



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Left: Belleville Creameries once located on 60-64 Station St. in the city is seen here being demolished on March 18, 1977.

Above: Clarence West and his father William West (right).

continued.

upstairs was used as dry storage.

"To the west of the office area was the freezer and what we called the tempering room, a 40 degree room," he added.

The company's products were stored in the freezer for two or three weeks while waiting to be shipped out.

Butter was the only product of the company, he said, and about nine employees worked in the Belleville plant. Trucks delivered the company's product to retail stores in areas that spanned from Bancroft, Kingston and communities in Prince Edward County.

A retail outlet at the front of the plant allowed locals to walk in and buy the product directly from the factory. Butter was sold by one-pound block each and was wrapped in parchment wrapper those days, said West.

The companies competition in the area was just Glen Roy Creameries which was once located where the Quinte Christian High School is today. The next closest one was in Trenton, he said.

While West recalled area factories such as Reid's Dairy, Ivanhoe, Maple Dale and Riverside in Trenton as major sources of the cream which the company bought to make its product, another Belleville resident, Charlie Kammer, could recall his

grandmother's farm, about 35 miles north of Belleville as one of the sources that provided Belleville Creameries with the cream it needed.

"When my mother came to work in Belleville, I stayed back at my grandmother's farm and I remember getting rides with the trucks from Belleville Creameries returning to the plant," said Kammer.

Slow business led to the closure of the decades old Belleville Creameries 32 years ago.

"At the time, they closed the plant in Belleville, we believed that the Stirling plant was a better location, in better shape, not as old as the building in Belleville. So we decided to move all our productions there," said West.

Correction on Weese story: The picture accompanying the story on Weese's candy store just shows the area where the store was once located.

The building indicated in the picture was the firehall and not the building where the store was. The Weese's building was located next to the firehall and is not seen in the picture.

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