

THE WOOD LIBRARY-MUSEUM OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

THE NOEL A. GILLESPIE COLLECTION

Finding Aid



Prepared by J. Robins, Archivist

Revised November 15, 2022

INTRODUCTION

Title: The Noel A. Gillespie Collection

Accessions: 1985.07
2005.05.19.1
2007.11.04.1

Date Range: 1917—1944

Bulk Dates: 1929—1939

Extent: 2 linear feet (4 document boxes)

Related Collections: Ralph M. Waters Collection
Misuraca Collection (MMS 169)
Typescript of the book, Endotracheal Anesthesia.

Processed by: Judith Robins, Archivist

Dates Processed: July, 2005 ; August, 2006

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of the collection consists of eleven volumes. All but one of these were given titles by the author, which appear in quotation marks below. Some titles are written on the flyleaf, others stamped on the binding. Seven volumes are diaries written in Dr. Gillespie's hand. These holograph diaries are dated from 1917 through 1933. Note that two of these are titled "V".

One volume ("Original Papers I") is a compilation of holograph and typed materials, dated from 1934 through 1944. No other volumes of this kind are known.

Three volumes are typed memoirs. Their unusually specific detail suggests that they may have been compiled from diaries. The first typescript ("Diary VI") is dated from 1933 through 1939. The second ("Liber VII") is dated from 1939 through 1943. The third ("Original Papers I") is dated from 1934 through 1944.

CONDITION ADVISORY

The bulk of this collection was purchased as a lot in May, 2005. Upon arrival, it was found to be water-damaged and extensively colonized by mold. The lot was vacuum-treated and cleaned by Midwest Freeze-Dry, Ltd. The vacuum treatment kills the mold, and imparts a strong sweet odor that dissipates slowly. **Those who have respiratory difficulties** may find this smell problematic. If the user detects any smell of mold, please report this to the Librarian immediately.

The majority of the materials in this collection are fragile. In order to preserve them, the user will be provided with photocopies in preference to the originals.

ARRANGEMENT

The contents of the collection vary in size and format. They are arranged in the manner best suited to their preservation. Bound volumes and loose papers, while they may form a continuous chronology, do not always make good neighbors. Efficient use of space is another factor in this arrangement.

SERIES

Dates	Title	Character	Container
Autobiographical Series			
1917—1921	"N. A. Gillespie, 1917...."	Holograph diary	Box 2
1919—1925	[Untitled]	Typed memoir	Box 1
1925— ?	"Book II"	Holograph diary	Box 2
?	"Book III"	Holograph diary	Box 2
1926— ?	"Book IV"	Holograph diary	Box 2
1927—1930	"Book V, Home"	Holograph diary	Box 2
1930—1933	"Liber V"	Holograph diary	Box 2
1933—1939	"Diary VI"	Typed memoir	Box 3
1939—1943	"Liber VII"	Typed memoir	Box 4
Miscellaneous Series			
1929—1931	"London Hospital"	Holograph notes	Box 3
1934	Dissertation	Typed	Box 1
1934—1944	"Original Papers I"	Compilation	Box 4
Various	Photographs, Reprints, etc.		Box 1

CONTAINER LIST

BOX 1

FF 1 Finding Aid

FF 2 Biographical materials

FF 3 Photographs

FF 4 Correspondence

Letter to "My dear old thing" from "Peter" (5-11-25)

Letter to "My dear Gillespie" from "R. Blantford" (10-4-43)

FF 5 A Dissertation on "Endotracheal Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen-Ether Anaesthesia in Neurological Surgery". Thesis submitted for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine in the University of Oxford by N. A. Gillespie, B. M., M. A. (New College). Honorary Assistant Anaesthetist, The London Hospital. October 1934. [Photocopy]

FF 6 "Ralph Milton Waters: A Brief Biography." [Typescript, 20 pages]

FF 7 Reprints A & B

FF 8 Reprints D

FF 9 Reprints E & F

FF 10 Reprints R

FF 11 Reprints S

FF 12 Reprints W

FF 13 Untitled memoir, 1919—1925

[Typescript. Pages numbered through 104. No title. Binding could not be salvaged. Appears to continue the volume that begins with 1917, and to be continued in "Book II".]

FF 14 Photocopy of memoir

BOX 2

FF 1 "N. A. Gillespie, 1917-1918-1919-1920-1921." [Holograph diary]

FF 2 "Book II, Scribere jussit Amor."

[Holograph diary. First entry dated 1925. Appears to continue the volume that ends in 1925.]

FF 3 "Book III, Visibilium et Invisibilium Omnia." [Holograph diary]

FF 4 "Book IV, Chichele's Rents." [Holograph diary. Title entry (page 19) dated 1926.]

FF 5 "Book V, Home, 1927—1930." [Holograph diary.]

FF 6 "Liber V, February 1930—August 1933." [Holograph diary.]

BOX 3

FF 1 "N. A. Gillespie, The London Hospital, E. 1."

[Holograph diary. Entries dated 1929—1931.]

FF 2 "N. A. G. Diary VI, 1933—1939."

[Bound typescript. Title stamped on cover. Pages numbered through 373. Despite the title, this is not a diary but a memoir of events that happened in the past. Fragile. Use photocopy instead.]

FF 3 Photocopy A of Diary VI, part 1 of 2

FF 4 Photocopy A of Diary VI, part 2 of 2

FF 5 Photocopy B of Diary VI, part 1 of 2

FF 6 Photocopy B of Diary VI, part 2 of 2

BOX 4

FF 1 "Original Papers I. 1934—1944 – N.A.G."

[Compilation of holograph and typed materials, in scrapbook form. Pages numbered through 294. Fragile. Photocopy is needed.]

FF 2 "Liber VII, The New World."

[Bound typescript. Binding could not be salvaged. Pages numbered through 73. Missing pages 32-36, 51-52. Dated 1939—1943. Like "Diary VI", this is not a diary, but a memoir of events that happened in the past. Fragile. Use photocopy instead.]

FF 3 Photocopy of "Liber VII".