



### **Old Collections & New Approaches**

Modernization Efforts in the Medical Center Archives at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine

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### About the Medical Center Archives



Drawing of First New York Hospital site, 1800s.

NewYork-Presbyterian (formerly New York Hospital), 1771-



New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center from York Avenue, 1930s.

Weill Cornell Medicine, 1898-Weill Cornell Medicine Qatar, 2001-



Cornell University Medical College Class of 1914.

300+ personal papers and manuscript collections

### Goals and Approaches

### Goals

- Modernize existing systems and workflow.
- Effectively convey history of merger and changes to institutions, as well as relationship between institutions and individuals.
- Improve preservation and access to collections.

### <u>Approach</u>

- Break down tasks and projects into manageable pieces.
- Build on activities already in motion.

# Rehousing Project

#### Long-term Goal

Improve storage conditions for long-term preservation.

#### **Immediate Actions**

NEH-funded rehousing project as an opportunity for:

- Conduct deep-cleaning of the archives prior to rehousing.
- Gather additional information about the collection for improved intellectual control.

# Preparing for a CMS

### Long-term Goal

Migrate from Microsoft Access to a Collection Management System (CMS) to improve description, access, searchability, and navigation.

#### **Immediate Actions**

- Assign record ID and begin to identify record groups.
- Transform collection finding aids into spreadsheets for data cleanup and facilitate future import into CMS.

# **Looking Ahead**



Student Classes. Faculty Teaching Lab, 1950s. Photo by Maclean Dameron.

- Create Record Groups that will inform overall structure and relationship between collections.
- Conduct a Collection
   Assessment to allow for targeted approach to processing and collecting.

# Thank you!



Operating Room Amphitheater, New York Hospital, circa 1915.

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