

Memory Lane

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Norwich Apartments

125 King Street East was constructed circa 1850 as a three-storey stone warehouse. By 1864, the building was occupied by Buchanan, Harris & Company hardware. Hope Adam & Company moved into the building by 1867 and expanded into an additional two-and-a-half storey stone structure to the north at 13 Catharine Street, which was constructed circa 1893 and was connected to 125 King Street East via a stone overpass. Hope Adam & Company operated out of the buildings until 1895 when Hamilton Hardware moved into 125 King Street East (formerly 121 King Street East). Hamilton Hardware operated out of the building until 1900.

After laying vacant for a few years, 125 King Street East was occupied by a series of furniture dealers including Frank E. Walker Company Limited (1904-1917) and Green Furnishings Limited, later known as Green's Hamilton (1918-1932). The building was remodelled circa 1920s-30s and by the mid-20th century the upper storey residences were known as Norwich Apartments and the rear stone building (13 Catharine Street North) and overpass were demolished. The remodel likely took place when the building was purchased by the Norwich Union Life Insurance Company in 1933 and lay vacant.

125 King Street East housed a variety of other businesses including Movieland Shoes (1939-1950) and Leeds of Hamilton (1953-1980s). In 2012, 125 King Street East was occupied by Crazy Bill's Convenience Store.



In this 1950s picture Leed's can in the Norwich Apartments building at the corner of King Street East and Catharine Street.



The building as it looked in 2007. It looks very similar to how it did in the 1950s. The building is currently under renovations to become the Gore Park Lofts.