

CW

February 12, 1934.

Charles T. Biele & Son
33 Bethune Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Biele:

Enclosed please find dimensions for polychromed wooden statue for which we are considering ordering a case to be made by your firm. I am also enclosing a photograph of the statue and a small drawing indicating the dimensions of the case we have in mind.

Since discussing the building of the case this morning with my superintendent, Mr. Leeder, I conclude there are serious problems involved in building a rigid, airtight glass case without metal supports such as we had planned, and I should like you to let me know your reactions to these difficulties as outlined below.

Mr. Leeder informs me that not only Chicago but also other museums in the country have tried the rigid glass construction case in large dimensions and found them most impractical due to the fact that the cases tend to crack and break when rigidly joined as in our projected plan. As a result, such cases are now made by these museums with a felt strip at all joints to allow for the difference in the speed of contraction and expansion of the various glass plates of which the cases are composed.

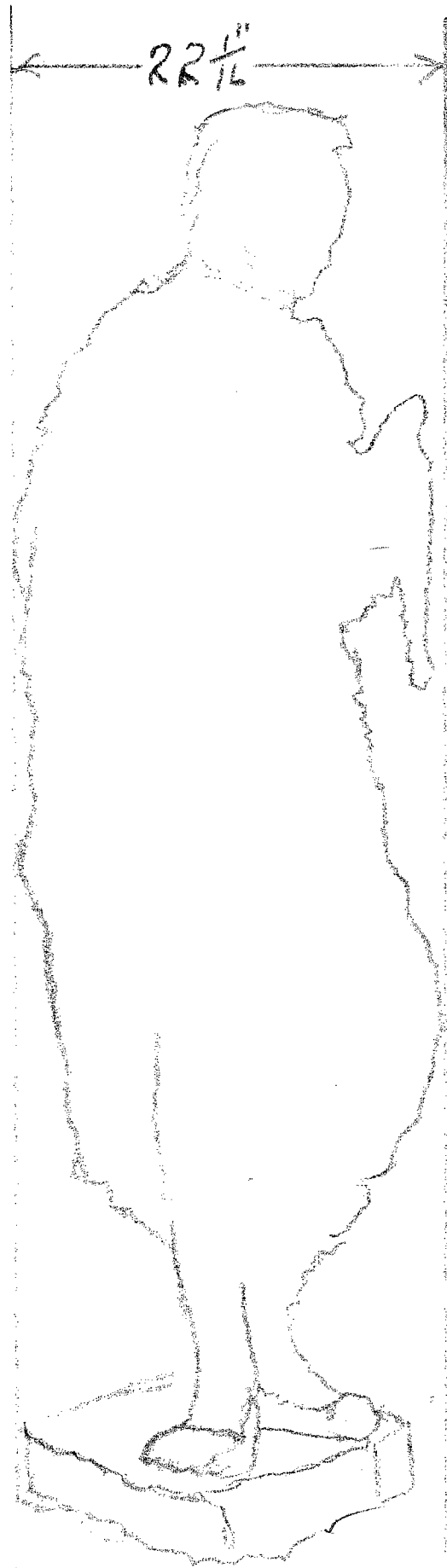
In replying with an exact drawing and estimate of the cost of the proposed case, will you be so good as to let me know whether you can guarantee the kind of construction we had planned against possible cracking or breaking under normal conditions, or whether you advise felt strips being used. If the latter be the case, I am surprised you would have undertaken the kind of construction I wished without having warned me of this possible danger. I therefore take it for granted you have some answer to make to the above criticism. Also will you tell me whether, if felt is used at the joints, the case would be air and moisture proof.

I will let you know immediately, on receiving an answer from you, whether we can go ahead with the building of the case which I am most anxious to have done in the shortest time possible due to the danger which the statue is in if it remains in the open air as at present much longer.

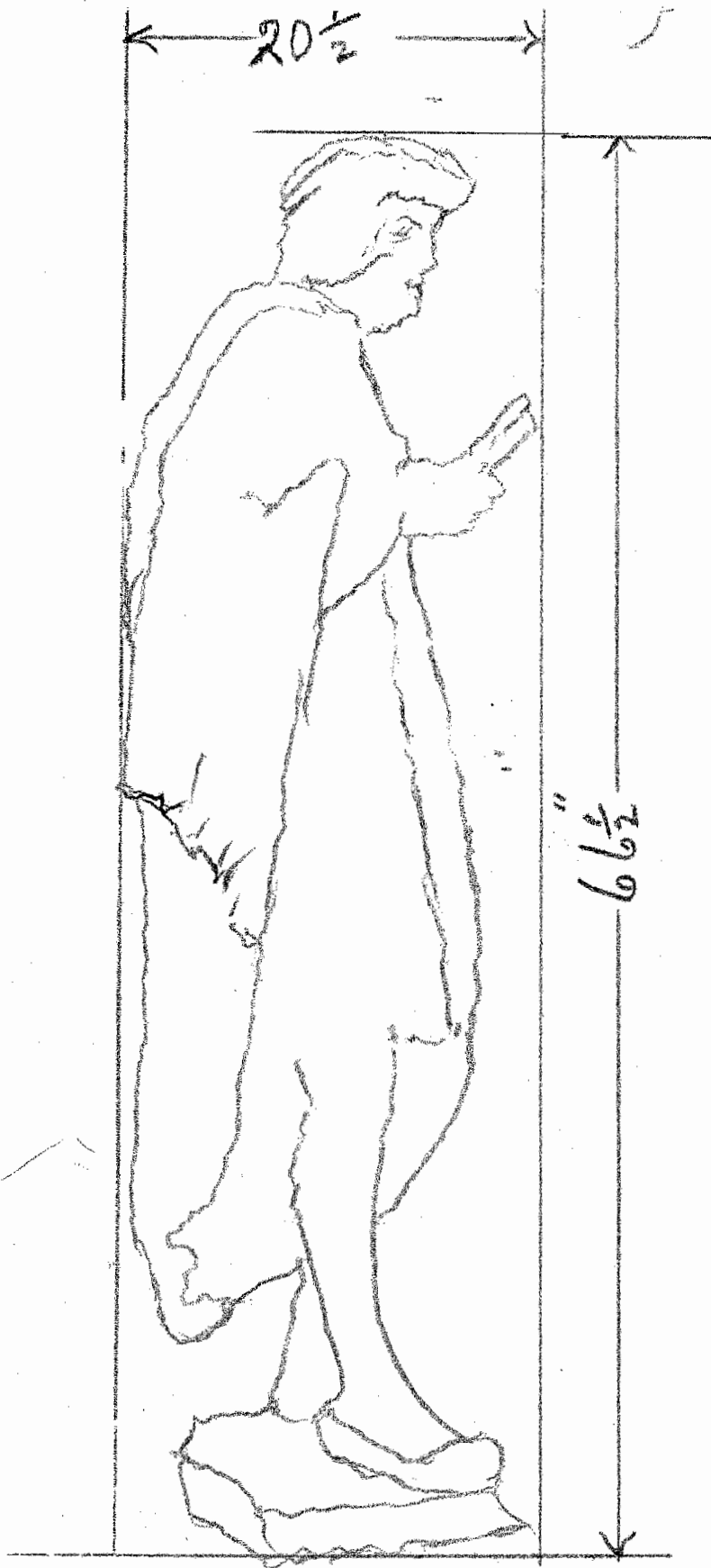
Very truly yours,

Director.

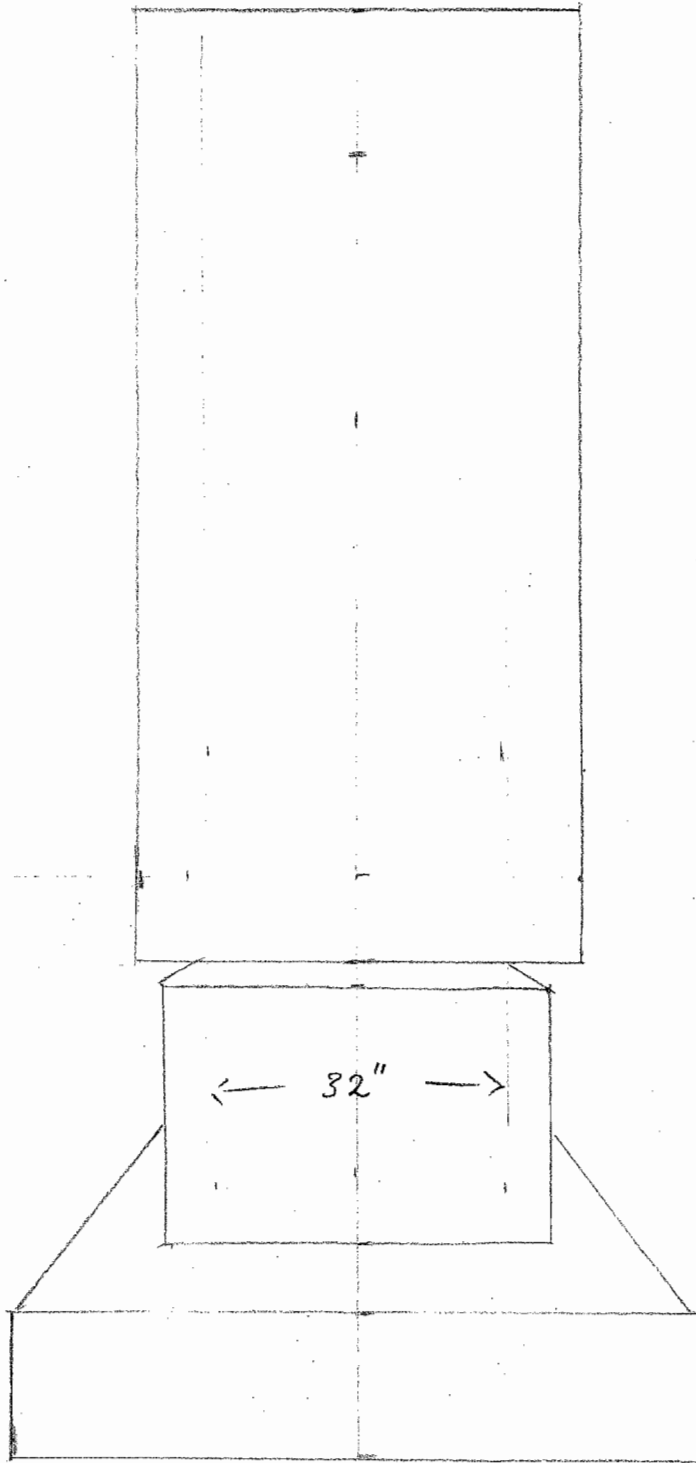
GBY:WM



Measurement from Side to Side.



Measurements are from front to back



This rough sketch
is not correctly
proportioned - but
the distances are
clearly given.

P.B.W.

Allright art gallery
Buffalo N.Y.

