

EXHIBIT

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CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK

CARL B. HINSMAN, PRESIDENT
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RUTLAND, VERMONT.

April 29, 1931

Doctor Paul D. Moodey, President
Middlebury College
Middlebury, Vermont

My dear Dr. Moodey:

I find your letter of April 27, with inclosures, on returning from a short trip.

We regret exceedingly to learn of the difficulties which are confronting you with reference to the spire of the Chapel.

I recall that when the building was first erected that the spire shone in the sunlight for a long distance, which of course resulted from the fact that it was sheathed with copper. In the course of time the metal was weathered so that it appeared black or nearly so. I do not know whether it was ever painted black although I could see no reason for doing so. I should think to paint it white would introduce an element of upkeep that could be well avoided. There is really no more durable weather protection than sheet copper, properly applied, with the joints made fast as they should be.

Mrs. Hinsman and I have studied these pictures very carefully and we would really feel it quite a calamity if the spire was removed entirely. On referring to the booklet which was gotten out and presented to Dr. Mead giving an account of the design, erection and dedication of the Building, considerable stress was laid from these several standpoints on the fitness and beauty of the spire as a part of the architectural scheme. The Building occupies such a commanding position on the Campus and in the landscape surrounding it that it would be indeed regrettable if the spire should be abridged or done away with.

Mrs. Hinsman feels quite strongly that the spire should be restored to its original condition, and from your description of the situation, it would be less of a task to do that than it would be to remove it entirely. Thanking you for bringing the matter to our attention, with kind regards, I remain

Yours very truly,

Carl B. Hinsman

CBH:ML