



National Trust for
Historic Preservation
Save the past. Enrich the future.

April 14, 2017

Mr. Keith Niven, AICP, CEcD
City of Issaquah
Economic Development & Development Services Director
P.O. Box 1307
Issaquah, Washington 98027
Sent by email to: keithn@issaquahwa.gov

RE: Demolition Permit for Providence Heights College (Plateau Campus Inc.)

Dear Mr. Niven:

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has learned that the property owner has filed for a demolition permit for Providence Heights College at 4221 228th Avenue SE, and that the City of Issaquah has issued a Determination of Nonsignificance.

We disagree with that determination, and object to the owner's proposed destruction of the 1961 Sisters of Providence campus, which has been determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places by the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Removal and preservation of the stained-glass windows does not mitigate the loss of the multiple structures comprising this striking modernist campus, nor does it acknowledge the importance of the site to local, state and national heritage.

Almost one year ago we submitted a letter regarding a proposed subdivision project, and once again we are joining with our statewide partner, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, in requesting that an Environmental Impact Statement be prepared to fully assess the proposed action, specifically the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of demolition. Analysis of this kind will also enable the clear articulation of alternative measures and outline implementation plans for all appropriate mitigation measures.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at sfreemuth@savingplaces.org or 208-891-4121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheri Freemuth".

Sheri Freemuth, AICP
Senior Field Officer

cc: Allyson Brooks, Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Chris Moore, Washington Trust for Historic Preservation