

5.6 John Street, west side**64 John St.** (middle)

- Modern, two-storey commercial building with painted, concrete-block upper floor (c. 1960).
- **Description** – Recent structure is out of keeping with street in form, scale and materials. Adjacent pavement, base of wall is clad with rustic vertical boards with apparent cross-bracing, providing a sharp contrast to the huge aluminum-framed windows above. Windows and door have standard aluminum-frames, with typical modern glazed door recessed at RH side. Retractable, striped white-and-yellow awning above is an attractive feature. To right of door, in recess, is additional area of rough vertical boards with upper and lower cross-bracing. Area of traditional fascia and cornice is finished with deep band of painted, ribbed sheet-metal. Window signage is similar to adjacent shop to north (which has same occupancy), but although modern in style, is slightly smaller here than next door. At second floor, painted concrete block is obviously recent, though tooting-in at LH side and metal-frame, 6/3 window suggest this may be an older structure, with original cladding later replaced in concrete block. Window sill is concrete, lintel is metal angle, and parapet has thin metal flashing.
- **Comments** – Aside from (modern) awning, this is not a building in keeping with historic, commercial buildings of John Street. As noted, upper floor (and therefore building) may be older than this seems and this aspect deserves some investigation. Alignment of window head with those at number 64 John Street (south) may be significant. If upper floor is recent, then two additional floors might replace this, with fenestration typical of rhythm on the street, all as per the Guidelines. This would probably imply an entirely new building. In the meantime, the paint on the concrete block mitigates its natural appearance, and the metal-framed window is an anomaly which may have interesting story behind it.