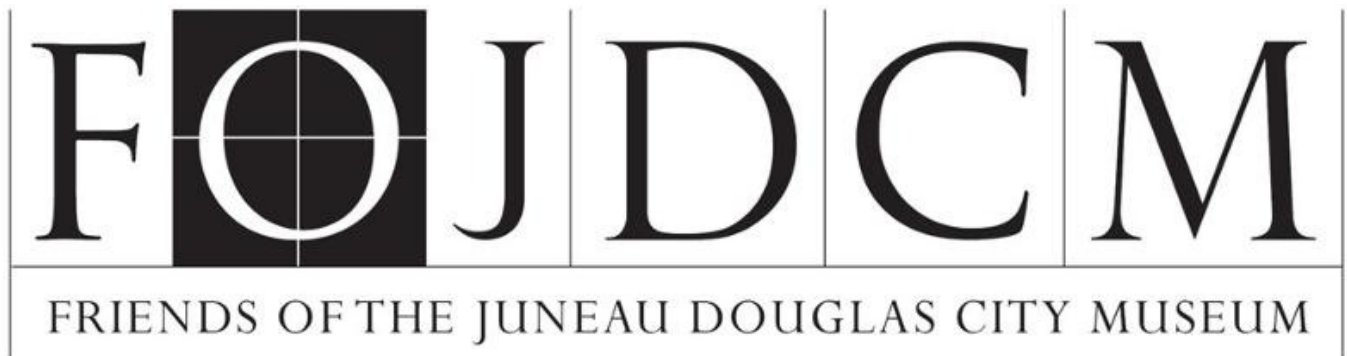


History on the Channel
Your Monthly News Flash



JUNEAU MOVES TO STEAL CAPITAL FROM SITKA!

GRAND JURY REPORT [Extract]

The Alaska Mining Record

JUNEAU, ALASKA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 17. 1894.
VARIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALASKA

Upon the adjournment of the grand jury, that body rendered the following final report embodying its views and recommendations as to the status and needs of the territory:

TO THE HON. WARREN TRUITT, JUDGE U.S.DISTRICT COURT FOR ALASKA: the grand jurors for the District of Alaska at the November term, 1894, would respect fully submit the following for your consideration of certain public matters that occur to them:

ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW

The law so far as may be said the province of the grand jury is concerned, has been faithfully executed, without fear or favor. We bear witness that this territory is one of the most orderly countries in existence, aside from classes of crime that exist everywhere. To Alaskans has been credited the report that certain laws were ignored publicly. This is no longer true.

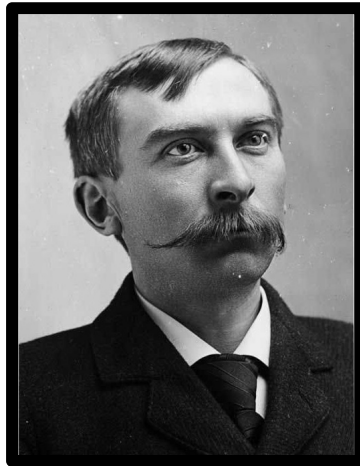
THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The condition of the public buildings at Juneau is good and kept in an orderly condition. Owing to the long winter, much lantern oil is necessarily used and the risk from fire is great. We recommend that electric lights be substituted, and that fire plugs be placed near the building, and that a fireproof vault be placed in the courthouse.

Understanding that Congress will be asked for an appropriation for a Capitol building, we suggest that the propriety of locating that building at Juneau be considered, by reason of its location, population, and wealth.

Thanking your honor and the District Attorney for kindnesses shown us, and expressing our grateful appreciation of the same, with the highest respect,

B. M. Behrends, Foreman



B.M. Behrends, 1862-1936. Pioneer merchant and banker. ASL-Behrends-B-M-1

MINING RECORD EDITORIAL

The grand jury made a wise move in recommending the location of the capital to Juneau. Sitka, outside of her natural town site location, has no claim for the capital. Her industries are hardly mentionable and were it not for the officials and the Marines, her population would not exceed that of Wrangell or any other port in Alaska kept up by the Indian trade. On the contrary, Juneau is the center of Alaska industries and trade, the natural starting point for the great Yukon, and has many times the population of any other town in the territory. Were desirable buildings already up at Sitka it might well be to let the capital remain for some time, but if the government is going to spend more money in buildings it should be where the capital will accommodate the many rather than the very few.

SOME EARLY PUBLIC BUILDINGS



The school for Native children, built in 1894, was on Calhoun Avenue. The site is now occupied by the Governor's Mansion. (ASL-Juneau-Schools-09)



Juneau's first court house, built in the late 1880's. We're uncertain of the location, but believe it was on the east side of Franklin Street, near the Front Street intersection. (ASL-P277-018-088)