



"HONG" BLOCK

1887

228 - 232 King St. West



DIRECTORY LISTINGS::

- 1890:: R. Wright & Co., dry goods branch store (232*), The Charles A. Vogeler Co., patent medicine manufacturers (228*)
- 1895:: Boyd & Thessereau, grocers (232*), vacant (228*)
- 1900:: John Paile, grocer (232*), vacant (228*)
- 1910:: G.C. Howison, grocer (232), Charlie Law, laundry (228)
- 1913:: Poulos & Leras, fruit (232), Tim Hong, laundry (228)
- 1919:: vacant (232), Tim Hong, laundry (228)
- 1924:: Dominion Store (232), Tim Hong, laundry (228)
- 1929:: T.H. MacDermott, cigars, etc (232), Tim Hong, laundry (228)
- 1935:: The Brock Cleaners (232), no listing (228)
- 1943/1946:: David Felsher, hard goods (232), Tim Hong, laundry (228)
- 1949:: David Felsher, hard goods (232), You Hum, laundry (228)
- 1956:: Richardson's IDA Drugstore / J.T. Merrifield, Optometrist (232), H.S. Brown, plumbers (228)
- 1961:: Carl's Home Bakery (232), J.T. Merrifield, Optometrist (228)
- 1971:: Carl's Home Bakery (232), vacant (228)
- 1980:: Carl's Home Bakery (232), Agape Christian Book Nook (228)
- 1990:: no return (232), Manley Tack & Leather (228)
- 2000:: Consignment Corner (232), Fitness Town (228)
- 2006:: Revolution Skateboard Shop (232), The Money Store (228)
- 2009:: Revolution Skateboard Shop (232), Bridal Jems (228)
- 2012:: vacant (232), Bridal Jems (228)
- 2013/2014:: vacant (232), vacant (228)
- 2015:: Sweet Water Homes Design Centre (232), The Upholstery Shop (228)
- 2018:: Viscous Vapors (232), The Upholstery Shop (228)
- 2019:: vacant (232), The Upholstery Shop (228)

This block had a high turnover of tennent's during it's life. The longest was a laundry business by Tim Hong for most of it's existence. It remained for over 40 years. Another longtime resident was Carl's Home Bakery, there for around 25 years.

G.C. Howison started in the building. After a brief stay here, he moved accross Perth St. where he had his buisness for many years.

This spot is notable as the first appearance of Dominion Stores, a Toronto based national grocery chain which would be in the city, at various loctions. for many decades. They had only been founded in 1919, and were in Brockville by the early 1920's. Having dominated the Canadian grocery scene for many years, they no longer exist.

Viscous Vapors were founded by brothers Terry and James Smith in 2015. They were "former smokers dedicated to Tobacco Harm Reduction". In 2018, they would move to 54 King St. E.

THE 1959 FIRE



There was a major fire in the building on Jan. 28, 1959. This is probably when the top frill was removed and the top windows were shortened. Richardson's IDA Drugstore was on the ground level and probably had to move out for repairs on the building. They were replaced by Carl's Home Bakery. J.T. Merrifield, Optometrist had shared #232 with the drugstore and moved next door to #228 after the fire.

THE EARLY BUILDING



This is a cut-out of a larger picture of the buildings on the corner of King and Perth, behind the man and tree. No good pictures of this. It also appears in the Herman Brosius 1874 map drawing. The building was two stories with a verandah out front. There is no information on when it was built or original owners. In the 1880's, the building was owned by a Mr. Hannon of Montreal. Mrs. Wilson was running a large private boarding house at the time.

THE 1884 FIRE



One of the worst fire's known from the 1800's in Brockville happened Aug. 10, 1884. It started in the upper floor of C.P. Lennon's stone building, the first near the corner King St. The fire spread all the way up the block to the George St. corner and south to Main/King St. All of the buildings were either destroyed or heavily damaged. Mrs. Wilson's boarding house was destroyed with &500 damage and was insured. It must have been beyond repair as it was replaced by the new stone building three years later.