



January 13, 1992

Mr. Fred M. Kirby III
F.M. Kirby Foundation, Inc.
17 DeHart Street
Morristown, NJ 07963-0151

Dear Mr. Kirby,

As the President is traveling for much of the month of January, I wanted, on his behalf, to acknowledge receipt of the generous gift of \$145,000 from the F.M. Kirby Foundation. The Foundation's dedication to the mission of Wilkes University is greatly appreciated by everyone at Wilkes.

As specified, \$45,000 will be earmarked for the Culbertson Fund while the remaining \$100,000 will be reserved for a future decision.

This contribution once again reminds us that only through the continued support of institutions such as the F.M. Kirby Foundation can we continue to provide excellent educational opportunities for our students. Once again, on behalf of Chris and everyone at the University, let me express our sincere appreciation for the generous gift from the Kirby Foundation.

I wish you success and good health in the new year.

Sincerely,

Thomas B. Hadzor
Vice President for Development

TBH:bb

F. M. KIRBY FOUNDATION, INC.
17 DEHART STREET
P. O. Box 151
MORRISTOWN, N.J. 07963-0151

201-538-4800
212-732-2265

December 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: F. M. Kirby Foundation grant recipients

SUBJECT: Public recognition of Foundation grants

Many grant recipients have asked if they may publicize the grant or grants they receive from the Foundation.

We suggest to them the following:

- (1) If your organization publishes an annual report, newsletter, or similar material in which you list your sources of support, please list the Foundation as follows:

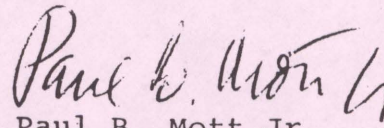
F. M. Kirby Foundation, Inc.

- (2) A grant from the F. M. Kirby Foundation may present an opportunity to publicize the good works of your organization. If that is the case, you may want to contact local newspapers, magazines, radio or TV stations informally or with a press release as appropriate. We have no objection to your citing the Foundation or disclosing the amount(s) of our grant(s) in press releases or in similar information given to the media. You may want to work one or both of the following two sentences into your copy:

The F. M. Kirby Foundation, based in Morristown, NJ, each year recognizes a limited number of especially deserving health, educational, cultural, religious and other charitable organizations whose programs and locations are or have been of interest to the Kirby Family, or are reflective of important, contemporary problems of our society. Concerned about the extent of government's involvement in people's lives, the Foundation favors programs which encourage people to solve their own problems, without government aid, and on the local level.

Any further questions regarding publicity should be directed to our Foundation office.

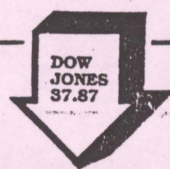
We would appreciate receiving copies of any publications citing F. M. Kirby Foundation grants.


Paul B. Mott, Jr.
Executive Director

PBM:kmh

File of Kirby Foundation

The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA, Tuesday, April 23, 1991 7C ★



BUSINESS

Four will be inducted into Business Hall of Fame

Ernest D. Preate Sr. will be inducted into the Junior Achievement's fifth annual Business Hall of Fame dinner on Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Montage Manor in Moosic. Three other business leaders — Peter J. Kaldes, F.M. Kirby and Cornelius McCole — will be honored posthumously.

"This special event recognizes the extraordinary efforts of these business leaders and the difference they have personally made in Northeastern Pennsylvania," said Elden Hale, chairman of the event.

R. Marvin Womack, vice president of national government relations of Procter & Gamble Co., will be the principal speaker.

Tickets for the dinner are \$100 and may be purchased by contacting Junior Achievement at 346-9080.

Preate, an attorney, is senior



Peter Kaldes



F.M. Kirby



Cornelius McCole



Ernest Preate Sr.

partner of Levy & Preate, a Scranton law firm. He is a widely known as a consultant on improving industrial development and one of the organizers and legal counsel

for the "Scranton Plan." He serves as a board member of numerous local economic development agencies. Preate is married to the former Anne Smith and is the fa-

ther of four children, Ernest D. Jr., attorney general of Pennsylvania; Dr. Donald, Robert and Carlon.

Kaldes, a Greek immigrant,

was the former owner of the Castle Restaurant. He was active in the Hellenic Orthodox Church and in many community service activities including the Scranton School Building and the Lackawanna Development Authorities. He died in 1975.

Kirby, who opened the first Woolworth store on West Market Street in Wilkes-Barre and later ran the huge five-and-dime store chain, was a man of wide interests and philanthropies. He donated millions of dollars for civic and humanitarian improvements in Wilkes-Barre. He died in 1940.

McCole was a highly successful insurance agent for Mutual of New York, a nationally-known Irish humorist and a community leader. He was elected Mayor of Wilkes-Barre in 1944. McCole died in 1975.

Postcards from the past

EDITOR'S NOTE: This snippet on the Kirby mansion kicks off a series that will appear frequently in *The Times Leader*. The series will focus on dated postcards to give our readers a glance at yesteryear.

BY JENNIFER LEARN
Times Leader Staff Intern

Fred Morgan Kirby, philanthropist and director of many enterprises including Wilkes-Barre's first 5-and-10-cent store, lived in this stately River Street mansion shown at right. It was built in 1873.

Kirby was associated with the Woolworth organization when his 96 5-

and-10-cent stores were consolidated with the Woolworth stores in 1912.

A report for *The Times Leader/The Evening News* in 1940 wrote: "The story of the inception and development of his company was a story of romance

of American business."

Kirby also supported many social issues, including civil rights and welfare.

The Wilkes University Language and English departments now reside in the mansion, named Kirby Hall.

Betsy Condron, the director of community relations at Wilkes, said the "famous national architect," Frederick Clark Withers, built the home in a high Victorian Gothic style.

Frank Bohlin, an architect at Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski Architectural Planning Interiors in Wilkes-Barre, said, "Victorians carved together elements from various traditions, and they were very good at it."

Bohlin added that this style was "eclectic and ornate."

"They flow liberally from different styles, including Italian, French and English," he said.

Condron said the house was pictured in 1876 on

■ See CARDS, Page 12C

Postcard club
—Page 12C



Cards

TL 4-14-91

(Continued from Page 1C)

the front cover of "The American Architect and Building News," a top architectural magazine. The house is listed in the "Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks."

She said, "The interior must've been beautiful in its day. The college tried to maintain its grandeur."

Condron remembers Kirby Hall as it looked when the college acquired it, and she noted its music room, library, wall paintings done by a French artist and the "scarlet brocade-covered walls of the entrance."

Condron added that this plot of land on the corner of River and South streets was the location of the first wedding in Wyoming Valley. In November 1772 Elizabeth Sill and Nathon Denison, a Revolutionary War officer and a Luzerne County jurist, were married.

"I always think of that wedding when I pass Kirby Hall," Condron said.

Allan P. Kirby donated the mansion to Wilkes in 1941.

Patricia Heamen, an English professor whose office is in Kirby Hall, said all kinds of "nooks and crannies" characterize the building. She said her office used to be in the old pantry.

Many of the offices, she said, have fireplaces with elaborate mantles and windows with leaded glass.

"It's nice walking into a place that has history," she said.

Kirby Hall and its neighboring turn-of-the-century homes were built on a grand scale.

In those times, many homes had to be big enough for the aunts, uncles, grandparents, maids, and a higher average of

lived under one roof, according to Katy Flynn Minnich, 85, of Hazleton.

Minnich said, "babbas and jeddos (grandmothers and grandfathers) and other family members were often needed and taken into the home to help with children, cooking, cleaning and caring for the animals."

The mansions on River Street, however, were built larger for a different reason, according to Ruth Bevin, an assistant librarian at the Wyoming Valley Historical and Geological Society.

Bevin said they were symbols of prosperity and wealth to many of the coal and steel barons of Wilkes-Barre.



Rifkin Hall dedicated

Rifkin Hall, Wilkes University's newest dormitory, is also among its oldest.

Purchased by Arnold and Sandy Rifkin, the 115-year-old gothic stone mansion at 80 South River Street was presented to the University as a gift and was dedicated as part of the campus early this school year. It now houses 43 Wilkes students.

Part of Wilkes-Barre's historic district, Rifkin Hall was originally the home of the Ricketts family, Wyoming Valley pioneers who built the structure after making their fortune in the coal business. Later the building became the home of the late Judge William McLean.

Although the Rifkin family never owned the building until they bought it in 1988 to give to Wilkes, one of the apartments in the building was Arnold and Sandy Rifkin's first home in the Wyoming Valley after they returned from college in 1948.

Arnold Rifkin has been a member of the Wilkes University Board of Trustees for the last ten years. The Rifkin family, which has been associated with the University for two generations, counts its involvement from the time they spent in that South River Street apartment.

"Our involvement with Wilkes began with our return. My wife started education courses here," said Rifkin. "Our children Michael, Kathy Lantz, and daughter-in-law Margery German Rifkin attended Wilkes."

The Rifkin family owns and operates A. Rifkin Company in Hanover Township, which manufactures bank bags for national and international clients. Arnold Rifkin, the third generation of his family to operate the business, is the president of the company, and his son, Michael, is vice president of operations and management.

Anderson scholarship

Robert S. Anderson, M.D., through a provision in his estate plan, is establishing a \$100,000 scholarship in his name to support pre-medical studies at Wilkes University.

Dr. Anderson studied biology at Bucknell University and earned his M.D. degree from Temple University School of Medicine and a master's degree in public health from the Johns Hopkins University. He is married to the former Geraldine Ruth Daley.

Anderson served for 31 years as a career medical officer in the U.S. Army. He was the editor-in-chief of two volumes of World War II medical history, *Medical Supply in World War II* and *Army Medical Specialist Corps*. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters. Following his retirement from the Army in 1969 with the rank of colonel, Anderson served until 1976 as staff physician and president of the medical staff at Retreat State Hospital in Hunlock Creek. He was also employed for a number of years by the Wilkes-Barre Military Entrance Processing Station, where he was awarded the Department of the Army Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Patriotic Civilian Service.

Kirby gift

Wilkes University has received a grant totaling \$112,500 from the F.M. Kirby Foundation, Inc. The money will be used for capital improvements to Kirby Hall (\$7,500); the Rowing Club (\$5,000); and \$100,000 will be reserved for a future designation.

"We are deeply grateful to have the continued support of the Kirby family, who helped in the beginnings of this University," said President Breiseth. Kirby Hall, present-day home of the Wilkes's English and foreign language departments, was one of the first three properties that Eugene Farley and Arnaud Marts secured to start the University.

The F.M. Kirby Foundation, based in Morristown, NJ, each year recognizes health, educational, cultural, religious and other charitable organizations whose programs and locations are now or have been of interest to the Kirby Family, or are reflective of important, contemporary problems of our society.

Allan P. Kirby Jr. has served as a trustee of Wilkes since 1986 and chairs the endowment fund management subcommittee of the board.

file

On Campus

Wilkes University

→ ***Kirby Foundation donates
\$112,500*** TL 3-7-91

■ The F.M. Kirby Foundation Center, Inc., has donated \$112,500 to Wilkes to be used for capital improvements to Kirby Hall, \$7,500; the Rowing Club, \$5,000; with the remainder reserved for future use.

The Kirby Foundation, based in Morristown, N.J., annually donates funds to institutions whose programs and locations are of interest to the Kirby family. Alan J. Kirby Jr., has served as Wilkes trustee since 1986, and chairs the Endowment Fund Management subcommittee on the board.

The F.M. Kirby Center has pledged a total of \$1,137,000 to the Wilkes Tomorrow Campaign. Started in the 1986, the campaign's original goal was to raise \$18 million, but was later changed to \$23 million.

Kirby Foundation Chief Sued by Siblings in Fight for Control of Fund

By WILLIAM MONTAGUE

Members of the Kirby family, the wealthy descendants of the co-founder of the Woolworth department-store chain, are fighting a bitter legal battle for control over the F. M. Kirby Foundation, the family philanthropy founded by their grandfather almost 60 years ago.

The foundation's president, Fred M. Kirby 2d, is being sued in Delaware courts by his brother and two sisters, who claim he improperly ousted them from their positions as foundation directors in 1986. The three siblings have asked the courts to overturn what they allege was an attempt by Fred Kirby to maintain control over the foundation by secretly naming his wife and children to key positions at the fund.

The foundation is located in Morristown, N.J., but the lawsuit is being argued in Delaware because the foundation is incorporated in that state.

Delaware's Attorney General, meanwhile, has joined the three siblings in contesting Fred Kirby's authority over the foundation.

The Attorney General, Charles M. Oberly 3rd, has asked the courts to appoint several non-family members to the foundation's board of directors, arguing that outside directors are needed to protect the foundation from a family "locked in a death embrace."

Appeal Before High State Court

So far, however, efforts to dislodge Fred Kirby have made little headway. A Delaware Chancery Court ruled against the Attorney General and the other three Kirbys last October, although their appeal of that decision is currently before the state's Supreme Court.

In the meantime, the Kirby Foundation, with assets well in excess of \$157-million, has been left in something of a legal limbo, with two rival boards of directors and two sets of corporate "members"—the people empowered under the foundation's charter to appoint and dismiss directors.

For now, the foundation remains under the control of Fred Kirby, his wife, and their four children. The fund continues to give out nearly \$7.5-million in grants a year under an informal arrangement that allows each Kirby sibling to designate his or her favored charities for support.

In recent years, that list has included the names of hundreds of organizations, such as Lafayette College—the Easton, Pa., institution that has been the school-of-choice for three generations of Kirbys—the American Cancer Society, Covenant House, and a variety of conservative advocacy groups.

The current dispute pits Fred Kirby against his brother, Allan Kirby, Jr., a sister, Grace Kirby Culbertson, and another sister, Ann Sutherland Kirby Kirby, who married into an unrelated Kirby family. The conflict began



Fred Kirby, co-founder of the Woolworth Stores, created a family foundation 60 years ago that his heirs are squabbling over today.

in 1986, after Fred Kirby told his siblings that he had secretly named his wife and children as foundation "members" nearly two years before.

Under the fund's charter, members have the power to hire and fire directors—and the right to select other members. While all four siblings held seats on the board, only Fred Kirby was also a member, a position he had been given 20 years before by his father and the fund's other two members at the time.

Upon learning of their brother's action, the other three Kirby siblings approved a new bylaw holding that directors—and only directors—would be members. When Fred Kirby refused to recognize the change, the three siblings asked the Delaware Chancery Court to ratify their action.

Legally, the conflict turns on the interpretation of a clause in the foundation's charter giving members the right to appoint other members. Fred Kirby argues that the provision is exclusive, and negates his brother's and sisters' actions.

Leadership and Succession

Beneath the debate over the arcane points of Delaware corporate law is a deeply emotional question of family leadership and generational succession, accord-

ing to court documents and people close to the dispute.

"The real issue in this case is pure and simple," said one observer who asked to remain anonymous. "Who in the next generation of Kirbys is going to be in charge of the foundation?"

Fred Kirby declined to comment on the dispute, while Allen Kirby and Ann Kirby did not respond to written questions submitted to their spokesmen. Efforts to contact Grace Kirby Culbertson through her lawyer were unsuccessful.

But in letters, legal briefs, deposition transcripts and other court documents, Fred Kirby's three siblings all expressed bitter resentment of their brother's actions.

In their court pleadings, the three siblings alleged that Fred Kirby's determination to retain sole control of the foundation was motivated largely by his own business interests.

"The purported election by Fred M. Kirby of his wife and four children as additional members of the foundation was for the purpose of preserving for himself the power to control the election or removal of directors, and, thereby, the power to control the disposition of corporate securities owned by the foundation," the three siblings argued in the

complaint they submitted to the chancery court.

Until 1985, the fund was a major shareholder in the Alleghany Corporation, a financial-services company that has been under the Kirby family's control for much of the past 50 years. Fred Kirby is the company's chairman and chief executive officer.

Has Denied Improprieties

By keeping control of the foundation shares, the siblings contended, Fred Kirby was able to keep control of Alleghany, and of the company's own stock holdings, which he used to elect himself to directorships in several other companies.

Fred Kirby has denied any improprieties. He has characterized his siblings' attacks as "an invalid attempt at a coup," designed to strip him of the sole authority over the foundation that their father intended him to have.

"There has always been on the part of my siblings a lack of support and recognition or acceptance of me as a family leader or head-of-family status or anything like that," he said in a deposition given to the Attorney General.

The Delaware Attorney General has raised his own charges of impropriety against all four siblings, citing a complicated 1985 transaction that allowed the Kirby Foundation to dispose of its Alleghany shares, as required by a federal tax law that prohibits private foundations from holding more than a certain amount of stock in companies owned by major donors and their families.

Alleghany, which held a sizable stake in the American Express Company, traded those shares to the Kirby Foundation in exchange for the fund's Alleghany shares. That allowed Alleghany to use a tax loophole to avoid nearly \$40-million in capital-gains taxes on the appreciated value of its American Express shares.

The Attorney General has argued that the transaction was an improper act of self-dealing under Delaware law, contending that the foundation could have obtained a better price for its Alleghany shares by selling them on the open market.

Siblings United on One Issue

Ironically, those charges have reunited the Kirby siblings—at least on that one issue. All four have denied any wrongdoing in the stock swap, noting that the foundation reaped a \$75-million profit when it eventually sold its American Express shares.

The fate of the Kirby Foundation will probably be resolved by the Delaware Supreme Court sometime this summer. But the feud between the Kirby siblings is likely to continue for some time to come, perhaps forever, Fred Kirby acknowledges.

"This lawsuit doesn't mean that we can't, in my opinion, have the same relationship that we have always had," he said in last year's deposition. "But they don't seem to see it that way."

Wilkes College

News

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS • WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18766
TELEPHONE: (717) 822-8413



contact: Jane Mangarella
Director
Public Relations

KIRBY FOUNDATION GIVES \$743,500 TO WILKES TOMORROW CAMPAIGN

WILKES-BARRE--The most recent gift of \$231,500 to Wilkes College from the F.M. Kirby Foundation, Inc. brings the Foundation's total contribution to \$743,500 in support of the Wilkes Tomorrow Campaign.

Wilkes President Christopher N. Breiseth, in announcing the gift, said "I speak for the entire College as I express our deep gratitude to the F.M. Kirby Foundation for this latest, most generous gift. This commitment to the strengthening of Wilkes College is yet another expression of the Kirby family's loyalty to the Wyoming Valley."

The F.M. Kirby Foundation is a family foundation, established in 1931 by Fred Morgan Kirby in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and managed by successive generations of his family. It is currently based in Morristown, New Jersey. Grants usually are reflective of personal interest by one or more members of the Kirby family who are, or have been, active in the affairs of the Foundation.

According to Tom Hadzor, Vice President for Development at Wilkes and Director of the Campaign, the success of the Campaign

-more-

KIRBY FOUNDATION/AD-1

is unparalleled in the history of the school. Hadzor said, "We launched this \$18 million campaign with some trepidation because it was more than we had ever asked in support from the many friends of Wilkes. We are indeed grateful for the enormous response we have had. Leadership gifts such as those from the Kirby Foundation serve as an inspiration to all."

The Campaign is a five-year effort and has three main objectives: \$5,500,000 for a capital construction project, The Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center now nearing completion and to be dedicated on February 17; \$2,500,000 to support the endowment; and \$10 million in support of annual operations. Capital gifts and pledges in excess of \$7,100,000 toward the \$8 million goal have been reached since the campaign was launched just over four years ago.



RECEIVED

MAR 26 1992

WILKES UNIVERSITY
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

March 24, 1992

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Glatzel
RR#2, Box 274
New Milford, PA., 18834

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Glatzel:

Tom Hadzor called me last week to give me the details of the scholarship you are establishing in Cathy's name. I was deeply touched by your thoughtfulness and generosity.

At our department meeting on Monday, I informed the nursing faculty of the scholarship. Many of the faculty knew Cathy personally and they spoke at some length about her outstanding academic and clinical ability, her outgoing personality and her love of nursing. No one was surprised by your generosity; the comment was made, "a person such as Cathy would have parents who would think of others in that way."

The Cathy Lynn Glatzel '86 Nursing Scholarship, created by Donald and Janet Glatzel in memory of their daughter Cathy Lynn, a summa cum laude nursing graduate who gave her life while helping others. This award will be granted to a freshman nursing student with financial need and will continue through senior year assuming good academic progress.

Thank you for giving us Cathy!

Sincerely,

Ana M. Kelanowski
Ana M. Kelanowski, Ph.D., R.N.,
Associate Professor and Chairperson
Department of Nursing

AMK/BJ



RECEIVED

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Unfortunately, I did not know Cathy. Hearing the remarks made by our faculty, I wish I had. I, too, have just recently lost a close relative in an accident. I understand some of the shock and pain you feel. I have been comforted by the fact that we never really lose those closest to us, we always have memories of them to share with others, just as you are doing with this scholarship.

Thank you for giving us Cathy!

Sincerely,


Ann M. Kolanowski, Ph.D., R.N.,
Associate Professor and Chairperson
Department of Nursing

AMK/bt

mej

cc: Ann Kolanowski



March 13, 1992

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Glatzel
R.R. 2, Box 274
New Milford, PA 18834

Dear Don and Janet,

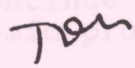
I appreciate your call to discuss the particulars of the Scholarship you are establishing at Wilkes.

As I mentioned, a student will benefit from the outright gift, and as the endowment grows in succeeding years, additional young people will receive aid from Cathy's endowment.

I will set the wheels in motion to drive the Scholarship to fruition. If you have any questions at any time, do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you again for your major commitment. It is a pleasure knowing you.

Very truly yours,


Thomas B. Hadzor
Vice President for Development

mej

cc: Ann Kolanowski

Wilkes
University

KIRBY HALL
RENOVATIONS

WILKES-BARRE, PA



Highland Associates provided full Architectural and Engineering services for the renovation of a 9,000 square foot historical building housing classrooms and office space. The mechanical and electrical systems were upgraded and interior finishes were used to preserve the historical character of the building.

HIGHLAND ASSOCIATES

On Campus

Wilkes University

*Kirby Foundation donates
\$112,500* TL 3-7-91

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STANDARD-SPEAKER

HAZLETON, PA
DAILY 24,412

SATURDAY
MAR 9 1991

184

BURRELLE'S

ZK

**Wilkes receives
grant from Kirby** *p4s17*

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Wilkes University

News

Stephanie Simmons
Assistant Director of Public Relations
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18766
(717) 831-4772

WILKES UNIVERSITY SETS RENOVATION PLANS FOR KIRBY HALL ON 100TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF ALLAN P. KIRBY

WILKES-BARRE -- Wilkes University President Christopher N. Breiseth has announced plans to restore and refurbish areas of The Kirby Home for Education in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Allan P. Kirby on July 31st. Mrs. Grace Kirby Culbertson, daughter of Allan P. Kirby, has contributed funds to the project as a memorial to her grandparents, Fred M. and Jessie A. Kirby.

"Kirby Hall is the centerpiece of the Wilkes University campus," noted Breiseth. "Mrs. Culbertson's gift will allow us to begin to restore this landmark building to its original splendor."

The first phase of the Kirby Hall renovations will transform the salon, currently used as a classroom, to a faculty seminar and meeting room. In keeping with the Victorian style of the home, period pieces and other treatments will be employed to furnish the room. Subsequent renovation projects will focus on the entrance hall and parlor.

"I adored my grandparents. My grandfather was a fine, outstanding

-MORE-

1ST ADD WILKES ANNOUNCES RENOVATION PLANS FOR KIRBY HALL

gentleman who did a great deal for the Wyoming Valley," Mrs. Culbertson remarked. "I am delighted to begin this project. Because of my father's gift of this home, I am able to donate this memorial to my grandparents."

Located on the corner of South River and South Streets, The Kirby Home for Education was given to Bucknell University Junior College, now Wilkes University, in 1941 by Allan P. Kirby, in memory of his father and mother. It was the fourth building to be donated to the school, which was founded just eight years earlier in 1933.

Originally, the first floor of the building was used for music students, the second as a library and the third floor served as the residence to Dr. and Mrs. Eugene S. Farley, then president of the College. Eventually the library expanded to all three floors until 1968 when the Eugene S. Farley Library was completed. Currently, Kirby Hall is home to the English department and the Foreign Languages and Literatures department.

Built in 1873 by merchant Stephen Thurlow, the mansion was designed by architect Frederick Withers. In 1905, F. M. Kirby purchased the home from Reuben Flick for \$55,000 and lived there until his death in 1940.

F. M. Kirby made several alterations to the building. A stone terrace replaced the frame porches originally built around the facade. Several windows were replaced, interior woodwork was changed and alterations to the original floor-plan and staircase were made.

Allan P. Kirby, the oldest of F. M. Kirby's sons, followed his father's path to the business world. In 1920, he organized The Kirby-Davis Company, a Chrysler distributor for Luzerne, Columbia, and Schuylkill counties, eventually becoming president. In the late 1950s, he became a director in the New York Central Railroad.

Married to Marion G. Sutherland of West Pittston, Allan P. Kirby was father to four children, Grace Jesse, Fred Morgan, Anne Sutherland, and Allan Price

-MORE-

2ND ADD WILKES ANNOUNCES RENOVATION PLANS FOR KIRBY HALL

Kirby, Jr. The family kept residences in Glen Summit Springs and Morristown, New Jersey. Allan P. Kirby, Jr. is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Wilkes University.

The renovation and restoration of the Kirby Home for Education is just part of the effort to preserve the handsome Wilkes University campus. One of the landmark masterpieces of the campus, the Kirby home stands as testimony to a family whose contributions to Wilkes University and the Wyoming Valley are beyond measure.

This site has been witness to Indian settlements along the banks of the river, General Sullivan's Revolutionary encampment, the first marriage among European settlers performed in the Wyoming Valley, and home to one of the region's early entrepreneurs. Now the site is witness to the development of young minds and the growth of a small junior college to a leading university.

WILKES ANNOUNCES RENOVATION PLANS FOR KIRBY HALL

PHOTO, ETC. INVENTORY/INFO

- * 3 slides - b/w exterior illustration pre-Kirby ownership
 - b/w exterior

Stephanie Simmons
Assistant Director of Public Relations
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18766
(717) 831-4772

- * Prints: - 5x7 b/w interior, taken from book
 - 5x7 b/w exterior, dedication plaque
 - 8x11 b/w interior, dining room - fairly recent
 - 8x 11 b/w exterior, current

Book: The Wyoming Valley, see p. 134 for architects illustration

Framed print: b/w of dining room, circa 1940

WILKES-BARRE Wilkes University President Christopher M. Bielewicz has

announced plans to restore and refurbish a part of the Kirby Home for Education in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Allan P. Kirby on July 31st. Mrs. Grace Marie Colbertson, daughter of Allan P. Kirby, has contributed funds to the project as a memorial to her grandparents, Fred M. and Jennie A. Kirby.

"Kirby Hall is the centerpiece of the Wilkes University campus," noted Bielewicz. "Mrs. Colbertson's gift will allow us to begin to restore this landmark building to its original splendor."

The first phase of the Kirby Hall renovations will transform the saloon, currently used as a classroom, into a faculty seminar and meeting room. In keeping with the Victorian style of the home, period pieces and other treatments will be employed to furnish the room. Subsequent renovation projects will occur on the entrance hall and porch.

"I shared my grandparents' home with them for a fine, outstanding

-MORE-

Wilkes University

News

Stephanie Simmons
Assistant Director of Public Relations
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RENOVATIONS AT KIRBY HALL UNDERWAY

WILKES-BARRE -- Work crews have begun restoring and refurbishing the salon in the Kirby Home for Education at Wilkes University. Mrs. Grace Kirby Culbertson, daughter of Allan P. Kirby, Sr., has contributed funds to the project as a memorial to her grandparents, Fred M. and Jessie A. Kirby.

Located on the corner of South River and South Streets, The Kirby Home for Education was given to Bucknell University Junior College, now Wilkes University, in 1941 by Allan P. Kirby, in memory of his father and mother. It was the fourth building to be donated to the school, which was founded just eight years earlier in 1933.

Built in 1873 by merchant Stephen Thurlow, the mansion was designed by architect Frederick Withers. In 1905, F. M. Kirby purchased the home from Reuben Flick for \$55,000 and lived there until his death in 1940.

Formerly used as a classroom, the salon will soon serve as a faculty seminar and meeting room. In keeping with the Victorian style of the home, period pieces and other treatments will be employed to furnish the room. Renovations to the salon are just the first phase of the project. Subsequent renovation projects will focus on the entrance hall and parlor.

The renovation and restoration of the Kirby Home for Education is just part of the effort to preserve the handsome Wilkes University campus. One of the

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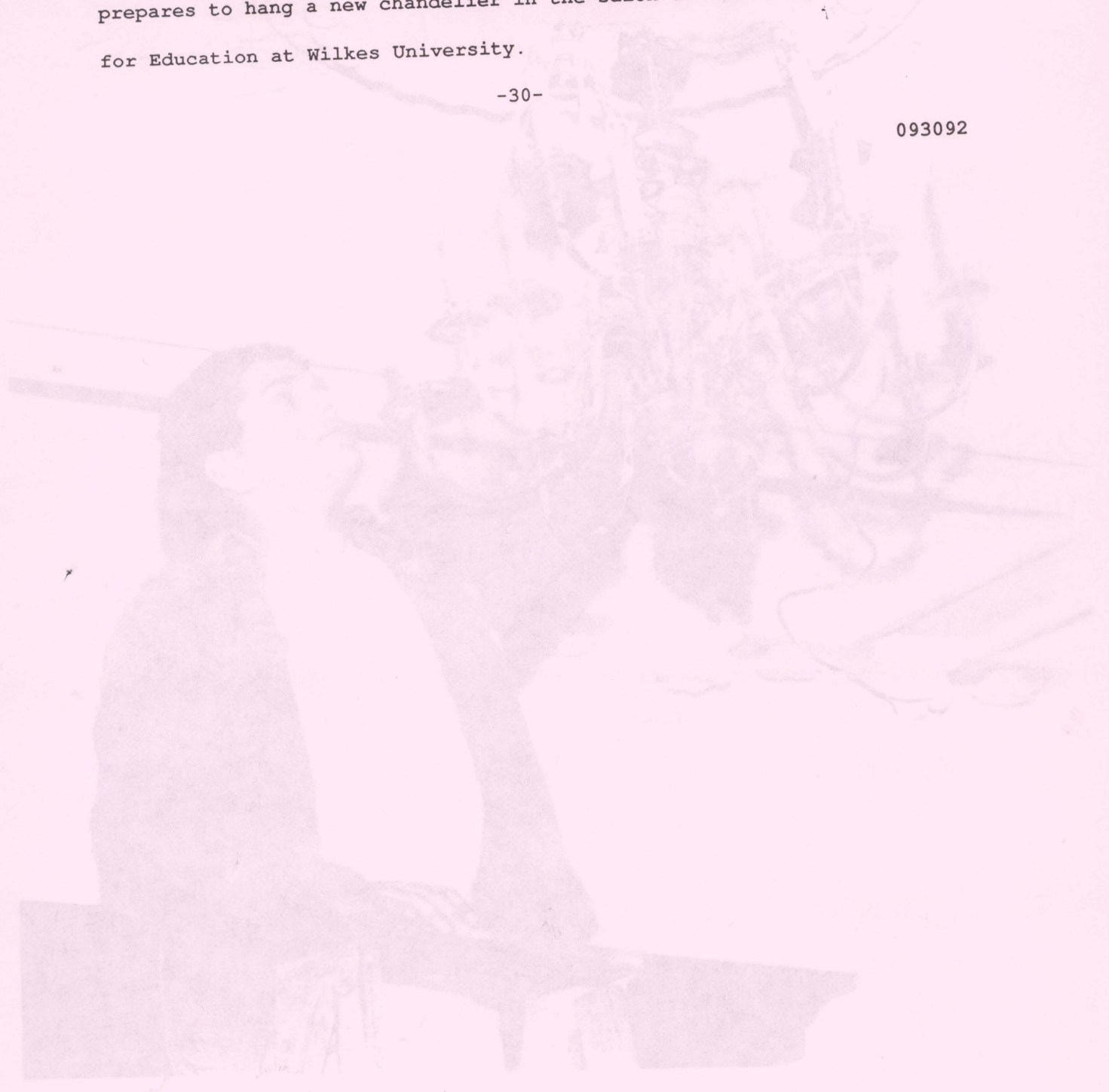
1ST ADD KIRBY RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY

landmark masterpieces of the campus, the Kirby home stands as testimony to a family whose contributions to Wilkes University and the Wyoming Valley are beyond measure.

PHOTO: Mike Mattioli of Cavanaugh Electric, Wilkes-Barre, prepares to hang a new chandelier in the salon of The Kirby Home for Education at Wilkes University.

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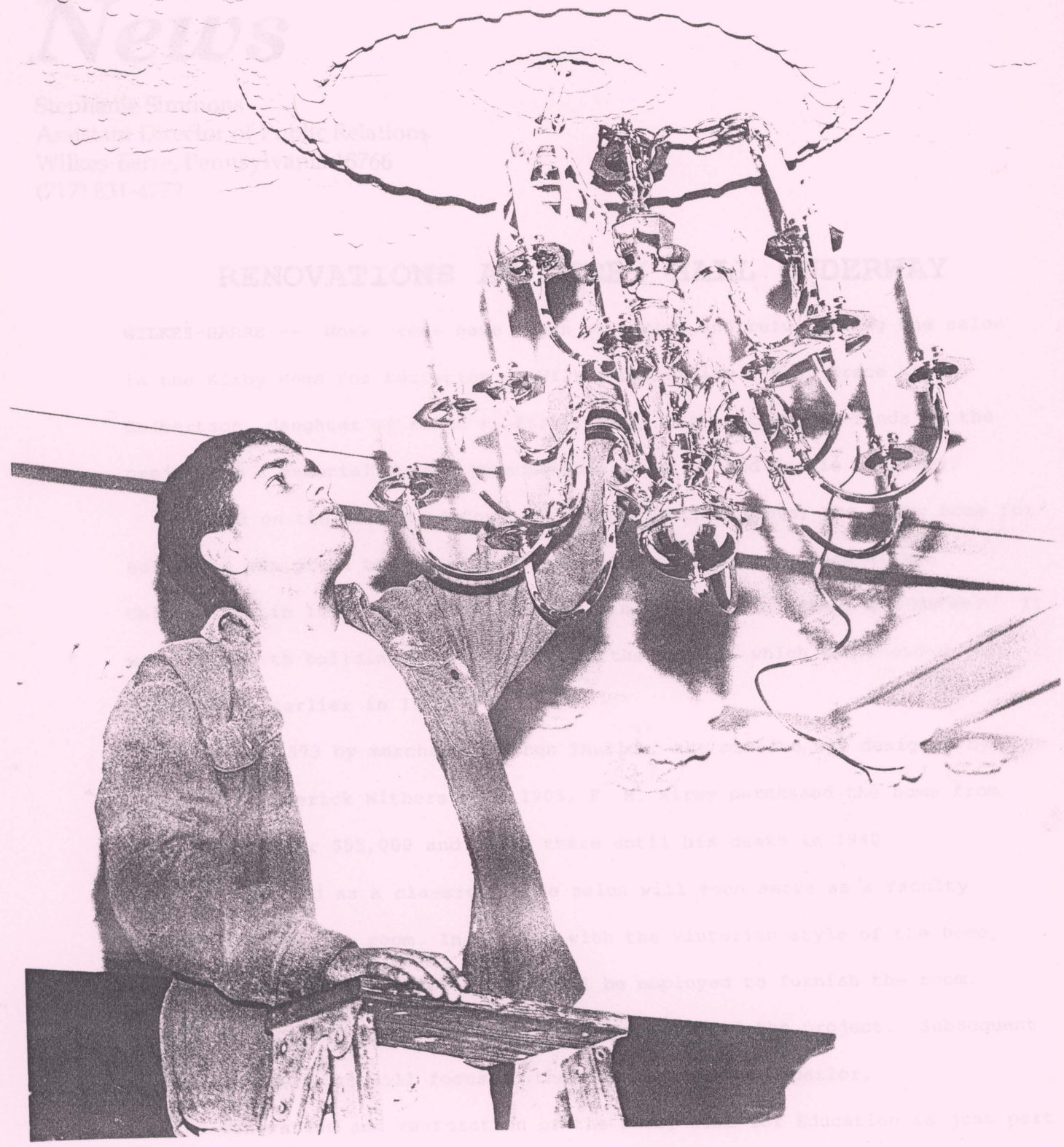
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Wilkes University News

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RENOVATIONS IN PROGRESS



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Photograph by C. Salomick

of the effort to preserve the handsome Wilkes University campus. One of the

Kirby Hall getting a face-lift

Beacon 10/8/92 Wilkes-Barre— Work crews have begun restoring and refurbishing the salon in the Kirby Home for Education at Wilkes University. Mrs. Grace Kirby Culbertson, daughter of Allan P. Kirby, Sr., has contributed funds to the project as a memorial to her grandparents, Fred M. and Jessie A. Kirby.

The building is located on the corner of South River and South Streets. The Kirby Home for Education was given to Bucknell University Junior College, now Wilkes University, in 1941 by Allan P. Kirby in honor of his father and mother. It was the fourth building to be donated to the school, which was founded just eight years earlier in 1933.

Built in 1873 by merchant Stephen Thurlow, the mansion was designed by architect Frederick Withers. In 1905, F.M.

Kirby purchased the home from Reuben Flick for \$55,000 and lived there until his death in 1940.

Formerly used as a classroom, the salon will soon serve as a faculty seminar and meeting room. In keeping with the Victorian style of the home, period pieces and other treatments will be employed to furnish the room. Renovations to the salon are just the first phase of the project, however, the entrance hall and parlor are next on the list for renovations.

This project is just part of the effort to preserve the handsome Wilkes University campus. One of the landmark masterpieces of the campus, the Kirby home stands as testimony to a family whose contributions to Wilkes University and the Wyoming Valley are beyond measure.

Kenty file



Page 2....Mrs. Culbertson.

brightening, painting, floor carpeting in the hallway
as our own funds permit.

RECEIVED

June 29, 1992

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Sept
See
Page
#2

Mrs John H. Culbertson
Acorn Hill
Blue Mill Road
Morristown, NJ 07960

Dear Grace:

I'm writing this in the car returning from a lovely week-end at the shore (Sea Grit), so if it sounds disjointed...my apologies! As I mentioned to you in our recent phone conversation, I'm leaving tomorrow to spend several days with my daughter in Bedford (PA) and so I will leave this letter to be typed, signed and mailed from Wilkes. Let's hope this one reaches you more quickly than my last letter to you and Marion!

Following our talk on, I think it was Thursday, Chris and I plus several of the University's top building-maintenance men spent an hour in Kirby checking the refurbishment needs of the Salon, Entrance Hall and Parlor. Because of all the reasons we have discussed and summarized in my June 11th letter, and because we are anxious to start work immediately so it will be completed by summer's end...we've bitten the bullet and opted to begin the total Kirby Hall Renovations with the Salon as Phase #1.

You have been so very generous in allowing the change from your original Kirby Parlor refurbishment gift to its use as described below. And, I want to thank you again for that tremendous, albeit temporary, switch in your original "dream" for the restoration of your grandparents' sitting-room. You are wonderfully flexible and imaginative, as well as being sensitive to the needs of this strong but under-endowed university.

We now plan to use your gift for the creation of a Faculty Seminar/Meeting room, certainly an appropriate centerpiece for the Kirby Education Building. The flooring (est. \$5,000), wood-work cleaning-lightening, wall-ceiling painting and any needed structural changes will be the first order of work. Then, there will be window treatment, rugging, and a chandelier. (We probably have several in storage that are appropriate to Kirby and may have come from there.) Although, we won't try for real antiques as shown in the pictures, we will buy comfortable period pieces and furnish the room so that it enhances the beauty of the building and is in keeping with the era.

If there are monies left from your gift, we will use them to enrich the Entrance Hall. We hope to do some woodwork

Mark Davis

Page 2.....Mrs. Culbertson.

brightening, painting, floor and stair carpeting in the hallway as our own funds permit.

I've come to feel that redoing the Salon first is the better choice for the long-run to getting Kirby Hall back to its former splendor. That room will be the focus for the overall renovation. It will be in striking contrast to other first floor needs and keep those needs as more obvious priorities for university and historic preservation funds. Because it will be seen and used to some degree by adults interested in the historic treasures of the Wilkes campus, I think our chances for moving along on the Parlor will be made better. The vision of the Parlor's preservation is still a cherished goal for Chris and all of us who have learned the plans, now temporarily tabled.

Incidentally, the front landscaping has had a good trim. The building's surrounding landscaping will be redone soon, with the realization that we want the building's facade to show up in all its Victorian Gothic glory!

Your \$45,000 gift now stands at \$49,083.25 which represents a 19.1% appreciation. Please understand that dollars awaiting use are invested via our regular endowment fund; thus those dollars are managed by three separate groups (Scudder, Strategic Assets Management and The Common Fund).

You asked about Sandy and Martha McLean. They are both doing well on their Maine island off of Portland...loving their several great-grandchildren, etc. They have a neat life, I gather!

Our University Relations department will write up a piece in tribute to the 100th anniversary of Mr. Kirby's July 31st birth. As they tie it into the showpiece Kirby Hall renovations, it will be pointed out that your gift was made in memory of your grandparents. It will be an opportunity to bring to the attention of the public a bit of Kirby Hall's history, as it relates to your family and your father's far-sighted gift in 1941 as Bucknell University Junior College's Home of Education. What a marvelous tribute he made to his parents and what an unbelievable bevy of uses that mansion has provided us for half a century!

Gratefully and with Best Wishes,

Betsy Bell Condron

Dictated by Mrs. Condron and signed in her absence.

If there are monies left from your gift, we will use them to enrich the Entrance Hall. We hope to do some woodwork

Wilkes University

Office of the President

June 17, 1992

Mr. Fred M. Kirby
17 DeHart Street
P. O. Box 151
Morristown, NJ 07960-0151

Dear Fred:

Forgive the long interval since I received your most welcome letter informing me of the pending 100th anniversary of your father's birth on July 31. I wanted to be able to report some progress to you on developments that may work to celebrate both at Wilkes and in the public mind your father's remarkable career. We now hope to be announcing the beginning of a significant renovation project in Kirby Hall made possible by a gift from the Kirby Foundation and designated by your sister Grace Jessie. We are working with her to make the final decision on exactly which room will be the beginning point for that renovation and restoration. The work will take time and need considerably more money over the next several years, but I feel very good about beginning this project. As you know, the "Kirby Home of Education," as it was designated on its dedication in December of 1941, has been the workhorse building for Bucknell University Junior College, Wilkes College, and now Wilkes University. It has borne the strains and traffic proudly, but it shows the wear. We cannot do the kind of extensive renovation as quickly as I would like because we have no place to put the several academic departments and special facilities that now are housed in Kirby Hall. Our hope is to secure funding for a new humanities building in the center of the campus just behind Stark Learning Center to complete our academic quadrangle. We have been to the Olin Foundation on a first request and been turned down, but have been encouraged to reapply in a couple of years. Either through that source or some other source this becomes our top priority. When we achieve it, we will be in a position to do a thorough renovation of Kirby Hall from top to bottom.

I am enclosing a clipping we came across of the dedication ceremonies of Kirby Home of Education. What is striking is the role of your father, Dr. Marts, and Eugene Farley working together to help get the fledgling little college up on its feet. As you know, Dr. Marts's widow died this past fall and had kept secure the two trusts left by Arnaud Marts which designated Wilkes as the beneficiary and added her own estate to the trusts. The final legacy for Wilkes will approach \$2.3 million, an absolutely stunning contribution to have come from the man who, more than anyone else outside of Dr. Farley himself, helped put this institution together. In going over his papers this week which were bequeathed to us, I discovered a letter from you in response to a wonderful essay by Dr. Marts on Daniel Roberts. I send you a copy in case you have forgot it to refresh your memory on one of the remarkable men from Watertown.

Mr. Fred M. Kirby

-2-

June 17, 1992

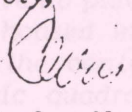
Your encouragement to persuade Allan to come on the Wilkes Board has contributed to what is perhaps my most important accomplishment in terms of the Board. He has been an outstanding Board member, chairing our Endowment Subcommittee, increasing its value significantly (we are now at \$15.5 million having started, when I arrived, at \$3.5 million). In addition, the support of Wilkes by the Kirby Foundation with his guidance enabled us to carry through on the construction of the Arnaud C. Marts Sports and Conference Center. A plaque of major donors has now been erected in the Marts Center and the top line is for the F.M. Kirby Foundation. Allan's interest seems to be increasing in what happens to Wilkes in all aspects of its operations and growth which, to someone in my position, is a source of enormous support not unlike that provided Dr. Farley in another era by your father.

I must confess that the family strains impose difficulties on the kind of easy communication among all parts of the family, but I want you to know how grateful we are to all members of the Kirby family and to the Foundation for what it has done over the years to make Wilkes University possible.

The Wyoming Valley is so much better a place to live and work in because of the contributions of the Kirbys over the generations. I salute your latest major contribution to keep our wonderful Kirby Center for the Performing Arts viable. It is a jewel for this area and must succeed.

Please give my warm regards to Walker. Thank you again for sharing the anniversary information with me. I will send you copies of our press releases on the building renovation in the form of recognition of your father.

Sincerely,


Christopher N. Breiseth

CNB:ah

Enclosures

bc: A. Batory, Fac. Assoc., Pres. Office
T. Hadzor, VP, Devt.
R. Heaman, Exec. Asst. to Pres.
J.M. Lennon, VP, AA
P. O'Hop, VP, BA/AE
M. Davis, Dir., PR

Mark →



For now, I think there are two ways to simplify the logistics of the renovation process. (not to be confused with the faculty morale!) and create a stunning turn-of-the-century Wilkes University's Faculty and visitor lounge. Or, we can continue with your unique idea to resurrect the lovely sitting room and keep it as an historical showpiece. If you decide on the latter choice, you may want to reconsider the use in relation to the "College Room" in our library. They can be seen via the glass doors, but they are also used for special events and houses educational tools as well as historical pictures of pride for Wilkes. If you decide on the Kirby Salon, then the further renovation would be moved to a later date, but not abandoned, merely set aside for Phase #2.

June 11, 1992

Mrs. John H. Culbertson
Acorn Hill
Blue Mill Road
Morristown, NJ 07960

Ms. Marian Hvolbeck
411 Stanwich Road
Greenwich, CT 06880

Dear Grace and Marian, too!

It was wonderful having you here a few days ago. We loved showing you a bit of our historic campus and, particularly, Kirby Hall. Because I'm not sure whether we ended up with the same goals we started with, I thought it might help to write down the high-points of our discussion as Chris and I recall them. Also, because time is of the essence in our summer Kirby overhaul plans, we need to firm up the stages of the mansion's renovations as quickly as possible.

Originally, you gave your generous gift to Wilkes to redecorate the Kirby Parlor as it might have looked in your grandparents' day, Grace, and that process can continue just as we have already outlined. The room can become a beautiful memorial to the Kirbys and the first step in the overall plan for the building's total renovation.

Your question to Chris, Grace, as to whether we were starting with the right "first step room" set us all thinking about the old living-room, the Kirby Salon across the hall from the parlor. As you pointed out, the larger room would be easier to renovate...flooring, painting, lighting, and furnishings a la the pictures (to whatever degree we wish to follow them). The Kirby Salon would be used as a faculty lounge and the site of adult gatherings. More importantly, it would truly show up the need for total building renovation and kick off the program more readily because of its size and keystone placement. (If there were monies leftover from its decoration, the entrance hall could be the next step in the renovation plan).

As Chris explained, Kirby Hall has been a "workhorse" building ever since it was given to Wilkes in 1941, serving the needs of a busy, growing-fast college in a huge variety of ways for over 50 years! It never had the luxury of being used in the manner of Weckesser Hall (a much younger structure, besides). Neither you nor we are happy with the overall conditions of Kirby Hall, but we are happy that you have put wheels in motion to remedy the situation.

BC/mw

For now, I think there are two choices. We can simplify the logistics of the renovation process, (not to mention the increase in faculty morale!) and create a stunning turn-of-the-century Kirby Salon as Wilkes University's faculty and visitor lounge. Or, we can continue with your unique idea to resurrect the lovely sitting-room and keep it as an historical showpiece. If you decide on the latter choice, you may want to reconsider its use in relation to the "Collection Rooms" in our library. They can be seen via the glass doors, but they are also used for special events and became educational tools as well as historic points of pride for Wilkes. If you decide on the Kirby Salon, then the Parlor renovation would be moved to a back burner, but not abandoned, merely set aside for Phase #2.

Your visit provided so many stimulating ideas about Kirby Hall and I hope you are more excited about the possibilities ahead than confused by them! Whichever way we decide on, the University would like to make an announcement about the renovation and tie it into the 100th anniversary of Mr. Kirby's birth on July 31st. I would appreciate your thoughts about the type of publicity you would feel comfortable with, Grace...pictures, building history, family history, your role in this gift, etc.? Of course, we want to bring as much attention as possible to the renovation ahead.

As I told Marian, I am writing an informal history of Kirby Hall and will send you my notes soon. It may help to put our elegant 1992 renovation plans into context with the mansion's past.

It was such fun to join you and the Mitchells at Damenti's on Tuesday night and to rehash all those happy Glen Summit memories. You two must have been exhausted and yet didn't show it at all! I'll be in touch with you soon, and then we'll get started on one plan or another ASAP.

With best wishes,

Betsy

Betsy Bell Condron

Dictated by Mrs. Condron and signed in her absence

BC/mej