2721 Rittenhouse St., NW
Washington DC 20015
10 January 2004

Geoffrey Griffis, Chairman,
Board of Zoning Adjustment
Suite 210S
441 Fourth St., NW
Washington DC 20001

Dear Mr. Griffis,

Ref. Application 17055,
Filed by Army Distaff Foundation

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the application filed by the Army Distaff Foundation for a variance to enable them to overturn previous decisions of the Board of Zoning Adjustment and agreements with the neighborhood and proceed with a major expansion of their current facility at Knollwood.

Our family is a nearby neighbor of Knollwood and we have lived in our present house for approximately fifteen years. Shortly after we moved here in 1988, we learned that Knollwood had filed for an BZA approval for an exception to allow for a very large expansion of their facility. At that time, there was considerable opposition to the continued growth of Knollwood, threatening the residential character of the neighborhood. However, Knollwood management specifically agreed that if they were allowed to proceed, they would agree to no further expansion for a period of twenty-five years. The BZA approved their application on this basis.

Now, fifteen years later, Knollwood wants everyone to forget about that prior commitment and to acquiesce to yet another major expansion. If allowed to proceed, this can only mean that their commitments mean nothing and that in practice any BZA stipulations or directives have no value. Once this precedent is set, what can we expect from Knollwood in the future? And what can we expect from the BZA?

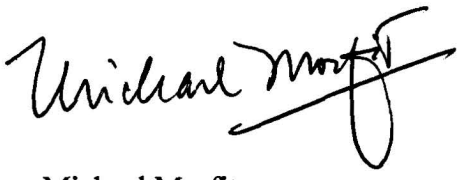
The current plans to construct a large luxury apartment building would dramatically change the character of our residential neighborhood of single-family homes. It would result in the destruction of the landscape and long-standing trees and increased traffic flows on our residential street. As a result, the values of Knollwood's neighboring property can be expected to decline significantly. The apparent disregard Knollwood management has shown for its neighbors, making its initial application without any notification or consultation, has been very disheartening. Even more discouraging has been Knollwood's subsequent refusal to consider less intrusive and disruptive alternatives. Knollwood management seems to have demonstrated a complete disregard for working constructively with their neighbors to preserve and protect the life and character of the neighborhood.

BZA
Case No. 17055
Exhibit No. 95

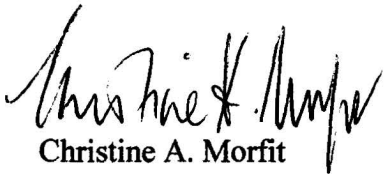
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17055
EXHIBIT NO. 95

The District of Columbia is struggling to retain ordinary middle-class families that must be the foundation for its tax base and the vital continuing support for its public education system. Similarly, the District government is striving to demonstrate that it can be effective and responsive to the needs and priorities of its citizens. Knollwood's expansion plans, and the manner in which these have been pursued, directly threaten these key objectives of the DC government. While Knollwood management apparently doesn't care, perhaps confident that highly paid real estate lawyers can outmaneuver ordinary citizens, we hope that the BZA will be more responsive to grassroots concerns and the long-term values of local neighborhoods.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Morfit



Christine A. Morfit

cc: Chevy Chase ANC 3/4G