

GORRELL TERRACE

c.1870

72-77 Perth St.



(All except the bottom photo by Doug Grant.)

DIRECTORY LISTINGS::

1861:: The building does not exist - A. Gorrell previous buildings on map
--- (1873: George T. Gorrell, mail clerk, shows living on Perth St.) ---
1874:: The building exists, appearing on the 1874 map
1885:: Mrs Elizabeth McLelland (72*) / Mrs M.J. Smith (74*) / Walter Fraser, barber (76*) / Miss Kate Clifford, (78*)
1887:: Mrs Elizabeth McLelland / (72*) / Mrs W W Smith (74*) / Walter Fraser, barber (76*) / Mrs S Vineberg (78*)
1890:: Charles McEwen, engineer (72*) / William Mitchell, machinist (74*) / Walter Frazer, barber (76*) / Bella,Dile,Ella Campbell, dressmakers, (78*)
1896:: Mowbray (72*) / John Potter (74*) / William J Abbott (76*) / W H White, barber, (78*)
1900:: John E Shields (72*) / vacant (74*) / James A McCarten (76*) / W H White, barber (78*)
1911:: Willard Hodge, driver (72) / George H. Vout, laborer (74) / George Vout, junk dealer (76) / Alonzo Vout, machinist (78)
1913:: William White (72) / Richard Palmer (74) / vacant (76) / Mrs. M. Darling (78)
1917:: A.A. Hayes (72) / W.J. Daniels (74) / George Glover (76) / John Covill (78)
1919:: A.A. Hayes (72) / vacant (74) / George Hutton (76) / vacant (78)
1921:: vacant (72) / Roy Cromwell (74) / George Hutton (76) / Mrs. L. Sheridan (78)
1924:: Mansel Place (72) / William Sherwood (74) / George Ravenscroft (76) / Grant Mott (78)
1926:: William Turner (72) / Thomas Johnston, sec hd gds (74) / Mansel Place (76) / Mrs. J. McManus (78)
1927:: William Turner (72) / vacant (74) / vacant (76) / vacant (78)
1929:: William Turner (72) / James Wotherspoon (Pearl) (74) / John Haggert (76) / Fred Holka (78)
1931/1933:: William Turner, shoe repair (72) / James Wotherspoon (Pearl), laborer (74) / James E. Reynolds (76) / Charles E. Ranger [Barbara] (78)s
1935:: John Ranger (72) / James Wotherspoon (Pearl) (74) / Martin W. Antoine (76) / Charles E. Ranger [Barbara] (78)
1937:: John Ranger (72) / James Wotherspoon (Pearl) (74) / Charles E. Ranger [Barbara], wks Phillips Elect. (76) / Samuel Pilon [Alice], wks Phillips Elect. (78)
1941:: John Ranger (72) / James Wotherspoon (Pearl) (74) / Charles E. Ranger [Barbara], wks Phillips Cables; Gerald Markell (76) / Samuel Pilon [Alice] (78)
1943:: Hattie M. Ranger (72) / James Wotherspoon (Pearl) (74) / Charles E. Ranger [Barbara], wks Phillips Cables (76) / James A. Herbison [Maizie] (78)
1946:: F Fetterly (72) / James Wotherspoon (Pearl) (74) / Charles E. Ranger [Barbara], wks Phillips Cables; G. Marshall (76) / James A. Herbison [Maizie] (78)
1949/1952:: Fred Fetterly [Emma], carpenter (72) / James Wotherspoon (Pearl) (74) / Gerald J. Markell [Isabel]), (76) / James A. Herbison [Maizie], driver Kingsway Transport (78) -- all renters, since at least 1927 or before --
1954:: William Cassell [Frances]*, plasterer Ont. Hosp. (72) James Wotherspoon (Pearl) (74) / Mrs. Bridget V. Leeder, wkd Automatic Electric (76) / Cecil J. Herbison [Dorothy]*, taxi driver/G. Rose (78) -- all renters except*--
1956:: Raymond Adams (72) / Nelson S. Henry (74) / Mrs. Bridget V. Leeder, wkd Automatic Electric (76) / Cecil J. Herbison [Dorothy]*, taxi driver (78)
1961:: Henry T. Bowen [Pansy]*, wkd B & D (72) / Nelson S. Henry, janitor/Ontario Hosp (74) / Mrs. Bridget V. Leeder, wkd Automatic Elect(76) / Cecil J. Herbison [Dorothy]*, taxi driver/G. Rose + Mrs. M. Herbison* (78) -- all renters except*--
1963:: Mrs. Druscilla Robinson, inspector/RCA Victor*, (72) / Nelson S. Henry*, janitor/Ontario Hospital (74) / Cecil J. Herbison [Dorothy]*, taxi driver (76) / Calvin J. Harper [Doreen], orderly/General Hosp. (78) -- all renters except*--
1966:: Mrs. Druscilla Robinson, inspector/RCA Victor*, (72) / Nelson S. Henry*, janitor/Ontario Hospital (74) / Cecil J. Herbison [Dorothy]*, taxi driver (76) / vacant (78) -- all renters except*--
1969:: Mrs. Marjorie Martell (72) / Nelson S. Henry*, janitor/Ontario Hospital (74) / Cecil J. Herbison [Dorothy]*, taxi driver/G. Rose (76) / Keith Serson [Barbara], construction wkr (78) -- all renters except*--
1971/1973:: Mrs. Marjorie V. Martell* (72) / P. Edward King [Dorothy J.]*, mgr Ed's Gas Bar (74) / Mrs. Margaret Y. McDade*, opr GTE Automatic Elect (76) / Audrey H. Perrin* (78) -- all owners--
1976:: Mrs. Marjorie V. Martell* (72) / Adam Tomchick [Gladys], laborer (74) / R Cassibo (76) / Audrey H. Perrin* (78) -- all renters except*---
1978:: Mrs. Marjorie V. Martell* (72) / Adam Tomchick [Gladys], laborer (74) / E. McIntyre (76) / Audrey H. Perrin* (78) -- all renters except*--
1980:: Mrs. Marjorie V. Martell* (72) / Adam Tomchick [Gladys], laborer (74) / (no return) (76) / vacant (78) -- all renters except*---
1986:: Mrs. Marjorie V. Martell* (72) / James P. Martell (74) M Gagnn / G Pattenden (76) / N Durant (78) -- all renters except*--
1990:: Mrs. Marjorie V. Martell* (72) / James P. Martell, laborer/Labor Union (74) / Mary Maud (76) / A.H. Perrin, retired (78) -- all renters except*---
1992:: Mrs. Marjorie V. Martell* (72) / no return (74) / T. Hopkins (76) / S. Hopkins (78) -- all renters except*--- all renters except*--- all renters except*--
1995:: no return (72) / no return (74) / A. Perrin, retired (76) / Glenna L. Smith*, r n a Brockville Psychiatric Hosp (78) -- all renters except*---
2001:: no return (72) / no return (74) / Marie Durant; K. Duffy (76) / D.A. Grant* (78) -- all renters except*---
2003:: no return (72) / no return (74) / W. Young (76) / no return (78) ---- all renters--
2005:: no return (72) / no return (74) / Red Top Meat Shop; Robin Crump (76) / no return (78) ---- all renters----
2007:: no return (72) / no return (74) / Red Top Meat Shop; Robin Crump (76) / J. Groulx (78) -- all renters ----

GORRELL COMPLEX - 72-77 Perth St. - built c.1870

Andrew Gorrell (1807-1871) was a carpenter, and so would have had a major hand in building this structure. Married to the former **Christian Smith**, they had at least 5 children, Elizabeth, James Robert, Anne Bell, George Taylor and Charles E. He owned this lot since before 1861 and it originally had two buildings side by side. Sometime around 1870 (but probably mid to late 1860s), Gorrell replaced the two buildings with this large 4 unit complex.

After Andrew's death, it seems that his son, and 4th child, **George Taylor Gorrell** (1844–1897), a mail clerk, inherited the building. Records show he lived on Perth in the 1870s. George was married to the former Catherine Fulton (1846–1913) and they had 7 children, Arthur Stirling, Lt. Col. Charles Willson Farran (M.D.), Gertrude, Catharine Cecil Maud, Claude and Gerald.

The Gorrell's probably occupied the larger unit, now #76, which seems to be the "mother" unit in the early days when the owner lived in the building.

An early resident (possible owner) was barber **Walter Fraser** (#76*). He married Mary Russell (1854–1942) and they had 10 children. The Fraser's were there from c.1880 to c.1905. Other early residents from the 1880s were **Mrs Elizabeth McLelland**, **Mrs M.J. Smith** and **Miss Kate Clifford**.

Shortly after the millennium, junk dealer **George Henry Vout** (1847–1936) was in #76. He and wife, former **Lucinda Bishop** (1854–1937) had 15 children. At this time their 4th child, George Henry Vout Jr. (1879–1957) was in #74 and 9th child Alonzo Vout (1886–1956) lived in #78. I would speculate that Vout at #76 owned the building with family members in 3/4 of the units. The Vout's moved out of all three units around 1911.

Around 1926, three of the four units were vacant. That suggests to me that there was a major renovation going on. There could have even been a small fire that brought it on, not affecting the far left unit (#72), but that is only speculation.

Labourer **James Wotherspoon** and his wife **Pearl** were one of the longest renters, in #74, from c.1927 to c.1954.

Charles E. Ranger, who worked at Phillips' Elect Works, moved into #78 around 1930. He and his wife, the former **Barbara Margaret McKay**, had one child, Isabel. The Rangers were there up until about 1946. His brother **John Ranger** and wife **Hattie** moved into #76 in the same time period, c.1933 to c.1943, afterwards moving to Water St.

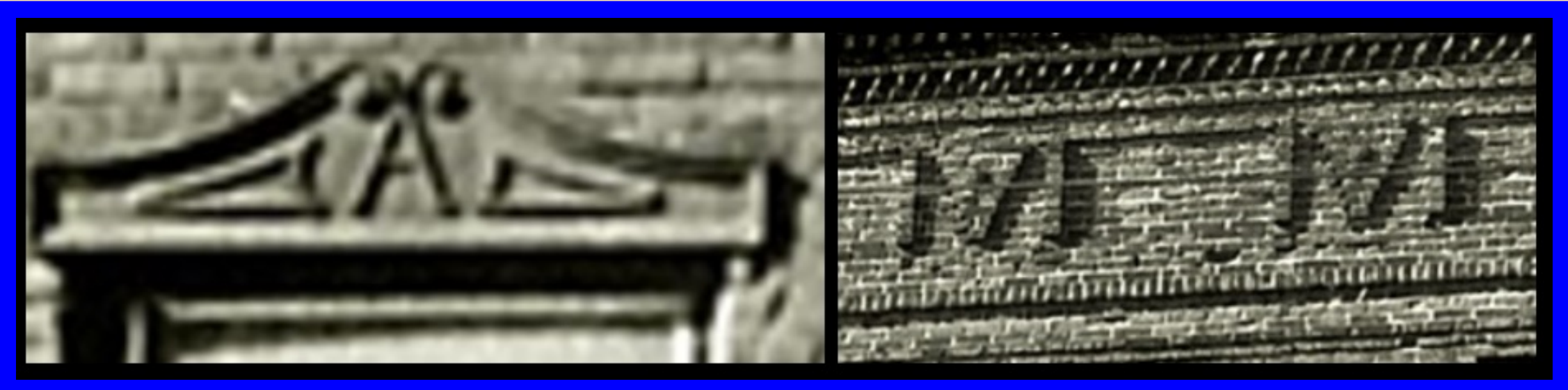
The **Red Top Meat Shop** was located in #76 from around 2003 to beyond 2007. Robin Crump lived in the upper portion of that unit, but unsure if she had the meat business. The two southern units went empty in the early 1990s and stayed empty until after 2007. The other two units had renters with the last names of Hopkins, Perrin, Smith, Durant, Duffy, Young and Groulx. The building was clearly in decline.

The units began being sold off to occupants c.1952. All four units were owned by their individual occupants, for the first time, c.1970. One result of this is the individual units taking on different look as opposed to a unified look. As time went on, it became quite shabby. It recently came under one owner again, In 2024, much needed major renovations took place with new siding installed on the outside.

Being rentals for most of its history, tenants came and went with very short stays through the years. Too numerous for here. The Gorrell Complex is being renovated by Torri Lee Duffy in 2024, with fresh new outside siding.

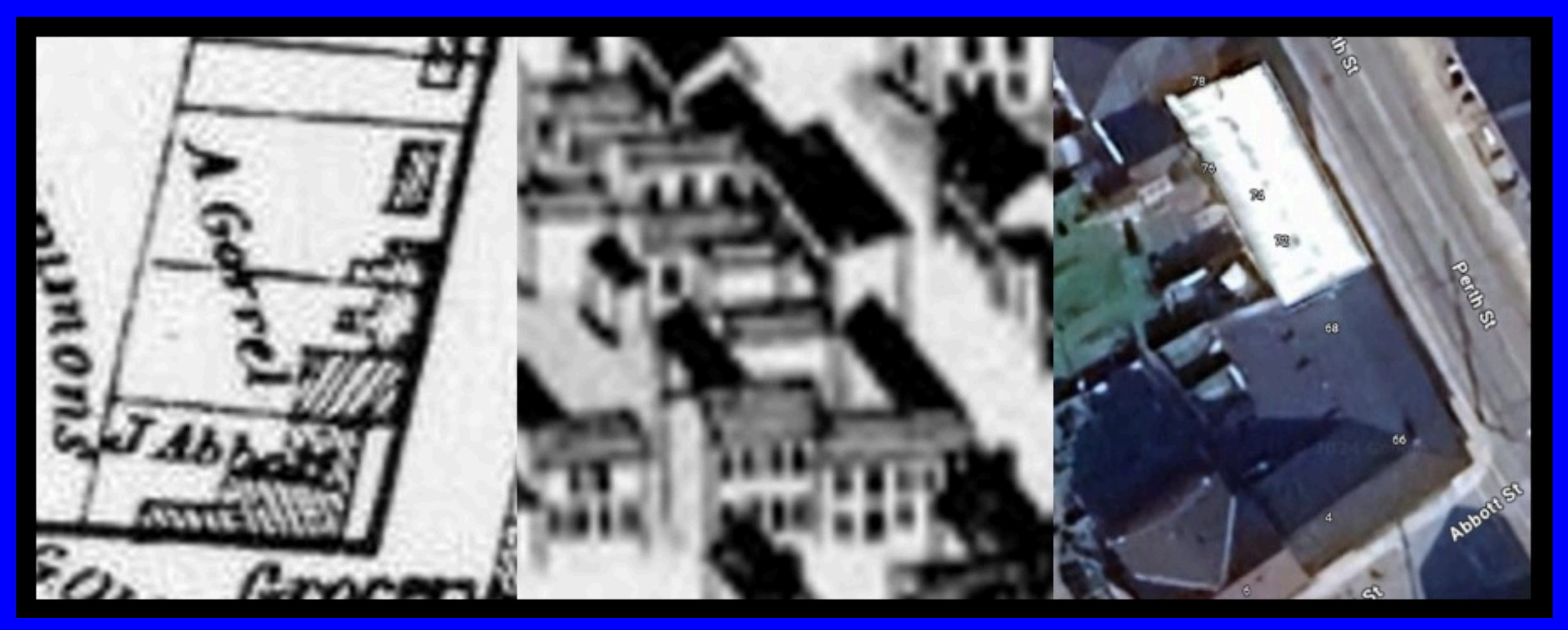
A more complete occupant list through the years can be found here: <https://go4rock.com/b/index.html>

LETTERS



There are two letters on the building. First we have the letter A on the window tops. We can safely say it stands for "Andrew" as in original owner Andrew Gorrell. Next we have the letter M. I found no one around the Gorrell's that it could be attributed to. It's meaning is lost to history at this point. It could even be just a cornice design that looks like an M (unlikely).

PREVIOUS BUILDING



The 1861 Wallings map at the left shows the two previous buildings that occupied the mis-spelled Gorrell lot. They were clearly separate and not alike. Herman Brosius's 1874 drawing map of Brockville in the middle shows the current building in place at that time. On the right is a current aerial view, in white.