

St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing Collection

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection number: B593, Accession # 2019.006.0001-2019.006.0003

Collection repository: Hennepin History Museum
2303 Third Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Collection title: St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing

Dates: 1915-2004

Extent: 3 boxes, 1.87 linear feet

Creator: St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing students and alumnae

Language of the Material: English

Processed by: Caitlin Silberman, 2019

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

The history of hospitals in Minnesota dates to the mid-nineteenth century. In 1853, five years before Minnesota gained statehood, St. Joseph's Hospital was founded in Saint Paul. The first hospital in Minneapolis was a twelve-room hospital founded as the "Cottage Hospital" in 1871, later becoming St. Barnabas Hospital in 1892.

St. Andrew's Hospital was founded slightly later, in 1911. Following the loss of a child, Minneapolis businessman Lewis Gillette was inspired to turn his home into a hospital. Gillette sold his home to brewing magnate Charles Gluek, who in turn presented the structure to the German Lutheran Church for use as a hospital and nursing school. The hospital's nursing school began instruction in 1911 or 1912 and graduated its first class of nurses in 1915.

The original St. Andrew's building—that is, the transformed Gillette home—accommodated 35 adult patients and a children's ward. Located in southeast Minneapolis at 712 5th Street SE, in its early days it served a population of largely German immigrants. The original structure was expanded with a five-story addition at 705 5th Street that opened in 1929. With the opening of the addition, the old Gillette home became the nursing students' dormitory and classrooms.

In 1938, St. Andrew's Hospital separated from the Lutheran Church and became a private corporation called the Saint Andrew's Hospital Association. The St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing graduated its final class in 1949. Its total alumnae numbered 313 nurses.

Through the 1940s and early 1950s, the hospital struggled to fill beds, and in 1953 St. Andrew's was subsumed as a division of the larger St. Barnabas Hospital. In 1970, St. Barnabas Hospital merged with the Swedish Hospital to become the Metropolitan Medical Center (MMC). MMC, in turn, closed in 1991. Its constituent parts are now part of the Hennepin Healthcare system.

The alumnae of the St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing maintained an active Alumnae Association from the school's early days. The earliest extant Alumnae Association minutes date from 1922, but the Association was most likely formed soon after the first class of nurses graduated in 1915. Through at least 2004, the organization held annual meetings in the Twin Cities, circulated newsletters, and maintained directories of alumnae. The papers of the Alumnae Association and historical material collected by Association members were donated to the Hennepin History Museum around 2004.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing collection contains minutes, correspondence, notes, newsletters, financial records, membership lists, scrapbooks, photographs, newspaper and magazine clippings, and other documents and ephemera relating to the St. Andrew's School of Nursing and its Alumnae Association. These records are divided into three series: a series of administrative records of the Alumnae Association, a series of subject files that includes photographs, scrapbooks, and other memorabilia from the School of Nursing, and a series of materials belonging to Lillian [Enle] Thompson, a graduate of the Class of 1934. The collection reached the Hennepin History Museum in 2004 or shortly thereafter.

The collection is arranged in the following series:

Series 1: Alumnae Association, 1922-2004

Series 2: Subject Files, A-Z, 1915-2004

Series 3: Lillian [Enle] Thompson Collection, 1931-1992

A small number of nursing student uniforms and uniform elements from the 1940s were donated with the collection but are housed with the Hennepin History Museum object collections; see Related Material, below.

ACCESS

The collection is open to researchers and has no restrictions.

COPYRIGHT

The researcher assumes the responsibility for ensuring copyright is followed. When and where possible the archive will provide information related to the copyright owners, but it will be the responsibility of the researcher to ensure copyright laws are followed. Requests for permission to publish material in this collection should be directed to the Archivist.

RELATED MATERIAL

A small group of nursing student uniforms and uniform elements from the St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing accompanied this collection but has been moved to the museum's object collection. These items were as follows: one nurse's uniform dress and one nurse's cap, both from Florence M. Scholljegerdes (Class of 1941, c. 1941); one starched nurse's cap with a single button and two bobby pins, c. 1940s; four mother-of-pearl buttons for nurses' uniforms, undated; and one

nurse's cap from c. 1943, signed by members of the Class of 1943 and hospital staff. (This cap was likely from Florraine Hall Benson, Class of 1943, as one signature is addressed to "Flossie.")

Additional historical material on St. Andrew's Hospital and its School of Nursing can be found in the following collections:

- Hennepin Medical History Center – Photographs, documents, artifacts. The Hennepin Medical History Center, comprising the Hennepin Medical History Collection and the Metropolitan Medical Center History Collection, holds a significant collection of photographs, documents, and artifacts related to the history of several Hennepin County hospitals. The Hennepin Medical History Collection holds materials related to the Hennepin County Medical Center (est. 1976, now called Hennepin Healthcare) and the constituent hospitals that preceded it: Minneapolis City Hospital, Minneapolis General Hospital, and Hennepin County General Hospital. The Metropolitan Medical Center History Collection, meanwhile, preserves material related to the Metropolitan Medical Center (MMC) and the hospitals that merged to form it in 1970: St. Barnabas (including its St. Andrew's division) and the Swedish Hospital. The nursing schools of these hospitals are also represented.
- *Minnesota Reflections*, Minnesota Digital Library website – Photographs, documents
- Minnesota Historical Society – Photographs, documents, artifacts
- James K. Hosmer Special Collections, Minneapolis Central Library, Hennepin County Library – Photographs

ACQUISITION

The collection was assembled by the Alumnae Association and was almost certainly donated by the same organization in or around 2004, the date of the latest contents in the collection. Some provenance can be established through textual evidence in the Alumnae Association newsletters; for instance, the July 1, 1990 mailing mentioned that the volumes of Alumnae Association minutes, a scrapbook, and an album of class photographs were collected by Florence Peterson and presented to the Association in 1989.

Materials from other Minneapolis hospitals, of uncertain provenance, were also present in this collection, but have been separated out as they were unlikely to have been part of the original donation. Materials related to the St. Barnabas Hospital School of Nursing were relocated to their own small collection, B272.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1: Alumnae Association, 1922-2004

Series 1 contains St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Association meeting minutes, newsletters, and class lists/directories. It comprises a bound volume of meeting minutes, and a three-ring binder of minutes, and paper documents.

Box No.	Folder No.	
2		Two volumes of meeting minutes, 1922-1984
1	1	Newsletters, 1958-1969
1	2	Newsletters, 1970-1979
1	3	Newsletters, 1980-1984
1	4	Newsletters, 1985-1989
1	5	Newsletters, 1990-1994
1	6	Newsletters, 1995-1999
1	7	Newsletters, 2000-2004
1	8	Charitable Donations, 1978
1	9	Lists of Alumnae, 1991, undated

Series 2: Subject Files, A-Z, 1915-2004

Series 2 contains a range of materials concerning the St. Andrew's Hospital and its School of Nursing. These files appear to have been assembled by members of the School of Nursing Alumnae Association. Topics include clippings of news items on alumnae, clippings on the history of nursing, St. Andrew's Hospital, and the St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing, several loose photographs, a scrapbook of photographs of the graduating classes, and two scrapbooks with clippings and photographs. Also included are copies of newsletters from St. Barnabas Hospital that report updates on at St. Andrew's Hospital.

Box No.	Folder No.	
1	10	Biographical Clippings, Various Alumnae, 1940-2004
1	11	Biographical Clippings, Boor, Violet, 1992 and undated
1	12	Biographical Clippings, Carey, Sally, 1950 and undated
1	13	Biographical Clippings, Fuller, Matilda, 1989-2001
1	14	Biographical Clippings, Griebenow, Elaine, 1980 and undated
1	15	Biographical Clippings, Lehrer, Irene, 1998
1	16	Biographical Clippings, Malvin, Evelyn, 1944

1	17	Biographical Clippings, Sheridan, Emma Bartz, 1987, 1992
1	18	Capping and Commencement Programs, 1939-1946
1	19	History of St. Andrew's Hospital, 1928-1964
1	20	Nursing Education History, 1969, 1986, and undated
1	21	Photographs, 1918-2005 and undated
1	22	St. Barnabas Newsletters, 1957-1964
2	–	Photo album of graduating classes, 1915-1949
2	–	Two scrapbooks created by School of Nursing alumnae, undated

Series 3: Lillian [Enle] Thompson Collection, 1931-1992

Series 3 contains materials related to Lillian Thompson, née Lillian Enle. Thompson graduated from the St. Andrew's Hospital School of Nursing in 1934 and served as a nurse for several decades, passing away in 1992. This subseries includes Thompson's 1934 graduation diploma from St. Andrew's, Minnesota state nursing certification, a card requesting membership in the St. Andrew's School of Nursing Alumnae Association, photographs, and two scrapbooks and one photograph album created during Thompson's time as a nursing student.

Box No.	Folder No.	
3	1	Documents, 1934-1935 and undated
3	2	Photographs, 1932, 1986, undated
3	3	Scrapbook, c. 1932-1934; includes enclosed pamphlets from 1932, nursing license from 1984, memorial service card from 1992
3	4	Scrapbook, c. 1932-1934
3	5	Photo album, 1931-1934
OP 11	OP 11.23	Photograph of the St. Andrew's School of Nursing students, St. Andrew's nurses, and staff, 1932. <i>Oversized, stored in box</i>



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