

308 **1950** thru **1999** Croghan's Jewel Box Founded in 1910 by **William "Bill" Croghan**, a skilled engraver and jewelry manufacturer, the business **Croghan's Jewel Box**, was continued by his daughter **Mary Loretta Croghan Ramsay** then her daughter **Mariana Ramsay Hay**. Mary Ramsay joined the business in 1945 and has been well known for her continuing devotion to King Street and her community philanthropy. The store since its inception was always a miracle of space management, occupying what had once been the porch of a Charleston single house. Its display, its exquisite array of glittering jewels and gleaming silverware were, through the years, immaculately maintained in an eight-hundred square foot showroom. These close quarters enforced an intimate relationship between the jewelers and their customers, and the Croghan family has found itself helping make fine jewelry decisions for multiple generations of many families. "The jewelry business is a pleasurable way to make a living, we have the best customers in the world. We get only the best of times- weddings, the birth of a baby, graduations and love. We are satisfied and very content," said Mary Loretta Croghan Ramsay. (see **173 Broad**) In October of 1999 Mariana Hay, now the president, made a crucial move expanding the tiny store into space vacated next door. Renovations are expected to be completed in the new century.

1936 thru **1990** New Shoe Factory For more than 50 years, **The New Shoe Factory** was a leading shoe repair shop on this part of King Street. Started by **Jacob Miller** in 1936 when the family moved to Charleston from Georgia, the shop was taken over by his wife and their son **Harry Miller**, when Jacob died. After his mother's death Harry continued to run the shop on his own until his death in 1990. The dusty little shop was rarely a factory which manufactured shoes, but a repair spot for shoes of every type and fashion, using skilled hand craftsmanship and traditional hand tools for their cobbling. A collection of those early tools now resides in The Charleston Museum. The store had individual customer booths surrounded by low partitions so customers could wait without showing their bare feet while the footwear was repaired. One Old Codger recalls leaving a pair of boots there for a year-and-a-half. When he returned to Charleston, the boots were waiting for him. Cat's Paws rubber heels, along with various shoe polishes were popular items in the shop when shoes were most often half-soled (replacement of the worn sole) rather than discarded when no longer comfortable. **1920** Mrs Louise Tamsberg / J.M. Morris **1900** thru **1910** J.H. Miller boots & shoes



308 on "wonderful King Street" showing Croghan's Jewel Box and the New Shoe Factory occupying the street floor of what was a typical Charleston single house in its early days