

*rec'd 6/1/06 J.E.
copies made/original
pg. 1 of 2 filed*

Margaret E. Carnduff
195 Wilson Road
Wilton, NH 03086

30 May 2006

Town of Wilton
Zoning Board of Adjustments
P. O. Box 83
Wilton, NH 03086

Re: Case No. 5/9/06-2

Dear Board:

It is with sadness that I find myself writing this letter. A little over two years ago my husband and I relocated to Wilton after two years of looking for an area and a town that could fulfill our needs as we moved towards retirement. Wilton was that town – a Main Street community with residents who supported unique local businesses – Here Today, The Melting Pot, Nelson's, Carl's Art Shop, the Wilton Theater – a beautiful old town center with a most extraordinary summer playhouse that we and our grandchildren have enjoyed; warm, friendly people and the tranquility of a small, lovely New England town.

My sadness results from proposed changes in and to our town; namely, the potential of allowing gravelling operations to occur outside the approved district. This, after the townspeople recently voted to restrict such operations to the area off Route 31.

As a resident of Wilton Center obviously I am presently concerned with the Zahn-Kennedy appeal to remove gravel (1) outside the permitted area (2) on land that cannot meet the setback requirements established by the town and (3) in an area without direct access to state roads. However, my concern is much more than this one small parcel – it is for the town itself. Allowing this kind of operation in a strictly residential area (Zahn-Kennedy parcel is within the historic district as well) will change the entire feeling of and for this town. This lovely town and its people who think of Wilton as "home," will begin to look elsewhere for what we once had – a town whose thoughtful planning and zoning regulations provided for all – commercial and business districts and residential areas – allowing for pleasant co-existence and maximizing the use of land/properties and developing revenue. Allowing the Zahn-Kennedy appeal to pass puts my property within 300 yards of an eight-year, five-day-a-week project. Certainly my property value will decrease – people locate in Wilton Center for its bucolic atmosphere – not for a proposed gravel pit. I am sure the Town of Wilton does not want to disenfranchise any taxpayer.

I cannot imagine granting this appeal and allowing gravel extraction to become the way of life on Wilton's residential streets. And if this appeal is approved, we all know that more will follow. The town and its people established and voted in these regulations so that what Zahn-Kennedy are now asking would not/could not happen. Here is your chance to uphold the town's word and join forces to enforce town rules and regulations.

And for Wilton Center, supporting the Zahn-Kennedy appeal will mean eight years of five days a week, eight hours a day of noisy, dirty, polluting activity occurring in one of the town's most beautiful areas.

Though we the townspeople have spoken, I see we must speak again. I do not want the Zahn-Kennedy appeal passed by the Zoning Board of Adjustment just as I did not – and do not – want any gravelling activities extended beyond the current gravel district.

Sincerely,



Margaret E. Carnduff