

TUFTS CAMPUS
Part Two

CAMPUS TREES

THE "REZ"

THE COLLEGE PUMP

BELLS

POST OFFICE

EARLY FACULTY HOMES

CAMPUS TREES



Eastward from Ballou
59 Avenue of Trees
late 1860's



View from Miner Hall
1903



Ice Damage to Trees

THE CAMPUS TREES

(1) Accounts of the region in early days show that the hill that was to become a college campus was once covered with a growth of walnut trees, hence its name "Walnut Hill" in Colonial times. But the walnut trees were all cut down for fuel during the Revolutionary War, and thereafter the hill was only a bare bit of pasture well littered with boulders.

Tree planting received attention as soon as the college was opened, and concerning this early planting the TUFTS COLLEGIAN of December, 1874, states, "To Mr. Benjamin A. Hathaway, of the Class of 1858, belongs the honor of having planted the first tree upon the hill near the College. In the spring of 1855, he dug up a small elm in the low ground near the pond and set it out near the southeast corner of College Hall, where it has braved the storms of nearly twenty winters and grown to the proportions of a noble tree.

"The next year Mr. Talbot, then acting as steward, began to improve the grounds by laying out walks and drives, and planting trees, which were generously given by friends of the college.

(5) "Many ladies and gentlemen came and planted trees with their own hands, while the faculty and students contributed the rows of elms which border the avenues to the south and east of College Hall."

Again, in the COLLEGIAN of May, 1876, "We are glad to notice that trees are being set out upon the northern and eastern sides of the Hill. These portions have always presented rather a barren appearance; and even a very moderate growth of trees will be a vast improvement.

(2) The earliest photographs of Ballou Hall show only small trees nearby, which were set out after the building was finished. No tree of more than a few years growth appears. James Eastwood, '60, in his article in the TUFTONIAN of December 20, 1880, writes, "A few trees had been set out near the college building, mostly east and south

of it, but, like the first appearance of hair upon the youthful chin, they were visible only upon close inspection; prophetic, however, of future grace and grandure." However, one who attended the formal opening of the college in July, 1855, mentions that, "We grouped ourselves under the shade of a large tree".

Mr Augustus Harrington of North Becket, Mass., presented the college with one hundred and four trees in 1862, and there were some from another friend, all of which a note states, have been set out.

The Reverend Henry Blanchard, '59, in an article in the TUFTS COLLEGE GRADUATE for October, 1903, writes, "We planted our trees making the Fifty-Nine Avenue. It runs east from Goddard Chapel to Miner Hall, but the hundreds visiting the hill know it not by name". This line of trees is shown in early photographs, but the construction of Eaton Library, and its recent extension, required removal of so many of these trees that very few remain.

- (3) Planting of Class Trees was a feature of some of the Class Day exercises in former years, and in certain cases a sealed box containing souvenirs of the class was buried with the roots. Such a box was buried at the foot of the class tree of the Class of '76 in the quadrangle near the Bowen Porch.

- (4) In the enthusiasm for improving the campus, trees were set out in the quadrangle north of Ballou Hall before the grading was complete. As a result it was necessary to lower these later into the sterile subsoil where for a long time they were like plants in pots set in the glacial clay and made slow growth until sufficient new soil formed to allow the roots to spread out.

In the early 1900s a number of pin oaks were set out in the easterly part of the campus, and, except for some damage by ice storms, are mostly in good condition.

Not all the plantings have been attended with

success. Of a number of evergreens set out on the slope opposite Curtis Hall about 1930, but few survived. Likewise three attempts to place a tree on the south slope of the hill as a memorial to Professor Fred D. Lambert failed, but a fourth seems to have succeeded. Too often lack of watering while the roots were becoming established accounted for the loss of a tree. A planting of evergreen trees as a screen for the Oval has been particularly successful because they were carefully watered and fertilized.

After the regrading of the slope east of Miner Hall, a row of Lombardy poplars was set out on both sides of the street between Boston Avenue and Professors Row. They served a purpose as quick growing trees, but in a few years had numerous offspring coming up in the adjacent lawns, and their roots began to dislocate the sidewalk. These have since been removed and replaced by more suitable trees.

Careful grooming of the grounds, with consequent loss of nourishment for the trees, so affected them that while Dr. Cousens was President expert advice was sought and a program of feeding and trimming instituted which has resulted in a marked improvement. The great 1938 hurricane laid many of the largest trees low, but by prompt attention in resetting and bracing the greater part were saved.

New trees have been set out around the parking lot on the Rez and College Acres in keeping with the plan to make "the Hill a garden".

A note, 1959: The last Lambert tree went like the rest.

THE CAMPUS TREES

- (1) MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER, Vol. XXXIX, p 29.

In the article on "Walnut Tree Hill" by Richard B. Coolidge mention is made of the Hessians quartered near Boston while waiting for transportation back to Europe. Mr. Coolidge writes. "Some of them were doubtless quartered on Walnut Hill, as tradition says that they stripped the hill, until then well covered by walnut trees, to provide fuel for their camp fires."

- (2) TUFTS COLLEGE GRADUATE, July, 1905.
"The Opening of Tufts College"

"The college was so crowded, we did not attempt an entrance, but grouped ourselves under the shade of a large tree, until the trumpet gave the signal for the procession to form for dinner, which was served in a large tent on the grounds."

- (3) TUFTS COLLEGIAN, Volume II, p 103.
Part of the address by H. H. Eddy in the Class Day exercises.

"Classmates, we place at the foot of this tree, where it will be affectionately encircled by its roots and fibres, a box. This box contains the last Triennial and Catalogue, "Boston Daily Globe", "Advertiser", and "Journal", copies of the oration, poem, prophecies, chronicles, and address of today, with a copy of the last "Collegian".

"By a solemn vote of the class the last surviving member, whoever he may be, shall, upon his ascertaining the fact, either remove the contents, or cause them to be removed to the college library."

- (4) HISTORY OF TUFTS COLLEGE, p 49.

"Some grading had been done prior to the building of the Reservoir but the completion of the streets around it required still more, principally near West Hall; and about 1869 - '70 some further grading was done between the present site of the chapel and Miner Hall, so that taking all

the work together, a large portion of the hill has been lowered from 3 to 5 feet. A large number of trees had been planted before this time, and when the grading was done these had to be lowered with the land. Many of the trees on the southern lawn were planted by the earlier classes!

(5) HISTORIC LEAVES, January, 1907, Volume 8, #4

"The Tufts College grounds, now so well adorned with trees, once presented a practically treeless hill. Early pictures of it show the lines of the stone wall which divided the farms, and few or no trees. The last of the walnuts, which gave the name to the hill originally, were cut down by the soldiers encamped on Winter Hill for their log huts and back-logs. Aaron B. Magoun gave to the college in its first year a tree for every student from his nursery on Winter Hill. Otis Curtis, one of the trustees, superintended the planting of most of the trees on the hill, and set out the row of willows on College Avenue towards Medford. Ladies of the Universalist societies in the vicinity of Boston used to have 'planting bees' with a public celebration and the planting of trees from time to time. The row of elms set in front of the house of the first president are still standing, though the house has been moved away."

THE "REZ"

THE REZ

The Rez is gone, and generations of students yet to come will know it only as a tradition, but those whose privilege it was to stroll around the top of the embankment on warm evenings of spring and fall will treasure memories of those times.

Built in the early 1860's as part of the water system of Charlestown and the Mystic valley, it was a rectangular basin one-third of a mile in circumference and twenty-two feet deep; lined on bottom and sides to the water level with layers of brick laid in cement, and having three courses of granite blocks forming the upper part of the side walls. Below the granite blocks the sides were inclined, making the enclosed volume an inverted truncated pyramid. A central cross wall, invisible with water at normal level, divided the reservoir into two sections so that either might be emptied for cleaning or repairs while service was maintained from the other.

Near the easterly corner stood a neat brick gate house containing the valves for controlling the intake and discharge of water; and from which radiated the large cast iron pipes, some by way of Capen Street to connect with the pumping station at the western end of that street, some through the college land to the square in front of Curtis Hall, and others by way of Packard Avenue to Somerville. For many years the gate house was headquarters for a watchman who tended the valves and had oversight over the whole property.

For the first forty years, perhaps more, of its existence the Rez had no fence around the top, but there was a wooden fence around the entire plot in the beginning. However, several drownings brought a demand for protection, and an iron fence, the same now in place around the Old Campus, was placed just outside the top course of granite.

Just as the top of the embankment furnished the best lookout point in the region, so it appealed to some as the best place for a victory bonfire in the last years of this form of celebration, and two or three spots of blistered fence

and ruined concrete were the result of the final feeble attempts to preserve the former glory of a victory celebration no longer recognized as permissible by civil or College authorities.

The steep bank beyond Fletcher Hall was the scene of Sophomore-Freshman "scrambles" when this was offered as a substitute for the West Hall doorway as the goal in the flag rush.

Children of the Row families tobogganed down the same slope in winter, and rolled down in the summer grass.

"Leo" gathered the students around his little melodian on the east bank for springtime sings, and on pleasant Sunday afternoons the promenade around the top was enjoyed by many from the region roundabout.

By college custom, freshmen were forbidden to appear on the Rez, but few were total strangers to it, and on one occasion in the early 1900's quite stole a march on their traditional enemies in connection with the annual flag flying contest. The Tuesday night before the Thanksgiving Recess, when, if ever, class flags must be put up in order to meet the condition of being seen at Chapel time next morning, was stormy with snow squalls. When daylight came, a raft was seen securely anchored in the center of the Rez, and proudly flying from a pole upright upon it was a freshman flag.

Time was short in which to remove it before Chapel, and the water too cold for swimming. A boat was brought up, but with plenty of freshmen around, it soon became unseaworthy. Then a rope was brought to be stretched from side to side as a sweep. That, too, failed to be of use in the presence of the freshmen until the chapel bell was heard, after which the sophomores might do their worst, and did, but by then the point was won.

Spray from the Rez was sometimes driven as far as West Hall by strong westerly winds, and on such occasions the stroller ventured along the

eastern side at his peril. But the embankment was a welcome shield from the chilly blasts which now sweep unhindered through the quadrangle.

(1) The original purpose of the Rez was as a place for storage of water pumped from the Upper Mystic Lake. In time this source was abandoned because of pollution, and the water was taken from the Metropolitan System. Thereafter, from 1914 to 1944, it was merely a reserve for emergency use, and was finally drained in 1944. For nearly two years it stood empty and neglected, a repository for the trash thrown in by children, and disfigured without and within by local forces of destruction.

Some time after it became the property of the College a breach was made in the wall beside the gate house and work was started reclaiming brick with which to build the new Bray Laboratory.

The granite wall went for riprap on a seawall at Nahant, no sale being found for it because of the high cost of labor in laying stonework.

Then came the bulldozer, and gradually the upper part of the embankment was tumbled into the bottom, together with whatever other filling material was available, until the hole was filled to campus level. Gravel and cinders were spread at the eastern end and the area opened for parking for which purpose it was used until the erection of Carmichael Hall in 1953.

THE REZ

(1) TUFTS SUMMER NEWS, July 18, 1946

"First steps in the razing of the Res., familiar Medford landmark, now owned by Tufts College, were taken this week when steam-shovels set to work to excavate a passage for the removal of the brick which forms the reservoir wall.....

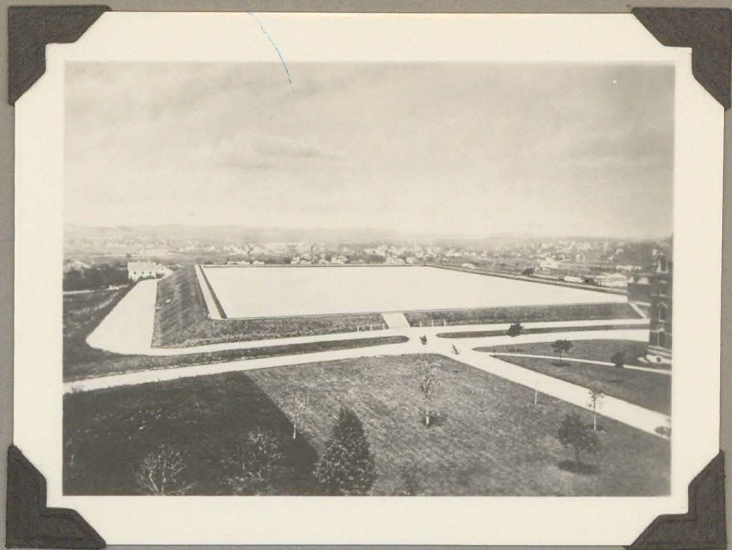
"Tufts was a very young college when in 1861 the Massachusetts state legislature granted permission to the cities of Charlestown, Somerville, and Chelsea to expand their water supply by building a reservoir on Walnut Hill as part of the Mystic Water Works project. The following year the land, consisting of ten and a half acres was purchased from the estate of Joseph Manning.

"With the Mayor of Charlestown officiating at formal ceremonies, construction began in the fall of 1862, and the entire system extending from the Mystic River to Charlestown was completed in 1864.....

"Although the Commission ordered the Rez shut off for water supply except in an emergency in 1914, the water was not drained off from the Rez and left empty until the fall of 1944."

TRUSTEES' RECORD, February 12, 1866

"Voted:- That the Treasurer execute and deliver in the name of this Corporation, a deed to the City of Charlestown, its successors and assigns, of a right of way and to lay out and maintain water pipes over and through a strip of land, one rod wide, on College Hill in Medford from said City's Reservoir on said Hill towards said City to the limits of the land of said Corporation, as shown on a Plan and set forth in a Deed already prepared and dated February 12, 1866 with the usual covenants of warranty."



The "Rez."
1880



Cars Parked on Site of Rez,
1949



The Eastern Walk
1946



Last of the Eastern Bank
1947



Before the Rez.
Was Fenced



After the Rez.
Was Fenced



Empty and ready for Destruction
1946



The Embankment Breached
Removing Granite
1947



The Rez.
1865

THE COLLEGE PUMP



The College Pump
1899



The Bubbler

THE COLLEGE PUMP

The first water supply for the top of the Hill appears to have been the well beside Packard Hall. Whether this was a natural spring like several others elsewhere on the campus, or a well dug in a likely spot is not recorded. Neither is there a record of any other well although it is believed that there was one either in the basement of Ballou Hall or near by.

(1) A new pump was installed in 1888, which shows that the well had been long in use; and the account of the condition of the former pump, as given by the following quotation from the TUFTONIAN of January, 1878, indicates that its useful life was well towards the end, even at that date.

"The demand for a gymnasium on the Hill is at last answered. To be sure, there is but one piece of apparatus, but that is admirably calculated to develop full vigor of body - and mind, too, in a certain direction. The apartment is exceedingly well ventilated; and, what is particularly pleasant, the whole arrangement has cost nothing, but simply removing the box from the college pump. Some say that only the plug has been taken out, but that is a delusion. For we have seen energy enough expended on that pump to force water to the top of Mount Washington, if it had even the shadow of a box, and yet the pump nose remained just as dry as a sick dog's. It is amusing to see an amateur take hold of that handle. He begins easy at first but he might become as dry as an Egyptian mummy before he got water in that way. Then he 'lays for it' and grows red in the face, and shows his canines; but still there seems about as much prospect of his success as there is in getting a vacuum in an open receiver. If he is not particular about breathing, he may 'fetch it'; but if he stops to perform that operation, rather necessary to most of us, his invested energy is lost to him forever. We think there should be a medal committee to make awards

to that happy few who succeed in bringing moisture to those parched lips. Experience makes us willing to contribute generously in this direction."

The new pump was no fancy iron affair, or factory product of sawed timber, but a stout old log pump, eight sided in the visible part, and having a cast-iron spout on which hung a dipper until public drinking cups were banned.

The eight narrow sides may have been the inspiration for a repainting in alternate red and white stripes carried out by members of the freshman class at the time of the annual Flag Rush in 1897. Action by the sophomores was prompt and a coat of brown and blue quickly covered the freshman colors, but before it had time to dry an attempt was made to restore the red and white. This called for discipline, which was applied by the sophomores, and once more the pump was painted with the brown and blue and a warning notice tacked on the pump:

"Let every traitor hang his head
Among good men and true;
Whoever daubs with white and red
The glorious brown and blue."

A concrete walk around the well, and none-too-tight wooden cover, doubtless permitted some leakage of surface water, for, in 1889, the TUF-TONIAN complains of, "water strongly flavored with tar".

This same leakage eventually led to the abandonment of the well and substitution of the present bubbler. About the year 1900, samples of the water were analyzed for the benefit of a class in Sanitary Engineering, and evidence of pollution found. The reason was doubtless an application of dressing from the college barn applied to the adjacent lawn some time before. The pollution may have been only temporary, and easily corrected, but the pump was removed and the bubbler took its place.

Water from the well was always cold and refreshing, so much so that a drink of it was worth the trouble of going to the pump for it, even after water from the Reservoir was to be had in any dormitory.

It was said that water for the bubbler would be run through a pipe coil submerged in the well and so cooled, but no such beneficial effect was noticeable. Those who had known the water from the pump had little use for the bubbler, but in a few years it was accepted by the newer generations of students who never knew the sweeter water beneath their feet.

Dean Rollins
brought in this
little poem to be
added to the
information on
the College
Pump. Thought
you might like
to acknowledge it.

DE.

11/1/67

8

Waters, Mendal E 1917

See vertical file

THE COLLEGE PUMP

Long years ago when Tufts was young
And home of stalwart men,
They drank a purer drink by far
Than will be seen again.

For where the present bubbler is,
With its oft tepid flow;
A wooden pump stood in a well,
To which they used to go.

The pump, made from a sturdy log,
Eight sided, hewed by hand;
It showed no sign of knot or crack;
For years 'twas due to stand.

Its handle long and iron spout,
Oft tried a student's mettle
Ere he brought water gushing out
To fill his cup or kettle.

A cup of tin hung on the spout.
How could one get a drink without?
Till common cups by law were banned
Lest they should scatter germs about.

When Nineteen Hundred's year arrived
And College dressed the nearby ground,
In water samples sent for test
Some slight pollution then was found.

"Pull up the pump", the order came;
"We cannot risk infection",
And so the bubbler took its place,
But gives less satisfaction.

E. B. R., '01

THE COLLEGE WELL

Tufts Weekly, Jan. 29, '03

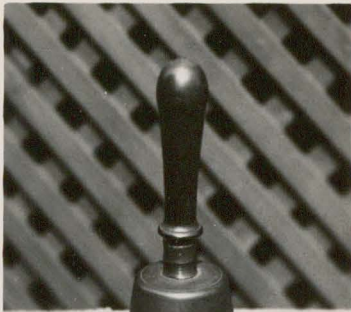
On College Hill there may be seen
 A common spot uncommon green.
 'Twas here some worthy men of yore
 Decided they would make a bore.
 Although most bores are too distressing,
 This bore was really quite refreshing,
 And of this bore 'twas also true
 You could pump it, 'twould not pump you.
 They were well drilled who drilled this well,
 Of which this verse essays to tell;
 Its source was springs too deep for seeing,
 Whence sprung the source of its well being.
 The students gathered from their quarters
 To test the virtue of the waters
 And oft repaired there on the sly
 Whene're their courses were too dry.
 (But though they thus improved the courses,
 They never watered there their "horses")
 The Freshmen new to life in college
 Sought to allay their thirst for knowledge.
 The Sophomores showed son and daughter
 A human "windmill run by water".
 The Juniors, as they filled their glasses,
 Spoke proudly of the "upper classes".
 The Senior, too, his palate wet,
 And strove to liquidate his debt.
 Here, too, upon these grassy slopes
 The Freshmen (dampened were their hopes)
 Showed the gay "Sophs", with strokes amazing,
 How they could swim and take their hazing.
 Amid the Sophies' jeer and scoff
 The Freshies swam their greenness off,
 And that is why there may be seen
 This common spot uncommon green.
 Ah, well! one day, ah well a day
 The good old well was done away.
 The pump itself went up the spout
 As soon as it was taken out.
 They put a cover on the well;
 It cannot be recovered,
 But memory holds dear the spot
 'Round which tradition hovered.
 Instead of the clear silver stream
 From which our thirst was sated,
 From gurgling things our draught is quaffed
 The water's nickel-plated.
 And soon no more there will be seen
 That common spot uncommon green.

THE COLLEGE PUMP

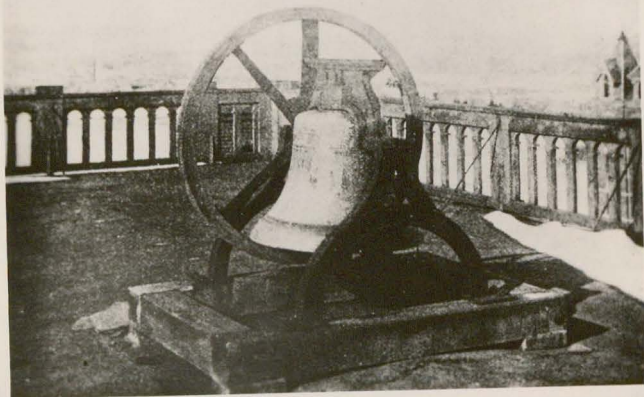
(1) TUFTONIAN, October 5, 1888.

"Among the improvements made on the Hill this summer are new walks, a new pump, and steam heat in the College Building."

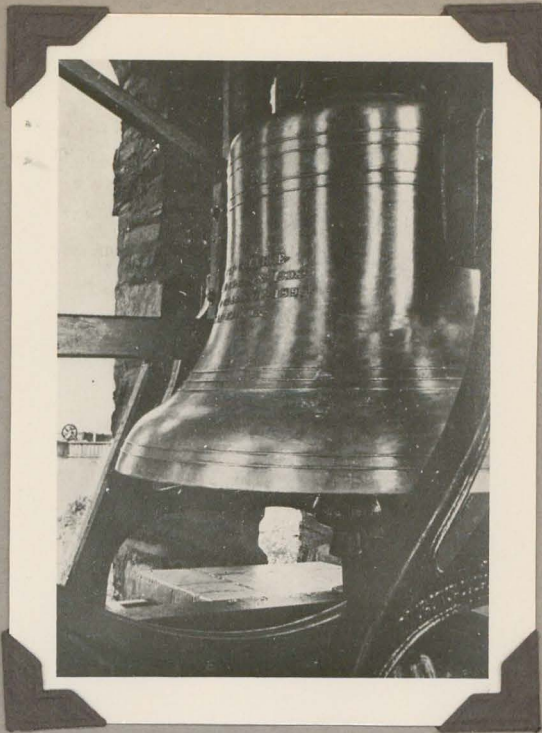
BELLS



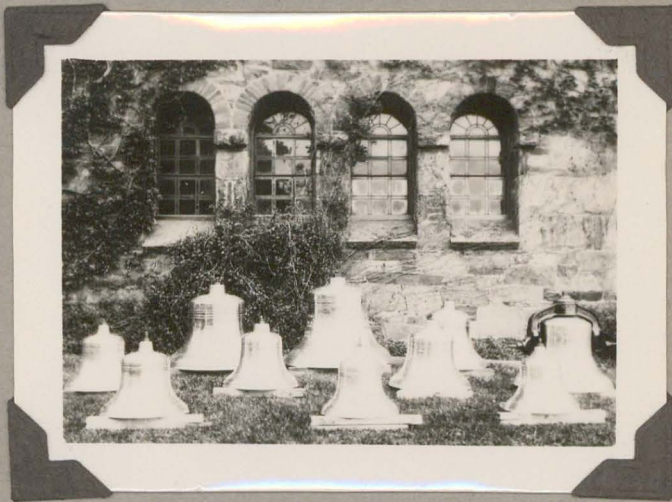
First Tufts College Bell



Old Bell on Ballou Hall



'98 Bell in Chapel Tower



Bowen Chimes

11-a

THE BELL

- (0) Medford Historical Register, July, 1914
- (1) Tuftonian, May 4, 1889
"College Hill in 1863-'66"
H. M. Knowlton, '67
- (2) Tuftonian, March 5, 1889.
- (3) Tuftonian, March 20, 1889.

(0)

(1)

(2)

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to broadcast news of a Tufts victory. After important games on the Oval, if Tufts won, the score was carried to Ballou Hall by a swift runner, where freshmen waited ready to ring a hearty peal, and then count out the score by single blows. With the team away, the old bell's clangor was often the first announcement of success, the news having come to the Hill by telegraph.

There was always a chance for some reliable student, willing to be tied to an exacting schedule, to earn a small stipend as bell ringer, until about 1900 when ringing the bell was made part of the duty of the Ballou Hall janitor, an arrangement which still continues.

A new and larger bell was presented to the College by the Class of 1898 on the tenth anniversary of its graduation, and this was mounted in the tower of Goddard Chapel. The Medford Historical Register is authority for the statement that the former bell, which had served for over half a century, was sold to the founders of the new one. On page 61 of the same reference is found the following account of the presentation and dedication as taken from the Tufts College Graduate:-

"On June 11, 1908, the Class of '98 presented the College with a new bell, placing it in the lofty stone tower of Goddard Chapel.At its installation elaborate services of dedication were held in the Chapel.

(4) "Professor Lewis grasped the dramatic possibilities of a dedicatory service in which the bell itself should play a speaking part.

"The program began with an invocation, and the class song was sung by Frank Lincoln Pierce, who sang it on the '98 Class Day. The president of the class, John Albert Cousens, next presented the bell, which was accepted by President Hamilton. The ode was sung by Clara Ransom of '98, for Tufts was then co-educational. Passages from Schiller's 'Lay of the Bell' were then sung, and at the words 'She is moving, sways, sways', the first stroke of the bell was given by the college president. Then followed the 'Act of Dedication- To Prayer, to Mourning, to Work, to

(4) Medford Historical Register, July, 1914

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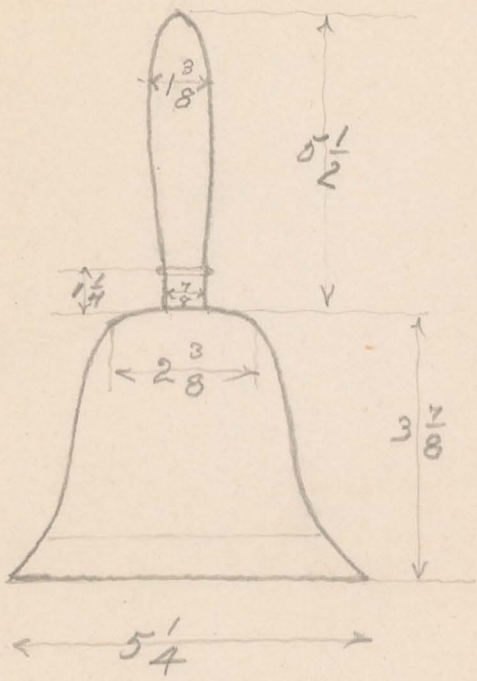
Jubilation, and as the Voice of Alma Mater." by the president. At each announcement there was a response by the choir and bell. During all the exercises the audience has been seated. It now arose and joined in singing a stanza of the college song, pausing before the final sentence, when the pealing of the bell was heard.

"The composition of this bell is seventy-eight per cent Lake Superior copper and twenty-two per cent imported tin. It weighs 1011 lbs., is 116 inches in circumference at the sound bow, and its medium tone is A. The inscription cast upon the bell is -

TUFTS COLLEGE
Given in June, 1908
By the Class of 1898
Pax-et-Lux "

The climax in college bells was the gift of the Bowen chimes in 1926. These were mounted in the chapel belfry after the tower had been repaired and greatly strengthened. Since that time, student chime ringers have been trained each year and programs of music given at regular intervals while college is in session, and on special occasions as on Class Day and Christmas Day. The '98 bell is the A bell in the chime, and the only one mounted for use as a class bell.

First Tufts College Bell



Dimensions in inches.

• Tone G sharp in the eleventh tone above middle C.

BELLS

(1) MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER, July, 1914

(2) TUFTONIAN, May 4, 1889.
College Hill in 1865 - '66

"Our great bugbear was morning prayers, which were held at a quarter before seven the year around, and absence from which was a breach of college discipline."

(3) TUFTONIAN, March 5, 1889.

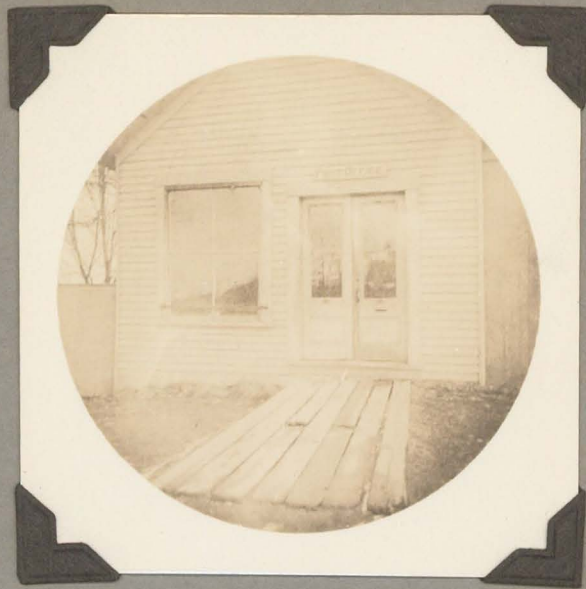
"For the sake of convenience the bell-rope in College Hall has been continued down to the second floor. Formerly it was necessary to ascend to the attic to ring the bell."

(4) TUFTONIAN, March 20, 1889.

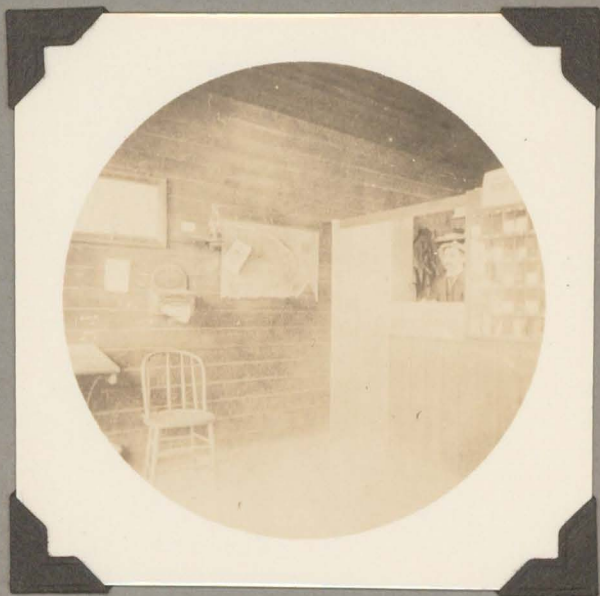
"The college bell-rope now hangs in a tempting position for mischief-makers, and consequently is rung three or four times before some of the recitations."

(5) MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER, July, 1914.

POST OFFICE



Post Office



Post Office

TUFTS COLLEGE POST-OFFICE

Having a Post-Office of its own was always a matter of pride to Tufts College, although the
 (1) official designation was "College Hill" from the date of its establishment on March 6, 1863, until the name, together with that of the railroad station,
 (2) was changed to "Tufts College" on the first of April, 1890.

When first opened, the office was located in the railroad station, but some years later, at a date of which there seems to be no record, it was moved to a small building erected by the College near the western end of the present Curtis Hall. Here it remained until the erection of Curtis Hall in 1894 where a room had been provided for it. This was not the room now occupied, but nearer the center of the building. The change to the present quarters was made after the close of World War I.

A tax list in a Trustee Report for 1882 gives the assessed valuation of the Post-Office building as \$200. This little building, with a lean-to addition on one side, acquired since it left Tufts College, now stands near the railroad bridge on Cedar Street, Somerville, where it has been used as a club room. Until recently the outline of the old Post-Office sign could be seen over the door.

Selection of the postmaster in those early days was left to the President of the College, who often gave the place to some student working his way. Among these were Fred S. Pearson, '83, whose commission was held in his mother's name as he had not then reached the age of twenty-one; Julian C. Edgerly, '88; David T. Montague, '89; and John Eills, '97.

On January 1, 1900, the college Post-Office
 (3) became a third-class office with William H. Coffee, who had long been depot-master at the Tufts College railroad station, as postmaster.

Post-Office 2

On June 30, 1907, came another change by which the office became part of the Boston Postal District. With the building up of the surrounding territory, the office serves a considerable community, and the College enjoys carrier service and other facilities of the larger offices, but it is no longer consulted in the appointment of its postmasters, and has lost the neighborliness which prevailed in the days when there was always a gathering of Hill folks around the door at mail time.

Any account of the Tufts College Post-Office would be incomplete without mention of Carrier Ole Mortensen, who was with the office for many generations of students, knew and had a cheery greeting for all, and whose thoughtfulness, efficiency, and devotion to service endeared him to everyone. Ole retired in 1950 as the result of injuries sustained in a fall.

TUFTS COLLEGE POST OFFICE

(1) MEDFORD HISTORICAL REGISTER, April, 1913, p. 37.

"The post-office was established at College Hill, March 6, 1863, and was for many years located in the railroad station. The office was practically under the jurisdiction of Tufts College, and the appointments of postmasters were made upon the recommendations of its presidents and for the most part were given to students who were working their way through college.

"John A. Whitney was the first postmaster and served until June 1, 1871 when he was succeeded by Benjamin T. White. Mr. White was succeeded by Fred Stark Pearson, September 23, 1881. (Note-His mother, Mrs. Hannah A. Pearson, held the commission from the Department as Mr. Pearson had not attained his majority at this time.)

"Mr. Pearson was followed by Julian C. Edgerly.....H. O. Moxon was postmaster following Mr. Edgerly, and he was followed by David T. Montague. Mr. Montague was succeeded by John Eills, who served until Jan 1, 1900, when the office became a third-class office.

"William H. Coffee, station agent at Tufts College railroad station, was appointed postmaster by President McKinley, January ., 1900, and continued until June 30, 1907, when the office was consolidated with Boston and he was appointed Superintendent of the Tufts College Branch.

"The post-office was continued in the railroad station up to Mr. Eills' term, when it was removed to a college building near the present location. When Mr. Coffee assumed charge, the office was moved to its present quarters. The name was changed from College Hill to Tufts College about 1895."

Note- The old station was abandoned in 1897 when the new was built, but some time previous and before Curtis Hall was built in 1894, the post office was in a small wooden building near the railroad bridge.

EARLY FACULTY HOMES



Marshall House



Tweed House
1857

17

EARLY FACULTY HOMES

MARSHALL AND TWEED HOUSES

The first sale of college land for faculty homes was to Professors Marshall and Tweed, who, in 1857, purchased one-half acre lots on Professors Row and the following year built the houses now numbered 48 and 72.

Professor Marshall's house was similar to that of President Ballou, but had a piazza across the eastern end. This house retained its original form until purchased by Dr. Lee S. McCollester when he came to the college as Dean of Crane Theological School. Dr. McCollester made extensive alterations, including a considerable addition on the eastern end.

After the death of Dr. McCollester the house was taken by the College as a residence for Vice-President George S. Miller, ~~the present occupant.~~

Professor Tweed's house is that now occupied as a residence by the Dean of Jackson College, and externally is practically unchanged from the form in which it was built in 1858.

PROVOST'S HOUSE

48 Professors Row

This is one of the oldest houses on the campus, having been one of the first two sales to private individuals of college property (in 1857).

John P. Marshall (1823-1901) had the house built in 1857-1858 and lived in it until his death. Marshall, who was on the original faculty, taught all the science courses, and served as Acting President after the death of Hosea Ballou 2d in 1861.

Various faculty members lived in the house between 1901 and 1912, until it was bought by Lee S. McCollester, Dean of the Crane Theological School, who occupied it until his death in 1941. Originally there was a piazza across the eastern end. McCollester remodelled the house extensively and enlarged it, including the addition of a large living room where the piazza was originally located.

Tufts acquired the property in 1941 and beginning then, it has been occupied by members of the administration except for a brief period in 1980-81, when it was the temporary headquarters of the Counseling Center. The occupants have been:

1941-1951, Dean George S. Miller

1951-1954, Vice-President Nils Y. Wessell, until his appointment as President.

1955-1959, Vice-President John P. Tilton (the first Provost; the house has thereafter been referred to as the Provost's House, at which the cannon next to Ballou Hall was pointed when it was originally installed).

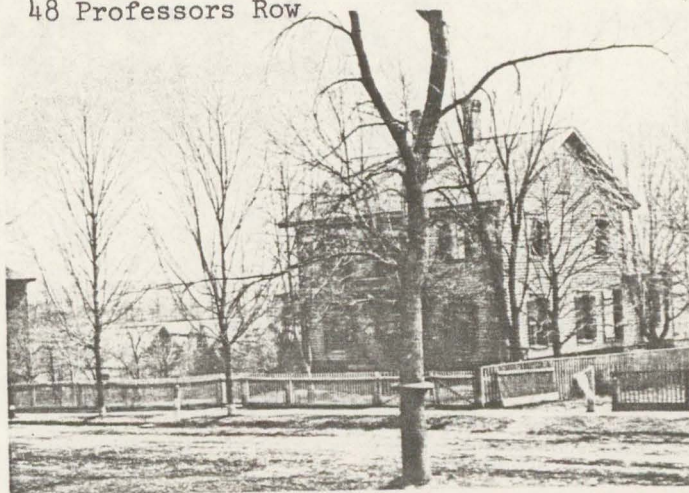
1959-1968, Leonard C. Mead, Provost

1968-1973, Albert Ullman, Provost

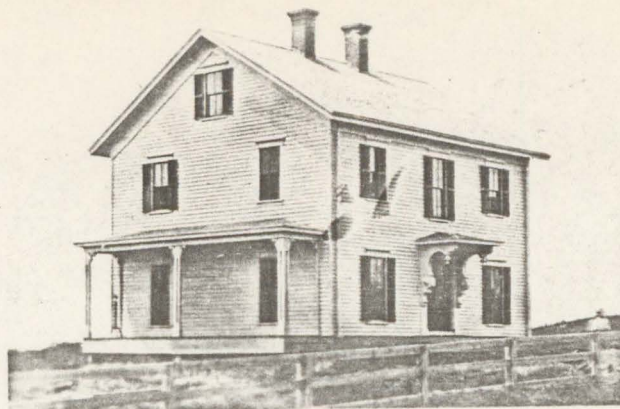
1973-1980, Kathryn McCarthy, Provost

" Provost's House "

(originally the Marshall House) 48 Professors Row



1876



Shortly after construction