



EDMONDSON BLOCK 1831

213 - 223 King St. West 4 Storefronts



DIRECTORY LISTINGS:

- 1832/1871: Dr. Robert Edmondson, home & office, others
- 1884: ?? (215*), ?? (217*), Robert McCormack, grocer (219*), G.C. McLean, paint & wallpaper (223*)
- 1886: Thomas Wilkinson (home) (215*), vacant (217*), Robert McCormack, grocer (219*), G.C. McLean, paint & wallpaper (223*)
- 1890: Thomas Wilkinson (home) (215*), Miss E.S. Sweet, dressmaker (217*), Robert McCormack, grocer (219*), vacant (223*)
- 1895: Thomas Wilkinson (home) (215*), W.A. Johnston, butter & cheese (217*), Robert McCormack, grocer (219*), Baile & Horton, grocers (223*)
- 1900: Mrs. Wilkinson, E.A. (215*), vacant (217*), James McDougall, butcher (223*)
- 1910/1913: Mrs. Wilkinson, E.A. (215), W.B. Warren, barber (217), Mrs. McCormack, MA (219), Joseph McDougall, grocery (223)
- 1919: Mrs. A. Beacher, furrier (215), W.B. Warren, barber & music director (217), Mrs. McCormack, MA (219), Joseph McDougall, grocery (223)
- 1925: Mrs. J. Beacher, furrier (215), W.B. Warren, barber (217), Thomas W. Gills, confectionery (219), Joseph McDougall, grocery (223)
- 1929/1935: Mrs. J. Beacher, furrier (215), Mrs. L.A. Warren, barber (217), Thomas Burns, butcher (219), McDougall Bros., grocery (223)
- 1943: Mrs. A. Beacher, ladies wear (215), Mayfair Beauty Salon (217), vacant (219), McDougall Bros., grocery (223)
- 1949/1951: Mrs. A. Beacher, ladies wear (215), Wetherell's Barber Shop (217), below** (219), Mrs. E. McDougall, grocery (223)
- 1956: Mrs. A. Beacher, ladies wear (213), Wetherell's Barber Shop (217), Brockville Window Cleaning (219), Mrs. E. McDougall, grocery (223)
- 1958: The Dutch Store (213), Wetherell's Barber Shop (217), ?? (219), ?? (223)
- 1961: The Dutch Store (213), Wetherell's Barber Shop (217), vacant (219), J.A. Sullivan, real estate (223)
- 1966: John Semple & Co. (213), Wetherell's Barber Shop (217), Maria's Beauty Salon (219), vacant (223)
- 1968: vacant (213), Wetherell's Barber Shop (217), Maria's Beauty Salon (219), Colonial Smoke Shop (223)
- 1971: Reliable Furniture & Appliances (213), Wetherell's Barber Shop (217), Maria's Beauty Salon (219), Aquasport (223)
- 1976: Reliable Furniture & Appliances (213), Wetherell's Barber Shop (217), Creative Coiffure (219), Aqua Sport Pro Diving Shop (223)
- 1980: Reliable Furniture & Appliances (213), vacant (217), vacant (219), Aqua Sport Pro Diving Shop (223)
- 1982: Reliable Furniture & Appliances (213-223)
- 1986/1995: Reliable Furniture & Appliances (215-221), Paul Art Business Machines (223)
- 2000: Reliable Countrywide Home Furnishings (215/221), Brockville Dive Centre (223)
- 2002/2007: Reliable Countrywide Home Furnishings (215/221), no return (223)
- 2009: Reliable Countrywide Home Furnishings (213), RE/MAX, real estate & Downtown.ca (221), City Taxi (223)
- 2012: vacant (213), vacant (221), City Taxi (223)
- 2013/2021: The Coin Hunter & From Here to Infinity Gallery/Bookstore (213), Flair FX Salon (221), City Taxi (223)

below**: United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 510

*Dr. Robert Edmondson opened his office in his new stone building at the s.e.c. of King St. W. and St. Paul St. (Brockville Recorder entry, November 16, 1831.)

Built for Dr. Robert Edmondson, who lived here and believed to have had a pharmaceuticals store here. Edmondson was a physician until his death as he is listed in the business directory of 1871, the year of his death. [Edmondson biography](#)

Robert McCormack also lived in the building where his store was (#213/1880s/#219/current).

The barbershop and music shop of Nelson and Bill Wetherell was here for many years.

A cutout from Herman Brosius's 1874 drawing map of Brockville at the top of this page shows the original buildings as first constructed (from the back). The most important thing with this view is that it shows the peaked roofline all the way through all sections of the building. At some point in the late 1800s, a partial third floor was added with six dormer windows and a fancy cornice, which survives to this day. The two sections were presumably under different ownership at that time.

The Dutch Store of the late 1950s and early 1960s sold appliances, electronics, furniture, etc. Their motto was 'The Store With Friendly Service'. They did not have a long life.

Reliable Furniture first opened in Brockville Nov. 1, 1968. Reliable tore off the original front ground floor architecture and modernized it, with a more "store" look. c1981, saw Reliable with a major expansion, taking over the entire Edmondson Block, all 4 storefronts 215-223, but giving up the end one (223) by mid decade. As the business slowly shrank over the years, they closed out in this building c2010. Reliable's last location across the street from here at 224 King St. W. was closed in early 2019. This was just in time, about a year before the Pandemic hit.

STOREFRONTS



Wetherell's barber shop and music supplies were at #217 for many years.

ADVERTISING

R. McCORMACK,
GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS,
CORNER KING AND ST. PAUL STREETS.
THE BEST GOODS AT THE LOWEST PRICES.
STRICTLY CASH.

G. C. McCLEAN,
WALL PAPERS and WINDOW BLINDS, PAINTS and OILS,
ARTISTS' MATERIALS,
PAINTERS' SUPPLIES.
Paper Hanging, Calomining, Plain and Ornamental Painting in the latest styles.
KING STREET. COR. ST. PAUL.

The Dutch Store Ltd.
MacDonald
OIL BURNER, NEW
\$109.

Top Ten Specials for 10 Days

<p>● Westinghouse New 30" Deluxe Range \$229.</p> <p>● Wonder Bed \$139.</p> <p>● Sealy Posturepedic \$59.50</p> <p>● Westinghouse Deep Freeze \$329.</p>	<p>● DISHWASHER \$149.</p> <p>● Westinghouse Automatic Clothes Dryer \$189.</p> <p>● Laundromats, Used \$69.</p> <p>● New Philips 21" TV \$289.</p> <p>● Sectional Set \$169.</p>
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SALE ENDS AUGUST 30

The Dutch Store Ltd.

Robert McCormack, grocery, 1885; McClean paints/wallpaper, 1887; The Dutch Store 1958.

STREET SCENE



The above street scene seems to be c1890s with no cars. The bottom right shows the eastern section with its more formal roofline and a bit of the western section room. This would have been not long after the roof renovation.