

# Trinity Hall 1908–2008

*Trinity College Dublin Residence*

Rosa Pilcher

**Hinds**

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## Table of Contents

Table of Illustrations	vii
Foreword	ix
Preface	xi
Acknowledgements	xv
Editorial Note	xxi
Chapter 1	
Introduction — Trinity College and the struggle for Women’s education, 1895–1904	1
Chapter 2	
Trinity Hall: the early years, 1908–1940	25
Chapter 3	
Life in Trinity Hall — 1949–1972	35
Chapter 4	
Sixties, Seventies and Beyond: agitation and change	43
Chapter 5	
A ‘Mixed’ Residential Community — 1972–2005.	57
Chapter 6	
The balancing act: Trinity Hall moves into the 21 <sup>st</sup> century	65
Chapter 7	
Conclusion	75

Select Bibliography	
History	81
Trinity College Publications	82
Women and Education	82
Appendix	
Donations to Trinity Hall in 1908	83
Index	87

## Table of Illustrations

Residents circa 1908	9
Residents Trinity Term 1912	10
Residents circa 1938–40	11
Residents Trinity Term 1947	12
Residents June 1950	13
Warden and some students of 2012	14
Centenary celebrations 2008 – Office holders, friends and family	16
Miss E. M. Cunningham, first Lady warden	17
Bridget Geraghty with the dog, Derry	17
Leila McCutcheon, Warden 1965–75	17
Alice Oldham of Alexandra College	17
Centenary celebrations: Clarissa Pilkington	18
Centenary celebrations: Susan Parkes	18
Centenary celebrations: Vivienne Darling	18
Centenary celebrations: Brendan Tangney	18
An aerial view of the Trinity Hall site	19
Dining Room, Trinity Hall	20
Sleeping on the roof!	20



## Foreword

I had initially thought to write this foreword as a letter to Miss E. M. Cunningham, the first Warden of Trinity Hall; the success of the Hall in its early days was almost entirely due to her dedication to the cause of women's education, and to her personal vision of a student residence conducive to personal growth and academic success. It is inspiring to see her work recorded here, alongside that of the many Wardens who followed her down to the present day. I'm sure I join with all members of the College community in recording Trinity's appreciation for the Wardens' collective leadership over more than a century — a century that has seen Trinity Hall develop into the fine student residence it is today.

It is a pleasure for me too to record our appreciation for the many benefactors who across the years have made Trinity Hall possible. This includes the founding benefactors listed in this book, as well as those who followed them, most notably Dr Chuck Feeney, whose generosity in the 1990s led to Trinity Hall's most recent expansion. Today over one thousand Trinity students live 'in Hall'.

The histories we write tell something about how we view life, about what we find important, and why we find it important. In *Trinity Hall 1908–2008, Trinity College Dublin Residence* we see that the notion of change figures prominently. Change is not always a continuous process; rather, it proceeds in fits and starts. Most significant among those changes perhaps was the opening of the doors of Trinity Hall to male residents, and the corresponding change that opened rooms in the

Trinity Hall 1908–2008

College itself to women. On both occasions, Trinity acknowledged the social norms of the times while remaining true to its own set of values — of friendship, of community, and of striving to achieve as our talents permit. Future generations will read this volume and see that we embrace change but maintain the values embodied in our commitment to a residential College, and we hope that this volume will encourage those future generations to do likewise.

I thank Rosa Pilcher for her work in writing this book, and all those who have helped her to achieve its successful publication.

Patrick J. Prendergast  
Provost  
Trinity College Dublin

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