

SCOPE AND CONTENT: Minutes, annual reports, and lists of members of the Corporation of Babies Hospital. Members of the Corporation had to be at least 21 years of age and to have made a donation to the hospital of $10 or more in the previous year. The Corporation met annually to elect members of the Board of Directors and to approve the annual report of the hospital.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Babies Hospital was founded in 1887 by five women “to provide medical and surgical aid and nursing for sick babies.” At the time, New York City had only 27 hospital beds devoted to the care of children under the age of one year. Babies soon became one of the nation’s pre-eminent children’s hospitals. Within twenty years it had established an outpatient department, a training school for nurses, and a summer hospital at the New Jersey shore. It became a teaching affiliate of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1900. L. Emmett Holt, Herbert Wilcox, Sr. and Rustin McIntosh were among the medical directors of the hospital in the 20th century.

After several brief stays at various locations, Babies Hospital settled in two houses on Lexington Avenue at E. 55th Street. In 1902, these buildings were replaced with a modern structure where the Hospital remained until it moved to the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center at W. 168th Street in 1929.

ACCESS: Unrestricted.

LANGUAGE: English.

PROVENANCE: On deposit from the Office of the Corporate Secretary, New York-Presbyterian Hospital, March 2009.

Subjects:

Babies Hospital (New York, N.Y.)
Children – Hospitals – New York (State) – New York
Hospitals – Administration – New York (State) – New York.