

# PHI SIGMA HOUSE

## (NOW CONTINUING EDUCATION HOUSE)



**Year Built: 1899-1900**

“In accordance with the general policy recommended in the report of the committee on society houses and subsequently adopted by the Trustees, four societies have received permission to build [*Shakespeare Society, Phi Sigma, Zeta Alpha, Tau Zeta Epsilon*]. This report provided for ‘the erection of any building or buildings suitable for meetings, literary or social, and at such moderate cost as not to entail embarrassment upon the Trustees or loss to the societies in case it should become necessary, in the remote future, for the Trustees to use otherwise the sites upon which they may be located; always provided that any permission to use land is temporary, and subject to withdrawal by the Trustees, and that such permission shall never be construed to be anything more than a license for such use during the pleasure of the Corporation, and that the title to any structures placed upon its land shall rest absolutely in the Corporation, without restriction upon their control or use thereof as future events may show to be wise.’” – Annual Report of the President of Wellesley College (1898)

Four out of the six societies now existing have obtained permission by the college trustees for the erection of chapter houses. Within the last year, 3 houses have been built and occupied. The 4th house is rapidly approaching completion. “The third of these chapter houses, that of the Phi Sigma Society, was formally opened last month with a reception and spread, a large number of guests being bidden. Close to Tupelo Point, on the banks of Lake Waban, within easy reach of College Hall, the house is charmingly situated. It is built after the plan of an Italian villa, one story high, with large windows, attractive woodwork finish and roomy verandas. On the right of the vestibule, dark green in coloring, is a den, a retreat for whatever idle moments fall to Phi Sigma members; opposite is the library, finished in dark red, and back of this the large assembly hall, also in red, while adjoining is a room for storing and domestic purposes.” – New York Tribune: March 18, 1900