

Memory Lane

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69 John St. South

For many years 69 John Street was known as the Buntin Gillies building. Founded by Maxwell Buntin in 1848 as Buntin and Company, the company specialized in paper products and office supplies. Maxwell's nephew David Gillies joined the firm in 1858 and was renamed Buntin Gillies. The company was outgrowing their old location at 58 King St. E. This building at 69 John Street South was originally constructed in 1906. The company built the new warehouse at this John and Jackson location a few years after their formal incorporation in 1903. The Buntin Gillies Company operated out of the John Street warehouse for the next 70 years.

69 John Street South was constructed in a prestigious location across from the former the Court House and Court House Square to the west.

69 John Street South was later occupied by Leo Barnett and Company and renovated for mixed use in 1990. The building now houses a restaurant on the main floor, a dance club in the basement and offices above.



Construction of new Buntin Gillies & Co at John and Jackson St. The Master Printers of Ontario were visiting Hamilton and were photographed out front of the new building. The photo was taken just south of the Wentworth County Registry office. Master printers were part of the association that controlled printing in Ontario.



This 1955 photo shows the former land registry office that was located across the street from the building (a sliver of it can be seen in the background). The building was built in 1911 and demolished in 1957. The Registry Office then moved into the new Court House.