January 2, 2019

Jerry Rackliffe
Office of the Vice President
Finance & Administration
Georgia State University
Post Office Box 3999
Atlanta, Georgia 30302-3999

Attn: Russ Seagren, Director, Facilities Planning

RE: GSU: Demolish Kell Hall and Plaza, 4 Peachtree Center Place, Atlanta
Fulton County, Georgia
SP-181204-001

Dear Mr. Rackliffe:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has reviewed the information submitted concerning the above referenced project. Our comments are offered to assist the Georgia Board of Regents (BOR) and Georgia State University (GSU) in complying with the provisions of the Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA) and the State Agency Historic Property Stewardship Program.

The subject project consists of demolishing Kell Hall and the surrounding plaza on the campus of GSU at 4 Peachtree Center Place in Atlanta. Based on the information provided, HPD concurs that the plaza is not eligible for listing in the Georgia/National Register of Historic Places (G/NRHP), due to age. Additionally, HPD concurs that Kell Hall is eligible for listing in the G/NRHP. Therefore, as proposed, it is HPD’s opinion that the subject project will have a significant impact on historic properties that are eligible for or listed in the G/NRHP, in accordance with GEPA and OCGA 12-3-50-58. Furthermore, HPD finds that adequate measures have been taken to attempt to minimize or avoid the significant impact including rehabilitation and/or retaining Kell Hall. As such, it appears that the significant impact resulting from the demolition of Kell Hall is unavoidable.

Regarding mitigation, HPD recommends creating a Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record of Kell Hall. Additionally, as part of the mitigation, HPD requests that construction plans for the current project be submitted to HPD for review and comment, once available. HPD looks forward to working with the BOR and GSU as this project progresses to address the significant impact of this project.

Please refer to project number SP-181204-001 in any future correspondence regarding this project. If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Dixon, Environmental Review Program Manager, at (770) 389-7851 or jennifer.dixon@dnr.ga.gov.

V/r,

Dr. David Crass
Division Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DCC/jad

cc: Michael Miller, BOR
Allison Duncan, Atlanta Regional Commission