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To: Planning
Subject: Public comment- No. 7 Miner's Memorial Park



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Hello Historic Commissioners and City of Cle Elum staff,

I would like to submit this as a public comment in regard to No. 7 Miner's Memorial Park. I would encourage the City of Cle Elum to confirm the nomination of the Memorial Park to the city register. This park is of obvious historical significance to the founding and development of the city of Cle Elum. This preservation of this park was a very difficult undertaking for the devoted citizens in the No. 7 Hill Preservation Committee. These volunteers worked on behalf of all who care about our local history to ensure the best outcome for these historic footprints, which is that they remain accessible to the public in the form of a park.

Furthermore, these foundations are now unique in their preservation as a public park. Most physical remnants of the mining industry are now on privately owned property. Although they are protected under the state register, they are not accessible to the public. The main exceptions are located in the Roslyn Urban Forest, but none as complete as the washhouse foundation. By creating a public park, No. 7 Hill Preservation Committee is leading the way on creating access to this history. The City of Cle Elum is fortunate to be a partner in this effort.

Finally, I would like to encourage the Historic Preservation Committee to continue to support the effort to enhance this small parcel. In the future, I would like to see a continuation of the Coal Mines Trail interpretive signage project (or similar) into the Miner's Memorial Park. The inclusion of signage would provide a learning opportunity within the new Ederra development. Education is the key to developing awareness and respect for local history, which is imperative to maintaining a cohesive community identity and pride. The Historic Preservation Committee can serve, not only to preserve historic places, but also to communicate the value of these places to the community.

Thank you,
Shannon O'Malley
Roslyn