

# POINT *to* POINT

ARMSTRONG'S POINT COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## The "Legendary" Gates

*Coming and going in our neighbourhood is like stepping from one room into another. It's when we pass through our limestone gateways that we most distinctly experience a sense of entering, and leaving.*

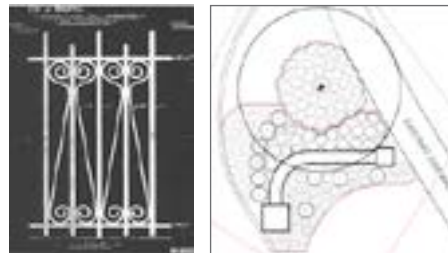
City archivists use the word "legendary" in describing these structures. In fact, "Many Winnipeggers know the neighbourhood as "The Gates" over its more formal name, "Armstrong's Point". "The three gateways are of handsome design, large size and uniqueness in the inventory of "street furniture", and have a very strong landmark sense in the minds of our city's residents."

(City of Winnipeg Historical Buildings Committee, August 1993)



*The larger pillars are set farther back than the smaller ones, creating a graceful curve in the limestone base and wrought iron.*

A frequently asked question: Were there ever functional closing gates across the streets? The answer is "no". Though this was indeed proposed several times, the idea was always turned down due to costs.



*Top left - Detail, wrought iron work, Armstrong's Point Gateway, 30 August 1910, City of Winnipeg Archives  
Top right - Landscape plan, view from Middle Gate looking north toward Cornish, City of Winnipeg, May 2018*

An interesting fact: "The Armstrong's Point Gates were the only such units erected by the City of Winnipeg to delineate a specific neighbourhood. There have been several other gateways built throughout Winnipeg over the last eighty years, but these have been erected by real estate developers to call attention to their subdivisions". "The Gates" were designed by architect Alan Harvey Cotman. Born in England to a distinguished artistic family, he arrived in Winnipeg about 1904. His beautiful gates were completed in 1911.

*(continued on next page)*



*Armstrong's Point  
HERITAGE HOUSE TOUR*

**Well, it's time to once again share these wonderful old houses with the residents of Winnipeg!**

The bi-annual Armstrong's Point Heritage House Tour will happen Sunday, September 9, 2018, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tickets will be available at McNally Robinson and the APA Sales Tent on the day of the event. Come out to say hi to neighbours and meet the many new ones!

The House Tour supports APA projects like funding all newly-planted trees and the newest project at the entrance to Middle Gate! Your ticket will give you a fun day in your neighbourhood, plant more trees and continue to beautify this special place!

*April McDonald - Kassum  
Chair - Heritage Committee*

## The “Legendary” Gates

(continued)

One hundred and seventeen years later, APA’s Heritage Committee decided to complement the historic gates with landscaping. In consultation with the city’s Planning Department, a thoughtful design, befitting the importance of the gates, emerged.



Designer’s rendering of the Middle Gate planting

Ian Legge, urban designer, found his assignment “a bit tricky”. “The Heritage Conservation District Plan dictates that architectural integrity must be preserved. The gates are designed in Classical Revival Style which focuses, in part, on symmetry”.

The Middle Gate entrance presented several challenges. There are differences from one side of the street to the other in height of the ground, dimensions of the gates, the placement of street trees and sidewalk orientation. Ian’s solution was to create a similar “feel” in terms of shape of the planting beds, “even though true symmetry would not be possible to achieve”.



“Rosy Returns” daylilies will contrast nicely to the beige/grey colour of the gates

A complete plant list is available to any interested gardeners. See: <https://www.winnipeg.ca/PPD/Documents/Heritage/ListHistoricalResources/Cornish0-long.pdf> for an extensive history of the gates of Armstrong’s Point.

## Our Own Future Olympian

by Darlene Irwin and April McDonald - Kassum

Dressage (pronounced dres äZH/), is an Olympic equestrian sport where a highly-skilled rider and an intelligent, well-trained animal perform complex manoeuvres, working in perfect communication with one another. The rider “talks” to her horse with silent commands that are barely perceptible to a viewer, while keeping a calm and composed demeanour.

Dressage is a feat of both technical skill and artistry. If well done, it appears “effortless”. In fact, it is anything but that.

Princess Anne of England highlighted this sport by competing in dressage for her country in the 1976 Montreal Olympics. We believe we have our own future Olympian right here in Armstrong’s Point, in sixteen year-old Brooke Mancusi, who spoke to us about her devotion to this sport.

### How old were you when you started riding?

“I was nine years old when I started riding. I started by competing in schooling shows at the local barn. I competed in my first recognized show at Bird’s Hill Park at age ten.”

### What made you interested in riding?

“I started riding at a summer day camp. I immediately fell in love! I took lessons in both jumping and dressage and eventually came to focus only on dressage.”

### Do you own your own horse?

“I currently have three horses: “Extravaganza”, a nine-year-old KWPN mare, “Wellknown”, or “Wellie” (the horse she recently competed with), a ten-year-old Westphalian Gelding and “Danao”, a twenty-year-old German Riding Pony.”

### Do you intend to continue riding?

“Yes, I plan to continue riding. My long- term goal is to ride in the Olympic Games. I plan on attending university after Grade 12. During that time I plan on continuing my training and competing in the USA. I just finished competing for Team Canada at the North American Youth Championships



Brooke Mancusi of Middle Gate, shown here at the North American Equestrian Championship where she represented Canada, and led her team to a Bronze medal in dressage.

(NAYC) in North Salem, New York, as a Junior (ages 14-18). My short-term goal is to again be named to Team Canada for NAYC in 2019, however, in the Young Rider Division (ages 16- 21).”

### How many hours per week do you ride?

“I ride five to six days a week. During the summer (June - September) I work for my trainer in San Diego and I am in full training, riding approximately two hours per day, five days a week.”

“Since I am a student entering Grade 12 at Balmoral Hall, I attend classes in Winnipeg. When I am in Winnipeg I ride one to two hours a day, six days a week. This does not include the time I spend cross training in our home gym or at the gym.”

As Brooke has described for us, “effortlessness” does not come easily! We imagine that behind Brooke are a proud, supporting family who deserve a little of the credit. Well done, Brooke! We’ll definitely be watching for you in the future.



# As a new phase of our Neighbourhood Watch program is about to begin in Armstrong's Point, it's a good time for an overview.

by Mark Carlson and Kelly Van Camp

Winnipeg Police Services organize our city into four districts. Armstrong's Point is in the Central District, which has the smallest geographical area (about 3% of Winnipeg) and the highest crime rate (27% of all crimes reported). Also included in Central is the downtown area, particularly Portage Avenue, where a high percentage of the crime occurs.

While the incidence of crime increases sharply north of Cornish Avenue, our neighbourhood isn't immune. Fortunately, violent crimes in Armstrong's Point are extremely rare, with none recently reported. Excluding petty theft or vandalism, where statistics aren't kept, WPS have recorded ten break and enters, a couple of car thefts, and one robbery within Armstrong's Point since January 1, 2017.

The conclusion is obvious: Armstrong's Point is impacted less by crime than much of the surrounding area.

Although Armstrong's Point is a relatively safe neighbourhood, even a few crimes are a few too many.

## What can you do to make Armstrong's Point a safer neighbourhood?

**Reduce opportunities** for crime to occur. Know that, contrary to popular belief, most crimes occur during the daytime, when people are often at work or school. The month of May is when the greatest number of thefts occur.

**Be alert** to activities that are out of the ordinary or seem suspicious to you - trespassing, cruising slowly along your street, cycling through the neighbourhood at unusual hours, possibly with empty backpacks in tow, or whistling of signals across the neighbourhood at night, as have been noticed by several residents.

**Don't overlook** those basic common-sense measures. Secure your own premises at all times. Take the extra minutes to stow away items and lock them up. Invest in motion sensor lights. Inform your neighbour when you have to go away for an extended period.

**Become involved** in Armstrong's Point Neighbourhood Watch. This is simply neighbours looking out for neighbours. If you have not already done so, you can register at [gatesneighbourhoodwatch@gmail.com](mailto:gatesneighbourhoodwatch@gmail.com) to receive incident reports and updates of Neighbourhood Watch activities in Armstrong's Point.



**Finally, report ALL crimes and suspicious activities.** If witnessing something in progress, WPS urge citizens to call 911, rather than trying to break it up oneself. Report it online at <https://www.winnipeg.ca/police/report/default.stm>.

If a crime has already occurred, please send a summary to [gatesneighbourhoodwatch@gmail.com](mailto:gatesneighbourhoodwatch@gmail.com) (to maintain confidentiality, addresses are never printed).

Policing in an area is linked to the level and type of criminal activity recorded, so it is imperative that WPS be informed of all incidents, even of a minor nature. Being diligent in observing and reporting all suspicious activities makes our properties and families safer and gives us greater confidence and pride in our community.

(Statistics: Winnipeg Police Services)



## Heritage House Tour 2018

Sunday, September 9th  
11:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Tickets \$25  
at McNally Robinson  
Grant Park

5 heritage homes open to view  
Manitoba Classic and Antique  
Automobile Club  
Tweed Riders Cycling Club  
Wildlife of Armstrong's Point  
photography exhibit  
"Artists in Residence" art show  
Musical entertainment featuring:

- Classy Brass
- Fu Fu Chi Chi
- Accordion stylings  
of Marty Green  
with Cookie the Dog

Holland Street Organ  
Farmers' Market  
Lemonade Stand



Classy Brass are Winnipeg's first and only women's brass quintet known for stirring favourites of yesteryear and trademark vintage Victorian hats.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Welcome to **Gurpal Singh Bhangu**, born July 17 to his proud parents, Mani and Jasdeep. Congratulations and best wishes to Mom, Dad and extended families!



*East Blanchard Park*



*Grapevines and gargoyles*

### AP residents recommend:

#### Dylan Vinet

Member International Society of Arboriculture / Professional stump removals / 15 years of experience / boulevard or private property. Dylan will offer a special group rate for you and your neighbours. 204-770-9346  
vinetstumpremoval@gmail.com

#### Math with Marty

Home schooling support/ Online courses for credit/ Individual or group classes.  
Marty Green, Math Consultant  
cell: (204) 794-1566  
email: [marty@onforeignsoil.com](mailto:marty@onforeignsoil.com)  
[www.mathwithmarty.blogspot.ca](http://www.mathwithmarty.blogspot.ca)

## The Gallery ...



*photo by Ash Raichura*

*“The photo is of a bald eagle. I took it from my backyard, looking straight across the river at 99 Wellington. The graffiti is on the retaining wall behind the building.”*

My sons and I were out playing and I noticed some seagulls circling over the river and swooping downwards. My sons pointed out that they were swooping at a bald eagle on the shore! I ran in the house and grabbed my camera so I could

capture a photo of this wild creature in our urban environment”. See more of Ash Raichura’s photos of wildlife in Armstrong’s Point, an exhibit which is part of this year’s House Tour. Where: 129 East Gate, 11- 4:00 p.m.

## APA Board Members:

Diamond Kassum - *President*  
Marvin Tiller - *Treasurer*  
April Kassum - *Secretary*  
Scott Antonation  
Jasdeep Bhangu  
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Mark Carlson  
Peter Firlotte  
Jocelyne Hullén  
Ash Raichura  
Wayne Ryzniczuk  
Kelly Van Camp  
Lino Ziffarelli

## APA Committees:

### Heritage Committee:

April Kassum

### Maintenance and Repairs:

Mark Carlson

### Neighborhood Watch, Safety and Security:

Mark Carlson

### Block Captains:

**Middle Gate:** Kelly Van Camp

**West Gate:** Sandy Thacker

### Newsletter:

**Editor:** Darlene Irwin

**Design:** Randy Butterfield

### Social Committee:

Peter Firlotte

### Tree Committee:

Melva Widdicombe

*Are you an event planner, an antiquarian, a tree hugger?*

*Do you enjoy lifting heavy things and moving them around?*

*Help make our next event the best ever! Sign up today!*

Contact April Kassum:  
[akassum@shaw.ca](mailto:akassum@shaw.ca)

### Point to Point:

**Armstrong’s Point**

**Community Newsletter**

Send contributions,  
suggestions to:  
[d.irwin@mymts.net](mailto:d.irwin@mymts.net)