

EISENBEIS CRACKER FACTORY
830 Water Street, behind 825 Washington Street
Behind 234 Taylor Street, Building at rear on its own lot
(Originally 316 1/2 Water Street in 1911)
Block 41, Lot 8 (S 52'5)

Date of Construction: 1888
Architect/Builder: Unknown

Charles Eisenbeis, the first Mayor of Port Townsend was born in Prussia and trained as a baker. In his early days in Port Townsend he worked with both E. S. Fowler and J.F. Bloomberg in their bakeries before establishing himself as owner in his own business. He later worked with S. Stork in the bakery referred to as Eisenbeis and Stork. The bakery specialized in ship's bread, biscuits and hardtack for ocean-going vessels.

The building known as the Cracker Factory was built behind the Eisenbeis Block and is hidden in the interior of the block, the only access is from an alley off of Washington Street.

1888: The 1888 Sanborn map shows the building but notes that the building was not yet finished. The building is significant as an example of a utilitarian commercial building from the town's boom period of the late 1880s to early 1890s.

The building has been variously identified with addresses associated with Water, Taylor and Washington Streets, each time as behind a primary building fronting on one of these streets.

Historically, its association was to the Eisenbeis Block at 830 Water Street, but it is now on its own parcel. For most of its history, the building served as storage for the furniture and hardware store in the Eisenbeis Block.