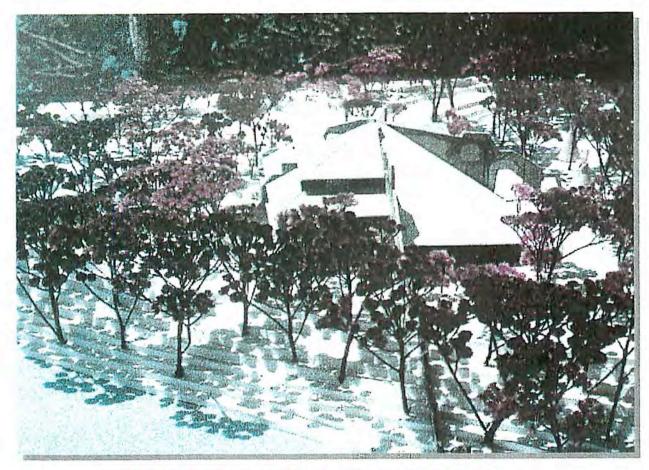
DRAFT



THE SPIRIT BUILDING

We, the Metis and First Nations people of the City of Winnipeg, have chosen to embark on this mission in support of the Forks North Portage Partnership's commitment that we be an intrinsic part, in the planning and development, of the Forks.

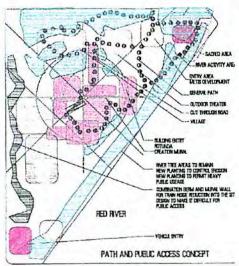
Amalgamated Vision Statement (continues in blue)



- Include the rest of the First Nations and Metis people in the province of Manitoba, Canada, possibly the world.
- The project should be complete for the 1999 games.
- There should be provision made to accommodate the future development of the Aboriginal Games.
- Planning has been completed in the Forks general area. There have been a number of decisions made which have impacted the development of South Point.
- 1. There are burials in a special place.
- 2. The bicycle path has been completed. The new develop-

ment will drop the elevation of the bike path by 1.2m leaving a walking path at the existing level.

- 3. Site lighting along the bicycle path has been installed, some will be moved and additional lighting will be added, spot lighting along walls and gates.
- 4. The railroad walking bridge has been completed.
- 5. There is a prehistoric pottery site along the Red River which has not been explored.
- 6. There will be public access to the site. The Forks Board has made a commitment to allow public access to all areas of the Forks along the river walk.
- 7. There has been discussion about what to do with the counterweight on the bridge.



We will differentiate between the Metis and the First Nations people. Both will be equally represented. We will incorporate the Sod House, traditional housing, trading. traditions and other heritage aspects. Festivals and major events will become part of this development. This project will be developed as a festival place of meeting.

Commit ourselves to create a vision that manifests our goals and aspirations for developing South Point in a way that distinctly conveys the fundamental values and philosophies of our many peoples. We have strong spiritual connection with this land, for it is a crossroads for our people; a joining of not only the Red and Assiniboine Rivers that we used for communication, trade, and transportation for thousands of years, but a joining of Aboriginal and European cultures.

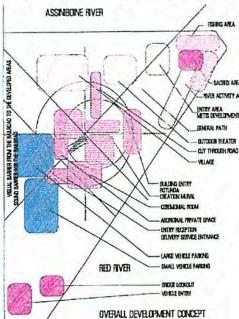
questions of Heritage will have to be addressed in a

way which meets cultural requirements



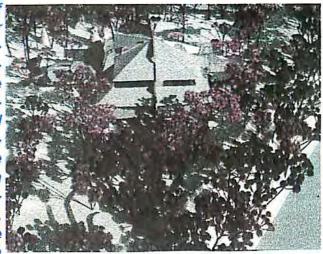
- specific values, both public and private • the fundamental values should be reflected by
- traditional murals and other special aspects of the site development
- communications, trade, transportation could be documented by the internal displays of the center. Past, present and future. A place of Teaching.
- · Cultural Tourism...there should be a map which shows the facilities and services which are being marketed by Aboriginal peoples. The map should be updated and become the center of a tourism marketing program.

This project is an opportunity to present our values to the people of the world. It is also an





opportunity to present a fitting image of ourselves, and to take responsibility for presenting ourselves in a way that expresses who we are, as we see ourselves, today. We will acknowledge the fact that, in the past, others have determined our identity and have presented their interpretation of Aboriginal culture, history, and even our future, to the world. At South Point, we will take a stand and be responsible for destroying all of these stereotypical images. We will begin this in every aspect of the planning, designing, and construction of South Point.



South Point will be a manifestation of our identity and destiny.

- the values which the site and the buildings portray need to have significance to the rest of the worlds aboriginal peoples. There needs to be an involvement.
- · the past, the present and the future need to be addressed and presented positively
- we need to destroy stereotypical images by producing a truly special place, a first class facility where the building and the site development is a support structure to present and future programming and activities.



To keep our word, we will ask our Elders to bless this site and reinforce the fact that we regard the Earth, our host, as sacred. The Elders will bless the

waters around our place, for water is sacred and it gives us life; and they will bless the air, the trees, the rocks ... all of the Creator s precious gifts, to remind us to respect and work in harmony with them.

 the respected Elders are an integral part of the cultural development, they will be consulted in every aspect of the development.
 There will be a special place for them.

Let us put the names of Aboriginal Nations &

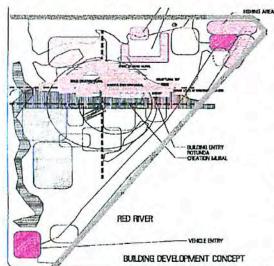
Communities into this place!

Two stones with the name of each First Nation Community, each aboriginal language, on them, from Canada or from the World. All of the stones would be part of the ceremonies, and the dedications. One of the stones would be sent back to each of the communities after the ceremonies for safe keeping, and a connection.

Aboriginal communities have language variations. We can include these languages which various aboriginal peoples speak in the project.

Can we create medicine walls? Can we create healing walls?

the building will be integrated into the walls which grow from the earth.

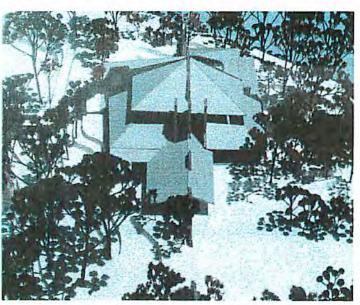


- the two main structural walls are the physical means of supporting the building.
- we bring things from all over the world to incorporate into the walls. We make the walls a continuing design which will change in the future as new pieces are added and new areas and ideas are incorporated.
- the structure of the walls will appear to float above the ground in the main building, rise out of the ground around the building.
- a number of smaller walls could appear and disappear around the building and re-appear in the building.
- · a portion of the buildings walls could be used

for a light show. The light system and show can be internal and external to the building.

- we can use light to expand the vision of the South Point Center into Winnipeg and the World.
- the wall will be structural, precast, murals can be relief aspects or they can be fastened after construction as they were in the Victoria Museum

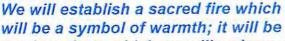
These walls should rise out of the ground south and west and out of the rivers, north and east.

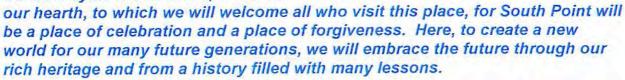


Create something in the median of Main Street A SIGNPOST FOR THE FORKS

The walls can reappear from Earth Mother at any point, any continent, any village on earth because they are part of Earth Mother. This place can be a center for Earth Mother, one of many which will bring together all people and heal Mother Earth, to heal ourselves, and to boldly step into the future.

- the lowest areas where the building touches the earth will house the private ceremonial areas because they touch the earth. These spaces create mystery; they provide the building an anchorage to the ground and the site
- the way the building rests on the ground is very important, the way it grows from the rivers and the land is key
- we will create spaces outside the building for outdoor activities. Some of these spaces will be private, some will be public.

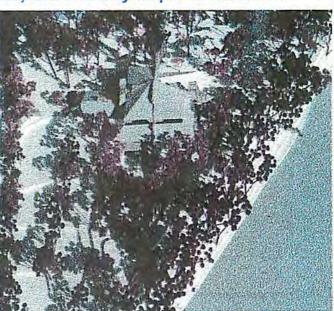




- the hearth and its location will be key to the experience
- we can create etched glass images of ancestors. These can be placed in the woods around the facility. The sculptural aspects of First Nations and Metis can be an aspect which we can provide for viewing.
- we will incorporate various learning aspects
 - pottery making
 - cooking
 - · tee pee making
 - traditional healing
 - mystic aspects
 - fur trade tanning and trapping techniques
 - jigging

The ongoing future of the place will depend on the activities which make the place live. Out of respect for the Earth, we will provide

- drumming
- dancing
- community events
- story telling
- elders teachings
- trade
- ancestral traditions and teachings



To follow our beliefs, we will respect our host, the Earth, and we will select building components and systems that work in harmony with our environment. The building will be efficient and its forms will evoke images that raise our spirits. We will utilize the latest technology to minimize the use of energy, so that we do not contribute to global warming, and we will maximize the use of the sun for heating through passive solar technology, and the use of river water to heat and cool our building. We will maximize the use of cross-ventilation to reduce the use of mechanical systems, and we will utilize alternate energy sources such as solar panels, wind, and river water to generate electricity. Water from the roofs and the landscaping will not be drained to a sewer, but will be used in the landscaping through ponding and irrigation. We will use the latest technology to ensure that our sewage is treated on the site and does not pollute the river. To maximize our health and vitality and the well-being of our visitors, we will employ non-polluting materials, and we will avoid materials whose off-gassing creates a health hazard. We will avoid products that contribute to the detriment of our people, such as wood products from companies who clear-cut forests or companies who pollute our rivers and air. structure will be used year-round as a place of celebration and gathering, a place of learning and communication, and a place of forgiveness and healing.

- the building systems and materials will conform to traditional requirements
- · the mechanical system will depend on the scale of the final building
- we will create a tree with the ductwork, the mechanical system is a life blood
- we will move the body in ways which make discovery possible
- we will employ the most innovative technologies available. This will be tempered by the funding which we are able to secure for the project.

In taking this stand, we will set an example not only for our children, but for the entire world. We will teach the world how to live and work in harmony with nature. South Point will be a place of the future, a blessed site that is a physical manifestation of our philosophy and our destiny as told in our legends. In this place, we will welcome the four races and commit ourselves to share with them our contribution of the past and our vision of the future. South Point will be a symbol of our commitment to heal Mother Earth, to heal ourselves, and to boldly step into the future.

- the initial commitment is important
- the on going operations and management of the center will be key to meeting the goals and the objectives of this statement
- the self sustaining programs will need to be carefully selected and managed to ensure there are revenues for jobs and programs well into the future
- building programming must create significant mass for programming to be effective
- the ideas and the images must create a comfortable feeling and a reasonable curiosity to come back again,
- the programming and the activities should amke people want to come back

The way we experience the site and the building is critical Because of the site summer and winter accesses

As you enter the building you need to see the same thing from each of the entries. There has to be an inaccessible focus to the process of entering the building. The entry spaces need to be accessible to all people. They need to be covered and very practically designed for maintenance and future modifications as the center develops.

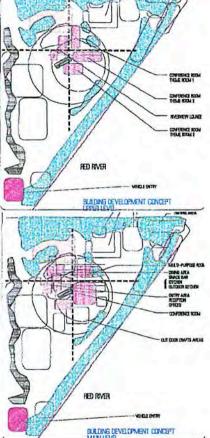
We can enter the building at the level of the upper grade, level with the old road beds.

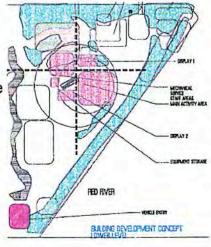
The Experience from the railroad side.

- follow along a wall which is in the floor as you walk along
- the wall begins to rise
- there are spots along it where there is a special thing, a plaque, a painting, one of the glass images
- · the wall disappears and then rises again
- · you see pieces of the building
- glimpse into spaces
- the murals disappear into the glass envelope
- the sun reflects from the side of the building and from the roof
- · the colours rise
- the materials which were unclear gradually take shape and become a mural
- the wall rises and passes over head
- · the path sinks into the ground
- the planting rises overhead
- · the building rises overhead
- you enter
- you twist
- turn
- glimpse
- see envision
- get cool
- you wait for the elevator
- · stumble on the floor
- you look around
- the elevator comes and you rise to the top of the building

you see

- the river
- the trees
- · the wind
- sun





- snow
- see a precipice
- see through space
- through space
- through space
- · each space can be articulated by etched glass



- · coloured glass
- painted glass
- the light passing through creates an eerie image of a multiple series of images that you look through
- each space as you pass through narrows the vision to one image
- it is above
- you descend into the building past the mural images
- · past the glass etched images
- it is beside
- you walk along
- you pass under
- you pass through
- you enter into the main hall
- history is above and beside
- · you are part of the future
- you are in



Each of the entry processes needs to be carefully written.

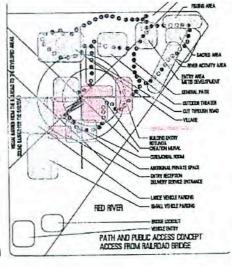


Summer Day Everyday Rain Fall Morning Special Occasion Snow Winter
Evening
Private Occasion
Fog

Spring Night PowWow Wind

From the Main Street side -----Summer

- follow along a path which is paved for vehicle traffic
- · the wall begins to rise
- there are spots along it where there is a special thing, a plaque, drawing, a relief sculpture
- · the path is broken
- you see the turnaround and the parking for the vehicles
- · there is the west entry
- · colours and shapes from the medicine wheel
- · there are walls which bar the path
- thorny brush which makes it easier to go along a specific path than to go where you want
- · there is a respect of the environment
- · the noise of the traffic becomes less and less
- · the trees filter the direct sun
- there are hidden private outdoor spaces on the south side of the building
- sheltered spaces for the herb gardens of First Nations and Metis



THE PATH---

OPPORTUNITIES WHICH THE LAND PROVIDES US

- · the experience is different each time you go
- on a cloudy day
- · at twilight
- at sunrise
- at sunset
- · at night
- in spring
- in summer
- in fall
- in winter

the gods of the water



we may need to incorporate a greenhouse of some kind it could be hidden in plain sight do a lot of the hiding with planting, vines and fencing make the fencing a visual reflection of the building walls make the materials from combustible materials which weather



- the private spaces can be glimpsed
- the private spaces are designed to take best advantage of the orientation of the buildings and the micro cliamte to the south of the building

From the water south to north

- a few rocks
- a piece of concrete imbeded in the ground
- · maybe raised by 150 300mm
- 300 600mm wide
- there should be provision for a dock to be attached to the wall and anchored to the river side up and down river
- rise to the level of flooding
- South American Indian statue/Incan ball
- · at the waters edge
- · zig zag the levels like stairs to the flood level
- make the wall a set of steps 300mm wide
- mark the flood levels 1950, 1997
- · put some time elements into the stone
- provide some hooks for rope ends
- plant some herbs along the side
- · make the wall reflect the colours of the south from the medicine wheel
- make the wall expand sideways in some areas

- stone glyphs along the top
- make the wall rise above 10' up the edge of the bike path
- · make a gate which cannot be closed
- carve the gate
- create a wall space with the story of the southern side of the medicine wheel
- · create something special between the bike path and the walking path above
- · rise from the past at the bottom of the waters edge to the present at the bike path
- Southern Indian greeting to the meeting place into the gate for both the walking and the bike path
- change the wall from concrete to wood from the walking path to the building
- provide a walkway through at the building east west
- the building wall rises broken at elevations above the building roofing
- · the roof hangs from the walls
- · the roof changes elevations from east to west
- · there is a peak to the walls
- the highest point is the north south wall
- the wall begins to slope to the north from the center of the building
- there is a steep slope
- · there are flat parts
- there are rises
- the roof slopes to the path at the back
- part of the wall on this side can be used for a projection screen
- there is a main gate way for the public
- there is a greeting in the northern languages to the meeting place
- the same greetings should be at the other entry
- the wall continues to the stage
- on the west side there is a structure that hangs from the wall
- tubular steel @ 400 O/C
- the structure is covered with a painted tent fabric when the stage is being used
- the wall encompasses the electrical for the stage lighting
- the controls are part of the building tucked in one corner of the ramp sections
- there should be a curve to the stage wall
- a series of posts rising from the center of the stage area
- the stage is a compacted gravel pad which allows for the public to participate
- the stage is a raised platform which is knock down
- the stage has a structure as a backdrop which can be raised, possibly a tension frame from the wall to the bridge
- everything should be washable by hose with water
- everything should be floodable
- the wall shrinks to the level of the ground and disappears into the water on the North side, there is a small platform with an inookshook on it, the signpost should be for meeting place and should be visible from the Forks side as well as from the South Point

From the water east to west

- there should be provision for a dock area to be attached, a few rocks
- . there is a commemorative section to the wall for the people buried
- there is a place to leave a message, leave a plaque, leave a name plate
- there is a bench to sit and watch the river flow by
- this area could be for fishing, we need to deal with garbage along the river
- · once the building is in place there will be fewer overnights on the property
- the paths to the water should be difficult for people to manage
- the wall could be used as stairs of sorts large blocky steps like the ancient Incas had to the temples, if the building code will allow
- at the rivers edge there should be a marking, statue, or some other item which signifies the east coast First Nations or the Ojibway First Nation
- the rise from the waters edge to the bike and walking paths would be similar to the south north axis
- the wall needs to be located to miss the major trees, we can shift the overall project to make certain
- the foundations for the wall will be spaced piles, the low wall to below frost, the major walls to bedrock
- the main foundations could all be drilled into the bank during the winter of 1998-99 with the installation of the main structure the following spring
- the main wall system would be constructed during the summer of 1998
- there should be a similar gate to the bike and the walking paths as on the north south walls, the language of the greeting should be the eastern Cree
- · we could include the languages of the European cultures which came to America
- · we should include the Metis in the language greeting
- there should be a symbolic gateway in both the bike and the walking paths
- . the wall should be continuous from the gateway to the building
- · high enough to prevent people looking into the private areas
- provide dense planting along the walking path beside the building
- make sure the areas behind are private this could be with a small retaining wall which makes passage impractical, sound should pass





