

**MEDICAL CENTER ARCHIVES  
OF  
NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN/WEILL CORNELL**

**1300 York Avenue # 34  
New York, NY 10065**

**Finding Aid To**

**THE RECORDS OF THE SOCIETY OF THE LYING-IN HOSPITAL OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

**Dates of Records:  
1799-1989**

**1390.75 Linear Inches  
(318 Volumes, 34 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:  
Josue Hurtado  
5/2012**

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**PROVENANCE:**

There is no information regarding the provenance of this collection in the Medical Center Archives' records database. Some of the records were found in the basement of the Lying-In Hospital wing of the New York Hospital.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:**

The dreadful yellow fever epidemic in the summer of 1798, with its toll on expectant mothers, activated interest in founding a lying-in hospital in New York. Dr. David Hosack, an attending physician at New York Hospital, initiated an appeal for money. Alexander Hamilton was one of the first subscribers. In 1799, a commodious house at No.2 Cedar Street served as the hospital; but, because of financial difficulties, the house closed after the first year. An arrangement was then made to have the patients hospitalized in a ward of New York Hospital. It was during this period that medical students were allowed in maternity wards to witness delivery for the first time in this country.

The lying-in ward at New York Hospital was closed permanently in 1827, and the cooperative arrangement was terminated, probably because of a financial misunderstanding. Because of lack of public interest, nothing further was done until 1855 when a system of home care for women requiring assistance during confinement was implemented. During this period, money was saved to establish a lying-in hospital.

In 1887, two American medical students, James Wright Markoe and Samuel W. Lambert were learning obstetrical procedures on a mannequin at The Frauenklinik of Von Winkel in Munich. They were inspired to establish a similar dispensary, the Midwifery Dispensary, for teaching medical students in New York. This they did in 1890, using a home at 312 Broome Street. By coincidence, Samuel Lambert's father learned of the existence of the inactive philanthropic organization known as The Society of the Lying-In Hospital. Shortly thereafter, in 1890, this organization absorbed the Midwifery Dispensary, giving it the much-needed funds to expand and to improve its services.

John Pierpont Morgan, an affluent patient of Dr. Markoe, was responsible for the next important advance, the purchase in 1894 of the Hamilton Fish Mansion on Second Avenue and 17th Street to be used as the Lying-In Hospital. This was later expanded toward 18th Street. In 1899, the facilities were overtaxed and the need for a larger hospital was evident. The generosity of Morgan made possible the demolition of the mansion and the construction of a modern, eight-storied hospital that opened in 1902.

John Pierpont Morgan, Jr. carried on the philanthropy of his father; and, being concerned for the long range financial stability of the hospital, convinced John D. Rockefeller, Jr.; George F. Baker, Sr.; and George F. Baker, Jr. to join him in funding an association with New York Hospital. As a result, when New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center opened in 1932, the Lying-In Hospital became the Obstetrics and

Gynecology Department of New York Hospital, occupying one of the pavilions along the East River.

Above history was revised and adapted from "History of the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center," an article by Ralph Engle, Jr., M.D., that first appeared in the medical center's Directory of Alumni and Staff, 1980.

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## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:**

This collection is divided into six series Administration (1862-1942), Treasurer (1822-1940), Personnel (1890-1932), Historical Materials (1890-1939), Publications (1890-1989) and Patient Records (Restricted; 1890-1932):

### **Series I: Administration, 1799-1947**

This series contains records pertaining to the administration and management of the Lying-In-Hospital including the Act of Incorporation from 1799, Bylaws, rules and regulations and minutes and reports of the Board of Governors and Medical Board. Medical board correspondence between James Markoe and Samuel Lambert is of interest.

### **Series II: Treasurer, 1822-1940**

This series tells a great deal about the history of the institution. The day-to-day duties of the Treasurer are shown through correspondence with Secretary of the Society, Treasurer's Reports, account books, etc. The History of the Hospital can be traced through the Board of Governors files; the files on the Midwifery Dispensary that details the relationship between that institution and the Lying-In-Hospital which led to the 1892 merger of the two; the files relating to the acquisition and improvement of the Second Avenue Property where the Lying-In-Hospital was built in 1895; the Reports to the City of New York, Department of Finance; and the annual reports to the United Hospital Fund and the State of Board Charities.

Real estate dealings of the Society also figure prominently in the collection. There are files containing correspondence regarding various properties the Society owned in New York City. There are letters concerning payment on mortgages, loans, and interest, some of which are revealing of the lives of the nineteenth century New Yorkers who wrote them. There is also a box comprised entirely of abstracts of titles, indentures and insurance on other properties from the 1870s to the 1890's, including J. Pierpont Morgan.

### **Series III: Personnel, 1890-1932**

This series consists of bound volumes containing lists of Attending Physicians and Assistant Attending Physicians, as well as indices to Register of Nurses and Nurses

Aids, and other staff, as well as a complaint log, recording complaints against nurses and actions taken. Also found in this series is a book of rules, circa 1900, and registers of student and staff diplomas

#### **Series IV: Historical Materials, 1890-1939**

This series contains materials relating to the history of the Lying-In-Hospital of New York, including Alumni Association records, programs for annual meetings; constitution and bylaws, scrapbooks containing news-clippings (many regarding J. Pierpont Morgan), various programs, appeals for funds, and some regarding Oliver H. Payne's donation to found Cornell University Medical College in 1898). There is also information about a building on Second Avenue, between 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets as well as building and floor plans. Materials from a Bequest of Henry C. Frick, which includes copies of his will, papers and correspondence regarding investments, taxation, a trust agreement with the Union Trust Company of Pittsburgh, ledger sheets, financial statements, briefs and opinions of court cases.

#### **Series V: Publications, 1890-1989**

This series consists of various publications including bulletins, monthly and annual reports, pamphlets on need for contributions, and mailing lists.

#### **Series VI: Patient Records (Restricted), 1892-1932**

This series consists entirely of restricted patient information. It includes admissions logs, patient histories, register of births, and reports of deaths.

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#### **ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:**

This collection is open to researchers, except for materials with confidential patient health information or other personally identifiable information, which are restricted due to HIPAA. Materials are marked "RESTRICTED" if they are known to contain restricted materials.

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#### **RELATED MATERIAL:**

Records of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Lying-In Hospital

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**BOX AND FOLDER LIST:**
**Box 1: Series I, Administration, 1799-1947**

<b>Folder:</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1-2	Charter and Bylaws, 1873, 1900
3	Board of Governors, Distribution Committee, 1880-1892
4	Board of Governors, Committee on the Communication from the "Local Visiting Committee of Bellevue and other hospitals", 1876

**Box 2-6: Series I, Administration, 1799-1947**

Board of Governors, Minutes, 1813-1947 (11 vols.)

**Box 7: Series I, Administration, 1799-1947**

Medical Board, Inspection Committee, 1896-1898 (1 vol.)  
 Medical Board, Minutes, 1911-1912 (1 vol.)

**Box 8: Series I, Administration, 1799-1947**

Medical Board, Correspondence between James Markoe and Samuel Lambert, 1895-1902 (2 vols.)

**Volumes: (loose on shelves)**

Act of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, 1799 (1 vol.)  
 Board of Governors, Executive Committee, 1894-1942(10 vols.)  
 Medical Board, Letters, Incoming, 1890-1898 (1 vol.)  
 Medical Board, Minutes, 1896-1911 (12 vols.)

**Box 9: Series II, Treasurer, 1822-1940**

Accounts & Investments, 1902-1925 (3 vols.)  
 Accounts Ledger, 1902-1913 (Vol. 1)  
 Accounts Ledger, 1936-1938 (Vol. 8)

**Box 1: Series II, Treasurer, 1822-1940**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description:</b>
5	Account Books with U.S. Trust Company, 1886-1994, 1894-99, 1888-1896 (1 vol.)
6	Bequests, 1926-1932

7	Board of Governors, Miscellaneous, 1822-1881
8	Board of Governors, Miscellaneous, 1890-1893
9	Board of Governors, Miscellaneous, 1894-1898
10	Board of Governors, Miscellaneous, 1902-1903
11	City of New York, Correspondence regarding reimbursement for charity cases, 1930-1932
12	City of New York, Yearly Reports of Lying-In-Hospital to the Department of Finance, 1912-1927

**Box 10: Series II, Treasurer, 1822-1940**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1	Clippings, 1920-1932
2	Contributions, 1885-1899, 1914, 1930
3	Finance Committee, 1862-1878
4	Finance Committee, 1878-1893
5	Financial, 1932
6	Financial, 1923-1931
7	Financial, 1892-1903
8	Investment Book, 1864
9	Letters relating to new hospital buildings
10	Lying-In-Hospital at 17 <sup>th</sup> Street and Second Avenue, 1894
11	Midwifery Dispensary, 1890-1892
12	Monthly Summary of Accounts, 1936-1941
13	Patients Bills and Receipts, 1918-1932

**Box 11: Series II, Treasurer, 1822-1940**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1	Personnel, Miscellaneous, 1917-1932
2	Real Estate, 1888-1899
3	Real Estate, 1888-1899
4	Real Estate, 1911, 1920, 1924
5	Real Estate, Abstract and Titles to Properties, 1866, 1871, 1891-1895
6	Real Estate, Abstract and Titles to Properties, 1891-1893
7	Real Estate, Abstract and Titles to Properties, 1894
8	Real Estate, Abstract and Titles to Properties, 1891, 1894
9	Real Estate, Abstract and Titles to Properties, 1876, 1894-1899
10	Real Estate, Abstract and Titles to Properties, 1894, 1897, 1899

**Box 12: Series II, Treasurer, 1822-1940**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1	State Board of Charities, Yearly Reports of Lying-In-Hospital, 1892, 1909, 1912-1930
2	Treasurer Accounts, 1845-1882
3	United Hospital Fund, 1913-1932
4	United Hospital Fund, 1913-1932
5	Vouchers and Receipts, 1927-1932

**Volumes: (loose on shelves)**

Accounts Ledger, 1913-1936 (Vols. 2-7)  
Cash Book, 1931-1940 (2 vols.)

**Box 13: Series III, Personnel, 1890-1932**

Index to Register of Nurses and Nurses' Aids, 1897-1932 (2 vols.)  
Index to Register of Staff, 1890-1932 (1 vol.)  
Nurses' Complaint Log, 1902-1909 (1 vol.)  
Rules for Superintendent & House Staff, circa 1900

**Box 14: Series III, Personnel, 1890-1932**

Register of Staff Diplomas, 1892-1932 (3 vols.)  
Register of Student Diplomas, 1927-1932 (1 vol.)  
Substitute Staff Book, 1905-1917 (1 vol.)

**Volumes: (loose on shelves)**

Attending Physicians and Assistant Attending Physicians, Minutes, 1896-1913 (2 vols.)

**Box 15: Series IV, Historical Materials, 1890-1989**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1	Alumni Association, 1939
2	Alumni Association, Correspondence, 1900-1965
3	Alumni Association, Programs, 1960-1989
4-10	Bequest of Henry C. Frick. 1915-1947

**Box 16: Series IV, Historical Materials, 1890-1989**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description:</b>
1	Description of Building & Floor Plans, undated (1 vol.)
2	List of Medical Bags' Contents, circa 1910
3	Resolution of Attending Surgeons Honoring Dr. Asa B. Davis, 1930 (1 vol.)

**Box 17: Series IV, Historical Materials, 1890-1989**

Scrapbook of Articles Relative to the Appeal for Funds, 1922 (1 vol.)

**Box 18-20: Series IV, Historical Materials, 1890-1989**

*Scrapbooks and News clippings, 1890-1937*

**Box 21-24: Series V, Publications, 1890-1932**

Annual Reports, 1890-1932 (also have bound volumes)

**Box 16: Series V, Publications, 1890-1932**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description:</b>
4	Annual Reports, Mailing List, circa 1915 (1 vol.)
5	Educational Survey of National Problem, 1923
6	Monthly Reports, 1902-1904
7	Mother's Book, 1953
8	Pamphlets, 1895, 1944

**Box 25: Series V, Publications, 1890-1932**

Medical Reports, 1893, 1897

**Volumes: (loose on shelves)**

Bulletin, 1904-1932 (8 vols.)  
Handbook,

**Box 26: Series VI, Patient Records (Restricted), 1892-1932**

Index of Applicants for Admission, 1879-1892 (1 vol.)  
Reports of Deaths, 1907-1909 (1 vol.)



**Box 27-34: Series VI, Patient Records (Restricted), 1892-1932**

Histories, 1890-1893

**Volumes: (loose of shelves)**

Admissions, Indoor (Women & Children), 1909-1927 (6 vols.)  
Admissions, Outdoor (Women and Children), 1901-1905 (1 vol.)  
Applications, Indoor, 1902-1918 (3 vols.)  
Applications, Outdoor, 1892-1907 (2 vols.)  
Histories, General, 1895-1932 (41 vols.)  
Histories, Outdoor, 1895-1932 (70 vols.)  
Histories, Indoor, 1895-1932 (96 vols.)  
Pregnancy Sheets/Charts, 1893-1932 (43 vols.)  
Register of Deliveries, 1894-1932 (5 microfilm reels)