

How Oread Was Named

Sketch 3-14-66
Editor's Note: This is the fifth in a series, "100 Years on Mount Oread." The University of Kansas is observing its centennial anniversary this year.

Mount Oread was given its name in honor of Eli Thayer of Worcester, Mass., who founded the Emigrants Aid Company which settled Lawrence and other Kansas communities.

Thayer in 1845 purchased a tract of land in Worcester which included a hill to which he gave the name Mount Oread after the mountain nymphs or spirits in Roman mythology. On it he built and operated the Oread Collegiate Institute for women.

Visitors through the years, many of them notable figures, have given abundant praise to the view which K.U.'s Mount Oread affords of the Kansas and Wakarusa valleys.

In 1879 Walt Whitman called it "beautiful as dreams." Hor-

ace Greeley was another ecstatic visitor.