

May 31, 2018

Michael True
President & CEO
The Historic Trust
750 Anderson Street
Vancouver, WA, 98661

Dear Mr. True, et al,

The Sisters of Providence built Providence Academy in 1873 to serve as a school, and orphanage, and as their home and headquarters, moving all their work from the original 2-room cabin. It served a particular need at that time, and has changed and grown with the needs of our religious community.

This building is filled with stories of the bravery and courage of these women and the sacrifices they made to provide hospitals and schools and orphanages. Mother Joseph had to be the pinnacle of human endeavor. She was the architect and the driver who made this building, this place, this opportunity happen.

Mother Joseph was a true visionary. As we have studied Providence Academy, it is a tremendously well-built building. I have toured thousands of people through the Providence Academy. Providence St. Joseph Health wants all our executives and directors to understand our origin, and there is nothing that says that more than a visit to Providence Academy, Fort Vancouver and the cemetery where Mother Joseph is buried. This is all very important to understand the sisters' tremendous impact on the area. The Historic Trust staff and docents continue that tradition by providing tours to even thousands more students, senior citizens and the public, week after week. I thank you for that!

As Monte Hidden said: "My father and my two brothers and I bought the Academy to save it from being torn down. And I am a fourth-generation brick maker. The Hidden Family is so excited about The Historic Trust taking over the legacy of the preservation of the Academy and makes a wonderful blend for Vancouver and for the next generations to come."

In my view, The Academy building is the most significant historic building in the entire region, if not the entire state. But the kinds of capital improvements necessary will require significant investments. I thank you for the privilege to be a part of the campaign with Ed Lynch to raise support for The Academy. There is much hard work ahead to raise the funds necessary for the development of the site which is critical to the vision.

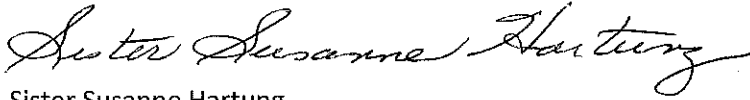
One of the first things said to me by The Historic Trust as we discussed preservation of The Academy was that it is "just a building, unless we can tell the story." This building was the epicenter of the work that Mother Joseph did, so we owe it to her and we owe it to the region to tell that story and to preserve the building forever.

It will require business acumen, sensitivity, creativity and savvy to ensure that property assets and investments can fund the full restoration of the building and its surrounding campus. Providence Academy has always been a mixed-use site from its earliest beginnings, and it has changed in focus and

purpose over time. The amazing additions and forward thinking of the new development continues the interest that Providence Academy remain a highly activated, community involved, important and purposeful site for the entire community. New buildings, preserved structures, interpretive programs and a new face to our contemporary world will guarantee that the hard work of Mother Joseph and the Sisters of Providence and their dedication and tenacity are rewarded by a new generation of committed individuals and organizations who work together for the common good.

I wholeheartedly encourage The Historic Trust and Marathon Acquisition and Development's site redevelopment plans, the design concepts, their use and the value-added that Providence Academy provides to our daily lives. It was a challenge to gather together the funding to build this structure and endeavor in 1873, and it will be equally challenging to fulfill its promise and preservation. It will take the support of all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sister Susanne Hartung". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sister Susanne Hartung

Sisters of Providence