KINCAID BLOCK
1805 ?

72 - 66 King St. West

DIRECTORY LISTINGS::

1884: St. Lawrence Bakery (72*); F.L. Kincaid, fancy goods, etc. Joseph A Stephens, book binder/manufacturer (upstairs)
1885/1887: T.W. Dennis, tea merchant (72*); Fred Kincaid, toys & fancy goods (66*)
1889/1896: Mrs. L.A. Fox, millinery (72*), H.B. Wright, confectionery (66*)
1899/1900: Mrs. L.A. Fox, millinery (72*), W.B. Wright, fruit (66*)
1910: Theatorium (72), William Davies, provvisions (66)
1912: vacant (72), William Davies, provsns (66)
1919: Brockville Cafe (72), William Davies, provsns (66)
1929: A.B. MacInnes, grocer & mens furns (72), Arnold's Market, provsns (66)
1931: A.B. MacInnes, grocery (72), Stop & Shop, grocery (66)
1935/1937: A.B. MacInnes, grocery (72), Great A & P Store (66)
1941/1961: H.B. Wright Restaurant (72), Superior Food Market (66)
1963/1980: Relax Restaurant (72), Cindy Fashion Shoes (66)
1990: Relax Restaurant (72), Color Your World, paint store (66)
2000/2006: Relax Restaurant (72), Para Paint Source House of Decor (66)
2009/2014: The Georgian Dragon Ale House and Pub (72), Para Paint Source House of Decor (66)
2015: The Georgian Dragon Ale House and Pub (72), vacant (66)
2018: The Georgian Dragon Ale House and Pub (72), Brockville Railway Tunnel Park Information Centre (66)
2019: The Georgian Dragon Ale House and Pub (72), vacant (66)
2021/2023+: Finnigan's Tavern (72), Genev Beauty Lounge (66)

The Kincaid block has a date on it's roof frill showing Kincaid Block 1885. This is usually taken as the date a building was built. However, sometimes, during a major renovation, a date is put on top reflecting the renovation. This is the case here, as the building appears in a photo from 1866. Furthermore, there is a 1984 report by Architect Arthur C.F. Lau, "Report On Downtown Core Master Plan City of Brockville" that states it was built in 1805. No other information on that. If this is the case, it would have had a peaked roof, but squared off in block style after the mid century. Fred Kincaid, toys & fancy goods, books, stationary, news depot, silver & plated ware;

A later renovation seems to be done in the early 1960's. It's attractive facade was completely destroyed, covering up most of the brick with ugly stucco. The majority of windows were completely filled in with some made less then half size.

St. Lawrence Bakery, in the early to mid 1880s, was run by E.A. Cullerton.

This was the second location of **H.B. Wright & Co.**, owned by Herbert B. Wright. By 1894 it was run by his widow Mrs. H.B. (Elizabeth) Wright and William H. Kyle. The store would move to the Fulford Block around 1897. **W.B. Wright** would open a fruit store here afterward, but it was short lived. After this, W.B. became a caretaker at the public library. **H.B. Wright** (son of early H.B. ?) opened a restaurant in this block around 1940 and it lasted until 1961.

Wright's were purchased by Chris and Sia Syrios, who renamed it **Relax Restaurant**. They had married in 1959, moved to the city in January, 1960 and purchased the **Brockville Coffee Shop** on Buell St. with John & Jean Kalivas. Relax opened in 1961. Chris passed away in 1986, with Sia continuing alone. The next year, she started a cateriing business out of the restaurant. It was this venture that made her realize there was a need of a banquet hall. She opened **CJ's Banquet Hall** in the north end on Chelsea St. in November, 1989, lasting until around 2017. Relax was sold to Tom Panopaulos around 1991 and was open until around 2007 after just under a half century of service.

The **Great A & P Tea Co.**, grocery store appeared under the managagement of P.R. Roach around 1930. It was the first U.S. based grocery chain, originally opening in the Colbert Block, #127 King St. W. Not staying there long, the store moved here about 1933 under the altered name **Great A & P Store**, but was gone from the city altogether by 1940. A & P would return decades later. They acquired the **Dominion** chain in 1985, converting and closing all except the Toronto area. In Brockville it closed by 1990, with their lower end **Save-A-Center** brand opening in the north end on Jefferson Dr. By the end of the decade, the company upgraded the store to the more prestigious **A & P** brand. Things began faltering for the company in the U.S.and so they had to sell off the highly profitable Canadian division to Metro Inc. This was the final end to A & P, both in Brockville and Canada as a whole.

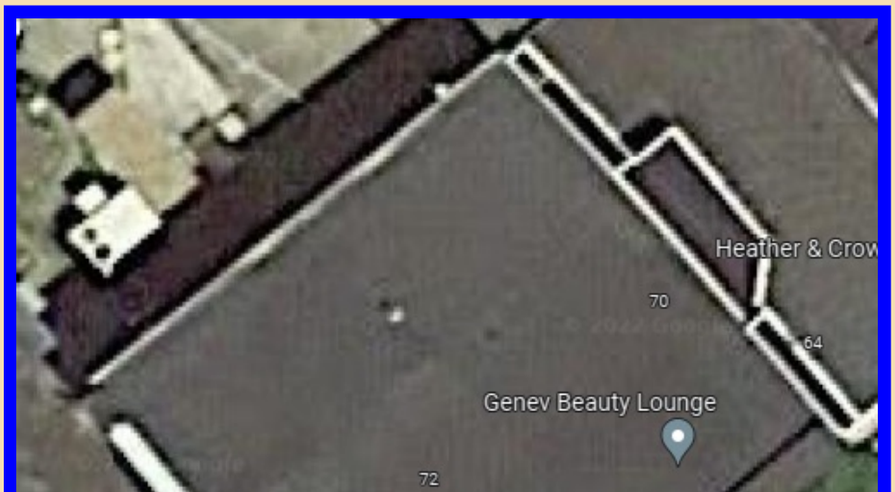
Eugene The Hairdresser (Eugene Beauchamp) was upstairs at 68 King St. W.

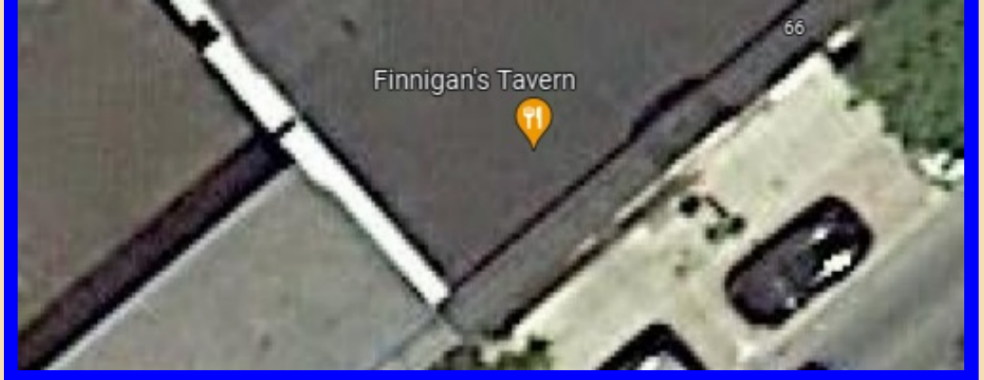
The Georgian Dragon Ale House and Pub opened here early 2009 and described themselves as "English Pub food with an Indian flair. Many varieties of beer on tap as well as domestic and imports." It was owned by Christopher Spence and lasted until the early days of the pandemic, around 2020. After the closing of the New York Restaurant down the street, the Georgian Dragon planned to re-open there, even having "coming soon" signs in the window. It never came to be.

Finnigan's Tavern opened it's doors in 2020. Owned by Dale Donnelly, it is a pub, tavern and restaurant. This continues the resaurant business at this location for more then 80 years under four brands.

Genev Beauty Lounge was opened by Genevieve Nadeau in 2016 in Lafayette Block, just down the street, it's first of two locations. Around 2020, she moved here. They focus on hair, makup and nails. "Our mission is to provide quality services in the cleanest possible air for nails and hair." .... "Specializing in balayage blonding and colouring, hair extensions, waxing, manicures and pedicures."

OTHER VIEWS

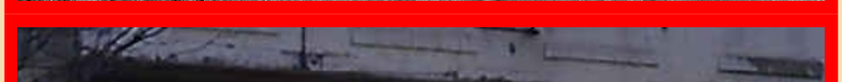




THE 1948 FIRE

Major fire took place at Wright's Restaurant on January 31, 1948. (Photos from Doug Grant's Facebook)

STOREFRONTS



Relax Restaurant

PARA
PAINT SOURCE
House of Décor
342-3425

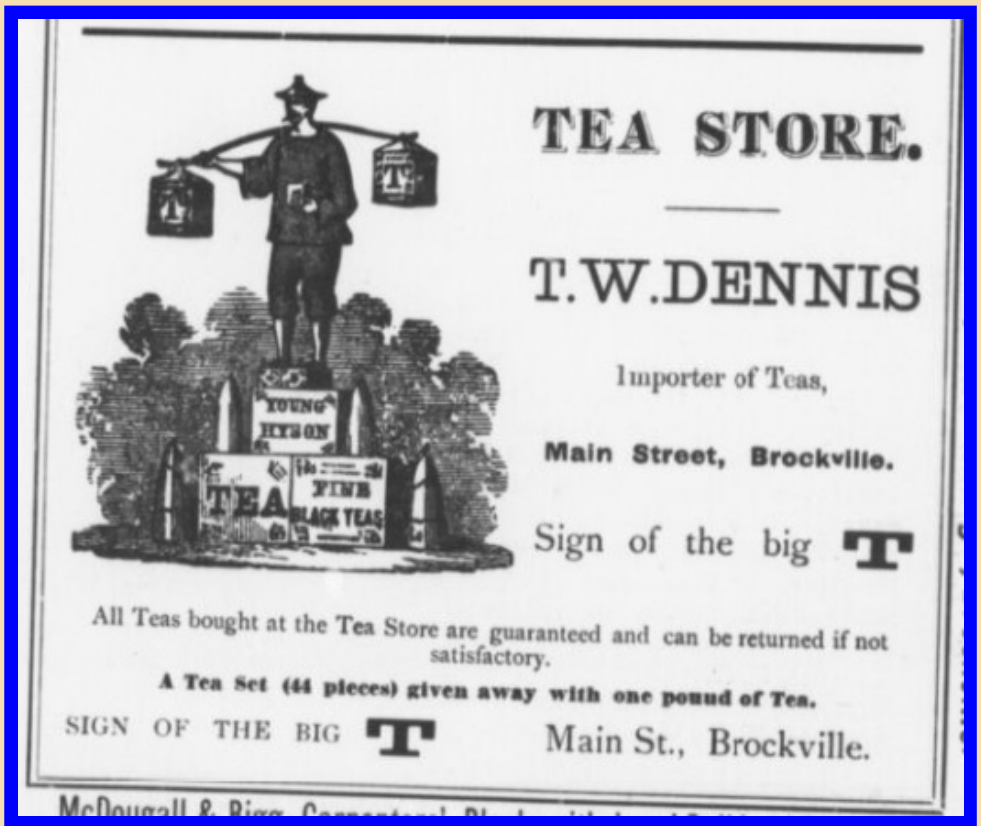
ALE HOUSE PUB
GEORGIAN DRAGON
ALE HOUSE PUB

BROCKVILLE RAILWAY TUNNEL PARK
Information Centre
FOR SALE
ROYAL LEPAGE
Prestance Realty

INTERIORS

Interior of the Georgian Dragon from their website.

ADVERTISIING



T.W. Dennis Tea Store, 1885; Eugene The Hairdresser, 1958; Finnegans Tavern, 2023;

STREET SCENE

This 1866 street scene shows th Kincaid Block long before the 1885 date in the cornice. (Six buildings from left, counting the white double as one.)

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