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WATERMARK

Newsletter of the Librarians, Archivists & Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences

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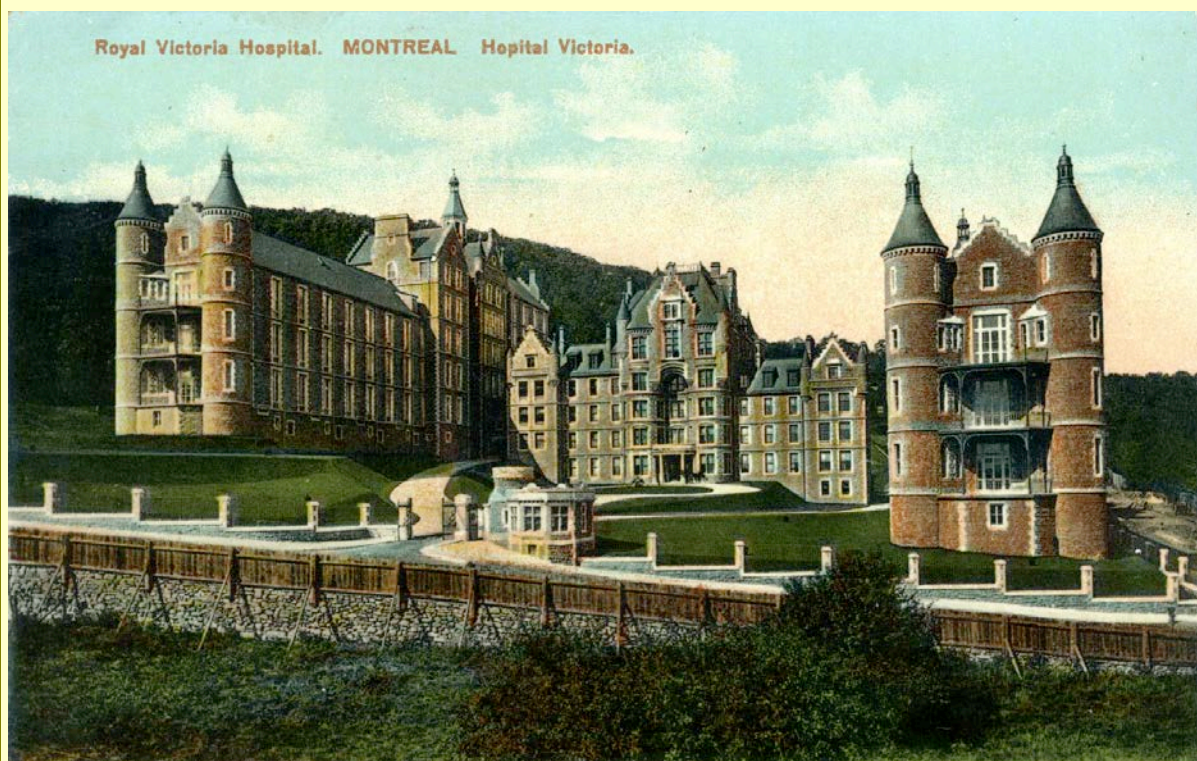


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Submissions for the Watermark:

The Watermark encourages submissions of news and stories about events, collections, catalogues, people, awards, grants, publications, and anything else of professional interest to the members of LAMPHHS. Please submit your contributions in a timely way to Stephen Novak, as e-mail attachments. Visuals should be submitted as jpegs with a resolution of at least 300 dpi if possible. Copyright clearance for content and visuals are the responsibility of the author.

Cover Image: Royal Victoria Hospital, ca.1908 from the Maude Abbott Medical Museum Hospital Postcard Collection, McGill University. See page 6.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Many – perhaps most – of us continue to work remotely as the pandemic rages throughout the nation and the world. It can sometimes seem bleak – will this ever end? – but the news of LAMPHHS members continues to inspire me. Many of the stories here are testament to the “if you’re handed a lemon, make lemonade” ethos of those of us working with history of health sciences collections. And the unfortunate cancellation of next year’s on-site meeting in Madison only means that we’ll find a way to do it electronically. Please see both the President’s

Message and the note from the chair of our newly-named “Remote Arrangements Committee” for more information.

As always I thank both the wonderful staff of *The Watermark* and the contributors for making this issue possible.

Stay safe!

Stephen Novak

Editor, *The Watermark*

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

WOW! What a whirlwind of events we have seen since our virtual meeting in May. In only five months the whole world seems to have turned on its head, and things have gone from alarming to downright surreal! As we move towards the end of 2020, many of us have been wondering what the future holds and whether or not we will be meeting in Madison next year. Well, here is an update...

You have likely heard, via e-mail or the LAMPHHS Facebook

notice, that the American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) will be organizing a remote meeting for May of 2021. Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, who would've been Chair of Local Arrangements and who is now the Chair of Remote Arrangements, reports that there will not be a face-to-face meeting in Madison. On September 25th the LAMPHHS officers voted to have a remote meeting (as we did in lieu of Ann Arbor this past spring) and plan to send out a survey of the membership to see what components of a face-to face meeting will be part of a remote meeting, and likely ask for volunteers on a Remote Meeting Committee. Bear with us while we navigate this somewhat new territory. We are aware that the social aspects of LAMPHHS are as dear to you as the program and learning opportunities. We will make 2021 as robust as possible!

In regard to volunteers for various committees, our greatest need at this point is someone to head up the Program Committee. Please put your thinking caps on and help us come up with possible names. And by all means, include your own name as well! This is a very important position and while that may seem intimidating, please know that it comes with plenty of support from the LAMPHHS officers. There are also spots on the other various committees, and volunteers are needed.

If you have any questions about the committees please do not hesitate to contact me at jks4@case.edu.

We look forward to a great meeting next year and hope to “see” everyone in cyberspace!

Jennifer K. Nieves

President

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REMOTE ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

A Word from the Remote Arrangements Committee

We were so hoping to host you in the compelling environs of Madison, Wisconsin, in May of 2021 – but like our collegial association, the American Association of the History of Medicine (AAHM) our conference will now be remote, participating virtually from our various laptops.

As LAMPHHS President, Jennifer Nieves has called for, we need for volunteers to serve on the various committees necessary to pull together a successful meeting: Program Committee, Publication Awards Committee, Recognition Committee, and Nominating Committee. As in past years, the Local Arrangements Committee (now Remote Arrangements) and the Program committee will work closely to design the meeting. In addition, we hope to create a small subcommittee of the Program Committee to coordinate the technical logistics of the virtual meeting. I will be overseeing the Remote Arrangements Committee and hope to have some sort of Madison centric social "gathering" across the air waves.

Please respond to Jennifer at: jks4@case.edu or me at: micaela.sullivan-fowler@wisc.edu with your interest. Thank you!

Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, M.S., M.A.

Chair, Local Arrangements Committee
Ebling Library for the Health Sciences
University of Wisconsin - Madison

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MEMBER PROFILE

Name: Nathalie Wheaton, MSLS

Member of ALHHS since: 2018 (I think?)

Hometown: I work in Chicago, live in Mount Prospect, IL, and was born and raised in Atlanta, GA.



Current Employer and Position: Rush University Medical Center, Archivist

Education: MSLS, School of Information and Library Science, UNC-Chapel Hill; BA, Anthropology, UGA.

Professional interests: I really enjoy corporate and business archives. I feel they don't get enough love in the archives profession! I also love being a lone arranger and

wearing many hats. I'm a longtime member and organizer of the Chicago Area Medical Archivists and am very interested in Chicago medical and nursing history. I have served on the steering committee of the Chicago Area Archivists and as a trustee of the board of the Forest Park Public Library. As a lone arranger, I'm in charge of every facet of my archives, so my professional interests cover a lot of bases. Right now, managing our digital assets is a pressing concern.

Other facts, interests, or hobbies: It's difficult to answer this without acknowledging the COVID-19 pandemic and how it has affected interests and hobbies. During this time of COVID-19 uncertainty, I have mostly been working from home. It's been nice to have a colleague at home these past months since my husband, Benn Joseph, is an archivist also. Our two children are e-learning this fall, making it a busy time for everyone in our house. I've been staying home, watching too many medieval TV dramas, playing the piano again after about twenty years of neglect, discovering a love of pruning hedges in our new yard, and, most importantly, exploring ways to fight for social justice in my community.

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“GREETINGS FROM MONTREAL”: THE MAUDE ABBOTT MEDICAL MUSEUM HOSPITAL POSTCARD COLLECTION

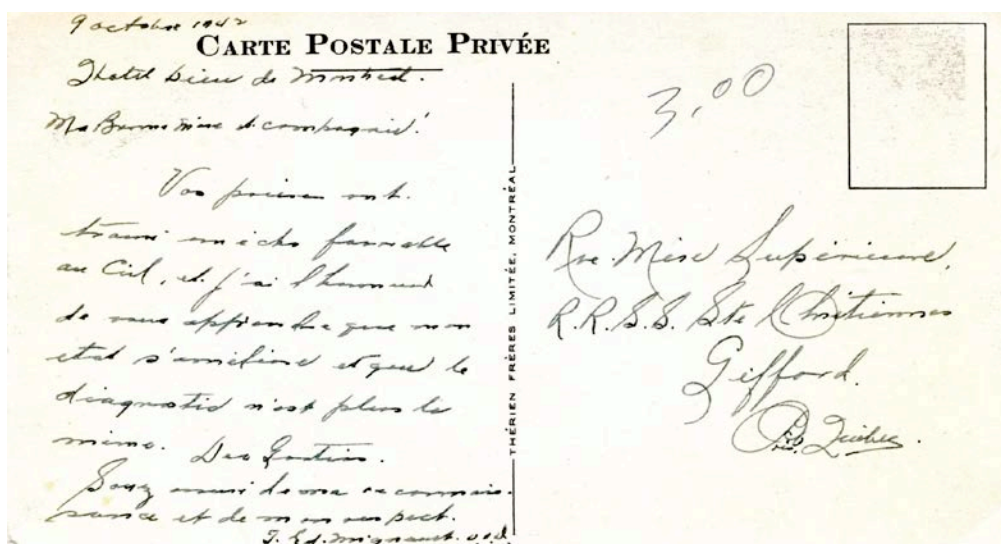
The Maude Abbott Medical Museum (MAMM) is a relatively small and recently recognized museum that is part of the Medical Faculty of McGill University in Montreal. McGill's original medical museum began several years before the official opening of the University in 1829 and developed into one of the best known such institutions in North America. Despite this success, most of its two major components – the anatomy and pathology collections – had been put in storage by the 1990s and were in danger of being discarded. In 2012, following good fortune and hard work by a number of individuals, the Museum was officially “resurrected” with a new name honoring its most prominent curator.

Like many University museums, libraries, and archives, the MAMM was closed to both visitors and staff at the start of a government imposed COVID-19 lockdown in mid-March of this year. This meant that work with its anatomical and pathological material became impossible. In order to continue our normal activities, such as teaching and exhibit development, we decided to identify something that could be manipulated easily outside the Museum and displayed virtually on its website – the MAMM collection of postcards fit the bill perfectly.

The collection includes approximately 125 cards that depict Montreal hospitals, hospices, and asylums from about 1900 to 1960. Although some appear to be “collector cards” – with no stamp, address, or message – many have clearly been used, and some have legible messages that relate information about illness or the hospitals in which the writers were patients. A sample of these became one part of the exhibit.



Hôtel-Dieu Hospital. Courtyard entrance. 1942



Message on back of the 1942 Hôtel-Dieu postcard.

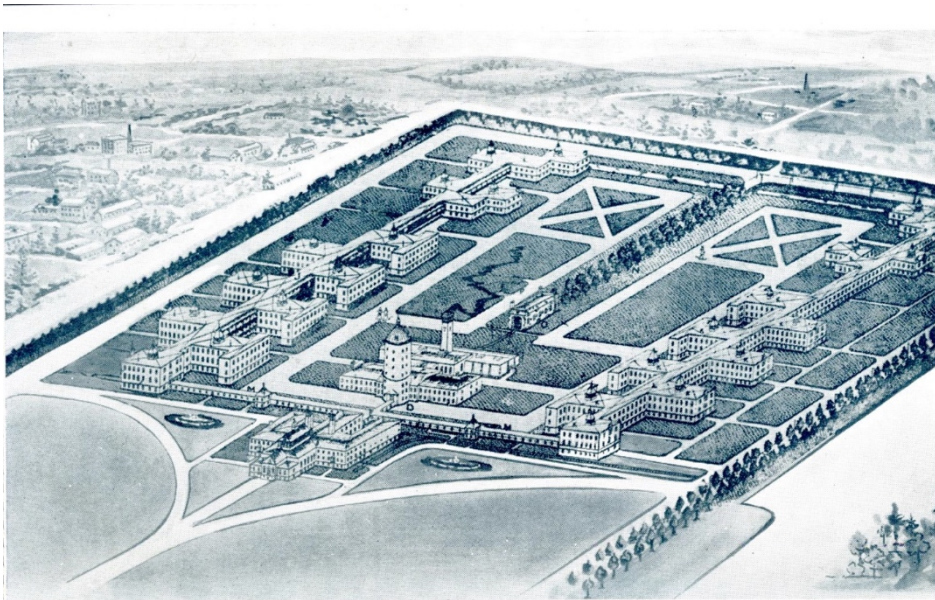
"My Dear Mother and companions, your prayers traced a favourable echo in Heaven and I have the honour to tell you that my condition is improving and that the diagnosis is not the same." (free translation)

A larger part consists of the card face images of 34 Montreal hospitals, asylums, and hospices. Most illustrate the buildings themselves via drawings, photographs, or diagrams; some show rooms within. In part because a number of the institutions depicted on the cards no longer exist – having been destroyed by fire or having had their mission changed by government mandate – and in part to give the collection a Montreal context, we decided to include short notes about the histories of each hospital/hospice.

The influence of the Catholic Church, manifested especially by several religious orders, was particularly important in the development of institutions that cared for the French-speaking population of Montreal. One example is the Hospice St-Jean-de-Dieu which opened in 1873 in the city's east end. As with a number of other Francophone Montreal hospitals of the era, it was managed by the Order of the Sisters of Providence. The hospice was dedicated to the care of patients with mental illness and was initially comprised of several buildings constructed of wood. In 1890, these were almost completely destroyed in one of Montreal's worst fires, in which approximately 100 people died. The hospital was soon rebuilt (in stone!) as 14 separate pavilions, six on the east side for men and six on the west for women; two pavilions at the front included chapels and space for the doctors and caregiver sisters. The Hospice was designated a "Hospital" in the 1920s; it changed its name to l'Hôpital Louis-H. Lafontaine in 1976 and to l'Institut Universitaire en Santé Mentale de Montréal in 2013.



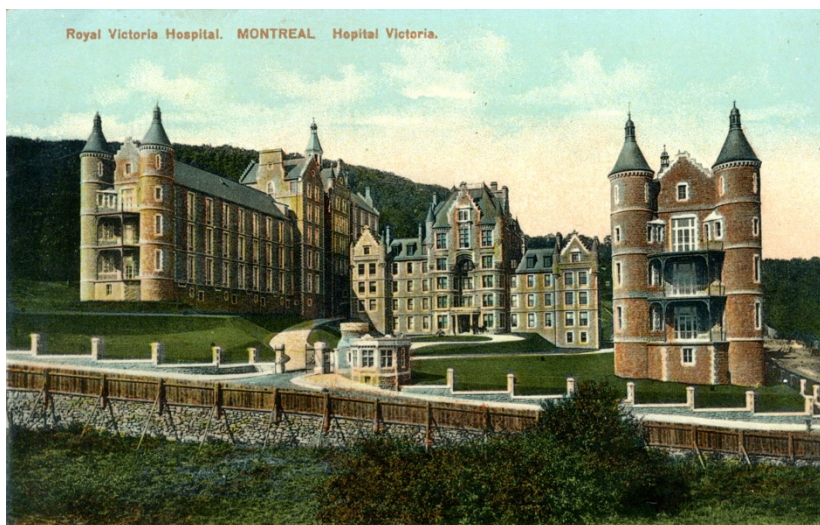
L'Hôpital St-Jean-de-Dieu. Patient lounge. Date unknown.



Vue d'ensemble de l'Hôpital St-Jean-de-Dieu, près Montréal.

L'Hôpital St-Jean-de-Dieu showing its east and west wings and central chapel building. c1930

Secular health care institutions were more closely associated with the Montreal Anglophone population. One example is the Royal Victoria Hospital, which opened in 1893 and was funded largely from donations by Scottish businessmen who had made their fortunes in Canada. The hospital was designed in the Scottish baronial style and had a number of architectural features that gave it a resemblance to a castle. Probably because of this ornate and rather impressive appearance, a variety of postcard images were produced in the early 1900s. Two examples are shown here.



ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL. c1908



The Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, Canada.

Royal Victoria Hospital. c1929

We plan to mount a physical display of the collection for museum visitors once the museum is able to reopen. Until then, the exhibit is accessible on the MAMM website at <https://www.mcgill.ca/medicalmuseum/exhibits>

Richard Fraser

Professor of Pathology

Director, Maude Abbott Medical Museum

McGill University, Montreal

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NEWS FROM THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

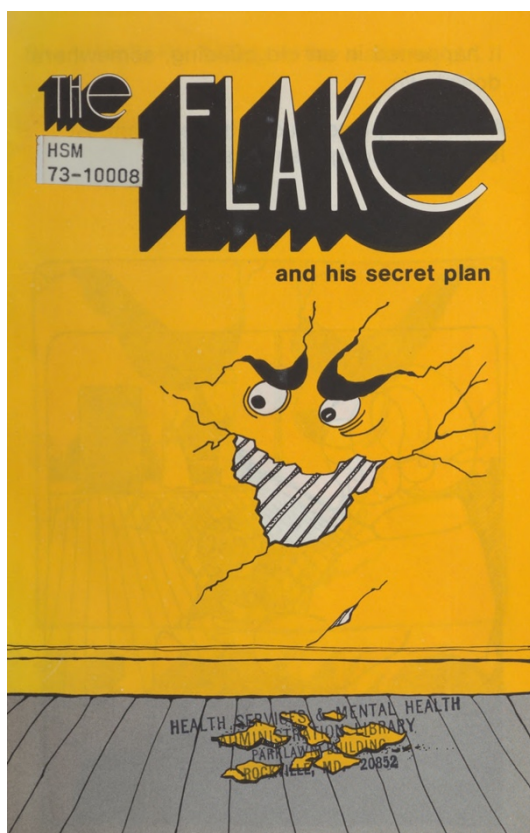
Reminder: October 19, 2020, is the deadline for responses to the NLM Request for Information (RFI) to guide the continuing implementation of its [strategic plan](#) through 2027. [Learn more.](#)

NLM Reading Rooms remain closed to the public until further notice in continued accordance with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and to promote social distancing. During this period, NLM online resources remain available, including [NLM Digital Collections](#) and [PubMed Central](#).

Interlibrary Loan services via DOCLINE remain available from electronically available resources. For the latest NLM ILL service information check [here](#). For the latest NLM Reading Room information check [here](#).

In addition, while the NLM Reading Rooms remain closed to the public, staff are working remotely to provide public services as possible under complex and shifting conditions. Contact [HMD staff directly](#), or through the portal links on every NLM web page.

NLM announces the availability of four new archival collections via NLM Digital Collections, including the papers of [June Osborn](#), chair of the [National Commission on AIDS](#); [Joseph Kinyoun](#), founder of the Marine Hospital Service Hygienic Laboratory, predecessor institution of the NIH, and director of plague eradication activities in San Francisco from 1899 to 1901; and [letters of Florence Nightingale](#).



The Flake and His Secret Plan, U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1973. Courtesy National Library of Medicine.

[NLM Exhibition Program](#) engages, encourages, and serves educators, students of all ages, and life-long learners who are researching a topic or who are curious about the world around them. Our most recent university module helps students examine primary and secondary source materials to explore mental health policy making and the ways people have worked toward a more inclusive society. [Mental Health and Incarceration](#) is part of the new online exhibition [Care and Custody: Past Responses to Mental Health](#), guest curated by scholar Anne E Parsons, PhD (University of North Carolina at Greensboro). For younger students, in grades 9 and 10, our newest lesson plan examines several items from an online exhibition to learn about how people were exposed to lead poisoning in the past. [Getting Informed about Lead: Then and Now](#) is part of the online exhibition [This Lead is Killing Us: A History of Citizens Fighting Lead Poisoning in Their Communities](#), guest curated by scholar Richard

Mizelle, PhD (University of Houston).



**Design proposal of the Sheppard Asylum near Baltimore MD by Calvert Vaux, 1860.
Courtesy National Library of Medicine.**

In case you missed it... “*Viral Networks* has many useful keys to make sense of data in the history of medicine, thus hopefully enabling further collaborations between medical and digital humanists.” So writes Radu Suciuc of the University of Geneva in his review of [*Viral Networks: Connecting Digital Humanities and Medical History*](#) (E. Thomas Ewing and Katherine Randall, eds.), published in the [spring 2020 issue](#) of the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. This book is the outcome of [Viral Networks: An Advanced Workshop in Digital Humanities and Medical History](#), January 2018, hosted by NLM/HMD, supported by the Office of Digital Humanities of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and organized by Virginia Tech.

Upcoming NLM History Talks, all taking place virtually:

To be rescheduled in 2021 - Naa Oyo A. Kwate, PhD, Associate Professor of Africana Studies and Associate Professor of Human Ecology, Rutgers University, and recipient of a 2018 [NLM G13 Award for Scholarly Works in Biomedicine and Health](#) for *Race and the Transformation of the Food Environment: Fast food, African Americans, and the Color Line, 1955-1995*. Dr. Kwate will offer the 11th Annual James H. Cassidy Lecture in the History of Medicine, speaking on “*Savages cry easily and are afraid of the dark*”: *What It Means to Talk about Race and African American Health*.

October 15, 2020 at 2pm ET: Cynthia Connolly, RN, FAAN, Professor of Nursing, Rosemarie B. Greco Endowed Term Chair in Advocacy, and Associate Director, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, speaking on *New Drugs, Old Problems: The Sulfonamide Revolution and Children's Health Care Delivery in the United States, 1933–1949*.

December 3, 2020 at 2pm ET: Ashley Bowen, PhD, Editor, *Perspectives on History*, American Historical Association, speaking on *Rise, Serve, Lead...and Publish: Including Women Physicians' Writings in Rise, Serve, Lead: America's Women Physicians*. All are warmly welcome! Mark your calendars, participate in the Q&A, look for speaker interviews on our popular blog *Circulating Now*, and watch archived livestreams of previous talks in the [NIH Videocast archive of History of Medicine programs](#).

The NLM Web Collecting and Archiving Working Group continues to [identify and select web and social media content](#) documenting the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak as part of NLM's Global Health Events web archive collection. Now including 3,400+ Seed URLs (600+ gigabytes), the collection includes federal, state, and local government COVID-19 pages, websites of disaster relief agencies and NGOs, and content documenting life in quarantine, prevention measures, vaccine development, the experiences of healthcare workers, patients, and more. The group is actively reviewing recommended content for inclusion in the archive (4600+ URLs nominated to date), scoping and running crawls of content using Archive-It and Conifer (formerly Webrecorder), reviewing archived sites for quality, and adding metadata. The group continues to engage with other cultural heritage organizations archiving the history of COVID-19, including the group spearheaded by the leadership of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, as well as the group of federal agencies who meet regularly to discuss their respective initiatives. The NLM Web Collecting and Archiving Working Group also continues to engage with the Society of American Archivists Web Archiving Section, the Archive-It community, the National Digital Stewardship Alliance, and is contributing to and following the growing list of institutions collecting COVID-19 related content maintained by the [Documenting the Now](#) project. Nominations for content to include in NLM's Global Health Events collection remain welcome via nlmwebcollecting@nlm.nih.gov. NLM also continues to participate as an institutional contributor to a broader [International Internet Preservation Consortium \(IIPC\) Novel Coronavirus outbreak web archive collection](#). IIPC registered their Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) collection in the World Pandemic Research Network. Individual recommendations for the IIPC collection can be submitted using the form available [here](#).

Are you undertaking and/or have you completed historical research in NLM's collections? Would you like to share it freely with a wide audience? We warmly invite you to be a guest author on our blog [Circulating Now](#). Featured in the [Washington Post](#), *Circulating Now* circulates widely, reaching more than 5,500 direct subscribers and 345,000 followers as part of the official NLM social media network. If you would like to write about your research in our collections, please send an email proposing your topic to Beth Mullen, managing editor, at elizabeth.mullen@nih.gov. If you do not already subscribe to *Circulating Now*, please do—just look for the “Follow us via email” box on the right-side of the [homepage](#).

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

The Chicago Area Medical Archivists (CAMA) Medical History Symposium 2020

**CHICAGO AREA MEDICAL ARCHIVISTS
MEDICAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM**

Join CAMA for this free, virtual event on
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020
10 a.m. to noon

Contact and RSVP: kelly.reiss@rosalindfranklin.edu
Information for the ZOOM session will be provided via email
prior to the symposium to promote a secure online meeting.



SPEAKERS AND TOPICS


**IN PURSUIT OF A GRAND DISPLAY: A CASE
STUDY IN DIY BANNER EXHIBITIONS**
KATIE LATTAL, MA

**90 YEARS OF THE
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS**
ALLISON SEAGRAM, MLIS, CA


**CHICAGO'S JOSEPH DELEE, EPISIOTOMY,
AND OBSTETRIC PRACTICE C. 1920**
SARAH B. RODRIGUEZ, PHD

**WATER IN CHICAGO: A HISTORIC LOOK AT
WATERBORNE ILLNESSES AND OTHER
FINDINGS IN THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEM**
EDWARD WINSLOW, MD


Informal networking to follow program.



Rosalind Franklin University of Health Sciences
Building, DigitalHub, Culture Health Sciences
Library, doi:10.1011/02583678



University of Chicago Library
1942-0510, Special Collections Research
Center, University of Chicago Library



Chicago, USA, University of Chicago Library

CAMA was formed as an informal networking group in 2002. Members are librarians, archivists, historians, and independent researchers who live and work in Chicago, Illinois, and suburban locations, conducting and supporting research in the rich medical history of the area. The group maintains an active listserv where news and research queries are often shared, and CAMA sponsors an annual fall history symposium open to CAMA members and other interested persons. Over the years, the symposia have provided an opportunity for attendees to visit a local museum, archives, or library, to network, and to hear presentations given by both CAMA members and researchers with whom they have worked. The focus on Chicago

area medical and health history features completed or in-progress research, highlighting new or interesting findings, or commemorates anniversaries of institutions, people, and events.

Out of necessity, due to the ripple effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 medical history symposium was converted into a virtual Zoom event hosted by archivist Kelly Reiss of Rosalind Franklin University, at whose institution the on-site symposium was to have taken place. Kelly and two other CAMA members, Nathalie Wheaton, MSLS, and Ramune Kubilius, MALS, brainstormed about the symposium format that ultimately drew an audience of 40 persons who stayed connected throughout the two-hour event on September 18, 2020. The online platform allowed participation beyond the Chicago region, with guests logging in from other states.

Four presenters shared their research, answering questions posed to them (K. Lattal and A. Seagram are also LAMPHHS members):

- ***In Pursuit of a Grand Display: A Case Display in DIY Banner Exhibitions*** (Katie Lattal, MA) about logistical and practical considerations for preparing a banner exhibit on the Woman's Medical School, commemorating 150 years since its founding. See related news item:
<<https://galter.northwestern.edu/News/display-womans-medical-school>>
- ***90 Years of the American Academy of Pediatrics*** (Allison Seagram, MALS, CA) about the commemoration of the Academy's history, researched and packaged in decades, for the "AAP News", as well as new discoveries about the early years that were found along the way. More about the history: <<https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/Gartner-Pediatric-History-Center/Pages/AAP-History.aspx>>
- ***Chicago's Joseph DeLee, Episiotomy and Obstetric Practice, c.1920.*** (Sarah B. Rodriguez, PhD) about a well-known Chicago area physician's beliefs and statements about medical procedures related to obstetric deliveries that were not always found in his publications. [A book chapter is forthcoming in February 2021.]



- ***Water in Chicago: A Historic Look at Waterborne Illnesses and Other Findings in the City's Water System*** (Edward Winslow, MD) about the city's waterways and decisions (health-related and other) that impacted Chicago's plans and placement of water cribs, water purification plants, and more.

As one speaker, Prof. Rodriguez, shared, history can be “messy”. It can also be resonant in experience across regions, and CAMA participants have found many local and far-reaching interconnections when it comes to Chicago medical history. Anyone interested in Chicago area medical history may join the CAMA listserv or request reference assistance from its members. More information can be found at: <http://www.chicagoarchivists.org/cama> or by contacting the listserv moderator, Nathalie Wheaton, MSLS, archivist, Rush University Medical Center Archives, at [<chicagomedicalarchivists@gmail.com>](mailto:chicagomedicalarchivists@gmail.com).

News from the Oskar Diethelm Library, Weill Cornell Medical College

The Oskar Diethelm Library, part of the DeWitt Wallace Institute of Psychiatry: History, Policy, & the Arts at Weill Cornell Medical College, is pleased to announce the release of a new [finding aid for the Alfred Freedman MD Papers](#). Dr. Freedman was president of the American Psychiatric Association when the board of trustees changed the listing of “homosexuality” to “sexual orientation disturbance” in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders II (DSM-II).

In addition, the Diethelm Library has added its [finding aids to the Empire Archival Discovery Cooperative](#) using the EADitor tool. Previously, the finding aids were only available in PDF format.

The library also received a Preservation Assistance Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to rehouse and preserve its internationally significant psychiatry collections. Materials include the Thomas Salmon and Clifford Beers collections, which have documentation on World War I and veterans, shell shock and PTSD, immigration and Ellis Island, and art, and the papers of Donald Winnicott, the British physician who was internationally recognized for his work in pediatric psychiatry and invented the term “transitional object” (e.g. blanket or teddy bear).

Lastly, the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminars that were recorded through Zoom during the spring semester [can now be viewed online](#), and the [upcoming](#)

[seminars](#) for the 2020-2021 academic year will also be livestreamed and recorded on Zoom. To attend the seminars, please contact Dr. Megan Wolff at mew2008@med.cornell.edu.

Nicole Topich

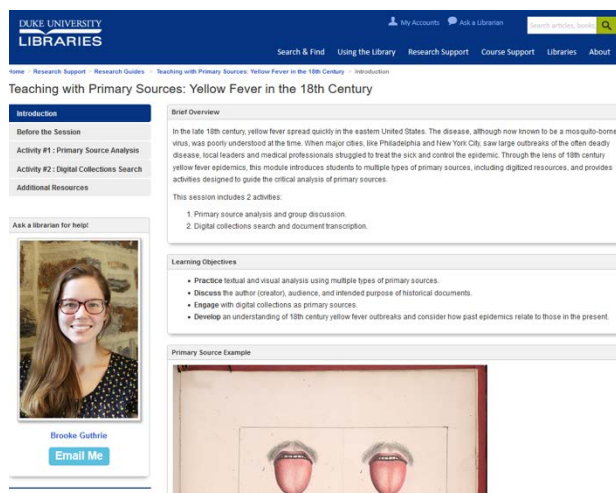
Special Collections Librarian, Oskar Diethelm Library
DeWitt Wallace Institute of Psychiatry: History, Policy, & the Arts
Weill Cornell Medical College

Medical Modules: Instruction Goes Virtual for the History of Medicine Collections at Duke's Rubenstein Library

When Duke University moved classes online in March, the [History of Medicine Collections at the Rubenstein Library](#) made a similar shift and moved our hands-on, special collections instruction sessions into a digital format. While the shift in the spring semester took us all a bit by surprise, we spent the summer preparing for a fall semester where all library instruction, including our work with rare books, archival material, and artifacts, would take place online. The creation of several online learning modules was a key part of our preparation for the fall. Along with our colleagues in the Rubenstein Library, we created activities and assignments that can be adapted for use in online classes that meet both synchronously or asynchronously. The modules are designed to meet specific student learning objectives, be adapted for use in a broad array of undergraduate courses, and be easy for staff to update in the future.

Examples of modules focused on the History of Medicine Collections include [“The Eugenics Movement in North Carolina,”](#) [“Yellow Fever Epidemics in the 18th Century,”](#) and [“Gender and Anatomy.”](#) The modules all include a variety of digitized primary sources, instructions for class activities, and downloadable worksheets. They feature topics that were often the focus of our pre-pandemic in-person instruction sessions. We also created an additional module that brings the interactive part of our in-person sessions to the online classroom. [“Create Your Own Cabinet of Curiosity”](#) introduces students to the history of Wunderkammer and has students create their own Wunderkammer using items found in their home or dorm room.

Moving our instruction online also offered an opportunity to highlight our digital collections and incorporate these resources into student learning. The “Yellow Fever Epidemics in the 18th Century” module includes an activity using the [Benjamin and Julia Stockton Rush Papers Digital Collection](#) which features material from the 1793 epidemic in Philadelphia. The activity gives students the chance to practice searching in digital collections and transcribing a digitized manuscript document. A series of videos created by Rubenstein staff accompany the activity and help students navigate Duke’s digital collections.



Learning modules from the History of Medicine Collections (and more from the Rubenstein Library) are found here: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/instruction>

In addition to creating new online learning resources, we also continue to work with classes that regularly visited us in the past and are collaborating closely with faculty to facilitate student work online. Much of this work is only possible thanks to a library-wide effort to scan special collections material for online instruction sessions and for faculty to use in class assignments. Our efforts in the summer and fall will prepare us for a spring semester that likely will be largely online.

Brooke Guthrie

Research Services Librarian

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

Updates from the Archives of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions

On July 6th the Chesney Archives re-opened on a limited basis in conjunction with the Johns Hopkins University’s Phase 1 initiative to restart research programs. We are operating under strict COVID-19 protection measures for staff and researchers. For the duration of Phase I only Johns Hopkins faculty, staff, and graduate students have onsite access to conduct research. Our reading room is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am to 4pm. As part of the COVID-19 protection plan, we can accommodate only

two widely spaced researchers and one monitor in the reading room. On Tuesday and Thursday two to three staff members work onsite.

Johns Hopkins environmental health and safety experts collaborated with us to develop a re-opening plan around guidelines for limiting potential exposure to COVID-19 in interior spaces. The next step was to submit the plan to a university restart committee which reviewed and then approved our plan at the beginning of July. For more information about the Chesney Archives re-opening, follow this link to our public announcement: <https://medicalarchives.jhmi.edu:8443/recentnews.html>

When Johns Hopkins campuses closed in mid-March, Chesney Archives staff, student employees, and volunteers kept working remotely on digital projects and email reference services. Since the archives maintains critical institutional records, there were several instances when staff had to come onsite to deal with urgent requests from Johns Hopkins administrators. Staff also collaborated on efforts to document the impact of COVID-19 on Johns Hopkins Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health.

Timothy Wisniewski, visual materials archivist, is leading this documentation initiative. He provides the following summary of efforts to date:

“To archive Johns Hopkins’ COVID-related websites, we are using the internet Archive’s Archive-It tool. Using Archive-It, we have captured 60 GB of data from COVID-related websites from Johns Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health since the beginning of the pandemic. We are also using a tool called Conifer to capture websites that need to be manually archived, such as intranet sites or social media pages. To archive Johns Hopkins’ COVID-related podcasts, we are downloading the metadata from RSS feeds, and we reached out to the Marketing divisions to get access to download the archival media files of the podcasts. The Archives’ student employees are helping with the task of processing the files and cataloging the podcasts. We are also saving news stories related to Johns Hopkins’ response to COVID-19 and which feature Hopkins experts. Linda Klouzal, institutional records archivist, and her student employees are saving the stories as PDF files and creating an online bibliography of the stories. Additionally, we started a campaign to collect and save personal stories of a broad range of Hopkins employees and students on the front lines of the pandemic using a simple web form. The office of Marketing and Communications at Johns Hopkins Medicine has a similar submission form, and we are also coordinating with them to capture their submissions for the archives. Andrew Harrison, material culture archivist, and Natalie Elder, curator of cultural properties, are reaching out to department administrators to

ensure they are saving important records related to the pandemic and collecting interesting artifacts and ephemera from Johns Hopkins' coronavirus response."

On a matter not pertaining to COVID-19 but impeded by it, in August we were able to complete and launch a digital exhibit commemorating figures from Johns Hopkins who advanced health reform and the cause of suffrage. We welcome you to visit *Hopkins and the 19th Amendment Activists in Suffrage and Health Reform*:

<https://exhibits.library.jhu.edu/exhibits/show/hopkins19thamendment>

We wish all of our LAMPHHS colleagues well during these challenging times.

Nancy McCall

Director

Alan Mason Chesney Medical Archives

The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions

News from the Library and Center for the History of Medicine and Public Health, The New York Academy of Medicine

First Mondays at the NYAM Library



In pre-COVID-19 times we held a walk-in tour on the first Monday of each month. These tours have now gone virtual! Join Historical Collections Librarian Arlene Shaner as she leads tours of our digital collections (July), some classic cookbooks (August), and the Academy building (October). Drop in any time for our [First Mondays](#) virtual tours.

Library/NYAM Events



On September 23, the Library presented a history of medicine lecture, using history to better understand the COVID-19 pandemic; Dr. Jacob Steere-Williams, College of Charleston, talked on "Typhoid Fever and the Origins of Epidemiology in Victorian Britain," based on his forthcoming book, *The Filth Disease: Typhoid Fever and the Practices of Epidemiology in Victorian England*. There he examines the

emergence of a state-sponsored, global approach to epidemiology that began in 19th-century Britain. Steere-Williams wrote on this topic for the Library's blog, [Books Health, and History](#). [Image: "Avoid the Grip of the Typhoid Hand," in G.S. Franklin, "Sanitary Care of Privies" (1899), from "Health and Sanitation: Disease and the Working Poor," <https://www.wm.edu/sites/wmcar/research/danvilledig/millworker-life/health-sanitation/index.php>.]

NYAM's Race & Health series continued October 1 with "Black Maternal Health: Historical and Reproductive Justice Reckonings." This event considered the profound health inequities around giving birth further laid bare by the COVID-19 pandemic. It featured historian Dr. Deirdre Cooper Owens, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, author of *Medical Bondage: Race, Gender, and the Origins of American Gynecology*, and public health activist and scholar Dr. Lynn Roberts, CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy, co-editor and contributing author of the anthology *Radical Reproductive Justice: Foundations, Theory, Practice, Critique*. The event took place in partnership with the Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine.

NYAM Women in Medicine



In this 100th anniversary of universal women's suffrage in the United States, the Library has been celebrating NYAM's first women Fellows, pioneering physicians in New York City. Most recently, cataloger Miranda Schwartz wrote on [Dr. Sarah McNutt](#), pediatric neurologist and pathologist and co-founder of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital; the Postgraduate Training School for Nurses; and Babies' Hospital. McNutt was the Academy's second woman Fellow, following [Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi](#). [Image Courtesy of the National Library of Medicine.]

New Acquisitions

The Library has two recent book acquisitions:

Frederic Ruysch, *Thesaurus animalium primus* (Amsterdam, 1710), is an illustrated book of specimens in Ruysch's own museum (which was sold to Russian tsar Peter the Great in 1717 and is still substantially intact in St. Petersburg). The book forms a companion to Ruysch's work in the Library's collections, *Thesaurus anatomicus primus* (Amsterdam, 1701–7).

The 1852 edition of Frederick Hollick's *The matron's manual of midwifery*. Hollick (1818–1900) was a 19th-century American physician and sex educator, controversial at the time for his insistence on public presentations and discussions on sex and the functions of the human body.

Summer Intern

Over the summer the Library hosted Liani Astacio, a college student at Tufts University, as a remote summer intern. Over eight weeks, Astacio undertook four two-week sessions with Library staff on digitization, cataloging and description, user services, preservation and conservation, and social media. She also took on a larger project of

upgrading the descriptions and metadata for the Library's [Robert Matz Hospital Postcards collection](#). Astacio came to us through the [Prep for Prep](#) program, a leadership development program dedicated to building a diverse workforce. [Image: Harlem Hospital, undated.]



At Home with the NYAM Library

Our e-newsletter has become a regular fixture, coming out once a month. We highlight our [First Mondays](#) virtual tours, our [digital collections](#), our gathering of [coloring books](#) from institutions around the world, our blog [Books, Health, and History](#), and many other items of interest. To receive the newsletter, sign up [here](#). For an archive of newsletters reaching back to April, check out [At Home with the NYAM Library](#).

Save the Date! Medical Heritage Library Tenth Anniversary Conference on November 13!

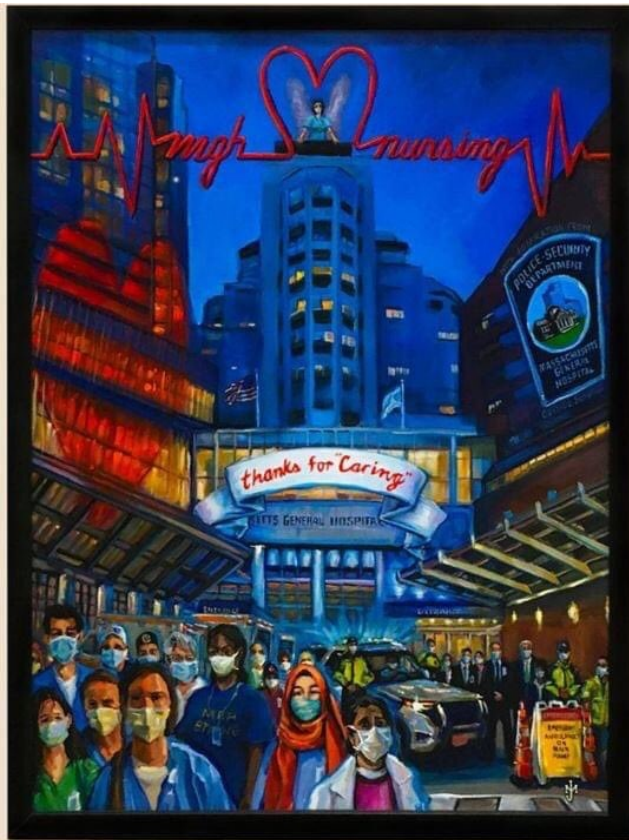
The Medical Heritage Library, Inc. is pleased to announce its Tenth Anniversary virtual conference will take place on Friday, November 13. Dr. Jaipreet Viridi, author of *Hearing Happiness: Deafness Cures in History* and Assistant Professor in the Department of History, University of Delaware, will be the keynote speaker. Conference sessions will feature research that utilizes and derives strength from access to Medical Heritage Library content. This is an opportunity to forge new relationships and strengthen existing ones with scholars, educators, and allied health professionals in numerous disciplines,

including art history; bioethics; critical race studies; cultural studies; digital and medical humanities; disability studies; history of medicine and technology; library and information science; medical history; philosophy; and women's studies.

The Medical Heritage Library is a collaborative digitization and discovery organization committed to providing open access resources in the history of healthcare and the health sciences. We aspire to be a visible, research-driven history of medicine and health community that serves a broad, interdisciplinary constituency. Our goal is to make high-quality content available online free of charge and to simplify and centralize the discovery of these resources.

The conference is free and open to the public. Full program and registration information will be available in late October via the MHL website (<http://www.medicalheritage.org/>). We hope you'll join us!

Extended Closure, Extended Outreach: News of the Paul S. Russell MD Museum



At the direction of hospital leadership, the Paul S. Russell, MD Museum of Medical History and Innovation at Massachusetts General Hospital temporarily closed our doors on March 12, and we do not expect to re-open in person until summer 2021 at the earliest. Facing an even longer closure than many museums, we've tried to take inspiration from the "history and innovation" in our name to continue engaging audiences.

Some of how we've dealt with closure has been to make topical use of our existing outreach methods. We have increased our social media presence through adding a few series of themed Facebook and Instagram posts. The hospital has been flooded

with messages of gratitude and support from patients and community members, and

we have used the museum's windows to display quotes from these messages. We are also fortunate to have a display case in the hospital's main lobby and recently debuted an exhibit there, "Out of Crisis, Creativity," which features excerpts of writing, links to musical performances, and original art given to the hospital by or in honor of front-line health care workers.

We've also moved beyond our existing methods. We have offered two virtual editions of our monthly lecture series, which were less well-attended than our in-person events, but still had a good showing. We surveyed educators and tour group leaders who had visited within the past year about what type of resources would be most helpful and with their feedback, created a virtual field trip – a first for us. It's a live online presentation using a slide deck, Zoom, and the browser extension Poll Everywhere to discuss a bit of what's on our in-person tours, plus some history of infection control, how the hospital has responded to crises in the past, and how the hospital responded in the first months of the coronavirus pandemic. Our biggest concern was that audiences would be over-saturated with content about the history of epidemics and virtual experience opportunities right now, but so far, the response has been very positive.

Tegan Kehoe

Exhibit and Education Specialist

Paul S. Russell Museum of Medical History and Innovation at Massachusetts General Hospital

C.F. Reynolds History of Medicine Society Lecture

The first Reynolds lecture, a free online presentation by David Cooper, MD PhD (Co-Director, Xenotransplantation Program, Department of Surgery, University of Alabama at Birmingham), was on Tuesday, September 29, from 6-7:15pm via Zoom:
<https://ccac.zoom.us/j/94758062906#success>.

Heart surgery was one of the greatest advances in medicine during the latter part of the 20th century. The surgeons who contributed to it include some of the most interesting personalities you could ever expect to meet. Heart surgery evolved from "closed" heart surgery, where the surgeon worked blindly only by touch, through "open" heart surgery with the brain protected by hypothermia, to patients supported by the heart-lung machine. It culminated in heart transplantation and the total replacement of the heart by a mechanical device. All of these advances took place within a period of about 50 years.

The presentation will concentrate as much on the personal stories of the surgeons as on the contributions they made.

John Erlen

Retired

News from the New York Medical College Archives

The New York Medical College Archives has a new website containing information about the Archives and its holdings, available at <https://guides.library.nymc.edu/archives>. This site centralizes content which had previously been scattered across multiple locations on the website of the NYMC library. Over the next few months, the College Archivist will be reviewing this legacy content, consisting primarily of biographies of historical faculty and alumni, and updating it for consistency and readability.

The Health Sciences Library, home of the Archives, has partially reopened as a study space for students, and the Archivist is now on site twice a week to work on reference requests in the physical collections. Although the COVID-19 shutdown interrupted the many processing projects, events, and exhibits which the Archives had planned for 2020, the quarantine has been an opportunity for the Archivist to spend time working on long-term research projects regarding the history of the College which will bear fruit in future years as the campus reopens and exhibits and events become possible once again.

Nicholas Webb

Archivist and Digital Preservation Librarian
New York Medical College

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BOOK REVIEWS

Wendy Moore. *No Man's Land: The Trailblazing Women Who Ran Britain's Most Extraordinary Military Hospital During World War I*. New York: Basic Books, 2020. 368 pages. \$30.00. ISBN: 978-154167272.

“Other than the burly policeman at the entrance and a handful of male orderlies who were too old or too infirm for combat, the Endell Street Military Hospital was staffed entirely by women.” (p. 2). *No Man's Land* is a fascinating and rarely glimpsed look at one specific aspect of World War I medical history. British journalist Wendy Moore, whose previous books dealt with medical and social history, consulted archival sources on three continents, letters and diaries, ending up with a compulsively readable book, written with a light touch.

Two British women physicians, Louisa Garrett Anderson (a surgeon) and Flora Murray (a physician and anesthetist), were, like so many of their female contemporaries in the medical and nursing professions, in what we would call today a same-sex relationship. Both in their forties when World War I broke out, they had been active suffragettes and were jailed for their activism. Moore provides extensive background on both women; in fact, Anderson's mother was “the first woman to qualify in Britain as a doctor” (p. 8) and had been inspired by Elizabeth Blackwell. Anderson attended Johns Hopkins for post-graduate studies, developing a lifelong admiration of Sir William Osler.

Anderson and Murray, who had years of experience working in women's hospitals and in a small pediatric hospital that they'd opened, decided to set up a hospital in France to treat soldiers who had been wounded on the front lines. They sailed with about 18 assistants, including women who were doctors, nurses, and orderlies. Surmounting extraordinary odds, they turned a Parisian hotel into a hospital, treating all types of combat-inflicted wounds with great success and were besieged by journalists and dignitaries who wanted to see a hospital “‘run solely by women.’” (p. 54). They also opened a rehabilitation hospital in a chateau in northern France. Eventually making their way back to England, they were invited to run a military hospital in central London; their anti-government activism of a few years previous had, for the moment, been put aside. What was once called the St. Giles's and St. George's Workhouse, built in 1727, was transformed into the Endell Street Military Hospital, a state-of-the-art institution of over 500 beds, 2 operating rooms, pathology lab, a mortuary, and a library. (The hospital was featured in a novel by Beatrice Harraden, issued in the U.S. in 1918 as *Where Your*

Heart Is, <https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc2.ark:/13960/t85h7dk5c>) Each of the hospital wards was named for a female saint, and great efforts were made to provide a homey atmosphere. The author provides fascinating background information on several doctors and nurses and the organized chaos that resulted when, for instance, 80 men at a time might arrive with little warning in the middle of the night, most needing emergency surgery. When London was bombed later in the war, civilians who were wounded in the hospital neighborhood were cared for. Just before the end of the war, the hospital began admitting soldiers and civilians who had fallen to the 1918 influenza pandemic. One of the staff members who fell sick and died was a much-loved 27-year-old nursing orderly. Her death precipitated a request from Flora Murray that the hospital be closed as soon as possible. This took place in early January, 1920. During its 4.5 years of existence, hospital staff treated over 26,000 inpatients, 20,000 outpatients, and carried out over 7,000 operations.

There are 16 pages of wonderfully evocative black-and-white images, many from private collections, as well as 30 pages of annotated endnotes and a lengthy selected bibliography. An appendix tabulating operations performed, death rates, and other statistical information would have been useful, but the target audience for *No Man's Land* is the interested layperson. As such, it is highly recommended for collections about women in medicine and military medicine.

Martha E. Stone

Retired

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