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## Landowners Oppose Chevy Site for School

### 800-Member Association 'Shocked' by Glendale Board's Bid to Buy Country Club

BY DON SNYDER

Times Staff Writer

GLENDALE — Proposed acquisition of the 38-acre Chevy Chase Country Club to build a three-school complex is unwarranted, a property owners association in the affected area declared Thursday.

In a letter addressed to the Glendale School Board, the 800-member Chevy Chase Estates Assn. expressed shock on hearing the Glendale Unified School District wants to buy the golf course.

School trustees on Oct. 6 approved a recommendation by school administrators to offer course operators \$900,000 for the canyon course for the purpose of building an elementary and junior and senior high schools in the future.

Course operators are now studying the proposal but have made no comment on reaction nor have they set a date for a meeting with school officials.

#### Continuing Crusade

Homeowners in the Chevy Chase Canyon have conducted a continuing crusade over the years to preserve the golf course.

"It is the only open-air flatland available in the canyon and we believe its preservation is a major asset to the health, welfare and safety of Chevy Chase residents," says Dr. Kelso Grant Barnett, president of the property owners group and signer of the letter submitted to the school board.

#### Loss To Schools

Two high schools in the vicinity would reduce size of student bodies at each school and "the consequent competition between the schools for superior faculty would result in a loss to both schools," Dr. Barnett continues.

An architectural firm, hired by the school district, has conducted a projection study of Chevy Chase Canyon.

In a recent report to the school board, the architects pointed out a county survey predicts that by 1980 there would be from 2,675 to 3,408 dwellings and from 8,000 to 10,000 people in the canyon area.

The firm recommended the course property as suitable for three school sites and on remaining acreage suggested a community center to include a library and a fire station.

Board members unani-

mously expressed support in favor of the district purchasing the course property and indicated the area was ideally suited to meet long-range school needs.

The property owners, in the letter, are asking the school board a number of questions. They include:

"What plan does the school district have for the excess land not needed at this time or probably at any future time?"

"Has the school board reviewed alternate locations for an elementary school? If so, may we know where and their approximate cost?"

"Knowing your board is concerned with continuance of open recreational areas in our city, why recommend the removal of a golf course which can never be replaced in our canyon area?"

#### Money Budgeted?

"What sum of money has been budgeted for construction of adequate street to service your projected educational complex?"

The property owners contend there will not be enough junior and senior high students in their canyon through 1980 to justify a loss of the country club now, according to Barnett.