291 BANNATYNE AVENUE

OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY

(SANFORD BUILDING and J. MAW & COMPANY GARAGE)

HISTORICAL BUILDINGS COMMITTEE
## OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY
### 291 BANNATYNE AVENUE

**A: SANFORD BUILDING / B: MAW AND COMPANY GARAGE**

### A: SANFORD BUILDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ARCHITECT:</th>
<th>BUILDER:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c.1890</td>
<td>C.H. Wheeler(^1)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890:</td>
<td>C.H. Wheeler(^1)</td>
<td>J. Girvin and R. Watson(^2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1903:</td>
<td>Additional Storey: C.H. Wheeler</td>
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The wholesale clothing house of Sanford and Company was situated at the corner of Princess Street and Bannatyne Avenue. Today, only one floor of the building remains and forms a section of the Old Spaghetti Factory. This was the western distributing house of the large factory of Sanford Company of Hamilton, Ontario, which was established around 1862. By 1912 it had grown into one of the largest businesses of this nature in Canada, and compared favourably with its eastern contemporaries in the United States of America. It was the leading Canadian clothing manufacturers in the western trade. The firm manufactured "all grades of goods best suited to the masses; hence, the stocks carried by the Winnipeg branch...[were] well adapted to the industries of the country."\(^3\)

The Sanford Manufacturing Company was established in Winnipeg in 1882. Like other wholesale businesses, it later developed in response to the population growth in the western provinces after 1896, and the economic development of Winnipeg in the later nineteenth and early twentieth century. In 1912 the firm employed over twenty-five people in its warehouse and eight travellers who sold to retail outfits throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.\(^4\)

In 1890, this three storey stone and brock building was constructed in the heart of the wholesale area on the corner of Princess Street and Bannatyne Avenue. It was recognized as one of the finest
buildings in the city. No information is readily available on the original building except that it was designed by C.H. Wheeler who also planned a one storey addition in 1903. The addition was constructed at an estimated cost of 8,400.00, under Permit 380. The top three storeys were later removed and it became part of the Maw Company garage. Later the combined building was converted into a spaghetti restaurant.

C.H. Wheeler was born in England in 1838, where he studied music at Birmingham, and later architecture in London. He emigrated with his wife and six children to Winnipeg around 1882. Here, he worked in the office of James Chisholm and Son, architects. After winning the competition for his design of Holy Trinity Church, Winnipeg, Wheeler established his own practice. He planned many Manitoba buildings including "Dalnavert", the late Victorian home of Sir Hugh John MacDonald, the son of Canada's first prime minister. He also made the plans for the John W. Peck and Company Building at 33 Princess Street. Around 1912, Wheeler became music critic for the Winnipeg Tribune, and gave up his architectural business. He died on 8 January 1917.
B: MAW AND COMPANY GARAGE

DATE: 1906-1907

ARCHITECT: W.H. Stone

CONTRACTOR: Joseph Maw (Day Labourers)

OWNERS: Old Spaghetti Factory (Manitoba) Limited
291 Bannatyne Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 0R6

On 16 January 1905, Joseph Maw and Company took out a permit to construct a store front - one and a half storeys - on King Street, E.S. between William and Bannatyne Avenues. It is not clear whether or not this work was done; however, in the following year, Maw took out another permit to build a one storey garage and store on his property which was situated opposite the central fire hall on King Street. The estimated cost of the building was $25,000.00. By the time the garage was completed in 1907 this had risen to $100,000.00.

One significant feature of the building was that it contained no posts and was supported by steel girders and trusses. Reports about the garage claim that it was "the best of its kind in Canada". That it was "beyond doubt, the largest automobile floor on the continent in which there are no posts". The walls of the building were of brick concrete and stone, and the front on King Street was finished with plate glass. The offices and waiting rooms were finished in oak. The garage was estimated to be capable of holding one hundred and forty cars, "equipped with the best that money can procure in the way of machinery of all kinds, and lathes and appliances for repairing" and servicing automobiles. The waiting room had lockers for the customers.

Joseph Maw, Winnipeg businessman, was born on 4 February 1854, in Peel County, Canada West. After completing a course at a Commercial College in Toronto, he became a travelling salesman for a manufacturing firm in Brampton, Ontario at the age of seventeen. In February of 1882 during the height of the boom, Maw came to Winnipeg as the general agent for the Massey Manufacturing
Company. He represented this firm in Manitoba and the Northeast for four years, then was transferred to Calgary as the manager of Massey and Company's office there. Maw returned to Winnipeg in 1882, and entered into partnership in a carriage firm with J.M. Ross, of Hamilton, Ontario under the title of Ross and Maw. In 1896 the partnership was dissolved and the business became Joseph Maw and Company. The firm continued until 1903 when it was incorporated as a joint stock Company, with Maw as its president. He was an enthusiastic pioneer motorist, and in 1905 won The Winnipeg Industrial Exposition five mile open race in a "Marion" four cylinder, air-cool car...[his time,] eight minutes and twenty-one seconds.\footnote{15}

While in Calgary, Maw assisted in planning the Calgary Exposition and Turf Association. He was also a city councillor for a term. In Winnipeg, he was a director of the Industrial Exposition Board and the president of the Wholesale Carriage and Implement Dealers Association. Ill health forced his early retirement to Los Angeles, California, where he died in 1916.\footnote{19}
ENDNOTES


4. Ibid. A report in The Winnipeg Saturday Post states that the firm was established in 1897; but this date is disputable as the building was erected in 1890.

5. See "Report on Dalnavert". Canadian Inventory of Historic Building (Ottawa, 1974).

6. The Permit, No. 3284 was issued in 1906.


8. Ibid. The permit lists the dimensions as 66 ft. by 198 ft. although another report puts them at 66 ft. by 200 ft.


11. "With the Motorists", Winnipeg Town Topics, 29 June, 1907, p. 19.


13. Town Topics, 29 June, 1907, p. 19.

14. Ibid.


18. Ibid.

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Plate 1 – Sanford Block, 291 Bannatyne Avenue, 1891. (Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, N7329.)

Plate 2 – Sanford Block, 1903, with additional storey. (Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, N5201.)
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Plate 3 – Joseph Maw and Company Garage, 114 King Street, 1909. (Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, Winnipeg Telegram, December 18, 1909, p. 17.)

Plate 4 – Truck of A. Carruthers and Co. Ltd. parked in front of J. Maw and Company Garage, n.d. (Courtesy of the Western Canada Pictorial Index, 1515-50380.)
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Plate 5 – Sanford Block, 291 Bannatyne Avenue, 1970. (Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, Architectural Survey.)

Plate 6 – Joseph Maw and Company Garage, 114 King Street, 1970. (Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, Architectural Survey.)
Plate 7 – Joseph Maw and Company Garage, 114 King Street, n.d.  (Courtesy of City of Winnipeg, Planning Department.)