

## **International Order of Good Templars (I.O.G.T.) Hall #1**

Common Name: Eagles Hall

Current Address: 280 Quincy Street

The International Order of Good Templars (I.O.G.T.) Lodge # 12 purchased the site, constructed the building and occupied it by 1871. Much of the building material was donated and thanks were given (1869) to Marshall Blinn of the Seabeck Mill, Captain Finch of the steamer *Eliza Anderson*. While the organization used the upper floor as a meeting hall, the main floor was up for hire. A playhouse with side wings, a dressing room and curtains was used by the community for speaking engagements, plays and recitals.

In 1888 the building was sold to Eugene Biondi as the Templars prepared to build themselves a larger structure in the uptown district. The group vacated the premises in 1889 and the building soon was refitted as a lodging house.

In 1904 Biondi sold to the Port Townsend Aerie No. 182 of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. The Eagles held an official dedication ceremony early in 1905 and went on to occupy the site for the next 90 years. Vaulted ceilings were installed in the second floor hall, central chimneys were removed and a pair of new chimneys were installed between 1905-1910.

The building's exterior remained relatively the same, until minor exterior alterations took place between 1920-1955. The major change came in 1958 when the group gave it a facelift, creating a more modern look for the coming 1960s. The renovation consisted primarily of refinishing the outside with asphalt siding, removing a porch and creating smaller windows. The original building, window framing and all, survived under the new siding until 1995.

The Eagles sold the site to the Middlepoint Associates and a local team set about restoring the building with vigor. Their efforts were named awarded the best renovation project by the Washington State Community Trade & Economic Development Department in conjunction with Port Townsend Main Street Program.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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