



January 10th, 2023

Ms. Mary O'Neil, AICP

Principal Planner for Development Review

Zoning Division of the Department of Permitting and Inspection

City of Burlington

149 Church Street

Burlington, VT 05401

Dear Ms. O'Neil,

I am writing to you today to implore The City of Burlington to deny the application to demolish the cathedral and landscape at 20 Pine Street on the grounds that the building and landscape contain architecture and design of cultural significance that must be preserved as part of the heritage of the City and State. I am asking you to consider this not only as a member of the Stewardship Council of The Cultural Landscape Foundation but also as a former resident of Burlington who experienced firsthand the power of Edward Larrabee Barns and Dan Kiley's work. In my professional capacity, I have told the story many times of walking through the building's grounds as a student and understanding its power and drama long before I knew what a honey locust tree was, or what modernist architecture and landscape architecture were. Kiley's importance as one of the pre-eminent modernist Landscape Architects cannot be overstated and the preservation of one of the only surviving examples of the Vermont resident's work in his home state is paramount. Surely the Diocese in a town as unique and diverse as Burlington can devise a creative way to adapt a new function that will allow the cathedral to survive well into the 21st century?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tom Volk'.

Tom Volk

Director Of Landscape Management

Summerhill Landscapes

Cc: Msgr. Peter Routhier, Rev. Msgr. John McDermott