Research Guide

Medicine and Healthcare
Introduction

The study of medicine has been an integral part of King’s College London since its opening in 1831. Nine years later the College founded King’s College Hospital, which opened to patients in 1840.

This, and mergers in 1998 with the medical schools of two of the world’s oldest hospitals, St Thomas’ (founded before 1170) and Guy’s (founded 1725), means that the Archives and Special Collections at King’s College London now hold outstanding collections of material documenting the history, study and practice of medicine and associated healthcare disciplines and professions.

New collections are being added and catalogued all the time: see http://www.kcl.ac.uk/archivespec for catalogues, research guides, image galleries and information on new accessions.

2010
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Locations and opening hours

The **Foyle Special Collections Library**, housing printed books, is located at the Maughan Library on Chancery Lane: **Mon–Fri 9.30–5.00**.

The **College Archives** and the **Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives** can be consulted in the Michael Howard Archives Reading Room, Room 302, 3rd Floor, Strand Building, King’s College London: **Mon–Fri 9.30–5.30**.

This guide has been compiled by staff of the Archives and Special Collections, ISS, King’s College London, and Dr Clare Barlow, thanks to funding from the Wellcome Trust Research Resources in Medical History.

Access

Holdings in Archives and Special Collections are accessed by placing orders with staff, who retrieve items from store.

**Archives**: administrative papers are normally made open for readers 30 years after the last date of the file. Personal papers, including student records, are opened after 80 years. Medical records for identifiable individuals are closed for 100 years.

**Special Collections**: all Special Collections’ holdings are available for consultation.

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*Surgical amputation*, from: Gerard van Swieten. *Commentaries upon the aphorisms of Dr. Herman Boerhaave*, Vol. 4. London: printed for John and Paul Knapton, 1754 [St Thomas’ Historical Collection: R128.7 SW1]
## Chronology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c 1173</td>
<td>The infirmary of the Priory of St Mary Ouerie, Southwark, renamed St Thomas', after the newly canonised St Thomas Becket</td>
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<tr>
<td>1693-1709</td>
<td>St Thomas' Hospital rebuilt and formal regulations laid down for the education of medical students</td>
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<tr>
<td>1726</td>
<td>Guy’s Hospital opened, in the grounds of St Thomas’ in Southwark</td>
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<td>1825</td>
<td>Guy’s Hospital Medical School opened</td>
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<td>1831</td>
<td>King’s College London opened, on the Strand</td>
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<td>1840</td>
<td>King’s College Hospital opened, in a former workhouse, Portugal St, near the Strand</td>
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<td>1856</td>
<td>Nurses’ school St John’s House took over the management and training of King’s College Hospital nursing, creating the first professional nursing service</td>
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<td>1871</td>
<td>St Thomas’ Hospital moved to its present site on the south bank of the Thames, opposite the Houses of Parliament</td>
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<td>1885</td>
<td>King’s College Hospital School of Nursing opened</td>
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<td>1889</td>
<td>Guy’s Hospital Dental School opened</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>King’s College London incorporated into the University of London. King’s College Hospital became a separate legal entity</td>
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<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>King’s College Hospital moved to its present site, Denmark Hill, south London</td>
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<td>1922</td>
<td>Chelsea College opened a School of Pharmacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>King’s College Hospital Dental School and Dental Hospital opened</td>
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<td>1940-1941</td>
<td>Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospitals badly damaged in the Blitz, World War Two</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>National Health Service (NHS) established: St Thomas’, Guy’s and King’s College Hospital Medical Schools became separate legal bodies from their parent hospitals. King’s College Hospital, Belgrave Hospital for Children, Dulwich Hospital, St Giles Hospital and St Francis Hospital formed King’s College Hospital Group</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>Guy’s and St Thomas’ Medical Schools reunited as the United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospitals (UMDS)</td>
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<td>1985</td>
<td>King’s College London, Chelsea College and Queen Elizabeth College merged</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Trust</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Institute of Psychiatry, at the Maudsley Hospital, became a school of King’s College London</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>UMDS merged with King’s College London, creating the Guy’s, King’s and St Thomas’ Schools of Medicine</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>King’s College London, King’s College Hospital and the Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust joined with the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trusts as King’s Health Partners, one of five Academic Health Sciences Centres (AHSCs) in the UK</td>
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1. St Thomas’ Hospital Medical School

Special Collections

The St Thomas’ Historical Collection is particularly strong in the medical specialisms of St Thomas’ until the 1830s. Many notable historical figures contributed: Richard Mead (1673-1754), court physician and philanthropist, donated books from his important collection and his example was followed by the surgeons John Flint South (1797-1882) and Joseph Henry Green (1791-1863). The library also acquired the collections of the anatomy schools run by Joshua Brookes (1761-1833) and Richard Grainger (1801-1865), which closed in 1833 and 1842, respectively. These two unique collections are preserved intact within the St Thomas’ Collection and provide an invaluable record of medical education before university medical facilities came into existence in London. The subsequent donation in 1901 of many of the books of Sir John Simon (1816-1904), surgeon, pathologist and public health officer (see also Public Health), broadened the collection.

The collections include early editions of Vesalius and Gautier d’Agoty (see also Anatomy and Surgery). There are also items which were presented by Florence Nightingale (see also Nursing) as well as works belonging to prominent physicians such as Charles Murchison (1830-1879) and John Syer Bristowe (1827-1895). The original shelfmarks of St Thomas’ Historical Collection are preserved in the volumes.

Some eighteenth and nineteenth century intellectual friendships and networks are represented by the provenances of books in the collection, notably the circle of surgeon Sir Astley Paston Cooper (1768-1841) which included anatomist John Hunter (1728-1793) and Henry Cline (1750-1827). Cline, a surgeon at St Thomas’, was a pupil of John Hunter and taught Sir Astley Cooper (see also Anatomy and Surgery).

College Archives

The Archives’ records of students at St Thomas’ begin in 1723 and run until 1997. Administrative records start with minutes of meetings of St Thomas’ Hospital Medical and Surgical School, 1836-1845, and cover the management changes of the mid nineteenth century: the Hospital Governors took control of the running of the Medical School in 1842 and appointed a governing committee and the first Dean, eventually transferring control to the teaching staff in 1860. The School’s activities thereafter are covered by many series of minutes of committees, including Medical and Surgical Staff Officers, 1864-1901, Surgeons’ Meetings, 1867-1924, and the School Council, 1913-1921. The files of individual Deans and Secretaries of the Medical School, 1929-1946, cover subjects including arrangements, 1939-1940, for the wartime evacuation of students to Oxford, students undertaking relief work in the Netherlands, Mar-Apr 1945, and the evacuation of Bergen-Belsen displaced persons camp, Germany, 1945-1946.

The Archives also hold lectures and case notes from some of St Thomas’ famous teachers, including George Fordyce, physician (1736-1802) (see also Clinical medicine), Henry Cline, surgeon (1750-1827) (see also Anatomy and surgery, and Public health) and Sir Astley Paston Cooper (see also Anatomy and Surgery).
2. Guy’s Hospital Medical School

Special Collections

The library collection of London’s first medical society, Guy’s Hospital Physical Society, has been preserved virtually intact, with its shelfmarks and accession register. The collections of no equivalent society have survived for this period and, together with the collections from the anatomy schools of Joshua Brookes and Richard Grainger in the St Thomas’ Historical Collection, it provides unique insights into the reading of medical students, 1770-1830. Among the most important papers which were presented to the Society was Edward Jenner’s paper on vaccination, 1802. The Physical Society’s library covers the full range of medical texts as well as containing some more unexpected items such as the first edition of Thomas Beddoes’ Hygieia: or, Essays Moral and Medical (1802) and a copy of Thomas De Quincey’s Confessions of an English Opium-Eater (1823), which is bound together with a work on childbirth.

College Archives

The Archives hold extensive patient records for Guy’s Hospital, 1809-1972 (105 volumes), notably: admission registers for female patients, 1809-1816 and 1824-1833; clinical reports on male and female patients, 1823-1847; indexes of surgical cases, 1865-1889; house surgeon’s diaries, 1883-1904, with weekly summaries of surgical admissions, including treatments and outcomes. Guy’s student records in the Archives, 1755-1997, include a register of pupils and dressers (students who were appointed as surgeon’s assistants) attending both Guy’s and St Thomas’, 1755-1823, and entry records for Guy’s students from 1778 onwards. Administrative records for the Medical School include Dean’s papers, chiefly 1871-1895, and reports of committees and sub-committees, 1873-1892.

The papers of Guy’s Hospital Physical Society, 1775-1851, include minutes of its weekly meetings and the papers which were presented to the society on a variety of topics, including smallpox, death by hanging and diabetes. Unusually, physicians, surgeons and apothecaries were all permitted to participate in the Society.

A patient being evacuated from Guy’s Hospital after severe bomb damage, July 1941 [G/PH44/2]
3. King’s College Hospital and Medical School

Special Collections

The Library holds the historical medical collection of King’s College London School of Medicine and Dentistry. Notable works include the manuscript, *An Hospitall for the Diseased*, gathered by ‘T.C.’, a copy of a rare medical treatise purportedly written by Thomas Cartwright (1535-1603). A working document, it contains additional medical notes and observations, and is apparently a copy of the 1598 edition.

The collection also incorporates c 200 volumes donated by the widow of Robert Bentley Todd (1809-1860), the physician who was instrumental in founding King’s College Hospital (see also Clinical Medicine). It ranges from the early seventeenth century to the mid nineteenth century, the earliest being *Anonymi philosophi antiquiss, isagoge anatomica* (1616) by Peter Lauremberg. Other seventeenth century works include Fortunio Liceti’s *De monstris* (1665). Todd’s interests in anatomy and physiology are represented in Sir Astley Cooper’s *The Anatomy of the Thymus Gland* (1832), personally annotated by Cooper, and *The Anatomy and Physiology of the Human Body* (1829) by John and Charles Bell. The Library also holds books owned by Sir Joseph Lister (1827-1912), Professor of Clinical Surgery, King’s College London, 1877-1892 (see also Anatomy and Surgery).

Archives

The administrative records of King’s College Hospital, 1839-1975 (210 boxes), include complete minutes for the Board of Governors’ annual meetings, and the minutes of many committees and sub-committees. The patient records, 1840-1959 (1470 volumes), include detailed case notes, 1840-1928, and further index cards to cases, diseases and post mortems, with extensive information on the backgrounds of patients, as well as diagnoses and outcomes. Records for medical students are among the main King’s College London student records, and include entrance papers, 1831-1935, slip-books, 1918-1968, and Registry student records, 1937-1996.

The Archives also hold the papers of the Medical and Scientific Society of King’s College London (1833-1967), one of the earliest student societies in England. These include minutes of meetings, texts delivered, and from the 1920s and 1930s, records of medico-legal mock trials.

*King’s College Hospital Casualty Ward, 1914 [KH/PH1/2/9]*
4. Anatomy and Surgery

Special Collections

The personal library of **Sir Joseph Lister** (1827-1912), pioneer of antiseptic surgery, notably includes *Researches in Pathological Anatomy and Clinical Surgery* (1856) by **Joseph Sampson Gamgee** (inventor of cotton wool) and *The Science and Art of Surgery* (1869) by **John Eric Erichsen**. The Library also holds Lister’s *Collected Papers* (1909), edited by his brother-in-law, surgeon **Sir Rickman John Godlee** (1849-1945), and inscribed by him to the anaesthetist **Sir Frederick William Hewitt** (1857-1916), who pioneered the use of oxygen with nitrous oxide.

The library of Guy’s Hospital contains a number of works which belonged to the surgeon and anatomist **Sir Astley Paston Cooper**, many of them inscribed. As Cooper’s papers were largely destroyed, his library is a valuable resource for tracing his interests and connections with other leading medical figures of the day, such as his teacher, **Henry Cline** (1750-1827), and **Edward Jenner** (1749-1823) (see also Public Health). Other works in the collection are inscribed by Cooper, including one of the copies of Cooper’s *Plates of the Anatomy of the Breast* (1840).

Works on anaesthetics in the collection include a copy of **John Snow’s** influential *On Chloroform and other Anaesthetics: their action and administration* (1858), which contains a letter by John Snow’s brother thanking the St Thomas’ physician **Charles Murchison** (1830-1879), who attended Snow during his final illness (see also Public Health).

Special Collections holds first editions of *De humani corporis fabrica* (1543) by **Andreas Vesalius** (1514-1564): one of the most important works in the history of medicine, as the beginning of a scientific approach to anatomy based on direct observation, with highly detailed and accurate illustrations. There is also a first edition of another key work, **Henry Gray’s Anatomy Descriptive and Surgical** (1858), continuously in print for nearly 150 years. The Anatomie de la tête en tableaux imprimés (1753) by **Jacques Fabian Gautier d’Agoty** is famous for the quality of its outstanding mezzotint illustrations.

Other significant works include a first edition of Giovanni da Vigo’s *Practica in chirurgia* (1514) and Lorenz Heister’s *Institutiones chirurgicae* (1739). The latter is the first comprehensive surgical manual of the modern era. This copy also hid a letter, only recently discovered, from the Jacobite **John Hay**, titular Earl of Inverness, to Dr Robin Wright, physician to Prince James Francis Edward Stuart (the ‘Old Pretender’), thanking Wright for news of the Prince’s health.


**College Archives**

The earliest case notes in the Archives, in the papers of St Thomas’ medical student Charles Oxley, cover surgical cases, 1725-1726. Guy’s
Hospital surgical case notes run from 1823 to 1982 (36 volumes). The extensive case notes of King’s College Hospital, 1840-1959 (1470 volumes), are arranged by individual surgeons, who include Sir William Fergusson (1808-1877), Sir Joseph Lister (1827-1912), John Wood (1825-1893), Henry Smith (1823-1894) and William Rose (1847-1910).

Other case notes include a volume compiled by Frederick Le Gros Clark (1811-1892), on cases at St Thomas’ and Guy’s Hospitals, 1828-1830, including cases under Joseph Henry Green (1791-1863), Benjamin Travers (1783-1858), Frederick Tyrell (1793-1843), Charles Aston Key (1798-1849) and Bransby Blake Cooper (1792-1853).

Eminent surgeons whose teachings are preserved in the Archives include: Henry Cline (1750-1827): students’ notes on his lectures on anatomy, physiology and surgery, 1790; Sir Astley Paston Cooper (1768-1841): notes on his surgical lectures, c 1820, including descriptions of his innovative procedure for tying off abdominal aorta (aortic ligation) in cases of aneurism; Sir William Fergusson (1808-1877): lectures on the principles and practice of surgery, 1851; John Hunter (1728-1793): lectures, 1777, on ‘The true principles of surgery’, notes on his course of anatomical and chirurgical lectures, 1780, and notes on his surgical lectures, 1786; Joseph Lister, 1st Baron Lister (1827-1912): notes taken by student William Watson Cheyne on his lectures in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, 1872-1873, on topics including the diagnosis and treatment of testicular swelling, spina bifida, varicose ulcers, the germ theory of putrefaction and the dangers of chloroform as an anaesthetic.

The Archives also hold Cline’s notebooks, 1777-1824, on pathological conditions and contemporary surgical practice, with individual case histories, and an account of the treatment and subsequent autopsy of politician Charles James Fox (1749-1806), detailing how Cline ‘tapped him about seven weeks before his death & drew off 32 pints of water’. Lister, a major celebrity in his day, is additionally represented in extensive photographs, which also cover his colleagues, operating theatres, and innovative equipment.

The records of the Medical Society of St Thomas’ Hospital, 1841-1992, later renamed the Medical and Physical Society, include prize papers on surgical topics including: Frederick Edgar Cockell on anaesthetics, 1873; Charles William Chaldecott on gangrene, 1851; John White Keyworth on phosphorus necrosis of the jaw (‘phossy jaw’) in match factory workers (1850).
5. Clinical Medicine

Special Collections

The King’s College School of Medicine and Dentistry collection includes 200 volumes from the personal library of Robert Bentley Todd (1809-1860), founder of King’s College Hospital and keen reformer of patient care, who promoted food and stimulants instead of traditional purging and bleeding. He collected historical writings on clinical subjects, including De gangraena et sphacelo, tractatus methodicus (1617) by Wilhelm Fabricius Hildanus, and An essay on regimen (1740), by the pioneering vegetarian George Cheyne. Todd’s personal copies of his own works, The Cyclopaedia of Anatomy and Physiology (1835-1852) and The Descriptive and Physiological Anatomy of the Brain, Spinal Cord, and Ganglions (1845), are also in the collection.

The Library also has substantial holdings of journals and hospital reports relating to clinical medicine. The earliest medical journal held is Thomae Bartholini Acta medica & philosophica Hafniensia (1673-1680).

College Archives

The Archives hold extensive clinical case notes from Guy’s Hospital, 1823-1847 (68 volumes), and from King’s College Hospital, 1828-1959 (770 volumes), covering a wide range of specialisms, injuries and diseases. They typically record name, age and address of patient, admission and discharge dates, diagnosis and outcome. The KCH collection includes cases treated by Robert Bentley Todd (case notes 1840-1859), Sir George Johnson (case notes 1860-1895) and obstetric physician William Smoult Playfair (case notes 1873-1892). There are also case notes, 1904-1948, from Belgrave Hospital for Children, which became part of the King’s College Hospital Group in 1948.

The Archives hold clinical records for Guy’s Hospital Medical College, 1823-1984, and the records of Guy’s Clinical Reporting Society, 1836-1874. This society was established under the influence of Thomas Addison (1795-1860) and Thomas Hodgkin (1798-1866), ‘to preserve and disseminate useful information collected by pupils from the Hospital’. At weekly Society meetings students gave detailed reports on selected cases.

The personal papers of individual physicians and students within the three medical school collections of St Thomas’, Guy’s and King’s College Hospital include notes on clinical lectures from the late eighteenth century to the mid twentieth century, on topics including the treatment of gout, arthritis, diseases of the eye, measles and whooping cough, and in a series of lectures at St Thomas’, 1938-1943, the treatment of chemical burns and preparation for gas attack. Prominent lecturers include: physician and chemist William Cullen (1710-1790), Robert Whytt (1714-1766), George Fordyce (1736-1802), Marshall Hall (1790-1857), physician, mesmerist and phrenologist John Elliotson (1791-1868), Robert Bentley Todd (1809-1860) and Sir William Withey Gull (1816-1890).

The King’s College Hospital Thrombosis Research Unit was set up in 1965 to study thrombosis in patients following surgery, and expanded twenty years later to become the first Thrombosis Research Institute in Europe. The Archives’ papers on the Unit, 1972-1996, include reports, research papers and related correspondence.

Robert Bentley Todd (1809-1860), clinical reformer and founder of King’s College Hospital [K/PH2/2/48]
6. Dentistry

Special Collections

The Library holds works that reflect dentistry’s gradual emergence as a distinct medical discipline, including Joseph Hurlock’s *A practical treatise upon dentition, or, the breeding of teeth in children*, 1742, Sir John Tomes’ *A course of lectures on dental physiology and surgery* (1848) and John Hunter’s hugely influential *The Natural History of the Human Teeth: explaining their structure, use, formation, growth, and diseases* (1771) and *A Practical Treatise on the Diseases of the Teeth: intended as a supplement to the natural history of those parts* (1778). Hunter not only coined the terms bicuspids, cuspids, incisors and molars, but revolutionised the practice of dentistry.

College Archives

The Guy’s Hospital collection includes records of Dental School students, 1889-1982, minute books of Guy’s Dental Society, 1894-1955, and Dental School prospectuses, 1899-1981. The papers, 1982-1998, of the United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy’s and St Thomas’ Hospitals (UMDS) include student records, administrative records, committee minutes, financial records and photographs of student groups. Records for King’s College Dental School students, 1923-1996, are within the main KCL student records.

Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives

Records on military dentistry in the Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives include notes by Captain Derek Leslie Goodridge, RN (d 1983) on his service as Dental Officer, battleship HMS MALAYA, in the Indian Ocean, Atlantic and Mediterranean (1940-1941).
7. Law, Ethics and Terminal Care

College Archives

The Archives hold the papers of the Living Wills Project, 1985-1992, run by the Centre of Medical Law and Ethics (the first such centre in the UK), in the School of Law, King’s College London. These include reports, questionnaires, meeting papers, correspondence and related papers concerning the measurement and evaluation of demand for advanced legal directives and power of attorney concerning the treatment of terminally or chronically ill patients.

The records, 1986-1989, of the Institute of Gerontology, in King’s College London School of Social Science and Public Policy, include meeting papers, correspondence, research proposals and coursework on subjects including geriatric medical care, poverty and the elderly, and the impact of an ageing population.

While many sections of these papers are closed at present (for 100 years in the case of medical records, 80 years for other personal data, and 30 years for administrative material), access may be given for the purpose of approved medical research, provided that identifying personal data is not recorded.

The Archives hold the extensive papers, 1934-2002 (118 boxes), of Dame Cicely Saunders (1918-2005), founder of the hospice movement, which established the importance of palliative care in modern medicine. The collection includes diaries, correspondence, articles and lecture notes on subjects including pain control, ageing, bereavement, grief, the role of religion in end of life care, and the growth of the hospice movement worldwide. The collection also contains her personal library of works on medical, ethical and spiritual approaches to preparation for death.

Dame Cicely Saunders, founder of the hospice movement [Saunders Box 3]
8. Midwifery and Obstetrics

Special Collections

The Library holds some important works on midwifery, including a scarce copy of the large and beautifully illustrated *The Anatomy of the Human Gravid Uterus Exhibited in Figures* (1774) by William Hunter (1718-1783), accoucheur to Queen Charlotte. William Smellie’s *A Treatise on the Practice and Theory of Midwifery* (1779), George Jewel’s *The London Practice of Midwifery: Including the Most Important Diseases of Women and Children* (1833) and Jewel’s *Practical Observations on Leuchorrhoea with Cases Illustrative of a New Mode of Treatment* (1830). From outside the medical establishment, herbalist Albert Isaiah Coffin’s *Treatise on Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children* (1878) is an attack on orthodox medical practice, promoting instead ‘the greatest midwife in the world, lobelia and raspberry-leaf tea’.

The library’s copy of *Introductory Notes on Lying-in Institutions, Together with a Proposal for Organising an Institution for Training Midwives and Midwifery Nurses* (1871) by Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) is inscribed by the author to Sir William MacCormac (1836-1901), one of the earliest advocates of Listerian antiseptic surgery.

College Archives

The King’s College Hospital collection includes case notes, 1870-1874, of William Overend Priestley (1829-1900), Professor of Midwifery, and case notes and other papers, 1873-1892, of William Smoult Playfair (1835-1903), Professor of Obstetric Medicine and the Diseases of Women and Children. Lecture notes taken by St Thomas’ students include notes on midwifery from 1762, 1782 and 1852. Guy’s student Daniel Jarvis (fl 1786-1800) compiled two volumes of notes on the midwifery lectures, 1786-1790, of William Lowder (d 1801); subsequent Guy’s lectures on midwifery that survive in note form are from 1820, 1839-1840, and 1864.

Student nurse records in Archives also include information relating to midwifery training (see also Nursing).

9. Military Medicine and Medicine Overseas

Special Collections

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) Historical Collection includes extensive material on the practice of medicine around the world. It has rare material on public health and quarantine, such as Report by the Central Board of Health for Jamaica (1852) and Charles Johnston’s Observations on Health and Disease, and the Physical Economy of Human Life (1860). The medicinal properties and commercial potential of plants around the world is covered by books like Daniel Morris’ Hints and Suggestions for Raising Cinchona Plants from Seed and Establishing Cinchona Plantations (c1880) – cinchona bark is a source of the anti-malarial treatment quinine. There are also pamphlets and reports relating to the running of medical institutions, including the Fourth Report of the Medical Superintendent of Yaws Hospitals (1880) – compulsory isolation centres for sufferers of this contagious tropical disease of the skin, bone and joints, on the Caribbean island of Dominica.

The Library also holds other relevant works, such as the collection of William Marsden (1754-1836). Marsden worked for the East India Company and became expert in Asian languages. He collected volumes of voyages and travels, many of which contain information about medicine.

The Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives

The Centre holds many collections relating to military medicine around the world since the late nineteenth century, chiefly in the personal papers of senior British defence personnel. These include Captain Ralph Coventon’s memoir of service as a volunteer stretcher bearer in the Second Boer War, South Africa, 1899-1900, and Colonel Stevenson Lyle Cummins’ account of his service in Egypt and the Sudan, 1899-1904, including the treatment of wounds and cases of typhoid, diarrhoea, malaria, fevers, dehydration and scorpion stings. Cummins’ papers also cover his service as...
Deputy Assistant Director General, Medical Services, for the British Expeditionary Force, Western Front, January-December 1915, with reports and correspondence on topics including the treatment of cerebrospinal meningitis, preventatives for trench foot, anti gas precautions, and the evacuation of casualties. The papers of Major General Charles Howard Foulkes (1875-1969), Gas Adviser, Western Front, 1915-1917, and Director of Gas Services, 1917-1918, include extensive reports, notes and correspondence on the use of gas on the Western Front.

The provision of medical services at Gallipoli, 1915, was one of the topics examined by the Dardanelles Commission, set up to investigate the reasons for the failure of the campaign. The papers of General Sir Ian Hamilton (1853-1947), General Officer Commanding the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force at Gallipoli, include extensive correspondence with and copy evidence statements by witnesses to the Commission, including Surgeon General William George Birrell, the former Director of Medical Services of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. Hamilton's papers also include an extensive collection of official photographs from the Gallipoli campaign, with images of Allied and Turkish casualties and medical treatment of the wounded.

Papers on frontline medical services during World War Two include: the diary of Surgeon Captain Basil Roxby Alderson, RN (1909-1980), HMS Kelly, 1939-1940, including casualty reports after a Germany torpedo attack, May 1940; the papers of Colonel Thomas Henry Wilson (1904-1999), concerning his service as Head of the Surgical Division, 21st General Hospital, British Expeditionary Force, France, Feb-May 1940, and as Senior British Medical Officer at Prisoner of War camps; Brigadier Sir Ralph Marnham’s account of his service as Officer in Charge of Surgical Divisions, No 62 General Hospital, Tobruk, Libya, 1941-1942 (where he devised the "Tobruk plaster" method of supporting broken bones); the diary, Jul 1944-June 1945, of Professor Francis Alan Roland Stammers (1898-1982), covering his service as Consulting Surgeon, 8 Army, Italy; the diary, Sep-Oct 1944, of Colonel Graeme Matthew Warrack (1913-1985), Assistant Director of Medical Services, 1 Airborne Division, the Netherlands, 1944, and his later book, Travel by Dark: After Arnhem (1963), detailing his daring escape from his German-held military hospital after the British defeat at the Battle of Arnhem.

The Centre’s collections also cover medical administration and military involvement in the provision of medical services to civilian populations as well as service personnel. Major General Sir Cuthbert Allan Sprawson’s (1877-1956) typescript memoir entitled ‘37 years in the IMS [Indian Medical Service]’ (1938) describes the treatment of tuberculosis in India, 1910-1937 and his service in Waziristan, North West Frontier, India, 1901-1902. The papers of Surgeon Captain Eamon Joseph Mockler, RN (1902-1983) include typescript texts by Mockler and others on malaria and its treatment, 1943-1946, and his official annual reports as Naval Medical Officer of Health, Hong Kong, 1951-1952. The papers, 1938-1971, of Colonel William Melville McCutcheon (1911-1983) include lectures on tropical medicine, entomology, public health, malaria and encephalitis, 1935-1966, and a report on flood relief operations, Vientiane, Laos, Sep 1966.

In addition to the personal papers of senior British officers, the Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives holds a number of television documentary research collections. These include interview transcripts and background material gathered for a 1993 Yorkshire Television documentary Bad Trip to Edgewood, which examined secret projects carried out by the US Army Chemical Corps at the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Edgewood, Maryland USA, between 1955 and 1975, in which US Army volunteers were used to test the effects of lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), benzilates such as BZ (3-quinuclidinyl benzilate, also known as QNB) and glycolates. Similar experimentation in the UK is the subject of the papers compiled by Rob Evans (b 1964) for his book, Gassed: British chemical warfare experiments on humans at Porton Down (2000).
10. Nursing

Special Collections

The Library holds volumes with inscriptions by the world’s most famous nurse, Florence Nightingale (1820-1910). After her return from the Crimean War, she campaigned tirelessly to establish nursing as a well-organised, respectable occupation for women. The collection holds copies of Nightingale’s 1860 Notes on Nursing (with another copy in Archives), and a copy of Nightingale’s Notes on Hospitals (1859) presented by the author to Richard Gullet Whitfield, Apothecary at St Thomas’, 1833-1871. There is also a copy of Nightingale’s A Contribution to the Sanitary History of the British Army (1859), one of the rarest of her works, which was printed for private circulation.

College Archives

The Archives hold significant collections from the early decades of nursing as an organised profession: an important resource on the history of nursing, the changing role of women in society, and the professionalisation of medical care.

A file from the King’s College Hospital Secretary’s papers, 1856-1883, includes reports and other material on arrangements between the Hospital and the country’s first training school for nurses, St John’s House, for the provision of nursing – an arrangement that created a completely new professional service that was an influential model for reforms in other hospitals.

The Royal British Nurses’ Association (RBNA) was the first professional organisation for nurses, established in 1887 in the face of much...
opposition from the medical establishment, including Florence Nightingale. The Association’s collection, 1887-1996, in the Archives includes detailed administrative records, committee papers, correspondence and photographs. Of particular note are: letters, 1887-1888, on the founding of the Association, received by the Association’s co-founder Ethel Bedford Fenwick (1857-1947), former Matron of St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London; papers on the Association’s application for a Royal Charter, 1891-1893, and on the introduction of Nurse Registration Bills, 1908-1910; correspondence and meeting papers relating to the International Council of Nurses (ICN), 1900-1937.

Part of the RBNA collection, the papers, 1926-1955, of the British College of Nurses (also founded by Ethel Bedford Fenwick) include minutes, correspondence, press cuttings and papers on individual nurses, such as Mildred Heather-Bigg (1857-1928) and Catherine Wood (1841-1930). Also within the RBNA collection are letters, 1871-1875, between Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) and sanitary engineer William Clark, on sanitary reform in India.

King’s College Hospital Nurses’ League was formed by ex-KCH nurses in 1924, to keep past and present colleagues in touch and promote the profession. The Archives holds its papers, 1861-2004, which include: Nursing Committee minutes, 1892-1967; reports and other papers relating to legislative changes concerning nursing, 1936-1979; papers, 1930-1990, on the history of nursing, including personal reminiscences; photographs, 1866-1980, and personal papers of KCH nurses. These last notably include: Emma Durham (1848-1936): letters and diaries relating to her nursing of ex-slaves in Zanzibar, 1875-1877, and wounded British soldiers in the Zulu War, South Africa, 1879, and Egypt, 1885; Julia Ashbourne Herbert (1881-1961): correspondence and press cuttings, 1914-1919, relating to the Western Front, World War One, and her Military Medal, 1917; Mary Jones (1813-1887), Superintendent of St John’s House, 1853-1868, and Sister-in-charge, King’s College Hospital, 1856-1868: correspondence with Florence Nightingale, 1861-1868 – St John’s House nurses were in the first contingent with Nightingale to the Crimean, in 1854.

Registers of nurses and student nurses, and some related records, have survived for many institutions represented in the Archives, most notably: Belgrave Hospital for Children (joined King’s College Hospital Group, 1948): registers of student nurses, 1903-1950.

Guy’s Hospital School of Nursing (merged with Lewisham Hospital School of Nursing, 1965, to form the Thomas Guy and Lewisham School of Nursing, which merged in 1991 with the Nightingale School of Nursing to form the Nightingale and Guy’s College of Nursing and Midwifery): register, 1949-1972.

King’s College Hospital School of Nursing (renamed Normanby College, 1974): registers, 1885-1967; Nursing Committee papers, 1892-1921 and 1938-1967.

Lewisham Hospital School of Nursing (see Guy’s Hospital School of Nursing, above): exam results, 1897-1971; probationers’ registers, 1912-1931 and 1943-1958; training records, 1947-1950 and 1958-1970.

Nightingale and Guy’s College of Nursing and Midwifery (see Guy’s Hospital, above): student nurse records and administration files, 1991-1993.

Nightingale School of Nursing, St Thomas’ Hospital (see Guy’s Hospital, above): student records, 1950-1980.

St Giles Hospital (originally Camberwell Workhouse Infirmary, joined King’s College Teaching Hospital Group 1966): registers, 1944-1966.

St Saviour’s Union Infirmary (renamed Dulwich Hospital, 1931; joined King’s College Hospital Group, 1948): register of senior nursing staff, 1891-1931; Nursing School registers (listed under ‘Dulwich Hospital’), 1917-1967.
11. Pharmacy, Home Medicine and Alternative Medicine

Special Collections

The collections on Pharmacy include some important early herbals, most notably two copies of the Hortus sanitatis (1491 and 1497), which covers not only medicinal plants, but also animals, birds, fish and minerals, and a treatise on urine. John of Gaddesden’s Rosa anglica practica medicine a capita ad pedes (1492) is considered the first printed medical book by an English author, compiled around 1314 and circulated widely in manuscript form before its first appearance in print in 1492. There are also first editions by one of the best known herbalists, Nicholas Culpeper (1616-1654). His unauthorised translation of the College of Physicians’ Pharmacopoeia Londinensis, The London Dispensatory (1649) and The English Physician (1651), combined as The Complete Herbal, have not been out of print since their first publication. Two copies of The English Physician held in the Guy’s Historical collection also include copious seventeenth century handwritten notes on prescriptions, remedies – and astrological signs.

The St Thomas’ Historical Collection includes the only known library-held complete run of a short-lived periodical, The Penny Lancet, which was published weekly, Oct-Dec 1832. This was intended to help its readers dispense entirely with the services of the medical profession, setting its tone unequivocally in the first issue with advice on treating apoplexy: ‘open the jugular vein and you may be instrumental in saving life’. More comprehensive - and less lethal – instruction on medical issues was provided in 1900 by The Manchester Evening Chronicle Household Medical Adviser, with commonsense advice on topics including childcare, first aid, exercise, and the care of invalids.

College Archives

The Archives hold correspondence, minutes, theses, staff publications and exam questions, chiefly 1935-1997, from the Chelsea College Department of Pharmacy/King’s College London Department of Pharmacy. Pharmacy was first taught at Chelsea in 1896, and student records relating to pharmacy studies begin in 1910. The collection also includes minutes, papers and correspondence relating to the University of London Board of Studies in Pharmacy and the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1939-1992.

The papers of Guy’s Hospital Apothecary William Babington (1756-1833) include notes on his lectures on therapeutics and on materia medica (substances with healing properties), given in 1796.

The papers of the Coleman family include manuscript and printed pharmacopoeias from the 1850s to the 1890s, containing remedies and prescriptions compiled in the course of running the family pharmacy business in the East End of London. These reflect its gradual transition from the provision of patent medicines grounded in traditional herbal remedies to a professional, science-based pharmacy.

An apothecary’s shop, late 15th century, from: Hortus sanitatis. Strasbourg: Johann Pruess, 1497 [Rare Books Collection: FOL. RS79 HOR]
12. Psychiatry

Special Collections

The Library houses around 1000 books and pamphlets on psychiatry, neurology and related topics from the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London (IOP), chiefly dating from 1800-1930. The collection includes many volumes which belonged to important figures in psychiatry, such as John Conolly (1794-1866), Henry Maudsley (1835-1918), Frederick W Mott (1853-1926) and Sir Aubrey Lewis (1900-1975). Through their inscriptions and bookplates it is possible to trace interests, family relationships (in the case of Conolly and Maudsley), friendships and connections between some of the foremost figures in psychiatry. The IOP Historical Collection is complemented by neuroscientific works from other collections, such as works belonging to Robert Bentley Todd (1809-1860) in the St Thomas' Historical Collection (see also Institutions). There are also editions of Henry Maudsley's own works, including The Physiology and Pathology of the Mind (1867), and The Pathology of Mind (1879). These are rare, since Maudsley requested that his publisher destroy all unsold copies of his books. Special Collections also holds a copy of Maudsley's typescript draft autobiography.

In addition to the IOP Historical Collection, the Library holds some volumes of relevance to earlier approaches to the mind. These include Robert Burton's The Anatomy of Melancholy: what it is, with all the kinds, causes, symptomes, prognosticks & several cures of it: by Democritus Junior with a satyrical preface (1632). This work first appeared in 1621. Burton's text is ostensibly a treatise on melancholy but has a strong satirical vein running through it. The Library also holds copies of Burton's other works, two of which carry his inscription.

College Archives

The Archives hold both research collections and personal papers from the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London (IOP). Research collections include records of the Psychiatric Case Register Project, 1965-1982, Schedules for Clinical Assessment in Neuropsychiatry (SCAN) records, 1986-1995, and the extensive Twins' Early Development Study (TEDS), 1994-2003.

The papers of Sir Aubrey Lewis, head of the IOP 1946-1966, span his entire career, from his 1926 anthropological research among Aboriginal peoples in Australia, to extensive offprints of his many articles on topics including melancholia, schizophrenia and psychoanalysis. There are also letters and reports relating to his research tour of European psychiatric institutions and research centres, 1937, and papers relating to the provision of psychiatric services to the military and civilian population during World War Two. The papers of Lewis' wife, child psychiatrist William Norris, an inmate of Bedlam, chained to his bed, e 1814, from: Etienne Esquirol. Les maladies mentales. Bruxelles: J. B. Tircher, 1838 [IOP Historical Collection: h/Esq]
Hilda Lewis (1900-1966), include notes, reports and photographs from a scientists' tour of the USSR, 1931, and papers, 1945-1954, relating to the welfare of children in care.

The papers, 1964-2002, of William Yule (b 1940), Professor of Applied Child Psychology, IOP, include material from a number of research projects, notably: a longitudinal educational and medical survey of schoolchildren on the Isle of Wight, 1964-1969 – the first epidemiological survey of this size to cover the impact of health on educational achievement; studies, 1989-1992 and 1994-1996, of survivors of the 1988 sinking of the educational cruise ship JUPITER off the coast of Greece – studies that helped establish conclusively the capacity of adolescents to suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD); a World Health Organisation study, 1992-1993, on the prenatal development of children born shortly after the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident; a joint United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Institute of Psychiatry project to provide psychosocial support to war-affected children in Bosnia, 1995-1996.

The extensive papers, 1962-2002, of John Gunn (b 1937), Professor of Forensic Psychiatry, IOP, cover many aspects of the psychiatric treatment of offenders, as well as the relationship between psychiatry and the law, including: copies of medical evidence given on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution to the Wolfenden Committee, 1954; papers relating to the May enquiry, 1989-1992, into the convictions for IRA bombings in Guildford and Woolwich in 1974; Prison Service correspondence and reports, 1975-2000, relating to the UK Special Hospitals (high security psychiatric hospitals), and to Grendon experimental prison for offenders with personality disorders; papers, 1972-2000, on the impact of amendments and proposed amendments to UK mental health legislation, 1972-2000. There are also files on the administration of the Institute of Psychiatry and its Department of Forensic Psychiatry, 1975-2000, and the operation of the Denis Hill Unit forensic in-patient service at Bethlem Royal Hospital, 1985-1998.

Many of the IOP collections in the Archives are predominantly closed: any material touching upon the medical records of named individuals (which cover many research collections) is closed for 100 years from the last date on file, personal (non-medical) data is closed for 80 years, and administrative files for 30 years. Access may be given for the purpose of approved medical research, provided that identifying personal data is not recorded.
13. Public Health

Special Collections

The Foyle Special Collections Library contains a collection of tracts by vaccination pioneer Edward Jenner (1749-1823), including An Inquiry into the Causes and Effects of the Variolæ Vaccinæ (1798). This collection was given by the author to the St Thomas’ surgeon Henry Cline (1750-1827), President of the Royal College of Surgeons, who became one of leading defenders of cow-pox vaccination. The Library also holds other inscribed pamphlets from both sides of the cow-pox debate, by St Thomas’ surgeons including John Ring (d 1821), a leading voice in support of vaccination, and John Birch (d 1815), one of the most prestigious opponents of Jenner’s innovation.

Sir John Simon (1816-1904) was appointed the first Chief Medical Officer and became one of the most significant figures in nineteenth century public health and sanitary reform. Most of Simon’s personal archive was destroyed, making the insights into Simon’s interests which can be gleaned from his library especially important. Most of these volumes are inscribed, some by other leading figures in public health such as Sir John Burdon-Sanderson (1828-1905), John Syer Bristowe (1827-1895) and William Augustus Guy (d 1885). The French and German works in Simon’s library demonstrate his European outlook: he was one of the first in the British medical profession to use the antiseptic methods pioneered by the Hungarian Ignaz Semmelweiss (1818-1865). Simon is, however, perhaps best known for his contributions to debates on public health: works such as Reports Relating to the Sanitary Condition of the City of London (1854) drew attention to a wide range of areas – from housing to sewerage – in which improvement was needed. He also replicated and extended the pioneering work of John Snow (1813-1858) in demonstrating that cholera was caused by the water supply. A copy of the second edition of Snow’s On the Mode of Communication of Cholera (1855) is inscribed by the author to the St Thomas’ physician Charles Murchison (1830-1879). Murchison also contributed to epidemiology, making a crucial distinction between typhus and typhoid fever (see also Anatomy and Surgery).

Simon’s personal collection also has works by physician, statistician and sanitation pioneer William Augustus Guy (1810-1885), appointed King’s College London’s first Professor of Hygiene in 1869, including his Public Health: a popular introduction to sanitary science (1870).

Elizabeth Blackwell (1821-1910), the first woman to acquire medical qualifications in the United States, in 1849, and the first woman to be registered as a doctor in Great Britain, in 1859, campaigned extensively on the role of women in medical and social reform. The Library holds a rare first edition of Blackwell’s Essays in Medical Sociology (1899) ‘revised and reprinted for private circulation’, inscribed by the author and presented to St Thomas’.

College Archives

The notebooks, 1777-1824, of St Thomas’ surgeon Henry Cline (1750-1827) include accounts of his use of small-pox vaccination and his patients’ progress under treatment. He worked closely with vaccination pioneer Edward Jenner, whose innovative methods he defended and promoted, and describes using ‘some cow-pox matter’ supplied by Jenner. His notes also include sketches of the pustules produced by the cow-pox vaccine (see also Medical Schools, and Anatomy and Surgery).

Records on cholera include correspondence relating to the 1831-1835 UK epidemic, and a cholera casebook, 1853-1854, from the records of St Thomas’ Medical School, which details 149 cases of cholera and choleraic diarrhoea admitted to the hospital in 1854, and includes printed instructions on hygiene practices from the Royal College of Physicians, 1853.

King’s College London was at the forefront of late nineteenth century developments in sanitation and health: in 1866 it opened the country’s first public bacteriological laboratory, specifically for ‘medical men in practice,
medical officers of health, colonial and foreign practitioners, and veterinary surgeons’. Archives hold a set of student entrance papers for the Department of General Pathology and Bacteriology, 1892-1925. The Department of Hygiene and Public Health opened in 1893 (student records are among the main series of King’s College London student papers), and King’s College Women’s Department (subsequently King’s College for Women) began teaching ‘sanitary science and applied hygiene’ in 1909. The College calendars give full details of lectures and syllabuses, including diploma courses for sanitary inspectors and plumbers.

The Archives also contain the records of two twentieth-century studies on Public Health, the King’s College London Nutritional Survey Records, 1956-1999, and the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery Parkside Project, 2000-2001, which analyse the needs assessment process followed by health visitors (both collections are presently closed).

Vaccination pustules, evidence of the successful injection of infected material from cow into human, from: Edward Jenner. An inquiry into the causes and effects of the variolae vaccinae. London: printed for the author by Sampson Low, and sold by Law, and Murray and Higley, 1798 [St. Thomas’ Historical Collection: RC183.6 JEN]
The final stages of yellow fever, from: Etienne Pariset. 'Observations sur la fièvre jaune faites à Cadix en 1819'
Paris, 1820 [FCO Historical Collection FOL. RC213.S6 PAR]
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Front Cover: Pathology Laboratory, King’s College Hospital, 1914 [ref: KH/PH1/2/9]

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