

DONALDSON BLOCK

1857

95 - 99 King St. West
117 - 119 King St. (1880's)
2 Storefronts



DIRECTORY LISTINGS:

1857: A. Donaldson hatter
 1863: A. Donaldson, tin & stove dealer (95*); Dowsley & McDonell Dry Goods (99*)
 1884/1890: Heman Shepherd Dry Goods & Grocery (95*), W.L. Maley boots & shoes (99*)
 1895: vacant (95*), W.L. Maley boots & shoes (99*), Royal Templars Hall (u)
 1900: Bamlett R. Woods, confectionary (95*), W.L. Maley boots & shoes (99*), Royal Templars Hall (u)
 1904: G.L. Riches pianos (95*), ?? (99*)
 1906: H.W. Copland books & stationery (95*), ?? (99*)
 1908/1929: H.W. Copland books & stationery (95), Gilhooly boots & shoes (99)
 1932/1984: Copland Book Store (95), Reward Shoes (99)
 1986/1990: Copland Book Store (95), Agnew Shoe Store (99)
 1992: Copland Book Store (95), Hobby House Plus (99)
 1994/1996: Pizza Pizza (95), vacant (99)
 2000/2003: Pizza Pizza (95), Brockville Copy Shop (99)
 2001/2006: Dream Weaver Gourmet Food & Basket (95), Brockville Copy Shop (99)
 2009/2012: 9.99 Store, clothing (95), Brockville Copy Shop (99)
 2013/2015: Overstocks, clothing (95), Brockville Copy Shop (99)
 2018/2019: Golden Age Comics and Collectibles (95), Jennys 420 Emporium (99)
 2021/2022: Overstocks, clothing (95), Jennys 420 Emporium (99)
 2023+: Overstocks, clothing (95), Shaggy Mare, coffee, tea (99)
 (The 2003 Vernon's directory has Pizza Pizza at #93 in 2003, but Dream Weaver's in depth history states they moved into that address in 2001. I believe Vernon's had a typo error with old info.)

After a major fire took out many buildings on this block in 1853, hatter Andrew Donaldson built this stone building in 1857. Coplands Book Store was a major fixture here on the left side store for much of the 20th century. For a full century, the right side housed various shoe stores from the 1880s to the 1980s, most notably Reward Shoes. (Old numbering system: 89 Main St.)

#99 was the place to go for shoes for over a century, at least 107 years or more. First **W.L. Maley boots & shoes** (1883 or earlier), then **Gilhooly boots & shoes**, third, **Reward Shoe Stores** and finally **Agnew Shoe Store** taking us to c1991.

W.L. Maley boots & shoes, opening 1883 or earlier, was owned by William L. Maley, who lived early on at 21 Kincaid St. (1880s address no longer exists). Later, he lived with Edward at the corner of **King E. & Beacher**. Edward was probably his son and for the most part running the store in later years. The store may have existed until Gilhooly took over in 1908.

H.W. Gilhooly opened his store in 1908 and lasted until around 1930, the beginning of the Great Depression. Other than "a full and complete stock of boots, shoes and rubbers", he also sold trunks, suitcases and valises (bags). Gilhooly also had a second store at 53 King St. W. Herbert W. Gilhooly lived with his wife, Margaret at **26 Apple St.**, only a few steps away, around the corner.

The business was acquired by the **Reward Shoe Stores** chain, concentrated mainly in Ontario. It was managed in Brockville by Mrs. I.M. Patterson, with a long time motto of "Save with Safety". In later years it was managed by Nancy Hochins. Reward was here for more than half a century. It is unclear if Agnew Shoes took over the entire Reward chain or just this store.

This was the third King St. location for the **Agnew Shoe Store**. Known for most if it's previous years as **Agnew-Surpass**. It moved here from its second location in the Fitzsimmons Block at 73 King St. W. This store was managed by Donald Throop. At this time, there were two other locations in Brockville. The one at 125 Stewart Blvd was managed by Elizabeth Smith and the one at the 1000 Island Mall on Parkdale Ave was managed by Douglas Fagan. This King St. location closed around 1991, almost a decade before the entire chain went under.

Copland Book Store, started by James S. Copland (usually going by J. S.), was a long-time business in Brockville, opening in 1906 and operating well into the 1990s, giving it a 90-year run. A business booklet put out in their first decade said they offered "school books, maps, globes, blank books, office, school and fancy stationery of every description, magazines and serial publications, libraries, a wonderful array of souvenir cards, fancy goods and a general assortment of articles that belong to the business ... cameras, Kodaks and photo supplies." Copland lived, with wife Annie, at **39 Ormond St.** Copland passed away about 1934 and the business was run by W. Fred Reynolds afterwards, being succeeded by his widow Clara B. Reynolds. They lived at **72 John St.** during their whole tenure at Coplands. The Reynolds era ended around 1967 with A Ivan Cooper taking over. Paul Bak succeeded around 1987 and was the last owner up until it closed around 1993.

This was **Dream Weaver's** third of four Brockville address's while they were in the city, occupying this spot from 2001 to 2006, before moving to 20 King Street W.

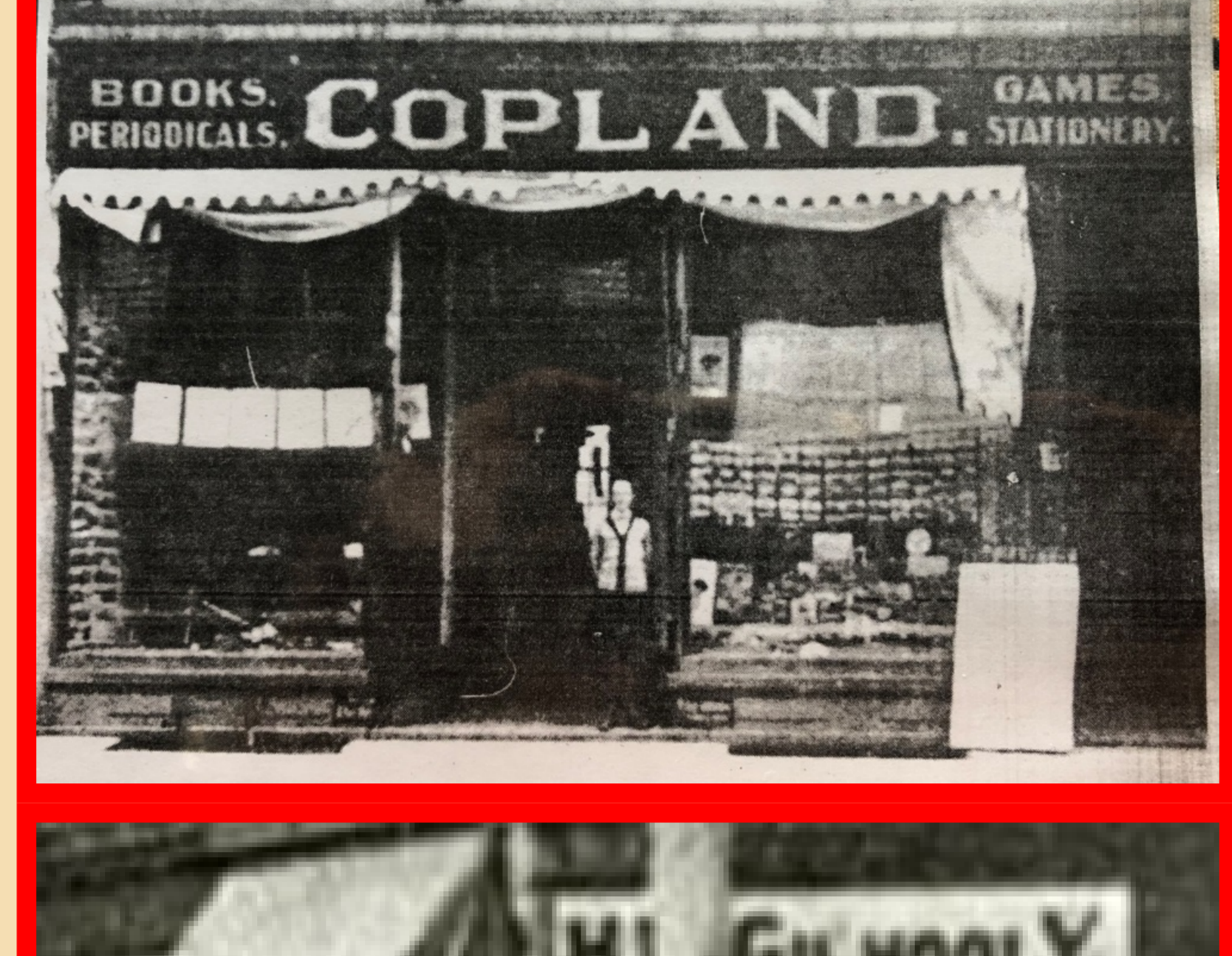
This was the first location of the **Brockville Copy Shop**, opening around 1993. The business moved to 150 Perth St around 2016, where it still continues serving the public.

Golden Age Comics and Collectibles were in this block as their second of three location. They first opened at 62 King St W. in Sept. 2017. By April 2018, they were here. On April 6, 2021, they moved off of King St and opened up at 7 Court House Square.

Jennys 420 Emporium described themselves as a "cannabis culture store, paraphernalia, head-shop, hemp clothing, grow and hydroponic equipment, medical licencess & cannabis consulting". They opened on March 15, 2017 and closed early 2023.

The **Shaggy Mare** started out in the beginning as Personal Service Coffee, opening in 2012 on 3506 Coons Rd. Owned by Marilyn Fielding, they specialize in every kind of coffee, tea and hot chocolate, offered at an affordable price. The name was changed in August, 2022. Success brought the need for a bigger store (and better location) and they opened here in the Donaldson Block on April 1, 2023.

STOREFRONTS



INTERIOR



The interior of Gilhooly Shoes.

ADVERTISING

A. BURNS,
DENTIST, - - Office, Donaldson's Block,
MAIN ST., BROCKVILLE, ONT.
A. SHERWOOD, Assistant.

CHILDREN'S SHOES.

You don't pretend to know anything about leathers? WE DO. Your dealer may be ever so honest, yet be ignorant of his business. You know when a shoe looks well and wears well, the rest you leave to the dealer. There isn't it much better when buying your Children's Shoes to go to the dealer who is scientifically careful in "fitting" a Child's Shoe.

We are showing nice nobby Laced or Buttoned Boots in black, red kid and chocolate velv kid, in McKay sewed soles and Goodyear turn soles, these goods are made by a house who make nothing but children's and Misses Shoes, they are made out of prime stock, not pieces, have all the style that can be put into small shoes.

Men's White Canvas Shoes only \$1.00.
 Men's White Canvas Shoes only \$1.25.
 Men's White Canvas Laced Boots, made by celebrated Good-year welted process, French back strap, new style toe, just as good a boot as others ask \$3.00 and \$3.50 for, out price only \$2.50.

W.L. Maley

The event you've been waiting for!

STOP SHOP SAVE

Reward Shoe Summer Sale!
 STARTS THURSDAY AUGUST 7 at 4 A.M. SHARP!
 This is THE BEST SALE We Have Ever Attempted.

You Save Money!

CHILDREN'S Shoes - Sandals	1.49	SHIRT & TIE SET	1.99
Men's	\$1.49	ALL OXFORDS	Only - 1.99
Boys	\$1.49	SALE	

IN VIEW OF INCREASING PRICES OUR SALE PRICES ARE TERRIFIC!

Foot and Comfortable
 MEN'S PREPARED OXFORDS \$3.98

Big shoes for the whole family
 MEN'S PREPARED OXFORDS \$3.98

Big shoes for the whole family
 SUMMER SANDALS \$1.98

REWARD SHOE STORES
 99 KING STREET WEST

A. Burns, dentist, 1869; W.L. Maley shoes, 1899; Reward Shoe Store, 1958.