

Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia records

MC 5B

Finding aid prepared by Center staff, updated by Bethany Myers.

Last updated on September 27, 2016.

University of Pennsylvania, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of The History of Nursing

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Barbara Bates Center for the Study of The History of Nursing
Creator	Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia.
Title	Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia records
Call number	MC 5B
Date [inclusive]	1855-1987
Extent	23.8 linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	The records of the Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia document a wide range of themes and issues in home nursing and the care of the indigent poor. The collection includes trustees' minutes, board correspondence, committee reports, and branch association files. Also included is a well documented collection of photographs.

Cite as:

Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia records, Barbara Bates Center for The Study of The History of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

On March 2, 1886, a group of Philadelphia women gathered to establish an organization to give nursing care to the sick in their homes. They named it the District Nurse Society after a system employed in Britain. Mrs. William Furness Jenks founded the organization (which was later renamed Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia in 1887). She recalled that, "No one had ever heard of such a thing as nursing the sick poor except in hospitals." Only Buffalo and Boston preceded Philadelphia in bringing this innovation to the United States. Mrs. Jenks envisioned a voluntary organization which would assist the contagiously and chronically ill who were turned away from institutions or who needed additional help during childbirth. Churches, relief organizations, and individuals contributed food, clothing, bed linens, and money to the organization.

In its first year, the organization made 380 home visits. Most of these visits were to run-down areas which housed the city's workers. Many were immigrants from Europe and Blacks from the rural South. Typhoid and diphtheria were common among the poor. Tuberculosis, the "great white plague," reached epidemic proportions during the nineteenth century and was a leading cause of death. The Society applied new concepts about the treatment of these diseases after it became known that they were communicable. The nurses sought to isolate tuberculosis patients and to educate them and their families about the role of personal habits and hygiene in reducing the risk of contamination. As one early officer of the organization explained, the nurses also did many things which were not technically nursing but were considered important to it, such as "cleaning the sick room of lumber and unnecessary furniture, sweeping floors, and lighting fires." The nurse was expected "to set an example of that neatness, order, sobriety, and obedience which she was to impress upon others." The work was so exhausting that few of the nurses employed by the Society in its first decade stayed more than eighteen months.

More than half the cases involved maternity and child care. The nurse aided physicians with home deliveries and made follow-up visits to help the mothers bathe and feed the newborns. They also provided care and instruction for expectant mothers to reduce infant mortality. During the early 1900s the Society joined with physicians, city officials, and social workers in a movement to educate the public about recent discoveries which showed that many once-fatal and debilitating illnesses could be prevented. Because of its familiarity with neighborhood health and social conditions, the Society was a valued member of this crusade. It staged dramatic exhibits about tuberculosis as well as festive events like Better Baby contests to spread the gospel of improved child care. In 1903, the Society cooperated with the city's Bureau of Public Charities to conduct a medical inspection to reduce the incidence of ringworm, pink eye, and nutritional disorders such as rickets among schoolchildren. This was the beginning of the school nursing program that was taken over by the city in 1908. From 1905-1908 the Society stationed a nurse at Starr Centre Association of Philadelphia, 7th and Lombard, to help with maternity and child care clinics, vaccination drives, nutritionally sound "penny lunch" programs, and in distributing inspected milk.

World War I accelerated the growth of the nursing profession and the demand for home care. With this development, the Society turned to new groups of clients and new interests. Between 1913 and 1922, the Society caseload nearly doubled. In 1925, the Society described itself as "a visiting hospital with wards all over the city corresponding to the various branches." It employed more than 80 nurses in a

downtown building and at several branch offices including Kensington (opened 1896), Manayunk (1901), Germantown (1902), and West Philadelphia (1903). The Society borrowed public relations techniques from hospitals with whom it was now competing for patients. Society branch staffs were encouraged to enlist neighborhood people to serve on home nursing committees and fundraisers and to keep the central office in touch with the needs of each locality. Brochures emphasized that all of the Society's nurses were hospital-trained. The Society was still actively involved in the treatment of communicable diseases, maternity, and child care, but it was no longer an exclusively low-income patient population. Contracts with insurance companies and manufacturing firms to provide care for industrial policy-holders brought annual caseloads to record highs of 40,000 or more in the late 1920s. Seventy percent of the patients were less than 45 years of age. By 1920, the Society was also treating a greater number of older patients in a new occupational therapy program. The Society added a mental hygiene supervisor in 1934. A decade later, physical therapy (1943) and orthopedic service (1944) became mainstays of the Society's program.

Society superintendent Katherine Tucker (1916-1928) and her successor, Ruth Weaver Hubbard (1928-1955), were instrumental in transforming the organization from a multipurpose home welfare agency into a modern professional nursing organization. Both women held offices in the National Organization for Public Health Nursing and helped widen educational opportunities for home nurses. They also developed the Society internship program which allowed nursing students to complete in-service training at the Society.

Despite the progressive leadership of its professional staff and board, the Society lost half its revenues when insurance companies, which had previously contracted for home nursing, terminated these arrangements after World War II. The Society also lost some of its traditional clients to city programs for maternity cases and preventive care. These problems were addressed in the Philadelphia Public Health Survey produced by the City Planning Commission in 1950. The Commission recommended a merger of the nursing activities of the City and voluntary home care agencies. The City invited Society director Hubbard to help merge City and private home care services into a single operation. Negotiations continued until May 1959, when the Society's president, Mrs. Samuel Y. Gibbon, joined City Health Commissioner Dr. James Dixon and Mayor Richardson Dilworth to create Community Nursing Services of Philadelphia (CNS).

Plans for CNS focused on the health center: a multiservice facility for consolidating public and voluntary nursing programs. Before 1959, the Society primarily did home bedside care while City nurses worked in Department of Public Health clinics, making house calls as required by their work in child hygiene, tuberculosis, and venereal disease. Before the creation of CNS, it was possible for both Society nurse and city nurse to call on a single family. Under CNS, each nurse would be a general practitioner who could administer bedside care as well as preventive treatment. The centers would serve all residents of a designated area, in much the same fashion used in the combined Starr Centre Association/Society branch office opened in Germantown in 1944. This pilot project became the model for dividing the city into health districts based on a Planning Commission scheme for using census tracts as the unit for organizing health services on a uniform geographical basis. Actually, the plan built on the Society system for conducting generalized nursing out of its branches. With this framework in place, CNS made rapid progress under Directors Dorothy Wilson and Margaret Kauffman toward integrating nursing personnel and caseloads in all ten City health districts.

During the late 1970s the environment for providing home health services in the public and private sectors underwent many changes which led the Society and city officials to reorganize their relationships.

Today the city contracts for home nursing services through CNS's successor?an independent, voluntary nonprofit organization, Community Home Health Services of Philadelphia (CHHSP), created in 1979. The Visiting Nurse Society is now a foundation which is a leading source of support for CHHSP's work with the indigent.

One change has been increased care for the elderly. In 1951, 72 percent of Society's patients suffered from long-term illnesses. Some participated in its intensive Home Care Plan (1949), an early attempt to coordinate medical and social services for the chronically ill. More recently, the Society and its successor, CHHSP, have sought to develop programs that address medical and personal consequences of cancer, cardiovascular disease, arthritis, and mental changes associated with aging. Medicare, created in 1965, increased public funding for these services. In 1985, over 68 percent of CHHSP's patients were over 65 years of age.

Another contemporary characteristic is size. In 1886 the Society began with one room, one nurse, one table, and \$100. In 1985 its successor, Community Home Health Services of Philadelphia, made 220,000 visits and had an operating budget of \$9 million. At one time, the Society was the only professional organization involved in home nursing. Today it is part of a complex national health industry transformed by science, technology, and public oversight. Plans, procedures, and methods have also changed with the needs of the patients.

Despite innovations in financing and fundraising, home nursing still retains elements that were present a hundred years ago. CHHSP is an active presence in the health and medical communities. Both historical roles-those of health educator and health planner-continue to find a place in its work.

Scope and Contents

The records of the Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia document a wide range of themes and issues in home nursing and the care of the indigent poor. It dates from the inception of the visiting nurse movement in the United States in the 1880s and continues up through 1977. The collection includes trustees' minutes, board correspondence, committee reports, and branch association files. There is also a significant amount of material documenting the Society's role in the public health crusades of 1902-1918, including school nursing services, infant and maternity care, and care of tuberculosis patients. Other material represents the impact of hospitals on home nursing beginning in the 1920s, as well as the efforts of agency officials to respond to the needs of an aging population especially after World War II. There are also files relating to the Philadelphia Home Care Plan (1949-1960s) and Community Nursing Services of Philadelphia (1959-1979) which was planned and run conjointly with the City of Philadelphia. Also included is a well-documented collection of photographs, many of which were reproduced in the Society's annual reports at the turn of the century.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of The History of Nursing
Finding aid prepared by Center staff, updated by Bethany Myers.

Access Restrictions

This collection is unrestricted.

Use Restrictions

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Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of G. Lloyd Kirk.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

See also: MC 38, Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia records.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Community Home Health Services of Philadelphia (CHHSP).
- Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia.

Form/Genre(s)

- Administrative records

Geographic Name(s)

- Philadelphia (Pa.)

Occupation(s)

- Public health nursing

Personal Name(s)

- Jenks, William Furness
- Tucker, Katherine

Subject(s)

- Community health nursing
- Influenza Epidemic, 1918-1919.
- Visiting nurses
- World War, 1914-1918--Medical care

Series 1. Administration

Collection Inventory

Series 1. Administration, 1887-1987.

Scope and Contents note

This series includes materials documenting the Society's founding and early activities. It provides perhaps the best overview, from an administrative perspective, of the activities of the Board of Managers. By 1916, the day to day administrative work of the Society gradually shifted to Katherine Tucker, the Society's first superintendent. Included in this series is the original charter of the Society and subsequent revisions (1887-1912); bylaws and subsequent revisions; a complete run of annual reports (1886-1987); minutes of the Board of Managers (1886-1986), its Executive Committee (1912-1919), and of the Society's annual meetings. The correspondence files include incoming and outgoing correspondence of the Board (1921-1982) and selected correspondence with coordinated funding agencies. There are also a few contemporary files dealing with issues such as minority representation on the Board and policies relating to conflicts of interest.

	Box	Folder
Original charter, 1887.	1	1
Other charters, 1887-1912.	1	2

By-laws.

	Box	Folder
1959.	1	3
1965.	1	4
1965 and 1978.	1	5

Annual reports

Annual reports.

	Box	Folder
1886-1901.	1	6
1886-1906.	1	7
1889-1911.	1	8
1902-1914.	2	9
1902-1916.	2	10
1916-1924.	2	11
1916-1924.	3	12
1916-1936.	3	13
1931-1957.	3	14
1966-1987.	3	15

Annual reports, copied.

	Box	Folder
1886-1891.	3	16
1892-1895.	3	17
1896-1899.	3	18
1900-1905.	3	19

Minutes, Board

1906-1909.	4	20
1910-1913.	4	21
1914-1916.	4	22
	Box	Folder
Minutes, Executive Committee, 1912-1916.	4	23
Minutes, Executive Committee, 1916-1919.	4	24

Minutes, Board.

	Box	Folder
1886-1888.	5	25
1888-1889.	5	26
1889-1890.	5	27
1890-1891.	5	28
1892-1896.	5	29
1896-1898.	5	30
1902-1900.	5	31
1899-1902.	5	32
1902-1904.	5	33
1904-1908.	6	34

Minutes, Board

1908-1913.	6	35
1913-1919.	6	36
1919.	6	37
1920.	6	38
1921.	6	39
1922.	6	40
1923.	6	41
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1926.	7	44
1927.	7	45
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1931.	7	49
1932.	7	50
1933.	7	51
1934.	7	52

Minutes, Board

1935.	7	53
1936.	7	54
1937.	7	55
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1947.	8	65
1948.	8	66
1949.	8	67
1950.	8	68
1951.	8	69
1952.	8	70

Minutes, Board

1953.	8	71
1954.	8	72
1955.	8	73
1956.	8	74
1957.	8	75
1958.	8	76
1959.	8	77
1960.	8	78
1962.	8	79
1962.	8	80
1963.	9	81
1964.	9	82
1965.	9	83
1966.	9	84
1967.	9	85
1968.	9	86
1969.	9	87
1970.	9	88

Minutes, Board

1971.	9	89
1972.	9	90
1973.	9	91
1974.	9	92
1975.	10	93
1976.	10	94
June 1977.	10	95
August - December 1977.	10	96
January - July 1978.	10	97
August - December 1978.	10	98
1979.	10	99
1980.	11	100
1981.	11	101
1982.	11	102
1983.	11	103
1984.	11	104
1985-1986.	11	105
Minutes, Board, photocopied, 1886-1889.	11	106

Minutes, Annual Meeting

Minutes, Board, photocopied, 1889-1891.	11	107
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Minutes, Annual Meeting.

	Box	Folder
1887-1915.	12	108
1925-1931.	12	109
1933-1935.	12	110
1940-1944.	12	111
1945-1949.	13	112
1950-1968.	13	113
	Box	Folder
Minutes, Nursing Executives Responsibilities, 1911-1957.	13	114

Correspondence, Board.

	Box	Folder
1921-1952.	13	115
1953-1971.	13	116
1972-1979.	13	117
1980-1982.	13	118

Commendations

	Box	Folder
Correspondence, with Community Fund, Community Chest, United Fund.	14	119
Treasurer's report, 1952-1979.	14	120
Board members reference guide, 1953.	14	121
Board members, 1967-1987.	14	122
Representation of minorities, 1970-1975.	14	123
Conflict of interest policy, 1977-1978.	14	124

Commendations.

	Box	Folder
Richardson Dilworth, Mayor of Philadelphia, 1961.	53	3
Dick Thornburgh, Governor of Pennsylvania, 1986.	14	125

Series 2. Histories, 1915-1980.**Scope and Contents note**

This small series consists of published and unpublished histories by and about the Society ranging in date from 1915 to 1974; biographies of Board members including three folders about Ruth Weaver Hubbard, the Society's general director from 1929 to 1955. There are also a few files dealing with Board matters of antiquarian interest such as the restoration of several historical plaques.

History of Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia

History of Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia.

	Box	Folder
1915.	14	1
1919.	14	2
1925.	14	3
1936.	14	4
1937.	14	5
1938.	14	6
1943.	14	7
1944.	14	8
1951.	14	9
1956.	14	10
1960.	14	11
1960.	14	12
1960.	14	13
1960.	14	14
1960.	14	15
1965.	14	16

Board members, biographies

1965.	14	17
1974.	14	18
Board members, biographies.	Box 14	Folder 19
Hubbard, Ruth Weaver.		
	Box	Folder
Articles and letters, 1940-1952.	14	20
Articles and letters, 1953-1955.	15	21
Biographical information.	15	22
VNS plaque restoration, 1980-1902[?].	15	23

Series 3. Committees, 1913-1979.

Scope and Contents note

Found within this series are the files of the Society's committees including the Advisory Committee (1973-1976), Budget Committee (1965-1979), Local Committee, Medical Advisory Committee (1936-1967), Men's Finance Committee (1935-1979), Nominating Committee (1952-1976), Nurses Committee (1919-1946), Public Relations Committee (1947-1977), Supervisor Conference/Staff Council (1945-1960), Personnel Committee (1967-1979), and Social Service Committee.

	Box	Folder
Administrative Committee, 1976.	15	1

Advisory Committee

Advisory Committee.

	Box	Folder
To the Executive Director, 1973-1976.	15	2
To the Executive Director review of management positions.	15	3
Budget Committee, 1965-1979.	15	4

Local Committee.

	Box	Folder
Committee on Local Committees.	15	5
Committee on Local Committees Development.	15	6
Membership list.	15	7
	Box	Folder
Medical Advisory Committee review of standing orders.	15	8
Medical Advisory Committee, 1936-1967.	15	9
Men's Finance Committee, 1935-1965.	15	10
Men's Finance Committee, 1966-1979.	15	11
Nominating Committee, 1952-1976.	15	12

Nurses Committee.

	Box	Folder
Minutes, 1919-1934.	16	13

Public Relations Committee

Minutes, 1935-1946.	16	14
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Supervisor conference/staff council, 1945-1960.	16	15
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Nurses monthly report, 1913.	16	16
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	Box	Folder
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Personnel Committee, 1967-1979.	16	17
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Public Relations Committee.

	Box	Folder
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Minutes, 1947-1957.	16	18
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Minutes, 1957-1977.	16	19
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	Box	Folder
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Social Service Committee.	16	20
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Series 4. Public Relations, 1915-1984.

Scope and Contents note

This series includes a variety of materials used for public relations purposes. This series consists of material that was created by the Public Relations Committee or by other sources whose origin is not apparent in the records. Although most of the documents were created and used in the post 1950s era, there are some brochures, pamphlets and press releases as early as 1915. Some typical examples of this series include fact sheets, radio and television scripts, and publicity relating to anniversary years.

	Box	Folder
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Brochures and pamphlets, 1915-1960s.	16	1
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Correspondence, PR

Press releases, 1915-1976.	16	2
VNS of Philadelphia "Girard Letter", 1936.	17	3
60th anniversary, 1946.	17	4
Fact sheet for volunteer speakers, 1947-1951.	17	5
VNS scripts for radio and television.	17	6
Script for slide lecture, 1954-1957.	17	7
Dear Friend fund raising appeal, 1954-1965.	17	8
70th anniversary, 1956.	17	9
PR material from other agencies.	17	10
75th anniversary, 1961.	17	11
Nurse recruitment, 1961-1970.	17	12
80th anniversary, 1966.	17	13
PR survey, 1975.	18	14

Correspondence, PR, 1976-1984.

	Box	Folder
1957-1975.	18	15
1976-1984.	18	16

Series 5. Branches

	Box	Folder
VNS/CNS service recognition tea, 1979.	18	17

Series 5. Branches, 1928-1982.**Scope and Contents note**

In an effort to offer the Society's services to new population distributions in Philadelphia, and perhaps to attract middle class patients, the Society opened several branch offices in other parts of the city. The first was the Germantown Branch (later renamed the Germantown and Chestnut Hill Branch) whose records begin in 1933. This was followed by the West Branch (1937), South Philadelphia Branch (1939), Frankford Branch (1947), North Branch (1957), Northeast Branch (1957), Northwest Branch (1958), and the South Philadelphia Branch (1939). This series, arranged alphabetically by branch, also includes one file describing the branch boundaries in 1959. The files of the Germantown and Chestnut Hill Branch and the Northwest Branch are the most complete with minutes, bylaws, correspondence, and financial files.

	Box	Folder
Branches, boundaries, 1959.	18	1

Frankford Branch.

	Box	Folder
Committee, Local, Financial Records, 1947-1952.	18	2
Clippings.	18	3

Germantown and Chestnut Hill Branch.

	Box	Folder
Germantown clippings, 1933-1970s.	18	4

Minutes

Account sheets, 1944-1964.	18	5
Brochures.	18	6
Committee representatives, 1928-1930.	18	7
Bylaws, 1932-1954.	18	8

Minutes.

	Box	Folder
1933-1943.	18	9
1933-1943.	18	10
1944-1947.	19	11
1948-1952.	19	12
	Box	Folder
Annual reports, 1931-1952.	19	13

North Branch.

	Box	Folder
Officers, 1957.	19	14
Health Districts 5 and 6, 1965-1968.	19	15
	Box	Folder
Northeast Branch, receipts and expenditures, 1957-1962.	19	16

Northwest Branch

Northwest Branch.

	Box	Folder
Correspondence and reports, 1958-1963.	19	17
Correspondence and reports, 1972-1976.	19	18

Financial records.

	Box	Folder
Account sheets, 1972-1976.	19	19
Bank statements, 1975-1976.	19	20
McNeil Trust, investment statements.	19	21
Checking and savings account, 1976-1982.	19	22
	Box	Folder
Committee Membership Lists, 1959-1976.	20	23

Minutes.

	Box	Folder
1952-1955.	20	24
1956-1959.	20	25
1960-1968.	20	26
1974-1977.	20	27
1979-1982.	20	28

South Philadelphia Branch

	Box	Folder
Volunteers.	20	29

Volunteer manual.	20	30
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South Philadelphia Branch.

	Box	Folder
Committee, 1939-1970.	20	31

West Branch.

	Box	Folder
Minutes, 1937-1942.	20	32

Committee membership lists, 1961-1967.	20	33
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Series 6. Nursing Services, 1914-1984.

Scope and Contents note

This series includes nursing service programs either sponsored by the Society or by other agencies with the Society. It includes the files of Community Home Health Services of Philadelphia (1980-1984) and the yearbooks of the Child Federation of Philadelphia (1914-1915). There are also files relating to the Community Nursing Services of Philadelphia (1955-1979), a program coordinated by the Health and Welfare Council which ran conjointly the nursing programs of the City of Philadelphia with those of the Society. This includes background material, board member registers, manuals, minutes, annual reports, correspondence, evaluations and proposals, and financial reports. Also included are some correspondence files with the Health and Welfare Council (1949-1979); and general files about the Philadelphia Home Care Plan (1958-1965) and other nursing agencies.

Community Home Health Services of Philadelphia

Community Home Health Services of Philadelphia.

	Box	Folder
Auditor's reports, 1980-1981.	20	1
PR, brochures, reports.	21	2
Long range strategic plans, 1984.	21	3

Child Federation of Philadelphia.

	Box	Folder
Yearbooks, 1914-1915.	21	4

Community Nursing Services of Philadelphia.

Background.

	Box	Folder
1955.	21	5
1955.	21	6
1960.	21	7
1961.	21	8
1961.	21	9

Board members

Board members.

	Box	Folder
1953.	21	10
1959-1979.	21	11

Manuals.

	Box	Folder
1959.	21	12
1961.	21	13
1979.	21	14
1979 (copy 2).	21	15

Minutes.

	Box	Folder
October 1974.	21	16
December 1974.	21	17
January-February 1975.	21	18
March 12, 1975.	21	19
April 1975.	21	20
May-June 1975.	21	21

Annual reports

July 1975.	21	22
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Annual reports.

	Box	Folder
1973-1974.	21	23
1975.	21	24

Correspondence.

	Box	Folder
Correspondence and proposals, 1950-1957.	21	25
Department of Health.	21	26
Correspondence and proposals, 1958-1959.	21	27
	Box	Folder
Combining Public Health Nursing Agencies.	22	28
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania evaluation, 1975.	22	29
Evaluations and proposals, 1977.	22	30

Financial reports.

	Box	Folder
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1962.	22	32
1963.	22	33

Health and Welfare Council, Inc.

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1965.	22	35
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1968, special.	22	39
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1970.	22	42
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Financial statements, 1971-1979.	22	43

Health and Welfare Council, Inc.

	Box	Folder
Correspondence, 1956-1964.	23	44
Committee on Public Health Nursing Services, 1953.	23	45

Community Nursing Services of Philadelphia.

	Box	Folder
Community Nursing Services, Inc.: A Proposal, 1955.	23	46
Community Nursing Services, Inc.: A Proposal, 1955, Copy 2.	23	47

Health Center Services for Philadelphia

Health Center Services for Philadelphia.

	Box	Folder
Report.	23	48
Report.	23	49
	Box	Folder
Reports on public health nursing, 1949-1953.	23	50
Interim report by GLS Associates, 1978.	23	51
Printed materials, public relations.	23	52
Printed materials, public relations.	24	53
Printed materials, public relations.	24	54

Committee, Medical Advisory.

	Box	Folder
January 1976 - January 1979.	24	55
November 1972 - November 1975.	24	56
	Box	Folder
Community Nursing Services Report by H. Wilbert, 1946.	24	57
Cns report on red hook.	24	58
Staff nurses, 1953-1972.	24	59
Home care survey, 1976.	24	60

Philadelphia Home Care Plan

Committee, Program, April 1975.	24	61
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Agreement between City and VNS, 1959.	24	62
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Agreement between City and VNS, April 1961 - January 1979.	24	63
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Philadelphia Home Care Plan.

	Box	Folder
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Reports, 1947-1956.	24	64
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Correspondence, 1958-1963.	24	65
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Reports, 1960s.	24	66
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Biographies on home care, 1958-1960.	25	67
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Pamphlets, 1953-1965.	25	68
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General nursing agencies.

	Box	Folder
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Brochures from other agencies, 1960s-1970s.	25	69
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National Organizations of Public Health Nursing.	25	70
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Public health nursing general information.	25	71
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Public health nursing curriculum guide.	25	72
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Visiting nurse associations in the U.S., list, 1954.	25	73
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VNS role in public health services.	25	74
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Starr Centre Association of Philadelphia

Starr Centre Association of Philadelphia.

	Box	Folder
Auditor's report.	25	75
Bylaws.	25	76
Information.	25	77

Funds.

	Box	Folder
December 1929 - November 1935.	29	35
1935-1940.	31	36
December 1933 - November 1934.	31	37
Donations, 1941-1950.	31	38
Donations, 1951-1959.	32	39

Endowment fund.

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	Box	Folder
1920-1935.	32	41
1922-1933.	32	42
Donations, 1972-1977.	32	43
Donations, 1978-1982.	32	44

Ruth Weaver Hubbard Foundation

Anna E. Rohrman Fund.	32	45
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Financial Records.

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Scholarship publicity, 1956-1970.	36	77
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Series 7. Financial Information, 1886-1986.**Scope and Contents note**

This series includes the reports of the Society's auditor (1924-1970), cash books (1950-1960), correspondence (1945-1977), cost analyses and custodial accounts (1954-1968), and financial statements (1971-1986). There are also files describing the various general and named funds of the Society. This includes scholarships, endowed nurses, and donations to patients. Most notable is the Ruth Weaver Hubbard Foundation providing scholarship money to nurses interested in public health work. There are also agreements with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and the John Hancock Company for patient care. The Society maintained several ledger books which are files in this series recording funds received from and expended on behalf of the Welfare Federation (1930-1936), its succeeding agency, the Community Fund of Philadelphia (1936-1949). The Society also maintained a general ledger for the years 1949 through 1956.

Auditor's reports

Auditor's reports.

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Financial statements.

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Community Fund of Philadelphia, financial statements

Community Fund of Philadelphia, financial statements.

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General ledger, 1949-1956.	52	7
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Medical Health and Welfare Association statements, 1946-1960.	36	84
Pensions, miscellaneous reports, 1944-1958.	37	85
Social Security, 1951-1966.	Box	Folder
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Series 8. Property

Stock and bond register, 1922-1934.	38	94
Workman's compensation claims, 1951-1963.	38	95
Workman's compensation claims, 1964-1969.	38	96
VNS agreement with Metropolitan Life, 1933.	38	97
VNS agreement with John Hancock.	38	98
Workman's compensation claims, 1935-1960.	38	99
Yarnall, Biddle & Co., 1967-1976.	38	100

Series 8. Property, 1855-1979.**Scope and Contents note**

This is a small series that documents the properties acquired by and owned by the Society. In addition to the Society's properties, this series also includes the deed to the Starr Centre Association of Philadelphia, which the Society later acquired.

	Box	Folder
Agreement with Philadelphia Trust Co., 1925.	38	1
	Box	Folder
Land titles and deed, 1855-1911.	5	1
	Box	Folder
Girard Trust Company agreements, 1857-1968.	38	2
Office at 1340 Lombard Street, 1905-1964.	38	3

Series 9. Clippings and Publications

Office at 311 South Juniper Street, 1961-1979.	38	4
Starr Centre Association of Philadelphia Land Title Deed, 1905-1961.	39	5

Series 9. Clippings and Publications, 1872-1977.**Scope and Contents note**

A variety of clippings, newspaper supplements, pamphlets, and manuals make up this series. Most of the materials promote the Society's work, others address broader social reform issues such as Mrs. James T. Fields' "How to Help the Poor." There are also some clippings relating to the Starr Centre Association of Philadelphia.

	Box	Folder
How to Help the Poor, by Mrs. James T. Fields.	39	1
Alice Lippincott Memorial, 1898.	39	2
Public Health Nursing, 1946.	39	3
VNS Handbook, 1959.	39	4
Florence Nightingale to Gil Wylie, Correspondence (facsimile), 1872.	39	5
VNS nursing manuals, 1925-1947.	39	6
Sunday Bulletin Magazine, 1964.	52	1
Clippings, scrapbook, 1918.	52	2

Clippings

Clippings.

	Box	Folder
1886-1915.	39	7
1916-1933.	40	8
1943-1977.	40	9

Clippings, photocopied.

	Box	Folder
1886-1907.	40	10
1908-1915.	40	11
1916.	40	12
1917-1933.	40	13

Starr Centre Association of Philadelphia.

Clippings.

	Box	Folder
1943-1959.	40	14
1960-1977.	41	15
1917-1958.	41	16
Your United Fund column.	41	17

Series 10. Photographs

	Box	Folder
Manuals and pamphlets, duplicates.	41	18
Pamphlets and annual reports, duplicates.	41	19
Terra Cotta pieces, undated.	41	20

Series 10. Photographs, circa 1900-1986.

Scope and Contents note

The photographs making up this series are largely from the twentieth century. The Society, like other reform groups of the era, used photographic images to communicate their message to broader audiences. Once it became economical to reproduce photographs in publications, the Society's use of photographs increased dramatically. The Society reproduced many of the photographs found in this series in their annual reports beginning in 1907. For a complete visual record of the Society's activities, consult the annual reports in "Series I. Administration." Due to the nature and use of photographs by the Society, this series has been divided into two subseries of representing photographs created between 1900 to 1939, and 1940 to 1986. Within each subseries, they are divided into exterior and interior images and thereunder by subject of the images, i.e. general, group, nurses, people, etc.

1900-1939.

Exteriors.

General.	Box	Photo
The new home of the visiting nurse society, 1911.	42	1
Visiting Nurse Society of Philadelphia offices, 191?.	42	2

Exteriors

Group.

	Box	Photo
Visiting nurse with woman and child, 191?.	42	3
Visiting nurse entering building, 189?.	42	4
Nurse chatting with old woman, 1925.	42	5

Nurses.

	Box	Photo
Eight nurses on front steps of Lippincott House, 1907.	42	5.5
Nine nurses ready for work, 1909.	42	6
Thirteen visiting nurses leaving for work, 193?.	42	7
Harriet Frost, a visiting nurse 191?.	42	8
Harriet Frost sweeping, 191?.	42	9

People.

	Box	Photo
Mrs. Parker sitting in a chair, 191?.	42	10
Mrs. Parker sitting in a chair, 191?.	42	11
Woman and child on Percy street, 191?.	42	12

Interiors

Interiors.**General.**

	Box	Photo
Sale of patients' work, 1921.	42	13
Sale of patients' handicrafts, 1921.	42	14
Christmas packages ready for delivery, 1927.	42	15

Nurses treating adults.

	Box	Photo
Nurse in white treating middle-aged woman, 1925.	42	16
Nurse with chronically ill woman, 1910.	42	17
Nurse taking elderly woman's pulse, 1914.	42	18
Nurse taking elderly woman's pulse, 1914.	42	18.1
Nurse with paralyzed, blind, old woman, 1915.	42	19
Nurse with paralyzed, blind, old woman, 1915.	42	19.1
Nurse attends to seated elderly woman, 1912.	42	20
Nurse caring for man with tuberculosis, 1936.	42	21

Nurses treating children.

	Box	Photo
Nurse caring for mother and newborn twins, 1912.	42	22

Interiors

Nurse holding malnourished boy, 1886.	42	23
Nurse with two mothers and their children, 1912.	42	24
Nurse with two mothers and their children, 1912.	42	24.1
Nurse with two babies, 1908.	42	25
Nurse with mother, child and twins, 191?.	42	26
Nurse bathes baby while mother and three daughters look on, 191?.	42	27
Nurse taking boy's pulse, 1919.	42	28
Nurse with mother holding twins, 191?.	42	29
Nurse at elementary school, 191?.	42	30
Nurse pays post-natal visit, 191?.	42	31
Nurse with woman and two children, 191?.	42	32
Nurse and mother with two boys, 1908.	42	33
Nurse and mother with two boys, 1908.	42	33.1
Nurse teaching girl basketry, 193?.	42	34
Nurse and asian immigrant family, 193?.	42	35
Nurse bandaging boy's leg, 193?.	42	36
	Box	Photo
Nurse with mother and premature baby, 1915.	2	

Interiors

	Box	Photo
Nurse with two women and newborn baby, 191?.	42	38
Nurse with marasmic baby and family, 1910.	42	39
Nurse holding infant, 1919.	42	40
Nurse attending two sick young men, 1916.	42	41

People.

	Box	Photo
Nurse holding twin infants, 1919.	42	42
Two women in a room filled with toys, 1928.	42	43
Asian family portrait, 192?.	42	44
Woman and five children, 192?.	42	45
Girl with beadloom, 192?.	42	46
Woman using sewing machine, 1908.	42	47

Public relations.

	Box	Photo
Fifty Years of Service, 1936.	42	48

1940-1986.

Exteriors.

Group.	Box	Photo
Nurse shaking boy's hand, 1961.	42	49
Nurse with little girl and boy, 1958.	42	50
Nurse Pera and girl with doll, 1964.	42	51
Nurse Pera shaking old man's hand, 1964.	43	52
Nurse Pera and the Pannells, 1964.	43	53
Nurse Pera with Gary, Joel and Phyllis Pannell, 1964.	43	54
Nurse Pera holding child's hand, 1964.	43	55
Nurse Pera talking with neighborhood children, 1964.	43	56
Nurse Pera watching children play, 1964.	43	57
Children following Nurse Pera, 1964.	43	58

Nurses.

	Box	Photo
Five nurses leaving the Society offices, 1958.	43	59
Five nurses on the doorstep of a building, 1958.	43	60

Exteriors

Five nurses on the doorstep of a building, 1958.	43	60.1
Public relations.		
	Box	Photo
75th anniversary display, 1961.	43	61
75th anniversary display, 1961.	43	61.1
75th anniversary exhibit, 1961.	43	62
Visiting Nurse Society display, 1966.	43	63
Visiting Nurse Society display, 1966.	43	64
Hospitals Without Walls display, 1965.	43	65
Mobile unit presentation, 1953.	43	66
Nurse Zachwieja starting rounds, 1949.	43	67
Nurse Zachwieja starting rounds, 1949.	43	67.1
Nurse Eakle, 1949.	43	68
Nurse Eakle, 1949.	43	68.1
Nurse oliver in white uniform, 1963.	43	69
Nurse oliver in dark uniform, 1963.	43	70
Nurse Horrick, 1963.	43	71
Nurse in dark uniform, 1963.	43	72

Interiors

Nurse Pera on the stairs, 1964.	43	73
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Interiors.**General.**

	Box	Photo
Volunteer in Child Health Conference play area, 1960.	43	74
Children at Child Health Conference, 1960.	43	75
Adult and Children at Child Health Conference, 1960.	43	76

Group shots.

	Box	Photo
Two women and two children at filing cabinet, 195?.	43	77
Nurse dispensing medicine, 1957.	43	78
Nurse and elderly woman in medical office, 1976.	43	79
Elderly woman playing with four children, 1976.	43	80
Photo series beginning with nurse and couple, 1961.	43	81
Photo series beginning with nurse, doctor, and child, 1961.	43	82
Nurse and couple in waiting room, 1961.	43	83
Nurse and couple in waiting room, 197?.	43	83.1

Interiors

Nurses.		
	Box	Photo
Elderly woman at filing cabinet, 1976.	43	84
People at meeting, 196?.	43	85
Nurse holding syringe, 1957.	43	86
Nurse holding stethoscope, 1957.	43	87
Two nurses with supervisor, 1950.	43	88
Nurse Pera on SEPTA, 1964.	43	89
Nurse Pera and her bag, 1964.	43	90
Nurse Pera and district supervisor, 1964.	43	91
Nurse Pera at a Meeting, 1964.	43	92
Nurse Pera at desk, 1964.	43	93
Nurse Johnston at a desk, 1949.	43	94
Nurse Johnston at a desk, 1949.	43	94.1
Nurses treating adults.		
	Box	Photo
Nurse giving medicine to old woman, 194?.	43	95
Nurse giving sponge bath, 1949.	43	96
Nurse giving sponge bath, 1949.	43	96.1

Interiors

Two nurses give man physical therapy, 1946.	43	97
Nurse helping woman with knitting, 1947.	43	98
Nurse and woman going over vitamin chart, 1947.	43	99
Nurse prepares to give old man a sponge bath, 1947.	43	100
Nurse attending to an old man in wheelchair, 1947.	43	101
Nurse King teaches a woman to knit, 1947.	43	102
Nurse giving man a shot, 1967.	43	103
Nurse showing medication and a woman, 1957.	43	104
Nurse helping woman with telephone, 1947.	43	105
Nurse helping woman to embroider, 1947.	43	106
Nurse visiting female patient, 1958.	43	107
Nurse watching woman raise herself with trapeze, 1958.	43	108
Nurse taking woman's pulse, 1958.	43	109
Nurse taking woman's pulse and temperature, 1958.	43	110
Home health aide giving elderly woman a meal, 1965.	43	111
Home health aide giving elderly woman a meal, 1965.	43	111.1
Home health aide combing an old woman's hair, 1965.	44	112
Home health aide combing an old woman's hair, 1965.	44	112.1

Interiors

Home health aide combing an old woman's hair, 1965.	44	112.2
Home health aide holding the arm of old woman, 1965.	44	113
Home health aide holding the arm of old woman, 1965.	44	113.1
Home health aide giving vitamins to old woman, 1965.	44	114
Home health aide applying bandage to old woman's leg, 1965.	44	115
Home health aide applying bandage to old woman's leg, 1965.	44	115.1
Home health aide applying bandage to old woman's leg, 1965.	44	115.2
Home health aide applying bandage to old woman's leg with husband present, 1965.	44	116
Home health aide applying bandage to old woman's leg with husband present, 1965.	44	116.1
Home health aide giving drinks to old couple, 1965.	44	117
Home health aide giving drinks to old couple, 1965.	44	117.1
Home health aide giving drinks to old couple, 1965.	44	117.2
Home health aide and woman with walker, 1965.	44	118
Home health aide and woman with walker, 1965.	44	118.1
Home health aide and woman with walker, 1965.	44	118.2
Home health aide giving pills to woman amputee, 1965.	44	119
Home health aide giving pills to woman amputee, 1965.	44	119.1

Interiors

Home health aide giving pills to woman amputee, 1965.	44	119.2
Home health aide soaking woman's amputated foot, 1965.	44	120
Home health aide soaking woman's amputated foot, 1965.	44	120.1
Nurse Pera helping woman comb hair, 1964.	44	121
Nurse Pera helping woman comb hair, 1964.	44	121.1
Nurse Pera helping woman comb hair, 1964.	44	121.2
Nurse Pera checking man's heart rate as his wife looks on, 1964.	44	122
Nurse Pera checking man's heart rate, 1964.	44	123
Nurse Pera and arthritic woman, 1964.	44	124
Nurse Pera giving woman nutritional guidance, 1964.	44	125
Nurse Pera preparing a man's bandage, 1964.	44	126
Nurse Pera preparing a man's bandage, 1964.	44	126.1
Nurse Pera preparing man's dressing, 1964.	44	127
Nurse Pera talking with old man, 1964.	44	128
Nurse Pera and ms victim, 1964.	44	129
Nurses with children.		
	Box	Photo
Nurse fitting leg brace on child, 1958.	44	130

Interiors

Nurse working with child's feet, 1958.	44	131
Nurse helping child put on leg braces and shoes, 1958.	44	132
Nurse greeting child, 1958.	44	133
Doctor and nurse giving polio vaccine to crying girl, 1955.	44	134
Doctor and nurse looking in child's ear, 1949.	44	135
Doctor, nurse, mother and infant, 1949.	44	136
Doctor, nurse, woman and little girl, 1949.	44	137
Doctor, nurse, woman and little boy, 1949.	44	138
Nurse, mother and little boy and infant, 1949.	44	139
Nurse bathing baby as mother watches, 1949.	44	139a
Nurse and woman with infant, 197?.	44	140
Nurse weighing baby on scale, 1957.	44	141
Nurse looking into asian child's throat, 194?.	44	142
Nurse with Asian woman and her two sons, 194?.	44	143
Nurse massaging boy's leg, 1946.	44	144
Nurse putting brace on boy's leg, 1946.	44	145
Nurse and mother bathe infant, 1957.	44	146
Nurse looking in child's mouth (front view), 1957.	44	147

Interiors

Nurse looking in child's mouth (side view), 1957.	44	148
Nurse examines baby's scalp, 1957.	44	149
Nurse showing carrot to child and mother, 1966.	44	150
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Nurse rubbing cotton on baby's face, 1958.	44	152
Nurse showing pamphlet to infant's mother, 1958.	44	153
Nurse showing ammonia to mother and child, 1957.	44	154
Nurse playing with child and puzzle, 1957.	44	155
Nurse measuring Virginia, 194?.	44	156
Nurse weighing infant, 194?.	44	157
Nurse weighing infant on fairbanks scale, 1949.	44	158
Nurse cleaning boy's teeth, 1949.	44	159
Nurse weighing little girl, 1949.	44	160
Nurse Pera helps a mother put leg braces on a boy, 1964.	44	161
Nurse Pera and child smiling at each other, 1964.	44	162
Nurse Pera and child looking off camera, 1964.	44	163
Nurse Pera smiling at boy on crutches, 1964.	44	164
Nurse Pera holding baby and smiling, 1964.	45	165

Interiors

Nurse Pera holding baby, 1964.	45	166
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Nurse Pera bathing baby while mother watches, 1964.	45	167
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People.

	Box	Photo
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Woman sewing, 1946.	45	168
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Woman making dolls, 1946.	45	169
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Man using table saw, 1946.	45	170
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One-legged woman knitting, 1947.	45	171
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Woman weaving, 1947.	45	172
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Portraits.

	Box	Photo
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Public relations.

	Box	Photo
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Three women and a cake, 1949.	45	174
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Cake and flowers, 1949.	45	175
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Cake and flowers, 1949.	45	175.1
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Anniversary cake, 1949.	45	176
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Anniversary cake, 1949.	45	176.1
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Interiors

Woman, flowers and cake, 1949.	45	177
Woman, flowers and cake, 1949.	45	177.1
Woman and cake, 1949.	45	178
Seven women and cake, 1949.	45	179
Three women and cake, 1949.	45	180
Three women cutting a cake, 1949.	45	181
Three women cutting a cake, 1949.	45	181.1
Woman cutting VNS 60th anniversary cake, 1946.	45	182
Woman cutting VNS 60th anniversary cake, 1946.	45	183
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Nurse wearing uniform, 194?.	45	186
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1933 VNS display, 1933.	45	189
1940 VNS display, 1940.	45	190
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Interiors

Awards ceremony, 1948.	45	192.1
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Woman signing CNS contract, 1959.	45	194
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Nurse Pera and black bags, 1964.	45	200
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Old and new uniforms, 1961.	45	202
Four women at ceremony, 1961.	45	203
Four women at ceremony, 1961.	45	203.1
Four women at ceremony, 1961.	45	203.2
Four women at ceremony, 1961.	45	203.3
Four women holding a book, 1961.	45	204
Four women holding a book, 1961.	45	204.1
Three women holding a book, 1961.	45	205

Interiors

Man speaking at 75th anniversary luncheon, 1961.	45	206
Overhead view of 75th anniversary party, 1961.	45	207
Two Women Holding a Book, 1961.	45	208
Three women holding award certificate, 1961.	45	209
Three women holding award certificate, looking off to the side, 1961.	45	210
Three women holding award certificate, looking off to the side, 1961.	45	210.1
Three women holding award certificate, looking off to the side, 1961.	45	210.2
Woman looking at photograph of old and new uniforms, 1961.	45	211
Three women, 1965.	45	212
Three nurses and two elderly women, 1965.	45	213
Three women at dinner, 1948.	45	214
Three women with a book, 1961.	45	215
Three smiling nurses and two elderly women, 1965.	45	216
Man presenting certificates to two women, 1964.	45	217
Man giving gift to woman, 1979.	45	218
Annual service recognition tea group shot, 1979.	45	219

Interiors

Woman at podium at VNS luncheon, 1986.	45	220
Woman with hand-puppet, 1979.	45	221
Man and elderly woman, 1979.	45	222
Videotaping man at podium, 1986.	45	223
People looking at VNS display, 1986.	45	224
[no photograph].	45	225
Three women at VNS luncheon, 1986.	45	226
Man at podium, 1986.	45	227
Four people at luncheon table, 1986.	45	228
Four people at luncheon, 1986.	45	229
Woman at podium, 1979.	45	230
Mayor Goode presenting award to man, 1986.	45	231
Mayor Goode presenting award to man with group, 1986.	45	232
Mayor Goode presenting award to man with group, 1986.	45	232.1
VNS luncheon, 1986.	45	233
Three women at VNS luncheon, 1986.	45	234
Three women in different period uniforms, 1986.	45	235
VNS plaque, 198?.	45	236

Portraits

Portrait of Ruth Weaver Hubbard, 194?. 45 237

Portrait of Ruth Weaver Hubbard, 194?. 45 237.1

Portraits.

Box Photo

Woman giving key to nurse beside automobile, circa 1940. 45 238

Group picture. 45 239

Jackson, J. Norman, Mrs. 45 240

Jenks, William Furness, Mrs. 45 241

Lea, Henry Charles, Mrs. 45 242

Lippincott, James Dundas, Mrs. 45 243

Towne, John Henry, Mrs. 45 244

Box Photo

Slides. 46

Series 11. Artifacts and Memorabilia.

Scope and Contents note

This series includes memorial plaques, uniforms, caps, dolls, and a wooden toy "visiting nurse society" automobile.

Box

Plaques. 47

Series 11. Artifacts and Memorabilia

Uniforms.	48
Uniforms.	49
Medals, Block Stamps, & Gavel.	50
Dolls, Toy Automobile.	51
