

THE HISTORIC COLLECTIONS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL

The Friends of the Historical Library was established in 1987 to raise funds for the repair and conservation of the rare books; in 1994 the Friends' mission was expanded to include the preservation of all the historic collections at Pennsylvania Hospital. Researchers from around the world utilize these important collections, whose life span has been greatly extended, thanks to preservation care.

For more information about the Friends or our collections, contact:

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An Invitation

FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE
HISTORIC COLLECTIONS
OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL



We

ASK YOU TO BECOME A

FRIEND OF ONE OF THE GREAT

COLLECTIONS OF BOOKS, MANUSCRIPTS,

AND ARTIFACTS THAT REPRESENT THE

HISTORY OF SCIENCE, MEDICINE, AND

AMERICAN CULTURE.

The archives collection of The Pennsylvania Hospital have been gathered for 255 years – an almost unbroken series since 1751.

The archives collection is comprised of:
Organizational Records
Financial Papers
Personal Papers of Physicians and Nurses
Photographs
Artifacts
Affiliate Records
Institute of Pennsylvania Hospital Collection

The Hospital holds a vast collection of fine art, furniture and decorative antiques.

These include:

paintings	chairs
portraits	tables
engravings	tall-case clocks
sculpture	

Highlights of the collection include the Rittenhouse tall-case clock and work by significant artists, such as Thomas Sully, Benjamin West and Thomas Eakins.

The Medical Library, the nation's first, was established in 1762.

- The first book donated to the library was William Lewis' *An Experimental History of the Materia Medica*.
- Initial funding for the library came from Pennsylvania Hospital physicians who donated the fees they received from their students.
- By 1847, the library contained 9,000 volumes and was the largest medical library in the country. Today, the Historic Library contains approximately 13,000 volumes.



Please support The Friends of the Historic Collections of The Pennsylvania Hospital by contributing generously in the postage paid envelope provided above.