

# VANTUYL AND FAIRBANK BUILDING 4202 PETROLIA LINE



VANTUYL & FAIRBANK HARDWARE  
STILL GOING STRONG IN 1908



Current building established: 1895

The VanTuyl and Fairbank Hardware store was established in 1865. In 1877, the original building was erected on the property. This hardware store became extremely successful. It was, at one point, the largest hardware store west of Toronto and in 1886 was earning \$250,000 annually!

A fire gutted the building in 1889 and in 1895 the firm built the current building. The hardware store moved into the west end of the building while the Petrolia Topic and Smith's barbershop moved into the east side.

A hardware showroom and offices were located upstairs. When J.H. Fairbank died in 1914, his estate continued the business. The front part of the building was eventually sold to Ford and an auto sales shop moved in. VanTuyl and Fairbank Hardware's original back sheds located on Station St.

J.H. Fairbank and his partner Benjamin Van Tuyl remained loyal to each other until Van Tuyl's death. Their original partnership, scribbled on a piece of paper, was to last just 3 years but in fact went on for 27 years.

#### Current location occupant(s):

Godfather's Pizza, Addison Photography and  
Petrolia Vape.

#### Original location occupant(s):

T.H. Smallman's Shop

#### Previous occupants:

Landon Bros. Hardware, Cities Services Bus Depot, Bargain Hunters Emporium, Jack Heron Sports Shop, Zimmerman's Dry Goods, A Chinese Restaurant, Dowding's Garage, Egan's Tobacco Shop, Expressions, Roy Prevett Electric, Petrolia Motor Sales



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