1014-01-542 **Matthew E Moore*** (matthewm@brooklyn.cuny.edu), Philosophy Department, Brooklyn College of the CUNY, 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210. *Cardinality and Confusion in the Peircean Continuum.*

Two striking claims clearly separate Peirce's conception of the continuum from what has become the dominant conception: that (a) there is room on a continuous line for a point set of arbitrarily high cardinality; and that (b) the points on a continuous line lack distinct identities. Peirce often explains and connects these claims by way of a cardinality argument whose premises are drawn from his theory of collections. This argument is widely regarded as an interesting failure, showing genuine but imperfect insight into phenomena connected with Cantor's Paradox. I will not seek to supplant this consensus view of Peirce's cardinality argument, but rather to supplement it with a more searching analysis of the argument's insights and errors. What will emerge from the analysis is a sharper picture of the organizing role that modal concepts came to play in Peirce's theories of collections and the continuum. (Received September 20, 2005)