STABILIZE AND PROTECT MUMFORD HOUSE

Constructed shortly after the University’s founding, Mumford House is the oldest building on the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus and remains situated on its original south campus site. The frame farmhouse is proximate to the famed Morrow (Experimental Farm) Plots. The physical condition of Mumford House has fallen into disrepair and the small structure is deteriorating.

A year ago, at the Board of Trustees meeting on May 21, 2009, the Board approved a resolution to restore and preserve Mumford House on its current site and directed that the administration formulate a plan for restoration. Vinci/Hamp Architects, Inc., of Chicago, Illinois, was hired to conduct a one-day community design charette to solicit potential uses for Mumford House, analyze any proposed uses, develop a conceptual plan for the selected use, and develop cost estimates for restoration of the facility, including code requirements. Total project costs were estimated to be in the range of $2,000,000 to $2,500,000.

Given the above circumstances and the fiscal constraints currently faced by the University, it is recommended that the Board of Trustees direct the campus administration to continue discussions with the Chancellor’s Mumford House Advisory Committee to complete its consultation; take necessary steps to stabilize and protect it...
from further deterioration; and conform with all extant laws and regulations applicable to historically significant buildings. This action supersedes the May 21, 2009, Board action on this matter.

The President of the University concurs.