

Mr. John Stomberg, Ph.D.  
Virginia Rice Kelsey 1961 Director  
Hood Museum of Art  
Dartmouth College  
Hanover, NH 03755 USA  
john.r.stomberg@dartmouth.edu

13 June 2016

Re: Proposed Expansion of the Hood Museum, Dartmouth College

Dear Mr. Stromberg,

The Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) expresses strong support for the retention and preservation of the Charles Moore additions to the Hood Museum at Dartmouth College.

SAH is the principal scholarly organization for architectural historians in North America. It does not regularly become involved in preservation issues, and speaks only to issues of national and international importance. We evaluate threats to nationally and internationally significant architectural resources thoroughly, and do not take positions on them lightly.

Charles Moore's addition, completed in 1985, connected the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, Romanesque Wilson Hall with Wallace K. Harrison's Hopkins Center for the Performing Arts, completed in 1962. Moore also created a ceremonial entrance gateway, which functions as the connection between the two older buildings and Moore's addition. The proposed \$50 million renovation, scheduled for completion in January 2019, proposes to expand the exhibition capacity of the museum, in part by inserting a new structure into a covered concourse with a new entrance facing the campus green. Our concern arises from the fact that the plan will obliterate Moore's concourse and remove Moore's entrance gateway, a distinctive composition reflective of the restrained Postmodernism Moore exhibited at the Hood Museum. Moore's design created a carefully considered sequence of spaces, beginning on Dartmouth Green and continuing through the museum, which will be eliminated by this renovation. We believe that Charles Moore's additions to the Hood Museum are of national significance, and their removal or inappropriate alteration would be a tragic loss.

By encouraging the retention and preservation of Charles Moore's addition to the Hood Museum, the Society of Architectural Historians joins with such supporting organizations and individuals as the Charles Moore Foundation, Docomomo US; and many other significant organizations and individuals.

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Sincerely,



Bryan Clark Green, Ph.D., LEED AP BD+C  
Chair, Society of Architectural Historians Heritage Conservation Committee

cc: Mr. Phillip J. Hanlon, Ph.D., President, Dartmouth College; Ms. Pauline Saliga; Ms. Deborah Slaton; Kenneth Breisch, Ph.D.; David Fixler, FAIA; Jeffrey Cody, Ph.D.; Members, SAH Heritage Conservation Committee