

Directory of History of Medicine Collections

Organization Name: Rauner Special Collections Library at Dartmouth College

Organization Type: Library

Address: 6065 Webster Ave

City: Hanover

State/Province: New Hampshire

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Country: United States

Telephone Number: (603) 646-0538

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Web Site: <https://www.library.dartmouth.edu/>

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Abstract: Historical collections relating to the establishment and history of the Dartmouth Medical School and regional medical centers, including Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital. Other than records deemed confidential by federal law or Dartmouth College policy, records are open to the public and available for viewing in Rauner Special Collections Library. Materials do not circulate; fee-based photocopying may be available by request. The staff at Rauner are available to assist with reference inquiries. Please visit <https://www.dartmouth.edu/~library/rauner/research/> for detailed policies.

Holdings: -Account Books: 24 account books (4,600 pages) ca. 1780-1915, of rural physicians, documenting costs of care, diagnoses, and treatments prescribed. Some include diary entries and vital statistics for communities served. -Physician Papers: 7 manuscript collections (44 ft.) of the records of seven area physicians, including the founder of the Dartmouth Medical School, Nathan Smith (1762-1829), documenting their practices between 1796-1956. -Medical Lecture Notes: 33 volumes (12,000 pages) and one linear foot of loose material. Notes taken by students in the Dartmouth Medical School, between ca. 1806 and 1901, covering an array of health and medical issues taught at Dartmouth with an emphasis on epidemiology in rural settings. -Medical Theses: 1,150 theses, 1815-1882, covering health issues current at the time in rural areas: from puerperal fever to small pox to water-borne diseases such as cholera. -Institutional Records: Records of the Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital, 1893-1985, (21 ft) documenting the early activities of a small rural hospital and its growth into a major regional medical center. -Departmental Records: Community and Family Medicine Department of the Dartmouth Medical School (188 ft), 1970-2001, including the records of Center for the Study of Evaluative Sciences.

Collection Subject Strengths: History of Hospitals; History of Medical Education; History of Medicine; History of Public Health; History of the Practice of Medicine

Other Collection Subject Strengths: Rural Health

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