

## **CLAPP BUILDING**

725 Water Street  
(old address 229 Water)  
O.T. Block 7 Lot: 6

Built circa 1885, Cyrus F. Clapp owner

1885: The building was constructed, four bricks thick, for a cost of \$13,000. The soft brick is thought to have come from Hadlock, while the cast iron façade applied on the brick face was cast by Washington Iron Works in Seattle.

First occupied by Peyser Brother Dry Goods. It quickly became Merchants Bank, operated by J.H. Feuerbach and C. F. Clapp.

1890: Donofrio Saloon.

1892: Merchant Saloon leased to Otto Bauer.

1901: Michel DeLeo moved his Roma Saloon to the site.

1920s: During Prohibition the saloon closed and DeLeo operated a grocery and general merchant business at the location. During this time the second floor was being used as housing for maritime sailors and a West Coast Union branch office.

1934: Frank DeLeo opened Nappeo Athletic Club with wrestling and boxing matches held in the rear of the club.

1937: The club was remodeled to include a dance floor and renamed Club DeLeo. A sign in the building was later found stating "Dancing on Mill Pay Days Only."

1952: Building sold. At that time there were four tiny apartments and four sleeping rooms on the second floor. A card room existed on the mezzanine level.

Harry and Mary Johnson purchased the building and began a restoration. Harry Johnson Jr. and Skyway Parks designed and implemented a restoration project.

1968: Frank and Edna Smith purchased the building and continued renovating with help from son and daughter-in-law, Skip and Judy Kay Smith. The Smith family operated an art gallery in this location for several years.

1989: "April Fool and Penny Too," an eclectic gift and antique store, was created by Ellen Poitevin and her sister Penny Varteresian. It operated here for twenty years.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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