

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

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

**Finding Aid To  
THE FRANK GLENN, MD (1901-1982) PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers:  
1928-1981**

**115 Linear Inches  
(11 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:  
The Archival Staff  
Undated**

## Provenance

These papers were presented to the Archives in September, 1981 by Dr. Glenn with some small additions coming after his death.

## Biographical Note

Frank Glenn was born on August 7, 1901 in Marissa, Illinois, the youngest of the six children of Charles and Minnie McMurdo Glenn. After attending local schools he entered Washington University, St. Louis, in 1920 and seven years later received his M.D. degree.

In 1927-1928 he was a medical intern at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, New York and the next year began a surgical residency at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston under the famous surgeon, Dr. Harvey Cushing. As the Gorham Peters Traveling Fellow for 1931-32 he worked in surgical research laboratories across Europe.

He came to the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center upon its opening in 1932 as first assistant resident surgeon under Dr. George Heuer. Upon completing his residency in 1935, Dr. Glenn began a private practice in New York City while also assisting Dr. William Andrus in the NYH-CMC Laboratories of Surgical Research.

In 1942 he joined the U.S. Army as surgical consultant to the Sixth Army in the Southwest Pacific. He later became consultant to the area and to the Sixth Army in the Forward Area where he was responsible for care of the wounded. Before being discharged in 1946 he attained the rank of Lt. Colonel and was awarded the Bronze Star.

Dr. Glenn was appointed in 1947 the first Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery at Cornell University Medical College and Surgeon-in-Chief of the New York Hospital, positions he held until his retirement in 1967. As both teacher and surgeon he continued his extensive research, writing six books and 407 articles. He was an internationally known expert on biliary tract surgery and cardiovascular disease and was a pioneer in the use of primates in medical research. He was one of the team of American physicians who performed an appendectomy on Shah Mohammed Riza Pahlevi of Iran in 1951.

Dr. Glenn maintained an active surgical practice until 1976. He was the recipient, in 1981, of the first Maurice R. Greenberg Distinguished Service Award.

He died on January 12, 1982 and was buried on the Glenn family farm. He married Esther Child in 1936 and had three children.

## Scope and Content

The bulk of the Glenn Papers consists of lectures and memorial statements delivered by Dr. Glenn mostly during the last decade of his life. The lectures are usually on non-technical medical topics such as medical education, history and ethics. Cassette recordings of some of these lectures are in the audio holdings of the Archives. The memorial statements, some of which date to the early 1960s, were written by Dr. Glenn to mark the passing of such NYH-CMC notables as Drs. Connie Guion, David Barr and Vincent Astor.

Another large segment of the collection is made up of patient files. These were kept by Dr. Glenn for their historical significance and represent a wide range of types of cardiovascular surgery. They date from c. 1950 to c. 1965.

The rest of the collection consists of correspondence (1 folder, 1935-1954), programs, notes by Glenn on graduate training in surgery, material relating to the joint meeting of the American College of Surgery and the Royal College of Surgeons in 1954, an oral history transcript (1972) and Dr. Glenn's military service records. Of special interest are two diaries kept by Dr. Glenn, one in 1932-1933 which tells of the early days of NYH-CMC and one kept by him during his trip to Iran in 1951.

## Non-Manuscript Material

Two boxes of photographs have been removed to the personal photo collections. One box of certificates is shelved with the rest of the papers as is a box of books written by Glenn.

## Restrictions

The patient files are restricted in accordance to the federal HIPPA, Privacy Rule.

## Subjects

Abortion	Reprints
Astor, Vincent	Speeches
Barr, David P.	Surgery
Cardiology	Third NYH
Certificates	Wartime Activity
Curriculum	Webster, Bruce
Cushing, Harvey	
DuBois, Eugene	
Guion, Connie	
Iran	
Medical Records	

## Container List

### Box 1

- f.1 Abortion Law, N.Y. State: Comments by R. Gordon Douglas, n.d.
- f.2 Adie, George S.: Memorial Statement by Glenn, 1977
- f.3 American College of Surgeons-Royal College of Surgeons: Joint Meeting in England, May, 1954
- f.4 American Surgical Association: Correspondence re election, 1942
- f.5 Astor, Vincent: Memorial statement by Dr. Glenn, 1962
- f.6 Barr, David P. : Memorial Statement by Dr. Glenn, 1977
- f.7 Charter Day, NYH: Correspondence, addresses, programs, 1948 -1952
- f.8 Connie Guion Building: Remarks by Dr. Glenn at Cornerstone Laying, 12/7/1959
- f.9 Cornell University Medical College: Letters of Appointment; letter announcing retirement, 1933 -1967
- f.10 Cornell University Medical College: excerpts from articles and books re its history
- f.11 Correspondence, 1935-1954
- f.12 Cushing Fellowship, NYH: Statement by Dr. Glenn; publicity, 1979
- f.13 Diary, September 1, 1932 - March 28, 1933
- f.14 Doctor Frank Glenn Surgical Intensive Care Unit Dedication Ceremony: Program, invitation, remarks by Glenn, 1973
- f.15 DuBois, Eugene F.: Memorial Statement by Dr. Glenn, 1959
- f.16 "Experimental Hypertension in an Auto-Transplanted Kidney" by P.L.S. c. 1940
- f.17 Farr, Charles E.: Memorial Statement by Dr. Glenn, 1972
- f.18 Graduate Training in Surgery: Notes, articles and correspondence on the subject by Dr. Glenn, 1945-1954
- f.19 Guion, Connie M.: Memorial Statement by Dr. Glenn, 1971
- f.20 Holman, Cranston W.: Remarks by Dr. Glenn at presentation of Honorary Alumni Award to Holman, 1978

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- f.1 Iran Trip: Diary, June 27 - July 10, 1951
- f.2 Iran Trip: News articles re Shah, 1951
- f.3 Lecture: "Aesculapius, Hippocrates & Jenner" 1979
- f.4 Lecture: "Biliary Tract Surgery ...," 1977
- f.5 Lecture: "Changing Challenges in Surgery," 1979
- f.6 Lecture: "Chief Residents in General Surgery and the Surgical Specialties: Current Location and Pursuits, NYH-CMC," 1979
- f.7 Lecture: "The Contributions of Radiologists to Surgery," 1978
- f.8 Lecture: "Criteria for Excellence Amongst the Medical Profession of U.S.," 1979

### Box 2 (continued)

- f.9 Lecture: "Current Training Programs and Future Opportunities for Surgeons in New York State," 1977
- f.10 Lecture: "The Development of the Surgical Specialties and Their Effect upon Surgery and Surgical Training at NYH-CMC," 1979
- f.11 Lecture: "First 2 Anglo-American Hospitals," 1978
- f.12 Lecture: "The Gallbladder .. .," 1979
- f.13 Lecture: "...Gallstones, A National Health Problem that Merits Research..." 1981
- f.13a Greenberg Distinguished Service Award, Acceptance Speech, July 30, 1981
- f.14 Lecture: "Historical Review of Infections in Surgery Since Pasteur (1857)" 1978
- f.15 Lecture: "The Impact of Increasing Specialists in Medical Practice," 1980
- f.16 Lecture: "The Impact of Abraham Flexner and Changing Trends in Medical Education, 1910 -1980," 1981
- f.17 Lecture: "Intestines," 1977
- f.18 Lecture: "Judgment, Technology and Operative Skills in Surgery," 1979
- f.19 Lecture: "L. A. Stimson, Eugene Pool and George Heuer," 1978
- f.20 Lecture: "Medical Ethics and Medical Education," 1979
- f.21 Lecture: "Modern Operating Rooms in a Teaching Medical Center Hospital and Their Role in Medical Education," 1981
- f.22 Lecture: "Noteworthy Events in Surgery of the Biliary Tract Since ... 1880," 1980
- f.23 Lecture: "Nurses, Doctors and the Increasing Demand for the Delivery of Medical Care," 1979

### Box 3

- f.1 Lecture: "Personal Observations of Ten Illustrious Surgeons I Have Known," 1978
- f.2 Lecture: "Presidents of the Board of Governors as Pilots of Progress ...," 1978
- f.3 Lecture: "Sequelae, Complications, Morbidity and Mortality of Calculous Biliary Tract Disease," 1980
- f.4 Lecture: "The Surgical Treatment of Peptic Ulcer in the U.S., 1900 -1977," 1977
- f.5 Lecture: "Teaching Medical Center Hospitals - A Beacon in the Field of Health," 1980
- f.6 Lecture: "Why Medical Practice Is Enhanced by Being Combined with Teaching and Research," 1979
- f.7 Medical and Surgical Register, Excerpt from (1818)
- f.8 Medical Board, NYH: Appointment Letter, 1947; Letter of Resignation, 1967

### Box 3 (continued)

- f.9 Medical License, N.Y. State, 1981-1982
- f.10 Memorial Service for Frank Glenn: Eulogies by T. Meikle, F. Moody, J. Beal, T. Shires, D. Thompson, February 13, 1982
- f.11 Military Service Records, 1941 -1948
- f.12 Moore, Samuel W.: Memorial Statement by Dr. Glenn
- f.13 Opening Day Address, CUMC, 1966
- f.14 Oral History Transcript, 1972
- f.15 Pan-American Medical Association: Membership form and Card, 1965
- f.16 Park, Benjamin S., Jr.: Memorial statement by Glenn, program, correspondence, etc. 1969 -1978
- f.17 Peter Bent Brigham Alumni, 1948; 1964
- f.18 Retirement Dinner, October 24, 1967: Programs, guest list, correspondence
- f.19 Saint Albans Naval Hospital: Appointment Papers, 1967 -1970
- f.20 Society of Clinical Surgery: Register of Meeting at NYH,1937
- f.21 Society of University Surgeons: Programs, Articles, 1939-1982
- f.22 Sparta High School, Class of 1920: Correspondence, 1970-1981
- f.23 Surgery in the Aged, ed. by Frank Glenn, et al: Book Reviews, 1961
- f.24 Surgical Training: Notes by Glenn on his own training
- f.25 U.S.A.F. School of Aerospace Medicine: Appointment as Consultant, 1963 -1965
- f.26 Wade, Preston A.: Tribute by Glenn, 1969
- f.27 Walter Reed Army Hospital: Appointment Papers, 1959-1972
- f.28 Washington University Medical School: Reunions, dinners, honors, 1952-1969
- f.29 Webster, Bruce, Estate of: Accounting of the Bank of New York and Frank Glenn as Executors, 1978
- f.30 Wilson, Philip Duncan: Memorial Statement by Glenn, 1969

### Box 4

Patient Records: Mitral Valvulotomy, A-K

### Box 5

Patient Records: Mitral Valvulotomy, L-T

Box 6

Patient Records: Mitral Valvulotomy, U-Z, Mitral Insufficiency  
Adrenalectomy  
Parathyroid  
Portal Caval Shunt  
Aneurysms of the Aorta  
Aneurysms of the Heart  
Anomalous draining pulmonary vein  
Aortic insufficiency

Box 7

Patient Records: Aortic Stenosis  
Arteriovenous fistulae  
Atrial septal defect  
Coarction of the aorta

Box 8

Patient Records: Patent ductus arteriosus Pericarditis - constrictive  
Pulmonic stenosis Cor triatriatum  
Heart block  
Tetralogy of Fallot  
Transposition of great vessels  
Tricuspid atresia  
Tricuspid stenosis  
Truncus arteriosus  
Tumors of the heart  
Vascular rings

Box 9

Patient Records: Ventricular septal defects  
Wounds of the heart  
Miscellaneous  
Non-operative cases

Box 10

Monographs and reprints, 1928 -1974

Box 11 Certificates

CUMC Alumni Assoc., Honorary Fellowship, May 21, 1973

Annals of Surgery Editorial Board, Certificate of Appreciation, April 27, 1978

Washington University, Committee of Five Hundred, Certificate of Membership, March 1969

American College of Surgeons, Fellowship, October 23, 1936

Buffalo Surgical Society, Honorary Fellowship, February 7, 1967

Seattle Surgical Society, Fellowship, February 7, 1953

Missouri State Surgical Society, Honorary Membership, n.d.

Los Angeles Surgical Society, Honorary Membership, 1966

Bay District Surgical Society of Los Angeles, Honorary Membership, November 12, 1951

Society of Graduate Surgeons of the Los Angeles County Hospital, Inc., Honorary Membership, March 4, 1955

Dallas Southern Clinical Society, Honorary Membership, 1967

Physician's License, State of Illinois, Sept. 4, 1928 &

Physician's License, State of New York, April 25, 1935 (both in same frame)

Medical Society of the County of New York, Membership, November 3, 1936

New York Academy of Medicine, Membership, January 2, 1936  
(Signed by Drs. Eugene Pool and Foster Kennedy)

Commission as Kentucky Colonel, November 13, 1968

Residency Certificate, New York Hospital, January 7, 1937

The Explorers Club, Membership, June 11, 1968

American Board of Surgery, Membership, May 23, 1942

Diploma, M.D., Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri,  
June 7, 1927



## Photographs

**Photographs removed to personal photographic collections. See photo catalog.**

Large Formal dinner, no date or place, 14" x 11"

Autographed photo of W.W.B. (no further identification) 1931

Operating Room scene with W.S. Halstead and others, 1904

Autographed photo of man with poodle; signed Vincent

Dr. Glenn in academic robes with other men in similar robes

Large group of men outside entrance to Vanderbilt University Medical School

Operating Room scene, 1930

Autographed photo, Lewis A. Connor

Autographed photo, George Heuer, 1935

Group portrait, Society of Clinical Surgery, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Rochester Minnesota, November 1953

American Board of Surgery, original members, January 9, 1937  
to May 1, 1941

Mrs. Harvey Cushing

Group portrait - Glenn and 3 other men, unidentified

Glenn with Joseph Hinsey, Henry Pratt and other man,

Unidentified Two photos, autographed, Dublin 1932

Glenn in academic robes leading procession