Hackers ignore traditions with excessive sign-ins

(Editors' note: The Tech received a copy of this open letter addressed to "Medieval" and "The Nite Shift." As you may already know, hacking is a longstanding tradition at MIT. For over 50 years student hackers have enjoyed the privilege of finding and exploiting long-forgotten places throughout the Institute. One of the traditions that goes along with discovering a new and interesting place is called signing-in. The book HowToGAMMIT notes that hackers are judged by whether they leave their sign-ins.

Everyone has seen your names written on walls and stairways throughout Buildings 66, 50 and 16. As a matter of fact, I have found it impossible to avoid them. And what about the sub-basement of Building 9? Absolutely no excuse for writing your name on the wall every ten feet. Sign-ins are meant to serve as proof that you were able to get into the place where you signed. People who see your sign-ins should be impressed, not appalled. You have reduced this ritual to nothing more than common vandalism, and we are all being forced to pay the price. Recently, Physical Plant has decided that the graffiti around the Institute has gotten out of control. It would seem that your sign-ins are the main culprits. In addition to cleaning and painting.