STEACY BLOCK
pre-1850

60 - 62 King St. West
84, 86 King St. West (1885)
2 Storefronts

DIRECTORY LISTINGS:

1871/72, Steacy, Leonard W., Robert Lapsley, dressmaker (107 ?);
1875/76, Steacy, Leonard W., Robert Lapsley, farm & dairy farmer (107*);
1879/1880, T.B. Steacy, jeweler (67*), Albert E. Johnston, millinery (68*);
1881/82, Steacy, Leonard W., Robert Lapsley, farm & dairy farmer (107*);
1884/1886, Steacy, Dr. Jennifer (62), Kyle Restaurant (60);
1887/1888, Steacy, Dr. Jennifer (62), Kyle Restaurant (60);
1871/1872, Wingfield, Jennifer (62), Eatery, confectioner (60);
1875/1876, Wingfield, Jennifer (62), Eatery (60);
1880/1881, Wingfield Jennifer (62), House of Peace (60);
1884/1885, Positive Jewellers (62), Copper Pennyy Restaurant (60);
1886/1887, Positive Jewellers (62), Kyle Restaurant (60);
1890/1891, Positive Jewellers (62), Mann Apple Jackson (60);
1892/1893, Positive Jewellers (62), Mann Apple Jackson (60);
2012/2013, vacant (62) vacant (86);
2020/2021, Dunlop & Crow Neighborhood supply store (62), vacant (86)

Thomas B. Steacy, jeweller, opened in 1880 elsewhere on King St. and moved to this building in 1887. In 1871, Steacy owned the property but was not a resident or business operator. Steacy's business was located at 62 King St. West from 1887 to 1891. Thomas died in 1896, his son, Frederick B. Steacy, took over the business. Under Frederick, who obtained college in Toronto and was a graduate of the Ontario Horological College, the business was known as F.B. Steacy & Co. Frederick's son, Thomas, joined the business was created as he his son, Albert D. Steacy. T.B. and F.B. lived in the building, which they owned, but failed local or Toronto directories. Albert D. Steacy was a resident of Toronto and was a partner in the firm. **Albert E. Johnston, Jennifer, T.B. Steacy, Jennifer, Jack Steacy, Jennifer** and **Lucille Steacy, Mr. Jennifer**.

Four employees took over, Ralph McKenna (since 1925), Arthur R. "Dap" Wingfield & Glen Jackson (1946), and I. Lloyd Pennyworth (1946). Pennyworth was a former employee of Steacy's who had been hired in 1925 at age 14. Arthur R. "Dap" Wingfield left around 1951, leaving the partners to form Jackson Mann and one of the four left and Richard Jackson. Richard took over as President from Wingfield, with Glen as Secretary-Treasurer. The Wingfield son lasted 24 years.

1985 saw the store acquired by Lloyd Pennyworth, who renamed it **Positive Jewellers**. He had a good 5 years, but in the mid 1990s, the business was sold to Ken Mann, who had worked for Pennyworth for 10 years. Mann was a graduate of Mount Allison University, a 2004-around robbery finished $12,000 for the two suspects. One was caught, the other wasn't found. With Lowell's retirement, Mann sold the store to Ken Mann's son, Richard Mann, in 2012. Richard Mann, who is also a director of the Canadian jewellery union (Canada, with 200 years in King St. and 125 years at this location.

Robert Lapsley was showing as being on Main St. as far back as 1871. He was probably at this spot, with a chance he was renting the upper floors of the building. In the 1880s, Jennifer was listed as the owner, but Robert Lapsley's local operation is this building. He also owned a farm.

Herbert B. Wright opened the **B.B. Wright & Co.** confectionery business in 1876 directly across the street from here, then moved to this address in 1879. Wright was a native of Ireland, who came to Canada in 1871 and was married to Elizabeth B. Woods in a great manufacturing building, right next door. Wright's business moved around the block, here, around 1884. He passed away in his early 1890s, but the business continued on under his widow Elizabeth Wright. Later, William B. Kyle, an employee, purchased the business. Kyle was a native of Ireland, who came to Canada in 1880 and was married to Jennie Wright. Wright's son-in-law in 1897. (It was Bruce's son-in-law) In the beginning, Wright had "handmade chocolates, such fondants and cocoanut drops." Wright was a member of the Ontario Horticultural Society and was a director of the Brockville Exhibition. Wright made the "Wright" and "Kyle" brand names. The Wright's, through the years, lived at various addresses, James St., Pearl St., Perth St., Stewart Blvd., Victoria Ave. and Parkdale Ave. Wright's son, Albert E. Kyle became a manager (1920-1931), still advertised as a confectionary and ice cream parlour.

Albert E. Kyle renamed the business as **Kyles** and began only an income-toward a restaurant, advertising "Confectionery, Ice Cream and Light Lunches." Kyle's son, Bruce, was a partner in the business, and Albert's son-in-law, Bruce Kyle, was a partner in the ice cream operation for Diamond Ice after the closing of Kyle's in 1939. The Kyle's, Albert E. & Bruce, William A. & Nancy, lived here at 2 Diamond St. and later at 215 Kent St. N.

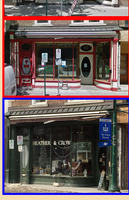
Dunn Agnes Antiques opened in 1995 at 86, then moved to the Kitchen's Building after 3 years. They closed not long after.

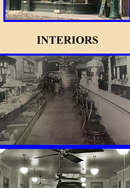
Golden Age Comics and Collectibles were in this block at their first location opening in Sept. 2017. By April 2018 they had moved to the more expansive site, at 30 King St. W. Lots of their local fans were there the store, pictured at left, shortly after it closed.

Heather & Crow Metaphysical supply store was opened by Lynn Pingree and Joey Dunn in Nov., 2020. They state "Beautiful crystals, unique jewelry, sacred tools, powerful crystals, tarot and oracle cards, incense, candles and lots & lots of more. Most items are locally handmade!"

OTHER VIEWS

STOREFRONTS





INTERIORS

Wright Confectionary (1950s), Kyles Restaurant, Positive Jewellers in Kyles Mansion

ADVERTISING

T.B. Steacy, jeweller, 1887; Wingfield, jeweller, 1960

rdillingham@rogers.com
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