

## 231 Queen Street (1904)

### Christian Rosenberger- Furniture Finisher - McLagan Furniture Co.

Christian began working as a furniture finisher at a young age, and continued as such for the rest of his career, working in Preston, Galt, and Berlin (Kitchener) before moving to Stratford. He worked for McLagan's until 1937 when the company closed down and he retired.



## Other Furniture Manufacturers



### 136 Ballantyne Avenue (1912)

#### Leonard Nagel - Upholsterer

Leonard worked for **Imperial Rattan** until the early 1920s. He then opened his own upholstery business, **Nagel Upholstery Works**, on Erie Street for 20 years.

## 191 Cobourg Street (1905) , 239 Cambria Street (1909)

### Alexander Vivian - Cabinetmaker/Furniture Maker

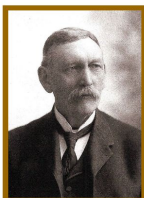
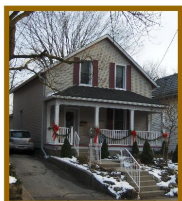
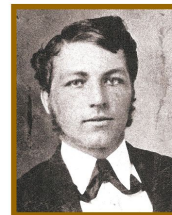
Alexander opened a second-hand furniture shop at the age of 13. At 15 he was working as a printer at The Herald. He eventually became a furniture finisher and cabinetmaker. In 1906 he began a partnership with C.W. Greenwood in "**Greenwood & Vivian House Furnishings and Undertaking Limited**". For more than three decades he was engaged in a number of partnerships in house furnishings and undertaking.



191 Cobourg



239 Cambria



### 35 Church Street (1869)

#### William Hepburn - Cabinetmaker

William was already listed as a cabinetmaker by the age of 16. By 1870 he was a partner with John Abraham in "**Abraham & Hepburn, Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers**". By 1881 he had a business at 60 Ontario Street as a furniture dealer. William remained in the furniture business for 35 years. He was also an alderman and mayor.

## 255 Front Street (1926)

### Wilfred A. Wilson - Salesman - Kroehler Manufacturing Co.

Starting as a clerk, Wilfred spent his entire career in various positions at **Kroehlers**, retiring in 1961 after 40 years of service. His son Donald followed in his father's footsteps as a Kroehler employee.



### 96 Nile Street (1864)

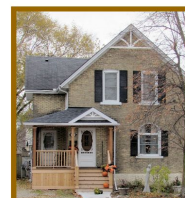
#### George Hay - Cabinetmaker

George Hay was a cabinetmaker and practised his trade through to the mid-1860s when, like others of his craft, he transitioned to become a full-time undertaker.

## 521 Ontario Street (1908)

### James Benedict - Chairmaker

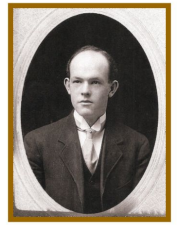
From 1907 to 1913 and again from 1917 to 1919, James was employed by the Stratford Chair Company (which eventually became part of the McLagan Furniture Company) as a chair maker, cabinetmaker, woodworker, or sander. James eventually operated a small grocery store, and later a trucking business.



## 217 Water Street (1915)

### Charles Moore - Furniture Manufacturer

After graduation from business college, Charles went to work as a manager for the **Stratford Manufacturing Company**, a furniture manufacturing business. He and an uncle eventually bought the plant located at 182 King Street and changed the name to **Moore-Bell Ltd.** At the height of its success, the company employed more than 150 people.



## 260 Queen Street East, St. Marys (1922)

### Luther A. Ball - Furniture Dealer

In his teens Luther apprenticed in a furniture and undertaking business in Brussels, Ontario. After working in Western Canada for a few years, he and his brother purchased a furniture and undertaking business in Wingham, then in 1914 he moved to St Marys to purchase a similar business, which was renamed the **L A Ball Funeral Home.**

## (re)Made in Stratford: A Project to Celebrate Stratford's Furniture History by Deanna Horton

The (re)Made in Stratford project, still in its early stages, but with support from the City of Stratford and other organizations, envisages a series of chairs as public art sculptures throughout Stratford's historic downtown. The larger than life chairs will re-create early- to mid-20th century furniture and will be crafted by local manufacturers in outdoor materials.

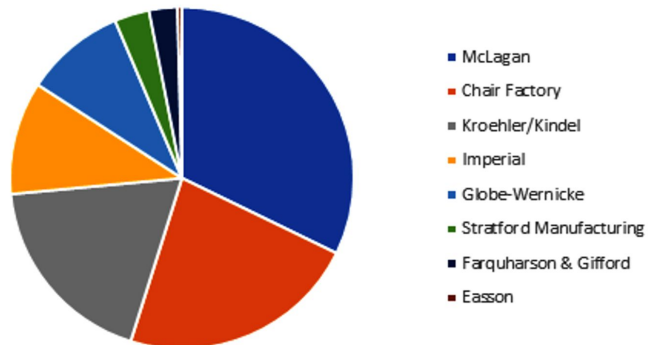
To determine the most appropriate locations for some of the chair sculptures, research was done on the 1924 City Directory—where did furniture employees live?

Here is a list of the top streets  
by number of employees--  
Albert St is in the lead!

Albert	47
Douro	34
Brunswick	31
Cobourg	30
Queen	26
Ontario	24
King	22
Front	17
Trinity	16
Well	14
Romeo S	12
Grange	12
Bay	11

The research also shows that many households had more than one person working in the furniture industry, but with McLagan having the largest number of employees in downtown Stratford in 1924.

### 1924: Downtown Households by Manufacturer



**Deanna Horton**, the (re)Made in Stratford project leader, is a Senior Fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto and until recently a member of the Board of Trustees at the Royal Ontario Museum. **Doug Paraschuk**, the principal consultant, spent 22 seasons as design coordinator at the Stratford Festival with 30 production design credits; over 35 years design experience including international projects. Local business owner **Brent Shackleton** of Shackleton's Real Estate and Auction Co is the Board Member responsible for shepherding the project on behalf of the Rotary Club of Stratford.