

12. St. Stanislaus School (212 Miles St. E.)



Constructed: 1902 **Contractor:** Berthiaume
Architect: 1912 addition, Hood & Scott
Father Roger Arpin, named pastor of the St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1893, believed the best thing for Fort William would be a separated Roman Catholic elementary school. His passion and persistence resulted in this, Fort William's first separate school. The first floor held classes for 130 pupils, while the second storey acted as residence for the teachers. Constructed on a simple symmetrical plan, the school is made mainly of brick with a rubble stone foundation and a truncated hip roof. The most striking feature is the crenellated tower located above the arched main entrance.

13. James Murphy Coal Company (112 Simpson St.)



Constructed: 1903 **Architect:** J. C. Stinson
Known as the Murphy Block, this three-storey brick building was designed by architect John C. Stinson and constructed for James Murphy in 1904. It was home to James Murphy Coal Company, founded by Murphy in 1903, which became one of the leading fuel businesses in western Canada. The company consistently expanded by improving facilities, securing ample stocks of the world's best fuels, and developing efficient methods of oil treating and fuel delivery. James Murphy served as Mayor for the Town of Fort William in 1907, and when the town incorporated as a city later that year he became the first mayor of the City of Fort William.

14. Financial District (Victoria Ave. E. from Simpson to May)



Constructed: Early 1900's **Architect:** Various
Victoria Avenue East once contained the bulk of the Fort William financial institutions. The northwest corner of Simpson and May was the site of Fort William's first bank, the Bank of Montreal, built in 1893 (since replaced). The Embassy Block at 400 Victoria Ave. E. was built in 1912 to house the Traders Bank of Canada. Architect Carl Wirth designed this striking building with its bright appearance. Wirth also designed Union Bank of Canada further along at 428 Victoria Ave. E., built in 1912 as well. By 1913 six of Fort William's ten financial institutions were all located within this one block of Victoria Ave.

15. Caledonia Building / Graham & Horne Block (305 Victoria Ave. E.)



Constructed: 1904 **Architect:** Carl Wirth
Built for Graham and Horn, this building was designed by Architect Carl Wirth. George A. Graham and John T. Horne established one of the first sawmills in Thunder Bay in the 1870s, later investing heavily into industries at the Lakehead. The building itself was constructed in two phases, the first in 1904 and the second between 1906 and 1908. Twenty eight rooms are noted in the 1909 Henderson Directory with the Imperial Bank of Canada anchoring the corner store front. For many years this building also housed the Toronto Dominion Bank. The property, now known as the Caledonia Building, was restored in 2008, retaining many original features including woodwork, glass, and flooring.

16. Bank of Commerce (409 Victoria Ave. E.)

Constructed: 1910-11 **Architect:** V. D. Horsburgh
Construction began in 1910 on this classical Beaux-Arts style bank. Opening in 1911, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce was described as "something bank managers dream about but only occasionally attain."



17. Roy Building (410 Victoria Ave. E.)



Constructed: 1908
Architect: Stinson and Hood
The Roy Building was commissioned by John King (née Jean Baptiste Roy) in 1908 replacing his general store and liquor outlet which was lost to fire earlier the same year. This new more substantial building is three stories tall with six bays all separated by pilasters. Mr. Clement E. Chapple opened his first retail venture here in the westerly storefront while King ran his liquor outlet from the centre storefront. The pre-existing structure to the east, owned by William S. Piper, received a new facing when the Roy Building was under construction. Together these two buildings create a unified look by sharing a continuous parapet and molded cornice.

18. Times-Journal Building (115 May St. N.)



Constructed: 1900 (remodelled 1939)
Built in 1900, this was home to Fort William's Daily Times-Journal. The original red brick structure was a 25 foot wide Queen Anne style building divided into three bays with a decorative false roofline featuring curved pediments and Flemish style gables. Red brick can still be seen along the building's south side. A radical modernization in 1939 saw the false roofline removed and the building expanded to incorporate 117 May St. N., creating a 50 foot frontage of white limestone. This Art Deco inspired façade has rusticated pilasters creating six bays with a simple open curved pediment above the main entry featuring the words "Times Journal". The newspaper operated here until moving to Port Arthur in 1972 when it amalgamated with the News-Chronicle to become The Chronicle Journal.

19. Cuthbertson Block (105 May St. N.)



Constructed: 1908
This three-storey brick and limestone faced commercial building was constructed in 1908. Today only some of the building's decorative elements are visible. These include the cut stone quoins on the building's corners and iconic columns on the building's main entrance. The stone cornice which separates the first and second floor wrapping around both street facing facades is still in place but is covered for the most part with signage. The ground level, designed to house commercial space with office spaces for the top two floors, held tenants such as contractors, real estate agents, physicians, and barristers; however, for over 111 years its anchor tenant had been a bank.

20. Royal Edward Arms (108 May St. S.)



Constructed: 1929 **Architect:** Dorr & Dorr
In 1920, trade and tourist traffic was booming, and Fort William's hotels could not keep up. The railway companies were building hotels at major points along the railway but were tentative to build one here, so the citizens took charge. The Royal

Edward Hotel was built with 75% being publically owned. It was renowned for its luxury, even hosting Queen Elizabeth II in the 1950's. Constructed of concrete (using the slipped form method) in the Art Deco style, the hotel is mechanistic and abstract in design, and its monolithic size is emphasized by its verticality and jagged parapet. The building operated as a hotel until the 1980's when it was converted into housing units.

21. Dyke Block (113 May St. S.)



Constructed: 1904 **Architect:** J.C. Stinson
Former Mayor Joshua Dyke (also founder of Wesley United Church) commissioned this commercial building in 1904 after retiring from his post as minister. The original structure of the Dyke Block can be identified by the small parapet on the roof depicting the year and name of the block and the crenellated string course running along the second storey. Other features include prominent cut stone voussoirs on top of the flat-topped second storey windows and their lug sills.

22. Thunder Bay Museum (425 Donald St. E.)



Constructed: 1912 **Architect:** R. E. Mason
This former police station and court house was built in 1912. Not only did this building house a growing Fort William Police force it provided improved conditions for inmates as well. Edwardian Classical in design, the central entrance is dominated by un-fluted Corinthian columns, crowned by carved acanthus leaves and small volutes, and complimenting pilasters. Milton brick covers a steel and concrete frame with limestone cladding on the ground floor and as trim. Wide curving stone stairs lead to a recessed portico, sitting beneath a moulded architrave. This building, now home to the Thunder Bay Museum, opened its major exhibit gallery in 1997.

23. NWO Sports Hall of Fame (219 May St. S.)



Constructed: 1916 **Architect:** Hood & Scott
Built as the Provincial Land Registry Office, this Beaux-Arts building sits upon a raised ashlar foundation. Symmetrical in design, the building has strong horizontal lines. The massive limestone quoins at the corners of the building provide contrast with the building's red brick exterior. Limestone (with visible fossil relics) is also used in the construction of the protruding central entrance. A grand arch opening flanked by paired pilasters frame the building's entryway. From 1971 until 1995 the building housed the Thunder Bay Historical Society. In 1996 the building became the site of the Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame, at which time major mechanical, electrical, and architectural renovations took place.

24. Cenotaph and City Hall (500 Donald St. E.)



Constructed: Cenotaph 1922, City Hall 1966 (reconstruction 2008-09)
The Cenotaph at City Hall, featuring a solider from World War One, was erected in 1922 by the Women's Patriotic Auxiliary - originally located at the northwest corner of the 1902-built Fort William City Hall. Today's City Hall, built in 1966 for Fort William, became Thunder Bay City Hall upon amalgamation in 1970. A major reconstruction in 2008-09 included a new brick and stone exterior featuring a large window complex on the façade. McGillivray Square, in front of City Hall and named after William McGillivray, a key figure in the development of the Fort William trading post, is where the cenotaph now stands as a centrepiece memorializing soldiers of both World Wars and the Korean War.



Exploring Thunder Bay's heritage through architecture.

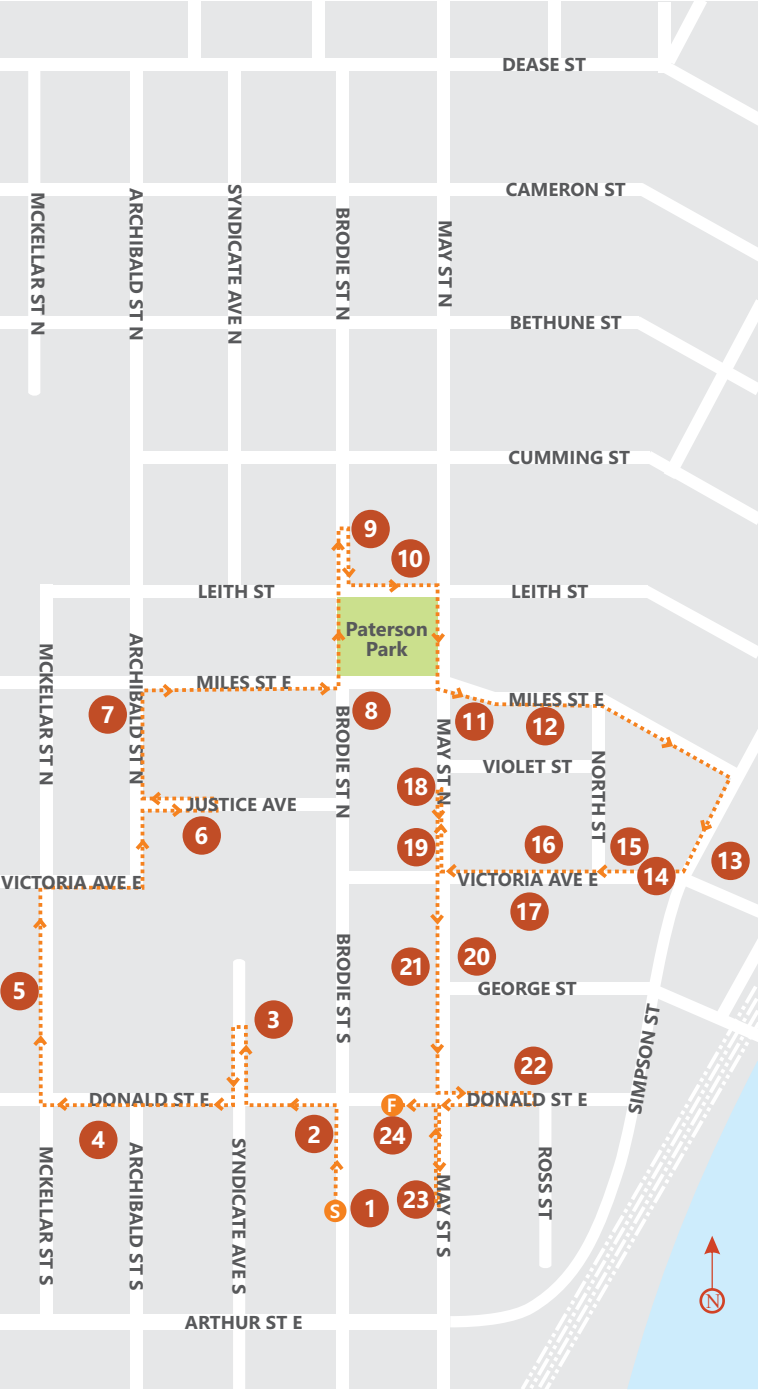
Self-Guided Historical Walking Tour:

THUNDER BAY SOUTH CORE

(Formerly Downtown Fort William)



TOUR MAP



- 1 Brodie Resource Library**

2 St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**

3 Federal Office*

4 St. Patrick's Cathedral

5 Dr. Dewar's Hospital

6 Chapple Building* (Grain Exchange)

7 Coo House**

8 Wesley United Church*

9 Arlington Apartments**

10 Federal Revenue Building*

11 Smith Block

12 St. Stanislaus School
- 13 James Murphy Coal Company

14 Fort William's Financial District

15 Caledonia Building*

16 Bank of Commerce**

17 Roy Block

18 Times-Journal Building*

19 Cuthbertson Block

20 Royal Edward Arms**

21 Dyke Block

22 Thunder Bay Museum**

23 Sports Hall of Fame*

24 Cenotaph* and City Hall

*denotes a property listed on the Heritage Registry ** denotes a property as designated on the Heritage Registry

Please respect private property and view all properties from the sidewalk. Further information about heritage properties in Thunder Bay as well as the Heritage Advisory Committee can be found at www.thunderbay.ca/heritage
Tour prepared by the Office of the City Clerk on behalf of the Heritage Advisory Committee, 2020

The properties featured within this tour cover the city's built heritage dating back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries; however, Thunder Bay's rich cultural history reaches back to the Paleo period and the early days following the great glaciers, nearly 11,000 years ago. At the point of European contact in the 17th Century, the Ojibwa people inhabited this western shore of Lake Superior. The City of Thunder Bay is built on the traditional territory of the Ojibwa people of Fort William First Nation, signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850. This area is also recognized as a historic M tis settlement.

1. Brodie Resource Library (216 Brodie St. S.)



Constructed: 1908-12
Architect: Hood & Scott
Built with a \$50,000 grant received from the Carnegie Foundation in 1908, the Fort William Public Library, now known as the Brodie Resource Library, opened on April 29, 1912 under the direction of Fort William's first female librarian, Mary J. L. Black. Constructed of red brick and limestone, its main entry, flanked by square columns, is topped by a parapet with ornamental scrolls and the inscription "Public Library". Beautiful stained glass depictions of authors such as Shakespeare and Dickens are encased within the arched windows and framed by prominent keystones. A stained glass depiction of Andrew Carnegie, originally above the main entry, can be found on display in the library's lower level.

2. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (207 Brodie St. S.)



Constructed: 1909
Architect: Stinson & Hood
Donated to the Presbyterians of Fort William by the McKellar Family in 1889, this property was Fort William's first Presbyterian church. By 1908, the congregation had grown. The original church, now too small, was moved to Pruden St. (becoming Knox United Church) and a new church was built. The St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church of today is constructed almost entirely of Simpson Island sandstone. The pointed arches and windows, two towers of uneven height, crenellated parapets, and corner buttresses of the church are all fashioned in a 14th century Gothic style. 17 memorial stained glass windows grace the church, the majority by renowned glaziers Russell Goodman and Yvonne Williams.

3. Federal Office Building (130 Syndicate Ave. S.)



Constructed: 1935 **Architect:** T. W. Fuller
Construction of this building was meant to stimulate the economy of Fort William and relieve unemployment during the Great Depression of the 1930s. True to its Beaux-Arts design, the building shows attention to symmetry, proportion, and detail in its formal flat-roofed rectangular shape, strong horizontal emphasis, and opulent stone carvings (such as the Canadian emblem and carved archway entrance). The metal frame of the entrance and the clock are both ornately decorated as well. All of the metal work, including the lamps, are bronze, with the exception of the more recent aluminum doors.

4. St. Patrick's Cathedral (211 Archibald St. S.)



Constructed: 1963
Architect: Jean-Paul St. Jacques
In 1962, the original St. Patrick's Church (built 1893) was demolished to make room for a much larger cathedral. A modernistic structure, the church is constructed of pre-

fabricated, pre-cast concrete with Manitoba Tyndall stone covering the exterior and interior walls. The interior is finished in the classic Gothic French cruciform style. North America's second largest stained glass window resides in the church's narthex (lobby). Stained glass windows from the original church have been used in the side chapels and the sacristy (back room) of the new Cathedral. In 1952, the original church was named the official Cathedral of the Diocese of Fort William (which, in 1970, became the Diocese of Thunder Bay).

5. Dr. Dewar's Hospital (121 McKellar St. S.)



Constructed: 1907 **Architect:** J. E. Rutledge
Since its construction in 1907, this building has changed ownership multiple times with a variety of purposes. One of the most notable owners of the building was Dr. Robert K. Dewar, who purchased the home in 1920 after returning home from the war and obtaining his medical degree. In 1928, he opened the Margaret Jane Dewar Hospital (in honour of his late sister) on the first and third floors. It is an excellent example of Edwardian Classicism architecture, with its hipped roof and dormers (one of which features metal cresting), two Palladian windows with brick arches, and bay windows spanning both the first and second floor. The home's brick porch is supported by square piers with arches along its foundation.

6. Chapple Building / Fort William Grain Exchange (701 Victoria Ave. E. – view from Justice Ave.)



Constructed: 1913 **Architect:** Carl Wirth
In 1913, Fort William, having been selected to house the Grain Commission of Canada headquarters along with a sample market for trading, was informed by government officials that a suitable building would need to be built. Influenced by the Chicago School style of architecture, the handsome five-storey building was designed by Carl Wirth. 5,000 cubic yards of concrete reinforced with 300 tons of high tensile reinforced steel was used in its construction. Ornamented in the Classical style, Doric columns flank the recessed Syndicate Avenue entry and the building's wide carved stone stringcourse separates the main level from the upper floors. The stringcourse features carved sheaves of wheat symbolizing the building's original purpose. When Fort William fell short of becoming the nation's grain trading centre, the building was made famous by its retail tenant and eventual owner. Chapples Limited opened on Friday November 13, 1913 in the main floor and basement level, as the largest department store in Western Canada.

7. The Coo House (135 Archibald St. N.)



Constructed: 1898 **Builder:** George Coo
George and Sara Coo, along with their three children, arrived in Fort William in 1896. Upon purchasing a lot from John McKellar in 1898, they acquired a mortgage for the construction of a home. Mr. Coo, a trained watchmaker who worked for jeweler Robert Strachan and the CPR as the timekeeper, is thought to have designed his family's eclectic home. Built in 1898, the house blends a variety of styles prevalent at the time. Many design elements of the home are ones usually found on more substantial structures. A distinctive landmark as a whole, the home's wooden tower is a compelling feature with its conical roof topped with a white pointed finial. Oddly placed windows of various shapes give the fa ade a unique, unbalanced appearance. The Coo family retained ownership of this home until 1952. In the early 1980's the home, then apartments, was converted into commercial use as it remains today.

8. Wesley United Church (130 Brodie St. N.)



Constructed: 1910
Architect: Stinson& Hood
Named for John and Charles Wesley who brought Methodism to the Americas, this church was built in 1910. The first record of a Methodist service in Fort William, however, dates back to 1885, with the first church built in 1891 - Grace Methodist Church. 19 years later, the congregation, too large for Grace Methodist, built this new church. The architectural style is Romanesque with Gothic Revival, with its emphases on square shapes and verticality. We see this also in the triplets of lancet windows, cut stone hood molding on both square towers, and the rampart capping to the roof. Inside the church is a magnificent 2,500 pipe organ in the English Romantic style. The church's Memorial Hall was added in 1947.

9. Arlington Apartments (230 Brodie St. N.)



Constructed: 1913 **Architect:** R. E. Mason
Designed by R. E. Mason, Charles Jenkins constructed this building in 1913 becoming not only its first owner but also its first tenant. This was the first apartment building built at the Lakehead. It proved so popular that plans for additions were underway almost immediately after construction. The straight parapets of the multi-storey building give it the appearance of a building block, but the open covered porches identify it as an apartment building. Each of the porches is supported by black piers and decorated with multiple brackets and balustrades. The bay windows flanking the main entrance and the cut-stone window sills and lintels give the building symmetry. With restoration work completed in the early 1990's, the Arlington Apartments are still in use as apartments today.

10. Federal Revenue Building (201 May St. N.)



Constructed: 1913-15
Architect: H.E. Matthews
The pre-war years were a time of prosperity and optimism in Fort William. As one of the world's largest grain-handling ports and a major trade and transportation point, the expansion of east-west trade and the economic importance of customs meant the city required an examination and customs warehouse. Styled in Beaux-Arts Classicism, this building is finished with Tyndall (Manitoba) limestone, containing numerous visible fossils, with granite ascents. Strong horizontal lines divide the building's base body and cornice. The central pedimented entryway is flanked either side by two-storey paired pilasters separating arch topped windows. The same paired pilasters continue around the north and south sides of the building. Rusticated pilasters adorn the entryway and building corners.

11. Smith Block (132 May St. N.)



Constructed: 1914 **Architect:** J. C. Stinson
John Russel Smith, for whom this building is named, was the first owner and likely the commissioner of its construction. He was also, for some time, the owner of the Port Arthur Daily News. This three-storey commercial block was designed to suit its corner lot. Finished with Tapestry brick (brick used to create a pattern effect), the building also features stone detailing for its windowsills and row of dentils underneath the cornice. Stone lentils crown the third-storey windows, while a stone string course winds around the building above the second-storey windows.