed to accommodate ball fields, cross-country skiing, an amusement park, picnicking the YWCA, the City Hospital, a children's program area, a play village, garden gazebo, watercourse, and pedestrian and bicycling routes. The children's play village is situated in a protected area removed from the other activities in the park.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: Kinsmen Park is Saskatoon's oldest park and was built in 1903. The idea for the water play area comes from the children's play areas at Ontario Place and Granville Island. The play village is part of a larger park dedicated to "the children of Saskatoon and to hope for the future". It was built as part of the celebration of the Kinsmen Club's 50th anniversary and was funded by the Catholic and Public School Boards, the Federal Government, and the Saskatoon Kinsmen Club. The play village has become an accepted and loved place by young children and their parents and has been heavily used since its opening in 1983.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The children's play village is designed to accommodate toddlers and disabled children. Water play is an essential part of the design. Its purpose is to provide an environment in which children learn how to play and is a place for child growth, development, and enjoyment. The park is Saskatoon's first (and only) children's water play area.

Fountain Design & Materials:

The children's park is an integrated play area with sand box, play structures, benches, bathrooms, and water play area. The water

starts at a point removed from the fountain and in a raised play sand area where it flows from a hand pump. The water falls and winds its way through a concrete and stone stream and into a hidden container where it is circulated back to the pump. The water, however, appears to flow into the play pool. The pool has three fire hydrants, two hose jets, a shower, a columnar jet, a slide, and a one meter deep pool. The pool and play surface is constructed of concrete and the spray and play units are made of steel. The area is surrounded by a landscape incorporating trees, sand, benches, play structures, and a mixture of paving surfaces.



Children playing in pool with columnar jet and power jet in foreground.

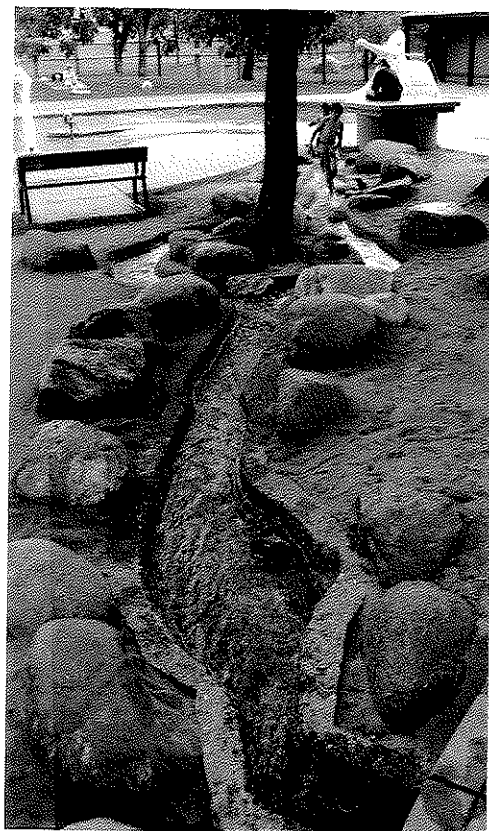


Power jets are difficult to operate and under powered because of supervisor policies forbidding 'rough' water play.

Water Assessment: Several devices are used to do a variety of things with water. These devices include pumps, showers, a stream bed, a pool, a slide, hydrants, water spray units, and water cannons. The speed, volume, look, and feel of water is different with every element giving a wide range of water experience.

Human Use: There are a variety of possible activities for children which give opportunities to learn about water. The park has been a great success in the past and enjoyed by many children.

The play village is very safe for children and there are very few injuries. Most occur on the slide, which was not included in the original design. Almost all injuries involve scrapes to knees and elbows.



The brook flows through a concrete trough lined with boulders.

Winter Observations: The play village is locked during the winter. It is definitely only a warm weather park.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The system used PVC piping which did not hold up to use or winter conditions and had to be replaced with heavier pipe. The stream bed continually washes sand into the return piping which clogs. The system uses two circulating 1/2 hp pumps for the stream and a Jacuzzi 1 ULSC2, 115V, 60Hz pump and motor for the water guns and spray devices. The pool water is also circulated by a Jacuzzi 1 ULSC2 iron single phase pump and motor. The park runs from 10 AM till 8 PM on sunny warm summer days. The water is chlorinated and filtered using a sand filter system.

Two people work in the park, providing activities, ensuring safety, and maintaining the pool and equipment. The pool's sand filter is cleaned every few hours. The three basket filters are cleaned each evening. The pool is drained from the pool every night and

refilled in the morning. The operation takes 1 hour and 10 minutes. The water is chlorinated.

Remarks Rating: *1/2**

The water features are often not used for the purposes they were designed. The 'free learning experience' intended by the designers has been

removed by some of the play supervisors who have installed their own rules for park use. This has apparently resulted in the loss of some of the intended functions of the park as the level of water interaction with hydrants and water guns has been severely limited.



The park is empty without water.

Even though the children's play area is supposed to be accessible for the disabled it has not achieved full accessibility. This may not be a concern as it makes it possible for more features which challenge those who are not disabled and need elements which provide higher risk or greater challenges.

When dealing with sand, special traps and filters are required to make retrieval of the sand simple and easy and also to prevent pipes from clogging. Heavier and larger pipes need to combat freezing and turgidity.

- Sources:
1. Rob Crosby, "Kinsmen Play Village," *Landscape Architectural Review* (July 1985) pp. 24-25.
 2. Interview with Robert Crosby, Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, Landscape Architects & Planners, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, March 15, 1994.
 3. Interview with play park staff, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, July 13, 1994.

Site Visits: September 3, 1993, March 23, 1994, July 13, 1994.

Fountain Name: Saskatoon Funeral Home Fountain

Location: Saskatoon Funeral Home, 25th St. E & 4th Ave. N.

Designer: _____

Client: Saskatoon Funeral Home

Date of Construction: _____

Cost of Construction: _____

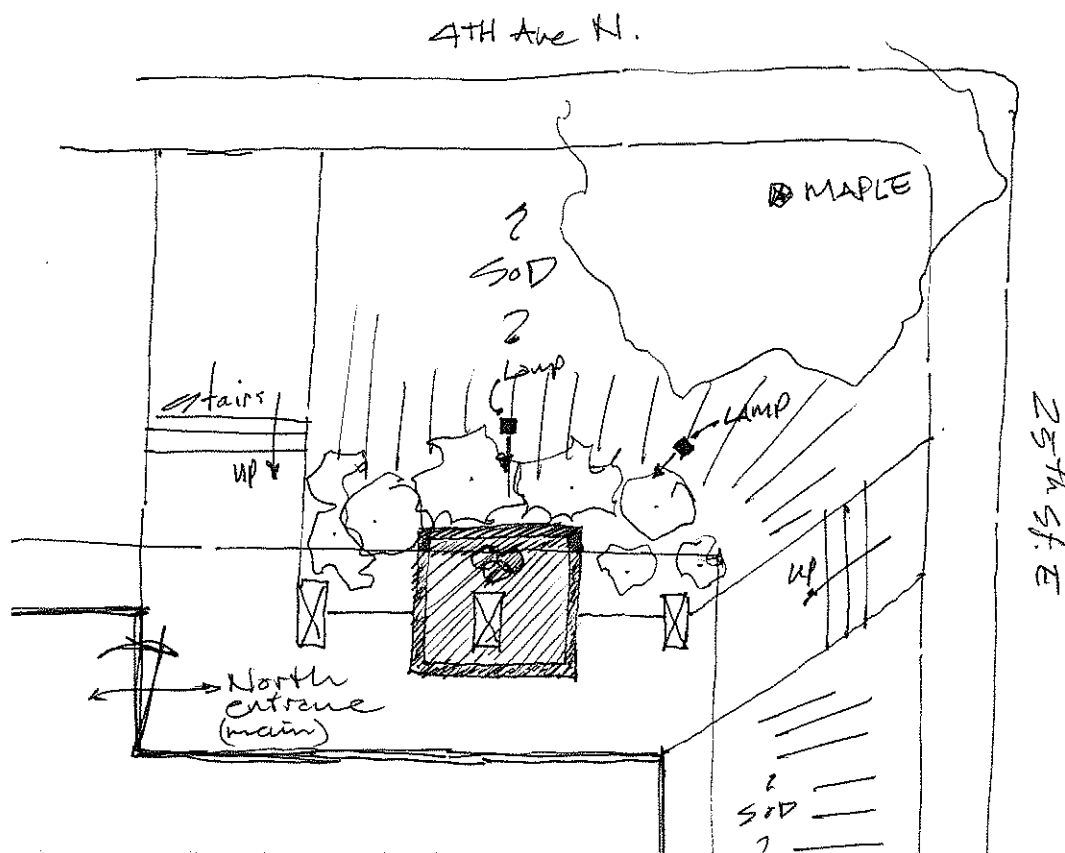
Typology: Tri-dish

Water Forms: Spout jet, spill & splash

Basin Form: Square (4m²)

Function: Focal point, symbolic

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located at the northwest entrance to the funeral home and is incorporated into the extended eaves of the doorway. It is a small fountain which blends into the one floor building.

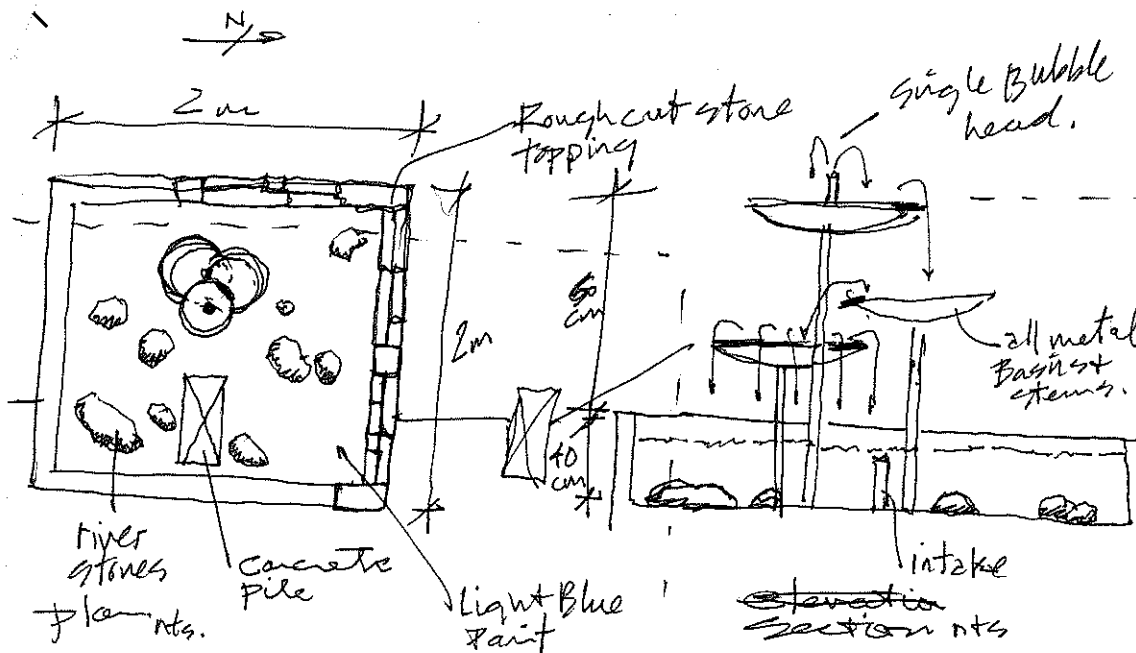


Site plan. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design Concept: Water's general message of celebrating life sharply contrasts and also compliments the symbol of the funeral home.

Fountain Design & Materials: The basin is 2m by 2m and 0.4m in height. Three metal pipes of varying lengths, capped with 0.4m concave saucers, protrude from just off the center of the basin. The tallest pipe and saucer reaches a 1m height. The basin is a

poured in place concrete basin with rough squared stone placed on the coping and outer surface. The inner surface is painted light blue. A concrete pile cuts through the basin to support the roof. Almost all of the fountain is covered by the extended roof 2.7m above. Eight small river stones are placed randomly within the basin. The original pump no longer functions and a small submersible pump is placed in the basin to drive the water.



Detail plan and section. n.t.s.

Water Assessment: The water flows from the top saucer as a bubble, splashes into the second saucer, then the third, and finally into the basin.

Human Use: The fountain serves as a visual attraction. The playful sound of flowing water and the freshness of the air around the fountain accents the somber atmosphere of the funeral home, providing a refreshing break from the malaise of death.



Fountain display.

Remarks**Rating:** * *

The slight sculptural qualities of the fountain break up the monotony of the building. This is one of two fountains documented in the inventory which were located at funeral homes. The only other was in Calgary. These are the only examples of water used in conjunction with death. No fountains were discovered in any cemeteries during the study.

Site Visits: March 15, 1994, July 13, 1994.

Fountain Name: Butler Byers Insurance Ltd.

Location: Butler Byers Insurance Ltd., 301-4th Avenue N & 24th Street E

Designer: _____

Client: Butler Byers Insurance Ltd.

Date of Construction: 1982

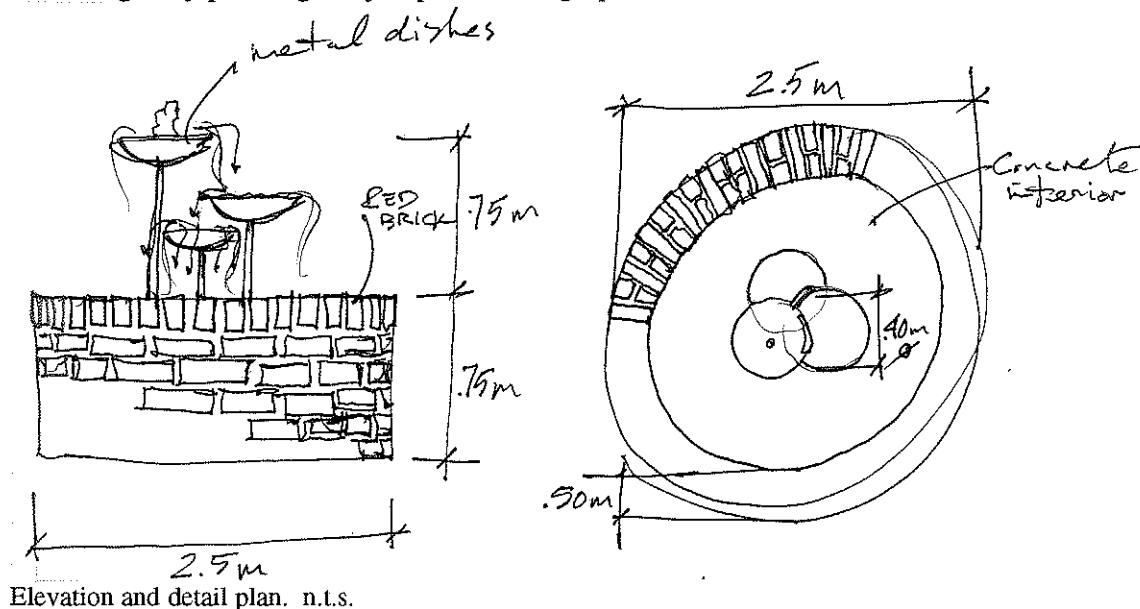
Typology: Tri-dish

Water Forms: Spout jet, spill & splash

Basin Form: Circular (5m²)

Function: Focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located in front of an informal entrance to a one story commercial building on an open street corner. It sits about 1m in from the sidewalk edge. The area immediately surrounding the fountain is paved with red rectangular brick pavers which form a patio style entrance to the building. The patio is lined on the east and north edges by plantings of juniper and mugo pine.



Dedications & History: A plaque on the Byers Building wall, within 2m of the fountain, reads: "The Byers Building/ Built 1978/ By Jack Byers and Drew Byers/ Dedicated to the founders of Butler Byers Bros. Limited,/ James Butler, Newt Byers, Ivan Byers/ Who founded the company March 1907/ Dedicated May 16, 1982/ On occasion of the 75th Anniversary".

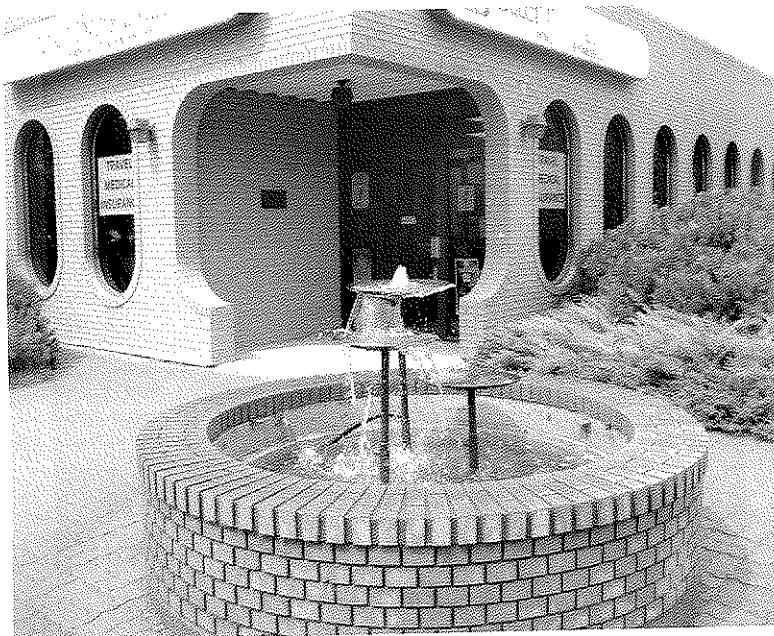
Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is a shortened cylinder of poured in place concrete with brick and mortar facing and coping. The basin measures 2.5m in diameter and 0.75m in height. The coping is 0.25m wide. Three metal pipes, each with 0.45m diameter metal saucers at varying heights, are located in the center of the basin with the

top saucer reaching a height of approximately 1.6m. The second saucer is placed 0.3m below and slightly underlying the first. The third saucer completes a triangular form 0.3m below and underlying the second saucer.

Water Assessment: Water is pushed by a small submersible pump which is placed in the basin and attached to a hose leading to the tallest tube and saucer.

water emerges from this saucer and flows over to the second saucer and again to the third before falling into the basin. It is a refreshing sight on the hot open corner.

Human Use: Many people walk by the fountain on their way into and past the building. The fountain, which is placed almost on the sidewalk attracts every eye.



Fountain with building entrance in background.



Display detail.

Remarks Rating: * *

During the March 15th visit, there was still snow and ice in most of the basin and just enough water to submerge the pump to drive the fountain. Many people smiled at this tiny spring as they walked by, reminded that spring and summer were very close. It was a simple but powerful celebration of winters end. Although the fountain is very small it has a distinct presence in the area.

This little fountain at first glance seemed to be recklessly placed. But it may indeed be appropriately sited as it is a solid expression of the importance of the building to its builders, Jack and Drew Byers, and of their pride in their company. It is also a welcome site for pedestrians.

Site Visits: March 15, 1994, July 13, 1994.

Fountain Name: Erindale Community Retention Pond

Location: Kenderdine Road & Kerr Road

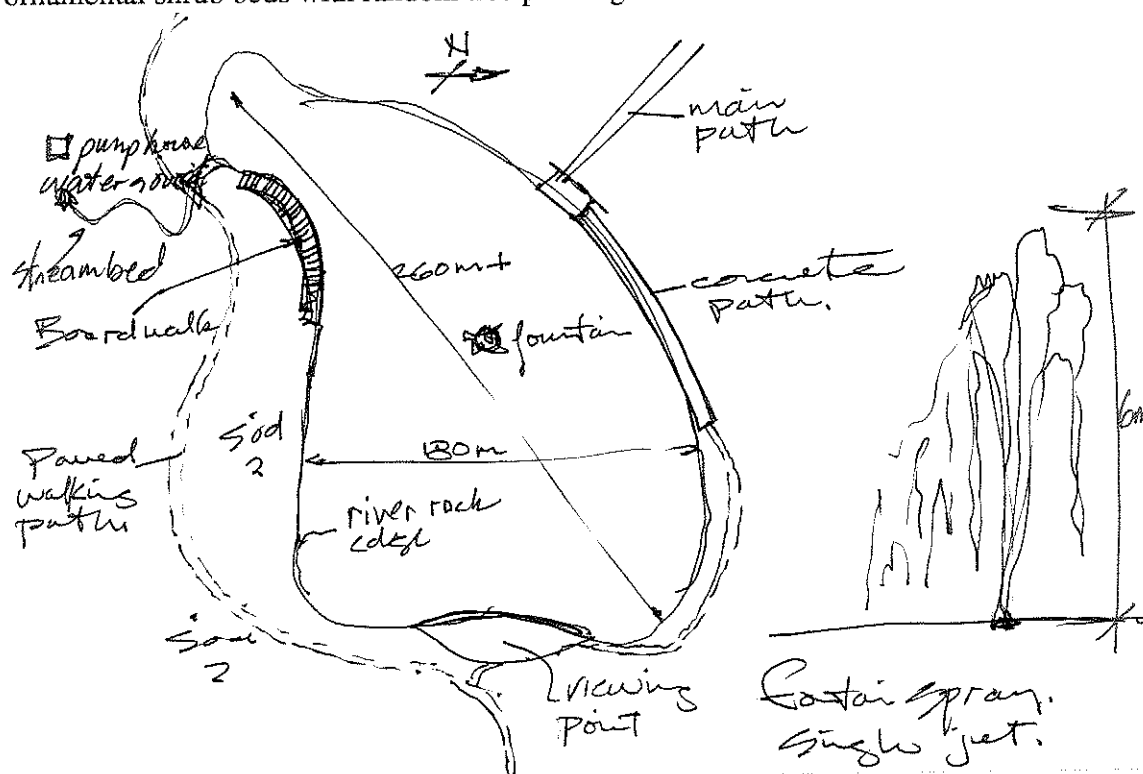
Designer: _____ **Client:** _____ **Date of Construction:** 1992 (?)

Typology: Floating fountain, geyser fountain

Water Form: Geyser jet, retention pond

Basin Form: Curvilinear **Function:** Focal point

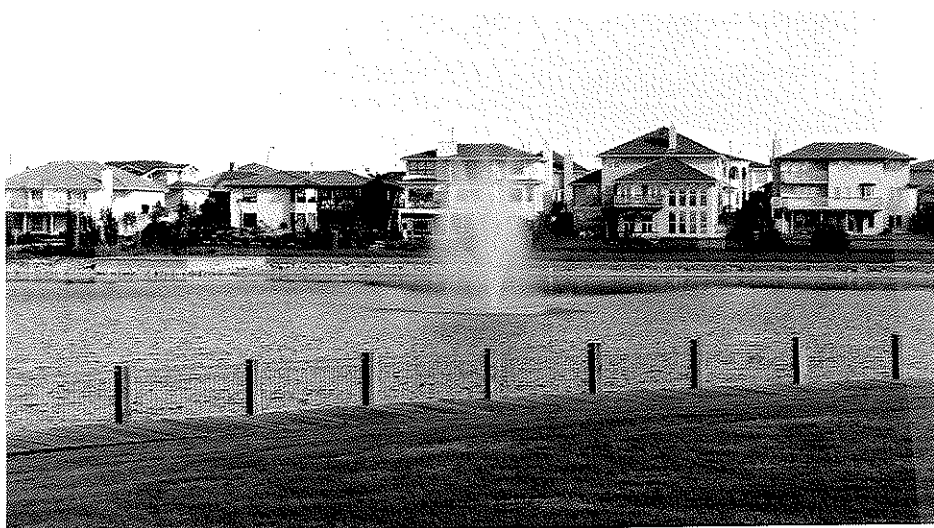
Site Characteristics: The site's main feature is a large man-made tear-drop shaped lake approximately 300m long and 180m at its widest point. Large, upper-scale houses circle the lake on the west and north edges. Open fields currently occupy the south side. The main path access to the lake is from the north. A pier, runs parallel to the lake for about 50m where the path meets the water. The path continues from the pier around the lake in an informal paved pathway until it intersects with a boardwalk on the opposite side of the lake. The water source for the lake is city water which is pumped into a concrete and stone stream bed from the top of a southwest hill. The landscaping consists of mown sod and ornamental shrub beds with random tree plantings.



Site plan, and sketch of display. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design:

The primary practical function of the lake is to collect storm runoff from the residential area. It also provides a large park-like setting for



Fountain display as viewed from south.

residents. The fountain is a floating aerating geyser placed in the middle of the lake.

Water Assessment: The aerated geyser spray reaches a height of 6m. Its fine mist is carried quite far by winds. The fresh water supply flows along a winding 50m course of concrete with inset river boulders.



The pond's source enters from a constructed riverbed.

Human Use:

People walk their dogs around the lake. Others sit on benches and look out upon the lake in this quiet area. The lake was not used for an ice skating surface during the winter of 1993-94. Some cross-country ski tracks and dog tracks circle the lake.

Remarks

Rating: * * 1/2

As tacky and out of context as the design features may be the park-like setting is quite nice. It is already achieving some maturity and developing positive qualities. This is one

example of the growing number of suburban communities which incorporate storm ponds as a central feature. There may be over forty similar sites within the limits of this study.

Site Visits: September 4, 1993,
March 13, 1994.



Gulls enjoy the setting early one morning.

E. Winnipeg Inventory

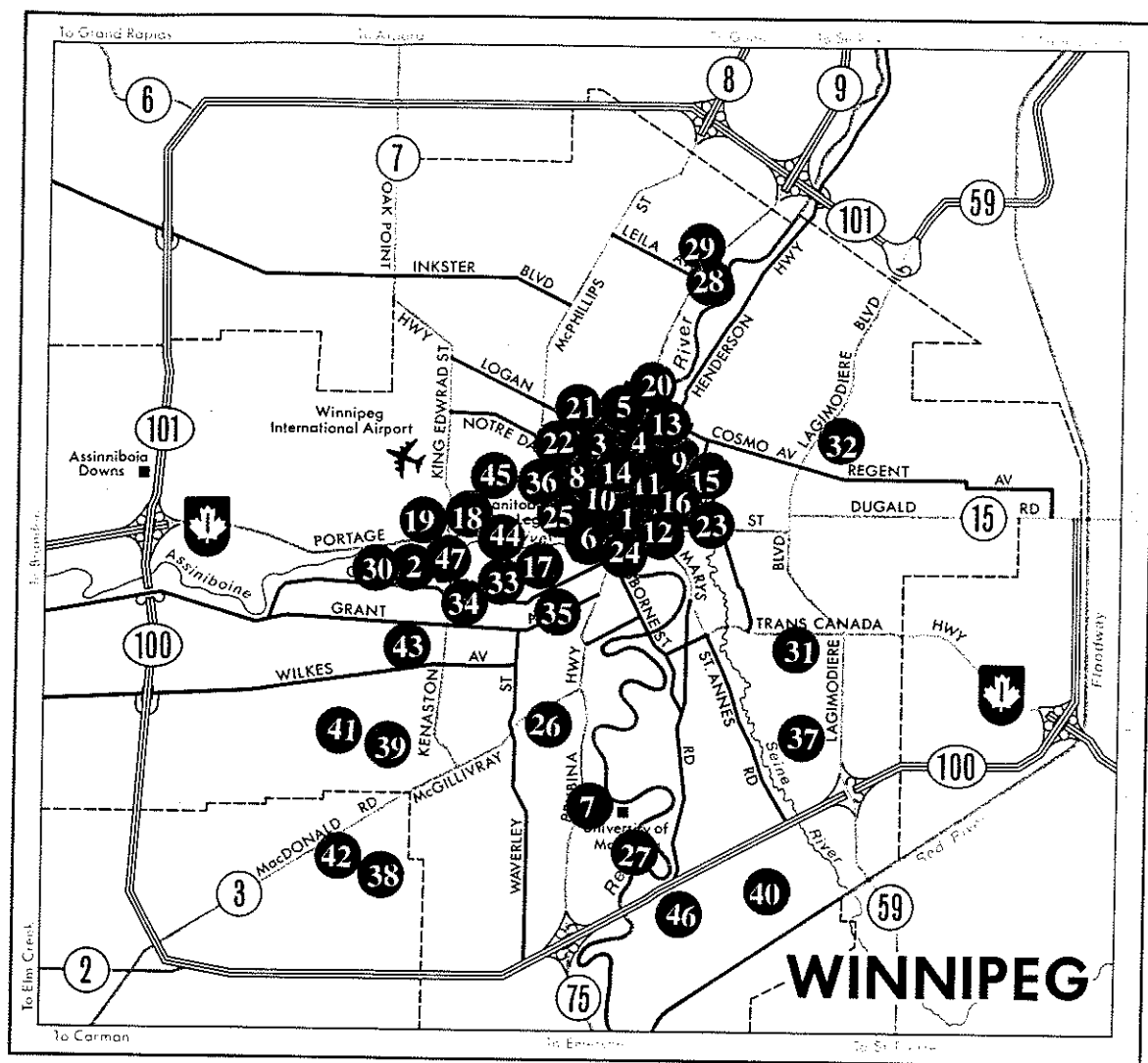
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Fountain Location Plan. n.t.s.

North ↑

Winnipeg

Fountain Name: Bonnycastle Park Fountain**Location:** Bonnycastle Park, Assiniboine Avenue**Designer:** Scatliff & Associates Landscape Architects Inc. **Client:** City of Winnipeg**Date of Construction:** 1992 **Cost of Construction:** \$120 000 (estimate)**Typology:** Reflecting pool, mist fountain, jet fountain (RL)**Water Forms:** Columnar jets, cascade, mist, reflecting pool**Basin Form:** Rectangular with curvilinear elements (144m²)**Function:** Landscape reference, sculptural focal point, reflecting pool

Site Characteristics: Bonnycastle Park is located on the north side of the Assiniboine River, a few blocks west of The Forks historical site, and directly south of the Fort Garry Hotel and apartment complex. The park plaza is connected to the Riverwalk to the south by a grand staircase. Four pathways lead into the paved sunken plaza, two from the east and two from the west. The plaza's central feature is the rectangular fountain and reflecting pool with sculpture. Seating and shade trees are also incorporated into the plaza. The south two-thirds is framed by a retaining wall and plantings while the northern third of the plaza is framed by a berm with dense shrub plantings.

Dedications & History:

Bonnycastle park is dedicated to R.A.G. Bonnycastle "...Chairman of the Council of Metropolitan Winnipeg, 1960-1966, Sportsman, Businessman, Public Spirited Citizen." The memorial plaque was "...erected by a group of his friends". Another plaque on site declares the City of Winnipeg as a "Sri Chinmoy



Fountain display and sculpture with cascade in foreground.

International Peace City,

October 14, 1992". A rose garden which circles the north reflecting pool has a plaque which reads: "Winnipeg Parks. This Rose was introduced by the Morden Research Station and named in honour of the 100th Anniversary of the Parks & Recreation Department of the City of Winnipeg- 1993." The fountain also incorporates a sculpture

of flying geese by Leo Mol. The sculpture sat in the park for about twenty-five years before it was incorporated into the fountain when the park was rebuilt.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The mass planting of phragmites represents the combination of the two philosophies associated with 'beautiful' landscape design

between "Natural Purists" and "Ornamental Purists" by using an indigenous plant material in an ornamental fashion. The fountain combines the elements of a wetland setting with the formality of an urban setting to create a new aesthetic. It also offers a transition



Phragmites, steam, and columnar jet display viewed from east.

between the river and the city.¹⁷³ The fountain is meant to appeal to people on several levels of recognition. It is hoped by the designers that there will be at least a subliminal recognition by individuals of the link to their experiences in nature with the events depicted



Columnar jet detail.

in the fountain. The fountain is designed to provide people with an avenue for making associations with these experiences. The mist, which roles out of the patch of phragmites, picks up on the early morning mist seen hanging over lakes and ponds. The water jets allude to the disturbance of water

¹⁷³An explanation of these philosophies and the philosophy of the firm can be found in "Garden Thinking Evolves: Expanding the Notion of What is Beautiful." by Michel Scatliff and Sheryl Oakden, in *The Prairie Garden* 1993, pp. 84-87.

from the geese (the sculpture above) which have just taken off from the pond. The reflecting pond also reinforces the wetland imagery associated with a pond or lake. These devices all use the language of experiences from nature and yet they all have strongly framed sculptural qualities which highlight and emphasize their presence in the urban context.

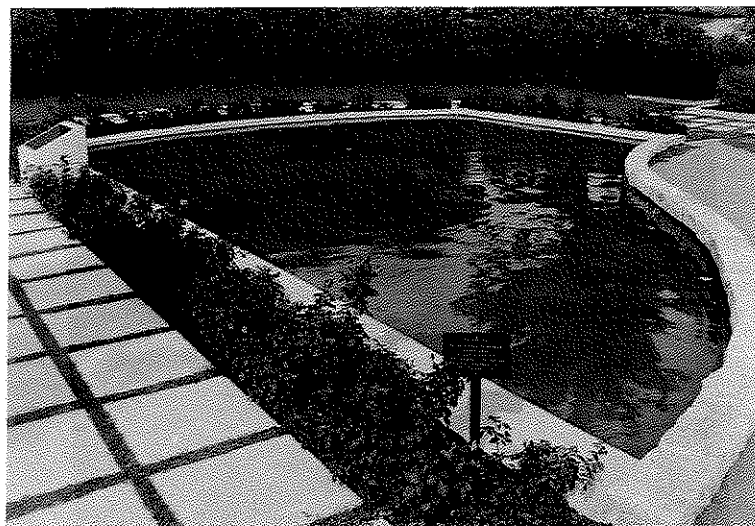
Fountain Design & Materials:

The fountain is constructed in a long roughly rectangular form running on a north-south axis. It is split by a curvilinear pathway towards the north end. The south end of the basin is curved outward, acknowledging the grand staircase immediately to the south and connecting the park to the Assiniboine Riverwalk. The south basin is roughly 9m by 16m and 0.4m deep. A square pedestal, 3m



Cascade detail viewed from west.

by 3m, and 2m high, is placed in the center of the south half of the basin and supports the bronze sculpture of Canada Geese, by Leo Mol. The basin and pedestal are constructed of concrete and faced with cut Tyndall limestone. Phragmites is planted in the area between the sculpture and the south end of the basin. The bottom of this section of the basin is filled with pea gravel which supports the phragmites and hides the copper piping for the



North reflecting pool with Morden roses.

mist jets. The north basin is sunken with the coping even with the ground and is surrounded by a rose bed. Both basins are edged with cut Tyndall limestone coping.

The fountain uses a submersible pump to circulate the water and a high pressure pump to drive the mist. The pump (220V) is equipped

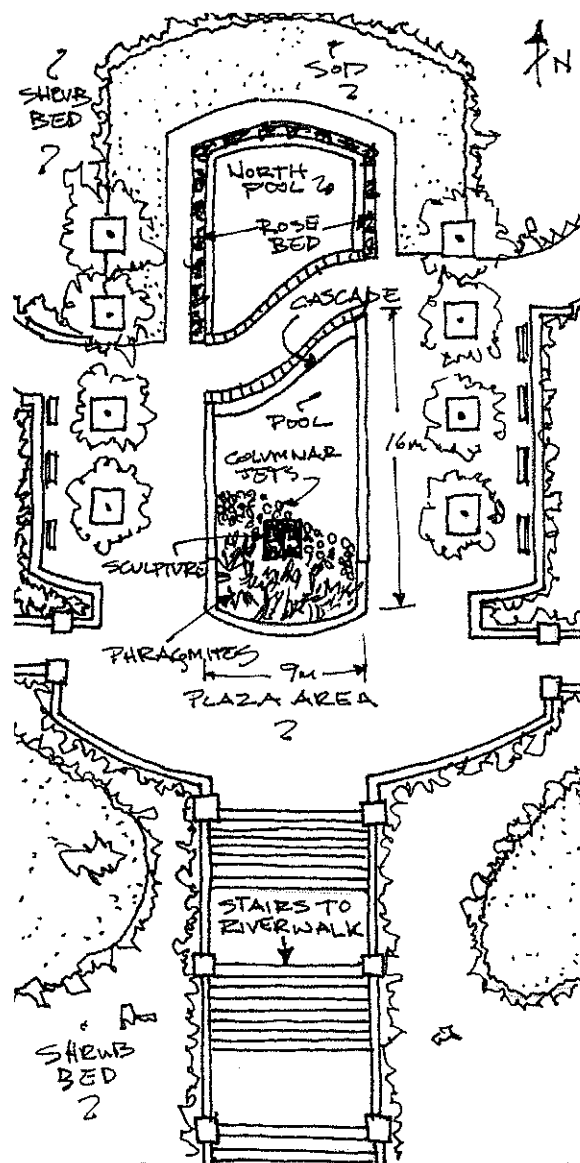
with an automatic shutoff if the system becomes clogged. One 200mm (8in) diameter filter is used with a back flow cleaning method. The fountain also incorporates a wind detecting device to control the height of the columnar jets and reduce water loss and is equipped with a night lighting system (110V). The main source of water loss in the system is evaporation.

The forms of the fountain were driven by the design concept and by economics. Its elongated form provided a scale large enough to incorporate a context for flying birds, mist, marsh grass, and a lake while also meeting the financial constraints of a limited budget. The width and height of the fountain is tied to the dimensions and form of the grand staircase leading to the Riverwalk as well as the Fort Garry Apartments directly to the north.

Water Assessment: The fountain provides a work of three dimensional moving art using stone, metal, plants, and water.

Water provides the most powerful imagery in the composition. The fountain

incorporates four different water elements. The first is mist which is driven from several nozzles (25) located within a planting of phragmites. This area is edged by a series of vertical jets (127) laid out in a tight grid within a curvilinear pattern. The nozzles are divided into two sections by the sculpture stand. On one half, all of the water jets are fired about 1.5m high. On the other side, the jets are fired about 0.3m high. Beyond the section of water jets is a smooth surfaced reflecting pool. The water flows along this pool and falls as a water curtain over a long curvilinear ridge of Tyndall limestone into a narrow basin. A sidewalk passes between the south basin and another reflecting pool to the north.



Site plan. n.t.s.

The fountain is constantly replenished with fresh water due to the high evaporation rate. A 'trickle valve' is used to accomplish this task. This discourages the growth of algae and other organisms.

Human Use: The fountain offers something for everyone. It bridges the gap between the physical and the psychological. There is plenty of seating located around the plaza. It is easily accessed from several points by bicyclists and walkers and acts as a central collecting node for people. The plaza also provides a major point of interest for people strolling along the Riverwalk. The mist and sculpture can be seen from the walkway which acts to draw people up the stairs. The entire display, especially the mist and phragmites provides great interest for everyone. It is a unique fountain feature Canadian prairie. Though it is discouraged, children wade in the pools and play in the jets. Few people will walk by the fountain without stopping to have a closer look.

Winter Observations: Technical problems for winter operation could not be overcome. The basin is drained and all exposed metal piping is removed. The phragmites stand as winter interest below the tattered sculpture. The pathways around the fountain are cleared of snow for walkers.



Fountain in winter as viewed from south.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: Start-up and shut-down procedures involve the installation and removal of pipes and nozzles. The nozzles also require several hours to adjust. The operations take about three days each. The basins are drained and washed with a high pressure hose every two weeks. A single 200mm (8in) diameter basket filter, attached to the pump, is cleaned at the same time. The cleaning operation takes one person an entire day. The water is treated with chlorine to control algae but in a weak enough solution so not to damage the phragmites.

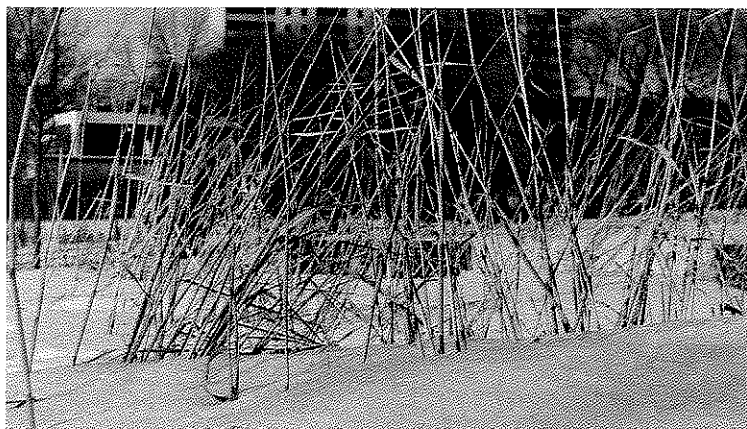
In its first year of operation the basin had to be drained and cleaned six times because of soil blowing in from construction on and off the site. The misting system was operated constantly instead of just running in the evenings and mornings as originally intended (a City decision). The water bill for that first year totaled about \$12 000. The average yearly water bill for the fountain is about \$9 000. The original copper lines for the misting system were replaced with galvanized pipes to help prevent damage from vandalism.

Remarks

Rating: * * * * *

Vandalism has been surprisingly minor considering the ease with which the fountain could be damaged. Only limited attempts have been made to rip out the copper piping supplying the mist portion of the fountain. There are several functional concerns. The fountain uses an inadequate filtering system for the size of the pool, volume of water, amount of debris, and number of people who visit it. Basket filters would help collect large debris such as leaves and garbage. The pump is also difficult to access for maintenance as the pit in which it sits is too small for someone

to easily climb into. Another fault lies in the site design. During rain storms soil washes from the rose beds into the north basin adding to cleanup problems. Wind also blows debris into the basin.



Despite its functional shortfalls, the Bonnycastle Park Fountain is the most innovative fountain in Winnipeg. It is definitely

the most interesting, even though its complement of parts is quite simple. It serves a dynamic role by being both exciting and provoking while also being hypnotic and relaxing. Many other fountains have these qualities but not at the same level as the Bonnycastle Park Fountain.

Phragmites is an interesting winter attraction.

- Source:
1. Interview with Michael Scatliff, Scatliff & Associates, Winnipeg, Manitoba, May 19, 1994.
 2. Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Leo Mol Sculpture Garden Pool & Fountain

Location: Leo Mol Sculpture Garden, Assiniboine Park

Designer: Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates **Client:** Leo Mol Trust

Date of Construction: 1992

Cost of Construction: \$1.4 million for garden, approximately \$50 000 for fountain

Typology: Lily pond, sculpture fountain (RL) **Water Forms:** pool, finger jets

Basin Form: Rectangular with one rounded end (170m²)

Function: Sculptural focal point, reflecting pool

Site Characteristics: The garden is an outdoor exhibit area located along the northern edge of Assiniboine Park and just west of the park's English Garden. The garden is nestled in a forest-like setting of indigenous and ornamental tree and shrub species. It is laid out using a combination of axes tempered with curves. A plaza with a pool acts as a focal point in the garden, linking pathways, the gallery building, and exhibit areas. The plaza and pathways are surfaced with pre-cast unit pavers and edged by low hedges. Wooden benches are located throughout the garden.

Dedications & History: The garden features approximately thirty sculptures by Leo Mol. Leo Mol is a sculptor known world-wide for his work. He was born in Polonne, Ukraine but has lived in Winnipeg since 1945. The Leo Mol Sculpture Garden was a project spearheaded by Hartley

Richardson in a bid to keep the Leo Mol

sculpture collection in Winnipeg, rather than have it sent to Toronto or Munich (two cities which had offered to take the collection). Other key people involved with the project were David Loch (architect), Les Stecheson (subcontractor), and Garry Hilderman (landscape architect & contractor). The garden was privately and publicly funded while the land was donated by the City of Winnipeg.



Pool with lily pads, sculpture and water display.



The site is a popular destination for tourists (in background).

Symbolism & Design

Concept: The water element was designed as part of the garden concept based on the classical sculptural style of Leo Mol. The pool is the focal point of the garden and provides the forecourt for the gallery building.

Fountain Design &

Materials: The

reinforced concrete basin

is approximately 9m by 18m and 1m deep. Its bottom is covered with river stones 0.1m to 0.2m in diameter. The coping around the pool is 0.3m wide and 0.15m thick Tyndall limestone. Two stone stands and bronze sculptures are located at the east and west ends of the pool. A fountain element circles the east sculpture. Several pots of tropical lilies sit below the water surface and are placed throughout the pool.

Water Assessment: The use of water is quite simple in the elegant pool. A double circle of 40 finger jets shoot arcs towards a central bronze sculpture. The inner ring is 1.3m in diameter and contains 16 nozzles with the water arcs reaching a height of about 0.7m. The outer ring is 2.2m in diameter and contains 24 nozzles which fire the water to a height of 1.0m. The sound of the falling water is rain-like and provides the dominating acoustic feature in the quiet garden.

Human Use: The garden is frequented by more than 200 000 visitors per year, proving to be one of Winnipeg's most popular attractions. It is designed for strolling with the pool as the visual and physical centre of the garden acting as the main gathering point for people. Benches provide comfortable seating and allow for good views of the pool. During every site visit people were observed standing on the edge of the pool mesmerized by the water, water lilies, and fountain.

Winter Observations: In winter, the pool is drained and the lilies removed. The scale and design of the pool allows it to be attractive, even in winter when it is filled with snow. It acts as a frame for its two bronze sculptures and guides pedestrian traffic towards other parts of the garden.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The garden and fountain are maintained by the Assiniboine Park maintenance crews. A circulating pump for the pool water is located in the mechanical room of the nearby building. The system is the same as one used for swimming pools and uses a sand filter and basket filters. A second pump drives the fountain jets.



Display detail.

The use of tropical water lilies in the pool requires careful maintenance. Storage of the lilies in winter is difficult and maintaining a constant pool temperature of 27°C (80°F)

during the summer is also difficult and expensive. The stones on the bottom of the basin also cause trouble for maintenance. Cleaning the basin is very difficult and algae and debris build up in the rocks. This creates a problem in keeping the water clean. The fine water nozzles also become easily clogged.

Remarks

Rating: * * * *

The basin and water jets are simple and clean in design, lending an elegance to the design. The pool provides a contrasting focal point to many sculptures spread throughout the garden. The water itself has become a sculpture, enhancing the bronze sculptures, but also demanding its own recognition. Many people look at the water longer than they do at the sculptures. The fountain does, however, have some serious drawbacks for maintenance. The use of tropical water lilies and the of river stones cause significant increases to maintenance time. The warm water and inability to clean the basin result in the build-up of debris and algae and the clogging of

filters and jet nozzles. Removal of these two elements would make the fountain much easier and less expensive to maintain. The water lilies are an attractive feature but should probably be replaced with native species.

- Sources:
1. Interview with Garry Hilderman, Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, Winnipeg, Manitoba, July 5, 1994.
 2. Randal McIlroy, *Winnipeg Free Press*, June 18, 1992, "Mol finds a home for his sculptures." p C32 in Legislature Library, File Assiniboine Park & Zoo.
 3. Wendy Stephenson, *The Winnipeg Sun*, January 16, 1994. in Legislature Library, File Assiniboine Park & Zoo.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Air Canada Place Plaza Fountain

Location: Portage Avenue & Carlton Street

Designer: Stechesen Katz Architects; Lombard North Group

Client: Air Canada Corporation

Date of Construction: 1984

Cost of Construction: _____

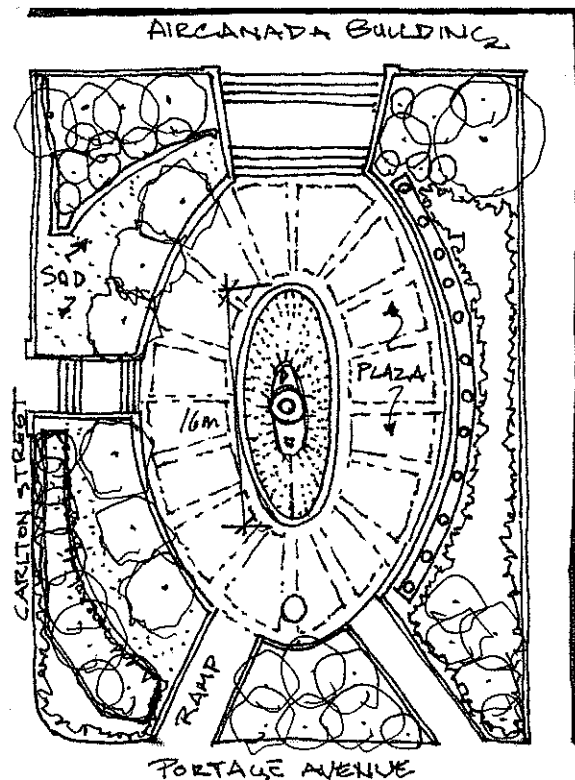
Typology: Jet/ sculpture fountain

Water Forms: Arching columnar jets, pool

Basin Form: Elliptical (75m²)

Function: Historical reference, focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain basin is located within an elliptical sunken plaza (approximately 28m by 14m). Ramps and stairs lead into the plaza from the Portage Avenue and Carlton Street sidewalks and the Air Canada building. Ornamental trees and shrubs are planted in thick groupings on the four corners of the site. The plaza is paved with exposed aggregate concrete. A concrete and pink tile colonnade and hedge back the east side of the plaza while the west side of the plaza is sodded with green ash trees. Tall stone columns frame the south entrance of the plaza.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: There are four historic panels bolted to the coping on both the east and west sides of the basin. The first panel gives a brief history of the turn-of-the-century Winnipeg and gives an explanation of elements in the park's design: "The historic elements in this park celebrate the richness of architecture that dominated the city's boom period, when Winnipeg was the undisputed metropolis of the west". The second panel gives a quick history on the McIntyre Block, which stood at 416 Main Street since 1899. It was Winnipeg's first building with a rusticated stone front. The cast iron pillar, which stands in the middle of the fountain basin, is from the McIntyre Block. The third plaque describes the Northern Crown Bank building (1905-1983) from which the 8m Tyndall limestone Ionic columns at the south end of the plaza come. The fourth panel describes Devon Court (1908-1981). The Tyndall limestone balusters, which are located on the central pedestal in the fountain

basin, are from the front terrace of the Devon Court apartments.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain and plaza were created as a place for passive recreation. It incorporates building elements from Winnipeg's past, treating them as sculptural pieces in a historical context.



Fountain display as viewed from west entrance.

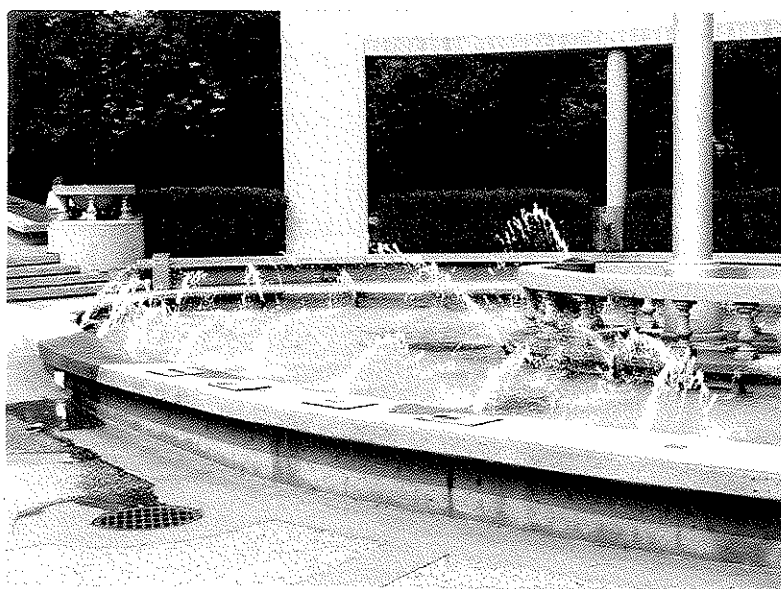
Fountain Design & Materials:

The elliptical basin is constructed of reinforced concrete and measures 16m in length and 6m in width. It stands 0.5m in height. The pool depth is also 0.5m. The basin's central pedestal stands 0.5m above the basin floor. It is framed by a Tyndall

limestone balustrade with concrete railing. A cast iron

pillar stands in the center, 4m in height, and is painted silver. The basin is not painted. Several lights are located within the basin to give a strong night-time display.

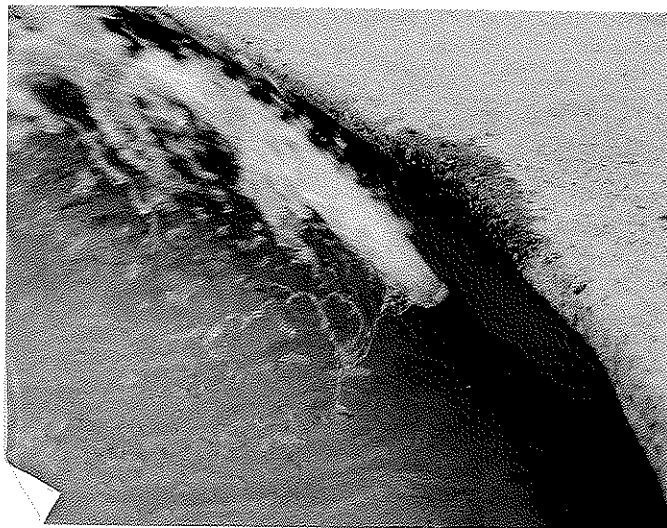
Water Assessment: The fountain uses 48 jets, aligned in a repetitive pattern, to create a dramatic water display. Along the edge of the central pedestal are sixteen evenly spaced 0.02m (3/4") diameter nozzles. The jets reach an average height of 0.3m and arc over the pool, covering a distance of 0.5m before splashing into the water. One nozzle on each end of the



The display is splashy and playful.

pedestal fires water in a low arc approximately 2m into the pool. Thirty-two heads (0.02m diameter) are located along the inner edge of the basin. Their jets reach an average height of 0.4m and also arch into the pool. All of the jets are aligned with the centre of the ellipse. The entire plaza is filled with the gentle but strong sound of water. The area is also slightly cooler in hot weather.

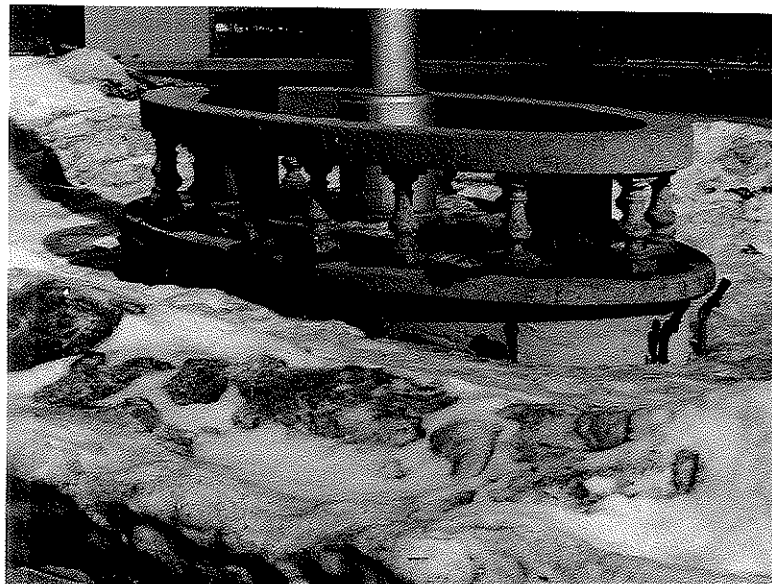
Human Use: The retaining wall around the plaza is a good sitting height. The area is heavily used by office employees during coffee and lunch breaks and is a popular place for many shoppers. The sunken plaza provides a quiet calm place in the middle of a busy area. There are almost always people in the plaza. The plaza also receives heavy use during numerous noon hour concerts.



Nozzle and display detail.

Winter Observations: The plaza and fountain have strong enough sculptural appeal that they are not lost in the winter. It is still a nice place to sit and relax on warm spring and fall days.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountain has been virtually maintenance free. About two hours per week are spent skimming the water surface and cleaning the basin. The fountain uses two large pumps which are removed each winter. The pumps are very heavy and require scaffolding and chains and take two or three men an entire day to remove and replace. The fountain has suffered very little damage from vandalism.



Snow is shovelled from the plaza into the basin in winter.

Remarks Rating: * * * *

The fountain is well designed with an effective and complex water display using simple materials and arrangements. The pipes and nozzles are also large enough that clogging does not occur. Complaints by maintenance crews involve the pumps which are too heavy to handle. Access to the site for trucks carrying the pumps is also difficult.



Plaza in winter as seen from Portage Avenue sidewalk.

Source: 1. Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Waddell Memorial Fountain

Location: Central Park, framed by Edmonton Street & Cumberland Avenue

Designer: John Manuel, architect

Client: Donated by the estate of Emily Margaret Waddell

Date of Construction: 1914

Cost of Construction: \$10 000 (approximately \$250 000 to \$350 000 in 1994)

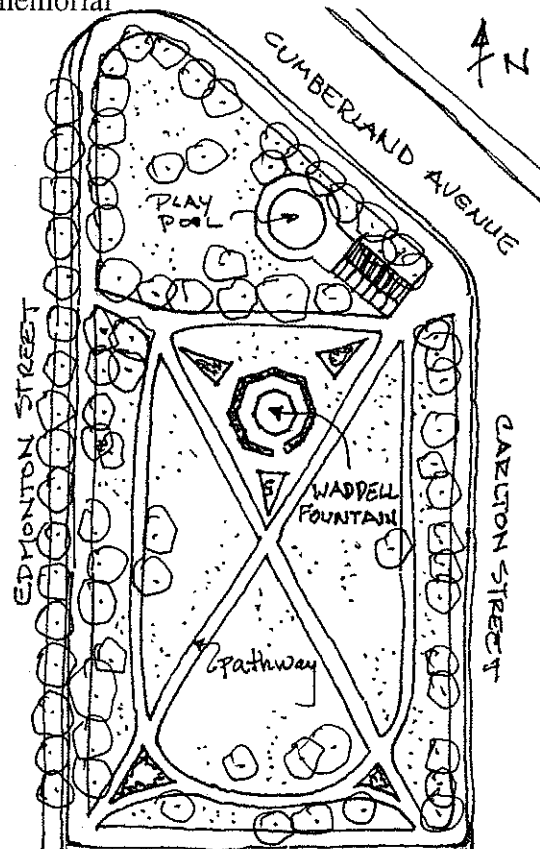
Typology: Sculpture fountain (drinking fountain) **Basin Form:** Octagonal (38.5m²)

Water Forms: 4 fan jets, spill & splash, pool (spout jets dismantled)

Function: Historical monument, focal point, memorial

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located at the north end of Central Park on the edge of a large open area. A tot lot and day care is located under a canopy of trees just to the north of the fountain. It is framed by a triangle of pathways and a low fence. From the south, the fountain appears to be framed by the large elm and ash trees behind it.

Dedications & History: The history of how the Waddell Memorial Fountain came to be is an odd one. The will of Mrs. Emily Margaret Waddell was written up in 1904, four years before her death. In the will, she bequeathed all of her belongings to her husband, Thomas Waddell. The estate was considerable at \$56 000, mostly in land holdings. There was, however, one stipulation. If Mr. Waddell were to marry again, after her death, he was to erect a \$10 000 fountain in Central Park in her name. The fountain was to be left in trust to the City of Winnipeg. Mr. Waddell did remarry in 1911 and the will was brought to the attention of the city. At this time the estate had accrued a debt of \$14 000 and Mr. Waddell had to sell off much of his land to give the city the money for the fountain. Over considerable debate a design was settled on and the fountain was constructed for just under \$10 000 (\$9 722.19). No plaque dedicating the fountain or describing its history is present.



Site plan. n.t.s.



Fountain as it appeared in the fall of 1993.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain is quite grand and resembles, in many ways, a Gothic church. Its design is based on the monument to the Scottish Romantic poet, Sir Walter Scott, which was erected in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1844 (designed by George Meikle Kemp). Many citizens of Winnipeg knew Scott's poetry and his monument and supported architect John Manuel's suggestion for a fountain similar in design. It was also felt that the fountain enhanced the romantic building narrative of Winnipeg.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is a rare example of high Victorian architecture constructed in a gothic revival style. It is constructed of cut white stone and



Nozzle detail with cork for winter.

granite.¹⁷⁴ The basin is constructed of concrete but surfaced with stone. The 9m fountain is supported by four ornately carved stone flying buttresses. The fountain measures 5m across from buttress end to buttress end with its octagonal basin measuring 7m in diameter. The coping of the basin was once adorned with four drinking spouts but these no longer work or have been broken off. A 3m wide granite sidewalk encircles the fountain three steps

above the sod level, lending further support to the edifice.

Water Assessment: The water gushes through the mouth's of four lions in a fan spray. The water fills up a small dish protruding from just below each of the lions' jaws, splashes into another lower dish, and then spills into the large octagonal basin which surrounds the fountain



Nozzle detail viewed from side.

¹⁷⁴The stone was cut in Winnipeg by William Penn Stone Company based in Minneapolis, North Dakota.

structure like a moat.

Human Use: The fountain is an important historic monument to the city and one of the first fountains erected in Winnipeg. It has been described as "a decaying but still majestic fountain that was once one of the city's Crown Jewels."¹⁷⁵ Today, the fountain stands in its triangular-shaped open space as a reminder of the neighborhoods former prestige. In winter, the fountain stands as an ornate sculpture, alone in a white field. Children will occasionally play on it.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The approximate breakdown for costs of building the fountain, in 1914, are as follows: legal fees \$100, plans and supervision \$500, foundation \$1000, plumbing, etc. \$800, cut stone & granite \$6500. Currently, the masonry is crumbling and cracking, part of a buttress is missing, the foundation is heaving and the top is broken off. City engineers have estimated that full restoration of the fountain could cost \$380 000.

Remarks Rating: * * * *

A church service could easily be performed at the base of the fountain. It is, even in its present dilapidated form, awe inspiring. The fountain is one of Winnipeg's last vestiges referring to the 'ornamental park'. It is a shame that this worthy monument has not had more energy put into its maintenance.



Display detail.



Fountain in December, 1993.

¹⁷⁵ *Winnipeg Sun* Jan. 6, 1994, p. 1.



Structural detail. Note basin and two-tiered ornamental dishes.

- Sources:
1. *Winnipeg Sun*, January 6, 1994, p4
 2. *Winnipeg Tribune*, June 18, 1938, p1
 3. *Winnipeg Free Press*, February 4, 1992 p5 by Bonnie Bridge
 4. *Winnipeg Free Press*, July 6, 1983, p6
 5. Cheryl Bray, "City Park", student paper, March 1992, in Professor C. Thomsen collection, University of Manitoba.

Site Visits: Numerous site visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Central Park Extension Fountain

Location: Central Park extension on Ellice Street & Edmonton Avenue

Designer: David Wagner & Associates, landscape architects

Client: City of Winnipeg

Date of Construction: 1986

Typology: Sculpture fountain

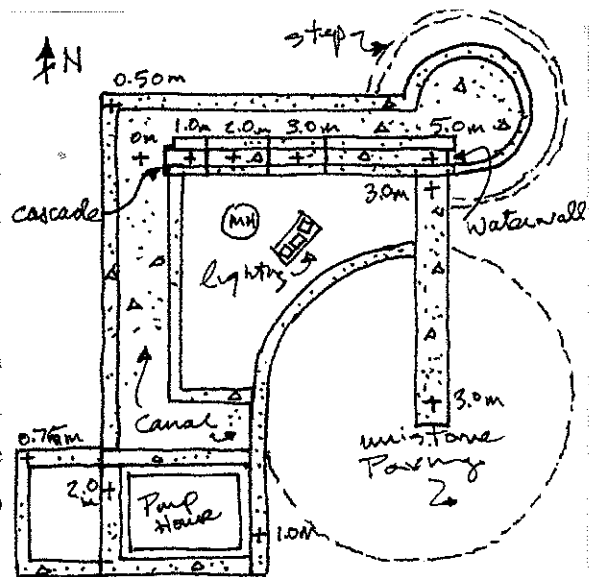
Water Forms: Water wall, cascade, canal

Basin Form: Polygon (L-shaped) (19m²) **Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located near the south entrance of Central Park, near Ellice Avenue. The area near the fountain is marked by a paved plaza with a red painted light metal gate frame, sod, and plantings.

History, Symbolism & Design

Concept: The park land was appropriated by the city to link Central Park to Ellice Avenue. The 1.3 acre area was designed to be an active space in a contemporary style.



Site plan. n.t.s.



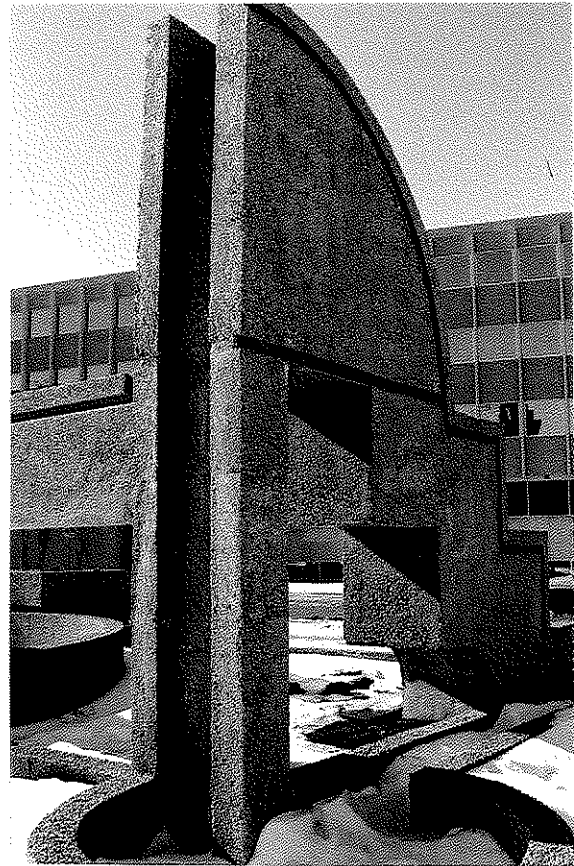
Water cascades into a shallow canal.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is constructed of concrete with an exposed aggregate finish and comprises of four main parts, a wall, a flat arch, a semicircular wall, and a canal. A 5m tall wall, one meter wide, and stepped on one side dominates the fountain. It is supported on the south side by a 7m long, 2.5m high rectangular arch. A 1m high semi-circular wall frames the south base of the flat arch. A shallow below-ground canal runs from the east face of the 5m wall, along its north face, and bends in an 'L' to the south. A pump house is located at the south end of the canal.

Water Assessment: The water flows from the top of the tall wall in two directions. On the east side



Water wall.



Fountain in winter.

it flows in a long unbroken waterfall to the canal. On the west side, the water drops in a series of 0.75m high steps to the canal. Water flows from the waterfall along the canal to the steps and then from the steps to a drain to the south. The water is dominated by the massive concrete structure of the wall. The cascades on the stepped side however, are quite attractive.



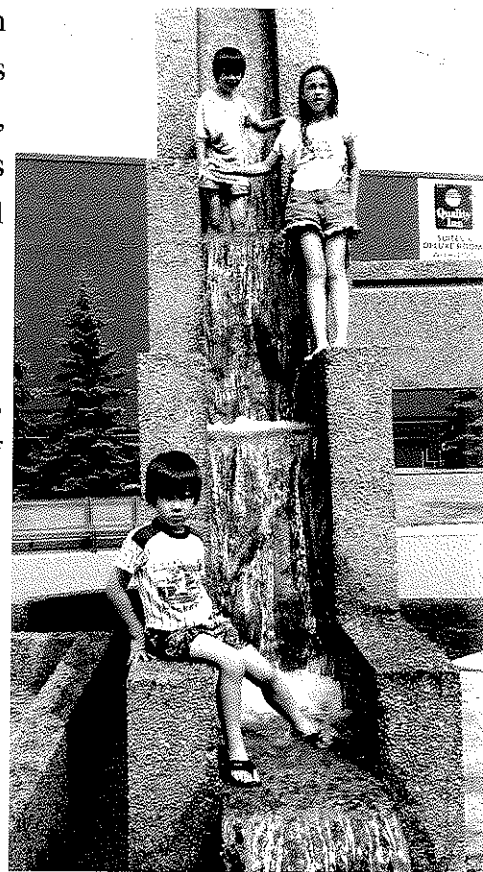
Children find the stepped cascade fun to climb on.

Human Use & Winter Observations: Children climb to the top of the structure using the water cascades as stairs. It is a fun fountain for limited climbing, jumping, and splashing. In winter, the fountain stands as an odd combination of geometric forms with no real visual appeal.

Remarks

Rating: * *

The form of the fountain is surprisingly similar to Dali's works involving crutches but is pure in its regularity of mass, material, and form. The fountain would have been more impressive if more water was allowed in more places. The water is presently so restricted in its presence that it is only noticeable on the narrow cascade. The lack of balance between the massive structure and its small volume of water is a significant drawback in the overall attractiveness of the fountain. With relatively minor changes to the basin and water volume this could be a very successful fountain.



Complex cascade detail.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: South Legislative Grounds Fountain Plaza

Location: South Legislature Grounds Plaza, west end of Assiniboine Riverwalk

Designer: Scatliff & Associates Landscape Architects Inc.

Client: Core Area Development, City of Winnipeg **Date of Construction:** 1990

Cost of Construction: \$60 000 (including dock structure)

Typology: Source fountain, spring

Basin Form: Linear, circular

Water Forms: Bubbler jet, spring, cascade, canal, columnar jets

Function: Symbolic, axial focal point, cultural reference

Site Characteristics: The fountain borders the Assiniboine River and ties the Manitoba Legislature and its grounds to the river through a strong north-south axis. The fountain emphasizes the Louis Riel Statue (removed 1994) and the 'Golden Boy', both on the axis. The fountain plaza is also the last node in the Assiniboine Riverwalk, which stretches east towards the Forks.

Dedications & History : The area has a strong historical presence, especially in terms of government. An interpretive panel describing the fountain's elements was placed on the staircase in the summer of 1994. The unique fountain has spent a good part of the time under water, rather than spraying it.

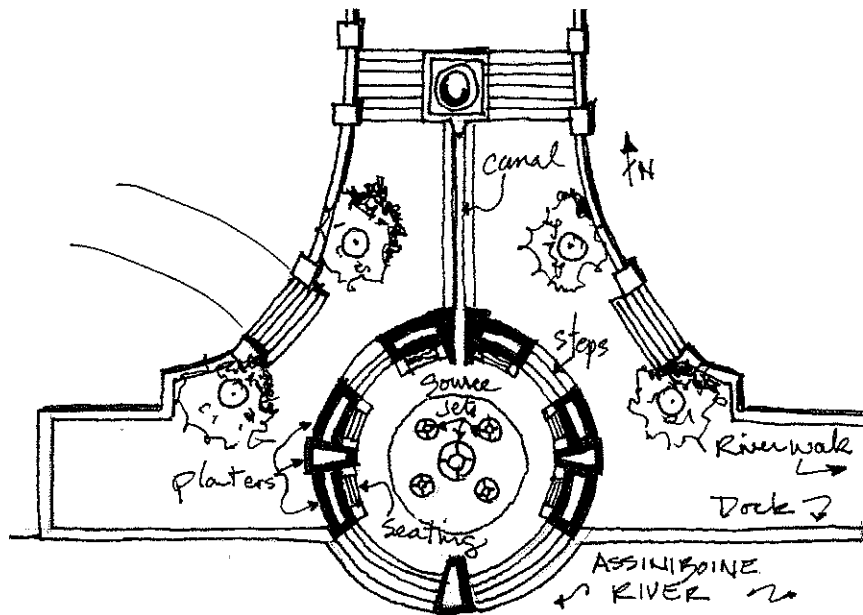
The entire fountain structure was completely submerged by the 1993 summer flood which engulfed the Riverwalk for most of the summer. The structure remained intact although it was covered by 0.1m of mud when the waters receded. Structural damage included the breaking of two carved stone slates and chipped concrete. The vines and grasses in the planters around the fountain were all killed or washed away. The five linden trees which framed the plaza also died. The fountain and Riverwalk were also submerged briefly in 1994 spring and summer floods. (The plaza level is less than 1m above the normal river level.)



Fountain display on 'low' with strong axis to north.

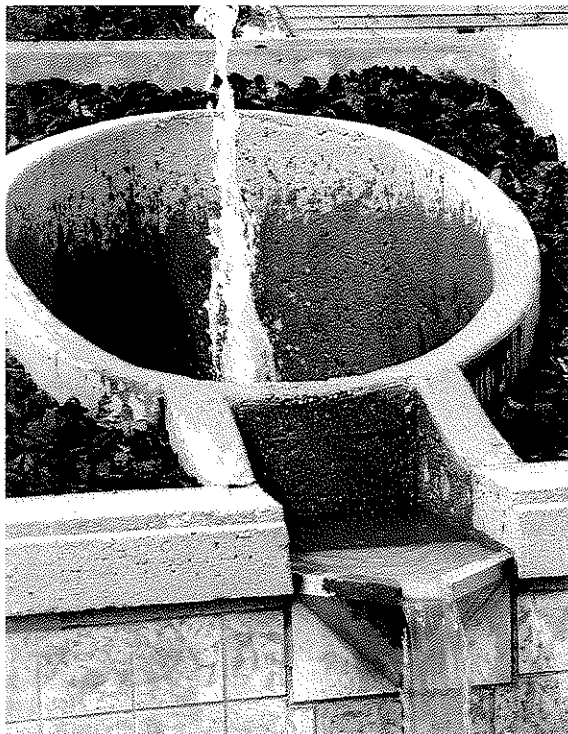
Symbolism & Design Concept:

The plaza and fountain tell a story from an aboriginal perspective. There is a great deal of hidden symbolism in the plaza's details and layout. They provide a commentary on aboriginal peoples, the various levels of government, natural and cultural history,



Site plan. n.t.s.

and even the degradation of the environment. The form of the sunken plaza is derived from the general idea of an aboriginal 'medicine wheel'. The extending linear element describes the relationship between the legislature building and the medicine wheel (or between the government and the aboriginal people, the aboriginal way of life, or even 'nature'). A split



Source fountain display and small cascade.

in the north point of the wheel allows water from the hill (the source of government) to flow into the circle. This split indicates an interruption of the wheel. It may symbolize a violation of harmony between 'Man' and 'Nature' or 'Man' and 'Man'. Even the orientation of the plaza is important as the direction in which water flows also has significance in aboriginal cultures. Water flowing from the north indicates the source which influences life's direction. The fountain may even be interpreted as calling attention to the pollution of the Assiniboine River. The interpretive panel describes the story illustrated in the plaza's design:

'There was a time when Creator was going to destroy the world because the people were not following their ways. The people were so weak they died where they fell.

This is a story among Native (Anishanabe) people which relates that the eagle was the one who spoke to Creator on behalf of Mankind. This eagle flies every morning to see if the people are following the ways that were given.

Creator gave the people one more chance to remember their ways and where they came from. The eagle speaks on behalf of humankind. This is the reason why the Anishanabe have enormous respect for the 'Praying Eagle'.

Water is used to express only a small part of broader meanings in the overall design. The general themes relate to the 'meaning of life' and the "direction of influence".'

The fountain plaza at the South Legislative Grounds water front is a design inspired by the Anishanabe Medicine Wheel. The Medicine Wheel is the Way of Life of the Anishanabe and represents an Understanding of the Universe. The artistic images that represent the story are etched into the granite slabs of the plaza. The water fountain, in the middle of the plaza, is symbolic of life. The planters which surround the Plaza feature native prairie grass, symbolic of the northern plains.

THE SUNRISE AND THE CROSS

The symbol of Creator superimposed over the rising sun is situated on the eastern side of the Plaza to represent the event in which Creator stopped the sun from rising because people were destroying the world.

THE EAGLE

The Eagle is positioned in the west facing Creator and symbolizes the eagle's attempt at atonement on behalf of mankind.

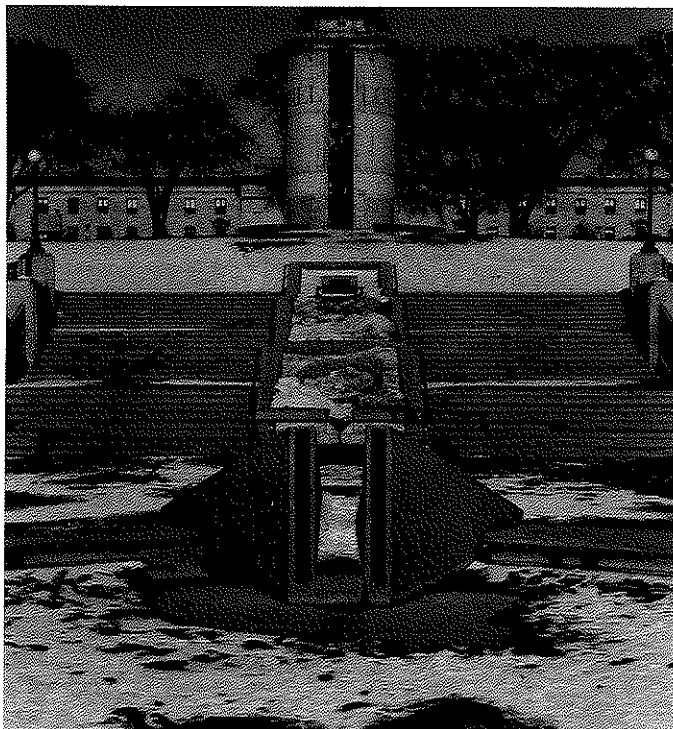
SWEETGRASS

The Sweetgrass symbol etched onto the south granite face adjacent to the river represents the beauty and importance of the environment to the Anishanabe.



Plaza fountain area as it appeared in January, 1994.

Fountain Design & Materials: The plaza is constructed almost entirely of reinforced concrete and is part of a dock along the river. A sunken circular plaza, 14m in diameter, juts partially out from the dock wall and into the river. It is linked to a raised concrete bowl placed in the axial staircase above by a narrow canal 7.5m long. The canal is covered at various points with concrete slabs to allow bicycle, wheelchair, and maintenance vehicle access. The circular plaza contains four 1.5m high triangular blocks which frame the outer edge of the circle and point inward. Carved stone slabs are inset on the inner facing edge of each block. The carvings depict an eagle, a yin-yang symbol, a sunrise and cross, and a sweetgrass symbol. The north triangular block, which is on axis with the staircase fountain and canal, is divided into two halves, breaking the circle. The canal extends to this break where the water flowing in it disappears into a holding basin below the sunken plaza. In the center of the plaza five circular metal grids frame the fountain nozzles which are located slightly below grade. The plaza is paved with gray brick.



The axis with the Legislature is a dominant design feature.

Water Assessment: The fountain source appears as a contained spring which wells from the hillside. It runs through a channel and is dropped into a brick and concrete trough 100mm deep to a sunken circular plaza. Five aerating jets fire water from the center of the basin in five short geysers (1m at time of site visit). The disgorged water disappears through circular steel grids.

Human Use: The fountain provides a great axial focal point to the Legislature for those strolling along the Riverwalk. It also provides a good anchor for the present ending point of the Riverwalk. Bicyclists sometimes have fun riding into the fountain on hot days. Anglers will store their catch in the narrow canal while fishing for more. An interpretive panel, placed on the stairway in 1994, helps visitors to understand the plaza design. The dock is also used by the river taxi and by boaters.

Winter Observations: The massive concrete forms dominate the site in winter. Sculptural qualities are good and create an interesting winter landscape even though they are very simple.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: A 45kg (100 lb) submersible pump continually draws water from the river and circulates it through the fountain. One filter is attached to the pump. The pump shuts off automatically when the filter becomes clogged. This occurs often due to the turbid nature of the river water and the placement and position of the pump. The pump is placed on the floor of the pump housing where the silts and garbage collect ensuring that the pump is always circulating the dirtiest water. The pump is also apparently designed to stand vertically but is placed horizontally, reducing the filter's efficiency. It must be cleaned once or twice every day.

The fountain is also equipped with wind sensors to control the heights of jets in high winds but repeated vandalism has resulted in the discontinuation of the sensors. The jets are maintained at a set height.

A lighting system is incorporated for evening viewing. No chemicals are added to the water.

The fountain has been placed so close to the river level that a 1m fluctuation in water levels will flood the fountain. Since its installation, the fountain has been flooded at least twice every year. When the waters recede 20 to



Mud filled plaza after spring flooding.

200mm of mud is left behind. It is removed using shovels and high pressure water hoses, taking three people 3 to 4 days to clean up (>\$1500 cost).

Remarks

Rating: * * * *

Although this fountain's message is lost to most observers, the design concept of South Legislature Grounds Plaza is perhaps the most interesting of the prairie fountains as it is the only one which provides a commentary on aboriginal issues. It is also the only fountain

which points a finger at society's mistreatment of natural resources, in particular, at the abuse of water.

The water presents powerful imagery in a strong setting. However, it could be stronger. A larger fountain complex following a longer axis with more water would make the site even more dramatic.

The fountain has been an expensive maintenance item, largely due to its subjection to flooding. But daily maintenance could have been greatly reduced if the pump used a different filtering device, if the pump were not placed on the floor of the holding tank, and if the holding tank were larger allowing for easier access by maintenance workers.

Source: 1. Interview with Michael Scatliff, Scatliff & Associates Landscape Architects Inc, Winnipeg, Manitoba, May 19, 1994.
2. Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-1994.

Fountain Name: Southwood Green Fountain

Location: Southwood Green Condominiums, Snow Street & Dartmouth Bay

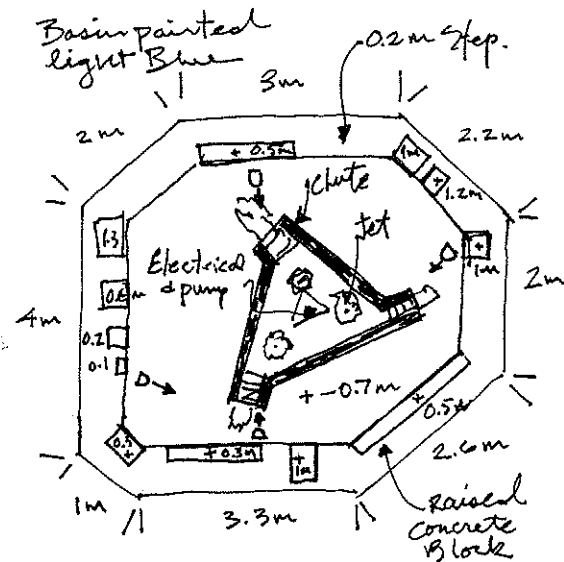
Designer: Denis Wilkinson, landscape architect

Date of Construction: 1964-1967 (?)

Typology: Sculpture fountain **Water Forms:** 4 aerated bubbler jets, cascade, pool

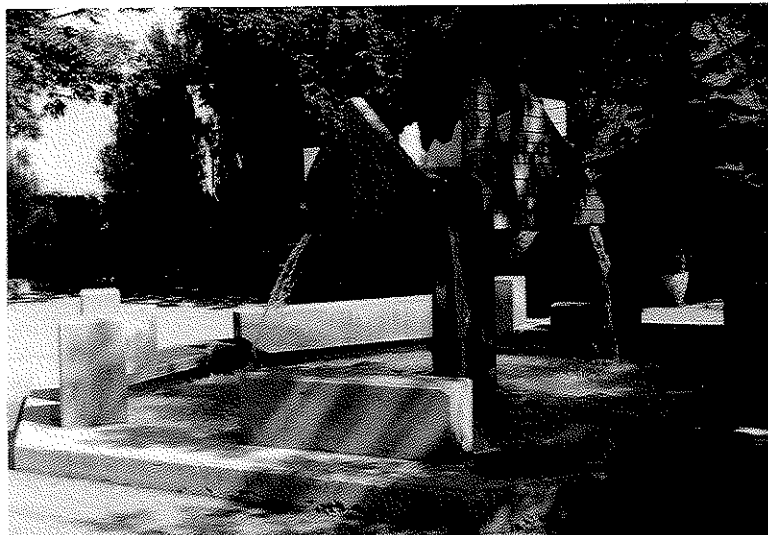
Basin Form: Polygon (20m²) **Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located at the confluence of four pedestrian pathways at the north end of a courtyard framed by townhouses. The area is landscaped with bermed grass areas and shaded by almost mature ornamental tree species. Several concrete edged beds with plantings of shrubs and annuals are placed along curvilinear pathways, which thread themselves throughout the complex. The front doors of the condominiums open into the quiet, pedestrian only, plaza.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design Concept: A fountain in a quiet pedestrian plaza, as in Southwood Green, enhances and enriches the space. The placement of the fountain in the complex may allude to the European tradition of a well or fountain placed in a central location within a closely housed community. The layout and density of the condominium

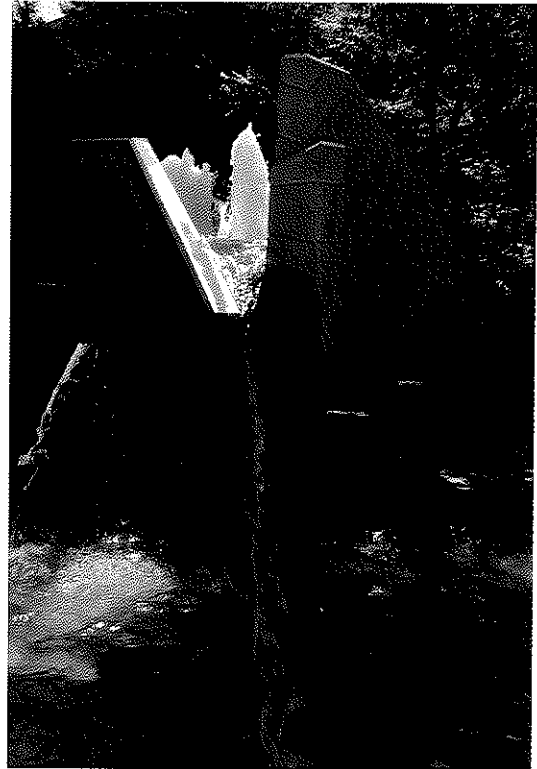


Fountain display.

units appear to reflect a form reminiscent of Medieval European cities. A fountain, therefore, 'fits' according to historic precedents.

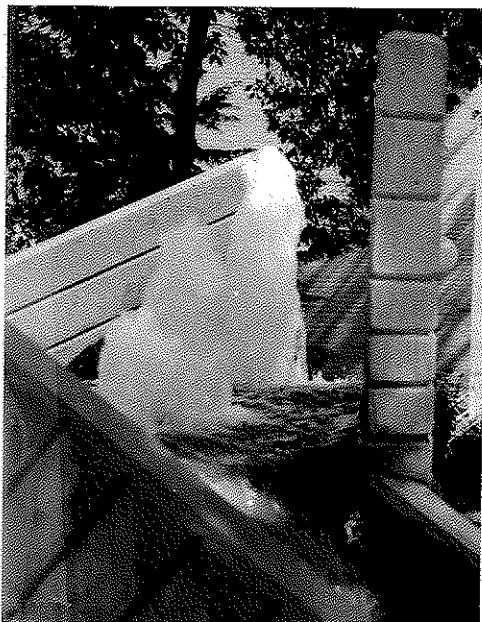
Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain basin and sculpture are constructed of reinforced concrete. The sculpture is left with the imprints of its

wooden frame and stands approximately 2.5m above the plaza level. It is shaped as an equilateral triangle open at each end with an extending chute. This 'winged' triangle spans about 2m on each side and sits on a triangular pedestal approximately 0.7m on each side and 1.8m in height. The pedestal is covered on one side by stainless steel facing. The mechanical and electrical features are located within the pedestal and accessed through the metal facing. The basin has seven sides, each a different length, which form an irregular polygon. The rim of the basin is 0.6m across and sits 0.2m above the plaza level. Upon the rim are placed a total of twelve various sized and proportioned box shapes, also constructed of concrete. Red, blue, yellow, and white lights are installed in the basin to create a great light show at night.



Shadow, light, and water combine.

Water Assessment: The water bubbles from four 0.3m to 0.5m high aerated jets, placed at each corner of the triangular basin of the fountain sculpture. The water then gushes through three flumes and falls in a twisting parabolic form to thunder to a 0.5m deep basin.



Bubble jet detail.

While gushing through the flumes, the water appears to fight the straight forms of the concrete, trying to carve its own curving path up one side of the flume wall. The water achieves an illusion of power with a minimum of volume and force. The sound of the water can be heard long before it can be seen and acts to enhance further the coolness of the shaded space. The water sparkles in the dappled combination of sunlight and shade-trees.

Human Use: Two long benches are located along the pathway and face the fountain. It can be seen from the Snow Street access, where few cars and people travel. The main views, however, are from

within the complex. The water form is unique from other fountains because of the twist it follows while tumbling into the basin. This twist makes the water quite interesting to watch.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs

The water is kept clean and free of debris. The basin and sculpture are also clean and well maintained (other information unattained).

Remarks

Rating: * * * *

It is an exciting display. This excellently designed fountain is unfortunately enjoyed by very few people, serving only those few who live within the condominium complex. After thirty years this fountain remains in excellent condition. Its materials and overall design lend well to a long existence.



Cascade detail.

Site Visits: July 4, 1994.

Fountain Name: Memorial Park Hydro Fountain

Location: Memorial Park, north of the legislative buildings

Designer: Cameron Man, landscape architect

Client: Donated by City Hydro

Date of Construction: 1962

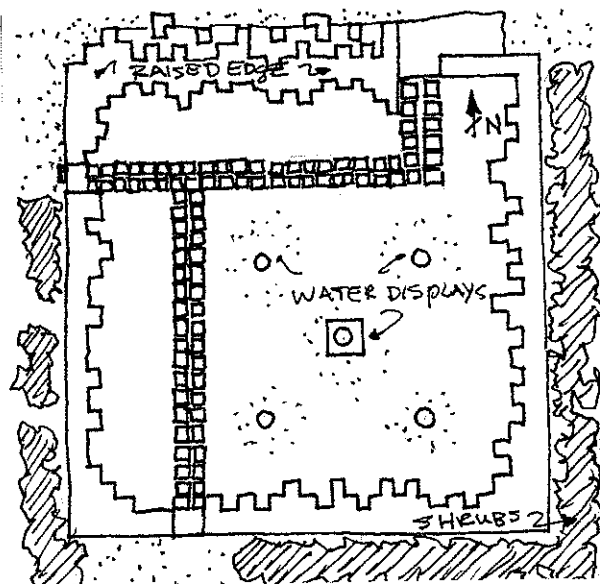
Cost of Construction: \$25 000

Typology: reflecting pool, jet fountain (RL)

Water Forms: Columnar jets, reflecting pool

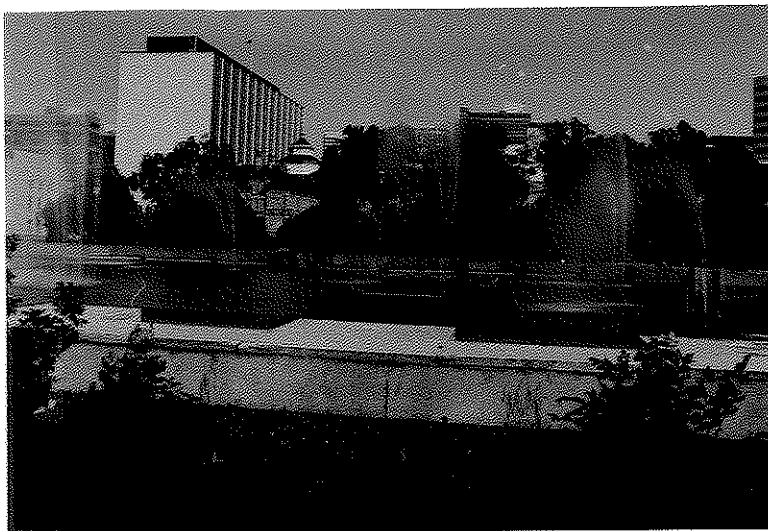
Basin Form: Square (1300m²) **Function:** Memorial, reflecting pool, focal point

Site Characteristics: Memorial Park is located on the Legislature grounds just north of the Legislature Buildings. The park consists of two halves, one being designated as an open space, usually used as a soccer field, and the other as a large reflecting pool and fountain. The pool is surrounded by a dense planting of mature shrubs, primarily cedars, along the south and east edges. Mature shade trees and smaller shrubs line the western edge while the north is left open.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: The fountain was officially opened September 28, 1994 with 500 Winnipeggers looking on. A bronze plaque at the northeast entrance reads: "To the honoured dead/ this park was dedicated/ in memory of their sacrifice/ in war and peace to



Fountain display viewed from west.

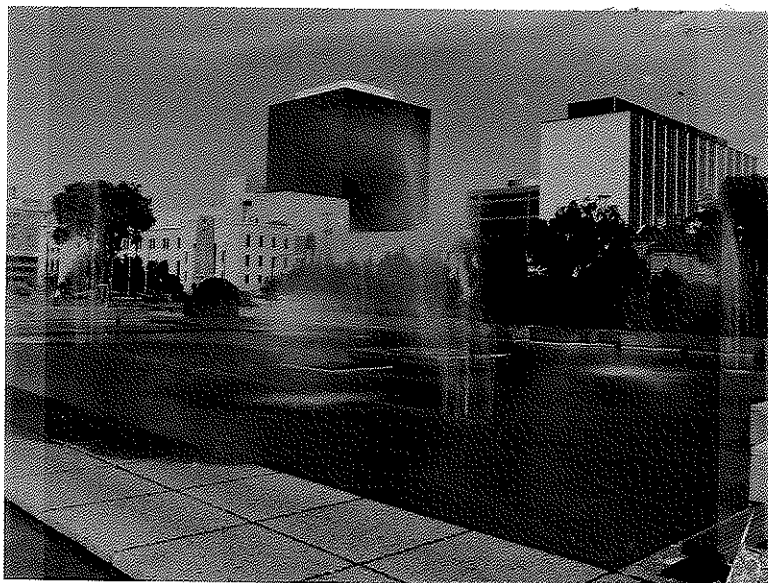
create this province and preserve this nation/ September the 28th/ 1962/ The Honourable Duff Roblin/ Premier".

Fountain Design &

Materials: The basin is constructed of reinforced concrete and is 0.3m deep. The edge of the basin is characterized by 1m high

staggered blocks surfaced with white terrazzo facing. The paving blocks which extend into the basin are constructed of exposed aggregate blocks (1.5m^2). At the center of the basin is a small raised platform. The central fountain is located at its center. The basin is painted turquoise.

Water Assessment: The fountain incorporates five major jet groupings. Four identical groupings are placed in each quarter of the basin while a more complex grouping is located in the center. The four surrounding jet groupings include 32 'needle' heads circling a single 0.02m ($3/4''$) head on set pipes. The sprays reach a height of 8m . The central fountain configuration is

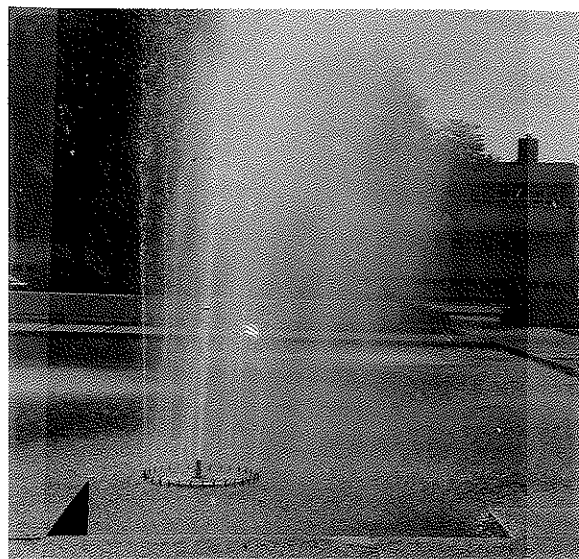


Display and walkway viewed from southwest.

similar but uses a free-spinning wheel. Fine sprays over 10m in height crisscross and rotate on an ever-changing pattern. The heights and patterns of spray are varied by a set routine which takes several minutes to complete. The display is illuminated with colored lights at night.

Human Use & Winter Observations:

The fountain is a noticeable feature for motorists driving along Osborne Street. The raised blocks which surround the fountain are good for sitting on. There are seldom a lot of people at the fountain but there is always at least one. It is a great attraction for children. Snow fills up the basin in winter and the area is usually ignored.



Display detail.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountain is maintained by three different



Fountain viewed from north in January, 1994.

organizations. The provincial government maintains the fountain heads and pool while Winnipeg Hydro maintains the pumps and electrical systems (no information obtained for third organization). Cleaning the jets is done weekly. Overall maintenance by the province takes approximately eight hours per week. Other maintenance items may add one to four hours per week. The basin is drained and cleaned three to five times per year.

Remarks Rating: *1/2**

The basin is not cleaned very often and as a result usually has a thick scum of mud on its bottom. This prevents any interactive role the fountain might have with people. The fountain is attractive from a distance at night but loses its appeal upon closer inspection during the day.



Wind sculpted snow at north end of basin.

- Sources: 1. *Winnipeg Tribune*, September 29, 1962, p__.
2. University of Manitoba Archives photo, September 15, 1962, 18-6247-60.
3. Interview with Peter ____, Legislative grounds maintenance crew, Winnipeg, Manitoba,, June 30, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Steinkopf Gardens Fountain

Location: Queen Elizabeth II Plaza, Centennial Concert Hall

Designer: Denis Wilkinson, landscape architect

Date of Construction: 1967 (?) **Client:** City of Winnipeg

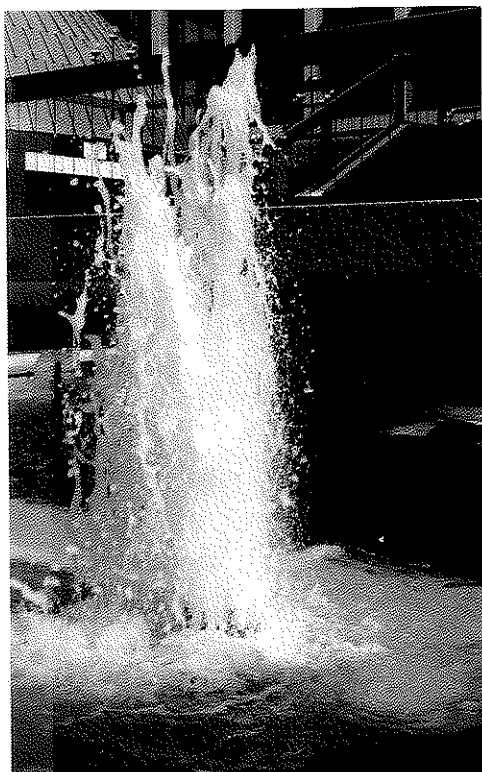
Typology: Jet fountain

Water Forms: 12 bell jets, 4 plume jets, pool

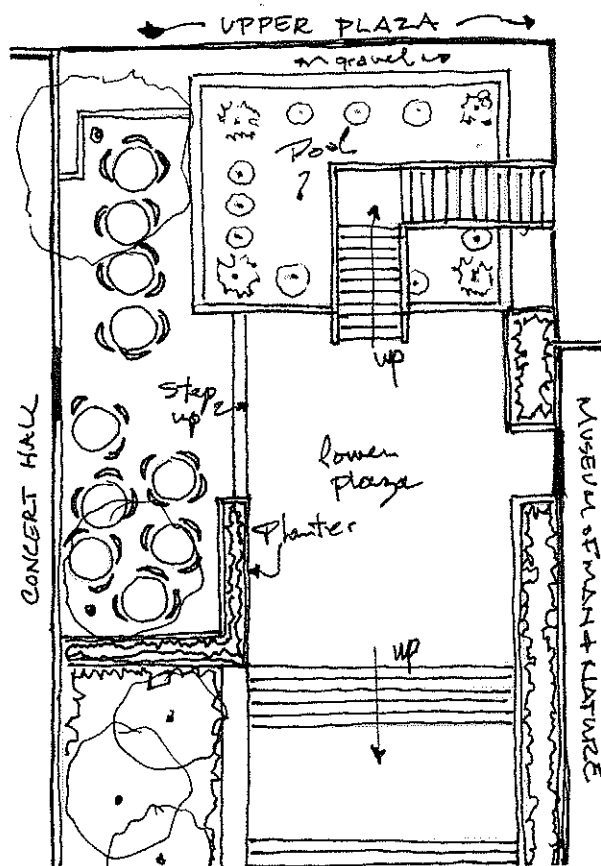
Basin Form: Square (144m²)

Function: Visual contrast, focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountains are located in a sunken plaza garden in a long narrow corridor (18m by 70m) between two buildings. Steps from an upper plaza along Main Street descend over the fountain basin into a 30 by 18m plaza. At the east end of the plaza a series of steps and small plazas lead up to Lily Street. The fountain plaza is framed by linden trees while the rest of the plaza is framed by raised planters of Boreal Forest style shrubs and trees. The site contains two monuments, the 90th Battalion



Geyser display.



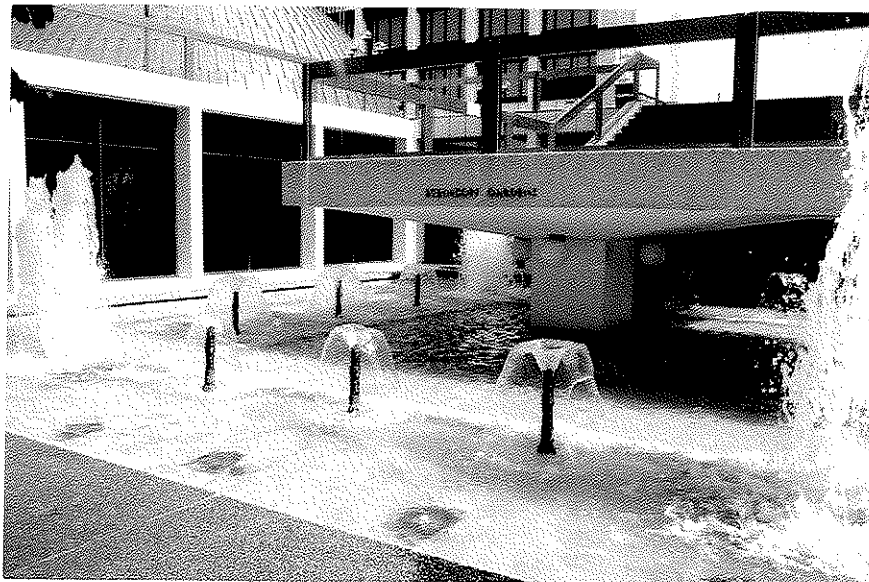
Site plan. n.t.s.

Volunteer Monument which stands above the fountain on the Main Street plaza, and the Queen Elizabeth II Monument, which stands on the east staircase. The space is usually shaded and seems to be quieter than the surrounding area.

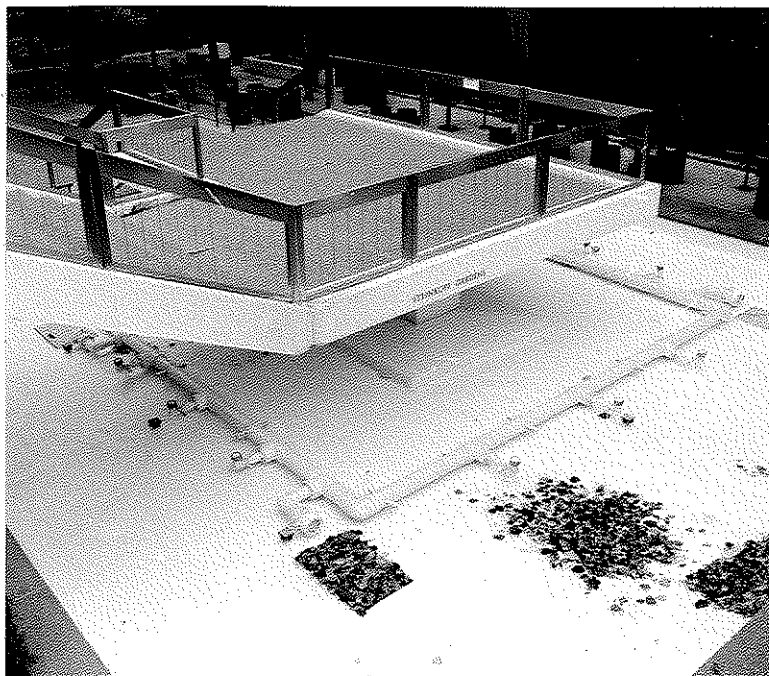
History, Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is named after the former owner of the land on which the plaza sits. The concrete basin is 12m

by 12m. It is finished with a black pebbled exposed aggregate facing and coping. The coping is 1m in width. The basin is 0.5m deep and painted white.

Water Assessment: Sixteen jets are spaced evenly, forming a square 1.5m in from the edge of the basin. At each corner is a plume jet which reaches a height between 1.5 and 2.0m with a spray diameter of 0.8m. Between each plume jet are three calyx jets which originate from 75mm (3in) diameter pipes standing 0.5m above the pool water height. The jets are quite loud and drown out all surrounding noise. They are also quite attractive.



Fountain display as seen from the south seating area.



Empty fountain in late fall, 1993.

Human Use & Winter

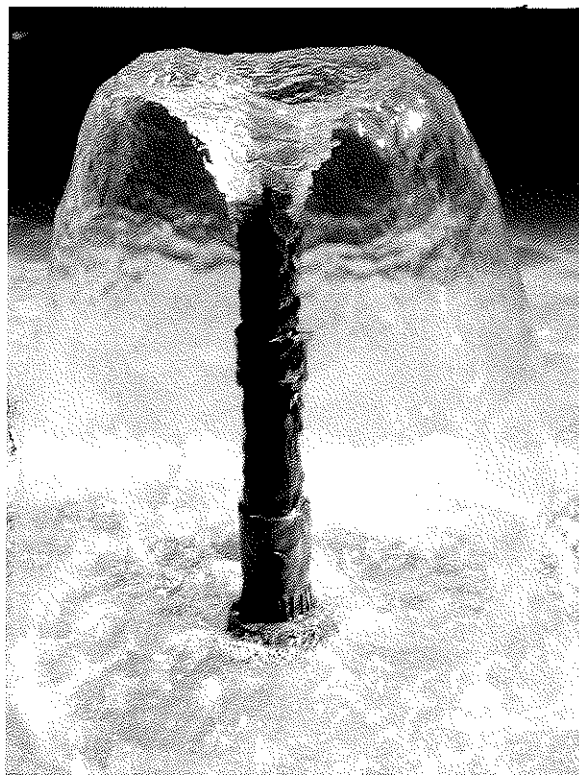
Observations: The shaded plaza is a welcomingly cool place in the hot concrete surroundings. A restaurant in the basement of the Centennial Center opens onto the plaza and several tables and chairs are placed along the fountain edge. People are not encouraged to interact with the fountain. The plaza has little use in the winter, serving only as windy a cold walkway between buildings.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs:

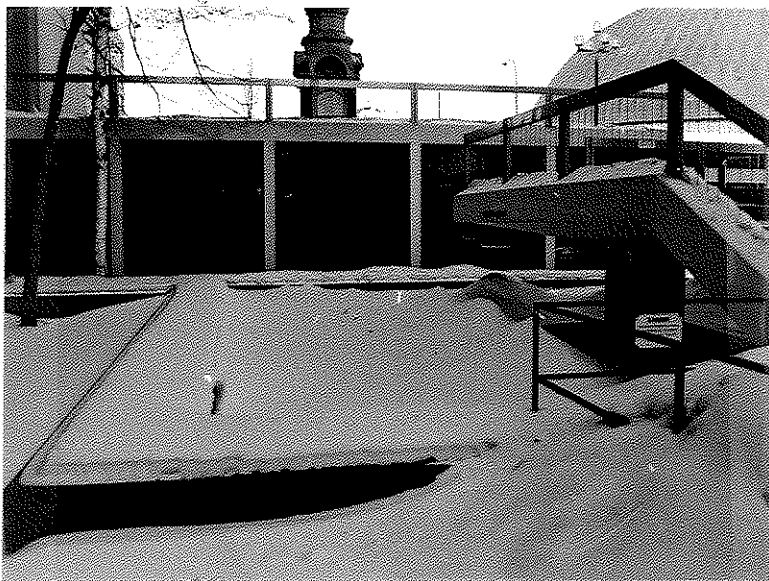
The water is chemically treated. It flows through wide diameter (150mm [6in]) pipes which sit on the basin surface. A large 1.4m by 1m metal grate with a 7.5mm diameter grid catches large debris before the water goes to the pump.

Remarks**Rating:** * * * 1/2

Being placed under a staircase is detracting and slightly demeaning for the fountain, but the stairs do give people the opportunity to enjoy the water jets from different perspectives. Steinkopf Gardens is a perfect example of the hidden fountain. There is no possible way to find the fountain without getting off the beaten path and exploring.



Bell jet detail.



Basin as it appears in winter.

Source: 1. University of Manitoba Archives photo, October 6, 1975.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Broadway Avenue Boulevard Fountain

Location: Broadway Avenue boulevard at Donald Street

Designer: Brian Bancroft, Smith Carter

Client: M.E.P.C. Group & City of Winnipeg

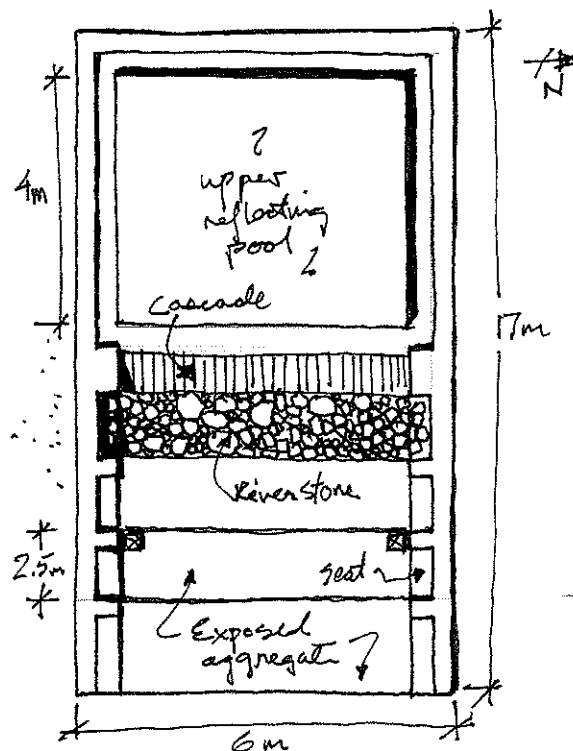
Date of Construction: 1970

Typology: Cascade Fountain **Basin Form:** Square, rectangular (100m²)

Water Forms: Reflecting pool, water curtain, cascade **Function:** Symbolic

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located to the west side of Donald Street on the meridian of Broadway Avenue. The area is characterized by business towers and apartment blocks. The streets are enclosed by a mature canopy of elms. The fountain is also framed by boulevard plantings.

Dedications & Symbolism: A plaque on the fountain reads: "Presented to the People of Winnipeg October 1970 by the M.E.P.C. Group of Companies and the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg to Commemorate The Centenary of Manitoba and the Fiftieth Anniversary of the first supply of water from Shoal Lake to the Metropolitan Area." The fountain is a symbol of efforts to obtain clean drinking water for Winnipeg.



Site plan. n.t.s.

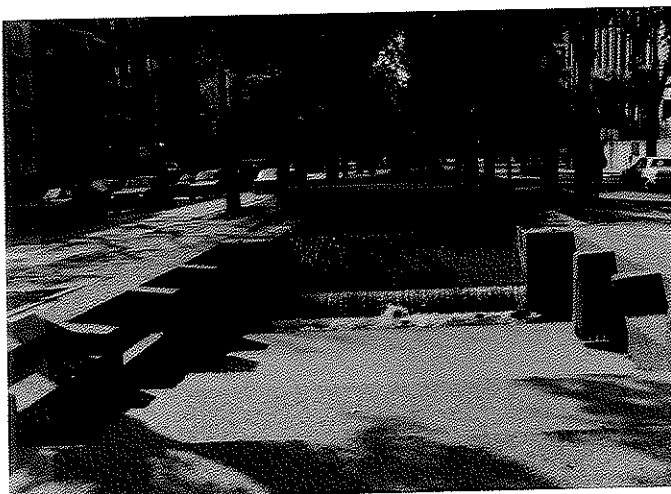
Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain takes up a rectangular form 6m by 17m. At the east end of the fountain, three broad steps, 2.5m long and 6m across, drop from ground level into a recessed area about 1m below ground. At the end of the steps is a narrow rectangular basin which is filled with river boulders. Above and behind the basin is a sloped wall which rises to a ground level basin, 6m by 6m. Within this basin is a another basin, 4m by 4m, which is raised 1m above ground level. The entire concrete structure is faced with exposed aggregate. The lips of the basins are edged with metal guides.

Benches and trash receptacles are located against the walls on steps which reach from the river boulder basin eastward and up to ground level.

Water Assessment: Water wells from a 4m by 4m reflecting pool and passes over the basin's entire rim area as a curtain where it falls into a

narrow collecting trough with very little splash. The water flows from

the collecting trough in a modified cascade over a steeply sloped surface (the effect is like a glossy sheet hanging on the clothes line with a slight breeze). It then cascades over the surface's lip and lands in a splashy finish on river stones.



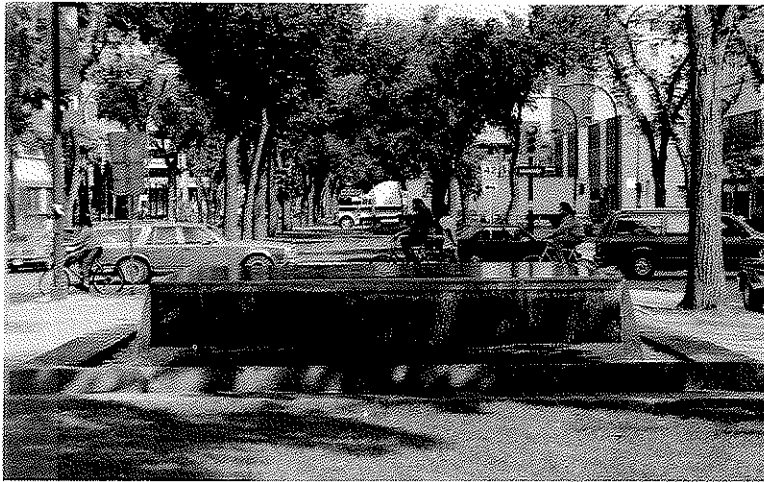
View of fountain looking west from Donald Street.



Water curtain detail.



Cascade detail.



View of fountain looking east.

Human Use: The corner is a busy pedestrian area. The fountain provides a peaceful environment in an unlikely place. People will stop briefly at the fountain to relax. Office workers will occasionally come to the fountain to eat lunch. It is a nice feature for east-bound motorists to look at while stopped at a red light.

Winter Observations: In the fall the fountain is drained and its reddish rust streaks become emphasized. In winter, the fountain is basically lost in the snow.



Fountain in winter.

Remarks **Rating:** ***1/2

This is a beautiful little fountain in an unexpected location.

Site Visits: Several, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: York Street Hydro Fountain**Location:** 263 York Street, northwest corner of York Street & Garry Avenue**Designer:** Scatliff & Associates Landscape Architects Ltd., GBR Engineering**Client:** Winnipeg Hydro **Date of Construction:** 1992 (first operated in 1993)**Cost of Construction:** \$74 000 (approximate)**Typology:** Sculptural fountain**Water Forms:** Water curtain (enclosed in Lexan® tubes), bubbler jets, cascade, pool**Basin Form:** Rectangular (9m²) **Function:** Symbolic, sculptural focal point

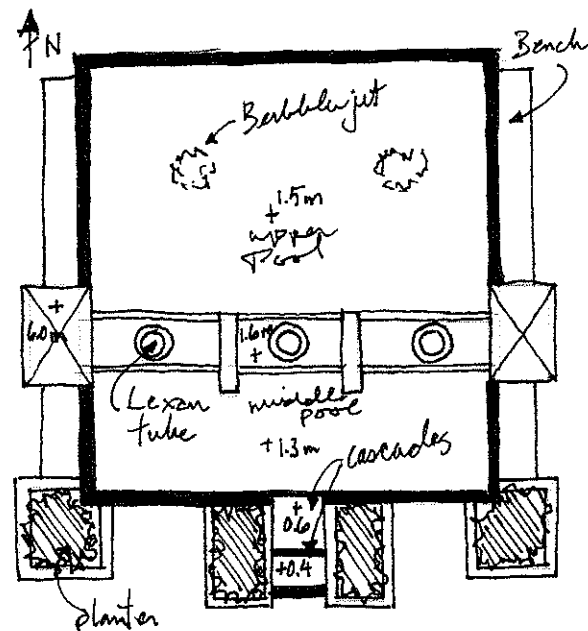
Site Characteristics: The fountain is located in front of the entrance to the Winnipeg Hydro main office building. It is placed on a sunny corner of two one-way downtown streets. Street trees have been planted on the corner but they are currently small and provide little shade. The area is dominated by hard corners and walls of concrete, brick, metal, and glass.

History, Symbolism & Design

Concept: The fountain is modeled after hydroelectric generating plants and dams, especially the Seven Sisters dam. The original design concept was to create an

acoustic effect resembling the constant rumble of gushing water and the hum of electricity. The structure of the fountain uses forms similar to those seen at hydroelectric dams. The water was to gush out of large tubes into a turbulent drop area. The basin was designed to express the various forms of water near a dam including a reservoir, turbulent areas, and a chute. Shrubs in planters surrounding the fountain were to be similar to plant material found at dam sites. The original concept also included 'fiber optics' technology but it was not incorporated into the design.

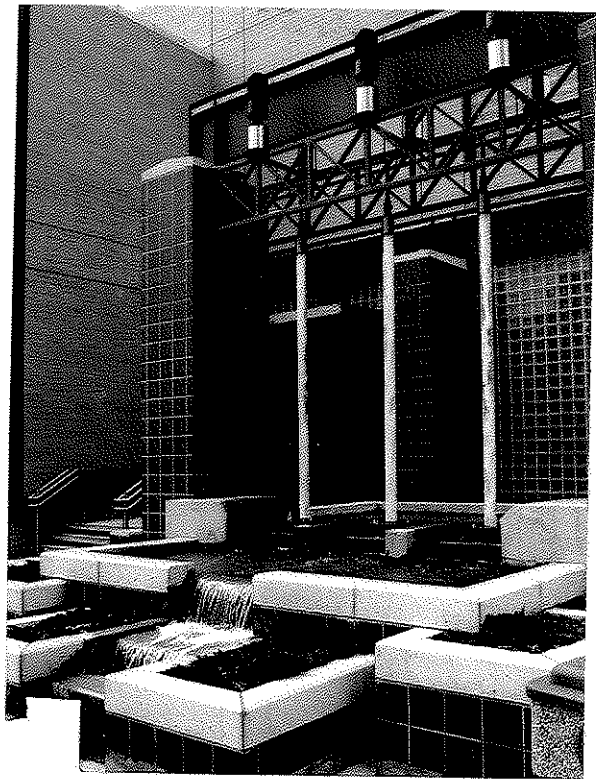
Fountain Design & Materials: The basin is roughly 3m X 3m. The multi-tiered basin is constructed of concrete clad in gray tile which matches the exterior of the building. The support structure and truss system are constructed of painted steel. Specially made clear Lexan® tubes guide the water from the truss to the basin.



Site plan. n.t.s.



Fountain viewed from south.



Fountain viewed from southeast.

Water Assessment: The water is a much gentler version of the real thing. It gushes down the inside of three clear Lexan® tubes where it froths into an upper pool. Water cascades from the pool down a double chute into a lower pool in front. Behind the tube pool is another pool with bubble jets designed to show turbulent water.

Human Use: Benches are incorporated with the fountain. The location is not “a real hangout spot”, although people do sit along the fountain edge to eat lunch or take coffee breaks and will occasionally meet at the fountain as well. It has become a unique landmark in an area devoid of notable landscape features. It serves as an interesting feature for those who happen to be strolling by.

Winter Observations: In winter, the fountain stands as a dirtied monument. It is assailed by the salt-sand spray from vehicles and serves as a reservoir for shoveled snow. It blends in with its background of dismal concrete and gray tile.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountain uses a submersible pump which sits in the reservoir below the fountain. It is accessed from the building. The fountain continually circulates the water which is not chemically treated. The fountain runs all day

from spring to fall. Two major cleanings were performed in the first year of operation, once in the spring and once in the fall. A single filter is used in the system and minor cleanings are done when it clogs.



Fountain with snow mounding in winter. Lexan tubes removed.

The main causes of damage have been corrosion from winter salt and the cracking of the truss system from ice expansion. The cracking occurred because the hollow tubes used in the system were not sealed. Water accumulated in the tubes and expanded when it froze cracking the tubes. The salt damage occurred from vehicle spray and snow piled on the fountain from shoveling and resulted in rusting of the metal elements of the fountain. Vandalism has not occurred.

Remarks

Rating: * * * 1/2

The concept for the fountain is bold and vivid. If it was built as it was originally intended it would have been a powerful and exceptional fountain. As it is, the fountain is merely an oddly designed but pleasant fountain which provides only a ghost image of what it is meant to portray.

The fountain probably does not incorporate an adequate filter system. This is evidenced by the very turbid water in the fountain during a site visit in June of 1994 (the 'brown' water may have been an attempt to give a literal visual impression of Manitoba's river water quality or an indication of very poor maintenance).

Source: Interview with Deron Miller, Scatliff & Associates Landscape Architects Inc, Winnipeg, Manitoba, May 19, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: The Forks Plaza Fountains

Location: The Forks Market

Designer: Steve Cohlmeier, Cohlmeier Hanson & Associates, architects

Client: The Forks Development Corporation

Contractors: Crystal Fountains (Toronto) **Cost of Construction:** _____

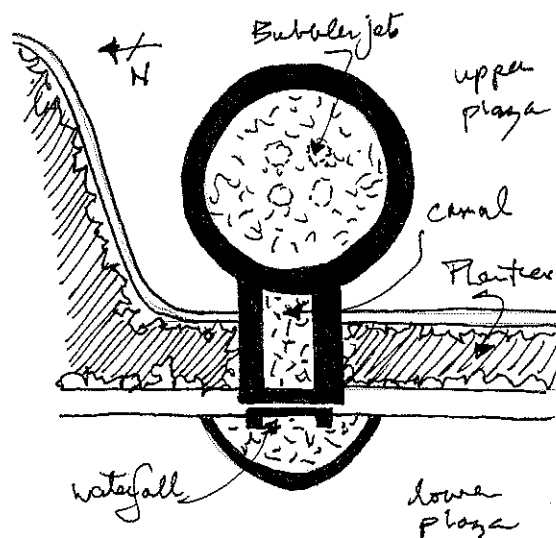
Date of Construction: 1993

Typology: Source, water wall **Water Forms:** Bubbler jet, pool, water wall, canal

Basin Forms: circular, semicircular

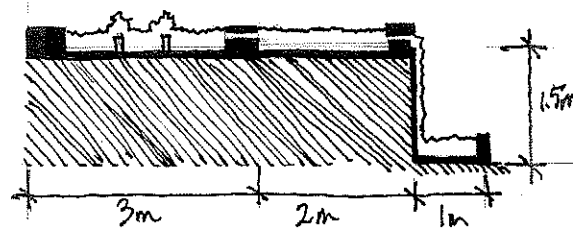
Function: Visual contrast, symbolic, skating rink

Site Characteristics: The Forks Plaza is situated between two market buildings, a tourist pavilion and an open staircase to the Assiniboine River at its junction with the Red River. In the center of the plaza is a circular open-air covered structure which creates a smaller, more intimate plaza within the larger area.



Upper fountain and water wall plan sketch. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: A bronze plaque posted next to the water wall display states: "The Forks has been a meeting place for thousands of years. This plaque applauds the vision and commitment of the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba, and the City of Winnipeg in returning the former rail yard at the historic junction of the Red and Assiniboine rivers to our citizens." The plaque was dedicated in 1992 by Jake Epp, Minister of Energy, Mines, & Resources, Canada, Jim Ernst, Minister of Urban Affairs, Manitoba, and Bill Norie, Mayor of Winnipeg.



Upper fountain and water wall section sketch. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The Forks Plaza is perhaps the most popular public space in Winnipeg. It incorporates two fountain systems into its design.

The fountains at the base of each column of the pergola were placed to enhance the idea that the pergola was a 'place within a place' to make the plaza a little more intimate in scale. The columnar fountains do not use railings to reinforce the casual environment.

Fountain Design & Materials: There are seven individual parts to the fountain display but all run from one system. Four are located at the base of each pair of columns supporting the pergola. The other three are joined and include the

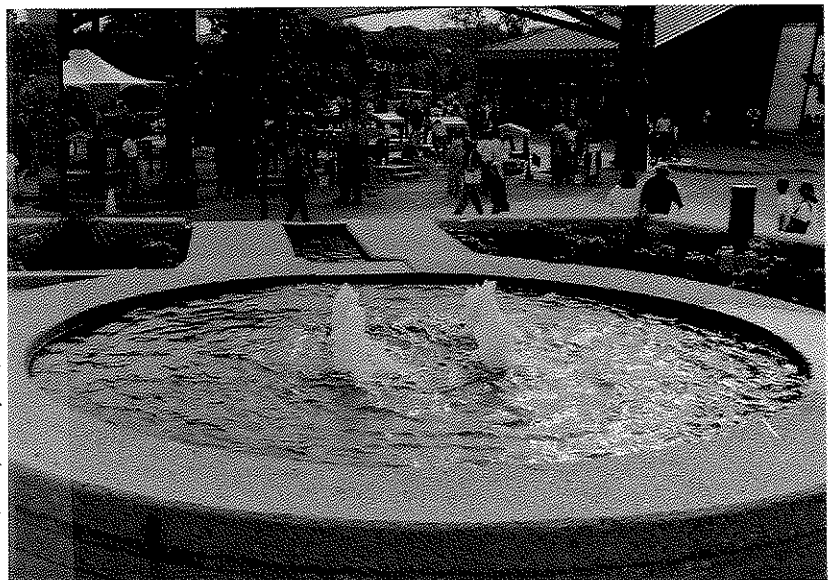
bubbling upper circular pool, the connecting shortened canal, and the water wall and lower basin. The fountain basins are constructed with reinforced concrete. The canal and water wall structures also incorporate tiles and bronze. The tiles were constructed in Winnipeg and were curved to fit the concrete wall. The water wall is sloped slightly and finished with a rough gravel and epoxy finish to give the water more 'play'.

Water Assessment: The water jets of the upper circular pool were intended to form a mound of bubbling water in the original design concept.

The logistics proved too difficult and four separate bubbler jets were installed instead. The water flows from the



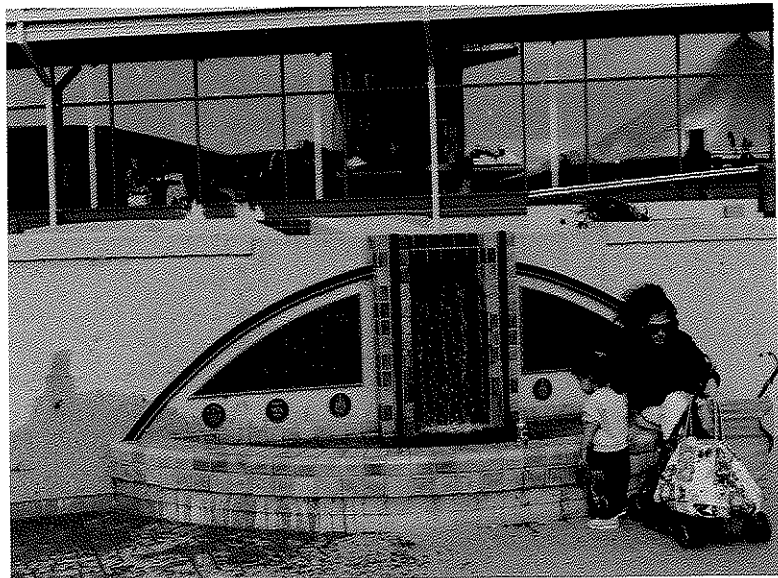
One of four bubbler jets and semi-circular basins in central plaza.



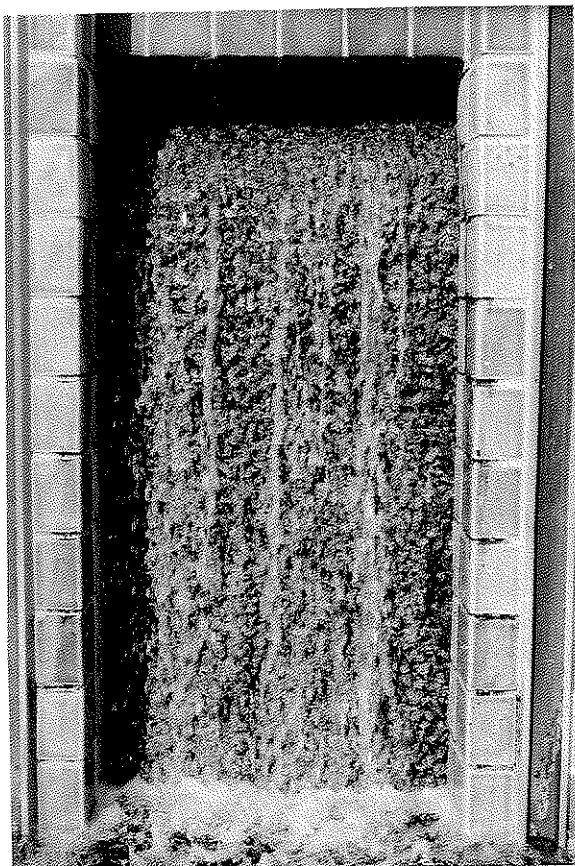
View of upper fountain looking west.

circular basin into a short canal and then over a 1.5m high water wall into another semicircular pool. Each of the column fountains uses a single central bubbler jet. The water level of the pools is about 150mm below plaza level. Mist jets were also incorporated into the design. A mist jet is placed on each of the columns about 3m above the plaza level. They are used infrequently.

Human Use: Children are attracted to the water and are especially intrigued with the upper circular pool and water wall.



View of water wall looking east.



Detail of water wall.

Winter Observations: The circular plaza is converted into an ice skating surface in the winter and the four column basins are covered with metal grates. The upper circular fountain is used as a podium for an ice sculpture.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountains are drained every week and cleaned. Problems have occurred with clogging of the pipes, nozzles, and pump. Maintenance crews also have difficulty getting the jet displays the same height. Dirt and debris blowing into the column basins has been a constant problem as well.

Remarks **Rating:** * * * 1/2

All of the fountains are incorporated into one system. This has led to complications in the

maintenance of the fountains. Maintenance would be easier if each basin was run with a separate system. Considering the location and the number of people who visit The Forks, the fountain displays are not adventurous enough. They should be able to promote far more interactive play and should also provide a more dominant visual role. The Forks Plaza is an ideal location for a fountain.



Water wall and ice sculpture above in winter.

Source: Interview with Steve Cohlmeier, Cohlmeier and Associates, Winnipeg, Manitoba, _____
1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Winnipeg City Hall Plaza Fountain

Location: City Hall, Main Street and James Avenue

Designer: Green, Blankstein, Russell Associates, architects

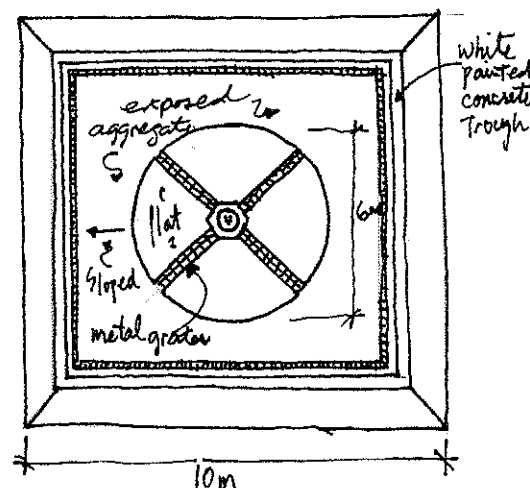
Client: City of Winnipeg **Date of Construction:** 1962

Typology: Geyser fountain **Water Forms:** 6 cascade jets

Basin Form: Square (100m²) **Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located in the centre of a plaza framed by the Administration Building which wraps around the west, north, and east sides of the plaza, and the Council Chambers Building, which frames the south edge of the plaza.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain fits in with the golden rule that every city hall must have a fountain. It takes a central and dominant place in the layout of the plaza and buildings. The fountain is presented in such a way that it is both honoured and respected.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Fountain Design & Materials: The basin takes up a square area roughly 10m by



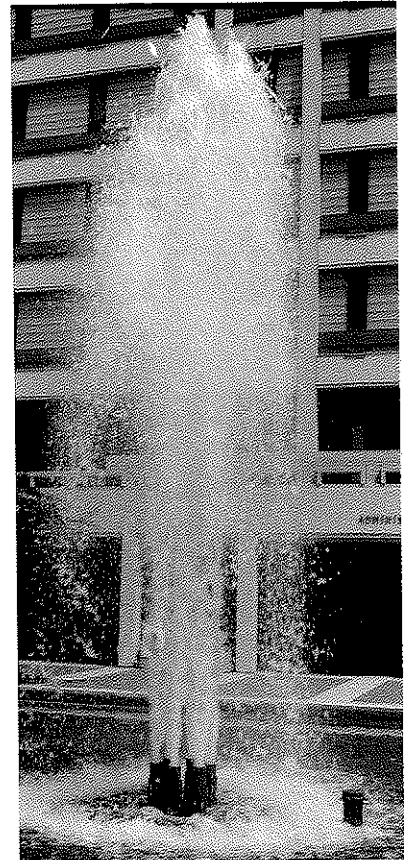
Fountain display on a Sunday in summer of 1994.

10m. The outer wall of the basin and coping are faced with black polished granite and stands about 0.6m above the plaza level. Immediately behind the wall is a 0.2m wide and 0.1m deep gutter in which the water collects. A sloped black exposed aggregate surface slopes upward, from the gutter towards the centre of the basin. In the basin's centre is a slightly raised 6m diameter circular disk, also of black exposed aggregate finish. At the very centre of disk is a hollowed core, about 0.6m deep with a surrounding octagonal frame. Six nozzles

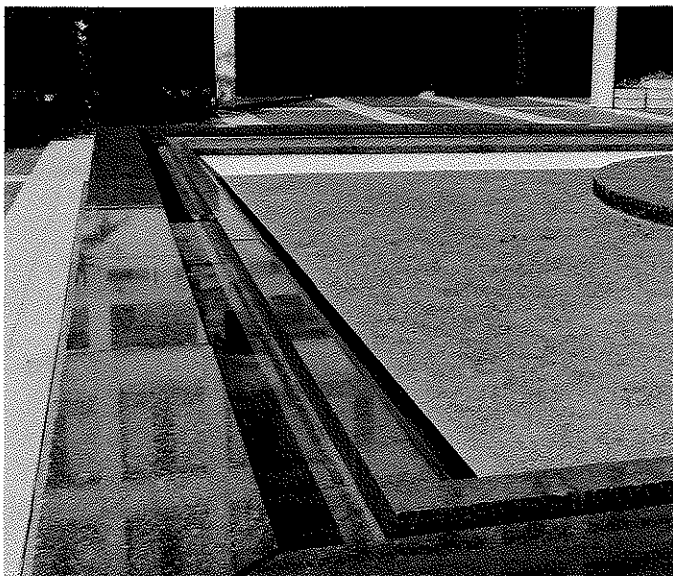
extend from this central cylinder to just above the cylinder height. Four 0.2m wide cuts in the disk extend from the central core to the edge of the disk on line with each corner of the basin. The cuts contain lighting fixtures and are covered by metal grates.

Water Assessment: Six cascade jets are forced from 0.05m (2in) diameter nozzles arranged in a tight circle. The jets reach a height of 5m and the spray spans approximately 2m. The effect is similar to a plume jet (see definition). The water crashes down onto the disk and flows off and into a surrounding pool. The water then collects in a trough located just inside the basin edge. The white water contrasts sharply with the dark stone of the basin and plaza.

Human Use: The fountain is an attractive feature which catches the eye of people walking or driving along Main Street. However, the plaza offers little in the way of sitting space or social gathering space so most of the activity is walk-through traffic. People will sit on the fountain edge and occasionally someone will wade into the waters. The water provides more of a sculptural form and is quite formal in its presentation. The fountain may be appreciated most for helping to cool an unbearably hot plaza.



Display detail.



Structural detail of basin.

Winter Observations: The basin form provides a perfect arrangement for a large Christmas tree and it is used for this during a two month period marking the city's, 'Festival of Lights' celebration.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountain is cleaned every day. One person may spend about one hour each day on maintenance. It is a simple fountain to prepare for use in the spring with

a set-up time of only three hours. Most of this time is spent taking down the frame which supports the Christmas tree. The relatively trouble-free fountain is equipped with several basket filters and the water is kept very clean.

Remarks **Rating:** * * 1/2

The fountain is a well placed highlight when it is operating. When the water is turned off or the Christmas tree is not present, however, the basin does not provide enough interest to promote a positive contribution to the plaza. Without the gushing water, the plaza seems lifeless and empty.



Fountain in February 1994 after Christmas tree removed.

Source: 1. 1978 Photo, University of Manitoba Archive Collection.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Centennial Library Pool & Fountain Garden

Location: Centennial Library, Graham Avenue & Donald Street

Designer: MacDonald Cockburn McLeod Mcfeetors, architects

Date of Construction: 1977-1980 **Cost of Construction:** _____

Typology: Reflecting Pool **Water Forms:** Reflecting pool, fan jets, columnar jets

Basin Form: Polygon (500m²) **Function:** Reflecting pool

Site Characteristics: The plaza is situated on top of an underground car park and is characterized by wide pathways and bermed plantings supported by retaining walls. The plaza is dominated by a large reflecting pool. Two other water features exist on the site. One incorporates two geysers and a cascade in two pools on the northwest corner. The other, in the northeast corner of the site, incorporates the 'Rising Form' sculpture.



View of reflecting pool from south.

Design Concept & History: The gardens are part of a building and car park which cost \$10 000 000. It is designed as a relaxing place to read outside.

Fountain Design & Materials: The basins are constructed of reinforced concrete. The coping is 0.4m in height for the large reflecting pool and 1.2m for the northwest basin. The large reflecting pool is shallow. Several fluted heads, spaced approximately every 4m, are located along the basin edge above the water height. The northwest fountain incorporates raised basins and a plaza level reflecting pool. The raised basins are framed by iron fencing and plantings. All basins are painted light blue.

Water Assessment: In the large reflecting pool, fan-shaped sprays arch into the pool from fluted nozzles placed along the side. The northwest fountain incorporates two geyser



Jet pool located to the west of the reflecting pool.

jets in two raised basins. The water flows out to the basins as a cascade and into another reflecting pool. The sound of falling water also creates a pleasant atmosphere by diminishing the sounds of vehicle traffic.

Human Use: The park is often used by people on their lunch breaks. On hot days people soak their feet, and sometimes all of themselves,

in the shallow pools. The abundance of water offers a dramatic cooling effect. It is a great place for teachers to collect students on library tours.

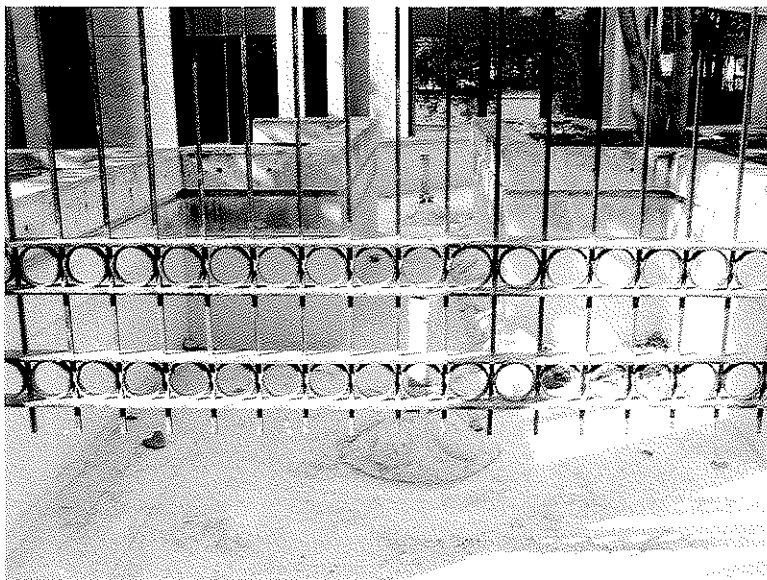


Reflecting pool in winter.

Operation, Maintenance, & Costs: The pools require new patching and painting every year. Two days every two weeks are spent cleaning the pools with a portable vacuum. The water is circulated through the pools with a single pump. No filters are used. The pools did have a major problem with algae build-up. This

was alleviated when a chlorination system was installed. The park suffers from the usual inner city vandalism as the exposed spray nozzles are constantly being broken or removed. Skateboarding also causes significant damage to the pool coping and other park features.

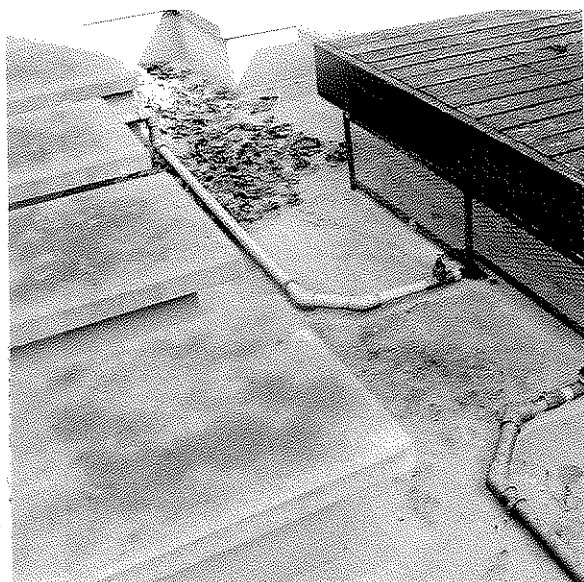
Winter Observations: The pools are drained and the major pathways cleared of snow in the winter.



Jet fountain basin detail when water removed.

Remarks Rating: * * 1/2

The layout of the park is such that security must patrol the park during the evenings. This adds an extra \$5 000 to the ground's operating budget. The drains were not correctly placed when the pools were built and, as a result, the drains appear to be in the high points of the pool, causing problems with drainage.



Reflecting pool detail when water removed.

- Sources:
1. *Winnipeg Tribune*, November 14, 1977, p. 49.
 2. Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.
 3. "Opportunity in Winnipeg", Volume II, No. 1, 1976, in Winnipeg Centennial Library file.
- Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Rising Form**Location:** Centennial Library, Graham Avenue & Donald Street**Designer:** Tony Tascona, Sculptor **Client:** Centennial Library, City of Winnipeg**Date of Construction:** 1977**Cost of Construction:** \$15 000 for sculpture**Typology:** Sculptural fountain**Water Forms:** Fan jets, spout jet, reflecting pool**Basin Form:** Polygon (50m²)**Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located north of a large reflecting pool (see 'Centennial Library Pool & Fountain Garden') and adjacent to southeast facing windows of the library. It is separated from the other water features of the park by a raised retaining wall and berm planter. The planters contain a dense planting of Lindens. The pool is visually and physically sheltered with the main viewing opportunity from the main floor of the library. The area can be accessed from the northeast corner and the south end from two narrow pathways.

Design Concept, Fountain

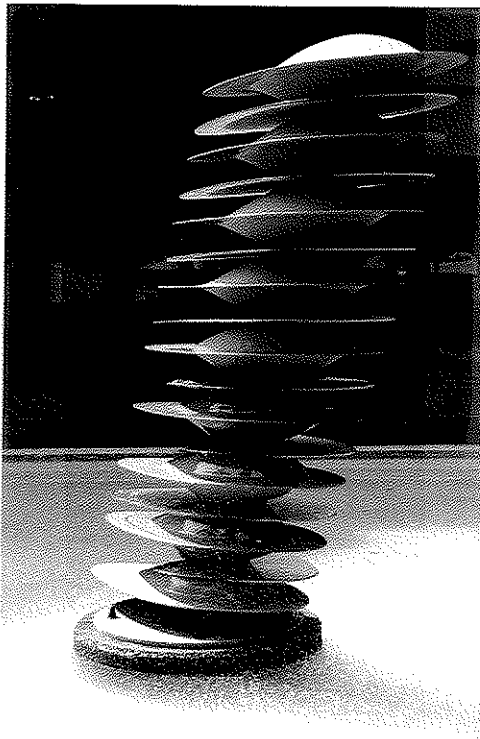
Design & Materials: The fountain was constructed as part of a fountain plaza composition. The concrete basin is a shallow irregular polygon. The 4.5m (15in) sculpture is placed just off center. It is constructed of orange and yellow acrylic and fiberglass discs and weighs about 450kg (900 lbs).



Rising Form sculpture and empty basin, fall 1993.

Water Assessment: Water squirts out of the sculpture at several points and falls in a

light rain into the pool. Fluted nozzles also push water about 2m from the edges of the pool in fan-shaped sprays. The water in both devices is clear and is more easily heard than seen. When properly working the entire fountain and basin can look like a hazy, mirage-like image.



Sculpture detail.

Human Use & Winter Observations: The fountain is purely sculptural. It could be used as a wading pool or a play place for children, but the nearby windows of the library create a looking-glass effect. This may inhibit any interaction. The sculptural element is odd and more than able to raise a few eyebrows. In winter, the bright orange and yellow of the sculpture stands out against white snow and dark library windows, but it does look a little out of place.

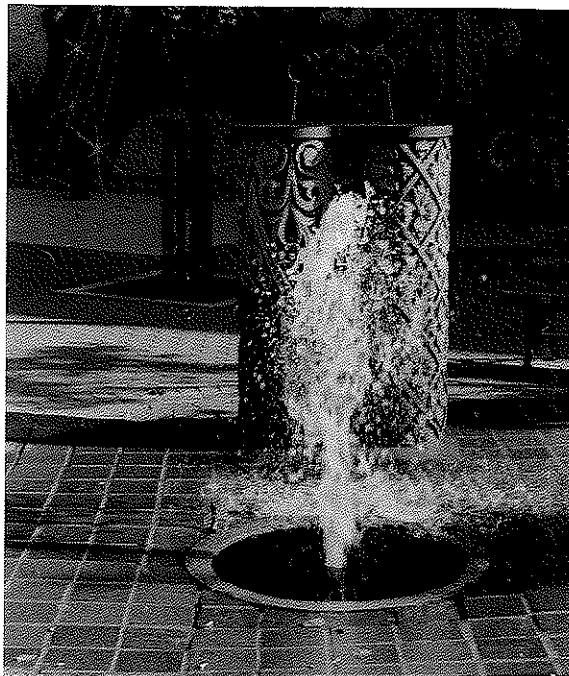
Rating: * * 1/2

Source: *Winnipeg Tribune*, November 14, 1977, p49.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Old Market Square Floor Fountain**Location:** Old Market Square, Exchange District**Designer:** Llewellyn Simon Associates**Client:** City of Winnipeg**Date of Construction:** 1989**Cost of Construction:** \$12 000**Typology:** Source fountain**Water Forms:** Columnar jet**Basin Form:** circular metal grate**Function:** Symbolic, focal point

Site Characteristics: Old Market Square is set in the center of Winnipeg's Exchange District, noted for its wealth of turn-of-the-century brick and stone clad warehouses, many of which have been converted into offices, stores, and residences. In the center of this warehouse district is a small park, named Old Market Square. The floor fountain is located several metres inside the east entrance of the park in a space formerly occupied by the Bijou Theater. It occupies a small central opening amongst a grouping of brightly covered canvas covered arcades used for a farmers' market. A few benches face the fountain from the edge of the opening. The entire area is paved with unit pavers and stone blocks. To the west of the area occupied by the farmers' market is an open grassed area with a central concrete and metal stage. The park is popular during the day with office workers on coffee and lunch breaks. On weekends, during the summer, the farmers' market adds a festive family-style quality to the park. This feeling is enhanced by various entertainments held at the stage area during some of the city's many festivals. During the evening the bright peaceful park is transformed and takes on a darker and seedier quality.



Source fountain with historic building fragments.

Dedications & History: Next to the fountain is placed part of a carved stone pillar. A plaque on it reads: "These shards are from the Merchants' Bank which was located on the southeast corner of Main Street and Lombard Avenue (a block away). The seven story building was designed by Montreal Architects Taylor and Gordon and built by Black and Co. of Winnipeg. Also called the Lombard Building, it was demolished in 1966." The Lombard Building is recognized as Winnipeg's first steel frame skyscraper. Although part of a building from another site sits

in it, the Main Street lot has its own history of buildings. The city's courthouse stood on the site from 1869 to 1884. The West Clements Block, or Bijou Theatre, was built the same year the courthouse was demolished and stood until 1979.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The form of the basin was designed to be as open and unconfining as possible. The design concept takes advantage of the site's history of habitation. Beneath the Square are the remains of the Bijou Theatre (its basement was filled in with the building's own rubble). In a sense, the water emerges from the past as the fountain's origin lies within the ruins of the historical building. In this way the fountain becomes a source of imagery for the buried history of the site. People are able to interact directly with this history through the water. It is hoped by the designer that a continuity of history is achieved through the expression of the source fountain.



Display detail.

Fountain Design & Materials: The design is very simple. The pump, pipes and nozzle are held in a below ground concrete box. Above it is placed a circular metal grid which is surrounded by a slightly dished circle of granite blocks which rise flush with the surrounding plaza of pre-cast unit pavers. The proper base for the fountain was not constructed due to financial constraints and may have implications for its long-term use.

Water Assessment: The fountain is a single aerated geyser approximately 1.0m to 1.5m in height and 0.4m to 0.5m in diameter. It provides an effective visual display and has a strong effect on the surrounding area. It also presents a pleasant acoustic backdrop.

Human Use: On hot days the fountain is a welcome site for walkers and cyclists. Occasionally, people will stick arms or legs into the geyser and some even stand in it to cool off. It is a needed feature as there is so little accessible water in the area (there are

three other water elements within one block of Old Market Square, but the floor fountain is the most accessible.) The nature and placement of the fountain makes it possible for people to have direct contact with water in a relaxed and informal setting. This may allow for more adventurous exploration of the geyser.

Winter Observations:

The slightly sloped stone dish and central metal grate are all that can be seen of the fountain when it is not gushing with water. In winter it completely disappears.

Operation, Maintenance

& Costs: The fountain is operated with a Flygt Model B-2050 pump. The 1.1hp, 3450 rpm pump forces

5.0 L/s at 8.0m of head. The city water is circulated

through the pump from a small concrete holding tank, all below the paved surface. It is not equipped with a filter. Drain valves are 50mm in diameter. The fountain is maintained by the city of Winnipeg. It has not suffered from acts of vandalism because there is little to vandalize. A steel grate protects the fountain nozzle.



Evidence of the fountain disappears in winter.

The fountain is run on a timer. It usually flows from 9 AM until 10 PM from May to September. (During site visits, however, the fountain was seldom running in 1993 but was running during several visits in 1994.) The fountain has been relatively maintenance free. Start-up in the spring requires only two quick connections with little adjustment required. Maintenance requires one hour per week.

The original design called for an electrical junction box to be placed in the underground pump housing. Moisture caused problems at this point. The

problem was alleviated when a continuous line was run from the pump to an above-ground outlet.

Remarks**Rating:** * * *

The style and placement of the source fountain is quite appropriate to the space and provides for the needs of the people which use it, even though the concept of the fountain as a spring of history is not readily evident. The simplicity of the fountain's design does not detract from its attractiveness and reduces maintenance costs significantly.

- Sources:
1. Interview with Alf Simon, formerly of Llewellyn Simon Associates, Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 10, 1994.
 2. Tender document for "Construction of landscape and underground works on the Old Market Square;/Bijou Theatre Site". Tender No. P.D. 88-227, prepared by Llewellyn Simon Associates, August 1988.
 3. Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Hampton Green Fountain

Location: Hampton Green Condominiums, 323 Wellington Crescent

Designer: _____ (Lombard North Group or Shelter Corporation?)

Client: Hampton Green Condominiums

Date of Construction: 1969

Water Forms: Bubbler jet, spill & splash, pool, cascade

Typology: Sculpture fountain

Basin Form: Rectangular (multiple tiers) (15m²) **Function:** Axial focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located along the east side of a central staircase and walkway on axis with the main doors of a high-rise condominium unit. On either side of the pathway and fountain are two tiers planted with hedges, shrubs, and grass. The site is located on the picturesque Wellington crescent and is sided by other high-rise apartments and condominiums. Mature boulevard trees reach out to the fountain which remains in sunlight for most of the day.

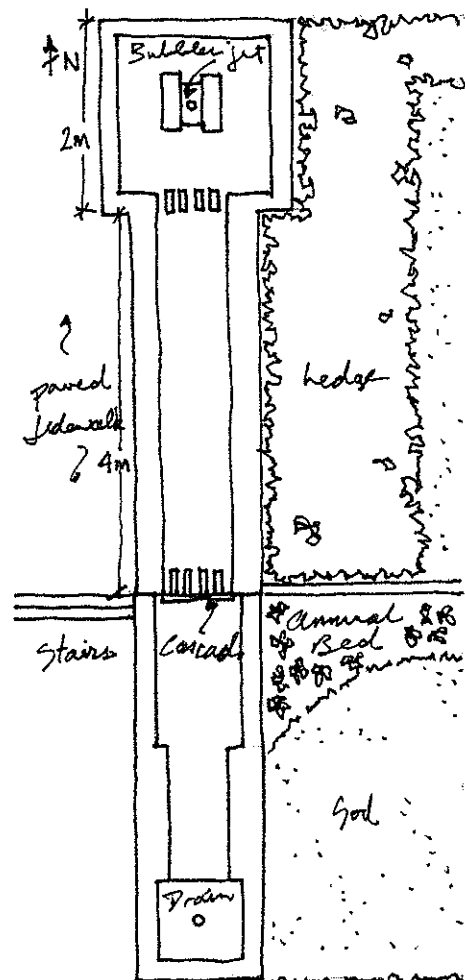
Fountain Design, Materials, & Water Assessment: The fountain is constructed of concrete and uses the



Display detail.

rectangular box form repeatedly in its design. The basin is two-tiered with three drops. Water bubbles from a large block supported on two 2.75m high concrete posts and falls from the structure in a rain

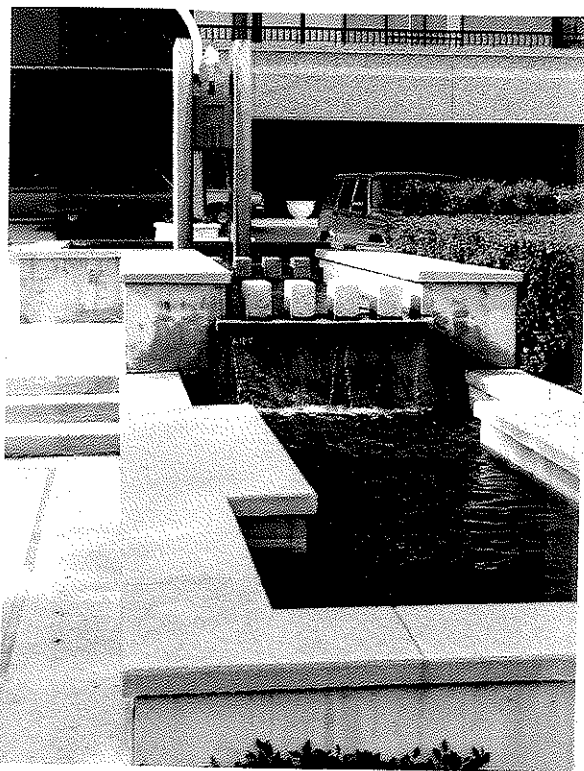
and splashes into the 2m by 2m basin. It then flows through a gateway marked by four concrete blocks and into a short canal 4m long and 1m wide. At the end of the trough the water passes by four more concrete blocks and drops 1.2m into another 6m long basin. The water is then circulated back to the outlet. The pump is located



Site plan. n.t.s.

under the fountain and is accessed from the basement of the tower.

Human Use: The fountain provides interest to the entrance of the building but goes largely unnoticed by people driving by. However, it is an attractive feature which is enjoyed by pedestrians.



Fountain display with cascade and lower pool.



Splashy bubbler jet display.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The system uses a basket filter to remove collected materials. It is drained and cleaned three times per summer. The operation takes approximately one day. The drain is 60mm (2.5in) in diameter. The basin takes about one hour to drain and 50 minutes to fill. The fountain has been 'soaped' twice in the last six years. The structure is in sound condition and appears to be well maintained.

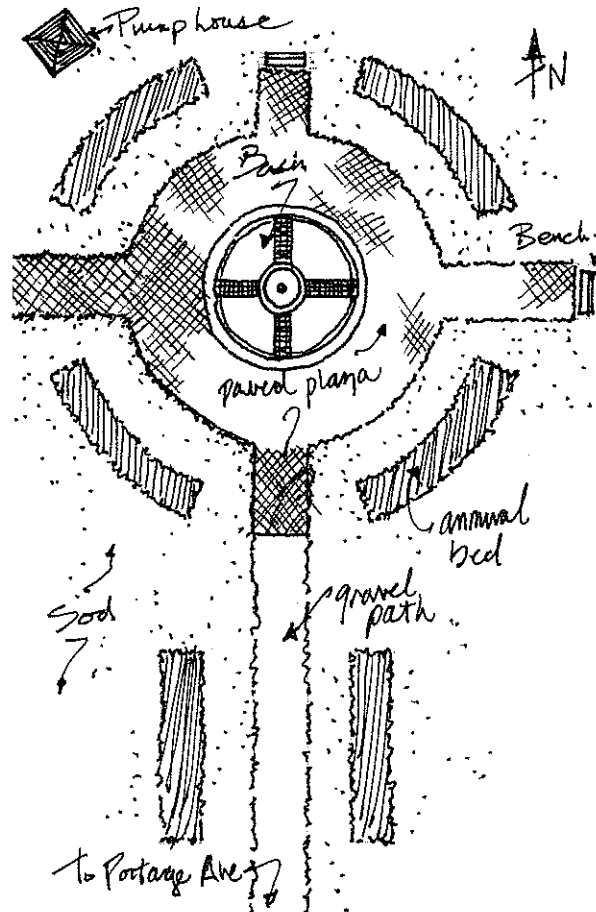
Rating: * * *

Source: Interview with Danny Ackman, Ackman Management, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 12, 1994.

Site Visits: June 12, 1994; June 28, 1994, August 12, 1994.

Fountain Name: St. James Bridge Fountain**Location:** Northeast corner of Portage Avenue & St. James underpass cloverleaf**Designer:** Gunter Schoch, landscape architect **Client:** City of Winnipeg**Date of Construction:** 1982**Typology:** Jet Fountain **Water Forms:** Arching columnar jets, geyser jet, pond**Basin Form:** Circular (90m²) **Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located on the northern edge of the northeast cloverleaf of Portage Avenue and James Street. A long north-south crushed limestone path runs from the Portage Avenue sidewalk 80m to the fountain. Rectangular annual beds run parallel to the path. The path wraps around the circular basin with three short extensions running outwards and ending with benches facing the fountain. Four curved annual beds also wrap around the outside of the pathway. The area is characterized by mowed grass with randomly placed ornamental trees. The outer edge of the road connecting the St. James underpass with Portage Avenue is framed by the backs of commercial and business buildings. A mall lies immediately to the north.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain is one of two water features on the site. The other feature, located on the west side of the highway, is markedly different as an informal element. The clean axis and strong geometric relationships of the east fountain represent the 'formal' in a formal-informal water display (see St. James Bridge Northwest Pond & Rock Spring).

Fountain Design & Materials: The basin is marked by a series of concentric circles. The outer circle is a shallow (0.1m) and narrow (0.2m) 'moat'. It is approximately 10m



Fountain approach from south.



The central jets were not functioning during site visits.

in diameter. The inner edge of the moat is a raised concrete wall, 0.3m high. Just inside the wall are 36 nozzles guarded by stainless steel pipes. Metal grates, which guard the spring, sit flush with the basin floor located 0.5m below the height of the wall. A central concrete wall, 3.0m in diameter, extending 0.5m above the basin floor, holds four large heads.

Water Assessment:

Thirty-six 20mm diameter jets, fired from the edges of the pond, reach a height of 2.5m and fall into the centre of the basin in long arches. The flow follows a regular timed pattern a few minutes in length. Four large geysers

fire from the centre of the basin, completing the show (these were not working during site visits).

Human Use: Seating is provided around the fountain. The space provides an interesting detour from the Portage Avenue sidewalk, but takes some effort to get to. The fountain goes completely unnoticed when the water is not running. It is virtually invisible to motorists, whether it is running or not.

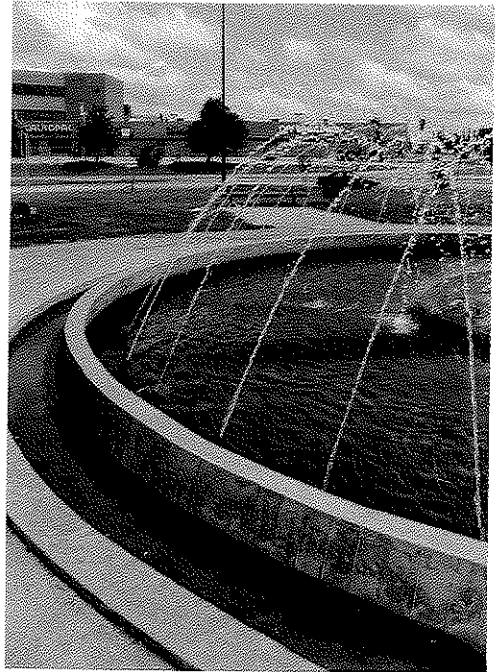
Remarks

Rating: * *

This is one of the largest fountains in Winnipeg and the least visited. The fountain is fairly impressive but placed in a completely

inappropriate location. The cost to build the fountain and to maintain it cannot be justified based on the lack of human appreciation and use.

Site Visits: June 28, 1994, July 4, 1994.



Arching columnar jets and basin edge detail.

Fountain Name: St. James Bridge Northwest Pond & Rock Spring

Location: Northwest corner of Portage Avenue and St. James Bridge cloverleaf

Designer: Gunter Schoch, landscape architect **Client:** City of Winnipeg

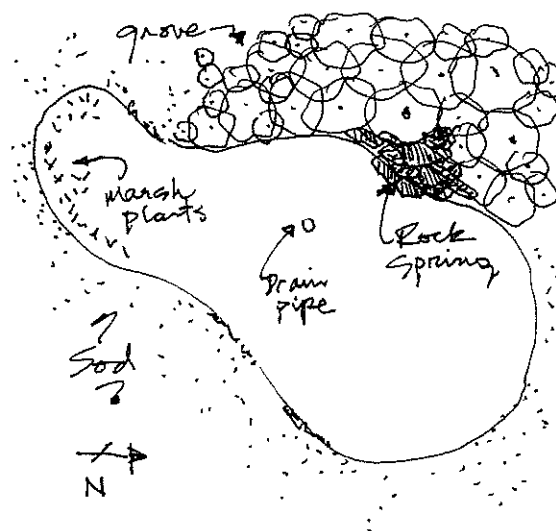
Date of Construction: 1982

Typology: Spring, pond **Water Forms:** Spring, complex cascade, pool

Basin Form: Retention pond **Function:** Visual contrast

Site Characteristics: The pond is located towards the west edge of a quarter cloverleaf enclosed by the access road from Portage Avenue to the St. James underpass. The area is characterized by open mowed grass except for a small copse of trees and shrubs adjacent to the northwest edge of the pond.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The pond is one of two water features on the site. The other feature is markedly different as a formal element. The natural looking pond and boulders take a role as the 'informal' in a formal-informal water display.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Fountain Design, Materials & Water Assessment: Water trickles from a pipe which protrudes from a limestone boulder. It pools upon and then falls off a series of other

limestone boulders before dribbling into the pond. The mound of boulders is recognizable from Portage Avenue but the water can only just be noticed to very keen eyes. The pool is shallow with a plastic liner covered with soil and debris. A drain sticking above the water level is located at the centre of the pond to control the water

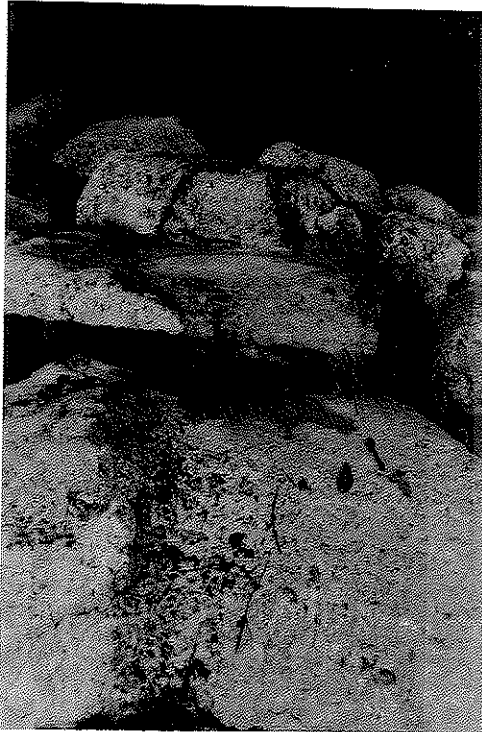


Pool and boulder mound as seen from Portage Avenue.

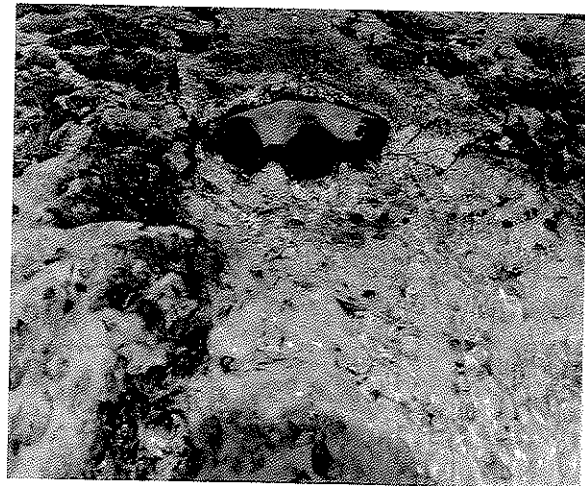
height. The water is quite clear with a minimum of algae growth.

Human Use: The area in the trees has been used extensively for small gatherings. Garbage on the site indicated some beverage consumption but little other activity. The

boulders are good for sitting on and are well hidden by the road (a cold beer store is just 50m away). The water feature provides a quick break from the views of hard edges and regular plantings along the street for motorists traveling on Portage Avenue.



Water dribbles off boulders into pond.



Spring source detail.

Remarks

Rating: * *

The feature would be much more effective if the boulder element was larger and more water gushed from the upper 'rock spring'. It is presently lost from view and provides little interest for passing motorists.

Source: Interview by telephone with Gunter Schoch, landscape architect, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 12, 1994.

Site Visits: June 28, 1994, July 4, 1994.

Fountain Name: Chinese Heritage Garden

Location: James Avenue & King Street

Designer: Po Chi Li, Stechesen Katz Architects

Client: Winnipeg Chinatown Development Corporation

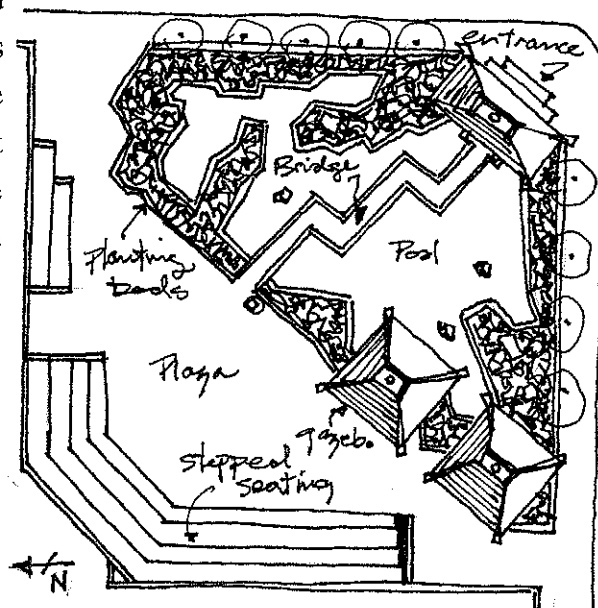
Date of Construction: 1981

Typology: Reflecting pool **Water Forms:** Reflecting pool

Basin Form: Polygon (400m²) **Function:** Symbolic, focal point, reflecting pool

Site Characteristics: The site is located on the western edge of Winnipeg's Chinatown and just northwest of the municipal building. It takes up a corner lot about 36m by 26m in area. It marks the entrances to both Chinatown and the Chinese Heritage Building.

Dedications & History: A plaque reads: "In Recognition of the leadership and support provided by Winnipeg Core Area Initiative and Destination Manitoba, the Chinese Heritage Garden, the Chinese Gate, and the King Street Beautification Project are dedicated to all the Citizens of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Canada by the Winnipeg Chinatown Development (1981) Corporation." The garden was inherited by the City in 1990.



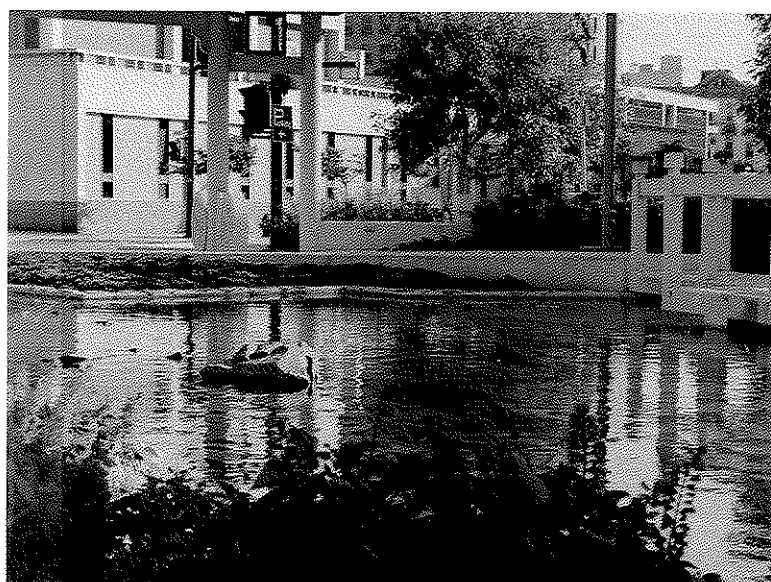
Site plan. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The gardens are designed in a way which resembles a traditional Chinese garden style to enhance and announce the Chinese character of the area.

Fountain Design & Materials: The water sits in a large shallow still pool. Roughly placed black shale lines the bottom and sides of the concrete pool. A large Chinese gate marks the main entrance to the site and is set at 45° to the corner. A concrete bridge with two double 90° bends spans the water to a central plaza. Two gazebos are placed in the southwest corner of the site, also at 45° to the city grid. A large open plaza is located to the northwest of the pool while concrete amphitheatre-style seating frames it on the north and



Water garden display from viewed from seating area.



Pool with plantings and boulder.

west. Materials for construction consistently incorporate reinforced concrete with metal and wood detailing, and rough shale in the pond area. Tiles are used as roofing materials. The pool's form is defined by several angular extensions which are used as planters for small shrubs and annuals.

Water Assessment: The black slate makes the water look dark. It has good reflective qualities. It also accents the strong bright colours of the annuals

Human Use: The garden is not heavily used but someone can usually be spotted strolling through it on the way to some other destination. It is a quiet place when the traffic is not roaring by (which is rare during the day).

Pigeons have taken over the gazebos making them unattractive places to sit. The garden offers small surprises for those who take the time to explore the water's edges.

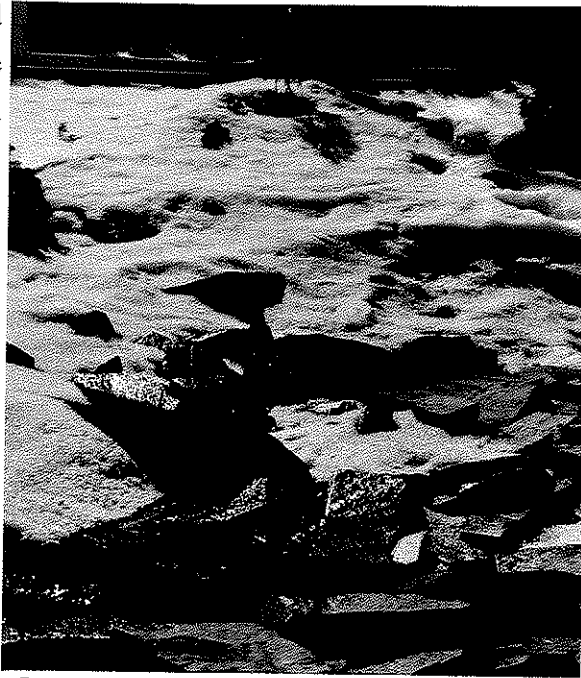
Winter Observations: The garden maintains its sculptural qualities in winter. The black stones accent strongly against the white snow revealing interesting patterns.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The water is circulated by a swimming pool type pump with a sand filter. The filter is 'backwashed' once per month. Each spring each

black shale slab is removed, washed, and replaced. This operation takes two people three days. The water surface is cleaned manually with a skimming net each week.

Remarks Rating: * * 1/2

The garden functions primarily as a large three-dimensional art work which is best seen from above. Its reflective qualities are wasted slightly as there is little to reflect save for the immediate site elements. The garden's annuals also look out-of-place. More junipers and other ornamental shrubs may give a better sense of balance to the garden.



Dark slate and snow contrast creating mosaic.

The black rock slabs cause a great deal of extra work for maintenance by catching debris, salt, and sand and having to be removed, washed, and replaced every year.



Slate on the pool bottom gives depth and character to water and reflections.

Source: Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Webb Lane Wall Fountain

Location: Webb Lane, North Portage Development

Designer: Llewellyn Simon Associates; UMA Engineering, Engineers and Planners

Client: North Portage Development Corporation

Date of Construction: 1988

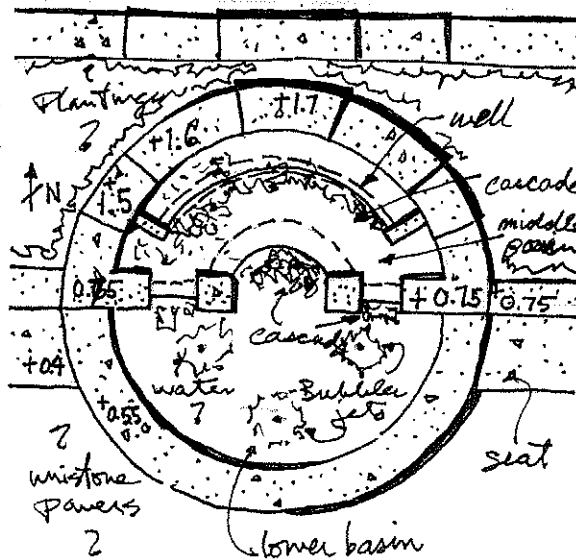
Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Wall fountain

Water Forms: Spring, cascade, bubbler jets

Basin Form: Semi-circular (3m²) **Function:** Visual contrast, focal point

Site Characteristics: The wall fountain takes up a circular area 2m in diameter and is set within a long, high (2m) concrete planter wall. The wall is located on the north side of Webb Lane across from high-rise apartments. Behind the wall is an older hotel and a parking lot. The wall marks the northern edge of the North Portage Development area.



Dedications & History: The fountain was designed as one of four outdoor fountains to grace the street developments of the North Portage Development. Of the three fountains constructed, only two remain, the

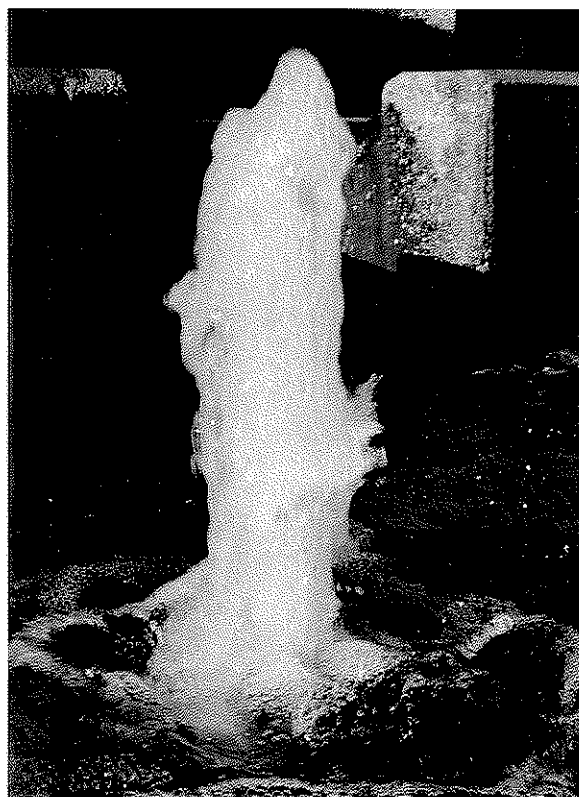
Wall Fountain and the Acrobat's Fountain. Both fountains have quietly bubbled and cascaded every summer since 1988. The third fountain was a source fountain which was removed when the ISM Building was constructed.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The wall was needed to provide 'closure' for Webb Lane and a buffer from the hotel parking lot. It was also to give the lane a residential quality bringing sound to the street and making it a more 'human' place. Since the wall is quite long, the fountain would also provide a focal point. The intent was to make the wall into a 'place' which people would recognize as a valuable and attractive element in the area.

Fountain Design, Materials & Water Assessment: The wall and fountain are constructed using three components. These include the wall, plantings within the wall, and



Fountain display.



Bubbler jet detail.

water. The wall is constructed of reinforced concrete with a semi-exposed finish. Blue and wine coloured tiles are set into the concrete in various geometrical patterns.

The flowing water brings the wall to life. The fountain has three levels. The top level is set into the wall as a concave semi-circle. It is less than 0.3m in width, about 0.5m in depth, and 2m in length along its outside

circumference. Water wells up from this reservoir and falls in a sheet along the entire inside edge of the semi-circle into another curved basin 1m below. Water pours out of the second basin in the same manner as the first along a curved edge about 0.5m in length. The water then gushes 0.3m into a lower basin. The convex curve of the lower basin actually completes the circular form of the uppermost basin. In plan, the fountain looks like two concentric pools of water sliced in half. Three bubble jets 0.2m high, are located in the bottom basin.

Human Use: Webb Lane is seldom frequented. It functions primarily as a nicely landscaped back alley. It is used for deliveries and by the odd shopper trying to find a parking spot. Some people use the

connecting sidewalk from Ellice to the Acrobat's Fountain, but head east towards the mall entrance and away from the wall fountain. It can be seen from many apartments in the towers to the south.

Winter Observations: The fountain does provide a good sculptural quality to the wall because of its many curves and three-dimensional qualities which contrast sharply with the linear wall planters. The bright blue and wine coloured tiles also help to animate a dreary lane of dirty snow and ice.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The spring and fall operations involve the installation and removal of a submersible pump, nozzles, and lights. Each operation takes two workers about 4 hours. The maintenance is done by a private contractor who maintains the fountain as problems arise. On average, two maintenance visits are made per month. The most common problems are due to a malfunctioning float valve which causes the fountain to overflow. A metal grate protects the intake pipe preventing large debris from clogging the pump.



Algae crusted walls in winter.

The fountain suffers from vandalism every winter. The heads are protected by a wire cage which is stepped on and broken. The damage, however, is relatively easy to fix. The rest of the fountain is constructed of sturdy materials and has held up well.

Remarks Rating: ***1/2

The fountain does create a point of interest in a pretty dismal area. But it is seldom appreciated and is certainly unknown by most Winnipeggers. This fountain, along with its sister, the Acrobat's Fountain, is one of Winnipeg's many lost fountains.

- Source: 1. Interview with Alf Simon, professor, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 10, 1994.
2. Interview by telephone with David Stones, P.Eng., Project Manager, North Portage Development corporation, Winnipeg, Manitoba, September 21, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Acrobat's Fountain

Location: Webb Lane, Portage Place

Designer: Llewellyn Simon Associates, landscape architects; UMA Engineering

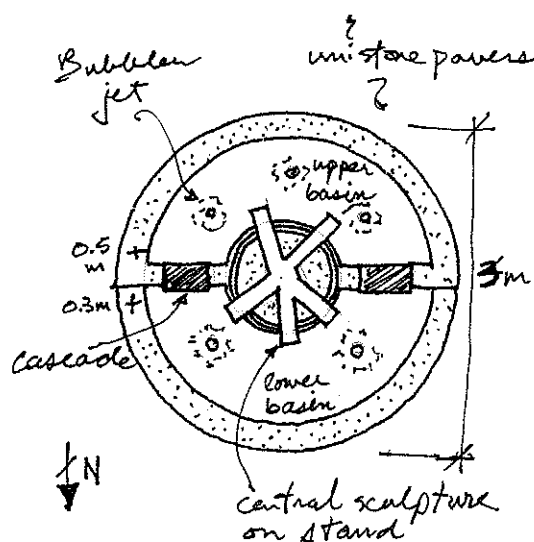
Client: North Portage Development Corporation

Date of Construction: 1988

Typology: Sculpture fountain **Water Forms:** Bubbler jets, cascade, pool

Basin Form: Circular (7m²) **Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located at the intersection of a pedestrian thoroughfare connecting Ellice Avenue to Webb Lane, a pedestrian/vehicle lane. The back corner of the Information Systems Management Corporation (ISM) building imposes itself on the fountain site. Apartment towers are located across Webb Lane to the south. A retaining wall supporting the 'Wall Fountain', runs from the Acrobat's fountain westward. The overall impression of the area is one of concrete, paving stones, metal and glass. The apartment towers to the south are dominating features.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: The Acrobat's sculpture was originally created by George Swinton for the Polo Park mall. The sculpture was removed during the mall's remodeling and donated to the North Portage Development Corporation. The sculpture was then incorporated into a fountain element.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain was designed and built based on pragmatic considerations of the site and to accommodate programmatic requirements. There were three issues which affected the placement and design of the fountain. First, it was to act as an axial terminus for a legally designated pedestrian lane which extended from Ellice Avenue south to Webb Lane. The pedestrian lane was to provide a visual continuation of Edmonton Street. Second, the location was also the point of juncture between two different structural features, one being an underground car park. This meant



Acrobat's Fountain sculpture and water display.

that the basin had to be placed in response to the underground features. The juncture also dictated the shape of the basin. The final issue was to incorporate the Acrobat's Sculpture as an element in the fountain design.

Fountain Design & Materials: The 3m diameter circular basin has two levels with the split through the centre. The outer edge of the south half of the basin sits 0.5m above ground level while the north half sits approximately 0.1m above ground level. The basin is concrete with a line of imbedded blue and red tile. A stainless steel edge is located on the inner lip of the upper half of the basin, where water falls into the lower half of the

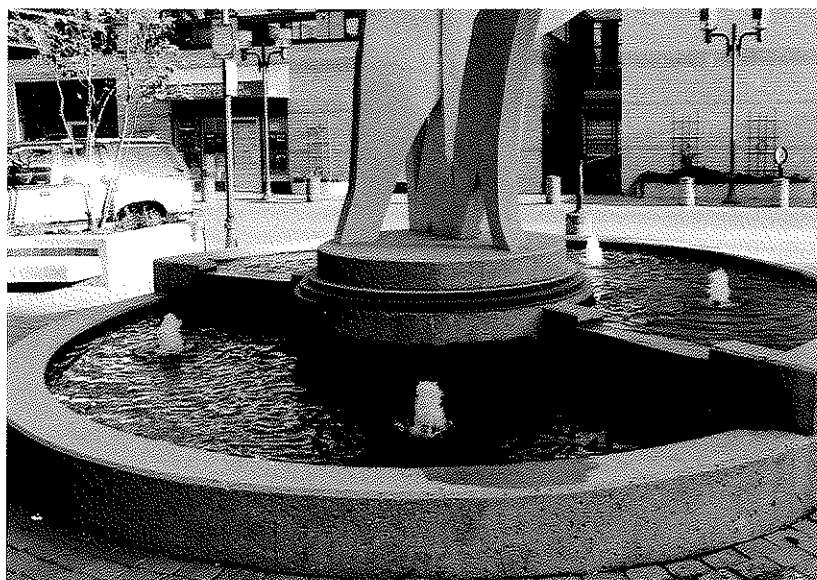
basin. The large blocky sculpture stands on a circular pedestal in the basin's centre.

Water Assessment: Three bubbler jets, approximately 0.2m in height, are located within each half of the basin. Water falls in two steady cascades on either side of the sculpture from the upper basin into the lower basin.

Human Use & Winter Observations:

The fountain is little known as it is hidden in a seldom frequented area. The occasional pedestrian will stroll by on their way to or

from the liquor store or mall. The fountain is not located in a public area so it is not used. It winter, the sculpture stands gray and silent and its basin is used as a snow dump.



Bubbler jet and cascade display detail.

Operation, Maintenance

& Costs: The spring and fall operations involve the installation and removal of a pump, nozzles, and lights. Each operation takes two workers about 4 hours. The maintenance is done by a private contractor who maintains the fountain as problems arise. On average, two maintenance visits are made per month. The most common problems are due to



Basin and piping in winter.

a malfunctioning float valve which causes the fountain to overflow. The submersible pump has been replaced twice in six years. Pump failure has occurred as a result of clogging from debris and dirt. The submersible recycling pump is a P-3, Flygt Model B-2050 with a capacity of 5 L/s at 8.0 metres of head with a 3600 rpm motor rated at 2.5 hp.

Remarks

Rating: * * *

The appropriateness for the placement of the fountain was lost when the pedestrian axis to Ellice Avenue was removed and the ISM building extended into the zone. The fountain can no longer be seen from Edmonton Street and thus fails in its function as a tying element. The fountain's visibility is further reduced as it cannot be seen very well from either end of Webb Lane. However, the modest water element is well executed and the fountain and sculpture a well balanced composition. The fountain ties in well with the wall fountain a few meters away.

- Source:
1. Interview with Alf Simon, professor, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 10, 1994.
 2. Interview by telephone with David Stones, P.Eng., Project Manager, North Portage Development corporation, Winnipeg, Manitoba, September 21, 1994.

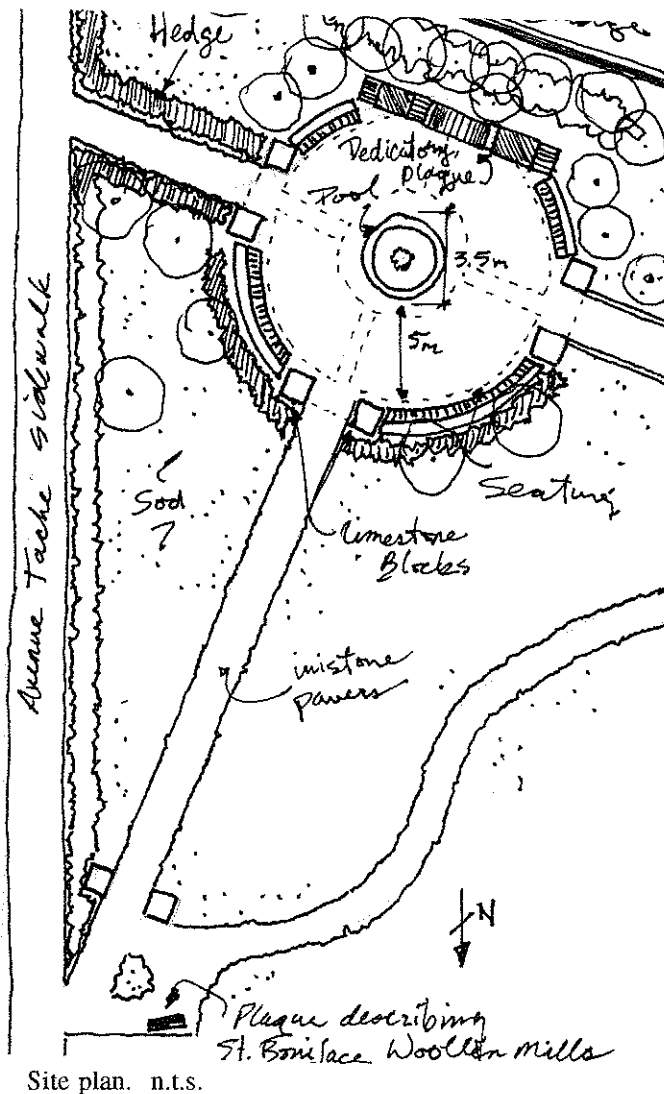
Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Joseph Royal Park Fountain**Location:** Joseph Royal Park, Provencher Bridge & Avenue Tache**Designer:** Ralph Schilling, architect**Client:** City of Winnipeg**Date of Construction:** 1990**Cost of Construction:** _____**Typology:** Jet fountain**Water Forms:** Cascade jet, pool**Basin Form:** Circular (9.6m²)**Function:** Historical monument

Site Characteristics: The fountain and circular plaza are tucked behind the Provencher Bridge along the Red River. Two paved pathways leave the Avenue Tache sidewalk at both ends of the small park and slope down to a circular plaza, 14m in diameter, and enclosed by a short retaining wall. The plaza and pathways are placed on an axis which is almost perpendicular the bridge. Tyndall limestone and concrete are the two major construction materials. Paved surfaces include asphalt, red and gray pre-cast pavers, and exposed aggregate. Four limestone clad columns back the plaza. The fountain basin is located at the centre of the plaza.

Dedications & History: The park and fountain were constructed as part of the 'Core Area Initiative

Program'. There are three plaques in the park. The one plaque located in the plaza is dedicated to Joseph Royal (1837-1902): "A lawyer and journalist, Royal came to Manitoba in 1870. The following year he founded *Le Metis*, a newspaper which spoke eloquently for the French Canadians and Metis of Manitoba and the Northwest until 1881. Royal, as a member for St. Francois Xavier, served successively as Speaker of the Legislative





Fountain display as seen from north entry to plaza.

Assembly 1871-72, Provincial Secretary 1872-74, Minister of Public Works 1874-76, and Attorney General 1876-78. From 1879-1808 he represented Provencher in the House of Commons; in the latter year was appointed Lieutenant Governor of the Northwest Territories. In 1893, Royal returned to Montreal to resume his career in

Journalism. The Historic

Sites Advisory Board of Manitoba." A second plaque describing the Broadway and Provencher Bridges is located below the plaza. The third plaque is located at the north end of the park and describes the history of the St. Boniface Woollen Mills which were located near Avenue Tache and Rue de Notre Dame.

Fountain Design & Materials:

The concrete basin is 3.5m in diameter and 0.5m in height. It is faced with Tyndall limestone from the plaza floor to within 0.1m of the lip of the basin. The lip is concrete and joins seamlessly to the inner face of the basin. The lip and inner basin are painted blue. A small concrete disc, which holds the fountain nozzle, is located in the centre of the basin.

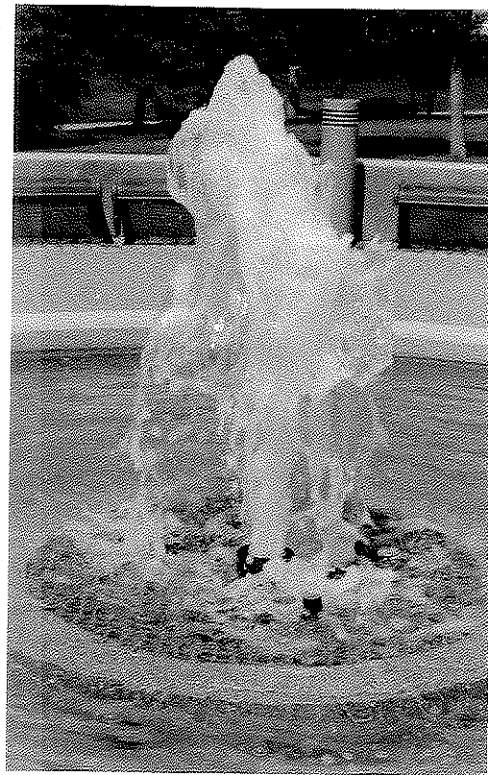


Fountain display as viewed from east entry.

Water Assessment: A single geyser jet, located in the centre of the basin, reaches a height of 1m. The jet height was controlled with a wind sensor but the device worked incorrectly. The pool water reaches to within 0.05m from the top of the basin lip. The water is clean and the fountain well maintained.

Human Use: The fountain plaza provides a quiet and private place for people to relax. It appears to be "off the beaten path" however, and may not be frequented often. The plaques on site offer interesting histories for the immediate area.

Rating: * * 1/2



Bubbler jet detail.

Source: Interview by telephone with Ralph Schilling, Winnipeg, Manitoba, _____ 1994.

Site Visits: June 25, 1994.

Fountain Name: Kennedy Street Floor Fountain

Location: Kennedy Street and Assiniboine Avenue

Designer: Scatliff & Associates Landscape Architects Inc. **Client:** City of Winnipeg

Date of Construction: 1990

Cost of Construction: \$5 000 (approximate)

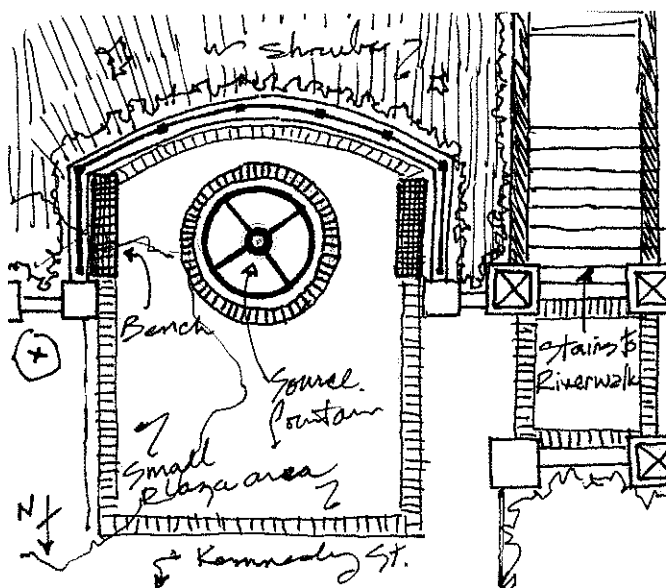
Typology: Source fountain

Water Forms: Cascade jet, pool

Basin Form: circular (metal grate)

Function: Axial focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is placed on centre with the southern culmination of Kennedy Street along a long axis to Portage Place Mall. The site is dominated by the Legislative grounds, which lie a half block to the northwest. A concrete staircase leads from the fountain down to the Assiniboine Riverwalk.



Site plan. n.t.s.

History & Design Concept: The Kennedy Street plaza and fountain were designed as part of the Assiniboine Riverwalk to announce a

pedestrian entrance to the Riverwalk from Kennedy Street. It was also designed to represent a dramatic link between the upper bank and Riverwalk below. The fountain was to draw attention to the river behaving as a "window" to the river from the street. The 0.5m to 2m high jet was to be heavily lit at night to give the allusion of a flame.

Fountain Design & Materials: The small plaza is roughly 5m square. It is surfaced with concrete which is inset with black bricks and cut limestone blocks. The inset pattern frames the edge of the space and outlines the circular galvanized metal grate. The grate is painted black while the metal fencing and seating is painted dark green.

Water Assessment: A single jet bubbles water 0.5m to 1.2m straight up from the centre of the metal grate. The water tumbles straight down upon itself, splashes on the grate and disappears.



The fountain did not operate in 1994.

Human Use: The area is ideal as a rest stop for walkers. It also functions as a connecting node between the Assiniboine Riverwalk and street level. Seating is provided by two metal wire benches from which one may look at the bubbling fountain, look over the river, or view the Legislature grounds. The small area is also wheelchair accessible from Kennedy Street.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountain uses a small submersible pump. When in operation, the filter had to be cleaned out daily. Even when the cascade was less than 0.5m in height a significant amount of spray and splash occurred making the nearby stairs wet and slippery. The concern for the danger to pedestrians led the city's parks and recreation department to stop operating the fountain in 1994.

Rating: * * *

Source: Interview by telephone with Mike Scatliff, Scatliff & Associates Ltd, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 12, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Winnipeg Art Gallery Rooftop Fountain

Location: Winnipeg Art Gallery, 300 Memorial Boulevard

Designer: Da Roza (?), architect

Client: Winnipeg Art Gallery

Date of Construction: 1972

Typology: Spray fountain

Water Forms: 4 multiple finger jets, spray jet, reflecting pool

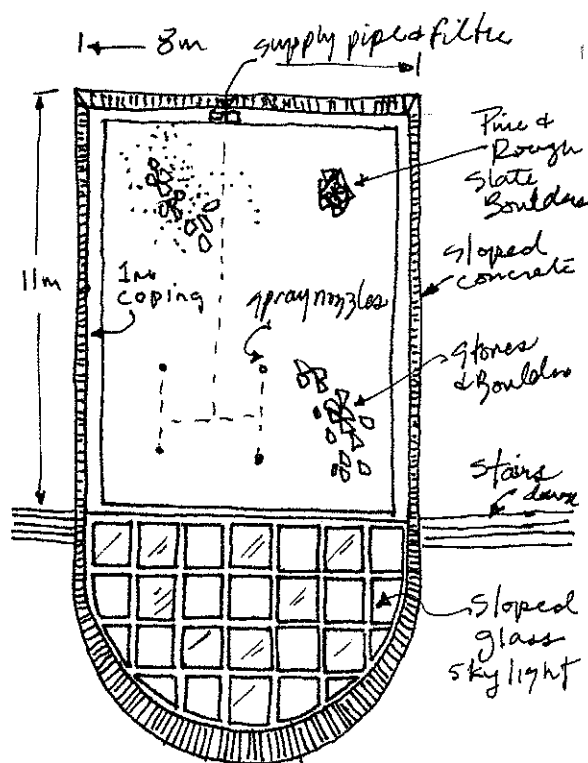
Basin Form: Rectangular (88m²)

Function: Visual contrast, focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located on the southeast corner of a triangular rooftop plaza framed by 3m concrete walls to the northeast and northwest and by a restaurant and gallery on the south. The plaza contains several sculptures and planter boxes. Two sets of staircases divide the plaza into three sections. The finish of all concrete is partially exposed aggregate.

Dedications & History: A few attempts at placing fish in the fountain have been made. Goldfish were used for a few years. They were attacked by gulls and then frozen when they were not removed one winter. A few

years later, several attempts to put minnows in the pond ended in disaster. They all died.



Site plan. n.t.s.

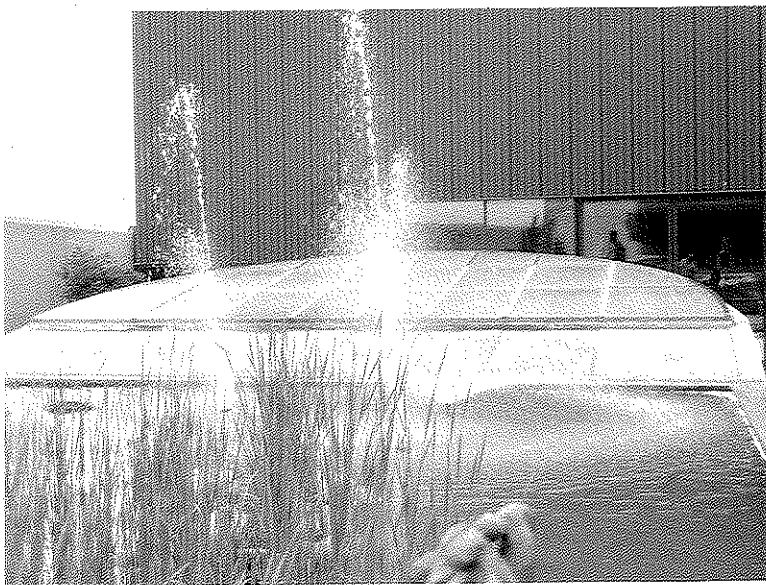
Fountain Design & Materials: The basin measures 8m by 11m and is constructed of reinforced concrete. It's edge is 0.5m above the plaza level. The coping is 0.5m wide along the 11m sides and 1m wide on the north end. The face slopes outward 0.2m. A semicircular skylight for the room below frames the basin's south side. The interior of the basin is coated with tar and surfaced with loose pea gravel. Several river boulders with an average size of 0.4m by 0.3m by 0.2m lay on the basin bottom in two groupings. More than half the boulders break the water surface. Volunteer water reeds grow in the north end of the basin. A 15 year old, 2 hp (electric 3 phase 220V) submersible pump drives the four fountain jets and is located in a sunken well at the north end of the basin. The well is accessed through the top of the coping. A metal mesh basket and solid metal



Pool with sculpture and reeds viewed from northwest.

strainer are located at the water intake at the basin's north edge. The pump is also equipped with a filter. A 75mm (3in) PVC pipe extends from the pump housing into the basin and sits on the surface. The piping, which is covered by pea gravel, extends to the south half of the basin to supply four jets arranged in a square, 2.5m apart. A small island, less than 1m in

diameter frames a pail with a small pine and ground covers in the northeast corner of the basin. The pail is framed by dark gray rocks.



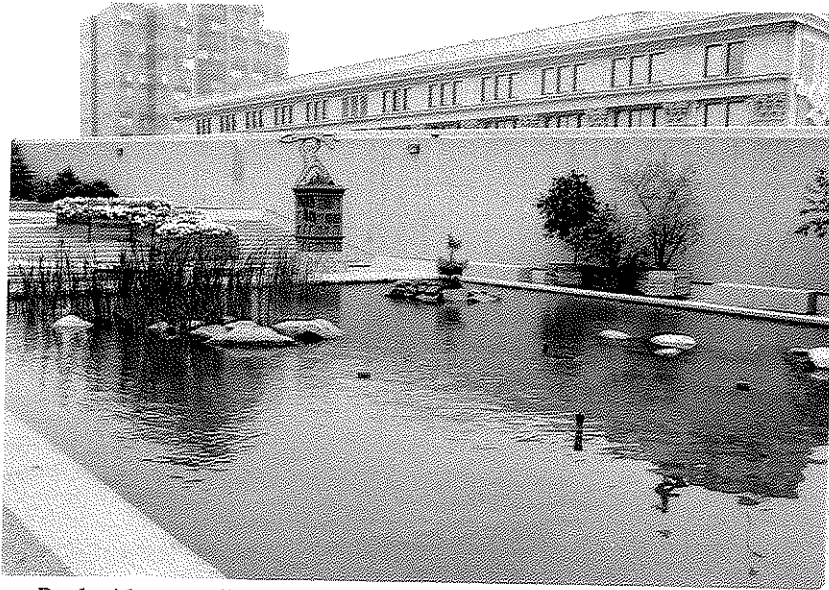
Fountain display.

Water Assessment: The pool water is approximately 0.15m in depth. There are four spray nozzles. Two nozzles incorporate multiple finger jets which fire to a 3m height as well as a low arcing circle of spray which reaches a 2.5m diameter. The other two nozzles create a similar effect but use a continuous sheet flow for the arcing circle.

Human Use: The plaza is used for several functions including concerts and weddings. The fountain becomes the focus of odd human activities during some of these events, making chlorination even more essential.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The pool is cleaned twice a week using a hand skimmer. The algae growth is kept down with chlorine pucks. The piping, nozzles, and pump are removed each fall and reinstalled in the spring. The nozzles are cleaned once each month.

The fountain operates from June to September. The pool takes about one day to fill with a 12mm (1/2in) hose which connects to an outlet several meters away. The basin's drain is only 19mm (3/4in) in diameter and takes an entire day to empty. The drain clogs easily.



Pool with protruding nozzles viewed from southwest.

Remarks

Rating: * 1/2

This is a poorly designed fountain when considering the water source and drainage. It is maintained with a minimum of effort and looks it. The pool will eventually reach such a degraded state that it will have to be removed.

- Sources:
1. Interview with Walter Sparks, Building Maintenance Engineer, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 4, 1994.
 2. Interview with Brent Mitchell, Building Maintenance, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 4, 1994.

Site Visits: August 4, 1994.

Fountain Name: Sony Place Fountain

Location: 1370 Sony Place, on McGillivray Boulevard

Designer: _____

Client: _____

Date of Construction: _____

Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Jet fountain

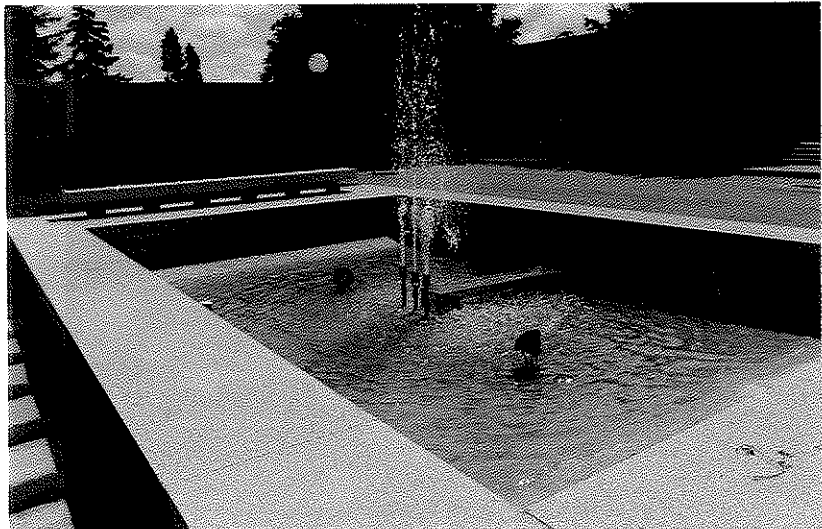
Water Forms: 3 cascade jets, pool

Basin Form: Rectangular (42.5m²)

Function: Focal point

Site Characteristics:

The fountain is located on the grounds between the main entrance of the Sony building and the service road parallel with McGillivray Boulevard. The grounds are characterized by closely pruned shrubs and trees and mowed grass.



The basin is seen here with a dangerously low water level.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain, in the corporate setting, is a symbol of power and indicates that the company has attained a relatively high status and large size.

Fountain Design &

Materials: The basin is 5m by 8.5m and 1m deep. The east and west ends of the basin extend outwards allowing for one bench on each end to run the entire width of the pool. The basin and benches are finished with white pebbled terrazzo-style concrete. The basin sits 0.5m above ground level



Fountain is placed in a garden area and on axis with the main entrance.

and has a 1m lip along the north and south sides. Four rows of spaced 0.3m^2 paving blocks frame the basin on three sides. A solid concrete surface ties the south side of the basin to the curb facing the building's main entrance. The interior face of the basin is painted blue.

Water Assessment: Three cascade jets (0.1m in diameter) are located in a line parallel to the basin length and in the centre of the basin. The aerated sprays reach a height of 3m and have a 0.6m spread. Droplet size is large.

Human Use: The benches give an opportunity for sitting and lunches and coffee breaks may be enjoyed by employees during the week. During the evenings and weekends, however, there is no one near the site.

Rating: * * *

Site Visits: June 10, 1994, several visits, 1994.

Fountain Name: King's Park Waterfall

Location: King's Park, on King's Drive, Fort Richmond

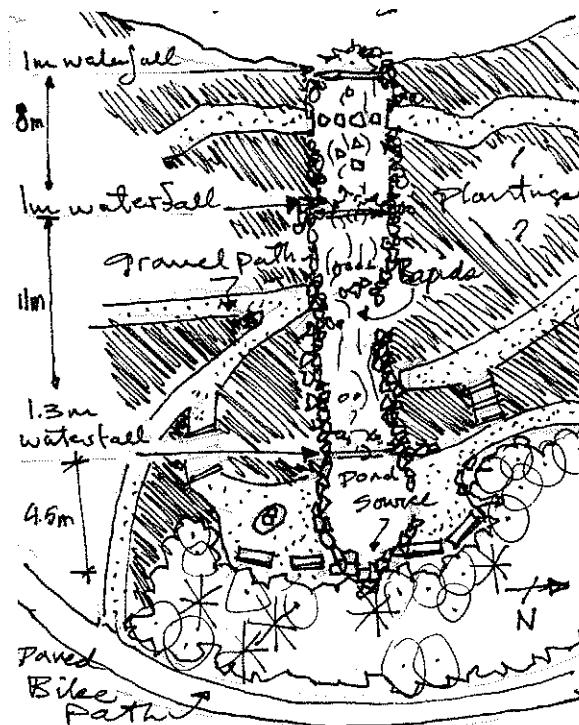
Designer: Janina Skucynska, City Parks Department **Client:** City of Winnipeg

Date of Construction: 1979-80

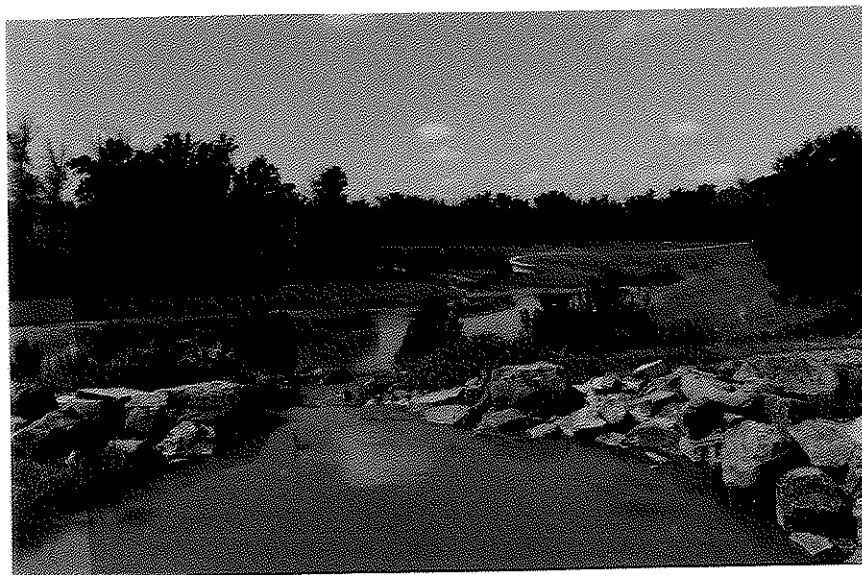
Typology: Waterfall (L) **Water Forms:** spring, waterfall, rapids, retention pond

Basin Form: Retention pond **Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics: King's Park is a multipurpose outdoor area with many walking and bicycling pathways, open grassed areas, woods, and playing fields. One portion of the park features an area with a pond, an island with a pagoda and bridges, and a high berm with a waterfall. The waterfall feature starts at the top of a constructed berm and flows in a straight westward path to a retention pond. Several pathways cut across the berm to intersect with the waterfall. The area is planted with a variety of junipers, perennials, ground covers, and deciduous and coniferous shrubs and trees.



Site plan. n.t.s.



View from above waterfall at source.

Fountain Design & Materials:

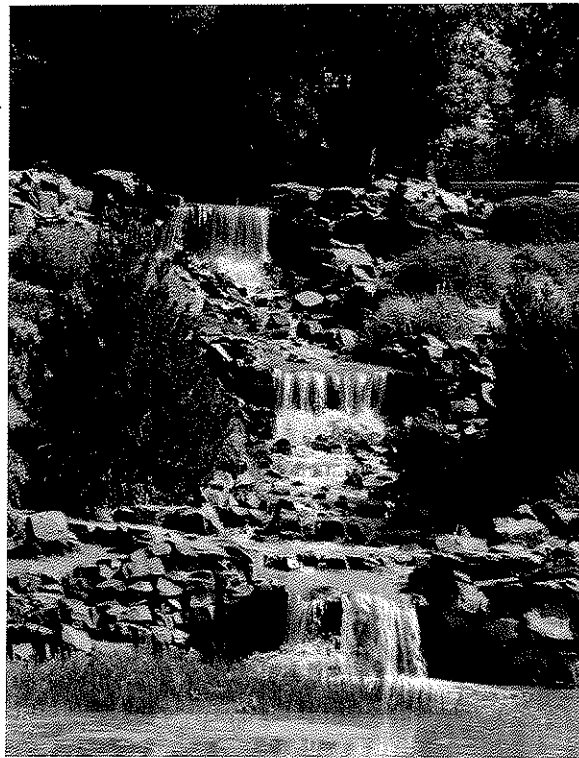
The waterfall and surrounding plantings present a vision of a stream gushing down a steep mountain side. The water source appears to flow from the base of boulders placed 7m above and 23m east of a retention pond. The

water collects in a small oval pool, about 3.5m by 4.5m. It then falls over a 1.3m drop and tumbles down small rapids for 11m and crashes over a second 1m high waterfall. A stepping stone path cuts through the rapids just below the second waterfall. Two metres past the stepping stones, a final 1m high falls sends the water into the retention pond. The entire water course is framed by black boulders of varying sizes.

Water Assessment: The falls can be seen and heard from a good distance. The water which gushes down the falls is from the Red River and is quite muddy in colour. The visual quality of the fountain could be greatly enhanced if the water was cleaner. Its crashing and bubbling is something quite foreign to the prairies. The pond is shallow and filled with cattails and water reeds. Algal bloom is present but is controlled as the waterfall provides a good source of oxygenated water.

Human Use & Winter Observations:

The entire water feature acts as a magnet for everyone. Children are especially attracted to the 'dangerous' looking water. More attractions await with the pond where frogs and other animals live. People will walk to the falls and sit by it or explore its forms. Seating on either side of the 'spring' provides a great view of the park. The waterfall and paths disappear in the snow and the area is not used for tobogganing or other winter activities.



Waterfall as seen from foot bridge.

Operation, Maintenance, & Costs: Water is drawn from the Red River through a 150mm (6in) pipe by a 20 hp (?) pump placed within the hillside. A weir in the pond regulates the water height. The pump is removed each fall and reinstalled in the spring. Each operation takes two workers a full day.

Rating: * * * 1/2

Source: 1. Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Kildonan Park Pool Fountains

Location: Kildonan Park, central pavilion

Designer: Gunter Schoch, Winnipeg Parks, landscape architect

Client: Metropolitan Winnipeg Parks Board

Date of Construction: 1964 **Cost of Construction:** \$200 000 for pavilion & pond

Typology: Pond

Water Forms: Calyx jets, spill & splash, pool

Basin Form: Curvilinear (500m²) **Function:** Focal point, skating rink

Site Characteristics:

The pond features two small spray fountains and a pre-cast sculpture fountain and is bordered to the west by the Peguis Pavilion. The pond takes up a sunken area within an old creek bed and is surrounded

by steep banks of grass, shrubs, and trees.

Pathways circle the pond.



Simple and gentle display at south end of pond.

History, Design Concept, & Operation: The original water supply for the pond came from the small creek which flows through the swale. Especially after rains, the polluted water caused algal blooms and carried high quantities of garbage into the pond. The problem was alleviated when a 100mm (4in) PVC pipe was installed connecting the upper end of the stream to its lower end bypassing the pond. Extra runoff flows through this pipe. The pond is also 'shocked' periodically. The spray nozzles were made on site and are simply connected to a regular water tap.



Detail of golden bird bath on island.

Fountain Design & Materials: The pond itself measures about 80m in length. A small island lies in the southern half of the pond. It is about 8m across at its narrowest point and 30m across at its widest point. Water is contained by a plastic liner. The pond edge is constructed of rough hewn limestone blocks. Grass grows between the blocks. The two spray fountains consist of plumbing pipe, which extend 1.25m above the water surface, and are fitted with a single nozzle. Each fountain is located at either end of the pond. A gold coloured pre-cast umbrella fountain sits on a small island in the centre of the pond.



Display at north end of pool.

Water Assessment:

The pond's calyx jets are small, reaching less than 1.4m in

height and 2m in spread. The water is clear and breaks into droplets quite quickly. When the water hits the pond surface it sounds like gentle rain. The golden umbrella fountain is a pre-cast residential style. Water bubbles out from the top of the umbrella and splashes in droplets around it.



Pond in winter becomes a skating rink.

Human Use: Many people stop at the pool, mostly as singles and couples. People will sit on seating provided in several locations as retaining walls, boulders, and benches. Activities observed included reading, talking, eating lunch, and just looking at the pond elements. The area is peaceful and quiet.

Winter Observations: The fountains are removed and the pond is frozen and maintained as a skating rink during the winter. A rubber surfaced plaza extends from the Peguis Pavilion to the ice edge for skaters.

Rating: * *



Display detail.

Source: 1. Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.

Site Visits: September 18, 1993, June 25, 1994.

Fountain Name: Lily Coodin Memorial Drinking Fountain

Location: Kildonan Park

Designer: _____

Client: Family of Lily Coodin

Date of Construction: 1982

Cost of Construction: \$1 500

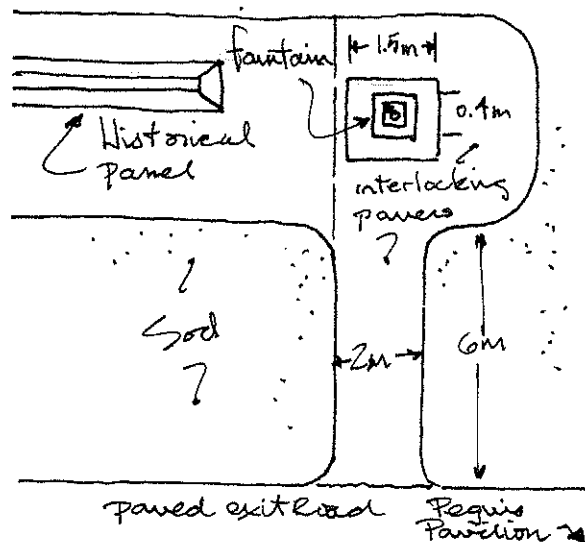
Typology: Drinking fountain

Water Forms: Spout jet

Basin Form: None

Function: Memorial

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located just off the exit driveway by the Peguis Pavilion. A 2m wide sidewalk of interlocking pavers surrounds the fountain and links it to the driveway. A historical information stand is located next to the fountain which stands alone in its setting.



Dedications & History: The drinking fountain was given to Kildonan Park by the children of Lily Coodin. The fountain is dedicated to Mrs. Coodin who walked around the park everyday for fifteen years

before she died at the age of eighty-two in 1982. The fountain is located near the pavilion where she parked her car. A bronze plaque on the fountain reads: "This fountain dedicated/ to the memory of our mother/ Lily Coodin/ 1900-1982/ who for many years enjoyed this beautiful park/ Erected by her family"

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is a standard design for drinking fountains in Winnipeg parks. It is constructed with an exposed aggregate base (1m high) with a smooth concrete cap (0.05m thick). A square stainless steel dish with a corner drinking head is placed within the cap.



A bronze plaque is placed on the front face of the base.

Drinking fountain with memorial plaque.

Source: *Winnipeg Free Press*, July 6, 1983, p6 by Val Werier.

Site Visits: July 8, 1994.

Fountain Name: Assiniboine Park Duck Pond

Location: Assiniboine Park

Designer: _____

Client: City of Winnipeg

Date of Construction: _____

Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Pond

Water Forms: Pond, geyser

Basin Form: curvilinear

Function: Focal point, skating rink

Site Characteristics: The duck pond is located just south of the English Garden and northwest of the central pavilion. It is largely surrounded by thick plantings of aspen and oak. 'Windows' to the pond have been cut out at various points. The pond is surrounded by a walking path which winds its way through the 'forest'.

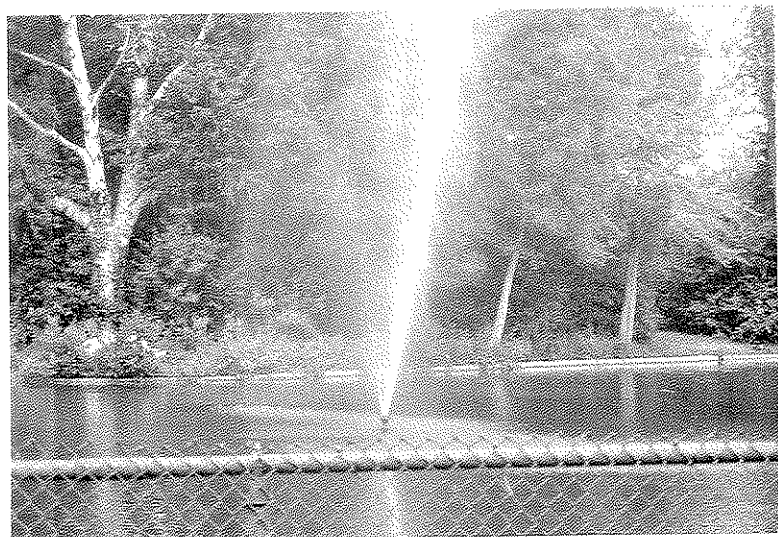


Fountain as viewed from north.

Fountain Design & Materials: The shallow pond has been dug out of the flat land. It is roughly 60m long and varies from 25m to 10m in width. Two small islands are located at the north and south ends. The outer pool edge and the islands are defined by a concrete edge.

Water Assessment: The 6m high aerated spray is released by a nozzle in the middle of the pond. The fine mist carries quite far in the wind.

Human Use: The pond area is a safe haven for ducks and geese. Two clipped swans live in the enclosed

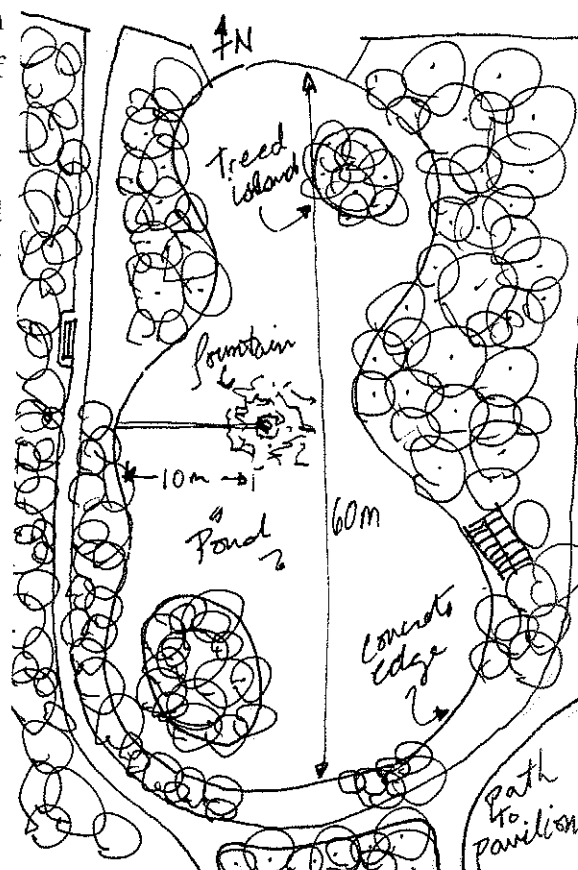


Fine misty display in centre of pond.

pond. The area around the pond is fenced to protect the birds. The fence is only 1.3m high and allows for uninterrupted viewing of the area.

Winter Observations: In winter the pond is maintained as a skating rink. A nearby picnic pavilion provides shelter for people to change their skates.

Rating: * 1/2



Site plan.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Royal Canadian Mint

Location: 520 Lagimodiere Boulevard, at Marion Street

Designer: Gaboury Lussier Sigurdson, architects; Lombard North Group

Client: Canadian Federal Government

Date of Construction: 1976 **Cost of Construction:** _____

Typology: Spray fountain, water course

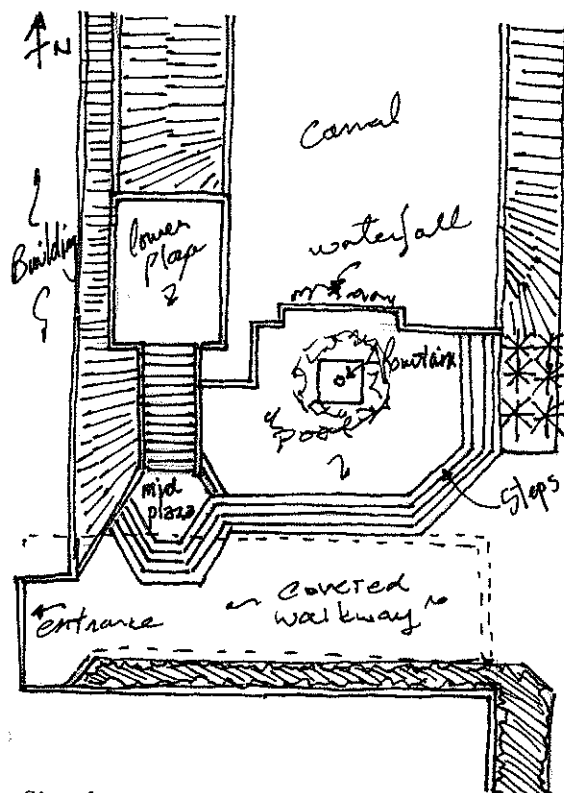
Water Forms: Calyx jet, waterfall, pool, retention pond

Basin Form: Polygon (77m²), Retention pond **Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics: The area is characterized by expansive grounds of large sodded berms surrounding a central building. Tight plantings exist near the building. The fountain is placed along the visitors entrance and is framed by the tall triangular glass structure of the mint and by heavy ornamental tree and shrub plantings. It is visible and accessible from its south edge (entrance sidewalk).

Symbolism & Design Concept: The site was required to collect its own water runoff to prevent overloading of the City's storm sewer system. To accommodate drainage for the 40 acre site a storm drainage retention lake was constructed. The lake curves around the building supporting the idea of a fortified factory. The mint was constructed to accommodate a combination of a high security industrial plant and a public building. The grounds were to reflect this dual purpose as well.

Fountain Design & Materials: The basin and surrounding structures are constructed of reinforced concrete. The small plaza along the south edge of the fountain basin is surfaced with brick.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Water Assessment: The nozzle fires a large static calyx spray 1.5m in height and 2.5m in diameter. The water film breaks into fine to medium droplets. A waterfall, 3.5m in height, drops from the 0.75m deep fountain basin into a long wide canal. The lip of the waterfall is about 4m across. The water, which is circulated from the pond through the fountain, originates from a ground well and from storm runoff.



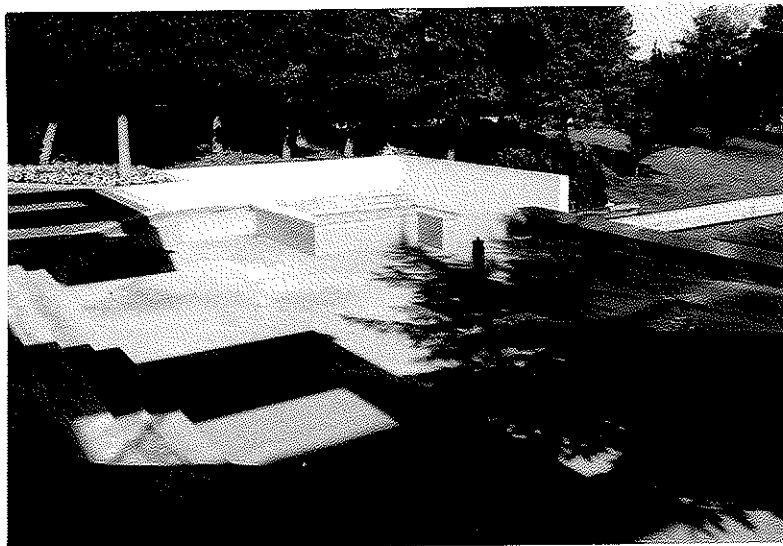
Protruding nozzle and empty basin overlook canal.

Human Use: Several steps frame the south edge of the fountain dropping about 1m from the sidewalk level. Most people just walk by the fountain on the way to the building entrance. Employees do not use the area at all as their breaks must be taken in the back of the building.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: Algae buildup is the largest maintenance problem. This is caused by the large body of shallow still water on the site. There have been no major repair items.

Remarks Rating: * 1/2

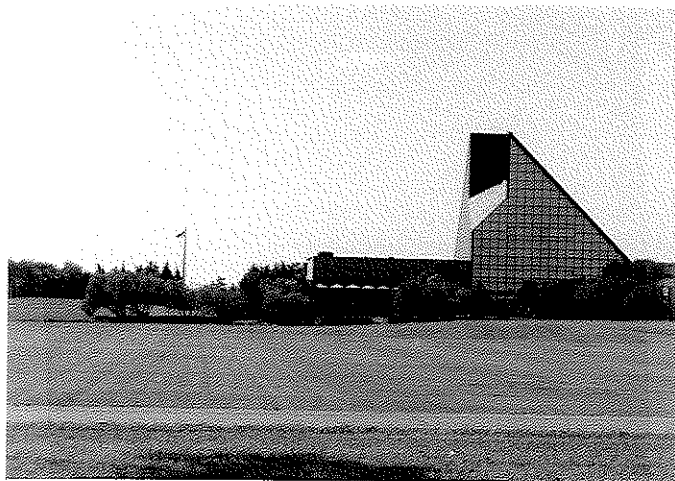
The design has great potential but fails. The large waterfall, which is the most impressive



Western edge of basin with thick background plantings.

part of the water feature, faces the wrong direction for viewing and cannot be observed from any place other than a small sunken plaza. The fountain is located in a spot that is

shady for most of the day. The splashing water loses its luster without the reflection of sunshine. It also cools an already cool area.



The fountain can be seen from Fermor Avenue.

Source: Interview by telephone with Bill Wersch, Royal Canadian Mint, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 4, 1994.

Site Visits: August 4, 1994.

Fountain Name: Winnipeg Taxation Centre Northeast Fountain¹⁷⁶

Location: 66 Stapon Road

Designer: _____

Client: Federal Government

Date of Construction: 1994

Cost of Construction: _____

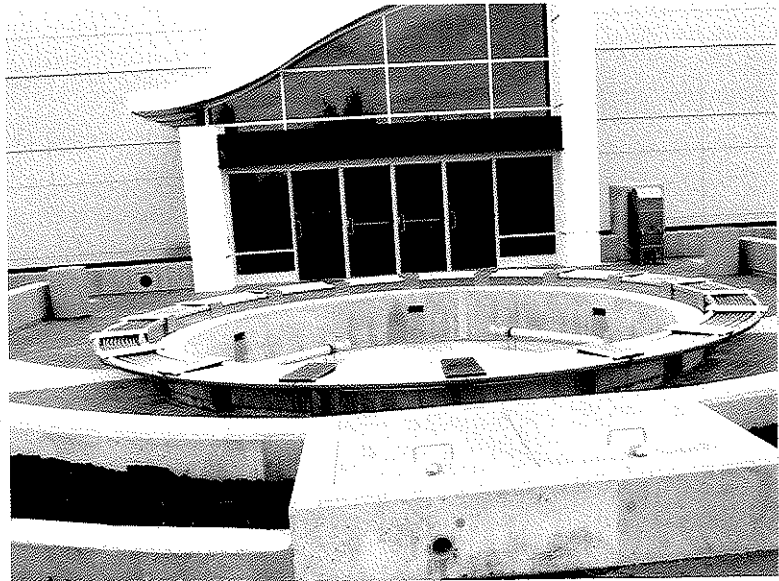
Typology: _____

Water Forms: _____

Basin Form: Circular (20m²)

Function: _____

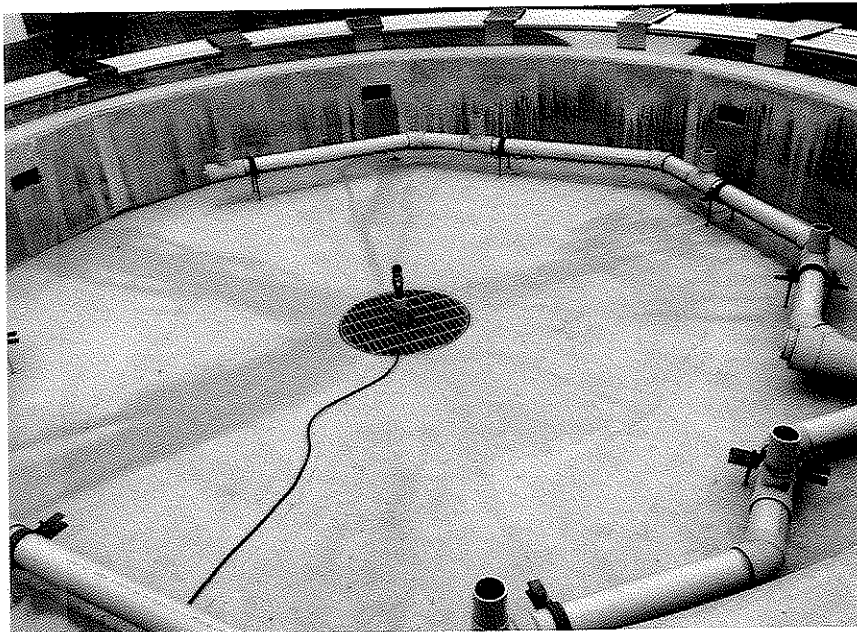
Site Characteristics: The partially constructed structure is located on axis and 5m in front of a newly constructed entranceway. It is surrounded by a parking lot and framed by concrete walls and a planter. The small plaza area is surfaced with brick pavers.



Basin with surrounding seating at new entranceway.

Fountain Design &

Materials: The fountain



Basin detail..

basin is constructed of reinforced concrete. The walls are 150mm thick and over 1m in height with about one-third of the structure above the plaza floor level. Six rectangular holes are cut through the basin walls to the plaza floor level, presumably to drain the plaza during rains. A stainless steel bench

¹⁷⁶Fountain not included in some statistical analysis.

encircles the basin. PVC piping, 100mm (4in) in diameter is laid in the bottom of the basin for the water display. A 2hp submersible electric pump and drain are located in a 0.75m diameter hole in the center of the basin.

Site Visits: August 6, 1994.

Fountain Name: Fountain House Apartments Fountain

Location: Fountain House Apartments, 300 Roslyn Road, Osborne Village

Designer: _____

Client: Fountain House Apartments

Date of Construction: Unknown (1950-60?)

Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Spring

Water Forms: Water wall, spring

Basin Form: Oval (3.6m²)

Function: Symbolic, focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located at the parking lot entrance of an apartment tower in an area characterized by single detached dwellings and apartment towers.

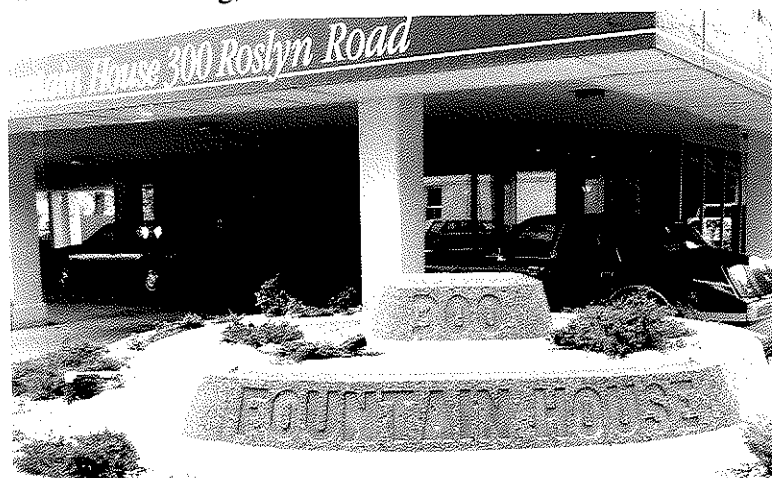


The fountain functions as a traffic bollard and sign post.

Fountain Design & Materials

The fountain was constructed to help enforce the imagery implied by the name of the apartment block. The basin is constructed of reinforced concrete. It sits in an oblong shaped

planter basin which reaches a height of one metre. The fountain structure has three tiers, including the planter basin. The top two tiers are oval in shape. The upper most tier is 1m long, 0.4m wide, and 0.4m high with steeply sloping sides. It sits within the second tier which is 3m long, 1.2m wide, and 0.5m high. A narrow canal flows around the base



Fountain and planter detail.

of the second tier. The troughs are painted bright light blue. Gravel and small shrubs fill the concrete base.

Water Assessment: Water wells up from the upper tier and flows over its entire wall surface, as a trickling cascade, into the trough of the second tier where it flows out the front and back sides into another trough. It is collected

through a screen in the bottom of the trough and pumped back to the upper tier. The walls glisten in the sun but the water is otherwise almost invisible. The fountain whispers and cannot be heard from a fairly close distance.

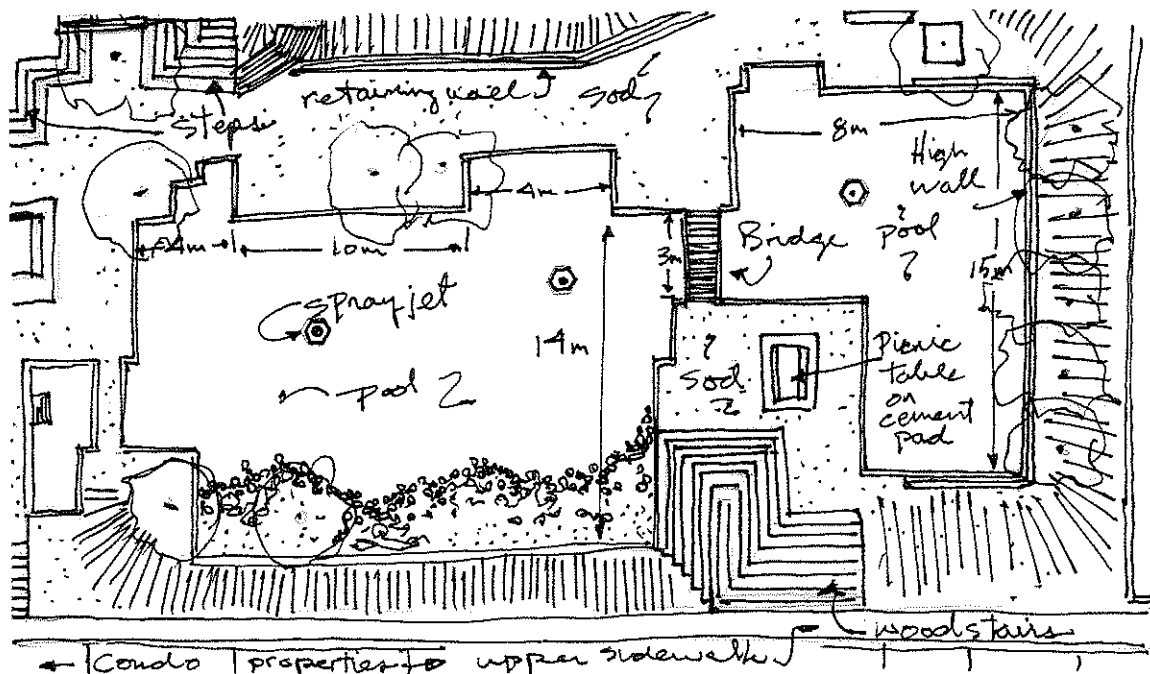
Human Use: People drive and walk by the structure on their way to and from the tower. It appears to be largely ignored.

Remarks	Rating: *
The fountain has very limited visual appeal and cannot be distinguished as a fountain from any distance. It looks more like a concrete traffic median than anything else. It is well maintained.	

Site Visits: June 12, 1994, June 28, 1994.

Fountain Name: Kenaston Village Water Feature**Location:** Kenaston Village Condominiums, 516 Kenaston Boulevard**Designer:** Lombard North Group (?)**Client:** _____**Date of Construction:** mid 1970's (?)**Cost of Construction:** _____**Typology:** Spray**Water Forms:** Finger jets, pool**Basin Form:** Polygon (700m²)**Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics: The water feature is located within a rectangular area framed by townhouses roughly 80m by 40m. It is located in a depression roughly 3.5m below grade at the east end and 2m below grade at the west end. A paved path circles the feature at the top of its bank and connects to the backyards of the townhouse units. The plants are characterized by mature poplar, a few Colorado blue spruce, and sod. Retaining walls and steps are constructed of 150mm X 150mm (6in X 6in) timbers. Paving materials include 0.5m wide concrete sidewalk blocks, concrete sidewalks, and asphalt sidewalks. The townhouse units are finished with stained wood siding.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Design Concept & Fountain materials: The water feature was designed as a selling feature for the townhouse community. The pool, which measures 18m across and 50m in length, is framed by wood timbers. The pool follows a compound polygonal form but generally remains roughly rectangular. All corners are 90°. The pool contains three

fountain elements, each contained in an octagonal metal basin 0.5m in diameter. A 'polyethylene' liner is most likely used to contain the water.

Water Assessment:

The three fountain features are identical. Each feature has four nozzles which fire non-aerated 3mm (1/8in) diameter strings 3 to 4m high. The strings break apart before apex and fall as medium to large droplets. Little



Pond with almost invisible water displays.

attention has been given to the string

heights, direction, or water volume. The sprays are also barely noticeable. The water appears to be circulated.

Human Use: The quiet area is equipped with three picnic tables and quite a bit of seating. The primary activities promoted by the design are passive (sitting, walking). Ducks enjoy the murky water. A fenced-in outdoor swimming pool is located directly to the east and above the feature.

Remarks

Rating: * 1/2

The pool appears to be poorly maintained and the water is dirty which detracts from the attractiveness of the site significantly. The fountain features appear simple to maintain with screw off nozzles for cleaning. The timber beams have rotted away showing that wood is a poor material for use as a water edger.

Site Visits: August 4, 1994.

Fountain Name: Grant Avenue Winnipeg Hydro Cooling Station

Location: Grant Avenue & Stafford Street

Designer: _____

Client: Winnipeg Hydro

Date of Construction: _____

Typology: Cooling station

Water Forms: Calyx jets, pool

Basin Form: Rectangular

Function: Hydroelectric cooling station

Site Characteristics: The site is located on the northeast corner of Grant Avenue and Stafford Street kitty-corner to the hydroelectric station on the southwest corner of Grant Avenue and Stafford Street. A children's daycare is located immediately to the east of the site and small residential homes are located across Scotland Avenue to the north. The lot is fenced with 2.5m high chain link with barbed-wire capping. The basin is located in the western half of the lot. The land is flat and sodded with a few sparsely planted shrubs growing on the east half of the site.

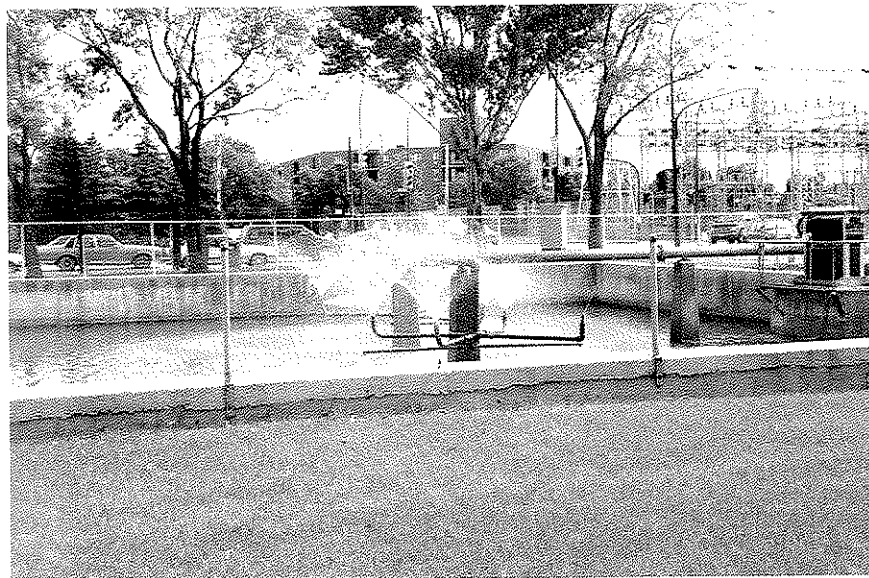
Fountain Design &

Materials: The fountain is purely functional as it is designed to release heat from the water which cools the transformers across the street. The thick concrete basin reaches just above ground level and is

approximately 2m

deep. Pipes extend to

the centre of the basin from the west edge and faced in opposite directions where they terminate with four nozzles.



Display as seen from Scotland Avenue.

Water Assessment: The water sprays upwards as a calyx from four nozzles and drops into the pool. The nozzles are placed at staggered heights. The water 'rains' into the large pool below where it is returned to the hydroelectric station.

Human Use & Winter Observations: People are locked out of the dangerous site and only allowed to look in through a fence. In winter, the fountain is occasionally turned on. Steam and mist from the fountain clings to the chain link fences creating an ice wall. The display can be quite spectacular.

Remarks

Rating: *

The cooling station presents an unrealized opportunity as it has great potential to be a community fountain. Without too much difficulty, the site could be turned into a park and the cooling station converted into a public fountain while still accomplishing its functional task. The ice wall is a fascinating feature and worth further exploration.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Lakeview Square Garden

Location: Lakeview Square, between 155 Carlton Square & 175 Carlton Street

Designer: Brian Duncan, St. Mary's Nursery **Client:** _____

Date of Construction: Early 1970's **Cost of Construction:** _____

Typology: Water course

Water Forms: Brook, pool, cascade

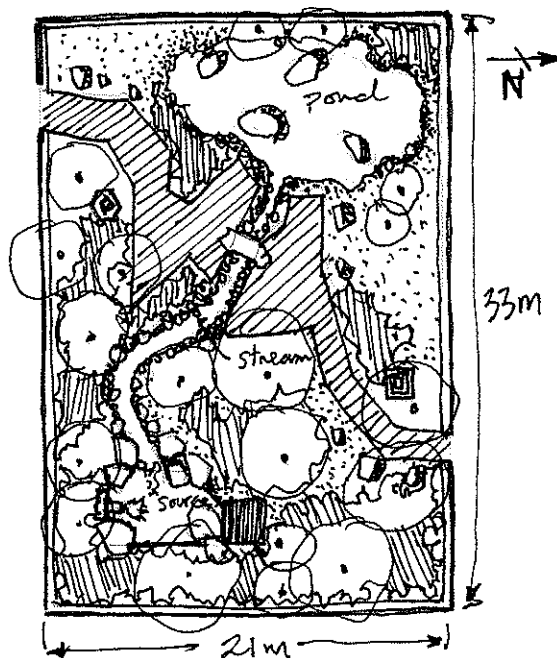
Basin Form: Curvilinear (20m²)

Function: Cultural reference, visual contrast

Site Characteristics & Design

Concept: The quiet square is located in a pocket between two office towers, an apartment tower, and the Convention Centre. The area is dominated by noise from the building ventilation fans. The water feature is located within a raised rectangular area 33m long and 21m wide. The square is protected by stone walls and is surrounded on three sides by shade trees. The rectangular area is designed as an oriental style garden. A path cuts from the northeast corner to the southwest corner. The water element originates as a small spring and cascade in the southeast corner and flows to a larger pond in the northwest corner. A variety of shrub and tree plantings occupy the area.

Several small boulders are placed randomly throughout the site.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Fountain Design, Materials & Water Assessment: The source pool is 2m by 2.5m and emptied by a small 1m high waterfall. The stream, which runs 16m to a pond 5m by 3m, is 0.5m wide and filled with gravel. Large boulders are placed randomly throughout the pond. A small circulating pump pushes a small volume of water through the system. The water murmurs as it flows along its tiny path. It is also hidden by the plantings from many points of view.



Northwest corner of site is framed by trees and shrubs.

Human Use, Operation, Maintenance & Costs:

The square provides no place for seating and the walking path is hidden from view. The square is maintained by city maintenance crews who spend about one hour per week at the site. The feature has not worked properly for several years and water tends to leak into the underground parking lot below.

Remarks Rating: *

The area offers little interest for pedestrians. However, its green exterior offers a nice contrast to the surrounding glass and concrete.

Source: Interview with Jack Street & Don Verway, City of Winnipeg Parks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 11, 1994.

Site Visits: August 6, 1994.



Stone bridge at centre of site.

Fountain Name: Southdale Community Pond Fountain

Location: Lakewood Park, Lakewood Boulevard, Southdale

Designer: ID Engineering Canada Inc. **Client:** LADCO

Date of Construction: _____

Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Floating fountain

Water Forms: Geyser jet, retention pond

Basin Form: Retention pond

Function: Focal point

Site Characteristics: The Lakewood Pond is one of several constructed lakes for a residential development in southeast Winnipeg. The western edge of the pond is framed by an open park adjacent to a school yard. All other lands adjacent to the pond are private residential lots. In the park, sod grows to the water's edge. The pond is about 45m wide and 500m long.

Fountain Design & Materials: About 35m from the west end of the pond is a floating fountain with a submersible pump. The fountain has six nozzles located on a circular pipe. A single nozzle is located in the centre.

Water Assessment: The central geyser reaches a height of 5m while the six encircling geysers reach a height of approximately 2m. The spray is quite fine and is easily caught by the wind.

Human Use: The fountain functions primarily as a sculptural element. There is little recreational value for the pond as wading and swimming are not permitted.

Rating: * 1/2

Site Visits: _____



Southdale Community fountain viewed from Lakewood Park to northwest.

Fountain Name: Whyte Ridge Floating Fountain

Location: Scurfield Park, Whyte Ridge Community, access from Columbia Drive

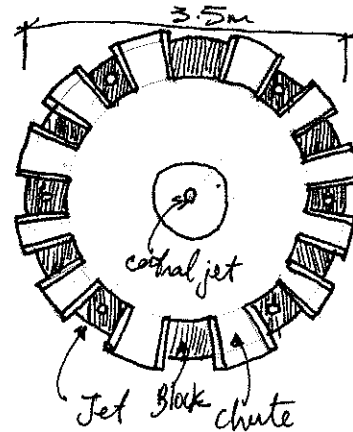
Designer: UMA Engineering **Client:** _____ (developer)

Date of Construction: 1985-86 **Cost of Construction:** \$90 000

Typology: Floating fountain **Water Forms:** Plume jet, retention pond

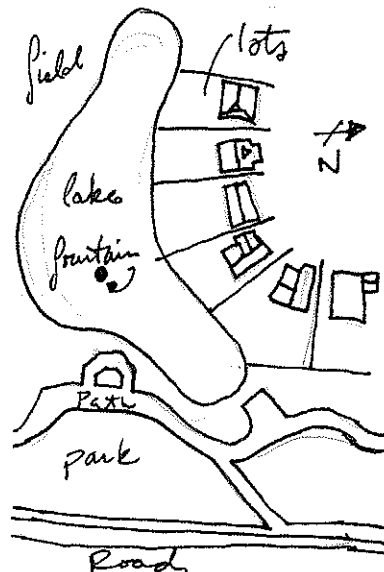
Basin Form: Retention pond **Function:** Focal point for retention pond

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located about 30m off shore on the east end of a kidney-shaped residential community retaining pond. The pond is roughly 200m by 100m. It is framed by park land on the east and west edges while residential lots extend to the water's edge along the north and south. Views to the fountain, lake, and adjacent residences are open from the Columbia Drive access. A concrete ramp runs from the southeast corner of the access to the fountain for servicing.



Detail plan. n.t.s.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain was designed to create a "big splash". It was to be an eye-catching water display to enhance the visual appeal and status of the neighbourhood. The fountain also serves a secondary purpose as a water aerator and circulator. The floating fountain is chained to the bottom of the pond. It employs multiple brass aerating nozzles. The pumps are attached to the fountain feature.



Site plan. n.t.s.

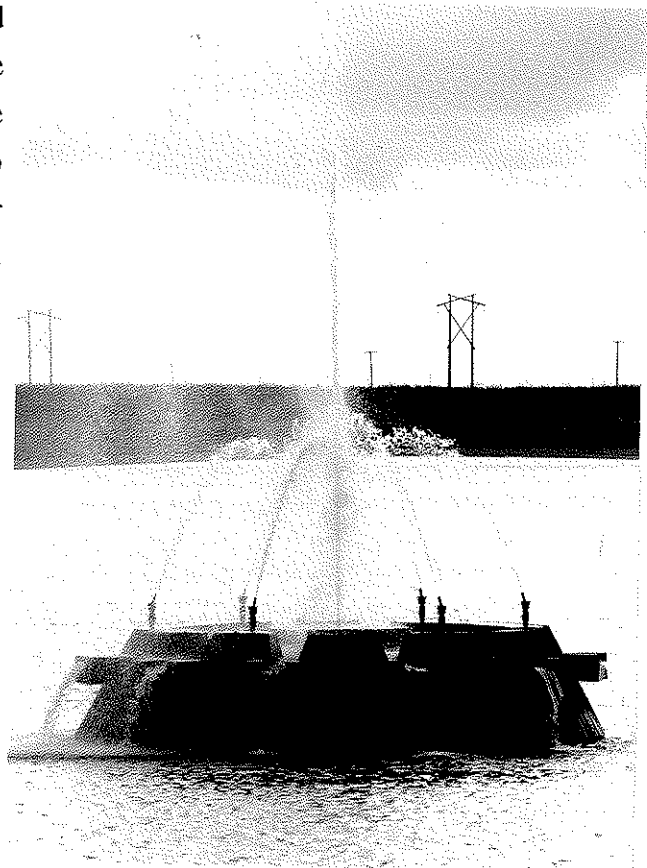
Water Assessment: The spray pattern originates in a tight circular form. The highly aerated sprays are set at staggered heights with the outermost being the lowest and the centre ones the highest. The sprays are angled slightly outward reaching a diameter of about 3m. The tallest spray reaches about 6m to 7m.

Human Use & Winter Observations: The fountain's main use is as a focal point within the large flat area of the lake for those driving by and for residents with lots adjacent to the lake. Two viewing platforms, connected by a paved pathway, are located along the

east end of the lake. These are supplied with benches which face toward the fountain. The water is lowered and the fountain removed in the fall via a ramp which extends from the southeast corner of the site to the fountain position. In the spring the fountain is replaced.

Remarks**Rating:** * *

The floating fountain is similar to several throughout the prairies and the rest of North America which have been installed in suburban development retention ponds.



Fountain display.

Source: Interview with Don Hester, UMA Engineering, Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 2, 1994.

Site Visits: June 25, 1994, July 8, 1994.

Fountain Name: Linden Woods Gate Fountains

Location: Van Wallegghem Park pond, Linden Woods

Designer: UMA Engineering

Date of Construction: 1985 (?)

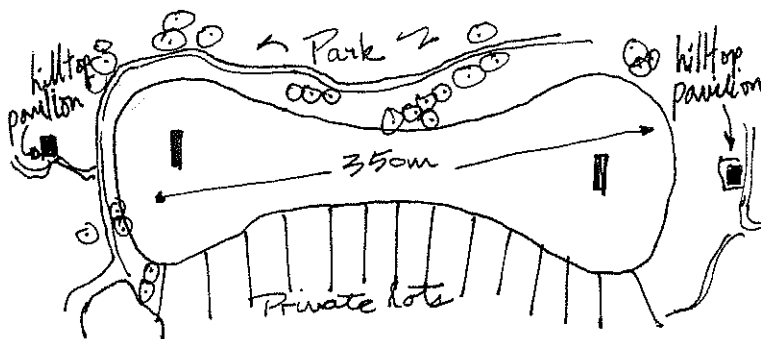
Typology: Sculpture fountain

Water Forms: Inverted finger jets forming a curtain spray

Basin Form: Retention pond

Function: Focal point

Site Characteristics: Two identical fountains are located at opposite ends of a femur-shaped lake approximately 400m in length and running along a north-south axis. The extremities of the lake edge border park land which rise away from the lake in large berms. On these berms are hilltop pavilions which almost align with the axis created by the fountains. Along the western edge of the lake is a park land area buffering parallel residential lots. On the east side of the lake, large private lots extend to the water's edge.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The form of the structures is derived from the outline of grain elevators near St. Petersburg, Russia. The silo shapes of the fountains allude to the agricultural base of Canadian prairies, serving as a reminder to both the area's cultural and physical landscapes.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountains are identical. Each is constructed of a reinforced concrete wall



North Gate Fountain and display.

which extends 7.5m above the water level. It is about 6.5m in width and 0.3m in depth. A heavy square metal frame, 0.2m on each side, encircles the wall and mirrors the silo-shaped cut-out in it's centre.

Water Assessment: Water is sprayed in single streams (finger jets) from several small heads located along the upper inside edges of the metal frame outlining the silo shape. The streams cross one another to form a crisscrossed water curtain and then fall to the lake surface as a thick downpour. The effect is best seen when skies are sunny.

Human Use & Winter Observations:

The fountains are used as sculptural focal points and also provide a base for orientation. They could be quite fun to canoe under on a hot day but the lake water is not quite suitable for human contact. The light blue of the metal looks cold and lifeless in winter and on cloudy days. The paint has not held up well and rusting has occurred.



Display detail.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The pumps for the fountains are located on the shore and lines run out to the fountain. This makes maintenance much easier than it would be if the pumps were located at the fountain sites. The pumps are less than 12 hp each.

Remarks

Rating: * * *

The fountains look much better with the water running. A different colour may have been more appropriate for the metal. Perhaps 'Corten Steel' would have been more effective. The fountains are very blocky in stance but they are quite appropriate when looking at the surrounding box-like monoliths which pass as houses.

The gate fountains have been criticized by many residents but they do provide a strong sculptural element and serve as uniting features on a very large site. They are also unique to fountain design on the Canadian prairies.

Source: Interview with Don Hester, UMA Engineering, Winnipeg, Manitoba,
June 2, 1994.

Site Visits: June 10, 1994, June 25, 1994.

Fountain Name: Royalwood Fountain

Location: Shoreline Drive, Royalwood Suburban Community

Designer: UMA Engineering **Client:** LADCO Company Ltd.

Date of Construction: 1993 **Cost of Construction:** \$150 000 - \$160 000

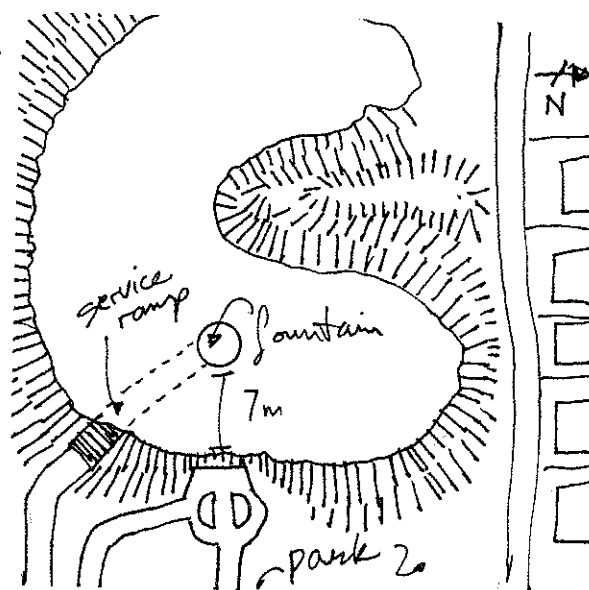
Typology: Geyser fountain **Water Forms:** Columnar jets, cascades, retention pond

Function: Focal point **Basin Form:** Circular pedestal (10m²) in retention pond

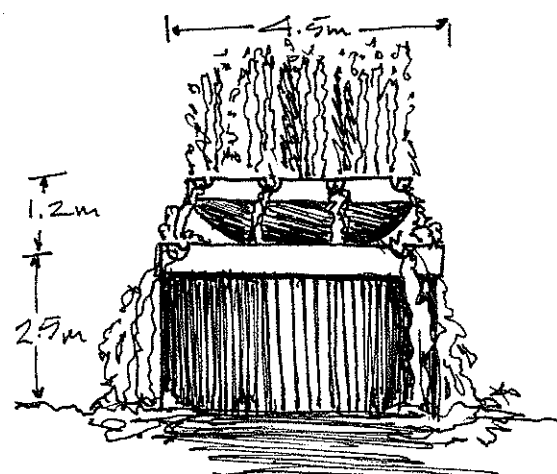
Site Characteristics: The fountain is located at the east end of a c-shaped retention pond within a partially built subdivision. The entire pond appears to be surrounded by land reserved for park land. The first 6m around the pond are steeply sloped with closely mowed sod.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The prototype for the fountain is in Lucerne, Switzerland and is to resemble a bowl of flames at night. The fountain is intended to serve as the central focal point for the subdivision. It is used as a selling feature for lots and also as a status symbol for the neighbourhood.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is constructed of reinforced concrete and consists of two major parts, a cylindrical pedestal which rises 2.5m above water level and a 1.2m high bowl-shaped basin which sits on the pedestal. The diameter of the pedestal is approximately 6.5m while the basin reaches 6m in diameter.



Site plan. n.t.s.

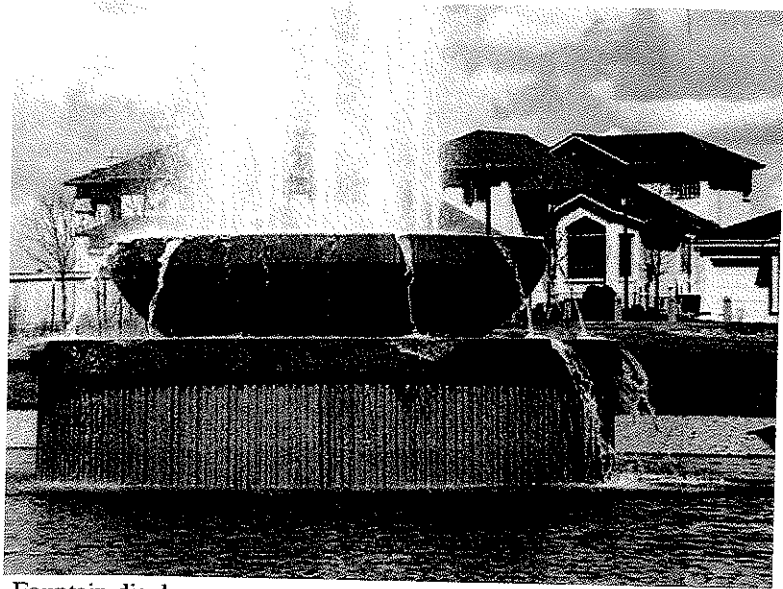


Elevation detail.

Water Assessment: The fountain has several aeration heads which fire water vertically to a height of 6m to 8m. The heads are placed in a circle on a diameter about 1m in from the basin edge. Water spills out of the bowl from eight rounded grooves in the basin lip,

crashing onto the pedestal. The water sprays in fluctuating patterns on a ten minute repeating 'dance' pattern.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountain uses two large 30 kW pumps. Float controls are used to maintain water levels and spray heights are controlled by a wind sensor.



Fountain display.



Basin without fountain display.

Rating: * * *

Source: Interview with Don Hester, UMA Engineering, Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 2, 1994.

Site Visits: June 25, 1994.

Fountain Name: Lookout Fountain (Whidden Park Fountain)

Location: Whidden Park, Linden Woods, access from Lindenwood Drive

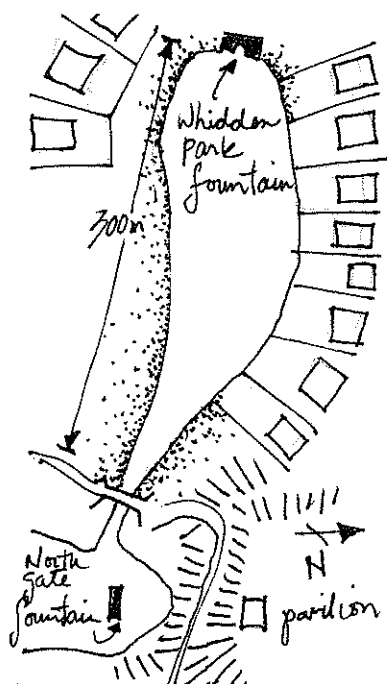
Designer: UMA Engineering

Date of Construction: 1987

Typology: Jet fountain

Water Forms: Arching columnar jets, cascades, retention pond

Basin Form: Eye-shaped (8m²) **Function:** Axial focal point

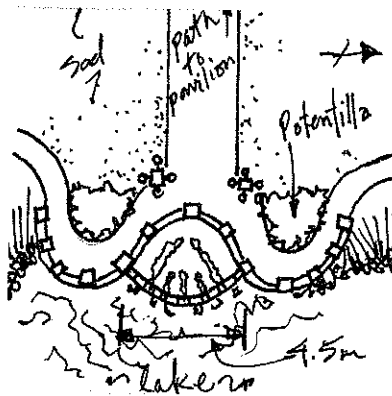


Site plan. n.t.s.

Site Characteristics: The fountain is located on the western end of a 300m long, east-west oriented, man-made lake which connects at its eastern end to the 'Gate Fountains' lake. A small park bordering Lindenwood

Drive extends to the lake edge where the fountain basin sits 1m above water level. A pavilion within the park and the fountain align with the northern 'Gate Fountain'. A unit paver walk connects the pavilion to the plaza overlooking the fountain. An asphalt pathway also enters

the plaza creating a 'T' intersection.



Detail plan. n.t.s.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain was developed as a uniting element in the park and lake landscape of Linden Woods. It is meant to be a highlight for the lake, especially at night.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is located on a shelf 1m above the lake level and 2m below the plaza level. A triple curved brick-faced wall enfolds the fountain basin in its central curve. The fountain is separated from people by the wall. Thirteen large brick, cement capped posts with metal railings between them run along the wall. Lighting is located within the fountain basin. As well, overhead lighting is provided from four lamps.

Water Assessment: The water element includes five pipe jets. Each pipe is located along the outer edge of the basin. The two end jets have a diameter of 0.05m (at the

nozzle) and fire the water in a low 0.7m high arc towards the centre of the pool and against the retaining wall. The three inner jets are 0.025m in diameter (at the nozzle head) and fire 2.5m high arcs a distance of 1.5m. The water collects in the shallow basin (0.1m depth) and flows over weirs into the lake as cascades.



Fountain as seen from south bank of retention pond.



Display detail.

Human Use: There is no opportunity to physically engage the fountain waters. This is an asset as the water quality is very poor.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: To reduce spray from the wind, the nozzles have been adjusted to spray into the protected alcove of the fountain wall. A wind gauge controls the heights of the spray. The pump is less than 12 hp.

Remarks **Rating:** * 1/2
The fountain is presented oddly as its prime viewing location is from the middle of the retention pond or from the private lots along the pond while the fountain's 'back' is to the park. This situation limits the strength of the fountain's presentation. The 2m wall hides most of the water from the park side view. A more prominent presentation would have been better since a 'hidden' fountain does not really work in this location.

Source: Interview with Don Hester, UMA Engineering, Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 2, 1994.

Site Visits: June 25, 1994.

Fountain Name: Whyte Ridge West Lake Fountain (Phase Eight Fountain)

Location: Whyte Ridge West Lake, access from Vanderbuilt Drive

Designer: UMA Engineering

Client: _____

Date of Construction: 1990

Cost of Construction: \$130 000

Typology: Jet/ geyser fountain

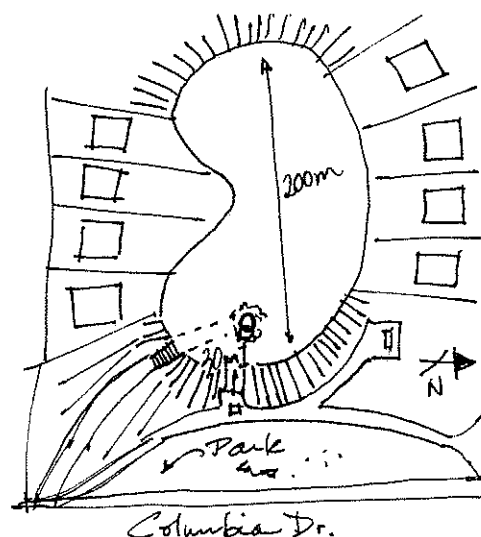
Water Forms: 8 arching columnar jets, 1 geyser jet, 8 cascades, retention pond

Basin Form: Retention pond

Function: Focal point for retention pond

Site Characteristics: The West Lake Fountain is located towards the middle of a roughly boomerang shaped pond about 250m in length. Two viewing platforms, connected by a paved pathway, overlook the fountain from the east end of the pond.

Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain was designed to catch attention. The 12m geyser accomplishes this as it can be seen from quite a distance. The fountain offers a landmark for the community and provides a status symbol.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is constructed on a concrete pedestal, 3.5m in diameter, which extends from the pond bottom 4.5m and above the water level 1.5m. The above water portion of the pedestal consists of a series of 18 alternating chutes and raised blocks which frame its circumference. At its center is a platform for the central geyser. The exterior wall of the above water portion of the pedestal is detailed with deep concrete striations.

Water Assessment: Six jets fire a continuous stream of water from every third raised block of the basin in a 3m high arch towards the centre of the pedestal (2m width). From the central pedestal a geyser shoots straight upward. The heights of the water from all of the jets change within a continuous 3 minute cycle. Water flows out of the chutes in a clear arched cascade to the pond 1m below. It is an attractive display which dominates the surrounding landscape.

Human Use & Winter Observations:

The fountain's main use is as a focal point within the large flat area of the lake for those driving by and for residents with lots adjacent to the lake. It is used as a selling feature for lots in the area. Residents can watch the varying water display from their homes. The chutes were designed to accommodate seating for skaters during the winter but they have not been used for this function.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The fountain employs two pumps, one 7.5 hp, and the other 10 hp. The pedestal incorporates a modified wet well and underwater lighting as well.



Fountain display.

Rating: * * * 1/2

Source: Interview with Don Hester, UMA Engineering, Winnipeg, Manitoba, June 2, 1994.

Site Visits: June 25, 1994, July 8, 1994.

Fountain Name: Merle Guberman Park Retention Pond Fountain

Location: Merle Guberman Park, West Taylor Boulevard, South Tuxedo

Designer: _____

Date of Construction: Late 1980's (?)

Typology: Floating fountain

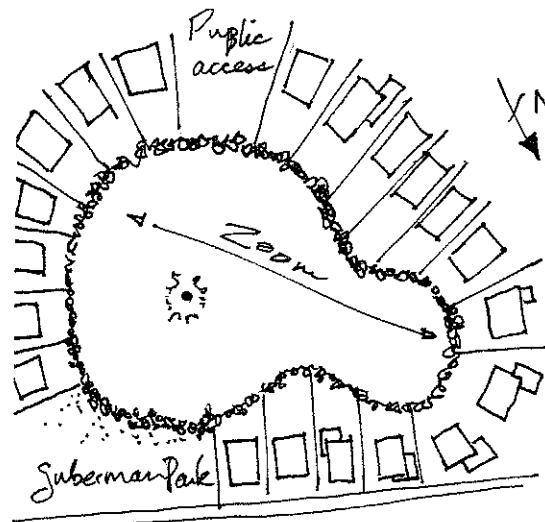
Water Forms: Geyser jet, retention pond

Basin Form: Retention pond

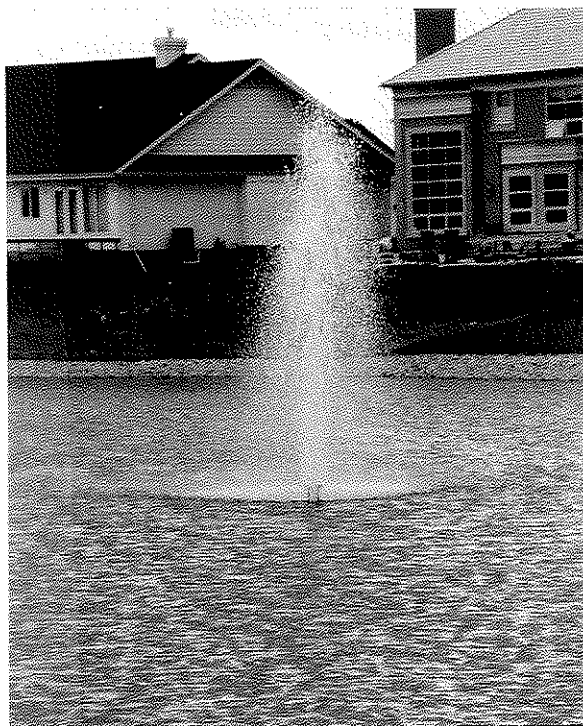
Function: Focal point

Site Characteristics: A floating fountain sits in the centre of an indented oval retention pond. There are two small public accesses to the pond. The rest of the lake is framed by private residential lots (about 20). The fountain provides a focal point for the pond.

Dedications & History: A plaque on a boulder in the park reads: "Merle Guberman Park/ In memory of Merle Guberman (1927-1986)/ An active participant in issues affecting the environment and quality of life for the people of Winnipeg/ erected by the City of Winnipeg/ Parks & Recreation department, August twenty fifth, nineteen eighty nine".



Site plan. n.t.s.



Fountain display.

Water Assessment: The spray is fired from a single nozzle and reaches a height of 4m. It falls outward from its apex and falls as medium to small droplets.

Rating: *

Site Visits: July 8, 1994.

Fountain Name: Kids Slide Mountain

Location: Vimy Ridge Park, Portage Avenue & Ethelbert Street

Designer: Lombard North Group; Gary Solar, Fort Rouge Community Parks & Recreation Branch

Client: City of Winnipeg Parks & Recreation

Date of Construction: 1984

Typology: Water slide & play pool

Water Forms: Pools, complex cascade

Basin Form: Curvilinear (150m²)

Function: Children's water slide

Site Characteristics: The water slide is located on the southwest corner of a multipurpose public park. The area is surrounded by mature plantings of elm, oak, and ash.

Fountain Design &

Materials: The slide and pools are constructed of concrete and painted light blue.

The oval upper pool is about

0.6m deep and 4m by 2.5m. It drains into four curved concrete slides which drop 2m over a distance of 6m to a large wading pool 0.5m deep. Two pumps (2hp and 3hp) circulate water through the slide and pools. The pumps are located in a separate pump house. Liquid chlorine is added automatically to the system. A 150mm (6in) drain empties the lower pool and a 75mm (3in) drain empties the upper pool.



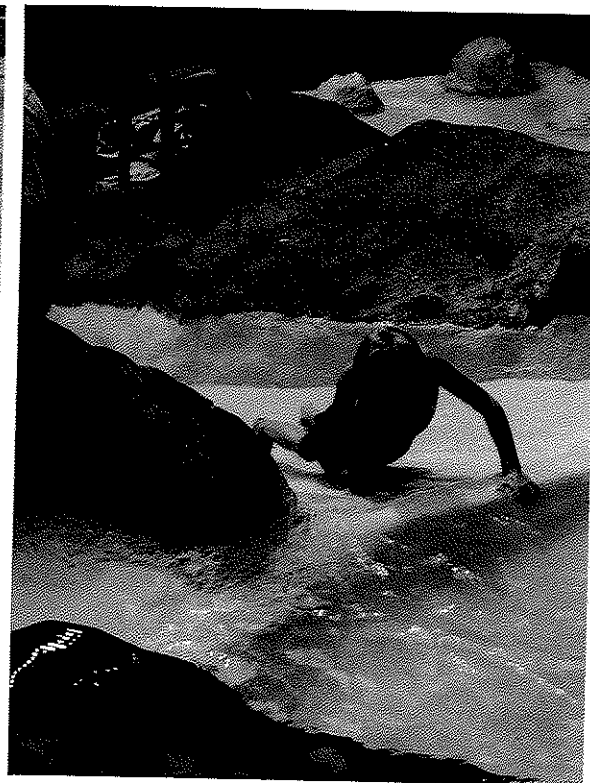
View of slide from lower wading pool.



Wading pool at top of slide.



Slide details.



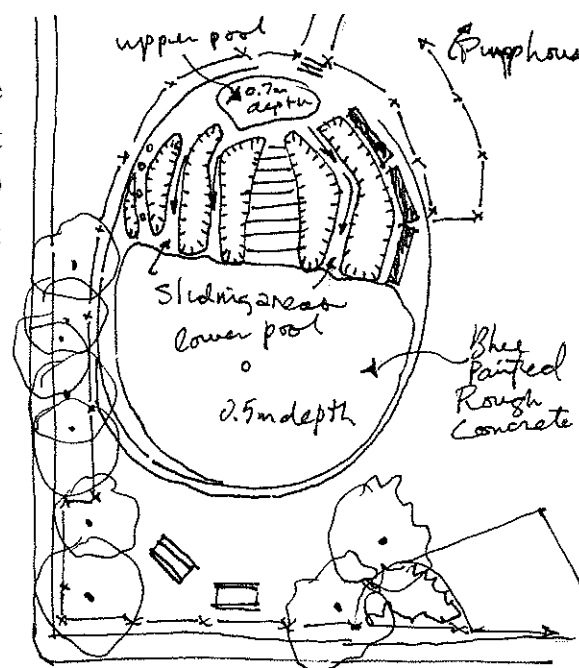
Human Use: During high season, the pool attracts 150 to 300 children per day. The park is a popular family attraction. There are few injuries. Most involve stubbed toes and scratches.

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: The pool is drained, hosed down, and swept every day. The operation takes about 30 minutes. Debris are collected in two basket filters attached to the pumps. The filters are cleaned once or twice each day. Three lifeguards work at the pool 7 days per week from July 2 to Mid August.

Rating: **

Source: Interview with Chris Dash, recreation technician, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 4, 1994.

Site Visits: August 4, 1994.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Fountain Name: Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre Wading Pool

Location: Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre, 430 Langside Street

Designer: Catalogue design

Client: City of Winnipeg Parks & Recreation

Date of Construction: 1994

Cost of Construction: _____

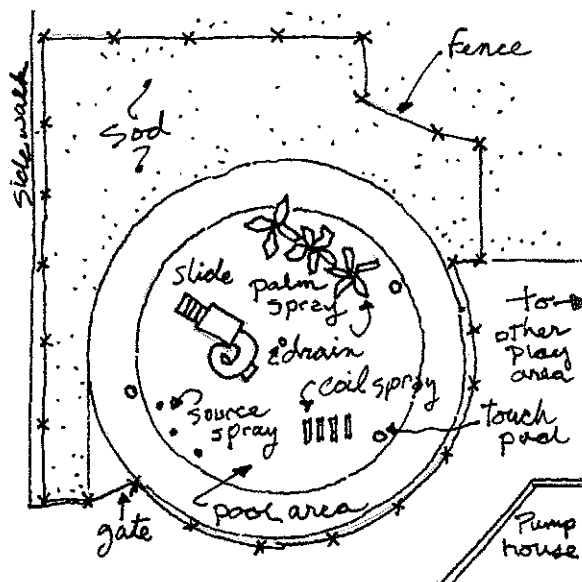
Typology: Play pool/ fountain

Water Forms: Finger jets, spray jets, pool

Basin Form: Circular (8m²)

Function: Play pool

Site Characteristics: The play pool is located in a small community park in an older residential area. The pool area occupies about 1/3 of the site. The rest of the area is sodded with walking paths, informal tree and shrub plantings, a basketball court, swings, and a tot play centre. The entire park was constructed at the same time.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Fountain Design & Materials: The water play area measures about 16m in diameter within the fenced area. The pool area measures about 10m across. It is a shallow dish-shaped concrete surface with

four different elements placed in separate quarters. Three orange and green painted 4m high metal palm trees are spaced 2m apart in a straight line on the southwest quarter of the



Coil spray display is activated by touch pads.

pool; a 2m diameter red coil is located on the northwest quarter; three floor jets are located on the northeast quarter; and a multi-coloured plastic slide is located on the southeast quarter. The dish-shaped basin is painted white.

Water Assessment: Each element is accompanied by a post with a 'touch pad'.

When the touch pad is pushed

water jets are activated in each feature. Water sprays from the top leaves of the palm trees and falls as rain; a thick misty spray encircles the interior of the coil; finger jets shoot up from the floor; or water flows down the slide for each activated 'touch pad'. Each spray lasts about 20 seconds when activated. The pool reaches a depth of 0.6m at its centre.



Palm tree display.



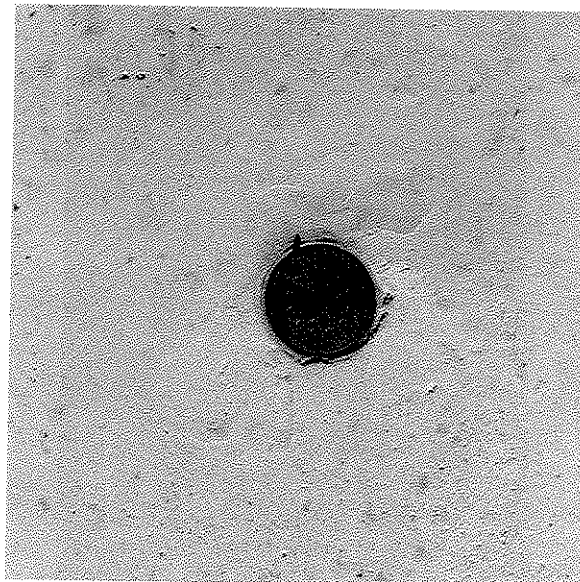
Floor jet display.

Human Use: The pool is open for about six weeks during July and August, seven days a week for 7 hours each day if weather permits. The pool is designed for children ages 5 to 12. Ten to sixty children may use the pool each hour. Injuries have included a few scrapes (2 or 3 band-aides given out each day).

Operation, Maintenance & Costs: A 2hp Jacuzzi pump circulates the pool water while fresh water is added to the system through the 'touch pad' sprays. The pool is drained every day. Draining takes 45 minutes and filling the pool takes 40 minutes. Liquid chlorine is added to the system automatically. A basket filter attached to the pump is emptied once per day.

Remarks**Rating:** 1/2

The design is a bit simple and stale. A child would probably get tired of the pool in a fairly short time. The use of this catalogue design shows little thought, respect, or understanding of the context or people of Winnipeg.



Floor jet nozzle detail.

Source: Interview with Craig Clifford, recreation technician, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 4, 1994.

Site Visits: August 4, 1994.

Fountain Name: Dakota Waterplay Park

Location: Dakota Park, St. Vital

Designer: Catalogue design

Client: City of Winnipeg Parks & Recreation

Date of Construction: 1994

Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Play pool/ fountain

Water Forms: Finger jets, pool, spray jets

Basin Form: Curvilinear

Function: Play pool

Site Characteristics: The waterplay park is located in a suburban park and school yard. It is framed by a parking lot, school yard, and a mature oak forest. The pool area also includes a single building with washrooms and a pump room.

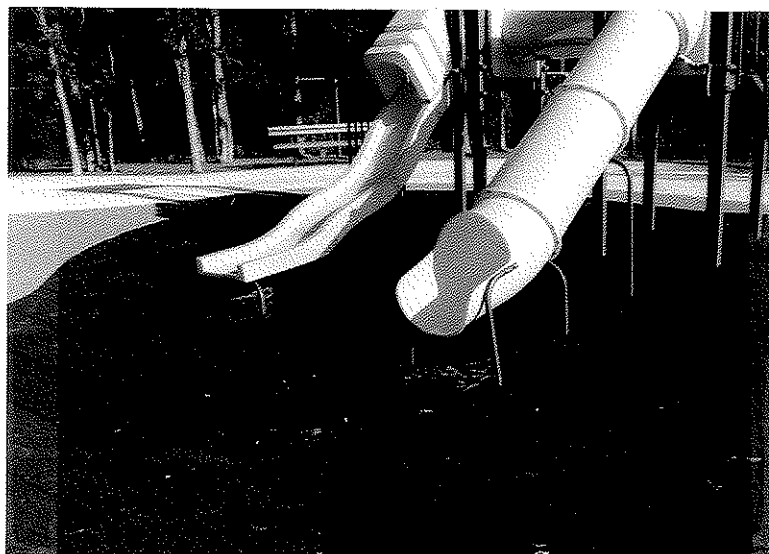
Fountain Design &

Materials: The features are much the same as those in the Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre wading pool but the Dakota Waterplay park offers many more features on a pool which is roughly twice the size. About eight separate water features are spaced throughout the dish-shaped pool area.



Play park in morning before opening.

Water Assessment: The water elements are activated by 'touch pads'. Each element sprays for 20 to 30 seconds after the 'touch pad' is activated. The pool also features two water cannons as well as spray and finger jet devices.



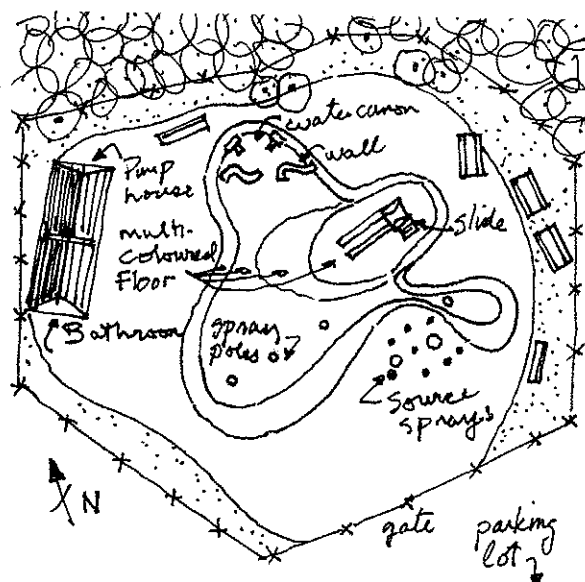
Slide detail.

Human Use: The park is open seven days a week for

six weeks from July to August. It is designed for children from ages 5 to 12 but the area accommodates a family for the afternoon.

Rating: 1/2

Site Visits: August 5, 1994.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Fountain Name: Boy With the Boot (also Boy With Leaking Boot)

Location: English Garden, Assiniboine Park

Designer: Unknown

Client: City of Winnipeg

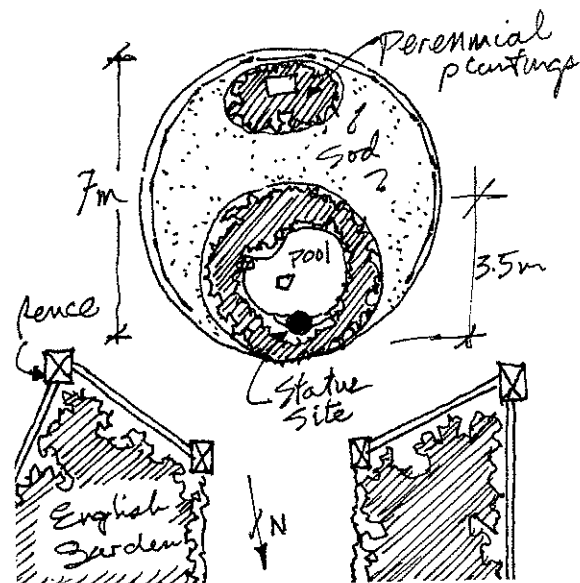
Date of Construction: Presented to the City of Winnipeg, 1897

Typology: Sculpture fountain **Water Forms:** Spout jet, pool

Basin Form: Assiniboine Park basin: curvilinear (irregular bowl) (3m²)

Function: Historical monument, focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain and pool were placed at the main entrance to the English Garden. They were located in a circle surrounded by a pathway which led to the Garden gate. The area is characterized by river bottom and oak forest. Parking is located immediately to the south. The circular area is surrounded by a low chain link fence. Within the fence are two ovals planted with perennials. The area outside the ovals is planted with grass. The smaller south-most oval contains a plaque, the other contains the pool.



Site plan. n.t.s.

Dedications & History: The “Boy With the Boot” was originally presented in 1897 to the City of Winnipeg for its new city hall by the Young Peoples’ Christian Endeavor



Boy With the Boot before its disappearance in 1993.

Society. The fountain was to be placed “in front of City Hall as a medium through which they (YPCES) can silently proclaim their principles through all the coming years”. The statue was part of a larger fountain which honored Queen Victoria and remained at city hall until 1953. The Boy With The Boot, however, was removed

in 1913, and placed near the Duck Pond where it was almost lost from site. In 1953, the fountain was moved to the entrance of the new English Garden at Assiniboine Park. The English Garden was funded by the Order of Rotary International Fellowship. A plaque nearby reads: "This circular approach to the/ International/ Goodwill Garden/ Dedicated June 15, 1953/ Given and maintained by the Order of Rotary International Fellowship". The 'Boy' remained at the site until its odd disappearance in September, 1993. Its theft was not recognized for three months. It was also stolen twice in 1985, found abandoned, and replaced. The 'boot' of the fountain has also been stolen many times.



Sculpture detail.

The origin of the original cast of the bronze statue is not clear. It is believed to have been one of ten cast in an Italian foundry and donated to cities in North America. There are several identical statues which grace other cities in North America. In 1961 it was thought that twenty-three existed around the world. Only sixteen still stood in 1961, most of which were in North America.



Site as it appeared without statue in 1994.

Symbolism, Fountain Design & Materials: The fountain is a humorous portrayal of a young boy gravely watching a stream of

water pouring from the toe of one of his boots.¹⁷⁷ The cast statue is constructed of bronze. Its present concrete basin is an irregular curvilinear shape with sloping edges and approximately 2m in diameter. Water plants and goldfish live in the pool.

Water Assessment & Human Use: Water dribbled out of the boot of the statue into a small pool which still contains water plants and gold fish. The fountain was a quiet sculptural oddity in the park and offered a humorous detail.

Rating: * * *

- Sources:
1. *Winnipeg Free Press*, June 17, 1994, by Paul Wiecek, p__.
 2. *Winnipeg Free Press*, June 28, 1988, p17.
 3. *Winnipeg Free Press*, June 26, 1965, p__.
 4. *Winnipeg Free Press*, November 9, 1985, article by Barry Mullin, p__.
 5. Alex Fleck, 1959. "The Most Mysterious Statue in the World". Legislature Library, File: Monuments.
 6. Alex Fleck, 1961. "Boy With Boot Has Brothers Across Nation Depicting Saga of Changing America." Legislature Library, File: Monuments.
 7. Photos: University of Manitoba Archives, August 28, 1964: 18-212-70, 18-212-71.

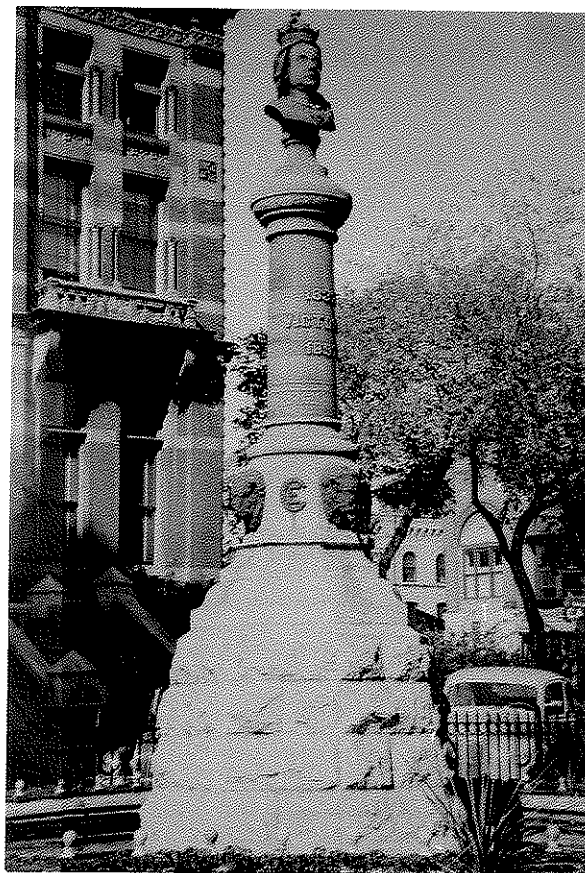
Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

¹⁷⁷ Paul Wiecek, *Winnipeg Free Press* June 17, 1994.

Fountain Name: Queen Victoria Fountain**Location:** Old City Hall (1897-1962), James Avenue (1962-1967), English Garden, Assiniboine Park (1967- present)**Designer:** _____ **Client:** City of Winnipeg**Date of Construction:** City Hall, 1897, dismantled 1961; bust relocated to Main Street & James Avenue in 1962; bust relocated to Assiniboine Park in 1967**Cost of Construction:** City Hall, \$1500; James Avenue, \$38 000**Typology:** Monument fountain (dismantled) **Water Forms:** Finger jets, pool**Basin Form:** City Hall, Octagonal; James Avenue, N/A; Assiniboine Park, none**Function:** Memorial, historical monument, focal point

Site Characteristics: The bust of Queen Victoria is located at the north end of the English Garden in Assiniboine Park. It is backed by trees and accessed by a sod path framed by annuals.

Dedications & History: The fountain was built with Winnipeg's new city hall in 1897. It commemorated the long reign of Queen Victoria and was donated by the Young Peoples' Christian Endeavor Society. The group raised the money for the fountain by collecting 30 000 nickels. When the city hall was demolished in 1962, the fountain was dismantled and briefly put in storage before being placed at the corner of Main Street and James Avenue at a cost of \$38 000.¹⁷⁸ It stood at the corner until 1967, when the fountain was demolished and the bust moved to the English Garden in



Fountain as it appeared at city hall in 1897.

Assiniboine Park. A plaque beneath the fountain reads: "This statue was given by the Young Peoples' / Christian Endeavor Society to Commemorate / Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. / The bust of Queen Victoria

¹⁷⁸ *Winnipeg Free Press*, April 3, 1962 in Winnipeg City Hall (old) file at Centennial Library.

and the "Boy With the Boot" once formed a single/ Fountain-Statue which was unveiled in front/ of the Old City Hall on Main Street in 1998./ The "Boy With the Boot" was moved in 1913 to Assiniboine Park. After fifty-four years/ this bust of Queen Victoria has at long last/ rejoined its partner in the English Gardens./ The Honourable Judy Lamond, Secretary/ of State, officially rededicated the statue/ on Thursday, May 18th, 1967, Canada's Centennial year".



Bust as it appeared in Assiniboine Park in 1994.



Statue detail.

Fountain Design & Materials: The basin at the Old City Hall was 4.5m (16') in diameter with a central pedestal and column on which sat the bust of Queen Victoria. The bust was carved out of native stone.

- Sources: 1. *Winnipeg Free Press*, April 22, 1897, p3.
2. *Winnipeg Free Press*, April 3, 1962, p__.

Site Visits: July 8, 1994.

Fountain Name: Lions Manor Fountain

Location: 320 Sherbrook Street, on the corner of Portage Avenue

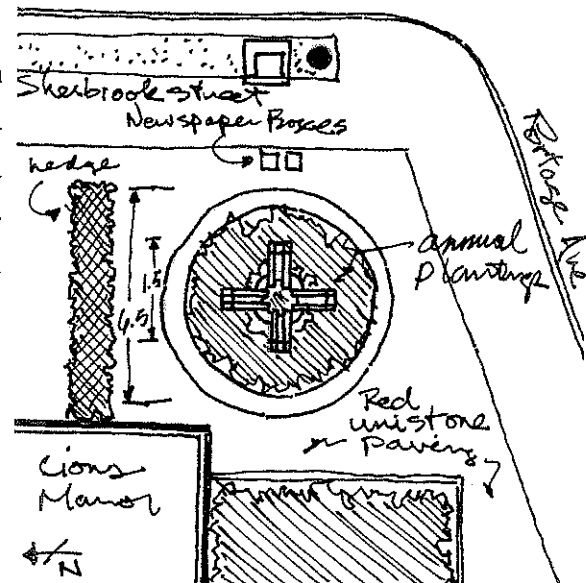
Designer: Denis Wilkinson, landscape architect **Client:** Lions Club of Winnipeg

Date of Construction: 1963-64

Typology: Sculpture fountain (planter) **Water Forms:** Bubbler jet, 4 cascades, pool

Basin Form: Circular (33m²) **Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The fountain sits on the northwest corner of Sherbrook Street and Portage Avenue in an open plaza area. Red brick pavers encircle the basin and extend to the roadside sidewalks. The plaza is backed by a hedge to the north and a flower bed to the west. The fountain is overshadowed by the tall building on site but its singularity and dominance over the site remains.



Symbolism & Design Concept: The fountain was designed to be both a sculpture and an exciting water form. It is the first of two almost identical fountains designed by Wilkinson. The other is still operating outside the Veterinary College at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.



Sculpture and plantings viewed from east.

Fountain Design & Materials:

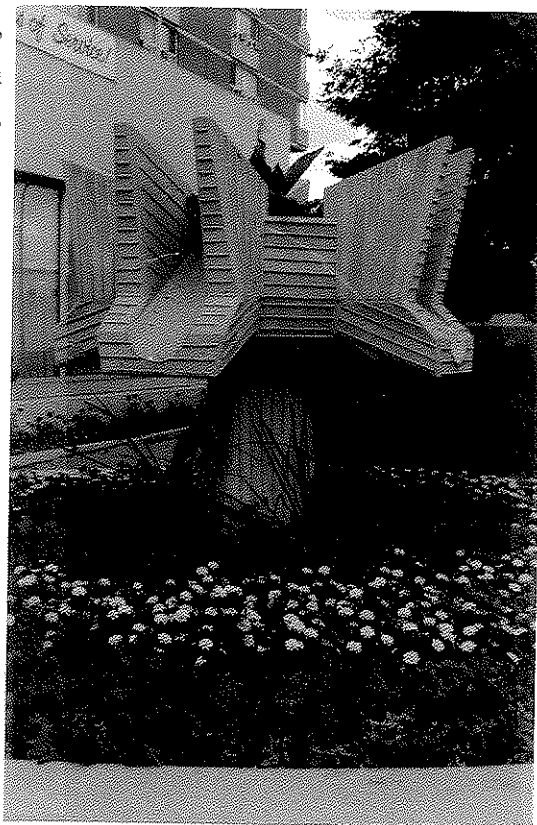
The basin and sculpture are constructed of concrete. The basin stands 0.6m high and has a diameter of 6.5m. The sculpture is located in the centre of the basin and stands 2.5m in height. The sculpture is a deeply riveted concrete form with four double wings protruding outward from the circular top. Between each

pair of wings is a water chute. Pansies, marigolds, geraniums, and spikes are planted in ordered rows in the basin. Annuals are also growing from the top of the sculpture.

Human Use: The modified fountain now serves as a colourfully decorated sculpture whose original intent remains obvious. No benches are located on the fountain's plaza but the basin's coping is wide enough and at the correct height for comfortable sitting.

Rating: * * * 1/2 (if water was flowing)

Site Visits: June 25, 1994, July 8, 1994.

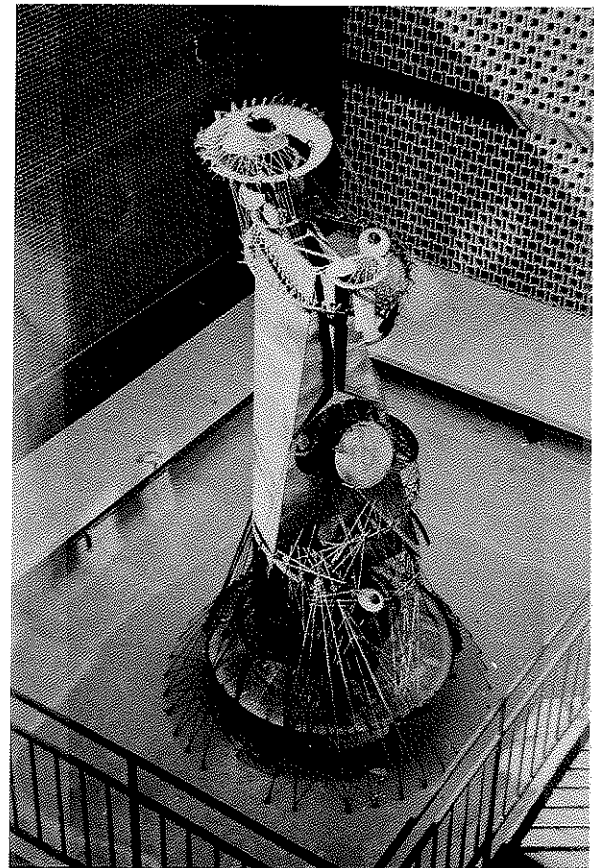


Sculpture detail.

Fountain Name: Solar Cone Sculpture Fountain**Location:** Winnipeg International Airport, Air Controllers Building**Designer:** Gerald Gladstone, sculptor **Client:** Winnipeg International Airport**Date of Construction:** 1963**Cost of Construction:** \$9 000**Typology:** Sculpture fountain (destroyed 1990)**Water Forms:** Spout jets, spill & splash, pool**Basin Form:** Square (6.5m²)**Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics: The sculpture was located in a 6.5m² (75ft²) courtyard well. The square courtyard is open to the parking lot on one side at the first floor level but the building wraps around all four sides of the courtyard from the second floor up.

Dedications & History: The sculpture fountain was constructed by sculptor Gerald Gladstone, one of several artists commissioned to provide various works of art for the newly built Winnipeg International Airport. It also had a prestigious start as one of the selected works for the National Art Gallery. Unfortunately, the sculpture was a hazard fraught with many problems throughout its existence. The plumbing for the water element ruptured quite often and fixing the ruptures was a dangerous operation as the 'cold welds' of the sculpture's bronze pieces would break periodically and large pieces of metal would fall off. By 1980, workers refused to go near the fragile sculpture for fear of injury. Before renovations to the court area in 1985, the sculpture was offered to the National Art Gallery but was refused and subsequently removed from the Gallery's listing. It was



Solar Cone sculpture as it appeared in 1963.

then removed from its courtyard location to an airplane hangar by helicopter and stored until 1989. During its time in storage it was sold to the Western Canada Aviation Museum for \$200. The museum planned to place the sculpture near its front entrance. However, it

was in such poor condition that it was destroyed and the bronze melted down. Some of the metal was sold and some was made into tools and parts for the museum's airplane rebuilding program.

Concept, Design & Materials: The sculpture was an exploration of technologies of science which affected "sense of object relationships, of space, and of time". The one-ton welded bronze fountain was 8m (26ft) high and made entirely of materials from the aircraft industry. It stood in the middle of a square basin. The basin was later converted to a gravel and sidewalk block open area.

- Sources:
1. *Winnipeg Tribune*, August 17, 1963, "Few can hold a torch to his hot art", p__.
 2. *Winnipeg Free Press*, August 17, 1963, "Sculptor pleases himself", p__.
 3. University of Manitoba Archives photo, October 8, 1963, 18-6332-71.
 4. Department of Transport Press release No. 58-63, December 1963. "Six artists contributing to fine art for Winnipeg air terminal." University of Manitoba Archives.
 5. Interview by telephone with Barry Seller, Winnipeg International Airport, Winnipeg, Manitoba, September 21, 1994.
 6. Interview by telephone with George Elliot, Western Canada Aviation Museum, Winnipeg, Manitoba, September 21, 1994.

Site Visits: July 1, 1994.

Fountain Name: The Village West Fountains

Location: Westwood Avenue, one block south of Portage Avenue

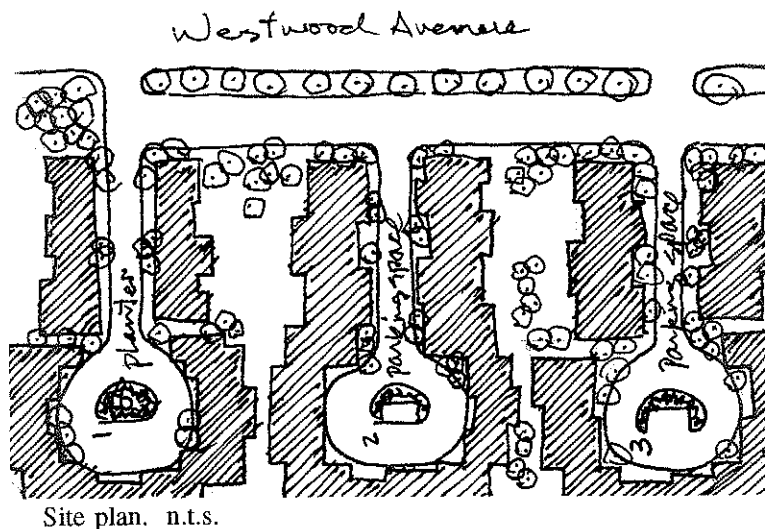
Designer: Denis Wilkinson, landscape architect **Date of Construction:** 1964-69

Typology: Sculpture fountain (planter, parking) **Basin Form:** Square (20m²)

Water Forms: Cascade, bubbler jet, pool **Function:** Sculptural focal point

Site Characteristics:

Three short, narrow lanes extend eastward from Westwood Avenue into 'The Village West' condominium development. The lanes end as cul-de-sacs and are planted with various deciduous and coniferous trees and shrubs. The plant material is well maintained. Two of the cul-de-sacs have four-car parking spots located within the turn-about island. The third cul-de-sac has a planted turn-about island with a sculpture in its centre.



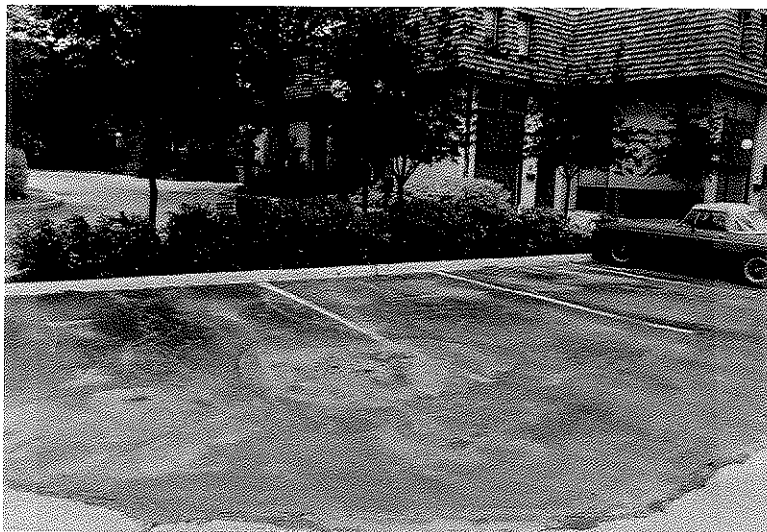
Dedications & History: The Village West Condominium development was constructed in stages over a few years. The first section built was the showcase for the other two. This was located at the southern end of the development. A sculptural fountain



South island sculpture(1) is still intact.

was constructed at the centre of each island of the cul-de-sacs. The project suffered from funding shortfalls and the last two islands were apparently constructed with less care than the first. The north and central fountains failed to work relatively soon after construction and were removed. The southern-most

cul-de-sac retained its sculpture fountain but it no longer functions. It is now surrounded by junipers and two Colorado blue spruce and geraniums are planted in the sculpture's upper basin. The central and northern cul-de-sacs now have small planting areas which incorporate four parking spaces each. The last parking lot was constructed in 1994.



The central fountain site was converted into a parking lot.

Fountain Design & Materials:

The one remaining sculptural element is constructed of reinforced concrete. It is circular and capped with a double dish. The outer dish is 1.5m in diameter. The 0.8m diameter inner dish is placed upon the larger dish. Four double walled wings extend from the inner dish and 0.2m past the outer dish. The sculpture stands 2m high and is painted dark brown.



The north fountain site was converted into a parking lot.

Remarks

Rating: * *

The form of the remaining sculpture is very similar to two of Wilkinson's other fountains, the Lions Manor fountain (Winnipeg) and the School of Veterinary Medicine fountain (Saskatoon).

Site Visits: July 4, 1994.

Fountain Name: Village Square Fountain

Location: Village Square Condominium Development, Rouge Road & Byrd Avenue

Designer: Garry Hilderman **Client:** Michael Nozik

Date of Construction: 1974-75 (removed)

Typology: Sculpture fountain **Water Forms:** Bubbler jet, pool

Basin Form: Polygon **Function:** Focal point

Site Characteristics & History: The fountain was located in a sunken plaza in the centre of an open space in a condominium development. The plaza was framed by wooden timbers and hidden from view by surrounding plantings. It was accessed by wide sweeping timber steps from the south and northwest. A pathway threaded through the plaza area leading to seating incorporated into the sunken walls and around a fountain. Today, the sunken plaza still exists but its entire floor is grass, the fountain has been removed, and the plantings are mature and unpruned.

Symbolism & Design

Concept: The fountain was designed as a selling feature for the condominium development and was used as only one component of the plaza space.

Fountain Design &

Materials: The basin incorporated a plastic liner which disintegrated. The fountain and basin were quite small. The submersible pump was housed in a pit near the plaza.



Former location of fountain.

Human Use: The area was designed as a quiet, passive recreation area.

Source: Interview with Garry Hilderman, Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, Winnipeg, Manitoba, July 5, 1994.

Site Visits: July 4, 1994.

Fountain Name: St. James Bridge Fountain (1970)

Location: St. James Bridge & Portage Avenue Interchange

Designer: _____ **Client:** City of Winnipeg

Date of Construction: 1969 (?) **Cost of Construction:** _____

Typology: Spray Fountain

Water Forms: 3 finger jets, pool

Function: Focal point

Basin Form: Curvilinear (kidney-shaped) (21m²)

Site

Characteristics:

The small fountain was located in a traffic island green space with mature Burr Oak, closely mown sod, and shrub beds. Benches were placed along a pathway which weaved through the park.



Fountain as it appeared in 1972.

Dedications &

History:

The only record found of the fountain was a photograph in the University of Manitoba archival library.

Source: UofM Archives photo 18 6247-72.

Site Visits: N/A

Fountain Name: 530 Kenaston Boulevard Fountain

Location: 530 Kenaston Boulevard & Grant Avenue, southwest corner of building

Designer: _____

Client: _____

Date of Construction: _____

Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Jet fountain (planter)

Water Forms: Columnar jets, cascade, pool

Function: Focal point

Basin Form: Two-tiered trapezoid (30m²)

Site Characteristics: The fountain sits on an open corner at a busy traffic intersection. It is located at the southwest corner of a three floor commercial and office building.

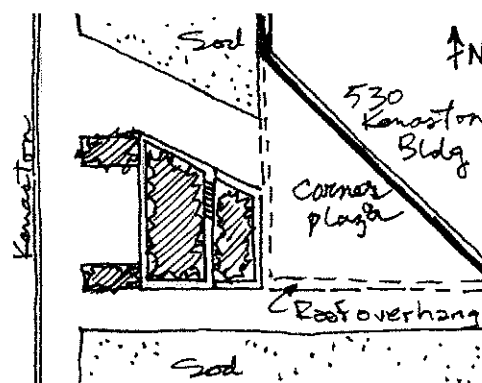
Fountain Design & Materials: The basin is constructed of reinforced concrete. The walls vary from 0.3m to 0.5m in width. A smaller upper four sided basin reaches a height of 1.2m. Seven deep grooves cut along one edge of the basin allowed water to flow into a larger basin 0.3m high. The basins are now filled with soil and covered with bark chips. Plantings include juniper, mugo pine, and purple leaf sandcherry.

Water Assessment: The fountain display was apparently quite simple. It had some columnar jets in the upper basin and water poured through the grooves into the lower basin.

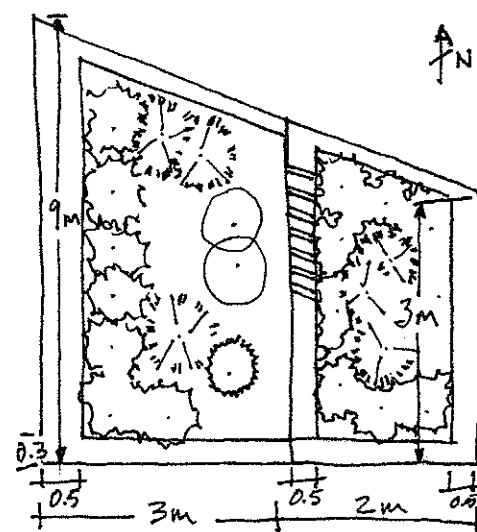
Remarks

Rating: * 1/2

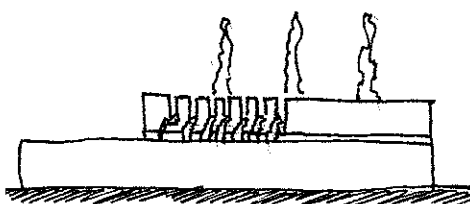
The fountain did not have any apparent role. Its location may have been adequate if its design were more showy. It sits along a pedestrian pathway but landscaping does not allow for any further activities. The fountain is also located on a very windy corner, which may have caused problems when the fountain was working.



Site plan. n.t.s.



Detail plan. n.t.s.



Elevation detail. n.t.s.



Basin now functions as a planter (1994).

Site Visits: August 6, 1994.

Fountain Name: Osborne Village Square Fountain

Location: Osborne Street & River Avenue, Osborne Village

Designer: _____

Client: _____

Date of Construction: _____

Cost of Construction: _____

Typology: Jet fountain (dismantled) **Water Forms:** Bubble jet, pool

Basin Form: Circular (4.9m²) **Function:** Symbolic, focal point

Site Characteristics: The former fountain is located on the northeast corner of Osborne Street and River Avenue. It was designed as part of an open plaza development. The plaza is characterized by open spaces framed by 1m high concrete planters and 1.3m high concrete walls. The plaza is paved with pre-cast interlocking pavers. The basin is located within a circular court framed by a concrete wall on the northwest and a concrete planter box to the southeast. The space opens at the northeast and southwest perimeters. Benches face the basin from the entire length of the wall and planter box.

Fountain Design &

Materials: The concrete basin is 2.5m in diameter and 0.4m in height. The lip of the basin is approximately 0.3m wide. The basin is currently filled and surfaced with interlocking pavers which run flush with the basin lip.



Plaza with infilled basin.

Human Use: The corner receives busy pedestrian and vehicular traffic throughout the day and night. The former fountain area is a popular stopping point for pedestrians. It is an especially favorite stop for teenagers. The fountain basin has taken on the aspect of a stage for buskers and for impromptu 'acts' by teenagers. Skateboarding is a common scene in the plaza. The close-by restaurants and shops also promote a variety of uses for the plaza.

Remarks**Rating:** N/A

The fountain is located in a good location and provided a valuable function for the area. Perhaps it was not realized that maintenance requirements for a fountain in such a popular location would be very high.

Site Visits: Numerous visits, 1993-94.

Fountain Name: Fort Garry Florists Fountain

Location: 1214 Pembina Highway, Fort Garry

Designer: _____ (building architect) **Client:** Fort Garry Florists

Date of Construction: 1959

Typology: Tri-dish (not operating)

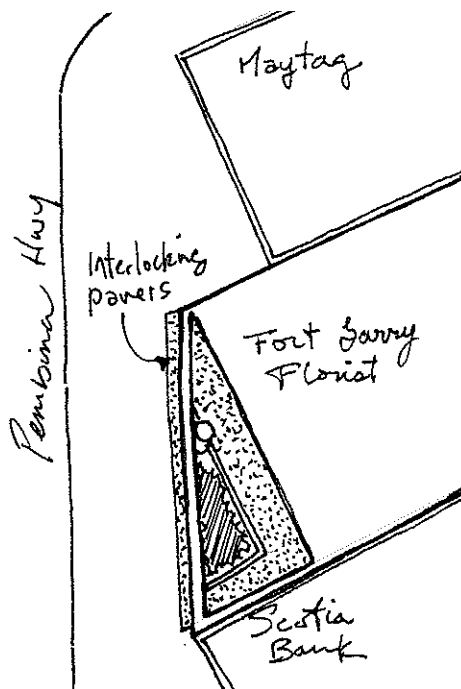
Water Forms: Bubbler jet, spill & splash

Basin Form: Circular (0.5m²)

Function: Focal point

Site Characteristics & History: The fountain is located at the front entrance of the florist's shop on the corner of a raised brick planter along one of the busiest highways in Winnipeg. The feature never worked properly and has been unused for at least 25 years. It is no longer connected to a water supply.

Fountain Design, Materials, & Water: The fountain is constructed of non-rusting circular metal frames with cement interiors. The three dish-shaped bowls range from 0.4m to 0.7m in diameter, the smallest at the top and the largest at the bottom. The water bubbled out of the top dish and flowed through metal holes placed in one side, pouring into the next dish 0.1m below. The water then flowed into the largest dish in the same manner. Water drained into the middle of the bottom dish and into the pumping mechanism within the planter structure.



Site plan. n.t.s.

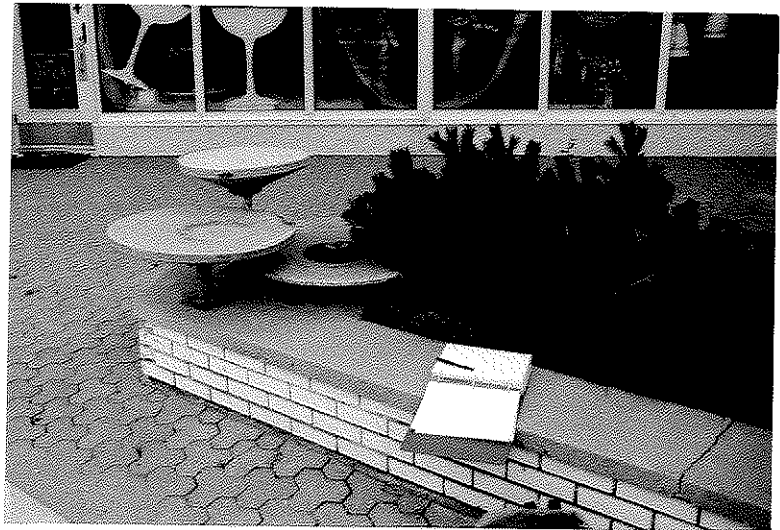


Dishes with planter and plaza.

Human Use: The dishes are almost invisible to motorists traveling along Pembina Highway. Their simple and unattractive appearance may draw only a curious glance from a pedestrian. The element serves no function other than providing a history marker for the building.

Remarks Rating: * 1/2

The florist shop fountain is a good idea. Lots of imagery is produced in one's mind when the two powerful visions of flowing water and colourful flowers combine. However, this imagery is not realized with the Fort Garry Florists fountain.



Site Visits: July 8, 1994.

Dish detail.

Fountain Name: St. James Collegiate Centennial Fountain

Location: St. James Collegiate Institute, Portage Avenue

Designer: W.O. Griffith

Client: St. James Collegiate students

Date of Construction: 1967

Typology: Spray fountain (planter)

Water Forms: Watercastle jet, pool

Basin Form: Circular (11m²)

Function: Planter, historical reference, focal point

Site Characteristics: The basin is located in a central position on the front lawns of St. James Collegiate Institute along the south side of Portage Avenue. The immediate area is characterized by open grass, except for a few conifers, which have been planted within the past few years.



Fountain as it appeared in 1967.

Dedications & History: Each school in Winnipeg was given money for a project honouring Canada's Centennial. The students at

St. James Collegiate decided to have a small fountain built on the front lawns. A plaque on the north side of the basin reads: "Dedicated by the Students of St. James Collegiate Institute to Canada's Centennial July 1, 1967." The fountain worked for two years but the

polyethylene liner was repeatedly damaged through acts of vandalism. Because of the damage, the school board decided to convert the fountain into a planter.



Basin as it appeared in summer of 1994.

Fountain Design, Materials, & Water Assessment: The basin consisted of a concrete ring 3.7m in diameter, 0.3m wide, and 1m deep. A hewn stone

and mortar curb was placed on the curb to a height of 0.5m. The center of the basin had a sand base with a polyethylene liner. The water level came to the edge of the concrete ring. A submersible pump was placed in the centre of the pool where it fired a vulcan style spray to a 2m height.

Source: Interview by telephone with George Waters, St. James area resident, 268 Sharp Boulevard,
Winnipeg, Manitoba, September 16, 1994.

Site Visits: June 25, 1994.

F. Fountains Not Included In The Inventory

Several fountains within the study area were not documented because they were not discovered until too late in the inventory process or were missed entirely. To help complete the inventory you are invited to note any fountain, its city, its address, date of construction, designer, builder, or any other information you may have if it is not listed in this text.

1 Louis Riel Monument Fountain, Winnipeg

2 High Level Bridge Waterfall, Edmonton

3 Calgary Auto Plaza

4 17St SW Apartment Tower, Calgary

5 Calgary residential pond fountains (3)?

6 Old Manitoba Legislature fountain (1884-1920?) located on Broadway Avenue bounded by Osborne St. and Kennedy St.

7 Avenida Place, south Calgary (two small dish & stand type fountains)

8

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Comments

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