

ZETA ALPHA 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)

“Close to the Phi Sigma headquarters is the home of Zeta Alpha, its contemporary in age. It is of similar purpose. Second in order of erection, this handsome Colonial house has been in use now for several weeks. Zeta Alpha’s aim, on the serious side, is wide reaching: it embraces a study of work movements in modern life, and its ideals are all for mutual, helpful development. Much good intellectual work is accomplished in this as in the other societies, and where Phi Sigma swears by its solemn owl Zeta Alpha gives allegiance to its sacred lamp.” – New York Tribune: March 18, 1900