THESE 10 TALES OF TRINITY FACULTY, ADMINISTRATORS, AND ALUMNI of some distinction were researched and written by Emma Paine, a graduate student from Simmons College, during her “archives field study” internship at the Watkinson Library in the summer of 2014. They are presented here to give the Trinity community and the public a sense of the rich and diverse material that is carefully preserved in the archives and to encourage all who love Trinity to support our efforts.

- Richard J. Ring,
Head Curator and Librarian of the Watkinson Library
Welcome to the Trinity College Archives at the Watkinson Library!

Established in 1972, maintaining the archives is how Trinity College remembers its history.

Dating back to the school’s founding in 1823, thousands of items on our shelves tell the story of the College through the administrators, faculty, students, and alumni who lived, worked, taught, studied, and visited here in the course of almost 200 years. Whether you’re interested in learning about the development of the study-away program, want to know more about the 1968 sit-in, or are just curious about what the campus looked like 50 years ago, the Archives has the resources you need to answer your questions about Trinity’s past.

But did you know that the College Archives can also show you what it was like to travel on an ocean liner in the 1930s and fly through the Andes in the 1950s? Or that it can let you in on the thoughts of a World War I private and a Vietnam War draft dodger? Or that it can teach you about publishing a book of essays or patenting a method for purifying organic compounds?

Although all of the items in the Archives are connected to Trinity in some way, the people who collected and donated these materials had lives, interests, and concerns outside of the College, and their papers offer a window into these wider worlds. With the College Archives, you never have to fear the words “primary sources” again—just pick a box, any box, and you’re sure to see something that catches your interest!

In this booklet, you will find stories drawn from 10 collections recently featured on our “guest” blog, I Found It at the Watkinson (http://commons.trincoll.edu/rring). We invite you to visit the Watkinson and begin your own exploration of the College Archives!

Emma Paine, Graduate student intern from Simmons College
Professor Harry Todd Costello was the recent subject of research for a Canadian scholar who was interested in Costello's connection to the famous philosopher Bertrand Russell. He served as Russell’s teaching assistant at Harvard in 1914, and Costello’s faculty papers contain notes from that course, as well as essays and lectures from other philosophy courses he taught or took.

Although he was very much involved in the study of philosophy, Costello was also a professor of psychology—in fact, he was the only professor in Trinity’s Philosophy and Psychology Department until 1927.

The College Archives has several items from his teaching days, including exams for his “Abnormal Psychology” classes and the syllabus for “Intro to General Psychology.” There’s also a newspaper article he might have used as a reading for “Abnormal Psychology” in spring 1944. Of course, Costello didn’t have access to PDFs, electronic course reserves, or even Xerox copies during his 36 years at Trinity, so we can only wonder how he shared the clipping with his class.

Another find is a sheet of notes on “Memory Training,” which he presumably handed out during the first class of “Elementary Psychology.” Some of the tips:

“Trust your memory. Think habitually and definitely that you are going to remember.”

“In learning a disconnected series, form quick associations, the more bizarre the better. Get a picture that gets them all in.”

“Be rigidly exact in recall.”

“Learn to forget the useless.”

“Practise.”

In addition to items that show how he taught psychology, there are also two journals that demonstrate how he learned the subject as an undergrad at Earlham College in 1907. Although they didn’t have computers or today’s brain scanning technology, Costello and his fellow students were still looking for ways to objectively study seemingly subjective phenomena, and these journals document their experiments.

Most of the time, the students were each other’s lab rats, and the experiments literally brought them closer together. In one experiment, for example, Costello had to shave the back of his lab partners’ hand and count the “hair stalks” in order to determine the location of “pressure spots.” In another, “Distribution of Taste Sensitivity over the Tongue,” he had to identify prominent papillae on his partner’s tongue and then drop different flavored liquids on each one to determine which papillae sensed which kinds of flavors. Should we be thankful that the field of psychology has changed a bit since then?

To learn more about these journals and the rest of the Costello collection, please stop by the Watkinson and ask for the finding aid.
Dr. Harold L. Dorwart: Mathematician and Historian

As a mathematics professor by trade, Dr. Harold L. Dorwart was also a fastidious chronicler of history. His papers, donated to the College in 1979, reveal someone who recognized history being made and had the presence of mind to collect the evidence. Moreover, in a testament to his mathematical training, he also analyzed that evidence, creating a collection that’s more like a well-edited textbook than the typical box of faculty papers.

Dorwart called his text “Trinity College 1967-68: A Documentary History,” and his handwritten table of contents identifies over 100 newspaper clippings, memos, proposals, posters, and commentary from his rather tumultuous year as acting dean of the College. (It was actually supposed to be a fairly easy job until a diaphragmatic hernia put the president out of commission and left Dorwart to lead the College through a series of five “crises,” including the student sit-in and the “punishment controversy” that followed!)

Sometimes, Dorwart comes across as a hero, like when he prohibited on-campus military recruiters from reporting student protesters to the Vietnam War Draft Board. Other times, he comes across as a bit of a villain, like when he attended a student meeting on an unexpected tuition hike and refused to answer the students’ questions (per his superior’s orders). Most of the time, though, he comes across as an ordinary guy thrust into the extraordinarily challenging situation of saving the College from certain destruction by making everyone happy, all while avoiding the attention of the press.

Although the sit-in is a big part of his collection, it’s not the only momentous occasion Dorwart experienced and recorded as part of his everyday life. Several years earlier, he was invited to meet President Dwight D. Eisenhower when the war hero addressed the Trinity campus at the 1954 Convocation, and Dorwart saved all sorts of invitations, instructions, newspaper clippings, and other ephemera documenting the day. These items really bring this historic day to life—especially the Trinity College Traffic Control map, which visually documents all of the effort that went into planning the event, something Trinity’s current administrative staff will appreciate!

To learn more about Dorwart and his collection, visit the Watkinson and ask for the finding aid.
Did you know that 60 percent of Trinity students study abroad at some point during their college career? And did you know that it all started in the 1970s as an experimental little summer program in Rome? The highs and the lows of this first year are all documented in the papers of Dr. Michael Campo, J.J. McCook Professor of Languages, Emeritus; former director of the Barbieri Center for Italian Studies, and founder of study away at Trinity College.

On September 2, 1969, the Curricular Committee voted to approve Campo’s proposal to establish a Trinity College Summer Program in Rome. Three days later, the faculty concurred, and Trinity’s first study-abroad program was on the way to becoming a reality. According to the proposal, “Rome [was] a natural center for such a learning experience,” but it was such a “natural center” that Trinity had to compete with several other schools that already offered programs there. In order to stand out from the pack and attract the 200 students needed to make the endeavor a financial success, Trinity advertised a “broad diversity of course offerings taught by an able faculty,” offering classes such as “The Architecture of the City of Rome,” “Elements of Drawing and Design,” “Introductory Italian,” and “Latin Literature in Translation,” as well as an archeology program that allowed students to participate in a real dig. Lest the very idea of the dig discourage enrollment, though, Campo reassured the students: “Do not get apprehensive about the digging,” he wrote, “there will be just enough to give you an idea of excavation techniques. It will not be strenuous at all. There will, of course, be good shower facilities at the camp.”

Although Campo faced many challenges when it came to scheduling and advertising the program and enrollment was considerably lower than anticipated, he managed to work out the issues, and at 4:00 p.m. on June 10, 1970, approximately 11 staff members and 112 students set out for a six-week adventure in Rome. According to the official report, the program went well—any and all difficulties were swiftly overcome and the archaeology students greatly enjoyed excavating a particularly rich Etruscan tomb they lovingly called “Moby Dick” because of the high vaulted ceilings. Campo’s personal papers tell a slightly different story, however, starting with a letter thanking him for his “long and newsy letter describing the incredible complications in the program there.”
Born and raised in Hartford, Dr. Evald L. Skau (Norwegian, pronounced “sk-ow”), was no stranger to winning prizes. As a child, he won the Sunday Globe’s freehand drawing prize, and he also took home the boy’s story prize for his “My Dream About My Kite.”

He then went on to win many awards at Trinity, Yale, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. By far his most prestigious award, however, was his 1930 Guggenheim Fellowship, which enabled him to spend two years in Europe studying the purification of organic compounds and made him the first professor in Trinity history to be so honored.

Although he had stayed close to home for most of his life, earning his B.S (1919) and M.S. (1920) at Trinity and returning to the College in 1927 to teach, he was eager to go abroad. On August 14, 1930, he boarded a Red Star Liner to begin the biggest adventure of his life, and he saved a large collection of letters, newspaper clippings, maps, notes, cards, menus, and journals from his trip.

His journals describe a myriad of adventures, from taking daily saltwater baths and playing shuffleboard on the Red Star Liner to visiting “a really gorgeous array of buildings” at Antwerp’s Tercentennial Belgian World’s Exposition and “ach[ing] for a drink of Hartford or old U.S. water” while searching for a place to live in Munich. He was so cosmopolitan that no one in Germany ever thought he was American, but he shows his roots in several entries like this one:

Things I haven’t seen yet over here:
1. granulated sugar—it is always given out with [unclear] coffee in lumps, 2. Watermelon, 3. Ham and eggs as we know them, 4. Root beer, 5. Good movies

Unusual things you see here:
1. Beer trucks on streets loaded,
2. Small autos, 3. Innumerable bicycles,
4. Man and woman walking along, the woman carrying a couple of suitcases and the man empty handed setting a pace for her, 5. Automatic hall lights: you turn them on at front door + they go out again automatically in 3 minutes 6. Big feather beds, 7. Theaters showing classical dramas crowded

He struggled to keep up with his journaling as the demands on his time increased, apparently abandoning his journals by the beginning of 1931. However, since he wrote so many letters, there are other ways of following him as he studies and socializes with chemists all over Europe!

For more information about Skau, his journals, and these letters, please stop by the Watkinson and ask for the finding aid.
Fred Pfeil: Professor, Creative Writer, Cultural Critic

A prolific writer who published five books and numerous poems, short stories, and essays over the course of his life, Professor Fred Pfeil was indirectly a contributor to the College Archives, when his widow (Professor Elli Findly) donated his papers after his untimely death in 2005. Ultimately we received more than 20 boxes of material, including manuscripts, revisions, research notes, and correspondence for nearly everything he published, as well as syllabi, clippings, conference materials, and notebooks documenting everything from his political activism and meditation practice to his experience as an Amherst student in the late 1960s and the later development of his own course material at Trinity. He even saved his Woodstock tickets!

If you’ve ever wondered how the people who grade your papers go about writing their own, or you’ve heard how hard it was to do research “pre-Internet” and want to see this process for yourself, the Pfeil papers (especially box 7) are a good place to look! The items in this box deal mostly with Fred’s 1995 book White Guys, a collection of essays on the representations of white, straight masculinity in rock music, detective novels, action films, and other examples of contemporary popular culture, and they track the development of the book from research to publication.

Sources are at the heart of any research project, and Fred saved many of his! There are whole issues of Time, The Bloomsbury Review, The New Yorker, and Esquire as well as several folders of scholarly articles, newsletters, newspaper clippings, magazine articles, and film reviews, some with the interlibrary loan slips still attached. They are all arranged according to Fred’s original labels, which include titles like “Mainstream Press Coverage of the Men’s Movement,” “Alternate Press Coverage of Men’s Mov.,” and “Feminist Response to the Men’s Movement,” as well as the catchall “Men’s Movement Stuff.”

We also have Fred’s notes on these sources. He appeared to prefer the blue examination books for his note taking, and there is one that includes film analyses and quotes from reviews of the films discussed in “The Year of Living SENSITIVELY.” There are also typewritten drafts of this chapter, each of which shows Fred’s revisions in pen; in fact, one copy has comments written in two different hands, and it’s possible to see how Fred addressed these suggestions (or not) in his revisions!

Once these drafts were revised, the last step was publication, and there are several pieces of correspondence that show how White Guys was produced and marketed. One key piece is the author’s questionnaire, which solicited Fred’s ideas for marketing his own book. Who knew the author was so involved in that part of the process?

If you’re interested in learning more about Fred and his writing, please stop by the Watkinson and ask for the finding aid.
Henry Fuller, Class of 1937: A Bold Alumnus

In 1977, alumnus Henry Fuller received a letter from a friend who shared his interest in Russian history and, specifically, the Romanovs—the last Russian royal family. Accompanied by a signed photograph of a Romanov relative, the letter suggests, “Why don’t you stuff them in with Anna Viroubova’s watercolors and let some graduate student at Palo Alto sort it out in 2196, the bicentennial of Nicky and Sunny’s coronation?” Trinity’s not Palo Alto, but Fuller did take his friend’s advice, donating his collection of Russian history books, scrapbooks, letters, and, yes, Anna Viroubova’s watercolors, to the College Archives upon his death in 2001. (A lifelong supporter of Trinity, he also donated $39 million from his estate to the College. New Hampshire’s Currier Museum of Art and the Manchester, New Hampshire, Historical Society also received gifts from his estate.)

Although the items themselves are incredible, the story behind his collection is equally amazing. Throughout his high school and college years, Fuller had a habit of requesting autographs from world leaders and famous individuals. Sometimes, he also included a small gift, like when he sent King George V “an unusually centered guideline strip of four of the current 1¢ U.S. Postal issue” to add to his stamp collection. (These, along with Fuller’s self-addressed envelope, were returned because “His Majesty only collects stamps of the British Empire.”)

In 1934, he wrote a letter to Anna Viroubova, a former lady-in-waiting to the last tsarina of the Russian Empire. Fuller was interested in the history of the Russian Revolution (as well as in purchasing some of Viroubova’s photographs of the royal family), and they began to correspond regularly, eventually making plans for Fuller to visit and interview Viroubova in Finland that summer. Later, in an English class at Trinity, he would write the story of her relationship with the royal family and her harrowing escape from Russia, attempting to redeem a woman many viewed as despicable and dangerous. Whether he succeeded in convincing his professor is another story!

2196 may be a long way off, but if you’d like to start sorting out the many stories this collection has to tell, just stop by the Watkinson and ask to see the box inventory.
The Rev. Joseph Barnett, Class of 1913: Never a Monotonous Life

Speaking at their 50th wedding anniversary party, Mrs. Barnett offered the Rev. Joseph Barnett, Class of 1913, the greatest tribute he’d ever received, saying, “Thanks to my husband I’ve never lived a monotonous life.” I found these words in newspaper article about the 77-year-old’s trip up to Trinity in a camper trailer, so it’s safe to say she was telling the truth about that!

After graduating from Trinity in 1913, Barnett followed his father’s example and was ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church. Although he could have avoided the action on the front lines by serving as a chaplain during World War I, he insisted on going to the front as a private. Several newspapers, including The Hartford Courant and the New York Evening Post, reported the story, but Barnett didn’t plan to tell his fellow soldiers that he was a clergyman—“I’m not going to sermonize and preach, and I’m not going to do missionary work for the church, but I do think that when it’s all over—whether I come back or not will not make much different, perhaps—the men will know that at least one clergyman was not above living with them and dying with them, if need be,” he said.

When the war ended, Barnett continued his work with the church, traveling around the country to live and preach in a dozen states before purchasing a $3,600 mobile home and settling down in Florida. In addition to this trailer home, he and his wife also purchased a camper they used as their everyday car; Barnett brought this camper to Trinity for at least three reunions, parking it near the dorms and using the campus’s electricity to power his stove and the refrigerator that kept his meat from spoiling. “We think mobile homes are the greatest invention since the telephone,” he said in another newspaper interview, and it’s easy to see why—a moving house not only got Barnett to where he was going—such as to his beloved Trinity—but also let him meet new people along the way!

To learn more about Barnett, or anyone in the Alumni Files, stop by the Watkinson and ask at the front desk.
Stephen Tudor, Class of 1955: “To go on going on”

An English professor and a poet, Stephen Tudor, Class of 1955, was clearly a fan of the written word, and his folder is full of correspondence, most of which is addressed to a couple named John and Phyllis. It appears Stephen was in the habit of writing them yearly letters to exchange birthday wishes and to give John the status update on his Girard-Perregaux timepiece, an earlier gift that proved itself “a remarkable watch, through thick and thin” and always seems to be “ticking along heartily as ever.”

In addition to updating John on the watch, Stephen also talks about his work, his family, and his travels, and, in this way, his whole life unfolds through his letters. Although he would have preferred history, Tudor got his first job as an English professor. He then earned his M.F.A. at the University of Oregon and found a job at Wayne State University, where he’d teach English and creative writing for the rest of his life. He and his wife, Ellie, had a child named Michael, and when he was old enough, Ellie earned her own M.A. in dance and became a teacher. They all spent a sabbatical year in Wales, where they met “Welsh Tudors” and Mike showed his new classmates “the proper way to do a layup.” Stephen continued to write and to sail and to publish many poems and short stories about the Great Lakes, and he died while competing in the 1994 Singlehanded Challenge Regatta on Lake Huron.

Woven in and around these major events are stories about dogs, sewing rooms, snow days and sled rides, observations about education in America and Wales, and commentary on what it’s like to be married to a working woman (“Naturally, I raise my eyebrows when I come home from a long day in Detroit and find that there’s no supper on the table.”).

To learn more about Tudor, or anyone in the Alumni Files, stop by the Watkinson and ask at the front desk.
The Venerable John H. Townsend, Class of 1916: An Episcopal Priest in Cuba

"Please don't send sticky envelopes to the tropics!" the note read, followed with a kindly reminder "US stamp no good here." The hastily handwritten scrawl on the bottom of the nearly empty alumni survey immediately caught my attention. "Where is this man?" I thought as I began to look through the file, "And what is he doing there?"

According to the ink stamp on the document, Trinity received this message in November 1958, just as its author, the Rev. Jack Townsend, was wrapping up his 11th year as executive secretary of the Missionary District of the Panama Canal Zone and archdeacon for the Republic of Colombia. By November, Townsend would also have been preparing for a two-month trip to the fairly new missionary territory of Ecuador, where he was one of the first Episcopal clergymen chosen "to provide ministrations of the Words and Sacraments, until [the Bishop Gooden] could go himself and later provide resident priests."

There are two accounts of this trip in his alumni file, describing his first view of "the headlands from which Balboa (not stout Cortes) first saw the Pacific Ocean," a baptism conducted in English and Spanish ("the first time in their lives they heard a baptism conducted in their own language"), and a flight to Quito, Peru, through the High Andes ("There was not a sign of life as we threaded our way back and forth. It was like flying on the moon!").

Townsend graduated from Trinity in 1916 and then spent three years in France as part of the Ambulance Corps for the French and American Red Cross during World War I. Four years after returning to America to finish his education at Berkeley Divinity School, he left the country again, this time to begin his lifelong career as a missionary in Latin America. In addition to his posts in Panama and Ecuador, he also served in Guantanamo and Camagüey, Cuba, where he saw the beginnings of the Cuban Revolution in the 1930s and reported them in a mailing titled "¡Hola, Amigos de Cuba!" "Many friends of Cuba will be wondering what is happening down here," he begins, "I only wish I knew! We are cut off from real news by censors and by the extraordinary rumors circulating about, most of them false. Perhaps if I tell what I have seen it will help."

If you want to know what he saw, stop by the Watkinson and ask for the file.
I like Charles Sumner’s alumni file not because it tells a complete story, but because it opens so many possibilities—every time I think I understand the man, I find out something new about his life!

A writer for the 1900 Trinity College Bulletin perhaps said it best when he declared, “His career, full of energy and enterprise in the most varied fields, furnishes rare material for biography.” In the course of his life, he was the head of the Junction Telegraph Office in North Adams, Massachusetts, a student of law and phonography, a sailor, a newspaper reporter, a shorthand court reporter, a special correspondent in the first stagecoach to ever cross the Sierra Mountains, an editor of the Sacramento Daily State Sentinel, assistant quartermaster in the U.S. Army, colonel of the First Regiment Nevada Infantry, a Nevada state senator, a congressman from California, a lawyer, a legal stenographer, an orator, and a published author.

He fought against the Confederate Army, monopolies in the railroad industry, the “notorious Denis Kearney” (a nativist labor organizer in California), and the Shafter land bill, “which sought to dispossess most of the people of San Francisco.” He convinced the San Francisco bar that shorthand reports of legal proceedings were important; he “saved from public plunders the San Francisco Marine Hospital, which has become a Sailor’s Home”; and, as a congressman, he introduced a “Bill to Enlarge the Postal Facilities of the People of the United States” in an attempt to save the American people from the tyranny of telegram monopolies and expensive communication. He wrote a book of poems with his brother, including a piece on one of his favorite subjects—shorthand reporting. Oh, and he was also an accomplished traveler, boarding the clipper ship Fleetwing in 1856 for a “voyage around the horn” to California and later publishing a travel guide to Sweden.

To see this collection and learn more about any of Sumner’s many activities, stop by the Watkinson and ask for the file.