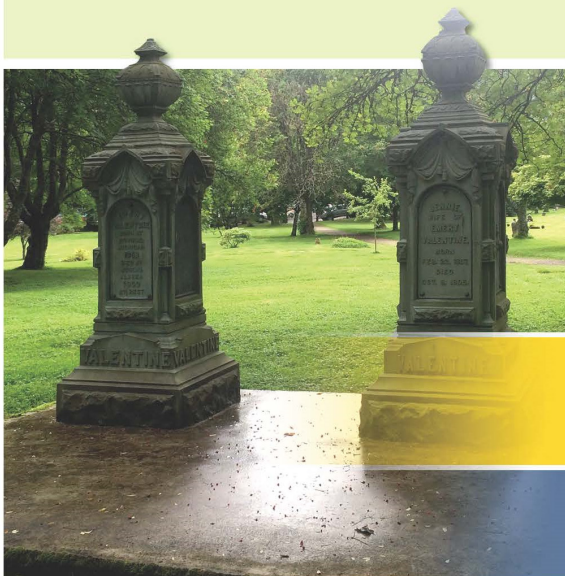


## EVERGREEN HISTORY

Between 1881 and 1891, the first city cemetery was set along the ridge above downtown. Shortly after its establishment, "Ridge Cemetery" became overcrowded with mining claims and residential development of the Chicken Ridge neighborhood. Relocation of the original cemetery commenced and, in 1891, Evergreen Cemetery Association was established with a Board of Directors including Juneau businessmen B.M. Behrends, John Olds and Frank Bach.

A committee of five individuals was assigned the task of designating the cemetery site. A location outside of the residential and commercial areas was selected for the 9-acre cemetery, which brothers George William and Charles Garside surveyed in 1891. In the following year, volunteers constructed the road connecting downtown to the rural cemetery along a narrow cart track originally carved out of the Bonanza Ridge. "Cemetery Road" — as it was known until 1902 — follows present day Calhoun Road.

At its origination, Evergreen included three sections — Protestant, Catholic and Alaska Native — but over time was further divided to include the American Legion, Masonic, Moose/Masonic, Odd Fellows, Elks and Serbian sections. In 1907, Evergreen Cemetery was deeded to the City of Juneau and continues to be maintained by the CBJ Parks and Recreation Department. The once rural Evergreen Cemetery has since been surrounded by residential neighborhoods developed in the early and mid-20th century as well as commercial development along Glacier Avenue.



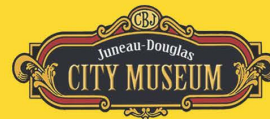
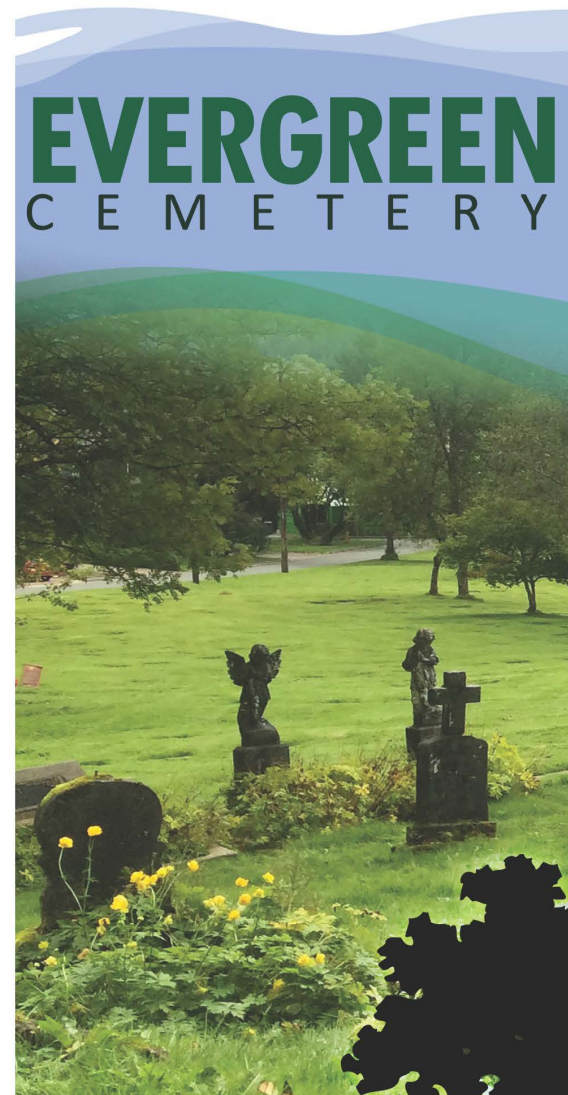
## EVERGREEN MAPPING PROJECT

The City and Borough of Juneau Community Development Department (CDD), the Juneau-Douglas City Museum and the Parks and Recreation Department partnered on the Evergreen Cemetery Mapping Project to confirm gravesite locations and consolidate existing burial records into a digital database. The project included locating and mapping gravesites and transferring the data to a searchable, digital database utilizing Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The database provides the opportunity for factual record checking and a tool for historians, genealogical researchers, heritage visitors and curious residents alike. Accurate location and record keeping will enable preservation of physical grave markers and plots and conserve this historical resource for future generations.

Since Evergreen's establishment in 1891, over 8,000 Juneau residents have been interred in the cemetery; all of whom have a story to tell. Through contributions to our built environment, industry, political leadership and social movements, Juneau's residents have shaped the town into Alaska's Capital City. With guidance from the Historic Resources Advisory Committee, CDD and Museum staff identified a small selection of individuals and extant buildings in the greater downtown area that are associated with their lives and accomplishments. Visit the complete database on the CBJ Historic Preservation Home Page [www.juneau.org/history](http://www.juneau.org/history).

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The information in this brochure complies with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for History and Archaeology.



A Collaborative Project by  
CBJ Community Development  
& Juneau-Douglas City Museum

Community Development  
155 South Seward St. • Juneau, Alaska 99801

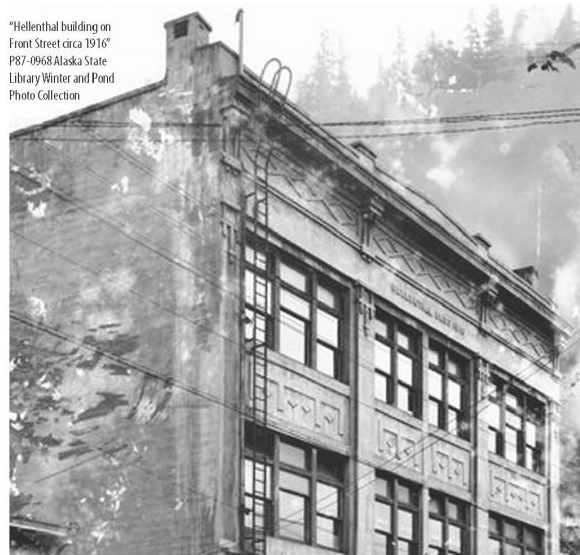
Juneau Douglas City Museum  
114 West 4th St. • Juneau, Alaska 99801

JUNEAU • ALASKA





"Hellenthal building on Front Street circa 1916"  
P87-0968 Alaska State Library Winter and Pond Photo Collection



## THE FOUNDING OF JUNEAU

Downtown Juneau lies within the territory of the Aak'w Kwáan and T'aaku Kwáan Tlingit. In the summer, the Aak'w traveled from their winter camps at Point Louisa, Admiralty Island and Douglas to summer fishing camps at the mouth of Gold Creek — known as Dzántik'i Héeni (Flounder Creek). The T'aaku likewise traveled from camps along the Taku Inlet and on Douglas Island to the beach at the base of Mount Roberts.

The original coastline of Gastineau Channel rose to present day South Franklin and Front Streets south of Telephone Hill and to the north at Willoughby Avenue. In 1880, an Aak'w Kwáan man, Kawa.eé, led gold prospectors Joseph Juneau and Richard Harris to the area. The prospectors established a mining camp at the corner of Front and Franklin Streets.

The original Juneau townsite grew quickly and was platted in 1881 from the water's edge at Front Street to the prominent ridge above known as Chicken Ridge. Without docks, boats landed on the beach opposite Front Street, and businesses grew upland along Franklin and Seward Streets. By 1890, Juneau was Alaska's largest city with 1,253 residents.



"George Parks at ground breaking ceremonies for Federal and Territorial Building"  
P240-608 Alaska State Library George L. Parks Photo Collection

## DOWNTOWN

In the heart of the early commercial district, Juneau businessman and political leader, EMERY VALENTINE [1], constructed the VALENTINE BUILDING (119 Front Street) in 1904 through 1913. In his own words, Valentine wanted to build "... a quality structure that would give Juneau a truer air of urbanity." A jeweler by trade, Valentine arrived to Juneau in the mid-1880s and later served on the City Council and several terms as Mayor. He was an organizer of the Volunteer Fire Department and a strong supporter of the Public Library.

Reinforced concrete became a prominent building material in the early 1900s, and architects played with applied designs and styles to beautify the building

— owner of Juneau Cold Storage — was instrumental in the construction of the Art Moderne BARANOF HOTEL (127 N. Franklin Street) completed in 1939.

The Art Deco jewel in W.D. GROSS' string of theaters, the GROSS 20th CENTURY THEATER and Apartment building (220 Front Street) opened in 1940. William D. Gross — a native of Russia — immigrated first to Seattle and followed the Gold Rush to the Yukon Territory in 1898 at the age of 19 to work as a tailor for prospectors. Enamored with motion pictures, Gross began traveling to mining camps and towns with a projector and films. The first of Gross' Coliseum theaters opened in Ketchikan in 1911 and subsequently throughout Southeast Alaska. Though Gross is buried in Seattle, the Gross Family Mausoleum [5] — the first mausoleum in Evergreen Cemetery — was completed for him in 1939.

## & LASTING IMPACT ON DOWNTOWN

technique. The HELLENTHAL BUILDING (140 Front Street) is an early example of this stylized reinforced concrete. Commissioned in 1914 by brothers Jack and SIMON HELLENTHAL [2], the building housed their law offices on Front Street.

A graduate of Colorado School of Mines, GEORGE ALEXANDER PARKS [3] came to Alaska in 1907. In 1925, he was appointed Territorial Governor by President Calvin Coolidge and reappointed in 1929 by President Herbert Hoover. During his second term, the STATE CAPITOL BUILDING — originally the Federal and Territorial Building — was constructed between 1929 and 1931. Parks was instrumental in building airstrips in bush communities and encouraged development of agriculture in the Matanuska Valley to aid in self-sufficiency of the territory. He also prompted a contest to design the Alaska flag, which remains a prominent image today.

The proliferation of the Art Deco and Art Moderne style in Juneau coincided with the rising use of reinforced concrete and peak production of the Alaska Juneau Mine Company. Despite the Great Depression, a collaboration of Seattle and Juneau investors sparked the construction of the first class, luxury hotel in the Territorial Capital. Among those responsible, WALLIS GEORGE [4]

The MERCHANTS WHARF is a standing testament to Juneau's aviation history. The original Alaska Air Transport building burned in 1938. The following year Shell Simmons rebuilt and merged his business with ALEX HOLDEN [6], operator of Marine Airways. A native of Victoria, B.C., Holden learned to fly during WWI with the Royal Canadian Air Force. In Alaska, Holden first flew the Nenana to Bethel mail run out of Fairbanks and later for Pacific International in Anchorage. Simmons and Holden later merged Alaska Coastal Airlines with Bob Ellis' Coastal Airlines in 1962 and ultimately with Alaska Airlines in 1968.

In the 1930s, a community of mixed Tlingit and Filipino families developed in Juneau as Tlingit women married Filipino born cannery workers. Feeling ostracized, many of these women banded together to raise funds for the FILIPINO COMMUNITY HALL (249 S. Franklin Street) as a place for social gatherings, birthdays and cultural presentations. Among them, BESSIE QUINTO [7] (nee Jackson) — a native Tlingit woman married to Marcello Quinto of Santa Cruz, Philippines — was one of the seven signers of the the Articles of Incorporation of the Filipino Community Inc. in 1956.



# EVERGREEN CEMETERY

As miners flooded to the area, the Aak'w Tlingit established permanent residence at the mouth of Gold Creek growing to approximately 20 houses in the mid-1880s. The Aak'w Kwáan fishing camp changed drastically to a densely populated community enclave with approximately 101 residents living in 28 houses in 1968 and later dismantled with the loss of clan houses and its elders. Though they are few, the remaining houses of early residents continue to tell their story.

Sheep Creek Mary James — Yaxtehitaaan (Raven) clan of the Aak'w Kwáan — has become a representative symbol of the generation that dealt with the massive changes brought by Euro-American settlement in Tlingit territory. Foreseeing the future of Tlingit lands, she was the first Aak'w Tlingit to put her families land holdings into American title. Mary owned much of the land comprising Thane and claimed 160 acres at the time of her death in 1920. Although she ultimately lost her land, her efforts were able to protect some of the Aak'w people's land rights through the 1940's.

Being a family of hereditary leaders, her son, JAMES WATSON [22], and her daughter in law, MARY-ODGEN WATSON [8] would go on to become founding members of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood, and would advocate for Alaska Native rights in these organizations. James Watson, in addition to fighting to keep Euro-American homesteaders and other interlopers off of Aak'w Tlingit land in and around Auke Bay, worked for Alaska Native access to public libraries and for the rights of Alaska Native prisoners.

JAKE CROPLEY [9] and his wife MARJORIE BLAKE CROPLEY [9] were active members of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood. Along with Walter Soboleff, Jake helped revitalize the ANB in the Depression Era and served for some time as its president. The CROPLEY RESIDENCE at 358 W. Willoughby Avenue was constructed in 1939. Many conversations were had at the Cropley house with other influential members of the Alaska Native community including Roy and Elizabeth Peratrovich.

CECILIA KUNZ [10], Tlingit name Kintoow, L'uknax.ádi (Raven/Coho) clan married Aak'w Kwáan resident, Ed Kunz, Sr. and lived in the Village. She joined the Alaska Native Sisterhood in 1929 and was an active member until she passed in 2004. Cecelia was the first teacher of the Tlingit language in Juneau schools and instrumental in establishing the first Native dance group in Juneau educating younger Tlingit generations of their culture and language. Throughout

her life, Cecilia made her mark on the city by educating public officials of the Tlingit culture, advocating for the rights of the Tlingit community and battling racial discrimination.

Newly arriving miners settled adjacent to the downtown commercial center creating a variety of residential neighborhoods in the surrounding hillsides. One of the most distinctive buildings in Juneau today, the octagonal-plan ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH was completed in 1894. Local contractors, HUGH C. RUDOLPH [11] and EDWARD ELLINGEN [12], are credited with supervising its construction using plans sent from the Orthodox Missionary Society while recently converted Orthodox Natives and Serbian miners provided the labor. FATHER ANDREW PETROVICH KASHEVAROFF [13] — born in Kodiak — served the Orthodox Church at Sitka, Nutchek, Kodiak, Killisnoo and Unalaska before arriving in Juneau in 1912. In addition to serving the church, Kashevaroff was appointed curator of the Alaska State Library and Museum in 1920 until his death in 1940, writing numerous articles on Alaska's history and ethnology.

Completed in 1893, the JOHN MONTGOMERY DAVIS and FRANCES BROOKS DAVIS HOUSE at 202 6th Street one of the earliest houses extant in the original Townsite. JOHN MONTGOMERY [14] — an English born prospector and Superintendent of the Nowell Mine — and FRANCES BROOKS [14] — an English born artist — met and were married after Frances arrived as a visitor to Juneau. The pair are responsible for eight houses on Sixth Street as well as the street itself. Several of the houses were relocated to the upper portion of Sixth Street in 1927 when the High School was constructed.

At the foot of Starr Hill, stood the homes of many prominent Juneau-ites, including Wisconsin born DR. LEONARD PRATT DAWES [15] at 529 EAST STREET. Dawes practiced medicine in Juneau from his arrival in 1915 until his retirement in 1946, serving as Flight Surgeon for the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce in the 1930s. MRS. EFFIE LENORE BUZZARD DAWES [15] — a concert artist from Albany, Missouri — studied voice at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, in Chicago and in Europe. In Juneau, Mrs. Dawes was the choir director for the Northern Light Presbyterian Church, and after the tragic loss of her voice, discovered her expressive talent as a poet.

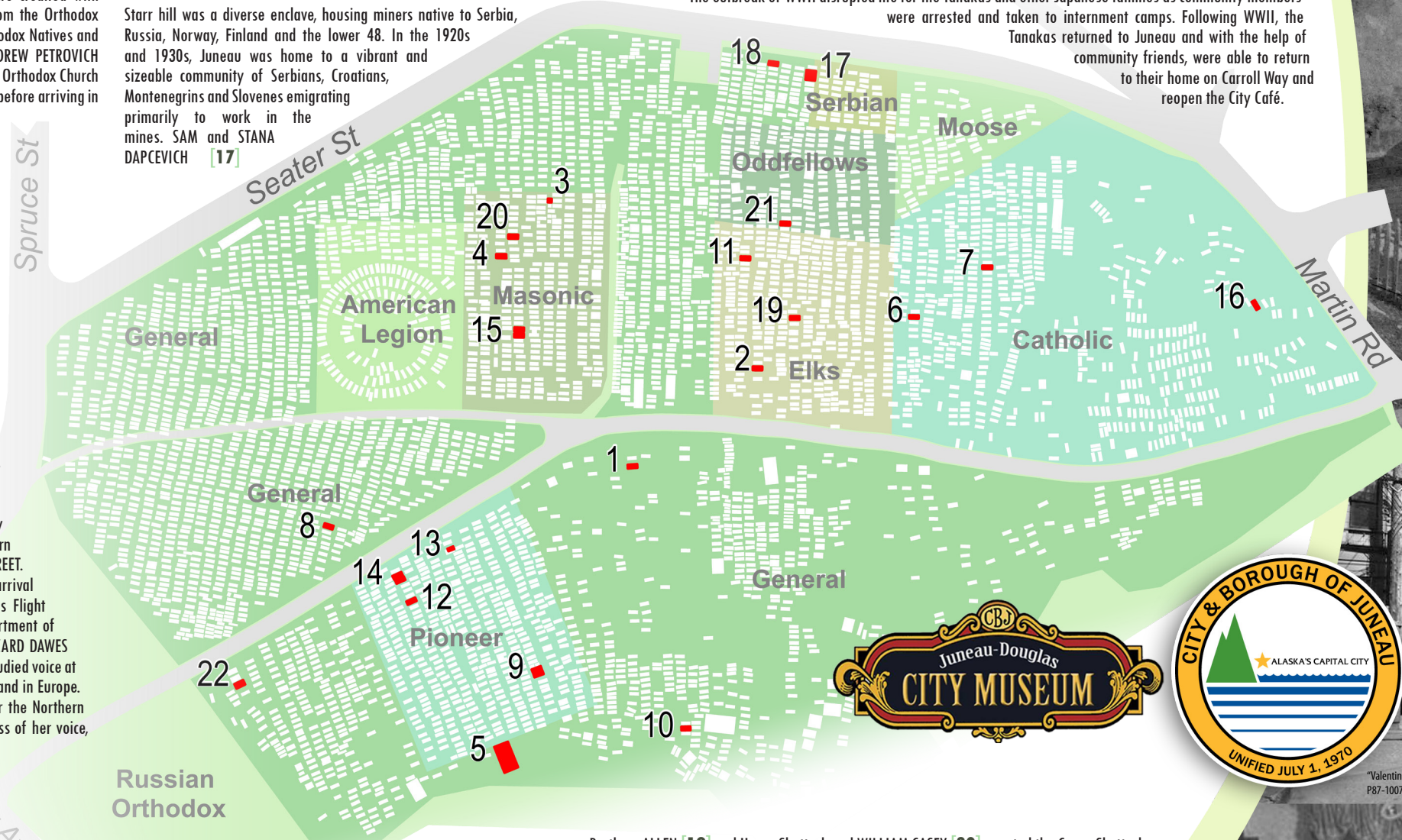
Starr Hill — one of the first residential neighborhoods outside of the original townsite — developed near an early trail along Sixth Street leading to the mines at Silver Bow Basin. In 1913, business and home construction boomed after the Alaska Juneau Mining Co. agreed not to build company housing at the request of city leaders. Representative of the speculative housing boom, CONRAD W. FRIES [16] — a German Immigrant and investor in Southeast Alaska mines — constructed six identical Craftsman bungalows in the 500 block of Kennedy Street.

Starr hill was a diverse enclave, housing miners native to Serbia, Russia, Norway, Finland and the lower 48. In the 1920s and 1930s, Juneau was home to a vibrant and sizeable community of Serbians, Croatians, Montenegrins and Slovenes emigrating primarily to work in the mines. SAM and STANA DAPCEVICH [17]

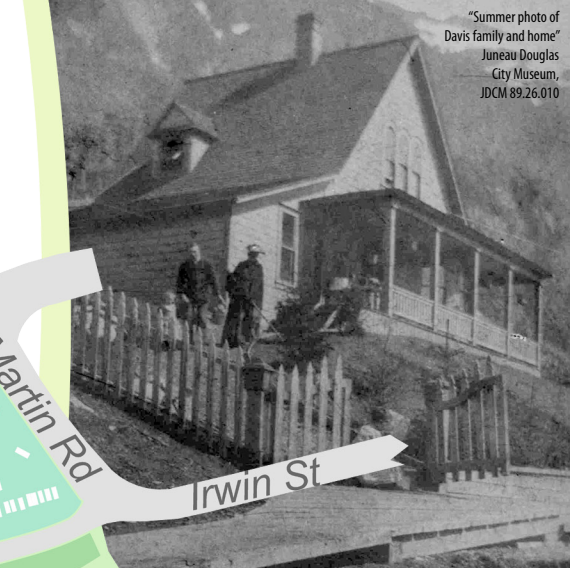
emigrated to the U.S. from Montenegro in 1923, following mines across the U.S. until arriving in Alaska. With the help of the neighboring Serbian community, the Dapcevic family constructed their home on the steep hillside at 433 NELSON STREET in 1933.

Residential development continued along the hillside above South Franklin Street wrapping around to the foot of the Alaska Juneau Mining Co. SHONOSUKE TANAKA (18) and his wife Nobu made their family home at 334 CARROLL WAY below Gastineau Avenue. Born in rural Japan in 1881, Shonosuke arrived in the US in 1900 to work on the railroad between Montana and Washington. Following his railroad contract, Shonosuke was roused north to Alaska. In 1912 he opened the City Café on South Franklin Street, creating a community favorite frequented by miners, longshoremen, mill workers, fishermen and Natives alike.

The outbreak of WWII disrupted life for the Tanakas and other Japanese families as community members were arrested and taken to internment camps. Following WWII, the Tanakas returned to Juneau and with the help of community friends, were able to return to their home on Carroll Way and reopen the City Café.



"Orthodox Church Society of Juneau and Hoonah, 1939"  
P87-1153 Alaska State Library Winter & Pond Photo Collection



"Summer photo of Davis family and home"  
Juneau Douglas City Museum, JDCM 89.26.010



"Valentine Building and the Gross Theater on Front Street ca. 1940"  
P87-1007 Alaska State Library Winter and Pond Photo Collection



"James Watson, front row first on the left, at 1914 ANB Convention" ~ P01-4570 Alaska State Library Photo Collection



"Jimmy Larsen on the porch at 603 W Twelfth Street"  
Juneau Douglas City Museum, JDCM 2009.15.200

Brothers ALLEN [19] and Henry Shattuck and WILLIAM CASEY [20], created the Casey Shattuck subdivision in 1913. Just outside of town along the road to Evergreen Green cemetery, the subdivision created approximately 200 residential lots catered to working class families including employees of the Treadwell and Alaska Juneau Mines and the growing fishing industry.

Casey Shattuck — familiarly known as the "Flats" — is comprised of small vernacular houses modeled after national style trends made popular in home design magazines. Born in Denmark, JIMMY LARSEN [21] worked briefly in the mines, but quickly became the most prolific contractor in the new subdivision completing over 20 houses. Larsen's first personal house was the small Craftsman inspiration at 603 W. TWELFTH STREET constructed around 1915. He had an eye for beauty in the details and air of perfection with the "Jimmy Larsen built" stamp of quality.

"Serbian community holiday celebration at IOOF Hall"  
P294-051 Alaska State Library Elite Studios Photo Collection

