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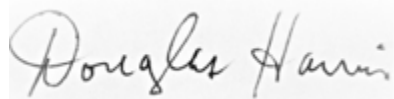
To Whom it May Concern,

On March 16, 2019, after giving a presentation at the Woodstock Community Center on Native American cultural resource identification and preservation, I visited a 37-acre site in Lewis Hollow on Overlook Mountain in Woodstock, NY. The presentation was sponsored by Overlook Mountain Center and funded by the New York State Council for the Humanities.

Based on my over two-decades long experience as Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Narragansett Tribe of Rhode Island, I believe the Lewis Hollow site is a Native American 'Manitou Hassannash' (spirit stone) site. It is likely one of many such sites in the Catskill region of New York.

The Manitou Hassannash at the site consists of dozens of small dry stacked stone piles (cairns), 6 very large dry stacked stone piles ("great" cairns), stone rows, two large serpent effigies facing away from each other, and two springs, all which represent an ancient world view and sophisticated belief system that connects the plain of the living with natural and supernatural aspects of the sky and underworld. As such, these sites are worthy of historic preservation, archaeological research, and educational endeavors. To that end, it's important to establish partnerships with groups such as Overlook Mountain Center and The Archaeological Conservancy, to work together in balance and harmony, so sites such as these are protected and preserved intact for posterity.

Sincerely,



Douglas Harris,
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