Widmer St
Widmer St

- Theme of Ethnicity, Community, Neighbourhood
- Urban social history
- Social & Landscape change
Widmer St Videos

- 20 years of change
- Widmer Street Today
Widmer St Location
Dyas House
Google Maps
Might's City Directory 1881

Widmer, from King west, bet. 280-282, north to Adelaide west, St. Andrew's ward.

EAST SIDE.

1. Mellove C, wid J
2. A lane intersects.
3. Sibbald Jno
4. McMurchy Thos, wood turnr
5. Wilson J, frt agt
6. Nixon E, sh case mkrl
7. Bradshaw Jno H, ptr
8. Mahoney Edwd, com trav
9. Bayley C, foreman
10. Short M A, wid S
11. Munn J, printer
12. 23½ Baker Richd, clk
13. Green S, wid W
14. Kretz Jno. billrd mkrl
15. O'Grady S G, clk
16. Hynes M J, contr
17. Hamilton Jas, carpr
18. Harkness Mrs J, s e

WEST SIDE.

Caspar Saml. s e

William, from Queen west, bet. 196-198 north to Caer Howell, St. Peter's ward.

EAST SIDE.

1. Unoccupied store
3. Pullen J, carp
4. Unoccupied
5. Right Jno, shoemkr
6. Regan D, lab
7. Nevell Jas, lab
8. Kenny M, r
9. Culliton B, brewer
10. O'Grady Jno, lab
11. Welsh Jas, lab
12. Dean Simson, r
13. Mannell Jas, mason, r
14. Newman F, r
15. Develin M, wid P
16. Sturgent —, whitewasher, lab
17. Tushingham Jos, carpr
18. Shea N, gro
19. White Thos, lapidary
20. Wexelberg A N, elbomkr
21. Cassels A, wid J
Widmer, from King West, bet. 290-298, north to Adelaide West, St. Andrew’s ward.

**East Side.**
1. Dickie James J
2. Popham Henry
3. Carroll Robert, of Jamieson & Carroll
4. Pike Geo, conductor GTR
5. Bradshaw John, printer
6. Harris S H B, cigars and tobacco
7. Nellove Mrs C, wid Chas
8. Short Mrs Mary, wid Sam
9. Munn John, printer
10. Munn Robert, printer
11. Howard Wm, tea broker
12. Dixon Alex H, show card manufacturer
13. Hunter Thos, of Hunter & Co
14. Miller Mrs W H, wid
15. Wallace W J, engineer GTR
16. Hamilton Jas, carpenter
17. Wilkie John, laither

**West Side.**
18. Riddell John, merc’l tailor
19. Dyas Thos W, Mail office
20. Asley Alfred, com travr
21. Reid ---
22. Matthews John, commercial editor Mail
23. Robinson Thos, of Robinson & Sons
24. Darling Mrs Louisa, wid J
25. Devlin Mrs Mary, W Pat
26. House unoccupied
27. Broomer John, tinsmith
28. Shea Nathaniel, waiter
29. Shea Mrs Nathaniel, grocer
30. Swenden Frank, baker
31. Wexelberg & Co, elbow manuf
32. Cassels Mrs Alice, wid J
33. Parrott Jas, waiter
34. Williams Harry, waiter
35. Covey Jos, builder

**South Side.**
1. Private grounds
2. Harrison P, salesman
3. Here Huron st. intersects.
4. Private grounds
5. Here Spadina Ave. intersects.
6. Vacant lots
7. Here Robert st. intersects.
8. Vacant lots

William, from Queen West, bet. 196-198, north to Cather Howell, St. Patrick’s ward.

**East Side.**
1. Mellove Mrs C, wid J
2. Sibbald Jno
3. Drew H S, farmer
4. Here a lane intersects.
5. Wilson J, agt
6. Pearce J, collector (Globe)
7. Bradshaw J H, printer
8. Mahony Ed, com travr
9. Bayley C, foreman
10. Short Mrs M A, wid S
11. Munn J, printer
12. Munn R, printer
13. Morrison H, clerk
14. Hagerty Mrs E, wid J
15. Green A
16. Wilson J, com travr
17. Charlton ---
18. Hamilton J, carpenter
19. Harkness Mrs J, side ent

**West Side.**
20. Mursell Miss, side ent
21. Riddell J, merc’l tailor
22. Here a lane intersects.
23. Dyas T W, Mail office
24. Harman Bruce, ins agt
25. White A N, bookkeeper
26. Matthews J, com editor Mail
27. Robinson T, of Robinson & Sons
28. Robinson G, civil engr
29. Turner J, mariner
30. Phillips Fred, painter
31. Mackenzie Wm, ins agt
32. Unoccupied
33. Duthie G, slater and metallic roofer, side ent

William, from Queen west bet. 196-198 north to Cather Howell, St. Patrick’s ward.

**East Side.**
1. Unoccupied
2. Here Anderson lane intersects.
3. Unoccupied
4. Unoccupied
5. Unoccupied
6. Nevil J, laborer
7. Kenny Mich, laborer, r
8. Regan Denis, laborer
9. Regan Denis, laborer
10. Culliton Patrick, laborer
11. O’Grady J, laborer
12. Welsh J, laborer
13. Traviss Thos, laborer
14. Dunphrey Miss Jolia
15. Devlin Mrs Mary, W Pat
16. O’Kiley Mrs, wid r
17. House unoccupied
18. Broomer John, tinsmith
19. Shea Nathaniel, waiter
20. Shea Mrs Nathaniel, grocer
21. Shea Mrs Nathaniel, grocer
22. Swenden Frank, baker
23. Wexelberg & Co, elbow manuf
24. Cassels Mrs Alice, wid J
25. Parrott Jas, waiter
26. Williams Harry, waiter
27. Covey Jos, builder

Widmer, from St. George, bet. 280-282, north to Huron st., St. Andrew’s ward.

**East Side.**
1. Unoccupied
2. Here Huron st. intersects.
3. Private grounds
4. Here Spadina Ave. intersects.
5. Vacant lots
6. Here Robert st. intersects.
7. Vacant lots
Transience

- People who move home frequently
- People who have no fixed home
Transience observed

- House occupants change frequently
- Many rooming houses
- Many households have lodgers
Victorian Cities

- Very high levels of transience
- Limited job security
- Limited social security
- Many workers were seasonal
Seasonal Work

- Construction, manufacturing, services
- Climatic limitations
  - winter weather limits construction
- Economic limitations
  - seasonal demand for goods, services
Transience high

- among the poor
- among unattached males
- among workers in seasonal jobs
Ethnicity

• Multiculturalism is recent, mostly post 1950
• Toronto was English-speaking & European in C19th
  • Became more British in later C19th/early C20th
  • Ethnic Toronto small-scale in early C20th
Widmer St 1870s-1970s

- Functioned as a residential street with some local businesses
- Occupied by a succession of immigrant communities
  - British-Canadian
  - Jewish
  - Finnish
1872

HOUSE TO LET, No. 113 BOND street. Rent £50 per annum and taxes. 

JACKSON, 47th Jarvis street.

HOUSE TO LET—173 GEORGE street; 7 rooms; rent $11 per month in advance. J. CRAPPER, 55 Adelaide street.

NEW HOUSE, ON WIDMER street to let. W. T. MAISON, No. 20 Toronto street, Toronto.

NO. 15 MUTUAL STREET, TORONTO. $10 per month, without taxes. ISAAC GILMOR, 29 King street east.

ROUGHCAST HOUSE to rent, near Horticultural Gardens 7 rooms, hard and soft water. $12 per month J. B. LAKE 14 Toronto st.
Houses to Rent.

Twenty words under this head Fifty Cents each additional word Two Cents.

ROUGH-CAST HOUSE—TWO-STOREY house on Church-street near Charles-street. Apply JOHN HOWDEN, 22 King-street East.

COMFORTABLE TWO-STORY house to let; nearly new; No. 2 Sydenham St.; good cellar; hard and soft water; six rooms. No. 99 Ontario A.

FIRST-CLASS FAMILY HOUSE to let, furnished. Normal School Square, from 1st October, 1873, to 1st July, 1874. BLAIKIE ALEXANDER, 10 King-st. East.

NEW ROUGH-CAST COTTAGE to let in the northern part of the city; 5 large rooms; hard and soft water. Enquire of the owner, T. BAILEY'S Book Store, 42 Queen-st. West.

NO. 23 WIDMER-STREET—TO LET—A Brick House containing 8 rooms. HUME & BLAINES, No. 30, King-street East.

Lost or Found.

LEFT AT 16 KING-ST. WEST a silk umbrella with name on. Owner can have it by paying for this advertisement.

LOST—AT THE CARLETON races, on Monday last, a black pocket-book, containing American money and receipts from Canada Permanent Building Society, with other papers. The finder will confer a favour by returning the papers, &c., to Drawer 894, P.O.

LOST—POCKET BOOK—CONTAINING a number of promissory notes and other papers connected with Insurance. Travellers' Insurance Company.

STRAYED—INTO THE PREMISES of T. BASSETT, 62 Jarvis-st., on the 19th, one brown horse. Owner can have the same by proving property and paying expenses.

Houses Wanted.

Twenty words under this head Fifty Cents each additional word Two Cents.

COTTAGE WANTED IN NORTH or east part of city. Box 123, (10c.).
Kalle Lhti wedding, 1936, rear of 31 Widmer St, Toronto
Widmer St 1970s-present

• Low-rise landscape obliterated
  – Becomes parking lots, development holdings
• High rises built by development capital
  – TIFF Bell Lightbox
Widmer St

- Built as a suburb
- Becomes a neighbourhood for low-income immigrants
- Obliterated by development capital