



BROCKVILLE LUMBER BUILDING

c1955 - 2023

109 Perth St.



(Top 2 photos, the Brockville Museum)

DIRECTORY LISTINGS:

- 1886/1929:: (McLaren's Lumber Yard only)
- 1931/1946:: (Mallory Lumber Co. Yard only)
- 1949/1954:: (Friday Lumber Co. Yard only)
- 1956/1971:: Brockville Lumber
- 1973/1982:: Golden Triangle Home Centre
- 1984:: Leslee Sports Warehouse
- 1986/1988:: The Bike Shop
- 1990/2000:: The Furniture & Appliance Depot
- 2002/2007:: Audiotronic

McLaren's Lumber Yard first went in here around 1886. It was a lumber yard only, as the store was directly across the street. After McLaren's it became **Mallory Lumber Co.** around 1931. Finally, still as a lumber yard only, **Friday Lumber Co.** took over around 1947. (More information below)

Brockville Lumber opened around 1955, building this brand new store on the east side of Perth St. They advertised "Lumber, Builders Supplies, Prefabricated Buildings". Kenneth B. Wilkinson is listed as president. He lived with wife Marjorie in apts at [112 King St. E.](#) and later at [10 Salisbury Ave.](#) **Brockville Lumber** had originally been on William St., just north of the tracks, since the first decade of the 1900s. William St. through those years was a dead end street. With the plans of the 401 coming through and the installation of the multi lane Stewart Blvd heading south and hooking into William, BL needed to re-locate. This is when they acquired the old Friday's. On William, BL itself had replaced the old **Rathbun** planing mill and lumber yard, which went back to around 1888.

Golden Triangle Home Centre succeeded BL about 1972 with Eldon H. Guthrie as President, from beginning to end. They advertised "New Homes, Specialists, In Hanover Kitchen Cabinets - Call Us for a Custom Design, Siding - Colorlock, Bayside Lap, Aluminum & Others; All in Stock, Full Line of Lumber & Building Material".

Leslee Sports Warehouse was a Dave Jones business. It was named after his daughter and "focused on business in the global market place." It moved to the north end after a couple of years, but continued to rent space in the building afterward.

About 1985, **The Bike Shop** was next to open here. It was owned by Fred A. Stopper. Around 1989, they moved to 2400 Parkdale Ave.

Replacing the bikes was, **The Furniture & Appliance Depot** opening in 1990. It was first managed by William Hoogendam, later on by John VanVelze. They continued to rent space here after.

Reliable Countrywide Home Furnishings opened in here, selling off old stock from 2003 to 2014. It was managed by Peter Hoodendam.

Audiotronic was in here c2002 to 2010.

Star Service Plus, TV & VCR Repair, opened in 2005 and stayed until around 2010.

Afterwards, a second hand shop followed by a clubhouse occupied the building.

THE 2023 FIRE



(Top photo, the Recorder and Times)

A massive fire destroyed the entire building July 10, 2023, causing over \$4 million in damages.

EARLIER OFFICE / STORE

112 Perth St.

c1886 - c1967



Peter McLaren Lumber office opened around 1886. Peter McLaren resided in Perth, Ont., where he started his business and expanded from there. They advertised themselves as "Lumber Merchants, Planing Mill and Manufacturers of Sash, Doors and Blinds, Office cor of Perth and Brock." Initially the local manager was John Peverely who resided at what is now [36 Schofield Ave.](#) Donald G. McPhail was next, right around the corner at what is now [138 Pearl St. W.](#) Next up was Charles H. Storey, living at what is now [120 Brock St.](#), right across the street from the east lumber yard. Next manager was Clifford J. Braniff, residing at [23 St. Andrew St.](#)

Ira M. Mallory acquired the business around 1930, and it became **Mallory Lumber Co.** Mallory lived across the street at [99 Perth St.](#)

After the acquisition by **Brockville Lumber**, who had built a new store across the street, this building first showed as being empty, then showed for the remainder of its life as an "annex". It was probably used for storage and overflow stock.

REPLACEMENT BROCKVILLE LUMBER ANNEX

108 - 112 Perth St.

c1967



The old annex building was demolished, along with a house to the left, and replaced with this new annex. It was set further back, with parking out front. When **Golden Triangle Home Centre** replaced **Brockville Lumber**, they continued using this building until the end, c1983.

After being empty for a couple of years, the spot was taken over by **Eburn Industries Inc.** Through the years, many businesses were here. It is currently occupied by the **Brockville Seventh Day Adventist Church**.

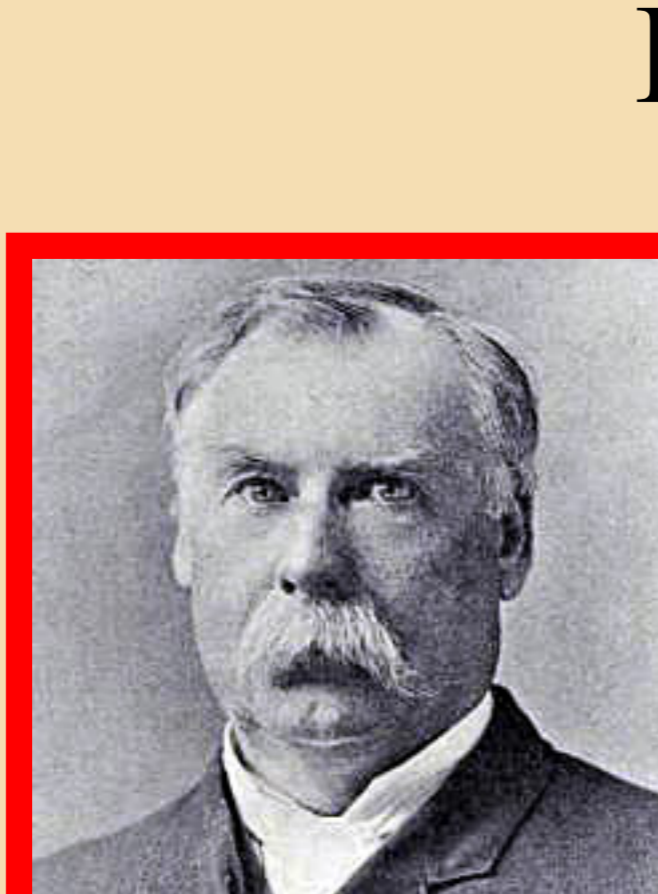
McLAREN'S PLANING MILL

Perth St.

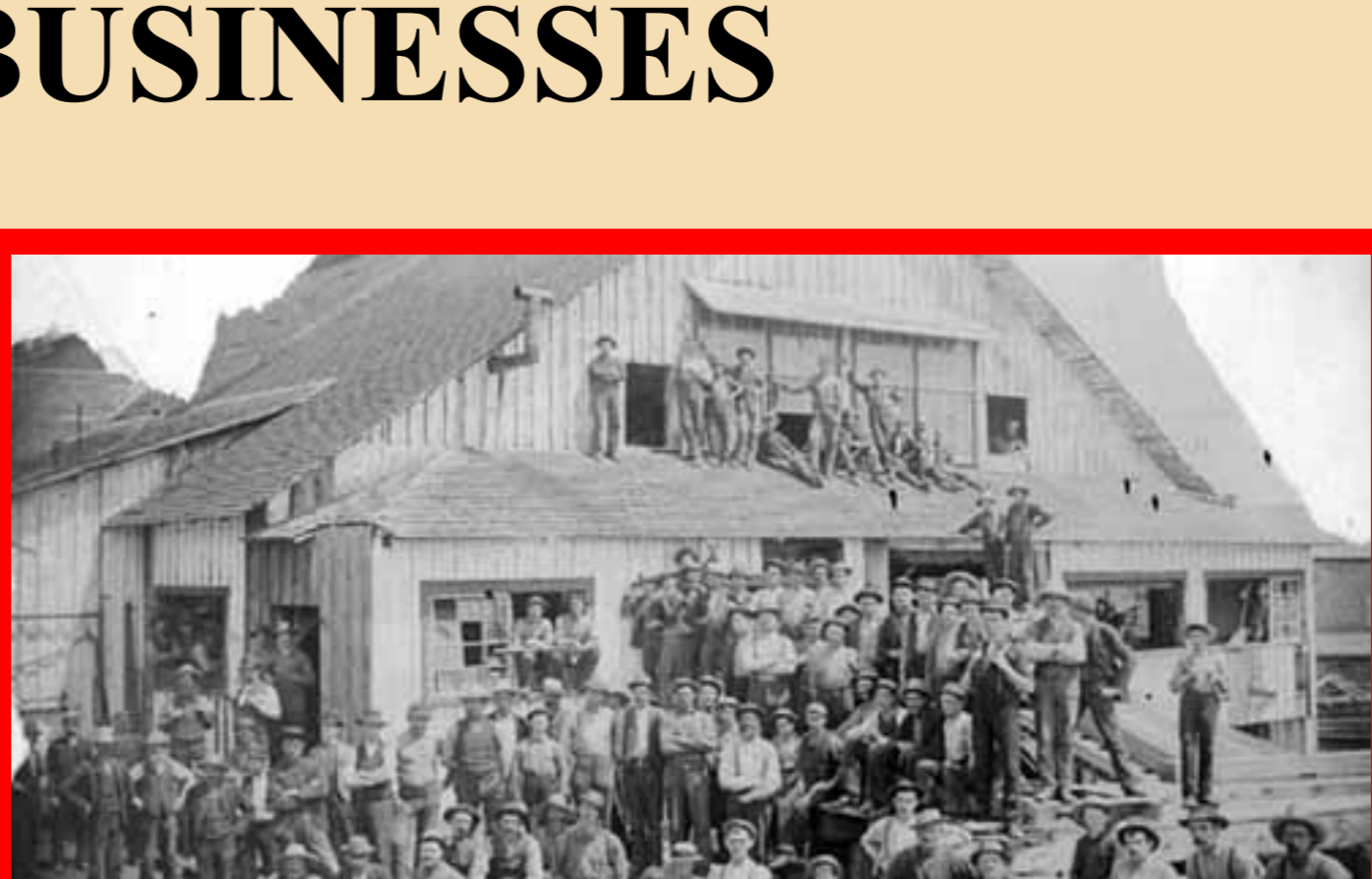
By 1890, McLaren's Planing Mill opened in the former Scott's Hub Factory, located on Perth St. at Buell's creek. In 1929, it was described as simply nameless Planing Mills, and so, were probably in the process of closing at this point and gone by 1931.

Out of Town BACKGROUND

McLARENS LUMBER BUSINESSES



Peter McLaren



Gillies McLaren Mill of Carleton Place

Peter McLaren was one of the most successful lumber baron's in Canadian history. He originated in the Perth, Ont. area, where he lived his entire life. In 1844's as a teen he started working at the Gillies Lumber Company, a small mill in Carleton Place, along the Mississippi River. Shortly after it grew to include a grist mill, oat mill and carding mill. At age 22, he became a partner and it became Gillies and McLaren Company. He then purchased it outright in 1873 and became sole owner. About 1886, McLaren expanded into Brockville. After marriage, he purchased and lived at Nevis Cottage at what is now [61 Drummond Street West, Perth, Ont.](#) He later acquired operations along the Kingston and Pembroke Railway and also out west in Alberta. In 1890, he was appointed to the Canadian Senate on the advice of Sir John A. MacDonald. McLaren died in 1919 and was worth \$15 million at the time.

(Information from the many directories, Kimballs, Fosters, Vernons, Mississippi Lumber Baron, Nevis Cottage)