

SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM  
COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

1. NAME

Historic ✓  
Galster House

and/or Common  
Ajax Cafe

2. LOCATION

UTM References:

Zone 10 Easting 517510  
Northing 5319870

Street & Number

✓ Water Street

- not for publication

City, Town

✓ Lower Hadlock

- vicinity of

State

Washington

County

Jefferson

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership: public private both

Status: occupied unoccupied work in progress

Present Use: agriculture commercial educational entertainment government  
industrial military museum park private residence  
religious scientific transportation other:

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name

Wilson J. Rutter, et. al.

Street & Number

Route 1, Box 109D

City, Town

Port Townsend

- vicinity of

State

Washington 98368

5. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Forwood, Margaret R. "Old Port Hadlock--Roistering, Prosperous, and Tragic," series in Port Townsend Leader. Port Townsend, June 13--August 1, 1968.  
Cox, Thomas R. Mills and Markets: a History of the Pacific Coast Lumber Industry to 1900. University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1974.

6. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title

David B. Stalheim

Organization

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Date

February 1983

Street & Number

111 West 21st Avenue, KL-11

Telephone

(206) 753-7442

City or Town

Olympia

State

Washington 98504

## 7. DESCRIPTION

Condition:      excellent      good      fair      deteriorated      ruins      unexposed  
Circle one:      unaltered      altered  
Circle one:      original site      moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance  
attach photo

The only surviving building of the Washington Mill Company era at Lower Hadlock is the Galster House, now known as the Ajax Cafe. The structure is a saltbox with a stepped false parapet along its gable end. The building is clad entirely in milled rustic siding. Decoration is restricted to a few cornice elements and an intermediate cornice above the first floor line.

The main facade of the building is divided into two sections following the outline of the stepped false parapet. The east side of the main facade is where the false parapet reaches its maximum height. In the second story are set two pairs of one-over-one, double-hung sash windows with window boxes under each pair. (These window boxes are a recent addition.) Each pair of windows is trimmed with a cornice. On the first floor are recessed double leaf doors with two panels in each door. A transom light spans both doors. The doorway is set off by projecting side lights. The main windows are three-over-three, in a fixed position on either side of the doorway.

Verbal boundary description: Lots 1 to 8, Block 6,  
Port Hadlock.

Acreage: less than one

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## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

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Specific dates	c. 1890	Builder/Architect	unknown
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### a. History

Although the building is historically called the Galster House, the building was constructed circa 1890 by Samuel Hadlock, capitalist and founder of the Port Hadlock townsite. Hadlock came to Port Townsend Bay in 1870 after building and being the superintendent of a Tacoma lumber mill. In 1886, the same year the Washington Mill Company moved to Port Hadlock, Samuel Hadlock laid off the townsite. Local sources report that Samuel Hadlock lived in the second floor of this building. The historical usage of the building is best known after William Galster moved to Port Hadlock in 1906.

Lena and William Galster arrived in Port Hadlock in 1906, purchased the Hadlock House from Humphrey Oldfield, and moved into the second floor. On the first floor was the saloon where Galster tended bar. The Galsters also purchased the adjacent building (Galster

### b. Evaluation of Significance

The Galster House is the only surviving building in Lower Hadlock associated with the once prosperous Washington Mill Company. It is also the only building in Jefferson County known to have been associated with Samuel Hadlock. After the mill at Seabeck burned in 1886, the owners of the Washington Mill Company decided to move into the recently constructed buildings at Port Hadlock. The mill had a capacity of producing 130,000 board feet of lumber per day and operated fairly continuously from 1886 to 1907. The mill was shut down permanently in 1911 and it burned in 1913. During the lean years, the Galsters took to selling candy and Lena Galster sold hand-crafted clothes and hats from the Galster House. The Galster House remains substantially unaltered.

### Description (continued)

On the west side of the main facade (the lesser side of the false parapet) is another entrance. This is a single leaf door with four panels. A transom light sits above the door. Projecting lights (or windows) set off the entranceway similar to the double leaf doors. One-over-one windows flank this entranceway on the main facade.

The upper floor of the building has always been used as a residence. There are two outside entrances to the upstairs quarters, each entering through a projecting, covered gabled porch on the east side of the building. A second story porch is located on the rear facade of the building.

The Hadlock House once sat in an adjacent lot to the Galster House. The Hadlock House was very similar in construction, particularly the first floor commercial frontage. These two buildings, together with others now removed, defined the streets of Lower Hadlock as a commercial center.

### History (continued)

House). Dr. Kritz had been mending the wounds of Port Hadlock people from his office in the Galster House. Dr. Kritz was replaced in 1906 by Herbert and Alice Gray, both doctors, who had a sign above their door reading "The Doctors Gray." The upstairs was used a a rooming house until 1927 when the Galsters moved in. The Galsters lived there until 1949.