

HISTORY OF THIS SITE

The original building on this site in the late 1860's was a wooden structure, owned by the late Mr. J. Veale, who operated a grocery store. He received his supplies by surf boat on the beach directly at the end of Egmont Street in front of this building.

In 1911 Mr. C.H. Drew took over the premises trading as a Watchmaker, Jeweller, and Optician.

In 1913 the old wooden building was demolished and a concrete building was erected.

Mr. Drew carried on business until the end of World War 1 (1918)

Mr. Garnham purchased the business from Mr. Drew, but only operated for a short period before selling to Mr. V. Dalglish in 1919. It was common in those days for the owner to live on the premises as well as carry on business.

In 1959 the present owners of the building purchased the site. It was not available for sale for thirty years after Mr. J. Veale's death.

The shop at that time had little retail space, more storage and vacant land at the rear not being utilized. It was essential to enlarge customer floor space, which was extended from 833 to 2482 square feet retail area, plus 732 square feet for Watchmaker, Jeweller, Staff and storage.

The facade above the verandah was not altered, and the original strong room is intact.

On display are several photos relating to the history of this site.