

Norrie and Fawcett

On Apr. 20, 1910, Samuel T. Fawcett received Permit #39 from the City of Medicine Hat to construct a 48' x 80' warehouse on Lot 19, Block L, South Railway St. at an estimated cost of \$1900. The builder was A.E. Forester.* On Dec. 1, 1910 he received Permit #139 to build a shed on Lot 19/20, Bl L, at an estimated cost of \$150. On May 16, 1916, Fawcett took out another permit, this time for a coal shed.

A farm implement dealership can be dated back to 1910. The 1910 Fire Insurance map plots the building with the description "Farm Impl's", and lightly pencilled in is the name "S.T. Fawcett".

James Norrie (Sr.) came to Medicine Hat in 1912 "opening a farm machinery and supply store. Two years later he entered into partnership with Mr.S.T. Fawcett under the firm name of Norrie & Fawcett Ltd."

By 1917, the dealership was headed by Jack Dempster, mgr. and James Norrie (Jr) asst. mgr. It operated under the Norrie and Fawcett name until 1956. By 1958 it was operating under the name Dempster Farm Equipment with secondary businesses Cockshutt Farm Equipment and North Star Oil (later Shell Canada) and continued to operate as such until 1964. The farm implement dealership was in business for 54 years surviving WWI, the Great Depression and WWII.

In 1968, there were two businesses at the same location; Heatcraft Heating at address #663, and Ted's Auto, at the new address of #665. By 1973 Ted's Auto Body was the sole occupant, using only the #665 address. As of today, Ted's Auto Body has also been in this location for 47 years, moving to this address from #635 S. Rlwy. St in 1968. Building of brick construction, several renovations starting in 1928.

Historical Occupants

1910-1912	S.T. Fawcett
1912-1956	Norrie & Fawcett
1958	Dempster Farm Equip (N&F name change), North Star Oil, Cockshutt Farm Equip.
1960	Dempster Farm Equip, North Star Oil
1963-1964	Dempster Farm Equip, Shell Canada, Hanegan's Farm Supply
1965	Shell Canada Ltd; Furnasman Ltd.
1968	#663 Heatcraft, #665 Ted's Auto Body
1973-present	#665 Ted's Auto Body

References:

Contemporary photo	M.H. Building Survey #6
Business directory 1938	Who's Who in Medicine Hat
1940's archival photo	442.086
Building plot	Fire Insurance Map 1910
Business directories	Henderson Directories 1914-2000
J. Norrie obituary	MH News - Feb 18, 1933
S.T. Fawcett obituary	MH News - Jul 21, 1951

* A.E. Forester was also Fawcett's next door neighbour on Montreal St. (4th St. today).

S.T. Fawcett (1872-1951)- alderman for 4 years
 James B. Norrie (1885-1933)
 Jack Dempster (1898-1985)
 James Norrie (Jr) N/A

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Sources: Esplanade Archives
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