May Hall

Opened on January 1
Male hostel accommodated about 66 residents each year

1915  1942  1948

May Hall was the main residence for staff and students during wartime. Even the life of the University did not come to an end although no further teaching could be done. On January 1, 1942, a special Congregation for the conferring of degrees upon medical students who had passed their final examination in December 1941, was held in May Hall.

Re-habilitated after the war and re-opened on January 1

Special Congregation at May Hall, 1942

Named after Sir Francis Henry May
(2nd Chancellor of HKU,
15th Governor of Hong Kong)
The Warden residences of May and Eliot Halls were damaged. Repairs were completed in 1968. May, Eliot and Lugard Halls were combined into one residential unit, renamed “Old Halls” which admitted its first batch of residents in 1969. The three buildings were renamed May Wing, Eliot Wing and Lugard Wing.

Old Halls closed in 1992. May Wing was used as hostel for postgraduate students and University teaching offices, including the General Education Unit and the Centre of Buddhist Studies.

It was listed as Grade 1 Historic Building by the Antiquities Advisory Board in 2009.

Before the torrential rain and landslides in 1966

The Warden residence and part of the building were destroyed due to torrential rain and landslides.
Centennial Celebration of May Hall Organising Committee

Chairman
Professor Yeung Yue-man 楊汝萬 (BA 1962)

Members
Dr Leung Kam-fong 梁錦芳 (BSc 1965; CertEd 1970)
Mr Mok Kwai-sang 莫桂生 (BSc 1967; BSc(Sp) 1968; MSc 1971; CertEd 1975)
Mr Tsoi Heung-sang 蔡香生 (BSc 1964; DipEd 1965; AdvDipEd 1978; MEd 1980)
Mr Lai Kam-biu 黎錦標 (BA 1963)
Mr Wah Yam-fook 華任復 (BA 1963; MA 1966)
Dr Chan Che-keung 陳自強 (MBBS 1966)
Dr Wu Ho-mun 胡可滿 (MBBS 1968)

Alumni reunion at May Hall which houses the office of the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (Incorporating the Centre of Asian Studies)
「我們一有閒空，便沿梅舍後小徑經過莫禮遜舍向山上走，繞幾個彎，不到一小時就可以爬上山頂。在山頂上望一望海，吸一口清氣，對於我成了一種癮。……霎時間把腦袋裏一些重載卸下，做一個“空空如也”的原始人。然後再循另一條小徑下山，略有倦意，坐下來吃一頓相當豐富的晚餐。香港大學的生活中我最使我留戀的就是這一點。」

朱光潛 Zhu Guangqian (BA 1923; Hon DLitt 1985) who resided at May Hall during his studies at HKU from 1918 to 1922.

節錄自《一枝一葉總關情——回憶二十五年前的香港大學》

May Hall Glories