

Remember when
Monday, Oct. 24, 1994

Built for mayor, used by publisher

When Francis McAnnany built the house at 240-242 George St. in Belleville, he had no intention of living in it.

McAnnany wanted it as an income property and it has stayed that way — in one form or another — since then. But that doesn't mean he had the house slapped together without character or style.

A city street is now named after McAnnany, who also served three terms as mayor (from 1905-to 1907).

McAnnany had the house constructed with stylish moldings around the gas light fixtures in the parlor and dining rooms. The moldings remain although one light has been removed and the other is now electric.

He also had bay windows built on the east and south sides, allowing for plenty of light to filter in to the house.

A small veranda sits on the south side of the building. There is a second veranda at the back of the house that replaced the original.

According to the historical society, the home was built in 1879 and its first tenant was William Shepard. He started as a printer at The Intelligencer but moved up the ladder and by 1880 was the publisher.

Today the house is owned by Marianne and David Morrin, who live there with their two children, Walker and Mackenzie.

But for years it was inhabited by Mabel Fetterly and her sister, Clare Allison. Mabel was the widow of Hiram Fetterly, who served as superintendent of Sir James Whitney School from 1930-to 1934. Mabel worked there as a nurse.

William Black bought the house in 1905 or 1906 and sold it to the Fetterlys in 1936. The Fetterlys also used it as an in-

come property and continued living on Highland Avenue.

During this period, Marianne's great aunt rented a room at the house while attending high school at Belleville Collegiate Institute and Vocational School. She was from Rednersville and had no way of getting to the city each day. Interestingly, she ate her meals at the house north of 240-242 George St., then the Diamond residence.

When Hiram Fetterly died in 1947 Mabel moved into the George Street residence. In 1957 her sister returned from the United States, where she had also worked as a nurse, and moved in with Mabel.

The sisters lived together until Mabel's death in 1976. Clare took legal possession of it and when she died in her 93rd year, it was left to relatives Hubert Townsend and his wife Marion of Carrying Place, and Trevor Cuykendall of Florida.

The Morrins bought the home in 1987 from the Townsends, who had purchased the part interest in it from Cuykendall.

In the basement, Marianne found an old sun visor for an automobile she believes dates to the 1920s. In the attic she found fixtures for some of the house's gas lights.

French doors that once divided the former parlor from the dining room were lying in the yard but the elements had destroyed them.

The house remains divided into two residences. The Morrins live on the first floor and rent the second floor.



The Morrins' house at 240-242 George St. in Belleville was home for W. Shepard.

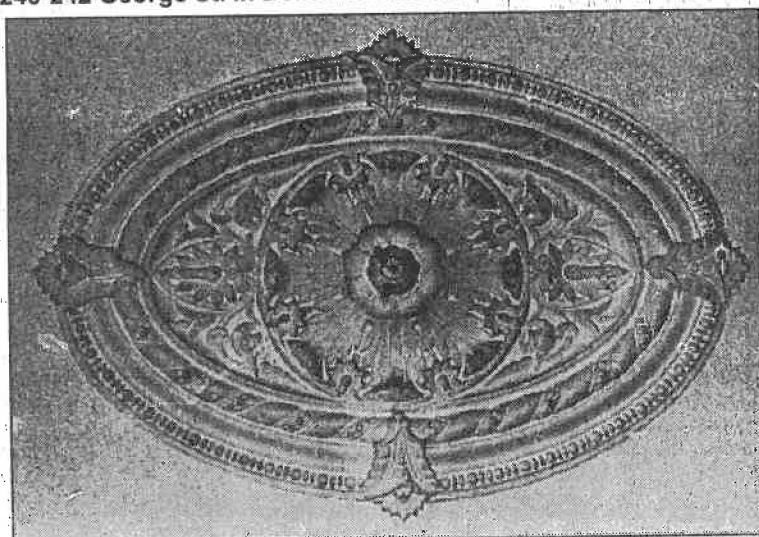
For many years Cecil Watt, who worked at Deacon Brothers Ltd., occupied the apartment.

The main floor's ceilings are 10 feet high except in the bedrooms where they are nine feet high.

A fireplace in the living room was probably added in the 1920s or '30s, says Marianne. There is a second fireplace directly above it, on the upper floor.

Behind the house was once a common laneway and Marianne has been told it was owned by the city but the land has since been purchased by the owners of a tenement building.

The home's originator, McAnnany, died in 1897 but the house, like McAnnany Street, keeps his name alive.



The molding on the living room ceiling.



Hiram Fetterly



It's your store for...

LOW PRICES

Remember When...

Martin's Apple Juice

48 oz. tin

WAS **79¢**

This Week at Semple's It Is!

— Locally owned and operated —

TITLES
BOOK SHOP INC.

**ANNUAL
INVENTORY SALE!**

Oct. 15-29

30% OFF ALL
HARDCOVER STOCK

New & Used • Out-of-Print • Collectible

**DON'T
MISS
IT!**

213 Front Street
Downtown 967-1773

Mon.-Wed. & Sat. 9:30-5:30
Thurs. & Fri. 9:30-9:00