Known originally as Washington College, Trinity owes its existence to several prominent clergymen and laity of the Episcopal Church, who conceived the new institution as a counter to Yale University's Congregationalist domination of higher education in early 19th-century Connecticut. On May 16, 1823, Trinity received its charter from the Connecticut General Assembly, and in the ensuing years has become one of the country's most distinguished national liberal arts colleges. Eleven presidents provided leadership of Trinity prior to 1920. Brief assessments of their administrations illuminate the major events in the institution's life during that period and offer the background for examining the development of the College in the 20th century.

For much of the 19th century, the most important figure at American colleges was the president. The link and mediator between trustees, faculty and the student body, he administered student discipline, carried on public relations with the local community, maintained communication with alumni, raised funds, and often served as a faculty member, in some instances holding an endowed professorship. Indeed, it may be said that the president kept a college alive. According to Joseph Kauffman, a historian of American higher education, until the beginning of the Civil War, "the early college president was the college. Its identity became a reflection of his character, leadership, and personal success." The growth and increasing complexity of higher education in the United States in the post-Civil War era gradually brought a corresponding expansion of administrative responsibilities that a president alone could not handle, and required the delegation of various functions to a range of newly created institutional officers. In the smaller colleges, however, the president continued to be the central figure.

Presidents of the College During the 19th and Early 20th Centuries

The College's principal founder and first president (1824-1831) was the Rt. Rev. Thomas Church Brownell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut (I-I). He largely determined the earliest curriculum, assumed ultimate responsibility for locating
the institution in Hartford, presided over construction of the College’s first two buildings on the campus near the Park River (I-2), and created the bonds that existed between Trinity and the Episcopal Church for much of the 19th century. As Bishop of Connecticut, Brownell saw his new college as a means of offering the full advantages of higher learning to Connecticut Episcopalians and others who were then the victims of Yale’s Congregational exclusiveness. Accordingly, Brownell was careful to stipulate in the College’s charter that the institution would forever forbid the imposition of a religious test upon any student, professor, or member of the Board of Trustees.

Brownell’s undergraduate training at Union College, where science was then receiving more than ordinary consideration, found its reflection in the new college’s curriculum, which came close to giving the sciences parity with classical learning. Although the prevailing American academic tradition was then too deeply rooted to permit the introduction of such proposed technical courses as agriculture and engineering, the College’s early curriculum was remarkably flexible for its time. Attempts to offer advanced professional instruction in law, medicine, and theology, and to raise the institution to “university” status, were unsuccessful, largely due to limited financial resources. Pressures from Brownell’s growing diocese to devote full time to his pastoral duties prompted him to resign the presidency in 1831. He had seen the College successfully through its earliest years, and had helped it overcome an initial period of financial uncertainty. He also had broken Yale’s monopoly on higher education in Connecticut, forcing that institution to liberalize its own policy on admitting non-Congregationalists to full academic privileges. 3

Brownell’s successor, the Rev. Nathaniel Sheldon Wheaton (I-3), had served as a founding trustee, and visited England in 1823-1824 to secure support for the College. Only moderately successful in raising funds, he returned with books that were the nucleus of the College’s library. Wheaton became Trinity’s first full-time president (1831-1837). His close association with Christ Church, Hartford, where he had previously been the rector, fixed a certain parochialism upon the College, a local interest reflected in an interlocking directorate between the College’s Board of Trustees and the Christ Church Vestry, and in the custom of holding Commencements at what would later become Christ Church Cathedral. Although a devotee of classical learning, and somewhat inclined temperamentally toward the fine arts, Wheaton continued the scientific emphasis which Bishop Brownell had introduced. An eminently successful fund-raiser, Wheaton secured the first permanent endowed funds, including those of the Hobart and Seabury professorships, which did much to assure the College’s permanence. He also contributed from his own modest wealth to the endowment of both the chapel and the library.

The Rev. Silas Totten (I-4), who taught mathematics and natural philosophy (science), was Trinity’s senior professor at the time of his election to the presidency. During his 11-year tenure (1837-1848), considerable internal strife plagued the College, in particular, sharp disagreements between rival factions of the Episcopal Church who were
seeking control of the institution. Totten sided with the losing, conservative, Low-Church group, and because of this association, his administration came to be regarded, perhaps unjustly, as ineffectual. In 1845, the High-Church victors were able to bring about a reorganization of the College’s administrative structure, introducing elements from the English university colleges. These included the creation of a House of Convocation as a College body representing trustees, faculty and alumni; the introduction of a Board of Fellows; and the change in the institution’s name from Washington College to Trinity College. In addition, ties with the Episcopal Church became stronger as the result of action on the part of the Board of Trustees in establishing the office of chancellor, a post entailing general oversight of the College, but with special emphasis on moral and spiritual matters. Nominaly introduced in 1845, and first held ex officio by Bishop Brownell, the chancellorship became formalized in 1849 by a charter amendment, which also stated that the Bishop of Connecticut would serve as chairman of the Board of Trustees. It was during the Totten years as well that the alumni were first able to exert any real influence on College policy. In addition, in 1845, Trinity took its place in the wider fraternity of academic scholarship by becoming the eighth institution of higher education in the country to establish a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

The Rev. John Williams ’35, Hon. ’49 (I-5), was the first alumnus to become president (1848-1853). During his brief tenure as rector of St. George’s Church in Schenectady, New York, Williams had taught a small class of candidates for Holy Orders. These young men followed Williams to Trinity, where he incorporated this instruction into the College’s program as the Faculty of Theology. After a brief period, the latter was detached from the College and became the Berkeley Divinity School. Williams’s favorite discipline, however, was history, and that field of study first gained a place in the curriculum during his administration. The president was popular with the students, the faculty, and his fellow clergy of the Diocese. Indeed, the clergy admired him so greatly that he accepted election as the Suffragan (Assistant) Bishop of Connecticut. Although a teacher by temperament, he felt obliged to resign the presidency in favor of his new position in the Diocese. He continued, however, to lecture on history at Trinity for almost a quarter of a century, and held the office of vice chancellor and then chancellor of the College until his death in 1899.

The Rev. Daniel Raynes Goodwin (I-6) came to the presidency of the College from a professorship of modern languages at Bowdoin. Among the distinctive features of his administration (1853-1860) were a new emphasis on modern languages in the curriculum, a short-lived program of studio instruction in fine arts, and in response to the opportunities of America’s industrial revolution, more elaborate course offerings in chemistry, and the endowment of the Scovill Professorship of Chemistry and Natural Science. Goodwin’s presidency, however, experienced considerable turmoil. Financial difficulties threatened the College’s future, and friction among faculty members and discontent over salaries contributed to low morale. Dismayed, Goodwin submitted his resignation, but withdrew it at the request of the Trustees, remaining in charge of the
institutions during the country’s economic recovery following the Panic of 1857. He finally left Trinity in 1860 to accept a professorship at the University of Pennsylvania. The Trustees appointed a senior faculty member as his successor.

Samuel Eliot, Hon. M ‘57 (I-7), professor of history since 1856, was the first layman to serve as president (1861-1864). He was inaugurated on April 8, 1861 at a decidedly inauspicious time in the nation’s history. Seven southern states had already seceded from the Union, the Confederate government had been established, and the siege of Fort Sumter was underway. All but two southern students went home on orders from their state governments, and the size of the student body declined from 70 to 36. Wartime inflation, Eliot’s inability to raise funds, his ineptitude in dealing with such student matters as compulsory chapel attendance, and the sudden death of his youngest child prompted him to request that the Trustees accept his letter of resignation, a document, which, in an extraordinary arrangement, he had submitted at the time he agreed to assume leadership of the College.

The Trustees turned to the Rev. John Barrett Kerfoot, Hon. ‘65 (I-8), who came to Trinity from the College of St. James in Baltimore County, Maryland, an institution he had headed since 1842, and which had closed because of the War. During his brief presidency (1864-1866), he tried to transplant the paternal, family-life system that had prevailed at St. James, but the students would have none of it. Kerfoot soon accepted election as Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. His tenure at the College left its mark in the expansion of formal studies in religion, and an orientation of chapel services that was distinctly High-Church.

The Rev. Abner Jackson ‘37, M ‘40, Hon. ‘58 (I-9), at one time a member of Trinity’s faculty, and for 15 years president of Hobart College, restored order, academic standards, and confidence in the College. During his administration (1867-1874), Trinity experienced the full development of the fraternity system, and an almost endless proliferation of student organizations and societies. Competitive sports such as rowing and baseball vied for student support, and morale rose to new heights. At the center of all this activity was Jackson, the master organizer and teacher, Churchman, athlete, fund-raiser, and inspirer of young men. His conviction that a bright future awaited Trinity helped persuade the Trustees to sell the College’s campus (I-10) to the City of Hartford as the location of the State Capitol. With equal force, Jackson influenced the selection of the Rocky Ridge site for Trinity’s new campus. It was an expansive tract culminating on the west in a prominent ridge, one of the city’s distinctive geologic points of interest, and known during the Revolutionary War as Gallows Hill, where a sympathizer with the British was executed for treason. Jackson’s vision of Trinity led him to select the eminent British architect William Burges (I-11) to design an imposing array of buildings, regarded as the essence of Victorian Collegiate Gothic architecture (I-12). Unfortunately, Jackson did not live to see his dream become reality, dying suddenly on April 19, 1874. The Trustees selected a senior professor to head the College, once again with disappointing results.
The Rev. Thomas Ruggles Pynchon '41, M '44 (I-13), whom the students referred to as “Old Pynch” with something less than affection, accepted the presidency. During his administration (1874-1883), he struggled with the problems of moving the College to its new campus. Somewhat austere, he had difficulty in gaining the full confidence of the students. His effectiveness was undermined by intense student dissatisfaction with strict trustee and faculty enforcement of regulations governing undergraduate conduct. Pynchon’s major achievement lay in reducing the extravagant campus plan that Burges had proposed to a more manageable and affordable scale. He accomplished this in collaboration with Francis H. Kimball (I-14), a local architect whom the Trustees had previously engaged to supervise construction of the College’s new buildings. From their joint efforts emerged the Long Walk, consisting of Seabury Hall, Northam Towers, and Jarvis Hall (I-15, I-16).

The Rev. George Williamson Smith, Hon. '87 (I-17) modernized and secularized Trinity during his presidency (1883-1904). His efforts at modernization included the introduction of course electives and academic departments, the elimination of Classics as a basic requirement for all degrees, and a relaxation of admission standards in order to enroll increasing numbers of students at a time when many colleges were equating size with quality. Smith felt that the College’s ties with the Episcopal Church impeded progress and deterred students from seeking admission. Gradually he lessened and deemphasized the ties, amending the charter to eliminate the Bishop of Connecticut’s involvement with Trinity as ex officio chancellor and chairman of the Board of Trustees, and thereby claiming that Trinity had become “secularized.” The secularization, however, resulted in the substantial loss of financial support from the Episcopal constituency, and Smith was unable to find new resources in the Hartford community. When he proposed in desperation that Trinity become a state-supported institution, the indignant Trustees placed Smith on terminal leave, and appointed as acting president, for a one-year term, the Rev. Dr. Flavel Sweeten Luther ’70, M ’73, Hon. ’04 (I-18), the College’s popular professor of mathematics, and a senior faculty member.5

Professor Luther accepted appointment as Trinity’s 11th president in 1904, and during his administration (1904-1919), he proceeded to go well beyond his predecessor’s policy of secularization by attempting to substitute YMCA-type student religious activities for those of a distinctively Episcopalian nature. In politics, Luther was an ardent progressive, and had won election to the Connecticut State Senate for two terms on the Republican ticket. He arranged for Trinity to confer an honorary Doctor of Science degree on his long-time friend, Theodore Roosevelt, at Commencement in 1918. Under Luther’s leadership, the curriculum placed a stronger emphasis on scientific and technical disciplines, including engineering, and the College held two fund-raising campaigns. Although the alumni contributed generously, it was despite their growing uneasiness at the increasing number of students from Hartford and surrounding communities who were enrolling at the College, a trend that had begun in the 1890s during President Smith’s administration. By 1918, 50 percent of the under-
graduate body came from the Hartford area, leading many alumni to fear that Trinity was well on the way to losing its national appeal, and that the fraternities would consequently decline in popularity.

America's engagement in World War I disrupted Trinity's academic and social life by depleting the student body and faculty for military service and the war effort. Civilian undergraduates were replaced by poorly prepared cadets who were members of a Students Army Training Corps unit stationed at the College for the War's duration. Regarding himself as a war casualty, and exhausted at the age of 70 after 36 years of service to Trinity, Luther submitted his resignation in December 1918, to take effect July 1, 1919. While the search for Luther's successor began, the Trustees appointed as acting president Professor Henry Augustus Perkins (Physics), Hon. '20 (I-19), a senior faculty member, who held the post until Remsen B. Ogilby assumed the presidency on July 1, 1920.

Endnotes
2. Ibid.
3. The assessments of Trinity's presidents are based largely on Glenn Weaver, The History of Trinity College, Volume One (Hartford: Trinity College Press, 1967).
4. Samuel Eliot was the grandfather of the distinguished historian, Samuel Eliot Morison.
5. Flavel S. Luther was held in the highest regard by the Trinity community. In 1896, the Trustees took the unusual step of granting him a Ph.D. in course. Although the subject area of the doctorate was not recorded, it undoubtedly was in mathematics, the field that had been the focus of his academic career. Trustee Minutes, June 24, 1896.
Figure I-1
Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Browne

Figure I-2
Eastern view of Washington College.

Figure I-3
Rev. Nathaniel S. Wheaton

Washington College in the mid-1820s
Figure I-4
Rev. Silas Totten

Figure I-5
Rev. John Williams, Class of 1835
Hon. S.T.D., 1849

Figure I-6
Rev. Daniel R. Goodwin

Figure I-7
Samuel Eliot, Hon. M.A., 1857
Figure I-8
Rev. John B. Kerfoot, Hon. S.T.D., 1865

Figure I-9
Rev. Abner Jackson, Class of 1837
(M.A., 1840; Hon. D.D., 1858)
Figure 1-10
Trinity College, circa 1870

Figure 1-11
William Burges
Figure I-13
Rev. Thomas R. Pynchon,
Class of 1841, M.A., 1844

Figure I-14
Francis H. Kimball
Figure 1.15 Proposal for Trinity College by Francis H. Kimball. 1875
Figure 1.16
The first elements of the Long Walk. Scoburgh (left) and Jarvis, 1878
TRINITY COLLEGE TIMELINE: 1823 - 1920

The following timeline points to major events in the history of the College during its first century, and is an adaptation of an extensive and detailed chronology of Trinity compiled in the early 1950s by the late Robert S. Morris '16, M '17, Hon. '65, a trustee.


The Board of Trustees meets for the first time at Middletown on July 8 to begin the process of securing funds for the new college.

The citizens of Hartford agree to contribute financially to the College on condition that the Trustees locate it in the city.

The Rev. Nathaniel S. Wheaton, one of the College's founders, travels to England in September to secure funds and to obtain books for the library. Although only modestly successful in raising funds, he assembles a small collection of books, which he sends to the College in advance of his return in November 1824.

1824  On May 6, the Trustees select Hartford rather than Middletown or New Haven as the location of the College because the city's interest in the new enterprise is "most cordial." Gifts of support from the community soon include pledges of labor and materials for construction of a dormitory and a lecture room building.

The Trustees elect the Rt. Rev. Thomas Church Brownell, the College's principal founder, as its first president. He serves until 1831.

In June, the Trustees acquire a 14-acre site in downtown Hartford for the College's first campus. Construction work begins on a dormitory and on a building containing lecture rooms and a chapel. The campus later becomes the site of the State Capitol.

On July 20, Charles Sigourney Hon. M.A. '45 writes to Thomas Jefferson on behalf of the Board of Trustees inquiring about the organization of the University of Virginia, which had received its charter in 1819. Jefferson replies at length on August 15 with general advice on several matters, including the curriculum, stating that "I have thus given you, Sir, as full a view of our incipient institutions for the education of our citizens as can yet be given," and concludes "with every wish ... for the prosperity of your undertaking."

During the summer, the Trustees appoint a faculty of five to provide instruction, with President Brownell assisting. The Trustees also adopt a course of study and a system of undergraduate discipline. The College begins its first
academic year on September 23 with a student body consisting of one senior and one sophomore who have decided to complete their studies at the new institution, six freshmen, and one student taking a limited number of courses.

While construction proceeds on the College’s buildings, students attend classes in the basement of the Baptist Meeting House at Temple and Market Streets. They use a private home on Main Street as a dormitory.

The undergraduates organize the Atheneum Society for “the literary improvement of its members, especially in Declamation, Composition, and Extemporaneous Debate,” and adopt a constitution the following year. With an emphasis primarily on debating, the Society barely survives the Civil War, continuing until 1870. It then reappears briefly toward the end of the century and returns again during the years from 1929 to 1943, and 1948 to 1973. Undergraduates revive the organization in 1992.

1825 Seabury Hall (lecture rooms, chapel, library, and museum) and Jarvis Hall (dormitory) are ready for use.

Students form a chapel choir, which becomes the oldest student organization in continuous existence.

1826 Student expenses are: $11 per term for tuition; $3.50 per term for room rent; $1 per term for use of the library; and $2 per term for incidental expenses, including room sweeping, bell ringing, fuel for recitation rooms, and printing. In addition, “there will be occasional assessments for damages.” Board is available with “private families contiguous to the College. Boarding may be had, in such families, at one dollar and fifty cents per week, and no Student is permitted to give more than that sum. The students provide for themselves bed and bedding, furniture for their rooms, fire-wood, candles, books, stationery, and washing.”

A botanical garden and greenhouse with “an extensive collection of exotick [sic] plants” expand the College’s instructional facilities and support the lectures on botany which a member of the faculty, George Sumner, M.D., offers.

The Rt. Rev. Alexander Jolly, Bishop of Moray (Scotland), becomes the College’s first honorary degree recipient. The Trustees confer the degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology upon Bishop Jolly in absentia, thereby commemorating the Church of Scotland’s consecration of the Rev. Samuel Seabury in 1784 as the first bishop of the Episcopal Church in the former American Colonies.

1827 Nineteen students withdraw from the Atheneum Society to form a friendly rival, the Parthenon Society, which continues until 1870. The two organizations debate one another frequently.
At its first Commencement, the College confers 10 baccalaureate degrees and three honorary degrees.

Commencement exercises occur initially in Central Congregational Church (1827-1829). Other locations include Christ Church (1830-1860), St. John's Church (1861), Allyn Hall (1862-1867), Roberts' Opera House (1868-1887), Proctor's Opera House (1888-1890), Foot Guard Hall (1891-1892), the renovated Proctor's Opera House (1893-1898), and Parsons Theatre (1899-1900). Commencement occurs for the first time on the Summit Campus in 1901. It is held for many years in Alumni Hall, and later in front of Northam Towers or in the Field House.

1828 Students, mainly from the South, organize Theta Beta Phi, the College's earliest fraternity. It continues into the early 1830s.

1829 Students organize a local fraternity, I.K.A. In 1917, I.K.A. becomes the Sigma Chapter of Delta Phi, thus ceasing to be the oldest existing local fraternity in the country (I-20).

1830 The Trustees establish the Seabury Professorship to perpetuate the name of the first bishop of the Episcopal Church in America. The chaired professorship's association with a specific area of study alters slightly over time, and no faculty member holds the chair until it is adequately funded. In 1837, the Rev. Duncan L. Stewart Hon. M.A. '45, Hon. LL.D. '61 becomes the first Seabury Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.

The College awards its first academic degree to a black person in preparation for his work as a missionary and educator. The Rev. Edward Jones (I-21), an alumnus of Amherst, is ordained a priest by Bishop Brownell, and receives the Master of Arts degree in course. In Freetown, Sierra Leone, Jones becomes Principal of the Fourah Bay Christian Institution, later known as Fourah Bay College of the University of Sierra Leone.

James Williams, later known as “Professor Jim,” becomes the College’s first general factotum. Born a slave, he had become a free man, and after extensive travels, came to Hartford in the employ of Bishop Brownell. He remains at the College until his retirement in 1874 (I-22).

1831 In August, the alumni form an organization known as the Association of Alumni of Washington College. The Association becomes part of the House of Convocation upon the latter's establishment in 1845.

President Brownell resigns to devote himself exclusively to his duties as Bishop of Connecticut. However, he continues to serve as a trustee and later as chancellor of the College until his death in 1865. His successor is the Rev. Nathaniel S. Wheaton, Rector of Christ Church, Hartford, who remains president until 1837.
1832 Students organize the Phi Kappa fraternity in October. It becomes the Phi Kappa Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi in 1877.

The Trustees establish the Hobart Professorship, and begin to secure funds to support it. The professorship’s association with a specific area of study changes over the years. The Rev. Silas Totten is the first faculty member to hold the chair, which is designated initially as the Hobart Professorship of Rhetoric and Oratory.

1833 * The Hermeneutician (The Interpreter) appears under the sponsorship of a club known as the Incogniti, whose date of formation is unknown. Reportedly the first of its kind in the country, the magazine serves “as an exponent of the sentiments and ideas of the undergraduates.” Six issues of Volume I appear between October 1833 and March 1834.

1837 * President Wheaton resigns to return to the calling of a parish priest, and becomes rector of Christ Church, New Orleans. His successor is the Rev. Silas Totten, a member of the faculty, who serves until 1848.

1840 * The faculty consists of the president, five professors, one lecturer, and one tutor.

1843 * Students form the Beta Beta, or Black Book Society, a literary and social organization. It becomes the Beta Beta Chapter of Psi Upsilon in 1880 (I-23).

1845 * In May, the Trustees successfully petition the Connecticut General Assembly for a change of the institution’s name from Washington College to Trinity College. Reflecting the influence of the Oxford Movement among High Churchmen in the Episcopal Church of America and a desire on the part of many alumni who wish for a closer tie with the Church, the change of name also prevents confusion of the College with four other institutions of higher education bearing the name “Washington,” located in Kentucky, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee.

The Trustees establish the House of Convocation, an organization consisting of the Trustees, faculty, all graduates of the College including recipients of honorary degrees, and fellows. The latter are members of a newly created advisory body concerned with matters related to the curriculum and undergraduate discipline, and later to other areas of college life, which the Trustees designate the Board of Fellows. With its membership appointed by the Trustees and the alumni, the Board of Fellows serves the College continuously through modern times. The House of Convocation exists until 1883 when its composition changes and its name becomes the Association of the Alumni of Trinity College.

The Trustees create the office of Chancellor, to whom is entrusted in a visiting capacity “general supervision of the whole academic body, with special
reference to the moral and religious interests thereof.” The Bishop of Connecticut holds the post \textit{ex officio}.

\textbullet{} John Brocklesby, Hon. M '45 (I-24), Seabury Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, establishes the Beta of Connecticut Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. It becomes the eighth chapter to exist in the United States.

\textbullet{} The College completes construction of a second dormitory, Brownell Hall.

1846 \textbullet{} The earliest known celebration of an annual ritual, the “Burial of the Conic Sections,” occurs. Instituted by the Sophomore Class, it marks completion of their last requirement in mathematics. Later referred to as the “Burning of Analitycs,” the “Conflagratio Conicorum,” the “Concrematio Conicorum,” and “Cremation of Mechanics,” the ritual is discontinued in the early 1890s (I-25).

1848 \textbullet{} Unhappy with the changes inspired by High Churchmanship that the College had instituted in 1845, President Totten resigns. His successor is the Rev. John Williams '35, the first alumnus to become president. He serves until 1853.

1849 \textbullet{} President Williams becomes Hobart Professor of History and Literature.

\textbullet{} An amendment to the College Charter formalizes the office of Chancellor, and stipulates that the Bishop of Connecticut, in addition to his \textit{ex officio} function, serve as chairman of the Board of Trustees.

\textbullet{} William Courtney Adams (“Uncle Billy”) joins the College staff to assist Professor Jim. His long service to Trinity ends with his death in 1902 at the age of 74.

1850 \textbullet{} In the early 1850s, members of the junior and senior classes organize the Grand Tribunal, a mock court and rudimentary form of student government designed to maintain order among freshmen and sophomores. The Grand Tribunal exists until 1890.

\textbullet{} Undergraduates organize the Epsilon Chapter of Delta Psi (St. Anthony Hall), the first chapter at the College of a \textit{national} fraternity. For many years it uses rented space in downtown Hartford. In 1878, it occupies its new chapter house on the Summit Campus.

1851 \textbullet{} The College introduces a Department of Theology, which in 1854 becomes Berkeley Divinity School in Middletown.

\textbullet{} Edward B. Hughes of New Haven, a freshman in the Class of 1855, brings the first ivy plantings to the campus, obtained from sprigs at Trinity Church, New Haven. By 1872, the Class Ivies cover the walls of Jarvis and Brownell Halls.
1853 🎓 President Williams resigns to become Suffragan (Assistant) Bishop of Connecticut. His successor is the Rev. Dr. Daniel Raynes Goodwin of Bowdoin, who serves until 1860 and also becomes the Hobart Professor of Modern Languages and Literature.

1854 🎓 In January, citizens of Hartford vote to develop 30 acres of property to the north of the campus for use as a park.

🎓 Two trustees, John and William Scovill of Waterbury, establish the Scovill Professorship of Chemistry and Natural Science. The Rev. Thomas Ruggles Pynchon ’41 becomes the first faculty member to hold the Scovill Professorship (1854-1877).

1855 🎓 The Cabinet (the College Museum) reportedly contains one of the finest collections of shells in the country.

🎓 Alumni from the Classes of 1827 to 1855 number 454 (393 living and 61 deceased). The occupations of alumni are predominantly clergyman, attorney, and physician.

🎓 Class Day exercises occur for the first time. Established to celebrate the accomplishments of the graduating class and to emphasize the lasting bonds of friendship, the ceremonies take place until 1878 near a small white oak that President Totten planted in front of Jarvis Hall. Class Day continues as an annual event until the late 1960s.

1856 🎓 Trinity becomes a charter member of the Association of Colleges of New England.

🎓 Rowing becomes the first organized competitive undergraduate sport with the formation of the Minnehaha Club. The first contest is with the Undine Boat Club of Hartford. Trinity wins the first race and the Undine Club is victorious in the second race. The Minnehaha Club continues until the Civil War.

🎓 The College introduces running water in its buildings. Water was previously available from a well.

1857 🎓 An early version of football becomes a sport on campus when the freshmen and sophomores engage in what becomes, for a brief period, an annual contest. The first competition with an off-campus opponent occurs the following year when Trinity loses three matches to a local team from Hartford.

🎓 The Class of 1857 inaugurates the “Lemon Squeezer” tradition by presenting the Class of 1859 a large mock lemon squeezer. The Squeezer is a prize the graduating class awards to a rising class “whose aggregate excellence in scholarship, moral character and the qualities requisite to popularity is the highest,” and symbolizes the implement Professor Jim uses in the late 1850s,
Rev. George W. Smith, Hon. LL.D., 1887

Rev. Dr. Flavel S. Luther, Class of 1870
(M.A., 1873; Ph.D., 1896; LL.D., 1904)

Jarvis Professor of Physics Henry A. Perkins
Hon. Sc.D., 1920
I. K. A.

Figure 1-20
The I. K. A. shield

1829.

Rev. Edward Jones, M.A., 1830

BETA BETA.

Figure 1-21
Rev. Edward Jones, M.A., 1830

Figure 1-23
The Beta Beta shield

James Williams (Professor Jim)
A Century in Retrospect

Figure 1-24
Seabury Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy John Brocklesby, Hon. M.A., 1845

Figure 1-25
Burning of the Cones

Figure 1-26
The 1857 Lemon Squeezer
HORACE: L. I. CARMEN IX.

Several poetical transmutations from Horace have appeared to few numbers of the College Course, none of which is anything to say, except the following is closely adhering to the original, and is

in an English verse.

Some days passed that were few
Whetted for with grateful dreams. While in the meeting of the sun
Be this our last great day, and one shall in time receive increasing reform that there is danger of its overflowing its bounds and descending the country instead of wasting and refreshing it. It can scarcely be maintained within the accustomed bounds, and we may foretell insidious results. The “guerres” forms too insignificant a part of the machinery of the popular mind. Its regulating influence is fairly felt in this hurry- ing age.

In religion men are fast losing sight of the old hard-marks. Pulled up by self-interest, they would subject the Eternal and Puritan in their own finite and perverted judgment. They mistake for the discovery of a manly intellect, a skeptical and incredulous spirit, sceptical base and contemptible.

A too ready belief may mark a shallow and foolish mind, but not more than does the comical “Free thinking.”

If literature we also see indications of evil. Within the last five years some works have been issued which look in the dead even our old demotic mark. Perhaps the omission and open observance of expression, but certainly in the spirit which pervades them. Ranking with the frames of serious purpose and, in many instances, full of the finest blue-prints, they are not only commended in a ready use, but these who express the abamarments of days are accused of narrow-mindedness and insensibility in genius. The evil effects preferred are unfortunate, and it is claimed that the best is produced from a man’s own evil mind and not from the book. “To the pure all things are pure.”

True! But where shall we find the pure? Not in these days can we expect to find them anywhere. Men are human, and it is human to err. We handle pitch here shall we escape delusion?

But it is with the College world that we have more particularly to do, though these other things must be increasing as all. We are happy to say that one good feature of the day, is the good encouragement given to institutions of learning. In almost all our colleges the endowment is being increased, additions made to the buildings, and last but not least, there is in many places a considerable rise in the number of students. But even here there are some things which seem to be a little wrong. Evidences of novel and improved theories for the regulation of studies and students, are sometimes to be observed. It is mainly necessary to say that we are in general opposed to innovations in the old beaten track of college studies, not to changes in the standard but in the time-bound course.

In the first place there seems to be a tendency to undersell the classics, and more abstract material.

Some years ago the question was gravely discussed, whether it was not desirable to abolish the classics altogether. Some enlightened men of America argued that they were totally opposed to the spirit of Christian and American independence. The controversy roused both an excellent article from F. Forbes, in which he showed most conclusively that the charge against classical studies was groundless. Nothing of importance was effected by this attack on the long established curriculum, but ever since there have been endless discussions that the pursuit was being more and more in the new direction. Stresses they are but they stand as insular. The majority of people don’t seem able to appropriate anything which doesn’t put money into a man’s pocket, or at least information into his head. By “information” probably must fall mean a materials of natural science, history, etc. We don’t profess to know exactly what it means.

The mental discipline, though binding necessary to bring the mind to its greatest perfection are not one thought of. The American ideal of a college seems to be a place where a young man goes to “finish his education,” to do up his upbringing. When he comes out he is expected to have nothing more to do in that line. The remainder of his life can be devoted to making money, and what he learned at college must take him through. Our idea of a college is just the opposite. A man should go out there must do something original to get complete control of his mind, to learn the depth and power of it, and to bring it to light working perfection. It should be a sort of mental gymnastics, in which all the faculties are trained and exercised, till the hands become strong and dexterous. The first thing to do is to get the mind completely in hand. And if we can handle pitch here shall we escape delusion for a time. Now the experience of ages show that no studies are better beneficial than those which are the closest and highest contemplation. They have for centuries formed the exertion by which the first and last are to be perfected. Anything that looks like undercutting them seems to us a downward step, and nearly not of our institutions of learning were ever not from deviating increased attention to them. ever at the expense of more original work. To do this, the student the selection of the study which shall pursue, should seem dominated for good, either. He will be wise to select those which are more suited to his taste and most ready to learn, and this is generally the very one that

A Century in Retrospect

THE TRINITY TABLET.

Volume I.

No. 1.

Hartford, Conn.

April, 1868.

A Century in Retrospect

ULTRA TENDENCIES OF THE AGE.

For the last few centuries everything has been progressing in rapidity, and we are in no way prepared, and in science and art such perfection has been attained, nearly eleven must be used of more transcendental religions more historically-purified forms of government, and more scientific systems for the regulation of education and manners. This seems to be the tendency of the age. For he is from that he may be carried too far. The current of speculation and experiments has for so long a time been receiving increasing reform that there is danger of its overflowing its bounds and descending the country instead of wasting and refreshing it. It can scarcely be maintained within the accustomed bounds, and we may foretell insidious results. The “guerres” forms too insignificant a part of the machinery of the popular mind. Its regulating influence is fairly felt in this hurry- ing age.

In religion men are fast losing sight of the old hard-marks. Pulled up by self-interest, they would subject the Eternal and Puritan in their own finite and perverted judgment. They mistake for the discovery of a manly intellect, a skeptical and incredulous spirit, sceptical base and contemptible.

A too ready belief may mark a shallow and foolish mind, but not more than does the comical “Free thinking.”

In literature we also see indications of evil. Within the last five years some works have been issued which look in the dead even our old demotic mark. Perhaps the omission and open observance of expression, but certainly in the spirit which pervades them. Ranking with the frames of serious purpose and, in many instances, full of the finest blue-prints, they are not only commended in a ready use, but these who express the abamarments of days are accused of narrow-mindedness and insensibility in genius. The evil effects preferred are unfortunate, and it is claimed that the best is produced from a man’s own evil mind and not from the book. “To the pure all things are pure.”

True! But where shall we find the pure? Not in these days can we expect to find them anywhere. Men are human, and it is human to err. We handle pitch here shall we escape delusion?

But it is with the College world that we have more particularly to do, though these other things must be increasing as all. We are happy to say that one good feature of the day, is the good encouragement given to institutions of learning. In almost all our colleges the endowment is being increased, additions made to the buildings, and last but not least, there is in many places a considerable rise in the number of students. But even here there are some things which seem to be a little wrong. Evidences of novel and improved theories for the regulation of studies and students, are sometimes to be observed. It is mainly necessary to say that we are in general opposed to innovations in the old beaten track of college studies, not to changes in the standard but in the time-bound course.

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Figure 1.28

Inaugural issue of The Trinity Tablet
Statue of Bishop Brownell, circa 1900

William J. (Bill) Duffy, circa 1918

Inaugural issue of The Trinity Ivy
Figure 1-32
St. Anthony Hall by Associate Professor of Fine Arts Mitchel N. Pappas, circa 1954
Figure I-33
Trinity Cricket Club, 1880-1881

Figure I-34
The Long Walk, circa 1883
when he begins the annual custom of preparing punch for the Senior Class on Class Day preceding Commencement. The class receiving the Squeezer is expected to pass it on in turn (I-26).

1858  In July, Trinity joins with Brown, Harvard, Yale, and Dartmouth to hold a regatta in Springfield, Massachusetts. One of the country’s earliest intercollegiate rowing competitions, the regatta is cancelled following the drowning of a Yale team member, which occurs during a practice session.

1860  The College’s financial difficulties and friction among faculty lead to President Goodwin’s resignation and his acceptance of a professorship at the University of Pennsylvania. His successor in early 1861 is Professor Samuel Eliot, who remains in office until 1864.

1861  During the Civil War, 105 Trinity men serve in the Union and Confederate forces. Sixteen fall in battle, including Brigadier General Griffin A. Stedman ’59 (Petersburg) and Brigadier General Strong Vincent ’58 (Gettysburg).

1864  Grief over the death of his youngest child and concern about the College’s continuing financial plight cause President Eliot to resign. His successor is the Rev. John B. Kerfoot, who serves until 1866.

1866  President Kerfoot resigns to become Bishop of Pittsburgh. Professor John Brocklesby serves for one year as acting president.

1867  The Rev. Abner Jackson ’37, president of Hobart College, accepts appointment as Trinity’s eighth president, and remains in office until his sudden death in 1874. Jackson also becomes Hobart Professor of Ethics and Metaphysics.

Benjamin Franklin Anderson joins the College staff to assist Professor Jim and Uncle Billy Adams. Anderson serves until 1882, and his death occurs in 1887.

Baseball becomes an organized sport at Trinity (I-27).

1868  The first baseball game with another organized team results in a victory: Trinity 54, the Americus Club of Hartford 17.

Students adopt the colors of dark green and white for use on sports uniforms.


The first issue of The Trinity Tablet appears in April. Primarily a literary magazine, but also containing campus news, it is published until 1908 (I-28).
Students organize Po Pai Paig, a “secret society,” which continues until 1891. Members of this “deviltry” club refer to themselves as “Demons, Arch Fiends, Devils and Imps.”

Illuminating gas replaces kerosene in the lecture rooms.

1869 The unveiling ceremony for the statue of Bishop Brownell takes place in November. Modeled in Rome by Chauncey B. Ives and cast in Munich, the statue is the gift of Bishop Brownell’s son-in-law, Gordon W. Burnham, of New York. The College moves the statue to the Summit Campus in 1878 (I-29).

Undergraduate pranks become prevalent and include plugging lecture room keyholes, ringing the chapel bell in the early morning hours, and tethering a cow in President Jackson’s lecture room.

1870 Graduates of the College in the metropolitan New York area organize the New York Association of Alumni.

William Joseph (Bill) Duffy begins his long service to the College as a custodian. Born in Ireland in 1851, he comes to Hartford in 1870 and enters the College’s employ. He dies in office in 1937 (I-30).

Students organize the Alpha of Connecticut Chapter of Kappa Beta Phi, which continues until 1938. Originally composed of juniors who stood at the bottom of their class scholastically, the Chapter’s motto reads “Probability the Guide of Life.”

1871 The library consists of almost 16,000 volumes.

The College completes construction of a new gymnasium and re-erects the wooden building on the Summit Campus in 1878. An accidental fire in 1896 destroys the gym.

1872 In March, at President Jackson’s urging, the Trustees accept the City of Hartford’s offer of $600,000 for the College’s campus. The campus becomes the site of the new State Capitol. Student reaction to the sale is a “subdued feeling of anger, anxiety and indignation.”

President Jackson travels to England in July and engages the architect William Burges to design the College’s new buildings.

Undergraduates organize Trinity’s first Glee Club.

Trinity joins the Rowing Association of American Colleges, but the drowning of a Trinity crewman in 1875 casts a pall on the sport, and by 1881, students move on to other sports. Rowing is reintroduced at Trinity in earnest in the early 1960s.
Students organize Mu-Mu-Mu, a secret society devoted to "deviltry." It continues until 1882.

1873 On the recommendation of the Site Selection Committee, following general criteria suggested by the country's leading landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, the Trustees purchase the Rocky Ridge (Summit) site for the new campus for the sum of $300,000.

President Jackson travels to England for further consultation with William Burges, who proposes an arrangement of buildings in quadrangles. The Trustees engage a local architect, Francis H. Kimball, to furnish cost estimates, supervise construction, and spend a year in London working with Burges.

The first issue of The Trinity Ivy yearbook appears in May under the direction of the Class of 1874 (1-31). The Junior Class publishes the Ivy until 1946 when other classes become eligible for election to the Ivy Board.

1874 President Jackson dies suddenly in April. The Trustees appoint the Rev. Thomas Ruggles Pynchon '41, a senior faculty member, to succeed Jackson.

Francis Kimball returns from London in the late fall with Burges's final proposal calling for the arrangement of buildings in four quadrangles. Burges submits the proposal in the form of 169 drawings and an accompanying report.

Professor Jim retires after 44 years of service to the College.

1875 President Pynchon and Francis Kimball collaborate on reworking Burges's proposal, and reduce four quadrangles to three by merging the central quadrangle. They decide to build the westernmost arm of the central quadrangle. Seabury Hall contains lecture rooms, a library, a museum, offices, and a chapel. Jarvis Hall contains dormitory facilities and faculty apartments. Jarvis and Seabury are linked by a central gateway tower. Pynchon and Kimball situate the buildings in the center of the ridge on a north-south axis following Frederick Olmsted's advice. Limited finances prevent the construction of the tower, which the College completes in 1883 through the generosity of Colonel Charles H. Northam, a trustee. Groundbreaking for Seabury and Jarvis occurs on July 1.

Trinity participates in forming the Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America.

1876 The second edition of Carmina Collegensia (Songs of American Colleges) appears, and Trinity is among the 27 colleges represented.

1877 Phi Kappa, a local fraternity, becomes the Phi Kappa Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi.
Students organize the first College Quartette. Other small vocal groups succeed it, culminating in 1938 with The Pipes.

Trinity plays its first intercollegiate football game: Trinity 0, Yale 13 (plus 7 goals, i.e., points after). Trinity’s losing streak continues through 1879 when students abandon the sport. Football again becomes popular in 1883, but the College’s first victory is not until 1887 in a contest with the Massachusetts Agricultural College (later the University of Massachusetts): Trinity 32, Massachusetts Agricultural College 4.

1878 Undergraduates dissatisfied with the four existing fraternities form the Clio Literary Society. It becomes the Alpha Chi Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon in 1879.

Seabury and Jarvis Halls on the Summit Campus are ready for occupancy at the beginning of the fall.

Workmen complete demolition of the buildings on the former campus by October. Relic hunters acquire fragments of wood, stone, and metal from the old buildings, including stairwell banisters, which are made into highly prized canes.

Robert H. Coleman ’77 gives a new organ to replace the old instrument, which souvenir-seekers demolished.

The capital surmounting one of the columns in the facade of Seabury Hall, the chapel and lecture hall on the old campus, becomes the credence table in the Chapel of Perfect Friendship in the present College Chapel following the latter’s completion in 1932.

The new library in Seabury houses 18,500 volumes.

The “Tally Ho” coach service begins operation from downtown Hartford to the College. Drawn by four horses, the coach accommodates 20 passengers inside and several outside.

The College Commons provides dining facilities in the basement of Seabury.

Students organize the Lawn Tennis Club. In 1881, its name changes to the Trinity College Lawn Tennis Association. The organization continues until 1897; in 1883 it participates in the formation of the Intercollegiate Lawn Tennis Association.

Professor Jim dies four years after his retirement.

Delta Psi occupies its new chapter house built through the generosity of Robert H. Coleman ’77 from plans drawn by Josiah Cleveland Cady

1879  Members of the Clio Literary Society form the Alpha Chi Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon.

Student musicians form Ye Royal Egyptian String Sextette (also known at various times as Quartette or Octette). Consisting of a variety of instruments including guitar, banjo, harp, lute, and tuba, the organization continues until 1908.

Hot water becomes available three times a week.

1880  Students form a cricket club which survives until 1883. The first game against Harvard in 1880 results in a loss: Harvard 50, Trinity 40 (I-33).

The Beta Beta, or Black Book Society, becomes the Beta Beta Chapter of Psi Upsilon.

The first telephone service is installed on campus.

1881  Colonel Charles H. Northam presents the College the funds for building Northam Towers. Francis H. Kimball, now in New York, designs the gateway tower, and construction begins. The structure's foundation had been completed in 1878.

The College plants elm trees on the Quadrangle parallel to Seabury and Jarvis.

Trinity becomes a charter member of the Intercollegiate Cricket Association.

A horse railway service from downtown Hartford to Broad and Vernon Streets begins operation.

1882  In December, a team of astronomers from Imperial Germany uses the campus as the site for observing the Transit of Venus, an astronomical phenomenon occurring only twice in the 19th century. The elevation of the campus as well as its longitude and latitude make it an ideal place to determine the sun's parallax, which is essential in calculating the distance of the earth from the sun.

Augustus P. Burgwin '82, M.A. '85 sets the words for Trinity's alma mater, 'Neath the Elms, to a tune derived from a Negro spiritual.

Students request the installation of gas lighting in their rooms to replace kerosene lamps.

1883  President Pynchon resigns from office but remains on the faculty until 1902. The Trustees appoint the Rev. George Williamson Smith as the College's 10th president, and he remains in office until 1904.
The Rev. Flavel Sweeten Luther '70 becomes Seabury Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy, and occupies the chair until 1919.

Frederick Law Olmsted landscapes the College’s grounds. Trees line a plank walkway from the north end of Jarvis Hall to Vernon Street. At Olmsted’s suggestion, the College plants rows of trees running from the Long Walk towards Broad Street. The new rows of trees are designed to border a driveway from Broad Street to Northam Towers, and in combination with the 1881 plantings, have the effect of creating a giant letter “T.”

Trees are planted on either side of Brownell Avenue in the belief that it will become the principal approach to the College from Washington Street.

The construction of Northam Towers is completed (I-34).

The College erects an observatory south of Seabury Hall. Its equipment is the gift of Dr. Samuel B. St. John of Hartford, a prominent eye and ear surgeon, and includes a number of instruments, principally a refracting telescope. The St. John Observatory continues in use until the mid-1930s (I-35).

At the request of the alumni, the Trustees change the name of the House of Convocation to the Association of the Alumni of Trinity College.

In the belief that the College colors of dark green and white adopted in 1868 represent the old Trinity, are not a pleasing combination for general use, and fade as well as soil too readily, the student body adopts new colors of dark blue and old gold. The new colors first appear on uniforms worn by Trinity athletes competing in an intercollegiate tennis tournament held in the fall.

Student representatives from Amherst, Brown, Yale, and the Trinity College Lawn Tennis Association meet on campus in April to form the Intercollegiate Lawn Tennis Association.

1884 The Class of 1884 inaugurates the custom of planting a Class Elm Tree instead of Class Ivy.

The College introduces a system of course electives.

1885 Houses are completed at 115 and 123 Vernon Street, respectively, for the president and the Rev. Henry Ferguson '68, M.A. '75, Hon. LL.D. '90, Northam Professor of History and Political Science (I-36). The president’s house is designed by Frederick C. Withers, an architect from New York, at one time associated with Frederick Law Olmsted. In the late 1970s, the College converts the president’s house for use by the English Department, and extensive renovations are completed by 1978. Designed by William C. Brocklesby '69, M.A. '72, the son of John Brocklesby, Seabury Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, the Ferguson house is later used as a two-family faculty residence. It is renovated in 1990, and designated the Smith Alumni-Faculty
Figure 1-35
St. John Observatory, circa 1910

Figure 1-36
The President's House (right) and the Ferguson House, circa 1890
Figure I-37
Alumni Hall, circa 1890

Figure I-38
Jarvis Scientific Laboratory, circa 1890s
Figure 1-39
Camp Trinity sponsored by Robert H. Coleman, Class of 1877

Figure 1-40
Medusa shield, mid-1890s
The Long Walk, circa 1895, showing the flagpole in front of Northern Towers

Figure I-41
The Pilgrims in Puritan costume, 1607-1620

Figure 1.2
Figure I-43
A Bantam banner, circa 1910

Figure I-44
Boardman Hall of Natural History (right), circa 1910
FOOTBALL.

The candidates for the football team have been very active in reporting, and the coach in this

The object of THE TRINITY TRIPOD shall
be to further all the interests of Trinity College; to

The college is fortunate this year in securing the services of the Rev. Mr. C. M. Brenton, Trinity '93, as assistant professor of English; and Professor Augustus Hunt, Shailer, B.A. 1898; M.A. Harried '91, Ph.D. Harried, and Assistant Professor of History, Harvard University. We, Prof. Shailer will take Trinity 9 and 4.

The alumni committee for the inauguration number acknowledges the following prominent alumni:

Capt. J. P. Greene, Har. Capt. William S. Wilkie, Har. and Prof. A. H. Quick, Chicago, as the Inspired and under your duty to support anything undertaken by the good people of Trinity Field. This also, but because the book will be sent on a card to you by mail.

New Members of Our Family.

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Figure I-46
Professor of Modern Languages John J. McCook, Class of 1863
(M.A., 1866; Hon. D.D., 1901; Hon. LL.D., 1910)
Figure I-49
Students Army Training Corps unit, 1918

Figure I-48
Williams Memorial, circa 1920

Figure I-50
President Tavel S. Luther (left) and former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, Commencement 1918
House in honor of Allan K. Smith '11, Hon. LL.D. '68, and his wife, Gwendolyn Miles Smith, Hon. L.H.D. '90, devoted benefactors of Trinity. The Smith House provides accommodations for guests of the College, and hosts alumni and faculty gatherings as well as a variety of special events.

1886 ✶ Construction begins on another William Brocklesby-designed building, the I.K.A. Lodge at 70 Vernon Street.

✶ Trinity enters the Eastern Football Association with Amherst, Brown, Dartmouth, M.I.T, and Stevens Institute.

✶ Trinity becomes a charter member of the New England Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

1887 ✶ The College completes construction of the William Brocklesby-designed Alumni Hall gymnasium (I-37). Located well to the northeast of Jarvis Hall, it continues in use until a fire of suspicious origin destroys it in 1967.

1888 ✶ The library now contains 27,000 volumes.

✶ Construction of the Jarvis Scientific Laboratory reaches completion (I-38). It is designed by Josiah Cleveland Cady, architect of St. Anthony Hall, and built through the generosity of George A. Jarvis of Brooklyn, New York. The Laboratory is located well to the southeast of Seabury Hall, and supports instruction in chemistry, physics, and engineering. It continues in service until its demolition in 1963 to make way for the Austin Arts Center.

✶ Trinity joins the American Intercollegiate Baseball Association. Other members include Amherst, Dartmouth, and Williams.


✶ President Smith moves to secularize the College by having the Board of Trustees request the Connecticut General Assembly to repeal the 1849 amendment to the College Charter. The amendment had established the ex officio office of chancellor held by the Bishop of Connecticut.

1890 ✶ The College constructs a grandstand and fence at the Broad Street athletic field.

1891 ✶ Miss Sarah (Sallie) Eigenbrodt presents to the College the Eigenbrodt Cup in memory of her brother, David L. Eigenbrodt '31, M.D., M.A. '35. Beginning in 1935, the College awards the Cup annually to an outstanding alumnus of national or international prominence who has served the College in some exceptional way. William G. Mather '77, M '85, Hon. '32 is the Cup's first recipient.
1892  Eighteen rising members of the Class of 1893 form an honorary society of senior classmen whose membership pin is in the form of a Medusa's head (I-40). Gradually transformed into an organization involved in student self-government, Medusa continues until the 1960s.

1893  The College installs electricity on campus.

1894  Dedication ceremonies for the new flagpole in front of Northam Towers occur on Flag Day, June 27 (I-41).
  The College purchases an alternating-current dynamo for laboratory use.
  Undergraduates introduce basketball at the College. The first game occurs in December against Hartford Public High School.
  The Jesters, a drama organization, comes into existence. It continues until 1902, is revived in 1913, and remains active into modern times except for the war years of 1943 to 1945 (I-42).

1895  The City of Hartford resumes quarrying the rock ledge southwest of the College to obtain trap rock for city streets. The use of dynamite causes damage to campus buildings.

Students form the Phi Psi Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho in June, the only national fraternity to be founded at Trinity College.


1897  The first basketball game with Wesleyan is played. Score: Trinity 26, Wesleyan 5.

1898  The College constructs a new 600-foot-long walk in front of Seabury, Northam, and Jarvis.

Students burn an effigy of King Alfonso XIII of Spain in response to the explosion of the United States battleship Maine in Havana Harbor. Several undergraduates enlist in the National Guard as the country prepares for war with Spain.

At the federal government's request, Professor William L. Robb (Physics) participates in improving defenses for Long Island Sound and supervises the deployment of electric mines for the defense of New Haven harbor.
Thirty-six Trinity men serve in the armed forces during the Spanish-American War. Lt. Clarke Churchman '93, of the U.S. Army's 12th Infantry, had left the College early in his undergraduate career and eventually entered West Point in 1894. Having just become a commissioned officer, he dies on July 2 at El Caney.

1899 While referring to college mascots such as the Princeton tiger and the Yale bulldog in an address at the spring gathering of the Princeton Alumni Association of Pittsburgh, Trinity alumnus Judge Joseph Buffington '75, Hon. '90 introduces his creation, the bantam. It is soon adopted by the undergraduates to symbolize Trinity's prowess in intercollegiate athletic competition (I-43).

1900 The College completes construction of the William Brocklesby-designed Boardman Hall of Natural History, dedication of which occurs in December (I-44). The gift of Miss Lucy H. Boardman, the new building houses the Biology Department and the Museum, both formerly located in Seabury. Boardman serves as an instructional building until its demolition as an outmoded facility in 1971.

Irving Knott Baxter '99 wins the high jump and the pole vault in the Olympic Games at Paris, establishing new Olympic records of 6 feet, 2 and 4/5 inches, and 10 feet, 9 and 9/10 inches, respectively. The games at Paris are the second Olympiad in modern times.

1901 The College introduces electricity in Alumni Hall, Boardman Hall, and the library in Seabury Hall.

1902 The College constructs a building just south of Seabury Hall to house the Commons dining facilities. It is moved in 1931 to the site of the future McCook Mathematics-Physics Center, to make way for Cook Commons (later the Hamlin Dining Hall). Eventually occupied by the Brownell Club, the building is demolished in 1962.

The City of Hartford widens Summit Street and connects it to Zion Street.

William Courtney ("Uncle Billy") Adams dies at age 74. Originally employed to assist Professor Jim, and beloved by students, he served the College for 53 years. Following Professor Jim's retirement, Uncle Billy Adams had presided over the punch bowl at Class Day.

1903 Professor Luther serves as acting president for one year, and introduces a new course sequence in civil engineering that inspires a number of students to transfer from other colleges.

The College completes work on a new athletic field.

1904 The inaugural issue of The Trinity Tripod, the campus newspaper, appears in September (I-45).
1905 ▶ The library now contains 49,000 volumes.
▶ The College replaces the boardwalk from Alumni Hall to Vernon Street with flagstones.

1906 ▶ President Luther wins election to the Connecticut State Senate on the Republican ticket.

1907 ▶ Sophomores require freshmen to wear a freshman cap (beanie) for the first time.

1908 ▶ President Luther wins reelection to the State Senate.
▶ The faculty replaces a numerical marking system with letter grades.
▶ The College participates in the ceremonies marking the dedication of the Bulkeley Bridge across the Connecticut River.

1909 ▶ Undergraduates form a student senate.
▶ A $500,000 fund-raising campaign reaches a successful conclusion under the leadership of the Rev. John J. McCook '63, M '66, Hon. '01, Hon. '10, Professor of Modern Languages and Literature (I-46).

1911 ▶ Miss Caroline M. Hewins, Librarian of the Hartford Public Library, becomes the first woman to receive an honorary degree (M.A.) from Trinity.
▶ Students form the Sigma Chi fraternity. In 1918, it becomes the Delta Chi Chapter of Sigma Nu.
▶ The freshman beanie becomes standardized.
▶ The football team enjoys its first undefeated season (I-47).

1912 ▶ Lacrosse becomes an informal sport.
▶ Soccer becomes popular on campus.
▶ J. Pierpont Morgan contributes $150,000 toward the construction of Williams Memorial.

1913 ▶ The library now contains 65,000 volumes.

1914 ▶ The College dedicates Williams Memorial on October 31 in memory of the Rt. Rev. John Williams '35, former president of the College. The building houses the library (until 1952) and administrative offices (I-48).

1916 ▶ President Luther heads a campaign to raise $1,000,000. He raises $350,000 by the end of 1917.
Some 40 Trinity men attend a student military camp at Plattsburgh, New York during the summer.

1917 Mrs. James J. Goodwin endows the James J. Goodwin Professorship of Literature in memory of her husband, James Junius Goodwin, Hon. LL.D. '10. A prominent businessman and civic leader in Hartford, Goodwin was a trustee of the College from 1896 until his death in 1915.

Odell Shepard becomes the first James J. Goodwin Professor of English Literature, and continues on the faculty until 1946.

Charles A. Johnson '92 becomes the College's first alumni secretary, and serves until 1920.

I.K.A., the country's oldest local fraternity, becomes the Sigma Chapter of Delta Phi.

Three students are ordered into service in March as members of the 101st Machine Gun Battalion of the Connecticut National Guard.

By June, one-fourth of the student body is in military service, including 25 men in the 101st Machine Gun Battalion.

The College institutes a compulsory course in military training in the fall, with official recognition from the War Department. Captain J. H. Kelso Davis '99, Hon. M.A. '23 is the program's military director.

1918 By January, 301 alumni and undergraduates are in military service.

College property along Vernon Street, between Alumni Hall and the Athletic Field, is put into use for war gardens.

The U.S. Army establishes a Students Army Training Corps unit on campus in April. Colonel Calvin D. Cowles, U.S. Army (Retired), Hon. M.A. '19 is the officer in charge. The Army demobilizes the S.A.T.C. unit in November (7-49).

By October, 486 Trinity men are in military service. An additional 90 are in various support services at home and overseas, such as the Home Guard, the Red Cross, and the YMCA, etc.

The College confers an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt at Commencement in June. The day before, he delivers an address "to the largest crowd of people ever assembled at one time on the campus," estimated at approximately 5,000 (7-50).

The local fraternity Sigma Psi becomes the Delta Chi Chapter of Sigma Nu.

1919 The Class of 1888 presents a sundial to the College. It is installed at the southeast corner of Williams Memorial.
President Luther retires, and the Trustees appoint Henry A. Perkins, Jarvis Professor of Physics, as acting president for one year.

A number of veterans return from military service. Of the 486 Trinity men who served in the armed forces, 14 received decorations for valor, 22 were wounded, and 21 gave their lives for their country.

The Hillyer Institute, an affiliate of the Hartford YMCA, begins to conduct evening courses at the College, and several of the faculty participate.

The College's fraternities form the Interfraternity Council.

1920 The Rev. Remsen Brinckerhoff Ogilby becomes the College's 12th president in July. He remains in office until his death in 1943.

The College institutes a faculty advisory system.

Dr. Vernon K. Krieble becomes Scovill Professor of Chemistry, and serves on the faculty until his retirement in 1955. He eventually establishes a company to produce Loctite®, a sealant whose formula is an outgrowth of his research at Trinity.