

**Finding Aid for the  
Dora Mae Cleveland collection,  
1947 - 1951**



**Record Group Number 25/ 13 / 03**  
**University Archives and Special Collections William F. Maag, Jr. Library**  
**Youngstown State University One University Plaza Youngstown, OH 44555**  
**330-941-3487 (Phone) 330-941-3734 (Fax)**

## **Descriptive Summary**

- Title:** The Dora Mae Cleveland collection, 1947 – 1951
- Creator:** Dora Mae Cleveland Donaldson, 1950 graduate of the Youngstown Hospital Association School of Nursing
- Extent:** 0.25 linear feet (1 box)
- Abstract:** Procedure book, photographs, and diploma from Nursing School

## **Administrative Information**

- Provenance:** These materials were donated to the Melnick Medical Museum by Mrs. Donaldson's son, Mark E. Donaldson in 2019.
- Preferred Citation:** Youngstown State University, The Dora Mae Cleveland collection. R.G. 25/13/03, Archives & Special Collections, William F. Maag, Jr. Library, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio.
- Restrictions:** None.
- Processing :** Processed by Cassandra Nespor, 2020
- Finding Aid:** Written by Cassandra Nespor, September 2020

## **Biographical Sketch**

Dora Mae Cleveland was born in Brookfield, Ohio on June 24, 1929. She graduated from Brookfield High School in 1947 and then enrolled in the Youngstown Hospital Association School of Nursing in Youngstown, Ohio. In nursing school, her best friend and roommate was Doris Jean Avery (later Cavanaugh).

After graduation, Dora Mae married Jacques E. Donaldson and worked for a short time with the Youngstown Visiting Nurse Association. The couple moved to Indiana for Jacques to attend college, and afterward he joined the Navy. Dora Mae raised two children while moving frequently, including to Spain and Panama.

In the mid-1970s Mrs. Donaldson went back to work as a nurse at a senior citizen's home in Poulsbo, Washington. She died in 2016.

## Scope and Content

This collection represents nursing education at the Youngstown Hospital Association School of Nursing in the late 1940s. The Procedures book has detailed instructions about tasks expected to be done by nurses, including changing beds, caring for patients, and assisting doctors with surgeries and treatments. In addition to detailed information about these mid-century procedures, this notebook shows the local practice of these medical activities. This notebook was supplemented with several textbooks in the curriculum at the Youngstown Hospital Association School of Nursing.

It also includes photographs of Dora Mae and her graduating class of 1950 in their uniforms. Typically, each nursing school had a distinctive hat shape and nurses would continue to wear these once employed as professional nurses.

## Colophon

This collection was processed during September and October 2020. Cassie Nespor, the curator of the YSU Melnick Medical Museum, has a Master's degree in Library and Information Science with a focus in Archival Studies. She has worked for the Medical Museum for 10 years, but previously had no special training in medical history.

## Series Description

Series I: School of Nursing materials

## Related Materials

**The Lamp, Caduceus, and Cheveron** (YHA School of Nursing yearbooks) Located in the Archives and Special Collections RT80. O3 L36

**Y.H.A. R.N. directory, 1898- 1969/ Youngstown Hospital Association.** Located in the Archives and Special Collections RT80. O3 L362

**A History of Medicine in Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley, Ohio/ John C. Melnick.** Located in the Archives and Special Collections R302. Y68 M44

## Index Terms

Medicine – History

Nursing – History

Nursing – Study and teaching – 20<sup>th</sup> century

Youngstown Hospital Association. School of Nursing

**SERIES I: School of Nursing materials**

**BOX 1**

<b>Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>	
1	YHA class of 1950 class composite	1950
2	Dora Mae Cleveland senior portrait	1950
3	YHA School of Nursing Procedure notebook	1947
4	Report of grades	1950
5	School of Nursing diploma and Registered Nurse certificate from the State Nurses Board of Ohio	1950-1951