



December 5, 2016

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

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Lincoln is recognized internationally for its rich Colonial history, its associations with Walden Pond and Henry David Thoreau, and for being among the most important Modern Movement communities in America.

Friends of Modern Architecture/Lincoln (FoMA), founded more than a decade ago, is dedicated to educating the public about Modernism in America and Lincoln's seminal role in its development, and to the preservation of our unique and comprehensive collection of mid-century Modern buildings.

We approach this work through a variety of endeavors. Sharing an interest in history, preservation matters, and land use, FoMA communicates and works with Lincoln's Rural Land Foundation, the Lincoln Historic Commission, and the Town's Planning Board. We also played a role in the Concord Museum's 2015/2016 exhibition, "Middlesex County Modern," and continue to reach out to partners like Historic New England. While we regularly offer house tours, educational programs, and access to a variety of resources for homeowners of Modern houses, the following are highlights from recent projects and initiatives:

Over the past 7 years FoMA has surveyed and documented Lincoln's approximately 250 Modern houses. Done under the auspices of the Lincoln Historical Commission and the State Historical Commission's Inventory of Historic and Archeological Assets, the surveys document all of Lincoln's Modern buildings, including those that have been torn down. Funds from the Community Preservation Act have made this important work possible. Copies of the surveys are available at the Lincoln Library and Lincoln Town Offices, and online through the Massachusetts Historical Commission website at <http://mhc-macris.net/>

Building on our survey work, we have created a database of mid-century Modern houses and buildings in Lincoln with links to their Massachusetts Historical Commission Inventory Reports. This data has been incorporated into the Town of Lincoln Geographic Information System (GIS) allowing us to map these properties. The database and maps will allow us to analyze past history and current trends, and to inform the public about this important Town cultural resource.

FoMA's Oral Histories Project, begun in 2016, records for posterity the voices of Lincoln architects and homeowners associated with the Modern movement (1937-1970). Recordings to date include two homeowners discussing their experiences of living in Modern houses designed by local architects, Constantin Pertzoff and Henry Hoover. We are grateful for initial funding from the Lincoln Arts Council. If you would like to share your experiences living in or designing a Modern house (or if you know of someone we should contact), we would love to hear from you.

Each year FoMA presents the "Excellence in Modernism" award to celebrate the continuing positive impact of Modernist design in or associated with Lincoln, primarily through the re-use, preservation and documentation of modern buildings, structures and landscapes that comprise the permanent built environment. The award recognizes those building owners, design teams, advocacy and preservation individuals and organizations that have made significant efforts to retain, restore, continue and advocate for the aesthetic and cultural value of Modernist design in or associated with Lincoln. This year's award, our second, announced at FoMA's Annual Meeting on November 5, 2016, was given to Maryann Thompson, Principal of Maryann Thompson Architects, and Robin Pfetsch, Director of the

Architecture Section of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, for their work on the design of the new Visitor Center at Walden Pond. Our first award went to Lucretia Giese, Harry Hoover, and the late Paul E. Giese for the preservation of the Henry B. Hoover, Sr. house, 1937.

During the upcoming year, 2017, plans are underway to redesign FoMA's website. We anticipate that the new website will be easier to use and will provide access to many more resources related to mid-century Modern architecture. Please let us know if there are features you would like to see on our website, if you are interested in participating in our oral histories project, or if you might consider doing a short interview about why you like living in a Modern house. We very much welcome your involvement!

We hope that you find FoMA's mission compelling and that you will renew your membership for 2017, or consider joining for the first time, either by sending a check in the enclosed envelope, or online through PayPal. If you are a lapsed member, we welcome you back most warmly, and look forward to seeing you at upcoming events. We greatly appreciate contributions in any amount, and for gifts of \$250 or more, we will be pleased to send you a copy of *Breaking Ground: Henry B. Hoover, New England Modern Architect* by Lucretia H. Giese and Henry B. Hoover Jr. (University Press of New England, 2015).

Your interest and support are critical to everything we do and we are grateful to each of you!

Sincerely,

Friends of Modern Architecture/Lincoln Board of Trustees