

Cable Hospital Auxiliary

2002.03

2015.01

History

Cable Hospital was located in Ipswich, Massachusetts at the intersection of County Road and Essex Road from 1915 to 1979. The first fundraisers for Cable Hospital were known as the Hospital Girls. They were a group of grammar school girls who gathered in 1906 to raise money to build a hospital in Ipswich. They raised \$1,000. Their donation was later matched by Richard T. Crane, Jr. Crane donated funds to establish the hospital in memory of his friend, Benjamin Stickney Cable, after Dr. Cable's death in an automobile accident. Emergency services affiliated with Beverly Hospital continued to be offered until 2002.

The Cable Hospital Auxiliary was formed in 1956 to provide volunteer service and to support the Hospital financially by holding fund-raising events. At its peak, the organization had approximately 530 women as members and was a vital part of the community. The organization held three business meetings per year plus an annual meeting with a fashion show in March. Other annual events included a social meeting at Castle Hill in June (members' children also included), a Fourth of July Ball, and a Christmas Tea for hospital personnel. During the late 1970's, the Auxiliary tried valiantly to help the Hospital survive, but financial conditions deteriorated to the point that Cable Hospital was forced to close in 1979. The Auxiliary also ceased to function in 1979.

Scope and Content/Series Description

One box (.5 linear feet)

1906-1979

The 2002 accession records are divided into three series: Hospital, Governance, and Publicity and Programs. The Hospital series contains a review of Cable Hospital history from 1906 to 1940, which was written in 1975, as well as minutes and reports from the Hospital Trustees from 1978 and 1979. The Governance series contains the original and revised bylaws of the Auxiliary, Annual Meeting Reports from 1960 to 1979, minutes of business meetings from 1977 to 1979, member lists for 1977 to 1979, and Massachusetts Hospital Association surveys and newsletters from 1976 to 1977. The Publicity and Programs series contains Auxiliary newsletters from 1960 to 1979, news clippings from 1967 to 1977, scrapbook pages covering events in 1976 to 1979, and a folder of memorabilia from 1961 to 1978.

The provenance is not known, although the records arrived at Ipswich Public Library as a unit from the same source, probably soon after Cable Hospital closed in 1979.

The main strengths of the collection are presenting fairly complete records for the last three years of the Auxiliary's existence (1976-1979) and also good runs of newsletters from 1960 to 1979 and annual meeting reports from 1961 to 1979, with only a few gaps.

The 2015 accession records are in the fourth series: the Cable Hospital Girls. This series includes news clippings of Hospital Girls events, correspondence, a photograph of the original members, and a handwritten journal of meeting minutes and notes.

*Processed and described by Paula Grillo, February 2003.
Supplemented by Donna Albino, February 2015.*

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Container List

Series 1		Hospital	
<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	1	Review of Cable Hospital History [1906-1940]	1975
1	2	Cable Hospital Trustees	1978-1979
Series 2		Governance	
1	3	Annual Meeting Reports/Bylaws	1960-1969
1	4	Annual Meeting Reports	1970-1979
1	5	Minutes	1977
1	6	Minutes	1978
1	7	Minutes	1979
1	8	Member Lists	1977-1979
1	9	Massachusetts Hospital Association	1976-1977
Series 3		Publicity and Programs	
1	10	Newsletters	1960-1969
1	11	Newsletters	1970-1979
1	12	News Clippings	1967-1979
1	13	Scrapbook Pages	1976-1977
1	14	Scrapbook Pages	1978-1979
1	15	Memorabilia	1961-1978
Series 4		Cable Hospital Girls	
1	16	News Clippings	1906-1967
1	17	Correspondence and Photograph	1906-1959
1	18	Journal	1906-1911