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April 28, 2003

Ms. Carol Mitten, Chair
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ms. Mitten,

Last Sunday I drove with my two children over to the vicinity of the Key Bridge, former location of the old Aqueduct across the Potomac. The River looked so attractive. I took the youngsters, girl 8 years and boy 10 years, for a leisurely canoe cruise along the D.C. shore after retrieving my craft from the Washington Canoe Club.

Before we even started the children noticed a beautiful Luna Moth clinging to the dock and examined it closely. They then observed some turtles sunning on a log. My son pointed out a heron atop a tree and some other birds besides the numerous cormorants that seem to "shuttle" between the Three Sisters' islands and specific trees on the shore. The children also noticed what appeared to be a fox in the underbrush. They were excited and happy, and we rested a while beneath an overhanging tree and caught the subtle scent of the beautiful wisteria.

I am writing this letter because after the planned monstrous Georgetown University structure overwhelms the D.C. shoreline and extends out into the River, such idyllic canoeing experiences will no longer be feasible. The losers will be the children, canoeists, the birds and small animals, as well as Washington, D.C.

I pray you, and the Commissioners, please do not allow this Georgetown proposal to continue. It will crowd out the venerable Washington Canoe Club and permanently damage the exotic beauty of the neighborhood. I am thinking of the environment, ecology, and the natural beauty that will be permanently lost to succeeding generations.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

William S. Rhodes

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 02-31
Exhibit 62

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-31
EXHIBIT NO.62