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The University Archives
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A Guide to the
Howard Hospital Records
1858-1930 (bulk 1917-1929)

2.25 Cubic feet

UPC 50.1

Prepared by Joseph-James Ahern

December 2008

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PROVENANCE

Transferred from Graduate Hospital by William B. Kent, April 1962 (Accession No.: 62-13).

ARRANGEMENT

The Howard Hospital Records are arranged alphabetically by folder title. When possible the original folder titles were maintained. New folder titles were applied when originals did not exist, or to provide better organization to the collection.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Howard Hospital was organized in 1853 as a charity hospital to provide medical care for factory workers who lived in the western part of Philadelphia. Initially called the Western Clinical Infirmary and Hospital for Incurables, the hospital was located in two rooms over a store at the northwest corner of Seventeenth and Pine before moving to its next home in a house at the corner of 15th and Christian Streets. Based on the structure of the Vienna Hospital, where physicians would

be appointed as specialist in specific medical fields, doctors were appointed to handle diseases of digestive organs, diseases of the chest, diseases of females, diseases of brain and nervous system, fevers, diseases of urinary organs, diseases of eye and ear, and surgery. In 1859 the Board of Managers petitioned to change the name to the Howard Hospital and Infirmary for Incurables, after English philanthropist John Howard (1726-1790) who was noted for his reform efforts in hospital management and prison discipline – though no reason for the choice is given. A year later the Hospital took up new residence when it rented space at 1812 Locust Street. Then in 1861 the Hospital purchased the old Welsh Church at 1518 and 1520 Lombard Streets for \$5,000, where it was located for the next quarter century. The start of the Civil War financially affected the Hospital as donations decreased, while requests for services increased. In addition many of the original doctors resigned or went off to military service.

Howard Hospital's Board of Managers formed a committee to locate a site suitable to construct a new hospital building in the spring of 1886. That fall the lot on the southeast corner of Broad and Catharine Streets was purchased for \$24,000. Construction of the building was finished in 1889, and an annex was completed in 1894. From this site, Howard Hospital continued to provide charity medical assistance to the community. The Hospital had long been associated with medical education by providing students from the University of Pennsylvania's Medical School with clinical instruction. On its own the Hospital provided a training course for nurses, and instruction on anesthesia. In 1929 the Board of Managers agreed to merger with the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania. Under that agreement Howard Hospital was to become part of Graduate Hospital, where a specific space would be named after it. It was determined the building would be made available as a nurses' home in connection with Graduate Hospital or other way deemed necessary. The medical and nursing staff from Howard Hospital was to be amalgamated with that of Graduate in accordance with its requirements.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Howard Hospital Records document the administrative activities of the Hospital during the early Twentieth Century. The bulk of the collection relates to the financial dealings of the hospital - namely upkeep of the facilities, and contracting for services. Correspondence between professional organizations and government agencies is also included. The clinical reports primarily contain statistical information used in the annual reports. The Patient Admission Record Book contains detailed information for individuals admitted to the Hospital during that period. There is a near

complete run of the published Annual Reports from the Board of Managers from 1860 through 1927. Aside from the Annual Reports and other published pamphlets, the collection does not contain any documentation of the Hospitals in the Nineteenth Century.

CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Corporate Name(s)

- Howard Hospital and Infirmary for Incurables.
- Western Clinical Infirmary and Hospital for Incurables (Philadelphia, Pa).

Subject(s)

- Hospitals--Pennsylvania--Philadelphia.

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INVENTORY

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American Medical Association 1926-1929	1	6
American Nurses Association - Question are 1926	1	7
Anatomical Board of the State of Pennsylvania 1921, 1923	1	8
Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the Howard Hospital and Infirmary for Incurables		
1867-1875	1	10
1876-1884	1	11
1860-1866	1	9
1885-1888, 1890-1895	1	12
1896-1900	1	13
1901-1905	1	14
1906-1910	1	15
Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the Howard Hospital		

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1911-1913	1	16
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Auditor General, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 1923, 1925	1	21
Bad Checks 1927-1929	1	22
Bedside Record n.d.	1	23
Bell Telephone Company of Philadelphia 1913-1925	1	24
Bernstein Manufacturing Co. 1906-1914	1	25
Bills misc. 1929	1	26
Bureau of Elevator Inspection, City of Philadelphia 1913-1929	1	27
Campbell vs. Wells Brothers Co. 1914	1	28
Charge and General Duty Nurses Resigning 1926	1	29
Civilian Medical Inventory 1916	1	30
Commission on the Conservation of Vision of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania 1914	1	31
Committee of Public Safety, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - State Inventory 1917	1	32
Companies Patronized by the Howard Hospital n.d.	1	33
Compensation Fee Schedule n.d.	1	34
Complaints 1918, 1921	1	35
Construction bills 1920-1921	1	36
Contracts Estimates 1925-1929	1	37
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Correspondence

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D 1926-1929	1	40
E-H 1924-1929	1	41
M 1928-1929	1	42
P 1928-1929	1	43
S 1929	1	44
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Course of Instruction in Anesthesia - inquiries and applications 1920-1926	1	47
Department of Health, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 1919-1924	1	48
Department of Labor and Industry, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 1915-1927	1	49
Department of Public Health and Charities, City of Philadelphia 1914	1	50
Department of Public Instruction, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 1922-1927	1	51
Department of Public Welfare, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 1922-1925	1	52
Donations and Payments 1921-1926	1	53
Employee List 1922-1929	1	54
Employee Roll Book 1928-1929	1	55
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Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation 1926	1	57
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Eye Clinic 1918	1	60
Few Suggestions to the Benevolent Public Kindly Thrown out by the Managers of the Western Clinical Infirmary and Hospital for Incurables 1858	2	1
Former Patients - Letters 1929	2	2
Fuller, W. A. M. 1910	2	3
Graduate Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania - Question are n.d.	2	4
Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company 1929	2	5
Henry P. Simmons Estate 1911-1912	2	6
Hospital Credit Adjustment 1924	2	7
House Committee 1914-1922	2	8
Information Miscellaneous 1923-1926	2	9
Inquiries for Records from Doctors 1926-1929	2	10
Inquiries from Lawyers, Insurance Men, etc. 1926-1929	2	11
Inquiry of Dr. Rose Harrison 1929	2	12
January Bills and Statements 1929	2	13
Keystone Telephone Company of Philadelphia 1913	2	14
Kitchen Staff n.d.	2	15
Kneass, Strickland L. 1914	2	16
Labelcraft Press 1925	2	17
Lamp Cards n.d.	2	18
Letters of Acknowledgement 1929	2	19
Letters Written by Resident Physicians 1927-1929	2	20
List of Patients and Procedures n.d.	2	21
M. Jennings and Sons, Coal Dealers 1912-1921	2	22

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National Fire Protection Company 1925	2	29
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Philadelphia Electric Company 1914	2	39
Philadelphia Fire Underwriters' Association 1914-1925	2	40
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Radium Emanation Corporation 1927-1929	2	58
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Monthly 1924-1929	2	69
Monthly Admissions and Discharges 1926	2	70
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Reports 1860-1927 Inventory Note n.d.	3	2
Reports on Billing and Patients 1929	3	3
Resident Physicians Roll Book 1894-1926	4	
Rules and Regulations of the Howard Hospital 1924	3	4
Rules Governing the Giving of Information Concerning Patients of a Hospital n.d.	3	5
Scialytic Lamp 1928	3	6
Smock, F. Bradfield 1913	3	7
Staff 1922-1925	3	8
Staff and Policies n.d.	3	9
Staff Meeting 1929	3	10
State Board of Nurse Examiners, University of the State of New York 1922	3	11
State Workmen's Insurance Fund 1917	3	12
Study of Family Relief Needs in Philadelphia 1926	3	13
Subscriptions 1930	3	14
Superintendent of Public Grounds and Buildings, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 1922	3	15
Surgeon General of the United States Army - Information Blank n.d.	3	16

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The Henry S. Rau Co., Inc. 1925	3	17
Thornton, Maggie 1914	3	18
Treasury Department - Prohibition 1928	3	19
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United States Casualty Company 1914-1929	3	21
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United States Shipping Board 1918	3	24
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