

Riegel's Pipe and Tobacco

Founded: 1874

Location: 3 East Main Street and 39 (later 631) Calhoun Street (1874–)

Milton N. Webber established the Red Front Tobacco Store at the corner of Main and Calhoun Streets on 4 September 1874. City directories indicate that in the 1870s at least, Webber operated a saloon at this location. The 1884 city directory contains an advertisement for Milton's Place, which sold imported and domestic wines, liquors, and cigars. By the early 1900s Joseph F. Getz operated a cigar and tobacco shop at this address. Aloysius L. Riegel purchased the shop in 1905 and opened the Riegel Cigar Store. Previously, Riegel, in partnership with Frank E. Bougher, had operated the Home Billiard Hall and Sample Room at 120 West Berry Street. (A "sample room" was a saloon.) Frank A. Bougher, who was Riegel's nephew and lived at the same address as Frank E. Bougher, went to work at the cigar shop in 1910 and stayed there for sixty-five years. Between 1929 and 1930 Al Riegel formed Riegel's, Inc., with himself as president and Frank A. Bougher as vice president. In addition to selling cigars, cigarettes, tobacco, and newspapers, he also operated a luncheonette. Sometime between 1935 and 1940 Riegel died, leaving his widow to inherit the store. Frank A. Bougher's son, William H. Bougher, became owner and president of Riegel's Pipe and Tobacco later.