

101-109 King Avenue West, Newcastle

George Strange Boulton bought this property in 1841 from the holder of the original Crown Patent. In 1844 he sold the west part (109 King Ave. W.) to Horace Foster. By 1854, the Foster family had built the three-storey front section of 109 King as their home with professional space on the ground floor.

109 King remained in the Foster family until 1935. By then it had been converted into apartments. From 1854 to 1935 the building was referred to as the "Foster Homestead".

By 1850, the east part (101 King Ave. W.) was owned by Elizabeth and William McIntosh and they built the present three-storey east side of the building in 1856. In the latter part of the 1800s there was a general store at 101 King although by the 1940s it too had been converted entirely into apartments. There were many uses of the building including a dry goods store, an apple barrel-making facility and a small sandwich shop. During the latter part of the 1900s it was used exclusively as apartments. Officially named "Kingsview Apartments", it was widely known as "The House of All Nations".

In 2007, Syvan Developments Limited conducted extensive restoration converting the lower apartments back to commercial use.

THE MASSEYS AT NEWCASTLE

One of the world's largest manufacturers of heavy farm machinery, Massey-Ferguson has its foundations in a modest family business developed in Newcastle. Established in Bond Head by Daniel Massey, the fledgling operation was moved to larger quarters here in 1849. For 30 years the Newcastle Foundry and Machine Manufactory prospered under the shrewd management of three generations of enterprising Masseys. Capitalizing on the expanding wheat market, Hart, Daniel's son, skilfully adapted American-designed implements to suit Canadian agrarian conditions. When sales were secured in Europe, marking Canada's first export of machinery overseas, continued expansion of the firm was ensured. By 1879 the operation had outgrown its Newcastle factories and the Massey Manufacturing Company, now managed by Hart's son Charles, moved to larger facilities in Toronto.

JOSEPH E. ATKINSON 1865-1948

One of Canada's leading publishers, Joseph Atkinson was born here in Clarke Township and, at eighteen, began his journalistic career with the Port Hope Times. He subsequently moved to Toronto where he was employed first with the World and later the Globe. Following a period with the Montreal Herald, Atkinson in 1899 became editor and manager of the Toronto Evening Star. He changed the name to The Toronto Daily Star (1900) and published it until his death. In 1910 he founded the Star Weekly, established radio station CFCA in 1922 and built The Star into Canada's largest daily newspaper with a stated policy of supporting the "little man". He died in 1948 leaving most of his considerable wealth to The Atkinson Charitable Foundation.

Erected by the Archaeological and Historic Sites Board,
Ministry of Colleges and Universities

Employees of Karl Weyrich Wood Specialties

“Around 1946, Karl Weyrich built a new cement block building for his furniture operation on this site. It was called Karl Weyrich Wood Specialties. In 1951, there were 60 employees there.

This business continued until 1968 when it was closed and sold to Woodland Products. The building was vacated for the last time in 1978.”

Credit

Newcastle Village and District Historical Society.

Picture from Jack Gordon's collection.

Information from Mabel Goode and Myno Van Dyke.

Grand Trunk Railway Station

“The Grand Trunk Railway Station was located on Toronto Street from 1856 until 1968 when it was dismantled. The passengers were picked up in the centre of the village by a horse drawn jitney and taken to the station.

Waiting for an east bound train going to Cobourg, this group is going to the horse show or to visit relatives in Cobourg.

Left to right: Mrs. Hannah Farncomb, Doctor Alfred Farncomb (raised hat); Howard Gibson (boy in back); young girls are Blanche Gibson and her sister Norah Gibson.”

Credit

Newcastle Village and District Historical Society.

Picture taken circa 1912 by David Gibson.

Information from Norah Gibson Storey.