Carol Mitten, Chair Zoning Commission
441 4th St., NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Mitten
For the past 43 years my husband, my children, and myself have been members of the Washington Canoe Club. During this time we have enjoyed numerous sports that incorporated both water and land adjacent to the canoe club. We paddled our racing kayaks and canoes on the Potomac River and we also enjoyed riding our bikes or walking on the C&O Canal and the Crescent Trail. All the seasons have their uniqueness but in the late fall, when the leaves were gone from the trees, we loved watching the river from high up on the canal. As we rode, paddled, or walked, we marveled at the wildlife there. We especially loved watching the beautifully colored Wood Ducks, as well as the majestic Blue Herons. We saw a Bald Eagle once flying with a fish clutched in its talons. My husband often remarked that one could travel the world over and never see a more beautiful sight than the vista within blocks of Georgetown.

It has come to our attention that a huge facility is to be built on parkland near the canoe club that would destroy all these natural resources. You can imagine our distress upon learning that all of these natural wonders might be taken away from us forever. Not being able to see the river from the canal, or having herons and other wild birds, such as the Bald Eagle, be gone from our 'home away from home' is too sad to contemplate.

Can you please help us keep our natural treasures?

Sincerely,

Shirley D Schuette

Shirley D. Schuette
6626 Claymore Ct.
McLean, VA 22101
April 23,2003

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