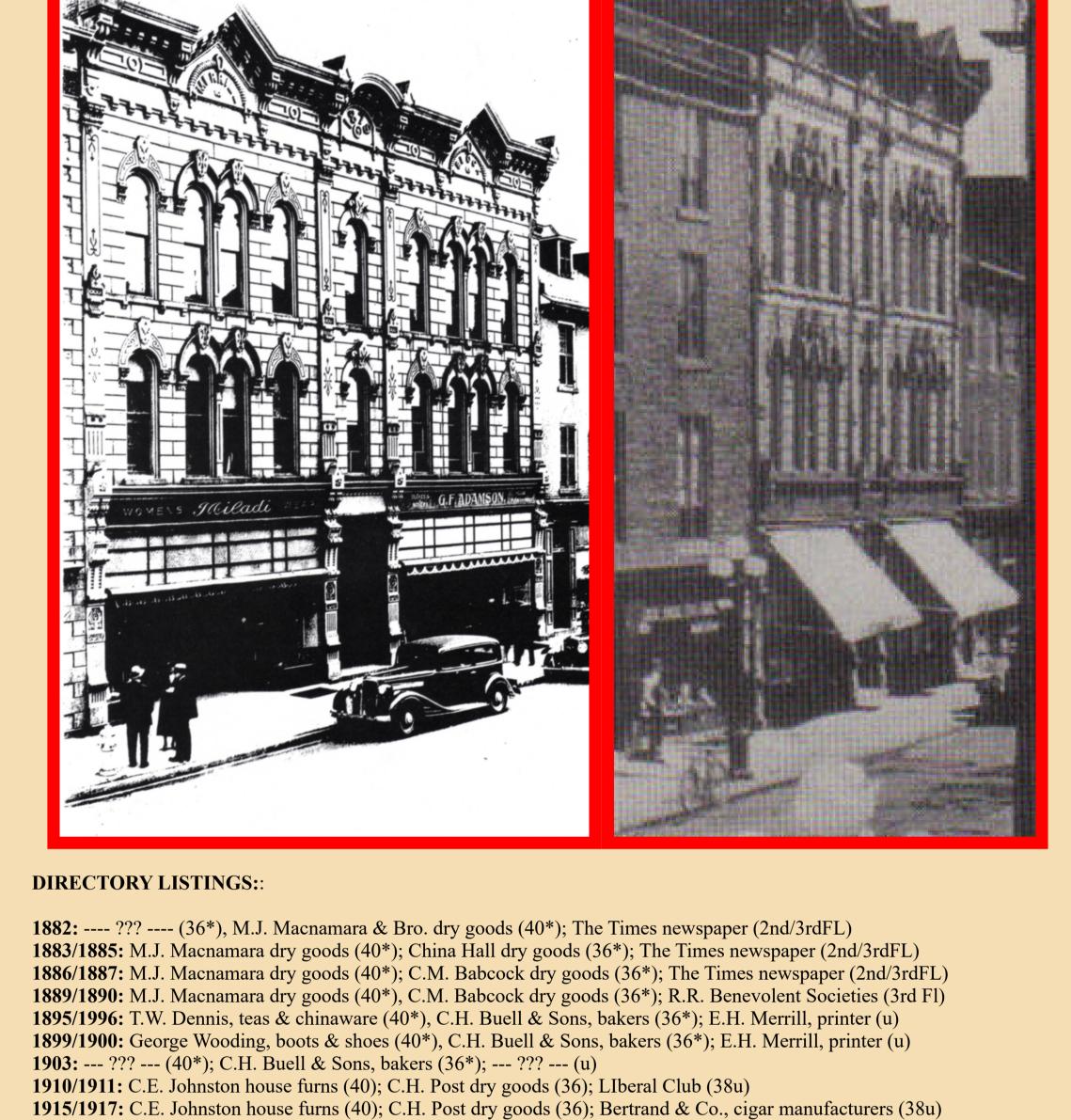
MERRILL BLOCK 1879 - 1958

36 - 40 King St. West

2 Storefronts



also been a bakery, previously.

1919: C.H. Post dry goods (40,36); Great War Veterans Hall (38u) 1921: C.H. Post dry goods (40,36); Rotary Club / Jones & Robinson, belts (38u) **1923:** C.H. Post dry goods (40,36); Rifles Band Rooms (38u) **1924/1931:** G.F. Adamson dry goods (40,36); Rifles Band Rooms (38u) 1935/1937: Miladi Store (40); G.F. Adamson dry goods (36); W.L. Dunlop, real estate/insurance (38u) 1941/1946: Miladi Store (40), A.D. Currie & Son, clothing (36); W.L. Dunlop, real estate/insurance (38u) 1949/1954: Evangeline Shop (40); A.D. Currie & Son clothing (36); Clarence Babcock, house furnishings (38u) 1956: Evangeline Shop (40); A.D. Dover's Mens Wear (36); Clarence Babcock, house furnishings / Household Finance (38u)

Built in 1879. It was one of two building demolished in 1958 to make way for the new Woolworth Block.

M.J. Macnamara & Bro. dry goods store, also selling clothing, carpets and oil cloths, was owned by Mathew J. & Patrick B. Macnamara. They opened around 1881 or before, and in and around 1889/1990 period opened a second location in the Thompkins Block more to the west. Both locations closed in the early 1890s.

The east side of Merrill Block, later #36 was a dry goods store for many decades. Early on you had the China Hall, run by F.E. Fairbairn and offering lamps, chandeliers, silver and plated ware. They were on the west side of the block in the early 1880s, from around 1883 or earlier (although not in the 1882 business directory) and closed up in 1884. It was followed by C.M. Babcock's staple dry goods with gloves, hosiery, embroideries, laces, sateens, prints, silks, satins, velvets and french dress goods. It had a Millinery Dept. with novelties and a Mantle Dept. In the first decade of the 1900s, C.H. Post took over the spot, which in turn became **G.F. Adamson** in 1924. Adamson's retracted from being a large double store to a single unit in the early

1930s, more than likely because of the Great Depression, which was at it's worst in that period. It closed altogether around

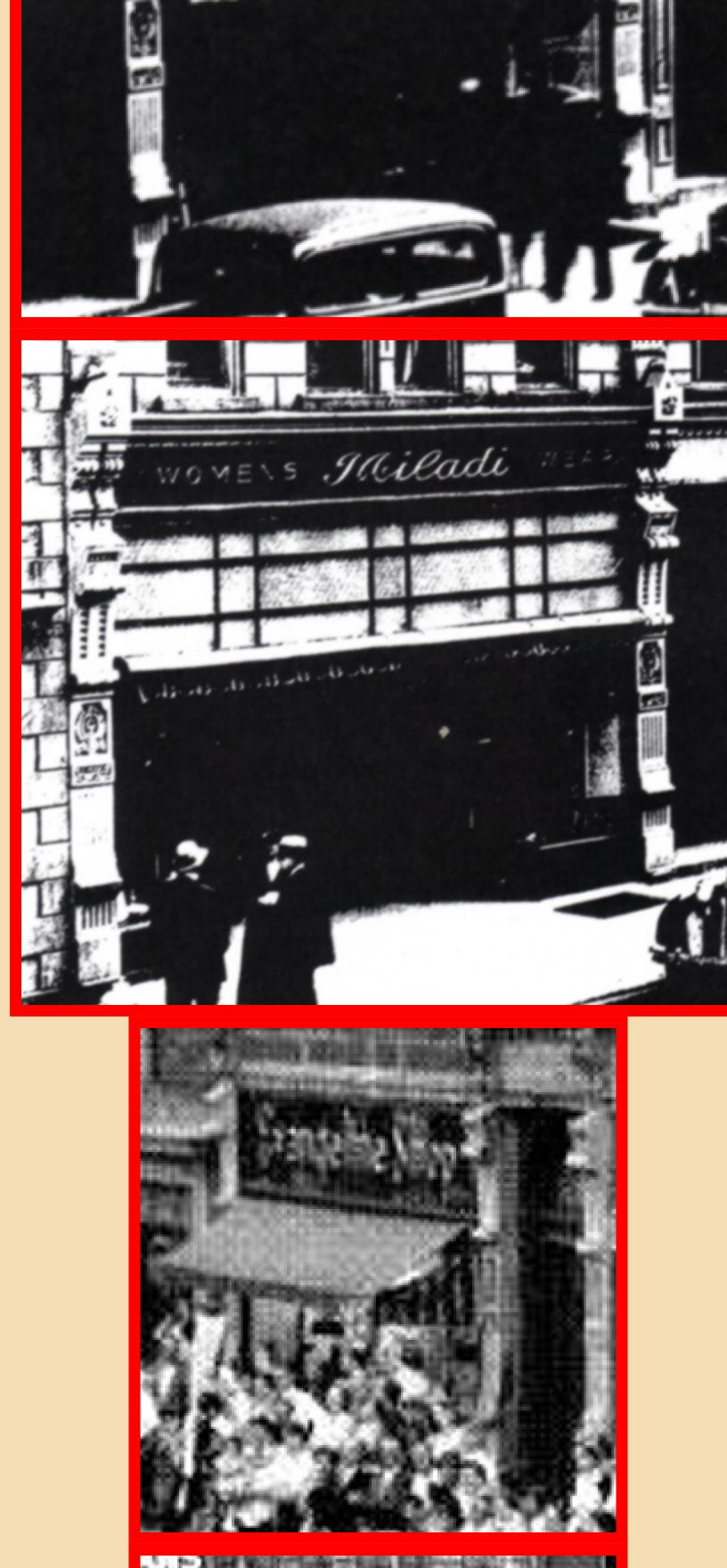
1939, ending at least 56 years as a dry goods location. The Times daily and weekly newspaper occupied both the 2nd and 3rd floors in the Merrill Block from it's founding in 1882. Run by N.B. Colcock. This was its first location. Around 1890, the paper moved down to the French Block, having only a brief stay there before crossing the street, moving further east.

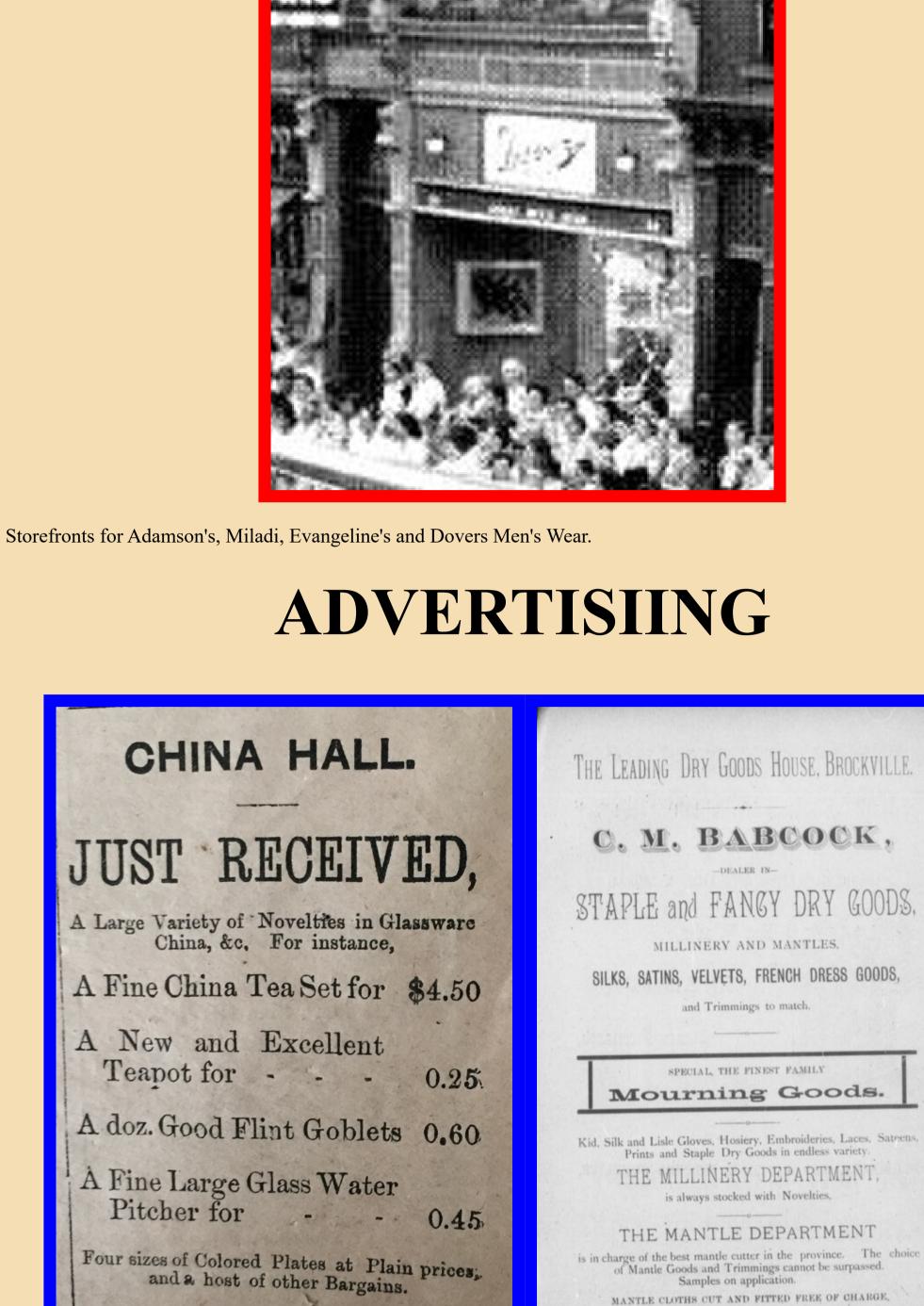
around 1955. Archibald's daughter Margaret E. was also a bookkeeper at the store.

This was the first location of C.E. Johnston house furnishings store. Charles E Johnston, who also lived in an upper floor apartment during this time, opened the business in the first decade of the 20th century. At this point it was only furniture. His plan to add funeral directory services was probably the reason he moved across the street, for more room, to the Revere West Block around 1918. A.D. Currie & Son, owned by Archibald D. and son J. Bruce Currie owned a men's swear clothing store from around 1940 to

C.H. Buell & Sons opened a bakery and Confectionery here, around 1893. It was owned by Charles H. and his son, A. Norton Buell. Around 1904 (or possibly late 1903) the Buell's moved across the street taking over the Cossitt Block where there had

With the demolition of this building, in 1958, Dover's went into the replacement Woolworth's Block, while the Evangeline **Shop** moved down the street to the McHenry Block, where it would last many more years. **STOREFRONTS**





C. M. BABCOCK.

MERRILL BLOCK

F. E. FAIRBAIRN.

Brockville, Aug. 1st, 1883.

Merrill Block

GENERAL INSURANCE AGENCY

DEWEY & BUCKMAN.

Representing the following old and reliable

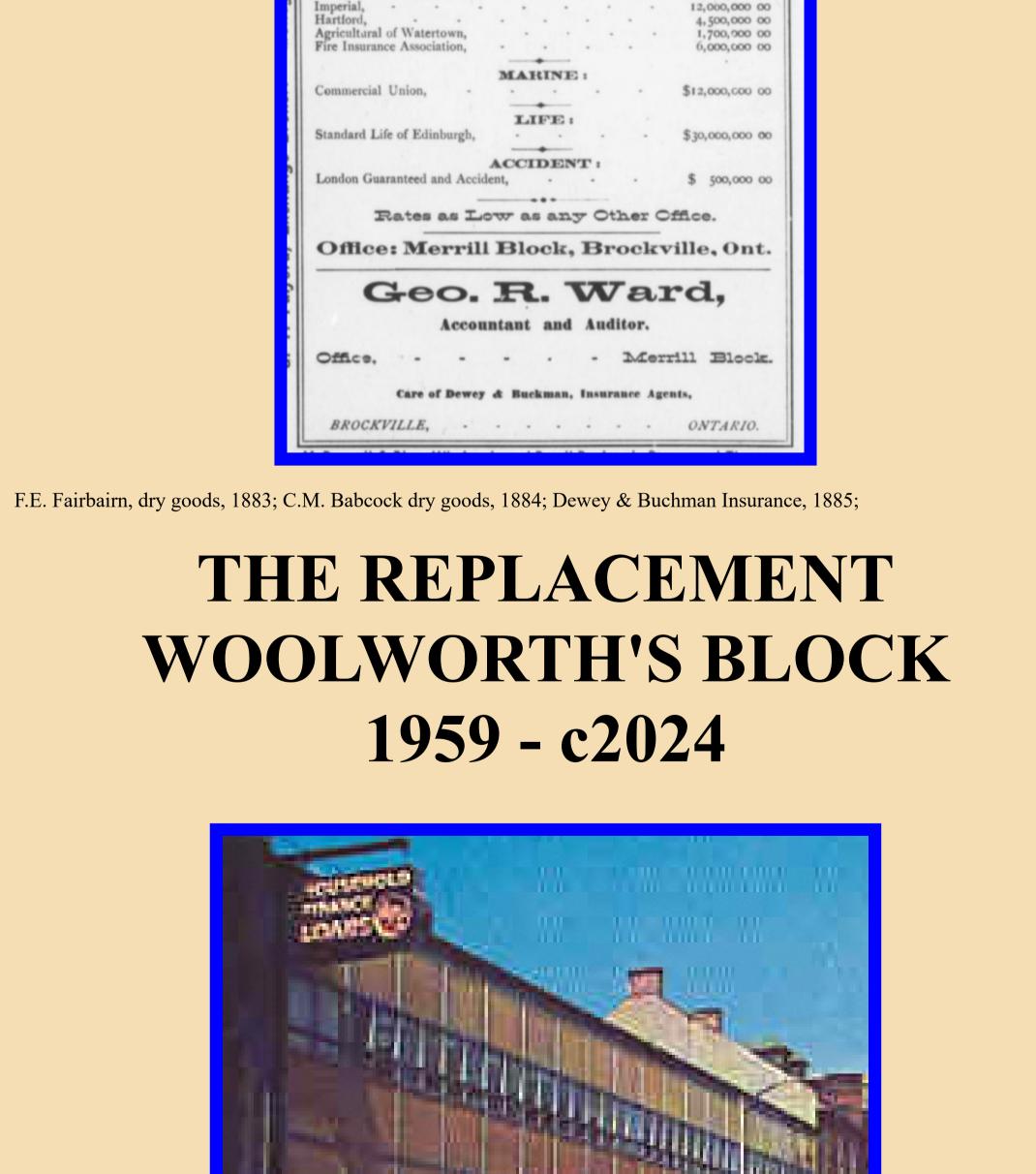
Fire and Life Insurance Companies

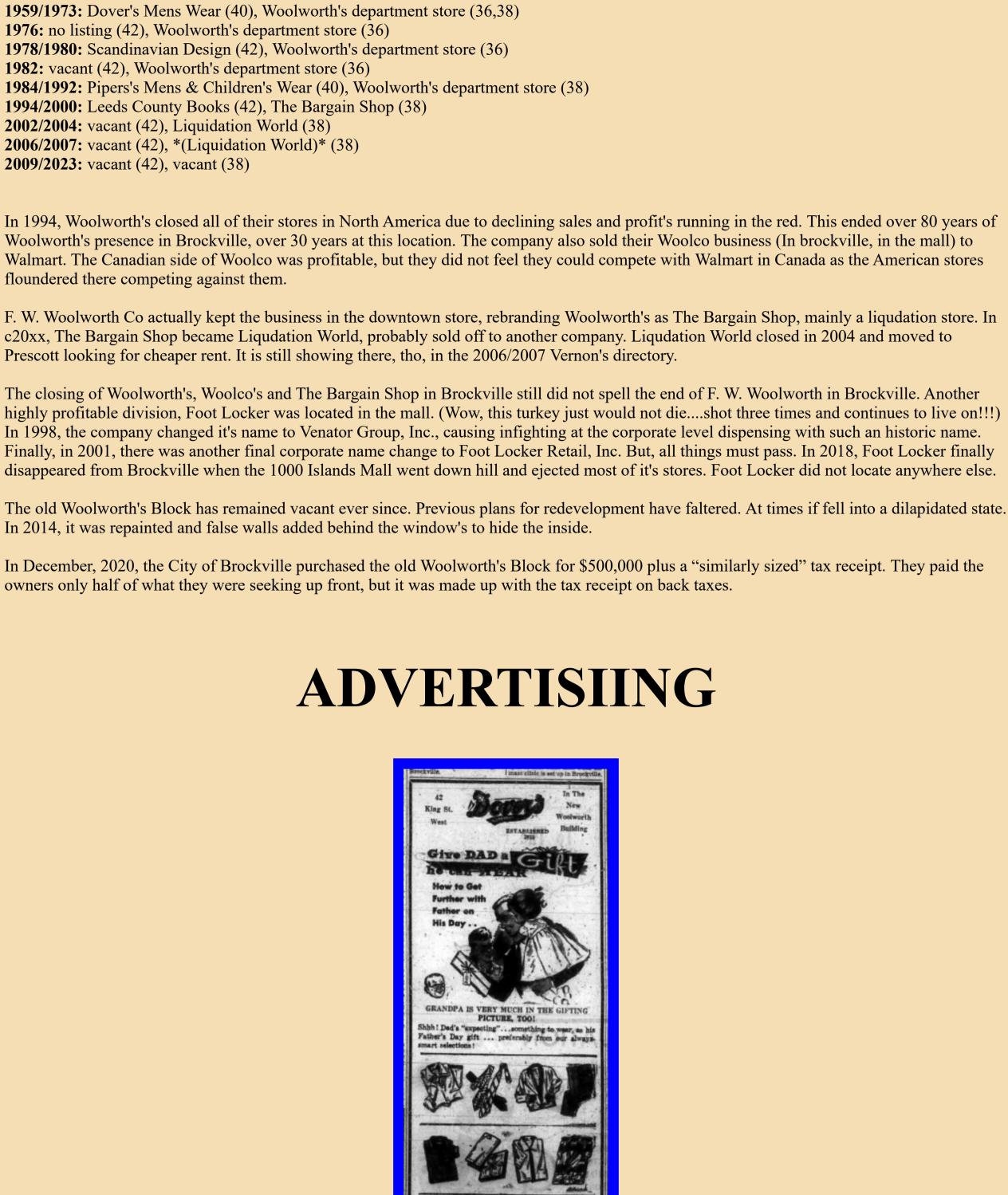
FIRE COMPANIES:

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DIRECTORY LISTINGS::

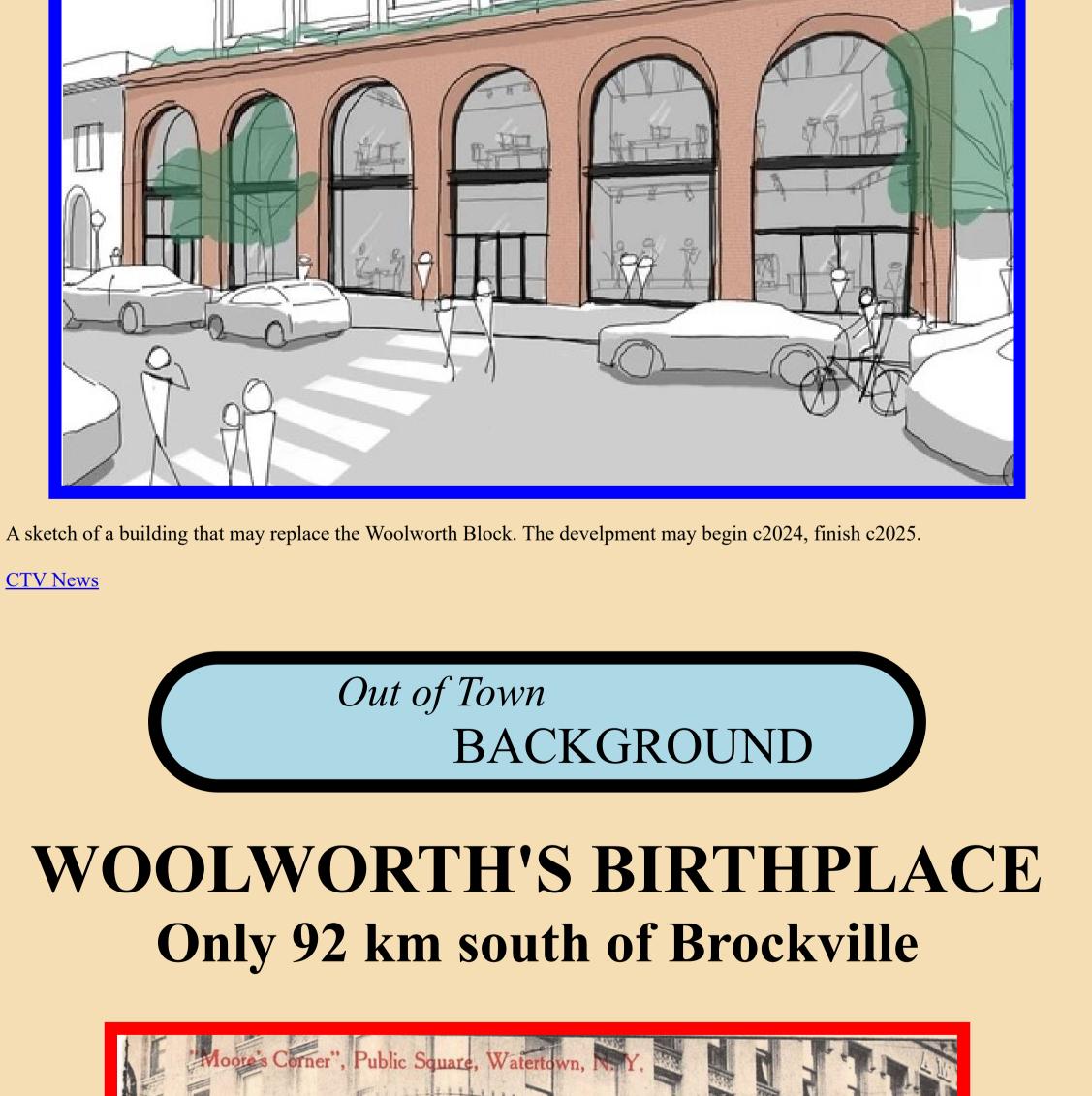
Dover's Men's Wear, 1959, stating "In The New Woolworth's Building".

CTV News

Truly a rags-to-riches story for F.W.

DAD A DOVER GIFT CERTIFICATE

c2025 DEVELOPMENT



C STORE MEMBER WOOLWORTH SY IDICATE MOORESSE

The idea for Woolworth's global empire started in Watertown, NY, only 92 km south of Brockville. Frank W. Woolworth was just a stock boy at the Smith and Moore store, which had a 5c table of items. Woolworth got the idea, why not a full store of 5c items, and he talked his boss into lending him the money to open one. He did, however, open it in Utica, NY, 80 miles away. A failed attempt had him modify the concept to 5c to 10c. Watertown's Smith and Moore store later joined the successful chain,

and in 1919 the building was demolished to build a much larger store. The Watertown store was not only the birthplace of

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Woolworth's idea but also the 5c to \$1.00 store concept of the 20th century. Because of inflation, the concept transformed into today's Dollar stores. The stock boy started out working for Moore. Technically, later Moore was working for the stock boy. oldhippierocks@gmail.com Copyright 2023 Larry Brennan