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 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.


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 is still in operation after 24 years.