

GLOBAL CHALLENGE WALKING TOUR

A self-guided tour of Canada's most beautiful campus



1. Medway Parking Lot

As you leave the Medway Parking Lot, look at the Northwest corner for a mature stand of Kentucky Coffee Trees, Tulip Trees, and Butternuts. A City of London bicycle path runs between the river and the parking lot.

2. University Drive

Looking Eastward from this intersection, you will see Elgin Hall, Medway Hall, Sydenham Hall, and Alumni House. These student residences offer overnight accommodation during the summer vacation period for travelers.

3. University Drive Bridge

Many students catch their first sight of Western at the University Bridge. The bridge was completed in 1923 using a steam-powered excavator and linked the east side of the Thames River with the then new campus.

4. Perth Drive - University Drive Intersection

For many graduates and visitors, the view up the hill towards University College is their most cherished memory of Western. To the northeast is Delaware Hall, a student residence.

5. Coronation Coppice

As you walk up the hill, on your right is the Coronation Coppice which commemorates the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1937. Raspberries and redbuds bloom in May and native geraniums flourish throughout the spring and early summer.

6. Centennial Grove

As you make the turn towards Middlesex College, you will pass through the Centennial Grove, a planting of unique trees and shrubs established in 1978. At the centre of the grove is a large tulip tree. There are also Swiss stone pines, a cork tree, a scholars tree and a hop tree. The grove is home to many commemorative tree plantings.

7. Bellevue Homestead

Located within this forest is the remnants of the Bellevue Homestead. The house was built in the 1840's by the Ball Family and was purchased by Mrs. Anne Kingsmill in 1847. Many of the original bricks from the Bellevue house are still located within the subsurface of the forest. Looking northwards you will see two rows of walnut trees that lined the roadway to the Bellevue Homestead.

8. Middlesex College

Constructed in 1959, Middlesex College houses the departments of Mathematics and Computer Science and the Grad Club.

9. North Campus Building

Housing the Faculty of Information and Media Studies the North Campus Building (2003) has an interesting outdoor sculpture area on the south side of the building.

10. John Labatt Visual Art Building

Completed in 1993, this building is home to the Fine Arts Program. The tall stainless steel stacks provide ventilation for the various labs and studios within the building.

11. Jancey Garden

This garden was dedicated to the memory of Plant Science professor Dr. Robert C. Jancey in 1998, and is a joint venture of the Friends of the Garden and the Department of Plant Sciences. A constant display of colour and fragrance is provided by the perennials, grasses, herbs, roses and other flora. The garden was relocated in the fall of 2007. It is now located at the South Side of the Biotron Building which was also completed in 2007.

12. St. Mary's Rock Garden

The St. Mary's Cement Rock Garden was dedicated in 1991. It is used by the Department of Earth Sciences for laboratory exercises and outreach on rock formation. The oldest rock in the garden is between 2.2 and 2.4 billion years old, while the youngest is about 370 million years old. The sedimentary sequence is laid in order of age: youngest specimens are at the top of the walk and the oldest at the bottom. Please take care on the path, as the incline is steep.

13. Physics & Astronomy Building

Known as the Natural Science Building when it was built in 1924, the Physics & Astronomy Building is one of the oldest buildings on campus. When it was under construction, the stone masons on the project added a unique touch by carving gargoyles on the building exterior. Although many are covered by ivy, you may see Old Bill with his large mustache, the boy with a toothache and a two-headed gargoyle. The doorways also have carvings surrounding the framework.

14. Biology and Geology Building

Constructed in 1958, this building is home to the Departments of Biology and Earth Sciences. Walking through this building you will notice a variety of displays including rock and plant specimens, geological maps, and dinosaur fossils. You can even jump on the floor and register a seismograph reading!

15. Natural Science Centre

Opened in 1965, the Natural Sciences Centre houses the Allyn and Betty Taylor Library as well as classrooms and laboratories. This

building and the Biology and Geology Building to the east are now connected by a 700-seat, state-of-the-art classroom (2003).

16. Medical Sciences Building

The Medical Sciences Building (1964) is home to the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. It is one of several buildings at the north end of campus that houses the medical and dental programs, undergraduate and graduate studies in medical science and health research labs. The Clinical Skills Facility (2005) adjacent to Medical Sciences provides clinical practice space to assist future physicians in developing patient care skills. The plant border between the Clinical Skills Building and Medical Sciences Building was planted by medical students in 2007 as a tribute to a classmate.



17. Social Science Centre

Dedicated in 1972, this is the largest building on campus and the home of the Faculty of Social Science (Western's largest faculty). On the lower level is the Serge A. Sauer Map Library which houses an extensive collection of maps, globes, atlases and other items of cartographic interest. As you walk along the front of the building, you will see the Stevenson Hall-Lawson Hall building to the east across Oxford Drive.

18. McIntosh Art Gallery

Constructed in 1942, the McIntosh is the oldest university art gallery in Canada. Admission is free, so please come in and see what is on exhibit. Outside the building are two exhibits: the sculpture Homosapiens by Miho Sawada (1988) and the Western Pergola by Reinhard Reitzenstein (1997), a bronze sculpture that matches the style of the doorway to the Physics and the Astronomy Building (the pergola was commissioned by popular vote to celebrate the Gallery's 50th anniversary in 1992). Looking south from the bright red doors of the gallery, try to line up the row of walnut trees at both the front of the gallery and across the road at the Stevenson Hall-Lawson Hall Building. This stand of walnut trees, along with a similar row at the front of Middlesex College, marks the old lane way for Bellevue, a farm owned by the Kingsmill family.

19. Beryl Ivey Garden

The Beryl Ivey Garden (2004) is a classic design based on a circular theme, and the four cardinal directions divide the garden into quadrants. The garden honours the late alumna Beryl Ivey (BA '47, LLD '97) and her outstanding role in the life of the University and community. Many plants in the garden have been transplanted from Mrs. Ivey's own garden. The garden - which includes the 18 foot sculpture, Flight, by Gerald Gladstone - is open during daylight hours from April until the end of November.

20. D.B. Weldon Library - Renaissance Square

Completed in 1971, the D.B. Weldon Library is the largest of Western's Libraries. It houses 1.1 million volumes - including periodicals, books, special collections and government publications. Added in 2004 is Western's Archives and Research Collections Centre (ARCC) which provides a secure, controlled environment to preserve research and other important resource materials. It has a total capacity of the equivalent of 1.6 million volumes. On the north side of the building is a wall containing bronze plaques which recognize various donations received by the University during the Renaissance Campaign (1989-1994) and Campaign Western (2000-2004).

21. University Community Centre

Looking north from Weldon Library you will see the University Community Centre, a student-run building housing retail stores, offices, cafes and pubs. The large concrete expanse at the front of the building is known as "the concrete beach" and is host to many student gatherings, both formal and informal. Renovated in 2003 in recognition of the University's 125th anniversary, this area now includes additional seating and a pavilion which is wired for light and sound.



22. Smallman Memorial Entrance Gates

Walking along Western Road you will see Brescia University College (1919) to the west. Brescia, a liberal arts college for women, is one of Western's three affiliated university colleges. Brescia sits upon the highest land elevation in London. Heading northward, you will arrive at the Smallman Memorial Entrance Gates on Western Road (1958). To the southwest of the gates is the Richard Ivey School of Business (2013). Between 5,000 and 10,000 vehicles pass through Western's five entrances each day.

23. Spencer Engineering Building

In this building it not uncommon to see student designed and built vehicles, popsicle stick bridges and other engineering projects created by students. Inside the front entrance is a mural depicting the various engineering disciplines. To the east of the front entrance are 14 magnolia trees, each dedicated to one of the female engineering students massacred at the Université de Montréal in 1989.

The Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion was completed in 2009 and is certified as achieving the GOLD LEED designation. This is the first building on campus to achieve this designation. The Boundary Wind Tunnel and Thompson Engineering Building are also located south of the Spencer Building. The Wind Tunnel has been used by researchers to test many of the world's tallest and longest structures including the CN Tower and Confederation Bridge.



24. Josephine Spencer Niblett Law Building

Directly north across the road from the Spencer Engineering building is the Josephine Spencer Niblett Law Building (1960). Inside the entrance you will see a large metal sculpture depicting the Scales of Justice. On the second floor is the beautiful John and Dotsa Bitove Law Library, housing a collection of 180,000 volumes and 45,000 microforms. At the east side of the building is a patio, with the Scales of Justice depicted in the stonework.

25. Alumni Hall

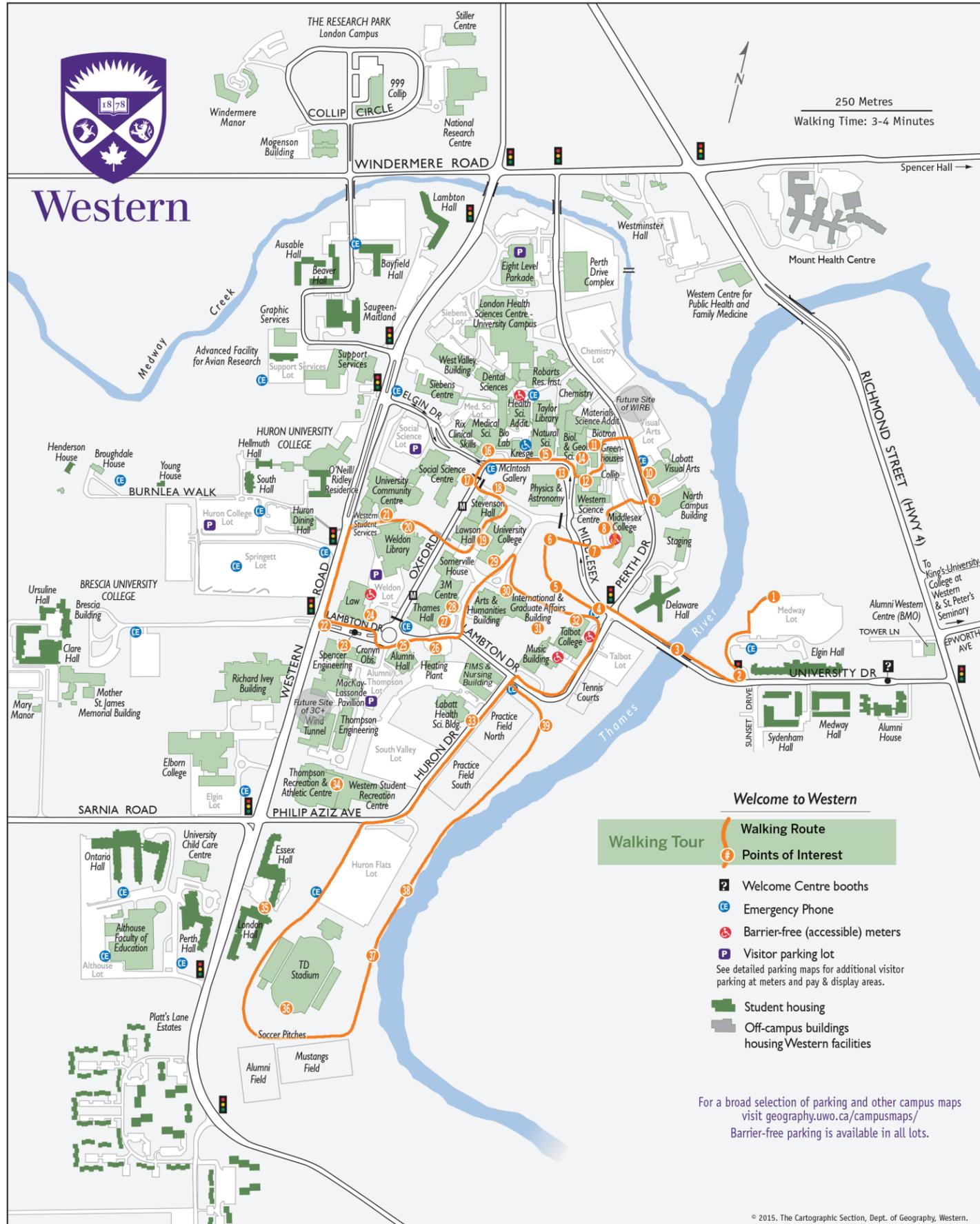
The name of this building commemorates the thousands of alumni who contributed to the cost of its construction in 1967. It is filled to capacity each spring and fall for convocation. Alumni Hall also hosts concerts, performing artists and varsity sporting events.

26. Power Plant

Built in 1924, the Power Plant continues to supply heating and cooling to buildings throughout the campus, though it no longer uses coal for fuel. This main plant and its satellite plants have a total capability of heating and cooling approximately 8.5 million square feet of building space throughout campus.

27. Thames Hall

Home to the Faculty of Health Sciences' School of Kinesiology, Thames Hall (1950) boasts the Spencer Memorial Pool, one of Western's two indoor swimming pools. On the walls inside are photographs of some of the outstanding athletes, teams and coaches who have represented Western.



28. Fowler-Kennedy Sports Medicine Clinic 3M Centre

Renowned for its sport rehabilitation program, this centre provides treatment for all levels of athletes, from amateur enthusiasts to Olympic and professional athletes such as Marnie McBean and Eric Lindros.

29. University College

University College (1923) was one of the first buildings to be constructed at Western. The 126-foot high Middlesex County Memorial Tower is a London landmark. Inside the tower is a water tank (no longer used). The stained glass windows belong to the recently restored Conron Hall, formerly known as Convocation Hall, where graduation ceremonies were held until 1932. In front of the College are two large trees, a copper beech tree and a ginkgo tree. The latter is the first dedicated tree to be planted at Western. It has been moved three times due to construction.

30. International Graduate Affairs Building

The glass walls of IGAB reflect the surrounding sky and vegetation. The adjacent welded-alumni sculpture is Toronto Field by Patrick Thibert (1988)

31. Sky Observation Platform

This unique sculpture was commissioned from Doug Mitchell by the University's McIntosh Art Gallery to celebrate the Millennium and the 2001 Canada Summer Games. The two large arcs respectively define the north/south longitudinal line of the celestial sphere and the celestial equator (the path the sun and the planets follow at the time of the equinox). Under the arcs is a concrete ring, inside of which is a map of a part of southern Ontario. From the center of the map is a diagonal copper tube connected to the north/south arc and aligned with the Earth's axis to allow the viewing of the North Star. Inside the perimeter of the arc on the concrete ring are 12 Ontario limestone blocks for sitting and observing the sky. The cardinal directions are designated by the names of the winds of the four directions in Iroquoian tradition – the bear is the wind from the north, the puma the west, the moose the east, and the fawn the south.

32. Talbot College Music Building – Paul Davenport Theatre – von Kuster Hall

Talbot College is home to the Don Wright Faculty of Music. The Paul Davenport Theatre (formerly Talbot Theatre) was completed in 2009. It hosts over 200 annual performances which include Wind Ensemble Concerts, dance troops, as well as being the summer home of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada. It is attended by more than 32,000 people annually and is used and enjoyed by staff, faculty, and visitors. The Music Building houses the Music Library and some departments of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

Also located in this building is von Kuster Hall which is named for Western's first Dean of Music, Clifford von Kuster. The Music Building is linked to Talbot College by a second storey skywalk. The Ontario Native Wildflower Garden, a low maintenance, environmentally friendly space located between the Music and Ivey Buildings, showcases various native wildflower species found in Ontario.

33. Labatt Health Sciences Building

Completed in 2004, the Labatt Health Sciences Building is located on land that was once the north end zone of J.W. Little Memorial Stadium. The last varsity football game was played at Little Stadium in the fall of 1999. The Labatt Health Sciences Building is home to the Faculty of Health Sciences and houses both classrooms and offices.

34. Thompson Arena Student Rec Centre

As you leave the parking lot and cross Huron Street, look to the west to the J. Gordon Thompson Recreation & Athletic Centre, with its unique cables supporting the roof. The facility hosts concerts, trade shows and conventions as well as hockey and other sporting events. The Student Rec Centre houses a 50-metre pool along with other recreational facilities.

35. Essex and London Residences

London Residence was completed in the fall of 2006 and many upper year students make their home here during the school year.

36. TD Waterhouse Stadium

Completed in the fall of 2000, the stadium is home to many of Western's varsity sports teams. An all-weather playing surface and eight-lane track provide a multi-use facility that is used by Western students, school boards and other sports associations.

37. Millennium Park

This path continues south, with two impressive vistas overlooking the Thames River, located just off the main path. Take time to rest and enjoy the natural beauty of the river and its surroundings.

From here you can continue on the path as it loops around to the other side of the stadium, or backtrack to reach the next point of interest. You may continue southward for an extended walk, or turn north to complete your walk.

38. Alumni River Walk

The Alumni River Walk (2004), was funded by alumni in support of the University's 125th anniversary celebration. The walkway is constructed of limestone screenings and follows the Thames River from the Visual Arts parking lot south, to where it joins the pathway which continues past TD Waterhouse Stadium and links up to Western Road.

39. Arboretum Planting

Established in 1981, the Sherwood Fox Arboretum encompasses the entire campus. One of several dedicated planting areas is located between the tennis courts and the playing fields. Working with the Sherwood Fox Arboretum and ReForest London 150, EnviroWestern – a student-lead environmental club – are focusing on restoring a portion of this area to its native Carolinian life zone through a Naturalization Project.

