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Subject: Cass Gilbert's Loras Hall
Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2021 1:49:32 PM

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Dear Saint Paul City Council Members:

I am writing as a past-President of the Cass Gilbert Society. I listened carefully to the University of Saint Thomas' case for demolition of Loras Hall when they testified before the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission. The Saint Thomas representative stated that Loras Hall was not an important historic building. I disagree. Three of Saint Paul's most historic individuals are each connected to this building: architect Cass Gilbert who designed Loras Hall, railroad titan James J. Hill who funded it, and Archbishop John Ireland who established the Seminary. Demolishing Loras Hall sets a precedence for Saint Thomas buildings that could be in jeopardy because they do not have the protection and oversight of being listed on the National Register: Cass Gilbert's Cretin Hall, Emmanuel Masqueray's Grace Hall, and Cass Gilbert's Power Plant Building. I believe there is ample land on Saint Thomas' campus for the new STEAM Building to be built on other locations. I trust that you will deny this demolition permit application.

Sincerely, John H. Yust, Architect