



# TUFTS

*Then & Now*

A historical tour of the  
Medford/Somerville campus



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TUFTS UNIVERSITY  
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

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# GREETINGS

Dear Reader:

With this book we bring you a historical perspective to the Tufts Medford/Somerville campus. The buildings you walk by every day not only give shape and character to this historic campus, but stand as witnesses to the generations of Tufts men and women who have come before you.

We hope that the following pages will encourage an appreciation for the courage and foresight of those early leaders who, in 1852, envisioned creating a “light on a hill.” From a solitary building, a class of seven students, a faculty of four, and one blackboard, Tufts has grown from a small college into an international university. While we focus on the oldest part of the university, the Medford/Somerville campus, Tufts today encompasses three other campuses — the Health Sciences campus in Boston, the Veterinary School in Grafton, and the Tufts European Center in Talloires, France.

To those of you who have come here as freshmen, we welcome you to this remarkable university. While you are here, you will have the opportunity to interact with other young people from all over the world. You will experience living with and working within a diverse, intellectually stimulating community. You will be challenged to become critical thinkers and to expand the frontiers of your mind.

We urge you to make the most of the abundance of educational opportunities presented to you during your sojourn here “On the Hill,” and in that regard we wish you well.

Alan MacDougall, A65  
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## TUFTS THEN & NOW

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KEY TO DEGREE CODES  
A = ARTS & SCIENCES  
C = CRANE  
E = ENGINEERING  
H = HONORARY DEGREE  
J = JACKSON  
W = WOMEN (PRIOR TO JACKSON)

# COLLEGE ON A HILL

We start our tour where Tufts College began more than 150 years ago, in front of Ballou Hall. In the seventeenth century, this land was used as upland pasture. At the time, it was so heavily wooded with walnut trees that it was called “Walnut Tree Hill.” During the American Revolution, Hessian soldiers stationed in this area felled many of the trees for firewood. The remaining trees were felled by Medford residents, perhaps for the ship-building industry that flourished on the banks of the Mystic River. By the time Tufts College was founded, the hill was windswept and barren.

The hilltop location proved inspirational, however, to Charles Tufts, a wealthy merchant, brick-maker and landowner. Tufts had inherited the property in 1840 and was determined to found an educational institution on it. According to legend, when friends asked him what he intended to do with the “bleak hill over in Medford,” he replied, “I will set a light upon the Hill.” Leaders of the Universalist denomination, who had long sought to establish a nonsectarian liberal arts college, accepted Tufts’ gift of 20 acres. In 1852, Tufts College was chartered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and in 1854 the first students were admitted.

Perhaps the very first light seen on the Hill came from a kerosene lamp used by some students “burning the midnight oil” in **Ballou Hall (1)**, then known simply as the College Edifice. The seven young men, who made up the entire student body, lived, worked and worshiped in this one building, which, a half century later, was renamed for Hosea Ballou 2d, the first president of Tufts College. Tuition was \$35 per year; a room cost \$10 a year. Board, including three meals a day but no laundry or fuel, was \$2.50 a week!

Few today know or appreciate the role that Ballou Hall played in modern communications. Although Alexander

Graham Bell got the patent (1876), the glory and the Hollywood movie, Amos Dolbear already had a working telephone in 1874 when he became professor of physics at Tufts. It connected his lab in Ballou to his home on Professors Row and allowed him to alert Mrs. Dolbear when he was on his way home for lunch. Dolbear’s primary work was on wireless transmission, which was later continued by Marconi and Tesla.

Architecturally, Ballou Hall reflects the Italian Renaissance style. Its distinguished character was admired from the beginning, when it stood alone in a rural setting of fields, orchards and woods. Today, it remains the administrative center of the university, housing the offices of the president, the provost and the trustees.

Ballou was soon joined by other buildings befitting a new college. Through this early construction, the top of the barren hill would be transformed into the Academic Quadrangle. The first in a series of new structures was “Building A,” a dormitory erected in 1856 across from Ballou Hall, which included dining facilities and living quarters in the basement for the college steward and his family. It was eventually named **Packard Hall (2)** to honor Silvanus Packard, one of the college’s original trustees and a generous benefactor. Today, Packard houses the Advancement Offices.

In 1857, a second dormitory, “Building B,” was constructed on the Quad, but in 1870 it was moved to Professors Row. Today it comprises the western half of Richardson House, a dormitory for women. In the meantime, Tufts expanded its dormitory space in 1860 with **East Hall (3)** and in 1872 with **West Hall (4)**. East Hall is now home to the departments of history and English and West Hall remains the oldest dormitory in continuous use at Tufts.

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

Early Tufts buildings may seem architecturally old-fashioned, but to a boy arriving at Tufts fresh from a Vermont farm or a Cape Cod village—a boy who had never seen a trolley car, an electric light or central heating—they were the epitome of all things modern. Sometimes a sophisticated sophomore would take advantage of such a boy in those early days.

If, for example, a freshman were moving into a room previously occupied by this worldly sophomore, the upperclassman would sell him a few textbooks or a piece of furniture. Then, in a flash of inspiration, he might turn to the country boy and make a brilliant proposal: “Say, I was going to take my radiator along, but it would really be easier to leave it, and if you didn’t happen to bring yours with you, I’d be willing to sell mine for, say, five dollars.” Often, it was a deal.



Detail of an 1870 sketch of Tufts College, showing Ballou Hall and Packard Hall.

Tufts College and the Hill, 1890. This view from College Avenue in Medford includes a brickyard operation at the base of the Hill. Claypits occupied what are now College Avenue playing fields.



Early photo of Packard Hall showing the barn that housed President Miner’s horse and carriage.

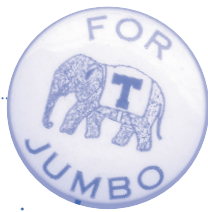


West Hall, built in 1872, is the oldest dorm in continuous use.



The Class of 1876

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS



Tufts students are also known as Jumbos, a distinction that comes with having the world's most celebrated elephant as their mascot, and whose name is now synonymous with anything unusually large. Jumbo was born wild in the Sudan in 1859, and in captivity he grew to nearly 12 feet tall. His tremendous size and mild temperament made him the main attraction at the London Zoo for many years, but in 1882, the zoo sold him to showman P. T. Barnum of Barnum and Bailey Circus, also touted as "The Greatest Show on Earth." Widespread publicity made Jumbo's

arrival a much-anticipated event, and at his first appearance in America, Barnum earned the extraordinary sum of \$30,000.

Tragically, Jumbo met an untimely death in 1885 when he was hit by a train. Barnum, always the resourceful publicist, commissioned what was called the world's largest taxidermy job ever performed, and then took Jumbo's

hide and skeleton on tour. In 1889, Jumbo finally arrived at his resting place, the Barnum Museum. But his fame was by no means over: he was quickly adopted as the Tufts mascot and his name appropriated for all things proudly Tufts. The official depiction today is the "charging Jumbo" with flared ears and a raised trunk (for good luck). The image inspires triumph on the playing fields for Tufts athletes known as, of course, Jumbos.

For decades, Jumbo stood sedately in Barnum, surrounded by other "Barnumiana," including Barnum's desk and circus posters. In April 1975, fire destroyed Jumbo, but not all traces of the famous elephant were lost. Today some of his ashes rest in a peanut butter jar in the Tufts Athletics Department, and it is said that if Tufts Jumbos rub the peanut butter jar before a big game, they will help Tufts to victory.



Jumbo's arrival at Tufts, 1889. After his prized elephant was killed by a train in 1885, Barnum had Jumbo's hide stuffed and his skeleton mounted. In this form, Jumbo continued to tour with the circus until 1889, when the hide was given to Tufts and the skeleton to the American Museum of Natural History, New York.



Jumbo with Jackson students, circa 1954. Placing pennies in Jumbo's trunk was believed to bring good luck. Below, students from the Class of 1917 spell out their loyalty to Jumbo; the unique typography appeared in the first Tufts yearbook, the *Jumbo Book*.



In the early days the library of Tufts College was simply the collection of books amassed by Hosea Ballou 2d. Believing that a library is the heart of any educational institution, he sent out a call for contributions and the collection of books soon overran the space available in the Edifice. In 1886, the books were moved to "Building A" (then called the Middle Hall, since it stood between East and West Halls), and its name was changed once again, this time to "The Library." In 1908, the collection was transferred to Eaton Library, built with a gift from the Carnegie Foundation.



The F.W. Olin Center for Language and Cultural Studies

Next to Ballou is **Barnum Hall (5)**, renovated in 1979 to provide facilities for the study of biology. Barnum is named for Tufts benefactor P. T. Barnum, founder of the Barnum and Bailey Circus. If you look above the entrance to Barnum Hall, you will see the only stonework that remains of the original building, the Barnum Museum of Natural History, built in 1883 to house Barnum's eclectic collection of stuffed wild and zoo animals.

Barnum traveled the world in search of attractions for his "American Museum" in New York and his "Traveling Menagerie." He brought to America the world-famous soprano Jenny Lind, known as the "Swedish Nightingale," and Jumbo, then considered to be the largest elephant ever held in captivity.

To your right across Packard Avenue is the **F. W. Olin Center (6)** for Language and Cultural Studies. Olin, which opened in 1991, houses the Department of Romance Languages and the Department of German, Russian and Asian Language and Literature.

On the other side of Olin is the Residential Quadrangle. If you were standing here prior to 1945, you would be looking at a four-acre brick-lined reservoir owned by the city of Charlestown. "The Rez" was slightly elevated and surrounded by a wrought-iron fence and an asphalt walkway. Midnight swims in the Rez were not unusual, and a moonlight stroll around the walkway convinced many a young couple that they

The Rez, 1883. The Reservoir, or Rez, occupied the land to the west of the original campus. It was constructed in 1865 to provide water for the surrounding area, but also played a role in Tufts social life; dates made while walking around on the Rez could never be broken.





The striking cupola of Carmichael Hall.

should walk life's pathway together. By 1947, the Rez had been drained and the salvaged bricks were used to face the Bray Laboratory of Mechanical Engineering on Boston Avenue.

At the far end of the Quadrangle stands **Carmichael Hall (7)** (1954), named for Leonard Carmichael, A20. After serving as president of Tufts from 1938 to 1952, Dr. Carmichael headed the Smithsonian Institution and served as vice president for Exploration and Research for the National Geographic Society. To the right is **Miller Hall (8)**, named for George S. Miller, A06, G07, H41. During more than 50 years at Tufts, Miller variously served as assistant to presidents, professor of government, vice president, acting president, dean of the faculty and president of the Tufts University Alumni Association. For obvious reasons, he became known to many Tufts alumni as "Mr. Tufts." The lower level of Miller also provides space for three important Tufts resources: Oxfam Café, a student-run snack bar and lounge whose proceeds benefit Oxfam; the Tufts Institute of the Environment (TIE); and the Center for Reading and Language Research. Just behind Miller is **Wren Hall (9)**, named for Frank G. Wren, A1894, G1897, H1939, who was dean of the College of Liberal Arts for many years. On the left is **Houston Hall (10)**, named for Clarence P. Houston, A14. Known to hundreds of Tufts alumni as "Pop" Houston, he was the first alumni secretary of Tufts College, director of athletics, legal

counsel, professor of commercial law, and vice president. When he retired in 1957, he gave his home on Talbot Avenue to the university, suggesting that it be used as Alumni House.

To the far right, not visible from here but just behind Miller Hall, is the **Granoff Family Hillel Center (11)**, dedicated in 1994. Nestled into the hillside, the center serves as the home for the Hillel Foundation at Tufts.



The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy

Return to Packard Avenue and turn right. Here is the oldest graduate school of international affairs of its kind in the United States. The **Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (12)** was founded in 1933 from a bequest by Austin Barclay Fletcher, A1876, H1899. Today, Fletcher offers the MA, MALD (Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy) and PhD. Fletcher students come from around the world to prepare for careers in all aspects of international affairs, from government and non-governmental organizations to business and banking.

The Fletcher School maintains four buildings: the Cabot Intercultural Center, Goddard Hall, and Mugar Hall (all contiguous), and Blakeley Hall, a dormitory. Goddard Hall, the older red brick building, was built in 1883 as Tufts' first gymnasium. The gym was renovated to house The Fletcher School when Tufts built Cousens Gymnasium.

Past The Fletcher School, notice the granite marker near the walkway leading between the school and the tennis courts etched with "M" and "S" — the demarcation line between Medford and Somerville. This explains why we say the Tufts "Medford/Somerville" campus. This fact also explains why some of the roads that pass through Tufts change their names.

The Tufts tennis courts now occupy Fletcher Field, but long ago this land was known as the "Old Campus." In those days it was a campus in the ancient Roman sense — "an open place for martial exercise." Here, on land that once extended all the way to Broadway in Somerville, Tufts men drilled for war service and competed in sports.

Opposite the tennis courts is the president's residence, a handsome red brick building. It was built in 1938 for President Leonard Carmichael on the same land where Hosea Ballou 2d had once lived. Today, Tufts' twelfth president, Lawrence S. Bacow, and Adele Fleet Bacow make **Gifford House (13)** their home. The residence is named in honor of Trustee Emeritus Nelson S. Gifford, A52, chair of the board of trustees when the house was renovated in 1992.



Gifford House

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

It might be a stretch to claim that football was born here or that we would recognize the game played at that time. On June 4, 1875, Tufts played Harvard in Cambridge in what is said to be the first college football game ever played under American football rules (Tufts won, 1-0). Football remained a game in transition for many years while the ball changed from round to oval and the rules from soccer to rugby to something we might recognize today.

Football, 1875. One of the first football teams in their distinctive uniforms.



# ALONG THE ROW

Looking down Packard Avenue, you will see many wooden houses. In the beginning, professors were encouraged to purchase land from the college to build their homes — thus, “Professors Row” skirts the south side of the Hill. If you had been here in 1870, you would



Faculty homes along Professors Row.

have seen the Row running up the hill, in front of Ballou. Professors Row was later straightened and Packard extended.

The house at 92 Professors Row, now occupied by **Sigma Nu fraternity (14)**, was built by Medford

shipbuilders in 1894 for Professor of Modern Languages Charles Fay, A1868, H28. Fay was affectionately known as “Tard” to his colleagues and six decades of Tufts students. An eminent alpine mountaineer, he was a founder of the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the Canadian government named two mountain peaks for him.

At the four-way intersection with Packard Avenue, turn left onto Professors Row. Fraternities have existed at Tufts since 1855. Kappa Charge of Theta Delta Chi, founded in 1856, has met without interruption longer than any other fraternity — one member was unable to participate in the Civil War and kept the chapter open. Today, eight national fraternities and three sororities are represented at Tufts.

At the corner of Latin Way stands **Metcalf Hall (15)**, Tufts’ first residence built especially for women. Women were first admitted to Tufts in 1892, but they had to commute from home or board with families on campus. The new dormitory was the timely gift of Albert Metcalf. It opened in 1894

Jackson students in their dorm room, circa 1921.



Former residence of Professor Fay, now Sigma Nu fraternity, typified housing built for faculty along Professors Row.

to provide housing, dining facilities and a suite for a house “matron.” With time, co-education proved increasingly contentious. An attempt at segregation was implemented in 1910 with the founding of Jackson College by a bequest of Cornelia Maria Jackson, a passionate advocate of formal education for women. The plan, however, was short lived due to the expense of offering segregated instruction for men and women. By 1912, separate classes for women had disappeared from the course catalog, but the designation “Jackson College” remained.

Professors Row still retains some of the early character of Tufts College. The wood-frame houses provided faculty housing where students might congregate for faculty teas. Students, of course, often hailed each other on the “Row” going to and from classes. Those encounters and the close-knit nature of the college were immortalized by John Holmes, A29, H62, in his poem “Along the Row”:

*The bell rang from the Chapel while we walked.  
Oh, where are autumn days and nights like these!  
I showed my friend the tower above the hill,  
And Capen Path, Ballou between the trees.  
A gate in the fence showed faintly in the dusk.  
In East and West the lights began to shine.  
A group of men passed by and called, “Hullo—”  
My heart sang, and I thought, “My college—mine!”  
The Row in autumn twilight! Tall dark trees  
Leaned kindly over us. We talked of games,  
But I remembered old familiar friends,  
And I was silent, thinking of old names.  
The men who walked the Row before my time  
Were by my side, good ghosts my thought awoke—  
While I must show my friend the tennis court,  
The newest hall for men, the gym. He spoke:  
“How you must love this place!” My heart stood still  
And ached to think how much I love this Hill.*

Professors Row, circa 1920. Still unpaved, the Row was shaded by many old elms later damaged in the Hurricane of 1938.





Members of the Class of 1899 were among those alumni who built the fence that encircles the center of the Medford/Somerville campus.

Holmes was one of the foremost poets of his day, but to Tufts men and women of that time he was also a much-loved teacher and friend. He taught English, poetry and composition for more than 30 years.

You have probably noticed the iron fence that encircles the campus. The fence and its elaborate memorial gates originated in the 1920s and continues to define the Hill's perimeter. Classes that contributed to the building of the fence are commemorated all along its length.

This is also a good place to mention another feature that enhances the beauty of the Hill, its trees. From the beginning, Tufts supporters recognized the importance of replanting. Oaks, maples, hickories and beeches, among others, were planted over the years, and today some 200 trees representing 30 different species create a campus that has been called a green oasis amid an urban setting. Two species worth highlighting are a rare Dawn redwood, to the right of Goddard Chapel. This species may be descended from seeds brought back from China in the 1940s; previously, botanists had thought the species extinct. And while Dutch elm disease has nearly wiped out the American elm, Tufts is home to at least 12 of this endangered species, thanks to pioneering research here at the Tufts biology department.

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

It may be difficult to realize how rural and even pastoral Tufts was in the nineteenth century. But from its opening until the early 1890s, both the college and its residential faculty engaged in extensive farming, and students were able to earn part of their tuition by doing chores. Faculty members were also allocated sections for farming and cattle grazing. One professor kept enough cows to be able to sell faculty families 20 quarts of milk per day. The trustees eventually decided, however, that farming operations were unbecoming to a college, and cows were "banished" in 1893.



Above, mowing the campus, 1890. Right, cows grazing, circa 1885. The land between College Avenue and Powder House Boulevard was used for many years as pasture for livestock owned by faculty and staff.



## THE "DOWNHILL" CAMPUS

The Tufts campus is traditionally referred to as "uphill" and "downhill." The distinction dates back to the separation of Jackson from Tufts — Tufts dorms were uphill and Jackson downhill.

The **Mayer Campus Center (16)** dedicated in 1985, serves as a central gathering point for students and also acts as a link between the two sections of campus. Although the renowned nutritionist Jean Mayer was the tenth president of Tufts when the center was constructed, this building is named for his wife, Elizabeth Van Huysen Mayer. "Betty" was very close to the student body and would happily drop whatever she was doing to counsel a student. The three-story pagoda-style building houses the Student Activities Office, which oversees the more than 150 student organizations on campus. The Tufts University Bookstore adjoins the center.



Mayer Campus Center adjoins the Tufts University Bookstore.

At the four-way intersection with Talbot Avenue, a few yards to the right at 95 Talbot stands **Alumni House (17)**, busy throughout the year as staff of the Office of Alumni Relations and the Tufts University Alumni Association plan events for alumni regional chapters around the world, Homecoming and Alumni Weekend, and develop many other programs and services for students and alumni.

Some alumni today still remember when the area across from Alumni House was given over to a popular nine-hole golf course. Others will recall a small but historic building, the Arena Theater, one of the first theaters in the country to introduce "theater-in-the-round." This building began its existence as the clubhouse for the Somerville Golf Club. When Tufts reacquired the land in 1908, the clubhouse served as the women's gym by day and the theater by night.



Alumni House

In recent years, the downhill campus has been transformed, as Tufts has responded to growing undergraduate enrollments. Today, it includes seven residence halls. **Hodgdon Hall (18)** (1954), the oldest building in the complex, is named for former trustee and benefactor Frederick Hodgdon, A1894. **Bush Hall (19)** commemorates Edith Linwood Bush, W03, H42, professor of mathematics and dean of Jackson College, whose brother, Vannevar Bush, E13, G13, H32, was a world-renowned scientist. (Among



# CAMPUS MAP



- 1 Ballou Hall
- 2 Packard Hall
- 3 East Hall
- 4 West Hall
- 5 Barnum Hall
- 6 Olin Center
- 7 Carmichael Hall
- 8 Miller Hall
- 9 Wren Hall
- 10 Houston Hall
- 11 Hillel
- 12 Fletcher School
- 13 Gifford House
- 14 Sigma Nu Fraternity
- 15 Metcalf Hall
- 16 Mayer Campus Center
- 17 Alumni House
- 18 Hodgdon Hall
- 19 Bush Hall
- 20 Haskell Hall
- 21 Lewis Hall
- 22 Tilton Hall
- 23 Latin Way Apartments
- 24 South Hall
- 25 Dewick-MacPhie
- 26 Pearson Memorial Laboratory
- 27 Stratton Hall
- 28 Jackson Gym
- 29 Alumnae Hall
- 30 Aidekman Arts Center
- 31 Ellis Oval
- 32 Capen House
- 33 Richardson House
- 34 Memorial Steps
- 35 Robinson Hall
- 36 Anderson Hall
- 37 Bromfield-Pearson
- 38 Curtis Hall
- 39 Bray Mechanical Laboratory
- 40 Psychology Building
- 41 Cousens Gym
- 42 Gantcher Center
- 43 Eliot-Pearson
- 44 Miner Hall
- 45 Paige Hall
- 46 Braker Hall
- 47 Dowling Hall
- 48 Eaton Hall
- 49 Tisch Library
- 50 Goddard Chapel



other achievements, he ushered in the age of the computer with the invention of the differential analyzer, a device that performed complex mathematical operations.) **Haskell Hall (20)** (1965) was named for Harold Haskell, A06, H44, and his wife, Ruth, W06, G17. **Lewis Hall (21)** (1969) pays tribute to Leo Rich Lewis, A1887, H22, professor of music for 50 years. A prolific composer, he wrote many Tufts songs, including "Dear Alma Mater." **Tilton Hall (22)** (1982) was named for Dr. John Tilton, the first person to hold the position of provost at Tufts. Further down Latin Way are **Latin Way Apartments (23)** and **South Hall (24)**.

**Dewick-MacPhie Dining Hall (25)** is the main dining hall for students downhill, as is Carmichael for students uphill. It was created by renovating and combining two facilities. Cora Polk Dewick, W1896, H44, H52, was one of the first women to graduate from Tufts, and she later became the first woman to be appointed a trustee. The hall also pays homage to Trustee Elmore I. MacPhie, A11, and his wife, Etta Phillips MacPhie, W13, H76. Etta had been a leader of the Association of Tufts Alumnae when she was elected as a life trustee to succeed her husband.

Looking across Latin Way from Dewick-MacPhie on Talbot Avenue is **Pearson Memorial Laboratory (26)**, dedicated in 1923 and still devoted to chemistry. It was named for Fred Stark Pearson, E1883, G1884, H1905, one of the most amazing scientific geniuses during the great expansion of the electrical power industry. While still an undergraduate at

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

From 1854 until 1969, male freshmen were required to identify themselves by wearing Tufts beanies. They were obligated to touch their caps when they passed upper-classmen and to doff them upon meeting the president or a professor. Women were not exempt from the tradition. Jackson students originally wore green buttons, but these were replaced in 1931 by green bows.



Showing their class spirit are freshmen in their beanies, circa 1925, and Jackson students with green bows, circa 1940.

Tufts, he invented a solenoid tripping device for railroad signals. Later, he designed basic items of equipment in the electric streetcar and power industry. Pearson was responsible for the electrification of some of the great cities of the world: Barcelona, Spain; Mexico City, Mexico; and São Paulo, Brazil. He organized the great hydroelectric installation on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls.

The addition to Pearson Laboratory is named for a remarkable scientist, Arthur Michael. He led the department to international renown, and was one of the first theoretical organic chemists in America. In recognition, Tufts College awarded him two honorary degrees.

A short walk from Pearson on the left is **Stratton Hall (27)**, built in 1927 as a women's dormitory.

Across from Stratton begins a series of buildings that appear as one but are in fact several different facilities. The first in this complex is commonly called **Jackson Gym (28)**. The Henry Clay Jackson Gymnasium was constructed for women in 1948 and named for a conductor on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, who brought scores of students to Tufts College. He talked so much about these students to his family that they donated his life insurance to the college for a purpose of its own choosing.

The second building is **Alumnae Hall (29)**, dedicated in 1952. The Association

Jackson Gym, constructed in 1948, later became part of a complex of buildings including Alumnae Hall and the Aidekman Arts Center.



## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

Between 1937 and 1959 a student mayor of Tufts was elected each spring to act as the personification and promoter of college spirit. The elaborate and colorful campaigns for this office were a memorable aspect of campus life. When the rite was suggested by a student in 1937, the administration readily accepted the idea of the mayoralty campaigns as potentially channeling the springtime enthusiasm of undergraduates into organized mayhem. Mayoralty began in January or February as fraternities, sororities and student groups decided which candidates to support. Candidates ran under whimsical names such as Stuporman, Captain Question Mark, Lucky Pierre and Diamond Mike, though historical figures also played a role, such as Annie Oakley, P. T. Barnum and Geronimo. During the campaign, candidates and their supporters staged soapbox speeches, skits, parades, dance bands and comedy acts. Involvement in the event was all-encompassing, with almost all members of the Tufts community taking part. Antics spread beyond the Medford campus as well. "Buccaneer" Bob Meehan, A54, in full pirate regalia, "captured" the Swan Boats in Boston's Public Garden as part of his ambitious campaign.



The Mayoralty, 1956. Mayoralty campaigns, held into the late 1960s, often involved elaborate floats and costumes.



The Aidedkman Arts Center

of Tufts Alumnae (ATA) established the Alumnae Hall Fund in 1928, and with the help of the wives of the faculty, raised funds through countless bake sales and teas. Bella Porter Ransom, W02, chair of the fund for ten years, called the annual report the “Little Beggar.” Inside the hall is the Ruth Capen Farmer (W02) Lounge, named for the first president of the ATA. The lounge features murals completed using the ancient technique of egg tempera; the east wall depicts Tufts in 1854 along with many of the people who were instrumental in the founding of Tufts College. The west wall shows Tufts in 1954.

Built between 1987 and 1991, the Shirley and Alex **Aidedkman Arts Center (30)** houses two major performance areas. Cohen Auditorium in

Leir Hall, named for Edward Cohen, H52, provided the first campus facility capable of accommodating several hundred people. Cohen is used for large performances, such as concerts by the University Orchestra, and musicals. The smaller performance space is Balch Arena Theater, behind Alumnae Hall but with a common entrance that unifies the group. Balch Arena Theater was endowed by Elizabeth Bottomly Noyce, J52, to honor her teacher, the late Marston Stevens Balch. “Doc” Balch joined Tufts in 1934, and in 1940 established the first Department of Drama and Speech in New England. During World War II he served as chief of the French Press and Radio Analysis Section of the U.S. Information System. Upon his return to Tufts in 1947, he directed his first full-scale production in the “arena” configuration with which he had experimented in France. He went on to influence thousands of students. The Balch Theater, a “theater-in-the-round,” is used not only for Tufts

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

In 1923–24, a six-hole golf course was laid out on the south side of campus on what had once been cow pasture. One of the first golf courses on any American campus, it was constructed almost entirely by students, who were asked to volunteer five hours per week, often in lieu of physical education classes. The golf course remained in use until 1958, when the land was given over to construction of dormitories.



## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

Tufts’ long and vibrant theater tradition reflects an extraordinary dedication to high-quality drama. In 1910, students organized Pen, Paint and Pretzels—or the “3 Ps.” (Pen was to signify the writers; paint, the artists; and pretzels, the audience.) Enthusiasm was not dampened by the fact that performances competed for space in a clubhouse that doubled as a gym for women. In 1948, with the construction of the Henry Clay Jackson Gymnasium, the facility was given over to the Department of Drama and Speech. But in 1949, the stage was condemned, forcing the department to stage plays on a raised oval in the middle of the floor. This new setup is said to be the first appearance of an arena theater in New England. Performance



Above: A Pen, Paint and Pretzels production, circa 1920s.

Left: Torn Ticket II, the undergraduate musical theater group, performing “Hair” in 1985.



techniques well suited to the Arena Theater were brought to Tufts by Marston “Doc” Balch, who had learned about theater-in-the-round while in France during World War II. In 1991, Tufts opened the Balch Arena Theater, where students now mount some two dozen performances each year. Tufts’ reputation for theater is also well known thanks to the success of many alumni, including actors Dan Hedaya, A62, William Hurt, A72,

Oliver Platt, A83, Susan Haskell, J85 and Hank Azaria, A85. Hundreds

more continue to make their artistic contributions with regional and community theaters, testament to the indelible and enduring place of student theater at Tufts.

student productions but for Magic Circle Theater, New England’s oldest children’s theater.

The Aidedkman Arts Center provides a beautiful showcase for the Tufts permanent art collection and for traveling exhibitions. On the lower level are the Remis Sculpture Court and the Koppelman Gallery. Upstairs, the Slater Concourse, often used for exhibitions tied directly to the Tufts community, leads to the Tisch Gallery. Collectively, the galleries host art exhibitions throughout the year, including thesis work by undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in the joint program of Tufts and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Just beyond the arts complex lies Zimman Field, named for Harold Zimman, A38, and one of the most frequented athletic facilities at Tufts. It encompasses **Ellis Oval (31)**, named for Fred “Fish” Ellis, A29, G49, one of Tufts’ greatest all-around athletes, and the Ding Dussault Track, named for a legendary Tufts track coach. The surrounding playing fields, tennis courts and basketball courts have their roots in the earliest days of the college. The Baronian Field House, named for Trustee Emeritus John Baronian, A50, H97, plays a key role in supporting these and many other athletic events.

# UP THE HILL & BEYOND

To return to Professors Row, take Stratton Path next to Stratton Hall, or walk to the end of Talbot, turn left, and arrive at the Row at its intersection with College Avenue.



Capen House, constructed in 1876, was named for Elmer Capen, president of Tufts from 1875 to 1905. Today it is the home of the African American Center.

The pathway across from Richardson House was once a main vehicle access road to the top of the campus. As you take this path up the Hill, look back at **Capen House (32)** on the corner of College Avenue and Professors Row. This stately Victorian was built in 1875 by Tufts' third president, Elmer Hewitt Capen, A1860. The ground floor was especially designed for receptions and social assemblies. One of its first uses was to house a meeting of the New England Association of College Presidents, which convened for the first time on the Tufts campus. Capen served Tufts for a remarkable 30 years — from 1875 until his death in 1905. A champion of Tufts' brick-and-mortar needs, he saw three priorities — a chapel, a gymnasium, and a science building — completed during the first ten years of his administration. He was also a key figure in the establishment of the alumni association in 1860.

Capen House would eventually serve as a women's dormitory, and after 1970, a coed dorm. In 1977 it became the African American Center, which it remains today, as well as a residence for students interested in African American culture.

**Richardson House (33)**, the only remaining all-female dormitory, was originally "Building B," which was moved from the top of the Hill. It was later extended into its current configuration.

While you continue to walk back to the top of the Hill, let's look at the campus from a geological viewpoint. The Hill is a drumlin, an oval-shaped hill created by deposits from the retreating glaciers at the end of the Ice Age. It features a gradual slope to the south (Powder House Boulevard) and a sharp drop to the north (Boston Avenue). The east slope was exaggerated when College Avenue was cut through it. Today, "the Cut" is the main entrance to the Tufts campus.

Turn right and pass under the arcade that connects Paige and Miner Halls. The terrace, high above Boston Avenue, provides a memorable view of Boston in the distance and of the surrounding communities.



View through Fischer Arcade between Paige and Miner Halls.



The Memorial Steps leading to the top of the Hill honor the men and women of Tufts who served in time of war.



The **Memorial Steps (34)** leading to the top of the Hill create an impressive entrance to the campus. They are dedicated to the men and women of Tufts who served the nation in time of war. Each landing contains inscriptions commemorating, respectively, those who served in the Civil War, the Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, and the Korean War, and to those who "gave their lives for world peace and justice."

From here one can also see the School of Engineering, which was founded in 1885 with the creation of a three-year program in civil engineering. **Robinson Hall (35)** was built in 1899 and named for Charles Robinson, H1894. It houses physics and astronomy. Attached to Robinson Hall

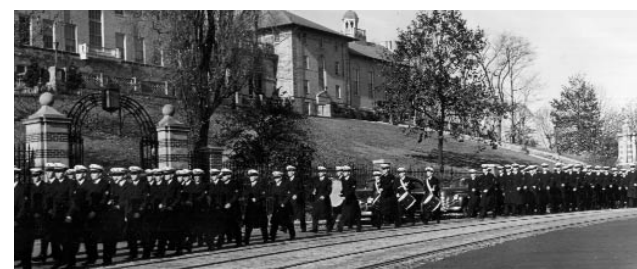


Anderson Hall of the School of Engineering.

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

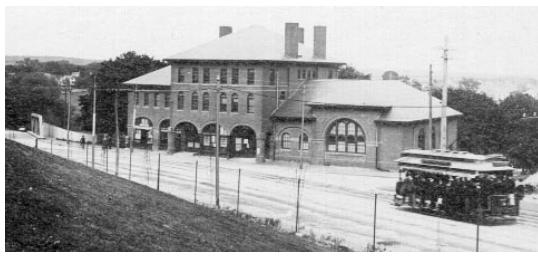
In 1942, thanks to the efforts of President Leonard Carmichael, Tufts was selected to help the nation support the war effort. The Navy V-12 Program was established as part of the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps to provide accelerated officer training. During its existence at Tufts, more than 4,000 officers received their training. The basic course included both Naval training and advanced work in selected courses in the School of Liberal Arts. There were also special curricula for engineers and pre-medical and pre-dental students, as well as for the regular NROTC unit. All of the naval programs were in full operation on the campus by July 1943, and a School for War Service was organized to administer them. When the college received its quota of 225 naval students in engineering in 1944, President Carmichael reported to the trustees with great pride that this represented the third largest quota of any NROTC program among the 27 institutions then participating. He went on to point out that Tufts had, by then, trained more men directly from civilian life for commissions in the Naval Reserve than had any other New England college.

In 1998, a memorial was dedicated to those who participated in the V-12 program. Located near Ballou Hall on the Medford campus, the memorial includes a plaque and bench on a brick terrace overlooking the President's Lawn.



NROTC parade down College Avenue, circa 1942.

NROTC parade down College Avenue, circa 1942.



Curtis Hall, circa 1895, a few years after its construction. The trolley line used to run into Cambridge and Boston.

is **Arthur J. Anderson Hall (36)**, completed in 1961 and named for Arthur Anderson, E12, H43, a trustee. Anderson includes the Departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Mechanical Engineering.

The three-story brick building in back of Robinson is **Bromfield-Pearson (37)**. When it opened in 1893, it housed a preparatory school associated with the School of Engineering. The mathematics department now has its offices there.

On the corner of College Avenue stands **Curtis Hall (38)**, built in 1894 on the site of the old college stable. Named for James Otis Curtis, a Medford shipbuilder and a Tufts trustee, it houses a post office, the Brown and Brew coffeeshop, TUTV, the Tufts radio station WMFO, and the offices of diverse student publications.

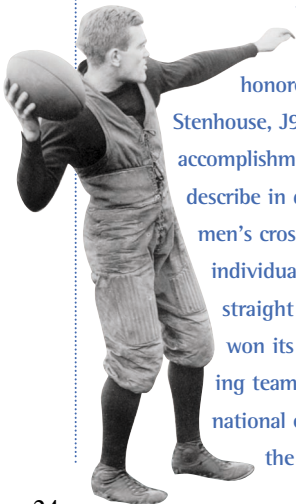


Beyond Curtis Hall, down Boston Avenue, are **Bray Mechanical Laboratory (39)**, built with reused bricks from “the Rez,” the new home of the psychology department **(40)**, and Bacon Hall, named for George Preston Bacon, a former dean of the School of Engineering.

If you follow College Avenue over the railroad tracks you will arrive at a complex of facilities supporting athletics. As a Division III school, Tufts offers 36 varsity intercollegiate teams, as well as an intramural system. **Cousens Gymnasium (41)**, honoring John Cousens, A1898, president of Tufts from 1919 to 1937, was constructed in 1931 and at the time was the most expensive building on the Medford campus.

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

Sports have played an important part in the life of Tufts students since the early years. George Angell, A15 (below), is said to have thrown the first forward pass in football history. Countless alumni went on to make their mark. Ted Vogel, A49, placed third in the 1947 Boston Marathon and represented the United States in the 1948 Olympics. Johnny Grinnell, A35, was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1997. Bill Richardson, A70, F71, H97, current governor of New Mexico who played baseball at Tufts, was recently honored with the NCAA’s prestigious “Teddy” Roosevelt Award. Track star Vera Stenhouse, J91, won eight NCAA national championships. The accomplishments of Tufts’ 31 varsity sports are too many to describe in detail. But outstanding Jumbo performances include men’s cross-country, which has qualified as a team or has sent individuals to the NCAA cross-country championships for nine straight years and the Tufts softball team, which, in 2003, won its third straight NESAC Championship. The Tufts sailing team won the 2001 Co-ed Dinghy and 1999 Women’s national championships, and has won more championships in the 1990s than any other team.



Mystic Lake in Medford provides Tufts sailors with ample opportunity for competitive practice.

Over the years Cousens Gym has undergone extensive renovations. Hamilton Pool, named for Frederick W. Hamilton, A1880, G1888, H1899, the fourth president of Tufts, was added in 1945. Coeducational training and exercise rooms were added in 1979. More recent enhancements include the Lunder Fitness Center in 1993 and Chase Gym in 1996.

More playing fields lie behind Curtis Hall, along College Avenue. These were built on an inactive clay pit and brickyard acquired by the college after World War I. It is possible that bricks used to line the Rez originated here.

Tufts’ athletic facilities were dramatically enhanced in 1999 with the opening of the **Gantcher Family Sports and Convocation Center (42)**. Made possible with a lead gift from Trustee Nathan Gantcher, A62, and his family, the facility now offers four indoor tennis courts, a 200-meter track, and seating for 6,000.

Just past Gantcher is the **Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development (43)**. The department was founded in 1964, but its origins go back to the work of Abigail Eliot and Mrs. Henry Greenleaf Pearson, who founded one of the first nursery schools in the country in 1922. Eliot went on to develop a cooperative relationship with Tufts in 1951. In 1964 the Eliot-Pearson Children’s School became the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study, now the Department of Child Development. Today, Eliot-Pearson offers the BA, MA, MAT and PhD. The Children’s School, at 105 College Avenue, is its affiliated laboratory-demonstration school.

Between the fields and the railroad tracks, a walkway leads to the Science and Technology Center at 4 Colby Street. Completed in 1990, this renovated factory now serves as home to the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, the Department of Physics and the Gordon Institute, offering a master’s program in engineering management (undergraduates also may receive a combined BS/MS from the School of Engineering).

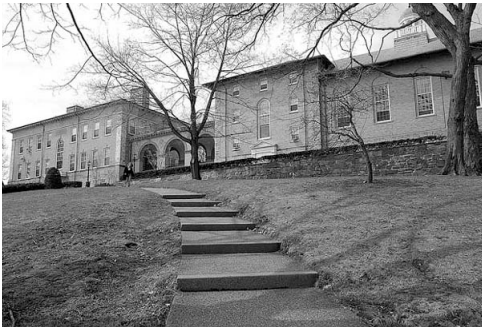
Let’s return to the present and the main campus. At the top of the Hill stand two yellow brick buildings connected by an arcade. The first is **Miner Hall (44)**, named for the Rev. Alonzo Ames Miner, H1875, who served as Tufts’ second president from 1862 to 1875. Miner, constructed in 1881, was envisioned as a long-awaited facility for the Tufts theological school. **Paige Hall (45)** was built the next year as the school’s dormitory. The theological school trained Universalist clergy and laymen who went on to become leaders in the establishment and development of Tufts as a liberal, nonsectarian college.

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS

In “the good old days” before cassettes and CDs, Tufts students made their own entertainment, and music filled the air. All freshmen attended mandatory weekly assembly where they learned all the words to Tufts songs including “Alma Mater” written by Leo Rich Lewis, A1887, H1922. Singing contests twice a year pitted residence halls and Greek groups against each other; everybody had to participate. Today, Tufts has a strong a cappella tradition that preserves Tufts’ early reputation as the “Singing College.”



Jackson students (top) memorize Tufts songs under the stern eye of a sophomore. The Beelzebubs, shown in 1963, is the oldest of several Tufts a cappella groups now performing and releasing award-winning CDs.



Miner and Paige Halls joined by the Fischer Arcade.

When Jackson College was established in 1910, it was situated within this complex, and the theological school was moved to Packard. After women were reunited in classes with Tufts men, the theological school returned to Paige, and Miner became the home of romance languages.

In 1906, the theological school was renamed in honor of the father of benefactor Albert Crane, A1863. In 1937, enrollment at Crane reached an all-time high of 60 students, and in 1941 the school hosted the national Universalist Convention. After many years of financial struggle, however, Crane closed its doors in 1968.

Miner today houses the Departments of Philosophy and Comparative Religion, the Communications and Media Studies Program, and the Experimental College. The “Ex College,” founded in 1964, is the oldest innovative center of its kind in the United States. The education department now occupies Paige.

As we walk back toward Ballou, you see two connected buildings. These are the Lincoln Filene Center and **Braker Hall (46)** (1928). Braker was built by Henry Braker, who was a client of Trustee Austin Fletcher, one of Tufts’ most effective fund-raisers. Braker Hall is home to the economics department. The Lincoln Filene Center (1963) houses the University College of Citizenship and Public Service.

Behind Braker and Packard stands a building whose entranceway features an apt sculpture of an African elephant smiling upon fellow Jumbos. This is **Dowling Hall (47)**, named for Trustee John Dowling, A59. Dowling, which opened in 2000, houses student services, including career services and the registrar. This integrated design has made Dowling one of Tufts’ most innovative new buildings, but perhaps its most popular feature is the elevator that now

A sculpture of Jumbo greets students at the entrance to Dowling Hall.



saves visitors and others a hike up steep stairs from Boston Avenue to the top of the Hill.

The brick building on your left is **Eaton Library (48)**, Tufts’ first official library, made possible in 1910 by a gift from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. Carnegie’s wife requested that the new building be named for the Tufts graduate who had presided at her marriage ceremony, the Rev. Charles Eaton, A1874, C1877, H1887. As the number of volumes on Tufts’ shelves grew, however, so did the need for more space. In 1950, the solution came with the addition of the War Memorial Wing, dedicated to the Tufts students and alumni who had served in the armed forces during World War II.

Tufts’ second library, Wessell Library, was completed in 1965, and marked a dramatic departure from the traditional architecture of the campus landscape. In fact, the architects who designed the building had to meet strict stipulations: the library had to be large yet occupy a limited area. It could not overshadow the chapel or interrupt the topography. The roof had to be a grassy park to conserve the natural beauty of the Hill. The result was a commodious building named for Tufts President Nils Yngve Wessell. Its terraced roof still offers spectacular views of the Boston skyline.

**Tisch Library (49)** opened in 1996 after renovations added more than 80,000 square feet to the Wessell Library. Named for the Tisch Foundation and the Tisch family, the library contains more than one million volumes and continues to serve as the library for Arts and Sciences. The Tufts Office of Digital Collections and Archives is located on the lower level.

Your tour ends at **Goddard Chapel (50)**, from whose tower ring the bells that will mark your time for the next four years. In 1881, Mary T. Goddard, widow of trustee and benefactor Thomas A. Goddard, offered \$25,000 to build a place of worship. Built of massive bluish slate quarried in

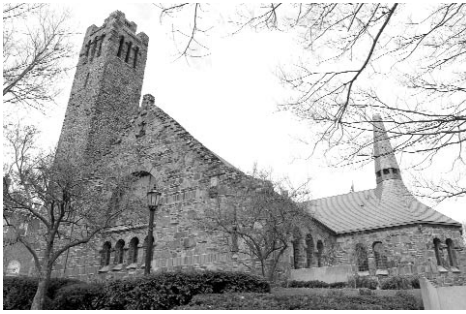


Tisch Library

**DISTINCTLY  
TUFTS**

A popular fixture of the Medford campus is a cannon perched on the Hill between Ballou Hall and Goddard Chapel. A gift from the city of Medford and the Medford Historical Society in 1956, it is a replica of an original 24-pound cannon taken from the deck of the USS Constitution, or “Old Ironsides.” Since 1977, students have claimed the cannon as a kind of billboard, routinely painting messages on it under the cover of night.





Goddard Chapel today. Constructed in 1882, the chapel replaced the "Large Chapel" on the second floor of Ballou, and was widely photographed for its unusual setting and modified Romanesque architecture.

Somerville, with a 100-foot tower and a red slate roof, the little hillside chapel was designed in a picturesque Romanesque style and was for a time one of the most photographed chapels in the country.

Recent renovations have restored the building's warmth and beauty, revealing its impressive original details: the ribbed ceiling and the arched woodwork above

the stained glass windows, the spruce paneling and the copper organ pipes, among others. Charles Tufts did indeed get his "Light on the Hill."



Although this tour focuses only on the Medford/Somerville campus, Tufts has grown to include eight schools on three campuses, as well as the Tufts European Center in France. The Boston campus consists of the School of Dental Medicine, the School of Medicine, the Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences, and the Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy. The School of Veterinary Medicine is situated on the Grafton campus, about an hour from Medford.

Tufts' teaching, research and the work of its more than 80,000 graduates collectively influence all aspects of the world we live in today. Such achievement bears witness to its remarkable evolution from a small college on a Hill into an international university.

## DISTINCTLY TUFTS



High atop the Hill in Goddard Chapel tower, a carillon of 25 bells ring daily at 5 pm. The first bell was given by the Class of 1898 on the occasion of their tenth reunion. This bell was used to announce football victories and other Tufts events, in addition to ringing the hour. If a freshman, during the years when they were required to wear beanies, reached the bells before an upperclassman, he would have been excused from wearing his beanie thereafter. In 1926, an additional nine bells were given by Eugene A. Bowen, E1876, who worked his way through Tufts as the campus bell-ringer. These bells are known as the Bowen Chimes in his honor. The final 15 bells were given in 1964 in honor of John P. Tilton, provost and senior vice president, who died in 1959.

The Association of the Alumni of Tufts College (later renamed TUAA) was formed July 2, 1860, six years after the first class matriculated. The founding fathers were newly graduated classmates William A. Johnson and Elmer Hewitt Capen. Although creation was swift, the fledgling organization did not adopt a constitution until 1862. The goals were to provide alumni participation at commencement and to maintain the bonds of friendship formed on the Hill as undergraduates.

In 1869, AATC appealed to the trustees to be permitted to nominate candidates to fill vacancies on the board. The appeal was denied, but the discussion led to the creation of the board of overseers in 1899. Sixteen alumni were elected by their peers to ratify faculty appointments and make financial recommendations. AATC had established the alumni fund in 1878 and sold five dollar "shares" to support the college.

Capen's involvement with Tufts led to his selection as the third president in 1875. Capen continued to encourage alumni input into all things at Tufts but did not always follow that advice. Tufts had been founded as an all-male institution, but by 1885 there was talk about the possibility of admitting women. The Tufts Club of Boston offered one opinion, the students were opposed, and the trustees chose to table the proposal. The issue did not go away and women were admitted in 1892.

The college charter was changed March 29, 1907, to provide formal alumni representation on the board of trustees with ten alumni to fill out a panel of 30. A candidate needed to have been a graduate for ten years to stand for election and a voter needed five years to qualify. To simplify the system, the Tufts Alumni Council was established in 1939 to act as a steering committee for the growing TUAA and to identify and nominate trustee candidates. TAC still fulfills both roles.

Still looking for ways to serve in 1909, the association organized the "Alumni Field Day" in conjunction with commencement. In 1929, these games and social activities were combined with student athletic activities, moved to the fall, and renamed Homecoming. This tradition remains alive and well today.

By 1912, the Tufts Club of Boston had been joined by clubs in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and Lawrence, Mass. Northern New York and Washington, DC, followed in 1913 and in 1918 the association reached the Pacific with the Puget Sound Club. Today, TUAA has more than 25 regional and international chapters.

Tufts University has more than 80,000 living alumni worldwide. The business of TUAA is conducted by the Alumni Council, composed of alumni of all the schools, who are elected for ten-year terms. Standing committees address countless issues and plan events such as Homecoming and Alumni Weekend each year. The Office of Alumni Relations, located in the home of "Pop Houston" (the first alumni secretary) at 95 Talbot Avenue, provides guidance and professional expertise to TAC volunteers.

We were all students on the Hill for four years, but we are alumni for life.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & FURTHER RESOURCES

The Traditions Committee wishes to thank the Tufts University Alumni Association for their enthusiastic endorsement as well as financial support of this project. The committee is also grateful to their predecessors. For more than 50 years, members of the Traditions Committee of the Tufts University Alumni Association have been conducting historical tours to introduce new students to Tufts. In 1959, Marjorie Gott Manning, J40, captured the essence of those tours into a booklet called *Traditions at Tufts*, subsequently reprinted in 1963 and 1967. It was followed by another similar guide, *High on the Hill*, co-authored by Linda J. Dixon, J63 and Ronald J. Milauskas, E62, last published in 1979. Both publications proved invaluable sources of information and inspiration for *Tufts Then & Now*. The committee acknowledges the long legacy of these earlier publications and their role in sustaining an appreciation for Tufts' remarkable history. In addition, the committee is indebted to that monumental two-volume work, *Light on the Hill*, by Professor Russell Miller.

The committee thanks Laura Ferguson and Kathy Sayre in the Office of Alumni Relations for their editorial and design support. The staff of the Office of Digital Collections and Archives provided important guidance as well.

If this book has stimulated a deeper appreciation for Tufts history, students are encouraged to take advantage of a wealth of information at Digital Collections and Archives. The office provides many online resources at <http://nils.lib.tufts.edu/archives>. The site includes a completely digitized edition of *Light on the Hill*, an image database, and the *Concise Encyclopedia of Tufts History*. Visitors to the DCA reading room are welcome Monday–Friday, 9 am to 4 pm.

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