

# MIT

[< Back to front page](#)

Text size  

MIT

## MIT advised to demolish empty, century-plus-old dorm, Bexley Hall

Posted by Matt Rocheleau October 18, 2013 12:19 PM

9 1 0 1

Comments (2)

[E-mail story](#)

[Print story](#)

**Share**  Facebook  Twitter  Pinterest  Share  Share

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

MIT administrators were advised this week to demolish Bexley Hall, an empty, century-plus-old dormitory that has been shuttered since last spring when the building was abruptly closed due to structural problems.



(MIT Housing)

"In order to reuse the facility, various codes would require significant upgrades ... In sum, the entire facility would need to be rebuilt," MIT facilities director Richard Amster told an advisory group at a meeting Thursday, according to [the institute's news office](#).

If MIT leaders follow the recommendation, the institute said it will need to seek approval and permits from the city of Cambridge before tearing down the building at 50 Massachusetts Avenue.

Chancellor Eric Grimson plans to convene a new working group to look at how MIT can replace the housing that will be lost if administrators ultimately decide to raze Bexley, officials said. That group will also explore how to best reuse the space where Bexley stands now.

"The situation with Bexley is unexpected and the news is tough, especially for students and alumni who naturally grew attached to Bexley and the community it fostered," Grimson said in a statement. "Should the committee's recommendation be accepted, we will need to be deliberate in formulating our next steps with regard to both housing and the future use of that location."

"It is important that we find an effective way to replace the lost housing space, and that we find a way to sustain the Bexley community, both in name and in spirit," he added.

MIT [closed the dorm](#) last spring with just a few weeks notice leaving some of the buildings' 100-plus students scrambling to find a new place to live. At the time, the institute said the dorm would be closed indefinitely, and for up to three years, as its structural status was reviewed.

### Connect to MIT



Follow @YourCampusMIT on Twitter



Click here to follow Your Campus MIT on Twitter.

ADVERTISEMENT

### Other Boston Area Campuses


- [Boston College](#)
- [Boston University](#)
- [Brandeis](#)
- [Emerson](#)
- [Harvard](#)
- [MIT](#)
- [Northeastern](#)
- [Suffolk](#)
- [Tufts](#)
- [Wellesley](#)
- [UMass Boston](#)
- [Simmons](#)
- [Berklee](#)
- [Babson](#)
- [Bentley](#)

### Recent blog posts

- [Video: Harvard students pose as Yale students, give prank campus tours at rival school](#)
- [Scientists at BU and MIT report breakthrough on water resistant materials](#)
- [MIT student honored by Smithsonian Magazine with American Ingenuity Award](#)
- [MIT student honored by Smithsonian Magazine with American Ingenuity Award](#)
- [7-year-old cancer survivor drafted to Tufts University men's lacrosse team](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

### Get Updates

 My Yahoo

 RSS Feed

- [Learn about RSS](#)

The building was constructed for apartment use just over 100 years ago. MIT officials said their engineering review has found that it was not built according to the “best practices” in use at the time, which has contributed to its recent structural problems.

MIT bought the building in 1939 and the institute acknowledged it did not adequately keep up with maintenance of that building as well as other facilities it owns.

Officials at MIT said they have begun to step up their efforts to better maintain buildings, including conducting additional inspections and needed repairs over the summer to a number of its buildings.

*Matt Rocheleau can be reached at [mjrochele@gmail.com](mailto:mjrochele@gmail.com). Looking for more coverage of area colleges and universities? Go to our [Your Campus pages](#).*

9 1 0 1

Comments (2)

E-mail story

Print story

Share Facebook Twitter Pinterest Google+ Share + Share

PREVIOUS STORY

**Hundreds of Northeastern students expected to run through Boston streets in underwear this weekend**

FRONT PAGE

NEXT STORY

**Former CIA director David Petraeus to work as researcher at Harvard's Kennedy School, where his affair scandal began**

RELATED CONTENT

Sponsored Content by Taboola



**14 Benefits Most Seniors Didn't Know They Had**

Newsmax



**If You Ever Want to Retire Look at This Chart**

Money Morning



**New 'House of Cards' Trailer is Everything You Hoped**

Netflix



**You Haven't Lived Until You Visit These 10 All-Inclusive Resorts**

TripCurator



**One of the Most Classic SNL Sketches of All Time**

Yahoo Screen



**5 Foods You Should Never Eat Again**

My Diet

FROM THE WEB

**'Warren Buffett Indicator' Signals Collapse in Stock Market** (Moneynews)

**Little Known Way to Pay Off Mortgage**

(Weekly Financial Solutions)

**Millennials are Drinking so Much Wine They're Changing How it's Sold** (Parade)

**4 Places You Should Avoid Using Your Credit Card** (Bankrate)

**Check Out the Surprising Car that Mark Zuckerberg Drives** (Wall St. Cheat Sheet)

FROM BOSTON.COM AND PARTNER

**Woman on flight from Florida becomes ill and is pronounced dead at Logan Airport** (Boston.com)

**Pierce Brosnan's daughter dies of ovarian cancer** (Boston.com)

**Student killed and 3 hurt in high school fight** (Boston.com)

**Red Sox intensifying search for trade possibilities** (Boston.com)

**Married couple, infant twin sons found dead in Arlington** (Boston.com)

**Married couple, infant twin sons found dead in Arlington** (Boston.com)

## Top comments

[View all \(2\)](#) | [Add comment](#)



**veefbe** 10/21/13 09:22 PM

**NO!!!!**

There must be some way to rehabilitate Bexley Hall. It is a unique building at the MIT campus.

Would MIT demolish the Stata building because it leaks?



Reply



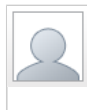
(1)



(0)



Report abuse



**GardenOK** 10/21/13 02:17 PM

MIT purposely let this building disintegrate much like their reputation....falling apart the more one looks inside the heartless animal.



Reply



(0)



(3)



Report abuse

Please [log in](#) to comment.

[Home](#) | [Today's Globe](#) | [News](#) | [Business](#) | [Sports](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [A&E](#) | [Things to Do](#) | [Travel](#) | [Cars](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Local Search](#)

[CONTACT BOSTON.COM](#) | [Help](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Work here](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Your Ad Choices](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Newsletters](#) | [Mobile](#) | [RSS feeds](#) | [Sitemap](#)

[CONTACT THE BOSTON GLOBE](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Manage your subscription](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Boston Globe Insiders](#) | [The Boston Globe Gallery](#) | © 2014 Boston Globe Media Partners, LLC