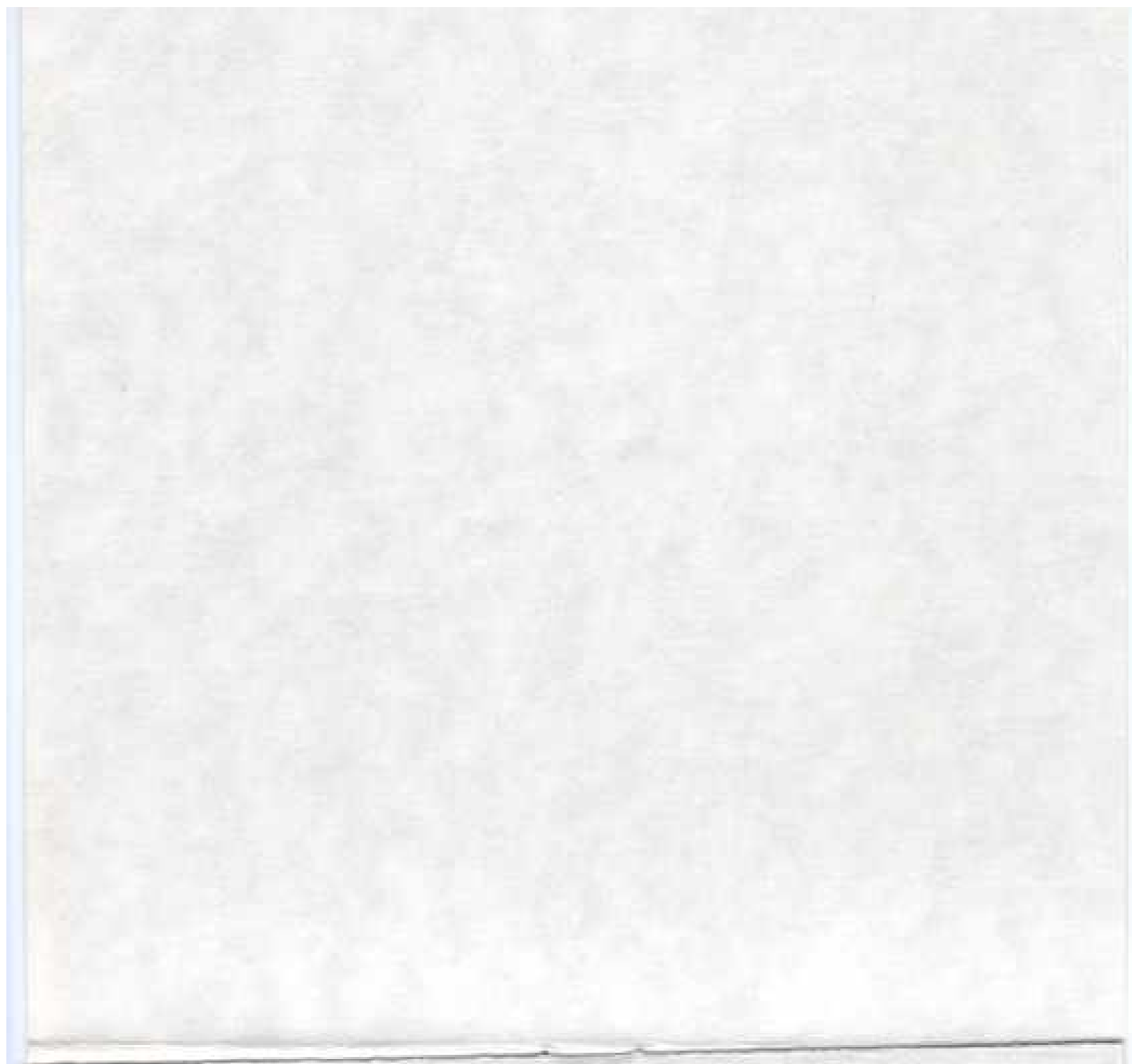


Ellicott Mansion
The New Alumni Center
"A Place to Preserve History"

a rare opportunity

to contribute to the heritage

of the College



Did you watch Parker and Fiske Halls go up in 1914? Or the Alpha house come down in 1968? Were you in the crowd that sent Clarence DeMar off to run in the Boston Marathon? Did you ever attend an Alpha opera? (Remember the "Merchant of Venice?" Shakespearean theatre may never recover.) And remember how nice Fiske and Huntress looked with Christmas candles in every window?

Did you ever iceskate in front of Fiske? Play ice hockey where Spaulding gym now stands? Draw Etta Merrill in charcoal? Take the trolley down Main Street or stroll up to Silent Way? Do you remember those delicious ice cream cones from White's—two scoops for a nickel? Did you listen to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt lecture in the old gym? Or were you one of those optimistic souls who tried to make the married student housing on Lower Marlboro Street livable with a coat of pastel-colored paint?

The people who share these and other memories of their years at Keene State, Keene Teachers' College, and Keene Normal School will be the focus of the 1976 alumni gift giving: This year we would like to give a gift to ourselves. We plan to earmark \$20,000 of our \$50,000 goal for the new Alumni Center—both for the restoration of the Elliot Homestead's Federal heritage and for the refurbishing of the third floor suite of rooms. Would you like to earmark your gift for the new Alumni Center?

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Our pride and joy right now is the restoration of the original Elliot Mansion. Built in the early decades of the 1800's, the Mansion's second floor now serves as our alumni headquarters. We feel this is a rare opportunity for us to have a tasteful alumni home and to contribute to the preservation of the college and Keene community heritage. And a lovely place to swap old memories.

Recently we received some very good news about Elliot. After much research, Alumni President Marion Wood has succeeded in having Elliot Mansion approved as a historic place by the New Hampshire Review Board of the Department of Resources and Economic Development. That nomination is now being considered by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.

To furnish these historic rooms for use as The Alumni Center, we are seeking antiques from the Federal period—roughly from 1825 to 1875—without which a complete restoration would be impossible. The decision to have alumni contribute antique pieces directly to the College was reached at a summer meeting of the Elliot Committee. At the time the committee determined a



policy for accepting such antiques. Joseph Lessard '59 defines that policy as follows: "The committee suggests and recommends that you submit a photograph, description, documents when available, and an appraisal certificate. This request accomplishes the following: Serves as a tax deductible item for you. Authenticates the item for our archives on antiquity. And facilitates the Committee's acceptance of an item's functional use as well as its integral place within the decor."

The reasonable monetary value of such a gift will of course be credited to the donor and his/her class in the KSC Fund Drive.

The Class of 1925, by the way, chose to furnish an alumni history and archives room as its class gift during its anniversary year (1975). Right now that room looks like a windstorm blew in the window, dropped cases of memorabilia, and took off. But oh what plans we have for it!

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The third floor of Elliot is another matter entirely. Right now it consists of seven empty rooms—all in need of paint and repair. We hope to turn these rooms into overnight lodgings. There are many occasions when they could be used by visiting alumni and campus guests—especially board and committee members, volunteer workers, or visiting alumni friends who've come a long way and can't face the ride home.

The Class of 1926 is kindly designating its 1976 fund gifts to be used for the furnishing of one of these third floor rooms. If you feel your anniversary class gift could be used in this manner, talk it

over with your Class Secretary or the alumni office staff.

We are all very excited about our new alumni home—President Marion Wood '26, Elliot Hall Committee Chairperson Ruth Kimball '43, Don Carle '52, and the many alumni volunteers who've seen Elliot. We envision a historical showplace for the campus, the town, and the alumni on Elliot's second floor, and comfortable lodgings on the third.



And we are well on our way. Every so often some one will exclaim that things are really coming together. A lovely mirror from the original homestead reflects the proceedings in our big conference room. The Queen Anne furniture has arrived. Crystal candelabra that once graced the Elliot's mantel again chime softly in the breeze. Daddy Mason looks down at us during board meetings. And the patterns of our Belgian oriental carpets protect the gleaming hardwood floors.

We have a long way to go, of course. But we *can* accomplish our goals if alumni pride and support will prevail.

of the College

