

ROUNABOUT RINGWOOD & SURROUNDING VILLAGES

NOW and THEN

Gibb and Nationwide, Market Place, Ringwood

In the 18th century the house now Gibb Menswear was once another King's College property described in 1768 as 'one cottage now a good tenement containing 7 rooms on a floor facing the Market House'.



The same 1910 view in July 2013

three-storeyed house next door, which had previously been an ironmongers.

By the early 20th century the

Paxman family had acquired both these properties, continuing the same trade.

The c1910 photograph shows the two shops side by side, with general drapery and millinery on the left, staffed by two elegantly dressed female sales assistants, and the men's section on the right with the male assistants minding their impressive array of goods displayed outside.

In the 1920s Francis Arthur Habbins took over the Paxman's men's shop, joined by his son Bill after the 2nd World War. Habbins continued as a popular male outfitters for the rest of the 20th century. This long-running tradition of catering to the sartorial needs of the men of Ringwood is currently maintained by Gibb Menswear.

By the mid 20th century the other shop on the eastern side had become the grocery International Stores as can be seen in the c1970 photograph. A few years later it became Nationwide Anglia building society, now just known as Nationwide.



1910

Since the early 19th century the ground floor of this property has been used as a drapers and outfitters. Throughout the entire Victorian period a family named Barnes ran a drapery business there. During the 1850s the Barnes family also expanded into the

