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20 FEB 2004

PITTSBURGH COUNTY

Attention: Joe Marshall From: C. P. 1-100

Relating to: Re zoning Hayden Estate

CSO: G. Hill Date: 20/2/04

Info. Services: _____ Date: _____

19. 2. 2004.

Jaune Marshall, Planning Officer
Pittwater Council
P O Box 892
Mona Vale 1660.

Re:- The proposed rezoning of the Heydon Estate
Ingleside and the Uniting Church land Elanora Heights.
(ref:- R 0005/03 & R 0006/03)

Dear Mrs Marshall,

We are writing to strongly object to the
proposal for housing development, either by the Uniting
Church or the State Government at Ingleside & Elanora.

We have owned our property at 59 Wesley St.
since 1964, & have always believed that the
bushland behind our property, belonging to the
Uniting Church, because of its original zoning as
"Special Purpose youth", would never be developed
for housing. We are very supportive of any
activities for youth at the Conference Centre &
wouldn't object to expansion of their present Centre
for these activities, however, to virtually strip the
natural bushland & destroy the native animal
habitat, and the areas of flannel flowers & heanania
which exist there, would be a disaster. This is
a very unique area & one of the few pockets of
natural habitat left in the area. We have very
little open space in Elanora. No parks or playing fields
so any area such as this is greatly appreciated
& needed.

If these plans go ahead it would also
have a very detrimental effect on the creek which
flows into Mullet Creek & then Narrabeen Lagoon.
This waterway has always, also, been a great
delight to the children of the area.

Our own children had a wonderful childhood here making cubbies in the bush & even swimming in the small dam, catching yabbies, fish, tadpoles & frogs in the creek. At that time the water was so clear & clean. Sadly this is no longer the case, the quality of the water has badly deteriorated over recent years. I won't let my grandchildren even put their feet in this water now, when they try unsuccessfully to find any fish or tadpoles. To put a housing estate on the land above this creek would see unrecoverable damage to the whole waterway. As the land above this area drops 100m over a 1K distance, can you imagine the run off from the necessary roadworks & fire trails - the building of the houses & garden fertilizers etc, that would all be side effects of these proposals, running into this creek & onwards through the Wetlands of Warneewood Valley - a total disaster!

At the present time we are waiting for the Eleanora Country Club to undertake an order to clean up the latest pollution of this waterway, which your Council Rangers found was caused by the Club's remodelling works on the Golf Club, to date we're still waiting for some action. The Country Club is quite some distance away, so how much worse will it be with run off from the proposed developments above it? These developments & the infrastructure for them are always much bigger & bulkier than appear on maps & we shudder to think on the visual impact it will make. Apart from great scars across the landscape, with the bulk & size of the currently popular style of homes being built, will create a scene such as we see above Oxford Falls & heaven forbid, the terrible sight of the Valley View Estate of Warneewood,

when the only "view" left is a sea of roofs!

On the personal side, the financial value of our home, and the enjoyment of our outlook would be very adversely affected. Over the years, we have lost our original views of the water sea but, thought we would always have our lovely bush views. We realise that time changes things, and we will never have dam water clear enough to swim in & an abundance of open space & views, but, some things should be left in their natural state for future generations to enjoy close to their homes. Once land is built on it's there forever.

On the practical side it is ridiculous to allow the great increase in traffic that these developments would generate in Wesley St. This is already a dangerous street with parked cars & the natural curves & bends restricting clear views of oncoming traffic. We also now have many young families moving into the area, which this influx in traffic, would cause a great deal of concern. We also regularly have huge Tourist buses up & down the street for the Conference Centre activities. There are also, of course, garbage trucks recycling trucks & street cleaning trucks. This is quite a narrow street & so many cars are forced to park on the road, it could not cope with so much extra traffic.

Then there is the problem of this area being in a known fire path. In the 1994 fires, we narrowly missed losing our home - only a change in the wind & the creek behind us saved it. The fire came roaring down that hill like an out of control train.

I could say much more but, I'm getting writers cramp & time is getting away, so will

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seen this up by saying, once again that we are
totally against ANY developments on either the Heydon
Estate (I'm sure the State Government can recoup their
money in a less environmentally damaging way) and
we are also against ANY developments on the Uniting
Church owned land. Also, on making your arguments
we feel they should be considered as separate
issues.

We admire the work you're doing in saving
the Warrneewood escarpment & Warrneering Bay area
& hope you can agree that the proposals put
forward for the Elanora & Ingleside land should
be rejected.

Regards,

Colleen & Walter Pittman

59 Wesley St.

Elanora Heights.