Research Resources in Medical History
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Written by Sue Crossley with Georgia Bladon.  
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Introduction

Professor Mark Jackson, University of Exeter

It has sometimes been suggested that at the heart of every good history book there is a good archive. At one level, this is clearly an exaggeration. There are many fine historical studies – those of Michel Foucault, for example – that are light on archival sources but exceptionally rich in theoretical subtlety, textual sophistication and ideological significance. At another level, however, there is some truth in the assumption that fine archives are often essential for generating detailed and original historical studies of medicine, healthcare and disease. From a personal perspective, I have been deeply grateful not only for the availability and accessibility of archives and printed book collections, but also for the cultured advice and friendship of archivists and librarians around the world. This directory of grants awarded by the Wellcome Trust between 2001 and 2011 provides strong evidence, if any is needed, of the richness of archival and printed records now available for historical scrutiny; of the past, present and future value of archival sources for historians of medicine and many other scholarly; and of the expansive contributions of the Wellcome Trust to the preservation, conservation, cataloguing and digitisation of those records.

The evolution of a scheme

For more than a decade, the Wellcome Trust’s Research Resources in Medical History (RRMH) scheme has been at the forefront of efforts to reclaim and make available sources deposited in archives, libraries and record offices or neglected in the basements of various scientific and clinical institutions. The scheme was born in 1999, when the Trust convened a conference entitled ‘Healthy Heritage: Collecting for the future of medical history’. The aim of the meeting, which involved a combination of archivists, librarians, clinicians and historians, was to raise awareness of the resources available and “discuss the challenges associated with preserving this growing record for the future”. Papers presented at the conference explored emerging issues associated with printed medical literature, archival sources, electronic data, visual sources and the challenges of preservation. They also discussed concerns about the collection and retention policies – and the future – of libraries and archives.

As a result of that meeting, a new (but initially temporary) Wellcome Trust funding scheme was established in collaboration with the British Library to support the preservation, conservation and cataloguing of any material that would be of value to historians of medicine. The first grants were awarded in 2001 to eight archives, libraries, institutes and hospitals around Britain. Three years later, the scheme was reviewed by the Wellcome Trust’s Strategic Planning and Policy Unit. The review evaluated the impact of funding support, identified the pattern of awards and considered the future directions of the scheme should it be continued. At that stage, applications were more often for cataloguing than for preservation and conservation measures and were usually focused on a combination of printed and archival material. The conclusions of the review, which were strongly endorsed by leading historians of medicine, were clear: the scheme was already beginning to have a major impact on the survival and accessibility of records, and follow-on funding, particularly for the preservation and conservation of fragile materials, would be required to develop collections further.

In spite of strong support for the scheme from historians, archivists, librarians and conservators, some issues were raised both during and after the review for further consideration. In particular, historians emphasised the need to address the possibility of funding overseas collections, the challenges of dealing with electronic sources, the importance of making funds available for pilot projects or scoping exercises, and the need to link the funding applications more closely with the interests of historians of medicine from the start. Many historians also stressed the necessity of creating a separate funding stream to support the scheme. In the light of these comments, the Wellcome Trust governors agreed to continue to fund RRMH, in the region of £500 000 per year (to be taken from the History of Medicine budget), and decided that the scheme would be reviewed on a regular basis and be administered solely by the Trust. The outcome of the review and subsequent discussions was the creation of a highly efficient team of Trust officers, led by Sue Crossley and supported by several office staff.

The benefits of this approach included the potential for Trust staff to initiate early collaboration between applicants and historians of medicine and the investment of scoping funds and expert advice that helped to improve the quality of applications. One of the dilemmas created by the enhanced services offered to applicants was the pressure to make difficult funding decisions within the context of limited budgetary resources.
As awareness of the RRMH scheme increased and as historians, archivists and librarians began to cooperate more constructively, the Trust also initiated a series of annual conferences to bring together the emergent group of historians of medicine and RRMH grantholders, to share best practice and “to explore some of the challenges connected to the use of patient records” in particular. Some promising work to emerge from the 2007 conference in Edinburgh were the need to address issues relating to the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Acts, the need to develop new strategies for preventing a widening range of source material, and the need to maximise the impact of the scheme through public engagement activities. Particular challenges identified on that occasion also included the difficulties of determining which records should be kept and where, and how tools and advice archivists need “to act legally and ethically”, the need to change the culture “to acknowledge the importance of research, and facilitate access, rather than over protect personal data”, and the importance of developing policies related to the preservation of electronic databases and records.

The profile of the RRMH scheme was heightened during Welcome Trust’s review of the complete History of Medicine programme, carried out in 2009 by Professor Joanna Bourke (Birkbeck College, London), with Professor Keith Thomas (All Souls, Oxford) acting as an advisor. The Bourke Report, as it became known, highlighted the strengths of the history of medicine in Britain, acknowledged the extensive contributions of funding from the Welcome Trust, emphasised the need to broaden the remit of support to include scholars from disciplines within the wider humanities, and argued for more ambitious interdisciplinary research projects that would exploit new resources and raise new questions at the interface between science, medicine and the humanities. Since then, the scheme has evolved in two significant ways. First, calls for applications have been linked directly to the Trust’s five major challenges: maximising the applications and approaches that have impressed me during my time as a member and chair of the RRMH Funding Committee.

First, I am delighted that historians, archivists and librarians are collaborating more closely to protect and advertise a rich array of archival and printed sources. This strategy offers the most effective means of ensuring not only the survival of the full range of sources available, but also the usage of important components of these. Second, although the emphasis has been placed on making available the full range of sources available, the goal should always be to encourage and enable the range of activities that may be achieved with the Wellcome Trust’s funding. This has led to a considerable improvement in the quantity and quality of grant applications and in the successful promotion of the scheme across Britain and the world.

Reflecting on the past decade or so of RRMH funding reveals several distinct successes and some continuing challenges for the future. By 2009, the scheme had already funded 134 applications, and the resources made available by these grants are now becoming visible in emergent research projects and through public engagement activities on radio and television and in the local and national press. In some ways, it is perhaps inappropriate to start out specific applications and their outcomes because any choice will necessarily be personal and partial. Nonetheless, given the fact that the full grants supported a complete run of successful projects, I will draw attention to those applications and approaches that have impressed me during my time as a member and chair of the RRMH Funding Committee.

One of the key issues raised after the review in 2004 was the possibility of extending the scheme to overseas collections. In my view, this would constitute an excellent development: an increasing number of scholars are now working with scholars, archivists and librarians from the early stages of their research careers, promote interdisciplinary research and advertise the range of sources available. Secrecy about the wellcome trust’s challenges has certainly focused the attention of scholars and archivists on specific collections, it will be essential for the future of the scheme to develop stronger collaboration with Wellcome Collection and the Wellcome Digital Library strategy, thereby allowing greater public and professional appreciation and use of the resources.

Concluding remarks

I am delighted to introduce this directory of grants funded by the RRMH scheme over the past decade or so. It has been a pleasure to work with scholars, archivists, library staff and others in the various domains with whom the scheme has operated. The aim of this directory is not merely to celebrate success but to raise awareness of the variety of resources now available, to highlight the need for continued cooperation between different parties, to encourage closer attention to the range of methodological approaches that must be employed, and to identify funding challenges. It is now the responsibility of the next generation to ensure that the scheme continues to evolve in a manner that is innovative and international, and contributes effectively to the Wellcome Trust’s aim of understanding science and medicine in historical and cultural context in order to improve human and animal health.

Mark Jackson is Chair of the Research Resources in Medical History Funding Committee.
Bethlem Royal Hospital
Archives and Museum

Patient History: conservation of Bethlem and Maudsley discharge summaries (1951–1964) • Conservation of Bethlem and Maudsley Hospital discharge summaries (1967–1993) • Digitisation and online publication of the admissions books of the Royal Bethlem Hospital (1683–1902)

Three grants awarded during the past decade have increased access to the archives of Bethlem Royal Hospital through digitisation and conservation projects. A grant awarded in 2003 funded the digitisation and online publication of the admission books of Bethlem Royal Hospital (1692–1902), providing remote open access to the historic records of the hospital. Following this, two grants were awarded to Bethlem Royal Hospital in 2006 and 2008 for the conservation of more recent Bethlem and Maudsley discharge summaries. The first covered 1951–1964, and a second tranche covered 1967–1993. These awards have ensured the long-term survival of sensitive modern records for use by current and future researchers. Digitised images of each page were attached to the existing catalogue descriptions. The catalogue and images are now available online via the Bethlem Archives website.

Contact
Archives and Museum
Bethlem Royal Hospital
Monks Orchard Road
Beckenham
Kent BR3 1BX
www.bethlemheritage.org.uk/Archive_Cat.asp

Grant number: GR080094
Amount awarded: £21,146

Grant number: GR074245
Amount awarded: £4,800

Grant number: GR087682
Amount awarded: £59,663

Biochemical Society

A Research Resources in Medical History grant was awarded to the Biochemical Society in 2007 to catalogue its archives. The wide-ranging collection comprises official records dating back to the Society’s foundation in 1911, collections of individual biochemists’ papers acquired by the Society, and a collection of video interviews with key scientists whose work has underpinned the development of biomedical science in the 20th century. The archive includes a complete set of 33 laboratory notebooks belonging to the double Nobel Laureate Fred Sanger, whose work on the structure of proteins and the base sequences in nucleic acids played a crucial part in unlocking the genetic code. His research team produced the first DNA whole genome sequence, and the techniques he developed provided the platform for the Human Genome Project, which was led in the UK by the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute. The laboratory notebooks cover the period 1944–1981 and provide a full record of his ground-breaking experiments, offering a fascinating insight into both Sanger’s science and his character and processes. Phrases like “this was a total waste of time…will start again” are found throughout his writings.

The archive – which remains the property of the Biochemical Society – was transferred to the Wellcome Library, where it is held alongside an already extensive collection of contemporary scientific papers, including those of Francis Crick.
In 2009, a Research Resources in Medical History grant was awarded to Birkbeck College to continue support for the Sloane Printed Books Project. The project, first established through Research Resources in Medical History funding in collaboration with the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL, was expanded in 2008. The project makes available for research and public use a database of books once belonging to Sir Hans Sloane (1660–1753), which, after his death, formed one of the foundation collections of the British Museum Library.

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www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelprestype/prbooks/sloaneprintedbooksproject/sloaneprinted.html

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**Birkbeck College, University of London**

The Sloane Printed Books Project – a supplementary grant for extension and enrichment

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In 2009, a Research Resources in Medical History grant was awarded to Birkbeck College to continue support for the Sloane Printed Books Project, first established through Research Resources in Medical History funding in collaboration with the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL in 2008. The project makes available for research and public use a database of books once belonging to Sir Hans Sloane (1660–1753), which, after his death, formed one of the foundation collections of the British Museum Library.

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www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelprestype/prbooks/sloaneprintedbooksproject/sloaneprinted.html

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**British Library**

Research Resources in Medical History grants awarded to the British Library have substantially improved access to four distinct history of medicine collections. Two concern the papers of eminent scientists and the others concern a rare collection of medieval manuscripts and sound recordings from the national Sound Archive.

The first project, in 2003, dealt with the cataloguing and conservation of the papers of Alexander Fleming, who was awarded a Nobel Prize for his discovery of penicillin in 1945. The collection, which is of great significance for research and modern scholarship, had been arranged but was listed only briefly with a general indication of content and minimal indexing. The project produced enhanced descriptions and detailed indexing; it also established the context and order of the material as far as possible, while preserving the chronology of the collection. Particular attention was paid to the correspondence, lectures, speeches and laboratory notebooks in which Fleming recorded his research. The notebooks, in particular, merited detailed analysis to make them more accessible to specialist enquirers, and the entirety of the new cataloguing was added to the Department of Manuscripts online finding aid – transforming the possibilities for search and cross-referencing for researchers worldwide.

In 2010, a Research Resources in Medical History programme awarded additional funding for the cataloguing and preservation of the papers and electronic files of the geneticist Anne McLaren, which constitute an important and near-complete scientific archive that is currently generating substantial interest among researchers. Recent research supported by the archive has included the Wellcome Trust-funded research project on the history of developmental mammalian biology by Sarah Franklin (LSE), Martin Johnson and Nick Hopwood (Cambridge) and a scientific biography by Georgina Ferry. This archive would support further research into topics such as the recent history and social studies of biomedicine, the relationship between genetics and development in biology, assisted reproductive technologies, and bioethics, along...
with broader topics such as women in science. The archive is now freely available to researchers at the British Library. This collection could also be included in future digitisation projects.

In 2004, an award was granted to support a cataloguing project involving the Harleian Collection, one of the three foundation collections in the British Library's department of manuscripts, which includes medical manuscripts from the early 16th to 17th centuries. The collection was previously poorly catalogued and only available to readers in the Manuscripts Reading Room at the British Library, but this project has provided web-based access to the medieval manuscripts identified as containing medical or medicine-related texts. Many of the most important medical texts from Antiquity to the late Middle Ages exist in this collection; it includes a tenth-century copy of Hippocrates, for example. Together, these texts constitute a gateway to the understanding of medieval medicine in England.

In 2002, a grant was awarded to the National Sound Archive at the British Library to improve access to its oral history collection relating to medical subjects. The collections include interviews with medical professionals (including nurses, GPs, pharmacists and physiotherapists), users of specific health services (such as mental health services and those relating to HIV/AIDS) and other groups, whose experiences provide important evidence in the social history of health and on topics such as ageing, childbirth, housing and homelessness, domestic violence, and sexual abuse.

The project involved performing a complete audit of all health and medical collections before a description was included for each individual recording in the online catalogue (www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelprestype/sound/obist/ohcoll/ohmed/medicine.html).

Online Medieval Medical Manuscripts in the Harleian Collection

www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelprestype/manuscripts/medievalmedharleian/harleian.html

In 2005, a small grant was awarded to the British Medical Association (BMA) for a three-month project to assess the research value of the BMA’s 20th-century registry file collection and establish the historical research value of the collection.

Contact
BMA Library
BMA House
Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9JP
+44 (0)20 7973 7020
bma.org.uk/about-the-bma/bma-library

The Children’s Society
Cataloguing and preservation of the Children’s Society archive: unexplored riches in medical history

In 2010, following a small grant in 2009 to assess the scale and scope of work required to catalogue and preserve the huge historic archive of the Children’s Society, a larger award was made to take the project forward. The Society was established in 1881, and during its history it has been at the forefront of initiatives dealing with childhood problems caused by poverty, illness, family disruption and long-term care. The archive contains 625 linear metres of papers, including 140,000 individual case files, central administration records and archives relating to the children’s homes run by the Society. Work is currently underway to open up the research potential of the collection for studying the history of child health and development.

Contact
The Children’s Society Records and Archive Centre
Block A Floor 2
Tower Bridge Business Complex
100 Clement’s Road
London SE16 4DG
+44 (0)20 7232 2966
archive@childrenssociety.org.uk
www.hiddenlives.org.uk

The Florence Nightingale Museum
Digitising Florence Nightingale’s letters

In 2009, a Research Resources in Medical History grant awarded to Digitisation Florence Nightingale’s letters

A collection of letters written by Florence Nightingale and belonging to the Florence Nightingale Museum are housed at London Metropolitan Archives. A Research Resources in Medical History grant awarded to the Museum in 2009 funded a project to conserve, transcribe and digitise the collection, comprising around 800 letters. Historians and interested members of the public can view digital copies via the engaging museum website.

Contact
Florence Nightingale Museum
2 Lambeth Palace Road
London SE1 7TW
+44 (0)20 7620 0745
www.florence-nightingale.co.uk/cms/index.php/collection/letters
In 2005, a grant was awarded to the Imperial War Museum to catalogue the papers of Sir William Tyrrell, who served in the medical branches of both the Army and the RAF. He also contributed to the 1922 War Report on shell shock, using himself as a case study. The collection consists of letters, diaries, official documents, photographs, personal accounts and ephemera. The papers are an unrivalled source on several important topics in 20th-century medical history, particularly at the intersection of medicine and military operations.

This led to a further award in 2008 for a six-month project to identify and assess un-accessioned Imperial War Museum medical history collections. The project enabled new material to come to light – primarily from the Department of Documents, but including some items from the Film and Video and Photograph archives.

Contact
Imperial War Museum London
Lambeth Road
London SE1 6HZ
T +44 (0)20 7416 5320

The archives of the British Psychoanalytical Society were made accessible to researchers through a cataloguing and preservation project supported by a Research Resources in Medical History grant in 2004. Reflecting the Society’s role in medicine, mental health and society at large, they include the papers and correspondence of eminent psychoanalysts such as Ernest Hones, John Rickman, Wilfred Bion, John Bowlby, D W Winnicott, Edward Glover and Tom Main. The Rickman papers in particular illustrate the part played by psychoanalysis in the Emergency Medical Services during World War II.

Contact
Library of the British Psychoanalytical Society
The Institute of Psychoanalysis
Byron House
112A Shirland Road
London W9 2EQ
www.psychoanalysis.org.uk/archivescatalogues.htm

Great Ormond Street Hospital Database

Microfilming the admissions registers of Great Ormond Street Hospital

In 2001 a small grant was awarded to the archives of Great Ormond Street Hospital to microfilm inpatient registers of the Hospital (1852–1900) and Cromwell House, the convalescent home (1869-1900). Databases created from the records led to the development of the ‘Small and Special’ website and a series of further grants awarded to Kingston University to develop databases of historic records relating to 19th-century hospitals for children (see separate entry for Kingston for details).

Contact
Museum & Archives Service
Great Ormond Street Hospital
Great Ormond Street
London WC1N 3JH
Since 2001, the Research Resources in Medical History programme has awarded nine grants relating to the history of medicine collections at King’s College London.

The first of these projects, in 2001, provided online access to the College’s principal collections relating to the history of medicine, containing more than two million pages of material dating from 1723 to 2003. The material, which covers the beginning of formalised medical education in London, addresses some of medicine’s more intractable ethical questions, such as the treatment of the dying and care in the community of psychiatric patients. The project improved access through the provision of online descriptions of King’s archival holdings. Since its creation, this resource has been drawn on heavily for online exhibitions, including Faster, Further and Fairer: Science and sport at King’s College London (www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/iss/archives/sport/) and Dentistry: From pulling power to growing your own (www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/iss/archives/dentistry/), which between them get an average 50,000 web hits per month.

2002 saw the beginning of a preservation project to provide an efficient means of accessing information contained in three series of post-mortem registers, comprising 600 volumes of detailed case notes. The registers are now fit for production and can withstand the increased levels of interest in the collections.

A further project, initiated in 2001, focused on rare printed material from the King’s College School of Medicine and Dentistry Library. Content knowledge of this collection was previously limited, and the cataloguing has unlocked some hidden treasures, including a bound manuscript dated 1762 entitled Of the Small Poxs (containing doctors’ notes, diagnoses and cures) and a 17th-century manuscript copy of An Hospital for the Diseased by Thomas Cartwright, which contains material not present in the printed version. Almost all of the 1750 printed books in the collection were printed before 1850 and were in poor condition. In addition to the cataloguing and promotional work that took place, substantial physical preservation was needed, and by the project’s end all of the most vulnerable items in the collection had received the required attention. The completed collection was relocated to the Foyle Special Collections Library to make it more accessible, and it has since been joined by other historical medical collections. This has resulted in a marked increase in use, and the historical medical collection is now one of the most heavily used of the School of Medicine and Dentistry Library collections.

The collection also includes several works by Joseph Lister in the field of antiseptic surgery. This material complements the collection Mind, body and spirit: surgical, psychiatric and palliative care at King’s College London, which became the subject of a further Research Resources in Medical History-funded cataloguing project in 2006. This project catalogued new material on community psychiatry, brain chemistry, care in the community and palliative oncology, and provided enhanced access to the work of Joseph Lister, Professor William Lishman, Dr Alec Buchanan, Professor Sarah Cowley and Professor Alison Richardson.

In 2004, King’s used a Research Resources in Medical History grant to undertake the cataloguing and appropriate conservation of the St Thomas’s Hospital historical collection, including all journals and pamphlets, which might otherwise have been neglected in comparison with the more visually striking volumes of anatomical plates or the better-known monographs. Since the cataloguing, the collection has seen a significant increase in use: 150–200 library users visit the collection every year to research topics of study including naval medicine, public health administration in colonial Africa, popular medical journals and the history of anatomical illustration. The grant has also helped the College to publicise the collection by mounting an exhibition, Medicine Embodied, in 2006, which used the St Thomas’s Hospital Historical Collection as a means of exploring developments in the history and understanding of medicine from the 15th century to the 19th.

After the broader projects, King’s College successfully completed three specific cataloguing and preservation projects that were funded by the Research Resources in Medical History programme between 2008 and 2010.

The first was Troubled Minds: A project to catalogue the papers of psychiatrists Sir Aubrey Lewis (1900–1975), Vilda Stoessiger (1900–1966), Professor John Gunn (b. 1957), and archives relating to post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which provided first-time access to archives on three key themes in psychiatry: the impact of social deprivation, war and post-traumatic stress. It also provided matchless evidence of the 20th-century modernisation of psychiatry education and the advance of integrated provision of public psychiatry services.

The second project, DNA and Social Responsibility: Cataloguing and preserving the papers of Nobel Prize winner, Professor Maurice Wilkins (1916–2004), and of King’s College London Biophysics Unit, provided full access to Wilkins’s archive. Spanning the years 1942–1999 and addressing themes of molecular meaning, wider social impact and the ethical conundrums associated with genetic research, the collection also includes records of the earliest experiments at King’s relating to the advent of DNA sequencing (from 1949 to 1977).

A significant outcome of this project was the inclusion of key parts of Wilkins’s archive in a major digitisation initiative by the Wellcome Library, Foundations of Modern Genetics is a digital research resource that brings together 20 important genetics archives and more than 1400 genetics books from the Wellcome Library and partner institutions. Wilkins’s archive complements those of fellow Nobel Prize winners Francis Crick and James Watson, as well as the papers of Wilkins’s co-worker at King’s, Rosalind Franklin.

The most recent of these more specific cataloguing and preservation projects, awarded in 2010, supported ‘A Genetecist’s Library: The collection of Reginald Ruggles Gates (1882–1962),’ which provided a link between the catalogued private papers and the previously unlisted printed book collection of a leading plant, animal and human geneticist whose life and work reflect the often controversial debates surrounding the history of genetics. Described as an outstanding example of a geneticist’s working library, the Ruggles Gates printed book collection is now accessible, and King’s can encourage the historical understanding of his work.

A small grant awarded in 2008 supported a condition survey of the Leighton Facial Development Archive, a collection of 47,000 items (including radiographs, cine film and plaster casts) charting the growth of the skull and teeth, the development of dentition and physical maturity. The archive is arguably one of the largest surviving collections of its kind in the world. Details emerging from the survey reports enabled fundraising for the long-term care of the collection to begin.

Online

Archives for Special Collections for Biomedical Sciences

www.kcl.ac.uk/library/support/subject/bio/archives.aspx

Faster, Further and Fairer: Science and sport at King’s College London

www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/iss/archives/sport/Dentistry: From pulling power to growing your own

www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/iss/archives/dentistry/
Kingston University, Centre for Local Studies

Extending the Great Ormond Street database 'Small and Special' and conducting a pilot on the case notes of Dr Charles West • A pilot project on 19th- and 20th-century hospital admission and discharge registers for sick children • Creating databases of Victorian children's hospital patient admissions • Extending databases of children's hospital patient admissions • Digitising the case notes of Sir Archibald Garrod

This series of grants began with a small project to microfilm the historic admissions registers of Great Ormond Street Hospital, which led to the creation of the successful online research tool 'Small and Special'. The project expanded with the assistance of additional Research Resources in Medical History funding to encompass the records of other children’s hospitals and was renamed the 'Historic Hospitals Admissions Registers Project' (HHARP). It provides historians with a unique means to study hospital provision for the sick children of 19th-century Britain. The databases contain details of patient admissions to Great Ormond Street Hospital, Evelina Children’s Hospital and the Alexandra Hospital for Children with Hip Disease. In the latest phase, records from the Royal Hospital for Sick Children (Glasgow, Yorkhill) were added to the database, allowing comparisons to be made between London and Glasgow. The databases are freely available to researchers and the general public via Kingston University's website, forming a core research tool on the development of institutionalised childcare in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The most recent grant enabled the digitisation of the case notes of Sir Archibald Garrod, an English physician who pioneered the field of inborn errors of metabolism and who served on the staff of Great Ormond Street Hospital, Bart’s and the Alexandra Hospital for Children with Hip Disease.

- [www.hharp.org](http://www.hharp.org) (2009)
- [fass.kingston.ac.uk/research/historical-record/projects/hharp/](http://fass.kingston.ac.uk/research/historical-record/projects/hharp/)

Lambeth Palace Library

Conservation of medical licences and Court of Arches records

Lambeth Palace Library received a grant in 2001 for the conservation of documents relating to midwifery, including 66 applications to the Archbishop’s Master of the Faculties for licences to practise medicine or midwifery in England and Wales from 1677 to 1794. Other documents made accessible by the grant included the records of the Court of Archers relating to the prosecution of a midwife for practising without a licence in 1665 and those relating to annuements of marriages based on medical evidence for the non-consummation of marriage in the early 18th century. In addition, 16th- to 19th-century medical books and bound pamphlets from the collections of Lambeth Palace and Sion College were conserved, including editions not found in either the British Library or the Wellcome Library, such as Fabricius’s De Locutione (1663) and Archbishop Laud’s signed copy of the Aphorisms of Hippocrates.

- [www.lambethpalacelibrary.org/content/](http://www.lambethpalacelibrary.org/content/)
- [archives@churchofengland.org](mailto:archives@churchofengland.org)
London Metropolitan Archives

London Metropolitan Archives (LMA) is the largest local authority record office in the UK and is home to 105 km of documents, films, books and maps about London, dating from 1067 to the present day. LMA received four grants between 2001 and 2009, most recently for the preservation and conservation of the Normansfield Hospital archives.

Normansfield opened as a private hospital in 1868 and is best known for the pioneering work of its founder, Dr John Haydon Langdon-Down, who established the hospital to provide care for people with learning disabilities at a time when treatment and research into the nature of mental illness was largely neglected. His most famous achievement was the classification of Down’s syndrome, but his influence goes far beyond this and his work at Normansfield Hospital is of paramount importance to the understanding of attitudes towards and treatments for people with learning difficulties.

The archive focused on the urgent preservation and conservation of over 30 linear metres of papers. They include correspondence, articles of parliament, minutes, reports, plans, and papers regarding pupil nurses. The archive catalogue, together with an article describing the conservation work undertaken by the project conservator, is available online.

In 2001, LMA received a grant for its Hospitals for Londoners project, which created a web-based listing for six major archives: the Lea and London Borough of Enfield and Greenford, Woolwich Memorial Hospital, Barnet Hospital, National Heart Hospital, and the Tavistock and Portman Clinic records. Previously, no finding aids existed for the hospital records, making research arduous. Since the project was completed, the collection has been used extensively for research, public engagement, and learning and outreach programmes. These have engaged schools, families, academics, students and the general public with the collections through talks, tours and practical workshops such as ‘London’s Sick Children’, ‘Meet the Apothecary’ and ‘Their Past Your Future’.

In 2003, LMA received an award to enhance the catalogue description of the archive of the London Metropolitan Archives Asylums Board. The Board was formed by a special Act of Parliament in 1867 to provide hospital services for poor Londoners and operated from 1867 to 1930. It had specific responsibilities relating to the infectious diseases and epidemics prevalent at the time, such as TB and smallpox. It also had wide mental health functions and developed extensive facilities for sick children. Although the list was accurate, it was difficult for contemporary users to understand, and these difficulties were exacerbated by the lack of introductions or contextual notes. The archive, with consistent introductions and contextual notes added for each of the upper levels of description, now provides a valuable, easily accessible resource for researchers.

Further funding awarded to LMA in 2004 enabled the conservation of the Royal London Homeopathic Hospital’s historic case books. The Royal London Homeopathic Hospital dates from 1889 to 1979, and the case books collection covers the period up to 1923. They were compiled by leading homeopathic practitioners such as Dr Washington Epps (1848–1912) and Sir John Weir (1879–1971). The archive, which contains descriptions of ailments and treatments illustrated by diagrams and observation charts, offers valuable research potential. The records, which were discovered in the hospital’s basement, were severely damaged and unusable, partly as a result of shrapnel damage during World War II. This project succeeded in repairing the damaged volumes and bringing this valuable collection to the medical history research community. The case books are now available for consultation by anyone wishing to learn more about the hospital and its doctors as they pursued alternative approaches to medical treatment between 1889 and 1913.

Catalogue descriptions are available via the LMA website.

Online

London Metropolitan Archives home search.lma.gov.uk/opac_lma/index.htm
An article on the Normansfield conservation work by the project conservator 217,574,250,218/Corporation/LGNL_Services/Leisure_and_culture/Records_and_archives/Events/Normansfield+Hospital+Collection.htm

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

The first grant awarded to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), in 2000, was for the preservation and re-cataloguing of the papers of Britain’s first Nobel Prize winner, Sir Ronald Ross, and the Ross Institute. Ross was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1902 for making the crucial connection between malaria and mosquitoes. His discovery has saved many lives, and his epidemiological work on malaria – including the mathematical modelling he used – is still relevant today and provides a basis for public health programmes to alleviate the misery caused by tropical diseases. The extensive archive of his life, which is now available for research and public interest, includes records of his work as a researcher in Britain and as a consultant and adviser on visits to West Africa, the Philippines, and the USA. The collection is of major importance for study of the development of the field of tropical medicine in the early 20th century.

Although the project was initiated before the creation of the Wellcome Trust’s strategic plan, it fits within the Trust’s research challenge ‘combating infectious diseases’, and it is anticipated that substantial future research will be produced as a result of the increased accessibility of the material.

The Ross collection has been used in a variety of public engagement events, including ‘World
London

Mosquito Day’ at the LSHTM in 2011, the promotional events ‘Treasures from the LSHTM Archives’ and ‘Archives on Travel, Exploration and Discovery at LSHTM’ and, more recently, for an exhibition inspired by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games showcasing historic and current work at the LSHTM.

A collection that complements this and many other collections held by the LSHTM is its map collection, which was the subject of a grant in 2005. Maps in the collection date from 1900 to 1960 and were used by the LSHTM in planning expeditions overseas, in the spatial investigation of tropical diseases, in recording research results and in prevention programmes. The importance of the maps lies first in the fact that the diseases and the areas they cover – mostly malaria and sleeping sickness in Africa – remain a major focus of public health concern today. Second, these maps contribute to the growing research interest in the history of medical cartography. A key gap has existed in this literature between the 19th and mid-20th centuries, which this collection (with the majority of its contents relating to 1900–1930) addresses. The maps provide vital insight into the early development of disease eradication programmes and, used in conjunction with other documentary collections in the LSHTM’s archive, they further the understanding of planning and fieldwork in the period shortly after scientific breakthroughs in the aetiology of malaria and sleeping sickness.

Following these projects, two further grants were awarded to the LSHTM. The first, in 2008, was to prepare and implement web access for an existing database of British voluntary hospital statistics from the period preceding the establishment of the NHS (from 1871 to 1947). The database includes sources of income and areas of expenditure, numbers of admissions and discharges, numbers of beds, and numbers of medical and nursing staff. Before digitisation, the value of this database was convincingly demonstrated by its role in the production of a series of publications, including some in peer-reviewed journals. Making this rich and important resource easily available online has brought it to the attention of historians of the hospital and of British social policy, and to urban and local historians. The database was also linked to the Wellcome Library–National Archives Hospital Records Database (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords), so users searching for online information about hospital records can easily access statistics through this site.

Most recently, in 2008, funding was awarded for the cataloguing and preservation of the LSHTM Nutrition collection. This rich and varied resource consists of historical records relating to scientific investigations carried out by LSHTM staff in the UK and colonial territories between the 1920s and 1950s. The collection includes dietary survey material, research in applied nutrition, documents relating to nutrition in internment camps during World War II and Professor Philip Payne’s work on protein requirements. Information on the project was disseminated to the medical history community through articles in relevant publications, announcements on email lists and the mounting of an exhibition at the LSHTM. Catalogue records describing the collection can be viewed via the LSHTM website.

Online
www.lshtm.ac.uk/library/archives/
Olympic exhibition
www.lshtm.ac.uk/aboutus/olympics/showcase_exhibition.html

National Archives

In 2008, a grant was awarded to the National Archives to produce a detailed catalogue of a collection of Admiralty records (ADM101) comprising Royal Navy medical officers’ journals dating from 1793 to 1880. The journals were compiled by Royal Navy surgeons serving on HM ships, in hospitals, in naval brigades, in shore parties and on emigrant and convict ships during this time. Medical officers serving in the Royal Navy were required to submit detailed records of the health, treatment and survival rates of their charges, resulting in a journal collection that exhibits a completeness, consistency and coherence unlikely to exist elsewhere for this period.

Considering the unique nature of the collection, it had been under-used by researchers, but this project opened up the collection by creating fully searchable material, accessible via the National Archives electronic catalogue. Medical historians can now define and pursue individual and joint lines of enquiry, test hypotheses, and explore the awareness, spread and practical application of the findings and theories of the period’s great health reformers in ways that were not previously possible.

In addition to uncovering the expected material relating to the Royal Navy, convict and emigrant ships, and information on diseases, patients, injuries, treatments and living conditions on board, cataloguing also revealed some unexpected ‘bonus’ material in the journals. This included watercolour illustrations, hand-drawn maps, charts showing details of the climate, and a myriad of eccentric cures for diseases and strange ailments encountered. The records also contain details about vessel layouts, countries visited and people met.

Researchers can easily search by the name of the medical officer, the patient or the ship, or even by disease or admittance, to uncover a variety of colourful tales of 18th- and 19th-century ship life, from drunken rum-related incidents, venereal disease, scurvy, shark bites and tarantulas to lightning strikes, gun fights, mutiny, arrests and courts martial. One journal in the collection even features a surgeon admitting that his ship, the Dido, was responsible for bringing and spreading the measles epidemic to Fiji – an epidemic that killed nearly a third of Fiji’s population.

Another journal is written by surgeon Robert McCormick, the same McCormick who travelled on the Beagle with Charles Darwin. These highlights, along with historical and contextual information, can be found on a dynamic website created by the National Archives as part of the project.

The digitisation of these files was part of the Archive Awareness Campaign’s latest nationwide theme, ‘Discovery – Archives in Science, Technology and Medicine’. Details of scientific exhibitions, open days and talks across the country organised by the Campaign can be found at www.archiveawareness.com.

Online
‘Surgeons at Sea’ archive (with highlights guide)
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/surgeonsatsea/
Archive Awareness Campaign
www.archiveawareness.com

London

One grant (2008)
Total: £96 454
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Nineteenth-century documentary sources for materia medica at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew: a pilot study of quinine

The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew received a small grant in 2006 for a pilot study of quinine, based on 19th-century documentary sources and bark specimens in its collections. The project focused on cross-referencing specimens and written materials contained in the archive to develop a methodology that could be applied to other materia medica and text collections at Kew. Relevant research resources were surveyed in the first phase, followed by the discovery and recording of connections between texts and/or specimens.

Contact
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew
26 West Park Road
Richmond
Surrey TW9 4DA
T +44 (0)20 8332 5000
www.kew.org

Grant number: GR070853
Amount awarded: £41,847

Royal College of Physicians of London

Cataloguing the institutional archives and donated holdings of the Royal College of Physicians

In 2001, Research Resources in Medical History supported the creation of an online catalogue of the institutional archives and donated holdings of the Royal College of Physicians of London, providing global access to the collections for the first time. A printed catalogue in the reading room was the sole means of finding information on the College collections up to this point. The archive includes: the watercolour anatomical drawings of Richard Bright (1822–1839); the journals of Sir James Clark, which detail his holidays accompanying Queen Victoria and her family (1847–1868); the case books of John Snow, detailing his administration of chloroform to patients, including Queen Victoria; and the professional and personal papers of the controversial physiologist Charles Edward Brown-Séquard.

The role of women in the history of medicine is also represented in the holdings, which include 17th- and 18th-century receipt books, the letters of Martha Beatrice Webb (1903–1909), and the scrapbook of health visitor Helen C Brooke (1919–1947).

Contact
Royal College of Physicians
11 St Andrews Place
Regents Park
London NW1 4LE
www.rcplondon.ac.uk/resources/library

Grant number: GR070829
Amount awarded: £23,300

Royal College of Nursing

Digitisation and online publication of historic nursing journals

The Royal College of Nursing was awarded a grant in 2002 to digitise The Nursing Record/ British Journal of Nursing 1888–1956, one of the earliest nursing journals, which is now freely available online. As a partner to the history of medicine, the history of nursing plays an important part in establishing a broader view of a ‘history of health’. The journal provides a primary source for information on the development of nursing as a profession, for the study of inter-professional relations and for a wide variety of interdisciplinary research.

Contact
The Royal College of Nursing
20 Cavendish Square
London W1G 0RN
T +44 (0)20 7409 3333
www.rcn.org.uk/development/rcn_archives/historical_nursing_journals

Grant number: GR070833
Amount awarded: £41,847

Royal College of Psychiatrists

Conservation of antiquarian books and archives of the Royal College of Psychiatrists

Grants were awarded in 2002 and 2008 for the conservation and assessment of fragile and damaged items from the College’s collection of antiquarian books, dissertations and archives.

Contact
Library and Information Services
Royal College of Psychiatrists
17 Belgrave Square
London SW1X 8PG
T +44 (0)20 7335 3331
www.rcpsych.ac.uk/archiveslists.aspx

Grant number: GR070838
Amount awarded: £50,081

Grant number: GR080114
Amount awarded: £11,433

Contact
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew
26 West Park Road
Richmond
Surrey TW9 4DA
T +44 (0)20 8332 5000
www.kew.org

Grants were awarded in 2002 and 2008 for the conservation and assessment of fragile and damaged items from the College’s collection of antiquarian books, dissertations and archives.

Grant number: GR070838
Amount awarded: £10,081

Grant number: GR085815
Amount awarded: £1,500
Six grants were awarded to the Royal College of Surgeons of England (RCS) between 2001 and 2009 to support the cataloguing of tracts and pamphlets and the cataloguing and conservation of the RCS library’s manuscripts, in addition to printed collections in the history of medicine and science.

Work began in 2001 with the cataloguing of the library’s tracts and pamphlets covering areas of medicine relating to epidemics, vaccination, therapeutics and natural history. Although most of the items date from the 18th century to the 20th, the collection ranges from 1577 to 1937. The medical pamphlets are primarily 19th and early 20th century. The collection is rich in ‘grey literature’, such as individual case reports reprinted from periodicals, addresses to medical societies and annual reports, some of which are unique.

Fifty per cent of the library’s total material was catalogued, which resulted in an increase in use of more than 100 per cent over two years. In 2003, a second grant was awarded to complete the cataloguing. The collection is rich in: material for research into the origins of anaesthesia, antisepsis, microbiology, forensic medicine, demography and epidemiology; information on the reform of the medical and dental professions, military medicine and the development of surgical techniques; and items covering the history of public health and social reform, including pamphlets on sanitation and sewerage, workhouse hospitals and Contagious Diseases Acts. The collection also includes 500 dissertations on physiology and pharmacology from the Imperial Medical Academy of St Petersburg (1884–1891) and several groups of tracts assembled by interested doctors, such as William Bulloch on haemophilia, Arthur Maude on Grave’s disease and John Tweedy on ophthalmology. These 2,844 volumes are now easily accessible to researchers.

Although the production of an online catalogue remained the main focus of the project, preservation also played a part, and fragile or damaged items were identified for future conservation work.

The cataloguing of RCS manuscripts took place in 2002 and was followed by a further grant in 2005 to improve access through conservation. The collection includes lecture notes (now arranged by student, not lecturer), diaries, case books, correspondence and research papers relating to surgery, natural history and public health. Included are the papers of seminal figures and societies in the history of British surgery. Most notable are the papers of John Hunter, William Hunter, the Hunter-Baillie family, John Abernethy, Sir Astley Cooper, William Clift and Sir Richard Owen. Extracts from ‘Lives of the Fellows of the RCS’ (not available online) were scanned to provide biographical information, and in some cases the contextual environment of material has been explored to enrich the catalogue.

Further grants were awarded for a two-stage project, ‘Securing the Legacy of British Surgical History’, to preserve and catalogue the library’s printed collection, 12 per cent of which is unique to the library. The first, in 2006, covered the 19th-century collection. The second, in 2009, completed the 18th and pre-17th century. The project as a whole illuminates the work and collections of John Hunter (1728–1793) and his predecessors, contemporaries and successors.

In 2003, the Royal Free Hospital received a grant to conserve 285 volumes of historic case notes spanning a period of almost 50 years from 1890 to 1938. The case notes provide a fascinating insight into the work of approximately 50 consultants, including several pioneering medical women. Subject areas include medicine, surgery, anaesthetics, obstetrics and gynaecology, and the majority of volumes are indexed by patient name and diagnosis. Further grants awarded in 2007 and 2009 provided preservation boxing of the Royal Free collection of minute books and the purchase of a microfilm reader to provide access to the remaining case notes, which had been microfilmed at an earlier date.

Staff in the RCS library and archives can now provide more detailed and accurate information in response to enquiries, which has led to a notable increase in use by researchers. Overall, there has been a near-complete cataloguing of the unique collections, which (alongside conservation work) has ensured the future of a large portion of the library’s collection, as well as improving access. The projects were publicised through a conference organised in conjunction with the Royal Society of Medicine and the Wellcome Trust, entitled ‘Exploring Medical History: What’s happening in libraries and archives’, and other events, including a dental surgery exhibition in 2007 and several articles in issues of Bulletin of the Royal College of Surgeons of England between 2008 and 2010.

As a result of cataloguing, direct links have been established between items in the library, archive and museum collections. This has led to increased collaboration between the RCS library and Hunterian Museum, further enhancing the research potential and understanding of dispersed collection items.

**Royal Free Hospital**

**Conservation of the Royal Free Hospital case notes** • **Boxing the minute books of the Royal Free Hospital and London (Royal Free) School of Medicine for Women** • **Purchase of a microfilm reader for the Royal Free Hospital Archives Reading Room**
The Royal Society

Cataloguing the 20th-century medical and physiological papers of the Royal Society

Papers central to this project included the personal papers of J H Gaddum FRS (1900–1965), Otto Loewi FRS (1873–1961) and E G T Liddell FRS (1895–1983). Additional records included the Royal Society 20th-century medical committee’s selection and the papers of the Food and Chemistry subcommittees of the Royal Society War Committee 1914–1918. Although they are of interest to historians of medicine, the strong thematic links between the five sets of papers also suggest a wider scholarly appeal; they deal with tropical disease control and Commonwealth food production, for example. They also illustrate the impact of war on the general public in the years 1914–1918. The project created more than 10,000 new catalogue entries, unearthing particularly interesting discoveries such as the letters of Chaim Weizmann concerning the production of acetone for munitions, a letter from Herbert Hoover on supplies to Britain and correspondence with W H Beveridge at the Ministry of Food. The papers offer an invaluable original resource for those studying the development of nutritional science and the economics of wartime. During the project, a small cache of letters by the physiologist Henry Bancroft FRS (1904–1998) was discovered, and these were also made available for research.

Contact
The Royal Society Library
6–9 Carlton House Terrace
London SW1Y 5AG
T +44 (0)20 7290 2900
royalsociety.org/library/collections/

Royal Society of Medicine

Retrospective conversion of the Royal Society of Medicine rare books catalogue

A grant was awarded to the Royal Society of Medicine in 2001 for a project to create machine-readable electronic descriptive records for the pre-1901 book collection, comprising approximately 20,000 books and 20,000 pamphlets. The tracts, in particular, represent an important collection of ‘grey’ literature and were largely unknown before this project because access to the collection was only possible by means of a single entry on the internal card catalogue in the library.

In 2006, the Research Resources in Medical History scheme also funded a one-day seminar, ‘Exploiting Medical History: A practical approach’, at the University of Birmingham.

Contact
The Royal Society of Medicine
1 Wimpole Street
London W1G 0AE
T +44 (0)20 7290 2900
www.rsm.ac.uk/librar/index.php

Senate House Library, University of London

British Postgraduate Medical Foundation archive: enabling access through appraisal, cataloguing and preservation • Cataloguing the British Psychological Society’s history of psychology collection • Cataloguing the papers of Eric Dingwall

A grant was awarded in 2007 supported a project to catalogue the archive of the British Postgraduate Medical Foundation, established by the Senate of the University of London in 1945. The archive includes directors’ files from the 1940s; records relating to funding from the 1950s onwards, annual reports, and papers of the Central Academic Council, the Governing Body, the Executive Committee, the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Audit Committee, the Special Purposes Committee and the Education Committee. Papers relating to the Institute of Child Health, the Institute of Cancer Research, the Institute of Neurology, the Institute of Ophthalmology and the Institute of Psychiatry are included. Further papers relate to the National Heart and Lung Institute and the Hunterian Institute. The archive also includes files of the British Postgraduate Medical Foundation directors, secretary and financial officer.

Contact
Senate House Library
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU
T +44 (0)20 7862 8500
www.ull.ac.uk/specialcollections/archives/archivespsychicsources.shtml

A third grant, awarded in 2011, is currently underway to conserve and catalogue the papers of Eric Dingwall (1890–1986). The collection is large and unorthodox; it contains scrapbooks constructed by Dingwall from the remains of existing printed volumes. Dingwall was known as one of the most experienced psychical investigators of modern times.

Additional funding was awarded in 2007 to catalogue the history of psychology collection of the British Psychological Society, which is held at Senate House Library.

Contact
Senate House Library
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU
T +44 (0)20 7862 8500
www.aim25.ac.uk/cgi-bin/vcdf/detail?coll_id=8572&inst_id=14
www.ull.ac.uk/specialcollections/archives/archivespsychicsources.shtml
St Bartholomew’s Hospital Archives and Museum

Four Research Resources in Medical History grants were awarded to the St Bartholomew’s Hospital Archives in 2007 and 2008. The first project catalogued and conserved a collection of some 1826 pathological illustrations dating from c.1845 to 1910. The collection of watercolours and photographs, which were used for teaching and research, illustrate patients treated at St Bartholomew’s Hospital and anatomical pathological specimens. The collection was also digitised, and copies were made available to the Wellcome Library.

Subsequent awards supported a preservation survey of collections and the conservation of patient records from the Alexandra Hospital for Children with Hip Disease, in preparation for digitisation and inclusion in the Historic Hospitals Admission Registers Project (HHARP) in conjunction with Great Ormond Street Hospital and Kingston University.

Contact
St Bartholomew’s Hospital (Barts’)
West Smithfield
London EC1A 7BE
www.aim25.ac.uk/cgi-bin/vcdf/detail?coll_id=13267&inst_id=51

Grant number: Gr070837
Amount awarded: £26,129
Grant number: Gr095142
Amount awarded: £350,937
Grant number: Gr086951
Amount awarded: £25,195
Grant number: Gr076790
Amount awarded: £4,000
Grant number: Gr085084
Amount awarded: £1,450
Grant number: Gr086000
Amount awarded: £181
Grant number: Gr086992
Amount awarded: £82,003
Grant number: Gr089123
Amount awarded: £8,840

University College London

Conserving and cataloguing of the rare books collections of the Institute of Orthopaedics Library, the Human Communications Science Library, and the Institute of Laryngology and Otology Library • Art for medicine’s sake: the restoration of the Carswell Drawings Collection • The Sloane Printed Books Project • Conservation assessment of the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology joint library • Cataloguing genetics collections at UCL • Assessing the Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgical Hospital archives • Cataloguing the Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgical Hospital archives

Seven grants awarded to UCL (University College London) since 2001 supported projects that – through a combination of cataloguing and conservation – have provided access to a broad range of primary and secondary resources for researchers. These include primary sources relating to the development of neurology and neurosurgery, unique pathological drawings and paintings, the dispersed printed collection of Sir Hans Sloane, a founding collection of the British Library, and UCL’s genetics collections.

Key parts of the genetics collections have been included in the Wellcome Library’s Foundation of Modern Genetics digital research resource, which brings together 10 important genetics collections and more than 1400 genetics books from the Library and partner institutions.

Contact
UCL Library
Wilkins Building
Gower Street
London WC1E 6BT
T +44 (0)20 7679 7792
www.ucl.ac.uk/library/main.shtml
www.ucl.ac.uk/ion/library/historical
www.ucl.ac.uk/library/special-coll/carswell.shtml
The Women's Library
Cataloguing the Josephine Butler Society Archive

The Women's Library received a grant in 2004 to catalogue the archives of the Josephine Butler Society (also known as the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene), which was established in 1867 in response to concern about prostitution in the UK. The archive is the major source for the study of the ‘hygienic’ or ‘medical’ regulation of prostitution over a period of more than 100 years and includes the personal correspondence of Josephine Butler and 1960 pamphlets published by the society between 1870 and the 1930s. The catalogue is now accessible online to researchers.

Contact
The Women's Library
London Metropolitan University
25 Old Castle Street
Aldgate
London E1 7NT
www.londonmet.ac.uk/thewomenslibrary/
aboutthecollections/collections/jos-butler.cfm
Addenbrooke’s Hospital

Conservation of Addenbrooke’s Hospital case notes (1878–1947)

In 2006, a grant was awarded for the conservation of Addenbrooke’s Hospital patient case notes, comprising 900 volumes dating from 1876 to 1947 and encompassing the start of the NHS. The case notes were cleaned, repaired and rehoused in archival packaging and have subsequently been catalogued. In addition to patient records and registers, the archives of Addenbrooke’s Hospital contain minutes and accounts of the Trustees of Addenbrooke’s Hospital, annual accounts and lists of subscribers (1767–1862), annual reports (1885–present), minutes of the Board of Governors, Committees and Courts dating from 1766, photographs and press cuttings, and the archives of the United Cambridge Hospitals, including Mill Road Maternity Hospital (1936–1983), the Hunstanton Home of Recovery (1869–1967) and Brookfields Hospital (1952–1967).

Contact
Box 53
Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Hills Road
Cambridge CB2 0QQ
T +44 (0)1223 588737
www.cuh.org.uk/cuh/services/non_clin/archive/archives/index.html

Cambridgeshire Archives

Cambridgeshire Archives received a grant in 2002 to undertake the cataloguing, preservation and selective digitisation of the archives of the Papworth Village Settlement, the personal and professional papers of Sir Pendril Varrier-Jones, and the case notes of Papworth Hospital. Together, these provide a remarkable record of a leading institution in the history of the suppression of tuberculosis in high-income countries and the redirection of these resources towards the rehabilitation and training of the physically disabled.

The Papworth Village Settlement – or Cambridge Tuberculosis Colony, as it was before cataloguing took place, ensuring long-term stability and easy access to the records, which can be seen at www.a2a.org.uk.

The collection has been used to create an online gallery and produce articles on the hospital’s history for two local history journals and the Wellcome History newsletter. Work undertaken on the Fair Mile archive laid the foundations for a major project, funded in two stages by the Wellcome Trust, to catalogue and conserve approximately 1000 papers and bound volumes relating to the history of Broadmoor Hospital (previously Broadmoor Special Institution or Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum) from its opening in 1863. The archive contains detailed records of buildings, personnel and patient management, offering a unique insight into the institutional running and care of patients in one of England’s three secure hospitals.

The first phase of work focused on cataloguing and preservation measures. In success led to a further deposit of bound volumes containing the files of male patients between 1875 and 1884. These had been severely water damaged during storage, and a third grant was awarded in 2007 to fund an intensive programme of conservation treatment. Before treatment, the papers were badly degraded and wholly unusable: every individual leaf needed to be washed, in-filled and lined to make the files fit for production.

The projects have opened up the collection since their completion in 2012. The records are widely used for scholarly research, such as Newcastle University’s Wellcome Trust-funded ‘Madness and Mortality’ project, and research by family historians. Berkshire Record Office has done much to promote the archive, including producing articles for publication in Ancestral Tree, Family History Monthly, Who Do You Think You Are?, The Ephemerist, HerStory and the edge of where true crime meets mental illness”, demonstrates the level of public interest in the archive.

These projects have substantially improved access to, and raised awareness of, unique archival resources in the history of mental health care and Broadmoor Hospital. Conservation and preservation measures, combined with the global reach of online catalogues and web-based promotional outputs, will ensure the continued availability of the records for current and future users.

Online Catalogue
www.aaa.org.uk

Online exhibition
www.berkshirerecordoffice.org.uk/albums/fair-mile-hospital

Berkshire Record Office

The grants awarded to Berkshire Record Office cover two distinct archives.

2004 saw the beginning of a six-month project to catalogue and conserve the archive of Fair Mile Hospital (previously Berkshire County Asylum and Mental Hospital). The archive covers 19th-century provision of mental health care, as well as the development and history of the asylum and its gardens. Fair Mile was the first NHS day care community, and the archive contains staff records and full patient records from its opening in 1870 to 1948, which saw its transition to the NHS under Dr David Duncan. The case notes contain daily observation records, reports of activities and responses of patients, and insights into their motives and those of the physicians treating them. In addition to the medical history merit of the collection, the material also contains evidence of the business-like nature of the asylum and its interaction with the local community.

Much of the archive had been badly damaged by damp, and the grant enabled the conservation team to undertake extensive remedial work on it before cataloguing took place, ensuring long-term

St Albans, Hertfordshire

Archives

Three grants
(2004–2007)
Total: £224,351

Total: £63,985

Grant number: GR080080
Amount awarded: £61,336

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www.aaa.org.uk

Online exhibition
www.berkshirerecordoffice.org.uk/albums/fair-mile-hospital

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South East

Papworth was the foremost settlement of its time and became the leading centre in the treatment and rehabilitation of patients with tuberculosis, the most widespread and intractable health problem of 19th- and early-20th-century Britain. Many of Britain’s modern concepts of rehabilitation of the disabled and surgical intervention in heart disease grew out of this institution as it evolved to become the Papworth Trust and Papworth Hospital. It is an evolution that has left an extensive legacy of papers, publications, photographs and cine film that record the experiences of those who have lived through and been involved in these developments. Papworth Hospital is renowned for work in the treatment of heart disease and, in particular, its pioneering transplant surgery. The patient case files from the hospital, which date from 1952, also document healthcare during the earliest period of the NHS.

Together, these collections shed light on an immense variety of subjects, including: the history of scientific research into tuberculosis and heart disease from an epidemiological and social perspective; how society has coped with intractable health problem of 19th- and early-20th-century Britain – the recognition of the importance of disease – the evolution of holistic sociomedical treatment of disease – the recognition of the importance of supporting patients beyond curing them.

The project improved access by providing web-accessible archival descriptions of the collections, making important documents and illustrations available digitally (including on the internet) and encouraging the educational use of the archive at all levels to improve understanding. The Record Office has also improved understanding of the collections by seeking out documents in official and private hands, gaining contextual information from those who have worked or lived at Papworth, and establishing an oral history archive based on interviews.

With the exception of the hospital case notes, the catalogue is accessible online, and Cambridgeshire Archives continues to source and include documentary surveys and oral history work to develop the existing archival record.

As a result of this project, a second tranche of material was transferred from Papworth to Cambridgeshire archives, which currently remains uncatalogued.

Online
Information on the Papworth Archive
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/archives/projects/papworth

Churchill College Cambridge

Churchill Archives Centre received a grant from the Research Resources in Medical History programme in 2010 to assess the condition and content of the recently deposited papers of Nobel Prize winner Professor Robert Edwards, who conducted pioneering work at Cambridge University in the development of in vitro fertilisation (IVF) and preimplantation genetic diagnosis, established the Bourn Hall Clinic for fertility treatment with Patrick Steptoe, and was awarded the 2010 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his research.

Although Professor Edwards has kept certain papers and others remain at the Bourn Hall Clinic, a substantial deposit of papers, newspaper cuttings, photographs, photo albums and audio Dictaphone tapes dated between the 1950s and 2006 was transferred from his home to the Churchill Archives Centre in 2010.

Edwards’s work on fertilisation began in 1955 and the period covered by the deposited papers incorporates the most successful years of his career, highlighting the scientific developments as this ground-breaking research, in collaboration with Professor Steptoe, was brought into clinical use. Other papers in the collection address the ethical issues surrounding the research and the wider picture in which the work took place: these include an early rejection for funding from the Medical Research Council, the establishment of the research centre in Cambridge, opposition from the Pope, and the debates in the Houses of Parliament on necessary changes to the law in light of the research and its potential outcomes.

These papers provide access to the story of the pioneering research conducted by the man deemed ‘the father of IVF’, but they also demonstrate the attitudes of the wider world and the changes it had to make to its thinking and laws to accommodate this scientific development. A small grant enabled a detailed survey of the material to be compiled after its transfer to Churchill Archives Centre, where it can be used by the research community.

The award also covered a similar project to assess the condition and content of the papers of Professor Sir Aaron Klug, whose papers were donated to Churchill Archives Centre in 2011. Klug, a British chemist and biophysicist, was awarded the 1982 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his development of crystallographic electron microscopy and his structural elucidation of biologically important nucleic acid–protein complexes. The uncatalogued archive, consisting of some 200 archive boxes, may be the subject of a future application to the Research Resources in Medical History grant scheme.

Online
Information on the Sir Aaron Klug Project

East Sussex Record Office

Beyond the borderine of mental health: creating access to the archive of the Lady Chichester Hospital, Hove, 1905–1987, through a programme of conservation and listing

In 2005 a grant was awarded to the East Sussex Record Office to conserve and catalogue the historical records of the Lady Chichester Hospital, Hove (1905–1987), which treated nervous disorders in women and children. The records offer great diversity, reflecting the work of the founder, Dr Helen Boyle, who was among the first to promote the benefits of separating people with recoverable conditions from the chronically ill.

Contact
East Sussex Record Office
The Maltings
Castle Precincts
Lewes BN7 1YT
T +44 (0)1273 482349
www.eastsussex.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/localandfamilyhistory/esro/default.htm
Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead
Survey of the archival holdings of Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead

Queen Victoria Hospital holds archives relating to the work of the pioneering plastic surgeon Archibald McIndoe and the Blond McIndoe Burns Unit, including the patient casenotes of ‘the Guinea Pig Club’, a group of injured RAF servicemen whose burns were treated using McIndoe’s experimental plastic surgery techniques. The club, which started in 1941 with 39 convalescent members, had 649 members by the end of World War II as a result of increased bombing raids over both Britain and Germany.

In 2009, a Research Resources in Medical History grant supported an independent assessment of the archives to provide recommendations for the long-term care of the documents. The archives include administrative records, operations registers, case notes documenting the treatment of service personnel from 1939 to 1948 and several files relating to McIndoe. Further information about the archives will be made available as the project develops. For up-to-date information, please contact the hospital.

Contact
Queen Victoria Hospital
Holtye Road
East Grinstead
West Sussex RH19 3DZ
www.qvh.nhs.uk/about_us/our_heritage.php

Royal Army Medical Services Museum
Assessment and listing of the Royal Army Medical Corps archives

A grant was awarded to support an assessment of the Royal Army Medical Corps archives held by the museum, to determine the cataloguing and conservation needs of the documents. As a result, top-level descriptions have been produced, and collections may be viewed on request by appointment.

Contact
Keogh Barracks
Mytchett Place Road
Aldershot GU16 6DD
www.ams-museum.org.uk/museum/research/

In 2001, a small grant was awarded to Dartford Library to bind, clean and repair 52 volumes of printed minutes of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. This proved to be the starting point for a larger project, and the volumes provide valuable information on the administration of mental hospitals in the Dartford area in the Victorian period.

Contact
Centre for Kentish Studies
Sessions House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ
T +44 (0)1622 694363
www.kentarchives.org.uk/Calmview/

Kent Arts and Libraries: Dartford Library
Preservation of mental health archives at Dartford Library

In 2010, a grant was awarded in support of a project to catalogue and conserve the archives and historic library collection of the John Innes Research Centre. The project focused on improving access to key resources in the History of Genetics Library and Archives, particularly the collections of two key figures in the early history of genetics, William Bateson and Cyril Dean Darlington. The collections include correspondence, photographs, 650 scientific notebooks, the papers of C D Darlington and Harold Woolhouse, the archives of the Nitrogen Fixation Laboratory, and Bateson’s private library, which contains many annotated volumes.

Contact
John Innes Centre
Norwich Research Park
Norwich NR4 7UH
T +44 (0)1603 450000
www.jic.ac.uk/corporate/services-and-products/library/historical-collections.htm

John Innes Research Centre
The historical collections at the John Innes Centre: improving access and usage

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www.jic.ac.uk/corporate/services-and-products/library/historical-collections.htm

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Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ
T +44 (0)1622 694363
www.kentarchives.org.uk/Calmview/
The Royal Pavilion and Museums, Brighton

The Royal Pavilion as a hospital for wounded Indian soldiers: digitising the photographic records

Contact
4/5 Pavilion Buildings
Brighton BN1 1EE
T +44 (0)1273 203000
www.brighton-hove-rpml.org.uk/
HistoryAndCollections/collectionsthemames/pavilion/indianhospitalartphotography/Pages/pavilionindianhospitalartphotographs.aspx

Surrey History Centre

Cataloguing the archive of the Brookwood Mental Hospital

A grant was awarded in 2002 to produce an integrated and comprehensive catalogue of records relating to the Brookwood Mental Hospital in Woking. The hospital, which was established in 1867 as the second County Asylum, served as an emergency war hospital during World War II. Ninety archive boxes, 70 large cartons and 673 freestanding volumes contain detailed case books to 1921, admission and discharge registers to 1988, medical and death registers, post-mortem registers, and treatment registers. The archive also includes records of the internal staffing and administration of the hospital and documents on the functioning of the institution as a self-contained community with workshops, a farm and a full programme of entertainments.

The catalogue, which has unlocked the source for medical, social and local historians, is available online under the reference ‘3043’.

Contact
Surrey History Centre
130 Goldsworth Road
Woking
Surrey GU21 6ND
T +44 (0)1483 518737
E shs@surreycc.gov.uk

South East

Royal Pavilion and Museums, Brighton

The Royal Pavilion and Museums, Brighton, received a small grant in 2008 to digitise a collection of historic photographs depicting the Royal Pavilion during its use as a military hospital for wounded Indian soldiers from 1914 to 1916. The project also included the digitisation of a rare periodical, the Brighton and South Saxons Graphic, which features photomechanical images of the wounded Indian soldiers and the converted palace, and detailed descriptions of the conditions in which they were treated.

 amount awarded: £8000

Grant number: GR097627

University of Oxford and the Bodleian Library

The University of Oxford has received five grants from the Research Resources in Medical History programme to aid projects across the Bodleian Library, College archives and the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics.

In 2010 and 2011, grants were awarded to the Bodleian Library to appraise, sort and catalogue the papers of Sir Walter Bodmer and Julia Gwynnaeth, Lady Bodmer. This collection adds to a growing body of research material made available under the Trust’s strategic challenge area of developing sources around the foundations of modern genetics.

Bodmer’s career has covered major advancements in the field of cancer genetics – in which he is a leading international expert – from developments in linkage (1990s and 1960s) to the mapping of human chromosomes (1980s to 2000s). Beyond genetics and biomedicine, his interest and influence spread to policy making and campaigning on scientific issues. He wrote a report for The Royal Society on the public understanding of science, which is regarded as the catalyst for cultural change in scientists’ relations with the public and is a key document in the study of the public understanding of science and how it has changed. In addition, he was leader of the Wellcome Trust-funded £2.5-million project ‘The People of the British Isles’, which examined the genetic make-up of the UK population. The archive is of great importance to researchers in genetics, the history of medicine, the philosophy of science and scientific policy.

With the exception of his period of service as Principal of Hertford College, Oxford, and his current work, the collection documents the whole span of Sir Walter’s career and that of his wife, Lady Bodmer.

The papers of Lady Bodmer have value both because she collaborated with her husband and because she was a distinguished researcher in her own right. The collection includes scientific notes detailing her research and personal diaries that give an insight into her social world, and it is of interest in both the history of genetics and the study of women in science.

After an initial phase of sorting and discarding duplicates, work began on box listing before 1000 boxes were transferred to the Bodleian’s purpose-built storage facility in Swindon. The scoping phase to assess the scale of the project suggests that, once sorted, the archive will comprise around 750 000 individual documents, in addition to southern blot tests on filter paper, medical X-rays on acetate negative sheet film, disks, photographs, slides and notebooks.

Queen’s College received a grant in 2002 to catalogue and conserve the manuscript and printed book collections of Sir John Floyer (1649–1734) and Theophilus Metcalfe (1690–1757). Floyer published widely during his life and is best known for his research into the properties of cold bathing, his work on asthma and his pioneering work developing a pulse watch. The collection includes printed copies of his own writings, books from his library and manuscripts, which include Advice to a Young Physician, written to his infant grandson. Metcalfe’s collection, which is more academic in character than Floyer’s, is diverse and includes chemical and alchemical works as well as medicine. It is particularly strong in gynaecology. The project resulted in enhanced access to both of these important collections via a state-of-the-art online catalogue and a range of preservation and conservation treatments.

During the course of the project, Queen’s College recruited expert conservators from the Oxford Conservation Consortium to carry out work. Subsequently, the Consortium successfully applied for Research Resources in Medical History funding in 2010 for a project to conserve the early printed medical collections of Magdalen and Merton Colleges and promote them within the academic community. These collections, which were established around the donated libraries of physicians and medical scholars who were linked to the two colleges, reflect the state of medical knowledge and practice during the
16th, 17th and 18th centuries. They include several unique manuscripts and rare printed texts, but they are of particular significance because many of the texts contain the annotations of their original owners, providing further evidence of the views and opinions of early scholars and practitioners. The broad disciplinary range of researchers using the annotated volumes confirms their importance as distinct from the editions to be found at the British Library or Wellcome Library.

A one-day conference entitled 'Medical History in Oxford College Libraries' included an exhibition of collection items and exposed researchers from several disciplines and career stages to the medical history resources at Magdalen and Merton for the first time. The conference also included detailed evidence of the complex treatments and techniques developed by Oxford Conservation Consortium conservators to stabilise and repair the collection items, which will be used to inform best practice for future conservation projects and further the practical understanding of historic book structures and bindings.

In 2011, a project began at the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics, held in the Le Gros Clark Building at the University of Oxford, to catalogue the slides and supporting documentation of Sherrington and Le Gros Clark, both of whom contributed greatly to our understanding of the brain and central nervous system. Sherrington is perhaps best known for coining the term 'synapse' and for his Nobel Prize-winning work on spinal reflexes and inhibition. His collection contains examples of a lifetime of work understanding the central nervous system, including slides related to original breakthroughs such as cortical localisation in the brain. The Le Gros Clark collection had not been examined in detail before the project began but holds brain sections that might be linked to his topological mapping of the main sensory areas of the cerebral cortex and other neurological discoveries.

The slides are of a very high quality and some contain invaluable material from rare species and clinical cases. Making these collections available will be of great value for a wide spectrum of uses, from historical research into the basis of our modern understanding of the brain and central nervous system to pathology and neuroanatomical teaching. The Federation of European Neuroscience Societies has already expressed an interest in the Sherrington collection with a project grant to begin the process of digitisation once the cataloguing is complete.

The outcome of the project is a publicly accessible online repository of historical slides, seen by the University as the starting point for developing a methodology that can be applied to other Oxford slide collections in the future.

West Sussex Record Office

Condition survey of the photographic material in the patient records of the Graylingwell Mental Hospital archive, Chichester

Fifty-five volumes of detailed case books relating to male patients from 1897 to 1925 contained photographic images of each patient, which were badly degrading in the volumes. The survey was carried out in order to establish the conservation needs of the collection before developing a further funding application.

Contact
West Sussex Record Office
3 Orchard Street
Chichester
West Sussex PO19 1D
www.westsussex.gov.uk/leisure/explore_west_sussex/record_office_and_archives.aspx
Bristol University Library and Archives

Condition and content survey of the ALSPAC archives

A grant was awarded to Bristol University Library and Archives to survey the archives generated over time by the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC), which were dispersed across several locations around the UK. Although some were reunited and deposited in the University Archives, it will take time for all the relevant records to be collected and deposited for use by researchers.

Contact
Special Collections
Arts and Social Sciences Library
University of Bristol
Tyndall Avenue
Bristol BS8 1TJ
T +44 (0)117 928 8114
w w w . b r i s . a c . u k / l i b r a r y / r e s o u r c e s / specialcollections/archives/

The Cochrane Collaboration

Identifying and preserving the paper and electronic records of the Cochrane Collaboration – a scoping study of a distributed, not-for-profit, healthcare knowledge organisation

In 2007, Research Resources in Medical History funding supported a scoping study of records generated by the Cochrane Collaboration, an international organisation that produces systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions and occupies a unique position in the science of evaluation in healthcare. The survey of its early records highlighted the need to preserve important documents that reveal its origins and development. As a result, a proposal recommending that an Archiving Working Party be set up to devise guidelines for the whole organisation, thus preserving vital records for the future, was submitted to the Steering Group of the Cochrane Collaboration in 2008.

In addition, records of work that led to the setting up of the Collaboration now form part of a new archive based at Cardiff University – the Centre for the History of Evaluation in Health Care.

Online
www.thecochranelibrary.com
www.cardiff.ac.uk/insrv/libraries/scolar/special/science/chehc.html

Cornwall Record Office

Cataloguing of the 19th- and 20th-century archive of mental health care in Cornwall

A grant awarded in 2002 funded the production of a fully integrated catalogue for the archive of St Lawrence’s Hospital, Bodmin (formerly the County Lunatic Asylum), which was transferred to the Cornwall Record Office in 2001. The records cover the period 1815–1991. A full administrative and custodial history was compiled at collection level, and further details were supplied at series level. Damaged records were repaired and the collection was packaged to archival standards.

Contact
Cornwall Record Office
Old County Hall
Truro
+44 (0)1872 323127
www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=14665#Hospitals
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=021-x97&cid=0&kw=st%20lawrence%20hospital%20bodmin#0

Devon Record Office

Cataloguing and conservation of Exeter regional mental health records: retrieving and preserving modern mental health records – a project to sort, appraise, conserve and catalogue Exe Vale Hospital files for research purposes

A grant was awarded to the Devon Record Office in 2008 to catalogue 10,000 patient files from the Exe Vale Hospital (Wonford House, Exminster, and Digby Hospitals) in collaboration with researchers at the Centre for Medical History, University of Exeter. The resulting database formed part of a research project at Exeter entitled ‘Mental Illness and Returning Patient Care in the Early National Health Service: A comparative study of the admission and treatment of multiple-entry patients in English mental hospitals, c.1948–1970’. The database also informed the selection of files for permanent retention at the Devon Record Office, based on an assessment of their research value by researchers and staff from the record office. Retained records were cleaned, repaired and repackaged, and remaining records were confidentially destroyed. The project also aimed to develop a reliable sampling method for use by health service records managers as a way of streamlining the passage of selected records for future use.

Contact
Great Moor House
Bittern Road
Sowton
Exeter EX2 7NL
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=027-3992f&cid=0&kw=exe%20vale%20hospital%20files#0

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=027-3769a&cid=0#0
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=027-4034a&cid=0#0

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www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=027-3992f&cid=0&kw=exe%20vale%20hospital%20files#0

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=027-3769a&cid=0#0
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=027-4034a&cid=0#0
Between 2005 and 2008, five grants amounting to £89,993 were awarded to the National Cataloguing Unit for the Archives of Contemporary Scientists (NCUACS) to catalogue the papers of several leading scientists, including Nobel Prize winner César Milstein, before their deposit in archive repositories across the UK. Papers catalogued include those of Sir Joseph Rotblat FRS, Nobel Prize winner Bernard Katz and Malcolm Ferguson-Smith FRS. A further small grant was awarded to NCUACS to conduct a survey of the archives of UK human and medical geneticists, the results of which helped to develop a call for proposals from the Research Resources in Medical History scheme in 2009/10 under the subject theme 'foundations of modern genetics', which, in turn, assisted the Wellcome Library’s major digitisation initiative.

Online
César Milstein catalogue
janus.lib.cam.ac.uk/db/node.xsp?id=EAD%2FGBR%2F0014%2FMSTN
Bernard Katz catalogue
archives.ucl.ac.uk/DServe/dserve.exe?dsqIni=Dserve.ini&dsqApp=Archive&dsqCmd=Show.tcl&dsqSearch=RefNo=="KATZ"&dsqDb=Catalog
Malcolm Ferguson-Smith catalogue
www.gla.ac.uk/services/archives/collections/universityarchive/featuredcollections/historyofmoderngeneticsatglasgow/

The records generated by the Royal Western Counties Hospital, Starcross, were deposited in the archives of the University of Exeter in 1997 in a disordered state. A grant was awarded in 2001 to catalogue the collection, comprising 113 boxes of records. The collection documents the history of an institution that was founded in 1875 and was the first of its kind to focus specifically on care for children of the poor with learning disabilities and associated behavioural problems.

A further grant was awarded in 2006 to assess NHS Partnership Trust records relating to mental health in the Devon Record Office and develop an effective sampling methodology for the retention of such records. 10,000 individual patient case files and 30,000 hospital index cards relating to three hospitals in the Exe Vale NHS group were examined, including wartime admissions. The records cover a range of dates from 1870 to the 1970s.

Contact
Devon Record Office
Great Moor House
Bittern Road
Sowton
Exeter EX2 7NL
T +44 (0)1392 384253
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/A2A/records.aspx?cat= mass&idx=0106&pid=1
www.devon.gov.uk/index/councildemocracy/record_office/our_records.htm

University of Exeter Library
Assessment of Exeter NHS Partnership Trust records in the Devon Record Office • Cataloguing the records of the Royal Western Counties Hospital, Starcross

Grant number: GR070810
Amount awarded: £124,353

Grant number: GR081752
Amount awarded: £88,232

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Amount awarded: £124,353

Grant number: GR081752
Amount awarded: £88,232

Grant number: GR084176
Amount awarded: £28,705

Grant number: GR087447
Amount awarded: £15,000

National Cataloguing Unit for the Archives of Contemporary Scientists
Cataloguing the archive of César Milstein • Cataloguing the papers of Sir Joseph Rotblat • Cataloguing the papers of Professor Malcolm Ferguson-Smith • Cataloguing the papers of Professor Bernard Katz • Surveying the archives of medical and human geneticists

Grant number: GR076784
Amount awarded: £18,150

Grant number: GR080074
Amount awarded: £21,096

Grant number: GR083823
Amount awarded: £20,542

Grant number: GR084176
Amount awarded: £28,705

Grant number: GR087447
Amount awarded: £15,000

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**University of Leicester**

**Retrospective cataloguing of the Leicester Medical Society archives**

In 2002, a grant was awarded to improve access to the Leicester Medical Association printed book collection by converting the existing printed catalogue to a machine-readable format, enabling electronic access to the records for the first time.

**Contact**
Special Collections
University of Leicester
University Library
PO Box 248
University Road
Leicester LE1 9QD
T +44 (0)116 252 2056
www2.le.ac.uk/library/find/

**Grant number:** GR080422
**Amount awarded:** £10,000

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**Worcester Cathedral Library**

**Preserving Worcester Cathedral’s medical manuscript collections**

Worcester Cathedral was awarded a grant to preserve its collection of medieval medical manuscripts from the Cathedral’s former Benedictine monastic infirmary and its medieval infirmary parchment rolls, which list details of annual income and expenditure. Individual drop-spine boxes were constructed to accommodate the manuscripts, which are now highlighted on the Cathedral’s website. As a result of the project, a one-day symposium was held to promote medical history collections in Worcestershire and links were established with the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine at Oxford University.

**Contact**
Worcester Cathedral
Chapter Office
8 College Yard
Worcester WR1 2LA
T +44 (0)1905 732900
worcestercathedral.co.uk/Library.php

**Grant number:** GR080422
**Amount awarded:** £2000

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**University of Warwick Library, Modern Records Centre**

**Cataloguing and preservation of the British Association of Social Workers archive (1970–1995)**

The archives of the British Association of Social Workers were catalogued with a Research Resources in Medical History grant awarded in 2007, enabling remote access to the collection by researchers for the first time. The British Association of Social Workers collection, comprising 350 boxes of records, reflects many of the major developments in health, medicine, social and economic change, and policy making from 1970 to 1995. It is unique in recording this period of intense activity and offers fresh insight into the reorganisation of the NHS and evidence provided to Parliament on abortion, disability and mental health throughout the 1970s and 1980s. The archive includes minutes, reports, publications and subject files.

**Contact**
Modern Records Centre
University Library
University of Warwick
Coventry CV4 7AL
T +44 (0)2476 524219
www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/library/mrc/news/

**Grant number:** GR084250
**Amount awarded:** £69,661

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The Borthwick Institute holds the archives of all York and district NHS hospitals and the archive of the NHS management bodies for York and the surrounding area from 1948. The three grants awarded to the Institute include one of the first grants awarded by the Research Resources in Medical History programme, in 2001. This first award supported the preservation of the York NHS Trust archive, comprising material dating from 1985 to 2003 relating to Trust administration including minutes, board papers, reports and publications. The preservation project minimised the effect of damage to the collection caused by unsatisfactory storage in the past and, in doing so, increased access to the collection.

In the same year, the Borthwick Institute was successful in applying for a second Research Resources in Medical History programme grant to re-catalogue The Retreat archive. The Retreat is historically one of the most important centres for the care and treatment of the insane. Founded in 1796 by the Society of Friends, the centre pioneered mild methods of treatment and influenced the development of care of the insane in this country, the USA and elsewhere. The Retreat continued to be a model of good practice through the 19th and early 20th centuries and flourished as an independent hospital following its decision not to enter the NHS in 1948. The archive held by the Borthwick Institute comprises material relating to all aspects of The Retreat, including extensive quantities of administrative, financial, estate, staff and patient records. As well as cataloguing all unlisted material, the project provided interpretative guidance for researchers through the catalogue and a published guide. The project transformed access to the archive, resulting in a 50 per cent increase in use, and uncovered many previously unknown records.

During the cataloguing project, urgent preservation and conservation problems present in the collection came to light, and in 2008 the Institute embarked on a third Research Resources in Medical History project to address the preservation and conservation needs of the most vulnerable and heavily used items in the archive. Items that were secured to be safely used by medical history researchers include: the case books and admissions, deaths and discharge registers of patients from the 1790s to the 1960s; 19th-century patients’ papers, letters and writings; and the 20th-century patients’ case notes and correspondence files. As a result of these awards, patients’ records for the whole of The Retreat’s history up to the 1960s were fully catalogued and conserved, thereby opening up new sources relating to one of the most influential psychiatric hospitals in the UK for researchers in medical history.

Online
NHS Trust
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=193-yht&cid=0&kw=nhs trust
John Rylands Library, University of Manchester

Developing access to medical records in Manchester • Archiving clinical radiology in Manchester

A grant in 2001 supported a project to produce an electronic catalogue of the library’s printed book collections and archives covering the history of medicine. A further award in 2005 focused on three collections covering the history of radiology, including: the papers of the physicist Derek Cuttrey (1931–1999), containing material relating to the history of radiology in the UK and Europe; papers relating to the Christie Hospital, Manchester, amassed by Professor Brian Fox (1929–1999), Deputy Director of the Paterson Institute for Cancer Research from 1984–1993; and the papers of Professor Ian Isherwood (b. 1932), containing important material on innovations in imaging techniques during the 1970s, particularly in the development of computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). These papers span the range of radiology history and provide an important resource for historians assessing both diagnostic and therapeutic developments.

Contact
The John Rylands Library
130 Deansgate
Manchester M3 3EH
Tel +44 (0)1612 753764
www.library.manchester.ac.uk/searchresources/guidetospecialcollections/atoz/subjectgroups/medicine/

Liverpool Medical Institution

Preserving and improving access to the Liverpool Medical Institution Archives
• Preserving the Liverpool Medical Institution Archives

In 2001, the Liverpool Medical Institution received a grant to catalogue and preserve its archive, creating a machine-readable catalogue of the collections while cleaning and repackaging them to archival standards. The collection includes the personal archives of several Liverpool doctors who were responsible for important developments in medicine, such as Hugh Owen Thomas (the pioneer of orthopaedics), Sir Robert Jones (an orthopaedic surgeon) and David Walde (one of the first doctors to use chloroform in general anaesthesia). Also included are the archives of the Medical Women’s Federation and the Liverpool Pathology Society, as well as miscellaneous material that includes letters from Florence Nightingale and Edward Jenner and documents relating to William Henry Duncan’s activities in public health.

Contact
Liverpool Medical Institution
114 Mount Pleasant
Liverpool
Merseyside L3 5SR
Tel +44 (0)151 709 9125
www.lmi.org.uk/LibraryAndArchives/Archives.aspx

Lincolnshire Archives

Microfilming hospital case books from the Lincolnshire County Lunatic Asylum • Digitising Lincolnshire County Lunatic Asylum case books

A grant in 2002 supported a project to microfilm the historic Lincolnshire County Lunatic Asylum case books as a preservation measure; in 2010, a further grant was awarded, reflecting the growing demand for remote access to the material, to digitise the microfilm. As a result of the grant, images of the case books have been transferred from 35 mm microfilm to digital format and are available remotely via the ‘Lincs to the Past’ website in connection with the existing catalogue entries. By providing digital images, the project has made research access possible without increasing the risk of damage to the large original volumes.

Contact
St Rumbold Street
Lincoln
Lincolnshire LN2 5AB
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/residents/archives/collections/

Liverpool Record Office

Cataloguing the archives of hospitals in Liverpool

In 2002, a modest grant of £16 000 produced catalogue records for researchers of the extensive unlisted collections relating to hospitals in Liverpool. These included records of Liverpool Dental Hospital, Liverpool Royal Infirmary, Liverpool Maternity Hospital, Liverpool Women’s Hospital, Newsham General Hospital, Royal Liverpool Children’s Hospital, Princes Park Hospital, Stanley Hospital, St Paul’s Eye Hospital and Walton Hospital, as well as nursing archives, correspondence between Florence Nightingale and William Rathbone, and additional records for Alder Hey.
The Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine archives remaining in their original home, together with newer deposits, were the subject of a recent Research Resources in Medical History-funded scoping survey to establish priorities for maintaining the collections within the context of internal restructuring, the closure of the medical illustration unit and new Information Services management. A very recent deposit includes the papers of Brian Maegraith, a former Dean of the School (1946–1975). Reports produced by the consultant archivist and conservator are expected to lead to a further grant application under the 2014 Research Resources in Medical History theme of ‘combating infectious diseases’. See also the University of Liverpool entry on page 54.

**Contact**

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
Pembroke Place
Liverpool L3 5QA
www.lstmliverpool.ac.uk/about-lstm/history-of-lstm/lstm-archives/

Nottinghamshire Archives
Scoping survey of the archives of Rampton Hospital

A small scoping project grant in 2010 enabled staff from Nottinghamshire Archives to identify, locate and survey historic records from Rampton Hospital, one of three high-security hospitals in England. Rampton Hospital records deposited in the Nottinghamshire Archives in 2008 include: admission, discharge and removal registers and indexes; daily numbers books; licences and escapees records; continuation of orders books; register of baptism, administration records and papers; tribunal records; visitor books; ward registers; and patient case papers, 1915–2000. The scoping project identified miscellaneous records held within the very large complex of the hospital, and a further grant, awarded in 2012, funded the transfer, preservation and cataloguing of these remaining records to secure long-term preservation and access. This project is currently underway.

**Contact**

Nottinghamshire Archives
County House
Castle Meadow Road
Nottingham NG2 3AG
www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/history/archives/

Sheffield Archives
Making health records public: Sheffield and Barnsley’s health and medical records – a cataloguing, conservation and surveying project

This project made a significant amount of material available to the international research community for the first time, substantially improving public access to information about regional history of medicine collections by cataloguing more than 7500 individual items from Sheffield and Barnsley hospitals and other regional health service records. The records were uploaded to the A2A database to create a comprehensive catalogue, which is available via the internet.

A preservation needs assessment survey was undertaken and its recommendations were followed by the in-house conservation department. A survey of in situ records was conducted in the area and led to further deposits, including Trent Regional Health Authority minutes, 1974–1996; Barnsley Primary Care Trust minutes, 2005–2007; Royal Hallamshire Hospital reports, c.1950s; and Nether Edge Hospital admission and discharge registers and patient report books, 1929–1956. These have been added to the County Collections.

**Contact**

52 Shoreham Street
Sheffield
South Yorkshire S1 4SP
T +44 (0)114 201 9395
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/results.aspx?tab=2&Page=1&ContainAllWords=sheffield+hospitals
In 2004, Research Resources in Medical History supported the medical history element of the ‘Shropshire Routes to Roots’ project, an educational initiative providing online access to historical documents from around the region via web-based learning packages. 

Contact  
Castle Gates  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire SY1 2AQ  
T +44 (0)1743 255350  
www3.shropshire-cc.gov.uk/roots/list_med.htm

Two grants were awarded in 2001 and 2003, resulting in the creation of a web-accessible, collection-level descriptive record for all Tyne and Wear Archives accessions relating to the history of medicine. A substantial proportion of these documents were previously inaccessible because they were completely unlisted or existed only in a card catalogue. Collections include local authority records relating to the five metropolitan districts that make up Tyne and Wear (Newcastle, Gateshead, South Tyneside, North Tyneside and Sunderland) and their predecessors. Each catalogue has an introduction that provides a detailed administrative history of public health provision within the local authority.

Contact  
Tyne and Wear Archives  
Discovery Museum  
Blandford Square  
Newcastle NE1 4JA  
www.twmuseums.org.uk/tyne-and-wear-archives.html

The archives of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine are central to the history of modern medical research and the study of the history of medicine. The larger portion, which contains administrative records, records of individual departments, and records of expeditions and research outposts – along with related news cuttings, biographical material and portraits of staff – is held within the University of Liverpool Special Collections Department. A grant in 2002 supported the creation of an online catalogue of the collections.

See also the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine entry on page 52.

Contact  
Special Collections and Archives  
Sydney Jones Library  
The University of Liverpool  
PO Box 123  
Liverpool L69 3DA  
T +44 (0)151 794 2696  
E mwatry@liv.ac.uk  
scich eng.lib.liv.ac.uk/collections/index.html
Scotland

Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museum

Assessment of the prescriptions registers in the field of medical humanities

Aberdeen Art Gallery holds a complete set of prescription registers of Davidson & Kay Limited, an Aberdeen pharmacy business with a history reaching back at least to the early 1800s. A Research Resources in Medical History grant was awarded to undertake a full assessment of the collection after concerns were raised about its physical condition. Conservators from the Book and Paper Conservation Studio at Dundee University undertook the survey, which has led to preservation measures being put in place to protect the registers from overuse. Dr Stuart Anderson from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine undertook an in-depth survey of the contents of the registers, which identified microfiches within the collection as unique copies of prescriptions from the beginning of the NHS until 1975, a resource unknown elsewhere in the UK.

Contact
Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museum
Schoolhill
Aberdeen AB10 1FQ
T +44 (0)1224 523700
aagm.co.uk/theCollections/objects/object/
Prescription-Register_95376

Dundee University Archives

Unlocking the Medicine Chest: Accessing the medical history records of Dundee University archives

This grant, which was awarded in 2001, made a significant contribution to a jointly funded project to catalogue and preserve the substantial medical history collections held by the University of Dundee. The wide-ranging collections include dental, eye and orthopaedic hospital records, asylum records, nursing archives, pathological drawings, the personal papers of individuals such as Herbert Watt Torrance (a medical missionary) and Hugh Stannus Stannus (a specialist in tropical medicine), and lecture notes. The subjects covered by the collections include public health, tropical medicine, epidemiology, medical education, surgery, pathology, dentistry, medical missionary work, the experience of women in the medical profession, attitudes to and the treatment of mental illness, the development of nursing, philanthropy, hospital management, infectious disease, and industrial disease. A full description of the project, a summary of the collections and a link to the catalogue with digitised images can be accessed online.

Contact
Archive Services
University of Dundee
Dundee DD1 4HN
T +44 (0)1382 384095
134.36.1.31/dserve/dserve2/home/home1.html

Dumfries and Galloway Council

Content and condition survey of the Crichton Royal Hospital Archives • Cataloguing and conservation of the records of the Crichton Royal Institution

In 2010, a small grant was awarded to Dumfries and Galloway Local Studies Library and Archives Centre to assess the content and condition of the records of the Crichton Royal Hospital archives, which had been transferred from the hospital’s commercial storage facility to the local council. As a result, a further grant was awarded in 2011 to catalogue the archives, which contains a wealth of material relating to mental health care in Scotland – in particular, a collection of patient art, which has been the subject of published research and is the focus of considerable interest from the research community. The cataloguing, which is due to be completed in 2014, will greatly increase access to the collection.

Contact
Ewart Library
Catherine Street
Dumfries DG1 1JB
T +44 (0)1556 250095

Edinburgh University Library

A major Research Resources in Medical History grant was awarded to Edinburgh University Library under the Foundations of modern genetics’ subject theme for ‘Towards Dolly: Cataloguing and preservation of the archives of the Roslin Institute for Animal Genetics’, which began in 2011 and is expected to last three years. The project will catalogue, preserve and conserve collections describing the scientific research and human stories that led to
Edinburgh becoming one of the world centres of genetics research.

The project is based on the library, papers and slides of the Roslin Institute, best known for the cloning of Dolly the sheep in 1996, and the records of the Institute of Animal Genetics. The majority of the material covers the period 1890–2007, shedding light on Edinburgh's beginnings as a centre for genetic research. The records provide a detailed picture of the lives and research of individuals connected to the Institute and include the papers of the key geneticists C H Waddington (1905–1975) and F A E Crew (1886–1973) and the zoologist J C Ewart (1931–1995).

Many items required some degree of preservation work in addition to cataloguing and contextualising (in terms of research history and human stories). The project has also included preparation for eventual digitisation, and the material will be made accessible to a worldwide audience online when the initial stages of work have been completed. Other collections still in private and departmental care have also been scoped out for future work. For the duration of the project, information and updates are available via the blog towardsdolly.wordpress.com. The project has featured in two profile-raising articles produced for the Scottish Council on Archives e-newsletter, Broadsheet, and several researchers have registered an interest in using the collection as soon as it becomes available.

A small grant was awarded for a separate project to assess the cost and condition of the films of Eric Lucey, which had recently been returned to Edinburgh by the British Film Institute in London. Lucey ran the Institute for Veterinary Studies, part of the University, to establish the preservation needs of the collection, which includes manuscripts, theses, maps and early printed books. This led to the formation of a basic finding aid, which has improved access until a full catalogue can be created.

The 2006 project ‘Unlocking the MD: Widening access to the University of Edinburgh MD theses collection’ improved access to a substantial resource for the history of medicine by cataloguing the complete collection of University of Edinburgh MD theses from 1726 to 1930. For most of this period, Edinburgh was regarded as the leading medical centre in Europe. The collection was fully catalogued and is a useful resource for those teaching or learning within the disciplines of the history of medicine and science and education.

Online Information on the Eric Lucey films project
www.archives.lsb.ed.ac.uk/lucey/

The first of the eight grants awarded to Glasgow University supported a project to catalogue the papers of R D Laing (1917–1989), the eminent psychiatrist, psychotherapist, writer and poet. Laing’s work in patient care and the aetiology of schizophrenia is currently being re-evaluated and so is of increasing research interest. He has been the subject of more than half a dozen biographical and critical studies since his death, both for his contributions and radical theories in the field of psychiatry and for his cultural role in the 1970s.

This collection – which, since the project was completed, has seen a 400 per cent increase in the number of records accessible on the online catalogue – provides a valuable insight into Laing’s early clinical work, social life and promotion of what would become known as the ‘anti-psychiatry’ movement. It also contains correspondence with numerous prominent figures in psychiatry, pop culture and literature throughout the 1960s and early 1970s.

The cataloguing of these papers led to further deposits of material, including the original and unedited footage of Laing’s 1972 American lecture tour (which was preserved through a further Wellcome Trust grant in 2009). This original material, without the production of surrogate copies, would have been inaccessible for consultation because of the risk of physical damage. Almost wholly unseen, the footage of his 32 talks in a 35-day tour provides an insight into his theories and his personality and reveals Laing at the height of his celebrity against a background of waning professional credibility.

The film deposit also included a collection of Peter Robinson’s films illustrating Laing’s concepts. This material has been used extensively – most notably by artist Luke Fowler, whose film All Divided Selves, which was shortlisted for the Turner Prize for contemporary art in 2012, exposes portraits of counterculture figures that have become marginalised. The documentary focuses on archival representations of Laing and his colleagues as they struggled to acknowledge the importance of considering social environment and disturbed interaction in institutions as significant factors in the aetiology of human distress and suffering.

The film has been highly praised, and the archival material has sometimes been explicitly mentioned. Fisun Güner, writing for The Art Room, was somewhat scathing of Fowler himself, suggesting it is “the archive footage...
Scotland

that’s interesting, and not what Fowler does with any of it particularly”.

A grant awarded in 2008 catalogued the Thomson family archives, leading to further funding for a conservation project in 2009. In addition to the papers of physicians John Thomson (1785–1844), Allen Thomson (1809–1884) and William Thomson (1822–1852), the collection contains papers relating to William Cullen (1710–1790), given to the University by the descendants of John Thomson. The papers of teacher, professor and general practitioner John Thomson are of particular interest. They cover lecture material, records of military medicine, and papers and correspondence on syphilis, smallpox and the brain; however, they also include correspondence with William Cullen, about whom he wrote the biography entitled The Life of Cullen.

This has links to another Research Resources in Medical History project to catalogue the archives of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, and a large Arts and Humanities Research Council grant, ‘The Consultation Letters of Dr. William Cullen (1710–1790) at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh’, awarded to the English Department of the University of Glasgow. The project will create a publicly accessible online edition of the Cullen correspondence and undertake related interdisciplinary research connected to the subject.

In 2002, Research Resources in Medical History also funded a project to catalogue the extensive forensic medicine collection held at Glasgow University Archive Services. The collection includes teaching materials, correspondence, press cuttings, personal papers, photos and detailed case notes relating to some of Glasgow’s and Scotland’s most notorious crimes. The project resulted in the cataloguing of material that had previously been either unlisted or inadequately catalogued. It also resulted in the creation of a website that presents search records and case files within a narrative structure and has a research guide to forensic medicine research resources in other repositories and institutions across the UK. The website receives more than 30 000 visitors each year, providing a global resource for research in the history of forensic medicine.

The collection is used extensively: for example, the exhibition Visible Proofs at the National Institutes of Health in Maryland, USA, drew heavily on it. It has also informed research for television and film productions dealing with the popular themes of crime and forensic investigation, and was used in Dr Paula Summery’s academic research ‘In camera: photographing forensic medicine and science’, which was published in the Journal of Visual Communication in Medicine in 2007.

More recently, grants were awarded to improve access to the papers of Thomas Ferguson Rodger, Professor of Psychological Medicine, and to catalogue modern genetics collections in the University archives. The latter project involves the creation of an online resource at Glasgow telling the story of a crucial period in modern genetics through the archives of the University’s three pre-eminent geneticists: Professor Guido Pontecorvo, Professor Malcolm Ferguson-Smith and Professor James Harrison Renwick.

Another outcome of this project was the inclusion of key parts of the papers in a major digitisation initiative by the Wellcome Library. ‘Foundations of Modern Genetics’ is a digital research resource that brings together 20 important genetics archives and more than 1400 genetics books from the Wellcome Library and partner institutions.

Online

Cullen correspondence online resources www.gla.ac.uk/schools/critical/research/fundedresearch/projects/dwilliamcullen Forensic Medicine Collection Website www.fmap.archives.gla.ac.uk National Institutes of Health online exhibition www.nlm.nih.gov/visibleproofs/

**Lothian Health Services Archive**

Lothian Health Services Archive (LHSA) holds around a million patients’ records in the largest collection of 20th-century case notes in the UK. The poor condition of many of the records and the need for preservation measures was identified as an obstacle to research access in a 2000 survey funded by the Research Support Libraries Programme, which aimed to improve intellectual access to personal health records in Scotland by creating the web-based finding aid ‘Finding the Right Clinical Notes: Improving research access to personal health records in Scotland 1900–1994’. Since 2001, LHSA has received six Research Resources in Medical History grants in support of projects to preserve and catalogue records from a range of institutions and influential individuals in the Scottish medicine in the 20th century, a period of particular interest within the Wellcome Trust Medical History and Humanities programme. As a result of Research Resources in Medical History funding, 30 per cent (approximately 300 linear metres of shelving) of LHSA’s 20th-century folder-based case notes have been treated and are much easier for researchers to use.

The first grant, in 2001, preserved the case notes of University of Edinburgh neurologists Professors Edwin Bramwell, from 1919 to 1935, and Norman Dott, from 1935 to 1955, securing the long-term preservation of both collections and improving safe access to them. The records are accompanied by X-rays and glass plate negatives associated with individual case notes. One outcome of this increased access was the publication of Christopher Lawrence’s *Rockefeller Money, the Laboratory and Medicine in Edinburgh 1919–30* (Rochester Press, 2005), which drew heavily on the case notes of Edwin Bramwell in particular to tell the story of academic medicine in Edinburgh in the 1920s.

In 2011, a further grant was awarded to catalogue Dott’s neurosurgical case notes. In 2013, a second grant was awarded to preserve the case notes of Professors Derrick Dunlop and James Learmouth. The case notes of Learmouth, specialist in peripheral nerve and vascular injuries, date from 1936 to 1957. This period covers his time as University Professor of Surgery (1939–1956), holding the Regius Professorship of Clinical Surgery from 1946. The surviving notes over the World War II years are of particular interest as he continued to both practise and teach throughout this time.

Dunlop’s case notes cover the same period, which includes his time as Christison Professor of Therapeutics and Clinical Medicine from 1936 to 1952. A distinguished teacher of clinical medicine specialising in the treatment of metabolic disorders, he produced publications providing detailed accounts of trials involving new drugs for diseases and conditions such as Addison’s disease, thyrotoxicosis, hyperthyroidism, asthma, tuberculous and diabetes. Dunlop was knighted in 1960 for his services to medicine and became Physician to the Queen in Scotland in 1961. Both collections include charts, correspondence, photographs and X-rays, all previously stored in conditions that were causing damage.

Three further grants enabled the continuation of LHSA’s programme to catalogue and preserve 20th-century case notes.

The first covered the case notes of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Nervous Disorders, ensuring access to a scarce, nationally and internationally significant archival resource created by what is arguably Scotland’s most historically important psychiatric hospital. The collection is of interest to a wide range of researchers, likely to include historians, clinicians, students, NHS staff and members of the general public undertaking genealogical research. More information can be found on the LHSA website (www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/projects/rnmhreh.html).

A preservation project based on folder-based case notes (1930–1994) relating to reproductive and sexual health in Edinburgh followed. This included records from the Edinburgh Royal Maternity Hospital and Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion obstetric case notes (1935–1954), Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh Gynaecology Outpatients Infertility Clinic case notes (1945–1993), and Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and Western General Hospital Sexual Dysfunction Clinic case notes (1971–1994), and Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh Gynaecology case notes (1950–1993). The records enable scholars to understand how clinical medicine and surgery evolved in Edinburgh, and the amalgam of technical, scientific and social information they contain provides the basis for a wide range of study in the history of sexual and reproductive health.

In 2008, a project began based on case notes relating to the treatment of tuberculosis (1940–1948) and World War II injuries (1939–1949) in Edinburgh. The preservation of this collection enables clinical and thematic historical approaches to aspects of the history of tuberculosis and war medicine. Recent research that has drawn on these newly accessible collections includes undergraduate research projects into war psychiatry and the treatment of shell shock, and PhD research on shell shock at Craiglockhart Military Hospital and dementia praecox diagnosis after World War I.

Research Resources in Medical History funding has enabled LHSA to promote its collection of folder-based case notes, which were previously overlooked because of their poor condition in comparison to bound notes, as a unique primary source for understanding the history of 20th-century medicine.

On a practical level, methodology developed during these projects sets the standard for the preservation of historic, folder-based NHS case notes and provides a leading example of best practice for other repositories.

**Online**

Research Support Libraries Programme-funded project clinical notes website www.clinicalnotes.ac.uk

Reproductive and sexual health case notes www.lhsa.lib.ed.ac.uk/conserv/conserv_case_notes.htm
In 2005, a grant was awarded to catalogue the printed book collection of Dr William MacKenzie, a pioneer specialist in ophthalmology in the UK who founded the Glasgow Eye Infirmary (the earliest specialist hospital in Glasgow) with George Cunningham Monteath in 1824. The library consists of 800 items, including 55 bound volumes of pamphlets. In addition to books on ophthalmology, the collection encompasses anatomy and physiology, as well as clinical subjects such as surgery and midwifery. Together, they provide evidence of MacKenzie’s clinical and research interests during a time when medicine changed greatly in terms of concepts and the understanding of the nature of disease.

Collections included in the website have provided the research base for two PhDs and are regularly used by medical historians, colonial historians and historians of South Asia, as well as current epidemiologists, medical practitioners and researchers in the field. The site provides free access to fully searchable documents, together with explanatory text on the significance of specific reports and background information. It is easy to explore using a variety of search methods and has been the focus of considerable interest from global users, including the Dalai Lama, who was shown items from the collection during his visit to Scotland in the summer of 2012 after having seen and praised the online resource.

Throughout the digitisation programme, fragile or damaged items were identified for conservation treatment, and preservation measures were put in place to ensure the long-term survival of the original documents.

Contact
232–242 St Vincent Street
Glasgow G2 5RJ
T +44 (0)141 221 6072
copac.ac.uk/about/libraries/rcpsg.html

Online
MHBI website
www.nls.uk/indiapapers/index.html
MHBI project blog
blogs.nls.uk/indiapapers/

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow
Cataloguing and cleaning the medical library of Dr William MacKenzie
+ Conservation survey of the MacKenzie collection

In 2005, a grant was awarded to catalogue the printed book collection of Dr William MacKenzie, a pioneer specialist in ophthalmology in the UK who founded the Glasgow Eye Infirmary (the earliest specialist hospital in Glasgow) with George Cunningham Monteath in 1824.

The library consists of 800 items, including 55 bound volumes of pamphlets. In addition to books on ophthalmology, the collection encompasses anatomy and physiology, as well as clinical subjects such as surgery and midwifery. Together, they provide evidence of MacKenzie’s clinical and research interests during a time when medicine changed greatly in terms of concepts and the understanding of the nature of disease.

Contact
232–242 St Vincent Street
Glasgow G2 5RJ
T +44 (0)141 221 6072
copac.ac.uk/about/libraries/rcpsg.html

Online
MHBI website
www.nls.uk/indiapapers/index.html
MHBI project blog
blogs.nls.uk/indiapapers/

Five grants
(2005–2010)
Total: £299,119

Grant number:
GR070750
Amount awarded:
£12,750

Grant number:
GR081149
Amount awarded:
£1511

The National Library of Scotland (NLS) is the largest legal deposit library north of Abersytwyth. Among its extensive and varied collections is a large collection of official documents from Colonial India. The NLS collection of India papers has been the subject of five Research Resources in Medical History grants since 2005 to support the creation of a free-to-use global resource, Medical History of British India (MHBI), a website that provides access to full-text digital copies of the material in the collection with useful contextualisation. The MHBI website was created during the first project and has been developed further because of its popularity among global researchers (particularly in India, where archive collections are often in extremely poor condition and it can be difficult to gain permission to use them).

Printed papers relating to disease prevention and control in British India were the first to be microfilmed and digitised, supported by two consecutive grants. These publications contain documents relating to epidemics and disease control in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, dealing with the practice of public health and the response to diseases and epidemics including cholera, smallpox, sleeping sickness, malaria, leprosy and plague.

Numerous titles relate to the Bombay plague of 1896–99, although histories covering the whole country and individual reports of outbreaks in isolated villages are also included. The reports, published by the colonial administration in India, are very rare.

The next stage of the programme focused on printed items from the veterinary medicine collection, broadening the research value of the overall collection by adding material to support research interests in agricultural and veterinary medicine, animal husbandry and genealogy.

Work on the project continued in 2009 with the addition of reports and publications from the colonial mental hospitals of India. This component of the collection was publicised by the library in a paper on ‘Lunatic asylums in British India: a National Library of Scotland collection’ at the ‘Making Sense of Madness’ conference in Oxford in 2012.

The most recent grant (awarded in 2010) has added vaccination reports to the website, such as reports on inoculation in the plague-infected areas of the Punjab 1900–01. More reports will be added over time, and regular progress reports are provided on the MHBI blog.
In the 19th century, the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh held Scotland's leading medical library, and during that time it gained possession of an extensive collection that demonstrates developments in medical theory and practice from 1700 onwards. The College has received five grants since 2002 to support projects that will safeguard this valuable library and archive collections for future generations of users.

In 2002, the Research Resources in Medical History programme awarded a grant to the College to enable the cataloguing of Sir James Young Simpson's pamphlet collection. Simpson was Professor of Midwifery at Edinburgh University for more than 30 years; during that time, he discovered the anaesthetic properties of chloroform and pioneered its use. Simpson's use of chloroform during childbirth was initially seen as controversial, but he persisted and was eventually recognised internationally for his contribution to medicine, making him one of the most famous men of his time. The Simpson monographs had been catalogued by the College in 1999 but in 2002 the pamphlets remained unlisted, despite containing a considerable number sent to Simpson by other leading practitioners of the time. In addition, many of the title pages contain either the author's inscriptions or Simpson's manuscript annotations. The collection is now accessible via an online catalogue, which includes an introduction to the project and further contextualisation.

In 2003, the College undertook a second project, fully funded by the Research Resources in Medical History programme, to add its Victorian Medicine in Print collection to the Edinburgh online catalogue. A second phase of the project received additional funding in 2006, to increase research access to this important resource of 19th-century printed primary material. Included in the collection are texts on scientific medicine, public health and sociology, in addition to works by Christieon, Koch, Lister, Pasteur, Hughes-Bennett, Simpson, Syme and Virchow. During the project, interesting links were revealed that highlighted the sophisticated networks of information dissemination used by Victorian medical practitioners. The catalogue of this 19th-century collection, which can now be searched electronically in much more useful ways, has proved invaluable to researchers. The cataloguing projects have been of particular use to Dr Morrice McCrae in his research for the biography Simpson: The turbulent life of a medical pioneer (published by John Donald, Edinburgh, 2010). The collection was also used as a resource to support an event at the 2009 Edinburgh Festival Fringe, where librarian Iain Milne and historian Morrice McCrae presented and discussed their favourite 18th-century books and manuscripts from the library and the colourful personalities and practices of the period recorded in the library's collection. The event was a great success and served to promote awareness and raise the profile of the collection to wider audiences.

In 2009, Research Resources in Medical History awarded funding for two linked projects. First, a survey of the College's archival holdings was commissioned with the aim of developing a project proposal based on the findings and recommendations in the survey report. This led to a second award to catalogue the collections, which were largely unlisted and difficult for researchers to access. The archives contain many documents detailing the history of the College from its inception to the present day, the personal papers of significant physicians of the Enlightenment and large collections of 20th-century administrative records. Cataloguing priorities were established on the basis of perceived historical value – which was, in turn, based on research interest from scholars.

The improved accessibility to the collection revealed a great amount of detailed information, as many individual volumes and documents were listed and described for the first time. The case notes, drawings and medical illustrations discovered among the collection add a human dimension to the historic papers, and among the collections are the notes and research of some of the most eminent doctors of their day. One of the most notable of these physicians is William Cullen, the subject of an Arts and Humanities Research Council grant awarded to the English department of Glasgow University. The project will create a digital edition of Cullen's correspondence, The Consultation Letters of Dr William Cullen (1710–1790) at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, based around the Cullen letters in the newly catalogued College archive. The College cataloguing project will be central to the success of this endeavour.

There is a further link to a separate Research Resources in Medical History grant, which was awarded to the library of Glasgow University in 2008 to catalogue the Thomson family archives. The archive includes papers linked to Cullen, used by John Thomson in the preparation of his biography The Life of Cullen. More information on this project can be found in the Glasgow highlight article.

**University of Aberdeen**

Cataloguing medical archives in Aberdeen University: the 20th century • Materia medica: cataloguing the medical archives and manuscripts collections of Aberdeen's King's and Marischal Colleges from the 15th to the 19th centuries • Conservation survey of the early medical archives in Aberdeen University • Preserving the early medical archives in Aberdeen University

Five grants awarded to the Library of the University of Aberdeen between 2003 and 2008 have combined to produce catalogues of the University's holdings in the history of medicine, including 20th-century medical archives, medical archives and manuscripts from the 15th to the 19th centuries, and the archives of the Aberdeen Medico-Chirurgical Society (from 1739 to the 20th century). Additional grants have supported preservation and conservation for items identified as fragile or damaged. Further details of the projects and their outcomes, together with a link to the catalogues, are available via a PDF guide on the University website (www.abdn.ac.uk/library/documents/guides/hcol/qghcol007.pdf).

**Contact**

Special Collections Centre
University Library
Bedford Road
Aberdeen AB24 3AA
T +44 (0)1224 272508
www.abdn.ac.uk/library/documents/guides/hcol/qghcol007.pdf
A grant was awarded in 2001 to catalogue the papers of Harold Garnett Callan, Professor of Natural History at St Andrews University from 1950 to 1982. Callan, who specialised in cell physiology, undertook groundbreaking research into genetics and DNA. He was the first to demonstrate the linearity of DNA along the chromosome, and used lambrush chromosomes (which are found in all animals except mammals) – frequently from newts and toads – to study chromosome activity during periods other than cell division, which was the only time that other chromosomes could be studied.

The collection of 68 boxes includes research notes, chromosome photography, personal and professional correspondence with other scientists, and material relating to Callan's teaching at the University. As a result of the project, the catalogue is freely available to remote users via the University Archives website.

Contact
Department of Special Collections
Library Annexe
North Haugh
St Andrews, Fife
Scotland KY16 9WH
T +44 (0)1334 462339
www.st-andrews.ac.uk/library/specialcollections/projects/CataloguingofthePapersofHaroldGarnettCallan/
Donegal County Archives Service

Conservation survey of medical and health records held by Donegal County Archives

A small grant was awarded to support an assessment of the physical condition of medical and health-related archives in Donegal County Archives.

National Archives of Ireland

In recent years, the urgent preservation issues surrounding historic medical records in Ireland have been highlighted during discussions between medical historians and the National Archives of Ireland. This led to three successful funding applications from the National Archives of Ireland (NAI) to the Research Resources in Medical History scheme in support of projects to rescue significant records for the benefit of researchers.

The first grant was awarded to NAI in 2008 to improve access to the records of the Peamount Sanatorium and its forerunner body the Women’s National Health Association of Ireland by supporting a large-scale preservation and cataloguing project. The records were transferred from very poor storage conditions at the Peamount Hospital site to NAI. There, they were treated for pest infestations and mould before being cleaned and repackaged and, finally, catalogued for future use by the research community.

The archives of the Women’s National Health Association of Ireland, comprising more than 100 archive boxes of material, commence in 1905 and describe the wide range of health initiatives in which it was involved. Some preservation work was carried out, and descriptive catalogue records, including background and contextual material, are now accessible globally via the NAI website. Items requiring more extensive conservation treatment were also identified for future reference. This project has been publicised through an article on the project and the content of the collection in the Journal of the Society of Archivists and through smaller articles in Wellcome History, Irish Economic and Social History, and the newsletter of the Archives and Records Association Ireland.

Work on the Peamount archives enabled NAI to develop a robust framework for processing the large volume of historical records in Irish hospitals. In 2010, a small grant was awarded to conduct a condition and content survey of the records of St Brendan’s Mental Hospital, Grangegeorge, Dublin, with the aim of developing a larger project proposal to preserve and increase access to the records. The archive is an extensive collection of hospital records that provides important primary source material for research into the history of the treatment of mental illness and many aspects of social, economic and cultural history. It was noted that the existing storage conditions were a serious risk to the archive.

St Brendan’s, which was opened in 1814 and is the largest surviving collection of records of a tuberculosis hospital in Ireland.

The extent of the collaboration and cooperation between NAI and the history of medicine research community in Ireland, who share an interest in seeing historic health records preserved and made available for research purposes, has been a notable feature of these grants.

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

Content and condition survey of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland archives • Securing the legacy of Irish medical history: creating an online catalogue of the historic archive of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

Following a three-month assessment survey of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) archives by a project archivist, a further Research Resources in Medical History grant was awarded in 2009 to support the creation of a comprehensive online catalogue of the entire archival holdings of RCPI from its foundation in the 17th century. The eight known archive collections were increased to 26 collections as a result of information discovered during the project. Researchers are now able to access the catalogue remotely and identify material of interest in advance of visits. The indexing of catalogue records allows researchers to find relevant items running across several collections, further enhancing the potential for opening up new areas of research. A link to the catalogue, the archives blog and further information about the content of RCPI’s substantial archive collections can be found online.

Contact
6 Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Ireland
T: +353 1 669 8801
www.rcpi.ie/HeritageCentre/Pages/Archive.aspx
A grant was awarded to assess the content and condition of the holdings of the Royal College of Science for Ireland Library at University College Dublin, which were dispersed across several locations throughout the campus. The earliest material dates from the late 17th century, but the majority of the holdings range from the mid-19th to the early 20th centuries, forming one of the most comprehensive Victorian libraries for the history of science in Ireland and the UK. During a three-month survey, the location, content and condition of Royal College of Science for Ireland material across the University College Dublin campus was assessed, providing information for the development of plans to clean, catalogue, repair and digitise key parts of the collection.

Contact
University College Dublin Archives is on the main University College Dublin campus at Belfield, Dublin 4.
www.ucd.ie/library/finding_information/special/printed/rcsi/
National Museums and Galleries of Wales

Conservation of early herbals

This grant, in 2003, enabled the National Museums and Galleries of Wales to commission Christopher Clarkson to undertake the conservation of three volumes from the collection of early herbals. The books were constructed around 1552 and contain manuscript text with many annotations and unique coloured illustrations of medicinal plants. As a result of conservation, they are available to researchers on request in the main library.

Online

University of Cardiff

Cataloguing archives of human geneticists • Cataloguing further archives of human geneticists • Cataloguing the genetics library

Following a survey of genetics collections in the UK, a grant was awarded to the University of Cardiff to catalogue the papers of J H Renwick, C A B Smith and Malcolm Ferguson-Smith. An additional grant was awarded the following year to catalogue the papers of John Edwards, George Fraser and the Medical Research Council’s Unit of Human Biochemical Genetics at the Galton Laboratory. The project also safeguarded the archives of the Cardiff University clinical geneticist Peter Harper, mostly in electronic form. A third grant, awarded in the same year, supported a project to catalogue the genetics library, a specialist collection within the University holdings.

Contact
Art and Social Studies Library
Colum Drive
Cardiff CF10 3BU
www.genmedhist.info/Records%20of%20British%20Human%20Geneticists/

University of Swansea

Identifying medical records in the South Wales Coalfield Collection

In 2004, a grant was awarded to the University of Swansea to identify and publicise the medical records in the South Wales Coalfields Collection, which is held by the University. The award funded the production of a guide to the collection, enhanced cataloguing to include subject headings at item level, a new ‘Medicine and Health’ page for the web materials site and the preparation of a publicity leaflet to raise awareness of the collection.

A small additional grant was awarded to Glamorgan Record Office in 2006 to provide preservation boxing for the collection prior to a location move.

Online
www.swan.ac.uk/scwcc/
www.agor.org.uk/cwm/Default.asp
Figure 1
Amount awarded by geographical area and year (2000/01–present)

Figure 2
Amount awarded by geographical area (2000/01–present)

Figure 3
Amount awarded by type of organisation and year (2000/01–present)

Figure 4
Amount awarded by type of organisation (2000/01–present)
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