

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

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

**Finding Aid to the**

**THE RECORDS OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY-NEW YORK HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**Dates of Records:**

**1889-1981**

**27 Linear Inches**

**(6 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:**

**Steven Novak**

**September 1987**

## **Provenance**

The bulk of these records was accessioned by the Medical Archives in the spring, 1986 and July 1987 at the request of the Alumni Association. They had previously been stored in the Association's closet in the Medical Center's sub-basement and were in a good state of preservation. Other Alumni Association records, acquired by the Archives at an earlier, unspecified date and still unprocessed, were joined with the 1986-1987 accession to form this collection.

## **History**

The Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association was founded on September 26, 1893 by forty-eight graduates meeting at the New York Hospital on West 15th Street.

The objects of the Association as stated in its 1893 Constitution were: 1) the mutual benefit of its members; 2) their improvement in professional work; 3) the establishment of a Fund for Sick Nurses; 4) a systematic method of registration. The Association seems to have quickly established both the Fund for Sick Nurses and the Nurses' Registry. In February 1898, it established the Nurses' Club House, a residence for unmarried, female nurses, whether New York Hospital alumnae or not. After existing in various locations in Manhattan, the Club House was established in May 1918 at 317 West 45th Street where it remained until its closing in September, 1942 (the building still stands as Longacre House).

Although no longer providing shelter and sick relief to its members, the Association tries to keep alive the bond among graduates of the Nursing School through its Alumni News (founded 1907) and annual Alumni Days. It has always been a strong advocate of the nursing profession and nursing education through lobbying, fundraising, and student recruitment. With the closing of the Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing in 1979, the Alumni Association is the final repository of a grand nursing tradition dating from 1877.

Note: The Alumni Association was founded as the Alumnae Association of the Training School for Nurses of the New York Hospital and was incorporated under that name in 1900. In 1939, its title was changed to the Alumnae Association of the New York Hospital School of Nursing. Reflecting the School's 1942 affiliation with Cornell University, the Association was renamed the Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Association in 1945. It has retained this title to the present day (1987) with the exception that "Alumnae" was changed to "Alumni" in 1974 to recognize the male students who had graduated since 1970.

Sources: Alumni Association Papers, Annual Reports and Minutes.

## **Scope and Contents**

Although there are items in this collection that predate the establishment of the Alumni Association, the bulk of the papers date from the 1930s through the 1970s.

Much of the material illustrates the Association's role as a fundraiser for the School of Nursing, including the records of its Annual Giving Campaign (1968-1978), and of the various scholarships, it established.

These papers include much on the Alumni Days, reunions and anniversary celebrations the Association organized mostly those in the 1960s-1970s.

There is also a good deal of general (1936-1977) and president's correspondence (1931-1979); treasurer's reports (1934-1947; 1962-1981) and other financial information. Of particular interest is correspondence detailing the Alumnae's reaction to the Nursing Students' "Strike" of 1919 (it was actually only a request for additional time off) and a folder of student papers and reports from the 1920s.

Minutes and papers of the Membership Committee and a folder of Alumni Day programs were transferred to already existing records series.

Researchers should be sure to consult records related to this collection including the Nurses' Registry assignment records, c. 1898-1944 and other Alumni Association collections such as the Annual Reports, Alumni News, and minutes of the Annual Meetings and Board of Directors.

## Subjects

Accounts 4:1; 6:2-3, 5  
Alumni, Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing  
Anniversaries 2:13  
Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing,  
Fundraising Boxes 1-2; 3:5-6  
Moore, Sarah E. 4:5  
Nurses' Residence 4:11  
Pensions 4: 14  
Scholarships 3:9, 11; 5:11  
Stimson, Julia C. 4:17, 5:13  
Students, Nursing, School of 5:14-15  
Wartime Activities 3:8, 5:10  
Wolf, Anna D. 6:4

## Container List

### Box 1

Folder	Description
1	Administrative Assistant Job Description
2	Alumnae, Biographical Information
3	Alumnae Award, Correspondence, 1973
4	Alumnae Beds, Correspondence, 1932-1959
5	Alumni Day, Correspondence re 25th Reunion, Class of .1940, 1965
6	Alumni Day, Correspondence, Programs, etc., 1969.
7	Alumni Day, Correspondence, Programs, etc., 1970
8	Alumni Day, Correspondence, Programs. etc., 1971
9	Alumni Day, Correspondence, Programs, etc., 1972
10	Alumni Day, Correspondence, Programs, etc., 1975
11	Alumni Day, Correspondence re 35th Reunion, Class of 1940, 1975
12	Alumni News, Editor's Correspondence, 1970-1975
13	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1968-1969
14	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1969-1970
15	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1970-1971
16	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1971-1972
17	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1972-1973
18	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1973-1974
19	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1974-1975
20	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1975-1976

### Box 2

1	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1976-1977
2	Annual Giving, Brochures, Correspondence, Reports, 1977-1978
3	Annual Giving, Committee Reports, 1971-1974
4	Annual Giving, Correspondence, 1968-1978
5	Annual Giving, Correspondence, 1968-1975
6	Annual Giving, Correspondence, 1976-1979
7	Annual Giving, Job Description, Chairman, 1972
8	Annual Giving, Publicity and Background Information Gathered for Charles Dick, V.P. for Public Affairs, 1973
9	Annual Giving, Statistics, 1968-1978
10	Ballots, 1954-1957; 1961; 1968
11	Bank Books, 1937-1938
12	Bazaar, Flyers, Publicity, 1953-1955

- 13 Centennial Celebration, School of Nursing, Correspondence, Minutes, etc., 1976-1977
- 14 Center Alumni Council, 1969-1980
- 15 Closing, School of Nursing, Correspondence, Press Releases, 1977-1978
- 16 Cornell University Alumni Association, Correspondence, By-laws, etc. 1967-1973

**Box 3**

- 1 Correspondence, General, 1936-1939
- 2 Correspondence, General, 1940-1943
- 3 Correspondence, General, 1948-1965
- 4 Correspondence, General, 1966-1975; 1977
- 5 Endowment Fund, School of Nursing, Reports, Publications, 1962-1963
- 6 Fund for Sick Nurses, Correspondence, Audits, 1908-1971
- 7 Graduates, School of Nursing, 1878-1978
- 8 Honor Roll: Alumnae in Armed Forces in Spanish-American War, WWI and WWII
- 9 Irene Sutcliffe Scholarship Fund, Correspondence, 1937-1951
- 10 Irene Sutcliffe Scholarship Fund, Student Correspondence, 1939-1948 11  
Jordan Scholarship Fund, Correspondence, 1935; 1957

**Box 4**

**Folder**

**Description**

- 1 Ledger, 1968-1977
- 2 Lydia E. Anderson Library Fund, Correspondence, 1933-1956
- 3 Memorial Gifts, Deceased Alumni, 1969-1977
- 4 Metropolitan Area Alumnae Luncheon, Correspondence re Invitations, Arrangements, etc., 1962
- 5 Moore, Sarah E, Biographical Information, Mementos
- 6 Name Change, Correspondence, 1935-1945
- 7 Newsletter for Alumnae of the Classes of 1912-1929; July, 1981
- 8 Nominating Committee, Correspondence, 1966-1974
- 9 Nurse Practice Bill, Changes Proposed, 1937
- 10 Nurses' Associated Alumnae of U.S. and Canada, Constitution and By-laws, c. 1896
- 11 Nurses' Residence Fund, 1951-1952
- 12 Nursing, School of, Cornell University-New York Hospital, Historical Material, 1889-1938
- 13 Nursing Organization of New York Hospital, Committee on, Correspondence; Report on Nursing Problems 1931:
- 14 Pension Fund, Correspondence, mostly re its Dissolution, 1929-1935
- 15 Phonothon, 1974
- 16 Pins Recalled from Graduates
- 17 President's Correspondence, 1931; 1939-1940; 1953-1963

**Box 5**

**Folder**

**Description**

- 1 President's Correspondence, 1968-1972
- 2 President's Correspondence, 1973-1974
- 3 President's Correspondence, 1975-1979
- 4 Programs, Various Events, 1911-1947
- 5 Property Schedules, 1935-1947
- 6 Reunion, Correspondence, Bills, Programs, etc., 1922; 1937-1939
- 7 Reunion, 1940
- 8 Reunion, Correspondence, Bills, Programs, etc., 1941-1942
- 9 Reunion, Correspondence, Bills, Programs, etc. ., 1948
- 10 Roll of Honor Plaque, WWII, Correspondence, 1942-1945
- 11 Scholarship Accounts, 1933-1943
- 12 Signatory Agreements with Banks, 1936-1942

- 13 Stimson, Julia C., Correspondence, Speeches, Biographical Material, 1939-1945
- 14 Student Nurses' "Strike," Correspondence including Reaction of Alumnae, 1919-1920 (The student nurses had actually only asked for more time off.)
- 15 Student Papers and Reports, c. 1920s
- 16 Students, Letters to, 1966-1972

**Box 6**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Sudanese Project, Correspondence, Newsclippings re: Assistance to a Sudanese Nursing School, 1959-1960
2	Treasurer's Correspondence, 1934-1947
3	Treasurer's Correspondence, 1962-1981
4	Wolf, Anna D., Correspondence re her Resignation as Dean, 1940
5	Check Register, 1936-1940