



September 6, 2012

The Honorable Scott Hines
Mayor
City of Rancho Mirage
69-825 Highway 111
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Subject: Chart House Restaurant (Historic Name) at 69-934 Highway 111

Dear Mayor Hines,

We are concerned that the city's recent decision to allow the demolition of the historic Chart House Restaurant (1978, Kendrick Kellogg) may not have fully considered the options available to preserve this important local landmark. While we recognize that in its current state the property may have become an eyesore, we ask that the city (in concert with the owner) explore other alternatives to include the rehabilitation and partial reconstruction or the complete reconstruction of the building.

Over the years, many important local historic buildings have been the victims of devastating fires. In the case of the El Mirador Tower (1927, Walker & Eisen), the fire was all-consuming. Nevertheless, the property owner elected to completely reconstruct the historic structure based on the original plans. Just two months ago, the historic Carnell Building (1934, Schenck & Williams) suffered a fire that extensively damaged the structure. The owner is already proceeding with the rehabilitation and partial reconstruction of the building.

The Chart House Restaurant is a much-loved local landmark and we hope that the city of Rancho Mirage will leverage all of the administrative tools at its disposal (and its considerable influence with the owner) to ensure that this important historic resource is not lost forever.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss this matter further. The foundation can be contacted at (760) 837-7117 or info@pspreservationfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

Ron Marshall
President