

# Then and now: CTC takes over sensitive parcels



The old telephone booth went away long before the building that once sold doughnuts. Photo/Provided

In May 2014, the California Tahoe Conservancy purchased three commercial lots in South Lake Tahoe, namely the South Y Lodge on Emerald Bay Road, the lakefront two-story Alta Mira building adjacent to Lakeview Commons, and the property on Highway 50 near 4th Street occupied by the Smoke Shop and Tahoe Psychic.

As reported in *Lake Tahoe News*, "... The goal for all three (lots) is to tear down the existing structures and improve the land, while also giving the public access."



A psychic and smoke shop were the last two businesses at this site.  
Photo/LTN file

The single-story building and the A-frame behind it on Highway 50 near 4th Street stood on less than one-half acre, but it is a stream environment zone which the CTC intends to protect.

These two buildings have housed many different kinds of businesses over the years, such as the earlier doughnut shop pictured.

The A-frame in back housed a used merchandise and consignment business and finally became the Smoke Shop, and Tahoe Psychic lastly had the front building. As *LTN* observed, "...the psychic owners in the front building must have been clairvoyant when they signed a three-year lease with the current owner the day before the Conservancy began negotiations."

– *Bill Kingman*



The businesses had to move.  
Photo/Bill Kingman



The Conservancy had the buildings razed in June 2015. Photo/Bill Kingman