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McNulty's serves up a by-gone era

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Since 1895, McNulty's Tea and Coffee Co, Inc. has been one of the country's leading purveyors of choice coffees and rare teas. Because the tradition of carefully selecting of only the finest is still true today, a visit to their store on Christopher Street is like a journey into another age.

Located in the heart of New York's Greenwich Village, the aura of a century long gone is timelessly preserved. Immediately upon entering the shop, one's senses are delighted by the many aromas of coffees and teas from around the world. Sacks of coffee and chests of tea with obscure markings from far away lands are visible everywhere. Even the bins, chests and scales with which these products are stored and handled, date back to the previous century. McNulty's even still has a hand coffee mill, used to blend coffee the old-fashioned way.

For so many New Yorkers, McNulty's was an introduction to freshly ground coffee and loose teas.

In 1980, David Wong and his dad, Wing, purchased McNulty's from David's brother's employers. They continued to run the business from its original store front location while adding a very strong mail order division. Still very much a family business, it is particularly satisfying to the Wongs to recognize second- and third-generation customers buying their teas and coffee at McNulty's from as far back as the 1920's and 1930's.

According to David, coffee represents 70% of the business. They have over 90 varieties and over 100 types of teas. The trend today seems to be White Tea from China and Green Tea from Japan, China and India. David says that these blends have anti-oxidants and customers like them for their health properties. However, David is quick to that that we are still a coffee-consuming nation.