

Waterford Citizens' Association

PO Box 109, Waterford, VA 20197
www.waterfordva-wca.org

The Honorable John Warner
Member of Congress
225 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

June 20, 2003

Dear Senator Warner,

I am writing to you as president of the Waterford Citizens' Association. The National Historic Landmark District of Waterford is in jeopardy of losing its National Historic Landmark status. Waterford is not merely a village of many preserved buildings. Numerous villages can make that claim. Waterford is truly a preserved village. It has not grown significantly larger or smaller than it was at the time of the Civil War. Most of the buildings that were there then are still there. The "new" buildings are primarily replacements for the old. And most of the new buildings are 80 to 100 years old

I ask you to help us preserve Waterford because the rural nature of the village is threatened. The threat to Waterford is not a threat to its historic buildings. The threat is to the rural setting in which the village exists. This setting, no less than the preservation of the buildings, is essential to the quality of Waterford as an intact 19th century rural village. The specific threat is the development of the Phillips farm on the western boundary of the village. The development of the Phillips farm as planned by Historic Fields LLC, not only is inherently an intrusion of the historic setting of Waterford village, but also could result in the removal of the Historic Landmark designation by the Department of the Interior.

The citizens of Waterford and the members of the Waterford Foundation have risen many times in the past to the challenge imposed by intrusive development. And we are rising to this challenge. We have initiated multiple fundraising efforts, both at the grassroots level and beyond, but we recognize that it may not be enough. The price tag is simply too high for the community to pay. Therefore, I ask you for your help as we face this challenge. Waterford is a viable reminder of who we were and why we are who we are. We must ensure its survival for future generations.

Sincerely,

Edward Lehmann
President
Waterford Citizens' Association