



## City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska Historic Resources Advisory Committee

April 15, 2024

Subject: Telephone Hill Building Documentation

Honorable Mayor Weldon and Assembly:

The Historic Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC) is an Assembly appointed citizen committee established in the Land Use Ordinance (Title 49.10.410). One of the primary duties of HRAC is to advise the Assembly when historic resources of the community may be affected by proposed development.

We want to remind the Assembly of the importance of collecting information on the buildings that would be required by a Section 106 process, if CBJ followed the federally mandated procedure for government entities using public funding to demolish historic resources. Documentation of the existing structures could give insight on the way Juneau's early settlers lived, how housing was built in the past, and design features that past residents' felt was important. Demolishing the city's resources before documenting them could be detrimental to historians' work, present and future. Mining-era architecture in Juneau is a very limited resource, and if this neighborhood is demolished, it would be the most substantial loss of 1880-1940 architecture in Downtown Juneau in the last 50 years. If it is the wish of the Assembly to demolish the historic neighborhood, we humbly request that a HABS III level of documentation be performed. From the National Park Service website, this would include:

1. Drawings: Sketch plan
2. Photographs: Photographs with large-format negatives of exterior and interior views (Can utilize digital high-resolution photography as well)
3. Written data: Short form for historical reports

It is recommended the Assembly take the following actions:

1. Continue current contracts with local contractor to document the building's according to HABS III level of investigation
2. Pause decisions on how to proceed with the Telephone Hill Redevelopment project until receiving recommendations from the Historic Resources Advisory Committee following the completion of the scaled back Section 106 review.

We appreciate your consideration of our recommendations,

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Crossley', written over a horizontal line.

Shannon Crossley, Vice-Chair

Note: Chair Zane Jones declared a conflict as he is employed by MRV Architects (local consultant on project).