

"E.W. FINCH & SON ":::: QUEEN ST. FORT ERIE. 1900s.

Mr. E. Finch his wife and son lived on the old farm on Garrison Rd. by Helena. St. The little white farm house stood at this corner on the s. west side, while the farm extended to both sides of the Garrison.

In 1901, at the time of the Buffalo Exposition, Mr. E. Finch sold his farm to Cort Benner; and moved into town. he picked a spot on Queen st. by the corner of Archange, on the north side. This parcel of land had been part of the Cruikshank holdings; and before the turn of the Century, Lou Douglas occupied the Corner lot, the next east held a Butcher shop, and the next a private dwelling; the next the methodist church. Sometime around 1899 a fire destroyed all these buildings, except the church, which was badly scortched

In 1901 Mr. E. Finch built a large two story frame home on the property, just west of the church; and shortly after he had built for him by a Sowersby. the building on the corner that was to house his Carriage Shop. on the ground floor was a salesroom, and on the second floor was a large repair shop.

Mr. Finch then had a small cottage that had stood just west of the Cruikshank home on the Garrison, moved to a spot on Archange, just back of his place of business.

In 1910 he was having another small cottage built on Archange, between this cottage, and the Carriage Shop, when he was killed by an unfortunate accident. He fell from one of his wagons, and several of the wheels which it was carrying, fell on him and he was killed. he was 59 years, at the time of his death. He left behind his wife and son Warren.

Warren took over the business, and hired a Mr. Hardison to assist him in the business of "W.M. Finch" Carriage Works :::

When the automobile came into vogue, a large addition to the east side was built by a Mr. Storm; for a show room and the place was turned into a Auto. garage. *"Queen Street Garage"*

This garage was later taken over by a Lloyd Noxel; and was known as the #Queen st. Garage."

In 1927 once more W.M. Finch took over the building again, and went into the aut. repair business. Mr. W.M. Finch was a Dodge Dealer, and always had on hand a complete stock of Dodge, Star, & Ford; automobile parts, accessories, tires, tubes, batteries, and gas and oil.

It is interesting to note that in 1970, Mr. Ray Finch a third generation, moved his business "Rays Flowers" into part of this old Carriage Shop. The original building, the west section is occupied by Barnharts Plumbing; operated by Bob Renshaw.

Information; from

Mr. W.F. Finch.

85 years.:::::

Cottage moved by E. Finch to
Archange St. from Garrison Rd.
around 1905.

Home of E. Finch & family :::
Queen st. fort Erie 1901.