

# **FOWLER & CAINES BUILDING**

Also known as the Lewis Building

O.T. Block 43 Lot 3

628 Water Street

Built 1889

Architect: Whiteway and Schroeder

Builder: David McFee

Mary Caines Fowler and her son Robert M. Caines had the building constructed as the Claredon Hotel but operated it for only a few years.

Early 1900s: Second and Third floors became furnished rooms for rent.

1907: U.S. Department of Commerce and Labor/U. S. Detention Station/U. S. Immigration Service and Chinese Inspector's office. Chinese immigrants were detained at the old hotel until their paperwork was sorted out or they were sent back to China.

1909: Mrs. Dora Ruggles had furnished rooms for rent in the building.

1920: August Pillep, cigar manufacturer and Henry Fox, second hand goods purveyor, occupied the ground floor.

1931: Fred Lewis purchased the building while the Alaska Rooms lodgings operated upstairs. Fred Lewis began operating the Lewis Emporium with new and used furniture at this site.

1966: Fred Lewis died and his estate was sold to Harry and Mary Johnson who renovated the building.

1971: Robert E. Haggard purchased the building. Businesses renting the main storefronts were: The Green Eyeshade, Ed Beeth's Brass Shop, Liz Smith's North by Northwest Shop. Liz Svensson had an art studio upstairs.

1976: A fire severely damaged the roof and part of the third floor. The Half Shell Restaurant replaced North by Northwest.

1991: El Serape restaurant opened on the street level.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

540 WATER STREET

PORT TOWNSEND, WA 98368

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