May 13, 2003

Ms Carol Mitten;

I am writing to you to express my great concern and protest at the proposed land swap deal that is being considered by the NPS and Georgetown University. I am writing to strongly urge the Zoning Committee to **not re-zone** the site, which is currently un-zoned, as a building site. This action, if undertaken, would be an unprecedented give-a-way of public land going to a rich, private concern.

As a member of the Washington Canoe Club (WCC) I am doubly concerned at the lack of regard for the preservation and safety of the Historic Washington Canoe Club building. This building is a registered Washington DC landmark and if the property is rezoned the proposed GU boathouse would dwarf the historic building. Additionally, there is a proposed access road that will be placed behind the WCC adjacent to the Capital Crescent Trail. The WCC is very concerned of the damage that could be done to the foundation of the building during the planned year and a half construction phase of the operation.

As a person who enjoys nature and the outdoor world I am astonished that the Zoning Committee would entertain the idea of approving the use of public land to be re-zoned for benefit of a small, wealthy, private concern. This is a very bad use of National Park Land and sets a very bad precedent during a time when the waterfront is feeling pressure from many sides to permit public access to the river.

I implore the Zoning Committee to deny Georgetown University the right to build on what is now National Park Land. Please don't re-zone.

James A. Ross

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-30
Exhibit 201

ZONING COMMISSION
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CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.201