January 23. 1980

Commissioners Of Oxford Oxford, Maryland 21654

Gentlemen.

Attached is a petition signed by approximately 250 residents of Oxford who oppose having the Oxford Elementary School demolished at this time.

The petitioners request that the Commissioners of Oxford delay any action on having the building destroyed until after a committee has evaluated the merits of keeping or destroying this valuable building and makes a full report of their findings to the Commissioners and the people of Oxford.

The committee should represent the views of those signing this petition as well as others. It should hold public meetings so that the citizens of Oxford can participate in the future plans for the building and/or the site.

Many suggestions were voiced by those signing the petition for productive uses for the building. The building is in sound structural condition and is far too valuable to destroy without the full understanding and approval of the taxpayers.

The petitioners respectfully request that the Commissioners of Oxford:

- 1. delay demolition plans;
- 2. promptly appoint a committee of actively interested citizens of Oxford;
- 3. request that the committee obtain views of local residents, study various possible uses for the building and site, estimate the immediate and contining financial requirements of these uses, and make recommendations;
- 4. Hold a town meeting so that the committee can present its report to the Commissioners and the people of Oxford.

Respectfully submitted.

Philip G. Conner

Petitioner