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COPY

Multnomah County Board of Commissioners
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 600
Portland, Oregon 97214

Re: The View Point Inn and Restaurant

Dear Commissioners:

This letter and the accompanying package are sent to you at the request of the Columbia River Gorge Commission.

Your undersigned represents Mr. Geoff Thompson in an application to the Gorge Commission to amend the Management Plan policies regarding cultural resource protection and enhancement. A copy of the application with color appendices is attached.

The *View Point Inn and Restaurant* is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is regarded by the Gorge Commission as a **“significant cultural resource.”** Along with historical significance and distinctive architecture, the property commands a panoramic view of the western expanse of the Columbia River towards Portland.

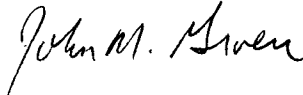
The property was purchased by Mr. Thompson in June, 2004. Rather than keeping this special property as a private amenity, Mr. Thompson seeks to open the structure and grounds for **public viewing and interpretive displays**. In addition, he seeks to restore the property to its **historical use** as a restaurant and inn. The accompanying application includes strict limitations on that use. By allowing the property to return to its historic use, the integrity of the structure, its character, and design, will be preserved. This is discussed in detail in the application now pending before the Gorge Commission.

Upon review of the application, you will see that this proposal will provide a significant public benefit to the people of Multnomah County. There has already been a growing level of media attention both in the newspapers and television. Public support mounts every day as more people learn and understand the vision for this unique property.

We ask that you review the application. We welcome any comments, questions, concerns, or suggestions that you or your staff might offer. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GROEN STEPHENS & KLINGE LLP



John M. Groen

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cc/ Derek Tokos
Multnomah County Planning Department