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For Immediate Release

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**Historic Columbus and Ken Henson enter into a Letter of Intent
with Green Coast Enterprises for redevelopment of City Mills**

Local attorney Ken Henson and preservation organization Historic Columbus purchased and stabilized the National Historic Landmark property, City Mills, in 2015. This month, City Mills Properties LLC (jointly owned by Ken Henson and Historic Columbus) signed a Letter of Intent with Green Coast Enterprises, a New Orleans based development firm.

The Letter of Intent is contingent upon a New Market Tax Credit allocation and receiving the Historic Rehab Tax Credit. Both applications have been submitted for review. These programs will ensure the landmark's economic viability and the historic character of the buildings will be maintained.

The mixed-use project will consist of renovating the two remaining historic buildings, and possibly new construction. City Mills was the first mill built in Columbus dating back to 1826, two years prior to the formal organization of the City and is a part of the Columbus Historic Riverfront Industrial District, receiving National Historic Landmark District status in 1978. The property is not only significant as a standing example of early industry in the South, but portions of the mill were also constructed by well known freed slave, Horace King. Although the building built by King was demolished in 2005, the renovation of the property presents an opportunity to highlight not only his work at City Mills, but his influence as one of the South's foremost bridge builders.

Historic Columbus and Ken Henson are excited for the partnership with Green Coast and the redevelopment of the City Mill property to energize the recently completed City Village Master Plan. The Master Plan covers a 200 acre area along the river from 18th Street north to 32nd Street west of 2nd Avenue.