Carol Mitten
Chair, Zoning Commission
District of Columbia
441 4th Street NW
Suite 210
Washington, D.C.

May 2, 2003

Dear Ms Mitten,

It would be a mistake to approve the construction of the Georgetown University Boathouse on a site upriver from the Washington Canoe Club.

We live in an urban area that has steadily grown in human density for several decades. The disappearance of green space in our midst has come to be regarded as an inevitable consequence of what we view as progress. But is it fair for us to decide that future generations of Washingtonians will know the natural world only from reading of it in their history texts? Can we decree that one of the few remaining sections of Potomac riverside be marred by urban blight for reasons that may in no way be considered essential? When there are alternative sites downstream, how can we justify building a boathouse that despoils a currently protected area?

We will regret what we have done if we destroy the natural beauty of the Potomac shoreline above Key Bridge. Our grandchildren and their grandchildren will question our judgment and think us insensitive, imprudent, and shortsighted for such an act.

Sincerely,

Jim McClellan, PhD
Professor of History
Northern Virginia Community College
Alexandria Campus
3001 North Beauregard
Alexandria, Virginia 22311

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Exhibit 134

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CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.134