

Ferndown before the Bulldozers

Less than 60 years ago Ferndown was just a village, with gravel roads, a scattering of shops and not even a set of traffic lights. Then the bulldozers arrived and much of Ferndown's history disappeared forever. Part autobiography and part history, these articles are a fascinating glimpse of a village in transition.

Ringwood Road & Spinneys lane

c1920



Our first photo shows Ringwood Road about 1920. On the right is Mr Soffe's little cycle shop and garage.

By 1925 the cycle shop and garage had grown into a house and garage as shown in the next photograph on the right. The building on the corner of Spinney's Lane, later became Robson's Store.

One of the cottages on the left of Soffe's cycle shop was the home of Mrs Foster and to the left of this was Bracher's bakery.

1925



Mid 1980's



The house and many of the buildings in the 1925 view were demolished when the town centre was developed which included the new Kwiksave on the corner.

Today, a photo taken from the same location is hard to achieve without a queue of traffic approaching or leaving the traffic lights at Pennys Hill. The view has changed yet again since the Kwiksave building has been demolished and has been replaced by the new Tesco petrol station complex.

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