


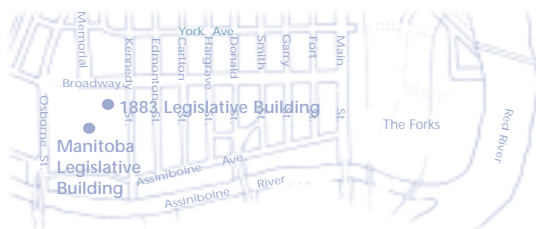
Showpiece of a Continent

You can learn a great deal about a country – or a province – by examining its government buildings. Their architectural style usually reflects the mood of the population at the time they were built. Manitoba's Legislative Building is certainly a case in point. An impressive home to politicians and public servants, in 1920 it was acclaimed by architectural experts to be among the grandest government houses in North America. Some say only the American White House in Washington, DC surpasses its beauty and grandeur.



Department of the Interior /
National Archives of Canada 7 PA-41534

The dome of Manitoba's present Legislative Building, with its famous statue of the Golden Boy, is perhaps the province's best-known architectural feature.



Famous across Canada for its glittering Golden Boy statue, which reaches skyward from a copper-clad dome, the interior of the building is equally familiar to most Manitobans thanks to televised media scrums with the

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premier and the daily taping of discussion and debate between the government and the opposition during a legislative session.

But film doesn't capture the true beauty of the building's architecture, which speaks of the cultural sentiments of an age when the British Empire was

Its predecessor, built in 1883, was an ornate Italianate design that even in the spring had a brooding quality about it.

M.I. Guthrie Collection / Provincial Archives of Manitoba

