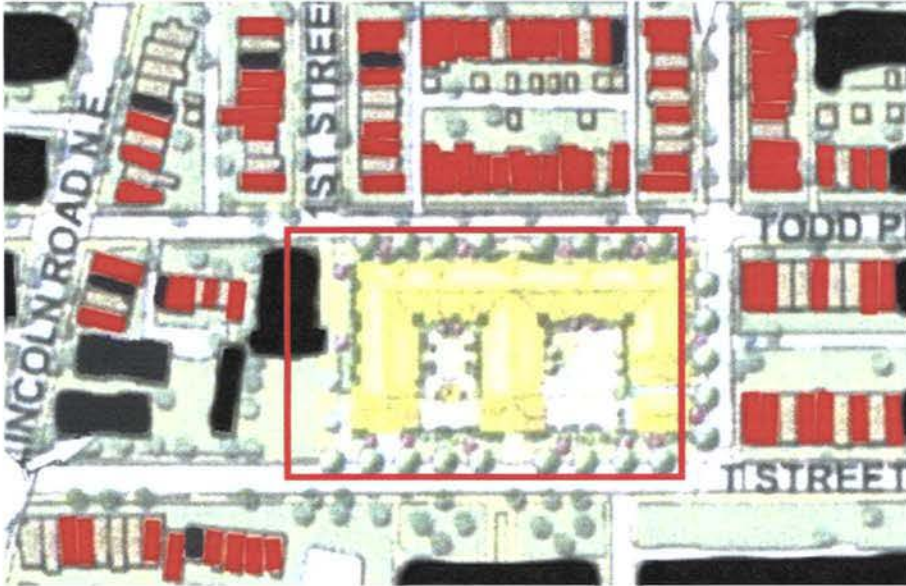


## How long have we lived here?



It has been stated that those who are opposed to the current St. Martin's project plan are new neighbors who have recently moved into the neighborhood. Although this has no bearing as to the rights of a resident, we feel it necessary to correct that assumption.

The map above shows a section of Eckington, specifically those homes 200 feet from the proposed development. The blacked out areas designate non-residences (schools) or homes beyond 200 feet. The gray areas designate vacant homes (the large buildings on Lincoln Road are undeveloped condos/apartments). The red indicates homes whose residents signed a petition requesting the denial of a zoning variance for the St. Martin's property.

We were able to contact the residents of 88 of those homes. 78 of those residents have signed this petition. Unless you believe that such a large sample of Eckington is comprised of "new residents" the initial statement above cannot be true. It would be more accurate to say that many, if not the majority of residents in support of ECRD's position to deny the zoning variance, have lived here for a while.

As an example, one of my neighbors, Elizabeth Wright, has lived in the neighborhood so long that she remembers when there were nuns living in the convent. She told me "I'm too old to go to meetings and fight, you young ones have the fire for the fight, but I support you." It would make sense that the younger home owners with "the fire" are also new or even first time home owners. In other words, just because it is the younger residents who are speaking out, does not mean that they are not speaking out for all of the residents signed in opposition to the zoning variance.

The commissioners asked a direct question about the composition of the ECRD members present at the zoning hearing.