

Here is my submission on the question of whether Trinity College should change the name of the Berkeley Library. Please acknowledge receipt of my submission.

I believe I was the first to publish a critique of Berkeley on slavery; which I did in an article, 'Berkeley, Slavery and Christianity, which appeared in THE FREETHINKER, 1981. I then published a similar critique in my book, GEORGE BERKELEY: IDEALISM AND THE MAN, pp. 130-2, Oxford University Press, 1994. And yet I think that Berkeley was one of the finest human beings. This comes out in Alexander Pope's famous tribute to Berkeley in one of his poems; 'To Berkeley, every virtue under Heaven'. And Pope was supported in this judgment by many others, including the misanthropic Jonathan Swift.

In short, I think it would be a mistake if the College decided to change the name of the Berkeley Library.

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