

= Cyclone Glenda =

Severe Tropical Cyclone Glenda (JTWC designation : 20S , also known as simply Cyclone Glenda) of March 2006 was among the strongest tropical cyclones to threaten Western Australia , though it weakened considerably before landfall and moved ashore in a lightly populated region . It began as a tropical low on 15 March in the Gulf of Carpentaria . The precursor disturbance drifted over Top End and later across the northeastern portion of Western Australia , and after emerging into the Indian Ocean it strengthened into a tropical storm . Aided by favourable environmental conditions , Glenda rapidly intensified to reach Category 5 status on the Australian cyclone scale , and with a peak intensity of 910 mbar it was among the strongest cyclones on record within the Australia region . On 30 March it moved ashore near Onslow as a Category 3 cyclone , and the next day it degenerated into a remnant tropical low over land .

The precursor disturbance produced heavy rainfall in the Kimberley region of Western Australia , causing record flooding and some road damage . Minor damage was reported at the final landfall of Glenda . Due to the sparse population and preparations made , the cyclone was not responsible for any deaths or injuries . However , its name was later retired from the list of tropical cyclone names .

= = Meteorological history = =

On 15 March , a tropical disturbance developed in the south @-@ western Gulf of Carpentaria . It moved westward , drifting across Top End , and it exited into the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf on 22 March . The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) office in Darwin , which is the local Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre , began issuing advisories on the system late on 23 March while it was located about 85 km (50 mi) east @-@ south @-@ east of Wyndham , Western Australia . Environmental conditions favored intensification as an anticyclone developed over the storm , which provided good outflow and low vertical wind shear . Initially , the primary inhibiting factor was land interaction . After executing a small loop over water , the disturbance continued westward , crossing over the northern portion of Western Australia before emerging into the Indian Ocean on 26 March . It began tracking west @-@ southwestward just offshore of the Kimberley coastline , and its convection quickly concentrated . At 0000 UTC on 27 March , the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) classified it as Tropical Cyclone 20S . Three hours later , the BoM office in Perth upgraded the storm to Tropical Cyclone Glenda about 260 km (160 mi) north of Derby , Western Australia .

Upon reaching open waters , Glenda quickly intensified , and midday on 27 March the BoM upgraded it to tropical cyclone status , or the equivalence of a minimal hurricane . Shortly thereafter , the JTWC followed suit by upgrading it to cyclone status just 12 hours after first warning on the storm . A wind gust of 113 km / h (70 mph) was reported on Adele Island as the cyclone passed nearby . The track turned south westward around a steering ridge over Australia , aided by a mid @-@ latitude trough . By 27 March , Glenda had developed a banding eye , and subsequently began rapid deepening , with warm water temperatures of over 30 ° C (86 ° F) and a very favourable upper @-@ level environment . At 1200 UTC on 28 March , the JTWC classified Glenda with peak winds of 260 km / h (160 mph) about 235 km (145 mi) west @-@ north @-@ west of Broome , or about 455 km (280 mi) north @-@ north @-@ east of Port Hedland ; however , in a subsequent analysis , the JTWC lowered their intensity estimate to 220 km / h (140 mph) . At the same time the BoM estimated the cyclone attained peak winds of 215 km / h (135 mph) with gusts to 300 km / h (185 mph) , or a Category 5 on the Australian cyclone scale . Its peak intensity of 910 mbar was tied for the fifth most intense tropical cyclone on record in the Australian basin .

Initially , Cyclone Glenda was forecast to intensify further . However , a gradual increase in vertical shear caused the eye to become disorganised , with land interaction contributing to further weakening . The BoM maintained Glenda as a Category 5 cyclone until 29 March , and initially it was forecast to turn southward to move ashore near the populated region of Karratha at high tide . It retained its south west track and passed over several weather stations , one of which recorded sustained winds of 176 km / h (109 mph) . Glenda made landfall near the less populated town of Onslow at around 10pm WST (1400 UTC) on 30 March . The cyclone had weakened to a marginal

Category 3 at the time of landfall . The JTWC issued its final warning on Glenda shortly after it moved ashore . The cyclone turned south and south @-@ south @-@ eastward and rapidly weakened over land in an area of increasing wind shear , and early on 31 March the BoM downgraded Glenda to a tropical low .

= = Preparations , impact and aftermath = =

The precursor system dropped heavy rainfall on 23 March in the eastern Kimberley in the state of Western Australia . The rainfall led to record flooding in the area ; the flooding washed out several roads near Kununurra , including a portion of the Great Northern Highway . Six people were evacuated due to the flooding .

Offshore , the threat of Glenda prompted officials to close oil , representing a lack of production of 154 @,@ 000 barrels of oil . Additionally , natural gas fields were closed , and several ports along the coastline were shut down during the passage of the storm . Prior to the storm 's landfall , officials issued a Red Alert for several communities . Storm shelters were opened in Karratha and Onslow , while a few hundred people evacuated along the coastline .

Glenda made landfall near Onslow , where sustained winds reached 117 km / h (72 mph) . There , the storm produced a 24 ? hour rainfall total of 206 mm (8 @.@ 11 in) , which is the sixth greatest daily precipitation on record in the town . Several other locations reported over 200 mm (8 in) , though overall precipitation was less than a usual landfalling tropical cyclone . The rainfall flooded several roads . The winds downed several trees and power lines , which left about 2 @,@ 000 people in Karratha without electricity ; the power outage was quickly repaired . Several windows at the hospital in Onslow were broken , resulting in some minor water damage . Overall damage was minor , and no deaths or injuries were reported , which was credited to the storm 's weakening and preparations in the landfall area . In all , damages from the storm amounted to A \$ 1 @.@ 2 million (US \$ 965 @,@ 000) . The disruption to shipping companies resulted in economic losses of A \$ 30 million (US \$ 24 @.@ 1 million) . Oil companies reported a loss of 500 tonnes during the economic quarter due to the cyclone . The Onslow Salt company reported upwards of A \$ 20 million (US \$ 16 million) in lost revenue .

Following the storm , residents and companies affected by the storm were allowed to file insurance claims . About A \$ 240 @,@ 000 (US \$ 193 @,@ 000) was filed in repair claims for council buildings and A \$ 69 @,@ 000 (US \$ 55 @,@ 000) in airport insurance . About A \$ 99 @,@ 000 (US \$ 79 @,@ 000) and A \$ 300 @,@ 000 (US \$ 241 @,@ 000) was provided in financial support for television and broadcasting infrastructure and aerodrome infrastructure respectively .

The Bureau of Meteorology retired the name Glenda following its usage .

= Édifice Price =

The Édifice Price (English : Price Building) is an 18 @-@ floor (originally 16) skyscraper in Quebec City , Canada . Built in 1930 @-@ 1931 amid controversy for Price Brothers Ltd . , it is the tallest building in the Old Quebec historical district , and one of the oldest skyscrapers in Canada . The building is the property of the Quebec City municipal administration , but is leased to and used by the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec . A memorial is attached to the building . In 2001 , it became the location of an official residence for the Premier of Quebec , which occupies two of the upper floors .

= = History = =

In 1927 , John Herbert and Arthur Clifford Price , having inherited the prosperous Price Brothers Limited after the 1924 death of their father , Sir William Price III , decided to build a new headquarters for the company in Quebec City . They did not find anything to their liking on Saint @-@ Pierre street , at the time Quebec 's main financial district , so decided on Saint @-@ Anne

street close to the City Hall . The design for the 16 @-@ floor building was awarded to Ross and Macdonald , a prestigious firm of architects based in Montreal .

The city , eager to demonstrate a progressive ethos , gave assent to the project despite heavy criticism that the administration was proving unable to protect Québec 's historic area because the building replaced two historic houses . Sources conflict as to exactly when construction started : one cites June 1929 to May 1930 , while another says the construction permit was delivered in December 1929 and construction began in June 1930 ; a third gives only years : 1928 @-@ 1930 . The building 's cornerstone bears an inscription reading " This stone was laid Oct. XXIX MCMXXIX [October 29 , 1929] " . However , all sources agree that construction was rapid , and the building was finished within a year . It was inaugurated in 1931 .

Although completed successfully , the building turned out to be little more than an extravagant nail in Price Brothers ' coffin . The Great Depression pushed the company to the brink of bankruptcy , and the Price Family lost both control of the company and most of its fortune . Various restoration work was undertaken during the 1950s and ' 60s , mostly to the interior of the building .

In 1983 , it was acquired by the city of Quebec , which largely used it for its civil engineering division , echoing a similar situation in New York City where the Manhattan Municipal Building is an extension of New York City Hall . Soon afterwards a long term lease placed the Price Building under the management of the Société immobilière Trans @-@ Québec (SITQ , now Ivanhoé Cambridge) , the real estate arm of the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDP) . Further extensive renovation began that lasted until 2005 , and included the addition of two extra floors on the inside , a terrace on the 16th floor and the installation of elevators .

In 2001 , the 16th and 17th floor became the Premier of Quebec 's official residence . Between 1997 and 2002 , a high @-@ end psychiatric clinic occupied floor 2 and 3 of the building . The administration has strongly affirmed the timing of this move with the Premier 's installation to be a complete coincidence . On July 12 , 2009 , tightrope walker Ramon Kelvink Jr. walked 230 metres (755 ft) from the 13th floor of the building to the Château Frontenac 's 15th floor as part of the celebrations of the 400th anniversary of Quebec City .

The construction of the Édifice Price was heavily criticized in the 1920s , both because it showed disrespect for Price Sr. ' s intention of relocating the Price Brothers company 's operations to its original business centre of Kénogami (now Jonquière) , and because the monumental construction was perceived as out of proportion in a mixed commercial and residential area where few buildings exceeded four or five floors . Criticism continued after the construction , and a few years later the city council passed a by @-@ law limiting building heights in the old town to 65 feet (19 @.@ 8 m) ? a size only exceeded by one other building at the time : the then seven @-@ floor Hôtel @-@ Dieu de Québec . Nowadays , however , the building is considered an architectural monument in the capital and a defining element of the city 's skyline .

When the project for the construction of the Le Phare Québec project for a major skyscraper in the Sainte @-@ Foy area began attracting criticism , parallels with the major controversies that surrounded Édifice Price 's construction were drawn .

= = Architecture = =

Édifice Price , despite the original criticism , is considered to be very well integrated with its surroundings , and well adapted to a lot only 24 metres (79 ft) wide . Of its 18 floors , 15 are used as corporate space , two constitute the Premier 's suite , and on top is a mechanical floor . This leads to conflicting numbers quoted for its floors (16 , 17 and 18 have been variously reported) , compounded by the fact the retrofitted extra floors are not visible from outside the building . Two elevators , one of which is used as a freight elevator , provide access to all floors .

Édifice Price was constructed in the art deco style of the time , as was the neighbouring Clarendon Hotel , whose extension was completed a few years earlier . The design uses setbacks to gradually taper floor area down , yielding the typical elongated " wedding cake " shape which contributes in reducing loads and softens the building 's visual impact on the city 's skyline . The upper setbacks were later used to build balconies . Because the building is deeper than it is wide , it appears much

bulkier when viewed from the side . This is reminiscent of Finnish art nouveau architect Eliel Saarinen 's work , and is the stylistic opposite of other buildings in the city such as the Château Frontenac , whose cantilever construction widens as it gets taller . Geometric motifs are carved in the Price Building 's stone cladding , especially over the first few levels . The building is topped by a more classical , specifically Châteauesque , steeped copper roof , the final composition showing Beaux @-@ Arts influences . The main exterior decorative themes are pilasters topped with palm motifs , pinnacles and a large vaulted arch with extrados over the main entrance .

At ground level and inside the lobby , bas @-@ reliefs depict the origins of the Price company . During the 1920s John M. Lyle , an influential architect of the Beaux @-@ arts school , was developing a uniquely Canadian fusion of French and English colonial styles , and his ideas were applied by designers Ross and Macdonald to the construction of the Price Building . Each floor is symmetrically divided in two by a hallway , and a projection at the end of the building references the bow of a ship .

The building 's structural steel frame was also a first for the city . It was covered in grey limestone from Saint @-@ Marc @-@ des @-@ Carrières and Queenston . Due to the rapid construction , Saint @-@ Marc @-@ des @-@ Carrières was unable to supply enough stone to keep up with demand on the building site , resulting in the use of Queenston as an additional source . Saint @-@ Marc @-@ des @-@ Carrières limestone is a pearly grey , and becomes a pale beige with age , while Queenston limestone has pink calcite streaks from crinoid fossils and takes a chamois tint as it ages .

= = Price Memorial = =

In 2002 , a memorial was unveiled on Sainte @-@ Anne between the Price Building and its right @-@ hand neighbour (67 ? 71 Sainte @-@ Anne Street , a set of rowhouses) . The memorial (French : Mémorial Price) is in the form of a sculpture , entitled " L 'Homme @-@ Rivière " (" The River @-@ man ") . It was sponsored by the CDP and the Virginia Parker Foundation , and designed by Quebec City artists Lucienne Cornet and Catherine Sylvain .

L 'Homme @-@ Rivière is a statue representing a log driver at work . The logs are heavily stylized , reduced to little more than cylinders . The driver and his hook , however , are shown as transforming into a wooden plant . Its location , in a tight space between two tall buildings , gives the sculpture the appearance of travelling down a river gorge . L 'Homme @-@ Rivière is highly dynamic , and has been described as looking as though it is about to spill onto the sidewalk . The log driver is a symbolic figure in the history and culture of Quebec , thanks notably to Félix @-@ Antoine Savard 's famous novel Menaud , maître draveur .

= = Quebec Premier official residence = =

An apartment on the 16th and 17th floors has been the official residence of the premier of Quebec since 2001 . These two floors , the highest habitable ones since the 18th floor is taken up by machinery , had originally been reserved for a CDP executive suite . There had been a previous attempt at offering the premier an official residence . In 1994 , the Quebec City Chamber of Commerce had bought a large residence at 1080 rue des Braves and donated it to then premier Jacques Parizeau . There were issues of security and neighbour relationships , however , and Lucien Bouchard declined to use it . He lived in a small apartment on Parliament Hill for most of his mandate .

In May 2001 , Bouchard 's successor Bernard Landry , who had until then lived in a three @-@ room apartment , announced that he would accept the SITQ offer of the Édifice Price apartment , and took up occupancy in November . The choice , although praised for its symbolic location , attracted criticism that the apartment , rather small and poorly lit , could not accommodate a family (Landry was widowed from his first wife at the time) . Some also noted that the former Lieutenant @-@ Governor 's residence , located at 1010 Chemin Saint @-@ Louis and sold in 1996 for a fraction of its estimated value , would have made an excellent choice . From 1997 an exclusive

psychiatric clinic had occupied the Price Building 's second and third floors . This was moved out in 2002 ; the administration strongly affirmed the timing with the Premier 's installation to be a complete coincidence .

The 2 @, @ 800 sq ft (260 m2) apartment cost \$ 195 @, @ 000 to build and decorate . It includes a 14 @-@ guest dining room , two bedrooms and all the associated facilities . The Premier also has access to a reception hall on the 14th floor if need be . The apartment is richly appointed with maple hardwood floors , granite and limestone ; its furnishings reproduce traditional Quebec styles , and is decorated with paintings by local artists on loan from the Musée du Québec .

In 2006 , renewed criticism regarding current Premier Jean Charest 's limited use of the apartment led to another proposal for a proper official residence . Charest , who heads a family of five and lives in Montreal , saw little reason to move them across the province . These proposal were never taken further , and Charest 's successor , Pauline Marois , made regular use of the apartment .