A Closing Look

When built in the waning days of the 19th century, Graves Hall met a desperate need for a chapel and library—and in the blending embodied under one roof the college’s commitment to both academic excellence and a vibrant Christian faith. As the restoration of the venerable building proceeds in earnest, old and new blend fitfully in reaching toward the future. Preserving the building’s distinctive exterior involves not only stone original to the structure, but also portions of long-gone Van Raalte Hall that were lovingly retained and new pieces quarried in Ohio. Together they will help enable a cherished and foundational part of the Hope landscape to continue to serve meaningfully and well; new in specific purpose—the chapel and library have each long since moved to larger homes—but no less central to the campus nor the community as its members continue to learn, live and grow in both mind and spirit.

Building on the Past