The Donors of Berry Library, Dartmouth College:
John W. Berry, George Berry, the Loren M. Berry Foundation, and George F. Baker, III

John W. Berry and the Berry Family

Berry Library is named for John W. Berry of Dayton, Ohio, and his family, whose combined gift of $27 million to the library project was announced in November, 1992. John Berry, a 1944 graduate of Dartmouth, made a commitment of $25 million to the library project, the largest individual donation in the College’s history.

John Berry was the honorary national chair of Dartmouth’s The Will to Excel capital campaign. He was the chairman and chief executive officer of L.M. Berry Company, of Dayton, Ohio, until 1986, when the company was sold to BellSouth Corp. The L.M. Berry Company, better known as The Yellow Pages, was the Berry family business for over forty years. The company sells advertising space and handles production for many of the local Yellow Pages.

John Berry is one of the leading donors in the history of Dartmouth College. In 1978, he endowed the Loren M. Berry Chair in Economics at Dartmouth to honor his father. The Berry Sports Center, which opened in 1987, is one of the College’s principal indoor athletic facilities and provides space for basketball, racquet sports, and recreation and fitness programs. Mr. Berry is also among the strongest supporters of Dartmouth’s annual giving program.

Gifts of $1 million each were made to Berry Library by John Berry’s son, George Berry, Dartmouth Class of 1966, a businessman involved in information and research systems and a resident of Carlisle, MA, and the Loren M. Berry Foundation, established by John Berry’s father.

George F. Baker III

An additional gift of $3 million toward Berry Library was made by George F. Baker III of New York City, great-grandson of banker George F. Baker, whose 1926 gift in honor of his uncle, Fisher Ames Baker, Dartmouth Class of 1859, made possible the construction of Baker Library.

George Baker III is a graduate of Harvard College (1961) and the Harvard Business School (1964). He is a general partner of Baker,
Nye Investments L.P. in New York City and a financial counselor to
John Berry. Like his great-grandfather, Mr. Baker has a deep
commitment to philanthropy, particularly the support of secondary
and college education.

The combined Berry and Baker gifts of $30 million is the largest
benefaction in the College’s 228-year history.