

AC 73

Vincent Memorial Hospital

Records, 1940, ca. 1990-2002

Accession No. 2003-2 and 2006-8

4.0 c.f. (4 records cartons)

Acquisition: The materials were transferred to the MGH Archives by William Baker in 2003 and 2006.

Processed by: Jeffrey Mifflin, 2017

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Agency History:

The Vincent Memorial Hospital was founded in 1891 by the friends of Mrs. J. R. Vincent, as a memorial to the popular Boston actress. Originally established for the care of wage-earning women, the hospital's first location was 44 Chambers Street, Boston. Its early medical staff consisted of Drs. Grace Wolcott and Lena V. Ingraham. In 1892, the senior class of Mrs. Shaw's School for Girls organized the Vincent Club, the aim of which was to raise funds for the hospital through an annual theatrical production. The Vincent Club, which still exists, has raised millions of dollars for the VMH through its original musical reviews, symposia, and other innovative events.

The hospital outgrew its initial 12-bed capacity and moved in 1908 to a larger facility on South Huntington Avenue, where it remained until 1941. At that time, the gynecologic surgeon and Vincent chief of staff Dr. Joe V. Meigs and the Vincent Board of Trustees recognized the potential of merging the Vincent Hospital with the Massachusetts General Hospital. The Vincent became the MGH's gynecology service while retaining its own hospital identity and staff and relocated to the MGH's main campus. After operating out of temporary quarters during World War II, the Vincent relocated in 1947 to three floors of the newly completed Vincent Burnham Building.

In 1988, the corporate purpose of the Vincent was revised to read as follows: "The Corporation shall be organized and shall be operated exclusively to support programs for the care and treatment of the diseases of women at The Massachusetts General Hospital." The Vincent's independent hospital license was allowed to expire, and Mass General agreed to formally designate with the name "Vincent" those places and programs associated with and funded by the Vincent Memorial Hospital Corporation. The partnership reflects shared efforts and numerous advances in research pertaining to and treatment of diseases affecting women.

Scope and Content Note:

The bulk of the material in the collection deals with planning for the return of an Obstetrics Service to the MGH.

Processing Note:

Several binders in the accession were found to have inactive mildew, which was brushed off prior to processing.

Box List:**c. 1**

Obstetrics Planning Binders, v. 1 and v. 2

Obstetrics Reference Binders, v. 1 and v. 2

c. 2

Obstetrics Initial Capital Binder

Obstetrics Financial Binder

Obstetrics Facilities Binder

Obstetrics Marketing Binders

Obstetrics Patient Origin by Town, 1994

Obstetrics Patient Origin by Town, 1996

c. 3

Obstetrics Committees Binders, v. 1 and v. 2

Obstetrics OBIS Charter, 1994

Obstetrics OBIS

Obstetrics Program Business Plan, 1993

c. 4

Cytogenetics Binder

“Returning Obstetrics to Massachusetts General Hospital: A Case Study in Program Planning and Implementation,” 2001

Vincent Memorial Hospital Obstetrics and Gynecological Service, Departmental Report, 2002

Vincent Memorial Hospital publicity handouts, 2001-2002

Vincent Club, publicity and programs for annual fundraising show, 1940, 1991, 1992, 2005