

Kuhn's Building History

Previously 400 block of Water Street



1024-1046 Water Street

Built: 1890

Architect: Unknown

1890: J.H. Kuhn built the large four story building with costs ranging around \$100,000. Originally built as a hotel ("the biggest and best...more modern in its style than any yet in this city").

1892: The hotel was unfinished and promises to complete it were still being voiced.

1906: The top two floors had still not been completed when Captain Hastings and W. Reynolds purchased the building with a new plan for a grand hotel.

1927: The massive sandstone and brick building was upgraded. The street level store-front included a drive-in area for an auto repair shop.

1928: A third, also never completed, hotel was planned for the site. Originally there was an upper floor dining room, kitchen, parlor, reading rooms and general lounging rooms, which were intended for the hotel.

1946: The two top stories of the building were removed. Over 120,000 bricks were removed by the Myers Brothers, who were able to salvage 60% of the materials. A local contractor removed the lumber, which went into other local buildings.

1946-1965: One of the long-term tenants in the building was the Olympic Garage and Equipment Company. During this time a bowling alley was installed upstairs.

1965-1978: Roy and Lois Bergstrom operated Bergstrom's Sporting Goods. The Bergstrom family did internal renovation, removing four 16-inch-thick brick walls separating four storefronts.

1978-1992: Sabo's Sporting Goods operated from the street level store front. They added an elevator to the second floor. A variety of businesses and organizations have occupied the building in the last ten years.

2003: Beverly Malagon purchased the building.

July 18th, 2015: The Old Whiskey Mill opened their doors to feed the families of Port Townsend delectable food and fine whiskies.