

**Finding Aid for the
Trumbull Memorial Hospital School of Nursing
Alumni Association collection,
1947 - 1987**



Record Group Number 25/ 13 / 04
University Archives and Special Collections William F. Maag, Jr. Library
Youngstown State University One University Plaza Youngstown, OH 44555
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Descriptive Summary

- Title:** The Trumbull Memorial Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association collection, 1947 – 1987
- Creator:** Martha Laurie, 1957 graduate of the TMH School of Nursing
- Extent:** 0.25 linear feet (1 box)
- Abstract:** Photographs, class photo composites, and memorabilia from the School of Nursing Alumni Association

Administrative Information

- Provenance:** These materials were donated to the Melnick Medical Museum by Mrs. Laurie's daughter in law, Marie Laurie in 2019.
- Preferred Citation:** Youngstown State University, The Trumbull Memorial Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association collection. R.G. 25/13/04, 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, November 2020

Biographical and Organizational Sketch

Martha Ann (Vasko) Laurie (1936- 2018) was born in Youngstown, OH and graduated from Rayen High School in 1954. She graduated from the Trumbull Memorial Hospital School of Nursing diploma program in 1957. She also earned a bachelor's degree in Allied Health from Hiram College in 1996. She lived in Austintown and worked at Trumbull Memorial Hospital for 44 years. She retired as the Director of Critical Care in 2000 but returned from 2002 to 2006 to work as a part-time Nursing Supervisor. She was active in the TMH School of Nursing Alumni Association and the Retired RN Interest Group of Youngstown.

The Warren City Hospital and School of Nursing opened in 1907. It had 50 beds, 60 staff members, and two nursing students. The name was changed to Trumbull Memorial Hospital in 1947 and expanded to 320 beds in 1954.

The Nursing School was a 3-year training program that granted nursing diplomas. Graduates could then take the state exam to become a Registered Nurse. In the 1950s, nursing students at TMH had classes in anatomy, pharmacy, microbiology, surgery, nursery, diet kitchen, and orthopedics. They had special training residencies for pediatric nursing at Akron's Children's Hospital or psychiatric nursing at Toledo State Hospital. The female students all lived in the Nurses Home and worked shifts on the hospital wards. Important social events for the students were the capping ceremony, Halloween party, winter formal dance, and the alumnae-senior dance. Other school activities included student chorus, student council, yearbook staff, chapel, library, and gym.

The TMH School of Nursing closed in 1988, as nursing education shifted toward university and college degrees. Class sizes peaked in the late 1960s and the first male student was admitted in 1972. The school graduated 1,810 students in its 80-year history.

Scope and Content

This collection contains materials from the TMH School of Nursing Alumni Association, such as photograph composites of each graduating class and some memorabilia from their celebrations in 1987. Some of the photo sleeves also contained news articles and other photographs of the students.

There were also 4 foam core posters with candid photographs of TMH nursing students throughout the years. Most of them date from the 1950s to the 1970s. These posters were displayed at Mrs. Laurie's retirement party in 2006, although they may have appeared at other Alumni Association events too. These photographs have been cut from the foam core and placed in folders. Unfortunately, very little identifying information can be obtained from the back of the photographs.

The donation also included two White Cap yearbooks and a box of nursing shoes and uniform button that have been separated the University Special Collections and the Melnick Medical Museum respectively.

Colophon

This collection was processed in November 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: Class composite photographs

Series II: Collage photographs

Series III: Memorabilia

Related Materials

The White Cap (TMH School of Nursing yearbooks) Located in the Archives and Special Collections RT80. O3 W55

Separations

- Two TMH School of Nursing yearbooks (1953 and 1954) were separated and cataloged for Special Collections in Maag Library.
- A box of Mrs. Laurie's nursing shoes and uniform buttons were separated to the Melnick Medical Museum artifact collection.

Index Terms

Hospitals – History

Nursing – History

Nursing – Study and teaching – 20th century

Trumbull Memorial Hospital. School of Nursing

SERIES I: Class composite photographs

BOX 1

Folder	Contents	
1	class composites	1947- 1969
2	class composites	1970- 1987
3	class composites, negatives	1947, 1948, 1949, 1987

SERIES II: Collage photographs (c1950s to c1970s)

Folder	Contents	
4	collage	undated
5	collage	undated
6	collage	undated
7	collage	undated

SERIES III: Memorabilia

Folder	Contents	
8	Alumni guest book	c1987
9	Warren City Proclamation	1987
10	Hospital ward photograph prints	c1920