



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Osteopathy Collection

NMAH.AC.0021

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1985

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Osteopathy Collection
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0021
Date:	1887-1941
Extent:	2.3 Cubic feet (6 boxes)
Creator:	Still, George A., Dr. Bean, Arthur Sanders
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Immediate source of acquisition unknown.

Provenance

This collection was formed when Dr. George A. Still, trustee and second president (1918-1922) of the American School of Osteopathy, and great-nephew of its founder, Dr. Andrew Taylor Still, circulated a request for historical material on osteopathy in 1918. The collection was transferred from Division of Medical Sciences to Archives Center, April 29, 1983.

Other Finding Aids

Inventory available; contact the Archives Center for more information.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Don Dorrach and Robert Harding, 1985

Preferred Citation

Osteopathy Collection, 1887-1941, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Historical

Osteopathy is an independent school of medicine based on the theory that there is unity between body structure and function. Osteopaths (numbering about 12,000) are licensed to practice in all states and D.C., generally on the same basis as medical doctors. They are represented in the U.S. Public Health Service and other government medical services.

Osteopathic colleges (5 in number) require a 4 year course totaling 5,000 course hours of study with two years of basic science and two years of clinical training and advanced science. At least 3 years of college level pre-professional studies are required and a year long internship at one of 85 osteopathic hospitals follows formal studies. Osteopathic specialists are certified in 12 fields after further study.

Osteopathy emphasizes manipulation of the body in order to maintain the proper adjustment of the musculoskeletal system. However, osteopaths also employ drug therapy, surgery and radiation therapy.

Osteopathy originated as a medical reform movement initiated by Dr. Andrew Taylor Still in the Missouri Kansas frontier region in the late 1900s. Most osteopaths now are practicing in the U.S. and Canada. They are represented by state and provincial societies which combine to form the American Osteopathic Association.

Biographical

The "founder of osteopathy," Andrew Taylor Still, was born in Virginia in 1828, the son of Abraham Still, a Methodist minister who was also a doctor of medicine and whose four brothers were doctors. The family moved successively to Tennessee, Missouri, and Kansas with the elder Still serving as a missionary and medical practitioner to Indian tribes. Andrew assisted his father in this work, gradually becoming dissatisfied with orthodox methods of medical practice of that time. He served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Against strong opposition of the medical profession and others he evolved the principles of osteopathy in 1892 founding together with a Scottish physician, Dr. William Smith, the American School of Osteopathy, the first such institution in the U.S., located in Kirksville, Missouri.

Dr. Still based his system of therapy on two premises: first, that the human body was self healing (i.e., it contains within itself all the medicinal chemicals necessary to the cure of disease); and, second, lesions of the spinal column are the principal causes of disease. Dr. Still continued his work until his death in Kirksville in 1917.

Scope and Contents

Collection includes photographs, brief biographies and some correspondence of 105 prominent osteopaths, all submitted in 1918 apparently as the result of a circular written request by Dr. George A. Still, a trustee of the American School of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Missouri, and a great-nephew of the founder of that institution, Dr. A.T. Still.

Other material (dating from 1887 to 1941) includes journals, college announcements and catalogs published by schools of osteopathy and other publishers. These contain professional articles and list college curriculums in osteopathy. Textbooks on osteopathy, miscellaneous photographs and newspaper clippings are also included.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into four series.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Medical education
- Medicine
- Osteopathic medicine
- Osteopathic physicians

Types of Materials:

- Books
- Clippings
- Correspondence -- 1930-1950

Names:

- Still, Andrew Taylor, Dr., 1828-1917

Container Listing

Series 1: Photographs

Subseries 1.1: Portraits, Biographies, and Correspondence

Box 1, Folder 1	Abegglen, C. E.
Box 1, Folder 1	Amos, Virginia Lee
Box 1, Folder 1	Andrews, Mabel E.
Box 1, Folder 1	Andrews, L.V.
Box 1, Folder 1	Arand, Charles A.
Box 1, Folder 2	Baum, John D.
Box 1, Folder 2	Bean, Arthur Sanders
Box 1, Folder 2	Bechly, F.W.
Box 1, Folder 2	Beckler, Herbert S.
Box 1, Folder 2	Bell, L. J.
Box 1, Folder 2	Bernard, Herbert
Box 1, Folder 2	Bingham, Lewis J.
Box 1, Folder 2	Blackman, Wave W.
Box 1, Folder 2	Bolles, Jenette H.
Box 1, Folder 2	Brigham, W. Curtis
Box 1, Folder 2	Bumpus, John F.
Box 1, Folder 2	Bush, Ida Lewis
Box 1, Folder 2	Byars, William R.

Box 1, Folder 3	Champlin, Chas. A.
Box 1, Folder 3	Cherrill, Catherine
Box 1, Folder 3	Chrestensen, C.J.
Box 1, Folder 3	Christianson, C.P.
Box 1, Folder 3	Clark, J.F.
Box 1, Folder 3	Covey, Florence A.
Box 1, Folder 3	Cox, Martha Saunders
Box 1, Folder 3	Curry, Etta Elizabeth
Box 1, Folder 4	Dove, Chester E.
Box 1, Folder 4	Downing, John E.
Box 1, Folder 4	Downing, John T.
Box 1, Folder 4	Edwards, James D.
Box 1, Folder 4	Evans, Arthur L.
Box 1, Folder 4	Ewing, Ernest
Box 1, Folder 5	Favell, Ernest
Box 1, Folder 5	Friend, J. H.
Box 1, Folder 5	Fryette, H. H.
Box 1, Folder 5	Fryette, S. J.
Box 1, Folder 5	Geddes, Paul
Box 1, Folder 5	Glascock, H.
Box 1, Folder 5	Graves, Millie Estelle
Box 1, Folder 5	Gravett, H. H.

Box 1, Folder 6	Haight, L. Ludlow
Box 1, Folder 6	Haley, Ruth Keown
Box 1, Folder 6	Hardy, Arthur C.
Box 1, Folder 6	Hawkinson, J.W.
Box 1, Folder 6	Henderson, Robert B.
Box 1, Folder 6	Hicks, Ella R.
Box 1, Folder 6	Hildreth, A.G.
Box 1, Folder 7	Ilginfritz, Melville E.
Box 1, Folder 7	Johnson, John K.
Box 1, Folder 7	Jones, E. Clair
Box 1, Folder 7	Jorris, A. U.
Box 1, Folder 7	Juvenal, Howard Ralph
Box 1, Folder 7	Kerr, Janet M.
Box 1, Folder 7	Kilgore, J.M.
Box 1, Folder 7	Kincaid, Julia May
Box 1, Folder 7	LaRue, Chas. M.
Box 1, Folder 8	McAllister, Byron F.
Box 1, Folder 8	McLean, Harry Rogan
Box 1, Folder 8	McManis, J. V.
Box 1, Folder 8	Moore, Fred E.
Box 1, Folder 8	Moore, Riley D.

Box 1, Folder 8	Morgan, Lallah
Box 1, Folder 8	Moriarty, J. J.
Box 2, Folder 1	Nevius, Zuela Alice
Box 2, Folder 1	Noland, George L.
Box 2, Folder 1	Noland, Lou T.
Box 2, Folder 1	Noordhoff, L. H.
Box 2, Folder 1	Nuckles, R. H.
Box 2, Folder 1	Olney, Belle P.
Box 2, Folder 1	Opp, Sherman R.
Box 2, Folder 2	Parsons, C. L.
Box 2, Folder 2	Paul, Theodore
Box 2, Folder 2	Petree, Martha
Box 2, Folder 2	Phelps, Mabel B.
Box 2, Folder 2	Pherigo Baird, Nora B.
Box 2, Folder 2	Pitts, Eugene
Box 2, Folder 2	Potter, Minnie Florence
Box 2, Folder 2	Purdom, Zudie P.
Box 2, Folder 2	Record, Blanche B.
Box 2, Folder 2	Reid, Charles C.
Box 2, Folder 3	Scothorn, Samuel L.
Box 2, Folder 3	Shifflett, Ella Edwards
Box 2, Folder 3	Slaughter, Hattie G./Slaughter, James T.

Box 2, Folder 3	Smith, Orren E.
Box 2, Folder 3	Snyder, O. J.
Box 2, Folder 3	Stagan, J. Dennis
Box 2, Folder 3	Stern, Rose T.
Box 2, Folder 3	Stewart, Frank J.
Box 2, Folder 3	Still, Andrew T.
Box 2, Folder 3	Stratton Airey, Grace
Box 2, Folder 3	Struble, Carl K.
Box 2, Folder 4	Thompson, C. L.
Box 2, Folder 4	Thompson, Margaret S.
Box 2, Folder 4	Trabue, Josephine
Box 2, Folder 4	Triplett, Neva T.
Box 2, Folder 4	Upton, Charles A.
Box 2, Folder 4	Ussing, Agnes
Box 2, Folder 4	Veazie, Ella B.
Box 2, Folder 5	Wakeham, Jessie
Box 2, Folder 5	Waldo, W. E.
Box 2, Folder 5	Walmsley, Asa G.
Box 2, Folder 5	West, William
Box 2, Folder 5	Wilson, Norman D.
Box 2, Folder 5	Wilson, Perrin T.

Subseries 1.2: Photographs of Osteopathic Institutions

Box 2, Folder 1-2 Miscellaneous Photos of Osteopathic Schools

Box 2, Folder 3 Photo book of Still Hindreth Osteopath Sanatorium in Macon, Missouri.

Box 2, Folder 4 Photo book of "Picturesque Kirksville."

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Series 2: Journals and Reports

Published by Osteopathic Schools

Box 3, Folder 1	Published by the American School of Osteopathy
Box 3, Folder 2	Published by the Atlantic School of Osteopathy
Box 3, Folder 3	Published by the Kirksville College of Osteopathy

2.2: Published by Various Publishing Companies

Box 3, Folder 1	Published by the Herald of Osteopathy Publishing Co.
Box 3, Folder 2	Published by the American Osteopathic Association
Box 3, Folder 3	Published by the National League For the Prevention of Spinal Curvature
Box 3, Folder 4	The Osteopathy Published by Williams Publishing Co.
Box 3, Folder 5	Published by the Journal of Osteopathy Publishing Co.
Box 3, Folder 6	Published by the Minnesota State Osteopathic Association
Box 3, Folder 7	(2) The Bulletin Published by Alas and Axis Club
Box 3, Folder 7	(2) Osteopathic Health Published by the Osteopathic Publishing Co.
Box 3, Folder 7	(2) Reports Published by the Mary Elizabeth Hospital
Box 3, Folder 8	The Science of Osteopathy
Box 3, Folder 8	Memorial Magazine
Box 3, Folder 8	Massachusetts Journal of Osteopathy
Box 4, Folder 8	'Review Week" News
Box 4, Folder 8	The Osteopathic Magazine
Box 4, Folder 8	Oral and Dental Diagnosis
Box 4, Folder 8	Appendicitis
Box 4, Folder 8	Appendicular Technique
Box 4, Folder 8	Unknown Title
Box 4, Folder 8	Unknown Title

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Series 3: Osteopathic Books

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|-----------------|---|
| Box 5, Folder 1 | A. T. Still Research Institute. The Pathology of the Vertebral Lesion. Chicago, Ill., The Abington Press, |
| Box 5, Folder 2 | Keen, W. William. Gray's Anatomy: Descriptive and Surgical. Philadelphia, 1887. |
| Box 5, Folder 3 | Laughlin, Earl Jr. An Introduction to Osteopathy, Kirksville, Mo., Journal Printing Co., 1932. |

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Series 4: Miscellaneous

Box 6, Folder 1	Platt Cartoon with its correspondence
Box 6, Folder 2	Brochures on the McManis Table Co.
Box 6, Folder 3	News Clippings and Magazine Articles on Osteopathy
Box 6, Folder 4	Paper written by Arthur Sanders Bean on Osteopathy

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